



**Cottam**

SOLAR PROJECT



**West Burton**

SOLAR PROJECT

**Introductory briefing  
September 2021**

**The presentation will start shortly.  
Please hold while we wait for all attendees  
to join.**

# Agenda



1. **Webinar format**
2. **Introductions**
  - Island Green Power
  - The Panel
  - The Projects
3. **The case for solar**
4. **Cottam Solar Project**
5. **West Burton Solar Project**
6. **Site selection**
7. **Cable routes**
8. **Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects and the DCO process**
9. **Consultation and engagement opportunities**
10. **Project programme**
11. **Q&A**

# Webinar Format



The webinar has been scheduled to last for one hour.

Members of the project team will deliver a live presentation.

Whilst this presentation is going on, please feel free to submit any questions by clicking the Q&A icon you should see on the bottom of your screen.

You will then have an option to type in your question.

At the end of the presentation, we will take the time to answer all the questions we can.

If you have any follow-up questions, please feel free to send these to our project information lines.



# Island Green Power



## About Us

Island Green Power are a leading international developer of renewable energy projects established in 2013.

We have delivered 26 solar projects worldwide, totalling more than 1GW of capacity. This includes 14 solar projects in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Our mission is to increase solar energy usage, making more renewable energy possible and saving thousands of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in the process.

Island Green Power is committed to responsible land use and believe that the development and delivery of large-scale solar farms can be achieved in harmony with their surroundings.

# The Panel



counter  
context

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# The case for solar



**There is a clear need for renewable, affordable and reliable energy.**

Developing large-scale solar projects in the UK will help keep the lights on, without carbon emissions, and at a low cost to consumers.

<b>National and regional commitments and targets</b>	<b>Meeting increasing demand and replacing reducing supply</b>	<b>Lower cost electricity</b>	<b>Diversification of electricity production</b>	<b>Opportunities to mitigate impacts</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• UK legal commitment to decarbonise to “Net Zero” by 2050.</li><li>• Alignment with strategic objectives and opportunities set out in key regional and local documents.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The use of oil and gas must reduce across all sectors to meet Net Zero</li><li>• Electricity from renewable sources will replace oil and gas</li><li>• The closure of ageing electricity stations means a lot of renewable capacity must be built</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recent price rises have put the cost of electricity in the limelight</li><li>• Solar is already the cheapest form of electricity in history</li><li>• Solar is rapidly becoming even more efficient, reliable, and lower cost.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Solar and wind energy together provide more reliable electricity</li><li>• Energy storage systems will make energy available when it is needed most</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It's important to identify and assess potential impacts from new built infrastructure.</li><li>• Solar generation does not require significant on-site activity, with relatively low impact (noise, visual, operation, maintenance, decommissioning) compared to other energy generation.</li></ul>

**The decommissioning of Cottam and West Burton Power Stations presents the opportunity to repower the region with clean, green energy.**

# The projects

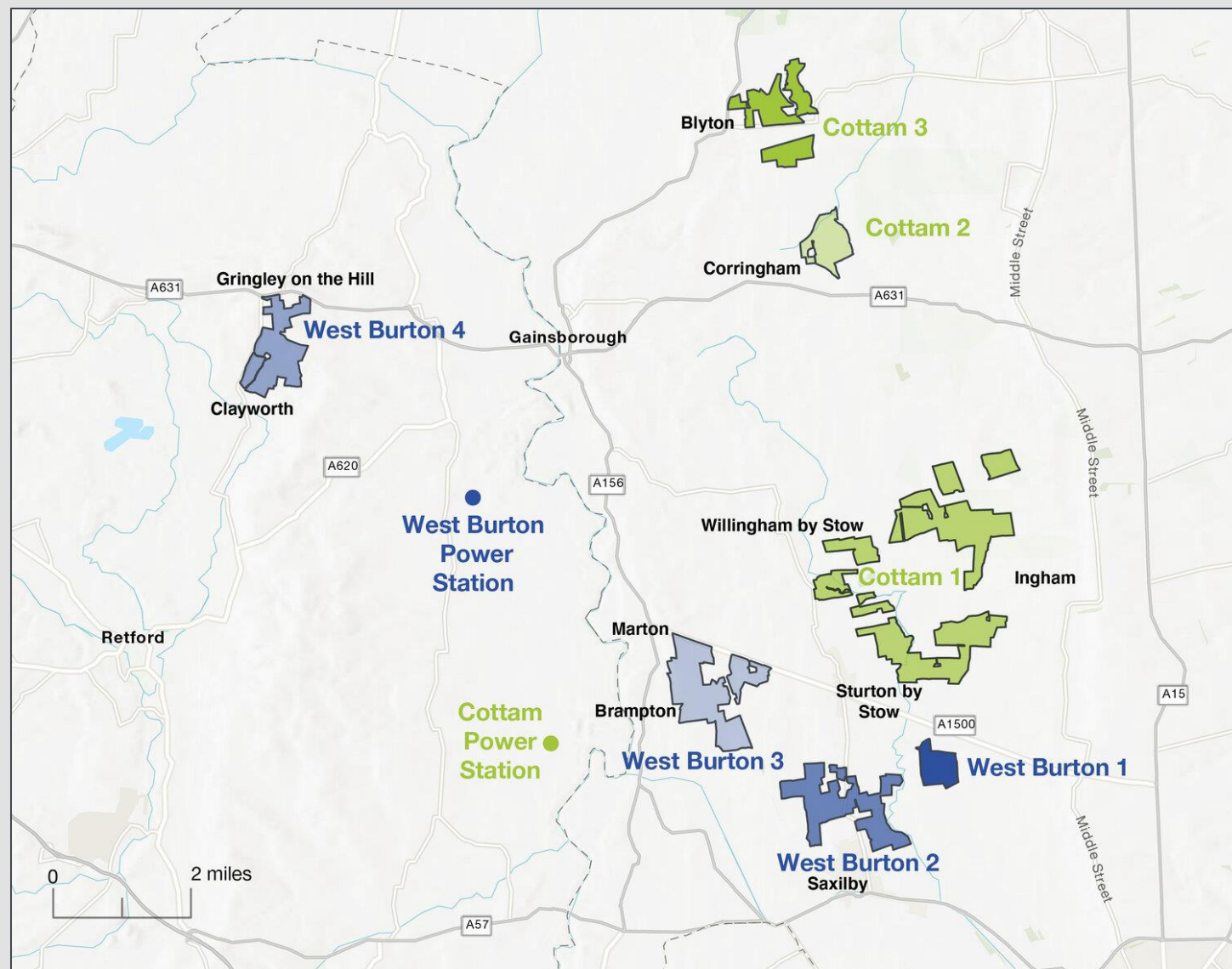


## Two solar projects:

- Cottam Solar Project
- West Burton Solar Project

## Both projects:

- Named after grid connection points.
- Comprise a series of areas of land (numbered for clarity)
- Cross the Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire border
- Will be Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects



# The projects

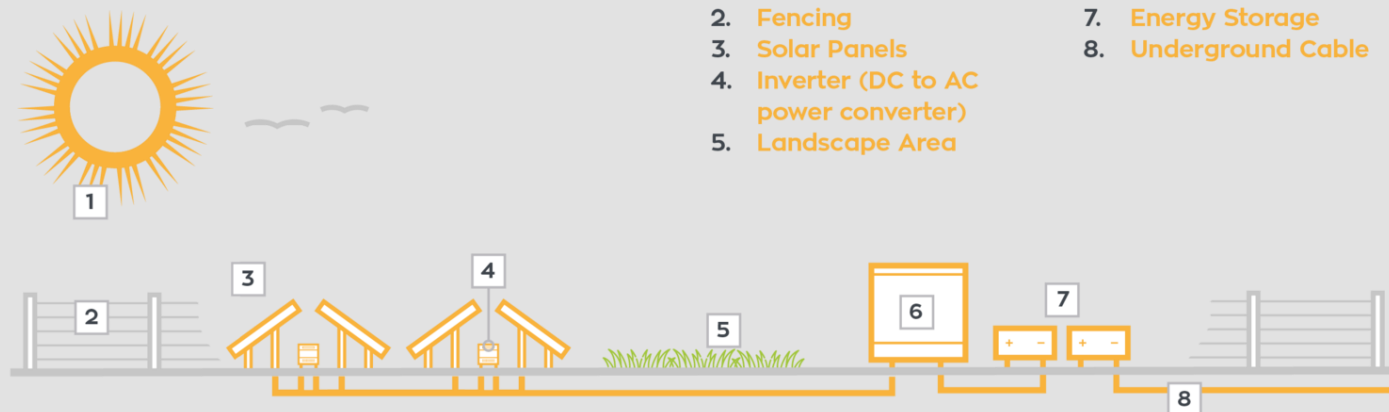


## Anticipated elements

- Solar panels
- Built Infrastructure (substations, inverters and energy storage)
- Buried Infrastructure (Grid Connections)
- Security Features – Fencing and CCTV
- Landscaping and Ecological Enhancement
- This infrastructure will be spread over multiple sites.

## Components of a typical solar project

1. Solar Energy
2. Fencing
3. Solar Panels
4. Inverter (DC to AC power converter)
5. Landscape Area
6. Substation
7. Energy Storage
8. Underground Cable



We are also keen to hear about other potential local opportunities that we could facilitate or deliver directly.



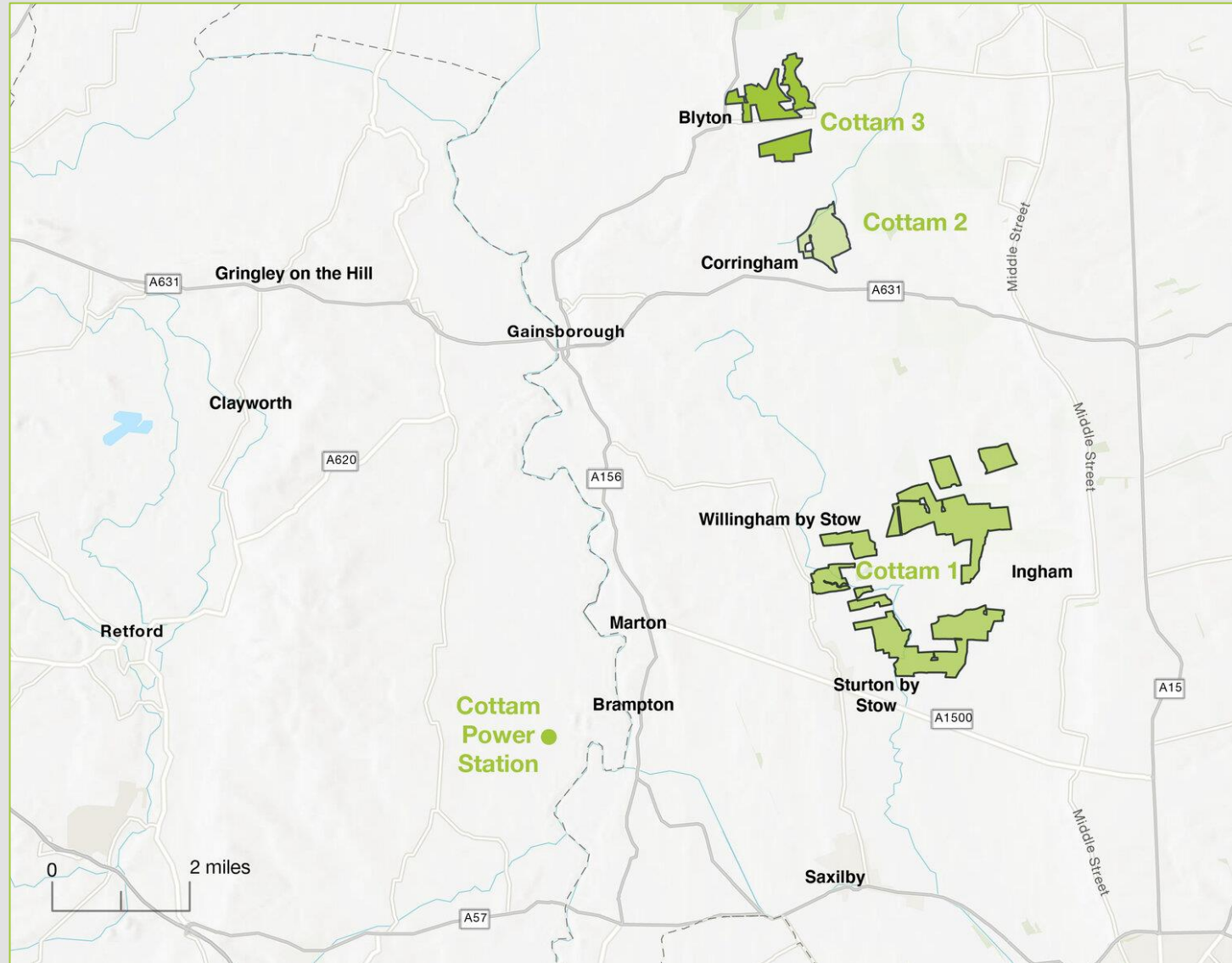
# Cottam Solar Project



## Overview

The proposals involve a series of three areas of land (these sites are named Cottam 1-3) which would host ground-mounted solar panels and be connected by underground cable. The project crosses the county boundary between Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

The project would generate around 600 MW of renewable energy, as well as having the capacity to store this energy for when it is needed most.



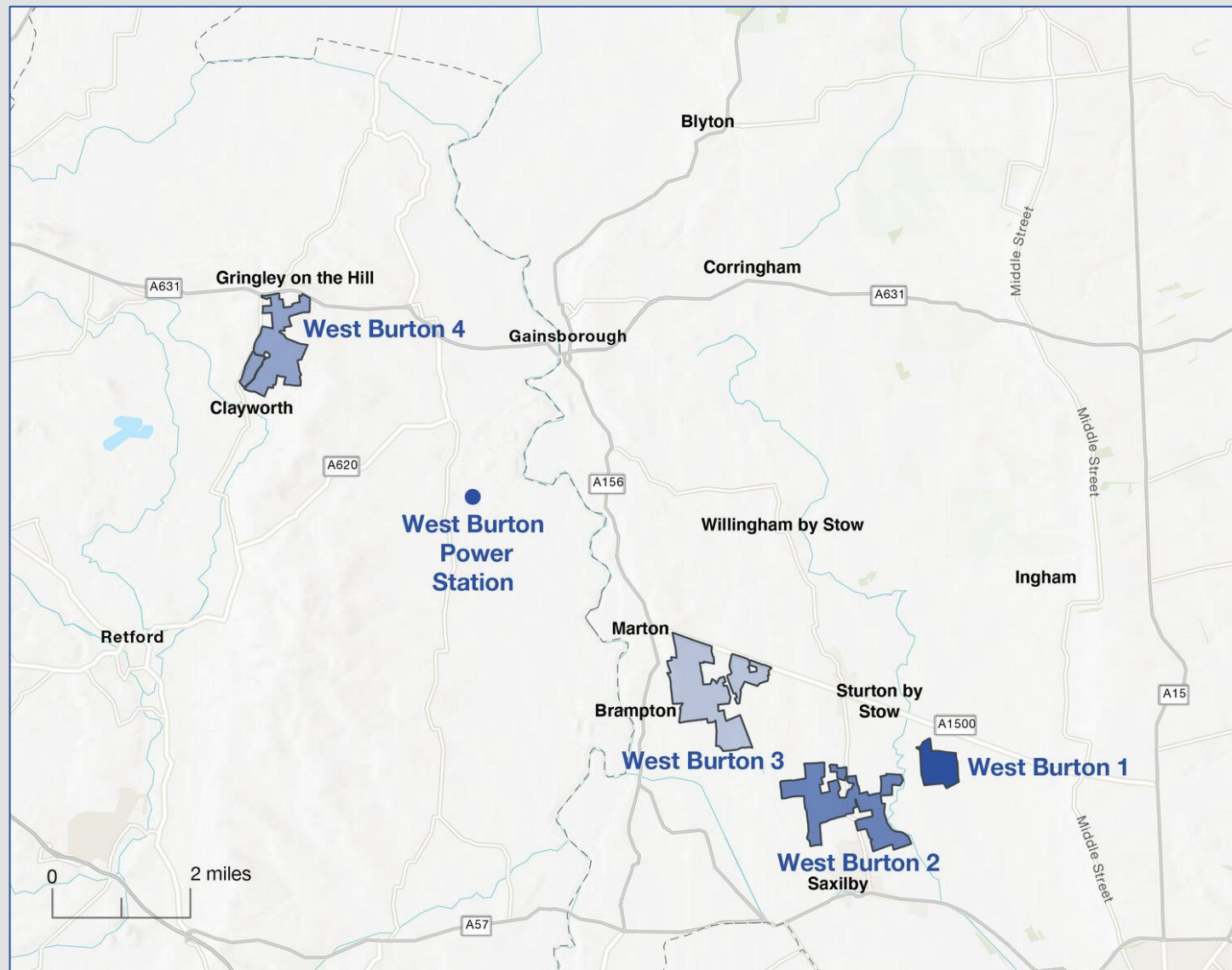
# West Burton Solar Project



## Overview

The proposals involve a series of four areas of land (these sites are named West Burton 1-4) which would host ground-mounted solar panels and be connected by underground cable. The project crosses the county boundary between Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

The project would generate around 480 MW of renewable energy, and have the facility to store 20 MW of energy for when it is needed most.



# The opportunity



The West Burton and Cottam Solar Projects could:



Generate enough clean energy to power 324,000 homes



Replace around 24% and 30% of the generation capacity of the coal powered West Burton and Cottam Power Stations (respectively)



Support regional and national targets for reducing carbon emissions to net zero by 2050



Improve energy resilience by diversifying energy production and storing energy for when it is needed most



Contribute towards strategic improvements to local ecology and biodiversity



Deliver affordable energy, as the electricity generated from solar is already cheaper than electricity generated from fossil fuels and the project would be subsidy free without taxpayer funding

# Site selection



## A multi-site strategy

- Utilising grid connection offer
- Balance between efficiency and scale
- Allows for selective approach and dispersed impacts
- Opportunities for ecological corridors
- Land availability

## Site identification

- Proximity to grid connection
- Environmental considerations and constraints mapping (including agricultural land grade, heritage assets, ecological value, landscape and visual considerations, flood risk etc.)
- Landowner position
- Assessment criteria as set out in draft National Policy Statement (NPS) EN 1

# Connecting the sites



## Cable routes

- Site areas to be connected by underground cable.
- This allows energy generated to be transferred to the grid connection points.
- Cable routes are not yet defined.
- We are currently working to refine our search corridors for the routes of these cables.
- We are contacting relevant landowners to discuss this.
- Our cable routes will avoid residential properties and businesses, as well as other important local areas, such as heritage features or Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).

We look forward to sharing more detail on our cable routes as part of our upcoming phases of community consultation.

# Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)



## The planning process

Given the amount of renewable energy these projects would generate (over 50 MW), they will be classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

The relevant legislation is the Planning Act 2008.

This means that, to gain permission to build the project, we will be submitting a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). The decision will be determined by the Secretary of State.

For our application to be accepted, we must satisfy PINS that our pre-application consultation, both with statutory consultees (such as the local planning authorities) and with local communities, has been undertaken properly in accordance with the relevant legislation (the Planning Act 2008).

# Engagement and consultation



## Public launch (September 2021)

- Stakeholder briefings and meetings
- Websites
- Communications channels (phone and email)
- Media

### 2022 Q1

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Request submitted to the Planning Inspectorate

### 2022 Q3

Second phase of consultation with community and technical stakeholders, including sharing the findings of our Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

### 2021 Q4

First phase of community consultation

### 2022 Q2

Publication of our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) and ongoing development of our EIA

### 2022 Q4

Submission of DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate for public examination

# How we will consult

We anticipate consulting on both projects in parallel.  
Two phases of consultation (formative and detailed).  
Combination of digital and more ‘traditional’ activities.

## Direct

- **Consultation leaflets** issued to properties within core consultation.
- **Notifications** to those who have requested to be kept informed.

## On Demand

- Free-to-use dedicated **communications channels**, including phonenumber, email address, and FREEPOST
- **Community Access Points** to host documents.
- **Project websites**, including a **digital engagement platform**, to be an accessible location for project information and an online option to submit feedback.

## Face-to-face

- **Community events** held locally
  - **Meetings** with near neighbours, key stakeholders, and representatives of hard-to-reach groups.
- Digital substitutes (if required)**
- Community webinars
  - Virtual exhibition

## Media & publicity

- **Advertisements** in local press to promote consultation activities.



# Indicative programme



## Phase One Consultation (2021 - summer 2022)

Briefings  
Pre-application Meetings  
Stakeholder consultation  
Public consultation  
EIA Scoping

## Statutory Consultation (summer to autumn 2022)

Stakeholder consultation on the proposals, including the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

## Submission of DCO Application (autumn 2022)

Submitted to PINS

## Examination (winter 2022 to winter 2023)

Pre-examination responses to questions  
Examination  
Post-examination questions

## Decision (winter 2023)

PINS make their recommendation to the Secretary of State (SoS)  
Decision made by SoS for BEIS

## Construction (2024 onwards)

Discharge of Requirements  
Construction will be phased

# Staying in touch



Please contact us with any questions or comments you may have:



[www.cottamsolar.co.uk](http://www.cottamsolar.co.uk)

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

0808 169 1848



[www.westburtonsolar.co.uk](http://www.westburtonsolar.co.uk)

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

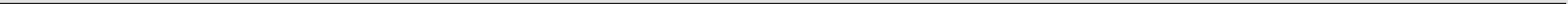
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We will notify you when our first phase of community consultation is launching.

# Thank you for listening.



Please submit any questions you may have.



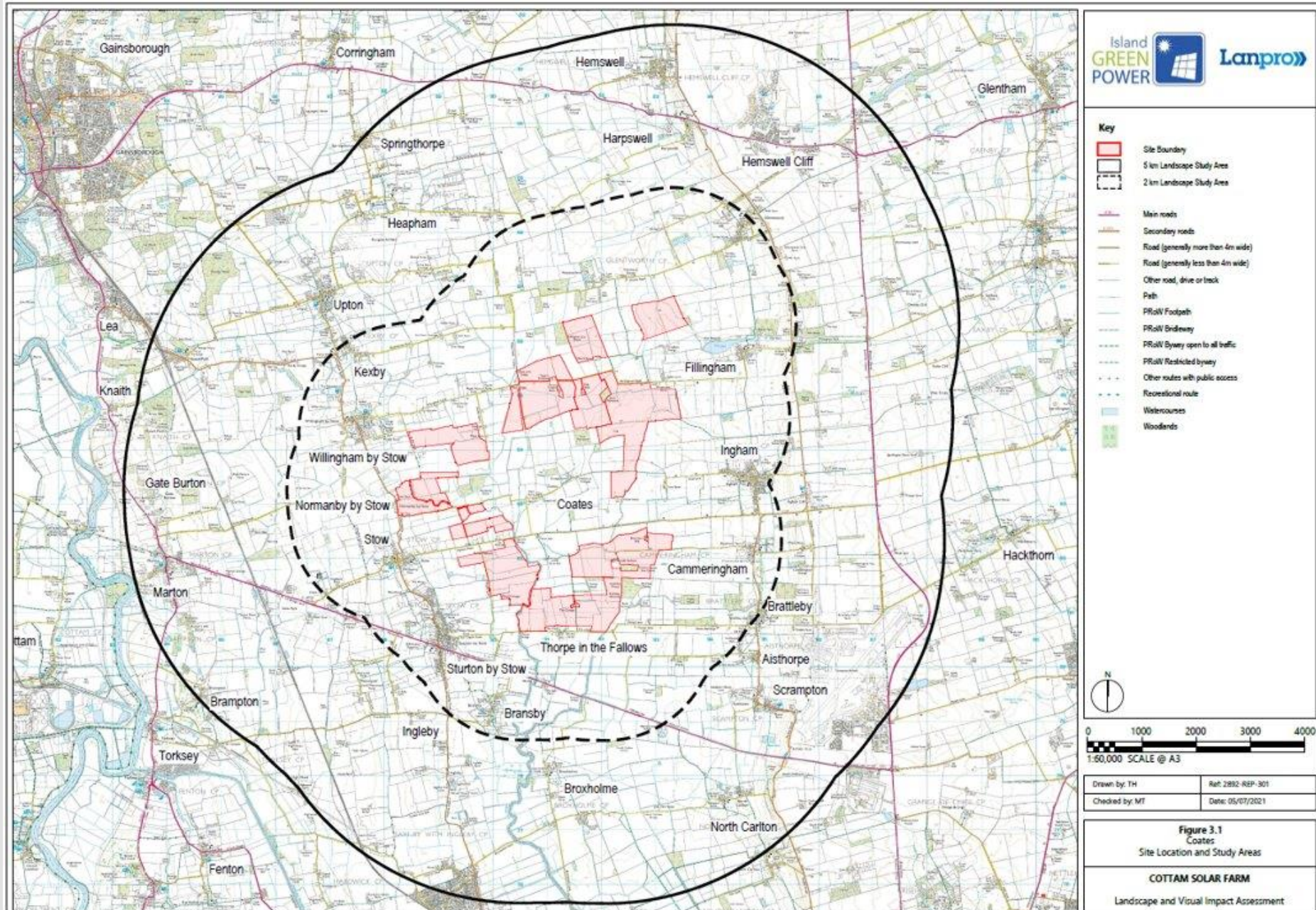


**Appendices: Further site maps for  
reference**

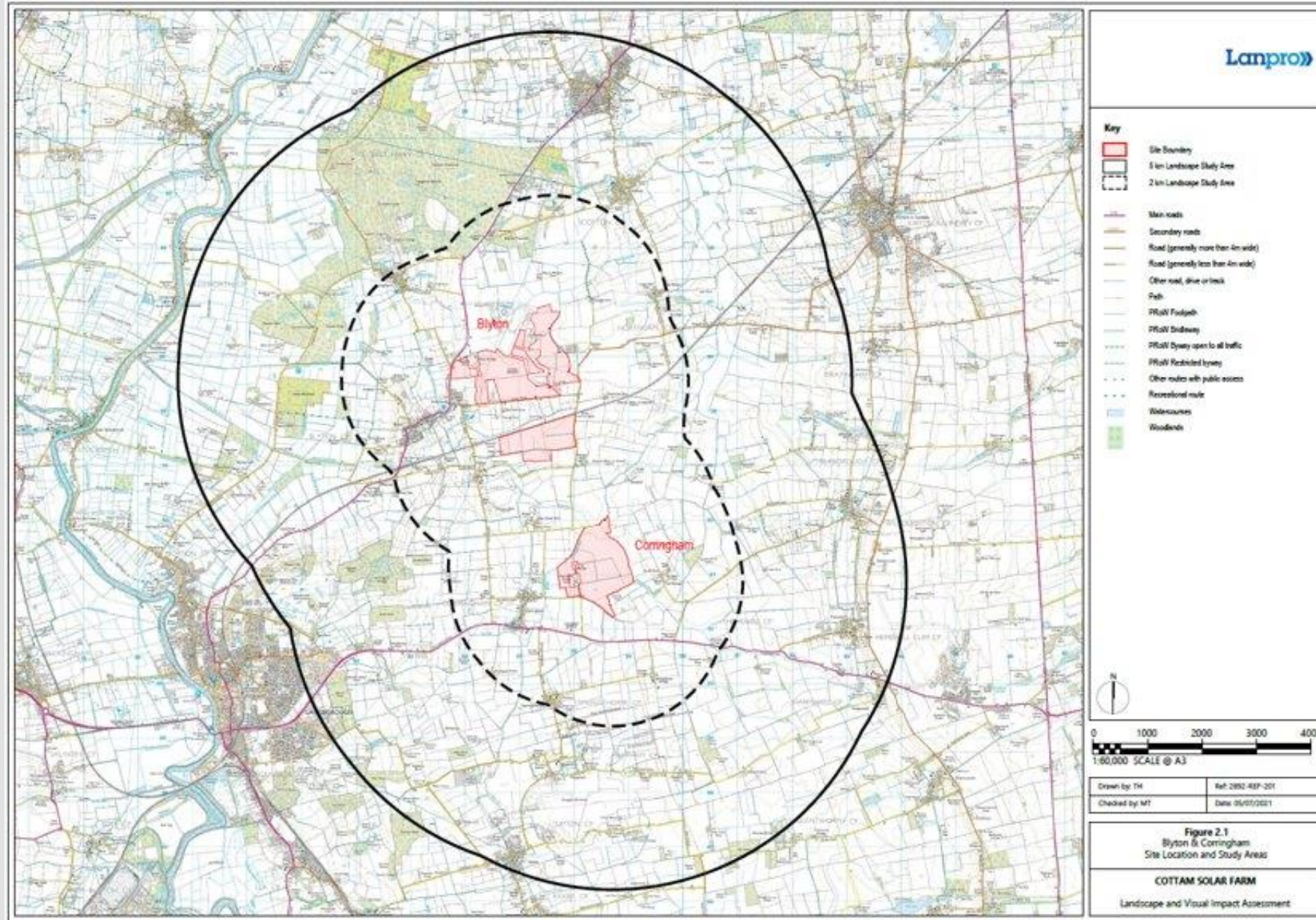
# Cottam 1



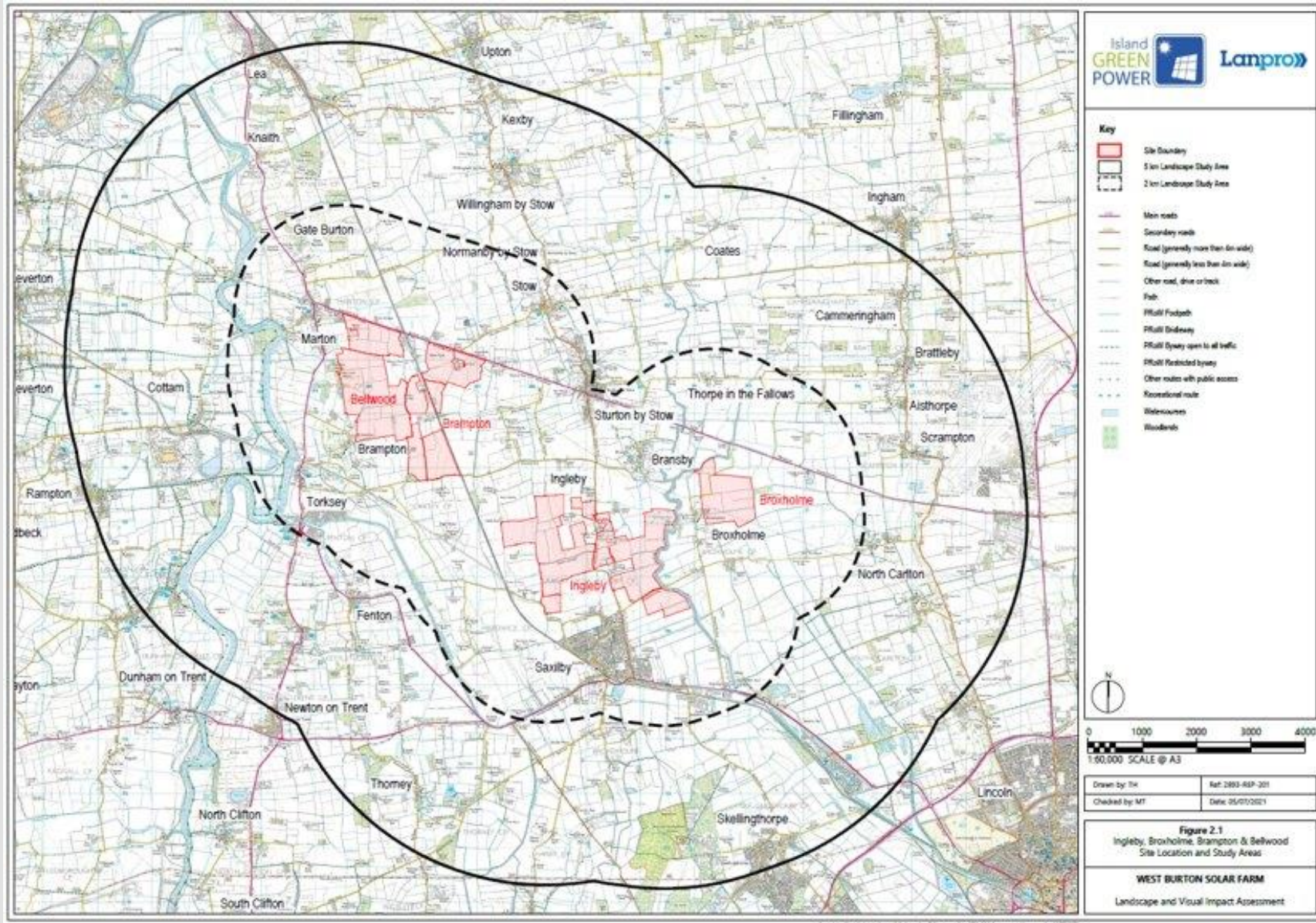
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# Cottam 2 & 3



# West Burton 1, 2 & 3



# West Burton 4

