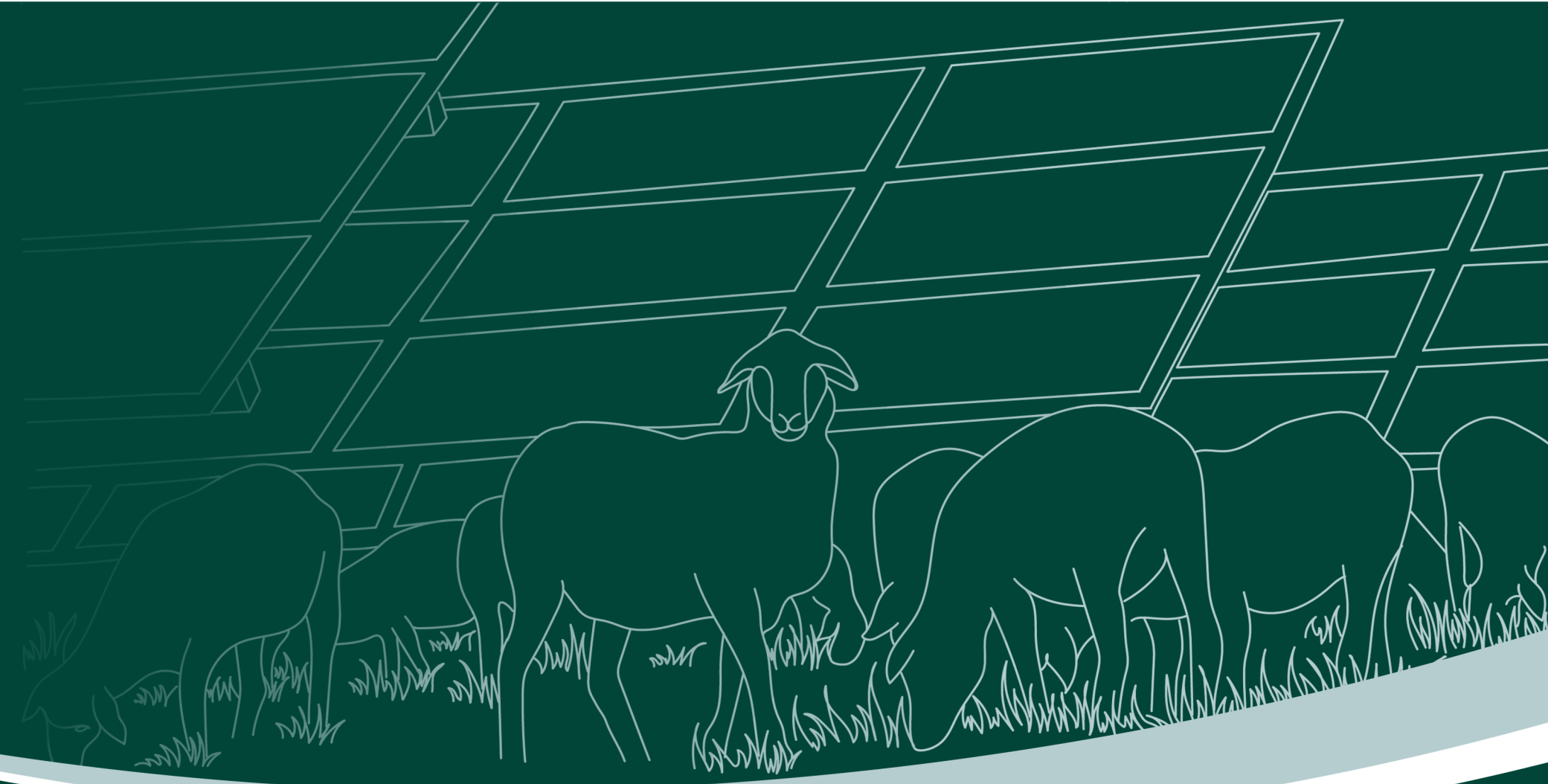


# Ecology and Noise



## Ecology

The proposed solar farm does not lie within or adjacent to any statutory environmental designated sites. The nearest designated sites are Craig-Yr-Hesg Local Nature Reserve (woodland), located c 1.46km to the northwest and Nant Gelliwion Woodland SSSI, located c 2.86km to the west.

The majority of the site comprises pastoral farmland (heavily grazed improved grassland) of generally low ecological value, with a number of grazed and un-grazed poor semi improved grassland areas present towards the north and east of the Site.

Various surveys have been undertaken to date including an extended phase 1 habitat survey, Breeding Birds and Great Crested Newts (GCN). Other species considered to date include bats, badger (no records within 2km), otter (no suitable habitat on site), water vole (no signs observed on site) amphibians and reptiles. No significant impacts are anticipated for any species or habitats.

Habitat enhancement measures will be produced and will be implemented during the construction and operation all phases of the Proposed Development. This will involve the creation of new habitats offering food and shelter to wildlife, including priority species and breeding birds. It is anticipated that the Proposed Development will result in a net gain for biodiversity.

## Noise

Solar panels themselves do not generate noise. The main noise source associated with a solar farm will be the inverter stations, these are sited internally within the layout to achieve the maximum possible separation distance from Noise Sensitive Receptors (NSRs) and as such there will be no significant noise impacts.

A Noise Impact Assessment (NIA) will be produced and submitted with the planning application to confirm there will be no exceedance of acceptable noise limits.