



Leicestershire  
**Police**  
Protecting our communities

22/04/2025

Nikolaos Sidiropoulos

Designing Out Crime Officer

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Dear Christopher Brown

**Application Ref – 26/00313/EAS**

**Site** – Land West Of The Poultry Farm Desford Lane Ratby Leicester

**Proposal** – Solar Farm of up to 5MW

Thank you for providing Leicestershire Police Designing Out Crime Officers with the opportunity to review the documents for the development referenced above. Following our assessment of the submitted information, Leicestershire Police raise no objections to the application. However, the following observations are provided for consideration.

Analysis of the available crime data indicates that overall crime levels in the area are low. However, both nationally and across Leicestershire there has been an increase in metal and cable theft, as well as fuel theft.

Based on local knowledge and engagement with local police officers, there are no specific incidents directly associated with the existing site that require highlighting at this time. However, it is important to note that there have been some nearby historical incidents involving metal theft, trespass, and anti-social behaviour (ASB).

It is noted within the screening report that infra-red CCTV cameras are proposed to be installed. It is advised that the CCTV system is capable of achieving police response, subject to police policy, and meets the relevant operational requirements.

The system should be installed, maintained, and monitored in full accordance with **BS 8418: Design, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Detection-Activated Video Surveillance Systems (VSS) – Code of Practice**, with monitoring provided by an appropriately accredited monitoring centre.

To ensure the highest quality of service, both the CCTV installer and the Remote Video Response Centre (RVRC) should be members of a UKAS-accredited third-party certification scheme, such as those operated by the National Security Inspectorate (NSI) or the Security Systems and Alarms Inspection Board (SSAIB).

It is also noted that a fence is proposed to be installed, which will primarily function as a physical barrier. I was unable to review the current security measures at the existing substation; however, given that the site is proposed to be extended, it would be advisable to ensure that appropriate and proportionate security measures are incorporated as part of the development.

Should further information or advice be required, we would be more than happy to arrange a site visit, potentially together with local police officers, to provide tailored security recommendations. This would also offer an opportunity to engage with the local Neighbourhood Policing Team, helping to build a strong working relationship and identify opportunities to improve any future police response within the area.

I would also like to highlight the importance of ensuring that appropriate cyber security measures are in place. It is recommended that staff receive suitable cyber security awareness training and that clear procedures are established to enable the organisation to respond to and recover effectively from a cyber incident.

Organisations should remain vigilant and are encouraged to align with UK Government and National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) guidance, such as the NCSC's *10 Steps to Cyber Security* and the Cyber Essentials framework, which set out practical and proportionate measures to help protect against common cyber threats and improve overall cyber resilience.

I have no further comments at this stage. I encourage the design team to give careful consideration to these recommendations to support the delivery of a safe and resilient development, both now and in the future. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.



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Yours sincerely,

Mr. N.Sidiropoulos  
Designing out crime Officer  
Leicestershire Police

*This assessment is based on the information you provided and current crime trends. While I can suggest measures that might reduce the risk of crime, there is no guarantee that these measures will prevent crime. The advice is offered without any intention of forming a contract. Leicestershire Police do not assume any legal responsibility for the advice given.*