



**POWER
FOR GOOD**

Chapter 10: Socioeconomics

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 1

Steeple Renewables Project

Land at Sturton le Steeple, Nottinghamshire

10. Socioeconomics

10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 This chapter determines the baseline socio-economic conditions and considers the likely socioeconomic effects of the Proposed Development.

10.1.2 This assessment is made by examining the potential effects on the population arising from the Proposed Development and assessing the impact this could have on relevant social and economic receptors. It identifies the socio-economic baseline in relation to key economic and social variables. It then examines the potential direct and indirect effects that could result from the Proposed Development during construction (short term effects), operation (long term effects), and decommissioning (short term effects).

10.1.3 Details of the lead author of this Chapter are set out in **Appendix 1.4 'EIA Statement of Competence'**.

10.2 Legislation and Planning Policy

National Policy Statements

Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)

10.2.1 The Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1)¹, latest revision dated November 2023, which came into force 17 January 2024, includes a section dedicated to 'Socio-Economic Impacts' (Section 5.13). It notes that, where a project is likely to have socio-economic impacts at local or regional levels, an assessment of such impacts should be undertaken as part of the application.

10.2.2 The existing socio-economic conditions in the areas surrounding the Proposed Development should be described as well as how the Proposed Development's socio-economic impacts correlate with relevant local planning policies.

10.2.3 The range of relevant potential socio-economic impacts referred to in EN-1 includes:

- Creation of jobs and training opportunities.

¹ Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, November 2023, Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1).

- Contribution to the development of low-carbon industries.
- Provision of additional local services and improvements to local infrastructure.
- Indirect beneficial impacts, in particular use of local support services and supply chains.
- Effects on tourism and users of the area.
- Impact of a changing influx of workers during the different work phases.
- Cumulative effects.

10.2.4 In making their decision, EN-1 notes that the Secretary of State (SoS) should expect to see evidence-based socio-economic assessment (paragraph 5.13.2).

10.2.5 EN-1 also indicates that the SoS should expect positive provisions to be made in terms of enhancements or otherwise to serve as mitigation for any potential negative effects, and legacy benefits to be highlighted where possible (paragraph 5.13.11).

10.2.6 EN-1 suggests the requirement for an employment and skills plan (paragraph 5.13.12), which would specify approval by the local authority, detailing arrangements to promote local employment and skills development opportunities, including apprenticeships, education, engagement with local schools and colleges and training programmes to be enacted.

10.2.7 Additionally, EN-1 suggests that applicants consider developing an accommodation strategy, where appropriate, especially relevant to the construction and decommissioning phases of a scheme (paragraph 5.13.7).

National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy (EN-3)

10.2.8 Socio-economic impacts were referenced only in respect of onshore wind and biomass power in the National Policy Statement (NPS) for Renewable Energy (EN-3) published in July 2011. An update to the EN-3 was published in September 2021 a further revision was published in March 2023 for consultation, with the latest revision having come into force on 17 January 2024. In this latest revision (November 2023)², consideration of solar and potential for associated socio-

² Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, November 2023; National Policy Statement for Renewable Energy Infrastructure (EN-3).

economic effects is referenced in respect of the potential for socio-economic benefits of the site infrastructure being retained after the operational life of solar photovoltaic generation (paragraph 2.10.69).

Bassetlaw Local Plan

- 10.2.9 The Bassetlaw Local Plan³ was adopted in May 2024. The Plan sets out a vision for Bassetlaw that in 2038 the district will be a prosperous place known for providing residents with a high quality of life within a low carbon environment. Green energy is set to be a key regional growth sector and businesses within the sector will be supported in capitalising on the District's locational advantage. A secure, reliable, affordable net zero and low carbon energy mix is expected to help reduce locally produced greenhouse gas emissions. Significant new renewable energy infrastructure will make meaningful contributions across the District, in part through maximising opportunities for net zero energy generation at the former power station sites, whilst the increasing provision of localised renewable and low carbon technologies will better enable residents and businesses to transition to a net zero carbon district by 2050.
- 10.2.10 Policy ST49 of the Local Plan relates to renewable energy generation and states that development that generates, shares, transmits and/or stores zero carbon and/or low carbon renewable energy will be supported subject to the satisfactory resolution of all relevant site specific and cumulative impacts.

The Nottinghamshire Plan 2021-2031

- 10.2.11 The Nottinghamshire Plan⁴ sets out the vision for the county up to 2031, which is 'a healthy, prosperous and greener future for everyone'. The four areas of focus over the ten-year period are: improving health and wellbeing in all communities, growing the economy and improving living standards, reducing the county's impact on the environment, and helping everyone access the best of Nottinghamshire.
- 10.2.12 The Plan goes on to set out ambitions for the area including ambition 7, '*attracting investment in infrastructure, the economy and green growth*'. This ambition states that the Council will "***drive the development of green technologies***". Ambition 9 relates to '*protecting the environment and reducing*

³ Bassetlaw District Council, May 2024; Bassetlaw Local Plan.

⁴ Nottinghamshire County Council, 2021; The Nottinghamshire Plan

carbon footprint'. Renewable energy projects will play a significant role in reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

2024 Nottinghamshire County Council Net Zero Framework

- 10.2.13 The 2024 Nottinghamshire County Council Net Zero Framework⁵ complements the Nottinghamshire Plan vision and will contribute to fulfilling the vision of a healthy, prosperous and green future. According to the framework, in order to achieve net zero Nottinghamshire County Council will be focusing on a number of areas including infrastructure and energy and investments are required in varied infrastructures to address energy security, support sustainable practices and boost resilience. The Framework will therefore help Nottinghamshire to move away from reliance on non-renewable, high-carbon-emitting fuel sources.

Energy Strategy 2019-2030

- 10.2.14 The Energy Strategy 2019-2030⁶ published by D2N2 sets out a strategy for a '*clean industrial revolution*' and by 2030 the aim is for D2N to be a national pioneer in clean growth and a test-bed for world class energy systems innovation.
- 10.2.15 The strategy sets out ten targets for 2030, including target 5 of '*100% low carbon energy supply with 60% renewable generation output and increase of 180MW in electricity storage*'. To achieve the growth which D2N2 is targeting, the area requires a significant investment in regional infrastructure to generate and distribute secure and affordable energy to meet demand, failure to do so will harm growth.
- 10.2.16 There is a focus on the area capitalising on beneficial conditions for renewable projects within the County and D2N2 will look to secure consistent investments in local renewable projects over period to 2030 and create sustainable jobs.

10.3 Assessment Methodology

Study Area

- 10.3.1 This assessment establishes baseline socio-economic conditions within those areas likely to be affected by the Proposed Development. Study areas are defined based on an understanding of relevant local and wider economic geographies, and the extent to which socio-economic effects are likely to be contained within

⁵ Nottinghamshire County Council, 2024; 2024 Nottinghamshire County Council Net Zero Framework

⁶ D2N2, 2019; Energy Strategy 2019-2030.

these established statistical geographies. It is proposed to analyse data (where available) for the geographies set out in **Table 10.1**. A plan depicting the Primary Impact Zone is presented at **Figure 10.1**, and a plan depicting the Secondary Impact Zone is presented at **Figure 10.2**.

Table 10.1: Study area for the socio-economic assessment

Spatial scale	Title	Justification for inclusion
Primary Impact Zone	Bassetlaw District	The Site is located within the Bassetlaw district and most impacts are expected to be retained within the local authority.
Secondary Impact Zone	Bassetlaw District & Nottinghamshire County	The district of Bassetlaw sits within the county of Nottinghamshire and some impacts may affect this wider scale.
Comparator Areas		
Regional	East Midlands	Looking at the region enables analysis to compare the primary and secondary impact zones to the wider area in order to further understand the local context.
National	England	Looking at the national scale enables analysis to compare the primary and secondary impact zones to the rest of the country in order to further understand the local context.

10.3.2 Baseline socio-economic conditions are to be established using the most up-to-date available secondary data, establishing the extent to which key indicators have changed over time.

10.3.3 Baseline information will be sought from, but is not limited to, the following sources:

- Office for National Statistics (ONS) data.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.
- Information obtained from the Applicant.

- Information obtained from local government sources, confirmed through engagement Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council.

Assessment Criteria

10.3.4 The first step in the assessment is to identify the sensitivity of the receptors. In socio-economic assessments, receptors (for example, the labour market) are not sensitive to changing environmental conditions in the same way as many environmental receptors are. To address this, the assessment draws on a combination of measurable indicators and a consideration of the importance of the receptor in policy terms to gauge the receptor’s sensitivity. For example, the number of jobs in the area may increase as new developments are completed and occupied by businesses. This is considered alongside the weight attached to these issues in local policy. **Table 10.2** shows the sensitivity criteria followed in this assessment.

Table 10.2: Criteria for Sensitivity of Receptor

Sensitivity	Criteria
High	<p>Evidence of direct and significant socio-economic challenges relating to receptor. Accorded a high priority in local, regional or national economic regeneration policy.</p> <p>Evidence of direct and significant socio-economic challenges including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with levels of unemployment well in excess of regional / national averages, and/or trend of considerable job reduction identified. • Significantly high rise in population according to projections up to 2038. • Areas with high levels of deprivation, i.e. deprivation levels within 20% most deprived decile according to IMD 2019. • Areas with levels of gross value add (GVA⁷) that are lower than the regional and/or national averages overall. • Construction-related GVA lower than regional and/or national averages. • Areas with specific targets in respect of tourism revenue in local and/or regional economies, and afforded high priority in respect of policy / strategy. • Areas with low accommodation occupancy rates and high bedspace capacity.
Medium	

⁷ GVA is the value of goods and services produced less the cost of inputs and materials used in the production process.

Sensitivity	Criteria
	<p>Some evidence of socio-economic challenges linked to receptor, which may be indirect. Change relating to receptor has medium priority in local, regional and national economic and regeneration policy.</p> <p>Some evidence of socio-economic challenges, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with levels of unemployment above regional / national averages, and/or trend of job reduction/no job growth identified. • Average rise in population according to projections up to 2038. • Areas with moderate levels of relative deprivation, i.e. deprivation levels within 50% most deprived deciles according to IMD 2019. • Areas with levels of GVA that are similar to the regional and/or national averages overall. • Construction-related GVA that are similar to regional and/or national averages. • Areas with reference to tourism in respect of policy / strategy. • Areas with moderate levels of accommodation occupancy and some surplus bedspace capacity.
Low	<p>Little evidence of socio-economic challenges relating to receptor. Receptor is accorded a low priority in local, regional and national economic and regeneration policy.</p> <p>Little evidence of socio-economic challenges, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with levels of unemployment in line with regional / national averages, and/or trend of particular growth in job numbers identified. • Lower than average rise in population according to projections up to 2038. • Areas with low levels of relative deprivation, i.e. i.e. deprivation levels within 50% least deprived deciles according to IMD 2019). • Areas with levels of GVA that are in excess of the regional and/or national averages overall. • Construction-related GVA in excess of regional and/or national averages. • Areas with limited revenue drawn from tourism and / or limited policy / strategy in relation to tourism economy. • Areas with high levels of accommodation occupancy and limited levels of surplus bedspaces.
Negligible	<p>No socio-economic issues relating to receptor. Receptor is not considered a priority in local, regional and national economic development and regeneration policy.</p> <p>No socio-economic issues relating to a receptor, including:</p>

Sensitivity	Criteria
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with levels of unemployment less than regional / national averages. • Projected decrease / population projections estimated to remain same in period up to 2038. • Areas with low levels of relative deprivation, i.e. deprivation levels within 20% least deprived decile according to IMD 2019. • Areas with levels of GVA that are well in excess of the regional and/or national averages overall. • Construction-related GVA well in excess of regional and/or national averages. • No revenue associated with tourism and no reference to tourism in policy / strategy. • Areas with high levels of accommodation occupancy and low levels of surplus bedspaces.

10.3.5 The magnitude of change upon each receptor has been determined by considering the predicted deviation from baseline conditions, both before and, if required, after mitigation. The criteria used for the assessment of magnitude of change, which can be either positive (beneficial) or negative (adverse) are shown in **Table 10.3**.

Table 10.3: Criteria for Magnitude of Change

Magnitude	Criteria
High	<p>The Proposed Development would cause a large change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and/or percentage change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of employment. • Greater than 5% increase / decrease in GVA generated. • Considerable increase in local employment and training opportunities. • Considerable increase in business rates generated. • Considerable increase in accommodation demand.
Medium	<p>The Proposed Development would cause a moderate change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute or percentage change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of employment. • 1% - 5% increase / decrease in GVA generated. • Moderate increase in local employment and training opportunities. • Moderate increase in business rates generated. • Moderate increase in accommodation demand.

Magnitude	Criteria
Low	The Proposed Development would cause a minor change to existing socio-economic conditions in terms of absolute and or percentage change. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited increase / decrease on existing baseline levels of employment. 0.1% - 0.99% increase / decrease in GVA generated. Limited, but some increase in local employment and training opportunities. Limited increase in business rates generated. Limited increase in accommodation demand.
Negligible	No discernible change in baseline socio-economic conditions.

10.3.6 In reporting the effects of significance resulting from the Proposed Development, at construction, operational and decommissioning stages, the assessment contextualises both the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of change. The method uses the matrix shown in **Table 10.4**.

Table 10.4: Significance Matrix

Magnitude of Change	Sensitivity of Receptor			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
High	Major	Major	Moderate	Negligible
Medium	Major	Moderate	Minor to Moderate	Negligible
Low	Moderate	Minor to Moderate	Minor	Negligible
Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

Scoping

10.3.7 **Table 10.5** sets out a review of the scoping opinion of the Planning Inspectorate relating to socio-economics.

Table 10.5: Review of Scoping Opinion – Socio-Economics

Consultee	ID (if relevant)	Comments	Action taken
Planning Inspectorate	3.5.1	Ref 7.2.2: Recreational routes / Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) - An assessment of the impact on tourism and the use of recreational routes including PRoWs should be considered as part of the wider socio-economic aspect in the ES.	The baseline now includes information relating to the visitor economy in the study area, as well as local and regional policy regarding tourism. The assessment of potential effects in the scope of the socio-economic assessment focuses on the change in demand on accommodation provision, which is considered to be the primary and direct effect on tourism and visitor economy of the study area. Potential effects of use of PRoWs are addressed within Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact and Residential Amenity.
	3.5.2	Paragraph 11.4.8 Table 19.1: Consideration of potential effects on housing supply - The Applicant intends to accommodate any construction or decommissioning workers who reside from outside of the local area in Serviced and/or Non-Services Accommodation as opposed to residential dwellings (rental or otherwise). The Inspectorate agrees that this matter can be scoped out from the assessment provided that the availability of local accommodation and services will not be impacted, and there is evidence that this approach has been agreed with the relevant consultation bodies. The estimated number of potential workers for the construction and decommissioning phases should be provided in the ES	The agreement in respect of potential effects on residential housing availability being scoped out of the socio-economic assessment is noted. It is the Applicant’s continued intention to scope the assessment of the potential effect on accommodation demand in terms of serviced and non-serviced accommodation as it is considered to be intrinsically linked to tourism. The estimated number of potential workers associated with the construction and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development are presented in this draft of the PEIR Chapter.
	3.5.3	Section 11.3: Employment – all phases - The Inspectorate advises that estimates should be provided in the ES of the number and types of jobs created and they should be	The estimated number of potential workers associated with the construction, operational, and decommissioning phases of the Proposed Development are presented in this draft of the ES Chapter, including types of jobs, where available.

Consultee	ID (if relevant)	Comments	Action taken
		considered in the context of the available workforce in the area during each phase of the Proposed Development.	

10.4 Assessment Assumptions and Limitations

- 10.4.1 Baseline information is derived from the latest available statistics, however there is often a time-lag associated with the publication of this data.
- 10.4.2 Jobs generated by the construction and decommissioning period have been estimated based on Pegasus Group's previous experience of similar scale solar energy projects, as well as benchmarking of similar scale projects for which applications have been made and information is in the public domain.
- 10.4.3 The Applicant is intending to accommodate any construction or decommissioning workers who are from outside of the local area in Serviced and/or Non-Services Accommodation as opposed to residential dwellings (rental or otherwise). As such, consideration of potential effects on housing supply, be it affordable or otherwise, is scoped out of the assessment.
- 10.4.4 The baseline and associated assessment relating to Accommodation Demand has included existing Serviced and Non-Serviced Accommodation bedspaces only, i.e. only those bedspaces which are included in latest published data. It is acknowledged that new Serviced and/or Non-Serviced Accommodation is likely to be available by the time the Proposed Development and Cumulative Schemes are in construction. It is considered that excluding this information from the baseline and assessment at this time provides as a reasonable worst-case assumption for the basis of the assessment.
- 10.4.5 When assessing the accommodation impacts likely to be generated by the Proposed Development, data for Nottinghamshire County, which does not include the City of Nottingham, has been used. This has been the approach to ensure a worst-case scenario as it assesses accommodation in Nottinghamshire and assumes all workers would be accommodated within Nottinghamshire, and no workers would be accommodated in Nottingham City. In reality, it is possible that some workers may be accommodated within Nottingham City where there are a wide range of accommodation facilities.

10.5 Stakeholder Engagement

- 10.5.1 The approach to this PEIR chapter has been established in consultation with Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council. This has

included baseline information and the benefits of preparing an Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan (OSCESP) for submission with the final application.

10.6 Baseline Conditions

Population

10.6.1 Data from the ONS 2023 mid-year population estimates show that as of 2023 the population of Bassetlaw is around 122,286. This is an increase of 7.7% (8,709) since 2013. This population growth is above the growth seen in Nottinghamshire County (6.2%) and England (7.0%), but below the growth seen in the East Midlands (8.4%) over the same timeframe. **Figure 10.1** shows this change in more detail.

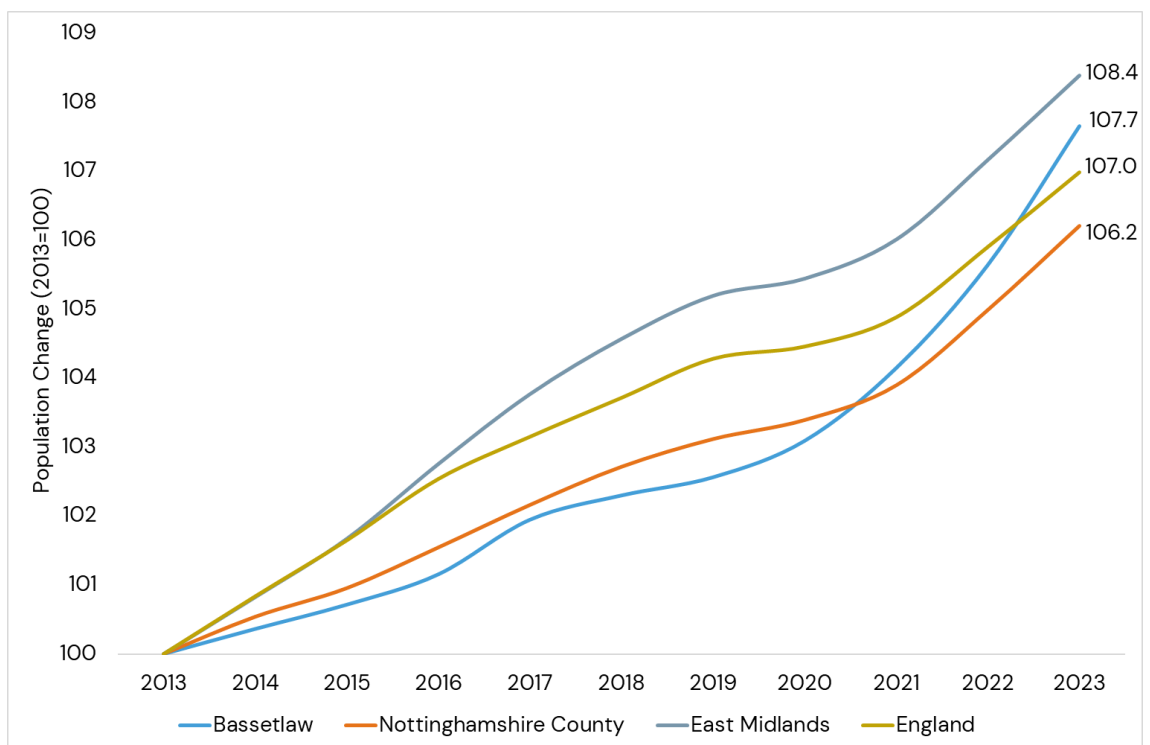


Figure 10.1: Population Change, 2013-23

Source: ONS, Mid-year population estimates

10.6.2 **Table 10.6** and **Table 10.7** show the population change by age in Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire County between 2013 and 2023. Data on population change by age show that between 2013 and 2023 the fastest growing population group in

both Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire were those aged 65+ with the cohort increasing by 19.8% (4,499) and 17.7% (27,303) respectively. This compares to increases of 18.2% and 16.1% seen in the East Midlands and England in the same timeframe. Between 2013 and 2023, the number of people aged 0-15 in Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire increased at a slower rate of 7.8% and 5.4% respectively and the number of people aged 16-64 increase by just 3.7% and 2.9% respectively.

Table 10.6: Population change by age in Bassetlaw, 2013-23

Age	2013	2023	Absolute Change	% Change
0-15	19,933	21,496	1,563	7.8%
16-64	70,926	73,573	2,647	3.7%
65+	22,718	27,217	4,499	19.8%
Total	113,577	122,286	8,709	7.7%

Source: ONS, mid-year population estimates

Table 10.7: Population Change by Age in Nottinghamshire County, 2013-23

Age	2013	2023	Absolute Change	% Change
0-15	142,476	150,226	7,750	5.4%
16-64	498,552	512,874	14,322	2.9%
65+	154,091	181,394	27,303	17.7%
Total	795,119	844,494	49,375	6.2%

Source: ONS, mid-year population estimates

- 10.6.3 Based on the ONS 2018-based population projections, between 2018 and 2038, the population of Bassetlaw is projected to increase by 11.4% (13,336 – see **Table 10.8**) and the population of Nottinghamshire County is projected to increase by 12.3% (101,423 – see **Table 10.9**). This compares to projected increases of 12% in the East Midlands and 8.6% in England. Between 2018 and 2038, the fastest growing age group in both Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire are those aged 65+ with the cohort projected to increase by 43.9% (11,210) in Bassetlaw and 40.5% (68,970) in Nottinghamshire by 2038. In the same timeframe the number of people aged 0-15 in Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire are projected to increase by 4.3% and 2.8% respectively and the number of people aged 16-64 are projected to increase by 1.8% and 5.6% respectively.

Table 10.9: Population Projections in Bassetlaw, 2018-38

	2018	2038	Absolute Change	% Change
0-15	20,836	21,722	886	4.3%
16-64	70,491	71,732	1,241	1.8%
65+	25,512	36,722	11,210	43.9%
Total	116,839	130,175	13,336	11.4%

Source: ONS, 2018-based population projections

Table 10.10: Population projections in Nottinghamshire County, 2018-38

	2018	2038	Absolute Change	% Change
0-15	149,552	153,696	4,144	2.8%
16-64	503,344	531,659	28,315	5.6%
65+	170,230	239,200	68,970	40.5%
Total	823,126	924,549	101,423	12.3%

Source: ONS, 2018-based population projections

Employment

- 10.6.4 Data from the ONS Business Register and Employment Survey show that as of 2022, there were 52,000 jobs – including self-employment – in Bassetlaw and 334,000 jobs – including self-employment – in Nottinghamshire. Between 2015 and 2022, employment in Bassetlaw increased by 2% (see **Figure 10.2**) which equates to an increase of 1,000 additional jobs. This was below the employment growth seen in Nottinghamshire (10.2% - 31,000 additional jobs), the East Midlands (7.1% - 149,000 additional jobs) and Great Britain (7% - 2.1 million additional jobs).

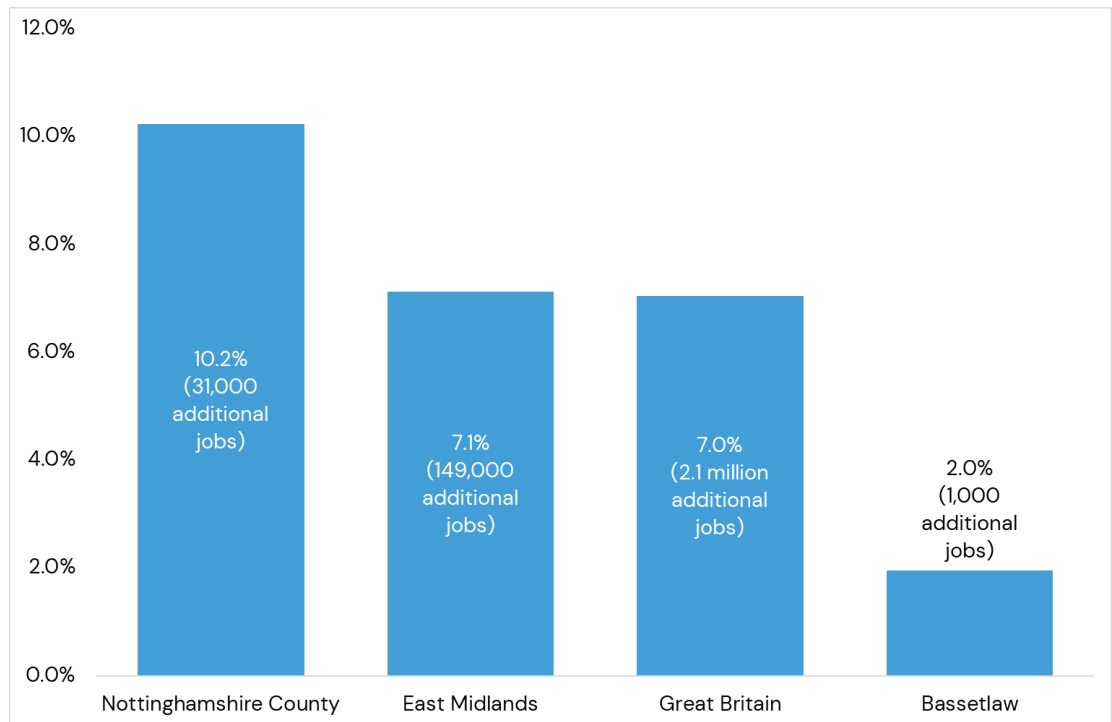


Figure 10.2: Employment Change, 2015-22

Source: ONS, Business Register & Employment Survey

10.6.5 **Table 10.10** shows employment by sector in Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire and regional and national comparator areas. As of 2022, the largest sector in terms of employment in Bassetlaw is public administration, education and health which accounted for 26% of total employment and supported 13,250 jobs. This was also the largest sector in Nottinghamshire supporting 88,000 jobs and accounting for 26.5% of total employment, the East Midlands (25.5%) and Great Britain (26%).

Table 10.10: Employment by Sector, 2022

Sector	Bassetlaw	Nottinghamshire County	East Midlands	Great Britain
Agriculture, mining, utilities etc.	3.4%	2.7%	3.2%	2.8%
Manufacturing	15.7%	11.1%	11.0%	7.4%
Construction	6.9%	7.8%	5.6%	5.0%
Wholesale & retail	16.2%	15.1%	15.4%	13.9%
Transport & storage	5.9%	6.3%	6.4%	5.0%
Accommodation & food services	6.9%	7.8%	7.5%	7.9%
Information & communication	2.0%	3.0%	2.7%	4.4%
Business, financial & professional services	14.3%	15.7%	18.9%	23.2%
Public admin, education & health	26.0%	26.5%	25.5%	26.0%
Arts, entertainment, recreation & other services	2.9%	3.9%	3.8%	4.4%

Source: ONS, Business Register & Employment Survey

Unemployment

- 10.6.6 The claimant count records the number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance plus those who claim Universal Credit and are required to seek work and be available for work.
- 10.6.7 **Figure 10.3** shows the claimant count as a proportion of people aged 16-64 in Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire, the East Midlands and Great Britain for the period July 2021 to July 2024, for all residents aged 16-64.
- 10.6.8 In July 2021, the claimant count in Bassetlaw was 4.1%, by July 2024 it had fallen to 3.7%. In July 2021, the claimant count in Nottinghamshire was 4.1% and by July 2024 it had fallen to 3.4%. The claimant count in Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire are currently below the rates seen in the East Midlands (3.9%) and Great Britain (4.4%).

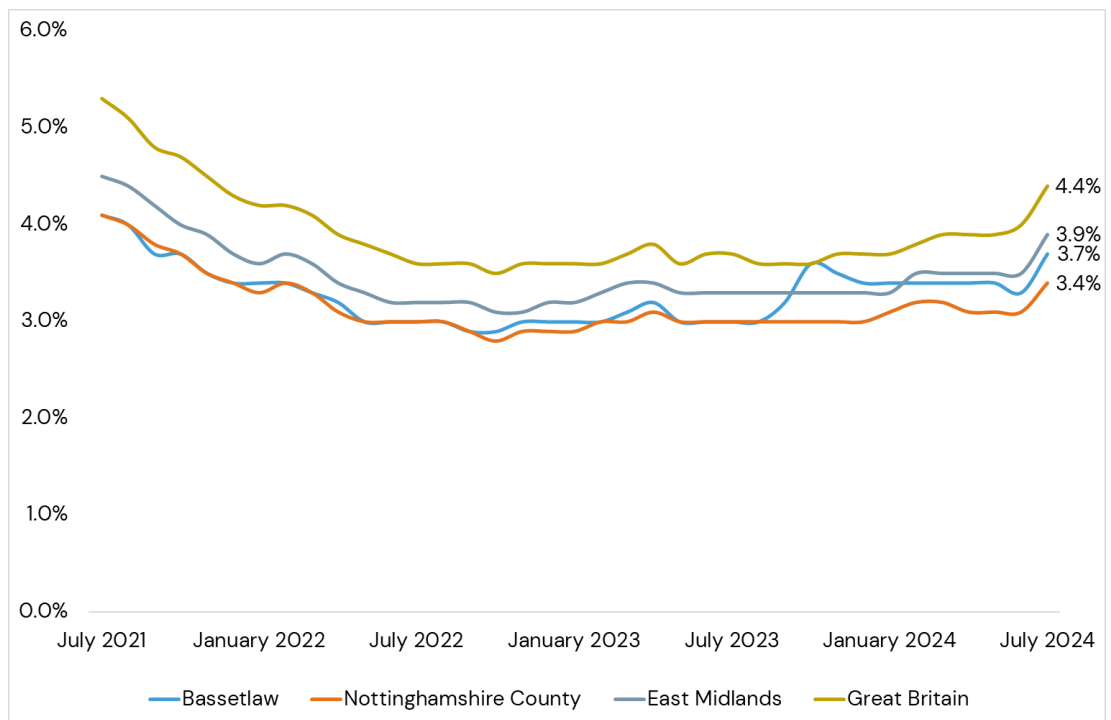


Figure 10.3: Claimant count (% of working age population), July 2021-July 2024

Source: ONS, Claimant count

Economic Activity

- 10.6.9 **Figure 10.4** shows the change in economic activity in Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire and regional and national comparators between 2013 and 2023. Over this timeframe, the economic activity rate in Bassetlaw has fluctuated

and is currently at 78.9%. This is above the current rate seen in Nottinghamshire (77.8%), the East Midlands (78.8%) and Great Britain (78.4%).

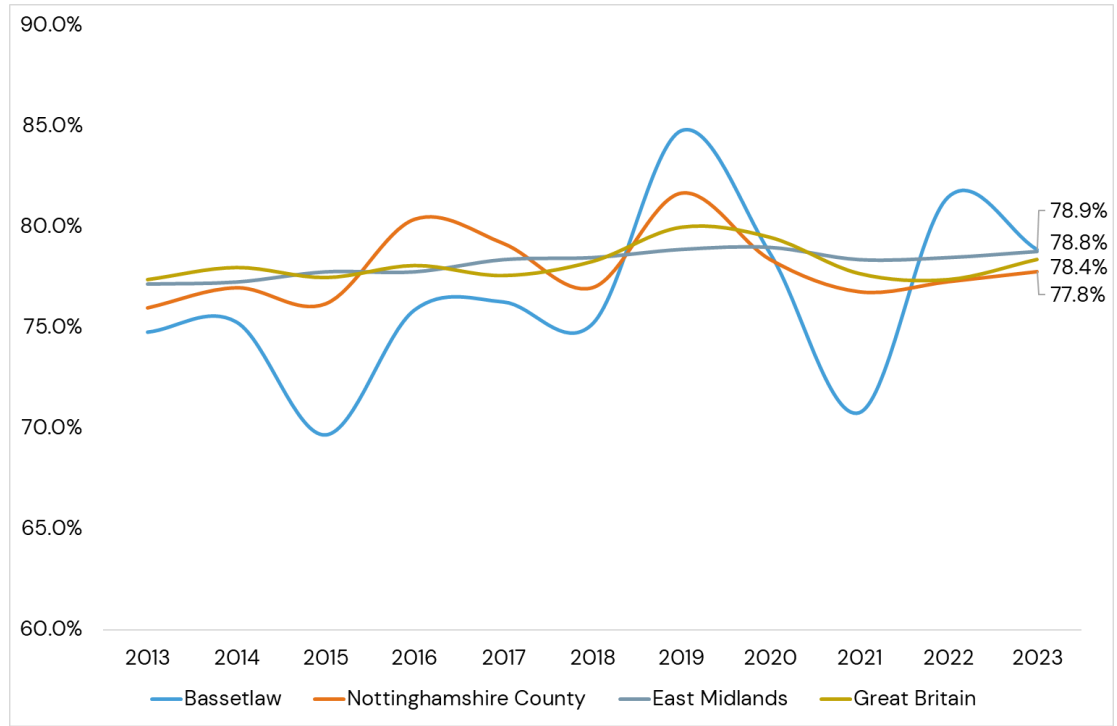


Figure 10.4: Economic Activity Rate of Working Age (16-64) Population, 2013-2023

Source: ONS, Annual Population Survey

Business Base

10.6.10 **Table 10.11** shows the change in business numbers in Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire, the East Midlands and Great Britain between 2013 and 2023. In this time the number of businesses in Bassetlaw increased by 21.3% (890 additional businesses). This was below the increase seen in Nottinghamshire (22.2% - 5,965 additional businesses) and the East Midlands (22% - 38,470 additional businesses), but was above the increase seen in Great Britain (21.2% - 539,010 additional businesses).

Table 10.11: Change in Business Numbers, 2013-23

Area	2013	2023	Absolute Change	% Change
Bassetlaw	4,170	5,060	890	21.3%
Nottinghamshire County	26,930	32,895	5,965	22.2%
East Midlands	175,020	213,490	38,470	22.0%
Great Britain	2,543,115	3,082,125	539,010	21.2%

Source: ONS, UK Business Count

Qualifications and Skills

10.6.11 **Figure 10.5** shows the highest qualification held by people aged 16+ living in Bassetlaw, Nottinghamshire, East Midlands and England. In Bassetlaw 25.5% of people aged 16+ have a degree level or higher qualification (Level 4+). This is below the proportion of people aged 16+ with a degree qualification or higher in Nottinghamshire (29.9%), East Midlands (29.1%) and England (33.9%). There is also a larger proportion of people aged 16+ in Bassetlaw that have no qualifications at 21.6%. This compares to 19.4% in Nottinghamshire, 19.5% in East Midlands and 18.1% in England.

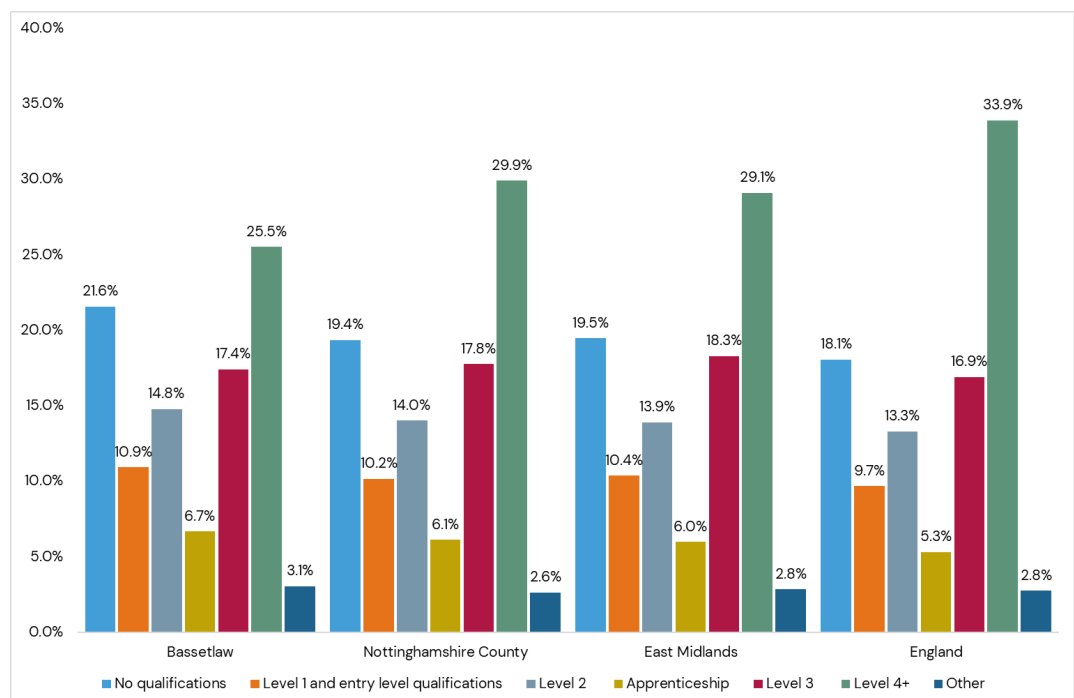


Figure 10.5: Skill Profile of Resident Population Aged 16+, 2021

Source: Census, 2021

Commuting

- 10.6.12 Based on data from the 2021 Census, there were 53,787 workers within Bassetlaw, with 40,690 people that lived and worked within Bassetlaw. There were a further 13,097 people that worked in Bassetlaw but lived elsewhere. The top origin destinations for commuters were Rotherham (1,885), Doncaster (1,878), Newark & Sherwood (1,661) and Bolsover (1,585). Based on these figures, around 75.7% of workers within Bassetlaw live within the District, 24.3% of Bassetlaw workers live outside of the District.
- 10.6.13 There were also 14,075 people that lived in Bassetlaw but travelled elsewhere for work, the top destinations commuters travelled to from Bassetlaw were Doncaster (3,091), Newark and Sherwood (1,839), Rotherham (1,650) and Sheffield (1,310). With 13,097 in-commuters and 14,075 out-commuters, Bassetlaw had a net outflow of 978 commuters.
- 10.6.14 Looking at data for the wider Nottinghamshire area, there were 356,937 workers within the county, with 297,608 people who work and live within Nottinghamshire. Therefore, 83.4% of people who work in Nottinghamshire also live within the county, whilst 16.6% of workers live outside of Nottinghamshire (59,239 people).

Economic Output

- 10.6.15 Economic output can be measured by looking at Gross Value Added (GVA), which for Bassetlaw, in 2021, totalled £2.5billion across all industries. Over the past 10 years this figure has increased by 40% in Bassetlaw, which is above the regional and national changes (38.8% and 37.3% respectively). **Figure 10.6** shows this data in more detail.

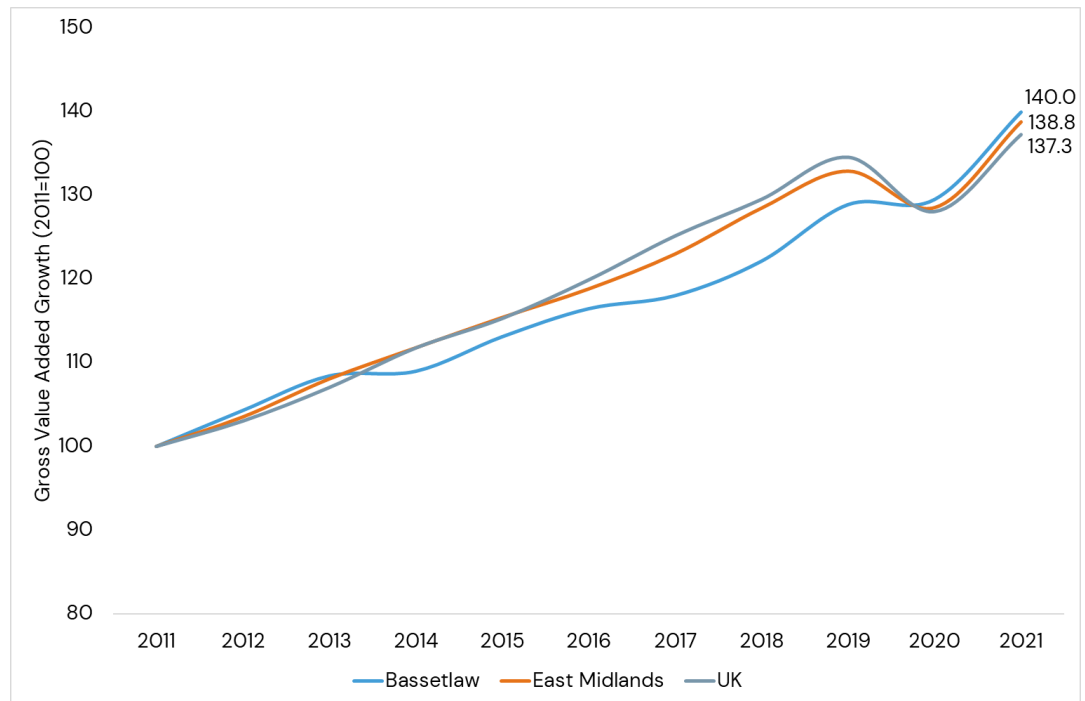


Figure 10.6: Gross Value Added, 2011-2021 (2011=100)

Source: ONS

- 10.6.16 Looking more specifically at GVA by sector in Bassetlaw, the construction sector contributed £181million in 2022, equating to 6.9% of total GVA. This represents a lower proportion than at the regional scale (7.4 %) but higher than the UK (6.2%).

Deprivation

- 10.6.17 Data on deprivation is available at a local authority level, with the ONS providing summaries for each local authority district within England. The latest data was published in 2019 and shows that of the 317 local authorities in England, Bassetlaw had a deprivation ranking of 108. The lower the number, the more deprived an area is (1 = most deprived, 317 = least deprived). **Table 10.12** presents the data for individual domains of deprivation, with the most deprived domain for Bassetlaw being the Health & Disability domain with a rank of 68.

Table 10.12: Domains of Deprivation, 2019

Domain	Ranking for Bassetlaw
Overall Rank	108
Income	123
Employment	72
Education, Skills & Training	84
Health & Disability Rank	68
Crime	129
Living Environment	224

Domain	Ranking for Bassetlaw
Barriers to Housing & Services	187
Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index	130
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index	155

Source: ONS, UK Business Count

Tourism and the Visitor Economy

- 10.6.18 Scarborough Tourism Economic Accommodation Model (STEAM) data, which is the industry standard for tourism data cross the UK, indicated that in 2019 36 million visitors brought over £1.9billion into the Nottinghamshire economy and over 23,000 jobs were supported.
- 10.6.19 The Nottinghamshire Visitor Economy Strategy⁸ sets out aims for the period 2019-2029. By 2029 the goal of Nottinghamshire County Council is to deliver a total for the 10-year strategy of 5 million additional visitors, 2,900 additional FTE jobs, £240million additional economic impact, and £80million additional GVA. From 2023 onwards the Council is aiming to deliver just under 4% annual growth.
- 10.6.20 The strategy has five key focuses which are: inspire new visitors, create new experiences, channel the County’s assets, make more of local food and drink experiences, and plan for growth in the sector.
- 10.6.21 Although the Nottinghamshire Visitor Economy Strategy sets out ambitious aims for the County area, the tourism sector in Bassetlaw is not a major source of employment. Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) data for Bassetlaw shows that tourism⁹ supports 9.8% of employment in Bassetlaw (5,000 jobs), This figure is below the proportion of employment supported by tourism across the wider Nottinghamshire area (11.7%) and is also below the regional (11.3%) and national (12.4%) figures.
- 10.6.22 Accommodation Provision Information provided by Nottinghamshire County Council, which is based on STEAM data for 2023, enables analysis of bedspaces in both Bassetlaw and wider Nottinghamshire county¹⁰.
- 10.6.23 Looking at Bassetlaw for 2023, there were around 1,268 serviced bedspaces for every month. The data includes occupancy rates for Bassetlaw. These rates range

⁸ The Visitor Economy Strategy, 2019-2029, Nottinghamshire County Council.

⁹Accommodation & Food Services, and Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Other Services have been used as a proxy for the tourism industry.

¹⁰ Nottinghamshire County data excluding Nottingham City data, which aligns with wider baseline data.

from 31% in January to 65% in August. This results in a range of bedspaces occupied between 387 and 824 for serviced accommodation in Bassetlaw.

- 10.6.24 The number of non-serviced bedspaces in Bassetlaw vary from month-to-month, with a range of 2,402 bedspaces available in January and 2,764 in September. The occupancy rates range from 8% in January to 68% in August, resulting in 201 non-serviced bedspaces being occupied in January and 1,874 non-serviced bedspaces being occupied in August. **Table 10.13** sets out the data for serviced and non-serviced accommodation in Bassetlaw in more detail.
- 10.6.25 In Nottinghamshire, there were between 5,138 and 5,142 serviced bedspaces across 2023. There are no occupancy rates provided for Nottinghamshire as a whole therefore national rates¹¹ have been used to assess occupancy. These national occupancy rates range from 65% in January to 84% in July, resulting in 3,340 bedspaces being occupied in January in Nottinghamshire and 4,319 bedspaces being occupied in July.
- 10.6.26 The number of non-serviced bedspaces in Nottinghamshire ranges from 11,190 in January to 13,836 in September. Using the same national occupancy rates as above results in 7,273 bedspaces being occupied in January and 11,601 being occupied in July. **Table 10.14** sets out the data for serviced and non-serviced accommodation in Nottinghamshire in more detail.

¹¹ England Occupancy Survey, December 2023 Results; VisitEngland

Table 10.13: Applied Occupancy Rates of Paid Accommodation in Bassetlaw, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Serviced Accommodation bedspaces	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268	1,268
Room occupancy rate Bassetlaw	0.31	0.40	0.51	0.40	0.53	0.51	0.49	0.65	0.61	0.53	0.50	0.54
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	387	512	652	508	676	644	619	824	772	675	628	683
Non-Serviced Accommodation bedspaces	2,402	2,401	2,616	2,739	2,754	2,746	2,760	2,758	2,764	2,760	2,440	2,434
Occupancy rate Bassetlaw	0.08	0.10	0.13	0.25	0.60	0.53	0.47	0.68	0.65	0.17	0.17	0.11
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	201	242	329	677	1665	1449	1284	1874	1797	460	419	277

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

Table 10.14: Applied Occupancy Rates of Paid Accommodation in Nottinghamshire, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Serviced Accommodation bedspaces	5,138	5,139	5,138	5,142	5,142	5,142	5,142	5,142	5,142	5,142	5,142	5,139
Room occupancy rate UK	0.65	0.73	0.75	0.77	0.78	0.83	0.84	0.80	0.83	0.80	0.78	0.73
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	3,340	3,751	3,854	3,959	4,011	4,268	4,319	4,114	4,268	4,114	4,011	3,751
Non-Serviced Accommodation bedspaces	11,190	11,233	12,237	13,397	13,481	13,435	13,811	13,801	13,836	13,512	11,441	11,350
Occupancy rate UK	0.65	0.73	0.75	0.77	0.78	0.83	0.84	0.80	0.83	0.80	0.78	0.73
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	7,273	8,200	9,178	10,316	10,515	11,151	11,601	11,041	11,484	10,809	8,924	8,285

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

10.7 Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

Construction

Employment

- 10.7.1 Economic benefits will arise through the provision of temporary jobs during the construction phase of the Proposed Development.
- 10.7.2 The Proposed Development is likely to create opportunities for local businesses through the supply chain, during the construction process. It is estimated that there will be an average of 187 on-site jobs¹² supported during the construction period, which is estimated to be up to 24 months. The number of workers on-site will vary throughout the construction phase. The figure used in this analysis is based on an average monthly figure to ensure that calculations reflect economic impacts on an annual basis.
- 10.7.3 In terms of solar powered growth in the UK report¹³, Cebr give an employment multiplier for large-scale solar PV investments of 2.33 – i.e. for every job supported on-site, 1.33 indirect/induced jobs are supported in the wider economy. Applying this multiplier to the 187 on-site jobs, the Proposed Development could support 249 temporary jobs in the wider economy during the 24-month construction phase.
- 10.7.4 In total, the Proposed Development could support 436 temporary jobs, both direct jobs on-site and indirect/induced roles in the wider economy, during the 24-month construction phase.

Primary Impact Zone – Bassetlaw

- 10.7.5 It is possible to estimate how many of the construction jobs can be expected to be filled by a Bassetlaw resident. Based on 2021 Census data presented in the baseline conditions section of this chapter, around 75.7% of jobs within Bassetlaw are taken by people who also live within Bassetlaw. Applying this figure to the 187 construction jobs it is estimated that 142 construction jobs will be retained within the primary impact zone of Bassetlaw. Using the multiplier as done so previously, around 188 multiplier jobs could be supported in Bassetlaw.

¹² Information provided by the Applicant.

¹³ Solar powered growth in the UK – the macroeconomic benefits for the UK of investment in solar PV: Cebr (report for the Solar Trade Association), September 2014.

Therefore, around 330 temporary jobs could be retained within Bassetlaw during the construction period.

10.7.6 The significance of construction phase effect in respect of employment is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy in Bassetlaw) is assessed as being **Medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Construction employment represents around 6.9% of total employment in Bassetlaw. However, this is set in the context that there is a net outflow of commuters in Bassetlaw and employment growth below regional and national comparators.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **Medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 330 jobs per annum supported by the construction phase (direct and indirect) represents a considerable increase in the number of new employment opportunities for local residents. The 142 construction jobs supported equate to an increase of 4% in construction employment within Bassetlaw (3,500 jobs in 2022). Despite the large increase, the impact is considered medium in magnitude due to the temporary nature of the change. Nevertheless, overall, the Proposed Development would result in a boost to the availability of jobs for workers in Bassetlaw.
- The significance of the temporary construction phase employment effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is considered to be **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone – Nottinghamshire (excluding Bassetlaw)

10.7.7 The same calculations described in paragraph 10.7.5 above can be used to analyse how many employment opportunities can be supported within Nottinghamshire. 2021 Census data shows that around 6.2% of jobs in Bassetlaw are filled by people who live within the other six districts of Nottinghamshire (Ashfield, Bassetlaw, Broxtowe, Gedling, Mansfield, Newark & Sherwood, Rushcliffe). Therefore, around 12 construction jobs (6.2% of 187) are anticipated to be filled by Nottinghamshire residents outside of Bassetlaw. This means that 15 multiplier jobs are also likely to be supported within Nottinghamshire. In total there will be around 27 jobs supported by the Proposed Development that are

anticipated to be filled by residents within Nottinghamshire who do not live in Bassetlaw.

10.7.8 The significance of construction phase effects in respect of employment is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy in Nottinghamshire) is assessed as being **low**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Construction employment represents around 7.8% of total employment in Nottinghamshire, set in the context of employment growth in Nottinghamshire being above regional and national figures and the claimant count being lower.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **low**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 27 jobs per annum supported by the construction phase (direct and indirect) represents a limited increase in the number of new employment opportunities for local residents. But the increase in construction employment of 12 jobs equates to 0.04% increase in total jobs supported by the sector (26,000 jobs in 2022).
- The significance of the temporary construction phase employment effect is therefore considered to be **minor beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Economic Contribution

10.7.9 Another way of looking at the economic impact of the construction phase is to calculate the contribution a development makes to wealth creation, as measured by the increase in the value of goods and services generated within an area. This can be done by looking at the increase in Gross Value Added (GVA), a common proxy for economic output. Using ONS data, it is possible to calculate GVA per employee by sector at a regional level. The Cebr report gives a GVA multiplier of 2.39. Factoring this into the analysis, the overall GVA impact associated with the construction phase is estimated at £33.6million per annum over the 24-month build timeframe.

Primary Impact Zone - Bassetlaw

10.7.10 The GVA figures which are produced by the ONS are calculated on a workplace basis, meaning that figures are allocated to the location where the economic

activity takes place. Therefore, it is assumed that all GVA impacts generated by the Proposed Development will be retained within Bassetlaw.

10.7.11 The significance of construction phase effect in respect of economic contribution is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (economic contribution of the construction sector and other sectors of the economy in Bassetlaw) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. In Bassetlaw, construction contributed £181million to GVA in 2022, equating to 6.9% of total GVA.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **high**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The £33.6million in GVA generated by the construction phase would cause an uplift of 18.6% in the total construction GVA of the authority, although it should be noted that a proportion of the GVA will be in other sectors when taking into account the multiplier effect.
- The significance of the temporary construction phase economic contribution effect is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone – Nottinghamshire excluding Bassetlaw

10.7.12 Given the assumption outlined above that all GVA impacts would be retained within Bassetlaw, there is not expected to be a GVA increase seen in Nottinghamshire.

- The sensitivity of the receptor (the construction sector and other sectors of the economy in Nottinghamshire) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. In Nottinghamshire, construction employment is above the regional and national averages.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **negligible**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. This is based on the fact that the economic contribution of the Proposed Development is expected to boost GVA in Bassetlaw only.
- The significance of the temporary construction phase economic contribution effect is therefore considered to be **negligible** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Accommodation Demand

- 10.7.13 During the construction phase of the Proposed Development, it is anticipated that there will be a peak number of construction workers of 436 on-site. This peak is expected to occur for one month in month 17 of the construction phase¹⁴. In order to assess a worst-case scenario, each month is assessed against this peak to ensure that there will be sufficient capacity throughout the construction phase.
- 10.7.14 As discussed during the assessment of employment in paragraph 10.7.5, a significant proportion of workers are expected to be Bassetlaw residents and therefore would not require accommodation. However, in order to assess a worst-case scenario for accommodation impacts, it is assumed that all workers require accommodation.
- 10.7.15 **Table 10.15** outlines the impact on accommodation provision in Bassetlaw based on detail set out in the baseline section. The combined number of serviced and non-serviced bedspaces in Bassetlaw equates to between 3,670 and 4,032 throughout the year. This number of bedspaces combined with baseline occupation levels results in sufficient bedspaces to accommodate the 436 construction workers throughout the year. All months would still have spare capacity after housing the construction workers. This spare capacity ranges from 2,646 in January to 892 bedspaces in August.
- 10.7.16 **Table 10.16** outlines the impact on accommodation provision in Nottinghamshire. The combined number of serviced and non-serviced bedspaces in Nottinghamshire equates to between 16,328 and 18,953 throughout the year. This number of bedspaces combined with baseline occupation levels results in sufficient bedspaces to accommodate the 436 construction workers throughout the year. All months would still have spare capacity after housing the construction workers. This spare capacity ranges from 5,279 in January to 2,596 bedspaces in July.

¹⁴ For this preliminary socio-economic impact assessment, the 'peak month' is 'the month in which the highest number of workers are on the Site. For the Proposed Development at this stage, this peak is anticipated to occur in month 17 with 436 workers on the Site.

Table 10.15: Accommodation Impacts in Bassetlaw, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total serviced and non-serviced bedspaces	3,670	3,669	3,884	4,007	4,022	4,014	4,028	4,026	4,032	4,028	3,708	3,702
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	588	754	981	1,185	2,342	2,093	1,904	2,698	2,570	1,135	1,047	960
Construction workers requiring accommodation	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436
Bedspaces occupied during construction	1,024	1,190	1,417	1,621	2,778	2,529	2,340	3,134	3,006	1,571	1,483	1,396
Occupancy rate inclusive of construction workers	0.28	0.32	0.36	0.40	0.69	0.63	0.58	0.78	0.75	0.39	0.40	0.38
Available bedspaces following housing of construction workers	2,646	2,480	2,467	2,386	1,245	1,485	1,688	892	1,027	2,457	2,225	2,306

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

Table 10.16: Applied occupancy rates of paid accommodation in Nottinghamshire, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Serviced Accommodation bedspaces	16,328	16,372	17,375	18,539	18,623	18,577	18,953	18,943	18,978	18,654	16,583	16,489
Room occupancy rate UK	10,613	11,952	13,031	14,275	14,526	15,419	15,920	15,154	15,751	14,923	12,935	12,037
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436	436
Non-Serviced Accommodation bedspaces	11,049	12,388	13,467	14,711	14,962	15,855	16,356	15,590	16,187	15,359	13,371	12,473
Occupancy rate UK	0.68	0.76	0.78	0.79	0.80	0.85	0.86	0.82	0.85	0.82	0.81	0.76
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	5,279	3,984	3,908	3,828	3,661	2,722	2,596	3,353	2,790	3,295	3,212	4,016

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

- 10.7.17 As demonstrated in the **Table 10.15** and **Table 10.16**, there would be spare capacity of bedspaces throughout the year following the accommodation of workers at both the Primary Impact Zone and Secondary Impact Zone scale. This means that there would still be capacity for additional tourist visits throughout the year, ensuring that local hospitality businesses are not adversely affected by housing the construction workers and the tourism industry in Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire can continue to grow.
- 10.7.18 As the construction workers can be accommodated within the Primary Impact Zone or Secondary Impact Zone with no adverse effects, this means that local accommodation facilities would benefit from the bedspaces being filled throughout the year by the construction workers. This enables local businesses to be boosted through increased occupancy rates and revenue during the construction phase of the Proposed Development.
- 10.7.19 Increasing the occupancy rates of accommodation services within Bassetlaw and Nottinghamshire will help to achieve the key aims set out in the Nottinghamshire Visitor Economy Strategy, including delivery of an additional £80million GVA and creation of 2,900 FTE jobs within the tourism sector by 2029. Construction of the Proposed Development is expected to commence in 2027 and last for around 24 months, meaning that the construction is likely to fall within the period covered by the strategy. Therefore, the filled bedspaces, which would otherwise be empty and the economic benefits, such as local spend, generated by the construction phase of the Proposed Development would help to realise the key aims of the Nottinghamshire Visitor Economy Strategy by 2029.

Primary Impact Zone - Bassetlaw

- 10.7.20 The significance of construction phase effects in respect of accommodation demand is assessed as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor in Bassetlaw is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**, as there are bedspaces available throughout the year with low occupancy rates experienced during some months.
 - The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 436 construction workers represent a moderate increase in the number of guests who would stay in local accommodation.

- The significance of the temporary construction phase accommodation effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone – Nottinghamshire excluding Bassetlaw

10.7.21 The significance of construction phase effects in respect of accommodation demand is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Nottinghamshire is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**, as there are a significant number of bedspaces available throughout the year but occupancy levels are moderately high at some points of the year.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 436 construction workers represent a moderate increase in the number of guests who would stay in local accommodation.
- The significance of the temporary construction phase accommodation effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Operation

Employment

10.7.22 Based on information provided by the Applicant, it is estimated that once operational there will not be any permanent jobs on the Site. Rather than permanent staff working within the operational Proposed Development, there will be frequent visits made by off-site workers whose remit includes this Site to ensure the Proposed Development is maintained appropriately and remains operational.

Primary Impact Zone - Bassetlaw

10.7.23 The significance of the operational phase effect in respect of employment has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (labour market of Bassetlaw) is considered to be **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Between 2015 and 2022 Bassetlaw saw 2% growth in jobs, which was below the growth seen in Nottinghamshire (10.2%), the East Midlands (7.1%) and Great Britain (7%). Despite low employment growth, the claimant count in Bassetlaw (3.7%) was

below that in the East Midlands (3.9%) and Great Britain (4.4%) as of July 2024.

- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **negligible**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**, given there will be no permanent jobs supported.
- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **negligible** in Bassetlaw, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone - Nottinghamshire

10.7.24 The significance of the operational phase effects in respect of employment has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (labour market of Nottinghamshire) is considered to be **low**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Between 2015 and 2022 Nottinghamshire saw 10.2% growth in jobs, which was above the growth seen in the East Midlands (7.1%) and Great Britain (7%).
- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **negligible**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**, given there will be no permanent jobs supported.
- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **negligible** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Economic Contribution

10.7.25 Given that the Proposed Development is not expected to support any permanent jobs then there will be little to no GVA supported by the operational phase of the Proposed Development.

Primary Impact Zone - Bassetlaw

10.7.26 The significance of the operational phase effect in respect of contribution to economic output has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Bassetlaw is considered to be **low**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. In 2022 GVA for Bassetlaw totalled £2.6billion across all industries. Over the past 10 years this figure has increased by 94.6%, which is above the regional and national changes (78.6% and 68% respectively).
- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **negligible**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. There will be little to no uplift in GVA for Bassetlaw.

- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **negligible** in Bassetlaw, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone - Nottinghamshire

10.7.27 The significance of the operational phase effects in respect of employment has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (Nottinghamshire economy) is considered to be **low**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. This is due to high employment growth and low claimant count figures relative to the regional and national comparators.
- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **negligible**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. There will be little to no uplift in GVA for Nottinghamshire.
- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **negligible** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Business Rates

10.7.28 Business rates are an important economic contributor to an area. It is estimated that the solar project element of the Proposed Development could generate around £2million per annum in business rates. Over the intended 40-year lifespan of the Proposed Development, business rates generated could total around £44million (present value).

Primary Impact Zone – Bassetlaw

10.7.29 Business rates are split between local government and central government, which use these funds to reinvest into local authorities. Therefore, only a proportion of business rates revenue will be retained within Bassetlaw.

10.7.30 The significance of the operational phase effect in respect of business rates has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Bassetlaw is considered to be **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Between 2015 and 2022 Doncaster saw 2% growth in jobs, which was below the growth seen in Nottinghamshire (10.2%), the East Midlands (7.1%) and Great Britain (7%). Despite low employment growth, the claimant count in Bassetlaw (3.7%)

was below that in the East Midlands (3.9%) and Great Britain (4.4%) as of July 2024.

- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. Given agricultural land and buildings are exempt from business rates, the business rates revenue generated from the Proposed Development would represent a considerable uplift on current activities, however not all revenues are retained locally within Bassetlaw.
- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone - Nottinghamshire

10.7.31

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10.7.32

Given that Bassetlaw falls within Nottinghamshire, and it is possible that central government could reinvest funds within Nottinghamshire, as such there is also potential for beneficial effects relating to business rates at the Nottinghamshire scale.

10.7.33

The significance of the operational phase effect in respect of business rates has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (Nottinghamshire economy) is considered to be **low**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. This is due to high employment growth and low claimant count figures relative to the regional and national comparators.
- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **low**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. There will be a limited increase in business rates revenue at the Nottinghamshire scale.
- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **minor beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Decommissioning

Employment

10.7.34

Economic benefits will arise through the provision of temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase at the Site. The decommissioning activities are typically less labour-intensive than the construction phase. As such, the workforce during decommissioning could reasonably be expected to equate to around 50% of the

construction workforce. Therefore, it is assumed that the Proposed Development could support around 94 temporary construction jobs during its decommissioning phase which is expected to last for around 24 months¹⁵.

10.7.35 Applying the same multiplier as previously used to the 94 on-site jobs the Proposed Development could support 124 temporary jobs in the wider economy during the 24-month decommissioning phase.

10.7.36 In total, the Proposed Development could support 218 temporary jobs, both direct jobs on-site and indirect/induced roles in the wider economy, during the 24-month decommissioning period.

Primary Impact Zone – Bassetlaw

10.7.37 Using the same method which was used to assess the construction phase, it is possible to estimate how many of the decommissioning jobs can be expected to be filled by a Bassetlaw resident. Applying 75.7% figure to the 94 decommissioning jobs it is estimated that 71 construction jobs will be retained within the primary impact zone of Bassetlaw. The effect of this is that approximately 94 multiplier jobs could be supported in Bassetlaw. Therefore, around 165 temporary jobs could be retained within Bassetlaw during the decommissioning period.

10.7.38 The significance of decommissioning phase effects in respect of employment is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy in Bassetlaw) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Construction employment represents around 6.9% of total employment in Bassetlaw. However, this is set in the context that there is a net outflow of commuters in Bassetlaw and employment growth below regional and national comparators.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **Medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 165 jobs per annum supported by the decommissioning phase (direct and indirect) represents a considerable increase in the number of new employment opportunities for local residents. The 94 construction jobs supported equate to an increase of 2% in construction employment

¹⁵ Duration information provided by the Applicant.

within Bassetlaw. Despite the considerable increase, the impact is considered medium in magnitude due to the temporary nature of the change. Nevertheless, overall, the Proposed Development would result in a boost to the availability of jobs for workers in Bassetlaw.

- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone – Nottinghamshire (excluding Bassetlaw)

10.7.39 The same calculations described in paragraph 10.7.5 above can be undertaken to analyse how many employment opportunities can be supported within Nottinghamshire. Around 6 construction jobs (6.2% of 94) will be filled by Nottinghamshire residents outside of Bassetlaw. This means that 8 multiplier jobs will also be supported within Nottinghamshire. In total there will be around 14 jobs supported by the Proposed Development that are expected to be filled by residents within Nottinghamshire who do not live in Bassetlaw.

10.7.40 The significance of decommissioning phase effect in respect of employment is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy in Nottinghamshire) is assessed as being **low**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Construction employment represents around 7.8% of total employment in Nottinghamshire, set in the context of employment growth in Nottinghamshire being above regional and national figures and the claimant count being lower.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **low**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 14 jobs per annum supported by the decommissioning phase (direct and indirect) represents a limited increase in the number of new employment opportunities for local residents. But the increase in construction employment of 6 jobs equates to 0.02% increase in total jobs supported by the sector).
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **minor beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Economic Contribution

10.7.41 Applying the same method used to calculate GVA, it is estimated that over the approximate 24-month decommissioning phase the GVA impact associated with the decommissioning phase is estimated at £16.8million per annum over the 24-month decommissioning timeframe.

Primary Impact Zone - Bassetlaw

10.7.42 As stated previously in this chapter, GVA figures are calculated on a workplace basis. Therefore, it is assumed that all GVA impacts generated by the Proposed Development will be retained within Bassetlaw.

10.7.43 The significance of construction phase effect in respect of economic contribution is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (economic contribution of the construction sector and other sectors of the economy in Bassetlaw) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. In Bassetlaw, construction contributed £181 million to GVA in 2022, equating to 6.9% of total GVA.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **high**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The £30.5 million in GVA generated by the decommissioning phase would cause an uplift of 9.3% in the total construction GVA of the authority, although it should be noted that a proportion of the GVA will be in other sectors when taking into account the multiplier effect.
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone – Nottinghamshire excluding Bassetlaw

10.7.44 Given the assumption outlined above that all GVA impacts would be retained within Bassetlaw, there is not expected to be a GVA increase seen in Nottinghamshire.

- The sensitivity of the receptor (the construction sector and other sectors of the economy in Nottinghamshire) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. In Nottinghamshire, construction employment is above the regional and national averages.

- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **negligible**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. This is based on the fact that the economic contribution of the Proposed Development is expected to boost GVA in Bassetlaw only.

The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **negligible** in Nottinghamshire, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Accommodation Demand

- 10.7.45 During the decommissioning phase of the Proposed Development, it is assumed that the peak number of decommissioning workers would equate to 50% of the construction phase peak, totalling 218 workers. The same assumptions for assessment are used for the decommissioning phase as were used for the construction phase.
- 10.7.46 **Table 10.17** outlines the impact on accommodation provision in Bassetlaw during the decommissioning phase. The combined number of serviced and non-serviced bedspaces in Bassetlaw equates to between 3,670 and 4,032 throughout the year. This number of bedspaces combined with baseline occupation levels results in sufficient bedspaces to accommodate the 218 decommissioning workers throughout the year. All months would still have spare capacity after housing the workers. This spare capacity ranges from 2,864 in January to 1,110 bedspaces in August.
- 10.7.47 **Table 10.18** outlines the impact on accommodation provision in Nottinghamshire. The combined number of serviced and non-serviced bedspaces in Nottinghamshire equates to between 16,328 and 18,953 throughout the year. This number of bedspaces combined with baseline occupation levels results in sufficient bedspaces to accommodate the 218 decommissioning workers throughout the year. All months would still have spare capacity after housing the workers. This spare capacity ranges from 5,497 in January to 2,814 bedspaces in July.
- 10.7.48 Similarly to the construction phase of the Proposed Development, the decommissioning phase will raise occupancy rates of local accommodation services and generate economic benefits which will provide a boost to the local tourism industry.

Table 10.17: Accommodation impacts in Bassetlaw, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total serviced and non-serviced bedspaces	3,670	3,669	3,884	4,007	4,022	4,014	4,028	4,026	4,032	4,028	3,708	3,702
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	588	754	981	1,185	2,342	2,093	1,904	2,698	2,570	1,135	1,047	960
Decommissioning workers requiring accommodation	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218
Bedspaces occupied during decommissioning	806	972	1,199	1,403	2,560	2,311	2,122	2,916	2,788	1,353	1,265	1,178
Occupancy rate inclusive of decommissioning workers	0.22	0.26	0.31	0.35	0.64	0.58	0.53	0.72	0.69	0.34	0.34	0.32
Available bedspaces following housing of decommissioning workers	2,864	2,698	2,685	2,604	1,463	1,703	1,906	1,110	1,245	2,675	2,443	2,524

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

Table 10.18: Applied occupancy rates of paid accommodation in Nottinghamshire, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total serviced and non-serviced bedspaces	16,328	16,372	17,375	18,539	18,623	18,577	18,953	18,943	18,978	18,654	16,583	16,489
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	10,613	11,952	13,031	14,275	14,526	15,419	15,920	15,154	15,751	14,923	12,935	12,037
Decommissioning workers requiring accommodation	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218	218
Bedspaces occupied during decommissioning	10,831	12,170	13,249	14,493	14,744	15,637	16,138	15,372	15,969	15,141	13,153	12,255
Occupancy rate inclusive of decommissioning workers	0.66	0.74	0.76	0.78	0.79	0.84	0.85	0.81	0.84	0.81	0.79	0.74
Available bedspaces following housing of decommissioning workers	5,497	4,202	4,126	4,046	3,879	2,940	2,814	3,571	3,008	3,513	3,430	4,234

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

Primary Impact Zone - Bassetlaw

10.7.49 The significance of decommissioning phase effect in respect of accommodation impacts is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Bassetlaw is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**, as there are bedspaces available throughout the year with low occupancy rates experienced during some months.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 218 decommissioning workers represent a moderate increase in the number of guests who would stay in local accommodation. .
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Bassetlaw, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Secondary Impact Zone – Nottinghamshire excluding Bassetlaw

10.7.50 The significance of decommissioning phase effect in respect of accommodation impacts is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Nottinghamshire is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**, as there are a significant number of bedspaces available throughout the year but occupancy levels are moderately high at some points of the year.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 218 decommissioning workers represent a moderate increase in the number of guests who would stay in local accommodation.
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Summary of Impacts

10.7.51 **Table 10.19** presents a summary of the socio-economic effects in quantitative terms.

Table 10.19: Socio-Economic Effects - Primary and Secondary Impact Zones

Potential Effect	Primary Impact Zone (Bassetlaw)	Secondary Impact Zone (Nottinghamshire, excluding Bassetlaw)
Significance of employment effect	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Minor Beneficial (not significant)
Significance of economic contribution effect	Major Beneficial (significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Significance of accommodation demand effect	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)
Significance of employment effect	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Significance of economic contribution effect	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Significance of business rates effect	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Minor Beneficial (not significant)
Significance of employment effect	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Minor beneficial (not significant)

Potential Effect	Primary Impact Zone (Bassetlaw)	Secondary Impact Zone (Nottinghamshire, excluding Bassetlaw)
Significance of economic contribution	Major beneficial (significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Significance of accommodation demand	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)

10.8 Mitigation and Enhancement

Mitigation

10.8.1 There are no significant adverse effects related to socio-economics in any of the development phases. As such, there is need for mitigation to be proposed.

Enhancement

10.8.2 During construction and decommissioning phases, there is expected to be significant beneficial effects in respect of employment. The Applicant is committed to the enhancement of these effects as far as is practicably possible. As such, it is proposed that opportunities for employment and skills are supported through the preparation of an Outline Supply Chain, Employment and Skills Plan (“OSCESP”). The OSCESP will be submitted with the application and the delivery of a final OSCESP secured by a DCO requirement. Correspondence has already begun with each of Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council to ensure that the content and detail presented within the OSCESP are appropriate to all relevant stakeholders.

10.8.3 The use of an OSCESP is intended to enhance the beneficial employment effects during the construction and decommissioning phases to result in a major beneficial residual effect. It is acknowledged that the major beneficial residual effect relates to development phases that are temporal in nature, however, the legacy effect of upskilling the local workforce where possible will result in a long-term significant benefit at the Primary Impact Zone and Secondary Impact Zone scale.

10.8.4 While the process is still ongoing, it is envisaged that measures to be included in the OSCESP could include, but is not limited to:

- Targets for employment of minimum proportion of workers from within an agreed spatial area, where possible.
- Local employment opportunities in landscaping, fencing, security, plant hire and operators, and materials including aggregate and concrete.
- Opportunities for apprenticeships, traineeships and back to work opportunities.

- Partnering with local schools, sixth form colleges, other further education colleges, universities, and other organisations such as Jobcentre Plus and PeoplePlus (as well as organisations specific to the local study area) to develop local skills and raise awareness of renewable technologies, in particular solar and energy storage.

10.9 Residual Effects

10.9.1 Residual effects relating to socio-economics for the Primary Impact Zone and the Secondary Impact Zone are presented in **Table 10.20**.

Table 10.20: Socio-Economic Residual Effects - Primary and Secondary Impact Zones

Potential Effect	Primary Impact Zone		Secondary Impact Zone	
	Initial Effect	Residual effect	Initial Effect	Residual effect
Construction Phase				
Employment	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Major beneficial (significant)	Minor beneficial (not significant)	Minor beneficial (not significant)
Economic contribution	Major beneficial (significant)	Major beneficial (significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Accommodation demand	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)
Operational Phase				
Employment	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Economic contribution	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Business rates	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Minor Beneficial (not significant)	Minor Beneficial (not significant)
Decommissioning Phase				
Employment	Moderate beneficial (significant)	Major beneficial (significant)	Minor beneficial (not significant)	Minor beneficial (not significant)
Economic contribution	Major beneficial (significant)	Major beneficial (significant)	Negligible (not significant)	Negligible (not significant)
Accommodation demand	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)	Moderate Beneficial (significant)

10.10 Cumulative and In-combination Effects

- 10.10.1 Twelve sites have been considered in the assessment of cumulative effects in respect of socio-economics (see **Table 10.22**). The information presented includes a summary of the known proposals, local authorities in which the proposal is located, an estimation of employment numbers for each phase (where publicly available), and whether the scheme is scoped in or out of the socio-economic cumulative assessment with justification.
- 10.10.2 In terms of study area and receptor, the cumulative assessment analyses the potential socio-economic effects at a regional level, as opposed to Primary and Secondary Impact Zones as is used as the basis of the assessment for the Proposed Development in isolation. This is because a number of cumulative schemes sit outside of Bassetlaw but are at least partly fall within the East Midlands region, and therefore there is potential for overlap of effect at a wider spatial scale rather than at district level. Only one proposal listed below falls partly outside of the East Midlands, North Humber to High Marnham. This scheme sits within Bassetlaw as well as East Riding and North Lincolnshire, the latter two of which are Yorkshire & the Humber region authorities. However, for this cumulative scheme there is currently no information available regarding potential effects as such, , this cumulative scheme has been scoped out of the cumulative assessment, for all potential effects.
- 10.10.3 Where possible, definitive information regarding estimated jobs is presented in **Table 10.22**, obtained through a review of publicly available documentation held for public viewing on National Infrastructure Planning website or local authority planning portals, whichever is applicable to each cumulative scheme.
- 10.10.4 Where quantified information is not available, assumptions are made. Assumptions are dependent on the potential effect in consideration with the aim of presenting a worst-case assessment of each potential effect. Further detail is provided in the following paragraphs and a summary of the assumptions to enable a worst-case scenario is presented in **Table 10.21**.

Employment, Economic Contribution and Business Rates

- 10.10.5 In respect of the potential for employment, economic contribution and business rates, for those schemes which are located in Bassetlaw district, at least in part, the assumption is that they are scoped into the cumulative assessment.

However, this only applies to those schemes for which information is currently publicly available in respect of employment and other potential effects. Information relating to employment has been obtained through a review of publicly available documentation accessed via the National Infrastructure Planning website or local authority planning portals, whichever is applicable to each cumulative scheme. Where this information is not publicly available, an assumption is made in that no employment is generated so as to result in a worst case cumulative assessment.

Accommodation Demand

10.10.6 In respect of the potential for accommodation demand, where possible, definitive numbers of workers requiring accommodation in each development phase are taken from publicly available information, either via the National Infrastructure Planning website or local authority planning portals, whichever is applicable to each cumulative scheme. Otherwise, the same assumption is applied to the Cumulative Schemes as for the Proposed Development in isolation, that being that the peak number of workers require accommodation for the duration of the construction programme. It is assumed that the construction phases of the Cumulative Schemes align with that of the Proposed Development. This enables a worst-case assessment to be undertaken.

10.10.7 In terms of assessment of significance, the approach remains as stated within **ES Chapter 10** (see paras 10.34 to 10.36, and inclusive of Tables 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4).

Table 10.21: Cumulative assessment - scope of potential effects and worst-case assumptions in respect of socio-economics

Potential Effect	Worst case assumption
Construction Phase	
Employment	Unless information is publicly available regarding construction jobs generated by the cumulative scheme, it is assumed that 0 jobs are generated at the local scale to contribute to a worst-case scenario in respect of employment.
Economic contribution	Unless information is publicly available regarding GVA generated by the construction phase of the cumulative scheme, it is assumed that £0 GVA is generated to contribute to a worst-case scenario in respect of economic contribution.
Accommodation demand	Accommodation demand is assessed for the cumulative schemes based on the peak number of construction workers for all schemes, to ensure that the absolute maximum number of workers which may require accommodation at any one point is considered.
Operational Phase	

Potential Effect	Worst case assumption
Employment	Unless information is publicly available regarding operational jobs generated by the cumulative scheme, it is assumed that 0 jobs are generated at the local scale to contribute to a worst case scenario in respect of employment.
Economic contribution	Unless information is publicly available regarding GVA generated by the operational phase of the cumulative scheme, it is assumed that £0 GVA is generated to contribute to a worst case scenario in respect of economic contribution.
Business rates	Business rates are calculated on the basis of same assumptions used for the Proposed Development in isolation, and based on the proposed output of each of the Cumulative Schemes as listed in Table 11.22.
<i>Decommissioning Phase</i>	
Employment	Unless information is publicly available regarding decommissioning jobs generated by the cumulative scheme, it is assumed that 0 jobs are generated at the local scale to contribute to a worst-case scenario in respect of employment.
Economic contribution	Unless information is publicly available regarding GVA generated by the decommissioning phase of the cumulative scheme, it is assumed that £0 GVA is generated to contribute to a worst-case scenario in respect of economic contribution.
Accommodation demand	Accommodation demand is assessed for the cumulative schemes based on the peak number of decommissioning workers for all schemes, to ensure that the absolute maximum number of workers which may require accommodation at any one point is considered.

Table 10.22: Scope of Cumulative Assessment: Socio-Economics

Cumulative Scheme	PINS Reference	Proposal	District	Jobs ¹⁶			Scoped in?
				Construction	Operational	Decommissioning	
Cottam Solar	EN010133	50MW + solar Project located approximately 8km east of the site.	Bassetlaw & West Lindsey	467	11	374	Yes – Project falls partly within Bassetlaw District Council and has been consented.
North Humber to High Marnham	EN020034	Reinforcement of 400kV high voltage power network.	East Riding, North Lincs and Bassetlaw	No info	No info	No info	No – No information relating to impacts is available.
Gate Burton Energy Park	EN010131	500MW solar project.	Bassetlaw & West Lindsey	323	14	323	Yes – Project falls partly within Bassetlaw District Council.
Great North Road Solar Park	EN010162	800MW solar project located approximately 20km south of the site.	Newark and Sherwood	No info	No info	No info	No – No information relating to impacts is available.
Tillbridge Solar Project	EN010142	50MW+ solar project located approximately 9.5km north-east of the site.	Bassetlaw & West Lindsey	812	10	812	Yes – Project falls partly within Bassetlaw District Council.
West Burton C Power Station	EN010088	299MW power station located adjacent to the	Bassetlaw	95	15	No info	Yes – Project falls within Bassetlaw District Council.

¹⁶The numbers of workers presented in this table are those that are taken from publicly available information only.

Cumulative Scheme	PINS Reference	Proposal	District	Jobs16			Scoped in?
				Construction	Operational	Decommissioning	
		northeastern boundary of the site.					
West Burton Solar Project	EN010132	Four electricity generating stations each 50+MW approximately 8km south-east of the site.	Bassetlaw & West Lindsey	296	12	236	Yes – Project falls partly within Bassetlaw District Council.
One Earth Solar Farm	EN010159	50MW+ solar and BESS project.	Bassetlaw, West Lindsey, Newark and Sherwood	No info	No info	No info	No – No information relating to impacts is available.
22/00358/FUL	N/A	Installation of a solar farm and battery storage facility located approximately 2.5km north of the site.	Bassetlaw	No info	No info	No info	No – No information relating to impacts is available.
21/01147/FUL	N/A	Installation of a solar farm and battery storage approximately 12km south of the Site.	Bassetlaw	No info	No info	No info	No – No information relating to impacts is available.

Cumulative Scheme	PINS Reference	Proposal	District	Jobs16			Scoped in?
				Construction	Operational	Decommissioning	
20/01405/FUL	N/A	Installation and operation of a solar farm approximately 3.6km west of the Site.	Bassetlaw	100	4	No info	Yes – Project falls within Bassetlaw District Council.
20/00117/FUL	N/A	Installation and operation of a solar farm adjacent to the west of the Site	Bassetlaw	No info	No info	No info	No – No information relating to impacts is available.
Total (Cumulative Schemes)				2,093	66	1,745	
Total (Cumulative Schemes + Proposed Development)				2,280	66	1,839	

Significance of the Cumulative Construction Phase Effects

Employment

- 10.10.8 Estimated jobs created as a result of the construction phase are publicly available for six of the cumulative schemes, totaling 2,093 construction jobs. The known 2,093 on-site construction phase jobs generated by the cumulative schemes identified in **Table 10.22** combined with the number of on-site construction phase jobs generated by the Proposed Development is 2,280.
- 10.10.9 The significance of cumulative construction phase effect in respect of employment at the East Midlands scale is assessed as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy in the East Midlands) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Construction employment represents around 5.6% of jobs across the East Midlands, which is above the national figure. However, the claimant count across the region is on the rise.
 - The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **high**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 2,280 jobs per annum supported by the construction phase of the Cumulative Schemes represent a moderate increase in the number of new employment opportunities, for a temporary period of time.
 - The significance of the temporary cumulative effect in respect of employment is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Contribution to Economic Output

- 10.10.10 There are four cumulative schemes for which a figure is publicly available relating to the economic contribution of their respective construction phases. The GVA contribution of these four schemes totals £109.6million per annum, whilst the other schemes are assumed to generate no benefit to enable a worst case scenario. Combining the cumulative figure with the contribution of the Proposed Development results in a total uplift in annual GVA of around £123.7million.

- 10.10.11 The significance of cumulative construction phase effect in respect of contribution to economic output at the East Midlands scale is assessed as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor (economic output across the East Midlands) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. In the East Midlands, construction contributed £9.4billion (7.4%) to total GVA in 2022, which is a greater proportion than the equivalent figure for England.
 - The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The £123.7million in GVA generated by the construction phase would cause an uplift of 1.3% in construction GVA in the East Midlands.
 - The significance of the temporary cumulative effect in respect of economic output is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Accommodation Demand

- 10.10.12 For the Cumulative assessment, the impact of all construction phases is assessed against the capacity of Nottinghamshire accommodation as the schemes do not all fall solely within Bassetlaw. Therefore, given the scale of the schemes it is unrealistic to assume that all workers would be accommodated within Bassetlaw.
- 10.10.13 Similarly to the assessment of the Proposed Development in isolation, it is important to ensure that following the accommodation of workers there would still be capacity for additional tourist visits throughout the year so that local businesses are not adversely affected. In order to do this, the assessment looks at the peak number of workers for all cumulative schemes combined, which totals 2,529. As shown in **Table 10.23**, there would still be capacity throughout the year following the housing of construction workers.
- 10.10.14 The combined number of serviced and non-serviced bedspaces in Nottinghamshire equates to between 16,328 and 18,953 throughout the year. This number of bedspaces combined with baseline occupation levels results in sufficient bedspaces to accommodate the 2,529 construction workers

throughout the year. All months would still have spare capacity after housing the workers. This capacity ranges from 3,186 in January to 503 bedspaces in July.

Table 10.23: Applied occupancy rates of paid accommodation in Nottinghamshire, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total serviced and non-serviced bedspaces	16,328	16,372	17,375	18,539	18,623	18,577	18,953	18,943	18,978	18,654	16,583	16,489
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	10,613	11,952	13,031	14,275	14,526	15,419	15,920	15,154	15,751	14,923	12,935	12,037
Workers requiring accommodation	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529	2,529
Bedspaces occupied during construction	13,142	14,481	15,560	16,804	17,055	17,948	18,449	17,683	18,280	17,452	15,464	14,566
Occupancy rate inclusive of workers	0.80	0.88	0.90	0.91	0.92	0.97	0.97	0.93	0.96	0.94	0.93	0.88
Available bedspaces following housing of workers	3,186	1,891	1,815	1,735	1,568	629	503	1,260	697	1,202	1,119	1,923

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

10.10.15 The significance of cumulative construction phase effect in respect of accommodation impacts at the East Midlands scale is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Nottinghamshire is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**, as there are a significant number of bedspaces available throughout the year, but occupancy levels are moderately high at some points of the year.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 2,529 construction workers represent a moderate proportion of bedspaces within Nottinghamshire and increase in occupancy rates.
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Significance of the Cumulative Operational Phase Effects

Employment Impact

10.10.16 As shown in **Table 10.22**, of those cumulative schemes for which data relating to employment is publicly available, it is estimated that they will generate around 66 jobs per annum during their operational phases.

10.10.17 The significance of the cumulative operational phase effect in respect of employment at the East Midlands scale has been assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (labour market of the East Midlands) is considered to be **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. This is based on employment growth and claimant count figures in line with national figures.
- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **low**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The number of on-site jobs created in the operational phase (66) would represent a small increase on current employment levels in the East Midlands, but the employment supported by the operational phase will be long-term.
- The significance of the cumulative operational effect in terms of employment is therefore considered to be **minor to moderate beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Contribution to Economic Output

- 10.10.18 Only two of the cumulative schemes have so far presented analysis of the operational phase economic contribution, these figures total £1.2million GVA per annum. Therefore, to assess a worst case scenario, it is assumed that the total output of all the cumulative schemes during operation equates to £1.2million per annum.
- 10.10.19 The significance of the operational phase effect in respect of contribution to economic output at the East Midlands scale has been assessed as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor in the East Midlands is considered to be **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. GVA has increased in line with national figures in the East Midlands over the past ten years.
 - The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **low**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The annual GVA generated by cumulative schemes once operational of £1.2million accounts for 0.001% of total GVA in Bassetlaw.
 - The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **minor beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **not significant** in EIA terms.

Business Rates

- 10.10.20 It is estimated that the Proposed Development and Cumulative Schemes could generate up to £6.9million per annum in business rates¹⁷. Over the intended 40-year lifespan of the Proposed Development, business rates generated could total around £277.4million (present value)¹⁸. This figure is based on a value per MW, therefore where a specific figure is not provided for the total MW of a scheme, it is assumed to be 50MW for NSIP schemes¹⁹; TCPA schemes have not been included in this calculation.
- 10.10.21 The significance of the operational phase effect in respect of business rates at the East Midlands scale has been assessed as follows:
- The sensitivity of the receptor in the East Midlands is considered to be **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Between 2015 and

¹⁷ Based on information on price per MW of £6,450 in 2017 sourced from Photovoltaic Memorandum of Agreement.

¹⁸ Business rates are based on solar farms only.

¹⁹ The threshold for NSIP schemes is expected to change in January 2025, the impacts of this change will be considered within the final submission.

2022 the East Midlands saw 7.1% growth which was similar to national figures. Despite this employment growth, the claimant count in the East Midlands has increased over the past two years.

- The magnitude of the impact is identified as being **high**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. Given agricultural land and buildings are exempt from business rates, the business rates revenue generated from the schemes would represent a considerable uplift on current activities.
- The significance of the operational effect is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Significance of the Cumulative Decommissioning Phase Effects

Employment

10.10.22 Economic benefits will arise through the provision of temporary jobs during the decommissioning phase in respect of the Proposed Development and Cumulative Schemes.

10.10.23 Across the Cumulative Schemes, information relating to decommissioning jobs is only available for four of the schemes. Based on this information, the estimated total decommissioning jobs generated by the Proposed Development and Cumulative Schemes is 1,839 direct jobs on-site. As such, the significance of cumulative decommissioning phase effect in respect of employment at the East Midlands scale is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor (employment in construction and other sectors of the economy in the East Midlands) is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. Construction employment represents around 5.6% of jobs across the East Midlands, which is above the national figure. However, the claimant count across the region is on the rise.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **Medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The 1,839 jobs per annum supported by the construction phase (direct and indirect) represents a considerable increase in the number of new employment opportunities but is considered medium in magnitude due to the temporary nature of the change. Nevertheless, overall, the Cumulative Schemes and Proposed Development would result in a boost to the availability of jobs for workers in the East Midlands.

- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Contribution to Economic Output

10.10.24 Data on economic output of decommissioning is not available for all Cumulative Schemes, with only three schemes reporting on GVA. Two of the schemes outline that decommissioning GVA is assumed to be the same as construction GVA, whilst a third states that it is assumed to be around 80% of construction GVA. Combining these figures with the Proposed Development results in an annual GVA contribution of £38.7million for the decommissioning phase of the Cumulative Schemes and Proposed Development. As such, the significance of decommissioning phase effect in respect of contribution to economic output at the East Midlands scale is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in the East Midlands is considered to be **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**. GVA has increased in line with national figures in the East Midlands over the past ten years.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **high**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The £38.7million in GVA generated by the decommissioning phase would cause an uplift of 0.4% in the total construction GVA, although it should be noted that a proportion of the GVA will be in other sectors when taking into account the multiplier effect.
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **major beneficial** in the East Midlands, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Accommodation Demand

10.10.25 Following the same approach which was used to identify the potential accommodation demand effect during the construction phase of the cumulative schemes, a total of 1,963 peak jobs has been used to assess the accommodation demand effect of the decommissioning phase of the cumulative schemes.

10.10.26 **Table 10.23** outlines the impact on accommodation provision in Nottinghamshire. The combined number of serviced and non-serviced bedspaces in Nottinghamshire equates to between 16,328 and 18,953 throughout the year. This number of bedspaces combined with baseline occupation levels results in sufficient bedspaces to accommodate the 1,963 peak decommissioning workers throughout the year. All months would still have spare

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capacity after housing the workers. This capacity ranges from 3,752 in January to 1,069 bedspaces in July. Similarly to the construction phase of the cumulative schemes, the decommissioning phase will raise occupancy rates of local accommodation services and generate economic benefits which will provide a boost to the local tourism industry.

Table 10.23: Applied occupancy rates of paid accommodation in Nottinghamshire, 2023

	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total serviced and non-serviced bedspaces	16,328	16,372	17,375	18,539	18,623	18,577	18,953	18,943	18,978	18,654	16,583	16,489
Actual number of bedspaces occupied	10,613	11,952	13,031	14,275	14,526	15,419	15,920	15,154	15,751	14,923	12,935	12,037
Workers requiring accommodation	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963	1,963
Bedspaces occupied during decommissioning	12,576	13,915	14,994	16,238	16,489	17,382	17,883	17,117	17,714	16,886	14,898	14,000
Occupancy rate inclusive of workers	0.77	0.85	0.86	0.88	0.89	0.94	0.94	0.90	0.93	0.91	0.90	0.85
Available bedspaces following housing of workers	3,752	2,457	2,381	2,301	2,134	1,195	1,069	1,826	1,263	1,768	1,685	2,489

Source: STEAM via NCC, and Visit Britain

10.10.27 The significance of cumulative decommissioning phase effect in respect of accommodation impacts at the East Midlands scale is assessed as follows:

- The sensitivity of the receptor in Nottinghamshire is assessed as being **medium**, in line with the criteria set out in **Table 10.2**, as there are a significant number of bedspaces available throughout the year but occupancy levels are moderately high at some points of the year.
- The magnitude of the impact is assessed as **medium**, in line with the criteria in **Table 10.3**. The peak 1,963 decommissioning workers represent a moderate proportion of bedspaces within Nottinghamshire and increase in occupancy rates.
- The significance of the temporary effect is therefore considered to be **moderate beneficial** in Nottinghamshire, which is **significant** in EIA terms.

Intra-Project Effects

10.10.28 An assessment of intra-project effects will be undertaken for inclusion with final submission. As such, no assessment of intra-project effects is presented within this PEIR chapter in respect of socio-economics.

Summary of Effects

10.10.29 **Table 10.24** sets out a summary of effects for the Proposed Development in isolation and for the Cumulative assessment.

Table 10.24: Summary and Residual Effects

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
Construction								
Employment								
Primary Impact Zone	Increase in employment in the construction sector	Temporary	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate Beneficial	OSCESP	Major Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increase in employment in the construction sector	Temporary	Low	Low	County	Minor Beneficial	OSCESP	Moderate Beneficial
Contribution to Economic Output								
Primary Impact Zone	Increased contribution to economic output	Temporary	Medium	High	District	Major Beneficial	None Required	Major Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increased contribution to	Temporary	Medium	Negligible	County	Negligible	None Required	Negligible

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
	economic output							
Accommodation Demand								
Primary Impact Zone	Increased demand on accommodation	Temporary	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Moderate Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increased demand on accommodation	Temporary	Medium	Medium	County	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Moderate Beneficial
Operation								
Employment								
Primary Impact Zone	Increase in employment once operational	Permanent	Medium	Negligible	District	Negligible	None Required	Negligible
Secondary Impact Zone	Increase in employment once operational	Permanent	Low	Negligible	County	Negligible	None Required	Negligible
Contribution to Economic Output								
Primary Impact Zone	Increased contribution to	Permanent	Medium	Negligible	District	Negligible	None Required	Negligible

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
	economic output							
Secondary Impact Zone	Increased contribution to economic output	Permanent	Low	Negligible	County	Negligible	None Required	Negligible
Business Rates								
Primary Impact Zone	Increased Business Rates Revenue	Permanent	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Moderate Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increased Business Rates Revenue	Permanent	Low	Low	County	Minor Beneficial	None Required	Minor Beneficial
Decommissioning								
Employment								
Primary Impact Zone	Increase in employment in the construction sector	Temporary	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate Beneficial	OSCESP	Major Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increase in employment in	Temporary	Low	Low	County	Minor Beneficial	OSCESP	Minor Beneficial

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
	the construction sector							
Contribution to Economic Output								
Primary Impact Zone	Increased contribution to economic output	Temporary	Medium	High	District	Major Beneficial	None Required	Major Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increased contribution to economic output	Temporary	Medium	Negligible	County	Negligible	None Required	Negligible
Accommodation Demand								
Primary Impact Zone	Increased demand on accommodation	Temporary	Medium	Medium	District	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Moderate Beneficial
Secondary Impact Zone	Increased demand on accommodation	Temporary	Medium	Medium	County	Minor to Moderate Adverse	None Required	Moderate Beneficial

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
Cumulative and In Combination								
Construction								
Employment								
East Midlands	Increase in employment in the construction sector	Temporary	Medium	High	Regional	Major Beneficial	OSCESP	Major Beneficial
Contribution to Economic Output								
East Midlands	Increase in economic contribution	Temporary	Medium	Medium	Regional	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Moderate Beneficial
Accommodation Demand								
East Midlands	Increased demand on accommodation	Temporary	Medium	Medium	Regional	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Minor to moderate adverse
Operation								
Employment								
East Midlands	Increase in employment	Permanent	Medium	Low	Regional	Minor to moderate beneficial	None required	Minor to moderate adverse

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
Economic Contribution								
East Midlands	Increase in economic contribution	Permanent	Medium	Low	Regional	Minor Beneficial	None Required	Minor Beneficial
Business Rates								
East Midlands	Increased Business Rates Revenue	Permanent	Medium	High	Regional	Major Beneficial	None Required	Major Beneficial
Decommissioning								
Employment								
East Midlands	Increase in employment in the construction sector	Temporary	Medium	Medium	Regional	Moderate Beneficial	OSCESP	Major Beneficial
Contribution to Economic Output								
East Midlands	Increased contribution to economic output	Temporary	Medium	High	Regional	Major Beneficial	None Required	Major Beneficial
Accommodation Demand								

Receptor/ Receiving Environment	Description of Effect	Nature of Effect	Sensitivity Value	Magnitude of Effect	Geographical Importance	Significance of Effects	Mitigation/ Enhancement Measures	Residual Effects
East Midlands	Increased demand on accommodation	Temporary	Medium	Medium	Regional	Moderate Beneficial	None Required	Minor to Moderate Adverse