



Kingsway
Solar

Statement of Community Consultation

August 2025

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Glossary

Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)

The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) is a ministerial department of the Government of the United Kingdom.

Development Consent Order (DCO)

A Development Consent Order (DCO) is a statutory instrument granted by the Secretary of State to authorise the construction and development of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

Downing Renewable Developments (DRD)

The Application is promoted by Kingsway Solar Farm Ltd, a subsidiary of UK-based investment manager Downing Renewable Developments (DRD) founded by Downing LLP.

National Electricity Transmission System (NETS)

National Grid owns and operates the England and Wales electricity transmission network. The National Electricity Transmission System (NETS) carries electricity from the generators to substations, where the voltage is lowered, ready for distribution to homes and businesses. National Grid is responsible for balancing the system and managing generation output to make sure it matches demand throughout the day.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) are large scale developments in England and Wales that need to apply for Development Consent Orders under the Planning Act 2008. The application submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

The purpose of the PEIR is to provide early information to allow stakeholders and the local community to develop an informed view of the impacts of the development.

Primary Consultation Zone (PCZ)

The geographical area around a proposed development where stakeholders, including residents, and businesses, are directly engaged in consultation processes. These are typically people most likely to be impacted by the development.

Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

A formal document that outlines how a developer plans to consult with the local community about a DCO project. The SoCC is developed in consultation with local planning authorities.

1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose of this document

This document, known as a Statement of Community Consultation ("SoCC"), sets out how Kingsway Solar "the Applicant", plans to consult with the local community on its proposals for the Kingsway Solar Farm (hereinafter referred to as the "Scheme").

1.2. Why are we publishing this document?

The Applicant is preparing a Development Consent Order (DCO) application under the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") for the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and an approximate 15 km overhead line connection into National Grid's planned Burwell South substation (due to be located to the south of Burwell, the exact location to be determined by National Grid). The Scheme will also include associated infrastructure, including co-located battery energy storage systems (BESS) and inter-array connections to link together the land parcels where the solar panels are located ("the Application").

The Scheme is proposed to be located on land around the areas of Balsham, West Wratting, Weston Colville, and Weston Green in Cambridgeshire, and is within the administrative boundaries of Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council. The Scheme would have capacity to generate up to 500 megawatts (MW) of electricity and connect to the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS).

The Scheme is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). An NSIP is a major development proposal considered by the UK Government to be of such importance that the permission to build and operate it needs to be confirmed at the national level. For energy NSIPs, this would be by the Secretary of State (SoS) for Energy Security and Net Zero via a DCO.

This document explains how the Applicant will consult with the local community, stakeholders, and interested groups during the stage of statutory consultation. Statutory consultation follows early engagement, and stage one consultation that took place between October – December 2024 (please see section 5.2 for further information). The statutory consultation is an opportunity for stakeholders and members of the local community to consider and influence our proposals before we submit the Application. This SoCC outlines how people can learn more about the Scheme and engage with the process, provides an overview of what is being proposed and what is being consulted on, and the statutory pre-application consultation process.

This SoCC has been prepared in accordance with section 47 of the Act and Regulation 12 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the 'EIA Regulations'). We have also referred to applicable Government guidance on pre-application consultation under the Planning Act 2008 and the Planning Inspectorate's Advice note 14 including how to engage with local communities and ensure the consultation process is clear, transparent, and meets statutory obligation.

In accordance with section 47(2) to (5) of the Act, in developing the SoCC we will consult with and have regard to comments received from the following Section 43(1) local authorities:

- Cambridgeshire County Council
- South Cambridgeshire District Council (Greater Cambridge Shared Planning)
- East Cambridgeshire District Council

In accordance with section 47(6) of the Act, we will be publishing a notice in the London Gazette, The Guardian, and Cambridge News, providing details of where the SoCC can be inspected. Information on how the consultation will be advertised through local press is detailed within Section 6.7.

The following neighbouring local planning authorities will also receive the SoCC for information purposes.

- Braintree District Council
- Cambridge City Council (Greater Cambridge Shared Planning)
- Central Bedfordshire Council
- Fenland District Council
- Huntingdonshire District Council
- King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council
- North Hertfordshire District Council
- Uttlesford District Council
- West Suffolk District Council

The publication schedule, including the statutory notices published in accordance with section 47 and section 48 of the Act, is set out in **Table 1**. The publication dates will be confirmed and included in the final SoCC.

Newspaper outlet	Notice	1 st publication date	2 nd publication date
Cambridge News	S47 and S48	TBC	TBC
The Guardian	S48	TBC	N/A
London Gazette	S48	TBC	N/A

Table 1: Schedule for statutory notices

2. The Planning Process

Section 14 of the Act defines the types of development that constitute an NSIP and require development consent under Section 31.

2.1. Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs)

As the Scheme is a generating station that will have a capacity exceeding 50MW, and includes an overhead line over 2km, it is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under sections 14(1)(a) and 15(2) of the Act. Overhead lines are also considered an NSIP under sections 14(1)(b) and 16 of the Act, where the thresholds set out in section 16 are met (voltage 132kV or greater and longer than 2km). As the proposed Grid Connection will exceed these thresholds, it is to be treated as an NSIP along with the solar generating station. The consenting regime for NSIPs under the Act therefore requires the Applicant to apply for a DCO, per section 31 of the Act.

The Applicant intends to submit an application for a DCO for the Scheme under Section 37 of the Act. The Application will be submitted to the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) who will appoint an Examining Authority to examine the Application and make recommendations to the Secretary of State (SoS) for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) pursuant to the Act. The SoS will subsequently determine whether a DCO should be granted for the Scheme.

Before submitting an application, the Act requires applicants to carry out consultation with people living in the vicinity of the land, prescribed consultation bodies, relevant statutory undertakers, and those with an interest in the land that is the subject of the application.

Early involvement of communities, local authorities and other stakeholders helps to ensure that we identify valuable information about the potential effects of the Scheme and provides an opportunity for early feedback from stakeholders to shape the Scheme's development.

Consultation ensures that potential mitigation measures can be considered and, where appropriate, built into the Applicant's designs before an application for development consent is submitted.

More information about the DCO process can be found here:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf>

3. Project Overview

3.1. The developer

The Application is promoted by Kingsway Solar Farm Ltd, a subsidiary of UK-based investment manager DRD founded by Downing LLP. Downing LLP is a certified B-Corporation¹, focused on creating a sustainable future through investing in sectors such as renewable energy. The Applicant brings significant experience in ownership and operation of solar, wind, hydro, battery storage and other infrastructure assets, maintaining a diverse portfolio of renewable energy projects across the UK and Europe since 2010.

3.2. The proposed development

The Scheme would comprise the construction, operation (including maintenance) and decommissioning of photovoltaic (PV) solar panels and an approximate 15 km overhead line connection into National Grid's planned Burwell South substation (the exact location to be determined by National Grid). The Scheme will also include associated infrastructure, including co-located battery energy storage systems (BESS) and inter-array connections to link together the land parcels where the solar panels are located.

Cambridge is located to the northwest of the Site and the A11 runs south to north, just to the west of land parcel A (as shown in figure 1 below). The largest settlements nearest to the Scheme are Cambridge to the west, Newmarket to the northwest and Haverhill to the south. Smaller settlements include Balsham, West Wrating, Weston Colville and Weston Green.

The Scheme would generate around 500MW of electricity for export to the NETS. The Scheme, if consented and developed, would have the capacity to generate energy for approximately 175,000 homes and will make a significant contribution to the country's need for low-carbon energy.

The parameters of the Scheme are not yet finalised, and will be refined as the Scheme progresses, taking into account environmental and technical factors and consultation responses. At this stage, based on an indicative site layout plan the Scheme would comprise the following key components:

- Solar PV modules;
- Solar PV module mounting structures;
- Inverters;
- Transformers;
- High voltage (HV) switchgear and control equipment (housed inside a building);

¹ In September 2022, Downing became a certified B Corporation, demonstrating commitment to the 'triple bottom line' of people, planet and profit. Downing is strongly committed to continue improving their high standards of social and environmental performance, accountability and transparency - while working towards a sustainable future for all.

- Onsite cabling and cabling between solar array land parcels;
- Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS);
- Onsite electrical compounds comprising of substations and control buildings;
- A spare parts storage building or enclosure;
- Fencing and security measures;
- Landscaping and biodiversity enhancements; and
- Connection to the national grid via an overhead line, using lattice towers carrying 400 kilovolt (kV) lines.

The design of the Scheme is being guided by a set of design principles:

Sustainability

- Kingsway Solar will be designed to support the transition to Net Zero and assist the UK in achieving Net Zero targets by 2050. Our design will be flexible to take advantage of new sustainable and efficient technologies that emerge.

People

- Meaningful engagement will be carried out with communities and stakeholders. We will, where possible, work with local communities to understand how best to protect and enhance their environment and the local area.

Environment

- We will look to manage, protect and, where possible, enhance the landscape and design of the Scheme sensitively with consideration to the local heritage, culture and in support of its ecological value. The Scheme will utilise environmental studies to inform design and suitable mitigation measures and will be supported by a full Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that details all the relevant measures.

3.3. Scheme boundary

The boundary for the Scheme, as shown on Figure 1 below, is within the administrative boundaries of Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council. Figure 1 depicts the Scheme boundary for the stage one consultation. This will be updated to reflect the draft Scheme boundary for statutory consultation within the final version of the SoCC.

We are proposing three development areas comprising approximately 1,500 hectares (3,707 acres):

- Parcel A, West
- Parcel B, Central
- Parcel C, East

The land in the development areas would encompass the development of the solar panels and related infrastructure, including the grid connection, and areas reserved for potential environmental mitigation and enhancement zones, recreational areas and community benefit initiatives.

The Scheme also includes an approximate 15 km corridor for the grid connection that will connect to the NETS via an overhead line. This would be lattice towers carrying 400 kilovolt (kV) lines. We may investigate placing infrastructure underground if required to mitigate certain impacts and it is considered appropriate to do so.

The stage one Scheme boundary showed two corridor options (eastern and western) for the potential connection corridor. These options have been refined through considering stage one consultation feedback and ongoing environmental and technical assessments. The Scheme boundary for the statutory consultation will include one corridor option, and will be shown in the final version of the SoCC.

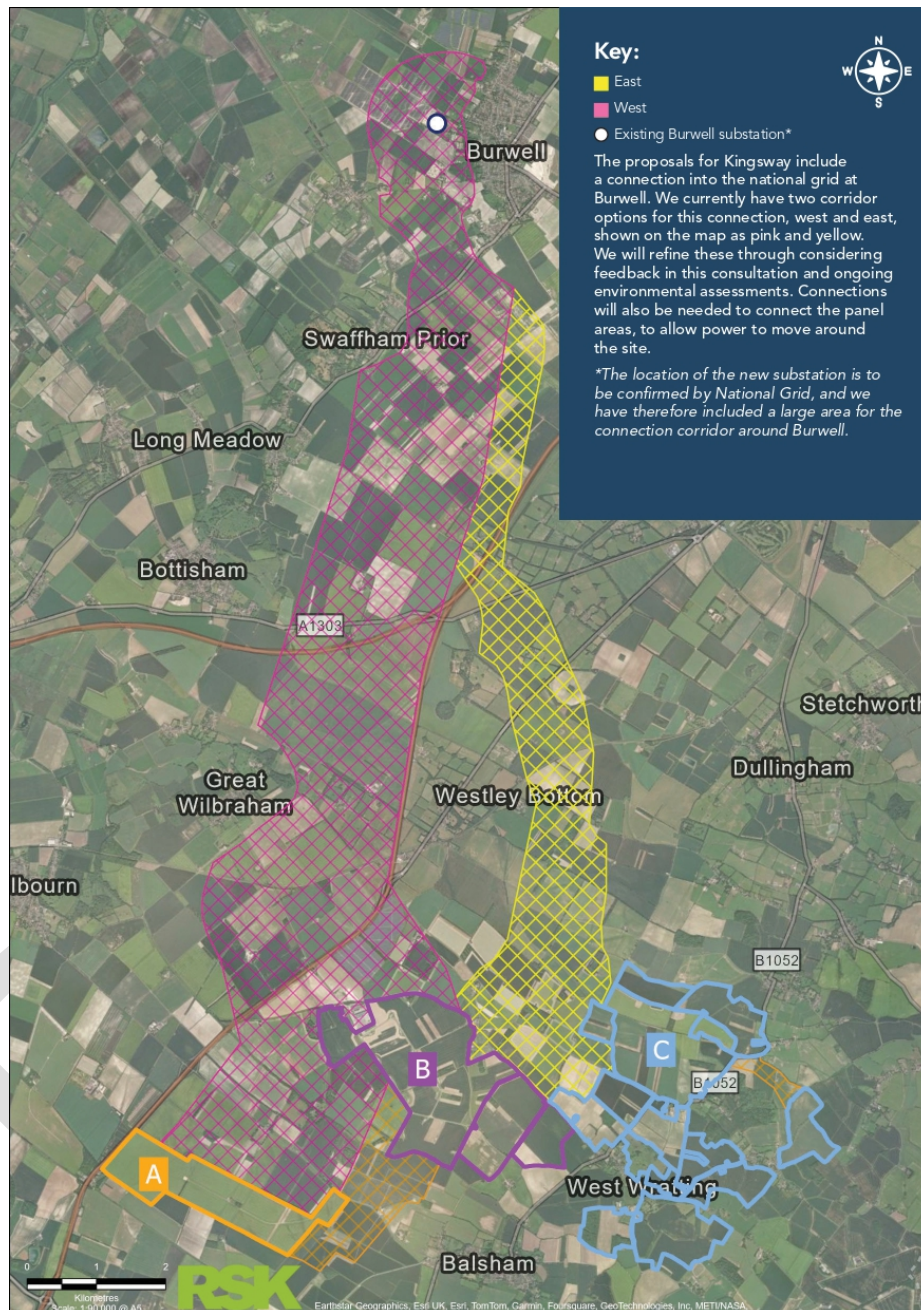


Figure 1: Stage one consultation Scheme boundary

3.4. Environmental Impact Assessment

The Scheme is a 'Schedule 2 development' under paragraph 3 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations 2017, meaning that an EIA is required only if it is considered likely to have significant effects on the environment due to its nature, size or location. As there is potential for the Scheme to have significant effects on the environment, an EIA is required. This means the Applicant must assess the likely significant environmental effects of the Scheme and, where appropriate, implement mitigation measures that will prevent or reduce any significant adverse effects.

An EIA Scoping Opinion was issued by PINS on 17 December 2024. This identifies the environmental issues and topics relevant to the Scheme, and which should be assessed as part of the EIA. The Scoping Opinion is available to view on the PINS website at: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN010165-000007-Kingsway%20-%20EIA%20Scoping%20Report%20-%20Main%20Report.pdf>

A Preliminary Environmental Information Report ('PEIR') – which contains preliminary environmental information on the likely significant effects of the Scheme – will be produced and publicised as part of the statutory consultation in accordance with section 42 of the Act. The PEIR will be available to view on the Scheme website and at in-person events during the statutory consultation, along with a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) which will summarise the contents of the PEIR in a non-technical manner.

The PEIR will build upon the findings from the Scoping Report, Scoping Opinion and the feedback received through early engagement with stakeholders. It will provide preliminary environmental information on the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and any proposed mitigation to help the local community and consultation bodies to understand the likely significant effects of the Scheme and inform responses regarding the proposals. We will be inviting feedback and comments on the information presented in the PEIR as part of the statutory consultation. Feedback received will be considered before the DCO application and EIA are finalised for submission.

The Applicant will report on the outcomes of this process in an Environmental Statement (ES), which will be submitted as part of the Application. The ES will set out the assessment and conclusions of the EIA process. It will build on the content of the PEIR and incorporate the responses from the statutory consultation, stakeholder engagement and the results of surveys undertaken. It will also describe any mitigation measures that need to be implemented.

4. Consultation and Engagement Approach

In line with the requirements set out in the Act, along with the guidance in the Planning Inspectorate's 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects', the Applicant will be carrying out meaningful, statutory pre-application consultation and engagement with the local community in the vicinity of the Scheme as well as with statutory consultees, landowners, businesses, parish councils, elected representatives, and wider stakeholders where appropriate.

As aligned with our design principles, we will where possible, work with local communities to understand how best to protect and enhance their environment and the local area. The Applicant acknowledges that consultation is an important factor in the development of the Scheme and values the local knowledge provided in consultation responses. Throughout the pre-application process, the Applicant will seek to address feedback as part of design development, where appropriate.

4.1. Consultation objectives

The programme of consultation and engagement has four core objectives:

- to share and explain the updated proposals with a wide range of stakeholders and the public, whilst still at an early stage of the process;
- to gain insight through listening to the views of local communities and other stakeholders about the updated project proposals, whilst still at an early stage;
- to identify potential impacts of the project and take stakeholder and community input into account in developing potential mitigation strategies; and
- to provide a robust evidence base for the DCO application, enabling us to demonstrate how community and stakeholder feedback has influenced our considerations where possible.

4.2. Consultation approach

The Applicant wants to ensure that the Scheme is listening and learning from the people who live in the area as well as wider stakeholders.

The Applicant is committed to engaging and consulting with communities and stakeholders at an early stage of the Scheme development process, giving people the opportunity to provide feedback and insight at a formative stage, ahead of more detailed design work being carried out. This commitment includes providing accessible information on the project to help inform engagement and gain feedback from stakeholders.

In order to maximise the opportunity for a wide range of stakeholders to participate in our programme of consultation and engagement, and to increase the opportunity for local views to influence our considerations, the Applicant has committed to undertake a multi-phase programme.

4.3. Indicative project timeline

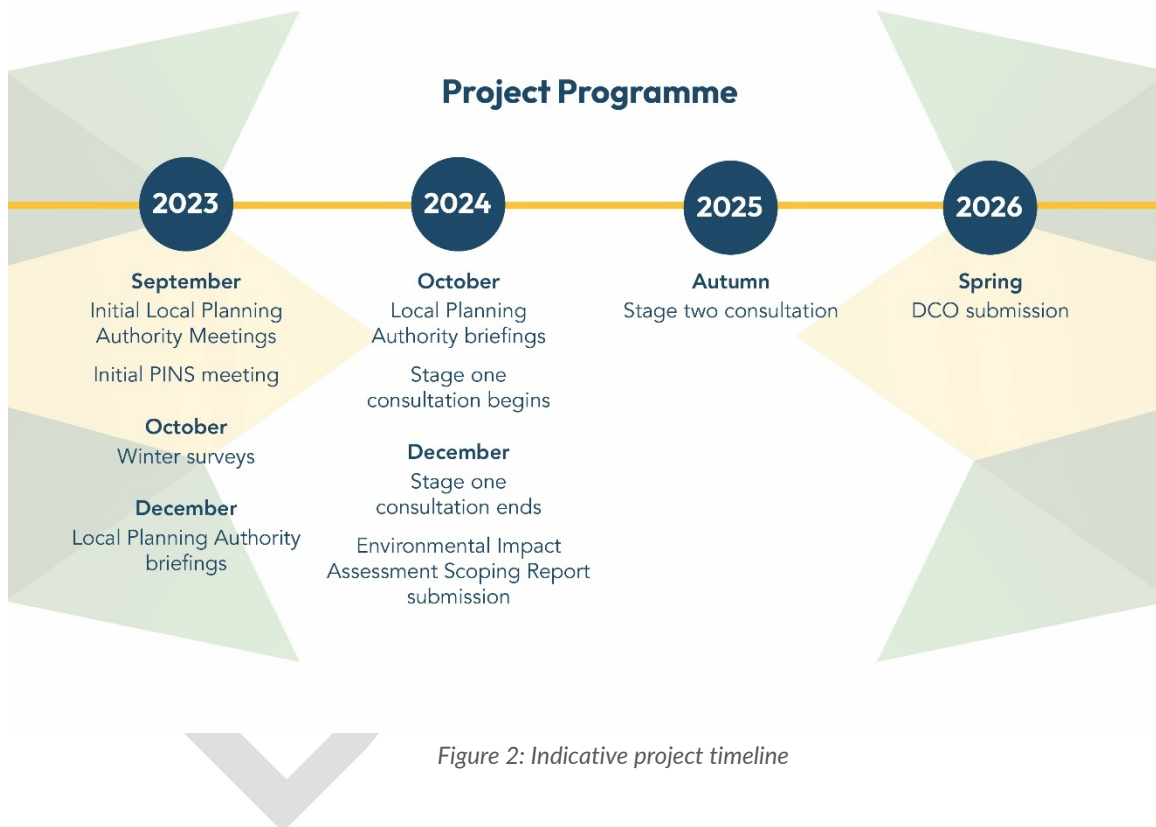


Figure 2: Indicative project timeline

5. Stage One (Non-Statutory) Consultation

5.1. Early engagement

In October 2024, the Applicant undertook a programme of initial engagement and consultation to help raise local awareness of the early stage proposals.

The stage one (non-statutory) consultation aimed to:

- introduce the Scheme to the local community and stakeholders;

- begin early engagement with the community and statutory consultees to incorporate technical advice and local knowledge into the Scheme's development;
- brief local elected representatives and secure their support for the engagement approach;
- understand initial views and allow stakeholders to shape the Scheme through the design process; and
- provide an early indication of the Applicant's approach to consultation and the aspects of the Scheme for which feedback was sought.

The stage one consultation included:

- A Consultation Newsletter – delivered to 7,584 addresses in the launch Primary Consultation Zone, (see Appendix 1) informing local residents of the Scheme and how they could get involved in the upcoming consultation.
- Launch of a Scheme website – including messaging and information about the Scheme and upcoming engagement activities. The website also contains contact details for people to get in touch with the project team, which can be found here: www.kingswaysolarfarm.co.uk.
- Project briefings were offered to Pippa Heylings MP (South Cambridgeshire) and Charlotte Cane MP (Ely and East Cambridgeshire), including follow up offers.
- Member briefings were offered to Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council. Two briefings were held with Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council.
- Briefings were also offered to local Parish Councils. A full record of our briefings for stage one consultation can be found in Table 2 below.

Stakeholder category	Briefing attendees	Date	Time	Format
Local Authority	Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council	Tuesday 29 October	3pm - 4pm	Online
Local Authority	Cambridgeshire County Council and East Cambridgeshire District Council	Monday 4 November	12:30pm - 1:30pm	Online
Parish Council	Balsham Parish Council	Tuesday 12 November	10:30am - 11:30am	In-person
Parish Council	West Wratting Parish Council	Tuesday 12 November	5:30pm - 6:30pm	In-person
Parish Council	Weston Colville Parish Council	Monday 18 November	5pm - 7pm	In-person
Parish Council	Carlton-cum-Willingham Parish Council	Wednesday 4 December	4:30pm	In-person
Parish Council	Brinkley Parish Council	Wednesday 4 December	6pm	In-person
Local interest Group	Kingsway Solar Community Action Group	Monday 2 December	10am - 2pm	In-person
Parish Council	Burwell Parish Council	Tuesday 10 December	7pm	In-person

Parish Council	Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom Parish council	Thursday 16 January	7pm	In-person
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Table 2: Schedule of briefings

5.2. Stage one consultation

The stage one consultation took place between 31 October 2024 and 12 December 2024. The primary aim of our stage one consultation was to introduce the early stage proposals and provide stakeholders and members of the local community with the opportunity to submit their initial feedback.

Feedback received from local authorities, technical stakeholders, interest groups and members of the local community has helped us to refine our early stage proposals. An updated scheme design will be presented to stakeholders as part of our statutory consultation.

The stage one consultation included three in-person events, where project specialists from the planning, environmental, communications, and engineering teams were available to answer detailed questions as they arose. A summary of events can be seen in Table 3 and an overview of the consultation feedback received can be found in Table 4.

Date	Time	Location	Attendance
Friday 15 November	14:00 – 20:00	Balsham Pavilion, Balsham, Cambridge CB21 4DS	183
Saturday 16 November	10:00 – 14:00	West Wratting Village Hall, 79 High Street, West Wratting, CB21 5LU	154
Monday 25 November	14:00 – 20:00	Great Wilbraham Memorial Hall, Angle End, Great Wilbraham, Cambridge CB21 5JG	107
Monday 2 December	18:00 – 19:00	Webinar – held online on Livestorm	51

Table 3: Summary of stage one consultation events

Feedback Type	Breakdown	Amount Received
Feedback Form	Digital	490
	Hard Copy (Freepost; events; scanned and submitted via email)	19
Communications Lines	Project inbox (Emails)	178
	Letters (Freepost address; events)	9
Total		696

Table 4: Overview of feedback received

6. Stage Two (Statutory) Consultation

6.1. The Primary Consultation Zone

To help facilitate and guide the engagement with the local community, a Primary Consultation Zone (PCZ) has been established which comprises the homes and businesses surrounding the proposed Scheme boundary. The PCZ was in place for the stage one consultation. The PCZ can be seen in Figure 3, with the Scheme boundary presented at stage one consultation in red, and PCZ in black. For statutory consultation, a preferred corridor will be selected, but our PCZ will remain the same for consistency.

In advance of any mailings to the PCZ, elected members of Parish, District, County and Local MP's offices will be notified and sent any mail pieces electronically. This is to ensure stakeholders are kept up to date on the projects development, and know in advance materials entering the public domain.

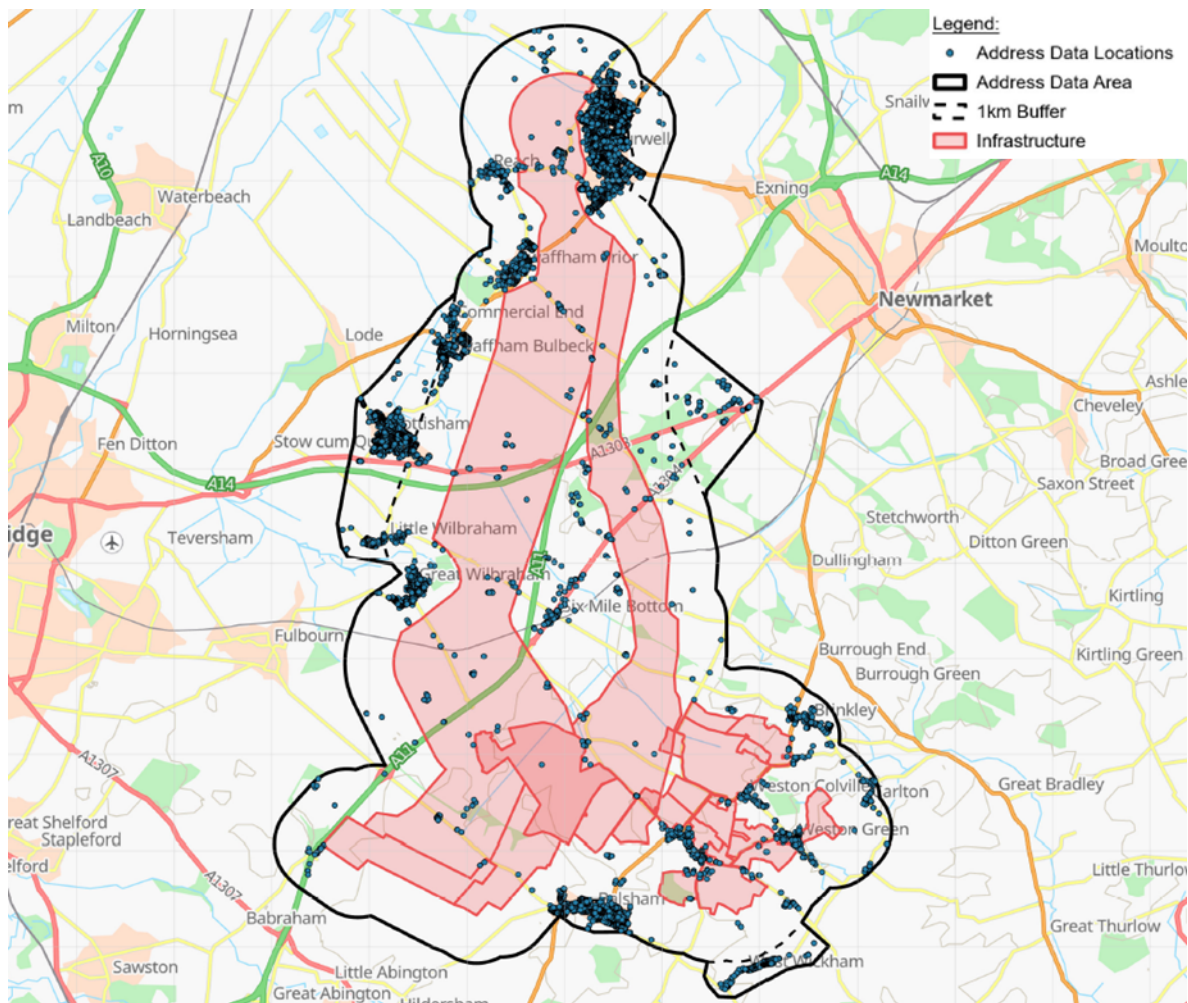


Figure 3: Map of the Primary Consultation Zone

The PCZ:

- extends at least 1km from the proposed Scheme boundary;
- extends over 2km from the proposed Scheme boundary in areas to avoid intersecting communities;
- incorporates the core settlements of Balsham, West Wrating, Weston Colville, Weston Green, Brinkley near the solar development areas; and
- incorporates the core settlements of Six Mile Bottom, Great Wilbraham, Little Wilbraham, Bottisham, Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior, Reach and Burwell along the connection corridors.

We have identified 7,584 addresses in total within the PCZ that will be directly notified. The PCZ was developed to be proportionate to the size and potential impact of the Scheme.

All homes and businesses within the PCZ will be sent a copy of the newsletter via Royal Mail delivery service at the start of the statutory consultation period.

We recognise that people who live and work beyond the PCZ may have an interest in our proposals and may wish to participate in the statutory consultation. We are committed to making sure individuals, communities, and organisations can participate in the consultation and will raise awareness using several methods such as advertising and press releases in the local media, and engagement with Parish and Town Councils. See Section 6.7 – Promoting the consultation – for further details.

6.2. Consultation timings

Our statutory consultation is scheduled to take place for six weeks, opening in September 2025. The exact dates will be confirmed in the final SoCC. This is a six-week period, in excess of the statutory minimum period of 28 days required by the Act.

Held in accordance with Section 42 of the Act, this consultation provides an opportunity for the Applicant to present proposals for the Kingsway Solar Farm for a formal response. More details on what we will be consulting on and how we propose to consult are included below.

6.3. What are we consulting on?

The Applicant will be seeking feedback on all aspects of the Scheme. This will involve inviting comments on topics including, but not limited to:

- The overall Scheme
- The updated plans for the development areas, including the indicative location of equipment and infrastructure within each
- The selected connection route (two corridors presented previously) between the development areas and connection at National Grid's proposed Burwell South substation
- Measures we are proposing to reduce the impacts associated with the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of the Scheme
- Suggestions on how Kingsway Solar can benefit the local community
- Any other feedback on our work so far or local issues and sensitivities of which we should be aware.

The primary aim of this statutory consultation is to ensure that the community, landowners, stakeholders, and technical consultees have a formal opportunity to understand and feed into our proposals before we submit our DCO application.

6.4. Who are we consulting?

Anyone who is interested in the proposals is welcome to take part. The Applicant welcomes all views and will have regard to them before the DCO application is submitted.

Under Section 47 of the Act, the Applicant has a duty to consult people living in the vicinity of the land that is the subject of the Application. In consultation with host local authorities, we have developed the PCZ, as shown in Figure 3.

In addition to the PCZ mailing, the Applicant will consult the following groups:

- host local authorities, including members;
- neighbouring local authorities;
- host and neighbouring parish councils;
- statutory consultees as defined by the Act;
- host and neighbouring members of Parliament;
- landowners with interest in the Scheme;
- as outlined in Appendix 2, the following groups:
- residents and businesses;
- community groups;
- environmental groups in the vicinity of the Scheme;
- schools and colleges within the vicinity of the Scheme;
- seldom heard groups; and
- non-statutory consultees.

6.5. How are we consulting?

During statutory consultation, we will use a range of methods to ensure that the consultation is inclusive and accessible for a broad range of stakeholder audiences.

We will upload an online information presentation to the Scheme website during the consultation period to provide an overview of our proposals and where to find out more information.

In line with our hybrid approach, non-digital methods will be used alongside the digital medium to provide alternative means for consultees to engage with the Scheme. In-person consultation events are also planned to be held within the vicinity of the Scheme during statutory consultation.

The following documents will be made available as part of the consultation:

Document	Detail
Consultation Newsletter	A Consultation Newsletter providing a high-level overview of the Scheme, of the consultation events and how people can get involved. The newsletter indicates where the relevant project information can be found and publicises the consultation events, including locations, dates, and times. This will be sent to all homes and businesses within the PCZ and will be available on the consultation website, at our consultation events, information points, and on request by post.
Consultation Information Booklet	The Consultation Information Booklet will include the following information: • summary of the proposals we are consulting on; • details of how people can take part in the consultation; • information on the potential benefits and impacts of the Scheme; • how we propose to mitigate any potential impacts; and • and the timeline for the scheme (planning, construction, operation and decommissioning). Paper copies of the Consultation Information Booklet will be available at our consultation events, information points, and on request by post.
Feedback Form	A Feedback Form will be prepared to allow people to provide feedback on the proposals. This will include an 'open box' question should consultees wish to provide any other feedback after responding to the questions in the form. The questionnaire can be completed online or downloaded in a printable format, if required, and sent into the consultation via Freepost. Paper copies of the Feedback Form will be available at consultation events, information points, and on request by post.
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and Non-	The PEIR will contain a description of the Scheme, a preliminary assessment of the likely significant environmental effects, and the initial strategies to mitigate these effects. The PEIR will be based on information available at that time, but the assessments will be

Technical Summary (NTS)	developed once further detail is available and reported within the Environmental Statement submitted with the DCO application. The PEIR and an NTS of the PEIR will be available for download from the Scheme website. The NTS will summarise the contents of the PEIR in a non-technical manner, including the preliminary assessment of effects and mitigation measures. A paper copy of the PEIR and NTS will be available at our consultation events, and the information point, The Black Bull, for reference.
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	The SoCC document will be made available online as part of the consultation, and in paper format at our consultation events and the information point, The Black Bull, for reference.

Table 5: List of statutory consultation documents

At the start of the consultation period, copies of consultation information booklets, feedback forms and newsletters will be deposited in local information points located in the vicinity of the Scheme. Our SoCC, NTS and full PEIR will be available in printed format for inspection the local information point, The Black Bull.

The locations of the local information points are as follows:

- Burwell Library, Village College, The Causeway, Burwell, CB25 0DU
- Bottisham Community Library, Bottisham Village College, Lode Road, Bottisham, CB25 9DL
- The Black Bull, 27 High Street, Balsham, CB21 4DJ

The consultation materials are available in hard copy for individuals at no extra charge (except the PEIR and NTS, hard copies of which can be requested for a charge of £0.35 per page to cover printing and posting costs). If you require this information in an alternative format, such as Braille, large print or alternative languages, please contact us using the details in this SoCC.

6.6. How the public will be able to participate and respond

The public will be able to participate in, and respond to, the consultation through:

- Up to four community drop-in events hosted in an exhibition format at locations across the consultation zone;
- online information presentation, to learn about the Scheme and consultation materials;
- a dedicated consultation website;
- an interactive Scheme map, which is a digital map hosted on the website for users to engage with elements of the Scheme by zooming, dragging and clicking to reveal more information;
- information points at community venues to host copies of consultation materials and signposting to feedback mechanisms; and
- a project contact centre, including a dedicated email address, phone number and Freepost.

6.7. Promoting the consultation

The Applicant will use a variety of methods to make people aware of the Scheme and advertise the consultation.

Method	Detail
Consultation newsletter	All residents, local businesses, and communities within the PCZ will be notified of the start of statutory consultation through a consultation newsletter. The newsletter will also be issued by email to wider

	consultees, including community groups and seldom heard groups (see Appendix 2).
Press release	A local media press release would provide wider notification to local stakeholders of the consultation events, reaching stakeholders outside the consultation mailing zone. The press release would be briefed into local and regional media outlets.
Emails	Emails will be sent to stakeholders informing them of the statutory consultation, upcoming events, how to request further information, and how to feedback. This will allow stakeholders to engage with the consultation and to share the consultation information among their networks, such as with local constituents or group members.
Scheme website	The Scheme website will be updated on the launch of the statutory consultation. This update will include details of consultation events, consultation materials, and information on how to feed back on the Scheme proposals. This will allow stakeholders to engage fully with the consultation, either in-person or online.
Statutory notices and adverts	Statutory notices to publicise the consultation and the SoCC will be published in local and national news publications. We will run adverts in the local media during the consultation period. The adverts will be designed in a clear, accessible format, clearly communicating what the consultation is about, when it is running and how to take part.
Information point	Hard copies of the consultation materials will be available to takeaway or view for reference in local information points, as outlined in Section 6.5.
Site notices	Notices will be placed in publicly accessible locations within the Scheme boundary to notify of the consultation.
In-person consultation events and online information presentation	We are holding up to four in-person for anyone with an interest in the Scheme to attend, learn about our proposals and provide their initial feedback. In-person events are being held at venues within the PCZ and publicised alongside online events in the Scheme launch newsletter, site notices, adverts and press releases. We will also upload an online information presentation to the Scheme website during the consultation period to provide an overview of our proposals and where to find out more information.
Stakeholder briefings & previews	Briefings with key political stakeholders will be arranged prior to public consultation events to provide an opportunity for early feedback and input. Briefings will be conducted either in-person or remotely online. The briefings will be offered to key affected stakeholders including Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, the host Members of the UK Parliament, host ward councillors, portfolio holders and host parish councils.

Table 6: Overview of promotional activity

6.7.1. Community consultation events

We will hold up to four in-person public consultation events in the local area, providing consultees with an opportunity to meet the team, learn more about the proposals and ask any questions they may have. Key information about the Scheme will be provided on large consultation boards and members of the project team will be on hand to discuss the Scheme and answer questions.

We will also upload an online information presentation to the Scheme website during the consultation period to provide an overview of our proposals and where to find out more information.

To ensure a balanced split of locations, up to four events are planned to be held at the following suggested venues:

- Balsham Pavilion, Church Lane, Balsham, CB21 4DS
- West Wratting Village Hall, 79 High Street, West Wratting, CB21 5LU
- The Reading Room, 46 Chapel Road, Weston Colville, Weston Green, CB21 5NX
- Swaffham Prior Village Hall, High Street, Swaffham Prior, CB25 0LD

All venues are subject to change pending their availability, as well as the completion of risk assessments to determine their suitability for a consultation event. Week-day events will be open for six hours and run until 8pm to allow people to attend outside of normal working hours. We will also hold one four-hour event on a Saturday.

6.7.2. Scheme contact channels

In addition to the methods described above, people will be able to find out about the consultation, ask questions and request documents through the Scheme Freephone number and email address which have remained the same from the stage one consultation. People will also be able to submit feedback to the project email address and Freepost address.

Contact channels for the project are as follows:

- Calling 0800 012 9881 (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday);
- Emailing enquiries@kingswaysolar.co.uk; and
- Writing to the project team at Freepost DOWNING KINGSWAY (no stamp required).

6.8. Wider engagement

Ongoing engagement will be undertaken ahead of the launch of the consultation with relevant stakeholders including local authorities and MPs, technical stakeholders such as Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency, along with local interest groups, residents, and landowners who get in touch.

All relevant local and parish councils, elected members for the county, and MPs will be contacted at the launch of the consultation and will be kept informed about the proposals. They will also be encouraged to share information about the consultation with members of their constituencies or local communities.

6.9. Seldom heard groups

It is important to ensure that consultation is inclusive and enables participation from a wide range of audiences, including those who are seldom heard in public. Seldom heard groups are defined as being inaccessible to most traditional and conventional methods of consultation. To ensure that seldom heard groups are encouraged to get involved in the consultation, the materials will be prepared to be accessible and clear.

Examples of seldom heard groups include:

- elderly people;
- young people;
- working people with limited time;
- people with visual impairments;

- people with hearing impairments;
- people with limited mobility;
- those with English as a second language;
- gypsy and traveller communities; and
- geographically isolated individuals or communities.

We will seek to engage with seldom heard groups by:

- holding events at a variety of times, including evenings and a weekend, to enable participation from people with different time commitments;
- making provision for people who do not have access to the internet or are isolated by sending a community newsletter to every address in the PCZ and making key materials such as the consultation information booklet and feedback form available at information points;
- choosing accessible venues for public information points and in-person events, where possible, side rooms at venues will be utilised to allow communication in a quiet environment;
- providing materials in alternative formats such as Braille on request;
- contacting local community and voluntary organisations including parish councils and schools with Scheme information and encouraging them to promote the consultation through their own existing communication channels; and
- providing a variety of communication channels including a Freephone number, email address and Freepost address for those seeking information.

6.10. How to respond to the consultation

Feedback to the consultation should be submitted in writing or online to the by 11:59pm by the end of the consultation period.

Consultation responses can be submitted in the following ways:

- online – by completing the online feedback questionnaire, which can be accessed via the project website: www.kingswaysolarfarm.co.uk;
- at an in-person consultation event – attendees at consultation events will be able to complete a paper copy of a feedback form, which can be filled in and handed to a member of the project team or posted back to us via Freepost;
- at an information point – hard copies of the feedback form will be available at the information points; and
- via a request at the community contact centre – requests for paper copies of the feedback form can be made via the community contact centre channels listed below.
 - Calling 0800 012 9881 (9:00am to 5:30pm, Monday to Friday)
 - Emailing enquiries@kingswaysolar.co.uk
 - Writing to the project team at Freepost DOWNING KINGSWAY (no stamp required)
- Submitting comments via email – Anyone can share their views by submitting their comments via email to or in writing to the Freepost address during the consultation dates.

6.11. How we will record feedback and respond to it

The Applicant will have regard to all feedback received during the consultation period. All feedback will be processed into a secure database, read and then analysed. Thematically similar comments will be identified and grouped together into 'issues'. All comments per issue will then be summarised and considered by the Applicant. The team will consider this as part of the ongoing design process and assess

how potential impacts of the Scheme could be managed and mitigated, while taking onboard suggestions where appropriate.

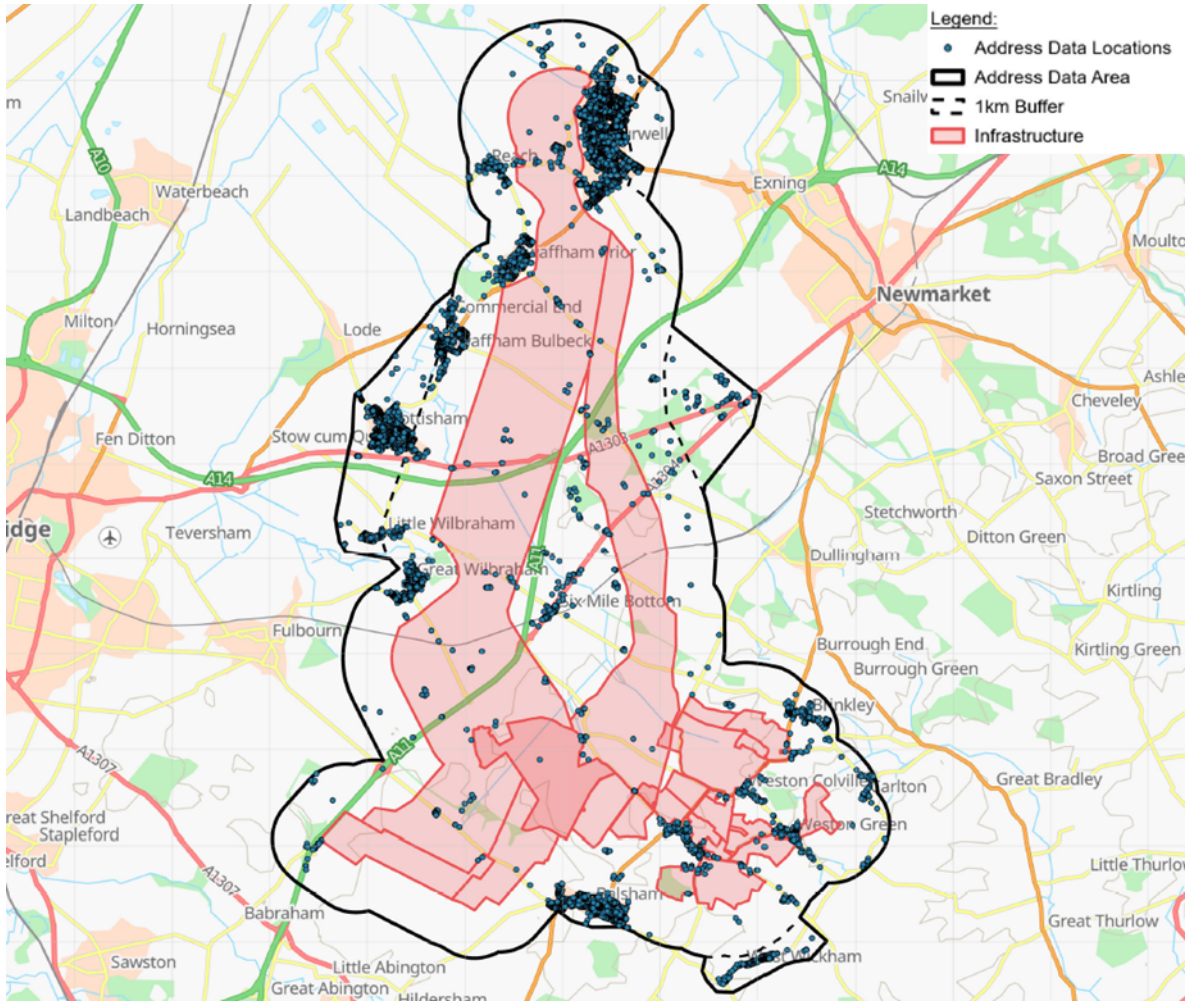
A Consultation Report will be produced as part of our application for development consent, which will be submitted as part of the Application. This document will set out how the Applicant has had regard to the feedback from the consultation, including where it has shaped and influenced the proposals. Responses submitted during the statutory consultation will be summarised and themes will be responded to within the Consultation Report and included within the document. All personal details will be redacted. We will take reasonable care to comply with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation and the Planning Inspectorate's Privacy Policy.

7. Further Consultation

If, following the statutory consultation, we consider it is necessary to undertake further targeted or supplementary consultation, this would be undertaken, so far as relevant and proportionate, in accordance with the principles and methods set out in this SoCC.

Appendices

1. Primary Consultation Zone for stage one consultation



2. Community stakeholders

Organisation
Action Group
Kingsway Solar Community Action Group (KSCA)
Environmental groups
Cambridge Carbon Footprint
Cambridge Friends of the Earth
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Ramblers
Greenpeace - Cambridge
Living Sport
National Farmers' Union
British Horse Society - East of England
Carbon Neutral Cambridge
Cycling UK - CTC Cambridge
Balsham Horticultural Society
Walk Cambridge
Cambridgeshire Bird Club
Wilbraham Environment Group

Barn Owl Trust
Balsham Rubbish Friends
Local community groups
Cambridge Past, Present & Future
Ramblers Association Cambridge Group
West Wickham and District Local History Club
Balsham Good Neighbour Scheme
Balsham Village Hall
Balsham Scout Group
Balsham Baby and Toddler Group
Balsham Bellringers
Balsham Bowls Club
Balsham Cricket Club
Balsham Singers
Balsham Womens' Institute
Burwell Cycling Club
Burwell Running Club
Burwell Grow and Share
Wild Burwell Group
Mandeville Hall, Village Hall, Burwell
Gardiner Memorial Hall
Bottisham & Burwell Photographic Club
Bottisham Bowling Club
Bottisham Football Club
Bottisham Community Sports & Social Club
West Wratting Over-60s Club
West Wratting Tennis Club
West Wratting Community Cafe
The Memorial Hall Great Wilbraham Cambridgeshire
Swaffham Prior Village Hall
Ellesmere Garden Club
Beacon Youth Trust
Cambridge Business and Professional Club
Di Doo Dog Walking
Local businesses
YHF Enterprises
Brocks Wheel & Tyre
Brinkley Hall Farms
Exonate Ltd
Balsham Post Office
The Old Butchers Coffe + Shop, Balsham
The Bell Inn, Balsham
The Black Bull Inn, Balsham
Six Mile Bottom Shoot
Chestnut Tree (pub, West Wratting)
The Carpenters Arms (pub, Great Wilbraham)
Great Wilbraham Post Office
The Hole in the Wall (hotel, Little Wilbraham)
The Red Lion, (pub, Swaffham Prior)

The Black Horse Inn, (pub, Swaffham Bulbeck)
The Bell, (pub, Bottisham)
Bottisham Post Office
Bottisham Pharmacy
Bottisham Sports Centre
Bottisham Library
The Barn Gym, Bottisham
Five Bells Burwell
Balsham Community Café
Business Groups
Cambridge and District Trades Council
Confederation of British Industry
National Venue Agency
Churches
The Church of the Holy Trinity, Balsham
St Andrew's Parochial Church Council, Balsham
St Andrew's Church West Wrattling
St Mary's Church, Weston Colville
St George's Church, Six Mile Bottom
Church of St Nicholas, Great Wilbraham
St John the Evangelist, Little Wilbraham
St Mary's Church, Swaffham Prior and Swaffham Bulbeck
Church of Cyriac & Julitta, Swaffham Prior
Holy Trinity Church, Bottisham
Parish Church of St. Mary, Linton
Linton Free Church
Seldom heard groups
Papworth Trust
Support Cambridgeshire
Age UK – Cambridge
The Community ARC
Cambs Youth Panel
Cambridge Conservation Volunteers
Cambridgeshire Community Foundation
Cambridgeshire Older People Visiting Support Service
Disability Groups
Camsight (visually impaired charity)
Cambridge Deaf Association
Additional Young Persons Groups
Cambridge Young Farmers
Encompass Network Cambridge (LBGTQ+ organisation)
Other
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (LEP)
Cambridge Social Ventures
Confederation of British Industry
C-EENRG
Schools
Burwell Village College Primary School

Great Wilbraham Church of England Primary School
Swaffham Bulbeck Church of England Primary School
Swaffham Prior Church of England Primary School
Bottisham Primary School
The Spring Montessori, Burwell

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