

Consultation Summary Report

March 2025

Introduction

This Consultation Summary Report provides an overview of the feedback we received during our Phase One consultation for East Pye Solar. Our Phase One consultation ran over a six week period, from 23 October to 6 December 2024.

This document includes a summary of the comments received and how we are using the feedback to inform the design process moving forward.

About East Pye Solar

Known as East Pye Solar (the “Scheme”), the development would comprise the installation of ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and a battery energy storage system (BESS) with infrastructure that connects the Scheme to the existing 400kV overhead line that runs north to south between Norwich Main and Bramford substations.

If consented, the Scheme has the potential to deliver approximately 500 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy, enough to power approximately 115,000 homes annually. East Pye Solar will make a significant contribution to meeting national energy transition targets of 45-47 gigawatts (GW) of solar power by 2030 and decarbonise our electricity systems and reach net zero by 2050. It would also remove the reliance on fuel imports, bolstering the UK’s energy security and protecting consumers from price volatility.

Our team is continuing to develop the proposals for the Scheme ahead of further consultation in 2025. You can view the latest map of our proposals on page 23 of this report and our website: www.eastpyesolar.co.uk

The map was published in January 2025 alongside our Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report. You can read more about this on page 21.

About Us

East Pye Solar Limited is part of Island Green Power (IGP). Established in 2013, IGP is a leading developer of renewable energy projects, which specialises in the development of utility-scale solar projects and battery energy storage systems, overseeing the entire development process from start to finish, including sourcing land, securing grid connections and obtaining planning consents.

IGP are committed to help the UK decarbonise and meet net zero goals. Its mission is to help the UK increase its solar energy generation, making more renewable energy possible while drastically reducing carbon emissions.

Over the last decade IGP have successfully delivered over 34 projects worldwide totalling more than 1 GW of clean, renewable energy assets. This includes 20 projects in the UK, including the recently-consented Cottam Solar and West Burton Solar Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

IGP are equally committed to responsible land use, developing projects that work in harmony with local communities, while delivering bespoke benefits and enhancements best suited to the surroundings.

Our Phase One non-statutory consultation

Thank you to all those who participated in our consultation by attending events, submitting feedback and asking questions.

During our consultation we:

- Engaged with parish, district and county councillors across South Norfolk;
- Distributed our community consultation postcard to over 7,000 addresses;
- Advertised our Phase One consultation, events and webinar in local and regional newspapers;
- Invited feedback through an online and paper feedback form;
- Received feedback and responded to enquiries through our range of communication channels (email, Freephone and Freepost);
- Held six-in person community consultation events, including events in Saxlingham Nethergate, Seething and Mundham, Hempnall, Great Moulton and Aslacton, Long Stratton and Woodton, where we welcomed over 640 attendees; and
- Hosted one webinar, which was attended by 21 people.

Our Phase One consultation provided an opportunity for people to view and comment on our early-stage proposals. We are pleased to have received a significant volume of feedback and would like to thank everyone who engaged in our consultation.

Your comments have helped to improve our understanding of the local area and the aspects of the Scheme that you consider important for us to prioritise as we develop our proposals.

During our consultation we received:



What you told us

Our focus is on providing accurate and honest information to build an understanding of how East Pye Solar can generate low carbon energy, while minimising impacts on the local environment and surrounding communities.

About you

Community input is key to the Scheme development process, and the majority (83%) of feedback received during Phase One came from individuals who identified themselves as local residents.

In our feedback form, we also asked respondents their age to help gauge the average demographic makeup of participants. Most respondents (67%) were 55 years old and above, and 22% were between 18 years and 54 years old.

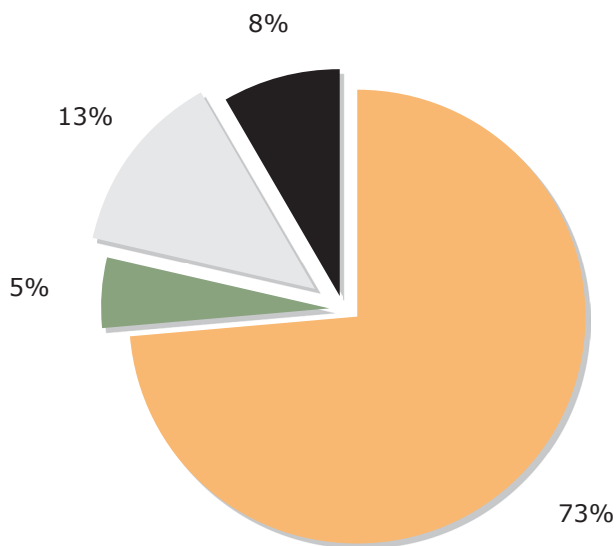
General

We also aimed to understand how members of the local community felt about solar energy in general, as well as about our early-stage proposals for the Scheme. As shown in the charts on page 5, most respondents (64%) did not agree with the need to install ground-mounted solar, and 73% did not support our proposals at this initial stage of the development process.



More information

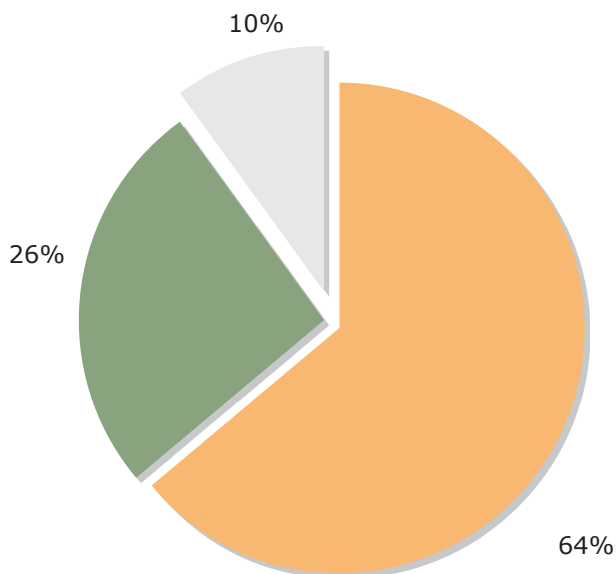
This feedback is important as we need to understand the basis for these concerns and look at how they can be addressed as the Scheme develops further. In the following pages we summarise the feedback received and how we are working to refine our plans, including on environmental topics and our approach to consultation and engagement.



What is your view of our proposals for East Pye Solar at this early stage in the development process?

- Supportive
- Would like changes to support the proposals
- Need further information to form an opinion
- Do not support

Based on 300 responses to this question in the feedback form.



As a principle do you agree there is a need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure in the UK?

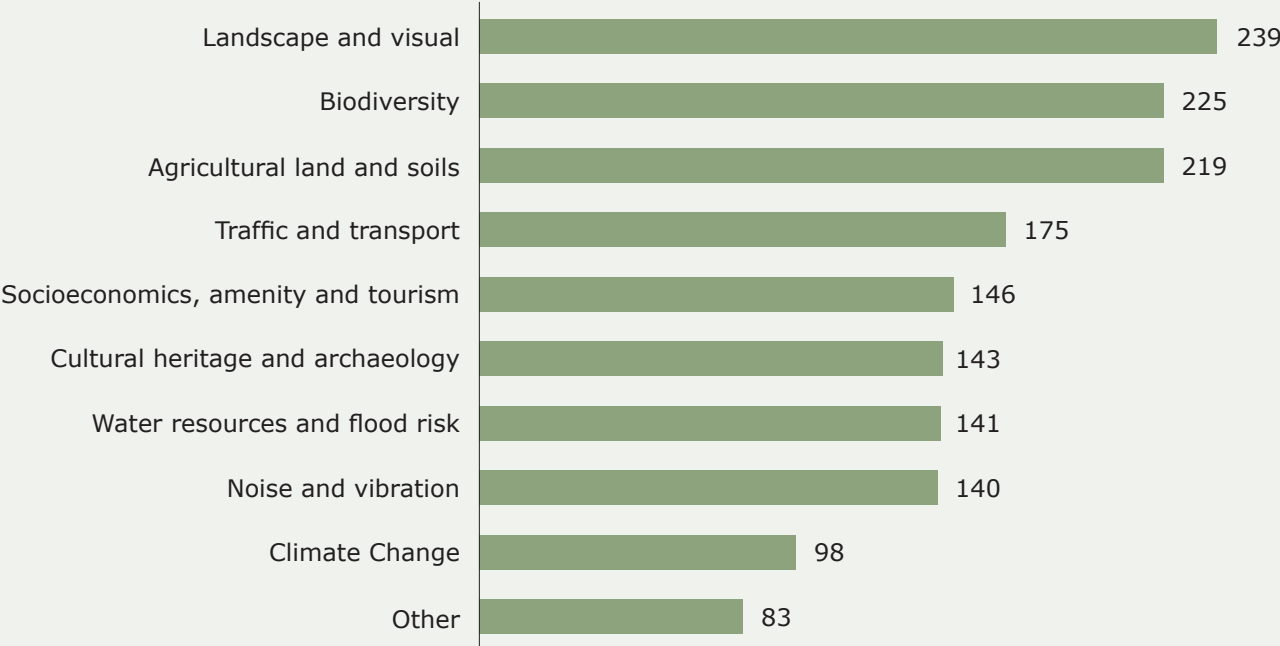
- I agree there is a need to install a ground-mounted solar infrastructure
- I do not know enough about the need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure
- I do not agree with the need to install ground-mounted solar infrastructure

Based on 287 responses to this question in the feedback form.

Environmental considerations

In our feedback form, we asked which aspects of the proposals mattered to them the most. We provided respondents the option to 'tick' from a list of key environmental topics which themes were most important to you. Respondents were also presented with an 'Other' box so they could comment on any other themes or areas of importance.

Which aspects of the Scheme are most important to you?



Based on 287 responses to this question in the feedback form. Respondents were able to select multiple options.

We are currently preparing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). This report will include chapters on the relevant environmental topics to explain the assessments being undertaken, the potential effects of the Scheme, and appropriate mitigation measures being explored. Your feedback to Phase One is being considered by the team undertaking this

work.
The PEIR will be published as part of the upcoming Phase Two (statutory) consultation, currently set to take place in Summer 2025.

This table summarises the key themes raised through all the Phase One feedback received, and how the team is considering these.

Landscape and visual

Your comments

A common theme within the comments received was the proposed size of the Scheme. Concerns were raised that this could result in the loss of visual amenity of countryside views, which are valued by the community and visitors.

Respondents raised concerns about how the sites will impact the views and overall character of the local landscape, in particular around the areas of Hempnall and Brooke.

Many respondents raised concerns about the size of buffer zones in relation to residential areas, property boundaries and recreational spaces.

Respondents expressed concern for the Scheme impacting the setting of the Boudicca Way.

We also noted particular concern about the potential visual impact of the proposed BESS site on the villages of Great Moulton and Tivetshall.

How we're listening and what happens next

We are taking into account this feedback in our design process, which will inform the location, orientation and siting of the various components of the development, such that we seek to minimise the impacts'.

We are undertaking a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which will include a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA). The LVIA will specifically assess the impacts on the Boudicca Way as well as the character of the landscape and visual amenity of identified receptors within the Study Area, including from specific villages, such as Brooke and Hempnall. There will be a list of viewpoints from which we will assess the landscape and visual impacts. This list will be developed in consultation with landscape officers at the local planning authority.

We will be presenting more detail during our Phase Two (statutory) consultation, including an indicative Site Masterplan – which will illustrate our updated design. This will include solar development areas, substations and BESS, and additional land for environmental mitigation and enhancement. We have been considering the need for buffer zones and off-sets around residential properties on a case-by-case basis; and areas for biodiversity net gain, which will be reflected in the Site Masterplan.

The Outline Landscape and Ecological Mitigation Plan (LEMP) that will be presented in the Development Consent Order (DCO) application will seek to increase the green infrastructure within the site, and where possible, link up ecological networks. This may include:

- The creation of new native woodland blocks and belts;
- Planting new native hedgerows;
- Reinforcing existing boundary hedgerows;
- New native tree planting; and
- New areas of wildflower and grassland for ecological mitigation.

Soils and agriculture

Your comments

Respondents stated concern regarding the loss of productive agricultural land and suggested that farmland is not appropriate for large-scale solar farms.

Respondents expressed concerns regarding the Scheme's impact on the UK's food security.

Respondents expressed concern that the Scheme could negatively affect soils.

There was also concern about ground contamination potential near the River Tas.

How we're listening and what happens next

Government policy is to deploy large-scale ground-mounted solar PV generation across the UK, looking for development mainly on brownfield, industrial, and low and medium grade agricultural land.

The quality of agricultural land used for East Pye Solar is being established through detailed soil and Agricultural Land Classification surveys. These surveys will establish the area and quality of agricultural land which will be reported in the PEIR and Environmental Statement (ES), and the results will be used in the design of the scheme to minimise the use of best and most versatile land where practicable. Justification of the use of best and most versatile land will be provided in the DCO application.

It is estimated that ground-mounted solar used just 0.1% of UK land in 2022; and that to meet the Government's net zero target, 90GW of solar will be needed by 2050, which would mean solar farms would account for approximately 0.6% of UK land¹. As Energy Secretary Ed Miliband has said: "The biggest threat to nature and food security and to our rural communities is not solar panels or onshore wind; it is the climate crisis, which threatens our best farmland, food production and the livelihoods of farmers."²

Construction on the Scheme will be carried out in accordance with a number of management plans which will be presented in the DCO application, including an outline soil resource management plan which will include measures to minimise soil compaction and other negative impacts on soil quality.

¹Solar Energy UK (2022). Solar Energy UK Briefing: Everything under the sun: Facts about solar energy. Available at: <https://solarenergyuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Briefing-Fact-Checker-1.pdf>

²Hansard. (2024). Clean Energy Superpower Mission. Volume 752: debated on Thursday 18 July 2024, House of Commons. Available at: <https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/2024-07-18/debates/1B2ABCB9-1455-4C86-8E2F-5E763B38E888/Clet>

Ecology and biodiversity

Your comments

Respondents expressed concern that the proposals could negatively impact existing local ecology and diverse ecosystems. Local habitats highlighted as being particularly sensitive included ancient woodland, hedgerows and watercourses. Respondents wanted to be provided with more information on how these would be protected.

A range of protected and conservation priority species in the area were noted as being of concern. In particular, respondents emphasised the importance of the area for bats, farmland birds, owls, small mammals, amphibians, pollinating invertebrates, deer and rare plants.

Some respondents expressed scepticism for the Scheme's ability to deliver an increase in biodiversity, while other respondents recognised the potential benefits for biodiversity and expressed their support.

Some respondents expressed concern for the destruction of hedges and wildlife habitats on site 9 and the potential disturbance of deer on site 5 as well as the use of animal deterrence measures.

How we're listening and what happens next

We will consider the habitats and species, alongside the environmental surveys we are doing, as part of our environmental impact assessment, details of which will be available in the PEIR and ES. The assessment will specifically consider the potential impacts of the Scheme on woodlands, hedgerows, watercourses, bats, birds, and local wildlife. The findings of the surveys and assessments will be consulted on with local authorities, as well as statutory environmental and nature conservation bodies such as the Environment Agency and Natural England.

Ongoing consultation and the design review process will inform any ecological mitigation and enhancement measures that we are considering including in the development. This will be made publicly available for you to comment on as part of our Phase Two Statutory Consultation.

Protective buffers from sensitive habitats such as woodland, hedgerows, watercourses, and ponds have been built into the design process. Buffer zones can accommodate new habitat creation as well as strengthening connective links between existing habitats.

While formal targets for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) do not yet apply to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) such as East Pye Solar, we anticipate the scheme will deliver the minimum target of 10% BNG, which is expected to become a legal requirement for NSIPs from November 2025.

Hydrology, flood risk and drainage

Your comments

Respondents expressed general concern for flooding within the location of the development.

Some respondents expressed concern of an increase in perceived flood risk due to water runoff from solar panels and battery storage.

Some respondents expressed concern about waterway contamination in the River Tas, as well as within the personal water supply. Further concern was raised about potential impacts to protected water drinking supplies in several areas of the Scheme, including site 3.

Other respondents were concerned about water drainage issues in Hempnall, Hedenham and Ditchingham.

How we're listening and what happens next

Our focus is on ensuring that East Pye Solar is well-designed to respond sensitively to the local environment. We have undertaken a review of the available published flood risk data, including the Environment Agency's underlying hydraulic models and will continue to assess this as the design develops further.

Based on the Environment Agency's (EA) Flood Zone mapping, the majority of the Scheme lies within Flood Zone 1 'Low Probability'. Some small area of the Cable Route Corridor are impacted by the higher risk Flood Zones 2 and 3. Some parts of the Scheme are shown to be in areas where the EA have identified surface water flood risks. These areas are being considered as part of the design process and our EIA, and one of the key tests of the DCO application is that the Scheme must not give rise to creating or increasing flood risk.

Any parts of the Scheme that lie within Drinking Water Protected Areas or Drinking Water Safeguard Zones will be appropriately assessed within the PEIR and ES. Where possible, such safeguarded areas will be avoided through design evolution.

Our ES will identify the location of and assess, the potential impacts to private water supplies, if it is considered that there could be significant environmental effects on them.

Noise and vibration

Your comments

Respondents expressed concerns about noise pollution and vibration during the construction phase of the Scheme, both from construction traffic and construction activity on site.

Respondents raised concerns about noise pollution and vibration during the operation of the Scheme. Particular concern was raised for properties near the proposed battery storage site.

How we're listening and what happens next

We are currently assessing the potential impacts of construction activity (including traffic) at surrounding properties and on ecology. Based upon this assessment, alternative vehicle routing or construction timetabling may be used to mitigate any identified impacts. This is in addition to management of good practice techniques, use of quieter equipment and the provision of hoarding which may also be used to mitigate construction impacts.

A survey of the baseline noise conditions has been undertaken which will also be used to quantify any potential changes to the current noise level caused by the Scheme. This also enables us to identify the most noise sensitive parts of our site, so we can look to tailor our design to this.

As part of the site layout, we are considering avoiding the most noise sensitive locations, or the provision of bunding or acoustic barriers to further reduce any potential noise impacts if it is required (noting that much of the equipment that is used in the Scheme has noise suppression measures intrinsically built in). This aim is to reduce any potential noise impacts of all aspects of the Scheme, including the BESS, substations and invertors, not only on surrounding properties, but also local wildlife and their habitats.

Socioeconomics, tourism and recreation

Your comments

Respondents raised concerns over the potential impact on tourism and recreation due to loss of visual amenity.

Some respondents expressed concern for potential loss of access to or use of recreational routes for footpath users, cyclists, and equestrian users. Some respondents specified Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) near sites 7, 8 and 9.

Some respondents expressed concern about potential impacts on Abingdon holiday retreat, camping sites, holiday homes and other hospitality businesses in the area.

Respondents expressed concern for the Scheme's impact on aircraft and military exercises in the area. Some respondents specified Tibenham Airfield.

Respondents expressed concern for a decrease in property values due to the Scheme.

How we're listening and what happens next

In refining the design, visibility of the Scheme from PRoWs, and recreational facilities will be assessed to consider the visual and amenity impacts on their use and durability. There will also be a socioeconomic assessment, which includes an assessment of impact on businesses and employment.

East Pye Solar Limited is committed to keeping PRoWs in place and open to the public, and where there is an opportunity to do so, we will seek to improve existing PRoWs.

Any temporary closures or diversions to PRoWs as a result of construction activities will be controlled and minimised to reduce impacts on users through the Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan presented in the DCO application. Landscaping proposals will also support the design of the Scheme to limit outward views of the sites.

East Pye Solar Limited have met with the Norfolk Gliding Club based at Tibenham Airfield and discussions are ongoing regarding the Scheme's potential impact on their activities.

To date, there has not been no Government research into the (long- or short-term) effects of solar and BESS schemes on house prices in the UK and only one academic study for solar. However, our first principle is to ensure that we design the Scheme with as little impact as possible on nearby residential properties, including appropriate screening as well as buffer zones/offsets between proposed equipment and residential properties.



Cultural heritage

Your comments

Respondents highlighted the importance of local heritage and the need to undertake sufficient assessment works and consultation with the appropriate heritage bodies.

Respondents expressed concern about the potential impacts on historic Fritton Church. Some respondents expressed concern for Grove Farm being in a moated heritage site.

How we're listening and what happens next

The Cultural Heritage PEIR Chapter will set out the preliminary results of our assessments of the Historic Environment, including all the Designated Assets within a minimum 2km radius and Non-Designated Assets within a 1km radius that we have identified.

An assessment will be undertaken to identify any potential impacts to heritage assets, including Listed Buildings, as part of the EIA. Mitigation options will be explored with the aim of reducing impacts to heritage assets.

We are committed to thorough consultation with the appropriate heritage bodies to ensure a robust impact assessment is produced for cultural heritage. Details of the consultation undertaken to date will also be provided within the PEIR and ES.

Desk-based assessments, supported by archaeological evaluation works, will be produced to identify the potential for archaeological remains within the site area. We will identify mitigation strategies with the aim of preserving or recording buried archaeological features in line with national and local guidance.

The results of our assessments will be provided as part of the Cultural Heritage section of the ES. As we develop our proposals, we will continue to consider heritage assets and welcome feedback on specific sites of concern.

Transport and access

Your comments

Respondents have raised concerns regarding construction traffic and HGVs increasing congestion on roads which were noted as being currently unsuitable.

Some respondents expressed concern for the closure of roads due to construction, with some specifying the single carriageway in Great Moulton.

Specific roads mentioned include the A140, Market Lane, Firth Way and Fairstead Lane.

Respondents have concerns regarding the damage that construction traffic will cause in the local area, including damage to roads.

Some respondents suggested traffic calming measures, specifically around Mill Road, Bungay Road and Broaden Lane.

How we're listening and what happens next

An outline Construction Traffic Management (oCTMP) will form part of the DCO application. This will provide a framework for the management of construction vehicle movements, to ensure that the effects of the construction phase are controlled and mitigated.

Where HGVs are required for the construction phase of the Scheme, transport routes will seek to avoid residential areas and narrow, single-track roads, where practicable. Specific access roads – to enable access to construction areas – will also be presented at our Phase Two consultation, along with anticipated daily vehicle movements.

Other measures within the oCTMP will include restricting HGV movements to avoid network peak hours (08:00-09:00 and 17:00-18:00) and the use of vehicle planning management systems to avoid known constraints on the local road network.

An Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP) will be prepared to support the DCO application. The oCEMP will seek to minimise construction impacts and relates to all construction activity both on and off site that impacts on the wider environment.

ES chapters on transport and access, air quality and noise will be prepared that will include separate mitigation measures to ensure that the local environment, including roads and settlements, are protected.

Other themes and areas of importance

Battery safety

Your comments

Respondents expressed particular concern for the fire risk of the battery storage, including the potential for this to result in contamination of nearby watercourses in the event of a fire.

How we're listening and what happens next

Concerning safety, the BESS technology includes various safety systems to mitigate risks, such as fire control, smoke detectors, and temperature control systems. All safety systems will detect and address potential problems early.

The UK government acknowledges the safety hazard posed by large batteries including BESS but notes that safety incidents are rare³.

In producing the outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan (which will form part of the DCO application) and the PEIR and ES Chapter on Air Quality, we will consider the potential impacts of a BESS fire during the operational phase, and identify what measures are required to avoid and reduce the risk of a fire, as well as how to effectively manage a fire should this occur.

We are developing the outline Battery Fire Safety Management Plan in collaboration with the Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service.

³<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/domestic-battery-energy-storage-systems>

Decommissioning and Construction

Your comments

Respondents expressed concern about the decommissioning of the site and returning the land to agricultural use.

Some respondents expressed concern about the construction of cable routes and the return of land use.

Many respondents expressed concern about the lifespan of the Scheme in contrast with a much shorter lifespan of individual panels.

How we're listening and what happens next

The operational phase of East Pye Solar is expected to be approximately 60 years. We are expecting to replace the solar panels up to twice during the operation of the Scheme.

At the end of the operational life of the Scheme, the land will be returned to agricultural use. Decommissioning is expected to take between 12 and 24 months and would be carried out in phases.

A decommissioning statement – included as part of the DCO application – will specify the detail to be included in a decommissioning management plan regarding the removal of infrastructure and restoration of the site to its original use.

The underground ducting along the Cable Route Corridor will also be decommissioned in accordance with the latest regulations and good practice prevailing at that time but are anticipated to be left in-situ to minimise adverse environmental effects. It is possible to remove the cable itself by extracting it at the joint bays from within the ducting, so that the cable can be recycled.

We expect that most of the solar equipment – including panels, cabling, inverters, and BESS to be recycled and disposed of, in line with industry practice.

The National Grid Substation will remain as it will form part of the transmission network.

Glint and Glare

Your comments

Respondents expressed concern for light emitted from the Scheme.

Some respondents expressed particular concern for site 7 having south facing panels, creating glint & glare issues for nearby properties.

Some respondents expressed concern for glint & glare impacts from sites 1, 2 and 3 affecting nearby airfields and air traffic.

How we're listening and what happens next

Glint and Glare will be addressed in the PEIR that we will be consulting on at Phase Two (statutory) consultation and will consider potential impacts to airfields, roads and residential dwellings.

Mitigation measures will be put in place to address any significant effects where they are predicted.

Mitigation measures may include changes to the configuration of the site or installing screening such as new planting or opaque fencing.

Health and Wellbeing Impacts and Community Benefits

Your comments

Some respondents expressed concern around the impact on respondent's quality of life, wellbeing and any potential health issues such as construction emissions and electromagnetic fields.

How we're listening and what happens next

We will assess the impacts on health related matters as part of the PEIR and ES, which will include consideration of mitigation measures, where necessary within the related technical assessment chapters.

The PEIR will identify effects on physical health from the Scheme such as air pollution and noise impacts. Where human health topics are not already covered in the other technical assessments, such as mental health, consideration of these will be included within the chapter. The OEM chapter will set out how to mitigate mental health impacts such as through the retention of access to recreational space, providing targeted information to help alleviate anxieties, and identifying options for the provision of community benefits.

Community Benefits

Island Green Power offers a community benefits package with the renewable energy schemes that it promotes.

We believe those communities living closest to the proposed Scheme should benefit from it – with these communities being best placed to recommend what a 'community benefit' should be.

As a Scheme, we are considering a range of 'on-site' initiatives, including measures included as part of the Scheme's design. These could include environmental mitigation and enhancement measures or the creation of permissive paths through the site. Your feedback from phase one encouraged greater recreation opportunities in the area.

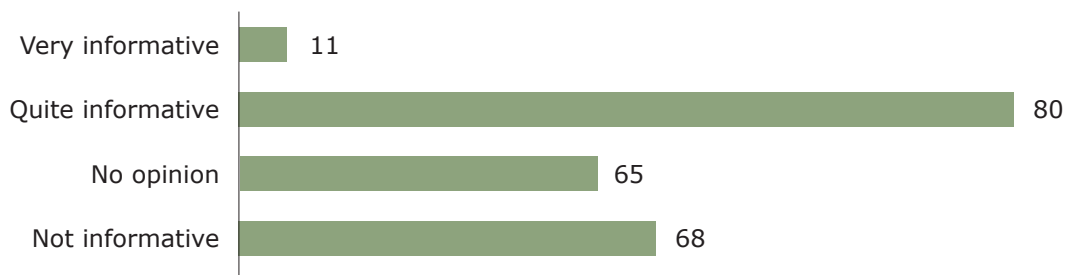
Our community benefits package may also support 'off-site' initiatives which contribute to community welfare more broadly. Funding could be provided for investment for local community groups and initiatives, along with local infrastructure improvements. Your feedback encouraged support for community sports clubs/organisations and the provision of solar PV for educational facilities and domestic installations.

We recognise that there is no firm guidance on community benefits and levels of funding. This aspect of our proposals for the Scheme will continue to evolve, both in response to industry/ government-level guidance and your suggestions.

Our consultation and engagement approach

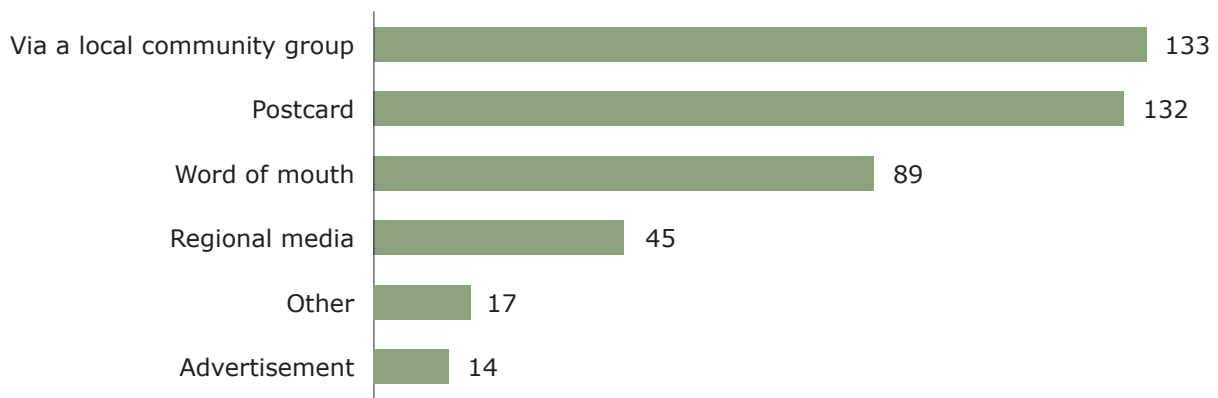
During our Phase One consultation we also asked for feedback on our consultation and engagement approach. This is being considered as we prepare for Phase Two consultation and identify how we can improve our engagement methods.

How informative did you find the information events we held (in person / online) and / or our consultation materials we produced (print / digital)?

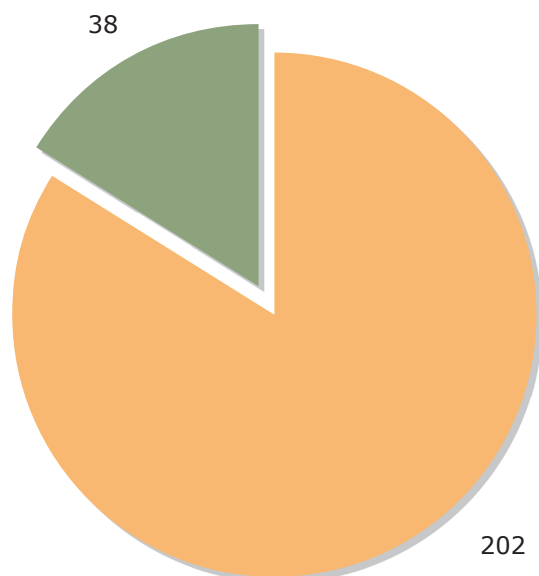


Based on 224 responses to this question in the feedback form.

Where did you find out about this consultation?



Based on 291 responses to this question in the feedback form.



Have you attended a an information event (in person or online) and / or visited our website to view information about East Pye Solar?



Based on 240 responses to this question in the feedback form.

Our consultation

We are grateful for the feedback you provided on this topic, which we will use to make our next consultation event better.

The Phase Two (statutory) consultation, which we expect to take place in Summer 2025, will include more information on our proposals as we consult on a more detailed Scheme design.

Before Phase Two, we will publish a document known as the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) as required under the Planning Act 2008. The contents of the SoCC will be informed by consultation on a draft version with Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk Council. The SoCC will set out our consultation methods, including how we intend to publicise the statutory consultation, who we are consulting, and where we'll be holding events.

We will provide advance notice of these events through direct notification to residents and businesses, directly contacting key stakeholders/ subscribers to updates, and wider publicity activities. Events will be held on at a range of different times, including on weekdays, weekends and during the evenings.

Where we are now

We submitted our EIA Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) on Monday 13 January 2025 and are now preparing the PEIR. We aim to hold our statutory consultation in Summer 2025, to gather your views on the PEIR and accompanying plans.

The EIA Scoping Report provides an overview of our Scheme and the environmental baseline surveys that we intend to undertake, describes how we will assess any likely significant environmental effects, and sets out the proposed scope and content of the EIA and Environmental Statement.

The scope of the EIA is informed by technical expertise and by engagement with stakeholders to ensure that the methodologies for environmental assessments are sufficient to accurately identify and understand the environmental impacts of East Pye Solar.

PINS has responded to the Scoping Report by issuing the Scoping Opinion, which sets out comments on our proposed approach to the EIA and the topics we need to take forward for assessment and should be presented in ES. The Scoping Opinion, which was published on 25 February 2025, is available to read on the PINS webpage for the Scheme linked here: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110014>

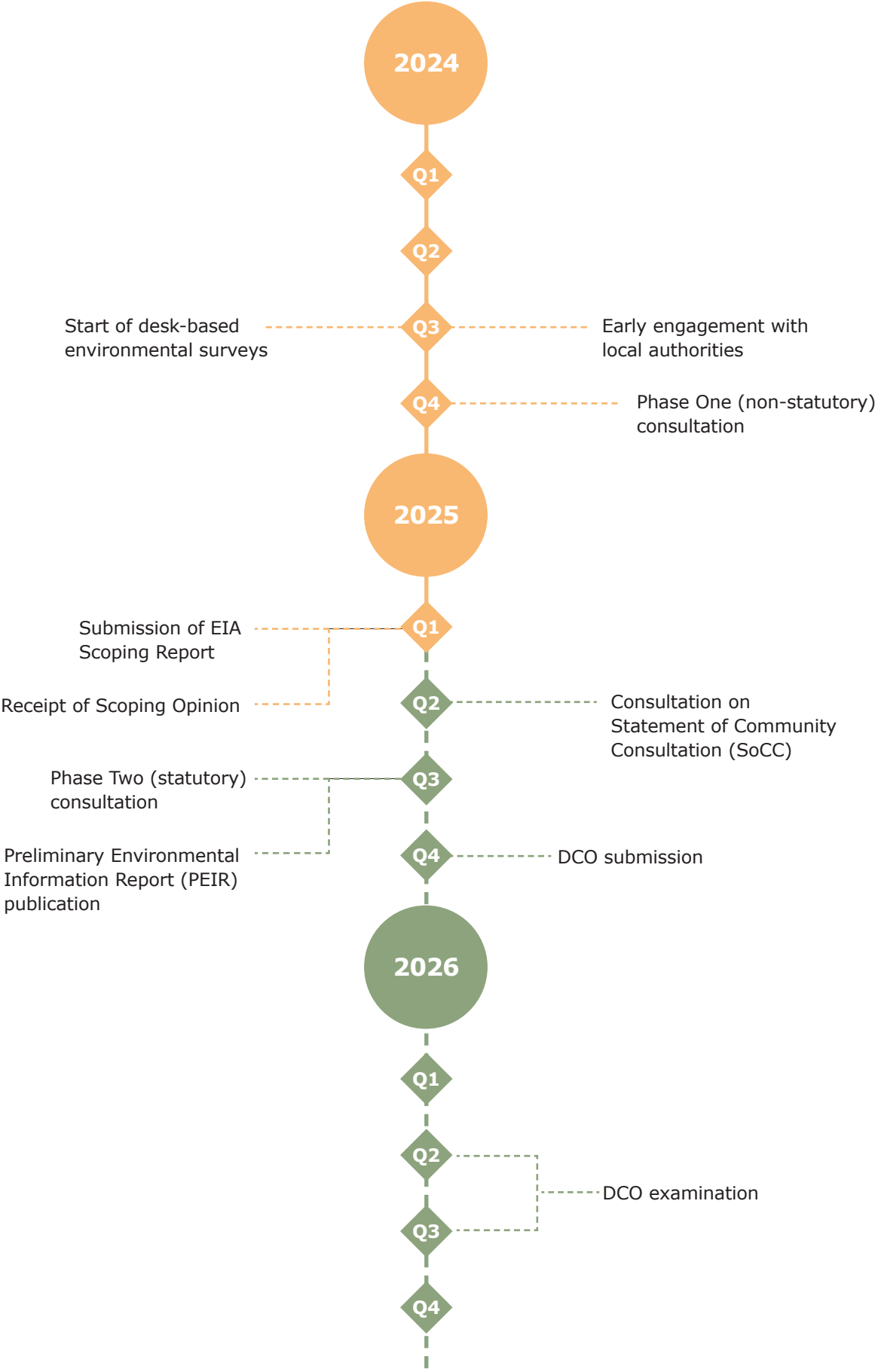
The PEIR we consult on at Phase Two (statutory) will build on feedback received to the Phase One non-statutory consultation and the feedback from the Scoping Opinion. This document will include chapters on the themes set out on page 6 and will detail the initial findings of the EIA and identify measures we are proposing to reduce, enhance and improve the effects our Scheme may have on the environment.



More information

Further details of how we are taking into consideration non-statutory and Statutory Consultation feedback will be set out in the Consultation Report submitted as part of the DCO application.

Indicative timeline

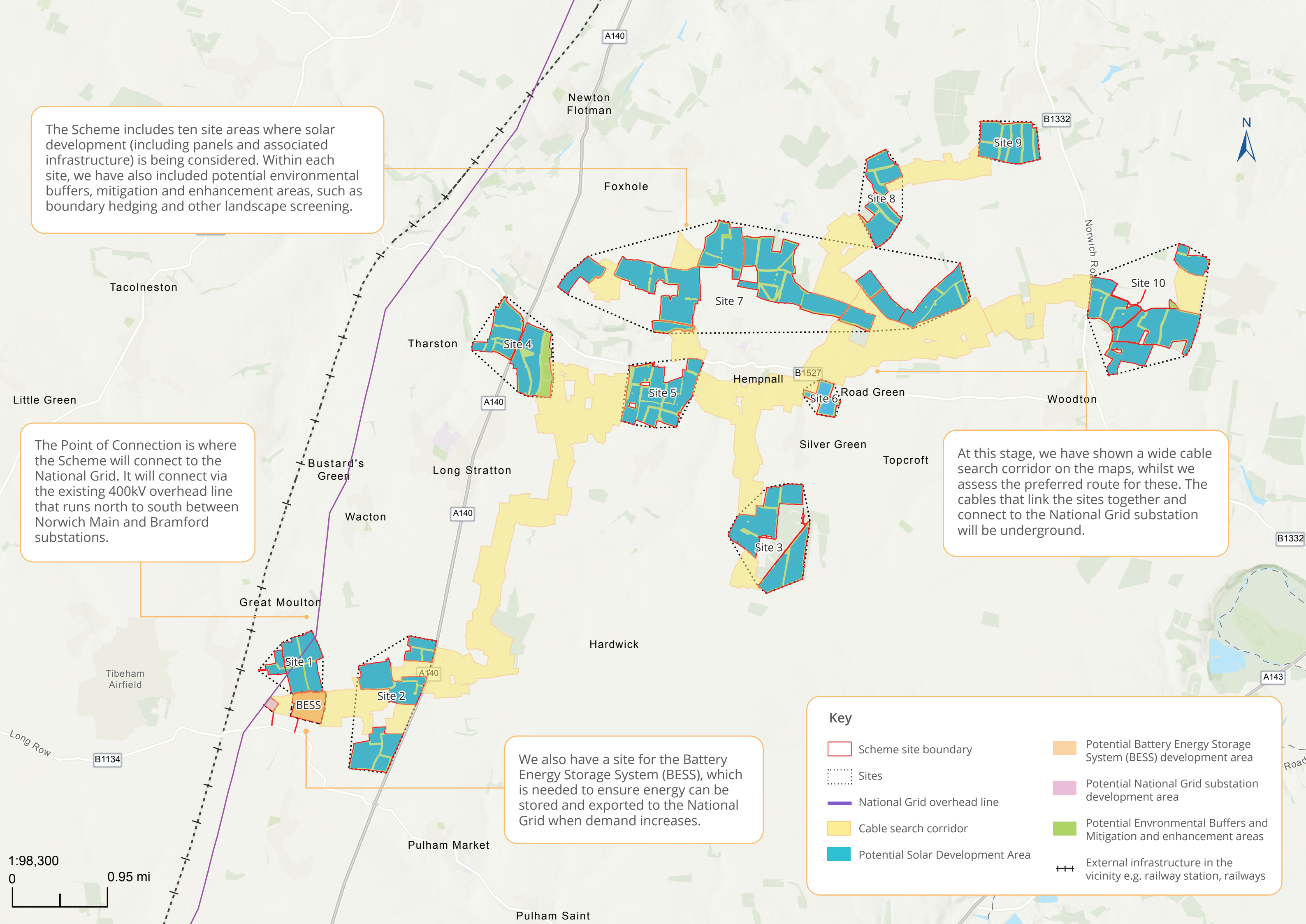


The Scheme includes ten site areas where solar development (including panels and associated infrastructure) is being considered. Within each site, we have also included potential environmental buffers, mitigation and enhancement areas, such as boundary hedging and other landscape screening.

The Point of Connection is where the Scheme will connect to the National Grid. It will connect via the existing 400kV overhead line that runs north to south between Norwich Main and Bramford substations.

At this stage, we have shown a wide cable search corridor on the maps, whilst we assess the preferred route for these. The cables that link the sites together and connect to the National Grid substation will be underground.

We also have a site for the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), which is needed to ensure energy can be stored and exported to the National Grid when demand increases.



Key

- Scheme site boundary
- Sites
- National Grid overhead line
- Cable search corridor
- Potential Solar Development Area

- Potential Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) development area
- Potential National Grid substation development area
- Potential Environmental Buffers and Mitigation and enhancement areas
- External infrastructure in the vicinity e.g. railway station, railways

Contact Us

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more information about East Pye Solar.

You can get in touch with members of our community relations team by using any of the contact details listed below.



Email: info@eastpyesolar.co.uk



Freephone: 0808 281 3175
(open 9:00-17:00 Monday to Friday
excluding bank holidays)



Freepost: Freepost EAST PYE SOLAR*
*Free of charge, no need for a stamp.



Website: www.eastpyesolar.co.uk
where you can also sign-up to receive
updates.

**Should you require any documents in
another format, please contact us using
the details above.**