

Plas Power Solar Project Update

Lightsource bp is bringing forward proposals for the Plas Power Solar Project, near Coedpoeth, Wrexham.

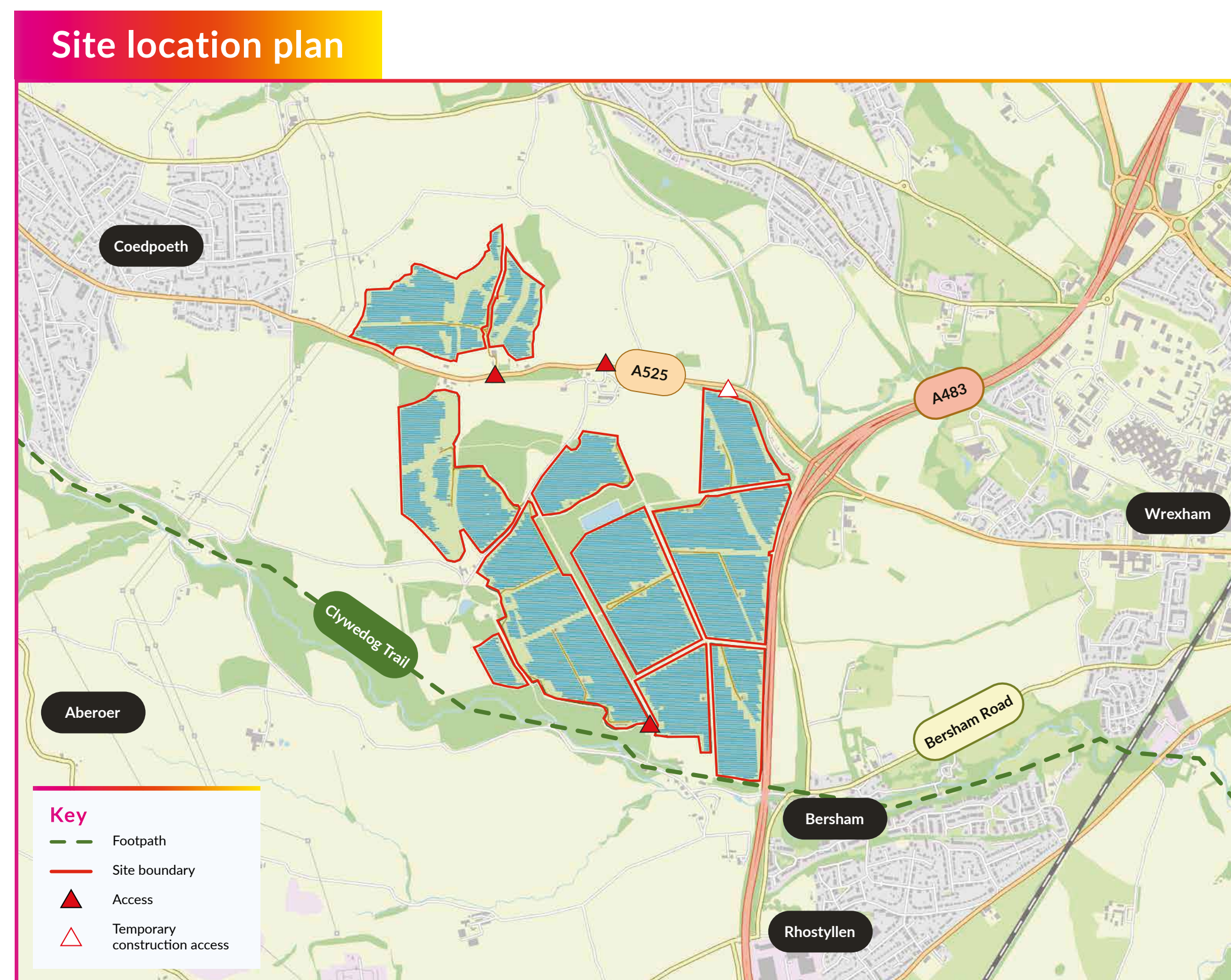
The Plas Power Solar Project will provide a source of homegrown, renewable energy, helping to tackle climate change, strengthen energy security and lower the cost of energy in Wales and the UK.

- Our proposals will produce clean, renewable energy, helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with local, national and international targets and in response to the declared Climate Emergency by Wrexham Council in September 2019.
- Additionally solar energy produced here in Wales and the UK will reduce reliance on imported fossil fuel energy sources, such as gas, providing greater energy security.
- With the current energy crisis, solar power can help to reduce energy costs as it is one of the cheapest forms of generating electricity.
- Following the initial engagement in 2021, Lightsource bp has updated the proposals and are now carrying out the next phase of engagement to give local people the opportunity to find out more and discuss the updated proposals with the project team.

Timeline

As the solar project is proposed to generate over 10 MW of renewable energy, the project is classified as a Development of National Significance (DNS). The DNS application will be submitted to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) and determined by the Welsh Ministers.

There are several opportunities to give your comments both during the non-statutory consultation phase (taking place now) and the statutory consultation due to take place later in the Autumn.



Have your say

We invite you to provide feedback on our draft proposals. To keep updated about the proposals please visit:
lightsourcebp.com/uk/project/plas-power/

Feedback Form

Please provide feedback to us by completing a feedback form, these can also be completed on the project website.

If you would like a paper copy of the feedback form, please give us a call.

Email

Email us your comments to
plaspowersolar@lightsourcebp.com

Writing to

Freepost **GRASSHOPPER CONSULT**
(no stamp or further address required)

Call

We are here to listen to your views. You can speak to a member of the team by phoning
01978 800675

About us

Lightsource bp is a global leader in the development, operation and management of utility-scale solar projects. For over a decade we have been actively working to change the way our world is powered, with sustainable and responsible solar power. Since 2010 and following our 50:50 joint venture with bp, we have been deploying affordable, reliable, large-scale solar to help businesses and communities decarbonise.

2023

Q2

Non-statutory
consultation

Q3

Statutory
consultation

Q4

Submission
of DNS
application

2024

Q1

PEDW
consultation
and publicity

Q2

Examination

Q3

Decision

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The site

The site, which is approximately 140 hectares, comprises of several agricultural fields, bound by a mixture of mature woodland, trees, hedgerows, fencing, agricultural tracks, and roads. Currently, it is mostly grassland used for grazing, an activity that can continue once solar panels are installed.

The proposals

The proposals are for the installation and operation of ground mounted solar panels and associated infrastructure.

The site will connect to the National Grid at the existing Legacy Substation by underground cables to the south of the site, therefore avoiding the need for overhead pylons. The development is temporary and likely to be operational for 40 years. At the end of the solar project's life, all equipment can be easily dismantled, removed from site, and recycled.

Statistics



57 MWac
(Megawatts
alternating current)



22,726 homes
powered per year
(equivalent)



Approximately
140 hectares
of land



15,821 tonnes of
carbon emissions
saved



10,881 cars taken
off the road per year
(equivalent)

Supporting communities

We are committed to supporting the local communities around our solar projects, to create a positive impact on society and the environment that goes beyond generating renewable energy.

We are also looking for local projects and organisations that we can support and would be grateful for suggestions.

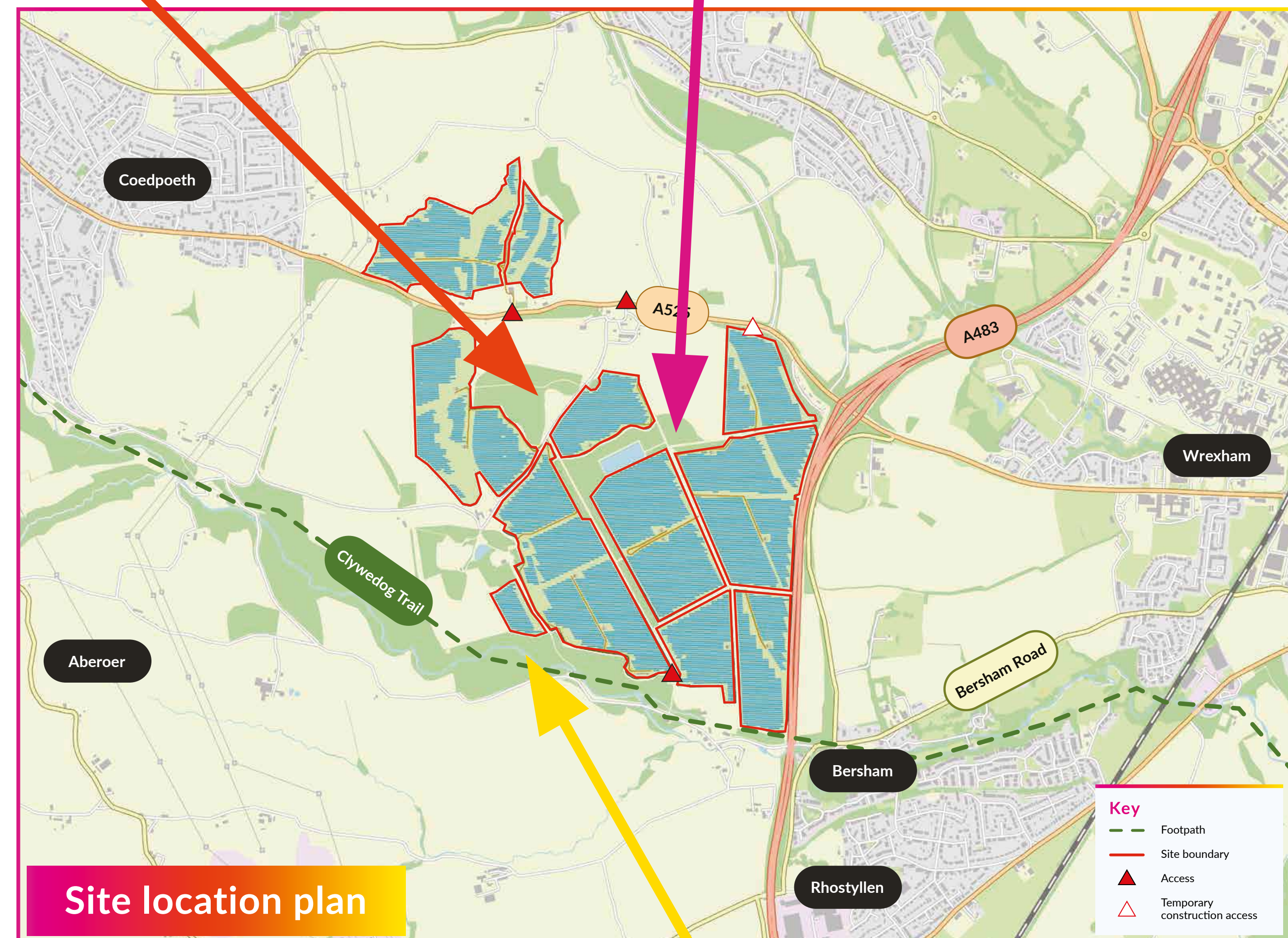
Environmental considerations

Landscape and visual

Mature hedgerows and woodlands border much of the site, screening it from the surrounding area. Additional screening will also be planted to reduce the visual impact.

Biodiversity

- Most of the existing on-site hedgerows will be preserved or improved, with additional hedgerows and wildflower areas planted. All habitats which could be of value for wildlife, such as bats and dormice, will be protected by a buffer zone.
- This project also provides an exciting opportunity to enhance the site for native species and boost biodiversity locally, details of which will be set out in our Biodiversity Management Plan.



Cultural heritage

The proposals have been updated since 2021 to remove a section containing Offa's Dyke and to reduce the impact on the setting of the Grade II listed Plas Power House.

Hydrology and Hydrogeology

The site is considered to be at low risk of flooding and wheel washers and dust suppression measures will also minimise the chance of pollutants entering watercourses.



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Site location and environmental constraints

