



Solar Farm and Battery Energy Storage System, Stanground, Peterborough

CLIENT: Cambridgeshire County Council and Bouygues E&S Solutions Ltd

LOCATION: Stanground, Peterborough **DURATION:** Ongoing



Prospus Group was appointed to advise on the consenting strategy for a solar PV and battery storage project on an old landfill site in Peterborough.

Details

As part of this project, our work included:

- EIA screening and scoping requests to the local planning authority.
- Supporting surveys and reports required, including assessing impacts on:
 - Landscape and visual impact
 - Noise
 - Traffic management
 - Flood
 - Ecology, biodiversity, and landscaping
 - Geotechnical
- Development of the site masterplan to shape the scheme design, which was complicated by the landfill cap, the presence of Great Crested Newts, and the proximity to housing.
- Developing the landscape plan and biodiversity mitigation strategy.

Our Energy team project managed and submitted the project application and all supporting reports. We also managed the application as it progressed and handled any matters that arose during its consideration by the Local Planning Authority, including negotiations on the terms of planning conditions for the scheme.

Project challenges

Whilst at 2.9MW, the installed DC capacity was modest in scale and the project offered a number of significant planning challenges, notably:

- Technical challenges relating to its location on an old landfill site and the need to show the site was suitable for the project, including the use of a ballasted foundation solution.
- The site's proximity to housing, and the management and mitigation of project impacts (visual and noise).

- The presence of Great Crested Newts (protected species) and the requirement to mitigate impacts.
- The requirement to take access to the site over third-party land.



We were delighted to secure a consent at committee for our clients within the agreed budget and programme, whilst managing the restrictions imposed on us from the Covid lockdown.