



Planning Inspectorate

Application by Xlinks 1 Limited for Xlinks comprising the installation, operation and maintenance of two converter stations, highway improvement works, and HVDC and HVAC cables.

Case reference: EN010164

Examining Authority's note of unaccompanied site inspection (USI) to which the application or specified matters relates on 1 April 2025

Examining Inspectors Andrea Mageean, Frances Wilkinson and Liam Page (the panel appointed as the Examining Authority for the application for Xlinks) undertook the inspection on 1 April 2025.

The USI was undertaken by car and on foot on public roads and footpaths. A route was planned having regard to issues raised in relevant representations, enabling the panel to obtain views of the site of the proposed development. The panel also inspected the venue for future events. The panel's itinerary for the USI is set out below and includes approximate times and locations. The weather was sunny with little to no cloud and good visibility for the entirety of the USI.

9am departed the hotel and started the USI.

9.30am arrived at Westward Ho! and walked along the coastal path towards the landfall construction compound.

10.10am inspected the vicinity of the landfall construction compound.

10.45am returned to Westward Ho!

11.05am arrived and inspected the vicinity of the A39 construction compound.

11.15am arrived at Bideford and walked along the Tarka Trail towards the vicinity of the River Torridge construction compound.

11.50am arrived and inspected the vicinity of the River Torridge construction compound and looked across the river towards the vicinity of the A386 construction compound.

12.15pm returned to Bideford for lunch.

1.15pm arrived and inspected the vicinity of the Gammaton Road compound.

1.30pm drove the perimeter of the converter site, stopping at several viewpoints.

2.40pm arrived at the Park Hotel and inspected the venue.

3pm returned to the hotel and finished the USI.