



Further to your information request FOI/EIR 25/26-127, please find your question and our response below.

Request:

I would like to request information regarding your current and planned usage of solar energy across your estate. Please could you provide responses to the following questions:

1. Governance & Responsibility

- Do you have a dedicated person or team responsible for solar energy investment and/or sustainability energy initiatives within your organisation?
- If so, please provide their role/title (personal names are not required).

2. Current Solar Deployment

- How many solar panel installations (PV systems) do you currently operate across your estate?
- What is the total installed capacity of these systems (in kWp)?
- What proportion of your organisation's energy usage is currently provided by solar generation?

3. Investment & Strategy

- Does your organisation have a documented investment strategy for expanding the use of solar panels or increasing on-site renewable energy generation?
- If so, please provide a copy of or link to the relevant strategy or plan (or summarise key points if not published).

4. Solar and Net Zero Commitments

- Does solar energy form part of your organisation's Net Zero / Carbon Reduction Strategy?
- If yes, how is progress against this strategy communicated to the public (e.g. via website, reports, dashboards, etc.)?

5. Future Plans

- Are there any planned solar panel projects or expansions within the next 3 years? If yes, please provide high-level details (e.g. number of sites, scale of deployment, approximate timescales).
- Have you conducted any feasibility studies on increasing solar capacity in the past 3 years? If so, can these be shared?

6. Procurement & Partnerships

- Does your organisation currently use any third-party companies or frameworks to deliver solar energy solutions or manage installations? If yes, which ones?
- Are there any upcoming procurement exercises planned relating to solar energy or wider renewable energy solutions?

7. Battery Storage

- Do you currently use battery storage alongside your solar panels?
- Are there plans to invest in battery storage in future?

8.Funding

- Has your organisation accessed or applied for any external funding to support solar energy projects (e.g. SALIX, Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, LEP funding)?

9.Barriers

- What are the main barriers your organisation faces to further adoption of solar energy (e.g. funding, planning restrictions, roof suitability, internal resource)?

Response:

1.
 - No
 - n/a
2.
 - Two, including leased out buildings. The rest of this FOI is based on one building which remains part of our estate and is not leased out.
 - 38.4kwp
 - Unknown precisely, but c1%
3.
 - No
 - n/a
4.
 - No
 - n/a
5.
 - No
 - No
6.
 - No
 - No
7.
 - No
 - No
8.
 - Yes - Swimming Pool Support Fund - Phase II – by Sport England. This was for the building owned by the council but leased to a leisure operator.
9.
 - This question seeks an opinion, and therefore out of scope of FOI.

This concludes your request FOI/EIR 25/26-127.

If information has been refused, please treat this as a Refusal Notice for the purposes of the Act.

If you disagree with our decision or are otherwise unhappy with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you may approach foi@eastcambs.gov.uk and request a review. A request for review must be made in no more than 40 working days from the date of this email.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under s50 of the Freedom of Information Act to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.