The Great Grid Upgrade

BT-NG-020621-545-0194

Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Volume 8: Examination Submissions

Document 8.3.4: Applicant's Draft Itinerary for Accompanied Site Inspection

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The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedures) Rules 2010 Regulation 8(1)(k)

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- This document presents a draft itinerary for Accompanied Site Inspections (ASI) proposed by the Applicant, National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (National Grid), for the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement (the project).
- The Examining Authority (ExA), as set out in the Rule 6 letter dated 7 August 2023 [PD-002], has requested locations and plans for an ASI, taking into consideration of locations referred to in Relevant Representations, locations requiring private land access, sites recommended by interested parties, a route that can be covered in a day and locations where the Applicant has predicted likely significant environmental effects.
- This document also takes account of comments made by the ExA and others at the Preliminary Meeting held on 12 September 2023. This included not visiting locations already visited by the ExA as part of any Unaccompanied Site Inspections (USI), where those locations are publicly accessible (e.g. public highway or public rights of way) and including a table outlining why certain locations suggested by IP's have not been included.
- 1.1.4 This document is submitted at Deadline 1 and provides the Applicant's suggestions for an ASI itinerary.
- 1.1.5 The applicant also provides justification (see Table 2.1) as to why certain locations are not included in the draft itinerary based on the criteria set on paragraph 1.1.2 and 1.1.3.

1.2 Notes about the proposed route

- The route is designed to be driven from East to West (Bramford to Twinstead). It commences at Ipswich Train Station. The detailed plans (see Appendix B) comprising 3 sheets showing the points of interest for the ASI and the proposed driving route. The Key Plan, in Appendix A, gives an overview of the route.
- Attendees may find it useful to read the Project Description, Environmental Statement Chapter 4 [APP-072] as background information prior to the site visit.
- 1.2.3 It is presented as a one day inspection as it is considered it can all be achieved in one long day, although noting the time of year it will need to start promptly in the morning.

1.3 Logistics

Timings

- Arrangements such as the date and start and finish times of the site inspections are to be confirmed by the ExA. However, this draft itinerary is presented as a single day site inspection to take place week commencing 06 November 2023, starting at 08:30 and finishing at 17:00. Attendees are asked to arrive at the meeting point ahead of the departure time of 08:30 to allow time for a safety briefing prior to the site visit.
- The start time, finish time and estimated durations between and at each location is outlined in Table 3.1. They are indicative at this stage.

Transport

- Due to the nature of the local roads, appropriate vehicles will need to be considered based on the number of attendees. For example, it will be difficult to get a large minibus to certain locations.
- The starting point for the ASI is Ipswich Train Station at the dedicated coach stop area off Station Yard, immediately fronting the train station entrance. This gives attendees opportunities to either arrive by train, or to drive and park in the train station car park for the duration of the visit.
- Any road closures in the local area that may impact route access will be reviewed before the site visit through Suffolk County Council's website.

Attire

- Owing to the varied terrain and time of year, it is recommended that attendees wear footwear with sturdy ankle support, cover arms and legs when walking along footpaths and in proximity to vegetation.
- Suitable waterproof clothing should also be brought based on the weather forecast for the day.
- Site attendees will be provided with a high-visibility vest. Any other personal protective equipment is not required; however, attendees are not discouraged from bringing any such equipment they feel would assist in comfort during the site visit. The Grid Supply Point site is a live (CDM) construction site, however access to the working area itself is not proposed and therefore additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will not be required.

Lunch and Comfort Stops

1.3.9 Comfort stops and lunch locations have been identified on the ASI plans (Appendix B). The locations will be local shops and cafes where people can get food and use facilities.

Weather

In advance of the site visit, National Grid will discuss weather and road conditions with the ExA should there be any adverse weather conditions prohibiting the visit.

Land Access

- 1.3.11 Some of the proposed route can be viewed from public footpaths and highways.
- Where private land access is required, National Grid will make access arrangements with the landowners or occupiers. Whilst every effort will be made to access private land, this will depend on the landowner and/or occupier's voluntary consent and therefore may not always be possible.
- Access to private land has been highlighted in the 'Duration and Parking' column in Table 3.1.

2. Excluded locations

Table 2.1 below reviews the locations suggested by Interested Parties and justifies the reason for not including these locations within the itinerary (shown in Table 3.1 in the subsequent section).

Table 2.1 Excluded Locations

Interested Party	Suggested Location	Reason for excluding
Babergh and Mid Suffolk Council	Bramford Substation	Already included as Location 1 in the Draft Itinerary.
Council	Cable Sealing End Compounds	Already included as Location 7, 10, 11 and 14 in the Draft Itinerary.
	Hintlesham Hall	Already included as Location 4 in the Draft Itinerary.
	Brett Valley	This location would cause too much deviation from the route with time implications. A closer viewpoint which shows parts of Brett Valley has already been included is Location 7.
	East Anglian School of Art	The school was located at Benton End House, Benton Street, Hadleigh (///motivates.prefer.autumn). The relationship between the property and the route can be observed from the public footpath which runs along Benton Street and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	Box Valley	Already included as Location 8 in the Draft Itinerary.
Suffolk County Council	Proposed sealing end compound locations	Already included as Location 7, 10, 11 and 14 in the Draft Itinerary.
	Layham quarry alternative compound	This location can be seen from a public highway adjacent to the entrance to the quarry on Popes Green Lane (///silver.hourglass.goose).
	Viewpoints to consider the impact of the developments between the AONB sections	Already included in the form of three location points within Section F. These are Location 9, 10 and 11 in the Draft Itinerary.
Highways Authority (forming part of Suffolk	Access routes (shown in Appendix A of response)	These locations can be seen from a public highway and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.

Interested Party	Suggested Location	Reason for excluding
County Council response)	A1071 in terms of road safety Hintlesham Bends and the section between Hintlesham and Beagle Roundabout, specifically the pinch point between Burstall Bridge and Pigeon Lane. Routes from the A12 to the cable corridor (A143 county boundary to Assington), B1508 (Bures to Sudbury particularly through Bures), B1070 (Holton to Hadleigh including Benton Street) noting the geometry, road width, vegetation, proximity of buildings and non-standard slip road access onto the A12.	
	Local routes along cable corridor with regard to the geometry, width, proximity of buildings, NMU facilities, and vegetation. To include: - • Stone Street (between Boxford and Leavenheath) • Permanent accesses to Cable Sealing End Compounds (Polstead, Levington, Assington)	These locations can be seen from a public highway and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	Abnormal Indivisible Load Routes from Ipswich Wet Dock (east) or West Bank to Bramford Substation via either Sproughton or Claydon noting structures at A137 Wherstead Road (Ostridge Creek) including: - B1113 Rail and River Gipping Bridge, Great Blakenham and the water main adjacent to A1214 Tesco's, Pinewood.	These locations can be seen from a public highway and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
Public Right of Way Team (forming part of Suffolk County Council response)	1 ladieigh - W-203/030/0	These locations can be seen from a Public Right of Way (PRoW) and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	Dorking Tye House, Bures St Mary. Key access link north of Bures Green • W-113/001/0 Assington Restricted Byway No. 1 • W-171/002/X Bures St Mary Restricted Byway No. 2, continuing as W[1]171/002/0 Bures St Mary Public Footpath No. 2	

Interested Party	Suggested Location	Reason for excluding	
Natural Environment Team (forming part of Suffolk County Counci response)	View from Tye Lane from the top half of The Channel (VP AB2.11, AB19, AB2.17, AB2.18, facing southeast towards Bramford, to perceive the impacts of the new pylons connecting into Bramford Substation on the landscape.	require private land access. Impacts of the new pylons connecting into	
	Public Right of Way to the north-western edge of Burstall, around the Walnut Tree Farm (VP AB03, AB2.11, AB2.18, AB2.19). Burstall will experience significant cumulative effects if the Norwich to Tilbury application comes forward as anticipated, with regard to Bramford to Twinstead mitigative planting would be beneficial.	All locations listed can be viewed from PRoWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.	
	From Hintlesham Hall and the grounds of the Hall to the north,	Taking the listed suggestions in turn the following comments can be made:	
	looking back to Bramford (VP AB20, AB21, HV01, AB08, AB09, AB10, AB11, AB2.27, AB04, AB18, AB23a, AB24, view north from A1071, west of Hintlesham Hall).	 VP AB20, AB21 – Already included as Location 5 and 6 in the Draft Itinerary. 	
		 HV01, AB08, AB09, AB10, AB11, AB2.27 – Can be accessed from public highway or PRoW and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis. 	
		 AB04 – Already included as Location 5 and 6 in the Draft Itinerary. 	
		 AB18, AB24, view north from A1071 west of Hintlesham Hall – Can be accessed from public highway or PRoW and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis. 	
		 AB23a – Has been included as Location 6 in the Draft Itinerary. This suggested viewpoint allows for sweepings views of the landscape which could be subject to visual change. 	
	Around the Benton End Farmhouse and Overbury Hall at Hadleigh / Brett Valley (VP C01).	As stated in the Local Planning Authority response this location can be viewed safely from a vehicle and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.	
	View of the Dedham Vale East Cable Sealing End compound from Polstead Heath (VP D02, D04) Observations should include proximity to Polstead Heath and the siting of the compound in the fields.	All locations listed can be viewed from PRoWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.	
	The location where undergrounding corridor crosses the Box Valley (VP E06 in the valley, E007 overlooking the AONB), this	Location can be viewed from PRoWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.	

Interested Party	Suggested Location	Reason for excluding
	location should provide an appreciation of the nature of the valley and its sensitivity.	
	Footpath to the north of the water tower, south of VP F2.14 and viewpoints of the Assington Neighbourhood Plan Protected Views (6, 12, 13, 15, 16) (VP F2.14, F20, F10. The Council advises that this location requires additional mitigation, specifically the	
	vegetation along the footpath could be strengthened to filter the views.	 Viewpoints of the Assington Neighbourhood Plan Protected Views - Locations can be viewed from PRoWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
		 F20 - Has been included as Location 9 in the Draft Itinerary. Allows for visual landscape impacts to Leavenheath (to the south) and Assington (to the west) to be observed.
		 F10 - Location can be viewed from PRoWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	View of the Stour Valley East Cable Sealing End Compound at Workhouse Green (VP G01).	Location can be viewed from PRoWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	Views of the Stour Valley, along Bures Road (B1508) at bus layby on Spouts Lane and Corner Twinstead Road / Moat Lane (588010, 236455 roughly) where St Edmund Way passes. Due to its high elevation, this location provides a good view into the valley and an appreciation of the overall Scheme and surrounding landscape.	
	View of the Stour Valley West Cable Sealing End Compound at Alphamstone (VP G07). The Council believes there is an omission on Photomontages 34A and 34B [APP-065], displaying VP G07 in Year 1 and Year 15, no mitigative planting is shown in Year 15 whereas [APP-106] notes that Year 15 will include mitigation. The Council will make this clear in subsequent submissions, however, this location should be viewed with an understanding of the impacts without mitigation to appreciate the need.	Stour Valley Cable Sealing End is already included as Location 14 in Draft Itinerary. The views from Location 14 allow for full access to the cable sealing end location, as opposed to the viewpoint suggested which only allows for view from the PRoW.
	View from A131 at Wickham St Paul where the A131 passes Butler's Wood Grid Supply Point Substation (VPG18), facing east, viewing existing pylons. If this location is effectively screened then	Location can be observed from public highway and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.

Interested Party	Suggested Location	Reason for excluding
	the Council does not anticipate adverse impacts, however, the Council notes that mounding is proposed in this location.	е

3. Itinerary

- Table 3.1 overleaf shows the proposed route itinerary, alongside anticipated timings, durations and reasons for visiting each location. Table 3.1 should be read in conjunction with the proposed ASI route plans in Appendix A and B.
- The locations listed in Table 3.1 and those shown on the site plans in Appendix A and B are indicative only and should be used as a guide on the day of the ASI. The timings and durations are assumed at this stage and may change depending on site progress, weather conditions and traffic. The aim is to depart from Station Yard at Ipswich Train Station at 08:30am and return by 17:00, leaving sufficient time at the end of the site visit to return to the station in light of potential traffic.

Table 3.1 – Proposed route itinerary

Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
Meeting point	Ipswich Train Station, Station Yard IP2 8AJ ///love.shelf.orchestra	Depart 08:30	Depart from Ipswich Train Station.	Meeting location where the site visit will commence. A safety briefing will be provided to all attendees prior to departure. Car parking is available in the NCP	See 'Meeting Point' on Key Plan
				long-stay car park adjacent to the train station for the following costs: £9.	
				Drive to Location 1.	
Location 1	Bramford Substation Bullen Lane	Arrive at 08:45	Drive 15 minutes and park at Bramford Substation. Walk around the perimeter of	View the proposed modifications to the 400kV overhead line 4YL and tower	Sheet 1
	IP8 4JL ///drainage.stated.recovery	Depart at 09:15	the substation site along the public footpath.	4YL003A, 03B, 03C, and the new proposed 400kV overhead line RB and new tower RB1A, 1B, and 1C.	
			30 minutes at this location.		
				Drive to Location 2.	
			No private land access required.		
			The Bramford substation itself is an operational substation site so cannot be entered without a briefing, being escorted and full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) appropriate for an electricity substation. This will take a substantial amount of time so it is not proposed to enter the compound itself.		
			It should also be noted that due to the critical and sensitive nature of the site, NGET security must be notified of vehicles		

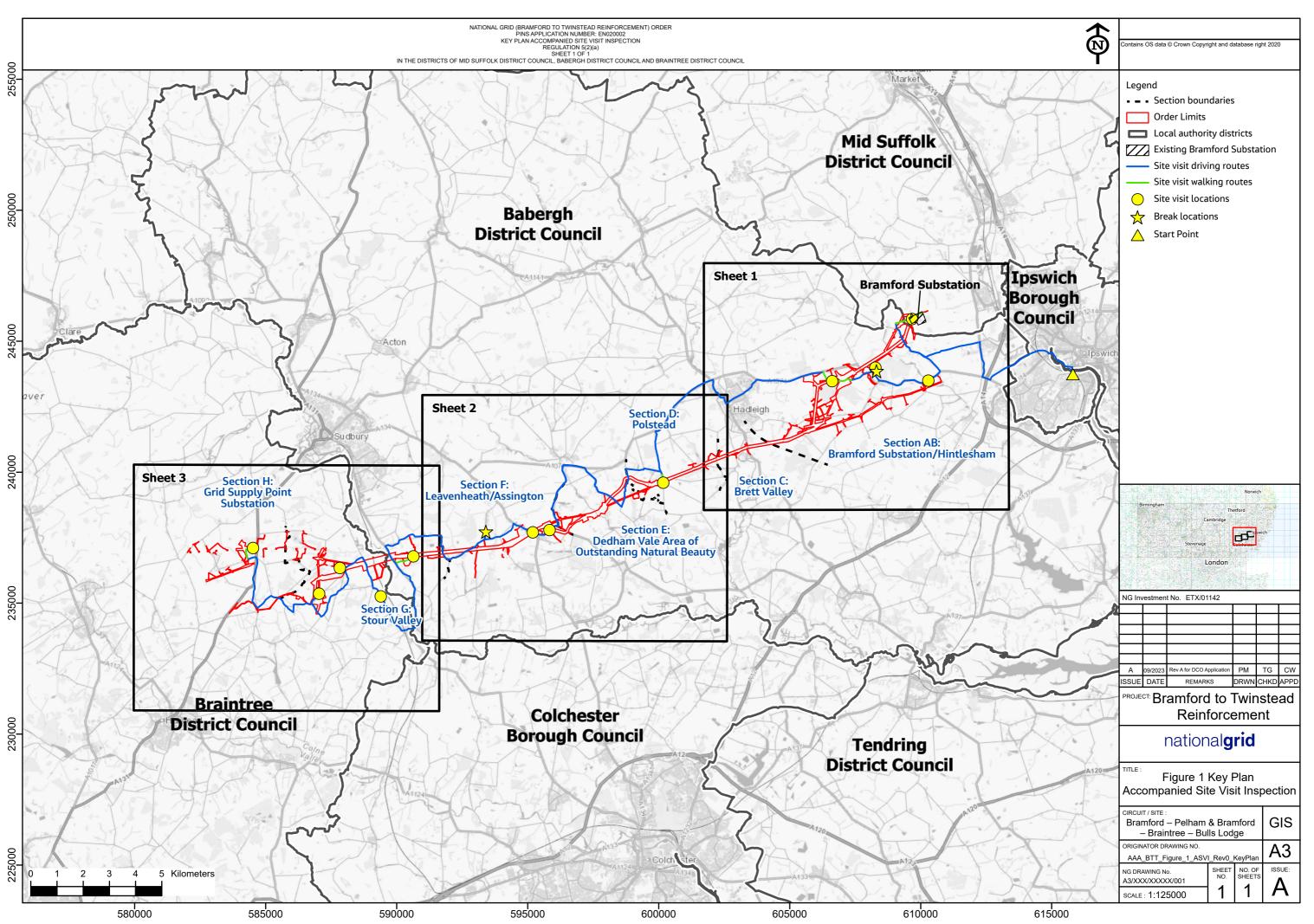
Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
			parking adjacent to the substation, large groups of people around the perimeter of the site and any taking of photographs of the infrastructure within/ drones over etc is prohibited.		
Location 2	Burstall Bridge	Arrive at 09:25	Drive 10 minutes and park at lay by north of Thorpe's Hill.	View the proposed removal of the 132kV overhead line PCB and tower	Sheet 1
	Hintlesham IP8 3EQ ///elegging startles readjust	Depart at 09:35	10 minutes at this location.	PCB5, 6 and 7 and the benefits this will have to the landscape setting.	
	///sleeping.startles.readjust		Private land access required.	Drive to location 3.	
Location 3	Hintlesham Hall Hotel George Street IP8 3NS ///sublime.cornfield.heavy	Arrive at 09:40	Drive 5 minutes and park at Hintlesham Hall Hotel car park.	View the existing 400kV line 4YL and proposed 400kV overhead line and tower RB7 and 8 to the west of Hintlesham Hall Hotel and the proposed temporary access points leading to the new line.	Sheet 1
		Depart 09:55	15 minutes at this location.		
			Private land access required.	new line.	
				Drive to morning break location.	
Morning Break	Hintlesham Hall Hotel George Street	Arrive at 09:55	Remain at Hintlesham Hall for refreshment break and use of facilities.	Drive to location 4.	Sheet 1
location	IP8 3NS ///sublime.cornfield.heavy	Depart at 10:15	20 minutes at this location.		
Location 4	Hintlesham Woods College Farm	Arrive at 10:20	Drive 5 minutes to Hintlesham Woods footpath west of Hintlesham Barns. Walk in		Sheet 1
	IP8 3NT ///crinkled.hairstyle.mute	Depart at 11:05	a westerly direction down the track to where the woods start.	(between tower 4YL011 and 4YL012a), the proposed new 400kV overhead line RB and new tower RB9 and 10 and the	
			Private land access will be required.	realignment route from tower 4YL012 to RB11.	
				Drive to Location 5.	

Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
			45 minutes at this location to accommodate walking route along public footpath.		
Location 5	Dedham Vale East Cable Sealing End Compound Millwood Road CO6 5BF ///electric.tower.browsers	Arrive at 11:20 Depart at 11:35	Drive 15 minutes and park field access off Millwood Road/ Popes Green Road junction. Walk down Millwood Road to Tower PCB 44 to view proposed cable sealing end location.	View cable sealing end compound location and the existing 400kV line 4YL, proposed 400kV overhead line and proposed tower RB 34A and proposed removal of 400kV line and tower PCB 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46.	Sheet 2
			Private land access will be required.	Drive to Location 6.	
			15 minutes at this location.		
Location 6	Lay by off Assington Lane, Sudbury, CO10 5NU ///slamming.tastings.sends	Arrive at 11:45 Depart at 11:50	Drive 10 minutes to lay by on Assington Lane, north of Boxford Suffolk Farm. This is identified as View F20 in the Viewpoint Assessment. Private land access not required.	Views to the south of existing 400kV overhead line route 4YL, existing 132kV route PCB, new proposed 400kV overhead line route RB and visual landscape impacts to Leavenheath (to the south) and Assington (to the west)	Sheet 2
			5 minutes at this location.	Drive to Location 7.	
Location 7	Dedham Vale West Cable Sealing End Compound adjacent to Stewards Barn Stoke Road CO6 4PS ///duet.warbler.table	Arrive at 11:55 Depart 12:10	Drive 5 minutes to Stoke Road and park in bell mouth adjacent to Stewards Barn, Stoke Road, with respect to local road users and farm accesses. Walk for 5 minutes along track to cable sealing end compound location.	View temporary and permanent access road proposed off Stoke Road. View proposed 132kV line removal and tower PCB 57 and PCB 59. View proposed 400kV overhead line and new tower RB35A, B and C and RB36. View underground cable route running southeast to northeast across Stoke	Sheet 2
			Private land access will be required.	Road to cable sealing end compound.	
			15 minutes at this location.	Drive to Lunch break.	
Lunch Break	Assington Farm Shop Sudbury	Arrive at 12:25	Drive 15 minutes to Assington Farm Shop.	Lunch break at the farm shop where there is a café, rest rooms and a shop.	Sheet 2

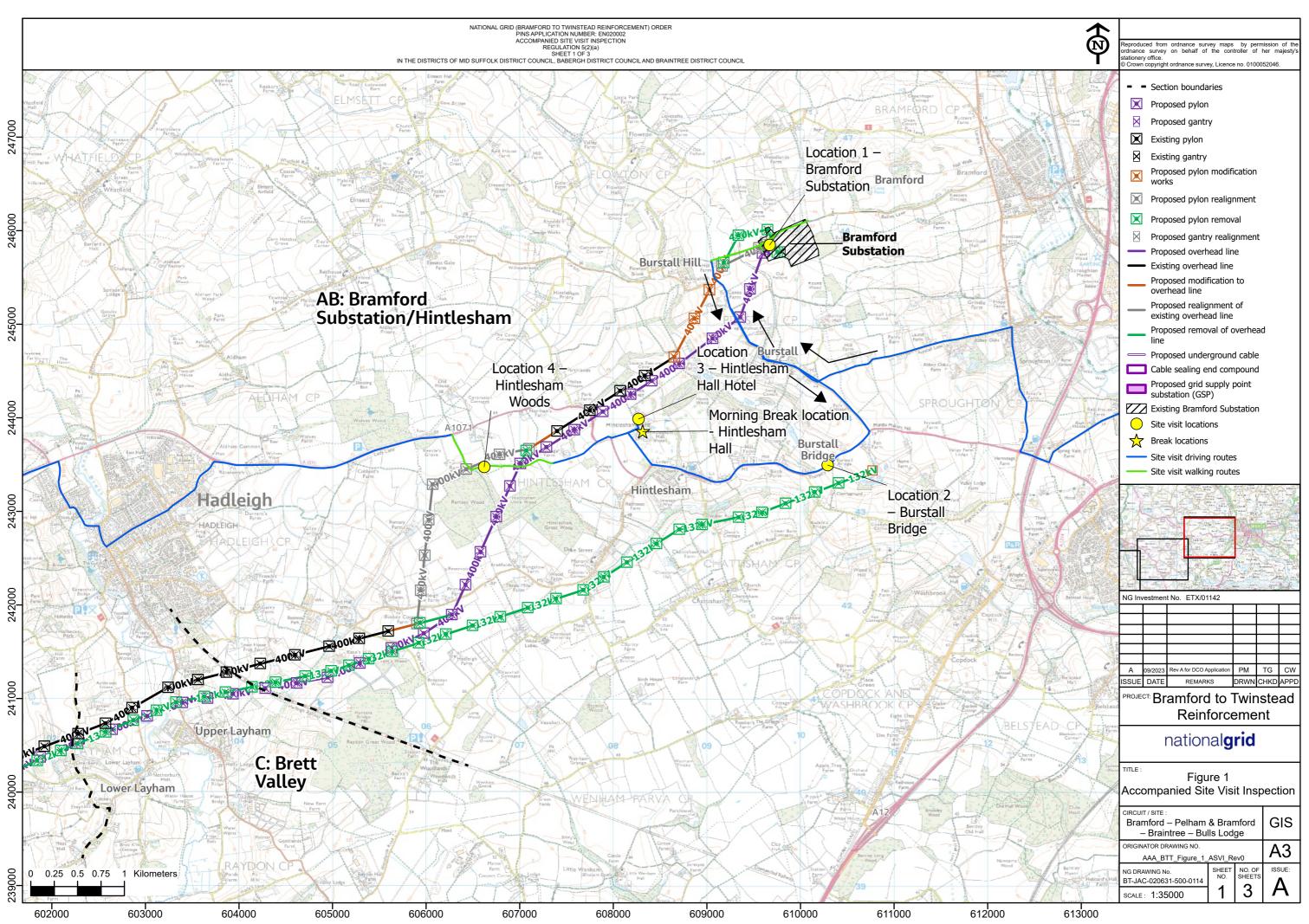
Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
	CO10 5LW	Depart at 13:10	45 minutes for lunch.		
	///nutrients.irritated.condense			Drive to location 8.	
Location 8	Stour Valley East Cable Sealing End Compound adjacent to Walnut House, St Edmunds Hill CO10 0NU ///reservoir.snooping.springing	Arrive 13:20 Depart at 14:05	Drive 10 minutes and park at bell mouth to field just past Walnut House with respect to local road users and farm accesses. Walk east along track to proposed Cable Sealing End. Private land access will be required.	line PCB and tower PCB 76 and 77,	Sheet 3
			45 minutes at this location – it is a 15minute walk along farm tracks to the Cable Sealing End location.	Drive to location 9.	
Location 9	Bell Hill (Stour Valley East Cable Sealing End Compound viewpoint) Bures CO8 5EP	Arrive 14:15 Depart at 14:30	Drive 10 minutes to Bell Hill stopping location. This is identified as Viewpoint G2.5 in Viewpoint Assessment.	View of landscape features of Stour Valley, and distant views of proposed Stour Valley East Cable Sealing End Compound. View the proposed removal of 132kV and proposed directional	Sheet 3
	///expand.banter.hindered		15 minutes at this location.	drilling locations.	
			Does not require private access.	Drive to location 10.	
Location 10	Twinstead Road (west of Moat Lane) Bures	Arrive at 14:40	Drive 10 minutes to top of Moat Lane/ Henney Back Road.	View changes made through the targeted consultation to avoid proximity to Althamstone village. View proposed	Sheet 3
	CO8 5HB ///ages.windmills.advances	Depart at 14:50	10 minutes at this location.	400kV underground cable route and drilling locations.	
			Private land access will be required.	Drive to location 11.	
Location 11	Stour Valley West Cable Sealing End Compound	Arrive at 15:00	Drive 10 minutes to bellmouth on Henney Back Road.	View proposed cable sealing end location, proposed 400kV underground	Sheet 3
	Bellmouth on Henny Back Road	Depart at 15:15		cable route, removal of 400kV overhead line and towers 4YLA003,	

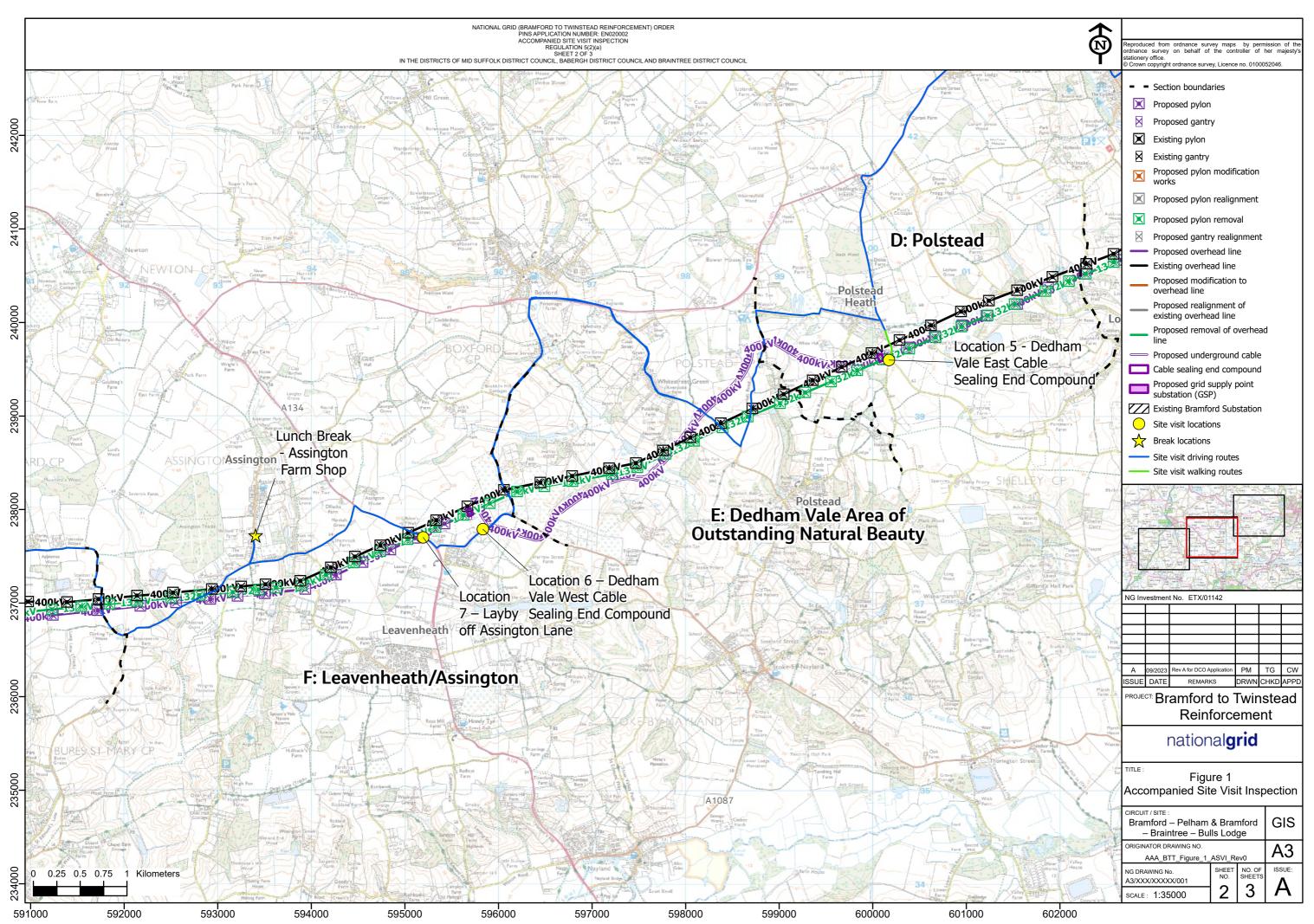
Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
	Bures CO8 5HN		15 minutes at this location.	004, 005, 006A and B and the temporary access points and working	
	///composes.variances.farm		Private land access will be required.	area.	
				Drive to Location 12.	
Location 12	Grid Supply Point Substation adjacent to Butlers Wood and Waldegrave Wood Sudbury Road CO10 7ED ///beefed.weddings.untruth		Drive 5 minutes to Grid Supply Point off A131.	Walk up to the substation site and around the periphery of the construction compound to view proposed substation	
		Depart at 15:50 30 minutes at thi	30 minutes at this location.	and permanent access off A131. View new 400kV overhead line and new tower 4YL081 and 81A, and proposed	
			The Grid Supply Point site is a live (CDM) construction site, however access to the	modification to 400kV.	
			working area itself is not proposed due to the induction and PPE requirements.	Drive 50 minutes to Ipswich Train Station,	
			Private land access will be required.		
Finish point	Ipswich Train Station Yard IP2 8AJ ///love.shelf.orchestra	Arrive 16:45	Departure point – end of visit.	End of the site visit at Ipswich Train Station.	See 'Finish point' on Key Plan

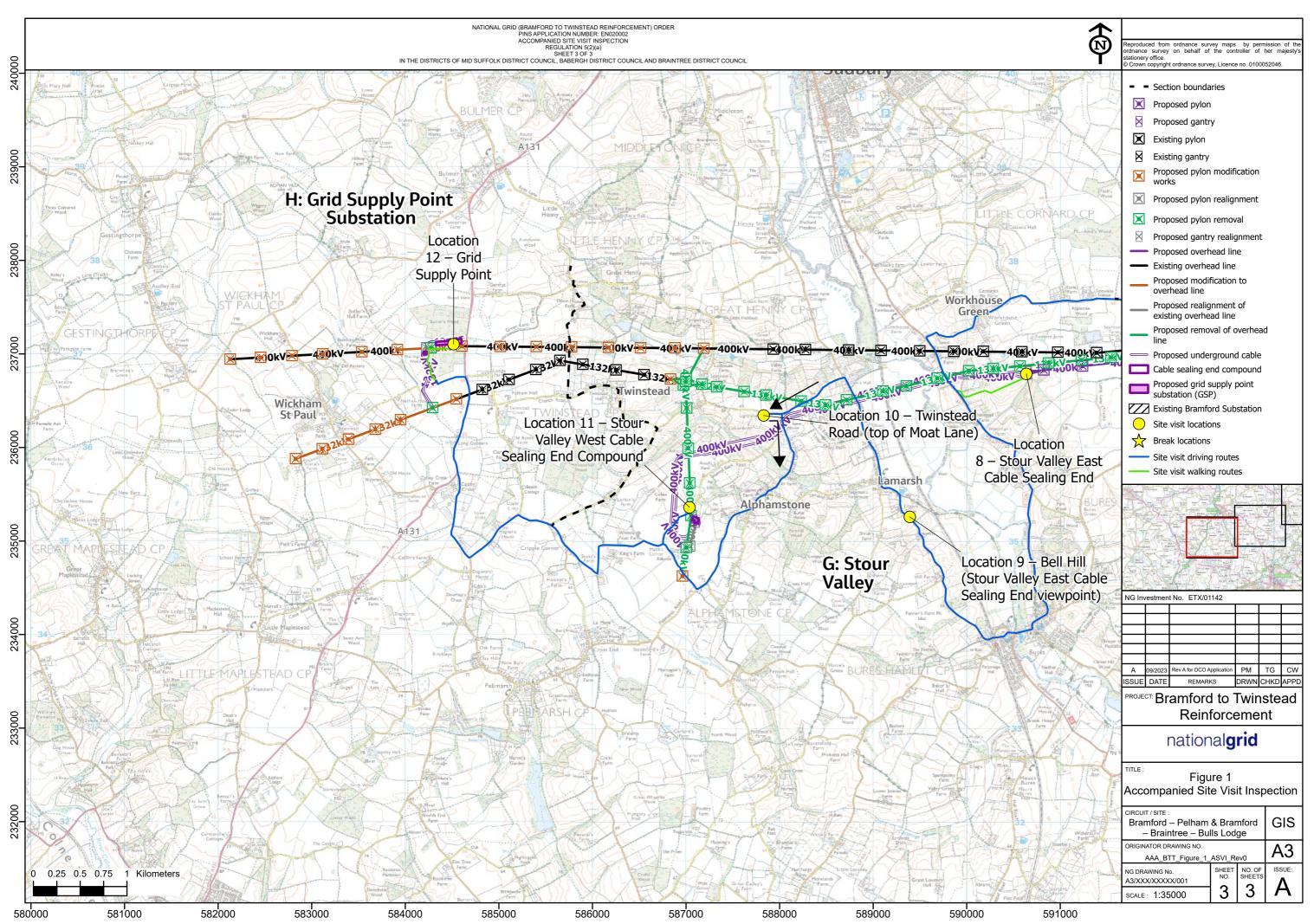
Appendix A Site Visit Key Plan



Appendix B Detailed Site Visit Plans







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