

Sea Link – EN020026

National Grid Electricity Transmission

Section 51 Advice Log

Version: 31 January 2025

There is a statutory duty under [section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008](#) for the Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by the Inspectorate to the applicant (National Grid Electricity Transmission) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this Advice Log as the basis for demonstrating regard to section 51 advice within the application.

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Date of meeting	Meeting overview
20 November 2024	Project Update and submission practical arrangements
31 January 2025	Document sharing discussion

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Topic	Meeting date: 20 November 2024
Consultation Report	The applicant informed the Inspectorate of an update to the project design following their targeted consultation, and that they would be conducting further consultation as a result aimed at the affected persons with an interest in the land. The Inspectorate advised to make sure all the consultation activities are clearly explained in the Consultation Report.
Confidential Documents	The Inspectorate advised to create a separate folder marked as confidential for such files when submitting the application. The Inspectorate clarified that a holding page will be published for any confidential files on the National Infrastructure website.
GIS Shapefile	The Inspectorate advised to submit the GIS Shapefile ten working days before the submission of application.
Payment Schedule	The Inspectorate advised it will issue a warmup letter which will include the information that Inspectorate need, practical arrangements and will also have a separate fee letter four weeks before the submission.
Timely acceptance	The Inspectorate advised to keep it updated with any changes to the submission date to help with resource planning. The Inspectorate also advised that if the application is received after 5pm it will be treated as being received the next working day.
File size	The Inspectorate confirmed 50MB limit to the portal submissions and application documents file size limit to be confirmed.
Site Visits	The Inspectorate advised that if the Application is accepted for Examination, the Examining Authority (ExA) may request for suggested site locations and if site visit is required, the applicant will need to produce an itinerary and arrange for transport for Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI). If an Access Required Site Inspection (ARSI) is required, the applicant will need to make arrangements for access to any private land in order for the ExA and case team to visit the site.
Hearing and Venue identification	The Inspectorate advised that the location of hearings will depend on the feedback from the Relevant Representations, the level of interest and feedback from areas. Most hearings are held blended, but there's also possibility of virtually only if need dictates.

Post Meeting Note	<p>The Inspectorate informed the applicant via email following the meeting that applicants must advertise the acceptance of the application and the dates of the RR period in newspapers over two consecutive weeks. The RR period must run for a minimum of 30 days, and the Planning Inspectorate Case Team will require the RR dates and the dates of the two press notices in advance. The start of the RR period is counted from the date on which the second notice is published.</p> <p>The applicant will need to provide their certificates of compliance with s56 and s59 of the Planning Act 2008 to the Planning Inspectorate within 10 working days following the close of the RR period in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures Regulations.</p> <p>The Inspectorate also confirmed that application documents should have a maximum file size of 50MB each, be in PDF format if possible and optimised for web viewing.</p>
Topic	Meeting date: 31 January 2025
Document sharing	<p>The applicant is exploring how to submit the application documents to the Inspectorate. The Inspectorate advised that it cannot accept documents from websites that require third party authentication. The applicant will email Inspectorate to explore this further with technical team.</p>
Topic	Meeting date