

Laura Ashton
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council

Date: 9 September 2025
My Ref: 25/00692/FUL (2025/3475/04)
Contact: Robert Tollyfield
Phone: 0116 305 2733
Email: planningcontrol@leics.gov.uk

APPLICATION DETAILS:

Planning Application Number: 25/00692/FUL

LCC Reference Number: 2025/3475/04

Description of Application: Installation and operation of a ground-mounted solar farm with associated infrastructure for a period of 40 years

Location of Application: Land at Heath Road, Bagworth Heath, Bagworth, Leicestershire

Thank you for your consultation in respect of the above planning application. The County Council has considered the application, having regard to the Development Plan, National Planning Policy Guidance and other relevant material considerations. In this particular instance, the County Council, as Minerals and Waste Planning Authority (MWPA), comments as follows;

The site for the proposed development is partially located within a Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA) for Sand & Gravel. As such, part of the proposed solar farm will sit directly above the mineral deposit and therefore has the potential to sterilise the mineral.

[Policy M11 of the Leicestershire Mineral & Waste Local Plan](#) (LMWLP) states that planning permission will be granted for development that is incompatible with safeguarding mineral within an MSA if it can be demonstrated that the mineral is of no current/future value, can be extracted prior to commencement, incompatible development is temporary and the site satisfactorily restored, there is an overriding need for incompatible development or the development is exempt from mineral safeguarding.

The application is supported by a Mineral Assessment (MA), ref. 255315-BWB-XX-XX-T-G-0001_MA, produced by BWB Consulting. The report has concluded that there are only two pockets of suitable mineral deposit within the site and that these would not be economically viable to extract. Furthermore, the proposed development is only temporary in nature, with an expected lifespan of circa 40 years. Therefore, the mineral will not be permanently sterilised by the development.

Chief Executives Department
Leicestershire County Council, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire, LE3 8RA

John Sinnott, CBE, MA, Dipl. PA, Chief Executive
Zafar Saleem, LLB, LLM, Assistant Chief Executive
www.leicestershire.gov.uk

The MWPA is satisfied with the conclusions reached in the MA and the proposal accords with criteria (i) and (iii) of Policy M11 in the LMWLP. Additionally, there are no safeguarded waste sites close to the proposed development location.

The MWPA therefore has no objection from a mineral & waste safeguarding perspective

Yours Sincerely,

R Tollyfield

Robert Tollyfield
Planning Officer