# Objections and Withdrawal: Planning Battles in Northumberland and Winsford



## Northumberland Solar Farm Faces Objections, Likely Approval

A plan to build a solar farm in Northumberland has been recommended for approval despite local resistance. The Castle Morpeth Local Area Planning Committee is set to review the proposal next week, which involves the installation of 256 solar panels on land east of West Chevington Farm near Hadston. This site has been used for construction purposes since 2017, as part of a project to convert farm buildings into nine homes, including holiday lets.

The solar farm aims to make these properties self-sufficient in electricity. The planners' documents indicate potential power supply for three additional dwellings yet to be built. Organized into 32 arrays, each containing eight panels, the structure's dimensions would be 4.1m by 5.2m.

Several residents, organized as the West Chevington Action Group, have expressed concerns. They argue the development is too close to residential areas and a listed building, and could adversely affect the area's appearance. The group also raised issues related to the efficiency and security of solar farms. Despite these objections, council planners have noted that factors like decreased property value and over-development hold limited weight in planning decisions.

## Winsford Housing Plan Withdrawn After Objections

An outline application to build twelve houses on land associated with Littler House in Winsford has been withdrawn following objections. Submitted to Cheshire West and Chester Council in April last year, the plan involved demolishing Littler House and constructing a new access road from Littler Lane. The proposal included two pairs of semi-detached homes, categorized as 'affordable,' and eight detached houses.

Although Littler House is not protected, local residents expressed concerns about increased traffic, impacts on wildlife, and strained public services. One resident emphasized the prolonged disruption from nearby development and opposed further habitat destruction. The applicant's planning statement argued the development would be environmentally suitable and consistent with local aesthetics. However, a council document confirmed the application's withdrawal from the planning register.