

**Councillor John Williams – Cabinet Member for
Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy**

Riverside House
Main Street
Rotherham
S60 1AE

E-mail: john.williams@rotherham.gov.uk

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Ref	Direct Line:	Please Ask For
JW/LH	01709 807949	Councillor Williams

21st January 2026

Cllr Greg Reynolds
Elected Member

Via email: greg.reynolds@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Reynolds,

Council Meeting – Wednesday 14th January 2026

Thank you for your question raised at the Council meeting on Wednesday 14th January. I have set out your question and my response below.

How many brownfield sites were actually considered by the Whitestone solar project?

As you are aware, the application for Whitestone Solar Farm will be determined by the Planning Inspectorate as it is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. I can advise you that there is no specific national planning policy requirement to consider Brownfield sites first and the Council does not have this information available. However, the Council's Planning service have requested that the applicant address this point regarding their assessment of Brownfield sites within their final Environmental Statement which they will need to submit to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the Development Consent Order.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor John Williams
Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy / Ward Councillor for Hooper