



## Adequacy of Consultation Representation Proforma

Under *Section 55(4)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008)* the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, must take any adequacy of consultation representation (AoCR) received from a local authority consultee into account when deciding whether to accept an application for development consent, and this will be published should the application be accepted for examination.

An AoCR is defined in s55(5) in PA2008 as “a representation about whether the applicant complied, in relation to that proposed application, with the applicant’s duties under sections 42, 47 and 48”.

<b>Project name</b>	Sea Link
<b>Date of request</b>	28 March 2025
<b>Deadline for AOCR</b>	11 April 2025
<b>Return to</b>	southeastanglialink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Please complete the proforma outlining your AoCR on the above NSIP.

<b>Local Authority</b>	East Suffolk Council
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In the opinion of the local authority, has the applicant complied with the legislative requirements listed below?

*Please note that this is specifically about the statutory consultation(s) undertaken.*

<b>Assessment of Compliance - Required</b>	
<b>S42 Duty to consult</b>	Yes
<b>S47 Duty to consult local authority</b>	Yes
<b>S48 Duty to publicise</b>	Yes

If you would like to give more detail on any of the above, please do so below.

*Please keep it as succinct as possible and refer to facts and evidence related to consultation, rather than the merits of the application.*



Additional comments - <i>Not compulsory</i>	
<b>S42 Duty to consult</b>	
<b>S47 Duty to consult local authority</b>	
<b>S48 Duty to publicise</b>	



<b>Any other comments</b>	<p>Whilst East Suffolk Council (ESC) accepts that the applicant has met the bar for the Adequacy of Consultation in terms of Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008, the Council is disappointed that, to date, the meaningful contributions provided through the process advanced by the Council do not appear to have been positively taken on board through the process to date and potentially into the submission. This results in the Council taking the view that its involvement to date has been largely dismissed and undervalues the positive contributions that Council has proposed, on behalf of the communities we serve, for making this unacceptable application less damaging for the communities directly affected by the proposals.</p> <p>The Council will evidence these matters, and concerns, through the Examination process, if the submission is accepted, and will make clear that positive consideration by the applicant through the lengthy pre-application stage could have resulted in a more comprehensive and less damaging submission negating the need for the Council, and others, to raise legitimate matters of objection and concern which the Examiners will then have to consider.</p> <p><u>Saxmundham Town Council also requested that ESC include the following comments in our AoC response to PINS:</u></p> <p><i>‘Statutory Consultation drop-in session October 2023:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>1. From observation, the drop-in sessions were too technical for many residents.</i></li><li><i>2. There were no visual representations of how the converter stations would look in the proposed environment.</i></li><li><i>3. The models of the converter stations showed illustrative trees that had no bearing to the height of the structure, thus in comparison appeared far less height than the 26 metres.</i></li><li><i>4. The plans had no identifying landmarks (buildings, place names, road numbers etc.) thus it was impossible to understand where the converter station and associated cabling were proposed.</i></li></ol> <p><i>Further Targeted Statutory Consultation July 2024:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>1. The inclusion of Sunday working was not mentioned in the associated Community Newsletter, just that site hours would change. However, on reading the Project Update Document NGET advised the inclusion of Sunday working from 7.00 to 17.00. Many residents only read the newsletter and were quite unaware of this significant and unacceptable alteration.’</i></li></ol>
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