



The Planning Inspectorate

The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for the Sea Link Project

Case Ref: EN020026

The Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection

Background

The Examining Authority ('the ExA') undertook an unaccompanied site inspection to support the examination of an application for development consent for the proposed Sea Link Project ('the application') on the morning of Friday 27 June 2025.

The ExA carried out its unaccompanied site inspection from publicly accessible land (roads, footpaths and bridleways).

The site inspection was undertaken to view the location of the proposed development including the proposed location of the converter station and River Fromus bridge crossing, site access and construction compound, and to observe the existing character, appearance and environment of the surrounding area and adjoining land uses.

Particulars of the Site Visit

The visit was undertaken by: Sarah Holmes, Richard Hunt, Steven Rennie, Nancy Thomas and Simon Warder. The ExA was accompanied by Claire Megginson.

The visit was undertaken on foot and by car. Weather conditions were dry and sunny with a temperature circa 21 degrees centigrade. Weather conditions were suitable to appreciate long range views. The inspections commenced at approximately 09:30 and finished at approximately 11:15. A list of the locations visited is attached at Annex A.



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Annex A: List of locations visited on the Unaccompanied Site Inspection on the morning of Friday 27 June 2025

The ExA commenced the inspection from the B1121 through Friston and Sternfield where the ExA observed the site of the proposed access to the Friston substation site (S-AP-12/SBM11).

Subsequently, the ExA walked south from Saxmundham along the B1121 and then west on to the public right of way (E-460/016/0) to viewpoint VP20. The ExA observed the location of the B1121, the listed building of Hurts Hall and its park and gardens to the east and the proposed converter station.

The ExA then walked back onto the B1121 and south along this highway to viewpoint VP2. From this viewpoint the ExA observed the proposed location of access point S-AP-14 (S-BM09), the location of the proposed bridge over the River Fromus, and the site of the proposed converter station.

Finally, the ExA travelled by car east from Saxmundham along the B1119 (which is partially proposed to be a HGV route), past proposed access points S-AP-13 (S-BM12), S-MAP-2, S-MAP-4 and S-MAP-5 until turning south onto Grove Road, past further access points S-AP-8 (S-BM05), S-AP-9 (S-BM06) and S-MAP-1, returning to Friston, where the site visit ended.