

**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

20th January 2026

Cllr Taiba Yasseen
Elected Member

Via email: taiba.yasseen@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Yasseen,

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.

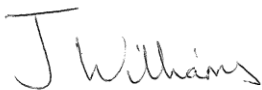
Has the Council commissioned or reviewed an independent assessment of the environmental and agricultural impacts of losing approximately 4,700 acres of productive Rotherham farmland to the proposed solar farm development, including effects on soil quality, biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and local food production?

I can advise that the Council will consider these issues as part of the local impact report and as the Development Consent Order has not yet been submitted, work on the local impact report has not yet commenced.

The Council will be consulting appropriate experts to provide an independent and specialist assessment on these issues to inform the local impact report.

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