

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO CHELMSFORD POLICY BOARD
4 March 2021

Item 6 – Solar Farm Development Supplementary Planning Document

The following changes should be made to the Draft SPD in Appendix 1 on page 12, paragraph 7.36:

Cumulative Impacts

- 7.36 ~~Where two or more solar farm developments are proposed within 500m to each other the CCC expects~~ applicants ~~to will need to~~ assess the cumulative impacts and opportunities as part of their proposal. Cumulative impacts with any other existing or approved developments should also be considered. ~~The applicant should engage with CCC to scope the potential cumulative impacts at pre-application stage.~~ Where development is proposed on high quality agricultural land, consideration should be given to the cumulative impact of the proposal and other permitted solar farms development on the availability of local high quality agricultural land. Cumulative impacts will also be considered as part of any EIA screening to the application.

Reason for the Change:

The 500 metre threshold could be prohibitive as it would not account for the City Council to consider proposals on their merits in view of the site and wider context, character, appearance, topography of the area etc. A more generic approach is proposed, requiring the developer to approach the City Council to confirm the potential cumulative impacts of the proposal and to discuss the necessary work required.