



**The Great Grid Upgrade**

Sea Link

# Sea Link

**Volume 9: Examination Submissions**

**Document 9.14: Suffolk and Kent Illustrative Visualisations Part 1 of 2**

**Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN20026**

**Version: A**  
**November 2025**

**nationalgrid**

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# 1. Illustrative Visualisations

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Illustrative visualisations have been prepared for three viewpoint locations in Suffolk; these being representative Viewpoints 1, 2, and 4 (the location of which is as shown in **Application Document 6.4.2.1 ES Figures Suffolk Landscape and Visual Part 1 of 7, Figure 6.4.2.1.7 Representative Viewpoint Locations [APP-208]**) and three viewpoint locations in Kent; these being representative Viewpoints 4, 8, and 11 (the location of which is as shown in **Application Document 6.4.3.1 ES Figures Kent Landscape and Visual Part 1 of 4, Figure 6.4.3.1.6 Representative Viewpoint Locations [APP-240]**). Suffolk illustrative visualisations are presented in Appendix A with Kent illustrative visualisations presented in Appendix B.
- 1.1.2 The illustrative visualisations have been prepared to illustrate how a more realistic and detailed model of the Proposed Project would look rather than the block photomontages which showed the maximum parameters for the Proposed Project, as presented within the Environmental Statement submitted with the DCO application (see **Application Document 6.4.2.1 ES Figures Suffolk Landscape and Visual Part 1 and 2 and Application Documents 6.4.3.1 ES Figures Kent Landscape and Visual Part 2 to 4**). These viewpoint locations have been chosen to show a range of viewing angles towards the Proposed Project.
- 1.1.3 These illustrations have been provided to demonstrate the difference between the maximum parameters applied for (in terms of footprint and height) which represented the Rochdale Envelope, and a typical and more realistic design solution, based on the generic converter station massing provided in **Application Document 2.13 Design and Layout Plans [APP-037]**. The design approach option used for the illustrations is the Conventional Industrial/ Agricultural (Baseline) as described in **Application Document 7.11.1 Design Approach Document – Suffolk [APP-364]** (DAD) and **Application Document 7.11.2 Design Approach Document – Kent [APP-365]** respectively. There are four different design approach options still under consideration, in line with the Suffolk DAD **[APP-364]** and Kent DAD **[APP-365]** and **Application Document 7.12.1 Design Principles – Suffolk [APP-366]** and **Application Document 7.12.2 Design Principles – Kent [APP-367]** respectively. The massing for each option is approximately the same, and the decision regarding the preferred design approach is pending a review that will follow receipt of the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) layouts which are not yet available.

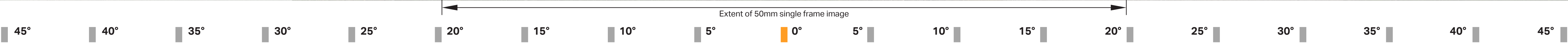
## 1.2 Additional information for Suffolk Viewpoints 1, 2 and 4

- 1.2.1 For completeness, for representative Viewpoint 2, visualisations include three different heights for the River Fromus bridge. These heights are 4 m, 5 m, and 6 m from the ground level at the bridge abutment to the top of the parapet, which also equates to 4 m, 5 m, and 6 m clearance of the bridge soffit from the Q95 flow level of the river (low flow).
- 1.2.2 It should be noted that on the original visualisations submitted within the Environmental Statement (ES) **[APP-208 to APP-214]**, the 4 m option was referred to as the '2 m option', because the soffit was 2 m above the bank level, and the 6 m option was referred to as the '4 m option', because the soffit level was 4 m above the bank. The 5 m option was not included in the original visualisations and has been introduced subsequently as a result of discussions with the Environment Agency.



# Appendix A Suffolk Illustrative Visualisations





**AECOM**  
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Visualisation Type: 3

Projection: Cylindrical

Enlargement Factor: 96%

Paper Size: A1

Date / Time: 06/04/2024, 14:31

Camera: Canon EOS 5D MkIV

Lens: Sigma 50mm f/1.4 DG HSM

Horizontal Field of View: 90°

Direction of View: South East

Location: E639225 N263029

Eye level: 33.3m

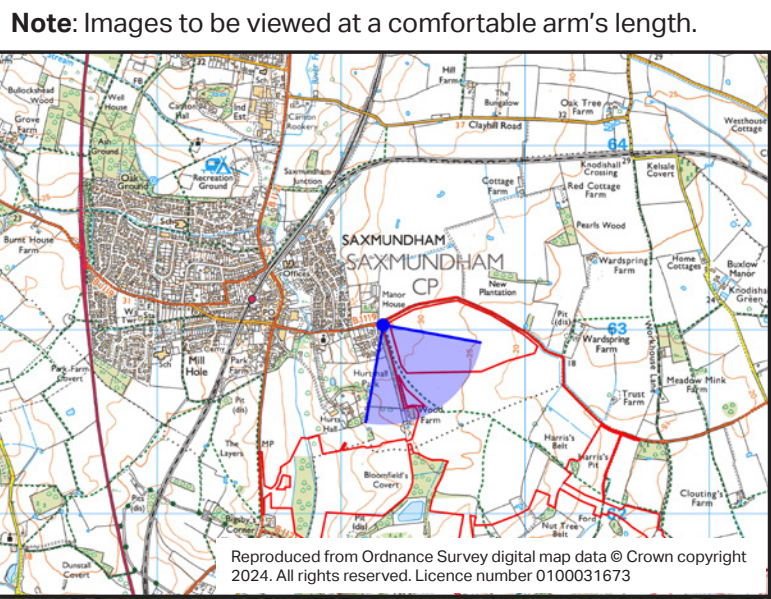
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**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**

**Viewpoint 1: Public Footpath (Saxmundham 460, route 23), east of Saxmundham, looking southeast**

Application Document 9.14-A Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 1 of 6)





45°

40°

35°

30°

25°

20°

15°

10°

5°

0°

5°

10°

15°

20°

25°

30°

35°

40°

45°

Extent of 50mm single frame image

**AECOM**

Delivering a better world

Visualisation Type:

Projection:

Enlargement Factor:

Paper Size:

Date / Time:

3

Cylindrical

96%

A1

06/04/2024, 14:31

Camera:

Lens:

Horizontal Field of View:

Direction of View:

Location:

Canon EOS 5D MkIV

Sigma 50mm f/1.4 DG HSM

90°

South East

E639225 N263029

Eye level:

Height of Camera:

33.3m

1.6m

**Note:**

The photomontage assumes under Friston Scenario 1 that Friston Substation has been constructed under the SPR consent, so is not shown in the photomontage.

**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**

**Viewpoint 1: Public Footpath (Saxmundham 460, route 23), east of Saxmundham, looking southeast**

Application Document 9.14-A Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 2 of 6)

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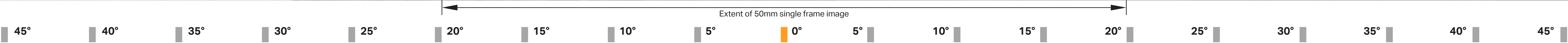








BASELINE (SUMMER)



**AECOM**  
Delivering a better world

Visualisation Type: 3  
Projection: Cylindrical  
Enlargement Factor: 96%  
Paper Size: A1  
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Direction of View: South East  
Location: E639225 N263029

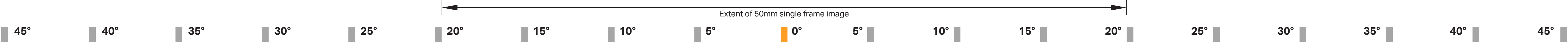
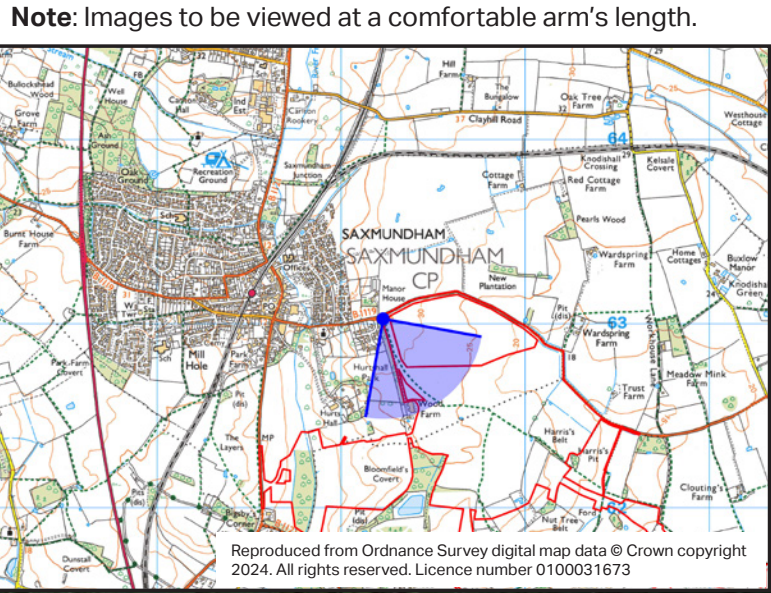
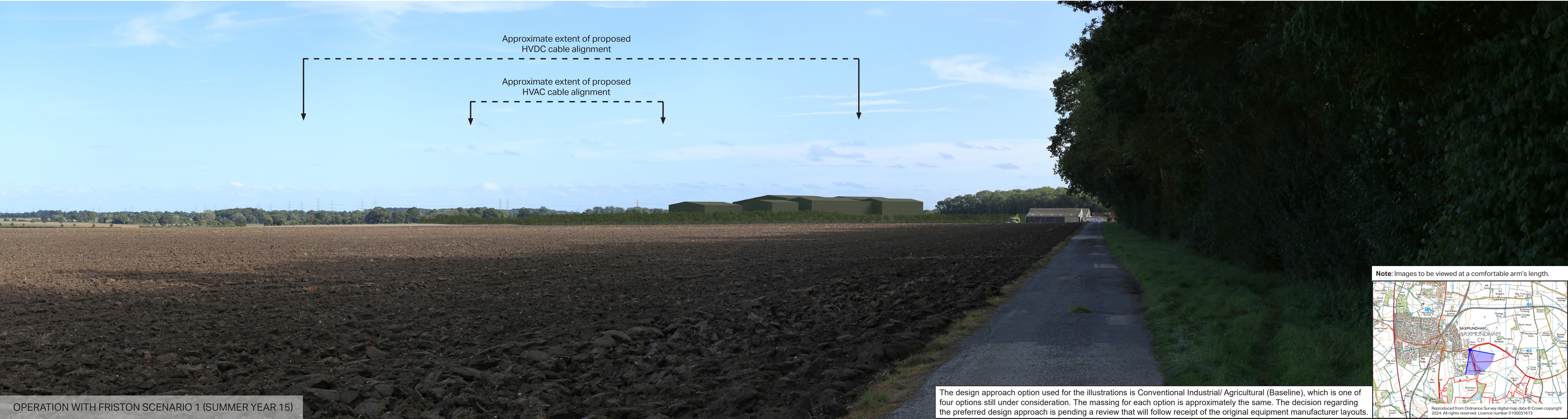
Eye level: 33.3m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

### Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme

#### Viewpoint 1: Public Footpath (Saxmundham 460, route 23), east of Saxmundham, looking southeast

Application Document 9.14-A Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 4 of 6)





**AECOM**  
Delivering a better world

Visualisation Type: 3

Projection: Cylindrical

Enlargement Factor: 96%

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Lens: Canon EF50mm f/1.8 STM

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Direction of View: South East

Location: E639225 N263029

Eye level: 33.3m

Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Note:**

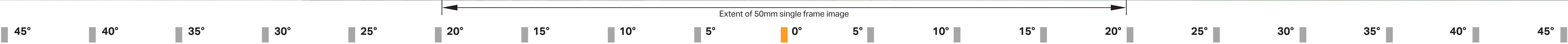
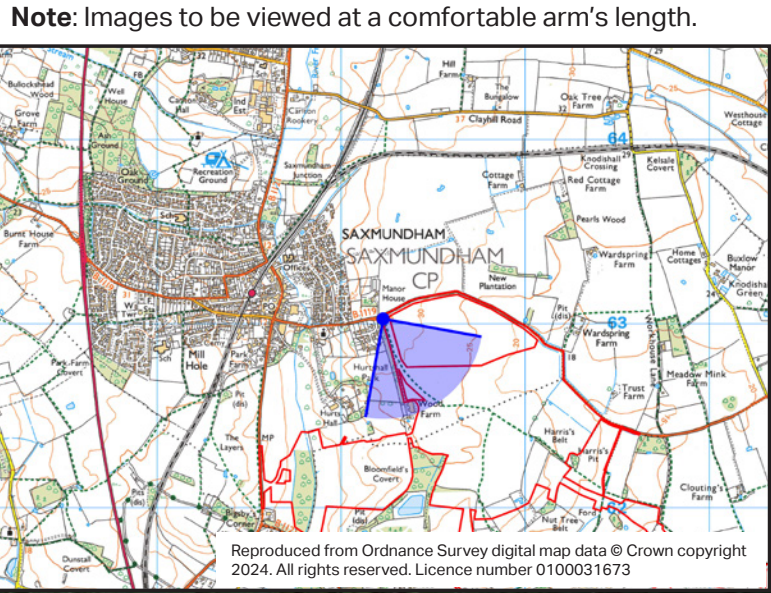
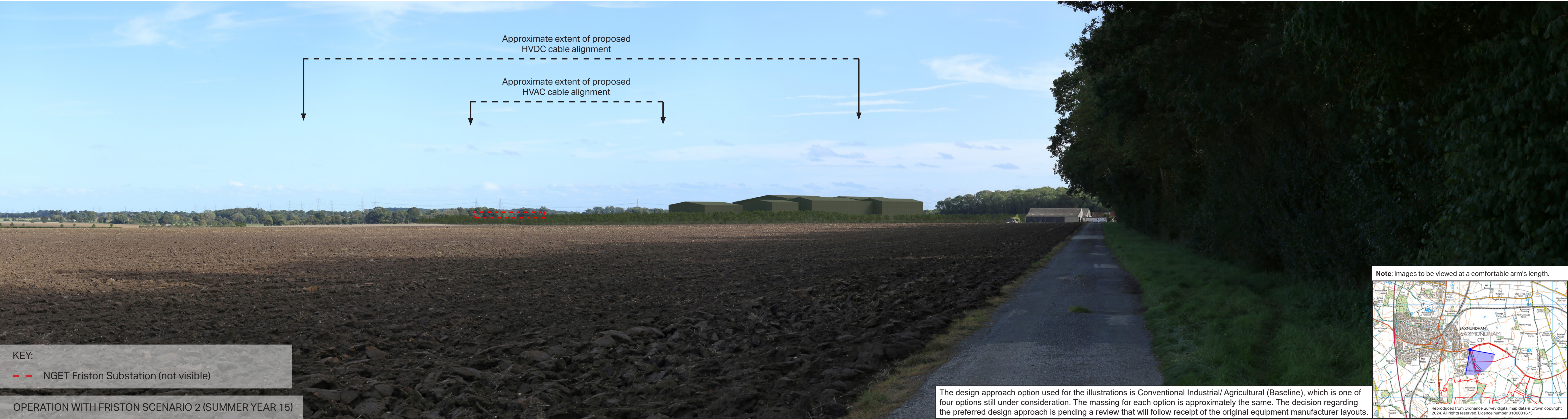
The photomontage assumes under Friston Scenario 1 that Friston Substation has been constructed under the SPR consent, so is not shown in the photomontage.


**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**

**Viewpoint 1: Public Footpath (Saxmundham 460, route 23), east of Saxmundham, looking southeast**

Application Document 9.14-A Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 5 of 6)







Delivering a better world

Visualisation Type: 3  
Projection: Cylindrical  
Enlargement Factor: 96%  
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Lens: Canon EF50mm f/1.8 STM  
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Direction of View: South East  
Location: E639225 N263029

Eye level: 33.3m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Note:**  
The photomontage assumes under Friston Scenario 2 the construction of the NGET Friston Substation and two new pylons, and the removal of one pylon.

Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme

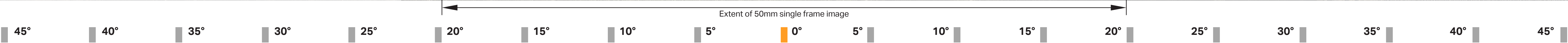
Viewpoint 1: Public Footpath (Saxmundham 460, route 23), east of Saxmundham, looking southeast

Application Document 9.14-A Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 6 of 6)



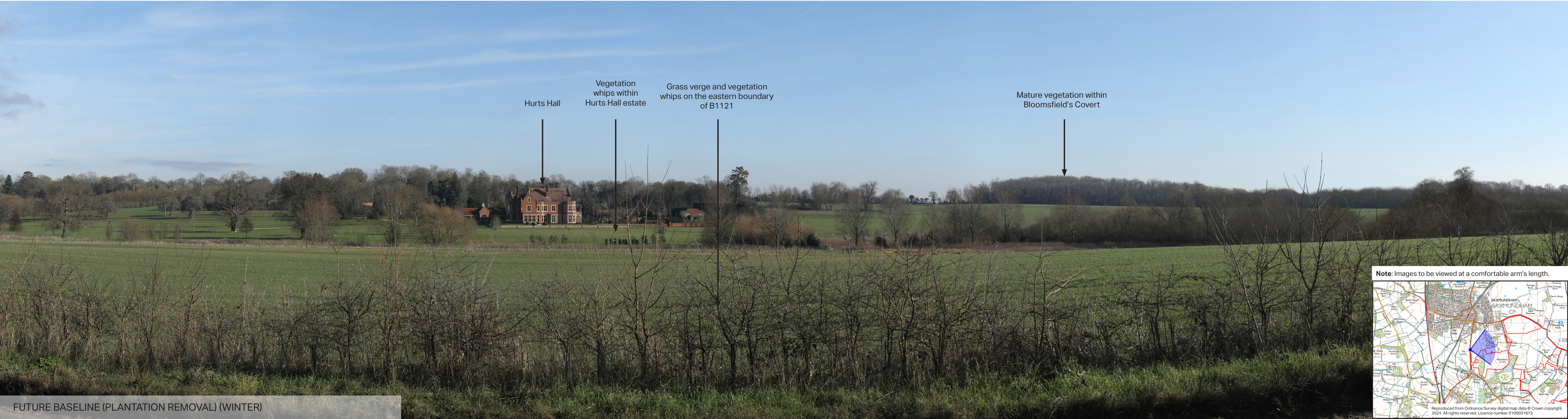


BASELINE (WINTER)

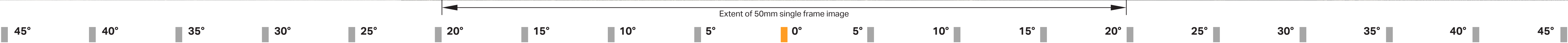


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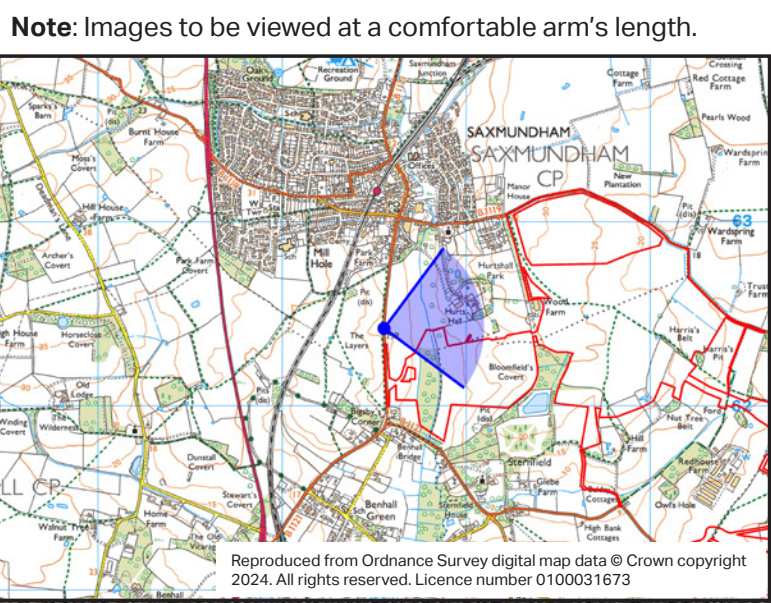


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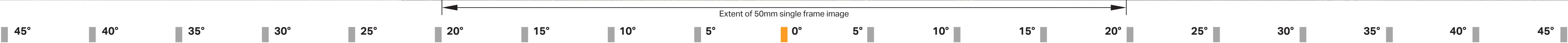






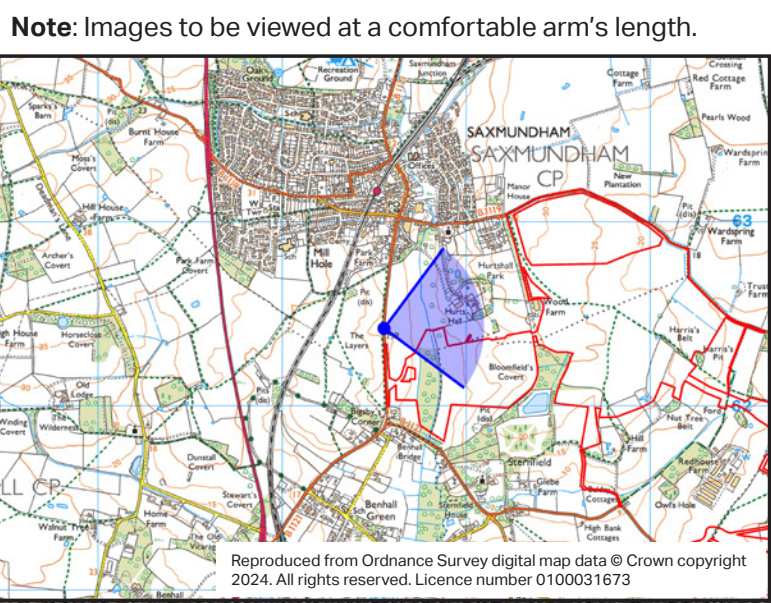


OPERATION WITH FROMUS BRIDGE 5M CLEARANCE OPTION (WINTER YEAR 1)

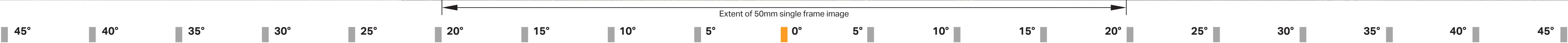


<b>AECOM</b> Delivering a better world	Visualisation Type:	3	Camera:	Canon EOS 5D MkIV	Eye level:	17.5m	<b>Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme</b> <b>Viewpoint 2: B1121, south of Saxmundham, looking east</b> Application Document 9.14-B Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 4 of 10)
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OPERATION WITH FROMUS BRIDGE 6M CLEARANCE OPTION (WINTER YEAR 1)

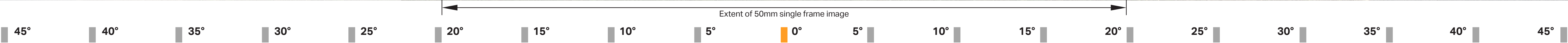


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BASELINE (SUMMER)

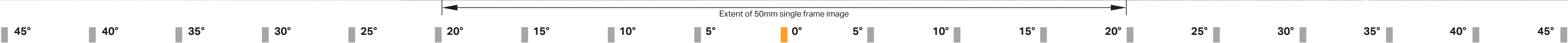


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FUTURE BASELINE (PLANTATION REMOVAL) (SUMMER)



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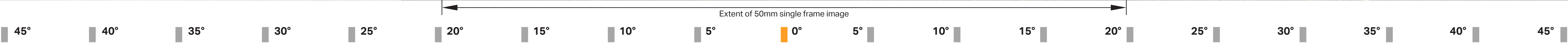




OPERATION WITH FROMUS BRIDGE 4M CLEARANCE OPTION (SUMMER YEAR 15)

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Visualisation Type: 3  
Projection: Cylindrical  
Enlargement Factor: 96%  
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Lens: Canon EF50mm f/1.8 STM  
Horizontal Field of View: 90°  
Direction of View: East  
Location: E638551 N262419

Eye level: 17.4m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**  
**Viewpoint 2: B1121, south of Saxmundham, looking east**  
Application Document 9.14-B Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 8 of 10)



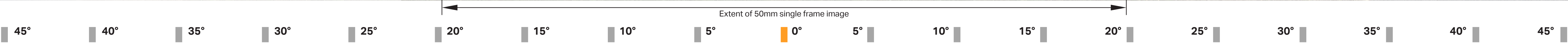


OPERATION WITH FROMUS BRIDGE 5M CLEARANCE OPTION (SUMMER YEAR 15)

The design approach option used for the illustrations is Conventional Industrial/ Agricultural (Baseline), which is one of four options still under consideration. The massing for each option is approximately the same. The decision regarding the preferred design approach is pending a review that will follow receipt of the original equipment manufacturer layouts.

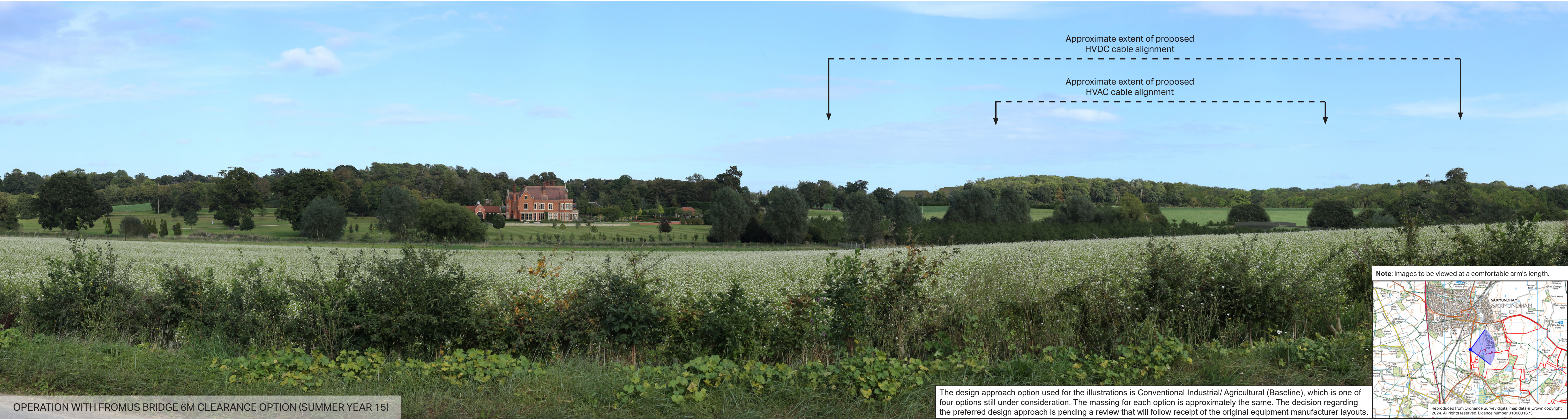
**Note:** Images to be viewed at a comfortable arm's length.

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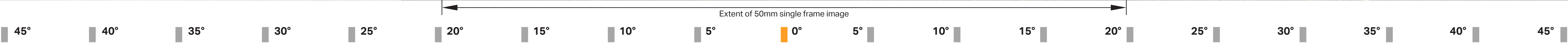
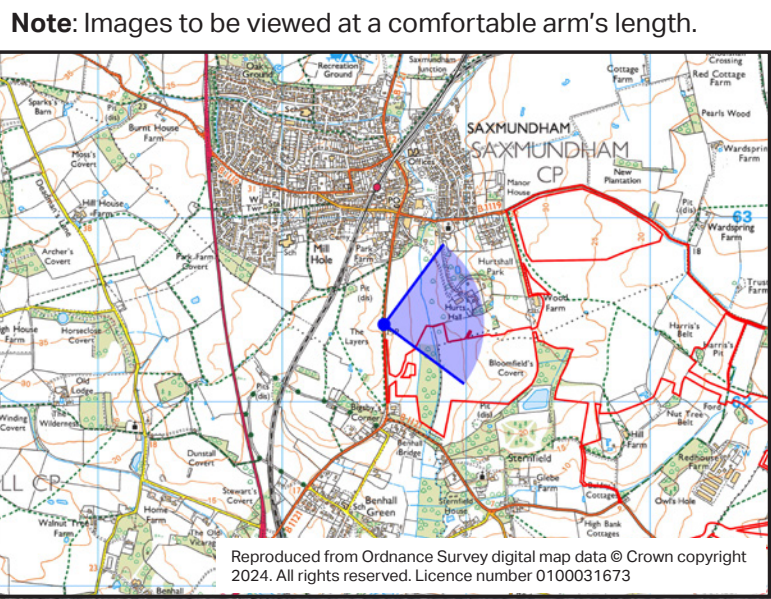


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OPERATION WITH FROMUS BRIDGE 6M CLEARANCE OPTION (SUMMER YEAR 15)

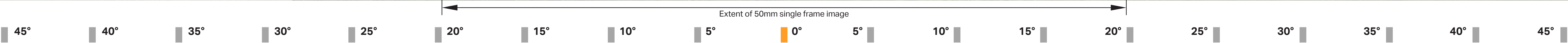


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BASELINE (WINTER)



**AECOM**  
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Direction of View: West  
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Eye level: 16.5m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**

**Viewpoint 4: Public Bridleway (Sternfield 491, route 10) south of the B1119, southeast of Saxmundham, looking west**

Application Document 9.14-C Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 1 of 4)



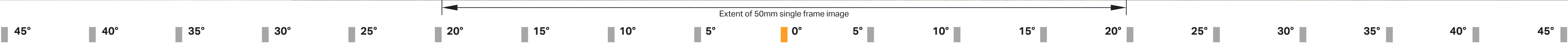


OPERATION (WINTER YEAR 1)

The design approach option used for the illustrations is Conventional Industrial/ Agricultural (Baseline), which is one of four options still under consideration. The massing for each option is approximately the same. The decision regarding the preferred design approach is pending a review that will follow receipt of the original equipment manufacturer layouts.

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**AECOM**  
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Visualisation Type: 3  
Projection: Cylindrical  
Enlargement Factor: 96%  
Paper Size: A1  
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Lens: Sigma 50mm f/1.4 DG HSM  
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Direction of View: West  
Location: E640520 N262430

Eye level: 16.5m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**

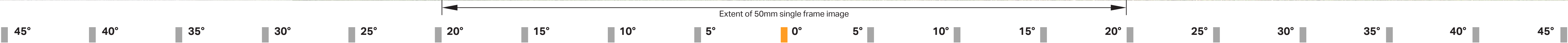
**Viewpoint 4: Public Bridleway (Sternfield 491, route 10) south of the B1119, southeast of Saxmundham, looking west**

Application Document 9.14-C Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 2 of 4)





BASELINE (SUMMER)



**AECOM**  
Delivering a better world

Visualisation Type: 3  
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Lens: Canon EF50mm f/1.8 STM  
Horizontal Field of View: 90°  
Direction of View: West  
Location: E640520 N262430

Eye level: 16.5m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**

**Viewpoint 4: Public Bridleway (Sternfield 491, route 10) south of the B1119, southeast of Saxmundham, looking west**

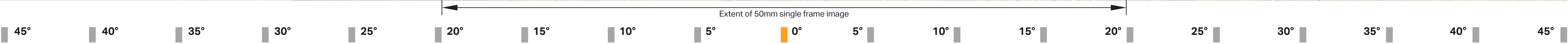
Application Document 9.14-C Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 3 of 4)





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**Delivering a better world**

Visualisation Type: 3  
Projection: Cylindrical  
Enlargement Factor: 96%  
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Lens: Canon EF50mm f/1.8 STM  
Horizontal Field of View: 90°  
Direction of View: West  
Location: E640520 N262430

Eye level: 16.5m  
Height of Camera: 1.6m

**Sea Link Suffolk Onshore Scheme**  
**Viewpoint 4: Public Bridleway (Sternfield 491, route 10) south of the B1119, southeast of Saxmundham, looking west**  
Application Document 9.14-C Illustrative Visualisations (sheet 4 of 4)



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