

THE PLANNING ACT 2008

THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

NORTH FALLS OFFSHORE WIND FARM

Appendix H6 to the Natural England Deadline 6 Submission

Natural England's Lesser Black Backed Gull Compensation Site Advice on the Applicant's Deadline 5 Documents

For:

The construction and operation of North Falls Offshore Wind Farm, located approximately 40 km from the East Anglia Coast in the Southern North Sea.

Planning Inspectorate Reference EN010119

24 June 2025

Appendix H6 Natural England's Lesser Black Backed Gull Compensation Site Advice on the Applicant's Deadline 5 Documents

In formulating these comments, the following documents have been considered:

- [REP5-054] 9.68 Applicant's Response to ExA's Second Written Questions (ExQ2)
 (Rev 0) Screen
- [REP5-055] 9.69 Applicant's Response to Natural England's Deadline 4 Submissions (Rev 0) Screen
- [REP5-072] 9.84 Habitat Regulations Assessment Lesser Black-backed Gull Compensation Gedgrave Marshes Impact Assessment (Rev 0) Review

Table 1: Natural England's advice on: Lesser Black Back Gull Compensation Site(s)

Document reviewed	Update made	Issue resolved?
9.84 HRA LBBG Comp - Gedgrave (Rev 0)	The HRA assesses impacts on Gedgrave Marshes. This is based on a November 2024 site visit and desk-based information. Conclusions of no Likely Significant Effect (LSE) or Adverse Effect on Integrity (AEoI) are based on a precautionary approach considering the site is functionally linked to the SPA/Ramsar bird features. Therefore, we consider that whilst this is not an evidence-based conclusion, the impact assessment does assume that the area is functionally linked for construction, maintenance, and monitoring. In addition, [REP- 064_b] in doc [REP5- 055 9.69] confirms that baseline surveys will be undertaken post consent/pre-construction.	Progressed
9.84 HRA LBBG Comp - Gedgrave (Rev 0)	We note that Paragraph 22 confirms that annual habitat management is anticipated to take place outside of the breeding season, and that installation and maintenance of the fence (taking approx. 2 months) will be carried out between September and January. However, the implications of the fence installation and maintenance for the adjacent RSPB Wader Project have not been considered in the assessment. We advise that if installation and maintenance activities could be carried out in September and October (only extending into November if absolutely necessary) then this would avoid the most sensitive periods for overwintering as well as breeding species.	No