

ILLUSTRATIVE LANDSCAPE STRATEGY

LANDSCAPE VISION

The landscape strategy plan sets out the level of strategic spatial arrangement envisaged for the site in order to provide a high quality landscape setting and strong green infrastructure framework to the Solar Farm. The landscape objectives of the Proposed Development include:

- Enhancement of ecological corridors and boundaries throughout the site
- Strategically placed green infrastructure to mitigate Solar Panels and zassociated infrastructure
- To develop and enhance the site boundaries as natural habitats for a range of locally occurring species.
- To minimise intrusion and adverse influence on the setting of heritage assets including Listed Buildings.

SOLAR FARM AREAS

The Solar Farm development will incorporate areas of solar panels mounted on a frame which is orientated and angled to maximise the solar gain potential. As a result, planting will be designed to respond to the proposed areas of solar panels and any potentially sensitive views into the site . Native hedges will be used to define boundaries and soften the built form. The planting has the potential to be more rural in character with strategic planting used to soften the development edge and open spaces. Native species will be used along the site boundaries to create an appropriate transition to the surrounding countryside.

No construction vehicles will be allowed on the bridleway and it will remain open to riders and walkers throughout the construction and operation periods. Inverters have been positioned away from the bridleway to reduce the risk of noise affecting horse or riders.

A wider corridor has been left for the bridleway.

A new hedge will be planted between the bridleway and solar farm to minimise visibility.

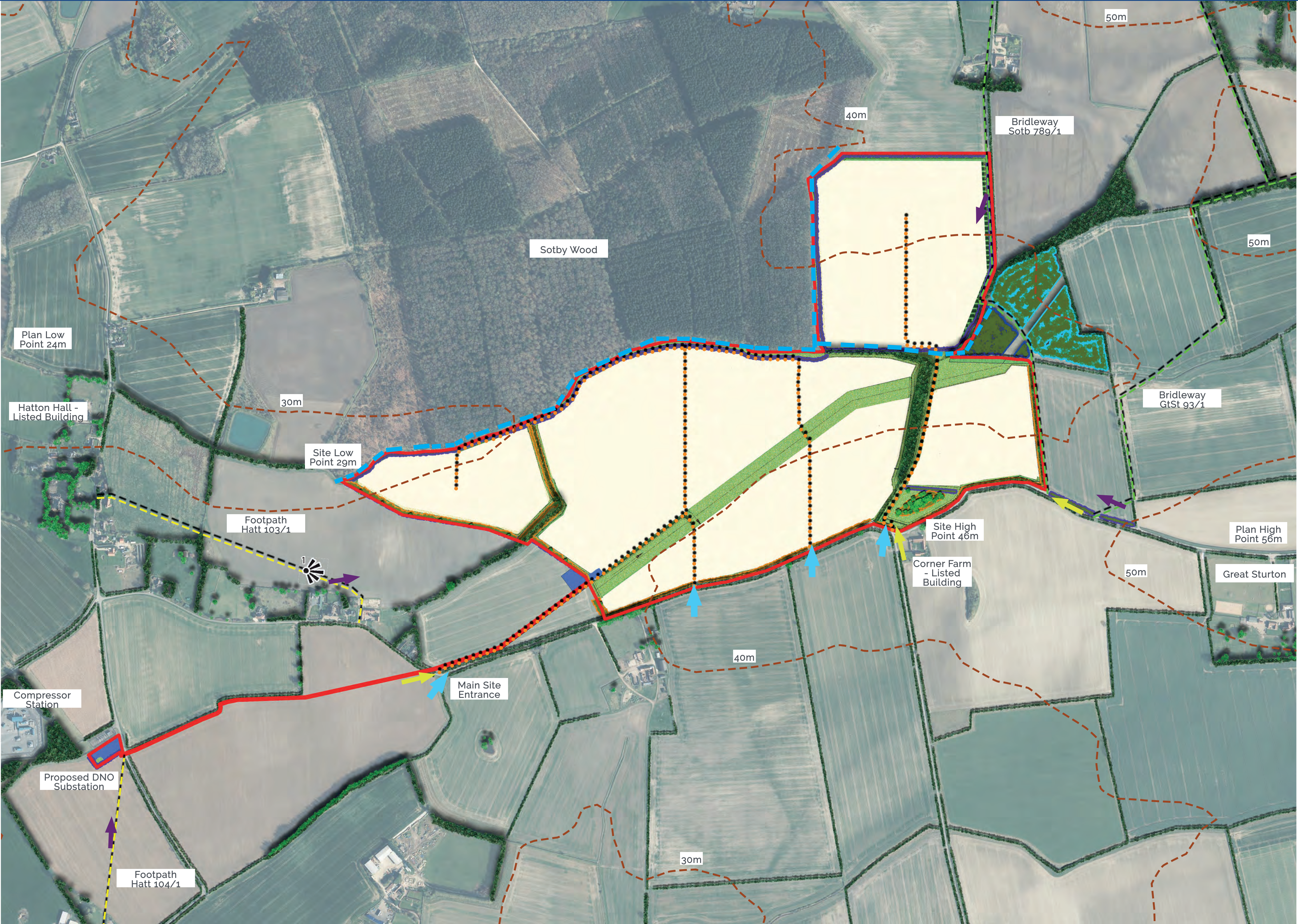
Open mesh deer fencing will be used for security, which are typical in the rural environment."

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT AND GREEN LINKS

All strategic planting will incorporate species that are native and locally appropriate to the area; plant stock will be of local provenance where possible. Existing field boundaries will be enhanced through gapping up of disused access gates to reinforce ecological corridors throughout the site and to the wider site setting. These corridors will create habitat and foraging opportunities for local fauna. New native hedgerows within the site along the PRoW running through the site to the north will help visually mitigate proposals west of the PRoW route. A new native shrub planting belt to the west will be planted to provide a defined boundary and visual mitigation for the solar panels for views from the west including the PRoW Footpath Hatt 103/1 and Hatton. This could be managed a short rotation coppice to create an energy crop and managed to quickly create a dense screen.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Fluted and rolling vateside slopes - as defined by the Wragby to Horsington Vale Woodland and Farmland - Landscape Character Assessment. The landscape has some enclosure due to the landform, frequent small woodlands, and lines of mature hedgerows with hedgerow trees. There are some more intimate pastoral semi-enclosed views particularly in the small valleys. Existing boundary hedgerows and trees will be retained (with buffers to development), reinforced and regularly controlled under long-term management. This will protect visual amenity and landscape character as well as continuing to offer commuting and foraging opportunities for wildlife.



KEY

Site Boundary

Potential Area for Site Compound

Notes:-
The Proposed Development includes the installation of associated infrastructure; construction of vehicular accesses, CCTV cameras on 2.5m high poles, security fencing to a maximum height of 2.2m, a private substation of height 3.7m (to be located to the north of Glebe Farm), a permanent DNO substation of 7.14m in height (to be located to the south-west of the site) and a 15m communications tower. The DNO substation and communication mast will be sited off Panton Road next to Hatton Beck.

Sotby wood is now all designated Section 16 land allowing free public access

Example of Existing Native hedges in relation to Solar Panels, Fence line and access around land parcels



1 View looking east from the PRoW Footpath Hatt 103/1 situated west of the Site. Creating a new field boundary of proposed native shrub planting lining the field to the west and south where Solar Panels are proposed would assist in mitigating views. Managed to create a dense visual screen of vegetation.



JBA 21 393 - SK01
Illustrative Landscape Strategy

Client Name: SPD Studio

Site
Land off Sturton Road
Great Sturton

Drawn by
AJW

Date
01/2025

Scale
1:5000 @ A1

Rev
A

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