

The Great Grid Upgrade

BT-NG-020621-545-0194

Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

Volume 8: Examination Submissions

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

**Final Issue B
October 2023**

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020002

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

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Version History			
Date	Issue	Status	Description / Changes
September 2023	A	Final	For DCO examination Deadline 1 submission
October 2023	B	Final	Update at Deadline 3 to include ExA requested amendments to itinerary.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This document provides 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).
- 1.1.2 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.
- 1.1.3 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 has been updated at Deadline 3 to take account of the amendments to the ASI itinerary requested by the ExA.
- 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

- 1.2.1 The route is designed to be driven from East to West (Bramford to Twinstead). It commences at Hadleigh. The detailed plans (See Appendix B) comprising 3 sheets show the points of interest for the ASI and the proposed driving route. The Key Plan, in Appendix A, gives an overview of the route.
- 1.2.2 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

- 1.3.1 Arrangements such as the date and start and finish times of the site inspections were confirmed by the ExA in the Rule 13 and 16 letter dated 6 October 2023. However, this draft itinerary is presented as a single day site inspection to take place on 07 November 2023, starting at 10:00 and finishing at 15:30. Attendees are asked to arrive at the meeting point ahead of the departure time of 10:00 to allow time for a safety briefing prior to the site visit.

- 1.3.2 The start time, finish time and estimated durations between and at each location is outlined in Table 3.1. They are indicative only at this stage.

Transport

- 1.3.3 Due to the nature of the local roads appropriate vehicles will need to be considered based on the number of attendees. The applicant has secured 2 mini buses to carry the Examining Authority, the applicant and the other registered attendees.
- 1.3.4 The starting point for the ASI is at the Magdalen Car Park in Hadleigh. This gives attendees opportunities to park in the car park facility for the duration of the visit.
- 1.3.5 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

- 1.3.6 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.
- 1.3.7 Suitable waterproof clothing should also be brought based on the weather forecast for the day.
- 1.3.8 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 therefore additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will not be required.

Lunch and comfort breaks

- 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. It is advised to bring your own lunch to save time, as the stops are limited in time to allow sufficient time to visit the different sites.

Weather

- 1.3.10 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.
- 1.3.12 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.
- 1.3.13 Access to private land has been highlighted in the 'Duration and Parking' column in Table 3.1.

Marking out

- 1.3.14 Where possible the Applicant will mark out the corners of the limits of deviation for the proposed Cable Sealing End compounds to provide a visual reference point for the ASI.

2. Excluded Locations

2.1.1 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.
	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 response)	Council 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.	These locations can be seen from a public highway and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	Local routes along cable corridor with regard to the geometry, width, proximity of buildings, NMU facilities, and vegetation. To include: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hadleigh - W-289/030/0 <p>South of Pond Hall Road/ west of Clay Hill</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> w-185/042/0 – Chattisham Public Footpath No. 41 w-185/044/0 – Chattisham Public Footpath No. 41 w-185/045/0 – Chattisham Public Footpath No. 41 <p>Dorking Tye House, Bures St Mary. Key access link north of Bures Green</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	These locations can be seen from a Public Right of Way (PRoW) and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.

Interested Party	Suggested Location	Reason for excluding
Natural Environment Team (forming part of Suffolk County Council 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.	All the listed locations can be observed from the public highway and do not require private land access. Impacts of the new pylons connecting into Bramford Substation on the landscape can be viewed from Location 1 and 2 in the Draft Itinerary.
	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 PRowWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	From Hintlesham Hall and the grounds of the Hall to the north, 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).	<p>Taking the listed suggestions in turn the following comments can be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 PRowW 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 PRowW 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 PRowWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	The location where undergrounding corridor crosses the Box Valley (VP E06 in the valley, EO07 overlooking the AONB), this	Location can be viewed from PRowWs 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.	<p>Taking the listed suggestions in turn the following comments can be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VP F2.14 - Location can be viewed from PRowWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis. Viewpoints of the Assington Neighbourhood Plan Protected Views - Locations can be viewed from PRowWs 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 PRowWs 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 PRowWs 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.	Location can be viewed from PRowWs and can therefore be visited on an unaccompanied basis.
	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 PRowW.
	View from A131 at Wickham St Paul where the A131 passes Butler's Wood Grid Supply Point Substation (VP G18), 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.	

3. Itinerary

- 3.1.1 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.
- 3.1.2 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 Magdalen Road Car Park in Hadleigh at 10:00am and return by 15:30pm, 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

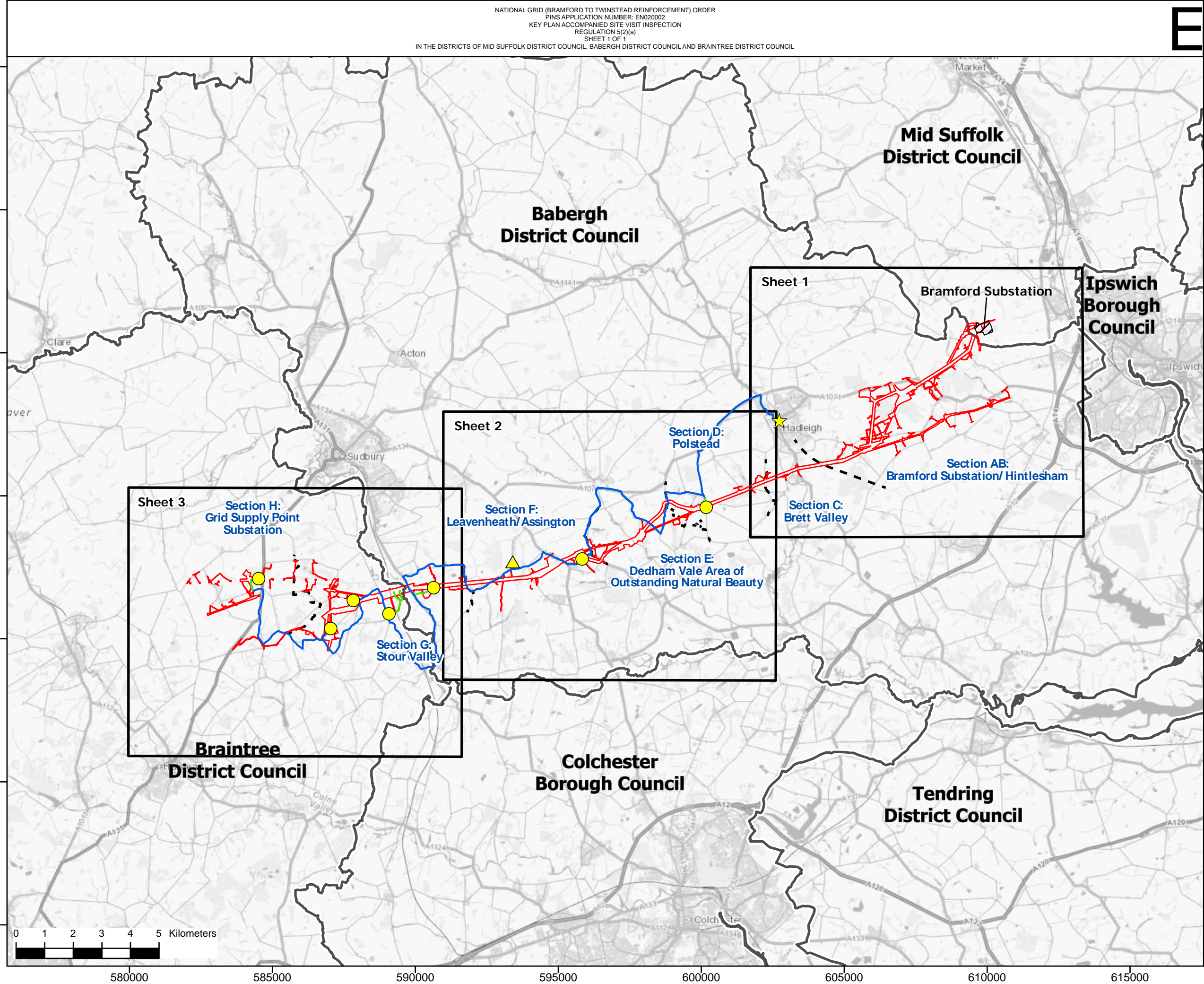
Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
Start Point	Magdalen Road Car Park Long Stay Hadleigh IP7 5BB ///dolls.arranger.visions	Depart at 10:00	Meeting location where the site visit will commence. A safety briefing will be provided to all attendees prior to departure. Full day parking for cars costs £3. Drive to Location 1.	N/a	See 'Start Point' on Key Plan
Location 1	Dedham Vale East Cable Sealing End Compound Popes Green Lane CO6 5BA ///electric.tower.browsers	Arrive at 10:10 Depart at 10:25	Drive 10 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. Private land access will be required. 15 minutes at this 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 132kV line and towers PCB 41, 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46. Drive to location 2.	Sheet 2
Location 2	Dedham Vale West Cable Sealing End Compound adjacent to Stewards Barn Stoke Road CO6 5JT ///duet.warbler.table	Arrive at 10:30 Depart 10:50	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. Private land access will be required. 20 minutes at this 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 Road to cable sealing end compound. Drive to Morning Break location.	Sheet 2

Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
Location 3	Stour Valley East Cable Sealing End Compound adjacent to Walnut House St Edmunds Hill CO10 0NU ///reservoir.snooping.springing	Arrive at 11:15 Depart at 12:00	Drive 25 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. 45 minutes at this location – it is a 15 minute walk along farm tracks to the Cable Sealing End location.	View existing 400kV overhead line 4YL, proposed removal of 132kV overhead line PCB and tower PCB 76 and 77, and proposed new overhead line RB and tower RB47, 48A, B and C and temporary access points and working area. Drive to lunch break location.	Sheet 3
Location 4	South of Lamarsh Village Hall Henny Road CO8 5EU ///soggy.during.mimes	Arrive at 12:10 Depart at 12:55	Drive 10 minutes to Henny Road. 45 minutes at this location. Private land access will be required.	View River Stour temporary bridge crossing, Horizontal Directional Drilling pits and the railway crossing. Drive to lunch break location.	Sheet 3
Lunch Break	Assington Farm Shop Sudbury CO10 5LW ///nutrients.irritated.condense	Arrive at 13:05 Depart at 13:35	Drive 12 minutes to Assington Farm Shop. 30 minutes for break.	Lunch break at the farm shop where there is a café, rest rooms and a shop. Drive to location 5.	Sheet 2
Location 5	Twinstead Road (west of Moat Lane) Bures CO8 5HA ///ages.windmills.advances	Arrive at 13:38 Depart at 13:48	Drive 3 minutes to top of location west of Twinstead Road/ Moat Lane junction. 10 minutes at this location. Private land access will be required.	View changes made through the targeted consultation to avoid proximity to Althamstone village. View proposed 400kV underground cable route and drilling locations. Drive to location 6.	Sheet 3

Stop Point	Location, Address and What3Words	Timing	Duration and Parking	Description and Purpose	Plan Sheet
Location 6	Stour Valley West Cable Sealing End Compound Bellmouth on Henny Back Road Bures CO8 5HN ///composes.variances.farm	Arrive at 13:58 Depart at 14:13	Drive 10 minutes to bellmouth on Henney Back Road. 15 minutes at this location. Private land access will be required.	View proposed cable sealing end location, proposed 400kV underground cable route, removal of 400kV overhead line and towers 4YLA003, 004, 005, 006A and B and the temporary access points and working area. Drive to location 7.	Sheet 3
Location 7	Grid Supply Point Substation adjacent to Butlers Wood and Waldegrave Wood Old Road CO9 2PU ///beefed.weddings.untruth	Arrive at 14:18 Depart at 14:48	Drive 5 minutes to Grid Supply Point off A131. 30 minutes at this location. The Grid Supply Point site is a live (CDM) construction site, however access to the working area itself is not proposed due to the induction and PPE requirements. Private land access will be required.	Walk up to the substation site and around the periphery of the construction compound to view proposed substation and permanent access off A131. View new 400kV overhead line and new tower 4YL081 and 81A, and proposed modification to 400kV. Drive 30 minutes to Magdalen Road Car Park, Hadleigh.	Sheet 3
Finish point	Magdalen Road Car Park Long Stay Hadleigh IP7 5BB ///dolls.arranger.visions	Arrive 15:18	Drive 30 minutes back to Hadleigh to reach the departure point – end of visit.	End of the site visit at the long stay car park at Magdalen Road.	See 'Finish point' on Key Plan

Appendix A

Site Visit Key Plan



E

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Legend

--- Section boundaries

Order Limits

Local authority districts

Existing Bramford Substation

Site visit driving routes

Site visit walking routes

★

Start and Finish Point

●

Site visit locations

▲

Break location

NG Investment No. ETX/01142

A	10/2023	Rev A for DCO Application	PM	TG	CW
ISSUE	DATE	REMARKS	DRWN	CHKD	APPD

PROJECT: Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement

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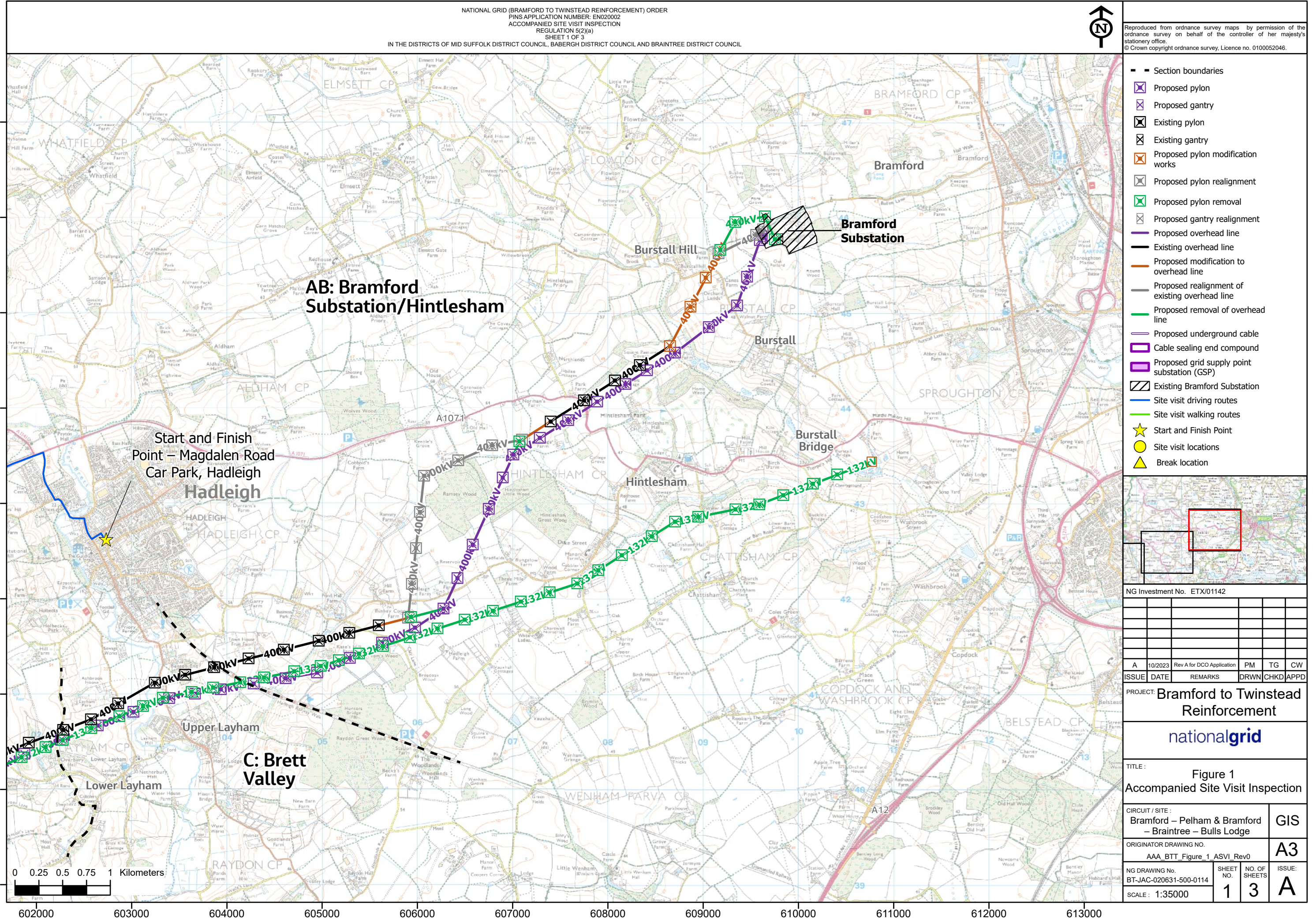
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Accompanied Site Visit Inspection

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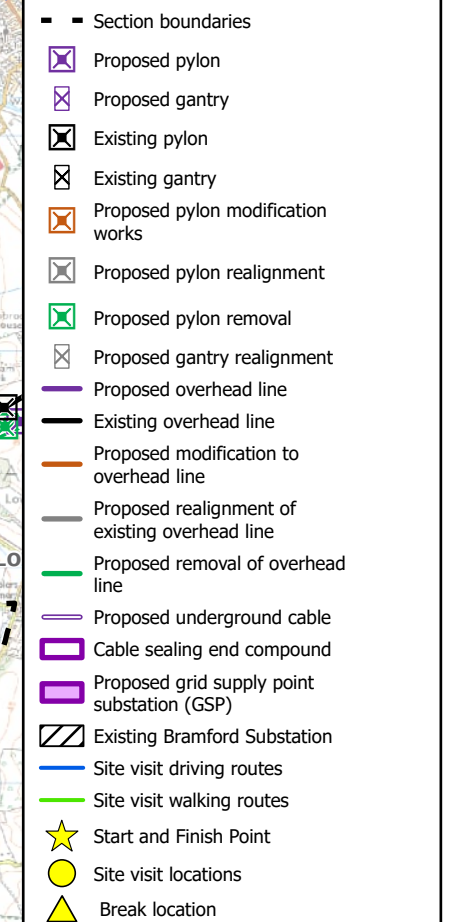
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Appendix B

Detailed Site Visit Plans



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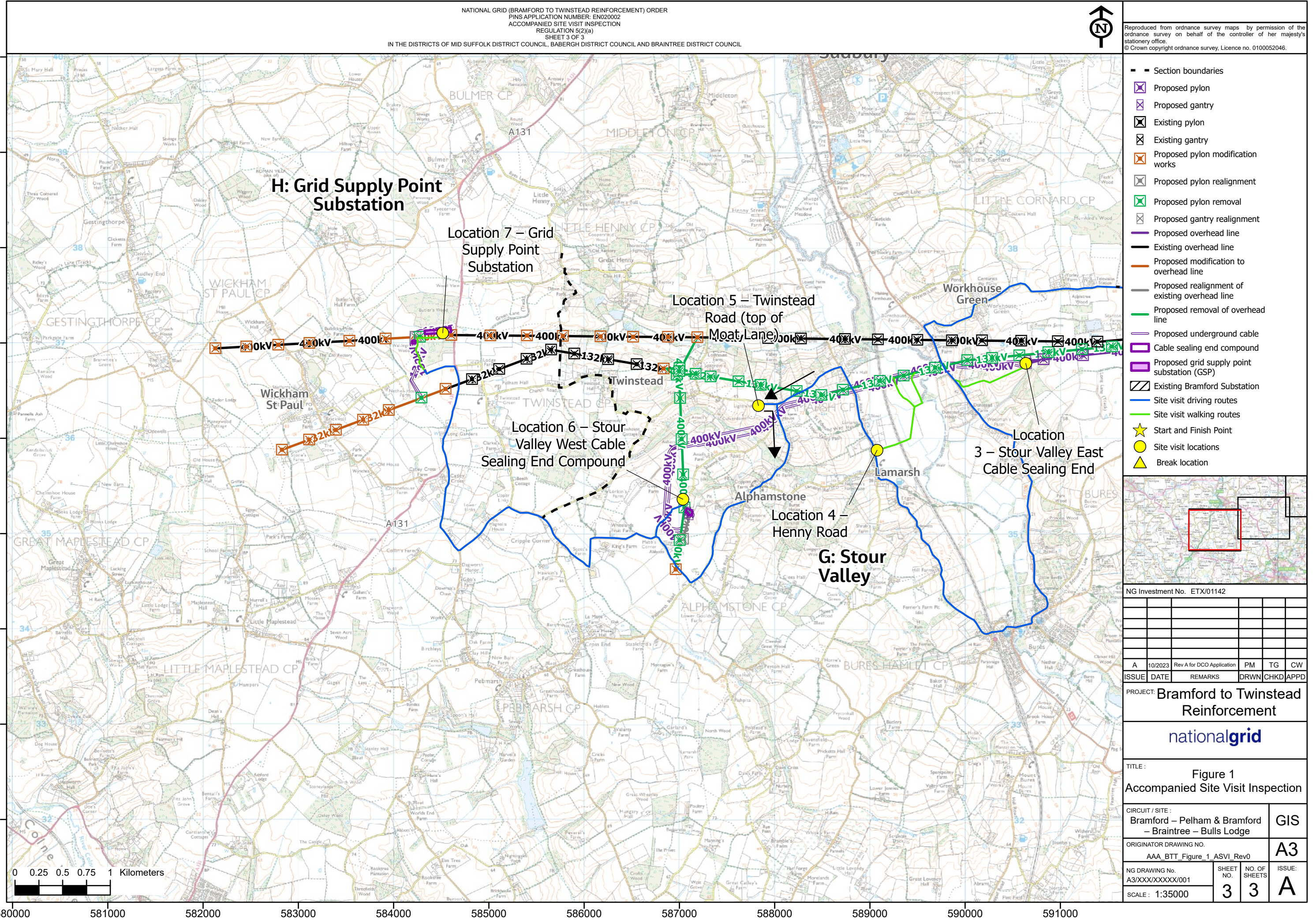
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TITLE : **Figure 1**
Accompanied Site Visit Inspection

CIRCUIT / SITE : Bramford – Pelham & Bramford – Braintree – Bulls Lodge	GIS
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ISSUE	DATE	REMARKS	DRWN	CHKD APPD
PROJECT: Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement				
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