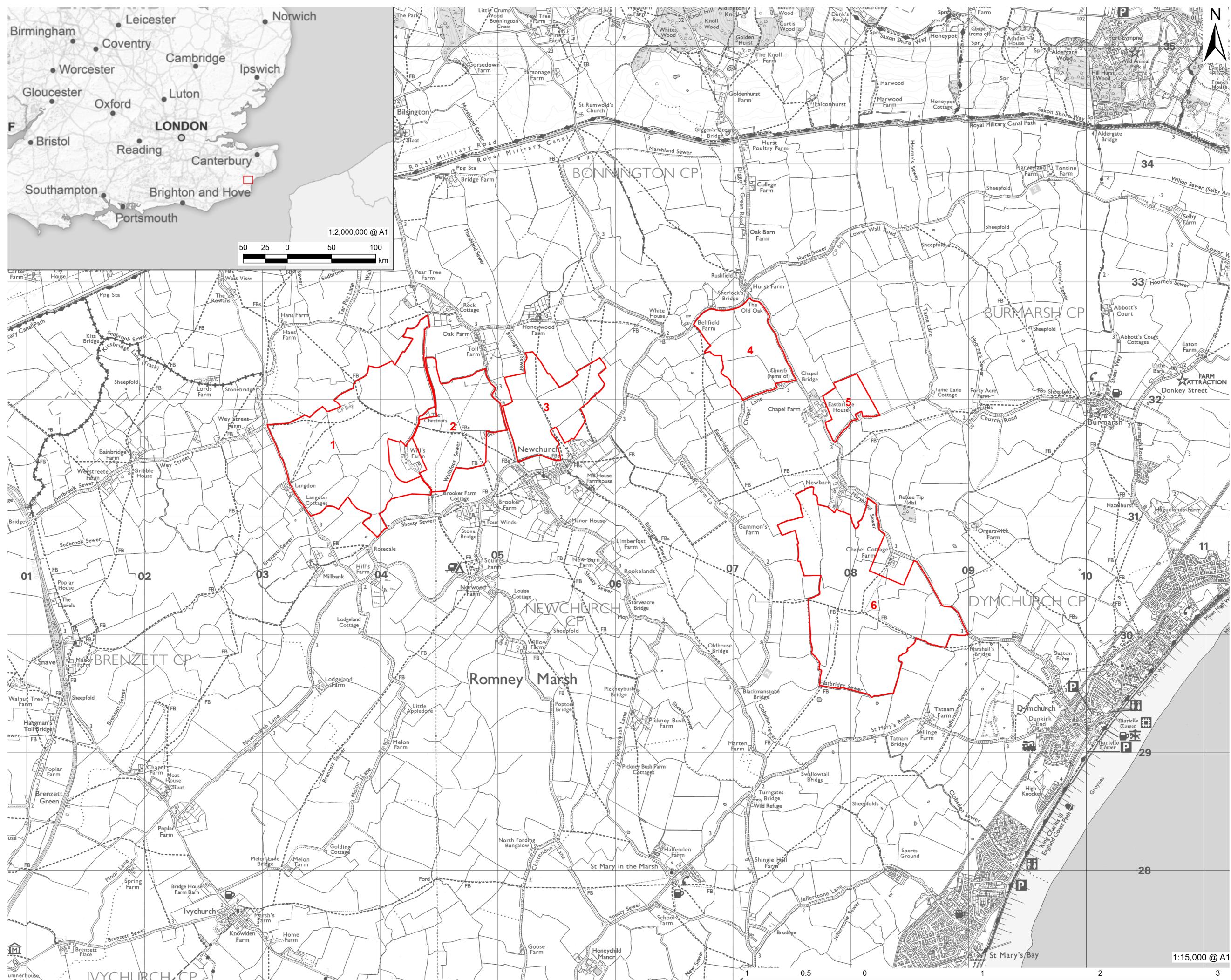


What is Shepway Energy Park?

Shepway Energy Park, located within Romney Marsh, north of Newchurch in Kent, is a proposed solar and battery development that would deliver circa 200 megawatts (MW) of renewable electricity and 400 MW of battery storage capacity.

The proposed energy park will generate low carbon electricity from solar photovoltaic (PV) panels, and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will allow the storage, import, and export of electricity to/from a new substation proposed by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET).



Map of the proposed development areas

Why do we need the project?

- **Energy security:** as part of the move away from oil and gas, we need home-grown, affordable, renewable energy
- Climate change: we urgently need renewable electricity generation to meet net zero targets
- **Increased energy demand:** by 2050 National Grid anticipates that the UK will be consuming twice as much electricity as we do today
- **Enhancing the environment:** Solar farms offer the opportunity for an overall increase in natural habitat and ecological features when compared to arable farming and can eventually become a sanctuary for wildlife.

Who is SSE Renewables?

We're committed to supporting a home-grown, resilient energy system: helping the UK meet its net zero targets, protecting the environments we work in and supporting local communities. We're experienced in successfully delivering major renewable energy projects across the UK. We specialise in solar and battery storage projects and are a leading developer and operator of renewable energy generation.

Food Security

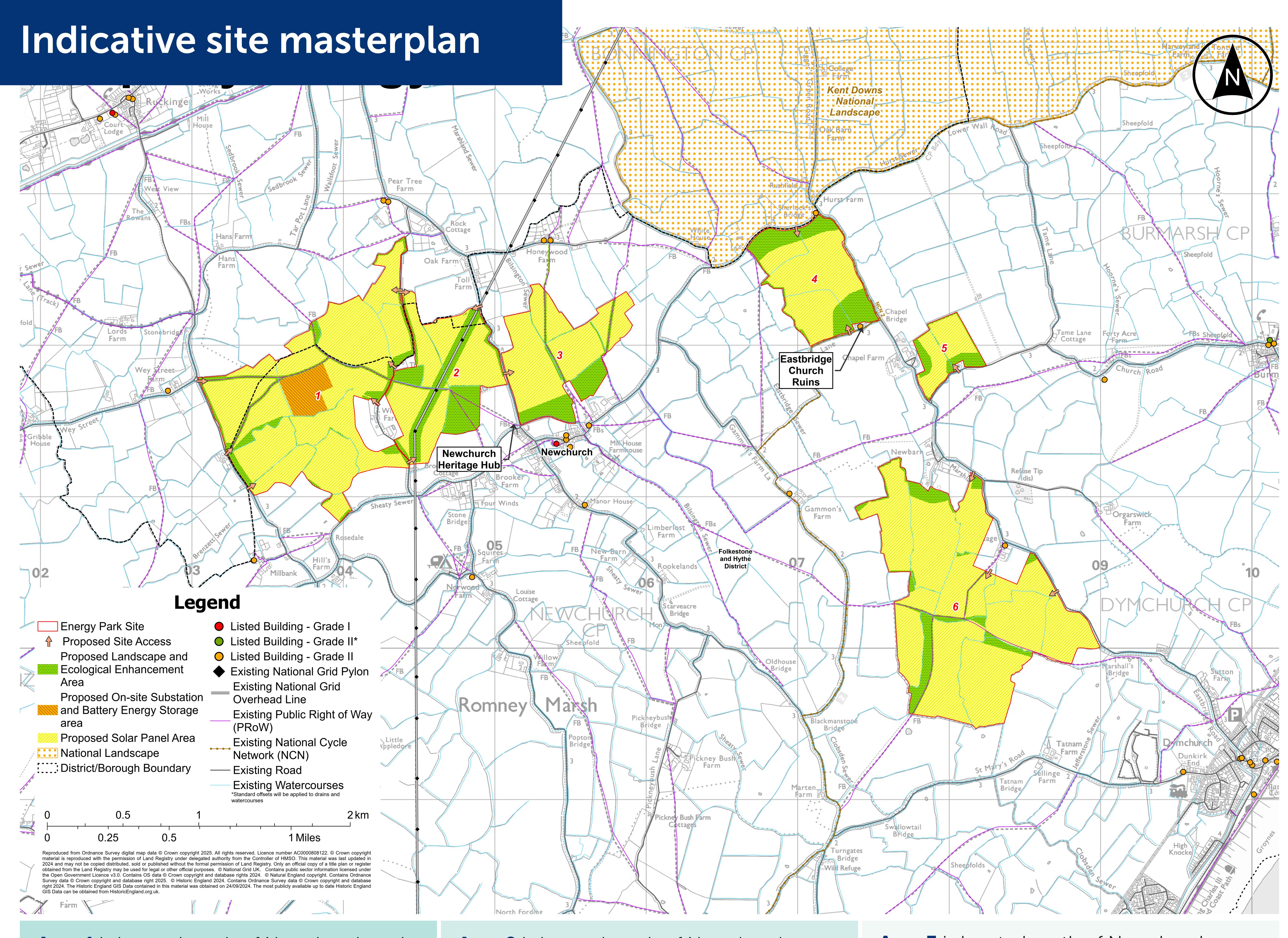
We know that food security is a concern. The National Food Strategy, which is an independent review for government, notes that the next big shock to our food supply will almost certainly be caused by climate change. It follows that addressing climate change, including by using solar energy, will improve the security of our food supply.

The introduction of solar panels on farmland can also support farmers by creating a new income stream. The energy park will be a temporary development, after its operational life, the land will return to agricultural use.



Project area and design

Shepway Energy Park is made up of six distinct areas. Our indicative masterplan shows our proposed layout of the site:



Area 1 is located north of Newchurch and is approximately 118.4 hectare (ha). This site is proposed as the location for the onsite Substation and Battery Energy Storage, and also includes proposed solar panels, and areas of proposed landscape and ecological enhancement.

Area 2 is located north of Newchurch and is approximately 50.1ha. This area is proposed as the location of solar panels and includes areas of proposed landscape and ecological enhancement. It is also where the existing National Grid Overhead Line is located.

Area 3 is located north of Newchurch and is approximately 46.6ha. This area is proposed as the location of solar panels. It also includes areas of proposed landscape and ecological enhancement.

Area 4 is located north of Chapel Lane and is approximately 41.5ha. This area is proposed as the location of solar panels. It also includes areas of proposed landscape and ecological enhancement.

Area 5 is located north of Church Road and is approximately 14ha. This area is proposed as the location of solar panels. It also includes areas of proposed landscape and ecological enhancement.

Area 6 is located west of Eastbridge Road and is approximately 135.5ha. This area is proposed as the location of solar panels. It also includes areas of proposed landscape and ecological.



What is Shepway Energy Park?

Shepway Energy Park will generate low carbon electricity from solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) will be installed allowing the storage, export, and import of electricity from the grid.



Shepway Energy Park will be made up of a number of components and equipment on site:

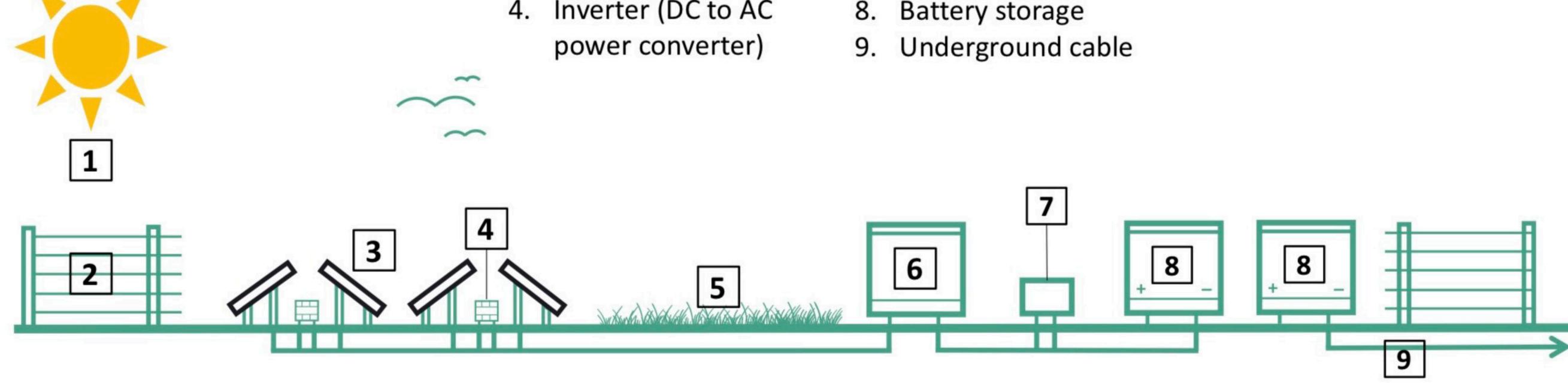
- Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Modules
- PV Module Mounting Structure
- Battery Energy Storage System
- Inverters
- Switchgear

- Transformers
- Substations
- Cable corridors
- Security equipment

You can read more about each of these different components in our public consultation brochure on pages 4-5.

Components of a typical solar farm

- Solar energy
- 2. Fencing Solar panels
- Inverter (DC to AC
- Landscape area
- 6. Substation / solar site transformer
- 7. Battery transformers
- 8. Battery storage

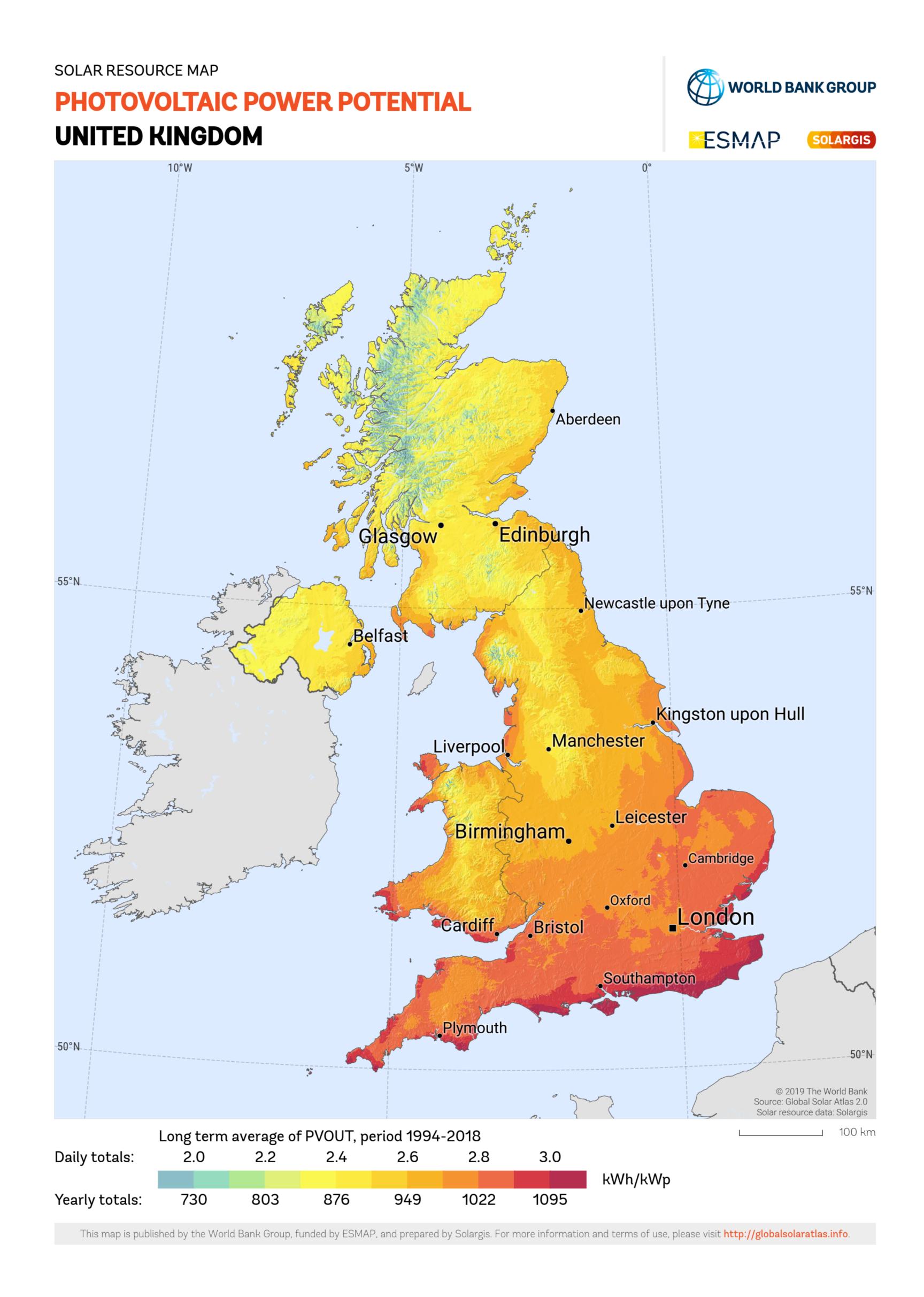


Example diagram of the solar power process



Why this location?

We have carefully considered the best location for the project, both operationally and in terms of reducing impacts on the community and environment. This has included early desktop work to assess a wide geographical area and identify potentially suitable sites based on a range of criteria and constraints.



There are many factors which make this site ideal for an energy park:

Sunlight and site location

The South is a region which provides an optimal area for solar development. In fact, the south coast has around 10 per cent more solar irradiance (the measure of the sun's intensity over a given area) than other parts of the country. The land north and east of Newchurch is flat and provides good levels of sunshine all year.

Distance of site to dwellings

The site is situated in a rural area. As we develop our detailed design, we will work to place the solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) where they are less visible from neighbouring homes and businesses. We'll also consider suitable planting and other natural barriers to provide screening.

Grid connection

The site is located near to the existing Dungeness to Sellindge overhead line (OHL) corridor. We'll work closely with National Grid when they identify the new National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) substation and will then identify a suitable 'cable route corridor' in order to connect into this.

Accessibility

The site is easy to access by road to enable the components of the project to be delivered.





Project benefits and protecting the environment

What are the benefits of the scheme?

As well as the significant contribution to the renewable electricity generation capacity that the country urgently needs, there are opportunities for the project to bring further long-term improvements to the environment and local communities.

Renewable energy

Strengthen the UK's renewable electricity generation infrastructure and create a resilient, home-grown electricity supply and avoid over-reliance on imported energy

Communities

Explore ways to support local communities:

- Identify enhancements to the recreational value of Public Rights of Way
- Improve the resilience and reliability of our electricity generation in the UK
- Support jobs and the local economy, during and after construction
- Locally led Community
 Benefit Fund

Environment

Explore ways to leave the environment in a better state than we find it by:

- Enhancing biodiversity, including Biodiversity Net Gain
- Identifying areas that have potential for habitat enhancement
- Carrying out surveys to understand what species are present

How will we manage and mitigate the effects of the project?

While the project will make a significant contribution, all major infrastructure inevitably brings with it some impacts. We aim to avoid, reduce, and mitigate these impacts and we'll be gathering extensive environmental information to identify and assess the likely significant environmental effects of the scheme. This process is known as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

The stages of an Environmental Impact Assessment

Stage 1: The first stage of the EIA for the project is 'scoping' where we'll present and agree the anticipated scope and methodology of the EIA, based on field and desk studies of the existing environment, analysis of the proposals and consultation with key stakeholders.

Stage 2: Once scoping is complete, we'll prepare a Preliminary Environmental Information Report which presents early information of the assessments to allow stakeholders and the local community to develop an informed view of the likely impacts of the development before the EIA is complete. We'll publish outcomes from this work in the next formal stage of consultation.

Stage 3: The EIA will then be presented in an Environmental Statement submitted as part of our application for development consent in 2026.





SHEPWAY ENERGY PARK

Next steps and indicative timeline

We're committed to supporting the local community throughout the planning, construction and operation of Shepway Energy Park. This starts by ensuring we understand potential impacts on the community from our proposals, and identify ways we can mitigate these through careful design.

Next steps

The consultation will close on **Sunday 13 July at 23:59**. We'll then carefully consider all of the feedback we've received and review and further refine our plans. We'll use this feedback to further help shape our plans for Shepway Energy Park. Alongside this, we'll be carrying out lots of environmental assessment and technical work across the site.



Indicative timeline

2025

Spring – Summer 2025

 Non-statutory public consultation on Shepway Energy Park.

Summer 2025

- Development of the design based on further technical work and feedback from the first consultation
- Environmental surveys and assessments, and preparation of Preliminary Environmental Information Report



Early 2026

Statutory consultation on Shepway Energy Park

Summer 2025 – Spring 2026

 Completion of the design based on environmental assessment outcomes and consultation feedback

Autumn 2026

Submission of our Development Consent Order

Winter 2026 - Autumn 2027

• Examination period of our Development Consent Order



Late 2027 – early 2028

 Anticipated decision on our Development Consent Order



2028

Final investment decision



2030

Construction begins



2033

- Construction and commissioning is complete
- Scheme becomes operational



The Development Consent Order (DCO) process

As the solar farm will generate over 50 megawatts (MW) of electricity, the project is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and requires consent by way of a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008. The final decision on whether to grant consent for the proposed development is made by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero.

You can read more about the consenting process on page 15 of our consultation brochure or talk to a member of our team to find out more.



SHEPWAY ENERGY PARK

How to take part in the consultation

We want you to help shape our proposals at an early stage. We are committed to working with local communities and other stakeholders to gather feedback and local information to help develop Shepway Energy Park.

Why are we seeking your views?

Hearing from our communities, landowners, and other stakeholders is a central part of the process and we encourage you to get involved. Your comments will help us understand the local area, and any potential impacts our proposals may have on the community and the environment.

After the consultation, we'll carefully consider all the feedback we've received and take this on board to help shape our plans. The feedback, and how we've listened to this, will be summarised in a report which we'll publish on our website. We'll be holding another public consultation next year to present our updated proposals and provide another opportunity to have your say on the project.

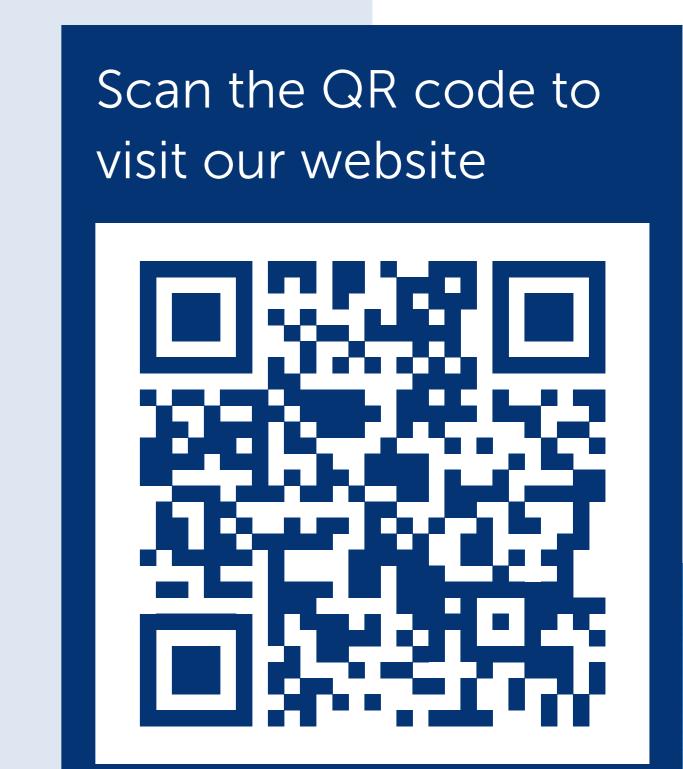
Have your say

You can provide your comments and feedback on our plans:

Online: complete and submit a feedback form on our website: www.sserenewables.com/shepway

Email: email your feedback to: shepway@sse.com

Freepost: post a feedback form or written response to Freepost SHEPWAY ENERGY PARK (no stamp required)





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