

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Why have you chosen this location?**

An extensive site selection process was undertaken to find the most appropriate, feasible location for the proposed development. Parameters such as agricultural land quality, distance from existing grid infrastructure, field patterns/topography and environmental and landscape sensitivity were all considered. A site selection report will accompany the full application to elaborate on this process and outline the deciding factors.

### **How long will construction take?**

Construction is estimated to take approximately 24 weeks. The later stages of the construction focus on implementing site beautification and wildlife enhancements strategies. Construction will also follow a strict protocol to ensure no unacceptable short-term impacts are incurred.

### **Are Solar Farms Noisy?**

No. Certain elements such as the inverters generate a barely perceptible hum, however this is only during the day when electricity is being produced. Furthermore these elements of the development will be located towards the centre of the site, away from sensitive receptors as to further mitigate any impact.

### **How much traffic will there be?**

During construction there will be an average of 6 HGV movements per day (3 HGV arrivals plus 3 HGV departures). These movements will be conducted following a strict management protocol, and undertaken at sociable hours to avoid unacceptable impacts.

### **What is the lifetime of the project?**

The solar farm will be operational for up to 40 years, after which it will be decommissioned, deconstructed and the site will return to its previous use.

### **Will the project impact wildlife?**

Not at all. Thanks to the carefully designed layout and incorporation of ecological improvement areas, there will be a substantial overall biodiversity net gain at this site. All existing trees, hedgerows and ditches will be preserved, with an additional 11 acres of wild-flower meadow and 4 km of new hedgerow/trees planted on-site. Further to this, beehives, log piles, insect hotels and bird boxes will all be installed around the site.

### **Where will it be visible from?**

Viewpoints from around the site can be seen on the website. These were taken from publicly accessible areas identified as potentially having views from an analysis of the site. Due to the extensive array of hedges and trees around the site, the scheme is only visible from the immediate area. These potential views will be further mitigated through the proposed additional planting.

### **Will the development make the site 'brownfield'?**

No. As the proposed solar farm is a temporary development, it will both return to its original status after decommissioning and retain its greenfield status throughout its life. Furthermore, the landowner will be able to continue pastoral farming in and around the panels, ensuring no interruption to the farm business. Further to this, with the pause in some arable farming practices on-site, and the cessation of use of fertilizers on the land, the soil quality is likely to improve from its current low-quality status once the site is decommissioned.