

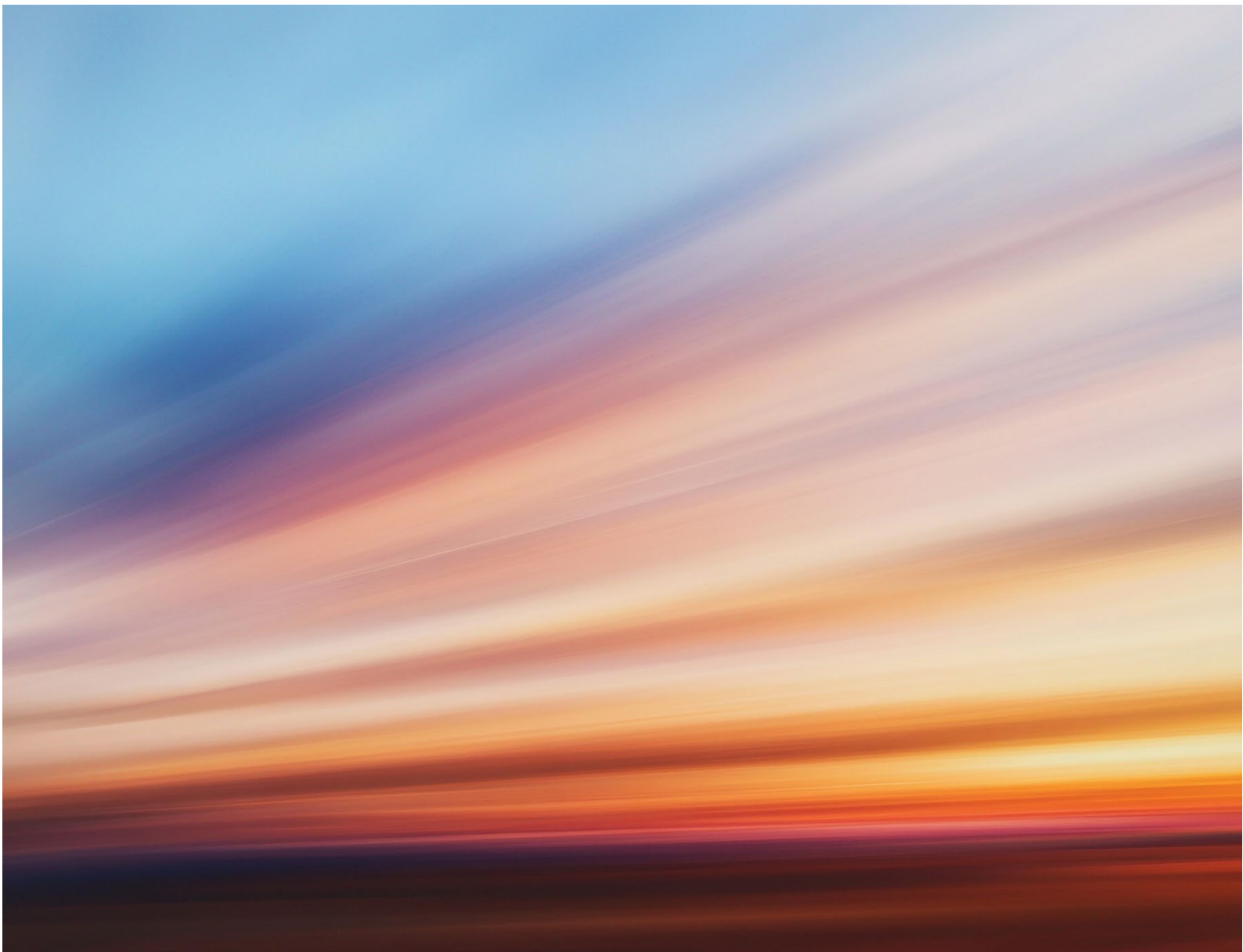
Mysten Leah Solar Farm

Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

Volume 1

Chapter 13: Population

April 2026



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13. Population

13.1 Introduction

13.1.1 This chapter presents a preliminary assessment of the likely significant effects arising on population during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

13.1.2 This chapter should be read in conjunction with the following chapters in **Volume 1** and figures in **Volume 2**:

- **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual;**
- **Chapter 12: Noise and Vibration;**
- **Chapter 14: Transport and Access;**
- **Figure 13.1: Study Areas for Agricultural Land Holdings, Business and Employment Land and Tourism Receptors;**
- **Figure 13.2: Public Rights of Way and Long Distance Paths;**
- **Figure 13.3: Study Areas for Employment and Gross Value Added, Agricultural Economy and Occupancy Rates;** and
- **Figure 13.4: Business and Accommodation Providers.**

13.1.3 This preliminary assessment has considered the following receptors/matters:

- Agricultural land holdings during construction, operation and decommissioning (i.e. the potential for Mylen Leah Solar Farm to reduce or cease existing agricultural operations within the draft Order Limits);
- Agricultural economy during construction, operation and decommissioning (i.e. impacts to the local economy associated with taking land with agricultural potential out of use to facilitate Mylen Leah Solar Farm);
- Business and employment land during construction, operation and decommissioning;
- Users of recreational routes during construction, operation and decommissioning (i.e., walkers, cyclists and horse riders);
- Employment and gross value added during construction, operation and decommissioning;
- Tourism during construction, operation and decommissioning; and
- Occupancy rates during construction and decommissioning (i.e., the likely available capacity of bedrooms and potential demand from construction/decommissioning workers associated with Mylen Leah Solar Farm).

13.1.4 Following the EIA scoping process, the following receptors/matters have not been considered within this preliminary assessment:

- Private properties and housing during construction, operation and decommissioning;
- Community land and assets during construction, operation and decommissioning; and
- Occupancy rates during operation (although estimated operational worker numbers are provided).

13.2 How have we engaged with others about population so far?

13.2.1 No specific consultation regarding the population assessment has been undertaken to date. The Applicant has commenced discussions with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) Public Rights of Way Officer to agree the approach to any PRow diversions/closures and details of the new permissive paths.

13.3 What legislation, planning policy and guidance is relevant to population?

13.3.1 The general legislation and planning policy context for Mylen Leah Solar Farm is provided in **Section 1.4 of Chapter 1: Introducing Mylen Leah Solar Farm in Volume 1**. This preliminary assessment has been undertaken with regard to the following legislation, planning policy and guidance.

Legislation

13.3.2 There is no specific legislation relevant to assessing impacts to population.

National planning policy

13.3.3 This assessment has been undertaken with regard to the following planning policy:

- The Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (NPS EN-1) (December 2025, published January 2026)¹ provides the primary policy framework for decision-making on nationally significant energy infrastructure. Part 3 of EN-1 establishes the urgent national need for new large-scale energy infrastructure to ensure secure, reliable and affordable energy supplies capable of meeting growing demand and protecting consumers and businesses from supply volatility and system risks. Part 4 (Assessment Principles) sets out the policy context for evaluating the potential effects of proposed energy infrastructure, including impacts on the health and wellbeing of the population, which must be assessed as part of the wider environmental considerations required of applicants. Part 5 (Generic Impacts) details the key socio-economic matters to be considered within an assessment, such as the creation of employment and training opportunities, the contribution of a project to low-carbon industry growth, benefits to local services and supply chains, impacts on tourism and local community use, and the implications of workforce influx and cumulative effects on host areas;
- National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (NPS EN-3) (December 2025, published January 2026)², Section 2.10 sets out the policy framework for solar photovoltaic generation, including

assessment principles relating to site selection, design, environmental impacts and mitigation requirements;

- National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (NPS EN-5) (December 2025, published January 2026)³ supports the delivery of nationally significant electricity network infrastructure required to enable decarbonisation and the transition to Clean Power 2030, with overarching policy on network need and efficiency set out in NPS EN-1;
- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2024)⁴ includes an overarching presumption in favour of sustainable development. This is achieved through the delivery of interdependent social, economic and environmental objectives: Key themes of the NPPF in relation to population comprises of:
 - Paragraph 11 of the NPPF details that planning decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development.
 - Section 6 'Building a strong, competitive economy' specifies that planning policies and decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity (Paragraph 85).
 - In relation to the rural economy, Paragraph 88(b) of the NPPF states that planning policies and decisions should enable "*the development and diversification of agricultural and other land-based rural businesses*".
 - Section 8 'Promoting health and safe communities' champions positive social interactions and safe and accessible communities (Paragraph 96).

Local planning policy

13.3.4 The East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 (April 2025)⁵ comprises the following relevant policies:

- Policy S1: Sustainable development;
- Policy S2: Addressing climate change;
- Policy S4: Supporting development in Village and the Countryside;
- Policy S6: Delivering employment land;
- Policy S8: Connecting people and places;
- Policy S9: Strengthening blue/green infrastructure;
- Policy EC1: Supporting the growth and diversification of the East Riding economy;
- Policy EC4: Enhancing sustainable transport;
- Policy EC5: Supporting the renewable and low carbon economy energy sector; and

- Policy C1: Providing infrastructure and facilities,

Guidance

13.3.5 There is no statutory guidance for the assessment of likely effects relating to population. In the absence of relevant technical guidance, Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) ‘LA 112 Population and Human Health’⁶ (hereafter referred to as ‘DMRB LA 112’) has been adopted, combined with experience from similar schemes and professional judgement.

13.4 What study area has been used for population?

13.4.1 The likely significant effects on population are assessed at different spatial extents depending on the nature of the impact. **Table 13.1** details the study areas that have been used for this preliminary assessment.

13.4.2 It should be noted that the study area for agricultural land holdings has been amended from that proposed within the EIA Scoping Report, with an updated approach that provides additional robustness in terms of assessing the likely significant effects on this receptor. Mylen Leah Solar Farm is not anticipated to limit or cease farming operations beyond the draft Order Limits and therefore the study area has been amended to focus on effects within the draft Order Limits only.

Table 13.1: Study areas for population assessment

Receptor	Study area	Justification
Agricultural land holdings	The draft Order Limits (illustrated in Figure 13.1: Study Areas for Agricultural Land Holdings, Business and Employment Land and Tourism Receptors in Volume 2)	The assessment of likely significant effects to agricultural land holdings is limited to where Mylen Leah Solar Farm will limit or cease agricultural operations; therefore, the study area is confined to the draft Order Limits.
Businesses (including local accommodation providers) and employment land	The draft Order Limits plus a 500m radius (illustrated in Figure 13.1: Study Areas for Agricultural Land Holdings, Business and Employment Land and Tourism Receptors in Volume 2)	The assessment of likely significant effects on users of recreational routes and businesses and employment land is limited to the location where users are likely to experience effects to the use or amenity of a receptor, therefore the study area is confined to the draft Order Limits plus a 500m radius.
Users of recreational routes	The draft Order Limits plus a 500m radius (illustrated in Figure 13.2: Public Rights of Way and Long Distance Paths in Volume 2)	

Receptor	Study area	Justification
Employment and gross value added Agricultural economy	East Riding of Yorkshire administrative boundaries (illustrated in Figure 13.3: Study Areas for Employment and Gross Value Added, Agricultural Economy and Occupancy Rates in Volume 2)	The assessment of employment (i.e. job creation through Mylen Leah Solar Farm and the potential loss of agricultural jobs), associated gross value added and the agricultural economy in relation to Mylen Leah Solar Farm focuses on the effects within the East Riding of Yorkshire administrative boundaries.
Tourism	The draft Order Limits plus a 3km radius (illustrated in Figure 13.1: Study Areas for Agricultural Land Holdings, Business and Employment Land and Tourism Receptors in Volume 2)	The assessment of likely significant effects on tourism is focused on impacts to visitors' experience as a result of noise impacts, visual change and increased traffic. A 3km study area has been selected, as it represents the largest study area adopted for assessing noise, traffic and visual impacts.
Occupancy rates	East Riding of Yorkshire administrative boundaries (illustrated in Figure 13.3: Study Areas for Employment and Gross Value Added, Agricultural Economy and Occupancy Rates in Volume 2)	The assessment of occupancy rates as a result of the increase in workforce staff during construction and decommissioning will be based on the availability of accommodation options within the local settlements of East Riding of Yorkshire.

13.5 How have existing population conditions been understood?

- 13.5.1 A desk-based review has been undertaken and captures all potential receptors. Receptors can be any existing businesses, employment land, agricultural holdings/operations, tourism assets or recreational routes.
- 13.5.2 In addition, a review of the agricultural economy, employment, gross value added and occupancy rates of East Riding of Yorkshire has been undertaken.

Data sources to inform the EIA baseline characterisation

- 13.5.3 The following data sources have been used to understand the existing population study areas:
- Aerial photography and mapping including Google Maps (2025);
 - OS Mapping;

- OS AddressBase Plus;
- Defra MAGIC Maps⁷;
- Construction Industry Training Board (2023) - Workforce Mobility⁸;
- ERYC Public Rights of Way Map⁹;
- Office for National Statistics (2022): Census 2011 and 2021¹⁰;
- Visit Britain (2016): England Accommodation stock audit¹¹;
- Visit Britain (2019): Visitation of local authorities & other areas for overnight & day trips (2017-2019)¹²;
- Visit Britain (2023): GBTS domestic overnight trips, County level volume and value 2022 to 2023¹³;
- Visit Britain (2025): England Hotel Occupancy: latest¹⁴;
- Office for National Statistics (via Nomis) (2025)¹⁵ – Labour Market Profile: East Riding of Yorkshire: employment, unemployment, economic activity and occupational structure for residents and workplace-based jobs;
- Office for National Statistics – Regional Gross Value Added (Balanced) by Industry (2025)¹⁶: Annual estimates of nominal and real gross value added by industry sector for UK regions and local areas, including international territorial level (ITL)/nomenclature of territorial units for statistics (NUTS) breakdowns;
- Office for National Statistics – Regional Labour Productivity UK 2023 (2025)¹⁷: Annual estimates of labour productivity by region;
- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero – Job Estimates for solar PV by 2030 (2025)¹⁸: estimate of the number of jobs supported by solar PV in the UK by 2030;
- Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) – Agriculture in the United Kingdom and Agriculture in the UK Dashboard (2025)¹⁹: *national and regional agricultural structure*;
- Invest East Yorkshire – Agri Food & Bio Renewables sector information (2025)²⁰: number of agricultural holdings, total farmed area, breakdown of land use and local employment in agriculture and food manufacturing across East Riding of Yorkshire;
- ERYC – East Riding Economic Strategy 2023-25 (2023)²¹: strategic role of agriculture, the rural economy, energy and tourism in the local economy, and priorities for business growth, skills and productivity;
- ERYC – Rural Strategy 2022–2027 and Local Plan Strategy/Local Plan Update documents (2022)²²: policy context for the rural economy, farm diversification, visitor economy and supporting the growth and diversification of key sectors;
- Hull and East Yorkshire Employment and Skills Strategy 2021-2026 (2021)²³: wider labour market, skills and workforce context for Hull and East Yorkshire;

- Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (2025)²⁴. Structure of the agricultural industry in England and the UK at June;
- Renewable Energy Foundation (2023), “The Economics of Utility-Scale Solar Generation: Capex and Opex estimates for solar farms in the UK²⁵”;
- The Guardian (2020). Burning rubber: racing returns to Melbourne Raceway²⁶;
- Visit East Yorkshire (2026). Visit East Yorkshire website²⁷;
- English Partnership (2008). Additionality Guide. Third Edition²⁸;
- LDWA (2025). The Wilberforce Way Long Distance Path²⁹; and
- East Riding of Yorkshire (2026). Other places to visit³⁰.

Site visits/surveys

13.5.4 No specific surveys relating to the population assessment have been undertaken to inform this preliminary assessment, and none are proposed to be undertaken to inform the ES.

13.6 What are the population conditions within the study area?

Existing baseline

Agricultural land holdings

- 13.6.1 There are estimated to be 164 landowners with the potential to support agricultural operations within the draft Order Limits. Of which, there are potentially 14 landowners within the solar PV development area.
- 13.6.2 There is the potential for a number of tenant farmers to operate within the draft Order Limits. At this stage, the number of tenant farmers operating within the draft Order Limits is being investigated.
- 13.6.3 In the absence of more localised data, the predominant farm types in Yorkshire and the Humber in 2024, were grazing livestock (41%) and cereal (20%) (Defra, 2025)³¹
- 13.6.4 The predominant agricultural land use across the solar PV development area comprises a mixture of cropping, including cereals and livestock.

Agricultural economy

- 13.6.5 The total amount of farmed land in East Riding of Yorkshire accounts for around 199,223 hectares of land and supports the employment of 5,523 people (full and part-time roles) (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, 2025). At a wider functional economic level, East Riding of Yorkshire is recognised as one of the key agricultural areas in Yorkshire and the Humber, with over 2,000 agriculture and food manufacturing businesses employing in excess of 8,000 people and contributing around a quarter of the region's agricultural gross value added (Invest East Yorkshire, 2025). The regional gross value added by the agriculture, forestry and fishing, mining and quarrying in 2023 in the East Riding of Yorkshire was £418 million (Office for National Statistics, 2025).

13.6.6 The East Riding Economic Strategy 2023-2025 (ERYC, 2023) describes agriculture as one of the key drivers of the area's growth, highlighting the importance of farming and the wider agri-food supply chain to the rural economy and export performance. It positions agriculture alongside energy, ports and manufacturing as one of the ERYC's strategic strengths that can support higher-value jobs and increased productivity.

Business and employment land

13.6.7 AddressBase OS data has been used to identify registered businesses within the study area. This data was purchased on 02 October and 16 December 2025.

13.6.8 The AddressBase OS data and a review of publicly available information identified three businesses (Melbourne Raceway (previously RAF Melbourne), TMD Friction UK Limited and TI Motors rally school) within the solar PV development area.

13.6.9 In addition, 17 businesses are located within the underground grid connection corridor. Of these, five have been identified as bridges and one as a canal; however, due to the nature of these assets, these have been discounted and will not be considered further in this preliminary assessment. Similarly, a farm was identified as one of the 17 businesses located within the underground grid connection corridor; impacts to farms are considered in the 'agricultural land holdings' assessment and are therefore discounted here.

13.6.10 Therefore, there are 13 businesses operating within the draft Order Limits, comprising Melbourne Raceway (previously RAF Melbourne), TMD Friction UK Limited, TI Motors rally school, S.M. Massheder Engineer, Rose Thorpe Park Equestrian Centre, Johnsons Haulage, Triffitt Nurseries, Melbourne Scamland Substation 10592, an electricity substation, one solar array development, a telecommunications mast, a warehouse/storage depot and a waste water treatment works.

13.6.11 There are 45 businesses located within a 500m radius of the draft Order Limits (as illustrated in **Figure 13.4: Business and Accommodation Providers in Volume 2**), of which there are 10 local accommodation providers (six holiday campsites (Wild Harvest School, Allertorpe Lakeland Park, Acorn Glade, Paradise Lakeside Lodges, Wigwam Holidays Ball Hall Farm and Laytham Park) and four holiday let accommodations (Eastfield Farm, Granary Barn, The Old Mill Hideaway and Acorn Cottage). No local accommodation providers are located within the draft Order Limits.

13.6.12 Employment land is defined as land that is specifically allocated for use by local planning policy which has the potential to generate employment opportunities. There is no land within the draft Order Limits or study area that has been allocated under the East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 (April 2025) for employment purposes.

13.6.13 A search on the East Riding of Yorkshire planning portal identified no planning applications within the 500m study area with the potential to generate employment opportunities.

13.6.14 Land within the 500m study area that is currently used for employment uses is addressed in the 'businesses' assessment in this chapter.

13.6.15 As there are no employment land allocations or planning applications with the potential to generate employment opportunities within the 500m study area, effects on employment land are not considered further within this preliminary assessment.

Users of recreational routes

13.6.16 The recreational routes within the study area are illustrated in **Figure 13.2: Public Rights of Way and Long Distance Paths** in **Volume 2**.

13.6.17 There are 23 PRoW within the study area which allow movement across the area for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. It is assumed that these PRoW are used regularly as a means of leisure, travel or for farm machinery to move across agricultural land.

13.6.18 The following PRoW are located within or intersect the draft Order Limits:

- SROSF03, Seaton Ross Footpath No.3;
- MELBF03, Melbourne Footpath No.3;
- MELBB05, Melbourne Bridleway No.5;
- MELBF02, Melbourne Footpath No.2;
- MELBF04, Melbourne Footpath No.4;
- FOGGF11, Foggathorpe Footpath No.11;
- THORF02, Thornton Footpath No.2; and
- MELBF09, Melbourne Footpath No.9.

13.6.19 The following PRoW are located within or intersect the 500m study area, but lie outside of the draft Order Limits:

- SROSF05, Seaton Ross Footpath No.5;
- SROSF04, Seaton Ross Footpath No.4;
- MELBF01, Melbourne Footpath No.1;
- MELBF07, Melbourne Footpath No.7;
- MELBB06, Melbourne Bridleway No.6;
- FOGGB12, Foggathorpe Bridleway No.12;
- FOGGB15, Foggathorpe Bridgeway No.15;
- SROSB14, Seaton Ross Bridleway No.14;
- ELTNF06, Ellerton & Aughton Footpath No.6;
- ELTNB07, Ellerton & Aughton Bridleway No.7;
- FOGGF01, Foggathorpe Footpath No.1;
- FOGGF10, Foggathorpe Footpath No.10;
- THORF03, Thornton Footpath No.3;
- SROSF02, Seaton Ross Footpath No.2; and
- ALLEF02, Allerthorpe Footpath No.2.

13.6.20 Of the 23 PRoW, Seaton Ross Bridleway No.14 (SROSB14) & Foggathorpe Bridleway No.15 (FOGGB15) form part of the Bubwith Rail Trail. The Bubwith Rail Trail runs eastward from Bubwith, following the old Market Weighton to Selby line through Foggathorpe and to the north of Holme upon Spalding Moor (as illustrated in **Figure 13.2: Public Rights of Way and Long Distance Paths** in **Volume 2**) and has been promoted on ERYC’s website.

13.6.21 In addition to the 23 PRoW identified above, the Wilberforce Way long distance path is a 60-mile (96km) linear route, which passes through the underground grid connection corridor, in an east west direction along the Pocklington Canal, to the north of Melbourne.

13.6.22 There are no National Trails or National Cycle Network routes located within the study area.

Employment and gross value added

13.6.23 The population of East Riding of Yorkshire is approximately 355,884 (ONS Population Estimates, 2024). The population increased by 2.4% between the last two censuses (ONS Census data, 2011 & 2022), lower than the overall increase for England (6.6%). Between 2021 and 2024, the population of East Riding of Yorkshire grew 4%, faster than England's increase of 3.8% over the same time period (ONS Population Estimates, 2024).

13.6.24 Between July 2024 and June 2025, the total number of people in East Riding of Yorkshire that were in employment was 160,500 and 6,100 were unemployed (ONS annual population survey, 2024 - 2025). This represents an unemployment rate of 3.8%, lower than that of Yorkshire and the Humber (4%) and England (4.2%) respectively (detailed in **Table 13.2**).

13.6.25 Amongst those economically inactive in East Riding of Yorkshire, the long-term sick accounts for the greatest proportion (29.1%), aligning with the Yorkshire and the Humber figure of 28.7% but greater than the national average (26.9%). The second most common reason is retirement (27%), which is more than twice the proportion in Yorkshire and the Humber (12.2%) and England (12.6%) (ONS annual population survey, 2024 – 2025) (refer to **Table 13.2**).

Table 13.2: Economic activity and claimant count baseline

Economic activity status	East Riding of Yorkshire (Numbers)	East Riding of Yorkshire (%)	Yorkshire and the Humber (%)	England (%)
Economic activity, July 2024-June 2025				
Economically active	166,600	82.9	76.5	79.1
Economically inactive	33,000	17.1	23.5	20.9
Unemployment rate	6,100	3.8	4	4.2
Reason for economic inactivity (as proportion of economically inactive population)				
Student	5,700	17.4	25.9	27
Looking after family/ home	5,100	15.5	18.9	19.1

Economic activity status	East Riding of Yorkshire (Numbers)	East Riding of Yorkshire (%)	Yorkshire and the Humber (%)	England (%)
Long-term sick	9,600	29.1	28.7	26.9
Retired	8,900	27	12.2	12.6
Other	3,100	9.5	11.1	12.1
Job seeking preference among those economically inactive				
Wants a job	3,400	10.3	20.9	20.2
Does not want a job	29,600	89.7	79.1	79.8
Claimant count (November 2025)				
Claimant count rate	4,640	2.3	4.1	4

13.6.26 In 2024, there was an estimated 131,000 jobs in East Riding of Yorkshire (Office for National Statistics, 2025). However, this only counts for employee jobs in businesses, and excludes self-employed workers, farm-based agriculture, HM Forces and trainees.

13.6.27 In 2024, the largest sectors for employment in the East Riding of Yorkshire were: Wholesale and Retail Trade including the repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles (15.3%), Manufacturing (13.7%), and Human Health and Social Work Activities (13.7%) (Office for National Statistics, 2024) as highlighted in bold in **Table 13.3**.

13.6.28 Approximately 6,000 people are employed in the agricultural sector in East Riding of Yorkshire, which includes farmers, partners, regular workers and casual workers (Invest East Yorkshire, 2025). Agriculture, forestry and fishing have been excluded from **Table 13.3** as the Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) (Office for National Statistics, 2025) only includes employee jobs (i.e., those paid through Pay As You Earn (systems) and excludes self-employed farmers; business partners; and casual and seasonal workers not on Pay As You Earn. Agriculture has a high proportion of self-employed and family workers; therefore, BRES underrepresents the sector compared to broader local estimates, which include all categories of workers.

Table 13.3: Employment by industry (2024)

Industry	East Riding of Yorkshire (%)	Yorkshire and the Humber (%)	England (%)
Mining and quarrying	0.3	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	13.7	10.4	7.1
Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply	0.3	0.3	0.7
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	1.3	0.9	0.7
Construction	6.1	5.4	4.9
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	15.3	14.5	13.7
Transportation and storage	4.6	5.4	5.1

Industry	East Riding of Yorkshire (%)	Yorkshire and the Humber (%)	England (%)
Accommodation and food service activities	8.4	7.3	7.7
Information and communication	2.3	2.5	4.8
Financial and insurance activities	0.7	2.7	3.4
Real estate activities	1.1	1.4	1.9
Professional, scientific and technical activities	6.9	7.5	9.6
Administrative and support service activities	4.6	8.5	8.8
Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	6.9	5	4.5
Education	8.4	9	8.6
Human health and social work activities	13.7	14.7	13.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	2.3	2.4	2.4
Other service activities	1.9	1.8	2

13.6.29 In 2024, it was estimated that there were 8,840 jobs in the construction sector in East Riding of Yorkshire, 151,450 construction jobs in Yorkshire and the Humber and 1,485,000 in England (Office for National Statistics, 2024). As highlighted in **Table 13.4**, East Riding of Yorkshire has a higher proportion of construction jobs relative to total employment (7%) compared with Yorkshire and The Humber (6%) and England (5%). However, these estimates do not include self-employed jobs. Construction has a high proportion of contractors and sub-contractors; therefore, the BRES data would underrepresent the number of jobs in the construction sector.

Table 13.4: Employment by industry in the construction sector¹ (2024)

Construction activity	East Riding of Yorkshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	England
Manufacture of general purpose machinery	40	6,000	40,000
Manufacture of other general-purpose machinery	50	6,000	55,000
Manufacture of metal forming machinery and machine tools	200	700	6,000
Manufacture of other special-purpose machinery	350	2,500	26,000
Development of building projects	350	6,000	95,000

¹ Employment jobs within the following SOC Codes: SIC 281, SIC 282, SIC 284, SIC 289, SIC 411, SIC 412, SIC 422, SIC 429, SIC 431, SIC 432, SIC 433, SIC 439 and SIC 712.

Construction activity	East Riding of Yorkshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	England
Construction of residential and non-residential buildings	2,000	29,000	374,000
Construction of utility projects	100	1,750	13,000
Construction of other civil engineering projects	400	9,000	86,000
Demolition and site preparation	300	2,500	19,000
Electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities	2,500	46,000	403,000
Building completion and finishing	1,500	22,000	193,000
Other specialised construction activities	700	12,000	116,000
Technical testing and analysis	350	8,000	59,000
Total	8,840	151,450	1,485,000
Construction jobs as a proportion of Total Jobs (%)	7	6	5

Source: Office for National Statistics Business Register and Employment Survey - employee jobs by industry (2024)

13.6.30 Data from the 2024 BRES suggests that there are currently 180 energy jobs in East Riding of Yorkshire and 7,250 energy jobs in Yorkshire and the Humber (refer to **Table 13.5**).

Table 13.5: Employment by industry in the Energy Section² (2024)

Jobs in the energy sector	East Riding of Yorkshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	England
Manufacturing of electric motors, generators, transformers and electricity distribution and control apparatus	5	2,250	24,000
Electric power generation, transmission and distribution	175	5,000	79,000
Combined Total	180	7,250	103,000

13.6.31 According to Office for National Statistics (2025), UK Business Counts, there were approximately 13,865 enterprises in East Riding of Yorkshire, 190,755 in Yorkshire and the Humber and 2,376,615 in England. As detailed in **Table 13.6**, East Riding of Yorkshire has a higher proportion of construction businesses relative to total enterprises (15%) compared to Yorkshire and the Humber (14%) and England (14%).

² Employment jobs within the following SOC Codes: SIC 271, SIC 351.

Table 13.6: Construction enterprises (2025)

Construction enterprises	East Riding of Yorkshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	England
Manufacture of general purpose machinery	5	120	920
Manufacture of other general-purpose machinery	15	300	2,545
Manufacture of metal forming machinery and machine tools	5	75	595
Manufacture of other special-purpose machinery	10	190	15
Development of building projects	205	2,900	41,345
Construction of residential and non-residential buildings	365	4,345	68,590
Construction of utility projects	10	200	2,060
Construction of other civil engineering projects	95	1,025	11,580
Demolition and site preparation	30	350	3,445
Electrical, plumbing and other construction installation activities	665	8,365	94,845
Building completion and finishing	435	6,000	72,470
Other specialised construction activities	200	2,795	36,365
Technical testing and analysis	30	355	3,725
Total	2,070	27,020	340,020
Construction jobs as a proportion of Total Jobs (%)	15	14	14

Source: Office for National Statistics – UK Business Counts (2025)

13.6.32 As presented in **Table 13.7**, East Riding of Yorkshire also has a higher proportion of energy businesses relative to total enterprises (0.5%) compared with Yorkshire and the Humber (0.2%) and England (0.2%).

Table 13.7: Energy enterprises (2025)

Energy enterprises	East Riding of Yorkshire	Yorkshire and the Humber	England
Manufacturing of electric motors, generators, transformers and electricity distribution and control apparatus	5	70	735
Electric power generation, transmission and distribution	65	300	5,065
Combined Total	70	370	5800
% of total enterprises	0.5	0.2	0.2

13.6.33 Gross value added is a measure of economic productivity that quantifies the contribution of an entity (company, industry or area) to an economy, producer

or sector. The regional gross value added output of East Riding of Yorkshire in 2023 was £9,375 million (Office for National Statistics, 2024)

13.6.34 Construction gross value added in East Riding of Yorkshire is estimated at £533 million, which represents 5.7% of total gross value added for the region (Office for National Statistics, 2025). For England, construction gross value added is £133,239m as of 2023, making up 6.3% of total gross value added (£2,113,338m) (Office for National Statistics, 2025).

13.6.35 The regional gross value added in 2023 in East Riding of Yorkshire for other key industries includes:

- £418 million by agriculture, forestry and fishing; mining and quarrying;
- £382 million by electricity, gas, water; sewerage and waste management;
- £449 million by employment activities; tourism and security services;
- £312 million by accommodation and food service activities; and
- £28 million by manufacture of electronic, optical and electrical products.

Tourism

13.6.36 The East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 (April 2025) identifies tourism as an important part of East Riding of Yorkshire's economy. Historically, main tourist attractions have been concentrated along the coast, which is located beyond the 3km study area.

13.6.37 The Site is largely situated on land used for agricultural purposes which, given its current use, does not represent a significant tourist destination. However, the Site is located within the Yorkshire Wolds Tourism Character Area, which is identified in the East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 (April 2025) as a priority destination for growth and diversification specifically as a short-break visitor destination.

13.6.38 Data from Visit Britain on England's domestic overnight trips and day visitors identified that on average, there were 1.3 million overnight trips per year to East Yorkshire, equating to £291 million spend per year and 3.6 million nights per year to East Yorkshire. When compared to other counties within the Yorkshire and the Humber region, East Yorkshire is recorded to have the second lowest number of trips per year and third lowest spend per year.

13.6.39 Between 2017 and 2019, there were just over 653,000 tourist trips to East Riding of Yorkshire, accounting for £104 million spend per year (Visit Britain data on overnight and day trips at the local authority level).

13.6.40 The 'Visit East Yorkshire' website notes the following tourist attractions within the 3km study area:

- Pocklington Canal: a rural canal with tree lined towpaths and classic humpbacked bridges. The canal is used for both recreational walking and canal boating. The Pocklington Canal crosses east to west through the underground grid connection corridor within the draft Order Limits, north of Melbourne.

- Allerthorpe Common Nature Reserve: a popular destination for walkers and wildlife enthusiasts, located approximately 1.6km north of the underground grid connection corridor northernmost boundary.

13.6.41 The Walking East Yorkshire Festival occurs annually in September and includes countryside walking routes (Visit East Yorkshire, 2026). The 2025 festival featured routes which intersect the 3km study area near Melbourne (0.5km north of Field 13.e, and within 500m east of the underground grid connection corridor) and East Cottingwith (within 3km east of Field 1.a). These routes may vary each year.

Occupancy rates

13.6.42 The most recent comprehensive review of accommodation stock in England is the Visit Britain Accommodation Stock Audit (2016). While relatively dated, it remains the most current publicly available information source.

13.6.43 The Visit England 2016 Stock Audit states that there were approximately 640 serviced and non-serviced establishments including 5,621 rooms (excluding tourist campsites) within the county of East Riding of Yorkshire.

13.6.44 In the absence of localised data, occupancy figures per Visit Britain’s England Hotel Occupancy Latest (2025) show that hotel room occupancy in Yorkshire and the Humber³ reached a peak of 86% in July⁴ (refer to **Table 13.8**). At this level, approximately 14% of rooms remain unoccupied, which translates to a conservative estimate of around 786 rooms available. **Table 13.8** summarises the monthly hotel occupancy within the Yorkshire and the Humber region for 2025. Data for November and December 2025 was not available at the time of writing this preliminary assessment.

Table 13.8: Yorkshire and the Humber hotel occupancy in 2025

Month	Room Occupancy (%)
January	69
February	80
March	79
April	82
May	82
June	83
July	86
August	82
September	83
October	82

³ The peak occupancy rates of Yorkshire and the Humber are considered an absolute worst-case scenario and therefore, in the absence of more localised data, is considered appropriate for this preliminary assessment.

⁴ It is recognised that there are other types of accommodation providers such as bed & breakfast facilities and holiday homes. In the absence of data, the average hotel occupancy rates have been used to demonstrate average occupancy rates within the study area.

Future baseline

13.6.45 For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, the future baseline where Mylen Leah Solar Farm is not constructed is expected to remain the same as the current baseline i.e., the existing properties would remain, businesses and agricultural operations would continue to operate as they currently do, and the PRoW network would likely continue to be used to a similar level. Over time, these buildings may be replaced, businesses may alter or close, new businesses may start trading and PRoW may be used more or less frequently.

13.7 How have the likely effects been assessed for population?

Approach to design flexibility

13.7.1 **Section 3.3 of Chapter 3: What will Mylen Leah Solar Farm Comprise?** in **Volume 1** details how flexibility has been maintained in the design of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, a worst case scenario with regards to potential impacts to population receptors has been assessed.

Assessment assumptions

13.7.2 For the purposes of assessing impacts to occupancy rates, it has been assumed that 5% of staff employed during the construction and decommissioning phases will require temporary accommodation. This assumption is in accordance with research undertaken by the Construction Industry Training Board (2023) which states, '*nationally, one in twenty (5%) of construction workers reported that they were currently staying in temporary accommodation while working at their site*'.

13.7.3 It has been assumed that the peak number of construction staff working on site at one time is 500 staff.

Assessment methodology and criteria

13.7.4 The assessment criteria for population adopted for this preliminary assessment are detailed below. It should be noted that these criteria differ slightly from the criteria proposed within Appendix D of the EIA Scoping Report, with an updated approach that provides clarity in terms of assessing the likely significant effects relating to population receptors.

13.7.5 It is acknowledged that the main use of DMRB is for projects that relate to projects promoted by National Highways. However, in the absence of specific guidance relating to the assessment of impacts upon population with respect to solar projects, the use of DMRB is considered to result in a robust and appropriate assessment. It should be noted that for the purposes of this preliminary assessment, the assessment criteria presented in DMRB LA 112 have been adapted, where considered appropriate and beneficial.

13.7.6 It is recognised that accommodation providers can help to facilitate the tourist economy; however, to avoid double counting, accommodation providers (i.e. camping/caravan sites, bed & breakfast and hotels) are assessed as business receptors.

13.7.7 Similarly, Melbourne Raceway has also been assessed as a business rather than a tourism receptor to avoid double counting.

Value (sensitivity) of the receptor

13.7.8 Criteria to determine the value (sensitivity) of each receptor are detailed in **Table 13.9**.

Table 13.9: Environmental value (sensitivity) and descriptions

Receptor value (sensitivity)	Description
Very high	<p>Businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing employment sites (excluding agriculture) >5ha. <p>Agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access between land and key agricultural infrastructure is required on a frequent basis (daily). <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National trails and routes likely to be used for both commuting and recreation that record frequent (daily) use. Such routes connect communities with employment land uses and other services with a direct and convenient route. Little/no potential for substitution; Routes regularly used by vulnerable travellers such as the elderly, school children and people with disabilities, who could be disproportionately affected by small changes in the baseline due to potentially different needs; and <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has no capacity to absorb or respond to change without noticeable socio-economic loss or gain.
High	<p>Businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment sites (excluding agriculture) covering >1 – 5ha. <p>Agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access between land and key agricultural infrastructure is required on a frequent basis (weekly). <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional trails and routes (e.g. promoted circular walks) likely to be used for recreation and to a lesser extent commuting, that record frequent (daily) use. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has limited capacity to absorb or respond to change without noticeable socio-economic loss or gain; or Is of high socio-economic, land use, recreational, or tourism value; or

Receptor value (sensitivity)	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is of national or international importance; or • Is accorded priority in national policy; or • Has no alternatives with available capacity within its study area; or • Is a destination in its own right (as tourism and visitor attractions).
Medium	<p>Businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing employment sites (excluding agriculture) covering <1ha • Small local businesses. • Businesses that are reliant on their external setting as a means to generate revenue. <p>Agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access between land and key agricultural infrastructure is required on a reasonably frequent basis (monthly). <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public rights of way and other routes close to communities which are used for recreational purposes (e.g. dog walking), but for which alternative routes can be taken. These routes are likely to link to a wider network of routes to provide options for longer, recreational journeys. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has some capacity to absorb or respond to change and may result in some perceptible noticeable socio-economic loss or gain; or • Has moderate capacity to absorb change without fundamentally altering its present character; or • Has a moderate socio-economic, land use, recreational or tourism value; or • Is of regional importance; or • Is accorded priority in local policy; or • Has some alternatives with available capacity within its study area; or • Is a destination for people already visiting the area (in regard to tourism and visitor attractions); or • Forms a cluster of low sensitivity receptors.
Low	<p>Businesses:</p>

Receptor value (sensitivity)	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed development on unallocated sites providing employment with planning permission/in the planning process. • Businesses that are not reliant on their external setting as means of generating revenue. <p>Agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access between land and key agricultural infrastructure is required on an infrequent basis (monthly or less frequent). <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routes which have fallen into disuse through past severance, or which are scarcely used because they do not currently offer a meaningful route for either utility or recreational purposes; <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has the capacity to absorb or respond to change with hardly perceptible socio-economic loss or gain; or • Is tolerant of change without detriment to its character; or • Is of low socio-economic, land use, recreational or tourism value; or • Is of local importance; or • Is accorded low priority in policy; or • Has a choice of alternatives with available capacity within its study area; or is an incidental destination for people already visiting the area (as tourism and visitor attractions).
Negligible	<p>Businesses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A. <p>Agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of land which are infrequently used on a non-commercial basis. <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The socio-economic receptor has the capacity to absorb or respond to change with no socio-economic loss or gain; or • The receptor is resistant to change and is of low socio-economic, land use, recreational or tourism value; or there is a wide choice of alternatives with available capacity within its study area.

Magnitude of impact (change)

13.7.9 Criteria for determining the magnitude of impact (change) for each receptor are presented in **Table 13.10**.

Table 13.10: Magnitude of impact (change) and typical descriptions

Magnitude of impact (change)	Typical description
Major	<p>Businesses and agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of resource and/or quality and integrity of resource; severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements. e.g. direct acquisition and demolition of buildings and direct development of land to accommodate highway assets; and/or • Introduction (adverse) or removal (beneficial) of complete severance with no/full accessibility provision. • Major loss or improvement to key elements/features of the baseline conditions such that post development character/composition will fundamentally change. <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >500m increase (adverse)/decrease (beneficial) in journey length; or • An impact that would be expected to cause a major restriction of access to or availability of assets in the study area or would result in a major change to existing patterns of use <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial change to the socio-economic receptor in terms of employment levels, output or productivity; and/or • An impact that would dominate over baseline tourism and visitor economy conditions; and/or • A substantial change to socio-economic loss or gain in the area of impact affecting a large number of people and/or businesses; and/or to the extent of changing the business and employment structure.
Moderate	<p>Businesses and agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partial loss of/damage to key characteristics, features or elements, e.g. partial removal or substantial amendment to access or acquisition of land compromising viability of property, businesses, community assets or agricultural holdings; and/or • Introduction (adverse) or removal (beneficial) of severe severance with limited/moderate accessibility provision.

Magnitude of impact (change)	Typical description
	<p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >250m – 500m increase (adverse) or decrease (beneficial) in journey length. • An impact that would be expected to have a moderate restriction of access to or availability of assets in the study area or would result in a moderate change to existing patterns of use. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notable changes to the socio-economic receptor in terms of employment levels, output or productivity; and/or • An impact that would be expected to result in a moderate change to baseline tourism and visitor economy conditions; and/or a partial change to socio-economic loss or gain in the area of impact affecting a sizeable number of people (20-100) and/or businesses (10-30) to the extent of adjusting business operations and employment.
<p>Minor</p>	<p>Businesses and agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A discernible change in attributes, quality or vulnerability; minor loss of, or alteration to, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements, e.g. amendment to access or acquisition of land resulting in changes to operating conditions that do not compromise overall viability of property, businesses, community assets or agricultural holdings; and/or • Introduction (adverse) or removal (beneficial) of severance with adequate accessibility provision. <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • >50m - 250m increase (adverse) or decrease (beneficial) in journey length. • An impact that would be expected to have a small restriction of access to or availability of assets in the study area or would result in a small change to existing patterns of use. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slight/hardly perceptible change to the socio-economic receptor in terms of employment levels, output or productivity; and/or • An impact that would be expected to result in a perceptible difference to baseline tourism and visitor economy conditions; and/or

Magnitude of impact (change)	Typical description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small change to socio-economic loss or gain in the area of impact affecting a group of people and/or businesses to the extent of influencing business activities and employment opportunities.
Negligible	<p>Businesses and agricultural land holdings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very minor loss or detrimental alteration to one or more characteristics, features or elements. e.g. acquisition of non-operational land or buildings not directly affecting the viability of property, businesses, community assets or agricultural holdings; and/or • Very minor introduction (adverse) or removal (beneficial) of severance with ample accessibility provision. <p>Users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <50m increase (adverse) or decrease (beneficial) in journey length. • An impact that would be unlikely to result in a noticeable difference to assets in the study area. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No perceptible change to the socio-economic receptor in terms of employment levels, output or productivity; and/or • An impact that would not be expected to result in a measurable variation from baseline tourism and visitor economy conditions; and/or • No change to socio-economic loss or gain in the area of impact affecting no people and/or businesses permanently and very few people and/or businesses temporarily (for less than 1 year).
No change	<p>Businesses, agricultural land holdings and users of recreational routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No loss or alteration of characteristics, features, elements or accessibility; no observable impact in either direction. <p>Tourism, occupancy, employment, agricultural economy and gross value added receptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to the socio-economic receptor in terms of employment levels, outputs or productivity.

Significance of effect

13.7.10 The significance of effect is determined by combining the value (sensitivity) of the affected receptor with the magnitude of impact (change). **Table 13.11**

details how the significance of effects has been determined. Effects can either be beneficial or adverse.

13.7.11 An effect of ‘moderate’, ‘large’ or ‘very large’ is deemed to be significant. A ‘neutral’ or ‘slight’ effect is deemed not significant.

13.7.12 Where the significance matrix indicates a range for the effect significance (e.g. ‘slight or moderate’), professional judgement can be applied to select one option (which would be justified by evidence, as appropriate) or an effect significance range can be applied. If a significance of effect is assigned as ‘slight or moderate’, this would be considered significant unless further information could be provided to downgrade the significance effect to ‘slight’. Where both effect categories within the range fall within either ‘significant’ or ‘not significant’, it may not be necessary to adjust the range to a single descriptor (for example if the range is ‘neutral or slight’, as both effects are considered to be not significant; or if the range is ‘large or very large’, as both effects are considered to be significant).

Table 13.11: Determining the significance of effect

Value (sensitivity)	Magnitude of impact (change)				
	No change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
Very high	Neutral	Slight	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large	Very Large
High	Neutral	Slight	Slight or Moderate	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large
Medium	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate or Large
Low	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Slight or Moderate
Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight

13.8 How has population informed the design so far?

13.8.1 This preliminary assessment has been based on the principle that certain mitigation measures have been ‘embedded’ into the design of Mylen Leah Solar Farm to minimise likely significant effects as far as reasonably practicable at this stage of the design process, for example by the considered placement of infrastructure. Embedded (primary) environmental mitigation measures relevant to this preliminary population assessment are presented in **Table 13.12**.

Table 13.12: Embedded mitigation measures relevant to population

Embedded mitigation measures relevant to landscape and visual	Function
Maintain a minimum 10m offset between any PRow or proposed permissive path and solar PV development	To minimise the level of visual change for users of the PRow network and ensure that the network can continue to operate.
Ensuring that all PRow routes are not enclosed by the development on both sides as far as practicable	To minimise the level of visual change for users of the PRow

Embedded mitigation measures relevant to landscape and visual	Function
	network and protect the amenity of PRow routes.
Minimum 100m offset from solar PV development to residential properties	To minimise visual impacts to occupiers of residential properties.
A minimum of 200m offset between residential properties to any larger infrastructure (i.e. On-Site Substation)	To minimise visual impacts to occupiers of residential properties.
Reinstatement of field edge vegetation	To minimise the level of visual change to views.

13.9 What are the likely effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm on population?

13.9.1 This section considers the likely effects that may arise during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of Mylen Leah Solar Farm in the absence of additional mitigation, taking into account the embedded mitigation measures outlined in **Section 13.8** and assessing the reasonable worst case scenario.

Construction

Agricultural land holdings

- 13.9.2 During the construction phase, effects to agricultural land holders and tenant farmers operating within the solar PV development area will be experienced, as land will be taken out of agricultural use to accommodate Mylen Leah Solar Farm, resulting in potential agricultural job losses for landowners and tenant farmers.
- 13.9.3 It is anticipated that farming operations may continue throughout the construction phase; however, as construction progresses, the extent of land available for farming will decrease. As a result, it is likely that the output of the farming operations occurring within the solar PV development area will reduce year on year across the construction phase.
- 13.9.4 The Applicant is currently engaging with the 14 landowners to secure legal and financial arrangements in exchange for the land required for the solar PV development area.
- 13.9.5 The number of tenant farmers that lease land within the draft Order Limits is being investigated. Tenant farmers, as non-landowners, have not been in direct discussions with the Applicant.
- 13.9.6 There may be temporary disruption to agricultural land holdings within the underground grid connection corridor due to the installation of the interconnecting underground cable and associated construction traffic. This may temporarily limit the productivity of the agricultural operations across the underground grid connection corridor; however, any impacts are anticipated to be short term and temporary. Once installed, the land will be reinstated and can continue to be utilised for agricultural purposes. The number of landowners affected by the underground grid connection corridor is currently

unknown, but the Applicant will engage with these landowners to seek to secure the relevant legal and financial arrangements required.

- 13.9.7 As landowners and tenant farmers will be financially compensated for the use of their land for Mylen Leah Solar Farm, no significant effects to agricultural land holders during construction are anticipated.

Agricultural economy

- 13.9.8 During construction, the land within the draft Order Limits will gradually be taken out of agricultural use to support Mylen Leah Solar Farm. The land-take associated with construction activities will gradually limit the opportunity for grazing and as a worst case, Mylen Leah Solar Farm will result in the temporary loss of 925ha of agricultural land over the construction phase. Based on county-wide estimates, this represents 0.5% of the total agricultural land within the administrative boundaries of East Riding of Yorkshire.
- 13.9.9 Based on the local authority average employment per ha data, the construction land take would result in the reduction of the indicative capacity for approximately 33 jobs or approximately 0.6% of employment in the agricultural sector (the total agricultural employment in East Riding of Yorkshire is estimated at approximately 5,523 jobs).

Businesses

- 13.9.10 Beyond agricultural operations and transport related infrastructure, there are 58 businesses located within the study area which provide employment opportunities, of which 13 are located within the draft Order Limits.
- 13.9.11 During construction, the increase in traffic numbers and HGVs may affect customers accessing businesses within the study area. However, it is not anticipated that the temporary and short duration increase in traffic numbers will significantly impact businesses' revenue.
- 13.9.12 The construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm will result in localised changes to the visual environment and localised noise and traffic effects. Of the 58 businesses within the study area, 46 businesses do not rely on the surrounding environment to generate revenue. Therefore, these businesses are not considered to be sensitive to noise, traffic or visual changes as a result of the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. It is anticipated these businesses will be able to continue to operate and generate revenue as normal. Impacts such as increased noise and traffic will be short-term and temporary.
- 13.9.13 The remaining 12 businesses (six holiday campsites (Wild Harvest School, Allerthorpe Lakeland Park, Acorn Glade, Paradise Lakeside Lodges, Wigwam Holidays Ball Hall Farm and Laytham Park), four holiday let accommodations (Eastfield Farm, Granary Barn, The Old Mill Hideaway and Acorn Cottage), Rose Thorpe Park Equestrian Centre and the Rising Dawn Sanctuary) are more likely to be sensitive to changes to the surrounding environment. These businesses rely on the environment (such as their rural setting) as a means of generating revenue and therefore could be affected by changes to the visual landscape, increased construction noise and traffic impacts. These businesses may experience a reduction in customer footfall, which could result in a decrease in business revenue.

13.9.14 **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual** in **Volume 1** concludes that there is the potential for significant adverse visual effects to occur on a number of receptors, including upon businesses identified in this preliminary assessment. It is possible that significant visual effects may adversely affect visitor experiences and therefore could lead to a reduction in visitor numbers.

Users of recreational routes

13.9.15 There are 23 PRoW and one long distance path (Wilberforce Way long distance path) within the study area, which facilitate movement across the area for recreational users. There is potential for users of these recreational routes (i.e., walkers, cyclists and horse riders) to be affected by the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm through temporary diversions or closures.

13.9.16 A permanent footpath diversion of the existing PRoW Foggathorpe Footpath No.11 (FOGGF11) around the northern and eastern edge of Field Parcel 5.c is proposed, with the intention to stop the existing PRoW from being enclosed by infrastructure on both sides. The proposed diversion will result in a 130m increase in journey length for its users.

13.9.17 The remaining PRoW and the Wilberforce Way long distance path will be retained in their existing alignment, where practicable. During construction where PRoW cannot be avoided, temporary diversions, restrictions or closures may be required. Impacts to users of these routes may experience an increase in journey times as a result of these restrictions. Due to the rural nature of the study area, restrictions on PRoW are not anticipated to result in community severance. The PRoW network is anticipated to be predominately used for recreational purposes by the local community.

13.9.18 The Wilberforce Way long distance path is divided into 13 connected walks, which links Hull, through Pocklington to York. As a long distance path, it is a regional trail which connects different '*places of special importance in the struggle for human freedom and dignity*' (LDWA, 2025). The Wilberforce Way long distance path crosses the proposed underground grid connection corridor and there may be a requirement to temporarily divert or close a small section of this path during construction to install the underground cable. However, any impacts will be short term and temporary.

13.9.19 There is also the potential for impacts to the amenity of PRoW during construction due localised changes to the visual environment and localised noise effects, which may discourage walkers, cyclists and horse riders from using the PRoW network for recreational purposes.

Employment and gross value added

13.9.20 The greatest number of employment opportunities arising from Mylen Leah Solar Farm will occur during the construction phase. Construction employment has been calculated based on an assumption of area, output, and construction full time equivalents (FTEs) per MW. This has produced an estimate of 306 direct FTEs.

13.9.21 To estimate gross value added, the estimated 306 FTEs has been multiplied through by the Type I multiplier for the sector of 2.215 to generate direct (306) and indirect (372) jobs. The indirect jobs estimate represents those

jobs supported further down the supply chain as a result of the construction. Using the latest ONS "Output per job, UK" dataset (section-level industry data for 2024), a representative gross value added per job can be used to derive order of magnitude construction phase gross value added. In 2024, the average gross value added per job in the construction sector was approximately £64,000 (adjusted for the Yorkshire and the Humber region). Additionality guidance has then followed to account for leakage and substitution effects (Homes and Communities Agency, 2014). This provides an estimated gross value added impact of approximately £43.4 million for 678 jobs. This is a highly illustrative example.

13.9.22 It is anticipated that construction workers will reinvest money into the local economy and services during the construction phase which will help sustain jobs across a range of sectors. This represents a further beneficial induced effect over the course of construction.

Tourism

13.9.23 Visual and noise impacts associated with the construction phase can affect the tourist economy through impacts to visitor experiences and behaviours which may affect tourism providers performance.

13.9.24 Adverse effects to tourism during construction will predominantly be temporary and short-term in nature (traffic and noise); however, visual effects may be experienced up to 3km from the draft Order Limits as the construction phase progresses.

13.9.25 Using the 'Visit East Yorkshire' website, two tourist attractions have been identified within the study area; Pocklington Canal and Allerthorpe Common Nature Reserve. These tourism receptors rely on the surrounding environment (such as their rural setting) to generate revenue. Noise and visual effects associated with construction may deter visitors; however, any effects will be short term and temporary.

13.9.26 The annual Walking East Yorkshire Festival is held in September and attendance may be affected as a result of visual changes, noise and disruptions to the PRow network depending on the proximity of these routes to the draft Order Limits. However, any effects will be temporary and short term in nature and there will be opportunities for other routes to be utilised during the construction phase.

Occupancy rates

13.9.27 A number of staff may choose not to stay in their primary residence during the construction phase (i.e., live closer to the Site) and will require temporary accommodation. Construction staff will be utilising accommodation stock that is typically for tourists. Therefore, there is the potential for less available beds for tourists.

13.9.28 To assess the reasonable worst-case scenario, the accommodation stock across the county of East Riding of Yorkshire has been assessed, although it is anticipated that some construction workers will stay in temporary accommodation in larger settlements due to the greater variety of accommodation providers.

- 13.9.29 As stated in **paragraph 13.7.3**, it is estimated that there will be approximately 500 construction workers at its peak, during the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. It has been assumed that 5% of construction workers will require temporary accommodation whilst working at the Site. Therefore, for this preliminary assessment, it is anticipated that the maximum number of workforce staff requiring temporary accommodation will be 25 staff.
- 13.9.30 An analysis of average temporary accommodation occupancy rates has been undertaken to assess the likely impact of the influx of workforce staff requiring temporary accommodation. For the purposes of this preliminary assessment, the number of rooms in serviced and non-serviced establishments (excluding tourist campsites) is 5,621 across East Riding of Yorkshire. At peak times (June and September), approximately 86% of serviced and non-serviced accommodation is occupied, which equates to 4,834 rooms. Therefore, there would be approximately 786 rooms available for construction staff within the study area.
- 13.9.31 It is anticipated that the accommodation stock within East Riding of Yorkshire will be able to absorb the anticipated 5% of construction staff that will be require temporary accommodation and be able to still meet tourism demands during peak periods.
- 13.9.32 In addition, it is likely that construction staff will prefer to stay in larger settlements due to greater variety in accommodation providers. Any impacts to occupancy rates during construction will be temporary and short-term.
- 13.9.33 The uptake of accommodation stock across East Riding of Yorkshire has the potential to result in beneficial impacts to the local economy as a result of the 'multiplier effect'. Construction workers may choose to use serviced and non-serviced accommodation during the 'low season' and therefore generate revenue during typically quieter times of the year.

Operation

Agricultural land holdings

- 13.9.34 During operation, as a worst case, it is assumed that all land within the solar PV development area will be taken out of agricultural use for the 50-year operational lifetime, resulting in the permanent loss of agricultural jobs.
- 13.9.35 During operation, as the interconnecting underground cable will be installed underground, it is anticipated that agricultural operations within the underground grid connection corridor can continue to operate as normal. There may be a requirement to access the interconnecting underground cable for maintenance purposes during the operation phase, and therefore this swathe of land must not be built on by the landowner; however, this is not anticipated to impact the overall productivity of the agricultural operation.
- 13.9.36 It is anticipated that legal and financial arrangements with the relevant landowners and tenant farmers will be made. Therefore, as landowners and tenant farmers will be financially compensated for the use of their land as a solar farm (including the cable route, if required), no significant effects to agricultural land holders are anticipated.

Agricultural economy

- 13.9.37 As a worst case scenario, it is assumed that the land within the draft Order Limits will no longer be used for agricultural purposes during operation (although it is recognised that there is potential for limited grazing of livestock to continue). This has the potential to impact the agricultural economy through reducing revenue and the ability to support agricultural jobs.
- 13.9.38 Approximately 90% of the land in East Riding of Yorkshire is used for agricultural purposes. The land-take associated with Mylen Leah Solar Farm would result in 0.5% of agricultural land in East Riding of Yorkshire being taken out of use during the 50 year operation lifetime. Based on the local authority average employment per ha data would result in the reduction of the indicative capacity for approximately 33 jobs or approximately 0.6% of employment in the agricultural sector (the total agricultural employment in East Riding of Yorkshire is estimated at approximately 5,523 jobs).

Businesses

- 13.9.39 Beyond farming operations, there are 58 businesses within the study area which provide employment opportunities of which 13 are located within the draft Order Limits.
- 13.9.40 Mylen Leah Solar Farm will result in localised changes to the visual environment. Of the 58 businesses within the study area, 46 businesses do not rely on the surrounding environment to generate revenue and therefore are not considered to be sensitive to the operation phase of Mylen Leah Solar Farm and it is not anticipated that revenue would be lost as a result.
- 13.9.41 The remaining 12 businesses (six holiday campsites (Wild Harvest School, Allerthorpe Lakeland Park, Acorn Glade, Paradise Lakeside Lodges, Wigwam Holidays Ball Hall Farm and Laytham Park), four holiday let accommodations (Eastfield Farm, Granary Barn, The Old Mill Hideaway and Acorn Cottage), Rose Thorpe Park Equestrian Centre and the Rising Dawn Sanctuary) are more likely to be sensitive to changes to the surrounding environment. These businesses rely on the environment (such as their rural setting) as a means of generating revenue and may be impacted by visual changes as result of the operation of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. These businesses may experience a reduction in customer footfall, which could result in a decrease in revenue.
- 13.9.42 **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual** in **Volume 1** concludes that there is the potential for significant adverse visual effects to occur on a number of receptors, including upon businesses identified in this preliminary assessment. It is possible that significant visual effects may adversely affect visitor experiences and therefore could lead to a reduction in visitor numbers.

Users of recreational routes

- 13.9.43 A permanent footpath diversion of the existing PRoW Footpath Foggathorpe Footpath No.11 (FOGGF11) around the northern and eastern edge of Field Parcel 5.c is proposed, with the intention to stop the existing PRoW from being enclosed by infrastructure on both sides. The proposed diversion will result in a 130m increase in journey length for its users.

13.9.44 The remaining PRoW and Wilberforce Way long distance path will be retained in their existing alignments during operation. If maintenance is required and impacts to PRoW/Wilberforce Way cannot be avoided; temporary diversions, restrictions or closures may be required. Any temporary restrictions will be agreed with the East Riding of Yorkshire Public Rights of Way Officer and will be of short duration.

13.9.45 Users of the PRoW network may also be affected by the visual changes as a result of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. These likely significant effects are addressed in **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual** in **Volume 1**.

13.9.46 Mylen Leah Solar Farm also includes the creation of two permissive paths to provide links and permeability within the Site and to better integrate existing routes into the local network which will be available to use during the operation phase. The proposed permissive paths are as follows:

- A new permissive path to provide offroad connectivity between PRoW MELBF01, MELBF02, MELBF04 and MELBF05, running parallel to Ash Lane.
- A new permissive path to connect the existing PRoW network at Melbourne and Seaton Ross by connecting PRoW MLEBF03 and SROSF03.

13.9.47 The Applicant is proposing to provide two new permissive paths. By increasing and enhancing the permissive path network, local residents are more likely to utilise these links as they will be more accessible.

Employment and gross value added

13.9.48 During operation, it is anticipated that Mylen Leah Solar Farm will generate approximately six direct FTE jobs, with the number of personnel on site likely to increase during seasonal activities (environmental monitoring, vegetation management and equipment inspections).

13.9.49 **Table 13.13** details the estimated employment for the operation of Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

Table 13.13: Operational employment

Role	Description	Employment (Direct FTE)
Operational workers	Equipment inspection checks, management and monitoring of environmental mitigation and enhancement	6
Total		6

13.9.50 By applying sector-specific gross value added per employee averages, it is estimated that Mylen Leah Solar Farm will support an annual gross value added contribution of approximately £320,000.

Tourism

13.9.51 Using the 'Visit East Yorkshire' website, two tourist attractions have been identified within the study area; Pocklington Canal and Allerthorpe Common Nature Reserve, both of which rely on the surrounding landscaping and

setting and which may experience perceptible change during the operation phase of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. As detailed in **Chapter 11: Landscape and Visual** in **Volume 1**, there are certain viewpoints that could be subject to direct views of Mylen Leah Solar Farm. This visibility will alter the view of these tourist attractions and could reduce the area's attractiveness.

13.9.52 The operation of Mylen Leah Solar Farm will not affect the annual Walking East Yorkshire Festival, as routes may vary each year and planting will provide screening from the solar PV development. It is anticipated that this event can continue as normal.

Decommissioning

13.9.53 The likely effects during decommissioning are expected to be similar or less than during the construction phase. Therefore, the likely effects during construction (as described above) are expected to represent those likely effects during decommissioning.

13.10 What additional mitigation is proposed to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset likely effects on population?

13.10.1 Additional mitigation measures will be detailed in the following documents, all of which will be submitted in support of the DCO application and secured by the DCO:

- The Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (Outline CTMP) will detail measures to manage construction transport/traffic and any associated environmental effects;
- The Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (Outline CEMP) will detail measures to manage construction plant activity, safety and amenity associated with the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, including details of construction hours, construction programme and complaints procedures;
- The Outline Public Rights of Way and Access Management Plan will detail the proposed approach to the management and maintenance of existing and diverted PRow, as well as the proposed permissive paths, during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases;
- The Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Outline LEMP) will detail the management of land within the Order Limits, maintenance of ecological mitigation areas and mitigation of visual amenity during the construction, operation and decommissioning phases;
- The Outline Operational Environmental Management Plan (Outline OEMP) will detail the approach to managing potential environmental impacts associated with the operation of Mylen Leah Solar Farm; and
- The Outline Decommissioning Environmental Management Plan (Outline DEMP) will detail the approach to managing potential environmental impacts associated with the decommissioning of Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

13.11 What likely effects would remain for population following additional mitigation?

Construction

Agricultural land holdings

- 13.11.1 During the construction phase, land within the solar PV development area will gradually be taken out of its current land use and therefore agricultural land holders and tenant farmers will gradually lose the ability to utilise their land for farming and to generate revenue.
- 13.11.2 The value (sensitivity) of agricultural landholders within the solar PV development area to a decrease in the land available for farming is **very high** and the magnitude of impact (change) is considered to be **negligible**, as it is anticipated that the landowners will reach a financial arrangement with the Applicant and will accept the proposed changes to their land and agricultural operations.
- 13.11.3 Similarly, the value (sensitivity) of tenant farmers within the solar PV development area to a decrease in the land available for farming is **very high** and the magnitude of impact (change) is considered to be **negligible**, as tenant farmers are also anticipated to receive financial compensation in lieu of the loss of their ability to farm the land.
- 13.11.4 Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **slight adverse** residual effect on agricultural land holders and tenant farmers within the solar PV development area, which is considered to be **not significant**.
- 13.11.5 The value (sensitivity) of agricultural land holdings within the underground grid connection corridor to a decrease in land available for farming is **very high** and the magnitude of impact (change) is considered to be **negligible** as it is anticipated that the landowners will reach a financial arrangement with the Applicant and will have agreed to the proposed changes to their land and agricultural operations.
- 13.11.6 Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **slight adverse** residual effect on agricultural land holders and tenant farmers within the underground grid connection corridor, which is considered to be **not significant**.

Agricultural economy

- 13.11.7 During the construction phase, land which can be used for agricultural purposes and support the agricultural economy will gradually be made unavailable due to Mylen Leah Solar Farm.
- 13.11.8 The value (sensitivity) of the agricultural economy within East Riding of Yorkshire is **high**, given its strategic importance and contribution to the local economy. The magnitude of impact (change) during construction is assessed as **negligible**, reflecting the relatively small proportion of agricultural land affected (0.5% of total county area). Therefore, there is likely to be a **slight adverse** residual effect, which is **not significant**.

Businesses

- 13.11.9 Of the 58 businesses within the study area, 46 businesses do not rely on the external setting to generate revenue.

- 13.11.10 During the construction phase, there may be short-term disturbance for customers accessing these businesses as a result of the temporary increase in traffic numbers and HGVs as a result of construction activity. The value (sensitivity) of these businesses is **low** and the magnitude of impact (change) is considered to be **minor**. Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **neutral or slight adverse** residual effect on these businesses, which is considered to be **not significant**.
- 13.11.11 The remaining 12 businesses are more sensitive to changes to their external setting as a means of generating revenue. It is considered that these businesses could be affected by the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm through impacts to noise or visual change which may reduce customer footfall and business revenue.
- 13.11.12 The value (sensitivity) of these businesses is **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) on five holiday campsites (Wild Harvest School, Allertorpe Lakeland Park, Acorn Glade, Paradise Lakeside Lodges and Wigwam Holidays Ball Hall Farm), four holiday let accommodations (Eastfield Farm, Granary Barn, The Old Mill Hideaway and Acorn Cottage), Rose Thorpe Park Equestrian Centre and the Rising Dawn Sanctuary is considered to be **minor**. Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **slight adverse** residual effect on these businesses, which is considered to be **not significant**. For the remaining holiday campsite (Laytham Park), the magnitude of impact (change) is considered to be **moderate** due to the potential for the partial loss of key characteristics (i.e. rural setting). Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **moderate adverse** residual effect on this business, which is considered to be **significant**.

Users of recreational routes

- 13.11.13 During construction, one PRoW (FOGGF11) will be permanently diverted, which will result in an increased travel distance for users of the PRoW of a distance of approximately 130m. PRoW FOGGF11 is anticipated to be used locally for recreational purposes. The value (sensitivity) of users of FOGGF11 is anticipated to be **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) is **minor**. Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, permanent, short-term **slight adverse** residual effect, which is considered to be **not significant**.
- 13.11.14 At this stage, there are no other proposed diversions of PRoW within the study area. There may be temporary restrictions to the PRoW network in accordance with the management measures outlined in the Outline Public Rights of Way and Access Management Plan.
- 13.11.15 During construction, Mylen Leah Solar Farm is anticipated to result in impacts to the amenity of PRoW as a result of visual and noise impacts associated with construction activity. The value (sensitivity) of users of PRoW is **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) during construction due to localised changes to the visual environment and localised noise effects is **negligible**. Therefore, there is likely to be indirect, temporary, short-term **neutral or slight adverse** residual effects to users of PRoW, which is considered **not significant**.

13.11.16 As a long distance path, the value (sensitivity) of users of Wilberforce Way long distance path is **high** and the magnitude of impact (change) is anticipated to be **negligible**. There may be temporary disruption (due to noise and visual impacts and increased travel times) to users of the long distance path due to the installation of the underground grid connection corridor. However, it is anticipated that the Wilberforce Way long distance path will remain open to users throughout the construction phase and all impacts will be short term and temporary. Therefore, there is likely to be direct, temporary, short-term **slight adverse** residual effects to users of the Wilberforce Way long distance path, which is considered **not significant**.

Employment and gross value added

13.11.17 During the construction phase, employment opportunities will be created to facilitate the construction of Mylen Leah Solar Farm which will result in benefits to the local economy.

13.11.18 The construction phase will generate approximately 306 direct FTEs and 372 indirect FTEs, with a focus on local and regional supply chains. The value (sensitivity) of employment and gross value added receptors is **medium**, and the magnitude of impact (change) is **moderate**, reflecting the scale of temporary employment and associated economic output. This results in a direct, temporary, short-term **moderate beneficial** residual effect, which is **significant**. Estimated gross value added contribution during construction is approximately £39 million, assuming low leakage and regional retention of benefits.

Tourism

13.11.19 Construction activities associated with Mylen Leah Solar Farm may have effects on the tourist economy as a result of adverse impacts to noise and the visual environment which may impact visitor experiences and behaviours.

13.11.20 The value (sensitivity) of tourism as a receptor is **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) expected during construction is **minor**. The scale and diversity of the wider tourist economy is broad, and while change may be experienced by some receptors, this is limited and managed by embedded and additional mitigation within the Outline CTMP, Outline LEMP and Outline CEMP. Therefore, there is likely to be an indirect, temporary, short-term **slight adverse** residual effect on tourism, which is considered to be **not significant**.

Occupancy rates

13.11.21 During the construction phase, an influx of construction workers may benefit the owners of accommodation providers as there will be a small but consistent uplift in the number of people requiring accommodation across the year, especially in the winter months when the number of visitors is typically lower than during the spring/summer/autumn periods. Therefore, the value (sensitivity) of accommodation providers is considered to be **low**.

13.11.22 The magnitude of impact (change) is influenced by the duration of the likely uptake of accommodation which is temporary and short-term, and the scale of available accommodation, which is substantially more than the

demand, resulting in a **minor** magnitude of impact (change). Therefore, there is likely to be indirect, temporary, short-term **neutral or slight beneficial** residual effects, which is considered to be **not significant**.

13.11.23 Conversely, an influx of workforce staff to the area may result in impacts to accommodation availability for tourists. However, any such impacts would be short term and temporary. The value (sensitivity) of the receptor is influenced by the ability for the market to respond to change. Given the availability of accommodation, even at peak, the accommodation market is demonstrably able to respond to absorb change with minimal adverse effects and potentially a short-term, positive effect relating to additional expenditure above the baseline.

13.11.24 As such, the value (sensitivity) of the receptor is considered to be **low** and the magnitude of impact (change) expected during construction is **minor**, resulting in temporary **neutral or slight adverse** residual effects, which is considered to be **not significant**.

Operation

Agricultural land holdings

13.11.25 During the operation phase, land will be taken out of agricultural use and therefore agricultural land holders will lose their ability to farm the land and generate revenue.

13.11.26 The value (sensitivity) of agricultural landholders and tenant farmers within the solar PV development areas to the loss of land available for farming is **very high**.

13.11.27 It is anticipated that the landowners will reach an arrangement with the Applicant for the lease of land for Mylen Leah Solar Farm. As the landowners will be financially compensated and will have agreed to the proposed changes to their land and agricultural operations, the magnitude of impact (change) is **negligible**.

13.11.28 Similarly, tenant farmers are also anticipated to receive financial compensation in lieu of the loss of the ability to farm the land and therefore, the magnitude of impact (change) is also anticipated to be **negligible**.

13.11.29 Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **slight adverse** residual effect on agricultural land holders and tenant farmers within the solar PV development area following the implementation of additional mitigation measures, which is considered to be **not significant**.

13.11.30 The value (sensitivity) of agricultural land holdings within the underground grid connection corridor to disruption of land available for farming is **very high**. Therefore, there is likely to be a direct, temporary, short term **slight adverse** residual effect on agricultural land holders within the underground grid connection corridor following the implementation of additional mitigation measures, which is considered to be **not significant**.

Agricultural economy

13.11.31 During the operation phase, land that has the potential to be used for agricultural purposes and support the agricultural economy will be made unavailable due to Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

13.11.32 The operational land-take of Mylen Leah Solar Farm represents 0.5% of agricultural land in East Riding of Yorkshire, equating to an indicative reduction of 33 FTE (0.6% of sector employment). The value (sensitivity) of the agricultural economy is **high**, and the magnitude of impact (change) is **negligible**, resulting in a **slight adverse** residual effect, which is considered to be **not significant**.

Businesses

13.11.33 During the operation phase, impacts associated with visual change to the surrounding environment may limit business's ability to generate revenue.

13.11.34 Of the 58 businesses within the study area, 46 do not rely on the surrounding environment/setting to generate revenue. The value (sensitivity) of businesses is considered to be **low**, and the magnitude of impact (change) is **negligible**. There is likely to be a **neutral or slight adverse** residual effect, which is considered to be **not significant**.

13.11.35 The remaining 12 businesses are more sensitive to changes to their external setting as a means of generating revenue. It is considered that these businesses could be affected by the operation of Mylen Leah Solar Farm through impacts to noise or visual change which may reduce customer footfall and business revenue.

13.11.36 The value (sensitivity) of these businesses is **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) following the implementation of additional mitigation measures (as outlined in the Outline LEMP) on five holiday campsites (Wild Harvest School, Allertorpe Lakeland Park, Acorn Glade, Paradise Lakeside Lodges and Wigwam Holidays Ball Hall Farm), four holiday let accommodations (Eastfield Farm, Granary Barn, The Old Mill Hideaway and Acorn Cottage), Rose Thorpe Park Equestrian Centre and the Rising Dawn Sanctuary is considered to be **minor**. Therefore, there is likely to be a **slight adverse** residual effect on these businesses, which is considered to be **not significant**. For the remaining holiday campsite (Laytham Park), the magnitude of impact (change) following the implementation of additional mitigation measures (as outlined in the Outline LEMP) is considered to be **moderate** due to the potential for the partial loss of key characteristics (i.e. rural setting). Therefore, there is likely to be a **moderate adverse** residual effect on this business, which is considered to be **significant**.

Users of recreational routes

13.11.37 During the operation phase, Mylen Leah Solar Farm has the potential to impact the amenity of PRoW due to visual change as well as increase journey distances due to the proposed diversion.

13.11.38 The PRoW within the study area are used for recreational purposes, with many linked to the Wilberforce Way long distance path.

13.11.39 It is proposed that one PRoW (FOGGF11) will need to be diverted. This will increase the travel distance for users of this PRoW by approximately 130m. The value (sensitivity) of the users of FOGGF11 is **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) will be **minor**. There is likely to direct,

permanent, long term **slight adverse** residual effects to users of recreational routes, which is considered **not significant**.

13.11.40 It is anticipated that all other PRoW will be retained in their existing alignments and will continue to be used throughout the operation phase. The value (sensitivity) of users of these PRoW is **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) is anticipated to be **negligible**. Therefore, there is likely to be a permanent, long-term, **neutral or slight beneficial** residual effects to users of all other PRoW, partly due to the creation of two new permissive paths, which is considered **not significant**.

13.11.41 The value (sensitivity) of users of the Wilberforce Way long distance path is **high**. During the operation phase of Mylen Leah Solar Farm, the Wilberforce Way long distance path will continue to be open, therefore the magnitude of impact (change) is anticipated to be **negligible**. There is likely to be permanent, long-term, **slight adverse** residual effects, which is considered **not significant**.

Employment and gross value added

13.11.42 During the operation phase, Mylen Leah Solar Farm has the potential to support long term employment opportunities which has associated benefits for the local economy.

13.11.43 It is anticipated that the operation of Mylen Leah Solar Farm will support approximately six direct FTE jobs annually, primarily in security and maintenance roles. The value (sensitivity) of employment and gross value added is anticipated to be **medium**, and the magnitude of impact (change) is **minor**, resulting in a **slight beneficial** residual effect, which considered to be **not significant**. The estimated annual gross value added contribution will be approximately £290,000, assuming the regional retention of benefits.

Tourism

13.11.44 During the operation phase, Mylen Leah Solar Farm has the potential to impact tourism providers as a result of visual change which reduces the amenity of tourist assets identified within the study area.

13.11.45 The value (sensitivity) of tourism providers is anticipated to be **medium** and the magnitude of impact (change) following the implementation of additional mitigation measures which will reduce the extent of visual change (as outlined in the Outline LEMP), is anticipated to be **minor**. There is likely to be a **slight adverse** residual effect, which is considered to be **not significant**.

Decommissioning

13.11.46 The likely level of residual effect during decommissioning is expected to be similar to or less than that experienced during construction and therefore the significance of effects during construction is expected to represent the level of effect during decommissioning.

13.12 What opportunities are there for environmental enhancement?

13.12.1 An Outline Employment, Skills and Supply Chain Plan will be prepared and submitted in support of the DCO application. This plan will outline how Mylen Leah Solar Farm will create local jobs, develop skills and support local

businesses. The plan will detail strategies for recruitment, local training/apprenticeships/scholarship opportunities and local procurement.

13.13 What difficulties and uncertainties have been encountered in this preliminary population assessment?

13.13.1 The information provided in this PEIR is preliminary and is based on the information available at the time of writing. A full assessment of the likely significant effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm will be reported in the ES.

13.13.2 To ensure transparency within the EIA process, the following difficulties and uncertainties have been identified:

- The Applicant is currently in discussions with the affected landowners, each at different stages of negotiation. The number of tenant farmers who may be affected by Mylen Leah Solar Farm is being investigated. However, this will be determined to inform the ES and DCO application;
- As Mylen Leah Solar Farm does not have a fixed layout, it is currently not possible to determine the number and length of PRoW that will be affected. However, this information will be determined to inform the ES and DCO application; and
- Publicly available data (AddressBase OS data) has been used to identify businesses within the study area. It is recognised that within this preliminary population assessment, a number of receptors were incorrectly identified as business receptors. Where receptors were incorrectly identified, professional judgement has been used to identify and discount such anomalies.

13.14 What further work is required to inform the full population assessment in the DCO application?

13.14.1 Consultation will take place with East Riding of Yorkshire's Public Rights of Way Officer to discuss and agree any diversions or closures to the PRoW network to understand the number and length of PRoW that will be affected by the fixed layout of Mylen Leah Solar Farm.

13.14.2 The Applicant will continue to engage with landowners across the draft Order Limits to reach legal and financial arrangements for the lease of land for Mylen Leah Solar Farm. The Applicant will also engage with landowners to understand the number of tenant farmers operating within the draft Order Limits and the impacts to these farming operations.

13.14.3 The following assessments, which will be undertaken as part of the ES, will be required to inform the full population assessment: landscape and visual, land and soils, traffic and transport, and noise and vibration.

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