

Cottingham Solar Farm

- 9.71 MW solar array installed over 33 hectares
- Generating 10,450,035 kWh of renewable energy per annum
- Carbon savings of 2,612 tonnes per annum
- c.69% reduction in University carbon emissions

Highways and Transport

The highways and transport implications of the scheme have been considered in detail as part of a Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP), including assessment of the construction traffic route and access junctions, as well as the management measures that will be implemented to mitigate any impacts during construction period.

The only traffic generated by the site (which will be unmanned) once operational will be infrequent maintenance visits 10-20 times per year, typically in a van.

Landscape and Visual Integration and Mitigation

The following landscape measures, among others, provides the opportunity to aid the integration of the built development within the local landscape and enhance the visual quality of the Site:

- Retention of existing hedgerows and trees, in particular those forming the Site boundaries and situated within field boundaries;
- Strengthened planting to create an appropriate landscape structure with new hedgerows, scrub and tree planting. This will help soften the development and provide visual screening;
- Retention of grassland where possible, and enhancement with a suitable species rich wildflower meadow to boost biodiversity;

- Improvement of landscape condition and quality throughout the Site to enhance the landscape setting and settlement edge;
- Use of appropriate native species typical of the Site and local area and to ensure good plant establishment; and
- Ongoing maintenance of the planting to ensure successful establishment of the landscape proposals.
- Re-establishment and enhancement of damp habitats along with creation of new ponds and depressions, with planting to provide potential breeding and shelter opportunities for biodiversity e.g. amphibian and invertebrate species in particular

Acoustic

The scheme has undergone multiple design iterations to ensure that all plant selections will not be detrimental to the Acoustic environment. Most notably on this project, the design team has chosen to use an array of low noise string inverters, which has provided a significant benefit to the overall noise output of the scheme

Flood

The land proposed for the solar farm is categorised as Flood Risk Zone 3a. The solar panels will be installed and elevated above the predicted flood level. All electrical infrastructure and transformers will also be installed above the predicted flood level.

Heritage & Archaeology

As part of our commitment to the valuable cultural heritage of Cottingham, our experts have completed detailed heritage and archaeology assessments (including desk-based research, heritage statements and geophysical surveys). These assessments have not identified any significant heritage assets that would be adversely impacted by the proposed development.