

I hope I find you well and many thanks for your forbearance in this matter.

I have spoken to the installation company and they have provided the following data regarding parts of the installation that are in contact with the ground:

From installation company:

Following the request from Wiltshire Planning for confirmation of the footprint of the PV installation, I have recalculated the footprint of the ballast blocks and the proposed cable protection.

*Each ballast block measures **2.8 m x 0.4 m**, giving a footprint of **1.12 m² per block**. With **12 ballast blocks** in total, the combined ballast footprint area is therefore:*

13.44 m²

*The electrical connection between the array and the building will be installed using **SWA cable within a 100 mm protective duct**, with a maximum run length of approximately **20 metres**.*

This results in a cable protection footprint of approximately:

2.0 m²

(20 m × 0.1 m)

*The **total ground footprint associated with the installation is therefore approximately 15.44 m²**, which remains **well below the 25 m² threshold referenced by the planning officer**.*

Therefore we conclude that this installation should be exempt from the BNG, but as you will see below we will aim to improve biodiversity.

In terms of shading from the PV panels, there will be shading at round midday (sun in a Southerly direction), but from the start of the day when the sun rises in the East until the end of the day when the sun sets in the west there will be times of no shading behind the PV panels.

We want to improve the sustainability of the FM and DAB transmitters at Camp Hill (the point of the installation of the PV panels) but having looked at improving biodiversity we propose to also construct and install a '**hedgehog house**' that can sit behind the PV panels please see link <https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/hedgehog-homes/>

I hope this is helpful, and can enable the planning application to progress, as we are keen (given that finally the sun is shining 😊) to progress the installation and improve the sustainability and significantly reduce reliance on fossil fuels to power the transmitters.

We have strived to have a minimal impact on the wildlife with this application, hence no digging coupled with the small footprint in contact with the ground.