



safer roads for everyone

## **Southlands Solar Farm, Rayleigh, Essex**

### **Road Safety Audit Stage 1**

on behalf of Transport Planning Associates

**TMS reference no: 17994**  
**Date: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

## Southlands Solar Farm, Rayleigh, Essex

### Road Safety Audit Stage 1

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#### 1. Introduction

1.1 This report describes a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit carried out on a field access on A132 to provide access to a proposed solar farm at Rayleigh, Essex, on behalf of Transport Planning Associates. The audit was carried out on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in the offices of TMS Consultancy.

1.2 The audit team members were as follows:

#### **Audit Team Leader**

Darren Newbold – MSc, BSc (Hons), MCIHT, MSoRSA  
Highways England Approved RSA Certificate of Competency  
Principal Engineer, TMS Consultancy

#### **Audit Team Member**

Neal Roderick – BEng (Hons)  
Highways England Approved RSA Certificate of Competency  
Engineer, TMS Consultancy

1.3 The audit comprised an examination of the documents listed in **Appendix A**. The Road Safety Audit was undertaken in accordance with the Brief provided by Alexander Grundy.

1.4 The site was visited by the Audit Team on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 12.35pm. The weather was fine and dry. Traffic flows were moderate. No pedestrian and cycle flows were observed.

1.5 The terms of reference of the Road Safety Audit are as described in GG 119. The team has examined and reported only on the road safety implications of the scheme as presented and has not examined or verified the compliance of the design to any other criteria.

1.6 All of the problems described in this report are considered by the audit team to require action in order to improve the safety of the scheme and minimise collision occurrence.

1.7 A scheme drawing is included in **Appendix B**, where the locations of specific problems are referenced. A location plan of the scheme is also included in this Appendix.

- 1.8 The scheme consists of field access on A132 to provide access to a proposed solar farm at Rayleigh, Essex. The access will serve the construction and maintenance vehicles for the solar farm. Construction is anticipated to last 6 months from commencement. The A132 is subject to a national speed limit (60mph) and is street lit.

## 1.9 Road Safety Audit Response Report

Following the completion of the road safety audit, the design team should prepare a road safety audit response report in collaboration with the Overseeing Organisation.

The response report should incorporate the following:

- **Decision Log** spreadsheet, where each Problem and Recommendation in the Safety Audit report is reiterated
- In the Decision Log, a response should be provided by the Design Team and Overseeing Organisation for each problem raised in the RSA report, together with an agreed action

Further information is provided in **GG 119 Sections 4.11 to 4.19** and **Appendix F** (where a road safety audit response report template is available).

The response report should be produced and finalised within *one month* of the issue of the RSA report. A copy of the response report should be issued to the Safety Audit Team for information.

## **2. Items resulting from this Stage 1 Audit**

### **2.1 PROBLEM**

Location – A132; site access junction

Summary: Inappropriate turning manoeuvres may lead to vehicle collisions

The vehicle tracking details provided show left in / left out turning manoeuvres to and from the site which suggests that this will be the expected arrival and departure movements of large vehicles. At this stage no signage details have been provided. A lack of signage to confirm the left turn out may lead to drivers attempting to turn right out of the site across the right turn lane gap. However, drivers of large and slow vehicles attempting this manoeuvre may be at risk of high-speed side impact and shunt type vehicle collisions.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

At detailed design stage appropriate signage should be provide on egress from the site to discourage right turn manoeuvres.

### 3. Audit Team Statement

We certify that the terms of reference of the road safety audit are as described in GG 119.

#### **Audit Team Leader**

Darren Newbold – MSc, BSc (Hons), MCIHT, MSoRSA  
Highways England Approved RSA Certificate of Competency  
Principal Engineer, TMS Consultancy

Signed



Date 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

#### **Audit Team Member**

Neal Roderick – BEng (Hons)  
Highways England Approved RSA Certificate of Competency  
Engineer, TMS Consultancy

Signed



Date 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023

#### **TMS Consultancy**

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## Appendix A

### Documents Examined:

- Drawing No. 2201-018\_SK01-A

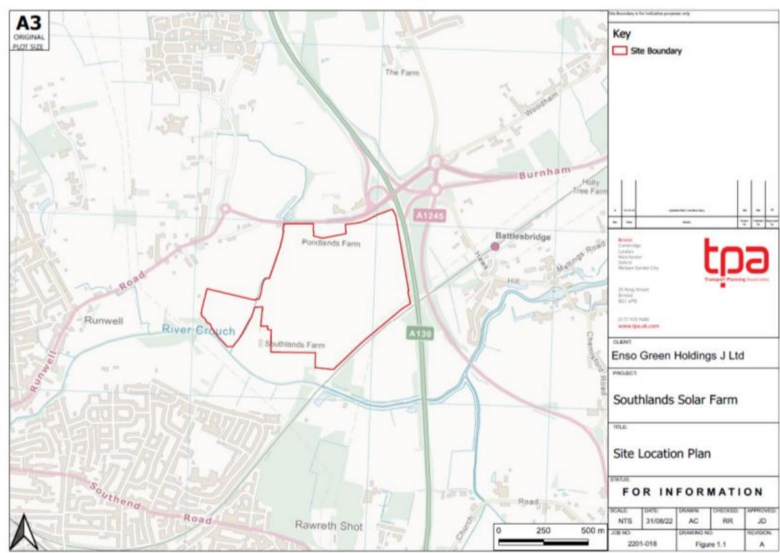
### Other Information Provided:

- Road Safety Audit Brief
- Site Location Plan
- Collision data

Appendix B

Please refer to the following page for a plan illustrating the locations of the problems identified as part of this audit (location numbers refer to paragraph numbers in the report).

The location of the scheme is shown below:





Client: Transport Planning Associates

Scheme: Southlands Solar Farm, Rayleigh, Essex

