

Public Consultation for the proposed

Great Cauldham Farm AD Plant

Welcome

The following consultation material is for the proposed Great Cauldham Farm Anaerobic Digestion (AD) Development. The purpose of this consultation is to hear the views of the local community before the plans are finalised and a planning application is submitted to Dover District Council.

The event aims to:

- Provide an overview of the development proposal;
- Provide the opportunity to ask the team any questions you may have about the proposal;
- Gather feedback for consideration when the finalising proposals to form the planning application submission.



Who we are

Greenacre Energy is a firm of AD developers consisting of a multi-disciplinary team with significant experience in renewable energy project development, land and AD operations.

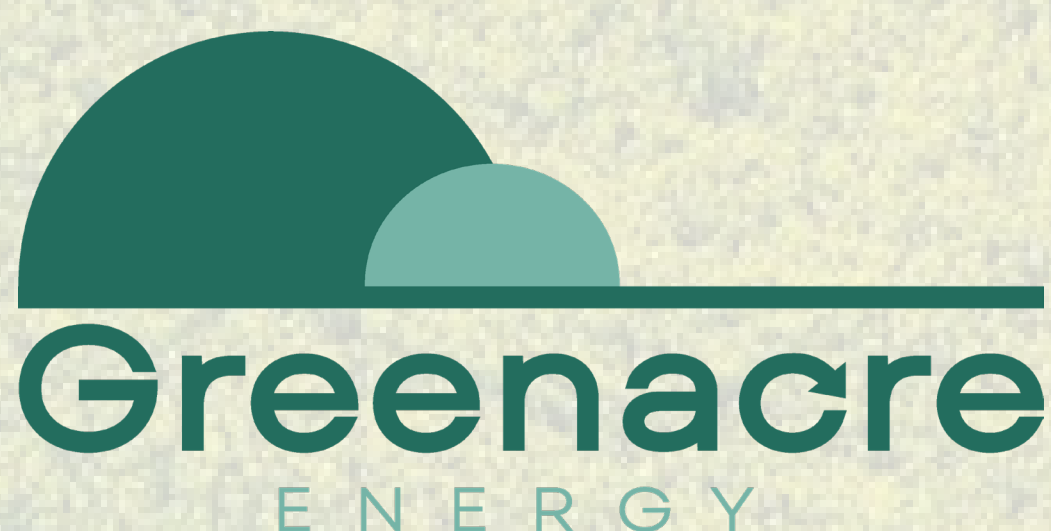
Greenacre Energy's objective is to develop sustainable Biomethane projects that are a source of renewable gas for the national gas grid and biogenic carbon dioxide for industrial processes and food and beverage manufacturers.



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS

Who we are

ICP are a specialist planning and development consultancy and have been appointed by Greenacre Energy to provide planning support for the proposed development. ICP provide technical planning support to a wide variety of energy projects nationwide, including Anaerobic Digestion Plants, Solar, Onshore Wind, Battery Energy Storage Systems, Green Hydrogen and Lithium extraction schemes.



Great Cauldham Farm AD Plant

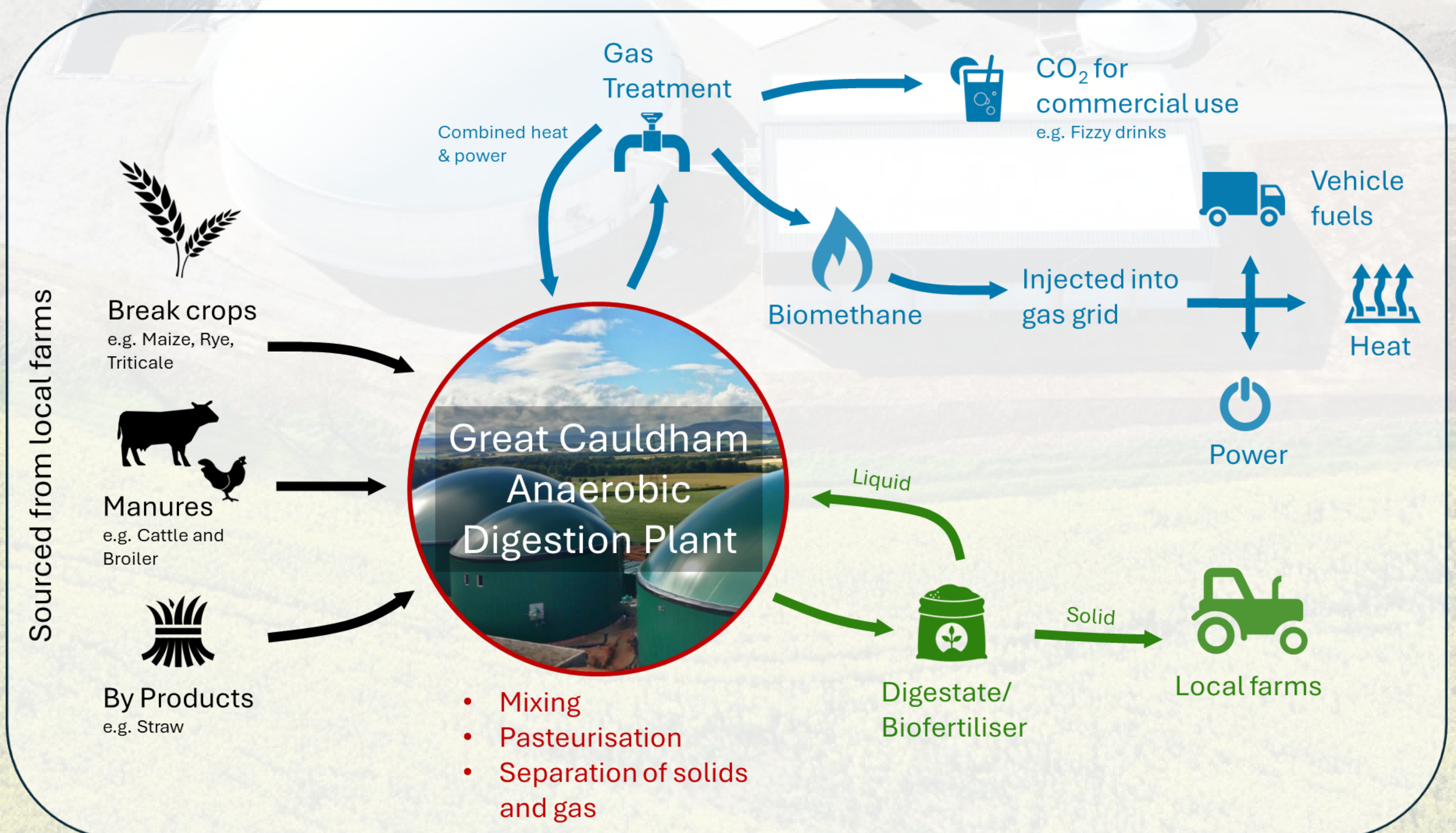
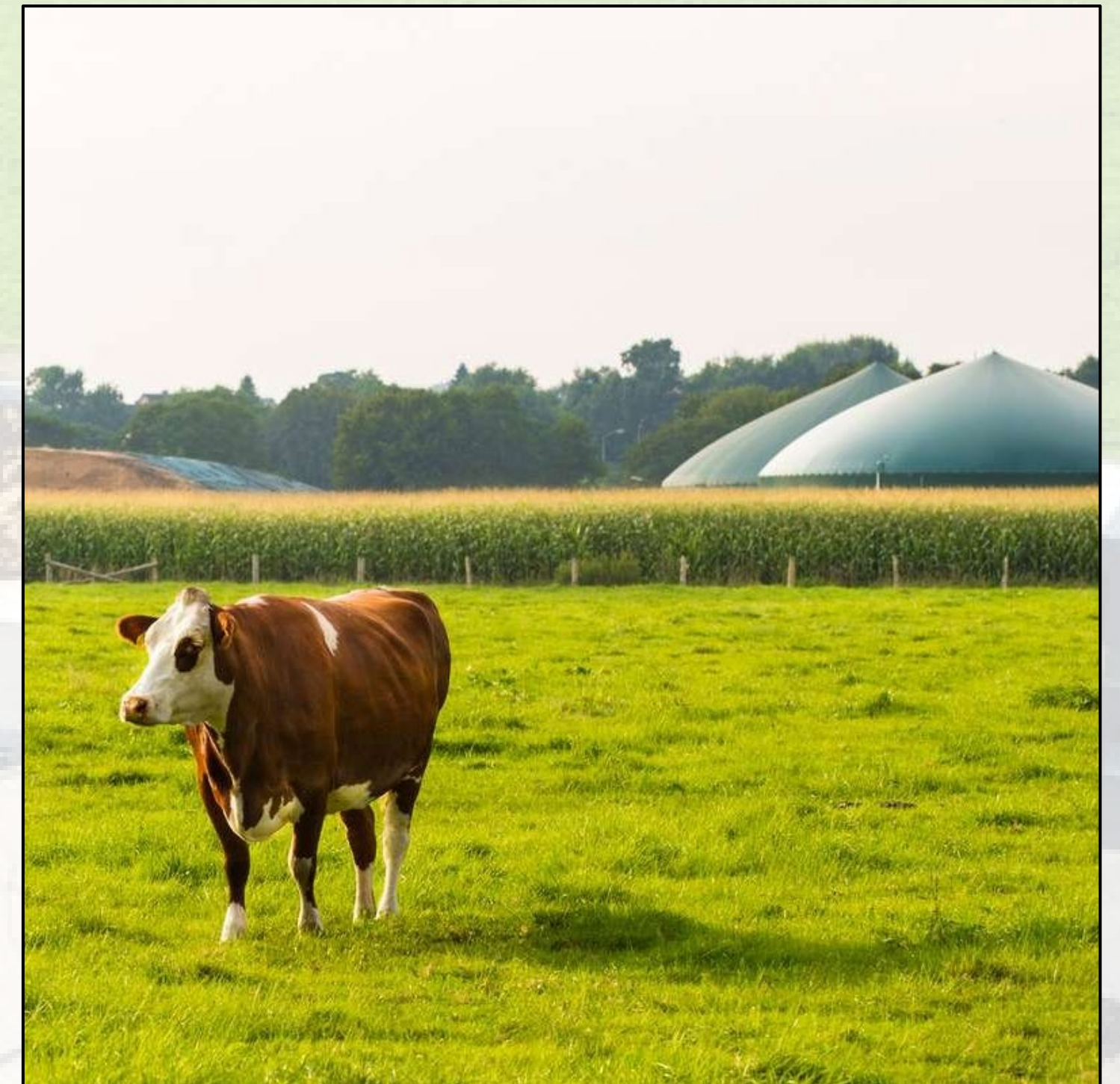
What is Anaerobic Digestion

Anaerobic Digestion is a sustainable method of producing energy by breaking down organic matter (such as agricultural residues & energy crops) into **biogas, CO₂** and **digestate**.

Biogas can be used as a fuel for Combined Heat & Power (CHP) engines, upgraded to Biomethane for injection into the gas grid or as renewable transport fuel.

CO₂ is captured and can be used in industrial process or food preparation.

Digestate is a nutrient-rich biofertiliser used in agricultural or horticultural applications.



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Benefits of the Proposal

- Provision of green gas which will be injected into the local gas network, helping to decarbonise one of the more difficult sectors – heating and transport.
- Gas produced would supply the equivalent of approx. 7,000 homes use per annum.
- Produce approximately 10,000 tonnes per annum of Biogenic CO₂ which will be utilised in industrial processes.
- Production of digestate which will be used as a bio-fertiliser reducing the need for artificial fertiliser, a big source of greenhouse gases.
- Supports a vibrant rural economy by providing diversification of employment opportunities for farming businesses.
- The proposed AD Plant would generate up to 15 jobs within the local area, up to 6 directly on site and up to 7 associated jobs with third party businesses as a result of feedstock supply and bio-fertiliser offtake.
- The proposal will deliver at least 110% Biodiversity net gain.



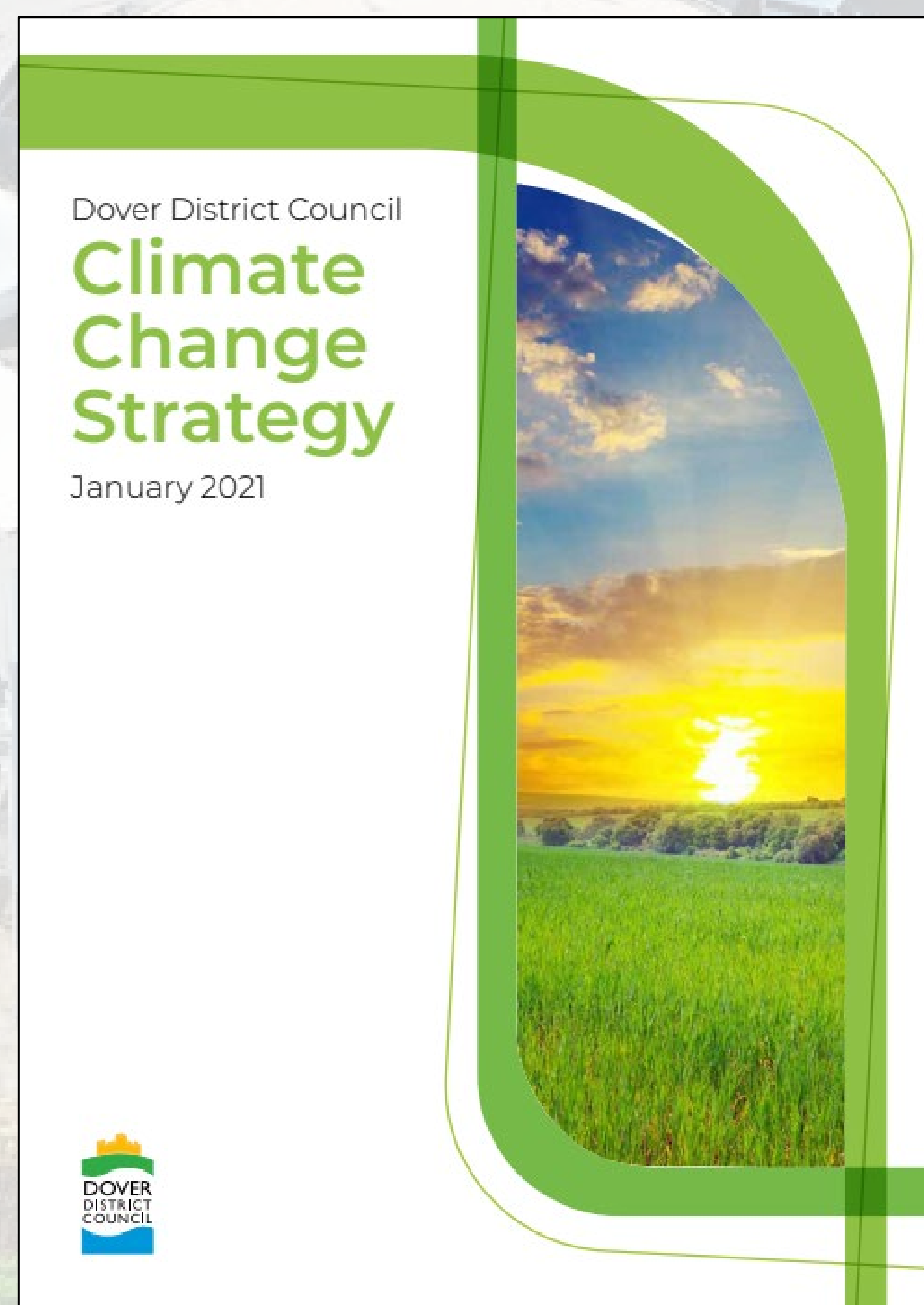
Greenacre Energy would be happy to discuss potential further on or off-site benefits for the local community. Please let us know if you have any suggestions for measures which could be incorporated into the proposals, or other local initiatives.

Great Cauldham Farm AD Plant

The Need for the Project

AD will have an important role to play in supporting the UK Government's objective of achieving Net Zero by 2050. The AD industry alone has the potential to reduce the total of the UK's Green House Gas emissions by 6% over the next 10 years.

AD will play an important role in reducing Green House Gas Emissions from Agriculture, through the utilisation of residues as feedstock that would otherwise contribute to emissions during their storage and application. The technology also offers other benefits in that it allows CO₂ from biogas production to be captured and the nutrients from the incoming feedstock be returned to the surrounding agricultural land as a biofertiliser.



Locally, Kent County Council and Dover District Council have a Climate Change Strategy's in place to make the whole district carbon neutral by 2050. The proposed Great Cauldham AD facility would contribute significantly to this aim.

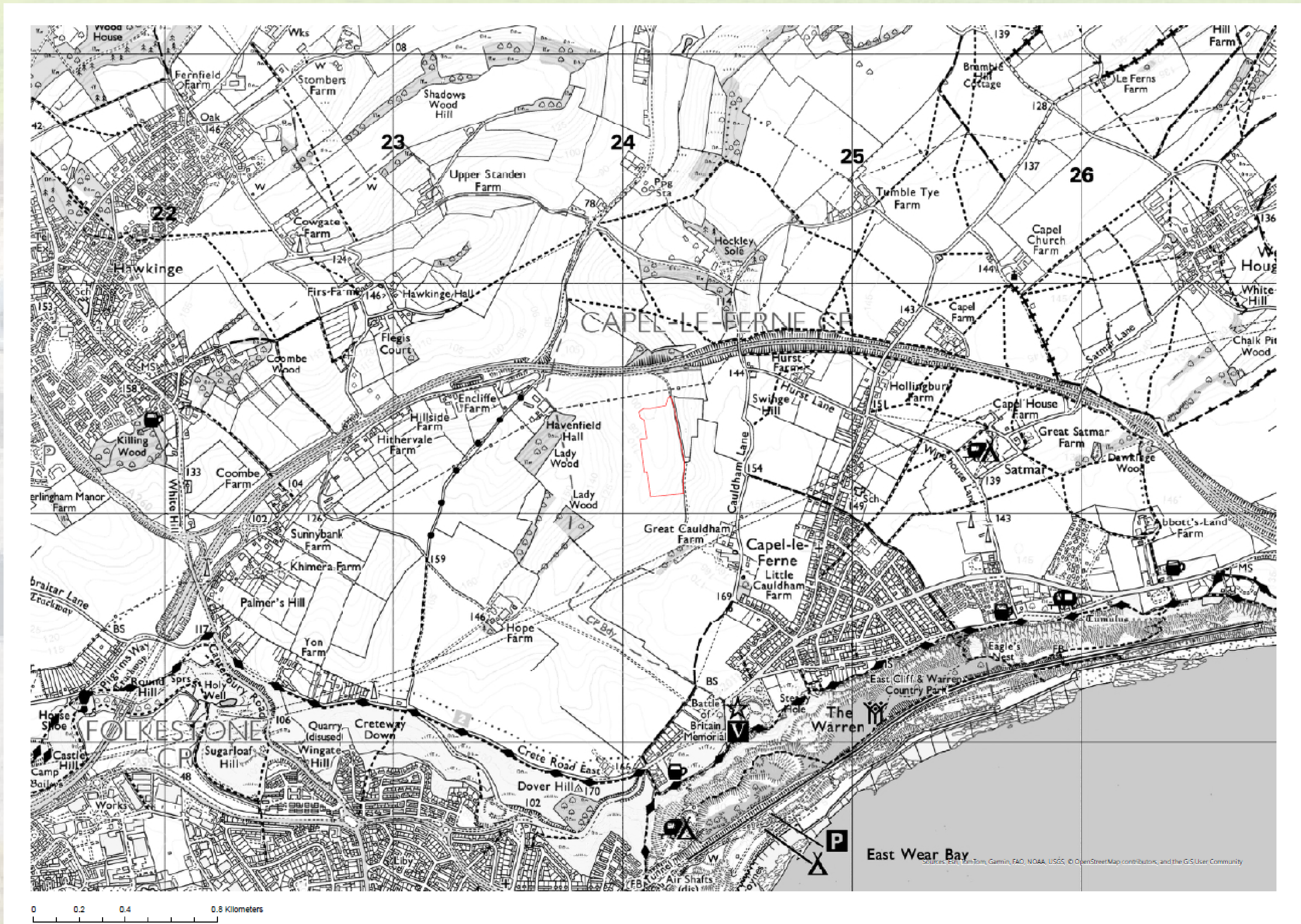
AD has a number of advantages over other renewable technologies. It can provide a constant supply of energy through management of the feedstock supply to digesters, compared to wind and solar which only operate under certain climatic conditions and are intermittent generators as a result. The resulting gas can be stored elsewhere in the gas grid.

Great Cauldham Farm AD Plant

The Existing Site

The Location

The proposed site is located approximately 1km northwest from Capel-le-Ferne and approximately 3.6km northeast from the centre of Folkstone.



The Site

The location plan above shows the site area within the red line boundary. The site covers an area of 6.5 hectares (16 acres). The current use of the site is for farming and has historically been used for agricultural purposes.

The site is bordered by agricultural land and woodland to the west and further agricultural land in arable production to the south. The existing Great Cauldham Farm complex is located to the south east of the site.

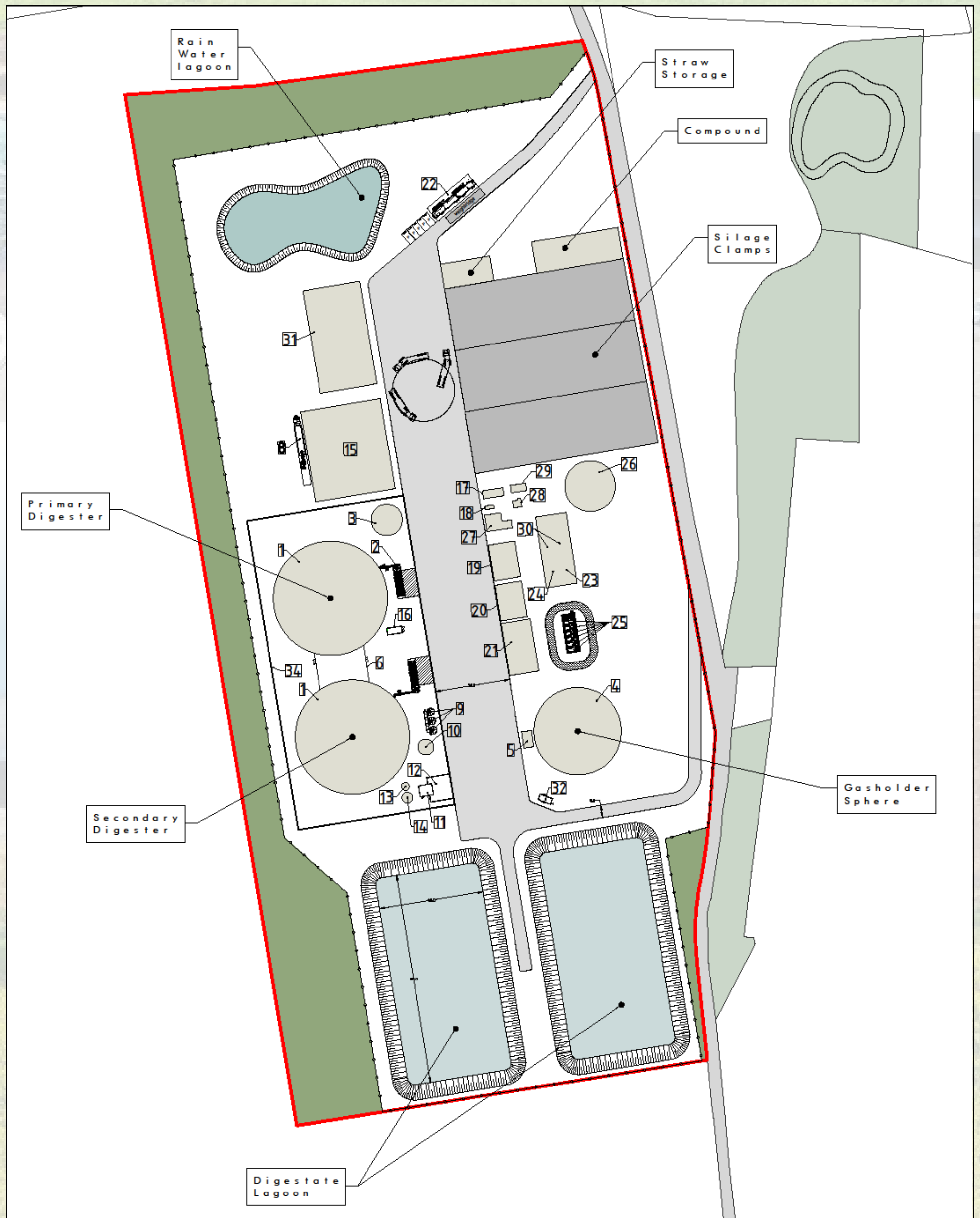
The site will be accessed from Alkham Valley Road via the existing farm access to the north.

The site has previously had planning consent granted for a similar AD facility in 2013 (Council Planning application reference DOV/13/00716), however this was never implemented.

Great Cauldham Farm AD Plant

The Proposed Layout

1. Digester Ø45,00m/Ø26,00m/h=9,00m
Primary digester $V_{\text{substrate}}=8.831\text{m}^3$
Secondary digester $V_{\text{substrate}}=4.513\text{m}^3$
2. Feeding system 120m³+Hammer Mill
3. Reception tank Ø12,00m; h=5,00m; ~500m³
4. Gasholder Sphere $V_{\text{gas}}=-10.000\text{m}^3$
5. Gas valve chamber
6. Pumping enclosure
7. Switchboard room
8. Odor treatment
9. Pasteurisation tanks 3x30m³
10. Buffer tank ~250m³
11. Separator
12. Centrifugal separator
13. Separation liquid tank from separator
14. Liquid digestate tank
15. Reception building
16. Boiler container
17. Gas entry unit
18. Emergency generator
19. Gas pre-treatment
20. Gas upgrading unit
21. CO₂ Recovery unit
22. Office and welfare containers
23. CO₂ liquification
24. Carbo scan
25. Propane tanks
26. Gas flare
27. CHP Container
28. Substation
29. LV Board
30. CO₂ Storage tanks
31. Schaidler Peletizer building
32. Spare parts building
33. Substrate Feeding system 60m³+pump
34. Bund area



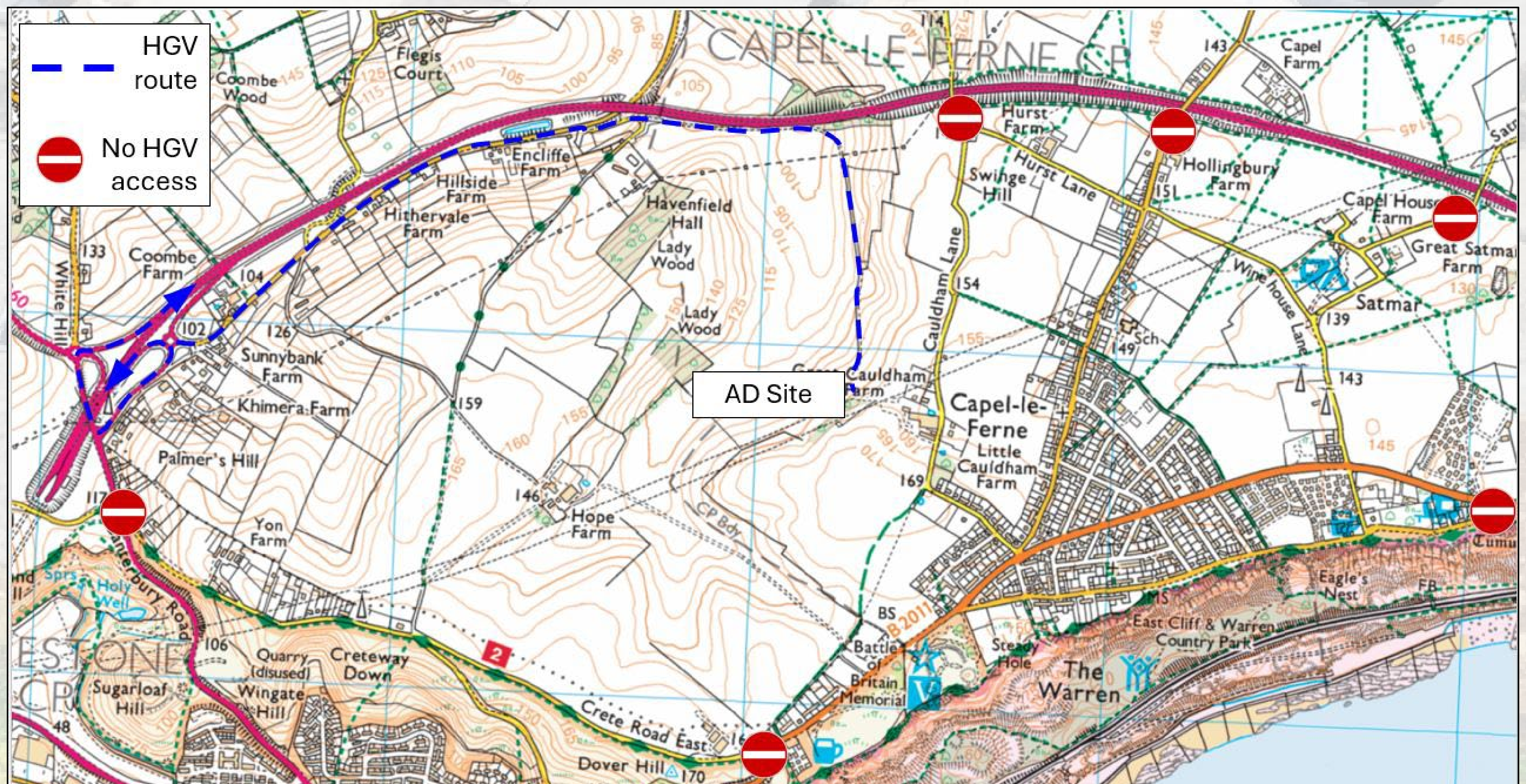
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Traffic Management

Site Access

The proposed AD facility will be accessed from the A20 and Alkham Valley Road via the existing farm access road to the north.

The route HGVs will take is shown within the highways routing plan below. It is proposed that traffic to the site will come from the A20 to the Northwest, down Alkham Valley Road with a right turn onto the existing farm access towards the site. Vehicles leaving the site will undertake a reverse of this route. **No HGVs will use the village roads.**



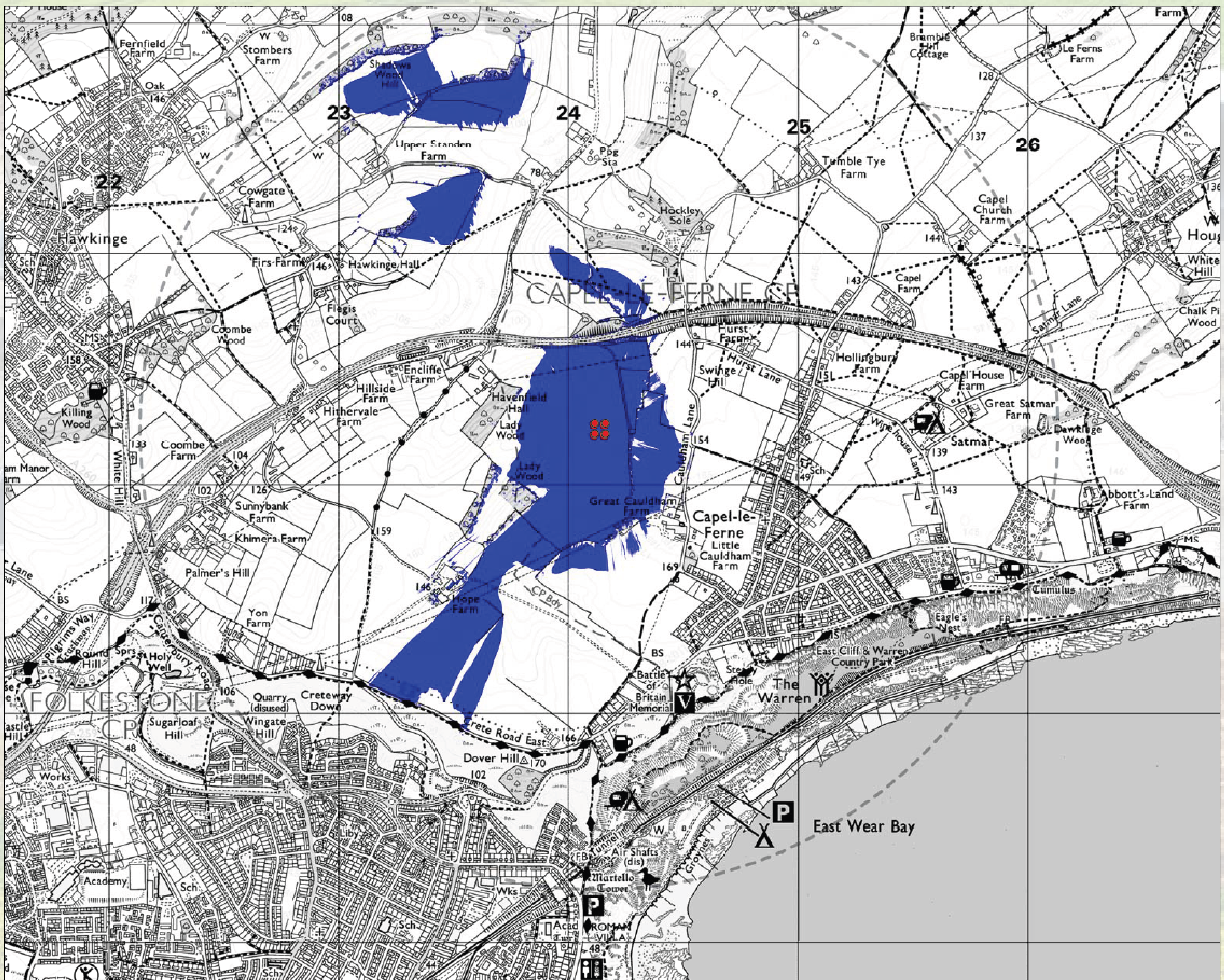
Due to the nature of the agricultural material being brought to the site, it is anticipated that the vehicles serving the site will comprise a mixture of HGVs and tractors and trailers coming from local farms to the site.

Prior to undertaking any deliveries to the site, all contractors will be inducted and shown the access route, any non-compliance will result in that individual operator being banned from using the site.

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Visual Impacts

The site occupies an isolated site at the bottom of an approximately 30m-40m deep valley between the A20 to the north and Capel-le-Ferne to the south. This location severely restricts long distant views of the site.



The areas shaded in blue above provide a **worst case** indication of where the proposed scheme may be visible from. The plan shows that visibility of the site is highly constrained by the existing landscape and views of the site won't be possible from any of the surrounding built up areas.

The application site lies within the Kent Downs National Landscape, as such the project needs to balance the needs of creating green energy and supporting the rural economy alongside minimising the project's visual impact.

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Next Steps

Thank you for taking the time to attend this event and we welcome any feedback that you may have. The comments we receive will be taken into account wherever possible in the ongoing development process leading up to the submission of the planning application.

Members of the public will then be able to view and formally comment on the finalised proposal of Great Cauldham Farm AD Plant, via the Dover District Council Planning Portal.

A copy of the information shown at this event will be accessible online to review and provide feedback via: www.icplanning.co.uk/consultation

Timetable

Public Exhibition	1 April 2025
Review Feedback and finalise proposals	April/May 2025
Submit planning application	Late Spring/Early Summer 2025

The planning application submission will be accompanied by the following supporting information which will be available to view online:

- Transport Statement
- Agricultural Land Classification Report
- Landscape and visual impact Assessment
- Air Quality and Odour Assessment
- Ecological Impact Assessment
- Heritage Impact Assessment
- Flood Risk and Drainage Assessment
- Noise Assessment
- Biodiversity Net Gain Calculation

Thank you for attending today

Please fill in one of our comment forms and leave in the sealed container. Post completed comment forms to:

Great Cauldham AD c/o ICP, Portland House- Block D, New Bridge Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8AL

Comments via email before 8 April 2025 at: planning@identityconsult.co.uk