



The countryside charity
Hertfordshire

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Standing up for Hertfordshire's countryside

Ted Mead
Development Management
East Herts District Council
Wallfields
Pegs Lane
Hertford SG13 8EQ

Our Ref:

Your Ref:

23rd May 2025 (by email)

Dear Ted Mead,

**Planning application no. 3/25/0401/FUL
Surrounded, Coveys Lane, High Wych CM21 0LE
Retrospective change of use from grazing land to residential garden and
installation of ground level solar panels**

I write with regard to the above planning application for a retrospective change of use from grazing land to residential. CPRE Hertfordshire supports fully the provision of renewable energy as part of efforts to ameliorate the harm caused by climate change, particularly domestic and rooftop installations wherever appropriate.

Our concern with regard to this application relates to the designation of a greater land area than appears to be necessary for the solar panel installation. The site is land identified by Policy GBR2 of the East Herts District Plan as Rural Area Beyond the Green Belt where the rural character is to be maintained.

The identification of a significantly larger area for change from agricultural use to residential garden is not appropriate as this could facilitate further development in the future. We would request that the Council explores the possibility of an application for the installation of solar panels rather than a change of use and a reduced site area sufficient for their provision.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Berry
Planning Manager

NOTE: We would request that this letter is published on the Council's website as a document relating to this application and should be grateful if you would notify us of the date of the appropriate meeting if it is to be determined by planning committee.

CPRE is working nationally and locally for a beautiful and living countryside

CPRE Hertfordshire is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

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