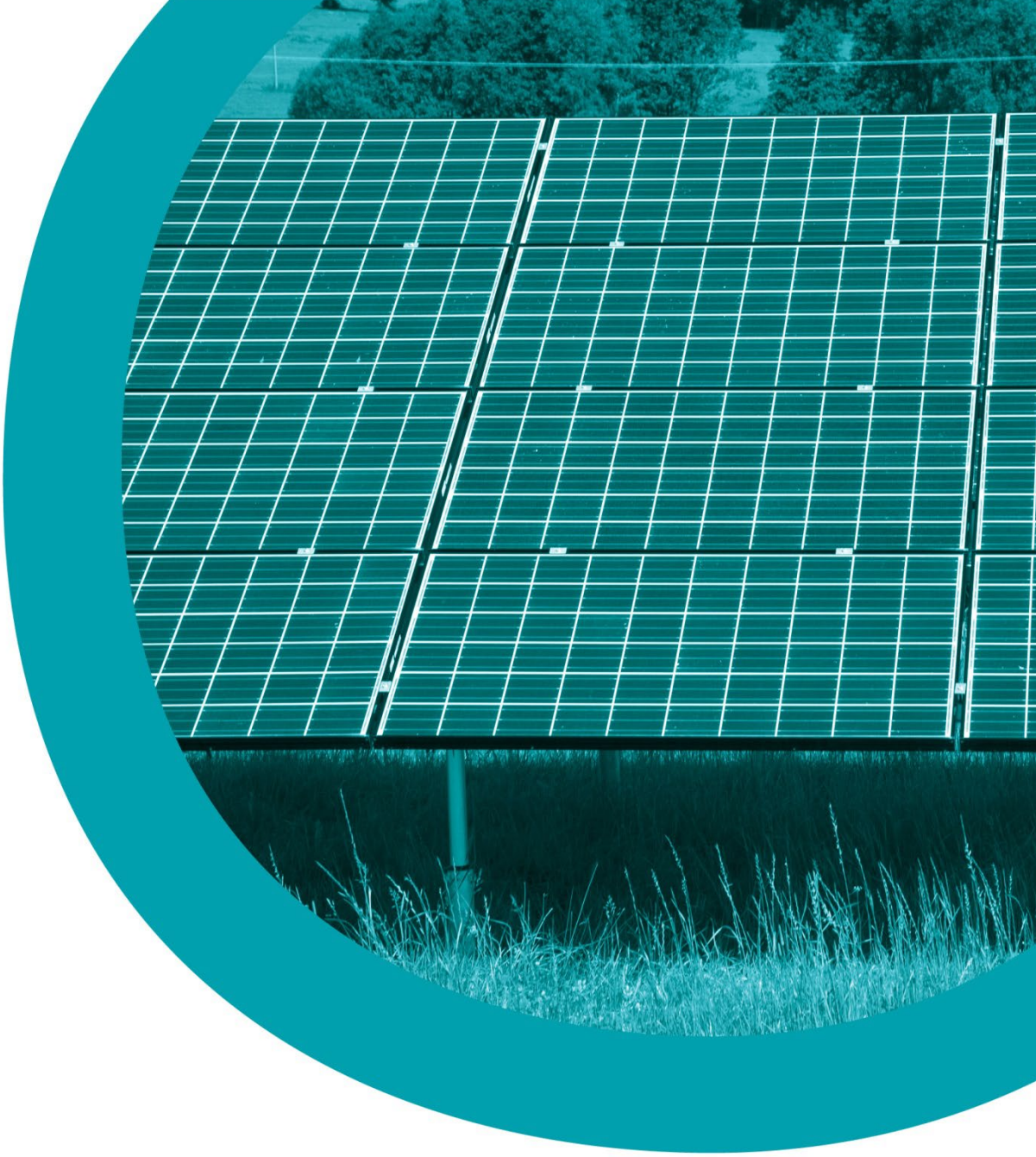


Hafod Road Solar Scheme

Community Consultation Report

Applicant: National Trust

Date: August 2025

dulas
inspiring renewable energy

CONTENTS

1.1 Introduction 1
1.2 Consultation 1
1.3 Results 2
1.4 Revisions to the scheme following consultations 2
Appendix 1 – consultation event photos 4
Appendix 2 – Event poster 5
Appendix 3 - advert included in the Chirk Erddig Connect Newsletter 6
Appendix 4 – Facebook post 7
Appendix 5 – Letter 8
Appendix 6 – Consultation boards 9
Appendix 7 – photomontages 13

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This Community Consultation Report outlines the consultation undertaken regarding the proposed Hafod Road Solar Scheme.

1.1.2 As the scheme is to be developed on a site of more than 1 ha, it is deemed a major development and as such the Applicant is required to undertake a statutory pre-application consultation under the Planning (Wales) Act 2015.

1.1.3 It is important for the National Trust to hear views on the project from the local community. The event was also an opportunity to communicate the National Trust's wider strategy plus targets on climate change. This included the climate focused projects delivered to date elsewhere on National Trust land. The scheme is a relatively small-scale solar development, and we wanted to articulate the rationale behind the size and location of the development. The National Trust has a strategy focused on restoring nature and, as part of this project, we were keen to emphasise the nature benefits we will develop, alongside renewable energy.

1.2 Consultation

1.2.1 This section of the report outlines the different methods used to engage with the local community and gather views on the proposed Hafod Road Solar scheme.

1.2.2 A community consultation event was held on Thursday 10th July 10am – 6pm and Friday 11th July 10am – 3pm at Felin Puleston Outdoor Centre, Erddig, Wrexham, LL13 7RF (See Appendix 1 for event photos).

1.2.3 Posters advertising the event (see Appendix 2) were displayed at Erddig and Felin Puleston for two weeks prior to the consultation event.

1.2.4 An advert was included in the Chirk Erddig Connect newsletter (see Appendix 3), a newsletter for internal staff and volunteers. The newsletter was emailed to approximately 150 staff and volunteers. Additionally, hard copies were available in the volunteer break rooms.

1.2.5 A post appeared on Facebook in the following groups: Erddig/NT and Johnstown (Wrexham) Facebook group (Appendix 4).

1.2.6 Letters were sent to 15 people including immediate residents, past farming tenants, the local care home manager and the head of the local council (Appendix 5).

1.2.7 The consultation boards were produced bilingually and provided information on project location and layout, technology, National Trust climate targets, surveys, land use and nature enhancements. The proposed landscape and ecological enhancement plan was also available to view. (see Appendix 6).

1.2.8 Additionally, photomontages to demonstrate what the proposed Hafod Road Solar Scheme would look like from nearby locations were also made available (Appendix 7).

1.2.9 Representatives from Dulas, the environmental consultant, and National Trust (the Applicant) were available to answer queries regarding the Proposed Scheme.

1.3 Results

1.3.1 Approximately 75 people attended the consultation events over the 2 days.

1.3.2 In general, there was support for the scheme and renewables, with attendees being supportive of the ecological enhancements, the scheme being of a smaller scale than other utility scale solar farms proposed in the vicinity, and that the Hafod Road scheme is not located close to residential properties.

1.3.3 Some concerns raised were about the recyclability of the solar panels, and whether the development will result in a loss of farmland. It was explained that the land under the panels would still be used for sheep grazing, a change from the current arable usage.

1.3.4 There was some confusion about whether the scheme was part of the Butterfly Farm 100MW solar scheme, which is located to east of the Hafod Road site. The event enabled National Trust to clarify that the Hafod Road Solar Scheme was a separate and smaller scale endeavour.

1.4 Revisions to the scheme following consultations

1.4.1 The comments received during the community consultation were reviewed, however given the embedded mitigation, and changes to the update already made in response to the findings of the individual assessments regarding ecology and Hydrology (see Design and

Access Statement for further information), no changes to the layout were required to be made.

Appendix 1 – consultation event photos





Appendix 2 – Event poster



Appendix 3 - advert included in the Chirk Erddig Connect Newsletter

Public consultation on the Hafod Road Solar Project

National Trust Cymru is holding a public consultation on its small-scale Solar Project plans for Hafod Road, Wrexham.

The solar project will cover around 1.5 acres, which is approximately 2, 240 panels. If plans are approved, it will include a landscape and ecology management plan to boost biodiversity with new trees, hedges, wildflowers, and native grasses.
It will support nature friendly farming combining food production with environmental protection and soil health. Local farmers will graze sheep helping to manage grassland, maintaining the site's agricultural use.



Credit National Trust Images/Mel Peters.

To feedback on the plans, or find out more, please email hafodroadsolar@nationaltrust.org.uk."

Lois York,

Senior Communications & Marketing Officer, Chirk Castle & Erddig

Appendix 4 – Facebook post



Johnstown (Wrexham) Facebook group
Erddig NT/YG · 3 July at 12:31 ·

Ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar brosiect solar | Solar project public consultation

****

National Trust Cymru is holding a public consultation on its small-scale Solar Project plans for Hafod Road, Wrexham.

Members of the community are invited to drop in to Felin Puleston Outdoor Centre on Hafod Road, LL13 7RF, anytime between 10am and 6pm on Thursday, 10 July, or between 10am and 3pm on Friday, 11 July, where the team will be happy to talk through the plans and answer any questions.

The solar project will cover around 1.5 acres and if plans are approved, will include a landscape and ecology management plan to boost biodiversity. Local farmers will graze sheep on the land maintaining its agricultural use.

Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol Cymru yn cynnal ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus ar ei chynlluniau ar gyfer Prosiect Solar bach ar Ffordd Hafod, Wrecsam.

Mae gwahoddiad i aelodau o'r gymuned alw draw i Ganolfan Awyr Agored Felin Puleston ar Ffordd Hafod, LL13 7RF, unrhyw bryd rhwng 10am a 6pm ar ddydd Iau, 10 Gorffennaf, neu rhwng 10am a 3pm ar ddydd Gwener, 11 Gorffennaf, lle bydd y tîm yn hapus i drafod y cynlluniau ac ateb unrhyw gwestiynau.

Tua 1.5 erw fydd maint y prosiect solar ac, os bydd cynlluniau'n cael eu cymeradwyo, bydd yn cynnwys cynllun rheoli ecoleg a thirwedd i hybu bioamrywiaeth. Bydd defaid ffermwyr lleol yn pori ar y tir er mwyn cynnal ei ddefnydd amaethyddol.

Appendix 5 – Letter

Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol
National Trust

hafodroadsolar@nationaltrust.org.uk

24 June 2025

National Trust Hafod Road Solar Project –Public Consultation

We wanted to share a quick update on the Hafod Road Solar project and let you know about an upcoming public consultation event in July.

We're preparing to submit our planning application for the site and, as part of that, we're holding a community drop-in where residents can learn more about the updated proposals, ask questions, and chat with the team.

Feel free to drop in at any time during the event—we'll be on hand to walk you through the plans and hear your thoughts.

Event Details:
Venue: Felin Puleston Outdoor Centre, Erddig, Wrexham, LL13 7RF

Dates & Times:
Thursday 10th July – 10am to 6pm
Friday 11th July – 10am to 3pm

Yours faithfully

Nina Rogers
on behalf of the
Hafod Road Solar Project Team

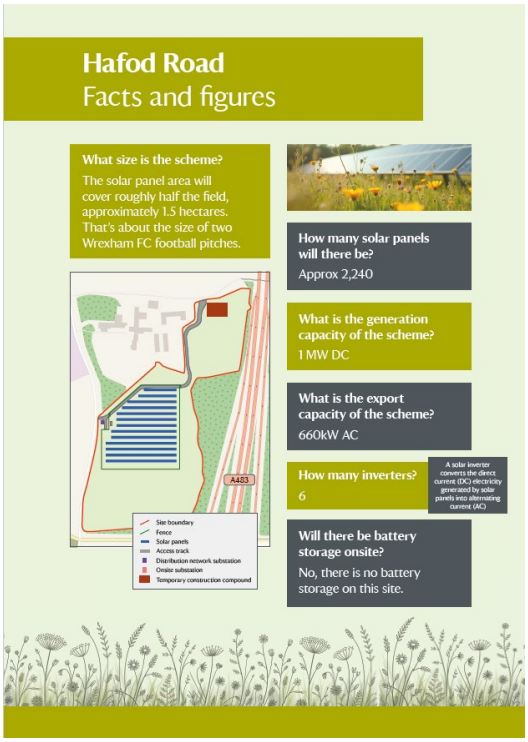
Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol/
National Trust
Erddig Hall
Wrecsam / Wrexham
LL13 0YT
Ffôn/Tel: +44 (0)1978 355314
erddig@nationaltrust.org.uk
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Patron: His Majesty The King
Cadeirydd / Chair: René Olivieri CBE
Cyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol / Director-General:
Hilary McGrady
Cyfarwyddwr Cymru / Director for Wales: Lhosa Daly

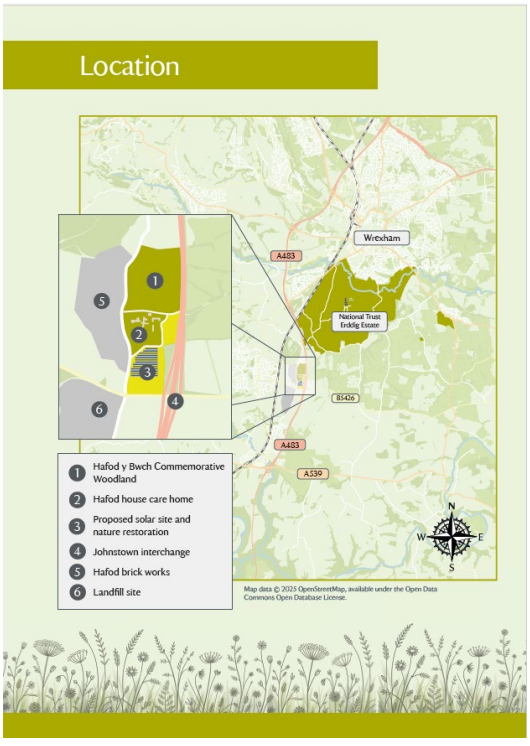
Swyddfa gofrestredig / Registered office:
Heelis, Kemble Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 2NA
Rhif elusen gofrestredig/Registered charity number 205846

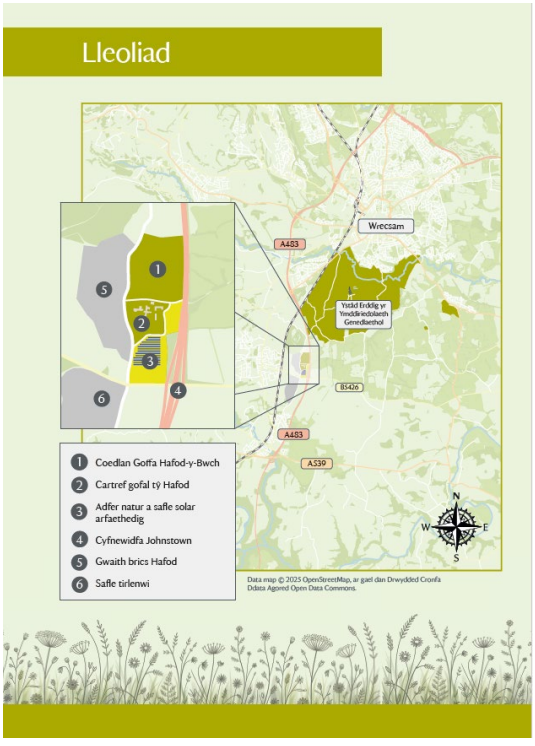
Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Appendix 6 – Consultation boards










Hafod Road landscape and habitat creation – draft proposal
Areas to be cultivated and managed for the benefit of plants, invertebrates and ground-nesting birds
Potential nesting habitat created for little ringed plovers. Also to benefit the dingy skipper
New wetland/pond area to benefit species such as great crested newt, little ringed plover, reed bunting
Areas to be sown with common bird's foot trefoil to benefit dingy skipper
Add native trees and fill gaps in native hedgerow
Scrub
Proposed extended woodland
Existing scrub planting
New hedge
A483
B4436
Existing
Woodland
Trees
Species rich grassland
Road
Footpath
Proposed
Solar panels
DNO Substation
Substation
Trees
Hedgerow
Access track
Nest boxes
Information board
Potential nesting habitat
New wetland/pond


Creu cynefinoedd a thirwedd Ffordd Hafod – cynnig draft
Ardaloedd yn cael eu defnyddio i dyfu a'u rheoli er budd planhigion, infertebratau ac adar sy'n nythu ar y ddaear
Creu safleoedd nythu posibl ar gyfer cwtiaid torchog bychain, er budd y gwiblwr bwyd hefyd
Prysgoed
Cynllunau i ehangu coetir
Ardal o wlyptir/pwll newydd er budd rhywogaethau fel madfallod dŵr cribog, cwtiaid torchog bychain, beilion cyff
Ardaloedd i'w hadu gyda ghys y ceiliw er mwyn bod o fudd i'r gwiblwr bwyd
Ychwanegu coed brodorol a llenwi bylchau mewn gwrychoedd brodorol
Gwrychoedd
Prysgoed paterncol
A483
B4436
Presennol
Coetir
Coed
Glaswelltir llawn rhywogaethau
Llwybr
Ffordd
Arfaethedig
Paneli solar (o osod gwelyddwr rhwyddwaith dosbarthu (DNO))
Is-orsafoedd
Coed
Gwrychoedd
Llwybr mynediad
Bylchau nythu
Bord wybodaeth
Cynefin nythu posibl
Gwlyptir/pwll newydd


Understanding the project
How will the land look during the lifetime of the solar scheme?
If approved, the project will include a Landscape and Ecology Management Plan to boost biodiversity with new trees, hedges, wildflowers and native grasses.
The site will support Nature Friendly Farming, combining food production with environmental protection and soil health. Local farmers will graze sheep, helping to manage the grassland, maintaining the site's agricultural use.
How will wildlife be encouraged?
Nature is essential for clean water, air and crop pollination – we all depend on it.
Nature restoration is a key goal of the National Trust and we're committed to doing it right.
Our initial ecological surveys ensure no protected species will be impacted and identifies ways to encourage more wildlife on site.
Plans include creating richer habitats for:
Food plants such as Birds-Foot Trefoil, which will support butterflies like Dingy Skipper
Birds, such as Linnets, Goldfinches, Meadow Pipits and Little Ringed Plovers
Amphibians, especially Great Crested Newts, which are local to the area
Small mammals, with the introduction of new scrub habitat
Wildlife-friendly fencing will include:
15cm gaps for small animals like hedgehogs
Mammal gates for larger wildlife
How will the equipment be protected onsite?
The solar installation will be enclosed by a timber and wire fencing about 2m in height. Motion sensor cameras discretely placed will monitor the boundary and face into the solar park, protecting the privacy of our neighbours and ensuring the security of the asset.
Will the solar park cause traffic disruption?
During construction, a Traffic Management Plan will be put in place with the local planning authority to ensure deliveries do not cause local disruption. Once the solar park is completed it requires very little maintenance and will be visited approximately six times a year for maintenance.
Is a solar park noisy?
When operating, some sound will be created by the fans within the inverters, cooling down the equipment. This sound is a gentle hum, equivalent to an electric toothbrush. We will locate any inverters away from the public and within the site the noise will fall beyond the ambient background rural noise level and this means they are usually inaudible.
What happens to the panels at the end of their life?
The land will be returned to its original condition and all panels/materials and electrical waste, if they cannot be repurposed elsewhere, will be disposed of responsibly. We would ensure panels are recycled through an accredited recycler, such as the PVCYCLE network.


Deall y prosiect
Sut fydd y tir yn edrych yn ystod oes y cynllun solar?
Os caiff ei gymeradwyo, bydd y prosiect yn cynnwys Cynllun Rheoli Ecoleg a Thirwedd i roi hwb i fioamrywiaeth gyda choed, gwrychoedd, blodau gwyllt a glaswelltiroedd brodorol newydd.
Bydd y safle'n cefnogi ffermio sy'n ystyriol o fyd natur, gan gyfuno cynhyrchu bwyd gydag amddiffyniad amgylcheddol a chyflwr ac ansawdd y pridd. Bydd y ffermwyr lleol yn pori defaid, gan helpu i reoli'r glaswellte, a chynnal ac amaethyddol y safle.
Sut fydd bywyd gwyllt yn cael ei annog?
Mae byd natur yn hanfodol ar gyfer dŵr ac aer glân a pheillio cnydau - rydyn ni oll yn dibynnu arno.
Mae adfer natur yn un o brif nodau'r Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol ac rydym wedi ein hymrwymo i'w wneud yn gywir.
O'n harolygon ecolegol cyntaf sicrhawn na fydd effeithiau ar rywogaethau a warchodir gan gan fod ffyrdd i annog rhagor o fywyd gwyllt ar y safle.
Mae cynlluniau'n cynnwys creu cynefinoedd mwy cyfoethog ar gyfer:
Planhigion bwytadwy fel Pys-y-Ceiw, a fydd yn cefnogi glöynnod byw fel Gwibwyr Llwyd
Adar, fel Llinosiaid, Nicos, Corhedyddion y Waun a Chwtiaid Torchog Bychain
Amffibiaid, yn arbennig Madfallod Dŵr Cribog, sy'n lleol i'r ardal
Mamaliaid bychain, gan greu cynefin prysgoed newydd
Bydd ffensio sy'n ystyriol o fywyd gwyllt yn cynnwys:
Bylchau 15cm i anifeiliaid bychain fel draenogod
Pyrth mamaliaid ar gyfer bywyd gwyllt mwy o faint
Sut caiff cyfarpar ei ddiogelu ar y safle?
Bydd y gosodiad solar yn cael ei amgáu gan ffens bren a gwifrau sydd tua 2m o uchel. Bydd camerâu synhwyro symudiadau o osodwyd yn gyfrinach yn monitro'r ffin ac yn wynebu'r parc solar, gan ddiogelu preifatrwydd ein cymdogion a sicrhau diogelwch yr ased.
A fydd y parc solar yn achosi amhariad ar draffig?
Yn ystod y cam adeiladu, bydd Cynllun Rheoli Traffig yn cael ei roi ar waith gyda'r awdurdod cynllunio lleol i sicrhau nad fydd danfoniadau yn achosi amhariad yn lleol. Wedi i'r parc solar gael ei gwblhau, ychydig o waith cynnal a chadw fydd ei angen ärnó a chaiff ymweliadau cynnal a chadw eu amserlennu tua chwe gwaith y flwyddyn.
A yw parc solar yn swnllyd?
Pan fydd ar waith, bydd ychydig o sŵn yn cael ei greu gan y gwynt yllau o fewn y gwrthdroyddion, er mwyn oeri'r cyfarpar. Hymian tawel fydd y sŵn hwn, tebyg i frwsh dannedd trydanol. Byddwn yn lleoli unrhyw wrthdroyddion i ynnhell oi cyhoedd ac o fewn y safle bydd y sŵn yn tawelu i fod yn is nâr lefel sŵn gwledig cefndirol amgylchynol ac mae hyn yn golygu ei fod fel arfer yn anghlywadwy.
Beth sy'n digwydd i'r paneli ar ddiwedd eu hoes?
Bydd y tir yn cael ei ddychwelyd i'w gyflwr gwreiddiol a bydd pob panel/deunyddiau a gwastraff trydanol ac na ellir eu defnyddio ar ddiben arall yn rhywle arall yn cael eu gwaredu'n gyfrifol. Byddem yn sicrhau bod paneli'n cael eu hailgylchu drwy gyfrwng ailgylchu achrededig, megis y rhwydwaith PVCYCLE.

National Trust and renewable energy

Tackling Climate Change & Protecting Nature

Climate change is the biggest threat to the National Trust and the places we care for. We're working on solutions that cut emissions, protect nature and benefit people, heritage and wildlife.

We're committed to reaching net zero emissions by 2030. This includes carbon sequestration—capturing and storing CO_2 through tree planting, healthy soils and restored wetlands.

Our goal is to:

- Restore 25,000 hectares of land for nature
- Plant 20 million trees to help absorb carbon and boost biodiversity
- Help our sites and buildings adapt to a changing climate

We're also decarbonising our buildings by:

- Replacing fossil fuel heating systems
- Installing solar panels, heat pumps and hydropower systems



Hafod y Llan hydro intake, Eryri National Park



PV in Cae Maes y Fran, Plas Newydd



Visitor centre with solar panels on the roof at Sizergh Castle, Cumbria

We reached our 2020 target of 50% renewable energy, thanks to over 130 green energy projects. Now, we're aiming even higher.

Our renewable energy projects also support wildlife-friendly habitats, including:

- Pollinator-friendly grasses and wildflowers
- Healthier ecosystems for birds, mammals & insects

Many of our renewable schemes support farming, too—like grazing sheep beneath solar panels, keeping the land productive and natural.
Energy savings and income from renewables help fund conservation work across our properties and landscapes—protecting special places for future generations.

Yr Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol ac ynni adnewyddadwy

Mynd i'r afael â Newid yn yr Hinsawdd a Gwarchod Byd Natur

Newid yn yr hinsawdd yw'r bygythiad mwyaf i'r Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol a'r lleoedd sydd dan ein gofal. Rydym yn gweithio ar ddatrysiadau sy'n lleihau allyriadau, gwarchod natur ac er budd pobl, treftadaeth a bywyd gwyllt.

Rydym wedi ymrwymo i gyrraedd allyriadau sero net erbyn 2030. Mae hyn yn cynnwys atafaelu carbon - dal a storio CO_2 drwy blannu coed, priddoedd iach a gwlypdiroedd wedi eu hadfer.

Ein nod yw:

- Adfer 25,000 hectar o dir ar gyfer byd natur
- Plannu 20 miliwn o goed er mwyn helpu i amsugno carbon a hybu bioamrywiaeth
- Helpu ein safleoedd a'n hadeiladau i addasu i hinsawdd sy'n newid

Rydym hefyd yn datgarboneiddio ein hadeiladau drwy:

- Disodli systemau gwresogi sy'n defnyddio tanwyddau ffosil
- Gosod paneli solar, pympiau gwres a systemau ynni dŵrmê



Mewnlif dŵr Hafod y Llan, Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri



PV yng Nghae Maes y Fran, Plas Newydd



Canolfan ymwelwyr gyda phaneli solar ar y to yng Nghastell Sizergh, Cymbria

Rydym wedi cyrraedd ein targed 2020 o 50% o ynni adnewyddadwy, o ganlyniad i dros 130 o brosiectau ynni gwyrdd. Bellach, rydym yn anelu'n uwch fyth.

Mae ein prosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy yn cefnogi bywyd gwyllt hefyd - cynefinoedd ystyriol, gan gynnwys:

- Blodau gwyllt a glaswelltiroedd sy'n ystyriol o beillwyr
- Ecosystemau iachach i adar, mamaliaid a phryfed

Mae llawer o'n cynlluniau adnewyddadwy yn cefnogi ffermwyr hefyd - fel defaid yn pori islaw paneli solar, gan gadw'r tir yn gynhyrchiol ac yn naturiol.
Mae arbediadau ynni ac incwm o ynni adnewyddadwy yn helpu i gyllido gwaith cadwraeth ar draws ein heiddo a'n tirweddau - gan ddiogelu lleoedd arbennig ar gyfer cenedlaethau'r dyfodol.

Consents and planning

When undertaking a development project, there are several surveys and consents required to ensure the project complies with environmental, historical and legal standards. Below are the typical surveys and consents we undertake:

Biodiversity
Ensuring the land has more wildlife value after the project than it did before.

Wildlife Surveys
Carrying out wildlife surveys, throughout the year to understand the current wildlife activity.

Ecology and Arboriculture
Ecology surveys – ensuring there are no protected species or important habitats we could impact.
Arboriculture – ensuring we protect adjacent trees and hedgerows.

Landscape and Visual Setting
Ensuring our development isn't intrusive or visually impactful.

Historical Setting
Review maps and reports for previous historical land uses.

Archaeology
Ensuring we don't impact any local archaeological sites of interest through a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA).
Carrying out below ground surveys, such as LIDAR and geophysical.

Flood Risk
Flood risk assessments – ensuring there are no current or future risks from flooding.

Grid Availability
Grid Connection – ensuring we can export our energy to the National Grid network.

Caniatâd a chynllunio

Wrth ymgymryd â phrosiect datblygu, mae angen llawer o arolygon a chaniatâd i sicrhau bod y prosiect yn cydymffurfio â safonau amgylcheddol, hanesyddol a chyfreithiol.
Isod manylir ar yr arolygon a'r caniatâd yr ydym fel arfer yn eu cynnal:

Bioamrywiaeth
Sicrhau bod gwerth bywyd gwyllt y tir ar ôl y prosiect yn fwy na'r gwerth cyn y prosiect.

Arolygon Bywyd Gwyllt
Cynnal arolygon bywyd gwyllt, drwy gydol y flwyddyn i ddeall y gweithgarwch bywyd gwyllt presennol.

Ecoleg a Choedyddiaeth
Arolygon ecolegol – sicrhau nad oes unrhyw rywogaethau a warchodir na chynefinoedd pwysig a allem effeithio arnynt.
Coedyddiaeth – sicrhau ein bod yn diogelu coed a gwrychoedd cyfagos.

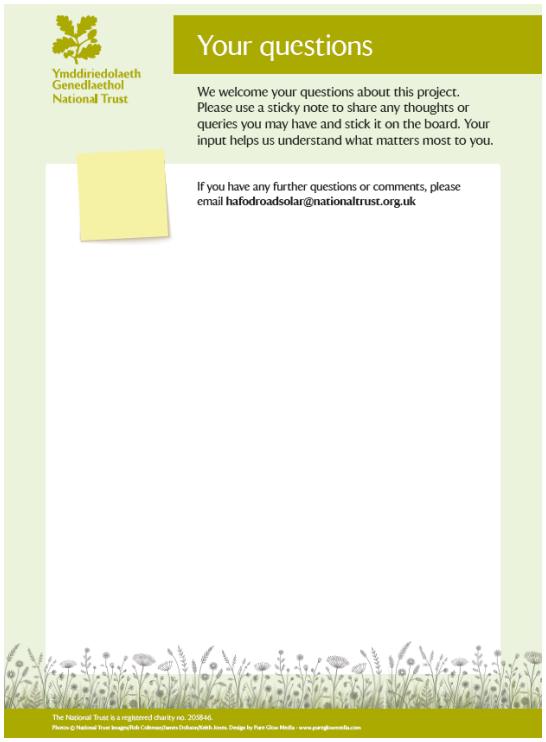
Lleoliad o rân Gwelededd a Thirwedd
Sicrhau nad yw ein datblygiad yn ymwthiol nac yn cael effaith weledol.

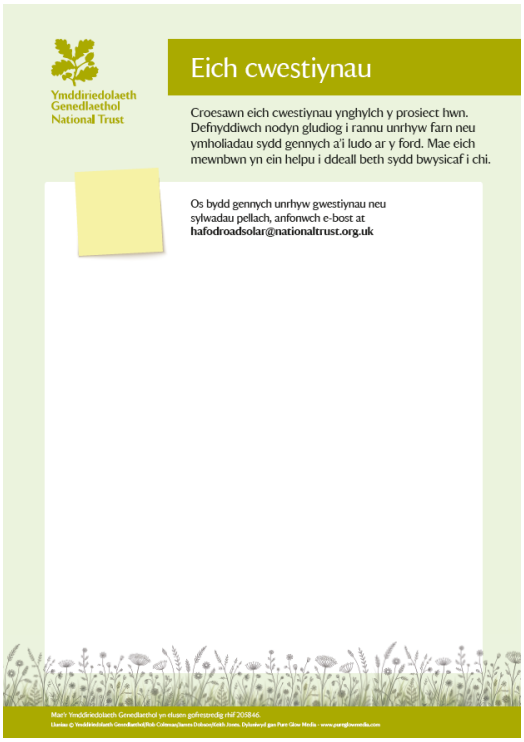
Archaeoleg
Sicrhau nad ydym yn effeithio ar unrhyw safleoedd o ddiddordeb archaeolegol drwy Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Dreftadaeth (HIA).
Cynnal arolygon dan ddaear, megis LIDAR a geoffisegol.

Sefyllfa Hanesyddol
Adolygu mapiau ac adroddiadau ar gyfer defnyddiau tir hanesyddol blaenorol.

Perygl Llifogydd
Asesiadau perygl llifogydd – sicrhau nad oes risgiau llifogydd ar hyn o bryd nac yn y dyfodol.

Argaeledd Grid
Cysylltiad Grid – sicrhau y gallwn allforio ein hynni i rwydwaith y Grid Cenedlaethol.


Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol National Trust
Your questions
We welcome your questions about this project. Please use a sticky note to share any thoughts or queries you may have and stick it on the board. Your input helps us understand what matters most to you.
If you have any further questions or comments, please email hafodroadsolar@nationaltrust.org.uk
The National Trust is a registered charity no. 203846.


Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol National Trust
Eich cwestiynau
Croesawn eich cwestiynau ynghylch y prosiect hwn. Defnyddiwch nodyn gludiog i rannu unrhyw farn neu ymholiadau sydd gennych a'i ludo ar y ford. Mae eich mewnbwn yn ein helpu i ddeall beth sydd bwysicaf i chi.
Os bydd gennych unrhyw gwestiynau neu sylwadau pellach, anfonwch e-bost at hafodroadsolar@nationaltrust.org.uk

Appendix 7 – photomontages

Project:	Hafod Solar Farm	Viewpoint	Easting	Northing	Altitude (m)	Distance to proposed development (km)	Horizontal field of view°	40	Height of camera (m)	1.6
Location:	Hafod Road near junction with B5426	VP01	331205	345763	101	0.080	Recommended viewing distance (mm):	500	Date of photograph taken	19/02/24
VP01 – View Northeast						Proposed View				



Project:	Hafod Solar Farm	Viewpoint	Easting	Northing	Altitude (m)	Distance to proposed development (km)	Horizontal field of view°	40	Height of camera (m)	1.6
Location:	Footpath northeast of site near A483	VP02	331393	346105	100	0.145	Recommended viewing distance (mm):	500	Date of photograph taken	19/02/24
VP02 – View South						Proposed View				

