

WELCOME TO OUR INFORMATION EVENT

Welcome to our community consultation event. We are pleased to share and discuss our updated proposals with you. Please feel free to speak to a member of our team.

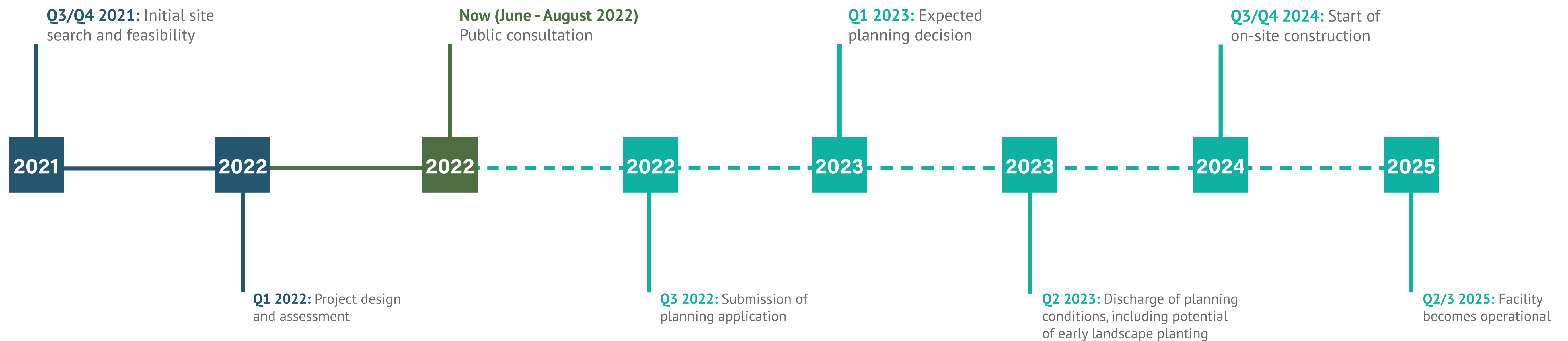


WHO WE ARE

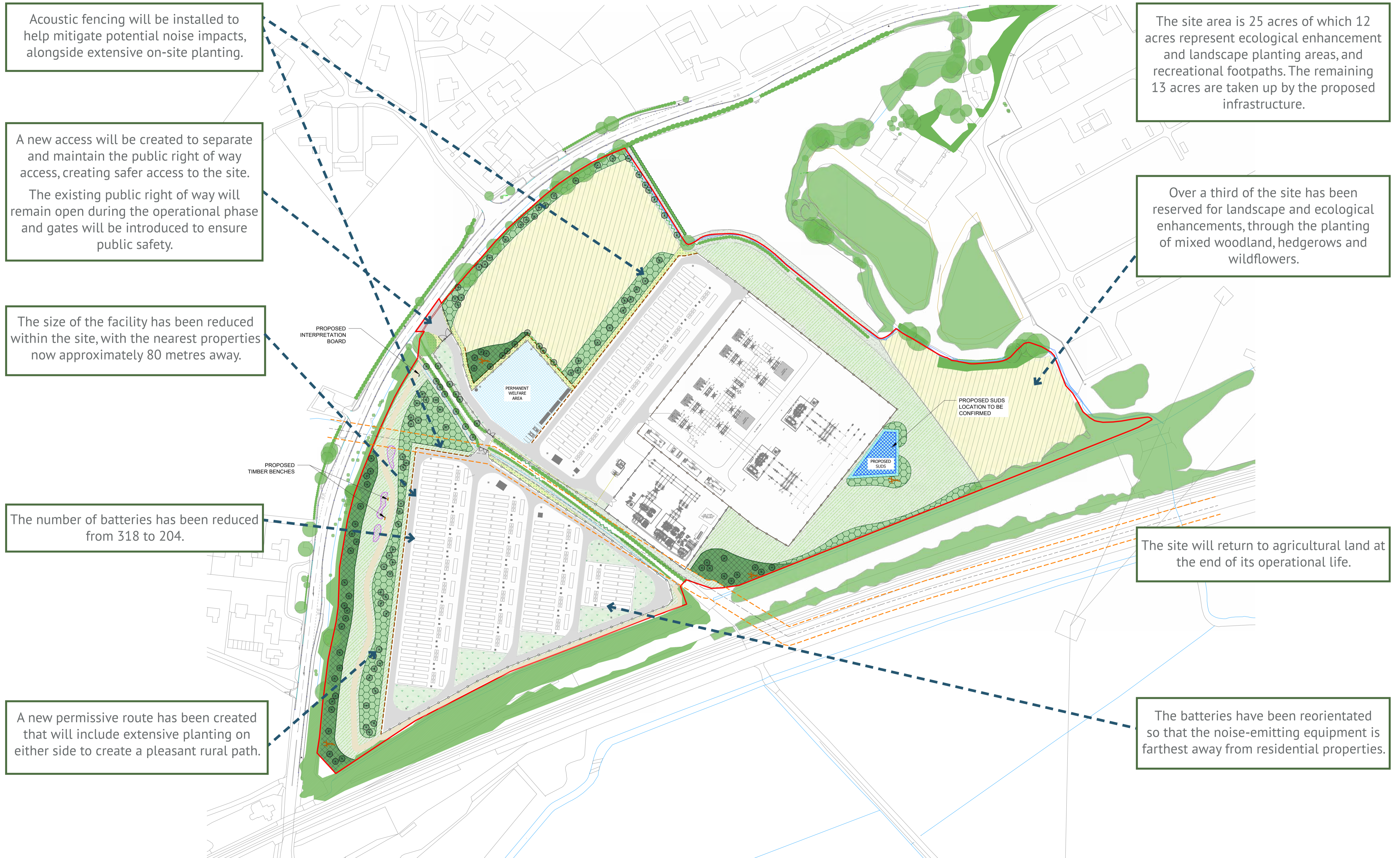
Ecap-Renewables is a UK-based developer focused on energy storage and renewable energy development in the UK and worldwide. We have a successful track record of delivery and construction of commercial scale renewable plants, having constructed some of the world's first solar farms in 2008. To date, Ecap-Renewables have developed, built, and financed over 700 MW of green energy projects.



PROJECT TIMELINE



OUR UPDATED PROPOSALS



Acoustic fencing will be installed to help mitigate potential noise impacts, alongside extensive on-site planting.

The site area is 25 acres of which 12 acres represent ecological enhancement and landscape planting areas, and recreational footpaths. The remaining 13 acres are taken up by the proposed infrastructure.

A new access will be created to separate and maintain the public right of way access, creating safer access to the site. The existing public right of way will remain open during the operational phase and gates will be introduced to ensure public safety.

Over a third of the site has been reserved for landscape and ecological enhancements, through the planting of mixed woodland, hedgerows and wildflowers.

The size of the facility has been reduced within the site, with the nearest properties now approximately 80 metres away.

The number of batteries has been reduced from 318 to 204.

The site will return to agricultural land at the end of its operational life.

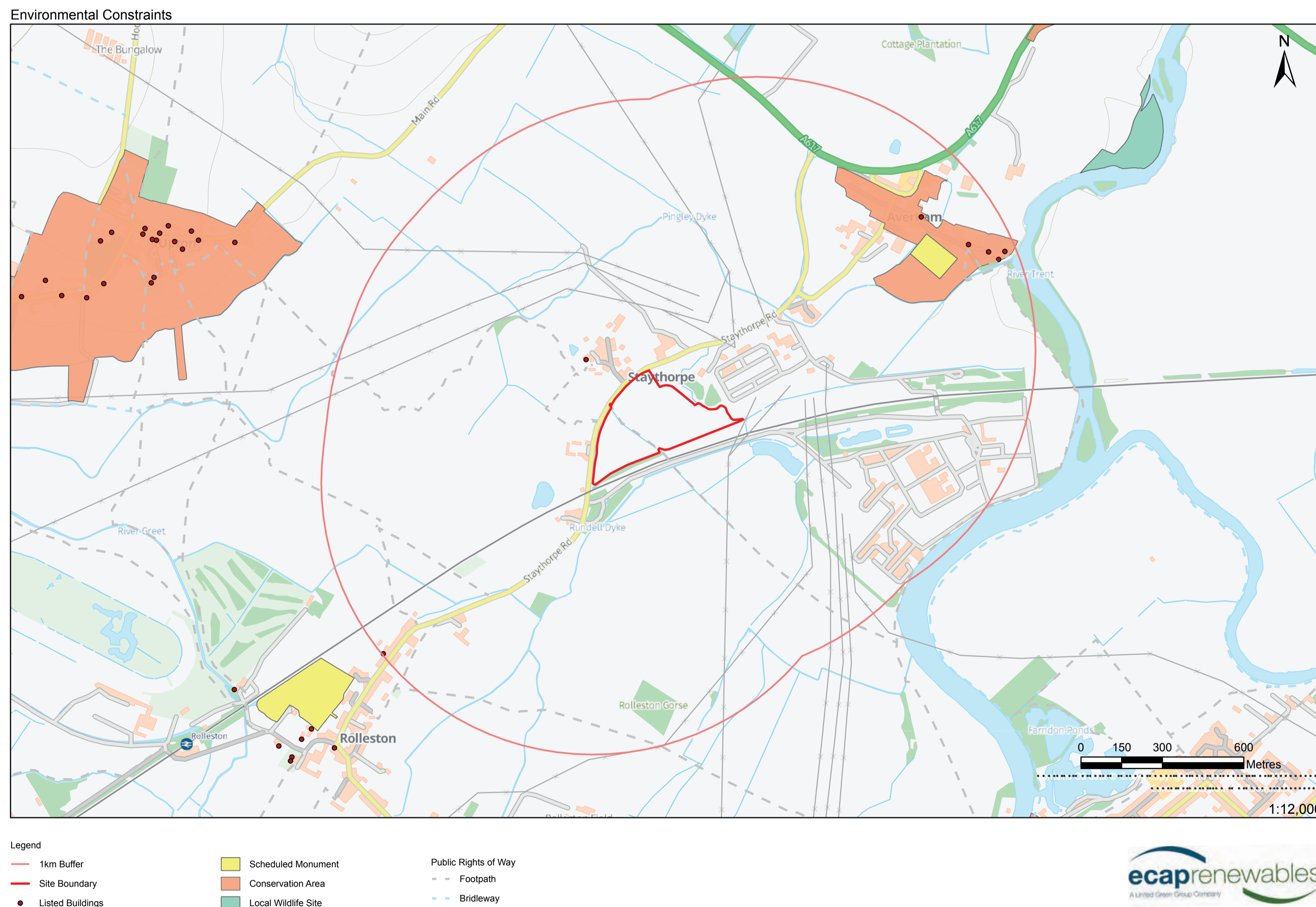
A new permissive route has been created that will include extensive planting on either side to create a pleasant rural path.

The batteries have been reorientated so that the noise-emitting equipment is farthest away from residential properties.

SITE SELECTION

LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSTRAINTS

We received a number of questions on why we chose this site for proposals. Below are some of the main factors we took into consideration when selecting this site.



PROXIMITY TO NATIONAL GRID

The site benefits from being next door to National Grid's substation in Staythorpe, meaning that there is significant infrastructure for Staythorpe BESS to plug into once operational.

ENVIRONMENTAL & PLANNING FACTORS

The site already benefits from substantial tree and hedgerow planting. Along with the significant new planting in our proposals, the site will have a large amount of natural screening, both visually and from noise.

There are no environmental and planning designations on this site and no ecological or archaeological designations on or in close proximity to the site. The site is located within a landscape of existing energy generation infrastructure.

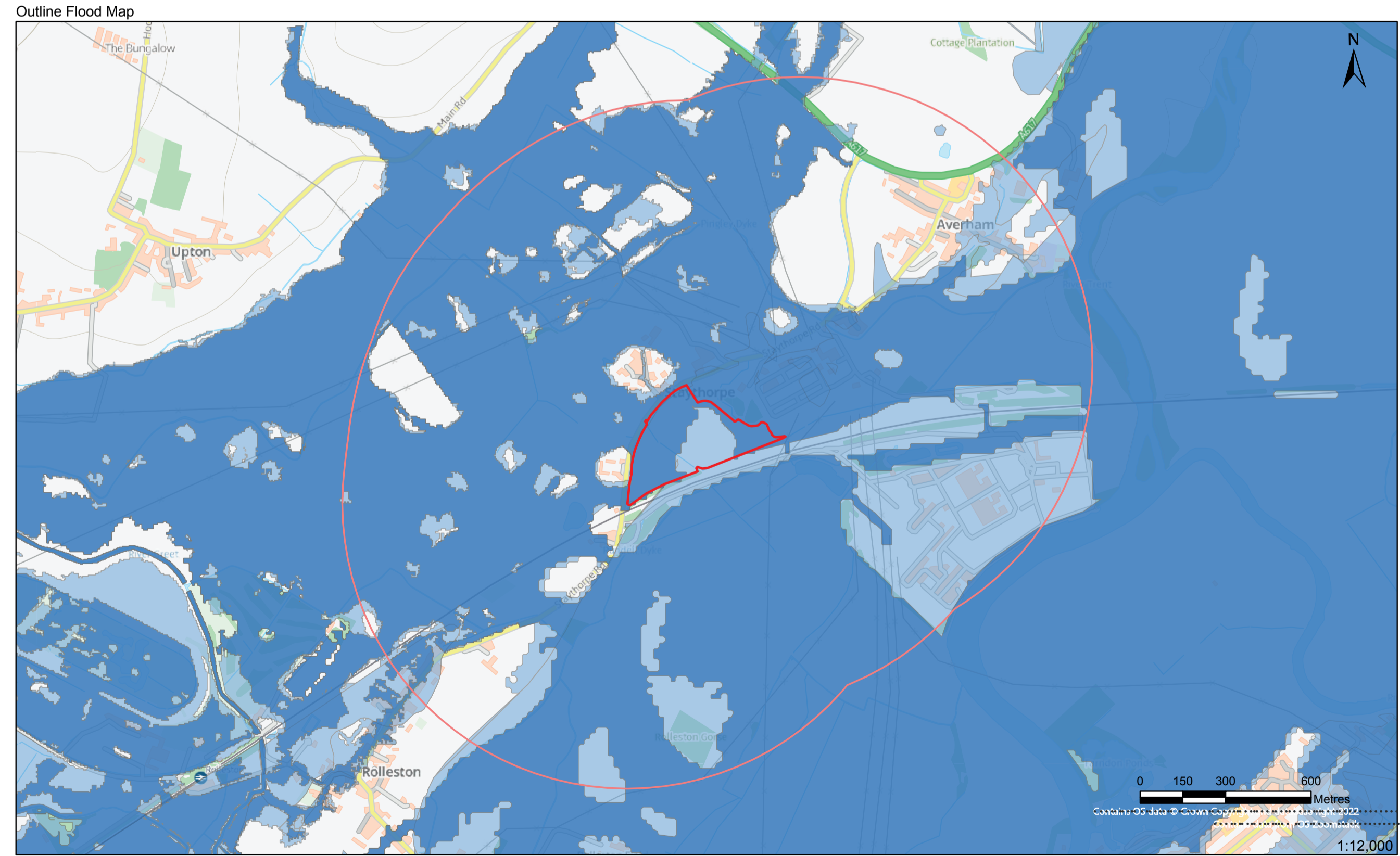
SITE SELECTION

FLOOD RISK & LAND USE AND AGRICULTURE

FLOOD RISK

We have identified this site as the most appropriate locally in terms of flood risk. The infrastructure has been moved away from the highest flood risk areas of the two fields. The substation has been redesigned and placed outside of the high flood risk zone, which means that it will be safe, and it will not increase run-off or displace water. The battery units and equipment will be raised on plinths to allow the free flow of water. Our proposals will comply with the guidance set out by the Environment Agency.

Furthermore, the extended areas of planting and ecological enhancement increase the amount of water the site can absorb, as ploughed agricultural land increases the amount of run-off, reducing flood risk further.



Legend
 1km Buffer
 Site Boundary
 Flood Zone 3
 Flood Zone 2

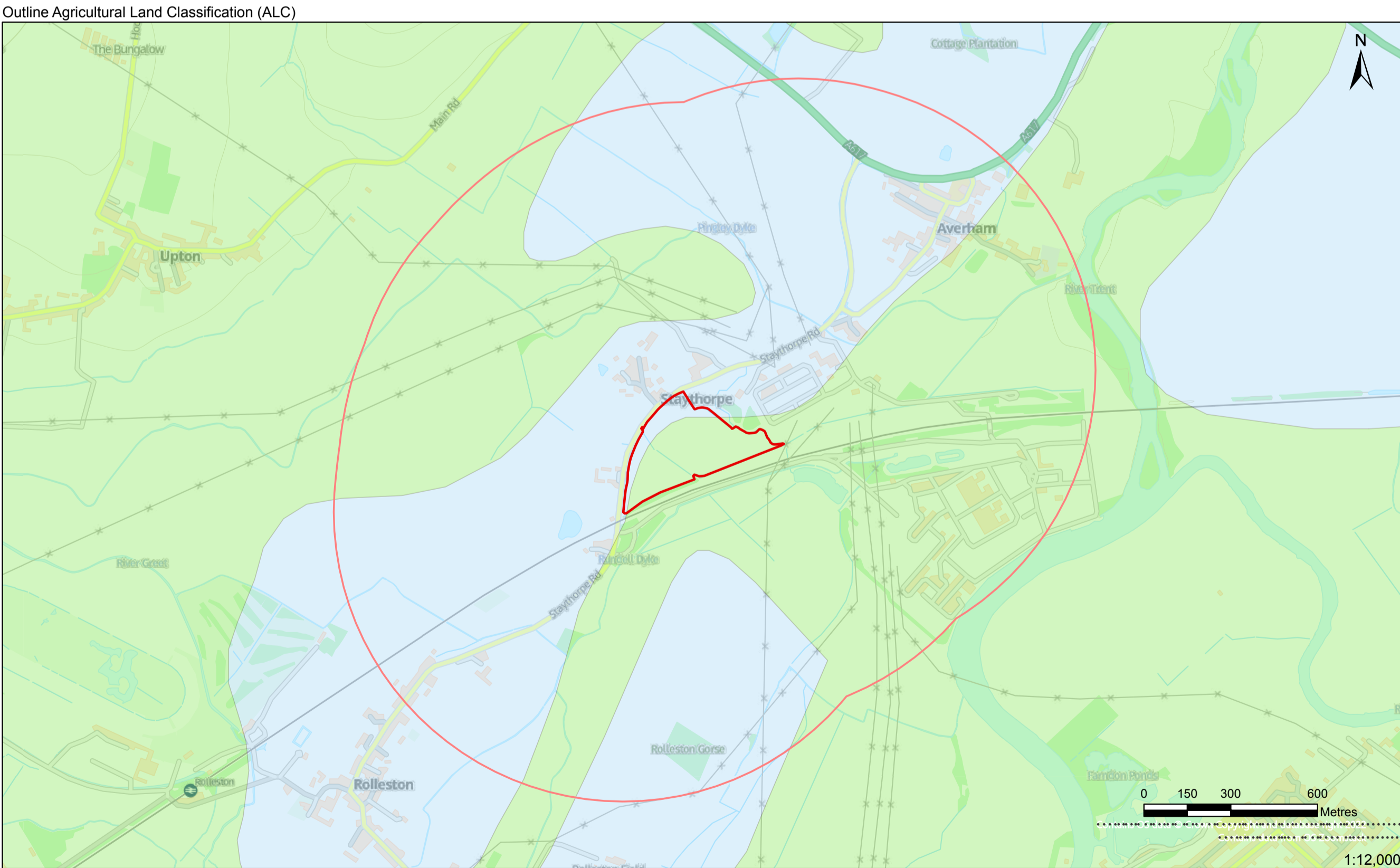


LAND USE AND AGRICULTURAL LAND

When selecting the development site, Grade 2 agricultural land was avoided.

The majority of the site has been assessed as Grade 3 agricultural land, compared to the sizeable areas of Grade 2 (higher quality) agricultural land, surrounding the site.

No development will take place within Grade 2 agricultural land. The amount of land that the infrastructure will be built on has been reduced from 17 acres to approximately 13 acres, which represents almost half of the site. The remaining 12 acres of land will be retained for ecological enhancement, planting and footpaths. At the end of the facility's lifespan, the project will return to agricultural use.



Legend
 1km Buffer
 Site Boundary
 Grade 3 ALC
 Grade 2 ALC



BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (BESS)

WHY BESS?

Energy storage infrastructure is needed to ensure the reliability and affordability of the UK's electricity supply.

In April 2022, the UK Government published the British Energy Security Strategy which codified the nation's targets for decarbonising the energy system. Government research suggests the rollout of flexible generation assets like batteries could help bring costs down by up to £10bn per year by 2050.

Renewable energy is the driving force behind the energy transition. It's clean, reliable, and considerably cheaper than the fossil fuel alternatives. However, the sun does not always shine, and the wind does not always blow. This means that in order to integrate this clean energy efficiently into the grid, we need a smarter transmission system that can store energy for when it is needed most.

Unlike traditional forms of generation, batteries can choose exactly when to discharge their energy into the grid, allowing them to operate however grid operators deem most useful for overall system stability.

In facilitating the stable integration of more renewables in our generation mix, Staythorpe BESS will prevent approximately **1.8 million tonnes** of CO₂ from entering the atmosphere over its lifetime, helping clean up our carbon footprint and lowering household energy bills.



IS IT SAFE?

The demand and supply of battery storage technology has grown and will continue to grow. Globally, there has now been 20 GW of batteries installed. As the amount of batteries in our energy infrastructure increases, the safety of the batteries is more and more important.

BESS are equipped with health and safety measures, including fire detection, prevention and extinguishing equipment. We have consulted with the Newark and Sherwood Fire Service to ensure that Staythorpe BESS will include extensive health and safety measures to ensure the safety of our proposals. Our **Battery Safety Management Plan** outlines the fire safety mechanisms for the proposals.

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS AND MITIGATION

ECOLOGICAL SURVEYS

To protect species and habitats on site, as well as inform Biodiversity Net Gain.

- The Ecological Habitat and Species Surveys have recommended appropriate mitigation. Mitigation includes ecological exclusion zones, retention and enhancement of habitats as well as creation of new habitats, with bird and bat boxes.
- Water Vole surveys have identified appropriate exclusion zones at the watercourse.
- The additional planting will contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain.

LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL APPRAISAL

To protect and enhance the landscape

- Almost half of the site area is dedicated to landscape and biodiversity enhancement.
- There are agreed viewpoints with Newark and Sherwood Council, including views from heritage assets, as well as residential properties.
- The appraisal recommended appropriate planting to protect residential amenity and enhance the landscape.
- As a result, we have proposed significant areas across the site dedicated to new planting including native trees, hedgerows and shrubs, as well as wildflower meadows.

LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (LBMP)

A combined masterplan showing the entirety of the onsite biodiversity and landscape enhancement.

NOISE ASSESSMENT

To ensure that the development is compliant with noise standards and noise levels to protect amenity.

- The background noise survey has been undertaken at the closest receptors as agreed with the Environmental Health Officer. The development will fall within the proscribed noise limits.
- Appropriate mitigation has been adopted, including:
 - reducing the size of the project.
 - increasing distance from the nearest properties to approximately 100 metres.
 - reorientating the batteries to enable the containers to be used as sound barriers as extra noise mitigation for the louder equipment.
 - installing acoustic fencing to further mitigate noise emissions.

FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT (FRA) AND DRAINAGE STRATEGY

To ensure the development is safe and does not increase flood risk elsewhere.

- The FRA has resulted in mitigation measures, including:
 - the BESS has been raised on plinths so that the infrastructure does not flood and does not increase flood risk elsewhere.
 - the development has been moved away from the areas with the highest levels of flood risk.
 - the substation has been re-designed and is now outside of the flood risk zone, where it will not displace water.
 - the internal roads will be permeable.
 - in addition to the drainage strategy, an attenuation system has been introduced to help reduce the risk of flooding offsite.
 - The proposed additional planting will contribute to absorption.

ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEYS AND MITIGATION

AGRICULTURAL LAND CLASSIFICATION STUDY

To provide an understanding of the quality of land.

- The detailed ALC survey identified no Grade 2 agricultural land onsite. The land is a mix of 3a and 3b. The development footprint within the Grade 3a land has now been reduced.
- The land will be returned to agricultural use upon decommissioning.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT ASSESSMENT (TTA)

- The TTA has identified an alternative, safer access route into the site, separate from the Public Right of Way (PRoW)
- Traffic counts and a speed survey along Staythorpe Road have informed the traffic and transport measures during construction and operation.
- An additional permissive route through the site will offer a PRoW diversion during construction, and will be retained during the operational life of the plant.
- An abnormal loads survey was carried out to inform access, design and safe deliveries of heavy and large equipment to site.

ARBORICULTURAL (TREE) SURVEY

This survey identified root protection zones and informed mitigation and protection of the trees on site.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

To ensure that cultural heritage is preserved.

- The geophysical survey has recommended a programme to inform and preserve any features of archaeological potential.
 - The infrastructure has been moved away from an area likely to contain a paleochannel.
- The potential effects on nearby heritage assets will be assessed as part of the **Heritage Assessment and Landscape and Visual Appraisal**.

GROUND INVESTIGATION & TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEYS

Informed design appropriate to the setting.

CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

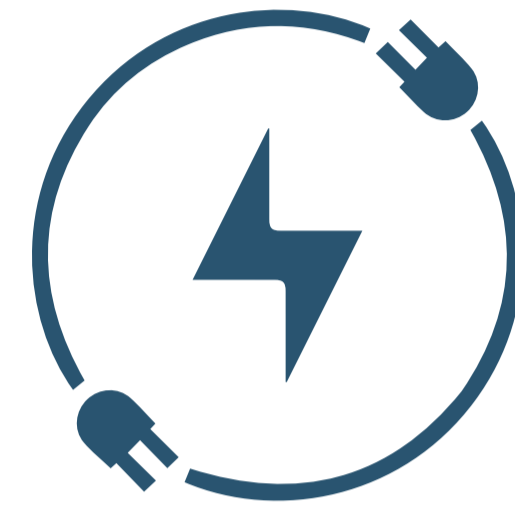
A suite of mitigation measures during construction will be proposed to ensure minimal disruption.

BATTERY SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN

A plan to outline fire safety mechanisms for the development.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Our development will contribute towards Newark and Sherwood District Council's target of being carbon neutral by **2035**. We will also contribute to environmental targets by committing to Biodiversity Net Gain across the site. In addition to this, we are looking to explore other potential benefits through our proposals. These could include:



Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points



Supporting cycling or recreational projects



Improving energy efficiency of community buildings



Electrification of heat through Ground/ Air Source Heat Pumps for community buildings

For this purpose, specific areas will be allotted to biodiversity and wildlife enhancements which will be delivered through planting native tree species (recognised as wildlife-rich by the Council), such as hawthorn, blackthorn, grey willow, crab apple and rowan.

We are also dedicated to contributing to community benefits that support the Council's aspirations. We are open to ideas about potential local projects or initiatives that we could facilitate or deliver directly, and we look forward to receiving your suggestions.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Our public consultation on our proposals is open between **Monday 8th August 2022** and **Sunday 28th August 2022**.

To find out more and respond to our proposals for Staythorpe BESS, you can visit our website or contact us using the details below. An online feedback form can also be found under the Have Your Say heading on our website.



[www.ecap-renewables.com/
Staythorpe-BESS](http://www.ecap-renewables.com/Staythorpe-BESS)



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