

AENC-NG-CNS-REP-0121

# Norwich to Tilbury

## Volume 5: Reports and Statements

Document: 5.9.2 Draft Statement of Common Ground - Suffolk  
County Council (SCC) (incl LLFA and Highways)

Final Issue A

August 2025

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020027

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

**nationalgrid**

# Contents

---

<b>1.</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Overview	1
1.2	Project Description	1
1.3	Format and Structure of this Document	3
<b>2.</b>	<b>Record of Key Engagement</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1	Introduction	4
2.2	Summary of Key Engagement	4
<b>3.</b>	<b>Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion</b>	<b>18</b>
3.1	Overview	18
3.2	Project development, description, and design	19
3.3	Ecology and Biodiversity	26
3.4	Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology	31
3.5	Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)	35
3.6	Historic Environment	41
3.7	Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk	47
3.8	Landscape and Visual	52
3.9	Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism	59
3.10	Traffic and Transport	65
3.11	Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	86
3.12	Cumulative Effects	89
3.13	Development Consent Order	92
3.14	Other Matters	92
<b>4.</b>	<b>Confirmation of Agreement</b>	<b>93</b>

---

Table 2.1	Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and SCC	4
Table 3.1	Agreement status for matters presented in Section 3	18
Table 3.2	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to project development, description and design matters	19
Table 3.3	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Ecology and Biodiversity	26
Table 3.4	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology	31
Table 3.5	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Health and Wellbeing	35
Table 3.6	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Historic Environment	41
Table 3.7	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk	47
Table 3.8	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Landscape and Visual	52
Table 3.9	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism	59
Table 3.10	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Traffic and Transport	65

Table 3.11	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Public Rights of Way	86
Table 3.12	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Cumulative Effects	89
Table 3.13	Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Development Consent Order	92

---

Abbreviations	94
---------------	----

---

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (referred to as National Grid within this document) and Suffolk County Council (SCC). It identifies areas of the Norwich to Tilbury Development Consent Order (DCO) application (the Application) where matters are agreed, under discussion or not agreed between the parties.
- 1.1.2 This SoCG has been structured to reflect topics of the Application which are relevant to SCC. The applicable matters considered within this SoCG apply to SCC's statutory remit. The following bullet points present the topics included in this SoCG (they are also presented in Section 3):
- Project development, description, and design
  - Ecology and Biodiversity
  - Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology
  - Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)
  - Historic Environment
  - Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk
  - Landscape and Visual
  - Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism
  - Traffic and Transport
  - Public Rights of Way (PRoW)
  - Cumulative Effects
  - Development Consent Order
  - Other Matters

**Note:** This draft SoCG has been prepared at an early phase of the DCO process, ahead of submission. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the Project progresses and shared with Suffolk County Council at key points for discussion. A final SoCG will be prepared ahead of the close of the DCO Examination. Unlike a final SoCG, this draft SoCG has not been officially signed by either party.

## 1.2 Project Description

- 1.2.1 The Project is a proposal by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury, comprising:
- A new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 180 km overall length from Norwich Main Substation to Tilbury Substation via

Bramford Substation, a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and a new Tilbury North Substation, including:

- Approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 509 pylons, either standard steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 m in height) or low height steel lattice pylons (approximately 40 m in height) and some of which would be gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds or existing or proposed substations
- Approximately 21 km of 400 kV underground cabling, some of which would be located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB1))
- Up to seven new CSE compounds (with permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- Modification works to connect into the existing Norwich Main Substation and a substation extension at the existing Bramford Substation
- A new 400 kV substation on the Tendring Peninsula, referred to as the EACN Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation
- A new 400 kV substation to the south of Orsett Golf Course in Essex, referred to as the Tilbury North Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation
- Modifications to the existing National Grid Electricity Transmission overhead lines to facilitate the connection of the existing network into the new Tilbury North Substation to provide connection to the Tilbury Substation
- Ancillary and/or temporary works associated with the construction of the Project.

- 1.2.2 In addition, third party utilities diversions and/or modifications would be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. There would also be land required for environmental mitigation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).
- 1.2.3 As well as the permanent infrastructure, land would also be required temporarily for construction activities including, for example, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and temporary construction access.
- 1.2.4 The Project would be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable health and safety legislation. The Project will need to comply with design safety standards including the Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS), which sets out the criteria and methodology for planning and operating the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). This informs a suite of National Grid policies and processes, which contain details on design standards required to be met when designing, constructing and operating assets such as those proposed for the Project.

## 1.3 Format and Structure of this Document

1.3.1 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** provides a summary of the key engagement undertaken to date with SCC
- **Section 3** summarises the key matters and captures the status of each issue / matter
- **Section 4** includes the sign off sheet



## 2. Record of Key Engagement

### 2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 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 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
- 2.1.2 Further details on National Grid’s engagement with stakeholders is provided in the Consultation Report and the Environmental Statement.

### 2.2 Summary of Key Engagement

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

Table 2.1 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and SCC

Date	Format	Topic/Description
<b>General</b>		
May 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.

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.
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	DCO discussion with SCC and Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's (BMSDC).
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
June 2024	Meeting	DCO discussion with SCC and BMSDC.
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



Date	Format	Topic/Description
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
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared an updated Outline Code of Construction Plan (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
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss duty to further the purposes of the National Landscape
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
<b>Ecology and Biodiversity</b>		
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.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
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	National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities on Proposed Protected Species Mitigation Measures
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.
<b>Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology</b>		
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).

Date	Format	Topic/Description
<b>Health and Wellbeing (including Air Quality and Noise and Vibration)</b>		
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.
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.
<b>Historic Environment</b>		
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 (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.
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.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
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	National Grid re-issued the overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Trial Trenching
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment
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	National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information
March 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issues the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project
May 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
<b>Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk</b>		
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	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 hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) for agreement/comment
<b>Landscape and Visual</b>		
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 briefing regarding 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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		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 SCC 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 – 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	National Grid meeting to agree LVIA methodology and viewpoint photography locations and photomontages to be used for the ES
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology
<b>Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism</b>		
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.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
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	National Grid issued the third Technical Note for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism
<b>Traffic and Transport</b>		
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	Meeting discussing 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 stakeholder meeting with SCC setting out details of the proposed alignment, haul roads, PARS, MRN and SRNs affected and proposed

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		construction vehicles including for Bramford substation and cable sealing compounds.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting.
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 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 (including Suffolk 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	Report	Receipt by National Grid of statutory consultation response from SCC.
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 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.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Topic/Description</b>
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting. General structure and content of TA was presented National Grid 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, re-cap of multi modal study given.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a LHA Engagement Meeting to discuss potential changes following 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 work in progress draft of Transport Assessment. Ran through methodology of junction sifting process, junction assessment methodology and cumulative assessment.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Suffolk Traffic and Transport Working Group meeting. 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	National Grid issued the Draft Transport Assessment and Figures
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Mitigation and Junction RAG Strategy
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 give, various meetings to be arranged including for AILS, TROs and TTROs, and ES and TA.
March 2025	Meeting	National Grid presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
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.
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.



## 3. Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion

### 3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to SCC which have been agreed, not agreed or are under discussion between the parties. Matters are arranged by topic (using broad headings, or EIA chapter headings where appropriate) and each matter is given a unique reference number to aid identification.
- 3.1.2 The red, amber, green status shows the level of agreement with SCC. Descriptions of the different levels are summarised in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Agreement status for matters presented in Section 3

Status	Description
Not Agreed	Indicates a final position, where it has not been possible to resolve the issue to the agreement of both parties and there remains a difference of opinion.
Under Discussion	Indicates where issues are the subject of active on-going discussion.
Agreed	Indicates where an issue has been agreed or resolved satisfactorily to the agreement of both parties.

- 3.1.3 Engagement will continue as the Project develops and progresses through the various stages of the DCO process.
- 3.1.4 Sections that remain highlighted in yellow within these tables show points where both parties will seek to discuss and where possible agree a position in due course. The parties have been unable to do so at this stage because the relevant information is still being authored ahead of submission of the DCO application. These points will be the subject of ongoing discussion with stakeholders once the Environmental Statement and other relevant documentation is published.
- 3.1.5 Table 3.3 to Table 3.13 provides the matters agreed, not agreed or under discussion in relation to the various topics.

## 3.2 Project development, description, and design

Table 3.2 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to project development, description and design matters

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>Strategic options/needs case</b>				
3.2.1	Needs case	<p>Norwich to Tilbury is being proposed because the existing network in East Anglia doesn't have sufficient capacity to manage the expected (and in some cases, contracted) increase in offshore wind farms (and interconnectors) needing to connect to the grid as part of the Government's target of reaching net zero by 2050. The project sits alongside other work to reinforce and upgrade the existing network in East Anglia.</p> <p>Norwich to Tilbury is listed as a key project in Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report.</p>	<p>SCC Response to Statutory Consultation (29/07/2024):</p> <p>In accordance with the Council's Energy and Climate Adaptive Infrastructure Policy, SCC recognise the importance of the Norwich to Tilbury proposals as part of the required infrastructure to connect low carbon energy generation developments that will deliver energy security and contribute to UK government targets</p>	Agreed
3.2.2	Project timing	<p>Timing for the project is driven by the needs case – when offshore wind farms are contracted to connect to the UK network – the first of which are contracted to connect in 2030. National Grid is legally obliged (under our Transmission Owner License) to provide capacity at the dates formally agreed in contracts with energy generators (or customers) by NESO.</p> <p>Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report shows that the constraint costs associated with a delay to the</p>	<p>SCC Response to Statutory Consultation (29/07/2024):</p> <p>SCC request National Grid (NGET), (and Ofgem recognising the applicant's licence obligations) to pause the Norwich to Tilbury proposals, to enable the effective consideration of alternatives (such as HVDC or offshore).</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion.		
3.2.3	Onshore route	<p>An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same capacity as an onshore overhead line, we would need to build three subsea cables and associated infrastructure, which would add significant cost and not meet the needs case for Norwich to Tilbury.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including offshore alternatives.</p>	<p>SCC Response to Targeted Consultations (03/03/2025):</p> <p>SCC considers that credible alternatives such as an offshore centred approach or High Voltage Direct Current undergrounding, delivered at pace, to minimise onshore infrastructure in Suffolk should be explored fully</p>	Under discussion
3.2.4	Predominantly overhead line route	<p>Norwich to Tilbury has been designed in line with policy statement EN-5 (which covers the development of new energy infrastructure) which concludes that in most cases, the government expects that overhead lines will be appropriate and should be used as standard to reinforce the grid.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial</p>	<p>SCC Response to Targeted Consultations (03/03/2025):</p> <p>SCC considers that credible alternatives such as an offshore centred approach or High Voltage Direct Current undergrounding, delivered at pace, to minimise onshore infrastructure in Suffolk should be explored fully.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>implications for alternative routes, including underground alternatives.</p> <p>The work undertaken shows that undergrounding, including using HVDC cables, would be significantly more expensive and have environmental impacts and present engineering challenges. Due to the higher price that would be involved in an underground alternative, we do not believe that this would be the most suitable option as all costs ultimately go onto domestic energy bills.</p>		
<b>Project development process - Design</b>				
3.2.5	Waveney Valley	<p>At statutory consultation in 2024, National Grid presented proposals for an overhead line across the Waveney Valley, along with an underground cable alternative for community and stakeholder feedback. After considering feedback, and the findings of our ground investigation (GI) and environmental surveys, the decision was made to proceed with an overhead line in this area. This decision considered a range of factors, including potential environmental impacts, planning policy, cost to consumers and alternate installation techniques for underground cables in response to GI surveys and the Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery project.</p>	<p>SCC Response to Targeted Consultations (03/03/2025):</p> <p>SCC regrets proposals for the Waveney Valley Alternative have not been taken forward. Although there was a clear preference from all four local authorities (Suffolk County Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, Norfolk County Council, South Norfolk District Council) for undergrounding, technical issues seemingly make this an unrealistic proposition. To offset the undoubted visual and landscape impacts that will result from the use of overhead lines, SCC asks for a compensatory approach. This should entail a programme of landscape enhancements and undergrounding of existing 132kV lines.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		Mitigation, including landscape enhancement, will be discussed in relevant thematic group meetings with National Grid's EIA team and SCC's topic specialists.		
3.2.6	Removal of existing 132kV	The Project is following the approach set out in the DEFRA guidance on 'seeking to further the purposes of National Landscapes' - Guidance for relevant authorities on seeking to further the purposes of Protected Landscapes - GOV.UK. Part of this approach could include exploring the potential feasibility of removing the existing 132kV overhead line which runs through both the Suffolk and Essex Coast and Heaths the Dedham Vale National Landscapes and is owned and operated by UK Power Networks. National Grid intend to engage with the relevant stakeholders on agreeing a proportionate approach to the duty and the potential opportunities for consideration.	<p>SCC Response to Targeted Consultations (03/03/2025):</p> <p>SCC is keen to see the removal of an existing 132kV local distribution overhead line which runs through both the Suffolk and Essex Coast and Heaths the Dedham Vale National Landscapes. SCC considers that removal would go a long way towards meeting section 85 of the CRoW Act, which requires relevant authorities to "seek to further the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area" when discharging their functions in Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (locally known as National Landscapes).</p>	Under discussion
<b>Project development process - Consultation</b>				
3.2.7	2022 non-statutory consultation	Non-statutory consultation took place between 21 April 2022 – 16 June 2022. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report.	SCC provided full comments regarding the project in the response to the 2022 non-statutory consultation.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.		
3.2.8	2023 non-statutory consultation	<p>Non-statutory consultation took place between 27 June 2023 – 21 August 2023. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report.</p> <p>The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.</p>	SCC provided full comments regarding the project in the response to the 2023 non-statutory consultation.	Agreed
3.2.9	2024 statutory consultation	<p>Statutory Consultation took place from Wednesday 10 April 2024 to 26 July 2024 (the end date was extended from 18 June 2024 due to the general election.) Details of this consultation are outlined in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Responses to feedback received during statutory consultation will be made available at DCO submission within the Consultation Feedback Report.</p> <p>The statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published SoCC.</p>	SCC provided full comments regarding the project in the response to the 2024 statutory consultation.	Agreed
3.2.10	2025 targeted consultation	<p>Targeted consultations for Suffolk took place from 30 January 2025 – 3 March 2025. Details of these consultations are outlined in the Targeted Consultation Strategy and associated targeted</p>	SCC provided full comments regarding the project in the response to the 2025 targeted consultation.	Agreed



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>consultation leaflets and environmental implications of change documents. Responses to feedback received during targeted consultation will be made available at DCO submission within the Consultation Feedback Report.</p> <p>The targeted consultations were undertaken in accordance with the published Targeted Consultation Strategy.</p> <p>The approach to targeted consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance: Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024).</p>		
<b>Other matters as required</b>				
3.2.11	Community Benefits	<p>In March 2025 the government announced guidance for delivering community benefit packages for communities hosting new, onshore transmission infrastructure projects. This guidance is clear that community benefit matters should be separate from, and not a material consideration in, the planning process. Outside of the DCO process, National Grid will work with stakeholders to understand the opportunity and delivery of this funding, in line with guidance.</p>	<p>SCC has been clear in its stance that community benefits should be offered for all communities hosting Nationally Significant Infrastructure. Whilst community benefits cannot be considered within the planning balance, this solely means that benefits should be above and beyond any mitigation or compensation embedded within the project. SCC considers that the Government's March 2025 community benefit guidance provides sufficient clarity on the level of funding expected.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			<p>SCC has provided National Grid with its preferences and suggestions for Community Funds including potential delivery opportunities. SCC also considers that National Grid should tailor the benefits to the desires of the communities affected. These preferences should be identified via direct consultation with the Parish Councils and analysis of Neighbourhood Plans (where made).</p>	
3.2.12	Supply and connectivity around the Freeport at Gateway 14	<p>National Grid liaises regularly with electricity Distribution Network Operators (DNO). In East Anglia that is UK Power Networks (UKPN). Potential opportunities to rationalise, or make new connections to, the local network, or high demand centres, such as Gateway 14 requires a combination of the developer, the DNO and National Grid identifying a need case that would be supported by the regulator, the Office of gas and electricity markets (Ofgem), or funded by some other means. National Grid is required under its transmission licence, to make connections where applications are made including to local networks or demand centres. If a connection application is made National Grid would progress it accordingly.</p>	<p>SCC Response to Statutory Consultation (29/07/2024):</p> <p>SCC's clear preference is that this project should, in coordination with other infrastructure promoters and owners, resolve local supply and connectivity issues in the Stowmarket area for, and around, the Freeport at Gateway 14.</p>	Under discussion

### 3.3 Ecology and Biodiversity

Table 3.3 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Ecology and Biodiversity

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.3.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 8.2 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	<p>SCC have yet to see the ES. The policy and legislation detailed within the PEIR appeared appropriate in its breadth and content for the ES. We expect these same policies, guidance and legislation are followed within the ES and will seek confirmation once the ES has been issued.</p>	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.3.2	Study area	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	Agreed
3.3.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC have been informed that c.15% of the study area has not yet been subject to detailed survey, due to issues including access constraints. We consider this to be a significant proportion of the study area and feel that a complete, full and accurate assessment of overall and cumulative impacts of the project cannot be completed with this lack of data. SCC are not content that a presumptive of habitat type and</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			"moderate value" can be ascertained through desk study alone.	
3.3.4	Assessment Methodology	The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.3.5	Survey Methodology	National Grid issued a Technical Note in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.  All methodologies for surveying licensable species have been agreed with Natural England.  SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.	SCC email 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 - Ecology – consultants have placed emphasis on methodologies with a consequent lack of survey information.	Under discussion
3.3.6	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment are summarised in <b>Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or otherwise of the key parameters and assumptions.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in <b>Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the <b>ES</b> .	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. We have also requested but are yet to be provided with the primary data associated with field surveys for the project. The incomplete survey coverage of sections	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	of the scheme at this time for all or some ecological receptors means it is not considered possible to fully identify the baseline conditions within the site. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or otherwise of the baseline conditions and receptors.	
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.3.8	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Ecology and Biodiversity effects, are set out in <b>Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or adequacy of the embedded mitigation measures.	Under discussion
3.3.9	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Ecology and Biodiversity effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	The mitigation measures included within the Outline CoCP were appropriate based on the receptors identified to date. Additional survey results may lead to additional mitigation measures being required for currently unidentified receptors.	Under discussion
3.3.10	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology</b>	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		and Biodiversity) of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	on the appropriateness or otherwise of the additional mitigation measures.	
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.3.11	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 8.7 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or otherwise of the assessment of effects. Particularly in the additional absence of all baseline data.	Under discussion
3.3.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 8.7 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or otherwise of the assessment of effects. Particularly in the additional absence of all baseline data.	Under discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.3.13	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.  Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.	Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or otherwise of the Outline CoCP for this purpose. Particularly in the additional absence of all baseline data.	Under discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>		
3.3.14	Outline LEMP	<p>The LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline LEMP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline LEMP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>	<p>Suffolk County Council have yet to see the ES. Subsequently we cannot yet comment on the appropriateness or otherwise of the Outline CoCP for this purpose. Particularly in the additional absence of all baseline data.</p>	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				
3.3.15	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	<p>National Grid will deliver at least 10 % BNG with wider environmental and societal benefits on its construction projects. Offsite BNG will be delivered through collaboration with partners and purchased from commercially registered providers.</p> <p>National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain strategy with stakeholders in January 2025.</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.3.15	Draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)	National Grid issued the draft AIA in March 2025.		Under discussion

### 3.4 Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology

Table 3.4 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.4.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 9.2 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.4.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.4.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 9.4 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the ES.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.4.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology assessment are summarised in <b>Section 9.4 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.4.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology are presented in <b>Section 9.5 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.4.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology effects, are set out in <b>Section 9.6 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.4.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 9.6 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.4.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 9.6 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.4.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 9.7 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.4.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 9.7 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
Other matters as required				

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

Table 3.5 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Health and Wellbeing

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.5.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Health and Wellbeing assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context), Section 10.2 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.2 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.2 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES.</b></p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>Following text throughout this column has been populated in respect to the PIER unless otherwise stated:</p> <p>Chapter 2 is not specific to H&amp;WB. Public Health &amp; Communities cannot comment as to whether all relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and/or considered.</p> <p>2.4 is missing reference to Ipswich Local Plan</p> <p>Section 10.2 – Note 10.2.12 does not include SCC's 'Community Engagement and Wellbeing Supplementary Guidance Document'</p> <p>Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.5.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.		Agreed
3.5.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> , <b>Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> and <b>Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the ES.	Section 10.4 and 7.4 - there is no data detailed in either Section  Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout	Under discussion
3.5.4	Assessment methodology	<p>A meeting was held in September 2024 to agree the assessment methodology of the Health and Wellbeing ES chapter.</p> <p>National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Technical Note – Refreshed Approach in October 2024.</p> <p>December 2024, National Grid held an additional meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.</p> <p>National Grid can confirm that reference to Suffolk's JSNAs and PBNAs has been included within our baseline section.</p> <p>NG can also confirm that summary and context relating to cumulative impacts as they are relevant to health</p>	<p>Feedback received on the Technical Note from SCC dated 11th October 2024: Request to pay regard to Suffolk's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and Place-based needs assessment (PBNA).</p> <p><b>Cumulative Impacts.</b> Please include some summary and context on the implications, noting there are various NSIP's in the area.</p> <p>Public Health did not attend this meeting, we therefore cannot confirm any agreements made within it.</p>	Under discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		and wellbeing, noting in particular the various NSIPs live in the area, will be included within the Cumulative Assessment.		
3.5.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Health and Wellbeing are summarised in <b>Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> , <b>Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> and <b>Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	<p>Section numbers are different, key parameters and assumptions are sections 7.5, 10.5</p> <p>Section 10.5.16-10.5.21 inclusive - - the parameters and assumptions appear reasonable.</p> <p>Section 7.5 - the parameters and assumptions appear reasonable.</p> <p>Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout (assuming this would be reviewed by Environmental Health?)</p>	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.5.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Health and Wellbeing are presented in <b>Section 10.5 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b>, <b>Section 7.5 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> and <b>Section 14.5 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>Baseline conditions are sections 7.6 and 10.6.</p> <p>Section 7.6 - The baseline conditions and receptors presented appear reasonable.</p> <p>Section 10.6 does not include some of the protected characteristics namely Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex and Sexual orientation. These aside, the baseline conditions and receptors presented appear reasonable.</p> <p>PH have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout (assuming</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			this would be reviewed by Environmental Health?).	
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Health and Wellbeing effects, are set out in <b>Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> , <b>Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> and <b>Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	<p>Embedded mitigations are sections 7.7 and 10.7.</p> <p>Section 7.7 - Embedded mitigation appears reasonable, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects at this stage (10/02/2025).</p> <p>Section 10.7 - Embedded mitigation appears reasonable at this stage (10/02/2025).</p> <p>Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout</p>	Under discussion
3.5.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> , <b>Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> , <b>Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	<p>Standard mitigations are Sections 7.7 and 10.7</p> <p>Section 7.7 - The standard mitigations appear reasonable, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Section 10.7 - The standard mitigation appears reasonable, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout.</p> <p>Public Health have not had sight of CoCP and cannot therefor comment upon it.</p>	Under discussion
3.5.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> , <b>Section 7.6 of</b>	<p>Additional mitigations are Sections 7.7 and 10.7</p> <p>Section 7.7 - The additional mitigations appear reasonable, in terms of its nature and</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<b>Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES.</b> Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	scale, to address potential effects at this stage (10/02/2025). Section 10.7 - The additional mitigations appear reasonable at this stage (10/02/2025). Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout	
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.5.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 10.7 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.7 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.7 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES.</b> The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	Construction effects are Sections 7.8 and 10.8 Section 7.8 - the assessment of effects during construction appears reasonable at this stage (10/02/2025). Section 10.8 - the assessment of effects during construction appears reasonable at this stage (10/02/2025). Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout	Under discussion
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 10.7 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.7 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.7 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES.</b> The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Construction effects are Sections 7.8 and 10.8 Section 7.8 - the assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented appears reasonable at this stage (10/02/2025).  Section 10.8 - the assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) appears reasonable at this stage (10/02/2025). Public Health have no comments to make in respect of Noise and Vibration throughout.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b>, <b>Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> and <b>Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>	Public Health did not attend the meeting 9th October, we therefore cannot confirm any agreements made within it. Public Health have not had sight of CoCP and cannot therefore comment upon it.	Under Discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				

## 3.6 Historic Environment

Table 3.6 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Historic Environment

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.6.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 11.2 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Historic England guidance should be included within chapter 2.6 non-statutory guidance. NPPF should be referenced in chapter 11.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.6.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.6.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	SCC Archaeology - The baseline information presented in chapter 11 of the PEIR provides an initial assessment of the heritage assets, however for archaeology this information has not been used to provide an assessment of archaeological potential. This would be further informed by the results of geophysical survey and trenched archaeological evaluation. For	Under discussion.

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			archaeology the Heritage Asset Value is not the same as archaeological potential.	
3.6.4	Assessment methodology	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated: “<i>The Applicant should make effort to discuss and agree relevant non-designated heritage assets for assessment and the detailed assessment methodology with relevant local planning authorities.</i>”</p> <p>SCC raised at statutory consultation that they did not agree with the value of Grade II listed buildings as medium value assets. However, there is precedent for the approach proposed and professional judgement is always used when assigning value to heritage assets. Therefore, as per the Scoping Opinion report, the majority of Grade II listed buildings will remain medium value assets.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	SCC email 4th Nov 2024 - Built heritage – consultant’s methodology not agreed, and all assets affected not identified.	Under discussion
3.6.7	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in <b>Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p>	The currently available information has been presented within chapter 11, however, the collated information should be used to inform on the initial archaeological potential of sections of the route. This baseline information would then be further informed by geophysical survey and trenched archaeological evaluation.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.6.8	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in <b>Section 11.5 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p> <p>February 2025, National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment and held a meeting on the topic.</p>	<p>SCC Archaeology - 11.5.26 &amp; 11.5.36– states that there will be non-intrusive and intrusive archaeological evaluation, this should clearly indicate that this will not be completed for the full route for the purposes of the ES, prior to the submission. There must be clear indication for examination that there will be further archaeological evaluation for areas not subject to pre-submission archaeological evaluation. The results of the full archaeological evaluation will inform on archaeological mitigation.</p>	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.6.9	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Historic Environment effects, are set out in <b>Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC Archaeology - The embedded mitigation measures need to recognise that there is the potential for the significance of identified heritage assets to increase following further investigation, and for previously unidentified heritage assets of archaeological interest to be identified during the process of evaluation.</p> <p>11.6.2 - There needs to be consideration for organic deposits, such as peats and organic silt deposits, to contain evidence of past environments and human activity.</p>	Under discussion
3.6.10	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in</p>	<p>SCCAS – 11.7 - The archaeological evaluation will not have been completed for the whole route for the purposes of the ES</p>	Under discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p><b>Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>and Examination. Therefore, there would be insufficient baseline information to inform an archaeological mitigation strategy for the whole route.</p> <p>Within the archaeological mitigation strategy and OWSI there should be provision for full archaeological evaluation to be completed to inform on archaeological mitigation.</p>	
3.6.11	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>The archaeological evaluation will not have been completed for the whole route for the purposes of the ES and Examination. Therefore, there would be insufficient baseline information to inform an archaeological mitigation strategy for the whole route.</p> <p>Within the archaeological mitigation strategy and OWSI there should be provision for full archaeological evaluation to be completed to inform on archaeological mitigation.</p>	Under discussion

## EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.6.12	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>Email from SCC – 4th Nov 2024 - Archaeology – consultants not assessing significant areas of 132kV or 400kV cable undergrounding or overhead line tower locations intrusively prior to submission.</p> <p>The archaeological potential of undergrounding of the 132kV, haul road, and temporary construction compound location have the potential to form a</p>	Under discussion
--------	----------------------	---	--	------------------

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			<p>constraint on the development if they are not assessed prior to determination.</p> <p>Sites for ecological compensation beyond the order limits have the potential to have significant impacts upon heritage assets, these sites will need to be archaeologically assessed and evaluated to determine if they would be suitable for the purposes of ecological compensation.</p>	
3.6.13	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC Archaeology - Any areas of preservation in situ or areas of significance archaeology that are identified during the evaluation, but not impacted by the construction, should be mapped and recorded by National Grid to ensure future maintenance does not disturb these heritage assets.</p>	Under discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.6.14	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p>	<p>SCC Archaeology - 5.1.4 – will the LEMP will need to contain a Historic Environment Management Plan. Which will tie all aspects of the historic environment together.</p> <p>5.22- any ecological enhancement measures will need to have appropriate archaeological assessment and evaluation to inform on the suitability of the proposed ecological enhancement for the sites chosen.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>		
<b>Other matters as required</b>				
3.6.15	Written Scheme of Investigations (WSIs) for pre-consent geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching.	<p>National Grid shared overarching WSIs in March – June 2024 and December 2024.</p> <p>There are still site specific WSIs forthcoming that have yet to be issued.</p> <p>The scope and methodology of WSIs for geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.</p>	<p>SCC Archaeology - This is for the pre-submission archaeological evaluation, Phase 1 of this is targeting the 'high priority areas' based upon construction impact of the 400kV undergrounding only. Phase 2 will target other areas, with geophysical survey and trenched archaeological evaluation, however, these are not currently covered by the WSI's. It is anticipated that these will be added into the approved document as an addendum.</p> <p>The WSI's currently produced are for the pre-submission archaeological evaluation only. These do not cover any post-consent archaeological evaluation or mitigation.</p>	Under discussion
3.6.17	Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI	<p>The contents of the Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.</p> <p>National Grid issued the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project in April 2025.</p>	<p>SCC comments received on the 20th May 2025.</p> <p>SCC Archaeology - We have not been sent the Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI for review.</p> <p>SCCAS have repeatedly asked to see early drafts of these document to assist in the delivery timescales of these documents.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.	It is highly recommended that these documents are sent to us for review to allow any amendments to be made prior to their submission for examination.	
3.6.18	Programme for completion of archaeological fieldwork	The programme for archaeological fieldwork is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.  May 2025, technical focus meeting to discuss ongoing archaeology work on site.	SCC position pending sight of full programme.	Under discussion

### 3.7 Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk

Table 3.7 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.7.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 9.2 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the <b>ES</b> .  All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		appropriately considered to inform the assessment.		
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.7.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.7.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 12.4 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the ES.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.7.4	Assessment methodology	<p>The methodology for assessing Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic group meetings and technical notes.</p> <p>Technical notes for the following under consideration:</p> <p>Works In, Over and Under Watercourses</p> <p>Surface Water Management Principles</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>The methodology for assessing Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic group meetings and technical notes.</p> <p>Technical notes for the following under consideration:</p> <p>Works In, Over and Under Watercourses</p> <p>Surface Water Management Principles</p> <p>Comments received from SCC on the technical notes.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.7.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk assessment are summarised in <b>Section 12.4 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.7.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk are presented in <b>Section 12.5 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.7.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk effects, are set out in <b>Section 12.6 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.7.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 12.6 of Chapter 12</b>	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		(Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.7.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 12.6 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

#### EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.7.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 12.7 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.7.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 12.7 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.7.12	Outline CoCP (including Flood Warning and Evacuation Plan)	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk)</b> of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>	SCC position pending sight of the ES. Still under discussion.	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				
3.7.13	Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)	<p>The draft FRA was issued to stakeholders in January and March 2025.</p> <p>The scope, methodology, assessment and conclusions drawn in the FRA are considered appropriate and proportionate.</p> <p>Comments received will be taken on board for the next iteration of this document.</p>	Comments were issued by SCC on the 22nd January 2025 relating to foul water flooding and updated national flood maps.	Under discussion

## 3.8 Landscape and Visual

Table 3.8 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Landscape and Visual

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Landscape and Visual assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 13.2 Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	<p>SCC is satisfied that the special qualities of the AONB have been suitably addressed by the Applicant but defers to Natural England on this matter as the government's statutory advisor.</p>	Agreed
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.8.2	Study area	<p>The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 25 September 2024 state that the Study Area for the underground cable has been extended to 3km (from 1km within the PEIR) in light of feedback received at statutory consultation and that a Study Area for the third-party works had also been incorporated. This is not evident in Figure 1, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Proposed Viewpoints, Rev. B, dated October 2024.</p> <p>SCC (Landscape) welcomes that visual receptors at a distance of up to 5km from the project will be considered, where there is the potential for significant visual effects to</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			arise beyond the 3 km study area (PEIR, paragraph 13.5.5).	
3.8.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the ES.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC (Landscape) considers that for the ES the 'Valued Landscape Assessment, Waveney Valley', dated April 2024, should be included in the baseline data and considered in the assessment of landscape and visual effects on this sensitive landscape resulting from the construction of an overhead powerline.</p> <p>Further, detailed tree and hedgerow surveys (in accordance with the up-to-date version of BS 5837 and the 1997 Hedgerow Regulations) need to be provided to inform the Vegetation Retention and Removal Plan.</p>	Under Discussion
3.8.4	Assessment methodology (including LVIA methodology and viewpoints)	<p>The outline methodology for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>Meetings were held in September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology as well as the number and location of viewpoints.</p> <p>In March 2025 National Grid issued an update on the LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.</p> <p>SCC requested the inclusion of a Valued Landscape Assessment.</p> <p>National Grid propose to consider valued landscape qualities in the LVIA but do not propose to undertake a</p>	<p>Email from SCC dated 5th Nov – Landscape consultants have not assessed the approach to rationalisation of the 132kV network.</p> <p>No agreement was reached in the meeting held on the 25 September 2024, with regards to the necessity of a Valued Landscape Assessment for the study area. (Local authority representatives were in favour). The proposal by National Grid to consider valued landscape qualities in the LVIA, may be sufficient, provided that this is based on the actual local landscape character areas the scheme would affect, rather than the landscape character types on which the identification of character areas would be based on and defined against.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		separate valued landscape assessment.		
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Landscape and Visual assessment are summarised in <b>Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC (Landscape) considers that the Key parameters and assumptions as summarised in Section 13.5 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the PEIR are high level. The initial focus on landscape and visual receptors which would potentially experience significant effects (paragraph 15.5.34) is acceptable, provided that in due course (i.e. in the ES) all landscape and visual effects (including non-significant ones) are assessed and communicated.</p> <p>The assumption that vegetation removed during construction would be reinstated, except where there are planting restrictions associated with requirements to maintain an overhead line safety clearance and over underground cables, is welcome, but it is considered that vegetation (for example, trees) that cannot be replaced in certain areas will be replaced elsewhere in the scheme. The standard ratio is 3 new trees for each mature tree lost.</p>	Under Discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Landscape and Visual are presented in <b>Section 13.5 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p>	<p>There does not appear to be an assessment of the actual local landscape areas and their character and how they reflect the landscape character types they are nested in.</p>	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC (Landscape) finds it difficult to follow the grouping of visual receptors into Visual Receptor Areas.</p> <p>Road users on recognised tourist routes should not be in the same category as other road users and it is not acceptable that visual receptors at places of work are being scoped out of further assessment. While their focus is not primarily on the natural environment, they have little choice as to how much time they spend in the vicinity of the project and should also be considered for the perceptual aspects of the scheme.</p> <p>Landscape Character Areas and Visual Receptor Areas will need to be identified on appropriately scaled maps.</p>	
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Landscape and Visual effects, are set out in <b>Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p>	<p>Adequacy of undergrounding, mitigation and lack of compensation are all still under discussion.</p>	Under discussion
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Landscape and Visual effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline</p>	<p>Please see comments on oCoCP in separate document, dated 14/03/2025.</p> <p>Standard mitigation measures during construction remain under discussion.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.  SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.		
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.  SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.	SCC (Landscape) disagrees with the term 'additional', and also with the definition that these are measures that go 'above and beyond'. (PEIR, paragraph 13.7.8  None of the mentioned forms of mitigation refer to mitigative planting to reduce the visual and landscape effects, separate from reinstatement planting, planting around CSE compounds and BNG requirements.	Under discussion
3.8.10	Compensation	The consideration of compensation measures is ongoing, including discussions with relevant stakeholders.	Compensation has not been addressed in the PEIR and Applicant proposes to deal with this separately as part of the DCO process. (PEIR, para. 15.5.14)	Under Discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.8.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SCC E-mail 4th Nov 2024 - Landscape – consultants not assessing tree and hedgerow loss along the route.  The assessment of effects is thus far preliminary. Vegetation losses (hedgerows, trees, woodland) need to be quantified, ideally for each LCA.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p>	The assessment of effects is thus far preliminary.	Under discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	Please see comments on oCoCP in separate document, dated 14/03/2025.	Under discussion
3.8.13	Outline LEMP	<p>The Outline LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate.</p>	Please see comments on oLEMP in separate document, dated 20/02/2025.	Under discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>Meetings held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline LEMP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline LEMP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p> <p>Comments will be taken on board for the next iteration of this document.</p>		
Other matters as required				

## 3.9 Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

Table 3.9 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.9.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 15.2 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES.</b></p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC acknowledge the identification and consideration of relevant legislation, policy, and guidance within Chapter 2 and Section 15.2 of the ES. SCC expects ongoing review to reflect any updates in national or local policy and seeks assurances that the policy framework aligns with best practices.</p> <p>SCC recommends a review of our new Energy and Climate Adaptive Infrastructure Policy Supplementary Guidance Document: Skills, workforce and supply chain assessment and mitigation of adverse impacts and maximisation of opportunities.</p>	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.9.2	Study area	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated: “The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities”. A meeting was held on 12 September 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>During the Thematic Group Meeting (August 2023), SCC requested further expansion to the study area proposed to capture potential employment in the wider cities, towns, and settlements as a result of the Project. It is proposed by National Grid that West Suffolk, Norwich City Council and Ipswich Borough Council will be included in the wider study area.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			<p>Due to the distinct difference between workforce and supply chain, the applicant is expected to define a separate economic study area for these two distinct elements.</p> <p>The economic study area should differentiate between unskilled/semi-skilled labour, skilled labour, and supply chain tiers, reflecting realistic commuting patterns, availability of local skills, and cumulative workforce demands from concurrent infrastructure projects.</p>	
3.9.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES.</b>	Data sources can be improved to corresponding expected impacts by thematic area i.e. workforce employment impact, supply chain impact, tourism impact. Recommend engagement with Regional Skills Co-ordination Function.	Under discussion
3.9.4	Assessment methodology	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated “<i>The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities</i>” and “<i>The ES should detail the criteria used to identify businesses likely to be affected and the Applicant should seek to agree these with relevant local authorities</i>”. A meeting was held on 12 September 2024 to seek to agree the points raised in the Scoping Opinion.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC welcomes engagement on assessment methodology but expects a structured approach that differentiates between workforce and supply chain impacts, in line with the Supplementary Guidance Document: Skills, Workforce and Supply Chain Assessment and Mitigation. The study area must be clearly defined for both elements, considering workforce mobility by skill level and contract duration, as well as supply chain reach beyond the immediate locality.</p> <p>SCC expects a scenario-based assessment of workforce availability, ensuring worst-case scenarios are used when assessing displacement risks, housing pressures, and</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			cumulative effects. The assessment must also provide a clear breakdown of workforce phases, anticipated labour sources, and structured supply chain opportunities at hyper-local, local, and regional levels. Methodology should be pre-agreed with SCC to ensure robustness and alignment with wider socio-economic modelling.	
3.9.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment are summarised in <b>Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SCC agrees that the assessment on preliminary information is iterative and should evolve accordingly. Assumptions and parameters should be reviewed alongside the methodology and approach development.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.9.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism are presented in <b>Section 15.5 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.	Broadly agree with the baseline conditions and receptors identified in Section 15.5 of the ES but requests greater focus on: The capacity and responsiveness of local training providers to meet anticipated demand, ensuring alignment with existing and emerging sector requirements. The cumulative impact of workforce demand from multiple NSIPs, with clear modelling of skills gaps, displacement risks, and potential mitigation strategies. The resilience of local businesses to workforce displacement, including sector-specific vulnerability assessments and	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			identification of support mechanisms to sustain local economic activity.	
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.9.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects, are set out in <b>Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>Weak response on embedded measures relating to socio-economic, recreation and tourism. Suggest this needs to be revisited by developer as it currently only considers environmental measures such as routing and temporary works.</p> <p>SCC seeks clearer commitments to ensure that mitigation is proactive and responsive to cumulative socio-economic impacts arising from multiple NSIP projects.</p>	Under discussion
3.9.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC supports the standard mitigation measures proposed but requires a stronger commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximising local employment opportunities, with clear targets and monitoring mechanisms.</li> <li>• Securing apprenticeships and training schemes in collaboration with Suffolk training providers.</li> <li>• Strengthening commitments to local business engagement, including SMEs.</li> <li>• Implementing real-time monitoring mechanisms for employment, wage inflation, and workforce displacement risks, ensuring adaptive mitigation.</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensuring collaboration across NSIPs in Suffolk to address cumulative socio-economic pressures proactively.</li> </ul>	
3.9.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.9.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	SCC acknowledges the commitment to a more detailed assessment of construction effects in the future and supports this approach. SCC recommends that the assessment utilise the Supplementary Guidance Document: Skills, Workforce and Supply Chain Assessment and Mitigation to ensure accurate and appropriate determination of construction effects and corresponding interventions. This should be aligned with NPS EN-1 (5.13.4) to ensure best practice in assessing and mitigating socio-economic impacts.	Under discussion
3.9.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during operation	The presented operational socio-economic effects are unclear.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		(and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.		
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.9.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>, and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p> <p>SCC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with SCC on this matter.</p>	<p>SCC acknowledges discussions on the Outline CoCP but considers additional socio-economic mitigation and monitoring is required as a result of the above responses. For examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legally enforceable socio-economic and skills commitments within the DCO.</li> <li>• A robust monitoring and reporting framework for economic and workforce impacts.</li> <li>• Defined responsibilities for mitigating adverse effects on local businesses and labour markets and capitalising on positive effects.</li> </ul>	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				

## 3.10 Traffic and Transport

Table 3.10 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Traffic and Transport

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.10.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Traffic and Transport assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 16.2 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b>.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	<p>No reference in TA to DfT water preferred policy (EN-1 5.14.16) nor SCC Guidance for NSIPs <a href="https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters">https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters</a></p>	Under Discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.10.2	Study area	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	<p><b><i>Understood Position from Response to January 2025 Draft SoCG:</i></b></p> <p>The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate, subject to checking that our comments in the PEIR review have been included in terms of scoping. Specific concern would be inclusion of A140 with in scope, particularly in terms of road safety, cumulative traffic* and AIL accessibility over structures.</p> <p>* noting that other NSIPs are now potentially in scope.</p>	Under Discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.10.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 16.4 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b>	SCC has yet to have sight of ES and supporting data to comment	Under Discussion
3.10.4	Assessment methodology	<p>The methodology for assessing Traffic and Transport was outlined through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>SCC raised in their statutory consultation response that they accept scoping out of transport issues from the operational phase except for AIL movements. AIL movements during operation would be adhoc and not result in likely significant effects therefore as per the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate they will not be assessed in the ES.</p>	<p><b><i>Understood Position from Response to January 2025 Draft SoCG:</i></b></p> <p>SCC email 4th Nov 2024 - Transport – concern over consultant's reliance upon a generic access design. Cumulative impacts of projects on PROW from multiple projects also needs to be assessed.</p> <p>National Grid response March 2025: NG have provided additional details which SCC are reviewing. Most likely area for discussion will be how sensitivity is quantified as this tends to be subjective.</p>	Under Discussion
3.10.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Traffic and Transport assessment are summarised in <b>Section 16.4 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SCC has yet to have sight of ES and supporting data to comment	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.10.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Traffic and Transport are presented in <b>Section 16.5 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SCC has yet to have sight of ES and supporting data to comment	Under Discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.10.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Traffic and Transport effects, are set out in <b>Section 16.6 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	<b><i>Understood Position from Response to January 2025 Draft SoCG:</i></b> SCC email 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 - Transport – concern over consultants assuming diversions onto public highways are acceptable, and more generally not following guidance and policies. SCC concerns due to cumulative impact of 'embedded mitigation' for adjacent NSIPs specifically creation of new network peak due to coincidental shift changes have yet to be reviewed	Under Discussion
3.10.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Traffic and Transport effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 16.6 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the <b>Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]</b> . The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	<b><i>Understood Position from Response to January 2025 Draft SoCG:</i></b> SCC raise concerns about the application of a standard bellmouth or crossing design without considering site specific features such as topography and road width.	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.10.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 16.6 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position will be finalised following full review of TA and ES data	Under Discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.10.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 16.7 (Residual Effects) of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	<b><i>Understood Position from Response to January 2025 Draft SoCG:</i></b> SCC email 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 - Transport – potential loss of trees and hedgerows.	Under Discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.10.11	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.  Meeting held on 9 <sup>th</sup> October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.	Under review	Under Discussion
<b>Transport Assessment (TA) – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.10.12	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Traffic and Transport assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 3</b> of the <b>TA</b> . All relevant legislation,	No reference in TA to DfT water preferred policy (EN-1 5.14.16) nor SCC Guidance for NSIPs <a href="https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-">https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-</a>	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	<a href="#">information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters</a>	
<b>Transport Assessment – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.10.13	Study Area	The study area comprises all roads along the PARs, Wider road network (SRN/MRN) that might experience changes in traffic patterns resulting from the Project, PRow and WCH routes that interact with the haul roads within the Order Limits and the PARs as presented within <b>Section 2.6 (Transport Assessment Study Area)</b> of the TA. The Study Area is considered appropriate for the assessment.	The study area should also include PRow and WCH routes that interact with the SARs	Under Discussion
3.10.14	Multimodal Strategy	A multi-modal assessment has been undertaken to examine opportunities to use rail and water-borne transport modes to supply materials for the construction of the Project and reduce movements on the wider highway network as presented within <b>Section 6.2 (Construction Traffic Generation and Routeing - Multi-modal Assessment)</b> of the TA.  The multi-modal assessment is considered appropriate and sufficiently covers the need to consider transport impacts, as set out within the Overarching National Policy	SCC reviewing that the multi-modal assessment is sufficient	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		Statement (NPS) for Energy EN-1 (2023).		
3.10.15	Junction Capacity Assessment Methodology	<p>Preliminary junction capacity assessments has been undertaken to establish whether there is a requirement to carry out a full assessment of the junctions with a traffic model as presented <b>Section 6.3 (Construction Traffic Assessment Methodology Road-only Transport Scenario)</b> of the <b>TA</b>. This involved a preliminary assessment of the estimation of the volume to capacity (V/C) ratio that defines the performance threshold that classifies the operational status of each arm of the junction. 6.3.5 If the junction V/C ratio is approaching capacity, at capacity or over capacity, a traffic model is required.</p> <p>The capacity assessment methodology used is considered appropriate.</p>	Under review	Under Discussion
3.10.16	Junction Modelling	<p>The methodology used for undertaking junction assessments is presented in <b>Section 6.3 (Construction Traffic Assessment Methodology (Road-only Transport Scenario))</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment methodology used is considered appropriate.</p>	SCC reviewing that the junction assessment methodology is acceptable and appropriate	Under Discussion
3.10.17	Assessment of WCH	The assessment of WCH impacts as a result of the Project is presented in	Under review	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p><b>Section 7.4 (Walkers, Cyclists and Horse riders network)</b> of the TA. This is based on the assessment undertaken within <b>Section 16.7 (Residual Effects)</b> and <b>Appendix 16.4: Traffic and Transport Construction Effects of Chapter 16 - Traffic and Transport (document reference 6.16.A4)</b>. The assessment methodology used is considered appropriate.</p>		
3.10.18	Impact on Parking	<p>The methodology for the assessment of impact to on-street parking is presented within <b>Section 6.5 (on Street Parking)</b> of the TA. This includes a case-by-case assessment of temporary suspensions of formal and informal kerbside parking by the Project along PARs and Abnormal Load routes. This methodology is considered appropriate.</p>	SCC will respond once we have received the ES	Under Discussion
3.10.19	Road Safety	<p>An assessment on Road Safety has been undertaken that thoroughly identifies the potential impact of the Project as set out in <b>Section 4 (Baseline Conditions)</b> of the TA. Collisions clusters have been identified along road links forming the PARs, based on existing baseline characteristics. A calculation of the accident rate per billion vehicle kilometres has been carried out on the road links forming the PARs to</p>	Under review	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>compare against the national statistics.</p> <p>Areas where potential road safety issues have been identified, as set out within <b>Section 7 (Transport Assessment)</b> of the <b>TA</b>, will be highlighted within the Driver's pack as part of mitigation measures secured within the <b>CTMP (document reference 7.3)</b>. The assessment methodology used is considered appropriate.</p>		
<b>Transport Assessment – Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.10.20	Mitigation Measures	<p>Mitigation measures include embedded, standard and additional mitigation identified within <b>Section 2.2 (Project Description)</b> of the <b>TA</b> and as reported within <b>Section 16.6 of Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. This includes the <b>Outline CoCP (document reference 7.2)</b>, <b>Outline CTMP (document reference 7.3)</b> and additional mitigation at junctions and specific areas to help reduce the impact on capacity and provide environmental mitigation measures to reduce the significance of effects of the Project. The measures presented are considered appropriate.</p>	SCC will respond once we have received the ES	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>Transport Assessment – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.10.21	Policy and Legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Transport Assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 3 (Key Planning Policy Context)</b> of the TA.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	<p>No reference to SCC Guidance for NSIPs <a href="https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters">https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters</a></p>	Under Discussion
3.10.22	Baseline conditions	<p>The baseline conditions and sensitive receptors for Traffic and Transport are presented in <b>Section 4 (Existing Baseline Transport Conditions)</b> of the TA and are considered appropriate.</p>	Under review	Under Discussion
<b>Transport Assessment – Future Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.10.23	Growth Factors	<p>The future baseline traffic on the SRN / MRN has been estimated applying appropriate growth factors derived from TEMPro NTEM dataset v7.2 and are presented in <b>Chapter 5 (Future Baseline)</b> of the TA. Growth factors have been applied for the peak year of activity and therefore vary along PARs. This approach and the growth rate used is considered appropriate.</p>	Under review	Under Discussion
3.10.24	Cumulative Developments	<p>The committed developments included within the cumulative assessment for the future baseline year are presented</p>	5.4.1 – “Committed developments are identified within the ES Appendix 15.3: Long List of Other Developments (application	Under Discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		in <b>Chapter 5 (Future Baseline)</b> of the <b>TA</b> . These have been derived through a review of local authority planning portals and information received from LPAs and identifying those developments that overlap with the peak year activity for each PAR. The developments included within the assessment are considered appropriate.	document 6.3.15.3)" – SCC will respond once we have received the ES There are no Committed Developments listed in the TA	

### Transport Assessment – Trip Generation

3.10.25	Key Assumptions	Key assumptions associated with the Traffic and Transport assessment are summarised in <b>Section 16.4</b> of <b>Chapter 16 (Traffic and Transport)</b> of the <b>Environmental Statement (ES)</b> and <b>Section 6.2</b> of <b>Chapter 6</b> of the <b>Transport Assessment</b> . The key assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	6.2.3 – SCC objects to HGV deliveries being made over the weekend 6.2.8 – The assumption of a vehicle occupancy of 2 people per vehicle is optimistic and unrealistic.	Under Discussion
3.10.26	Methodology	The methodology for assessing the technical information received from the technical teams and generating the trip estimate is found within <b>Section 6 (Methodology)</b> of the <b>TA</b> is considered suitable and robust.	Under review	Under Discussion
3.10.27	Construction Vehicle Trips	Trip generation estimation has been undertaken to evaluate the daily traffic levels associated with construction activities for both the OHL and cables and substations. The estimation is based on a worst-case scenario,	Under review based on experience being gained from other NSIPs in the delivery phase	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		identifying peak-day vehicle movements for each construction activity to ensure a robust and conservative impact. This is presented in <b>Section 6.2 (Construction vehicles overview)</b> of the TA. The trip generation is considered appropriate.		

### Transport Assessment – Trip Generation

3.10.28	Construction Workforce Trips	Overhead Line, cabling and substation workforce trips have been estimated based on shared occupancy as presented in <b>Section 6.3 (Construction Staff Overview)</b> of the TA.  An <b>Outline Construction Workers Travel Plan (CWTP)</b> has been prepared as part of the DCO application and is contained as an appendix within the <b>Outline CTMP (document reference 7.3)</b> . The Outline CWTP will be developed into a final detailed CWTP by the Main Works Contractor(s) following the submission of the DCO application. The workforce trip generation is considered appropriate.	To be reviewed once final data provided in the application	Under Discussion
---------	------------------------------	---	--	------------------

### Transport Assessment – Conclusions

3.10.29	Overall impact of the Project	The conclusions of the Transport Assessment are presented within <b>Section 8 (Conclusion)</b> of the TA.	No conclusion available in the TA	Under Discussion
---------	-------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------	------------------

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		The conclusions are considered appropriate.		
<b>Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)</b>				
3.10.30	Project Team Roles and Responsibilities	The Project Teams Roles and Responsibilities are set out in <b>Section 3</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> . These are considered to be clear and sufficient for the delivery of the Project.	SCC agrees that these are considered clear and sufficient	Agreed
3.10.31	Pre-and Post Construction Surveys	Details of the proposed Pre and Post Construction surveys are set out in <b>Section 5.2</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> and connect to the mitigation measures detailed within the <b>Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCOCp)</b> . These pre- and post-construction surveys are considered appropriate for the Project.	5.2.1 – AIL routes will need to be reinspected prior to their use in case any structures have become unsuitable. 5.2.3 – SCC would welcome the opportunity to view the pre-condition survey when it is undertaken, not just following reinstatement.	Under Discussion
3.10.32	Traffic Management Measures	Details of the proposed traffic management measures are set out in <b>Section 5.8</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> . These traffic management measures are considered to be appropriate and adequate in terms of their nature and scale to address potential construction impacts.	Potential issue with 5.8.3 regarding cyclists and pedestrians being able to use closed roads. See also 3.10.43	Under Discussion
3.10.33	Implementation/ Enforcement	The implementation and enforcement process set out in <b>Section 6</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> is considered to be appropriate and adequate for the Project.	Under review. These will need to sufficient to demonstrate that during construction the impacts are not materially greater than those assessed on the ES or TA.	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>Outline Construction Worker Travel Plan (CWTP)</b>				
3.10.34	Policy	The policy context, including legislation and guidance considered in the development of the document is set out in <b>Section 4</b> of the <b>CWTP (Appendix B</b> of the <b>CTMP)</b> . All relevant legislation, policy, and guidance have been identified and appropriately considered to inform the <b>CWTP</b> .	No reference to SCC Guidance for NSIPs <a href="https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters">https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsip-information/nsip-information-for-developers-and-project-promoters</a>	Under Discussion
3.10.35	Site Accessibility Review	The Site Accessibility review is captured within <b>Section 5</b> of the <b>CWTP (Appendix B</b> of the <b>CTMP)</b> . This review is appropriate for the Project.	Under review	Under Discussion
3.10.36	Targets, Strategy, and Measures	Targets are set out within <b>Section 6</b> of the <b>CWTP (Appendix B</b> of the <b>CTMP)</b> . Strategy and Measures are set out within <b>Section 8</b> of the <b>CWTP</b> . The construction targets set out are considered to be relevant and achievable, given the present stage of Project development. The strategy and measures proposed to be implemented are suitable and appropriate for managing the anticipated construction staff travel impacts arising from the Project.	Under review	Under Discussion
3.10.37	Monitoring and Review	The proposed monitoring and review process is set out in <b>Section 9</b> of the <b>CWTP (Appendix B</b> of the <b>CTMP)</b> .	Under review	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		This is considered to be suitable and appropriate, given the present stage of Project development.		
<b>Construction Access Strategy and Design</b>				
3.10.38	Construction Access Approach	The approach for construction access for the Project is proposed to utilise designated routes for construction traffic on local roads. These are defined as 'Primary Access Routes' (PARs) within <b>Section 5</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> . This approach is considered to be suitable for construction traffic for the Project.	Agreement in principle but subject to understanding the final volumes of construction traffic stated within the application.	Under Discussion
3.10.39	Primary Access Route Selection	Routes on local roads proposed to be utilised as Primary Access Routes (PARs) are shown in the <b>Construction Access Plans</b> within <b>Appendix C</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> . These have been discussed with Suffolk County Council during regular engagement meetings since September 2023. These PARs are considered to be suitable for use by the proposed construction traffic, considering the proposed mitigation measures detailed within the <b>CTMP</b> .	Agreement in principle but subject to understanding the final volumes of construction traffic stated within the application.	Under Discussion
3.10.40	Construction Access and Crossover Design	The proposed site access locations ('Access Bellmouths') and locations where construction traffic is proposed to cross the Public Highway ('Crossover Bellmouths') are set out in <b>Schedule 9 – Access to Works</b> and	Under review. On site surveys will be required to check actual site conditions particularly visibility, road widths and geometry.	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>further shown in the <b>Construction Access Plans</b> within <b>Appendix C</b> of the <b>CTMP</b>. These locations are considered to be suitable for use by the proposed construction traffic as part of the Project.</p> <p>The designs of the proposed accesses in these locations have been based on the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges CD123, and Stage 1 Road Safety Audits (RSAs) have been undertaken for each proposed location, overseen by Suffolk County Council. These locations are considered to be suitable in principle, and remaining comments arising from the Stage 1 RSAs will be addressed in consultation with Suffolk County Council as the Overseeing Authority.</p>		
3.10.41	Highway Mitigation Design	<p>Mitigation measures proposed on the Public Highway are described in <b>Section 5</b> of the <b>CTMP</b>, and are further set out in the following DCO Schedules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Schedule 6, Part 1 - Streets Subject to Permanent Alteration of Layout.</b></li> <li>• <b>Schedule 6, Part 2 - Street Subject to Temporary Alteration of Layout.</b></li> </ul> <p>These are considered to be suitable and sufficient for the delivery of the Project.</p>	For review once all TA and ES data is available	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		Where measures have been identified which may require works outside of the Public Highway (categorised as 'Red' mitigations under <b>Section 5.8</b> of the <b>CTMP</b> ), specific designs have been developed for these locations. These designs were discussed with Suffolk County Council during an engagement session in April 2025, and further to this Stage 1 Road Safety Audits have been undertaken for each location, overseen by Suffolk County Council. These locations are considered to be suitable in principle, and remaining comments arising from the Stage 1 RSAs will be addressed in consultation with Suffolk County Council as the Overseeing Authority.		
3.10.42	Traffic Management	<p>Traffic Management measures proposed on the Public Highway are described in <b>Section 5</b> of the <b>CTMP</b>, and further set out in <b>Schedule 5 - Streets Subject to Streetworks</b>. These are considered to be suitable and sufficient for the delivery of the Project.</p> <p>Approaches to Traffic Management were discussed in principle during engagement session in June 2024, and further specific measures relating to highway mitigation design were discussed during an engagement session in April 2025.</p>	<p>Under review. All references to streets must be those in the street gazetteer <a href="https://www.findmystreet.co.uk/">https://www.findmystreet.co.uk/</a></p> <p>Implementation of speed reductions should not be taken as delivering the posted speeds and using these as the design criteria. Additional speed management may be required.</p>	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		National Grid will continue to engage with Suffolk County Council as the proposed Traffic Management measures are developed further, including through the Road Safety Audit process where these relate to proposed site access and crossover design (ID 3.10.40), and highway mitigation design (ID 3.10.41).		
3.10.43	Traffic Regulation Orders and Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders	<p>Proposed Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) and Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) are shown in the <b>Traffic Regulation Order Plans</b>, and set out in <b>Schedule 13</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Part 1 - Temporary Restriction of Waiting and Restriction of Speed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Part 2 - Permanent Restriction of Waiting and Restriction of Speed.</b></li> <li>• <b>Part 3 – Temporary Restriction of Access.</b></li> <li>• <b>Part 4 – Temporary no Overtaking Order.</b></li> </ul> <p>These are considered to be suitable and sufficient for the delivery of the Project.</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with Suffolk County Council as the proposed TROs and TTROs are developed further, including through</p>	<p>Under review. All references to streets must be those in the street gazetteer <a href="https://www.findmystreet.co.uk/">https://www.findmystreet.co.uk/</a></p> <p>SCC will be expecting justification for the necessity of such traffic orders and an understanding on how they will be implemented and any consequential impacts on the fabric of the highway (eg removal of road markings)</p>	Under Discussion



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		the Road Safety Audit process where these relate to proposed site access and crossover design ( <b>ID 3.10.40</b> ), and highway mitigation design ( <b>ID 3.10.41</b> ).		
3.10.44	Highway Mitigation Design on National Highways Infrastructure	<p>Further to Matter ID <b>3.10.41</b> (Highway Mitigation Design), it has been identified that one proposed mitigation within Suffolk impacts primarily upon the Strategic Road Network (SRN) managed by National Highways. This is located at Junction 31 of the A12 and is described in Section 5.8 of the <b>CTMP</b>.</p> <p>On the basis that this proposed mitigation impacts principally upon the network managed by National Highways, it is considered appropriate for National Highways to be the Overseeing Authority for the Road Safety Audit in this location.</p>	Agreed, although any work on the local road network beyond the SRN boundary will require approval from the LHA	Agreed
<b>Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Access</b>				
3.10.45	Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Access Approach	<p>The approach for Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) access to the Project is to utilise designated routes on the local and Strategic Road networks. This approach is set out within <b>Section 5</b> of the <b>CTMP</b>, and further detailed within the <b>AIL Access Strategy (Appendix A of the CTMP)</b>. A draft version of the <b>AIL Access Strategy</b> was shared with Suffolk County Council in March 2025.</p>	Under review. Suffolk Constabulary is responsible for routing loads with regard to width and length.	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		This approach, in principle, is considered to be suitable for AIL access for the Project at the current stage of project development.		
3.10.46	Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Access Routes	<p>Routes proposed to be utilised by Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AILs) are shown in the <b>AIL Access Strategy (Appendix A of the CTMP)</b>.</p> <p>These have been developed following consultations with Suffolk County Council. As part of these consultations, draft route information was shared in July 2024 and April 2025. National Grid will continue to engage with Suffolk County Council as the proposed AIL access routes are developed further, including with respect to the ongoing structural investigations.</p>	Under review. Suffolk Constabulary is responsible for routing loads with regard to width and length.	Under Discussion
3.10.47	Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Structural Investigations	<p>Routes proposed to be utilised by AILs are shown in the <b>AIL Access Strategy (Appendix A of the CTMP)</b>. National Grid have been consulting with Suffolk County Council in relation to structures on the sections of the Local Road Network impacted by these proposed routes. As part of these consultations, draft route information was shared in July 2024 and April 2025, and information around impacted structures requested. Specific concerns raised by Suffolk County Council in relation to</p>	Under review. SCC has developed a process for review, inspection and assessment of highway structures to confirm suitability for STGO or Special Order AIL movements, and this will be shared with the Applicant	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>structures on the draft routes shared have been considered in the development of the proposals shown in the <b>AIL Access Strategy (Appendix A of the CTMP)</b>.</p> <p>Engagement with respect to impacted structures is anticipated to be ongoing in parallel with the Development Consent Order process. It is understood that any Approvals in Principle secured at the current stage of project development do not remove requirements for formal application ahead of any AIL movements undertaken by the Project. The relevant process is set out within <b>Section 6 of the AIL Access Strategy (Appendix A of the CTMP)</b>.</p> <p>This approach is considered to establish in principle that the proposed AIL deliveries required for the Project are feasible, and that a suitable process is being undertaken in order to facilitate the anticipated formal AIL movement applications anticipated during construction of the Project.</p> <p>The AIL applications submitted prior to vehicle movements made by the Main Works Contractor will address structures affected, street furniture and any third-party land impacts as well as programming and operational arrangements to accommodate the</p>		

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		movements with minimal impact on the network.		
3.10.48	Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Mitigation and Management Measures	<p>The locations of proposed mitigation measures associated with proposed AIL Routes are shown in the <b>Construction Access Plans</b> within <b>Appendix C</b> of the <b>CTMP</b>. These mitigation measures have been developed consistently with the wider Highway Mitigation approach for the Project (<b>ID 3.10.41</b>) and are considered to be suitable and sufficient for the delivery of the Project.</p> <p>Management measures relevant to AIL movements are discussed within <b>Section 5.3</b> of the <b>CTMP</b>, and <b>Section 6</b> of the <b>AIL Access Strategy (Appendix A</b> of the <b>CTMP)</b>. This approach, in principle, is considered to be suitable for AIL access for the Project at the current stage of project development.</p>	Under review. Mitigation can only be finalised following structural investigations (3.10.48)	Under Discussion

### 3.11 Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

Table 3.11 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Public Rights of Way

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>PRoW</b>				
3.11.1	PRoW Separate Chapter	<p>As per the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate, National Grid has not included a separate PRoW chapter in the <b>Environmental Statement (ES)</b>.</p> <p>Preparing a separate PRoW chapter is not standard practice (there are no previous examples) and would contain a lot of repetition. Multiple effects on single PRoWs will be assessed within the cumulative <b>ES</b> chapter.</p> <p>Note that an <b>Outline Public Rights of Way Management Plan</b> (item ID 3.11.3) has been prepared to set out the proposed approach to the management of PRoWs during construction of the Project.</p>		Under Discussion
3.11.2	Types of PRoW	<p>Types of PRoW intended to be considered as part of the Management Strategy were shared with Suffolk County Council within <b>Section 2.1</b> of the <b>PRoW Methodology Statement</b> document in April 2025. This list is considered to be suitable, and no additional PRoW types are required to be captured. The PRoW types intended to be considered are:</p>		Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Formally designated PRowS (footways, bridleways, restricted byways, and byways open to all traffic)</li> <li>Permissive paths</li> <li>Open access land</li> <li>Cycle tracks, including the National Cycle Network</li> <li>Other routes with public access.</li> </ul> <p>This is set out in Section 1.4 of the Outline PRow Management Plan.</p>		
3.11.3	Proposed Management Regime Approach	<p>The intended approach to management regimes to be considered as part of the Management Strategy were shared with SCC within <b>Section 2.4</b> of the <b>PRow Methodology Statement</b> document in April 2025. This established the following hierarchy of management measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRowS to be kept upon existing alignments as a first preference, utilising management measures if required.</li> <li>Where maintaining existing PRow alignments is not practicable, diversions along the shortest suitable route will be proposed.</li> <li>Where no suitable diversion routes are identified, PRow closures will be considered as a last resort.</li> </ul> <p>This is set out in Section 3 of the</p>		Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		Outline PRow Management Plan.		
3.11.4	Routes with Public Access Affected by the Proposed Development	<p>Routes with public access affected by the proposed development are shown in the <b>Access, Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans</b>. Details of proposed management measures for each impacted route are shown in <b>Section 4</b> of the <b>Outline PRow Management Plan</b>. These are considered to be suitable, in line with the Proposed Management Regime Approach (<b>ID 3.11.3</b>) set out above.</p>		Under Discussion
3.11.5	Reinstatement Approach	<p>All PRow's impacted by construction works will be reinstated to at least the same condition as prior to the works being undertaken. Pre- and Post-Condition Surveys will be undertaken in support of this, and any remediation works will be undertaken in consultation with Suffolk County Council PRow Officers as well as impacted landowner(s).</p> <p>This is set out in <b>Section 3</b> of the <b>Outline PRow Management Plan</b>.</p>		Under Discussion

## 3.12 Cumulative Effects

Table 3.12 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Cumulative Effects

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.12.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Cumulative Effects assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 17.2 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.12.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.12.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> .	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.12.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed



ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.12.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Cumulative Effects assessment are summarised in <b>Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

#### EIA – Baseline Conditions

3.12.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Cumulative Effects are presented in <b>Section 17.5 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
--------	-----------------------------------	---	---------------------------------------	------------------

#### EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures

3.12.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Cumulative Effects, are set out in <b>Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.12.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Cumulative Effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.12.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.12.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 17.7 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.12.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 17.7 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	SCC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.12.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is	SCC position pending sight of the ES. Still under discussion.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
		<p>appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>		

Other matters as required

### 3.13 Development Consent Order

Table 3.13 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Development Consent Order

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Suffolk County Council's Position	Status
3.111.1	DCO Requirements			
	DCO Wording			

Other matters as required

### 3.14 Other Matters

# 4. Confirmation of Agreement

The above SoCG is agreed between National Grid and Suffolk County Council on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

.....

Date:

.....

Signed for and on behalf of Suffolk County Council:

.....

Date:

.....

# Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Reference
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain
CoCP	Code of Construction Practice
CSE	Cable Sealing End
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan
DCO	Development Consent Order
EACN	East Anglia Connection Node
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
GI	Ground Investigation
GW	Gigawatt
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MSBDC	Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Council
NCR	National Cycle Route
NETS	National Electricity Transmission System
NPSs	National Policy Statements
PARS	Primary Access Routes
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PRoW	Public Right of Way
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SCC	Suffolk County Council
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

Abbreviation	Full Reference
Zol	Zone of Influence
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

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](http://nationalgrid.com)