

Mysten Leah Solar Farm

Project update
Post co-design workshops

March 2025

Today's Agenda

- Introductions
- About Statkraft
- Objectives for today
- Mylen Leah Solar Farm project overview
- Co-design feedback
- Next steps
- Q&A



Objectives for today's webinar

Introduce Mylen Leah

- Brief introduction to the project for those who missed the co-design workshops.

Share Key Outcomes

- Present the main themes and feedback from the workshops.
- Highlight the primary concerns and suggestions raised by participants.
- Outline how the feedback is being considered as we refine our proposals.

Next Steps

- Share information on the next steps in the project timeline and future engagement plans.

We will open the floor to questions at the end of the presentation

About Statkraft

- Statkraft is **Europe's largest renewable energy producer**; developing and operating hydropower, wind, solar, and supplies district heating. We also operate globally in energy market operations.
- Founded in Norway over 125 years ago, we're recognised as a dependable partner with a solid grounding
- UK Headquarters in central London **since 2006**, with over 450 employees across 3 UK regional offices
- Total global installed solar capacity of **1.7 GW**
- Invested over **£1.4bn** into renewable energy in the UK
- **Currently delivering Soay Solar Farm and Greener Grid Park** north of the project site



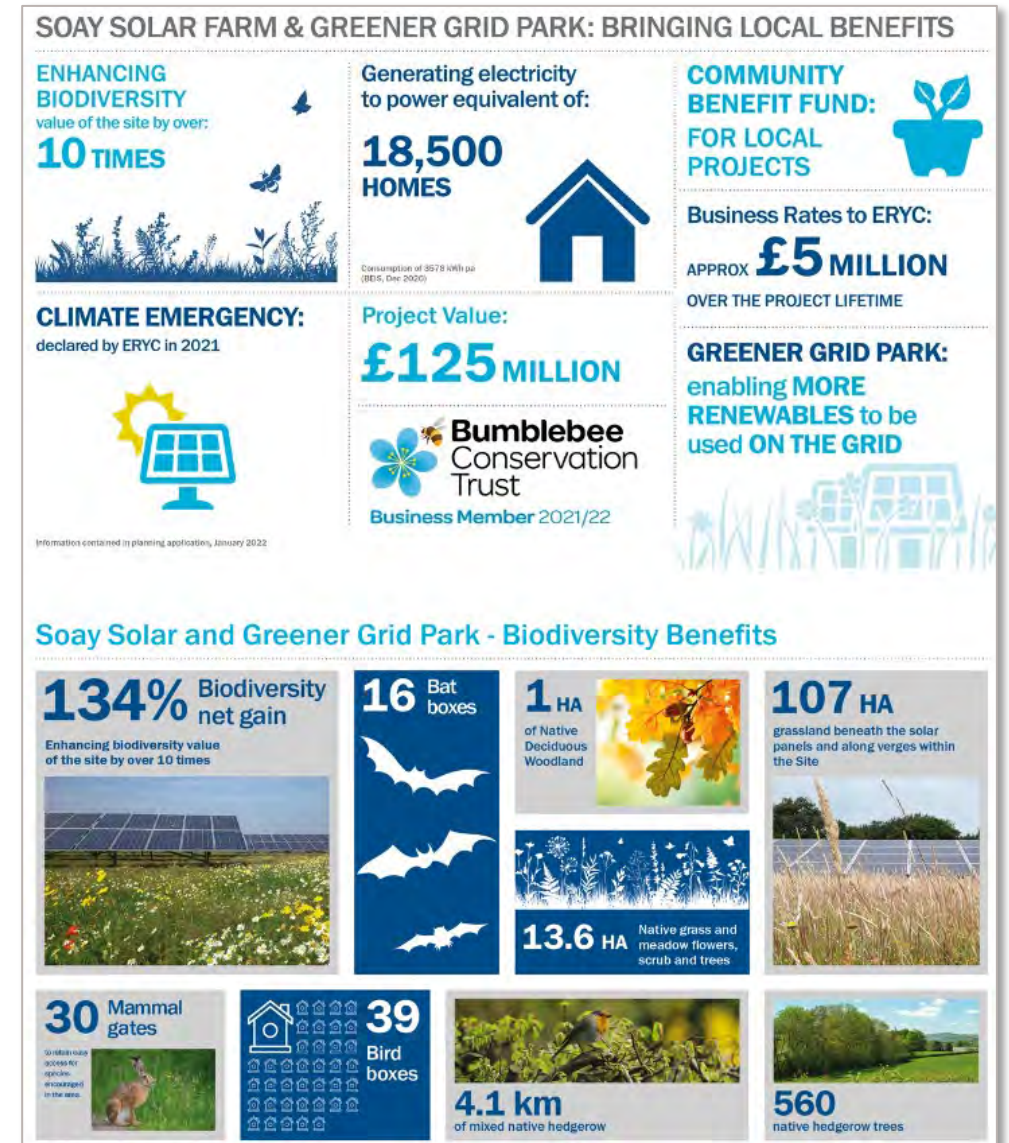
Soay Solar Farm & Thornton Greener Grid Park

Project Timeline

- **2023:** Construction of site access and grid connection commenced (phase 1)
- **2024 - 2025:** Greener Grid Park construction (phase 2)
- **2025:** Planned commencement of solar farm construction

Continuing engagement with the local community

- **During development phase:** Changes were made to design of Soay Solar Farm to address feedback received
- **During construction phase:** Regular Community Liaison Group (CLG) meetings since construction started



*Based on average annual domestic electricity consumption per household of 3,578 kWh pa (BEIS, Dec 2020)

Our approach

- We are progressing the initial phases of our plans for Mylen Leah.
- Since the project is designated as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), we will need to apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO).
- In line with the Planning Act 2008, consultation will be an essential part of the process.
- In November 2024, Statkraft hosted a two-day Co-design workshop series to engage with technical stakeholders and community representatives, gathering valuable feedback on the initial proposals for the project.
- This collaborative approach allowed participants the flexibility to voice their perspectives and directly influence the ongoing refinement of the project.

Mylen Leah Solar Farm Project Overview

What are we applying for?

- The application will be for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a solar photovoltaic (PV) electricity generating facility.
- The supporting infrastructure will include:
 - Electrical equipment including inverters and transformers
 - Substation(s)
 - Access tracks
 - Security fencing and CCTV
 - Landscape planting and biodiversity net gain
 - Underground cabling to connect the Project to the National Grid Thornton Substation
- Mylen Leah is expected to have a generating capacity of approximately 500 MW.
- No energy storage (BESS) is proposed.
- Seeking consent for up to 60 years.

The needs case

- Support for National Net Zero Targets
- Aligned with East Riding of Yorkshire's Energy Goals
- Contribution to Solar Energy Target
- Reliable and Affordable Energy Source
- Increased Energy Security

Planning policy

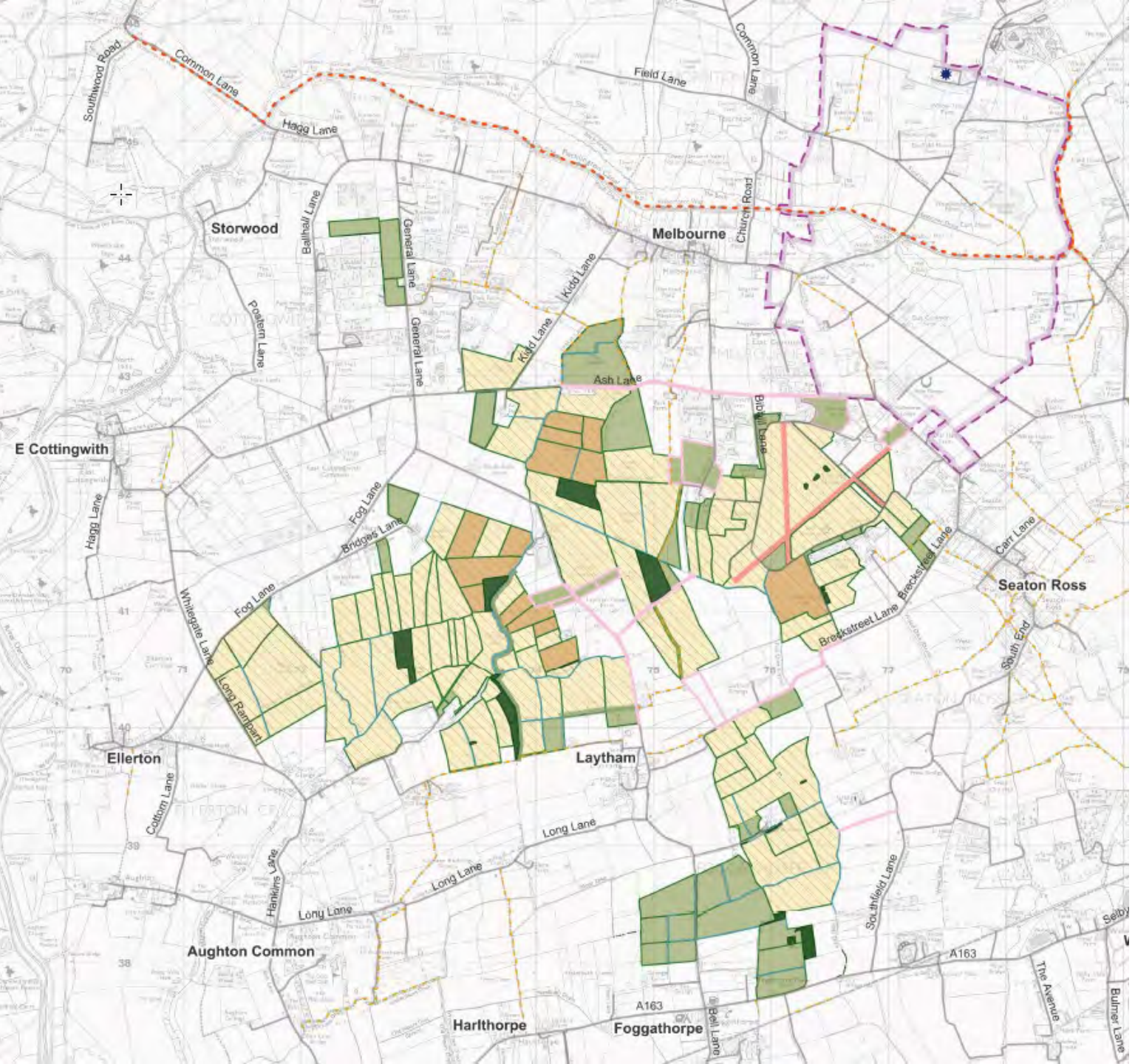
- **National Policy Statement EN-1:** there is a Critical National Priority for the provision of nationally significant low carbon infrastructure.
- **NPS for Renewable Energy (NPS EN-3):**
 - Solar is a key part of the government's strategy for low-cost decarbonisation of the energy sector.
 - Solar also has an important role in delivering the government's goals for greater energy independence.
- The **Powering Up Britain: Energy Security Plan** states that government seeks large scale ground-mount solar deployment across the UK.














Why are we proposing solar in this location?

- Proximity to an available grid connection at Thornton Substation
- Good solar irradiance levels
- Separation from residential areas
- Screening provided by existing vegetation
- Availability of land (with some already developed)
- Low levels of Best & Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land

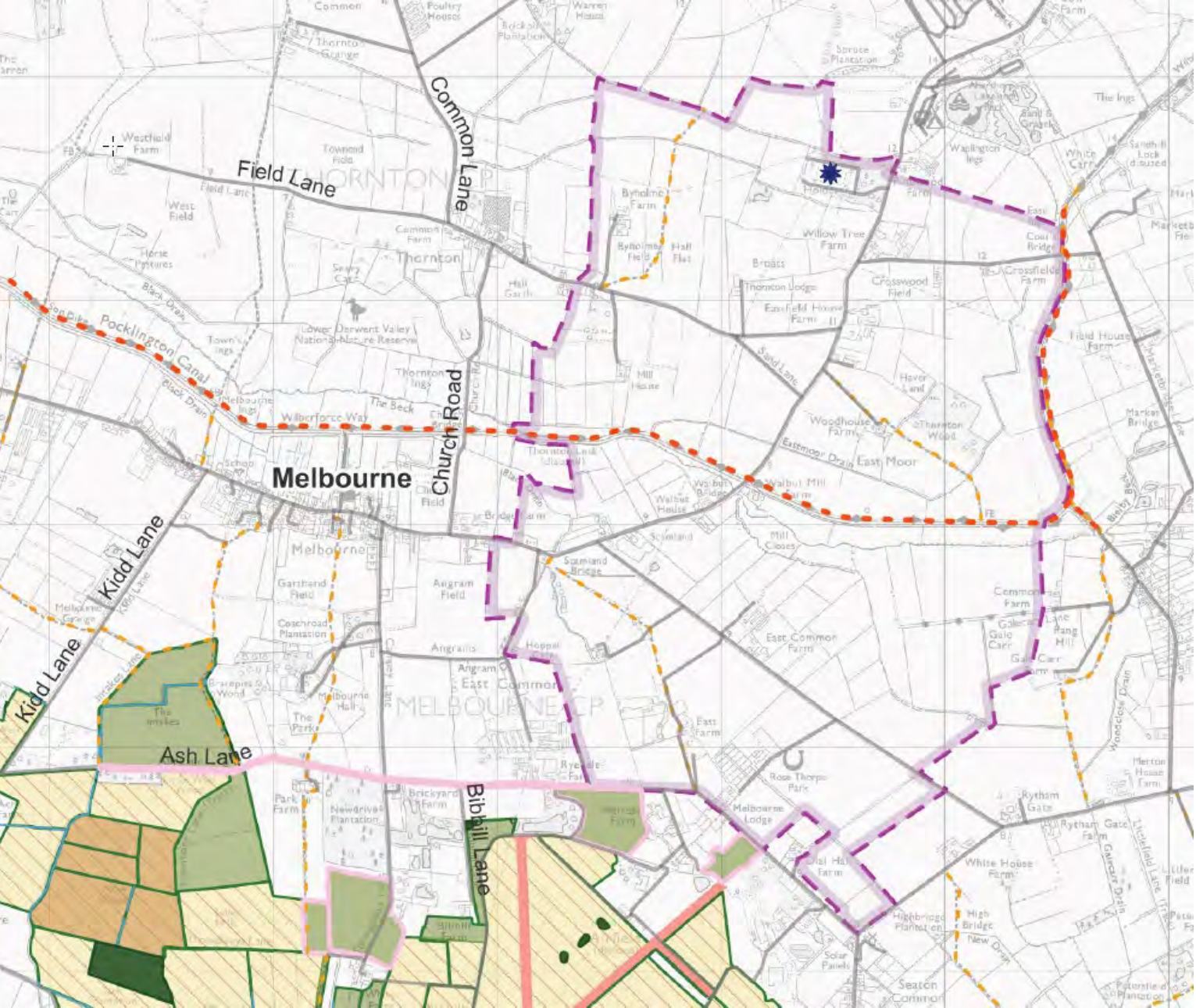















Indicative Concept Masterplan



| KEY | |
|--|--|
|  | Potential area for solar development |
|  | Potential area for solar development and project substation |
|  | Potential areas for landscape and / or ecological mitigation / enhancements |
|  | Area of search for underground grid connection cable |
|  | Potential access and / or cable route |
|  | Existing woodland |
|  | Existing Public Right of Way |
|  | Existing national trail / long distance path |
|  | Existing roads |
|  | Existing watercourse (retained with potential to be enhanced) |
|  | Existing field boundary (Retained with potential to be enhanced or reinstated) |
|  | Existing former airfield runway |
|  | Thornton substation |

Grid Corridor Area of Search



| KEY | |
|---|--|
|  | Potential area for solar development |
|  | Potential area for solar development and project substation |
|  | Potential areas for landscape and / or ecological mitigation / enhancements |
|  | Area of search for underground grid connection cable |
|  | Potential access and / or cable route |
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|  | Existing former airfield runway |
|  | Thornton substation |

Assessments to date

- Site surveys ongoing for the Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR):
 - Ecology
 - Geophysical
 - Agricultural Land Classification
 - Arboricultural
 - Landscape
 - Topographical
 - Residential amenity
- Environmental mapping
- Identification of cable route search area

Scoping

- Scoping opinion received from PINS on 18 February

The Co-design Workshops

The Co-design workshops

Purpose of the workshops:

- **Local knowledge:** Bringing together local experts and community members to share insights and shape the early design of Mylen Leah Solar Farm

Format of the workshops:

- **Presentation and Q&A:** Detailed presentation outlining the current proposals, followed by a Q&A session.
- **Interactive exercise:** Attendees participated in an interactive session where they annotated maps, plans, and prompt boards to share their insights and highlight any concerns.

We have carefully reviewed all the feedback and have grouped the key themes into **four key topics**. More detail can be found in the annex of this presentation and the Co-design report, on the project website.



A close-up photograph of a person's hand pointing to a specific location on a printed map. The map shows a grid of streets and various landmarks. A blue circular graphic is overlaid on the top left of the image, containing the text '42 pieces of feedback'.

42 pieces
of
feedback

Theme #1 – Transport, access and Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

You said:

- Concerns around quality of roads surrounding the site and potential traffic disruption during construction. Maintaining access to PROWs during and after construction was also cited.
- Recommendations to avoid specific roads or to adopt alternative routes to minimise construction impacts. Suggestions to mitigate the potential effects included: buffers around individual dwellings, not just settlements, and; installing passing places to ease traffic flow.
- Requests that a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) and details of construction compounds be shared so technical stakeholders could provide input and ensure effective mitigation.

Statkraft's response

- Lots of very useful knowledge shared by participants on local roads.
- The CTMP will outline measures for managing construction traffic. The potential cumulative impacts of the traffic generated during construction will also be considered.
- Disruption to PROWs would be minimised.



28 pieces
of
feedback

Theme #2 – Landscape, Visual & Cumulative Impacts

You said:

- Concerns about the scheme's potential impact on the Wolds landscape and its rural character.
- Importance of key viewpoints in the area and the need for a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, with suggestions to mitigate and enhance the local landscape using screening measures along the PRoW between Melbourne and Park Farm.
- Questions about whether the development would feature fixed or tracker panels.
- Participants expressed concerns about the cumulative impact of multiple developments proposed within the local area.

Statkraft's response

- We will continue engaging with ERYC to understand key viewpoints that may be relevant for the statutory consultation. As part of ongoing assessments, we will explore screening measures, including along PRoWs.
- Plans relating to screening and hedgerows will be outlined in our Landscape and Visual Assessment, in the Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR).
- We will provide more information on panel types at statutory consultation.
- Statkraft will conduct a cumulative effects assessment as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, to assess the potential combined effects of Mylen Leah Solar Farm alongside other developments in the area.



24 pieces
of
feedback

Theme #3 – Ecology & Biodiversity

You said:

- Need to mitigate the solar farm’s impact on the natural environment, with suggestions to incorporate features such as hedgerows, orchards, and wildflower meadows to enhance biodiversity across the site.
- Questions about the environmental impact of panel maintenance.
- The ecological significance of the nature reserve located to the north of Melbourne.

Statkraft’s response

- Statkraft will prioritise local wildlife by looking to incorporate features such as hedgerows, orchards, and wildflower meadows to enhance biodiversity, where possible, and recognise the ecological importance of the Melbourne and Thornton Ings statutory designated ecological site.
- Panel cleaning will use a tractor brush water jet system to clean the panels, using purified water, without the use of harsh chemicals or detergents.
- Statkraft remains dedicated to working collaboratively with the community and stakeholders to ensure that the project delivers positive ecological and biodiversity outcomes while respecting the local environment.



18 pieces
of
feedback

Theme #4 – Socio-economic and Land Use

You said:

- Questions about the future use of the land once the development has been decommissioned, including whether it would be sold or returned to its previous state.
- Concern about the potential impact of the development on property values in the area. Participants enquired whether there would be any form of compensation for affected residents.
- Question on whether the Melbourne Raceway would still be able to host race days and camping events during and after the development.

Statkraft's response

- Statkraft is committed to ensuring that the land will be returned to its current condition (which will be a requirement of the DCO) once the development has been decommissioned. If the landowner wishes and the terms of the DCO allow it, onsite access tracks may be left in situ.
- We acknowledge concerns regarding potential impacts on property values. Direct financial compensation will not be available, but we are committed to ongoing engagement with the community to address concerns and maximise the local benefits of the project.
- Regarding Melbourne Raceway, Statkraft will engage with the Raceway to ensure that they are kept up to date on the project's development.

Next steps

Incorporating feedback

- Continuing to review feedback from workshops to refine the proposals.
- Will inform the evolving masterplan and environmental assessments.

Ongoing engagement

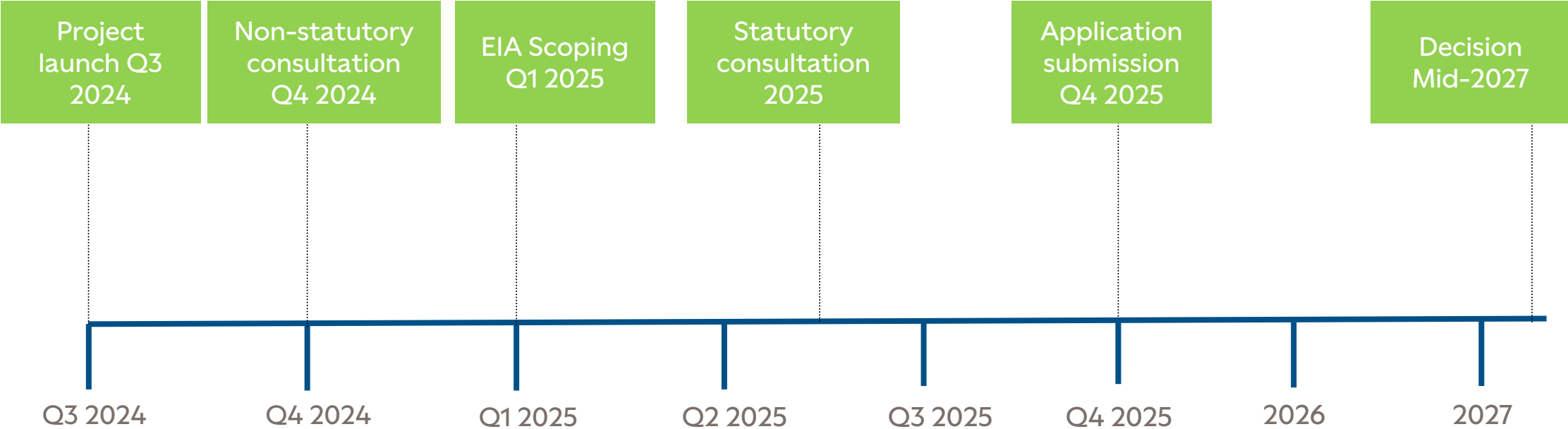
- Ongoing engagement with local councils, community groups, and technical stakeholders.
- Continued discussions with statutory consultees.
- Website updates to keep stakeholders informed - engagement remains ongoing.
- Communication channels remain open for feedback and queries.

Statutory consultation – later in 2025

- Will present more detailed project proposals, including updated masterplans and environmental assessments.
- A Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) will outline engagement undertaken to date and our plans for the next phase.
- Multiple ways to participate, including public exhibitions and webinars.

More details on the Statutory Consultation will be shared in the coming months.

Indicative project programme



Non-statutory consultation

Statutory consultation

Our channels remain open



Online
Feedback Form



Phone
0800 772 0134



Email
MylenLeah@statkraft.com



Post
Freepost Statkraft
(no stamp required)



Q&A



Further feedback themes - annex

8 pieces of feedback

Theme #5 – Local Engagement

You said:

- Importance of collaborating with local environmental groups.
- Groups mentioned include East Yorkshire of Riding Bat Group and Natural England.

Statkraft's response

- We appreciate the emphasis placed by attendees on the importance of interacting and engaging with local groups to inform various aspects of the development.
- Statkraft is committed to fostering strong partnerships and maintaining open lines of communication with local groups.

2 pieces of feedback

Theme #6 – Cultural Heritage

You said:

- Feedback from the LPA highlighted heritage sensitivities and the value in engaging with conservation groups.
- Bubwith Bridge - a Grade II listed structure recently repaired - was mentioned as potentially impacted by construction activities.

Statkraft’s response

- Recognising the heritage sensitivities of Bubwith bridge, we will consider its inclusion in the Construction Environment Management Plan and will explore options to minimise any potential impacts.
- We will take into account the conservation groups recommended by the Council and explore opportunities for engagement as the project progresses.
- Engagement with Historic England is already underway and will continue through the process.



10 pieces
of
feedback

Theme #7 – Water Environment

You said:

- Participants noted the proposed development route might cross a waterway and raised and raised questions about the potential impacts this may have.
- Participants expressed concerns about water runoff from the solar panels and stressed the importance of maintaining dykes.
- Historical flooding concerns, particularly above Rudding Lane, also mentioned, with recommendations to consult the Environment Agency and Yorkshire Water.

Statkraft's response

- We will look to engage with relevant organisations, including to understand any historic flooding issues.
- At the statutory consultation, we will provide further information on our assessments related to flood risk and our planned approach.
- A Flood Risk Assessment and Outline Surface Water Drainage Strategy will be prepared to support the DCO application.



11 pieces
of
feedback


Theme #8 – Community Benefits

You said:

- Participants provided valuable insights into the local community and organisations that could benefit from the community benefit fund.
- This included support for local groups, subsidised solar panels, energy incentives, upgrades to a local Primary School, youth group support, improvements to village halls, and road repairs.

Statkraft's response

- Statkraft's community benefit fund is £400 per megawatt of installed capacity, per year.
- We will continue engaging with the community to ensure that the fund is utilised effectively and fairly, delivering meaningful local benefits.



3 pieces of
feedback

Theme #9 – Farmland and Animal Grazing

You said:

- Participants raised concerns about the potential impact on grazing animals, particularly geese during winter.
- Areas noted included the woodlands south of Melbourne Community Primary School and land near the main road.

Statkraft's response

- No specific reports of geese identified in surveys, but monitoring will continue.
- Exploring the potential for a landscaped buffer zone between the woodlands and any planned infrastructure.
- A buffer would be maintained and protected in accordance with best practices for construction, operation and decommissioning to minimise any potential impact on the local wildlife.



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