DECISION DELEGATED TO HEAD OF PLANNING

Application No:	**H04-0969-23**	**Applicant:**	**AGR Solar 2 Limited**
Proposal:	Details of training & employment management plan (Condition 16 of H04-0849-22)		
Location:	Land To The West Of Cowbridge Road Bicker Fen Boston		
Terminal Date:	27th December 2023		

Planning Policies

South East Lincolnshire Local Plan - Adopted: March 2019

01	Spatial Strategy
02	Development Management
03	Design of New Development
04	Approach to Flood Risk
05	Meeting Physical Infrastructure and Service Needs
28	The Natural Environment
29	The Historic Environment
30	Pollution
31	Climate Change and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy
36	Vehicle and Cycle Parking
APPENDIX 6	Parking Standards

National Guidance

National Planning Policy Framework 2023

2. Achieving sustainable development
4. Decision-making
6. Building a strong, competitive economy
8. Promoting healthy and safe communities
11.Making effective use of land
12. Achieving well-designed places
14.Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change
15.Conserving and enhancing the natural environment
16.Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)

Renewable and low carbon energy Natural environment
Historic environment
Flood risk and coastal change Noise

Representations:

	Object	Support	No Obj.	Comments

SHDC INTERNAL	0	1	0	0

CASE OFFICER ASSESSMENT

Proposal

The proposal relates to details of the training and employment management plan (Condition 16 of H04-0849-22).

Site Description

The application site predominantly comprises arable farmland made up of large fields, crossed by a network of ditches and drains. It also includes the grid connection corridor where underground cables would be laid. Field margins are typically formed by open ditches, however in some locations established hedgerows and hedgerow trees make up the field boundaries. These features are characteristic of the wider local landscape. The landscape is interspaced by occasional farm buildings (both residential and functional) of varying size and condition. A Public Right of Way follows Hammond Beck in a broadly north/south direction.

The site is not subject to any landscape, heritage or conservation area designations and there are no listed buildings on the site itself. There are listed buildings in Bicker to the east, but these are some distance away. There are no formal ecological designations within 2.5km of the site.

History

H04-0849-22 - Proposed development of a photovoltaic solar array, grid connection, access improvement works & ancillary development on land at Bicker Fen, Boston and South Holland. Approved Subject to Conditions 21st July 2023.

Consultation Responses

SHDC Inward Investment Team
The Inward Investment Team are supportive of this plan, but would encourage the applicant to engage at the earliest opportunity with the Investment & Skills Officer at the South & East Lincolnshire Councils Partnership to assist with school and college connections.

Planning Considerations

This application relates to details associated with condition 16 of the host permission (H04-0849-22) which relates to training and employment.

Condition Wording

"No above ground work shall commence until details of a Training and Employment Management Plan, including Education, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The plan will aim to promote training and employment opportunities at all stages of the development for local people and social benefits and should include:
-Measures to ensure the owner and contractors work directly with local employment and training agencies;
-Targets for employing local labour;
-Targets for work experience opportunities and apprenticeships;
-Measures to provide training opportunities in respect of any new jobs created;
-An Educational Strategy/Plan, which sets out opportunities and measures for Education benefit in connection with local schools, colleges and universities;
-Requirements to submit monitoring information on the plan at regular intervals to the Local Planning Authority.

The development shall be carried out in accordance with the agreed plan and any amendments to the plan shall be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In the interests of promoting economic and training opportunities and social benefits in association with approved developments in accordance with Policy 1 of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan 2019 and the National Planning Policy Framework"

Submitted Condition Details

Accompanying this application is a Training and Employment Management Plan - Version 1 - Pre-Construction document by AGR Solar 2 Limited.

The document covers measures to ensure the owner and contractors work directly with local employers and training agencies, targets for employing local labour, targets for work experience opportunities and apprenticeships, Measures to provide training opportunities in respect of any new jobs created, an Educational Strategy/Plan, which sets out opportunities and measures for Education benefit in connection with local schools, colleges and universities, requirements to submit monitoring information on the plan at regular intervals to the Local Planning Authority.

These subject headings match those of the condition and appear reasonable as a result. There is no evidence that the Training and Employment Management should not be agreed at this stage.

Analysis

The Inward Investment Team do not raise an objection to the submitted information, but have added that they would like to see the applicant engage at the earliest opportunity with the Investment and Skills Officer at the South & East Lincolnshire Council's Partnership to assist with school and college collections.

It is suggested that a note be added to the decision notice to bring this formally to the attention of the applicant.

Overall, the submitted document conforms with the requirement of the condition and it is concluded that this condition can be discharged as a result.

Conclusion

Discharge the details associated with Condition 16 of H04-0849-22.

Additional Considerations

Public Sector Equality Duty

In making this decision the Authority must have regard to the public sector equality duty (PSED) under s.149 of the Equalities Act. This means that the Council must have due regard to the need (in discharging its functions) to:
A. Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
B. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. This may include removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic; taking steps to meet the special needs of those with a protected characteristic; encouraging participation in public life (or other areas where they are underrepresented) of people with a protected characteristic(s).
C. Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.

The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The PSED must be considered as a relevant factor in making this decision but does not impose a duty to achieve the outcomes in s.149. It is only one factor that needs to be considered, and may be balanced against other relevant factors.

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case will have a disproportionately adverse

impact on a protected characteristic.

Human Rights

In making a decision, the Authority should be aware of and take into account any implications that may arise from the Human Rights Act 1998. Under the Act, it is unlawful for a public authority such as South Holland District Council to act in a manner that is incompatible with the European Convention on Human Rights. The Authority is referred specifically to Article 8 (right to respect for private and family life) and Article 1 of the First Protocol (protection of property).

It is not considered that the recommendation in this case interferes with local residents' right to respect for their private and family life, home and correspondence, except insofar as it is necessary to protect the rights and freedoms of others (in this case, the rights of the applicant). The Council is also permitted to control the use of property in accordance with the general public interest and the recommendation is considered to be a proportionate response to the submitted application based on the considerations set out in this report.