



Public Rights of Way Management Plan (Addendum)

Clump Solar Farm

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Clump Farm Solar Limited

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1.0 Purpose of this Document

1.1.1 This Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Management Plan provides an addendum to the PRoW Management Plan prepared by Sunnerg Group (ref. SUN-HSE-CH2026 Rv 2.0). It responds to comments provided by the Local Highway Authority.

1.1.2 It has been prepared to discharge condition 13 of planning consent 21/01242/FUL for *'Solar farm for the generation of up to 40 MW of AC electrical energy, including access tracks, solar panels, transformer cabins and a substation, enclosed within a 2m perimeter 'deer' fence and associated landscaping'*.

1.1.3 Condition 13 states:

No development shall take place until a scheme and timetable for delivery for the treatment of Public Rights of Way T73 has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Such a scheme shall include provision for their management during construction (including any arrangements for a temporary diversion) fencing, surfacing, width, structures, signing and landscaping in accordance with the principles set out in the Leicestershire County Council's Guidance Notes for Developers. Thereafter the development shall be carried out in accordance with the approved scheme and timetable.

Reason: to protect and enhance Public Rights of Way and access in accordance with Paragraph 100 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2021).



2.0 Public Right of Way Affected

- 2.1.1 The proposed development interacts with Footpath T73. This route runs along the eastern boundary of the site and crosses internal access routes used during both construction and operational phases. As such it requires specific management measures to ensure that public access is maintained safely without obstruction.
- 2.1.2 The PRow will remain open and available for public use at all times, except where very short-duration works are required. Any temporary restrictions will be subject to formal authorisation and implemented strictly in accordance with highway legalisation and Local Highway Authority requirements.
- 2.1.3 The images below illustrate the location of the footpath along the eastern side of the site, as well as images of the existing crossings:



Figure 1 Aerial image of public rights of way within surrounding area, with existing crossings on footpath T73 annotated.



Figure 2 Images of existing crossings on footpath T73



3.0 Approach and Principles

- 3.1.1 The PRow Management Scheme has been designed to prioritise public safety and continuity of access while allowing the development to proceed efficiently. The overarching principle is to avoid any permanent diversion or obstruction of Public Rights of Way and to ensure that users experience minimal disruption throughout the construction and operational life of the development.
- 3.1.2 The scheme also seeks to clearly define permanent boundaries and infrastructure so that there is no ambiguity regarding the legal line, width or condition of the PRowS. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in Leicestershire County Council's Guidance Notes for Developers.



4.0 Fencing and Boundary Treatment

- 4.1.1 As illustrated within the submitted Landscape Masterplan (ref. 16801-LUC-XX-XX-DR-L-0101), permanent boundary treatment will consist of stock-proof deer fencing installed around the perimeter of the solar farm. The fencing will typically be approximately 1.8 to 2.0 metres in height and will be positioned so that it does not encroach upon the legal alignment or width of the footpath.
- 4.1.2 A minimum offset will be maintained between the fencing and the PRow to ensure a clear and usable corridor for walkers. Existing field boundaries that intersect with the PRow will be retained wherever possible. Where adjustments are required, these will be undertaken solely to improve safety and accessibility, rather than to alter the route of the PRow.



5.0 PRow Width and Corridor

- 5.1.1 Throughout the site, a minimum unobstructed walking width of 2 metres will be maintained along both PRowS. In addition, a wider management corridor of approximately 8 metres will be retained within fenced areas to provide space for safe passage, maintenance activities and visibility.
- 5.1.2 No permanent infrastructure, fencing or planting will be permitted within this corridor where it would restrict public access or reduce the effective width of the PRow.



6.0 Surface Treatment

- 6.1.1 No permanent artificial surfacing is proposed for either PRow. The footpaths will be retained in their existing rural condition as rough grassland, consistent with their current character and use. This is illustrated within the submitted Detailed Landscape Proposals (ref. 16801-LUC-XX-XX-DR-L-0100).
- 6.1.2 Where construction activities disturb the surface of the PRow, the affected areas will be reinstated to an equal or better condition than that which existed previously. This will include relieving compaction, regarding the surface, replacing topsoil where necessary and reseeding to ensure a stable and durable walking surface.
- 6.1.3 Temporary protection, such as ground protection mats or steel plates, will be used at crossing points during construction and will be removed immediately once works are complete.



7.0 Structures and Boundary Crossings

- 7.1.1 No permanent structures are proposed along the PRoW as part of the development. However, where land management requirements necessitate boundary control, accessibility-compliant kissing gates may be installed at specific locations. Any such installations will be subject to agreement with the Local Highway Authority prior to installation.
- 7.1.2 All boundary structures, including gates and crossings, remain the legal responsibility of the landholder. The site operator will, however, undertake regular inspections and maintenance as part of the operational management regime to ensure that all structures remain safe and functional.



8.0 Signage – Construction Phase

- 8.1.1 During the construction phase, temporary signage will be installed along the footpath to inform users of upcoming works and highlight locations where construction traffic may cross the PRow. Signage will be positioned in advance of works and will clearly identify hazards, expected durations and contact details for the site management team.
- 8.1.2 All temporary signage will be removed promptly once construction activities affecting the PRow have been completed.



9.0 Signage – Permanent Provision

- 9.1.1 Following construction, existing PRow way markers and signposts will be retained wherever possible. Where signage is damaged, removed or obscured as a result of the development, it will be replaced or renewed to an equivalent or improved standard.
- 9.1.2 Additional wayfinding or advisory signage will be installed at PRow crossing points where required to improve clarity and safety. All permanent signage will be designed and installed in accordance with Leicestershire County Council standards and will be maintained for the lifetime of the development.



10.0 Timetable for Delivery

- 10.1.1 The following timetable sets out the sequence and timing of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) management measures to be implemented in relation to Footpath T73. The programme has been structured to ensure that the PRoW remains safe, accessible and unobstructed at all times, while allowing construction works to proceed efficiently.

10.2 Pre-construction phase:

- 10.2.1 Prior to the commencement of any construction activities that may affect Footpath T73, advance warning signage will be installed on approaches to the site to inform users of the nature and duration of the works. Temporary management measures, including the identification of crossing points and the preparation of ground protection materials, will be put in place before construction traffic is introduced.

10.3 Construction phase:

- 10.3.1 At the start of construction works affecting the PRoW, temporary safety measures will be installed at all crossing points. These will include ground protection mats or steel plates, temporary fencing where required, and the use of a trained banksman to control plant movements across the footpath. These measures will be maintained for the duration of the relevant construction activities. Inspections will be undertaken regularly, and any defects or hazards will be addressed promptly.
- 10.3.2 Where short-duration works require temporary restriction of the PRoW, these will only take place following formal authorisation and will be limited to the minimum period necessary to complete the works safely.

10.4 Post-construction phase:

- 10.4.1 Immediately following the completion of construction activities affecting Footpath T73, all temporary fencing, protection measures and signage will be removed. The PRoW surface will be fully reinstated to an equal or better condition than that which existed prior to construction, including decompaction, regrading, topsoiling and reseeding where required.

10.5 Pre-operation / operational phase:

- 10.5.1 Prior to the solar farm becoming operational, permanent boundary fencing and any permanent PRoW



signage required as a result of the development will be installed. Existing PRow way markers affected by the works will be replaced or renewed as necessary. Ongoing maintenance and inspection of PRow-related infrastructure will then continue for the lifetime of the development as part of the operational management regime.



11.0 Maintenance Responsibilities

- 11.1.1 The ongoing maintenance of the PRow surface remains the responsibility of the landholder. Permanent fencing, signage and any PRow-related infrastructure installed as part of the development will be inspected and maintained by the site operator as part of the operational and maintenance regime.
- 11.1.2 Routine inspections will be undertaken during both the construction and operational phases, with defects addressed promptly to ensure that the PRowS remain safe, accessible and unobstructed at all times.



12.0 Conclusion

- 12.1.1 This Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Management Plan provides a comprehensive and deliverable scheme for the management of Footpath T73 during the construction, operation and maintenance of Clump Solar Farm. The scheme has been developed using the principles and measures set out in the PRoW Management Plan prepared by Sunnerg and has been expanded to provide the level of detail required by the Local Highway Authority and the relevant planning conditions.
- 12.1.2 The document clearly defines the permanent treatment of the PRoWs, including fencing, boundary arrangements, surface reinstatement, maintained widths, structures, signage and landscaping. It also sets out clear responsibilities for inspection and maintenance, together with a timetable for delivery of all PRoW-related works.
- 12.1.3 No permanent diversion of the PRoWs is proposed, and any temporary restrictions required during construction will be subject to formal authorisation and kept to the minimum duration necessary. At all times, the scheme ensures that the PRoWs will remain safe, accessible and free from obstruction.
- 12.1.4 On this basis, the information submitted fully addresses the matters previously identified by the Local Highway Authority and satisfies the requirements of Condition 13. The Local Planning Authority is therefore requested to confirm that the conditions can be discharged.