



Report to Planning Committee 1 August 2024

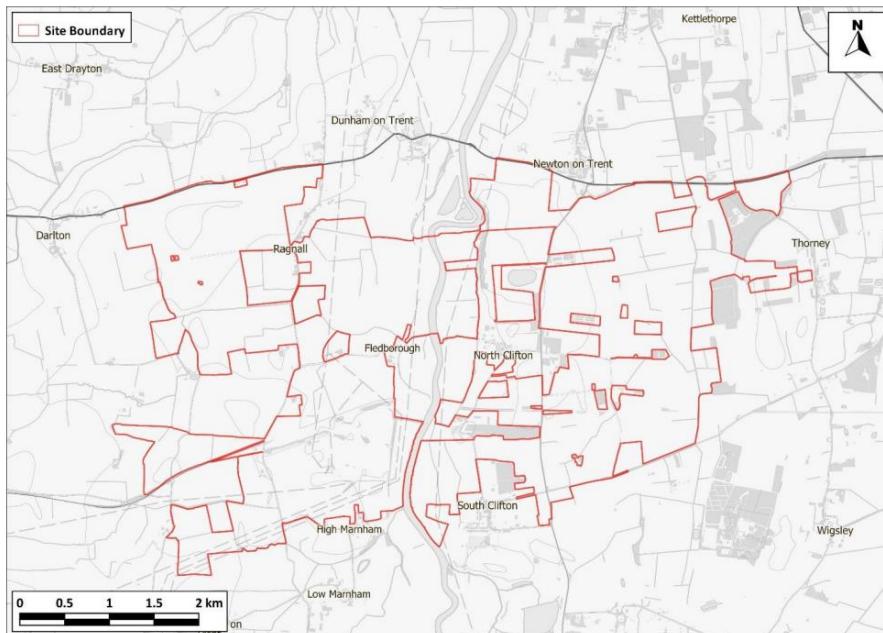
Director Lead: Matt Lamb, Planning & Growth

Lead Officer: Simon Betts – Planner, Major Projects

<b>Report Summary</b>	
<b>Report Title</b>	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project – One Earth Solar Farm
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	Pre-application Response to Statutory Consultation Update
<b>Recommendations</b>	To note the report

## **1.0 Background**

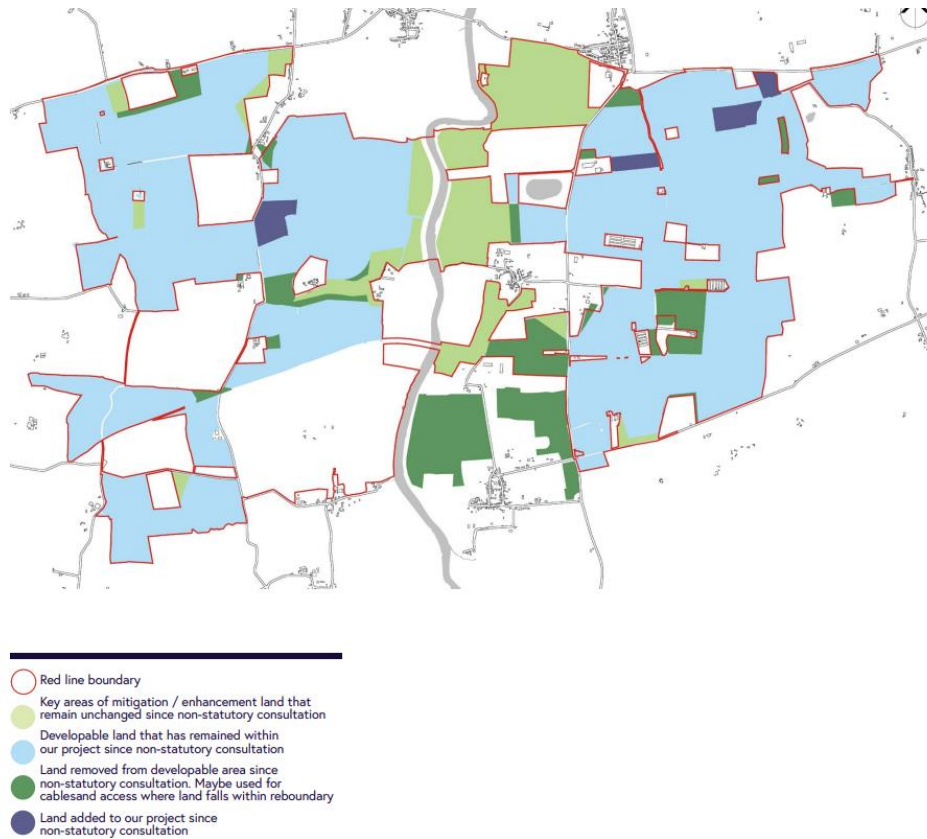
- 1.1 Members will be aware of the two Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) that the Council is a consultee for in relation to two solar farms with a report presented to the Planning Committee meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> June.
- 1.2 The report set out the process for NSIPs, the location of the proposed solar farms as well as the timescales, prescribed in legislation, for responding to the many steps involved with a NSIP. As a reminder of the location of the One Earth Solar Farm (OESF) this is shown on the map below (although some changes have occurred to the redline boundary) and consists of approximately 170 agricultural fields located to the east and west of the River Trent. At its maximum, the Site extends approximately 4.5km in a north-south direction and approximately 8km in an east-west direction. The OESF site is located at OS grid reference SK816718 (approximate centre of the Site).
- 1.3 The Site falls across two county boundaries and three local authorities, with approximately one third of the site within NSDC's district. Approximately 1,250ha of the Site falls within Nottinghamshire County and the remaining 250ha of the Site falls within Lincolnshire County.



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## **2.0 Proposal/Options Considered and Reasons for Recommendation**

2.1 The OESF proposal has just passed the pre-application stage involving 'Activity' - Respond to Statutory Consultation (Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008) as detailed within the June report. Consultation took place between 29<sup>th</sup> May to 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024. The Council submitted its response to the promoters OESF on 22nd July 2024, following engagement with the Chair and Vice-Chair of Planning Committee and Business Manager – Planning Development as resolved at the June meeting. The proposed scheme has detailed some main changes as part of the statutory consultation, which includes the removal of some 'developable' areas around North Clifton and South Clifton, alongside an area of land near Thorney. This is detailed in the plan presented below, which was included as part of the applicant's consultation materials.



2.2 In accordance with the resolution, a copy of the Council’s response is attached at Appendix 1 for information and noting.

### 3.0 **Implications**

3.1 In writing this report and in putting forward recommendations, officers have considered the following implications; Data Protection, Digital and Cyber Security, Equality and Diversity, Financial, Human Resources, Human Rights, Legal, Safeguarding and Sustainability, and where appropriate they have made reference to these implications and added suitable expert comment where appropriate.

### **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972. Any documents that contain confidential information or personal information about individuals should not be included in this list.

Application File - 24/00888/CONSUL