

Cottingham Solar Farm – Consultation Feedback and Response

Query regarding solar panel height?

The height of the solar panels is approximately 2.7m high from ground level.

Opportunities to further enhance biodiversity and ecology – including pond / wetland creation?

Most trees are due to be retained and additional new trees to be planted to supplement the existing trees.

We have now included the creation of a pond to the most South Easterly field of the Hull Road site.

In addition, the existing original ephemeral pool on the Southern part of the Snuff Mill lane site is being reinstated which will be of benefit to amphibians and a range of biodiversity.

You asked about the impacts on land and local community due to the works

The Snuff Mill Lane leading to the railway line is not going to be used for construction access or installation of the solar panels.

The Public Right of Way (PRoW) along Snuff Mill Lane will not be affected by the proposals, it will remain open and accessible.

The solar panel arrangement has been revised to keep the South Eastern part of the Snuff Mill site clear of solar panels.

You asked about disruption and noise

The construction and installation works will follow a Traffic Management Plan (TMP) agreed with the local planning authority to minimise risk of disruption to local traffic and residents.

Noise output from the scheme is predicted to be within the Local Planning Authority criteria and below the Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level when considering the noise output in National Planning Policy Terms.

You asked about security

The solar panel sites will be secured with 2.2m high perimeter fence and CCTV cameras positioned at certain points along the perimeter.

Our general updates and amendments following feedback

Added additional boxes for crevice dwelling species

In addition to the insect towers we are proposing to include log piles across both sites.

You mentioned 'White letter hairstreak (butterfly)' in particular – we know Elm is needed for these (and bramble) and added more elm into our planting scheme where possible.

Buckthorn was also mentioned – we added this into the planting schedule.

You mentioned public areas – we added bench seating to localities along Snuff Mill Lane.

You queried the type of planting on Merchant Way - the planting here will be maintained between 2-3m in height. Proposed species are hawthorn, holly, goat willow, blackthorn and elder native hedgerow.