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# Welcome

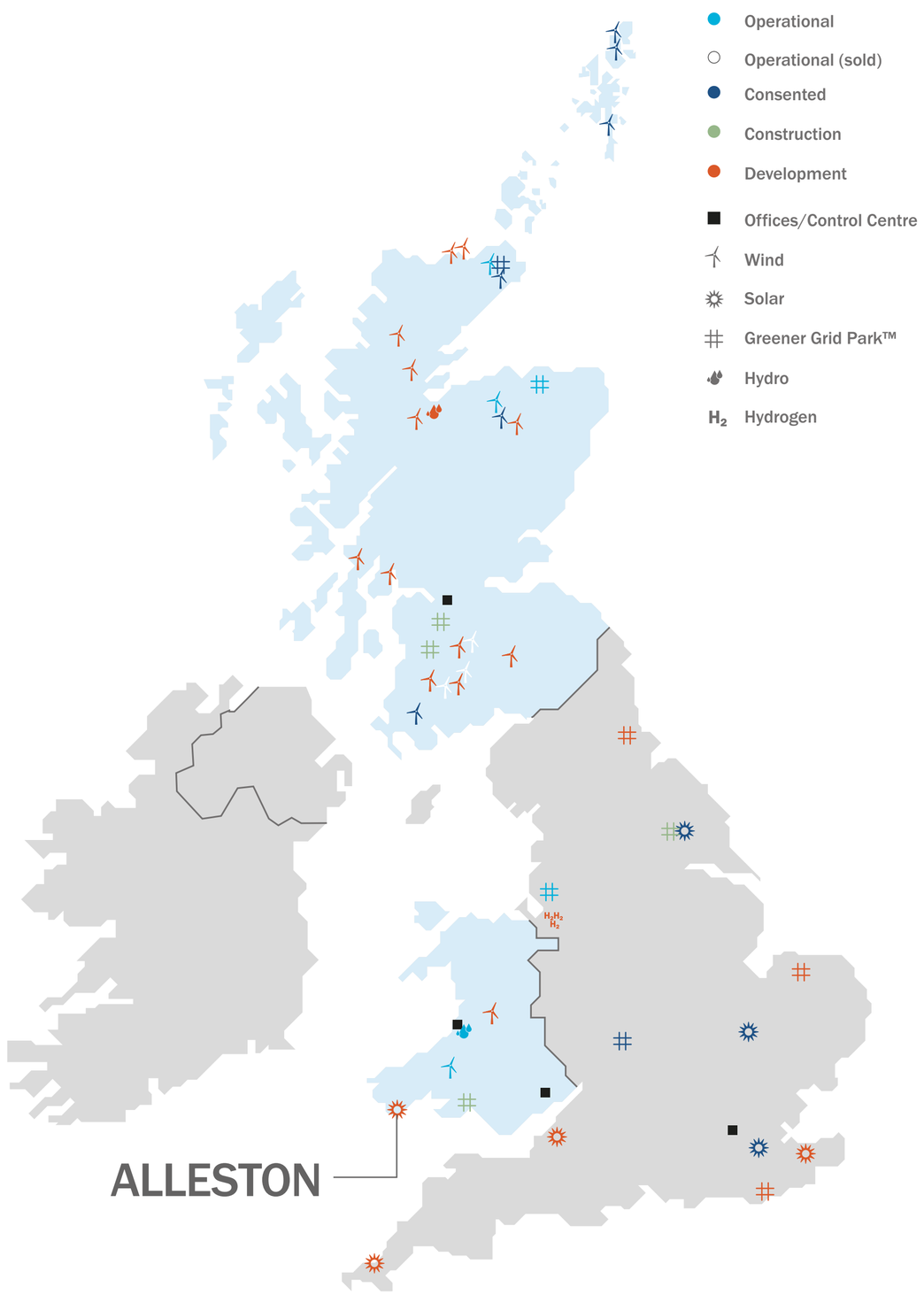
## We are proposing a solar farm of approximately 30MW capacity, located between Pembroke and Lamphey.

**Following early engagement on the proposals in 2023, we received valuable feedback from the local community, helping us to refine the site layout and plans.**

**Feedback received during the current consultation period will be used to inform the final proposals, which we expect to submit to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) in Winter 2024/2025.**

## About Statkraft

- → The largest generator of renewable energy in Europe
- → More than 40 projects in operation or development across the UK
- → Origins in Norwegian hydropower over 125 years ago
- → Acquired SolarCentury in 2020, bringing onboard a strong record of solar development in the UK and Europe
- → Operating in the UK since 2006 with offices across the UK, including Cardiff
- → Develop, build and operate wind, solar, hydrogen and grid stability services
- → Distributed over £4 million to communities near renewable energy projects




For more information and to register for updates, visit www.alleston-solar.co.uk

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# Our Proposals

## The proposed development consists of ground mounted solar panels, with a maximum height of 3.4m, and associated equipment, infrastructure and ancillary works.

## Project Summary

Approximately **30 MW** capacity helping to power Wales

**NEW ORCHARD** to enhance heritage features and local biodiversity

Generating renewable energy equivalent to the need of over **14,000 HOMES** (1)

Net benefit for **BIODIVERSITY** Enhancing biodiversity by providing new habitats

Estimated **£50,000** business rates to Pembrokeshire County Council every year

Rerouted **PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY** (2) to be moved west, alongside Alleston Wood

**£480,000 COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND** over the life of the project

Approximately **1.4km of new hedgerow planting**

*(1) Based on Welsh average household consumption of 3,032kWh per year (DESNZ, Jan 2024)*

*(2) Via secondary consent*

# Our Proposals

## Why here?

- → Onsite connection to existing 132kV powerline means no additional cables will be needed outside the site boundary
- → Connection date from 2027
- → Excellent solar irradiance levels to maximise efficient electricity generation
- → Contributing to local and national energy targets:
  - Pembrokeshire County Council aim to become a net zero carbon local authority by 2030
  - Welsh national target of 100% of electricity from renewable energy by 2035

Solar panels and associated infrastructure have been arranged to minimise visual impact whilst avoiding areas most at risk of flooding.

We have developed our plans to minimise impact on Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land and archaeologically sensitivity areas.

## Site plan

# Landscape and Visualisations

## We understand that members of the community will want to know how the current proposals could look. Today we can share predicted views from three locations.

When designing the site, we have:

- → Maximised the use and restoration of existing hedgerows to provide screening
- → Located site infrastructure to minimise impact on land use and local dwellings
- → Removed panels from the northern fields to reduce views from Lower Lamphey Road
- → Making use of existing or new hedgerows and woodland to minimise views from the public right of way
- → Creation of a new orchard to enhance the heritage setting and views of the Farmhouse from Lower Lamphey Road

Our Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has concluded that there will be very little, if any, visual impacts on identified heritage or conservation features including Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

## Viewpoints map

# Visualisations

## What will Alleston Solar Farm look like?

**Predicted viewpoint 1.**

**Location 1: Public footpath from Lower Lamphey Road walking towards Alleston Farmhouse**

**Current view**

**Photomontage: Year 0**

**Photomontage: Year 15**

# Visualisations

## What will Alleston Solar Farm look like?

**Predicted viewpoint 2.**
**Location 10: View from the western side of Lower Lamphey Road (looking south across Alleston Farm)**

**Current view**

**Photomontage: Year 0**

**Photomontage: Year 15**

# Visualisations

## What will Alleston Solar Farm look like?

**Predicted viewpoint 3.**

**Location 19: Viewpoint from the top of Sixth Lane, Pembroke**


**Current view**


**Photomontage: Year 0**


**Photomontage: Year 15**

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# Ecology and Biodiversity

**This project provides a valuable opportunity to enhance biodiversity and provide new habitats for wildlife. We are committed to supporting a range of species through initiatives both on and off site. The project will achieve a minimum of 10% net gain in biodiversity.**

Solar farms offer **shelter to wildlife** through increased **hedgerows and other planting**

Studies have indicated that **solar farms are home to many species of plants and insects**

Increased **wildflower meadows and grassland** to encourage more **diverse species of plants and insects**

Solar farms **preserve agricultural land** and can **support soil recovery**

DEFRA (2009) Best Practice for Managing Soil Organic Matter in Agriculture - SP08016. [Available at: https://randd.defra.gov.uk/ProjectDetails?ProjectId=15536]

Approximately **1.4km of new hedgerow planting**

**As members of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust**, we work closely to ensure our habitat management practices provide opportunities for **enhancement, creation and restoration of bumblebee habitats**

Bumblebee Conservation Trust
Business Member 2024/25

# Construction and access

**We have completed a detailed assessment of the potential construction and operational traffic routes and access points. Our focus is on minimising the impacts on the local road network, particularly during the approximately 9 month long construction period.**

## During Operation

Should the development be consented, the operational solar farm will receive very little traffic as it does not require a permanent on-site presence.

## During Construction

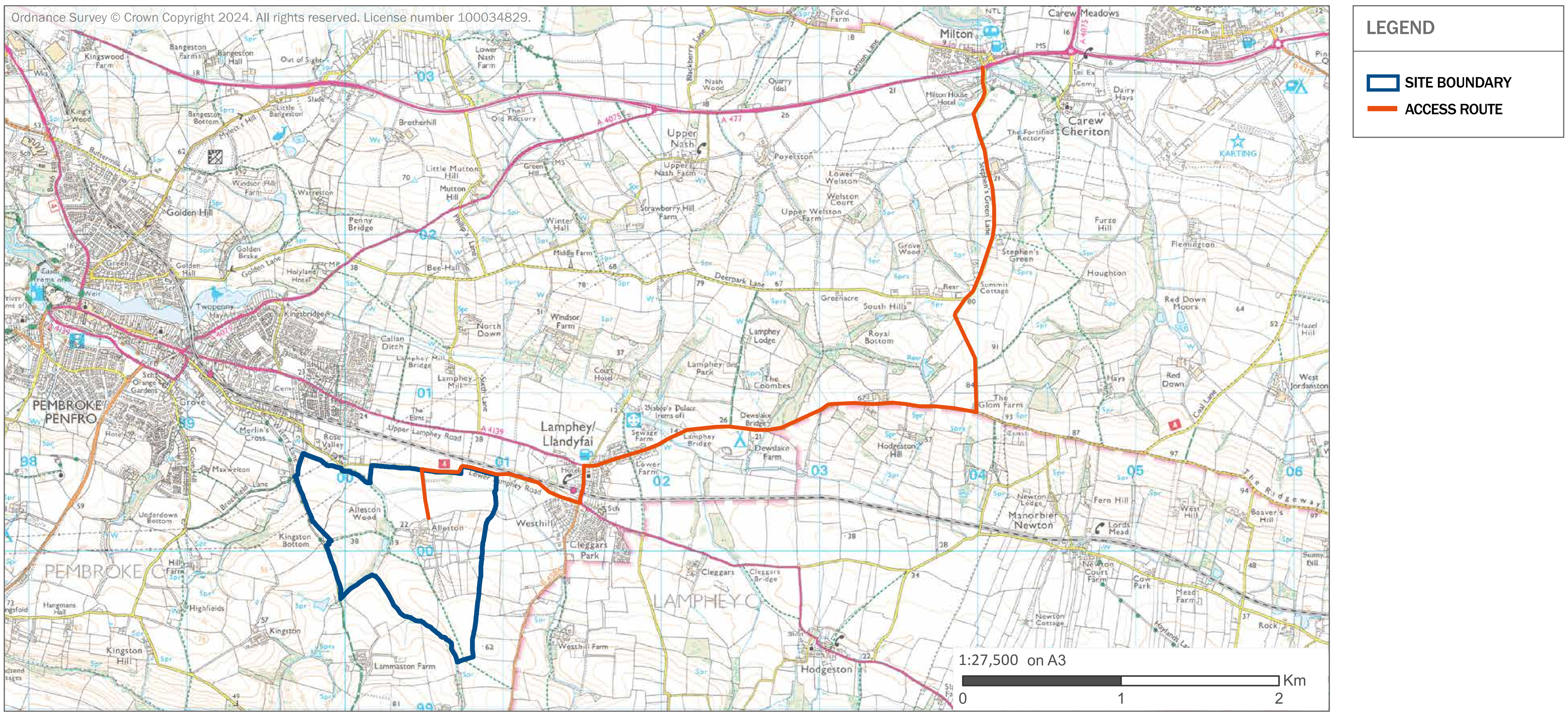
Access to the proposed solar farm will be from Lower Lamphey Road, via the existing access junction to Alleston Farm.

As part of the planning application, we have prepared a Construction and Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), which sets out measures to minimise the construction impact on Pembroke and Lamphey. This includes a plan to manage deliveries to site, including a prescribed route which construction vehicles and deliveries must follow.

To accommodate construction traffic associated with the proposed development, the following mitigation measures are proposed:

- → Heavy Goods Vehicles will only access the site outside of school drop off and pick up times.
- → Road widening at the site entrance.
- → Minor widening of bends to improve access.
- → Trimming of verge vegetation, where required, to improve visibility.
- → Extension of existing passing places. These can either be temporary or permanent, depending upon feedback from the local highways authority.

## Route map



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# Local Investment

## We strive to be a good neighbour and maximise benefits to communities. We welcome your ideas on how we can deliver for the community.

### Local Suppliers

The relationships we forge with local suppliers help our projects to become successful and provide valuable economic benefits through inward investment.

We have a track record of increasing awareness of opportunities during the construction phase of our projects. Scan the QR Code to register your interest in getting involved with the project.

### Community Ownership

We are looking into community ownership opportunities for Alleston.

There are a range of models that allow shared ownership of renewable energy projects. If you have any suggestions around shared or community ownership, please let us know what you think that might look like for this development.

### Community Benefit Fund

Statkraft is committed to working closely with the local community to bring long term value and deliver a project that can be considered a local asset.

Alleston Solar Farm will provide a £480,000 community benefit fund over the 40 year lifespan of the project.

This fund would be used to support projects and initiatives in Pembroke and Lamphey that are working to make a difference for residents on issues like education, energy efficiency and environmental improvements as well as community facilities and amenities.

If you have any suggestions of local projects that might benefit from the fund, or thoughts on how the fund should be managed, please let us know.

# Feedback and Next Steps

## Thank you for visiting our consultation event.

**Your feedback is important to help inform the final proposals for Alleston Solar Farm.**

## Next steps

We will set out our response to all feedback when the planning application is submitted, highlighting where the scheme may have changed.

**Please let us have your comments by midnight on 19 November 2024.**

Following the statutory consultation, we will review and respond to comments to help inform the final proposals.

## Find out more and feedback

To find out more about the proposal and review the full draft planning application, visit the project website: alleston-solar.co.uk. You can fill out a feedback form online, or get in touch by:

### INDICATIVE TIMELINE

**Autumn/Winter 2023**
Early engagement/community consultation on proposals and environmental scoping submission.

**Winter 2023/Spring 2024**
Site investigations and studies to inform the final proposals.

**Autumn 2024**
Statutory community consultation on Draft Planning Application.

**Winter 2024/2025**
Submission of Planning Application to Planning and Environmental Decisions Wales (PEDW).

**Winter 2025**
Anticipated recommendation by PEDW and decision by Welsh Ministers.

Returning the freepost reply card provided to **freepost STATKRAFT**

Calling the project hotline: **0800 772 0668**

Emailing: UKProjects@statkraft.com

Visit the project website: www.alleston-solar.co.uk