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Norwich to Tilbury

Volume 5: Reports and statements

Document: 5.1 Consultation Report - Appendix A: Meetings and correspondence with stakeholders

Final Issue A

August 2025

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Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)(g)

nationalgrid

Appendix A

Meetings and Correspondence with Stakeholders

August 2025

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A2: Host Authority Engagement

**A3: Regard had to advice received from Planning Inspectorate under
section 51**

Appendix A1

Meetings Held with Stakeholders

Stakeholder	Attendee numbers (if applicable)	Topic / consultation phase	Date / time
Sir John Hayes MP		Post targeted consultation	8 April 2025
James Cartlidge MP		Post targeted consultation	1 April 2025
Pippa Heylings MP and Edward Morello MP		Post targeted consultation	1 April 2025
Thurrock Council	3	Targeted consultation	24 March 2025 (6:30-7:30pm)
Catherine Rowett, County Councillor	1	Targeted consultation	20 March 2025 (11am)
Basildon Council	8	Targeted consultation	18 March 2025 (2-3pm)
Marie Goldman MP		Post targeted consultation	17 March 2025
Orsett Golf Club		Targeted consultation	14 March 2025 (12 – 1pm)
Office of James McMurdock MP		Targeted consultation	14 March 2025
Alex Burghart MP		Targeted consultation	13 March 2025
Essex County Council	28	Targeted consultation	10 March 2025
Colchester City Council	2	Targeted consultation	4 March 2025 (12-1pm)
Tendring District Council	11	Targeted consultation	28 February 2025 (10:30am – 11:30am)
Brentwood District Council	5	Targeted consultation	28 February 2025 (2 – 3pm)
Chelmsford City Council	2	Targeted consultation	26 February 2025 (12 – 1pm)
Braintree District Council	10	Targeted consultation	26 February 2025 (10 – 11 am)
Thurrock Council	3	Targeted consultation	25 February 2025 (4-5pm)
James Cartlidge MP		Targeted consultation	25 February 2025
Palgrave Parish Council	2	Targeted consultation	13 February 2025 (7:30-8pm)
Norfolk Parish councils	0	Targeted consultation	6 February 2025
Suffolk Parish councils	5	Targeted consultation	6 February 2025
South Norfolk and Broadland District Council	10	Targeted consultation	3 February 2025 (6 – 7pm)
Colchester District Council	2	Targeted consultation	February 2025 (2-3pm)
Suffolk County Council	6	Targeted consultation	30 January 2025 (11:30am-12:30pm)
Norfolk County Council	5	Targeted consultation	30 January 2025 (2-3pm)

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council	17	Targeted consultation	30 January 2025 (10:30-11am)
Adrian Ramsay MP	4	Targeted Consultation	29 January 2025
Adrian Ramsay MP	4	High-level project summary	09 December 2025
Cllr Mike Steel		Statutory consultation	25 June 2024 (3 - 4pm)
University of Essex	18	High-level project summary	23 May 2024 (10am – 2pm)
Sir Bernard Jenkin MP		Statutory consultation	25 April 2024
Dan Poulter MP		Statutory consultation	25 April 2024
Suffolk Parish Councils		Statutory consultation	23 April 2024
Braintree District Council	4	Statutory consultation	23 April 2024
Chelmsford City Council	0	Statutory consultation	22 April 2024
Essex County Council	5	Statutory consultation	22 April 2024
Essex Parish Councils	4	Statutory consultation	22 April 2024
Norfolk Parish Councils		Statutory consultation	18 April 2024 (6-7 pm)
Norfolk County Council	2	Statutory consultation	17 April 2024 (3 - 4pm)
Basildon and Brentwood Council	8	Statutory consultation	17 April 2024 (4:30 - 5:30pm)
James Cartlidge MP		Statutory consultation	16 April 2024
Thurrock Council	2	Statutory consultation	16 April 2024 (2 - 3pm)
Tendring District Council		Statutory consultation	16 April 2024 (4 - 5pm)
Babergh and Mid Suffolk	34	Statutory consultation	16 April 2024(12 - 1pm)
South Norfolk District Council	11	Statutory consultation	15 April 2024 (10:30 - 11:30am)
Colchester District Council	5	Statutory consultation	15 April 2024 (4pm - 5pm)
John Baron MP		Statutory consultation	15 April 2024
Priti Patel MP		Statutory consultation	10 April 2024
Chelmsford Science and Engineering Society		High-level project summary	21 February 2024 (7 – 9pm)
Suffolk County Council	10	Non-statutory consultation (2023)	30 June 2023
Pylons East Anglia	3	Post non-statutory consultation (2022)	15 September 2022 (10:30 – 11am)
Pylons East Anglia	3	Post non-statutory consultation (2022)	1 September 2022

John Baron MP		Non-statutory consultation (2022)	5 July 2022
Kemi Badenoch MP		Non-statutory consultation (2022)	1 July 2022
Priti Patel MP		Non-statutory consultation (2022)	28 June 2022
South Norfolk District Council	13	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	8 June 2022
Rivenhall Parish Council	2	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	25 May 2022 (7 – 8pm)
Chelmsford Parish Council	2	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	23 May 2022 (7 – 8pm)
Basildon Parish Council	2	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	19 May 2022 (7 – 8pm)
Mid Suffolk Parish Council	16	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	16 May 2022 (7 - 8pm)
Babergh Parish Council	10	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	12 May 2022 (7 - 8pm)
South Norfolk Parish Council	15	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	10 May 2022 (7- 8pm)
Colchester Parish Council	7	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	5 May 2022 (7 - 8pm)
Braintree Parish Council	11	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	3 May 2022 (7 - 8pm)
Tendring Parish Council	8	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	27 April 2022 (7 - 8pm)
Brentwood Parish Council	2	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	26 April 2022 (7 - 8pm)
Essex County Council	7	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	25 April 2022 (9 – 10am)
Stephen Metcalfe MP		Non-statutory consultation (2022)	25 April 2022
James Cartlidge MP and Bernard Jenkins MP		Non-statutory consultation (2022)	25 April 2022
Dan Poulter MP		Non-statutory consultation (2022)	22 April 2022
Chelmsford City Council	5	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	21 April 2022 (2-3pm)
Colchester Borough Council	5	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	20 April 2022 (5 - 6pm)
Braintree District Council	10	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	20 April 2022 (10 - 11am)
Tendring District Council	2	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	20 April 2022 (12 - 1pm)
Basildon Borough Council	9	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	20 April 2022 (4 - 5pm)
Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Council	11	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	14 April 2022 (9:30 - 10:30am)
Norfolk County Council	14	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	14 April 2022 (11am - 12pm)
Suffolk County Council	8	Non-statutory consultation (2022)	14 April 2022 (2 - 3pm)

Appendix A2

Host Authority Engagement

Record of Key Engagement with Norfolk County Council

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with NCC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted Consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.1 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and NCC.

Table 2.1 Summary of engagement between National Grid and Norfolk County Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
April 2022 – Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up call.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss National Grid's approach to targeted consultations
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the second iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from the second iteration of the oCoCP and oLEMP
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)
April 2025	Meeting	Meeting to go through host authority workshop updates (Norfolk unable to attend original workshop)
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice oCoCP
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a new appendix to the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCoCP) - Appendix H, Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Long List of Other Developments

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from NCC and other authorities.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining the protected species proposed mitigation measures for agreement/comment
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)
April 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on second iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the updated Proposed Protected Species Mitigation document

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared a new appendix to the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) – Appendix D, Outline Landscape Proposals
Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology		
August 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA).
Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	NCC requested consideration of mental health during operation. NCC also requested that baseline data should be provided to aid further levels of detail where possible.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Meeting with archaeological advisors to discuss the approach to geophysical survey and trial trenching.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting with archaeological advisor from Norfolk County Council in attendance.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for Monitoring GI works under archaeological supervision with Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the overarching WSI for the Archaeological Trial Trenching with the Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Site Specific WSI for the EACN (Site 001) with the Archaeology Working Group Members for information.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
July 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Setting survey locations with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	Technical focus meeting to discuss the ongoing archaeology work on site.
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
December 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid re-issued the overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Trial Trenching
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting regarding Historic Environment Viewpoints
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment
February 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss draft Heritage Baseline Report
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information
March 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project
April 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
May 2025	Meeting	Technical focus meeting to discuss ongoing archaeology work on site
Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk		
June 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid circulated the draft Hydrology and Land Drainage Assessment Methodology for review and discussion ahead of the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented the EIA approach at the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group to the Environment Agency and all host authorities.
May 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note for comment, which set out the approach to preparing the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).
July 2023	Email Correspondence	Response to comments received on the technical note setting out the approach to preparing the FRA.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Flood Risk Assessment Screening Report for comment.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Works In, Over and Under Watercourses Technical Note and the Surface Water Management Principles Technical Note.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the principles for surface water drainage design for above ground infrastructure and watercourse crossing designs for the Project.
October 2024	Meeting	Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group Meeting
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments raised from the draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Norfolk. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders (including NCC) provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with NCC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated view point information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
December 2024	Meeting	Meeting to agree photography locations and photomontages for the ES
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the third Technical Note for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism
Traffic and Transport		
June 2022	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the proposed Traffic and Transport assessment methodology.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held the Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the proposed EIA methodology for the Traffic and Transport assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting
December 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the assessment of routes for construction traffic.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the highways assessment and methodology, survey requirements, road safety audit requirements and trip regeneration methodology.
August 2023	Meeting	The Local Highways Authority requested an early agreement on link sensitivity, traffic counts, Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs), and data and underlying assumptions behind traffic and workforce calculations. During discussions, NCC raised the importance of reinstatement after removal of site accesses following the completion of the Project.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2023	Meeting	<p>National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. At the meeting NCC noted:</p> <p>Concerns regarding the alignment through the A1066 Victoria Road (Diss). It was noted this is a congested route.</p> <p>DfT counts in Norfolk are largely only available up to 2019. It was agreed DfT traffic data from 2019 should be used in assessment in the ES.</p> <p>Norfolk County Council suggested additional surveys may be needed to support assessment.</p>
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group meeting with the Local Highways Authorities.
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a PRow Thematic Group Meeting.
January 2024	Meeting	National Grid discussed the Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) at the Transport Working Group Meeting.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss project updates and reviews of work to date, the transport assessment in the PIER and primary access routes.
April 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting to discuss updates to the transport assessment, multi-modal transport considerations and AIL routing with the local highways authorities (including Norfolk County Council).
June 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss statutory consultation, sensitive junctions, AIL routing, updates on the multi-modal report and road safety audit process, speed surveys, and visibility splays, mitigation and traffic management.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	Proposed Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes issued for comment.
July 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. Discussed planning applications and impact of access to Norwich Substation and need to understand duration of works/mitigation
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting. Discussion over DCO projects that may overlap the Project. Discussion held on staff worker movements and sensitivity of junctions in Norfolk.
August 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the PRow survey locations.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. General structure and content of TA was presented and considered appropriate by Norfolk. Provided an overview of the initial capacity assessment methodology using.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a LHA Engagement Meeting to discuss potential changes following S42 statutory consultation, visibility splays and traffic management methodology, access for existing utilities and AILs.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised from detailed assessment within ES. Approach to mitigation agreed in principle but would require site specific measures to be identified based on future traffic conditions.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Mitigation and Junction RAG Strategy
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Transport Assessment and Figures
March 2025	Meeting	Additional IEMA Mitigation Meeting. Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects on Primary Access Routes predominately for WCH Amenity. Approach to mitigation agreed in principle.
March 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with NCC. National Grid's position on various elements of the traffic and transport and highways design clarified.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a NCC Highway Mitigation Workshop. Highway mitigation proposals on Wymondham Road were discussed.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with NCC. AIL process, routes and agreement on approach sought ahead of DCO.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a NCC workshop to discuss the Work in Progress Transport Assessment. NCC comments on the draft document were discussed.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with NCC. The proposed Statement of Common Ground and principals for Traffic Regulation Orders were discussed.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with NCC. Progress with Road Safety Audits, Statements of Common Ground, and Traffic Modelling were discussed.

Record of Key Engagement with South Norfolk

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with SNDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted Consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.2 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and SNDC.

Table 2.2 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and SNDC

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meeting.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) and draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iterations of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including SNDC.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the BNG Strategy to stakeholders including BMSDC.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iteration of the Outline LEMP
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Norfolk County Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting – aim was to seek agreement on the Historic Environment Methodology with respect to study area and assessment approach.
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Viewpoint Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoints

Date	Format	Topic/Description
February 2025	Technical Note	National grid shared the Historic Environment Viewpoint documents and shapefiles
February 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared the draft Historic Environment Baseline Report
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including BBC.
April	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting – proposed viewpoint locations - Norfolk
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023	Meeting	EIA viewpoints meeting - Norfolk
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with SNDC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to discuss viewpoints – Norfolk.
October 2024	Meeting	Focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated view point information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
December 2024	Meeting	Methodology and VP discussion with Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk District Council.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Suffolk County

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with SCC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.3 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and SCC.

Table 2.3 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and SCC

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
May 2022 – Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up call.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2022	Site visit	T-pylon site visit with case officers.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
February 2024	Meeting	Connection agreement discussion.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
April 2024	Meeting	DCO discussion with SCC and Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Council (MSBDC).
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2024	Meeting	DCO discussion with SCC and MSBDC.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (OCoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the second iteration of the Outline Code of Construction Practice (OCoCP)
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments on the second iteration of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared an updated Outline Code of Construction Plan (OCoCP)
May 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued a new appendix to the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCoCP) - Appendix H, Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy</u>
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Long List of Other Developments
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss duty to further the purposes of the National Landscape
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from SCC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Order Limits shapefile with SCC.
October 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles of the corridor dated 06/07/23.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (OLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management plan (OLEMP)
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities on Proposed Protected Species Mitigation Measures

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the second iteration of the proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared an updated Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss the updated Proposed Protected Species Mitigation.

Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology

August 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA).

Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)

September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	SCC requested that mental health during the Project's operation is considered within the Health and Wellbeing assessment.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
December 2024	Meeting	National Grid held an additional meeting for those unable to attend the September meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Suffolk County Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Meeting with archaeological advisors to discuss the approach to geophysical survey and trial trenching.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid responded to cultural heritage viewpoint feedback from stakeholders.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for Monitoring GI works under archaeological supervision with Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the overarching WSI for the Archaeological Trial Trenching with the Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Site Specific WSI for the EACN (Site 001) with the Archaeology Working Group Members (including Suffolk County Council) for information.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Setting survey locations with stakeholders.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared Site Specific WSI for Trial Trenching, Site 008, 'Underground Cable between Coopers Corner and River Stour'
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
December 2024	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid re-issued the overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Trial Trenching</u>
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information</u>
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment</u>
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting regarding Historic Environment Viewpoints
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline Report
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issues the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project</u>
May 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk		
June 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid circulated the draft Hydrology and Land Drainage Assessment Methodology for review and discussion ahead of the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented the EIA approach at the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group to the Environment Agency and all host authorities.
May 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note for comment, which set out the approach to preparing the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Flood Risk Assessment Screening Report for comment.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Works In, Over and Under Watercourses Technical Note and the Surface Water Management Principles Technical Note.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the principles for surface water drainage design for above ground infrastructure and watercourse crossing designs for the Project.
October 2024	Meeting	<u>Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group Meeting</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment</u>
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment</u>
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Suffolk. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES. Suffolk County Council provided feedback on the viewpoints at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders (including SCC) provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
July 2024	Meeting	National Grid held an optional statutory consultation for those from Suffolk County Council and Essex Place Services who could not join the Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call in May 2024.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with NCC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to discuss viewpoints – Suffolk.
October 2024	Meeting	Focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated view point information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid meeting to agree LVIA methodology and viewpoint photography locations and photomontages to be used for the ES
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology</u>
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including SCC.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
March 2025	Technical Note	<u>National Grid issued the third Technical Note for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Traffic and Transport		
June 2022	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the proposed Traffic and Transport assessment methodology.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held the Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the proposed EIA methodology for the Traffic and Transport assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting
December 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the assessment of routes for construction traffic.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the highways assessment and methodology, survey requirements, road safety audit requirements and trip regeneration methodology.
August 2023	Meeting	The Local Highways Authority requested an early agreement on link sensitivity, traffic counts, Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs), and data and underlying assumptions behind traffic and workforce calculations. During discussions, Suffolk County Council requested assessment work to be undertaken beyond looking at collision clusters.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a stakeholder meeting with SCC setting out details of the proposed alignment, haul roads, PARS, MRN and SRNs affected and proposed construction vehicles including for Bramford substation and cable sealing compounds.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. At the meeting SCC noted: restricted vehicle movements on the A12 to access to the B1068 (H13B-A1) (restricted slip roads). holding a database of recent traffic surveys that could be used within the assessment. agreement to the use of 2019 DfT traffic data for assessments.
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group meeting with the Local Highways Authorities (including SCC).
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a ProW Thematic Group Meeting.
January 2024	Meeting	National Grid discussed the Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) at the Transport Working Group.
March 2024	Technical Note	PAR routes sent to LHAs
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss project updates and reviews of work to date, the transport assessment in the PIER and primary access routes.
April 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting to discuss updates to the transport assessment, multi-modal transport considerations and AIL routing with the local highways authorities (including Suffolk County Council).

Date	Format	Topic/Description
June 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss statutory consultation, sensitive junctions, AIL routing, updates on the multi-modal report and road safety audit process, speed surveys, and visibility splays, mitigation and traffic management.
July 2024	Report	S42 statutory consultation comments from SCC cite the volume of HGVs on parts of the local highways network and note it is unacceptable for HGVs and AILs to use the highway network without pause. Cumulative impact of energy projects in the Bramford area to be assessed. Impact on receptors to be included in ES as opposed to issues including road safety, junction/link design, temporary and permanent accesses, to be considered separately.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	Proposed Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes issued for comment.
July 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting with SCC to discuss S42 statutory consultation comments and PAR highway mitigation including merge taper on the A12 within National Highways jurisdiction.
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting with all LHAs present. Highway mitigation including TTROs and TROs to be presented in schedules, ProW surveys to be arranged by ProW officers and RSAs for crossover bellmouths to be sent to LHAs for review.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. General structure and content of TA was presented and considered appropriate by Suffolk. Provided an overview of the initial capacity assessment methodology using.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting with all LHAs present. Updated AIL route packs sent out, SCC confirmed receipt of Designers Response to bellmouth RSAs, transport CWTP and CTMP S42 comments being addressed, re-cap of multi modal study given. ProW meetings to be organised separately.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a LHA Engagement Meeting to discuss potential changes following S42 statutory consultation, visibility splays and traffic management methodology, access for existing utilities and AILs.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting. Presented WIP draft of Transport Assessment. Ran through methodology of junction sifting process, junction assessment methodology and cumulative assessment.
January 2025	Meeting	Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised from detailed assessment within ES. Approach to mitigation

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		agreed in principle but would require site specific measures to be identified based on future traffic conditions.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Suffolk Traffic and Transport Working Group meeting. Geographically targeted consultation to facilitate drafting up of documents for the DCO to take place. UKPN accesses and need for additional RSAs discussed, highway mitigation developments made, ProW mitigation strategy to be shared, IEMA mitigation, SOCGs and transport assessment discussed.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Transport Assessment and Figures</u>
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Mitigation and Junction RAG Strategy</u>
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid Traffic and Transport Working Group Regional Meeting, all LHAs present. TTROs and ProW closures to be captured in schedules, updates on trip generation given, various meetings to be arranged including for AILS, TROs and TTROs, and ES and TA.
March 2025	Meeting	Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised from detailed assessment within ES. Approach to mitigation agreed in principle but would require site specific measures to be reviewed by Suffolk against receptor sensitivity for each PAR.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a SCC Highway Mitigation Workshop. Highway mitigation proposals at 5no. locations were discussed. RSA briefs sent in February to be reviewed by SCC.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with SCC. AIL process, routes and agreement on approach sought ahead of DCO. Suffolk police confirmed SoCGs to include an item on protest management.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid attended a meeting with Suffolk County Council on priority-controlled junctions and traffic modelling. Discussed the results from LRN junction modelling and potential mitigation measures.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss the LRN junction modelling results in Suffolk for Norwich to Tilbury.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with SCC. The proposed Statement of Common Ground and principals for Traffic Regulation Orders were discussed.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with NCC. Progress with Road Safety Audits, Statements of Common Ground, and Traffic Modelling were discussed.

Record of Key Engagement with Babergh and Mid Suffolk

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with BMSDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.4 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and BMSDC.

Table 2.4 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and BMSDC

Date	Format	Topic/description
General		
June 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up and PPA discussion
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/description
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 – Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meetings.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
February 2024	Meeting	Connection agreement discussion.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
April 2024	Meeting	Mid Suffolk DCO discussion.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2024	Meeting	Mid Suffolk DCO discussion.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) and draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the 2 nd iteration of the Outline LEMP and Outline COCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss duty to further the purposes of the National Landscape

Date	Format	Topic/description
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from BMSDC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline LEMP
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including BMSDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the BNG Strategy to stakeholders including BMSDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iteration of the Outline LEMP
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the 2 nd iteration of the Outline Lemp
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.

Date	Format	Topic/description
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Suffolk County Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.

Date	Format	Topic/description
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting – aim was to seek agreement on the Historic Environment Methodology with respect to study area and assessment approach.
February 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Heritage viewpoints documents and shapefiles.
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic group meeting to discuss Heritage viewpoints
February 2025	Technical Note	National Grid shared the draft Historic Environment Baseline Report.
February 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the draft Historic Environment Baseline Report.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information</u> to stakeholders including BMSDC.
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.

Date	Format	Topic/description
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to discuss viewpoints – Suffolk.
October 2024	Meeting	Focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss viewpoints and methodology – Suffolk.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/description
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the third Technical Note for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism to stakeholders including BMSDC.

Record of Key Engagement with Essex County

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with ECC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted Consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.5 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and ECC.

Table 2.5 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Essex County Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
April 2022 – Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up calls.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2022	Site visit	T-pylon site visit with case officers.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
July 2023	Meeting	Dunton Hills Garden Village discussion.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Dunton Hills Garden Village discussion.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
February 2024	Meeting	East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) access proposals meeting.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	ECC Minerals Plan discussion.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2024	Meeting	EACN discussion.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultations
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from the second iteration of the oCoCP and oLEMP</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the second iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)</u>
March 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the second iteration of the <u>Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCOCP)</u> and <u>Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice oCoCP</u>
May 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued a new appendix to the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCoCP) - Appendix H, Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy</u>
May 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Long List of Other Developments</u>
May 2025	Meeting	<u>Meeting to discuss targeted consultation feedback</u>
May 2025	Meeting	<u>Meeting to discuss duty to further the purposes of the National Landscape</u>
May 2025	Meeting	<u>All host authority workshop</u>
June 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss access arrangements around Dunton Hills Garden Village
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from ECC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
January 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the BNG initiative.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England</u>
January 2025	Meeting	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining the protected species proposed mitigation measures for agreement/comment</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy</u>
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)</u>
April 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on second iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Meeting	<u>Meeting to discuss the updated Proposed Protected Species Mitigation document</u>
May 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)</u>
May 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid shared a new appendix to the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) – Appendix D, Outline Landscape Proposals</u>
Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology		
August 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA).
Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
July 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) to agree the approach to the operational noise impact assessment of the proposed EACN Substation.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Essex County Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Meeting with archaeological advisors to discuss the approach to geophysical survey and trial trenching.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for Monitoring GI works under archaeological supervision with Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the overarching WSI for the Archaeological Trial Trenching with the Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Site Specific WSI for the EACN (Site 001) with the Archaeology Working Group Members (including Essex County Council) for information.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Setting survey locations with stakeholders
November 2024	Meeting	Technical focus meeting to discuss the ongoing archaeology work on site.
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
December 2024	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid re-issued the overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Trial Trenching</u>
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information</u>
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Meeting	<u>Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting regarding Historic Environment Viewpoints</u>
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment</u>
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>Meeting to discuss draft Heritage Baseline Report</u>
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Meeting	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
April 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project</u>
April 2025	Meeting	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
May 2025	Meeting	<u>Technical focus meeting to discuss ongoing archaeology work on site</u>
Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk		
June 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid circulated the draft Hydrology and Land Drainage Assessment Methodology for review and discussion ahead of the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented the EIA approach at the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group to the Environment Agency and all host authorities.
May 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note for comment, which set out the approach to preparing the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Flood Risk Assessment Screening Report for comment.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Works In, Over and Under Watercourses Technical Note and the Surface Water Management Principles Technical Note.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the principles for surface water drainage design for above ground infrastructure and watercourse crossing designs for the Project.
October 2024	Meeting	<u>Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group Meeting</u>
January 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment</u>
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments raised from the draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment</u>
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Essex.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES. ECC provided feedback on the viewpoints at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Meeting	EACN (Statutory Consultation) Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with ECC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting – LVIA Viewpoints within Essex North
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
December 2024	Meeting	Meeting to agree photography locations and photomontages for the ES
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology</u>

Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including ECC.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism technical note with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the third Technical Note for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism</u>

Traffic and Transport

June 2022	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the proposed Traffic and Transport assessment methodology.
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Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held the Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the proposed EIA methodology for the Traffic and Transport assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting
December 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the assessment of routes for construction traffic.
June 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss the EACN Substation access arrangements with ECC and National Highways.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the highways assessment and methodology, survey requirements, road safety audit requirements and trip regeneration methodology.
August 2023	Meeting	The Local Highways Authority requested an early agreement on link sensitivity, traffic counts, Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs), and data and underlying assumptions behind traffic and workforce calculations.
September 2023	Meeting	<p>National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. At the meeting ECC requested:</p> <p>A more focused discussion on the new EACN Substation access.</p> <p>Additional information on the usage of Bentley Road, inc. pedestrians / cyclists, etc.</p> <p>A review of road widths and white lining.</p> <p>ECC identified initial area of concern e.g., Wick Lane, Mill Road, and constrained junctions in Whitham.</p> <p>ECC agreed using 2019 DfT traffic data for assessments. However, noted this may represent an exaggerated worst-case when compared with current 2023 data.</p>
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group meeting with the Local Highways Authorities (including ECC).
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a PRoW Thematic Group Meeting.
January 2024	Meeting	National Grid discussed the Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) at the Transport Working Group.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss project updates and reviews of work to date, the transport assessment in the PEIR and primary access routes.
April 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting to discuss updates to the transport assessment, multi-modal transport considerations and AIL routing with the local highways authorities.
June 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss statutory consultation, sensitive junctions, AIL routing, updates on the multi-modal report and road safety audit process, speed surveys, and visibility splays, mitigation and traffic management.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
June 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss EACN and interaction with North Falls and Five Estuaries wind farms projects, and the proposed Norwich to Tilbury EACN permanent access between Bentley Road and Ardleigh road that would be required.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	Proposed Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes issued for comment.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	ECC 2024 statutory consultation response - request for baseline information to understand construction impacts on the local highways network. Detailed assessment of cumulative effects including but not limited to Phase 2 of the Chelmsford Bypass and upgrades to the A12.
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group LHA engagement meeting with ECC. Highway mitigation on PARS from 2024 statutory consultation were presented.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting with ECC and National Highways to discuss AIL routes. Overview of AIL vehicles given by Mott MacDonald.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. All affected LHAs were in attendance. Highways Mitigation Design, schedules of works and proposed structure of CWTP were discussed. Confirmation given that ProW surveys and crossover bellmouth RSAs had been scheduled in.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. All affected LHAs were in attendance. Topics discussed included AILs, highway mitigation design, transport planning and multi-modal report.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. General structure and content of TA was presented and considered appropriate by Essex. Provided an overview of the initial capacity assessment methodology using.
December 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a LHA Engagement Meeting to discuss potential changes following S42 statutory consultation, visibility splays and traffic management methodology, access for existing utilities and AILs.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting. Presented WIP draft of Transport Assessment. Ran through methodology of junction sifting process, junction assessment methodology and cumulative assessment.
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional. Meeting Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised from detailed assessment within ES. Approach to mitigation agreed in principle but would require site specific measures to be identified based on future traffic conditions.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Mitigation and Junction RAG Strategy RAG strategy agreed in principle.</u>
February 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Transport Assessment and Figures</u>
March 2025	Meeting	Meeting to run through TA report and comments provided by Essex on their initial review.
March 2025	Meeting	National Grid Traffic and Transport Working Group Meeting with Essex Police to run through updates to AIL routes in Essex and Thurrock.
March 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Highway Mitigation Workshop with National Highways to discuss the A12 and A120 junctions in Essex.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss the AIL process and report with ECC, Essex and Suffolk police. AIL related highway mitigation requested to be clarified on the general highway mitigation drawings.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Traffic and Transport Working Group Meeting. Section 42 targeted consultations closed. Latest updates given relating to engagement on AILS, PROWS and highways modelling.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with ECC. The proposed Statement of Common Ground and principals for Traffic Regulation Orders were discussed.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a workshop to discuss the methodology utilised to produce the construction trip generation with ECC.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with NCC. Progress with Road Safety Audits, Statements of Common Ground, and Traffic Modelling were discussed.

Record of Key Engagement with Tendring

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with TDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.6 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and TDC.

Table 2.6 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Tendring District Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2023 – Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meeting.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2024	Meeting	East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) discussion.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline CoCP and Outline LEMP to all host authorities for comment.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
March 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss National Grid's approach to routeing and siting
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
June 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss duty to further the purposes of the National Landscape

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from stakeholders.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including TDC.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the BNG Strategy to stakeholders including TDC.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 nd iteration of the Outline LEMP
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
July 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to agree the approach to undertaking operational noise impact assessment of the proposed EACN Substation.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Norfolk County Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting – attended by Essex CC.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting – attended by Essex CC.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting – aim was to seek agreement on the Historic Environment Methodology with respect to study area and assessment approach.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting – attended by Essex CC.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid shared the setting survey locations with stakeholders.
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting - attended by Essex CC.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Heritage Viewpoints Documents with stakeholders.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Heritage Baseline Report with stakeholders.
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to further discussions regarding the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the Draft Heritage Baseline Report.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including TDC.
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting – proposed viewpoint locations - Essex
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023	Meeting	EIA viewpoints meeting - Essex

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Meeting	EACN (Statutory Consultation) Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to discuss viewpoints – Essex North.
October 2024	Meeting	Focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated view point information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss viewpoints and methodology – Essex North.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Colchester

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with Colchester City Council on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.7 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and CCC.

Table 2.7 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Colchester City Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
August 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up and consultation feedback with CCC.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meetings.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline CoCP and Outline LEMP to all host authorities for comment.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss duty to further the purposes of the National Landscape
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from CCC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including CCC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
November 2023	Meeting	Discussion with archaeological advisors to discuss approach to geophysical survey and trial trenching.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated cultural heritage viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	Project response to Stakeholder feedback on Heritage Viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Historic Environment Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for Monitoring GI works under archaeological supervision with Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the overarching WSI for the Archaeological Trial Trenching with the Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Site Specific WSI for the EACN (Site 001) with the Archaeology Working Group Members (including Colchester City Council) for information.
July 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the setting survey locations with stakeholders.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Historic Baseline Report with Annex C & D.
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline report.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including CCC.
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Technical note	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) methodology and arboricultural assessment methodology shared for review and discussion at the Thematic Group Meeting

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Essex. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with CCC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft outline LEMP and outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting – LVIA Viewpoints within Essex North
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings to accompany the oLEMP with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to confirm agreement on VPs and photomontages
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including Colchester City Council.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism technical note with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-Economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Braintree

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with BDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.7 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and BDC.

Table 2.7 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Braintree District Council

Date	Format	Topic/description
General		
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/description
October 2023 – Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meeting.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Discussions regarding the Waveney Valley and the Waveney Valley Alternative.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) and Outline LEMP to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
October 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss heritage assessment
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline CoCP and Outline LEMP to all host authorities for comment.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.

Date	Format	Topic/description
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from stakeholders.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including BDC.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/description
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Suffolk County Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting – attended by Essex CC.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting – attended by Essex CC.
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting – aim was to seek agreement on the Historic Environment Methodology with respect to study area and assessment approach.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting – attended by Essex CC.

Date	Format	Topic/description
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid shared the setting survey locations with stakeholders.
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting - attended by Essex CC.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Heritage Viewpoints Documents with stakeholders.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Heritage Baseline Report with stakeholders.
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to further discussions regarding the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the Draft Heritage Baseline Report.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including BDC.
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting – proposed viewpoint locations - Essex
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023	Meeting	EIA viewpoints meeting - Essex
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.

Date	Format	Topic/description
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including SCC.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Brentwood

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with BBC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.9 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and BBC.

Table 2.9 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Brentwood Borough Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
August 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up and consultation feedback with BBC.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch up with BBC
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meetings.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline CoCP and Outline LEMP to all host authorities for comment.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the second iteration of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) - 2 nd Iteration.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including BBC
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	Project response to Stakeholder feedback on Heritage Viewpoints.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline report
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including Brentwood Borough Council.
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Essex. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with BBC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting – LVIA Viewpoints within Essex North
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting – LVIA Viewpoints within Essex South and Thurrock
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss on the draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated view point information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss viewpoints and methodology.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism technical note with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Basildon

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with Basildon Borough Council on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.10 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and BBC.

Table 2.10 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Basildon Borough Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
June 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up and consultation feedback with BBC.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	Dunton Hills Garden Village discussion.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meeting.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Dunton Hills Garden Village discussion.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
June 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss Statement of Common Ground
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from BBC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including BBC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Strategy.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the second iteration of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting to discuss the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid Hosted a meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline report.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including BBC.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting – LVIA Viewpoints within Essex South and Thurrock VPs.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with BBC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss viewpoints and methodology.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including BBC. Basildon Borough Council requested that National Grid should consider sport pitches and courts as well as the Hylands Estate. National Grid's response was that these have been considered.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism technical note with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Thurrock

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with Thurrock Council on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.11 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and Thurrock Council.

Table 2.11 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Thurrock Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
May 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for formal consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
<u>November 2024</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting to provide project and design update</u>
<u>November 2024</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>All host authority workshop</u>
<u>November 2024</u>	<u>meeting</u>	<u>Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultations</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>All host authority workshop</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meetings</u>	<u>Two meetings to provide project and design update</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from the second iteration of the oCoCP and oLEMP</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the second iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)</u>
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting to discuss the second iteration of the Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCOCP) and Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)</u>
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>All host authority workshop</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice oCoCP</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued a new appendix to the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCoCP) - Appendix H, Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the Long List of Other Developments</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>All host authority workshop</u>
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from Thurrock Council and other authorities.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Badger Report for information after it had been requested by Thurrock Council.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining the protected species proposed mitigation measures for agreement/comment</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy</u>
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
<u>April 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on second iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting to discuss the updated Proposed Protected Species Mitigation document</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid shared a new appendix to the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) – Appendix D, Outline Landscape Proposals</u>
Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology		
August 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Geology and Hydrogeology Assessment Methodology to the Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA).
Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2023	Email Correspondence	<p>Thurrock Council provided the following feedback:</p> <p>Signposted to the WHIASU guidance, particularly in relation to consideration of potentially vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Provided examples of other baseline metrics which could be used to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Requested that consideration of potential health effects to arise during operational stage is given.</p>
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Thurrock Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Meeting with archaeological advisors to discuss the approach to geophysical survey and trial trenching.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held an Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for Monitoring GI works under archaeological supervision with Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the overarching WSI for the Archaeological Trial Trenching with the Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Site Specific WSI for the EACN (Site 001) with the Archaeology Working Group Members (including Thurrock Council) for information.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
July 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
<u>September 2024</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Setting survey locations with stakeholders.
<u>November 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Technical focus meeting to discuss the ongoing archaeology work on site.</u>
<u>December 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
<u>December 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid re-issued the overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Trial Trenching</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information</u>
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting regarding Historic Environment Viewpoints</u>
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment</u>
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Meeting to discuss draft Heritage Baseline Report</u>
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information</u>
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
<u>April 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issues the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
<u>April 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Archaeology Working Group Meeting</u>
<u>May 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Technical focus meeting to discuss ongoing archaeology work on site</u>
Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk		
June 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid circulated the draft Hydrology and Land Drainage Assessment Methodology for review and discussion ahead of the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented the EIA approach at the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group to the Environment Agency and all host authorities.
May 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note for comment, which set out the approach to preparing the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Flood Risk Assessment Screening Report for comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Drainage / watercourse discussion.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Works In, Over and Under Watercourses Technical Note and the Surface Water Management Principles Technical Note.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the principles for surface water drainage design for above ground infrastructure and watercourse crossing designs for the Project.
<u>October 2024</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group Meeting</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment</u>
<u>January 2025</u>	<u>Meeting</u>	<u>National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments raised from the draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)</u>
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment</u>
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Thurrock. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with Thurrock Council and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a focus meeting to discuss the National Landscape.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated view point information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
December 2024	Meeting	<u>Meeting to agree photography locations and photomontages for the ES</u>

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Email Correspondence	<u>National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology</u>
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including Thurrock Council.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
<u>March 2025</u>	<u>Technical Note</u>	<u>National Grid issued the third Technical Note for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism</u>
Traffic and Transport		
June 2022	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the proposed Traffic and Transport assessment methodology.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held the Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the proposed EIA methodology for the Traffic and Transport assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Local Highway Authority Thematic Group Meeting
December 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the assessment of routes for construction traffic.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group to discuss the highways assessment and methodology, survey requirements, road safety audit requirements and trip regeneration methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
August 2023	Meeting	The Local Highways Authority requested an early agreement on link sensitivity, traffic counts, Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs), and data and underlying assumptions behind traffic and workforce calculations.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. At the meeting Thurrock Council: Raised concerns regarding changes to traffic patterns following the pandemic. Validation of traffic patterns between 2019 and 2023 is expected. Brentwood Road was given as an example of a road with a pattern change. Requested that the construction programme does not overlap with other developments such as Lower Thames Crossing (LTC).
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group meeting with the Local Highways Authorities.
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a PRow Thematic Group Meeting.
January 2024	Meeting	National Grid discussed the Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) at the Transport Working Group.
March 2024	Document	PAR information shared with Thurrock CC.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss project updates and reviews of work to date, the transport assessment in the PIER and primary access routes.
April 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Meeting to discuss updates to the transport assessment, multi-modal transport considerations and AIL routing with the local highway authorities.
June 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss statutory consultation, sensitive junctions, AIL routing, updates on the multi-modal report and road safety audit process, speed surveys, and visibility splays, mitigation and traffic management. Highway boundary information had been passed from TCC to NG for processing.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Proposed Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes for comment.
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group LHA Engagement Meeting with TCC to discuss traffic impacts from removal of stone haul roads post-construction. Highways mitigation plans for PARS were presented and routes that were not within public highway discussed.
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group LHA AIL Route Discussion Meeting with TCC. Concerns raised for all AIL Cable Drum and Transformer Routes. Cranes AILs on PARS not critical. High level structural checks to be done by TCC to determine further assessments required.
August 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss PRow survey locations.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. General structure and content of TA was presented and considered appropriate by Thurrock. Provided an overview of the initial capacity assessment methodology using.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss highways mitigation design and RSA progress, updates to CTMP and CWTP, and multi-modal plans.
December 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a LHA Engagement Meeting to discuss potential changes following S42 statutory consultation, visibility splays and traffic management methodology for agreement in SoCG, access for existing utilities and AIL assessments to include impacts with/without LTC works taking place.
January 2025	Meeting	Presented WIP draft of Transport Assessment. Ran through methodology of junction sifting process, junction assessment methodology and cumulative assessment.
February 2025	Meeting	Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised from detailed assessment within ES. Approach to mitigation agreed in principle but would require site specific measures to be identified based on future traffic conditions. Red Amber Green (RAG) strategy presented for junction mitigation. RAG strategy agreed in principle.
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the Mitigation and Junction RAG Strategy</u>
<u>February 2025</u>	<u>Email Correspondence</u>	<u>National Grid issued the Draft Transport Assessment and Figures</u>
March 2025	Meeting	Presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures following ES assessment of effects on Primary Access Routes predominately for WCH Amenity where large or moderate significance of effect was identified. Request to consider mitigation for some additional locations i.e. the uncontrolled crossings as part of the WCH severance assessment due to safety concerns. Approach to mitigation agreed in principle but a review of the sensitivity of some PARs need to be carried out, i.e. Heath Road, A1013 Stanford Road and Buckingham Hill Road.
March 2025	Meeting	Presented draft WIP TA report and noted suggested changes by Thurrock. This included making it clear the split between HGV/LGVs, adding in reference to additional mitigation, review of additional developments as part of cumulative assessment were provided.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Meeting	National Grid Essex Police AIL updates – Crane AILs no longer required to Tilbury Substation and Fort Road. The police commented they have more experience transporting loads on Buckingham Hill Road. Information from NG transport and planning team required to enable police resourcing plans and costing ahead of DCO. Updated route packs and SoCG will be required.
April 2025	Meeting	Presented results of the junction modelling assessments. Provided a recap on the junction selection process, assessment methodology, approach to mitigation, and proposed mitigation (where necessary). Approach and findings of results need to be reviewed following submission of a modelling results for each junction.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a TCC AIL Workshop with police and TCC present. Vehicle tracking and locations where street furniture is to be removed to be shared to allow TCC sign up to SoCG.
May 2025	Meeting	Presented results of the junction modelling assessments. Provided a recap on the junction selection process, assessment methodology, approach to mitigation, and proposed mitigation (where necessary). Approach and findings of results agreed in principle but request for time to further review the findings of the assessment modelling and to review existing baseline. National Highways requested a check on cumulative developments associated with the junctions, particularly at the A14 J55 Copdock Interchange. Noted that proposed upgrade to junction unlikely to occur before the Project peak construction year. National Highways to investigate baseline conditions at the A47 Norwich Southern Bypass/ A140 Ipswich Rd junction where the assessment may not necessarily represent existing capacity. In addition, review of available baseline and recent modelling on all junctions to be undertaken, particularly at the A120 Braintree Bypass / B1018 Braintree Rd junction Thurrock noted that surrounding businesses will be interested in the Asda roundabout modelling assessment to ensure there will be no significant impact to their operations.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with Thurrock Council. The proposed Statement of Common Ground and principals for Traffic Regulation Orders were discussed.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with Thurrock Council. Progress with Road Safety Audits, Statements of Common Ground, and Traffic Modelling were discussed.

Record of Key Engagement with Chelmsford

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with CCC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

Table 2.12 provides an overview of the key engagement that has taken place between National Grid and CCC.

It is agreed that the below is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between National Grid and Chelmsford City Council in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

Table 2.12 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Chelmsford City Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
June 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up and consultation feedback with CCC.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch up with CCC
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
January 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2023	Meeting	Pre-consultation session with all host authorities.
March 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2023	Meeting	Non-statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up calls.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to all host authorities for comment.
January 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
February 2024	Meeting	Statutory consultation preferred alignment briefing to all host authorities.
March 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
May 2024	Meeting	Consultation plan discussion with CCC.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultations
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline CoCP and Outline LEMP to all host authorities for comment.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss targeted consultation feedback
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss draft Statement of Common Ground
June 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss draft Statement of Common Ground

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from CCC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including CCC
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the second iteration of the Outline LEMP and oCoCP.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
October 2023	N/A	Chelmsford City Council requested that Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit (WHIASU) guidance and vulnerable groups checklist is included within the assessment.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England

Date	Format	Topic/Description
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	Project response to Stakeholder feedback on Heritage Viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to further discuss the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Technical note	National Grid shared the Draft Heritage Baseline Report with Annex C and D.
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline report.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including CCC.
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
Landscape and Visual		
July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Essex. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on updated and additional viewpoint locations at the meeting and in subsequent correspondence.
May 2023 – March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared information, responded to further feedback on viewpoint locations received from the May 2023 meeting, and reviewed subsequent feedback received up to March 2024 with the aim to agree viewpoint locations for the PEIR and ES (based on the information available at this date).
August 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued wirelines and photomontages and proposed the approach to Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) mapping for comment.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated landscape viewpoints (and the ZTV) and sought feedback from all host authorities.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft Landscape and Visual Methodology, Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (excel spreadsheet) and Proposed LVIA Viewpoints (map) ahead of the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape Thematic Group Meeting to find agreement on the LVIA methodology and the format/presentation of photomontages and/or wirelines which will form part of the DCO application.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the shapefiles for the landscape viewpoints and order limits with CCC and other stakeholders following the Landscape Thematic Group Meeting.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the draft Outline LEMP and Sample Mitigation Drawings ahead of the draft Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP discussion.
September 2024	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting – LVIA Viewpoints within Essex South.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Draft mitigation drawings with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the National landscape setting study with stakeholders
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared updated viewpoint information data following from the landscape thematic workshops
November 2024	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss viewpoints and methodology.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	<p>National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including CCC.</p> <p>Chelmsford City Council requested that National Grid should consider sport pitches and courts as well as the Hylands Estate. National Grid's response was that these have been considered.</p>
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Technical Note setting out the study area and methodology for assessing businesses where visual impacts are a potential operational consideration, and Public Right of Way (PRoW) during construction and operation.
August 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the study area and methodology for assessing businesses.
April 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism technical note with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a follow up meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.

Record of Key Engagement with Raydon Airport

Introduction

National Grid has engaged with Raydon Airport on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted Consultation in January 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular 'Thematic Group' meetings bringing together interested parties to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages

Further details on National Grid's engagement with Raydon Airport is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

Summary of Key Engagement

The chronology of National Grid's engagement with Raydon Wings aerodrome to date, and the evolution of the Project's design is summarised as follows:

Table 2.13 Summary of engagement between National Grid and Norfolk County Council

Format	Description
2022	
Presentation	National Grid presented information on how the project was evolving from the evaluation of strategic options to a preliminary preferred graduated swathe within which new infrastructure (pylons and underground cables) could be located as well as a proposed new substation site on the Tendring Peninsula, as described within the Corridor and Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study Report (April 2022)21 April – 16 June non-statutory consultation on the Preferred Route Corridor graduated swathe
Email Correspondence	16 May written representation received from the operator raising concerns regarding potential Project impacts on Raydon Wings
Email Correspondence	26 May written response by National Grid to operator representation, recognising concerns and requesting further information to inform impact assessment.
2023	
Report	Development of the 2023 Preferred Draft Alignment, responding to feedback and other studies, as described within the Design Development Report (June 2023)
Meeting	27 June – 21 August non-statutory consultation on the 2023 Preferred Draft Alignment

Format	Description
Meeting	25 July meeting at Raydon Wings aerodrome between National Grid, its appointed aviation consultants Alan Stratford and Associates (ASA), and the operator.
2024	
Report	Development of the 2024 Preferred Draft Alignment, responding to feedback and other studies, with significant changes including relocation of the Cable Sealing End (CSE) compound to the north of Raydon Wings to enable continued aviation activities, as described within the Design Development Report (April 2024)
Consultation	10 April – 26 July Statutory Consultation on the 2024 Preferred Draft Alignment
Meeting	<p>25 April meeting between National Grid (with ASA) and the operator. Matters raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the aerodrome safeguarding plan defining a 4000m outer perimeter • Concerns regarding height and proximity of the preferred overhead line alignment including the CSE compound, and potential turbulence from Project infrastructure • Consideration of the proposed underground cable route and potential impacts, including during construction as well as interference with avionics
Consultation	14 June written Statutory Consultation representation received from the operator.
2025	
Report	Development of the proposed Project Alignment prior to DCO submission, considering feedback and other studies.
Consultation	30 January – 3 March Targeted Consultation for Suffolk 6 location on proposed changes to the underground cable alignment
Consultation	25 February written Targeted Consultation representation received from the operator
Email Correspondence	18 March email response sent from Project Team to operator feedback received during the Targeted Consultation
Email Correspondence	25 March written response to Project Team email of 18 March received from the operator
Email Correspondence	4 April email from Project Team proposing meeting to discuss operator feedback
Email Correspondence	7 April operator email response stating inadequacy of consultation to date and accepting meeting proposal
Email Correspondence	16 April email from Project Team proposing development of Statement of Common Ground / Stakeholder Agreement
Email Correspondence	16 April email response stating need for operator endorsement, and requesting copy of provision of written aviation advice provided to National Grid
Email Correspondence	25 April email from Project Team providing draft Stakeholder Agreement and technical drawings

Format	Description
Email Correspondence	<p>28 April email from Project Team providing Aviation Assessment Summary</p> <p>29 April online meeting. Matters raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the draft Stakeholder Agreement and outstanding matters • Concerns regarding the adequacy of consultation to date, particularly in relation to the Targeted Consultation • Operator requirement for impact assessment to consider proposed as well as existing aerodrome operations • Continued concerns regarding position of CSE and associated potential impacts (including air turbulence) • Concerns regarding underground cable route and associated temporary impacts of construction on aerodrome operations
Email Correspondence	<p>7 May operator email response to draft Stakeholder Agreement with 'red-line' comments including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Objection to inclusion of EN-1 references to net zero within introductory text • Comments regarding the inadequacy of consultation, including prior to the first non-statutory consultation and following the statutory consultation • Proposing the relocation of the CSE compound as compromise position, as well as engagement to minimise disruption of temporary works
Email Correspondence	<p>19 May email response from Project Team with amended version (V.02) of Stakeholder Agreement and request for information to inform design change considerations regarding temporary works</p>
Email Correspondence	<p>28 May operator email response declining to agree V.02 Stakeholder Agreement reiterating comments regarding National Grid failure to adequately engage</p>
Email Correspondence	<p>30 May interim email response from Project Team providing requested link to Planning Inspectorate Scoping Opinion (December 2022)</p>
Email Correspondence	<p>9 June email response from Project Team with amended version (V.05) of Stakeholder Agreement, restructured to show matters not agreed, proposing to be presented to Planning Inspectorate to inform their understanding, and reiterating request for information</p>
Email Correspondence	<p>9 June operator email response declining for draft Stakeholder Agreement to be shared with Planning Inspectorate but welcoming future engagement regarding proposals, proposing focus on the location of the CSE compound</p>

Appendix A3

Regard had to advice received
from Planning Inspectorate
under section 51

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
4 July 2022 Project Update Meeting	Surveys	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to ensure that letters highlight clearly what any surveying requires as they may be less intrusive than landowners are expecting. This may facilitate a greater level of co-operation.	Landowners were advised of all survey requirements, whether classed as intrusive or unintrusive. This includes required equipment, vehicles, timeframes and who will be attending the site.
4 July 2022 Project Update Meeting	Surveys	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to ensure any new technology or novel information capturing methods are signed off by statutory bodies prior to them being used.	Capturing survey work through new technology or by novel ways has not been used on the Project.
4 July 2022 Project Update Meeting	Draft DCO	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant should consider whether flexibility may be needed in relation to how parties were referenced in the DCO. Having flexibility in the DCO would allow for amendments such as stakeholder regional offices changing etc.	At present, the draft DCO describes parties by reference to company registration numbers and does not refer to registered offices or other places of business.
4 July 2022 Project Update Meeting	Stakeholder engagement	The Inspectorate advised that statutory consultees should be given an accurate programme so they can effectively allocate resources for engagement.	National Grid provided a high level programme throughout project engagement (key milestone dates), including an engagement plan for host authorities to help manage resourcing by way of a Planning Performance Agreement.
4 July 2022 Project Update Meeting	LPA engagement	The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant may benefit from utilising template documents to provide uniformity to LA responses.	National Grid has not provided a formal template specifically for host authorities; however, some did respond using the Consultation Feedback Form supplied
4 July 2022 Project Update Meeting	LPA engagement	The Applicant should also discuss with LAs whether they wish to work together, noting that 13 LAs are involved in the project.	National Grid raised this with the LAs who were already aware of the benefits of working collaboratively and sharing resources where appropriate. Joint meetings have been used throughout the pre-application process as relevant.

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
11 October 2022 Project Update Meeting	EIA Scoping	The Inspectorate noted that suitable justification to support the scoping out of aspects and matters in the Scoping Report should include information to address the questions set out in paragraph 5.11 of its Advice Note Seven.	Justification for scoping out aspects and matters from the Environmental Statement (ES) was provided in the EIA Scoping Report (document reference 6.19).
11 October 2022 Project Update Meeting	Consultation material	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to clearly set out in relevant documents its reasoning for why the route has been split at those specific locations.	The 2023 Design Development Report (DDR), paragraph 6.4.73 provides the information why the route was split. The relevant geographical section of the latest iteration DDR, submitted with the application, sets out the most up to date information regarding the route split.
30 January 2023 Project Update Meeting	Consultation information	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider also providing detailed justification for the parts of the scheme that would not be undergrounded as part of its next consultation.	The justification for not undergrounding parts of the route was provided as part of the consultation within the supporting documentation.
30 January 2023 Project Update Meeting	Design	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider and track the issue of design principles throughout the pre-application stage, particularly regarding the design of the substations.	Design Principles are described within the Design and Access Statement (DAS) and Design Approach for Site Specific Infrastructure (DASSI)
30 January 2023 Project Update Meeting	Design	The Applicant was advised to take on board comments and guidance within the National Infrastructure Commission Report, including regarding design champions and design panels.	National Grid addressed the matters of design champions and design panels within the DAS, Section 5 and App B.
6 September 2023 Project Update Meeting	Environmental assessments	The Inspectorate advised that the PEIR and ES should clearly explain the approach to baseline data collection and assessment of impacts in relation to the changes made to the Proposed Development subsequent to adoption of the Scoping Opinion (as described above).	The PEIR (National Grid, 2024) and the ES (Volume 6 of the DCO application) both explain the approach to baseline data collection and assessment of impacts. In relation to design changes since the receipt of the Scoping Opinion the PEIR and the ES included/ includes study areas, baseline data and assessment based on the statutory

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	LPA engagement	The Inspectorate emphasised the importance of Local Authorities to the Applicant, with the size of the project the engagement of Local Authorities is vital.	consultation design and the DCO application design.
			Local Authorities were engaged directly by the Applicant through briefings and meetings at each stage of consultation to update them of the Project and the proposals presented at the consultation. Further, local authorities were consulted in line with Section 42(1)(b) of the PA 2008. Details of consultation and engagement with local authorities are provided in chapters 5 to 10, 13 and Appendix A of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Resourcing	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider the resource capacity of Natural England and other statutory environmental bodies. The Applicant advised they haven't found any gaps in Natural England's resourcing with regards the input they have been seeking. The Applicant explained that with Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) and SLA in place as well as giving as much notice as possible there have been no resourcing issues identified as yet even with the scale of the project.	The SLA with Natural England has been and continues to be in place for the project. SLAs are also in place for Historic England and the Environment Agency.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	British Pipeline Agency	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant they had received an email from the British Pipeline Agency (BPA), regarding their concerns around a high-pressure pipeline and the Applicant's approach to assessment of major accidents and disasters in the Environmental Statement (ES). The Inspectorate explained that it had advised the BPA to continue to	National Grid have engaged with BPA throughout the process and are working with them to agree the impacts and mitigations required, in order to agree mitigation which enables the safe crossing of the two parties apparatus and will work with BPA to agree protective

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		contact the Applicant with any comments on the Proposed Development.	provisions and any necessary commercial agreements to seek to resolve BPA's concerns
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Draft Document Review	The Applicant highlighted the draft documents they planned to share with the Inspectorate in January. The Inspectorate advised that in order to provide an effective review of the documents they should be well advanced in their drafting. The Inspectorate advised that documents listed by the Applicant are part of the draft document review service, but for the Environmental Statement only the Project Description chapter will be reviewed. The Inspectorate advised it would take 6 weeks for all draft documents to be reviewed.	Comments on the draft documents were received on 17 April 2025.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Programme Document	<p>The Applicant advised their programme document hasn't been updated as they are waiting until the Inspectorate makes comments on all National Grids programme documents during October 2025. The Inspectorate advised there will be commentary on the already submitted programme document attached to this advice log.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that the programme document needs to be clear and precise with dates to help the Inspectorate deploy resources effectively. The Inspectorate told the Applicant to outline when any proposed update meetings with the Inspectorate or statutory bodies will be. The Inspectorate also highlighted that abbreviations need clarified as well as any cross referencing to the Statement of Community Consultation.</p>	<p>A revised Programme Document was published in April 2025 on the project website. This included identified dates for a further planned update meeting and submission of the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM). Further revision to Programme Document was published in July 2025 giving a more precise date for submission of the Application</p> <p>Regard had to advice provided by the Planning Inspectorate is demonstrated in this Appendix.</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to ensure regard to advice given throughout pre-application stage is clearly demonstrated within the submission.	
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Policy Compliance	The Applicant asked if the policy compliance document needs to be submitted individually. The Inspectorate advised it will need to be submitted as a separate document.	The Policy Compliance Document (document reference 5.7) has been submitted as a separate document.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Issues Tracker	The Applicant asked the Inspectorate for any advice regarding the issues tracker. The Inspectorate advised the tracker should begin at the start of pre-app and monitored right the way through to feed to the main issues of examination. This is critical as it carries on throughout pre-application and feeds through to the main issues of examination and is beneficial for statutory parties. The Inspectorate advised the issues tracker is also used by statutory bodies who will provide a RAG rating against issues and demonstrate the risk associated with each topic. The Inspectorate then referred the Applicant to the flow chart in the pre-app prospectus.	The Issue Tracker has been produced and issues identified have been incorporated into the Potential Main Issues for Examination document (document reference 5.8) that is submitted with the application.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	HRA Document	The Applicant asked the Inspectorate if the HRA Stage 1: Screening report and Stage 2: Information to Inform Appropriate Assessment report could be presented in the same document. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the Stage 1 and 2 information can be presented in the same document, although noted that these reports are often provided as separate documents due to their size/ length and to assist with navigation.	National Grid noted the advice
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Advice Note	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Good Design has been published today and by mid-November an advice note on linear projects will	National Grid noted the advice and took on board guidance in preparing the application documents

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		be published.	
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Future Meetings	With regards to future meetings the Inspectorate advised the Applicant to provide potential future dates ahead of time for the Inspectorate to check against its own availability.	National Grid noted the advice
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Hearing Venues	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to begin finding potential hearing venues now. The Inspectorate advised there is a list of requirements that can be sent to the Applicant, along with a list of AV companies. The Applicant queried if other large projects have held hearings across multiple locations. The Inspectorate told the Applicant this has been done in the past.	A list of potential hearing venues was subsequently provided to the Planning Inspectorate.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Submission format	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that a glossary should be provided for each application document.	Glossaries have been provided for documents submitted as part of the DCO application.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Document Submission	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that the documents 'consents and other licences required under other legislation' and 'details of other consents and licences' are separate documents which should be submitted with the application as each would cover distinct circumstances.	Consents and Other Licences Required Under Other Legislation (document reference 5.5) has been submitted as a standalone document within the DCO application.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Template Amendments	The Applicant asked if the template for the Commitments Register can be amended to fit all the necessary information. Advice from the Inspectorate is that the template can be amended by the Applicant, as required, to ensure the information is presented clearly.	National Grid welcomed the advice.
23 October 2024 Project Update Meeting	Application Advice	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant that their submission will need to include details of all structures and accesses included within the project scope.	Details of all structures and accesses are included in Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4).

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Feedback Review	The Applicant showed the Inspectorate a diagram of its feedback review and design change process. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to include the diagram within the Consultation Report, and within materials being made available for consultation, to explain the approach to targeted consultation and why changes have/have not been made, following previous consultation.	A diagram of the feedback review and design change process is included in Section 9.7 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Finalising Route	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant of the importance of finalising the route during pre-application, ahead of the application submission. The Inspectorate advised that change requests during examination, that engage the Compulsory Acquisition Regulations, add significant complications to the examination.	National Grid noted the advice. The route has been finalised as much as possible before submission of the application for examination in order to minimise the possibility of post submission change requests
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Consultation	The Applicant confirmed that Local Authorities have not raised concerns with the Applicant's approach to targeted consultation. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to include the Local Authorities' feedback in the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone, Consultation Report and the materials being made available for the consultation periods.	Details of feedback from local authorities on the approach to targeted consultation and regard had by the Applicant are included in Appendices L3 and L5 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Consultation	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to ensure that as changes have been made to the red line boundary, any new relevant prescribed consultation bodies (eg relevant parish councils) are identified and included in future consultation.	In further targeted consultations held, the Applicant consulted with parish councils representing parishes where any proposed changes fall within their parish boundary. Further details of consultation with parish councils during targeted consultation is provided in Sections 10.5, 10.6 and 10.7 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
14 January 2025 Project Update	Consultation	The Applicant advised it will be holding a variety of targeted consultations for changes to the application.	Information on the targeted consultations, including what was consulted and with

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Meeting		The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to ensure it documents the different consultations in the Consultation Report and when undertaking the consultations clearly set out what they are consulting on and when to avoid confusion for consultees.	whom, are set out separately in Sections 10.5, 10.6 and 10.7 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Submission of Draft Documents	The Inspectorate requested the Applicant give clear dates for draft document submission to allow the Inspectorate to allocate resources appropriately. This should be clearly reflected in the Programme Document (PD) and an updated PD provided to the Inspectorate, as well as published on the Applicant's website. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to consider whether the draft document review would be more helpful if it took place after the further consultation has closed to ensure that final versions of documents are reviewed.	A revised Programme Document was published in April 2025 on the project website. This included identified dates for a further planned update meeting and submission of the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM), (Appendix O to the Consultation Report).
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Good Design	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to view the recent webinar on Achieving good design in Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. This follows on from the good advice page that was signposted in the previous meeting. It is important that the Applicant demonstrates regard to these in the design documents, demonstrating how the design has evolved during the pre-application stage following advice and feedback.	National Grid has included this information in the Design Portfolio documents: DAS, DDR and DASSI
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Mitigation	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to clearly demonstrate how it has applied the mitigation hierarchy and the agreement it has from the Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs) about how it has been applied.	The mitigation hierarchy has been embedded into the Norwich to Tilbury project from the outset (for example, through routeing and siting etc). Chapter 5: EIA Approach and Method (document reference 6.5) of the Environmental Statement demonstrates how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied.

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			Mitigation hierarchy has also been described within the Planning Statement (document reference 5.6). Agreement is being sought with Natural England that the mitigation hierarchy has been applied appropriately – this will be recorded in the Statement of Common Ground
14 January 2025 Project Update Meeting	Protection Provisions	The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to engage early with Statutory Undertakers on protective provisions ahead of submission to help ensure a more efficient Examination.	National Grid noted the advice and can confirm an ongoing engagement with Statutory Undertakers to agree the protective provisions
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Targeted consultation 3D Visualisation Model	The Inspectorate suggested that if the applicant intended to submit the 3D Visualisation Model as part of its application documents at acceptance that screenshots of its use would be more suitable due to the size of the programme files.	National Grid noted the advice and can confirm that 3D visualisation model has not been submitted.
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Land Rights	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to indicate as early as possible how much potential land interest there is, particularly special category and crown land, as this will assist the Inspectorate in deploying resources effectively. The Inspectorate encouraged progressing discussions with The Crown Estate as early as possible in relation to crown land.	The Land Team has provided an Inspectorate with an update at the meeting on 30 June 2025.
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Preparation for submission	The Inspectorate will update the applicant on progress of the submission portal at the next meeting, but the applicant should consider an alternative way to submit its application in the event that the portal is not live at the time of submission.	The application submission method has been agreed with the Inspectorate.
19 March 2025 Project Update	Examination preparation (site	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to submit, as part of its application documents, a list of sites that is	National Grid submitted a document with suggested locations for the ExA to visit

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
Meeting	visits)	considered beneficial for the Examining Authority to visit and whether those sites can be viewed from public land.	that can be viewed from the public land Route Drive: Site Visit Guidance, (document reference 1.7)
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Examination preparation (hearings)	The Inspectorate noted that the applicant had provided a list of potential hearing venues. The Inspectorate advised that the locations for hearings will depend on the areas Relevant Representations are submitted although it was acknowledged that it will likely be spread across the entire route of the project.	National Grid noted the advice and continued to search for suitable venues.
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Examination preparation (hearings)	The Inspectorate advised the applicant that it may be necessary to hold concurrent hearings during the examination, due to the scale of the project, with both virtual and physical attendance, and as such early liaison with Audio Visual company/s is key. This could also require the applicant's team to be in attendance at different locations.	National Grid noted the advice and liaised with suitable audio visual companies during the pre-application stage. The Team is also aware of the potential need to be in attendance at different locations at the same time.
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI)	<p>The Inspectorate explained to the applicant that the adequacy of the Environmental Statement baseline survey data will be a judgement taken at the acceptance stage. The Inspectorate will need to be satisfied that all significant effects have been identified and assessed. The Inspectorate noted that there is some precedent for surveys that are proposed to be carried out not to be 100% complete at the point of DCO application, however advised that this does still pose a risk to the acceptance and examination phases, in particular in relation to the outstanding heritage surveys which, based on the applicant's programme, would not be available before the start of examination.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised the applicant to provide a robust justification for its approach in the relevant</p>	An update was given at a meeting on 13 August 2025 to the Planning Inspectorate. The approach to SEI has been agreed with Natural England, Historic England and the archaeological advisors for Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council. Further details are provided in Chapter 8 of the ES: Ecology and Biodiversity (document reference 6.8) and Chapter 11: Historic Environment (document reference 6.11).

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		<p>application documents. The applicant should clearly set out in the application documents the dates for the submission of any outstanding supplemental information and how that will correspond to the overall timescales for examination. The application documents should also explain the intended approach if any new features are found to be present that weren't present in earlier surveys.</p> <p>The applicant was advised to present evidence of agreement with relevant consultation bodies on the level of baseline data to be available at the point of DCO application (for both ecology and heritage) with the application.</p>	
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	SEI	<p>The Inspectorate advised, that if supplementary information is submitted at the pre-examination stage it could potentially (if the application is accepted) result in a delay to the preliminary meeting.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised that the drivers for the submission of the SEI post submission of the application, rather than as part of the application, should be clear to minimise risk to the acceptance and examination stages.</p>	<p>An update was given at a meeting on 13 August 2025 to the Planning Inspectorate. The approach to SEI has been agreed with Natural England, Historic England and the archaeological advisors for Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council. Further details are provided in Chapter 8 of the ES: Ecology and Biodiversity (document reference 6.8) and Chapter 11: Historic Environment (document reference 6.11).</p>
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Any Other Business	<p>The Inspectorate advised the applicant to allow for an appropriate amount of time between the next project update meeting and when the draft documents advice is issued. The Inspectorate requested that if the applicant has any specific queries on the draft document advice to raise them before the next project update meeting to ensure the appropriate people were</p>	<p>National Grid noted the advice</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		available to provide the advice.	
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Any Other Business	The Inspectorate highlighted recent guidance published by DEFRA for relevant authorities, on seeking to further the purpose of protected landscapes. The applicant was advised to clearly set out in the application documents how it had complied with that duty.	National Grid has produced a National Landscapes - Duty to Seek to Further the Purposes Report (s85 Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000), (document reference 5.10)
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Any Other Business	The applicant was advised to take account of the new Environment Agency flood risk data (published 2025) in relevant assessments.	This data is part of the baseline in the ES (Volume 6 of the DCO application).
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Any Other Business	The applicant was advised that with reference to the mitigation hierarchy, the Environmental Statement should clearly distinguish between measures proposed to mitigate or compensate significant adverse effects on the environment, from those which are enhancement/ Biodiversity Net Gain.	Mitigation hierarchy is contained within the Planning Statement. The Enhancement Position Statement is included within Chapter 5 of the ES
19 March 2025 Project Update Meeting	Any Other Business	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to consider discussing with the Local Authorities the possibility of co-ordination and appointing representatives to assist the examination. This was particularly helpful on the Southampton to London Pipeline project where Counsel represented several local authorities at hearings.	National Grid has discussed the coordinated approach with local authorities at a number of regular monthly meetings.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO - General	This is a largely unfinished draft DCO and as such, the Inspectorate can only provide limited comments. For example, most of the Schedules are missing so at this stage, we cannot comment on matters such as the Requirements (Schedule 3) or the Authorised Development (Schedule 1). There are also a number of areas where time limits are left as [x]. From what is contained, the following comments are provided.	National Grid duly noted the advice.

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		<p>The Inspectorate is encouraged that the applicant has not set time limits on the roles and functions of the Secretary of State, and has correctly used the term “temporary closure” instead of “temporary stopping up” in respect to Articles 13, 15, 50 and Schedule 7 and elsewhere.</p>	
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO - Article 1 Article 2(10) Article 5(4) Schedule 4(1)(3)(c)	<p>There are inconsistencies in the phrasing of “materially new or materially different...”. For Article 1 and Article 5(4), the phrase “...materially new or materially different to those identified in the environmental statement.” is used. For Article 2(10) and Schedule 4, it reads “...materially new or different in comparison to those reported in the environmental statement.” The latter is considered weak, and the former should be used throughout.</p> <p>The applicant should also consider and amend this wording to “materially new or materially worse to those identified in the environmental statement”. Materially different does not allow for a substantial change to be made which would result in a betterment of the scheme.</p>	<p>National Grid noted the inconsistency in draft wording and adjusted the wording in Article 2(10) and Schedule 4(1)(3)(c) to align with Articles 2(1) and 5(4).</p> <p>National Grid has retained the use of “materially new or materially different” over “materially new or materially worse” for consistency with recent DCOs, including Bramford to Twinstead, Lower Thames Crossing, and Rampion 2.</p> <p>The inclusion of the proposed Article 2(10) (which has precedent in the Lower Thames Crossing Order) is to aid interpretation of the meaning of the phrase “materially new or materially difference” and to clarify that materially different” does not prevent variations within the terms of the DCO where they would result in an environmental betterment.</p>
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO – Article 27	In respect to temporary possession powers, the applicant should consider whether 14 days’ notice as specified in A27(2) is sufficient and review the	National Grid considers that the 14-day notice period is proportionate and appropriate in the context of the Project

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		<p>Secretary of State's position on this matter for recently made orders.</p> <p>A27(10). This subparagraph, which does not prevent land identified for temporary possession from being acquired for new rights (as set out in paragraph 3.31.12 of the explanatory memorandum) is not acceptable as currently drafted. The current wording could lead to uncertainty and confusion for those affected by such powers. All land to be identified for CA freehold and new rights should be shown in the application's Land Plans and Book of Reference documents and secured as such in the DCO. A27(10) should be redrafted "The undertaker may not compulsorily acquire under this Order the land referred to in subparagraph 1(a)(i) and (ii).</p>	<p>as proposed having been identified as a critical national priority that must facilitate new connections by the end of 2030. It is also considered reasonable in light of the regular engagement with affected landowners and occupiers and is consistent with recently made DCOs for electricity lines and other energy NSIPs, including Bramford to Twinstead.</p> <p>Article 27(10) is intended to restrict landowners' ability to require National Grid to acquire additional land or rights when temporary possession of land is taken. The intention is not to restrict National Grid from acquiring further land/rights, noting that the Book of Reference and Land Plans will identify (and control) where land and/or rights may be acquired in addition to temporary possession being taken.</p>
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO – Article 48(1)	A48(1) should be subject to the provisions of Article 49 (TPOs).	National Grid has made the requested change.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO – Article 49	<p>The wording of this Article is considered to be too wide-ranging, and with the incorrect balance, for the apparent intended purpose. The premise here should be that TPO trees should not be felled or lopped etc., unless in certain circumstances. Although the explanatory memorandum at paragraph 3.53.3 explains that this wording follows the Bramford to Twinstead wording, the balance suggested here is set out in the more recent Rampion 2 Order. The</p>	<p>The wording of Article 49 is based on a model provision and is replicated in this format in a number of made DCOs.</p> <p>Article 49 is a permissive power (authorised by section 120(3) and Schedule 5 of the Planning Act 2008) and is already carefully controlled by reference to an Order schedule that lists</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		<p>applicant should consider rewording:</p> <p>49 (1) "Subject to subparagraph (2), the undertaker must not fell, lop, prune, cut, trim, coppice, pollard, reduce in height or width or cut back the roots of any tree which is the subject to a tree preservation order described in Schedule 14 (trees subject to Tree Preservation Order)".</p> <p>(2) The undertaker may fell, lop, prune, cut, trim, coppice, pollard, reduce in height or width or cut back the roots..." pick up as existing 49(1) and (a) and (b).</p>	<p>out the relevant TPO trees and the works to be carried out to each of these. Further controls are included in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of Articles 49(1) and (2).</p> <p>National Grid considered that it is not necessary or appropriate to set out the standard statutory position in a new paragraph (1) before setting out the power that authorises a deviation from that position.</p>
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO – Schedule 15	<p>There are currently only two parts to the protective provisions; Part 1 is the general provision for all electricity and gas undertakers and Part 2 is for electronic code operators. It is disappointing no other protective provisions have been included at this stage. At application stage, the protective provisions should be largely agreed with the relevant statutory undertakers and included in the draft DCO. The applicant should follow recent Orders as a starting point for the agreed wording for protective provisions for all other statutory undertakers (e.g Network Rail, National Highways, other gas and electricity suppliers, the Environment Agency and other water bodies if applicable). This will likely assist a smoother examination of these issues, if the application is accepted for examination.</p>	<p>National Grid has worked to negotiate protective provisions with a number of statutory undertakers, using examples from recent DCOs as a starting point in most cases, for inclusion in the draft DCO as far as practicable.</p>
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft DCO explanatory memorandum	<p>See above. As the draft DCO is in its infancy with many Schedules missing, we have included where relevant mention of the EM above.</p>	<p>National Grid noted this advice and subsequently updated the Explanatory Memorandum (document reference 3.2) following further development of the draft DCO.</p>

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17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft sample works plans and land plans	<p>It is unfortunate that the plans submitted are for a previous National Grid NSIP, rather than this project, and the Inspectorate cannot therefore review the draft plans for the project ahead of the submission of the application. However, the following is general advice on plans and illustrative diagrams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is useful to have most plans at the same scale, with same sections, so that a particular location is always on e.g. Sheet X of Section Y • Ensure that the size of lettering on the land plans is sufficient to read plot references • Ensure that each plot is clearly demarcated on the land plans • Include road names on plans, particularly road names to which the ES and other documents refer • A set of plans which shows all limits of deviation on the same set should be included in the application • If more than one voltage, a diagram showing which lines are which voltages is helpful. This could be shown on cross-sectional diagrams • A plan of plans is helpful to show the relationship of the outline plans and plans for construction stage • Composite overlay diagrams can be useful for areas with a complex range of activities being undertaken in a limited, specific location 	<p>No sample Works Plans or Lands Plans could be provided for the draft documents review and samples of the format and style were provided instead for comment.</p> <p>National Grid noted the advice on the plans and illustrative diagrams and has subsequently incorporated this advice into the Land Plans (document reference 2.2) and Work Plans (document reference 2.3).</p>
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft consultation report, including section 42 consultee list	Much of the evidence in appendices and tables has not been provided, and as such, the Inspectorate can only provide limited comments. The applicant should ensure these are complete when the final consultation report is submitted.	This evidence has been included in tables within the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1) and in appendices to it (document reference 5.1).
17 April 2025 Draft documents	Draft consultation report, including	Newspaper clippings to evidence publication of notices (including publication and date) should be	Newspaper clippings to evidence publication of notices have been included

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
review	section 42 consultee list	included as appendices.	in Appendices H and L of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft consultation report, including section 42 consultee list	Where targeted consultation has been undertaken, the applicant should clearly justify why it considered a targeted approach to be appropriate, rather than a full round of consultation, and include relevant local authority agreement to the approach taken.	Justification for targeted consultation is provided in the targeted consultation strategies in Appendices L1 and L4 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1), respectively. Feedback from local authorities on the strategies is included in Appendices L3 and L5 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project Description Chapter	<p>Whilst the document submitted for review is entitled 'Draft ES - Project Description', the text within comprises the project description chapter of the published Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).</p> <p>The draft documents review is intended to be undertaken for a set of documents that are mostly complete and reflective of the scheme as it is intended to be sought within the DCO application. This is so that the Inspectorate can identify any aspects that may need clarification and any procedural omissions prior to submission, and to understand more about the proposed application to prepare for the submission and facilitate a process that can deal with the application within statutory timeframes.</p> <p>The Inspectorate notes that the PEIR Project Description Chapter is based on the 2024 preferred draft alignment and that the project design has since been refined. For example, section 4.1.4 of the PEIR Project Description Chapter presents the Waveney Valley Alternative underground cable, which is no</p>	<p>As the Inspectorate did not previously review the Project Description included in the PEIR, National Grid considered the draft documents review to be a good opportunity to gain feedback on this for incorporation into the ES.</p> <p>Comments made by Inspectorate regarding the project description chapter have been taken on board.</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		<p>longer being taken forward and would presumably not feature in the ES Project Description Chapter. There are also a number of instances where the PEIR Project Description Chapter states that additional details are to be provided in the ES Project Description Chapter, but the Inspectorate does not have sight of that information.</p> <p>As such, based on the available information the Inspectorate cannot provide meaningful comments relating to a draft ES Project Description Chapter. High level comments are provided below.</p>	
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project Description Chapter	The applicant should ensure the ES Project Description Chapter and associated figures reflect the refined project design. The ES Project Description Chapter should clearly describe the option(s) that remain at the point of DCO application and confirm where these are assessed in the ES. Where options have been discounted prior to submission of the DCO application, these should instead be described in the ES Alternatives Chapter.	<p>Noted. Table 4.4 in Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) provides details of all flexibility / options that remain as part of the Project.</p> <p>'Reasonable alternatives' are considered within ES Chapter 3: Main Alternatives (document reference 6.3).</p>
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project Description Chapter	<p>The Inspectorate notes the applicant has requested feedback on the level of detail provided in the PEIR project description and considers that the following sections would benefit from more detail within the ES Project Description Chapter. This includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • updated embedded mitigation measures (paragraphs 4.3.3 to 4.3.6 and table 4.2) • Material and waste (paragraph 4.4.8) • Construction materials (paragraph 4.4.11) • Number of workers (paragraph 4.7.5) • Phasing (paragraph 4.7.1) 	<p>Further detail is provided within ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4). A summary of where the detail is provided below.</p> <p>Text has been updated to reflect the latest design in section 4.3 of ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4).</p> <p>Paragraphs 4.7.23 – 4.7.29 within ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land drainage – location and details of land drainage proposals and how these would be secured • through the draft DCO or other legal mechanism (paragraphs 4.7.8 to 4.7.10) • Public Rights of Way (PRoW) – diversions and/ or closures including their locations, with cross-reference to figures as required (paragraph 4.7.11) • Vegetation clearance for overhead lines - veteran trees to be avoided or removed, with cross-reference • to figures as required (paragraph 4.8.19) • Crossing protection – location of crossings and working areas around scaffolding, with cross-reference • to figures as required (paragraphs 4.8.21 and 4.8.22) • Pylons – types of pylons to be constructed and their associated locations and dimensions (including • maximum heights and widths of the steel work itself, along with details of the foundations that would be • required at each pylon location), with cross-reference to figures as required (paragraphs 4.9.2 to 4.9.8) • Reinstatement (paragraph 4.8.71) • Decommissioning – a high-level summary of potential effects for each environmental topic, including a • description of likely methods for decommissioning (section 4.11) 	<p>reference 6.4) provide more detail on materials and waste.</p> <p>Table 4.5 within ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) and ES Appendix 4.1: Greenhouse Gas Assessment (document reference 6.4.A1) provide further details on construction materials.</p> <p>Paragraphs 4.7.6 – 4.7 ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) provide further details on estimated number of workers.</p> <p>Paragraphs 4.7.1 – 4.7.3 ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) provide further details of construction phasing.</p> <p>Further detail is provided in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4).</p> <p>Paragraph 4.7.11 in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) provides further detail.</p> <p>Further detail is now included within ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) in paragraph 4.8.56.</p> <p>Locations of crossings / scaffolding are</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
			<p>provided on ES Figure 4.1: Proposed Project Design (document reference 6.4.F1) and a cross reference has been provided in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4).</p> <p>Further details of pylon types are provided in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) and presented on ES Figures 4.1: Proposed Project Design (document reference 6.4.F1) and 4.2: Proposed Project Design – Permanent Features (document reference 6.4.F2).</p> <p>Foundation type at each pylon cannot be confirmed until the detailed design stage and following Ground Investigations (GI). Further details are provided in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) and on the Design and Layout Overhead lines plans (document reference 2.6.2).</p> <p>Further details of pylon types are provided in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) and a cross reference is provided to the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) (document reference 7.4).</p> <p>Further detail on decommissioning is provided within ES Chapter 4: Project</p>

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
			Description (document reference 6.4).
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project Description Chapter	The Inspectorate notes that the PEIR Project Description includes some detail on design parameters, however at draft document review stage, a table of parameters is not included, and no parameters are provided within the draft DCO. The applicant should ensure the design parameters are clearly presented within the ES Project Description Chapter and that these are consistent with the parameters in the draft DCO.	ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) provides details of all parameters assessed within the ES (including Limits of Deviation) and Table 4.4 provides detail where there remains flexibility in the project. Detail is consistent with the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (document reference 3.1).
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project Description Chapter	<p>It should be clear how proposed mitigation measures are to be secured through the draft DCO (or other legal mechanism), with reference to specific draft DCO Requirements and draft/ outline management plans where relevant.</p> <p>Management plans described in the PEIR Project Description Chapter, such as the Outline Code of Construction Practice, should be referenced in the interpretation section of the draft DCO, included in the list of certified documents and the delivery of final versions secured through appropriate requirements.</p>	Further detail is provided in section 4.3 of ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4).
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project Description Chapter	The Inspectorate notes that the PEIR Project Description includes some detail on the limits of deviation (section 4.6). The applicant should ensure these details are updated where applicable and clearly identified in the ES Project Description Chapter, ensuring consistency with the draft DCO.	Limits of deviation in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) are consistent with the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (document reference 3.1).
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft Environmental Statement (ES) Project	The applicant should ensure the core working hours for construction and the operations that may take place outside of the core working hours (as described in the ES Project Description Chapter) are consistent	Working hours in ES Chapter 4: Project Description (document reference 6.4) which are assessed within the environmental topic chapters are

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
	Description Chapter	with what is specified in the draft DCO and appropriately secured. The applicant should make effort to agree these details with relevant local planning authorities and should evidence any such agreements within the application documents.	consistent with the draft DCO (document reference 3.1). Working hours have been discussed with Local Planning Authorities.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	The request from the applicant was to review the open space assessment which can be found at page 96 of the document, ending at page 102. However, the whole document has been reviewed. The document as a whole is at present policy heavy, with little assessments of the planning effects, many of which still need to be added. This includes sections in minerals, Green belt, development land and allocations, land quality and BMV. As such, the Inspectorate cannot provide advice on these matters. Nevertheless, comments are provided on what has been included in the draft statement thus far.	National Grid noted this advice.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	<p>The applicant should check the paragraph numbering. The lead paragraph on page 96 for this section is 7.3.65, but the following section entitled “open space” reverts to 7.3.1. The paragraph following paragraphs 7.3.2 on page 96, and then again paragraph 7.3.9 on page 98 also revert to 7.3.1 and is in a different font. So there are multiple paragraphs numbered as 7.3.1 etc. For the purposes of the comments below, the paragraphs as numbered in the document and the page number will be referenced in the interests of clarity.</p> <p>The applicant should also check the document for typographical errors throughout.</p> <p>The applicant could seek to group its planning policy</p>	National Grid noted this advice and resolved formatting errors in the final Planning Statement as submitted (document reference 5.6).

Date	Topic	Summary of advice received	Regard had to pre-application s51 advice by the Applicant
		assessments in one place in each section; currently they appear and re-appear as you read onwards.	
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	The paragraph states, in relation to potential effects on open spaces “If it was considered that it will not be materially affected by the project, no further assessment was required as the NPS policy is not engaged.” Aside from whether the correct tense is used in the final wording, the applicant should explain what is meant here by “materially affected”, or what the ES has identified as such.	National Grid noted this advice. The open space assessment conclusions are presented in chapter 7 of the Planning Statement (document reference 5.6). Appendix B assesses the impact on all areas of open space in accordance with the requirements in EN-1.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	Comments that the national policy statements override other local and national policies are true. However, the Secretary of State has a duty to consider local impact reports, which potentially include perceived conflicts with local plan or other policies. Likewise, other policies are likely to be important and relevant. As such, the applicant should ensure that this is clearly demonstrated in the Planning Statement.	The Planning Statement (document reference 5.6) and Policy Compliance Document (document reference 5.7) both consider the National Planning Policy Framework, adopted local plans, and relevant Neighbourhood Planning Policies in addition to the National Policy Statements.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	The applicant should review this paragraph as it is confusing as presently drafted. The sentence opens with “in accordance with paragraph 5.11.9...” in reference to the NPS and then quotes it but then does not explain what specifically is in accordance with it.	National Grid noted this advice.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	It would have been useful to provide some early comments on the open space land identified by the applicant as being “materially affected” by the proposed development. The applicant should be transparent in its assessment and ensure there is clarity and parity with the local impact reports on this matter.	National Grid noted this advice. The open space assessment conclusions are presented in chapter 7 of the Planning Statement (document reference 5.6). Appendix B assesses the impact on all areas of open space in accordance with the requirements in EN-1.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft planning statement	The conclusions section is still to be added. However, the applicant is advised to ensure that the planning conclusions and balance assess the potential effects	National Grid noted this advice. Chapter 5: EIA Approach and Method (document reference 6.5) of the Environmental

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		taken individually and cumulatively; and then weighed against local and national policy including the critical national priority test. It is important that the applicant does not over-rely on the CNP status, without clearly demonstrating how it has applied the mitigation hierarchy, in agreement with the statutory nature conservation bodies.	Statement demonstrates how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied. The Planning Statement (document reference 5.6) includes an infographic showing the CNP Gateway and further summaries how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft book of reference (BoR)	Incomplete wording in the title of column 4.	National Grid noted this advice and corrected the error.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft BoR	In the table heading, reference is made to Part 4 rather than Part 5.	National Grid noted this advice and corrected the error.
17 April 2025 Draft documents review	Draft BoR	As no details have been added to the draft Book of Reference and the draft land plans provided are not for this project it is not possible to see how the two interact and therefore it is not possible to provide any further detailed comments.	National Grid noted the advice.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Examination readiness	The applicant asked the Inspectorate how it should submit its application. The Inspectorate advised the applicant that SharePoint will be the method for submission, with the Inspectorate providing a secure link for the applicant to add documents to. It was agreed to test this ahead of submission.	The application documents have been submitted in line with this advice.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Examination readiness	The applicant advised that it is preparing a guide to site visits for inclusion in the application documents. The Inspectorate requested that this document is submitted as a stand-alone document, rather than an annex to other documents.	National Grid noted this advice. Route Drive: Site Visit Guidance (document reference 1.7) has been submitted as a standalone application document.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Examination readiness	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to discuss with audio and visual providers the ability to potentially cover multiple simultaneous events.	National Grid noted this advice and appointed a suitable audio and visual provider to be able to run multiple examination events at the same time, if

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			required.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Examination readiness	The Inspectorate advised the applicant that for long linear projects, where possible, a central venue approximately halfway along the route is considered for the preliminary meeting, with potential localised hearings later in the examination. With that in mind, Colchester could be a potential location for the meeting; this will be considered by the Examining Authority in due course.	National Grid noted this advice. The search for the appropriate preliminary meeting venue has been conducted before the application was submitted in order to secure the suitable place in the recommended location.
		The Inspectorate advised the applicant that there are multiple factors that can impact the preliminary meeting date, and as a result the Inspectorate is unable to give any indication as to likely dates at this time. The Inspectorate advised that once an Examining Authority is appointed, consideration of the preliminary meeting date will commence.	National Grid noted the advice and will await further info regarding the date of the preliminary meeting.
		Whilst the Inspectorate is not seeking to unnecessarily prolong the pre-examination period, and seek to keep it as brief as possible, there are a number of factors that influences this, including the quality of the application/need for s51 advice and the timing of the relevant representations period. The Inspectorate also advised the applicant that if a change request is received during the pre-examination stage, which triggers the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010, this could delay the commencement of the examination. Additionally, the submission of supplementary environmental information mentioned in previous update meetings, during the pre-examination period, could delay the	National Grid noted the advice. An update was given at a meeting on the 13 August 2025 to the Planning Inspectorate. The approach to SEI has been agreed with Natural England, Historic England and the archaeological advisors for Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and Essex County Council. Further details are provided in Chapter 8: Ecology and Biodiversity (document reference 6.8) and Chapter 11: Historic Environment (document reference 6.11).

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		commencement of the examination.	
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Look ahead	The Inspectorate noted the applicant's intention for the relevant representation period to be longer than the statutory minimum and confirmed this is good practice, particularly due to the scale of the project.	National Grid welcomed this advice and set the relevant representation period to be no shorter than 40 days.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Electronic Index	The Inspectorate advised the applicant that the electronic index is being updated and will be provided to the applicant once complete.	National Grid noted this advice and submitted the updated electronic index to Inspectorate prior to submission of the application.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Look ahead	The Inspectorate requested that any confidential data within the applicant's submission, for example in relation to protected species, be submitted as an annex to a report, rather than marking a report in its entirety as confidential.	National Grid has submitted one copy of each confidential data reports with sensitive and confidential information redacted, and one without redactions.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Look ahead	The applicant asked the Inspectorate whether there is any emerging practice for large scale examinations that the Inspectorate can share, and highlighted recent approaches taken on Lower Thames Crossing (earlier hearings and later written questions) and Immingham Green Energy Terminal (draft written questions published in advance of the preliminary meeting).	National Grid will plan for all eventualities.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Interactive Design Portfolio	<p>The Inspectorate highlighted the importance of clearly explaining how the design documents interact with each other.</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked the applicant whether the proposed approach to design documents had been shared with the local authorities in advance of the submission of the application, if there is likely to be a requirement in the draft DCO for the authorities to approve the detailed design in due course. The</p>	The rationale and design decisions for the Project are considered in the Design Development Report (document reference 5.15), Design Appraisal for Site Specific Infrastructure (document reference 7.16), and Design and Access Statement (document reference 7.15).

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		<p>applicant confirmed that this matter is under consideration.</p> <p>The Inspectorate also asked whether the project had been subject of an independent design review, to which the applicant confirmed it had not, providing its reasons for this. The Inspectorate advised the applicant to clearly explain the rationale and design decisions within its application, demonstrating its regard to the good design and linear project advice pages.</p>	<p>The rationale is provided in the Internal Design Review Note – Compliance with the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice on Good Design, Appendix B of the Design and Access Statement (document reference 7.15).</p>
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Potential main issues for the examination (PMIE)	<p>The applicant asked if it is required to submit a PMIE with the DCO application. The Inspectorate explained that the PMIE is one of the mandatory components of the pre-application service and therefore should be submitted. The Inspectorate noted that the PMIE has been included as a stand-alone document on recent projects.</p> <p>The applicant asked how it should proceed if the PMIE hasn’t been shared with the local authorities. The Inspectorate advised the applicant to clearly explain where discussions reached with local authorities in relation to potential issues at the point of application submission.</p>	<p>The Potential Main Issues for the Examination (document reference 5.8) have been included as part of the DCO application.</p> <p>The PMIE has been shared with host authorities and affected statutory bodies. They have been given a period of 14 days to respond confirming if they agree with the list of Potential Main Issues. Feedback will be considered in the final document to be submitted with the application.</p>

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30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM) / Ongoing stakeholder engagement	<p>The Inspectorate advised that setting out local authority concerns in the AoCM was extremely helpful. The Inspectorate informed the applicant it will issue its response to the AoCM shortly.</p> <p>The Inspectorate asked the applicant whether it had recently engaged with any action groups. The applicant confirmed that although it had previously met with an action group, which included very senior officials from the applicant's team, no recent discussions have taken place. The Inspectorate recommended the applicant document this in the Consultation Report.</p> <p>The applicant asked whether the Inspectorate can request consultation responses in the acceptance period. The Inspectorate confirmed that it can but will only request them where it is considered essential.</p> <p>The applicant then asked whether it should submit the adequacy of consultation milestone with its Consultation Report. The Inspectorate responded that it can be included as an annex to the Consultation Report, if necessary, but reminded the applicant that the milestone had already been received and that advice on it would already have been issued.</p>	<p>The Applicant met with the Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons action group (also known as Pylons East Anglia) on 1 September and 15 September 2022. Matters discussed included the project programme, land access and surveys, and the action group's position and suggestions.</p> <p>The AoCM document has been included in Appendix O to the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1).</p>
		<p>The Inspectorate asked the applicant about the progress of securing crown consent for crown land. The applicant responded that it was in discussions with the Crown Estate about this matter. The Inspectorate reminded the applicant of the risk to timescales if consent is not given.</p>	<p>Discussions with the Crown are ongoing. At this stage there is limited interaction with the Crown estate land, and it is believed that agreement / consent will be reached.</p>

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30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	Lands – Special Category Land, Crown & Landowner Engagement	<p>The Inspectorate asked the applicant whether there are land agents acting on behalf of multiple landowners, and if so, whether discussions had commenced with those parties. The applicant confirmed that land agents are in place and that discussions are ongoing. The Inspectorate reminded the applicant that it is helpful to clearly that discussions had commenced with landowners as part of the application documents.</p> <p>The Inspectorate then asked whether discussions had commenced with all statutory undertakers around protective provisions. The applicant confirmed that discussions have commenced with all parties, albeit at various stages of progression. The Inspectorate noted that protective provisions is a matter that engages considerable examination time, and as such, early progression of these matters can assist a smoother examination.</p>	<p>Good working relationships have been formed with the majority of appointed land agents and regular briefings are provided to agents.</p> <p>National Grid continues to engage with all known impacted Statutory Undertakers to negotiate and agree Protective Provisions.</p>
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	AOB	The Inspectorate advised the applicant that if new NPSs are adopted after an application has been submitted, the Examining Authority can issue procedural decisions to ask all parties for views on the impacts of new NPSs.	National Grid noted the advice.
30 June 2025 Project Update Meeting	AOB	The applicant asked how it demonstrates regard to the Inspectorate's s51 advice. The Inspectorate explained that it is at the applicant's discretion how this is done. The applicant is required to clearly demonstrate its regard to s51 advice issued by the Inspectorate, and if advice has not been followed, clear rationale for this approach must be included.	This appendix demonstrates the regard had by the Applicant to the Planning Inspectorate's s51 advice.
30 June 2025 Feedback	Adequacy of Consultation	The applicant's AoCM statement has been prepared and submitted having had regard to the government's	Sections 8.7, 10.5 and 11.2 of the Consultation Report (document reference

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	Milestone (AoCM) Feedback	<p>statutory pre-application stage guidance as well as the Inspectorate's non-statutory 2024 Pre-application Prospectus. Having reviewed the applicant's AoCM statement, the Inspectorate considers that it clearly explains the applicant's consultation activities undertaken to date and the approaches set out in its Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). As such, the Inspectorate does not consider the consultation to be seriously adrift (as described in guidance).</p> <p>The applicant should ensure that the Consultation Report clearly demonstrates how landowners, including Raydon Airfield, have been consulted. The report should also clearly explain the applicant's justification for undertaking targeted consultation, as opposed to multiple rounds of full consultation.</p> <p>The Consultation Report should also clearly explain how the applicant has complied with the 'Gunning' principles when undertaking consultation. It should also clearly respond to concerns raised by local authorities, which were included in the AoCM, such as Tendring District Council's concerns about the consultation not being meaningful or effective.</p> <p>The PA2008 does not require an applicant to share draft submission documents during consultation periods. However, the Consultation Report should explicitly set out what documents were available for review during the consultation periods.</p> <p>That said, it would be extremely helpful to any future</p>	<p>5.1) demonstrates how landowners have been consulted by the Applicant.</p> <p>Section 10.1 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1) provides justification for undertaking targeted consultation over multiple rounds of full consultation.</p> <p>Section 3.1 in the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1) confirms that the Applicant has complied with the Gunning Principles.</p> <p>Sections 5.4, 6.4, 8.12, 10.5, 10.6, 10.7 and 11.2 of the Consultation Report (document reference 5.1) outline the documents available for review during the respective consultation periods.</p> <p>Draft DCO Requirements and Explanatory Memorandum have been shared with local authorities ahead of submission of the application.</p>

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		examination of the application if draft documents (such as the dDCO) could be shared with key stakeholders ahead of the submission of the application.	
		The Inspectorate's comments on the applicant's AoCM statement are made without prejudice to any decision on whether to accept the application for examination.	
13 August 2025		Section 51 advice was received from the Planning Inspectorate on 26 August 2025 following a meeting on 13 August 2025	National Grid is reviewing the advice and will provide responses to the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with the timescales requested.

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com