

downing-renewables.co.uk

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Downing
Renewable Developments

Welcome to our drop-in session

The Toronto Energy Park team are delighted to have the opportunity to meet with you today to answer any questions and gather your feedback on the proposals.

At Downing, we develop and deliver renewable energy projects that make a lasting difference. We're committed to investing in local economies and communities to create an energy secure future for Britain.

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Downing are committed to investing in projects that create an **energy secure future for Britain.**

1 Local investment

Downing's investment will create local economic growth by stimulating local businesses and contributing to the local economy.

2 Community benefit

We will provide a tailored community benefit package to support local people, projects and initiatives through financial contributions.

3 Local biodiversity

Downing commits to making positive and ethical decisions to improve local biodiversity.

4 Local employment

Downing are committed to, where possible, creating temporary local employment opportunities to support the construction, operation and maintenance of the project.

5 National objectives

This development will help meet the national targets for increasing Britain's energy security.



70GW

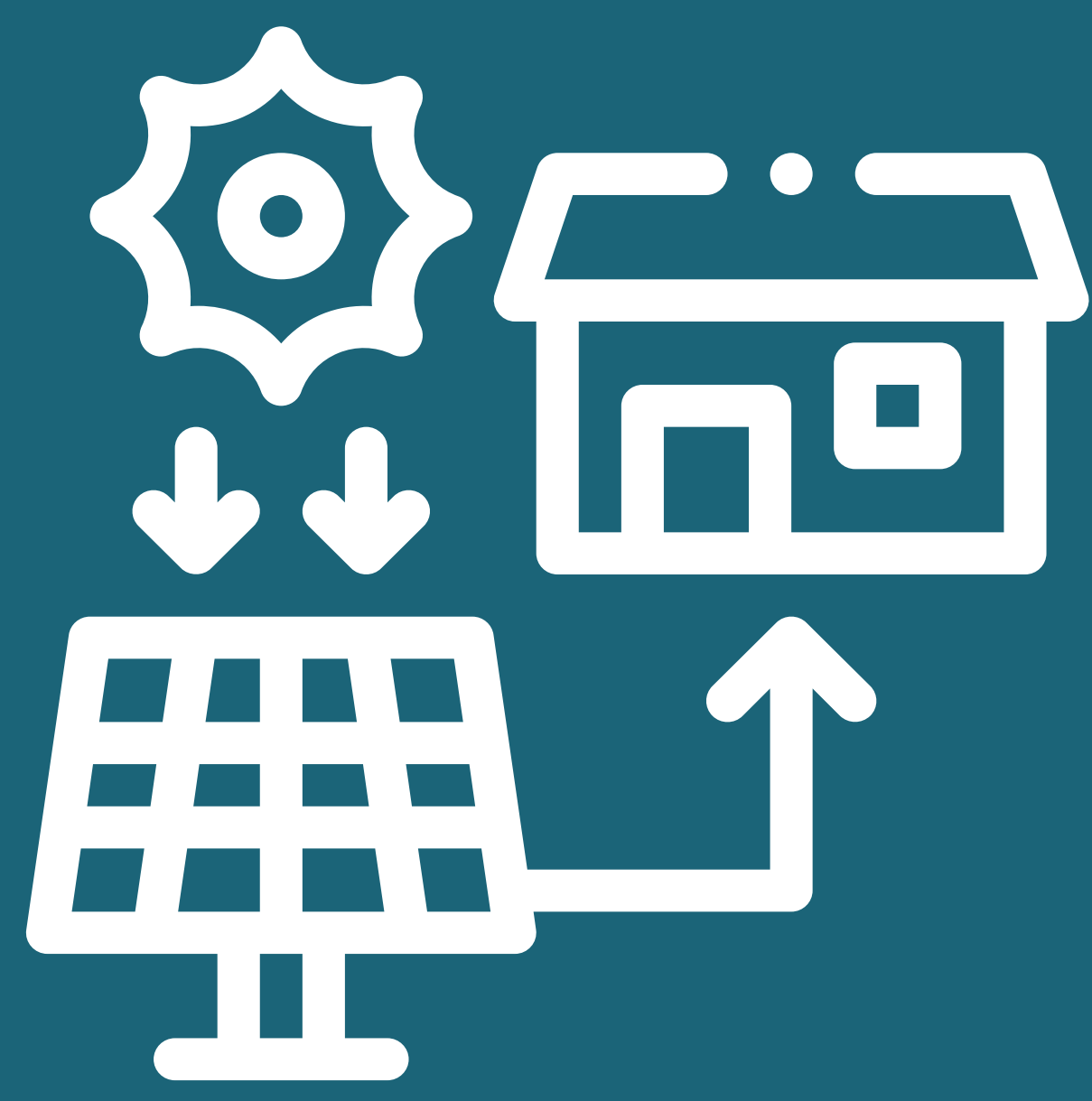
The UK government is striving to increase solar capacity by nearly fivefold to 70GW by 2035

Toronto Energy Park

Toronto Energy Park is a proposed a 27 Megawatt (MW) solar farm that would be located on land to the south of Addison Road near Toronto, Bishop Auckland.

The location of the project has been carefully selected following a detailed site selection assessment which accounted for grid connection opportunity, solar irradiance levels as well as planning and environmental considerations.

Site boundary



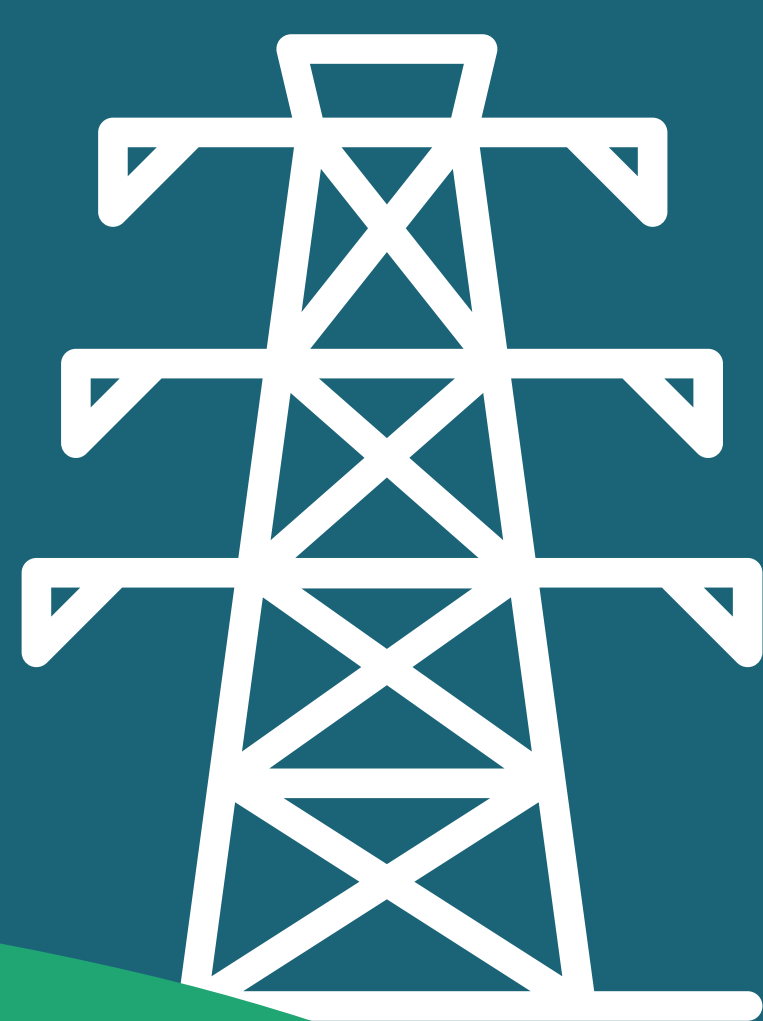
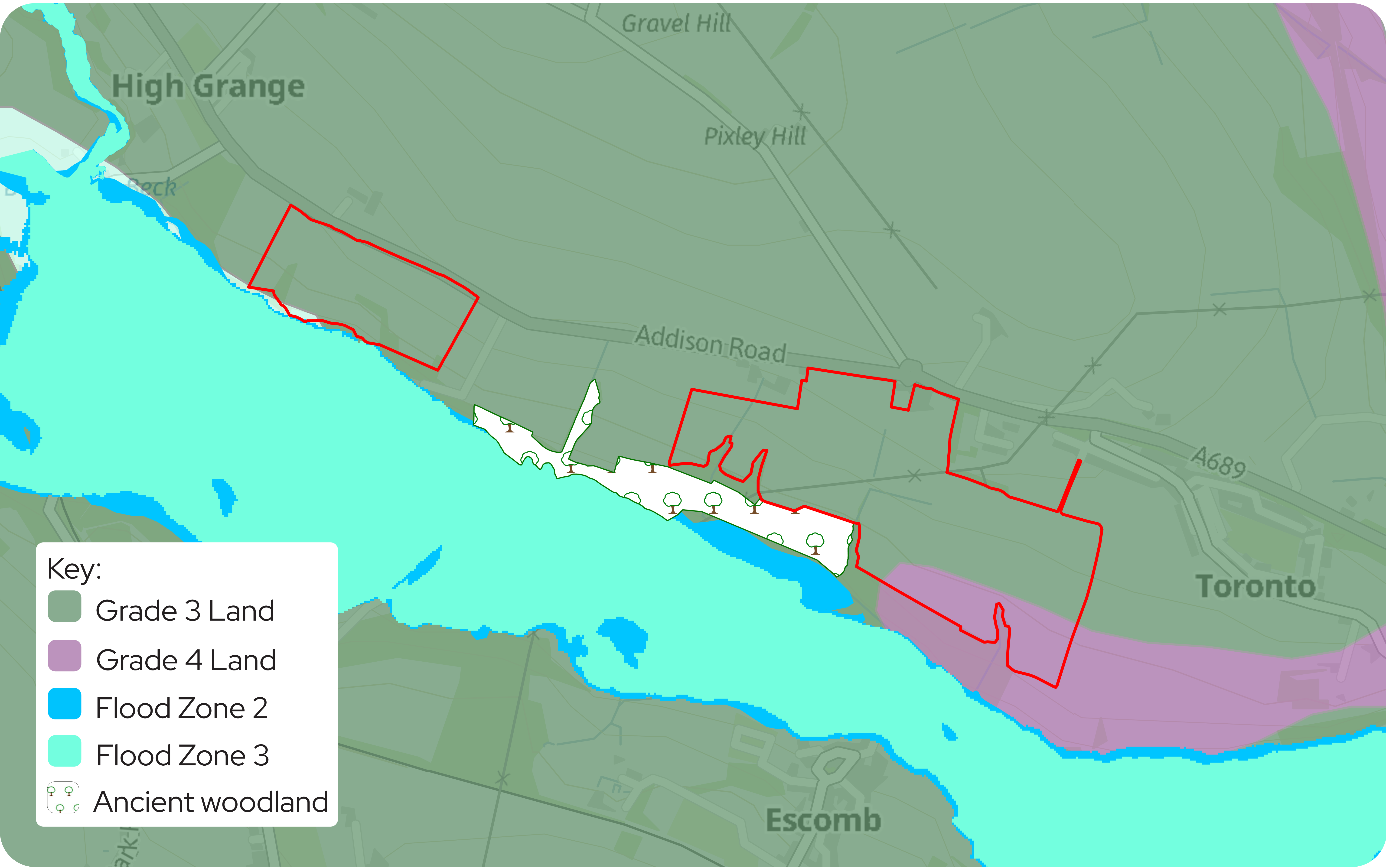
10,000 British homes powered
Toronto Energy Park directly contributes to an energy secure future for Britain, generating enough homegrown energy to power 10,000 British homes.



Community benefit
A tailored community benefit package will be made available to provide support to local initiatives and community groups.

Why this site?

The site selection assessment is a critical part of our origination process. Selecting an appropriate location for a solar farm development incorporates wide range of technical, planning and environmental considerations.



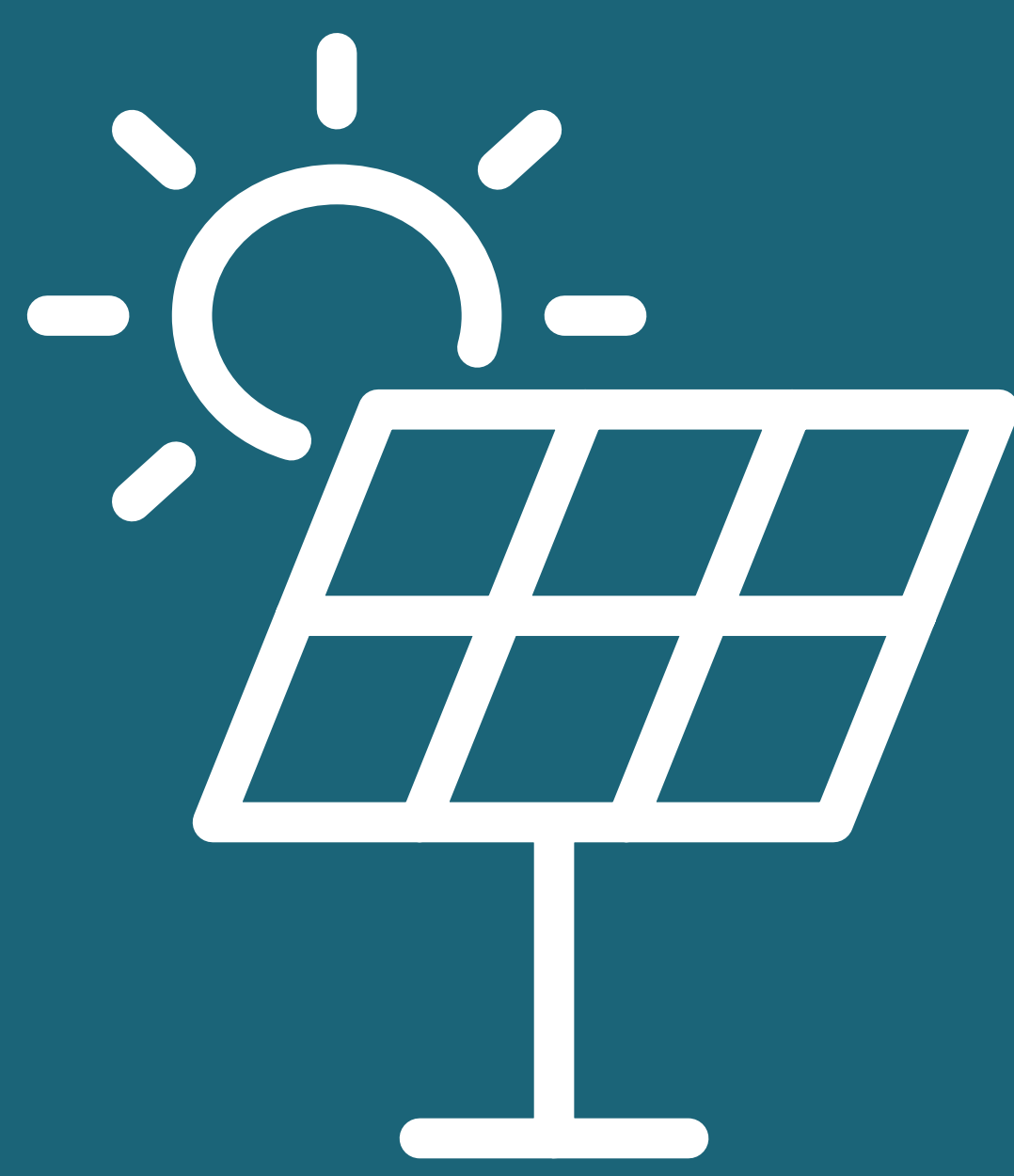
Grid connection

The point of connection to the grid is directly adjacent to the site negating the need for a cable route through public highways.



Agricultural land use

The land within the site is mainly Grade 3 with some areas of Grade 4. Currently, all of the land is used for sheep grazing and this is a practice that could continue whilst the solar farm is operational.



Solar irradiance & topography

The land within the site is generally south facing which is well suited to solar deployment. Measured weather data at the site also promotes this location as suitable for a solar farm.

Next steps

The results of ongoing surveys and assessments as well as your feedback today will directly influence the evolution of the project’s design.

Once all necessary information has been collated, a second community drop-in session will be scheduled to share further information as to how the proposals have developed.

Project timeline



Your feedback

The Toronto Energy Park team welcome all feedback you have on the proposals. You can provide this through our feedback form or through email submission.

Please note our pre-submission consultation period closes on 21st November 2025. Please ensure that any feedback is sent in advance of the period closing.



Call us on:
020 7416 7780



Find out more on our consultation website:
downing-renewables.co.uk/drd-projects/toronto



The team want to hear from you Email:
torontoenergy@downing.co.uk

Addressing your comments

Following feedback at our community consultation events, we have summarised key concerns and actions.



There are concerns that the development will use Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land?"

Following the feedback from the initial consultation events, we re-designed the site and reduced the development footprint to 33 hectares. In our re-design, we removed grade 2 land in favour of grade 3B. Therefore the majority of the site is not classified as Best and Most Versatile (BMV).



There are concerns that the landscape will be impacted by this proposed development, will there be visual screening on site to protect visual amenity?"

We endeavour to minimise the visual impact of the project as this was a key concern by the local community. In order to minimise the visual impact, we have provided additional screening measures as agreed with local residents. This is proposed by planting hedgerows, vegetation and trees whilst removing areas of solar that were in close proximity to residential homes. Furthermore as part of the re-design, we removed development areas close to roads and residential properties to reduce the visual impact.



There are concerns about the lack of screening on the existing solar farm on Spalding Road."

As part of this development, we will commit to screening the existing solar farm on Spalding Road. When undertaking the construction of the Limes Farm Solar Park and planting of the screening such as hedgerows and trees, we will implement the screening around existing solar farm.



How will this development help energy costs for local residents."

We have introduced a community benefit in the form of a residential solar scheme whereby two local properties a year during the operation of the project will receive a fully funded residential rooftop solar installation which will reduce local energy costs. Following feedback from the Parish Council, as part of the community benefit we will commit to providing the Twenty Village Hall with a rooftop solar installation.