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**Our reference:** MW/JC/NS  
**Your reference:**  
**Please ask for:** Mike Worden  
**Extension:** 89104  
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**Date:** 28 January 2016

Dear Mr Thwaite

### **Solar Farm Planning Applications**

Thank you for your letter of 4 January 2016 and happy new year to you too. At the outset, I apologise for not being able to respond to you until now.

I appreciate your concerns regarding the solar farm application which I can confirm was submitted in July 2015 for a solar development at Dickinson's Farm, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. However, the submission did not contain all the required information and as such was never registered as a valid planning application. The applicant subsequently decided that they did not wish to proceed with the application and it was formally withdrawn on 19 January 2016.

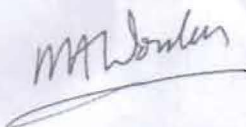
The Council currently has one valid planning application for a solar farm elsewhere in the borough, at Cleworth Hall Farm in Tyldesley (A/15/81522/MAJOR).

As with all planning applications; solar farm developments must each be considered on their own merits, having regard to material planning considerations which include the potential impacts on the Green Belt and agricultural land, as well as their impact on neighbouring properties and in the wider landscape.

National changes to the financial support previously available for solar developments, whilst clearly having an impact on the financial viability of such developments, are not a material planning consideration.

I hope the above information is helpful and clarifies the present position.

Yours sincerely



**Mike Worden**  
Assistant Director Planning and Transport

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Please reply to Mike Worden

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