

Trees, planting and screening

The loss of mature trees and hedgerows, and the visual impact of the solar farm and BESS, were raised as concerns at the first exhibition.

- No trees will be cut down to build and operate this scheme.
- New hedgerows and trees will be added to increase screening of the scheme while enhancing the natural habitat for birds, mammals and insects.
- We will add hedgerow planting alongside the panels to minimise visual impact from Springfield and other nearby properties.
- A habitat management plan will be developed with Fife Council to ensure the right tree species are used to maximise habitat benefit.

Agriculture or renewable energy production?

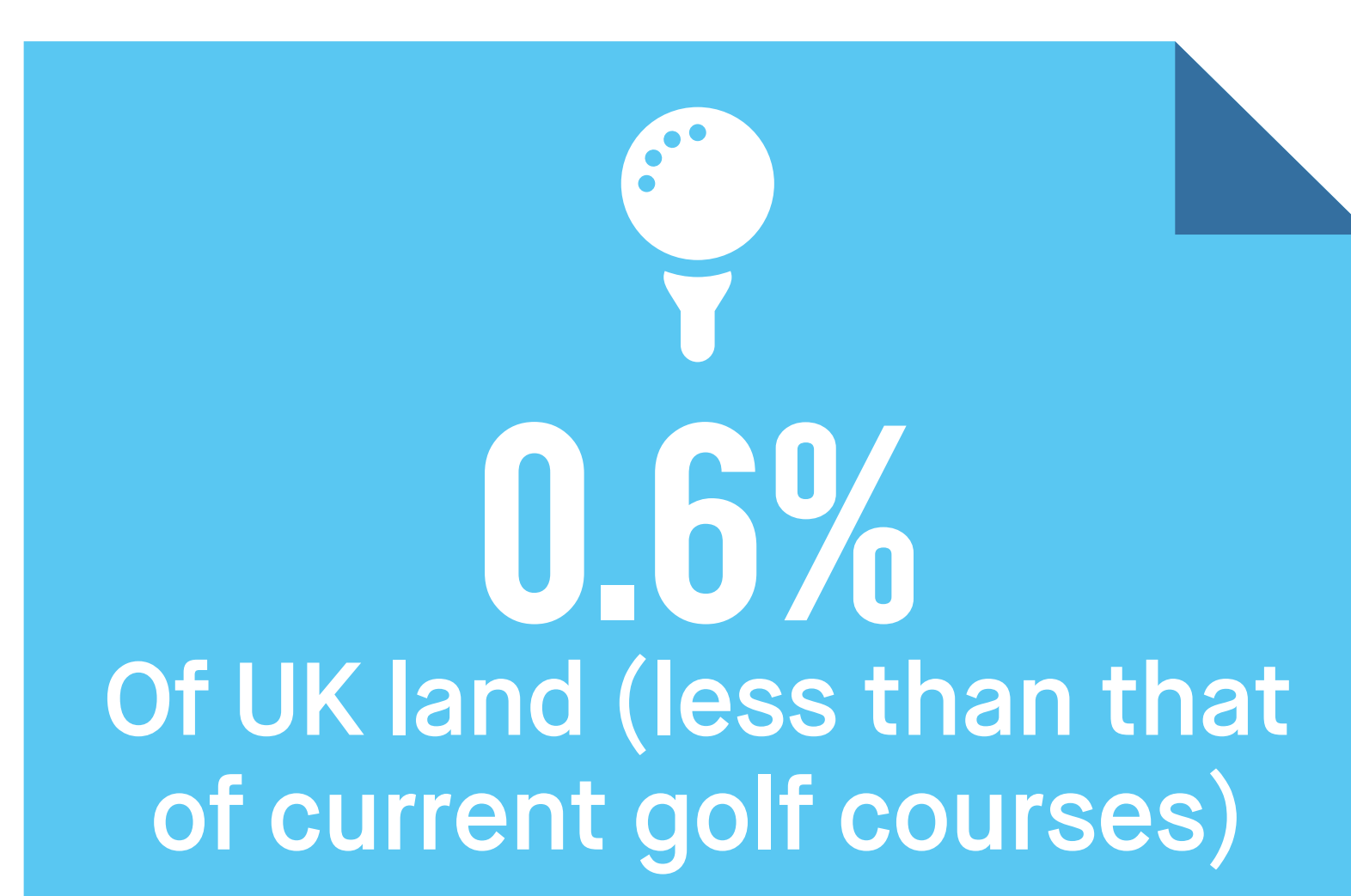
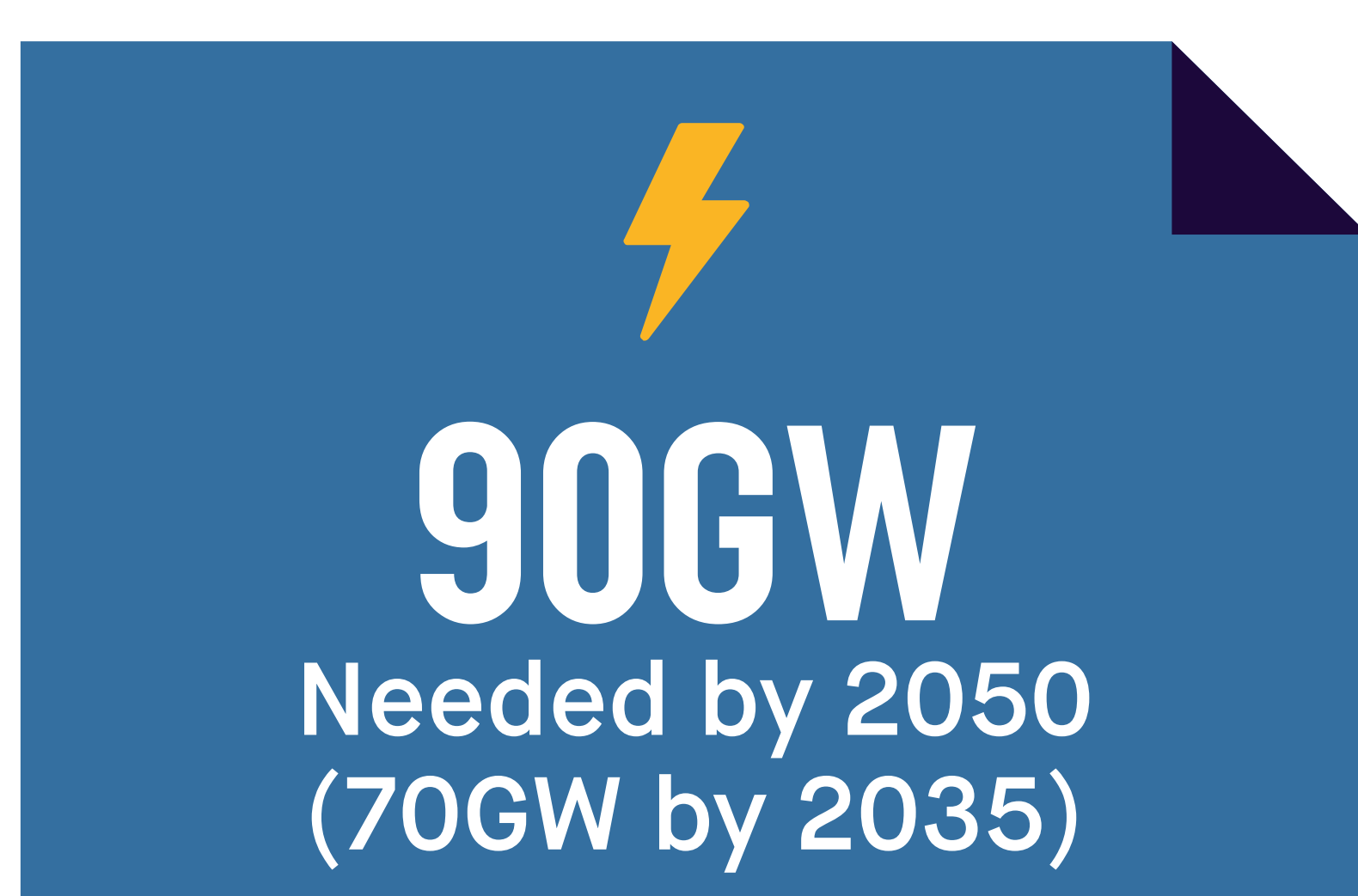
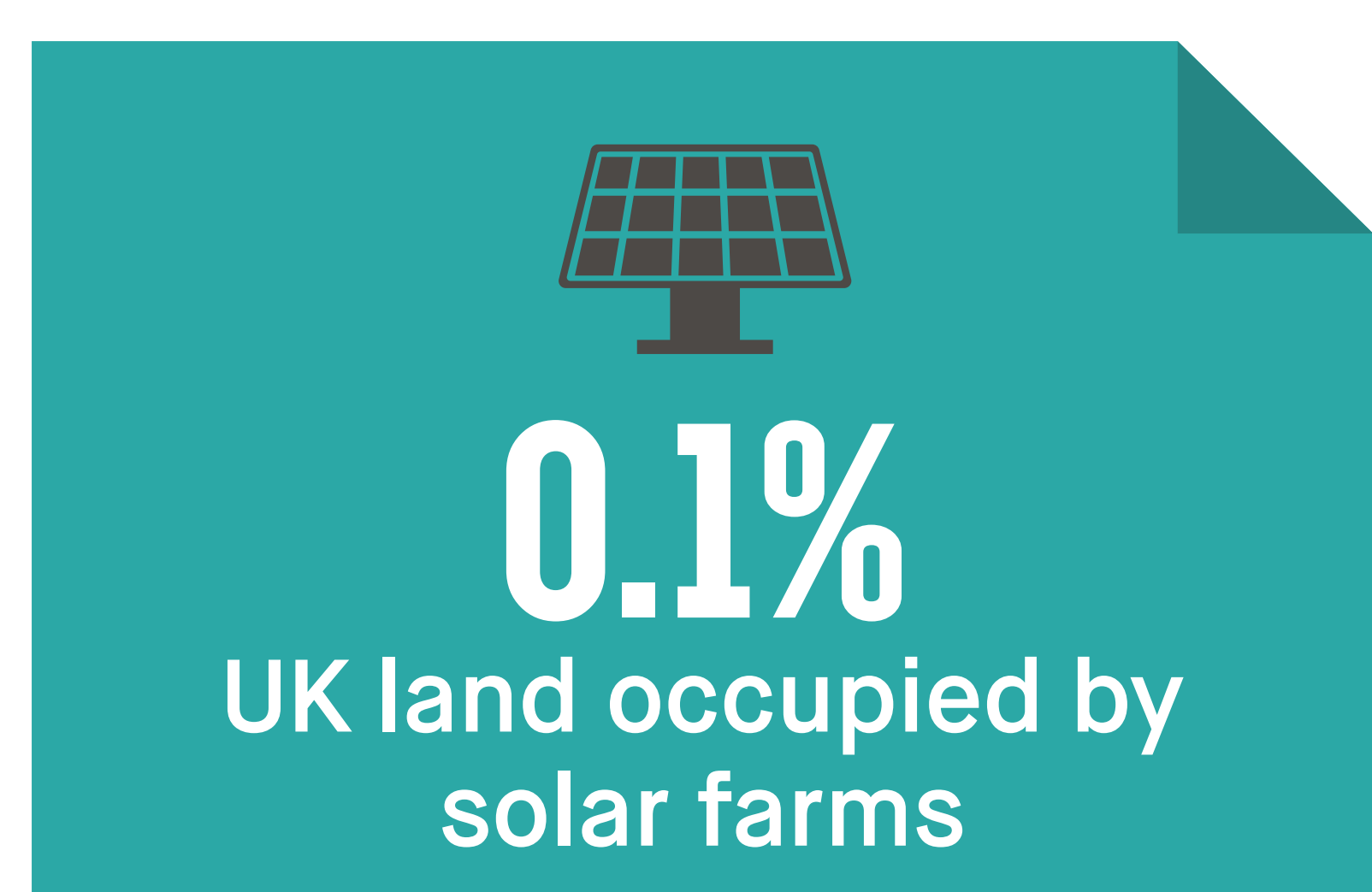
People asked whether building a solar farm in this area would be the best use of agricultural land.

If consented, the solar farm will be used for sheep grazing once constructed, thus allowing continued agricultural use.

Many farming businesses need to diversify in order to remain viable. They use land for many non-food producing purposes: forestry, crops for distilleries, income-generating accommodation and recreational amenities, as well as renewable energy schemes like this one.



INDICATIVE IMAGE



Solar farms in the UK

Currently solar farms occupy less than 0.1% of the UK's land. To meet the government's net zero target, the Climate Change Committee estimates that we will need 90GW of solar by 2050 (70GW by 2035), which would mean solar farms would at most account for approximately 0.6% of UK land – less than the amount currently occupied by golf courses.

If you have any comments or questions about any aspect of the project please talk to a member of the project team or visit our website.

