

FOI REF:	15385
RESPONSE SENT:	18/03/2025

Request

I would be grateful if you can assist my research into Local Authorities who generate and export electricity from their own energy. I am particularly looking at utility-scale assets, e.g. solar farms, wind turbines and waste to energy plants, rather than small-scale, behind-the-meter assets (e.g. rooftop solar installations). I'd be grateful if you could answer the following questions: -

- 1) Do you own or operate utility-scale electricity generation assets which export to the grid?
- 2) If so, what technologies? And are they 'co-located'? E.g., a solar farm with a battery.
- 3) How much electricity (in kWh) would you expect to be exported, from each asset, per year? And how much revenue would you expect to earn from the export in FY25/26?
- 4) When was each asset commissioned?
- 5) What is the current contractual arrangement to sell the power, to whom is it sold and what is the contract end date?
- 6) Do you partake in any government subsidy scheme in relation to the electrical output from the asset? E.g. Renewables Obligation Certificates (ROC) or Contracts for Difference (CfD).
- 7) Does your Local Authority have any plans in place to acquire, build or invest in electricity generation assets in the future?
 - a) If yes, what is the:
 - Type of Assets (e.g. Solar)
 - Estimated Size of the assets in terms of electricity production
 - Estimated dates of completion
 - Organisations that are constructing the assets (if known)

Response

- 1) The council does not own or operate any utility-scale electricity generation assets (>1MW) which export to the grid.
- 2) N/A
- 3) N/A
- 4) N/A
- 5) N/A
- 6) N/A
- 7) Within the council's [Carbon Neutrality Action Plan \(CNAP\)](https://www.winchester.gov.uk/assets/attach/37652/Carbon-Neutrality-Action-Plan-V2-2023.pdf), (<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/assets/attach/37652/Carbon-Neutrality-Action-Plan-V2-2023.pdf>) the council has committed to "build or invest in large scale renewable generation project(s), e.g. solar farms". The council is currently exploring opportunities to invest in utility-scale generation assets within the Winchester district by 2030. The greatest opportunity for large scale generation within the district is solar PV due to the high solar irradiance in the district. The council is in an early stage of investigation and no firm proposals for a specific site or project have yet been developed.