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Norwich to Tilbury

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Document: 5.9.4 Draft Statement of Common Ground - Thurrock Council (TC) (incl LLFA and Highways)

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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 Thurrock Council (TC). 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 Thurrock Council. The applicable matters considered within this SoCG apply to Thurrock Council'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 Thurrock 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:
- 1.2.2 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))
- 1.2.3 Up to seven new CSE compounds (with permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- 1.2.4 Modification works to connect into the existing Norwich Main Substation and a substation extension at the existing Bramford Substation
- 1.2.5 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
- 1.2.6 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
- 1.2.7 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
- 1.2.8 Ancillary and/or temporary works associated with the construction of the Project.
- 1.2.9 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).
- 1.2.10 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.
- 1.2.11 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 Thurrock Council.
- **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 Thurrock Council on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:

- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
- Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
- Targeted 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 Thurrock Council.

Table 2.1 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Thurrock Council

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

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

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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the second iteration of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining the protected species proposed mitigation measures for agreement/comment
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)
April 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on second iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the updated Proposed Protected Species Mitigation document
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared a new appendix to the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) – Appendix D, Outline Landscape Proposals

Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology

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

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

September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2023	Email Correspondence	Thurrock Council provided the following feedback: Signposted to the WHIASU guidance, particularly in relation to consideration of potentially vulnerable groups. Provided examples of other baseline metrics which could be used to inform the assessment. Requested that consideration of potential health effects to arise during operational stage is given.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities (including Thurrock Council) to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Meeting with archaeological advisors to discuss the approach to geophysical survey and trial trenching.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Meeting	National Grid held an Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid responded to feedback received on viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the WSI for Monitoring GI works under archaeological supervision with Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the overarching WSI for the Archaeological Trial Trenching with the Archaeology Working Group Members for review and approval.
June 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Site Specific WSI for the EACN (Site 001) with the Archaeology Working Group Members (including Thurrock Council) for information.
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
July 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
September 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
October 2024	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting.
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Setting survey locations with stakeholders.
November 2025	Meeting	Technical focus meeting to discuss the ongoing archaeology work on site.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
December 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
December 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid re-issued the overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Trial Trenching
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued Historic Environment Viewpoints information
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting regarding Historic Environment Viewpoints
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a draft Historic Baseline Report including Annex C and Annex D for agreement/comment
February 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss draft Heritage Baseline Report
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated Historic Environment Viewpoints information
March 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
April 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issues the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project
April 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
May 2025	Meeting	Technical focus meeting to discuss ongoing archaeology work on site
Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk		
June 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid circulated the draft Hydrology and Land Drainage Assessment Methodology for review and discussion ahead of the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented the EIA approach at the Hydrology and Land Drainage Thematic Group to the Environment Agency and all host authorities.
May 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note for comment, which set out the approach to preparing the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued the Flood Risk Assessment Screening Report for comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Drainage / watercourse discussion.

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

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

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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
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 Transport Working Group Regional Meeting.
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group meeting with the Local Highways Authorities.
November 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a PRoW Thematic Group Meeting.
January 2024	Meeting	National Grid discussed the Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) at the Transport Working Group.
March 2024	Document	PAR information shared with Thurrock Council.
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 highway authorities.
June 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss statutory consultation, sensitive junctions, AIL routing, updates on the multi-modal report and road safety audit process, speed surveys, and visibility splays, mitigation and traffic management. Highway boundary information had been passed from Thurrock Council to NG for processing.
July 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Proposed Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) Routes for comment.
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group LHA Engagement Meeting with Thurrock Council to discuss traffic impacts from removal of stone haul roads post-construction. Highways mitigation plans for PARS were

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		presented and routes that were not within public highway discussed.
August 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group LHA AIL Route Discussion Meeting with Thurrock Council.
August 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss PRow survey locations.
October 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.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a Transport Working Group Regional Meeting to discuss highways mitigation design and RSA progress, updates to CTMP and CWTP, and multi-modal plans.
December 2024	Meeting	National Grid held an LHA Engagement Meeting to discuss potential changes following statutory consultation, visibility splays and traffic management methodology for agreement in SoCG, access for existing utilities and AIL assessments to include impacts with/without LTC works taking place.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid presented work in progress draft of Transport Assessment. Ran through methodology of junction sifting process, junction assessment methodology and cumulative assessment.
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures for junctions and Primary Access Routes predominately where WCH Amenity raised from detailed assessment within ES. Red Amber Green (RAG) strategy presented for junction mitigation.
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Mitigation and Junction RAG Strategy
February 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Draft Transport Assessment and Figures
March 2025	Meeting	National Grid presented examples of the likely environmental mitigation measures predominately for WCH Amenity on Primary Access Routes.
March 2025	Meeting	Presented draft work in progress TA report and noted suggested changes by Thurrock.
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid presented results of the junction modelling assessments. Provided a recap on the junction selection

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		process, assessment methodology, approach to mitigation, and proposed mitigation (where necessary).
April 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Thurrock Council AIL Workshop with police and Thurrock Council present.
May 2025	Meeting	Presented results of the junction modelling assessments. Provided a recap on the junction selection process, assessment methodology, approach to mitigation, and proposed mitigation (where necessary).
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with Thurrock Council. The proposed Statement of Common Ground and principals for Traffic Regulation Orders were discussed.
June 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a Regional Stakeholder Meeting with Thurrock Council. Progress with Road Safety Audits, Statements of Common Ground, and Traffic Modelling were discussed.

3. Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under discussion

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to Thurrock Council 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 Thurrock Council. 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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
Strategic options/needs case				
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>	The members of Thurrock Council's cabinet have not yet established a position for the council to take. Officers are unable, at this point, to agree or disagree with the needs case for the project.	Under discussion
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 project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion.</p>	The members of Thurrock Council's cabinet have not yet established a position for the council to take. Officers are unable, at this point, to agree or disagree with the timing of the project.	Under discussion
3.2.3	Onshore route	An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same	The members of Thurrock Council's cabinet have not yet established a position for the council to take. Officers	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		<p>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</p> <p>published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including offshore alternatives.</p>	are unable, at this point, to agree or disagree with the onshore route of the project.	
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 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>	The members of Thurrock Council's cabinet have not yet established a position for the council to take. Officers are unable, at this point, to agree or disagree with the overhead line route of the project.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
Project development process - Design				
3.2.5	Green Belt	<p>National Grid has considered the effects on the Green Belt and all of the options connecting into Tilbury identified in the Corridor and Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study (CPRSS) would result in new and upgraded infrastructure in the Green Belt.</p> <p>As part of the DCO application, the Planning Statement will include an assessment of the Project against relevant Green Belt policy.</p>	<p>Thurrock Council Response to Statutory Consultations (July 2024):</p> <p>The council requests that NG undertake a detailed assessment of the cumulative impact further energy infrastructure will have on the openness and visual harm in the Green Belt, evaluating the impacts of overgrounding versus undergrounding the cabling.</p>	Under discussion
Project development process - Consultation				
3.2.6	2022 non-statutory consultation	<p>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.</p> <p>The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.</p>	The council acknowledges that the 2022 non-statutory consultation was conducted in line with the Consultation Strategy.	Under discussion
3.2.7	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>	The council acknowledges that the 2023 non-statutory consultation was conducted in line with the Consultation Strategy.	Under discussion
3.2.8	2024 statutory consultation	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	The council acknowledges that the 2024 statutory consultation was conducted in	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		<p>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>	<p>line with the Statement of Community Consultation.</p> <p>The council would like to have sight of (a draft of the) Feedback Report before submission of the application. National Grid has communicated that the Feedback Report will be shared only after submission.</p>	
3.2.9	2025 targeted consultation	<p>Targeted consultations for Essex and Thurrock took place from 25 February 2025 – 27 March 2025, with an additional targeted consultation regarding the connection to Tilbury taking place from 18 March 2025 – 17 April 2025. Details of these consultations are outlined in the Targeted Consultation Strategy and associated targeted 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>	The council acknowledges that the 2025 targeted consultation was conducted in line with the Targeted Consultation Strategy.	Under discussion
Other matters as required				
3.2.10	Community Benefits	In March 2025 the government announced guidance for delivering community benefit packages for communities hosting new, onshore	Thurrock Council Response to Targeted Consultations (01/05/2025):	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		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>The council encourages National Grid to engage positively with the government's new guidance on community funds for transmission infrastructure in order to work closely with partners to deliver social value and long-term benefits for Thurrock's communities, especially those most affected by the works.</p> <p>The council awaits details from National Grid's Community Benefits team regarding engagement with the new guidance.</p>	

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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.3.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 8.2 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.3.2	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
3.3.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
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	The methodology for assessing Ecology and Biodiversity relevant to Thurrock Council was agreed through a technical note outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England.	The methodology for assessing Ecology and Biodiversity relevant to Thurrock Council was agreed through a technical note outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England.	Agreed
3.3.6	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment are summarised in Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.3.8	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Ecology and Biodiversity effects, are set out in Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>January 2025, National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining the protected species proposed mitigation measures for agreement/comment.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.3.9	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Ecology and Biodiversity effects during construction are summarised in Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) 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.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.3.10	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.3.11	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 8.7 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
3.3.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 8.7 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.3.13	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) 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>	It is considered that the approach to date is appropriate based on the information provided so far. It is not possible to comment further until a draft document has been provided	Under discussion
3.3.14	Outline LEMP	<p>The Outline LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES and is appropriate.</p> <p>Meeting held in October 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>	It is considered that the approach to date is appropriate based on the information provided so far. It is not possible to comment further until a draft document has been provided.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
Other matters as required				
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
3.3.16	Draft Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)	National Grid issued the draft AIA in March 2025.	<p>Email from Thurrock Council on 28th April:</p> <p>The draft report and plans confirm that the scheme would have limited impacts on trees (loss of 10 Category B trees in Thurrock). The categorisation of the trees (B, C & U) looks appropriate.</p> <p>The Tree Schedule is currently being prepared and the report notes that replacement tree planting ratios have yet to be finalised.</p> <p>Thurrock Council have no concerns with the approach taken – it broadly follows BS5837:2012.</p>	Agreed

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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
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 Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 9.2 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
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
3.4.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 9.4 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES.	Thurrock Council 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.	<p>The methodology for assessing Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>Stakeholder comments received during the 2024 Statutory Consultation stated</p>	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
			that Thurrock Council were in agreement with the methodology proposed for the risk assessment and management of potentially contaminated land (outlined in the PEIR).	
3.4.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology assessment are summarised in Section 9.4 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.4.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology are presented in Section 9.5 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
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 Section 9.6 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council 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 Section 9.6 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land,	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		Geology and Hydrogeology) 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.		
3.4.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 9.6 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.4.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 9.7 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council 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 Section 9.7 of Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in Chapter 9 (Contaminated Land, Geology and Hydrogeology) of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9 th October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES. Still under discussion.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP. A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.		
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	Thurrock 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 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.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>The PEIR does not reference Thurrock's Health and Wellbeing Strategy or Health in All Policies Approach to Healthy Place-Shaping guidance.</p> <p>Thurrock Council anticipate the inclusion of these documents, and relevant JSNAs within the forthcoming Health and Wellbeing Assessment.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.5.2	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
3.5.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>PEIR Section 10.4 states that the project response to Thurrock's consultation is to use WHIASU guidance to inform the identification of potentially vulnerable groups.</p> <p>This approach misunderstands the point of the WHAISU guidance is to encourage the consideration of project impacts upon the wider determinants of health.</p> <p>Across Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) Thurrock is only referenced in regards to Ethnic Diversity, Unemployment and Younger Groups. Thurrock is omitted from section 10.6 under the headings "Local Health" and "Mental Health"</p> <p>As such, insufficient desktop data has been collected to inform assessment. We anticipate that the forthcoming Health and Wellbeing Assessment will, at least, use available sources of Public Health information such as the Office for Health and Disparities fingertips tool to present a more comprehensive health and wellbeing profile for Thurrock as a whole, and the specific wards impacted by the project.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
			Thurrock Council would welcome an update to the Health and Wellbeing Technical note following consultation comments made in October 2024.	
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 on the 9th October 2024.</p> <p>National Grid issued responses to Thurrock's comments on the technical note in an email dated 8th May 2025. This matter is still under discussion.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>Thurrock Council stated in their statutory consultation response that the PEIR methodology used within the EIA does not contain any provision for a qualitative assessment of the anticipated negative mental health impacts for residents within these localities during both the construction and operational phase.</p> <p>Additionally, the PEIR methodology does not present an opportunity for qualitative information to co-produce mitigation measures to offset the anticipated mental health impacts from the project.</p> <p>In response to consultation on the proposed Health and Wellbeing assessment technical note (October 2024) Thurrock Council's public health team highlighted a number of issues including:</p> <p>Lack of clarity that wider determinants of health (including cumulative impacts from other developments) will be assessed</p> <p>That using IMD alone as a measure of sensitivity risks masking health inequalities or sensitive receptors at a local level and that the study area lacks granularity.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
			Thurrock Council would welcome an update to the Health and Wellbeing Technical note following consultation comments made in October 2024.	
3.5.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with Health and Wellbeing are summarised in Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>The key parameters and assumptions associated with health and wellbeing across all relevant chapters lack consideration for the wider determinants of health.</p> <p>Thurrock Council understand some aspects of the wider determinants of health will be included in the upcoming Health and Wellbeing Assessment and would welcome an update to the Health and Wellbeing Technical note to fully reflect the inclusion / exclusion criteria and assessment methodology.</p> <p>We anticipate this inclusion within the upcoming Health and Wellbeing Assessment</p>	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.5.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Health and Wellbeing are presented in Section 10.5 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.5 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.5 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>Commenting on the PEIR:</p> <p>Baseline conditions lack granularity and do not map to the baseline conditions presented within Thurrock's Health and Wellbeing Strategy or JSNAs.</p> <p>Sensitive receptors only include vulnerable groups and does not include sensitive receptors likely to be impacted by the development during construction and operational phases such as Schools and Parks.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
			Thurrock Council understand that baseline conditions and issues regarding sensitivity will be included within the upcoming Health and Wellbeing Assessment. TC would welcome an update to the Health and Wellbeing Technical note to provide transparency on the proposed methodology.	
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Health and Wellbeing effects, are set out in Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	The embedded mitigation measures presented in the PEIR do not appear to consider impacts upon the wider health and social care infrastructure arising from construction activities and the cumulative impacts from nearby projects.	Under discussion
3.5.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality), Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) 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.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	The Draft CoCP appendix within the PEIR should consider some training on the wider determinants of health and / or health and social care infrastructure issues. Consideration should be given for appropriately recommended training from suitable sources. Thurrock Council Public Health would be happy to work with you on suitable training for relevant staff.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
3.5.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>Section 10.6 of the PEIR concludes that it has not “identified any requirements for additional mitigation for Health and Wellbeing at this stage”.</p> <p>However, following public consultation, the Health and Wellbeing note was updated to enhance the Health and Wellbeing Assessment. As mentioned within this document, there are outstanding concerns regarding the assessment scope to engage with the wider determinants of health.</p> <p>Thurrock Council would welcome an update to the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Technical note outlining how recommended health impact mitigation and enhancements are to be secured.</p>	Under discussion

EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.5.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in 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. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>The assessed impacts of health and wellbeing presented in the PIER lack granularity across the whole project, and particularly within Thurrock – which will experience both overground and underground construction.</p> <p>The assessment also does not consider cumulative impacts from nearby developments; nor does it provide detail of where strategic project planning would help mitigate health and wellbeing impacts.</p>	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
			<p>The assessment does not appear to consider the wider determinants of health.</p> <p>Thurrock Council understand that the upcoming Health and Wellbeing assessment will assess inter- and intra-related cumulative effects. TC would welcome an update to the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Technical note to assist methodological transparency.</p>	
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in 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. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	<p>The assessed impacts of health and wellbeing presented in section 10.8 of the PEIR lack granularity across the whole project, and particularly within Thurrock – which will experience both overground and underground operation. The assessment acknowledges that negative mental wellbeing impacts are to be expected due to impacts on landscape character and visual receptors but considers mental wellbeing “subjective” and therefore difficult to assess significance.</p> <p>Additionally, the assessment does not appear to consider the wider determinants of health.</p> <p>Thurrock Council have consulted on the revised technical note for the Health and Wellbeing Assessment (October 2024). While TC do not object to the proposed mental health and wellbeing assessment tool, we remain concerned that the methodological approach to judge sensitivity is inappropriate and that the</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
			scope of the assessment will not properly consider the wider determinants of health.	
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing), Chapter 7 (Air Quality) and Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) 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> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	The CoCP does not indicate staff training regarding the wider determinants of health, and how it factors into the proposed mitigation measures (see above in 'standard mitigation').	Under discussion
Other matters as required				

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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.6.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 11.2 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.6.2	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 also agreed through subsequent thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.</p>	<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 also agreed through subsequent thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.</p>	Agreed
3.6.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES .	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.6.4	Assessment methodology	The Scoping Opinion stated: <i>"The Applicant should make effort to discuss and agree relevant non-designated heritage assets for assessment and the</i>	Thurrock Council raised at statutory consultation that they were awaiting further engagement with National Grid to agree the methodology/selection process for viewpoint assessments. At	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		<p><i>detailed assessment methodology with relevant local planning authorities."</i></p> <p>Thurrock Council raised at statutory consultation that they did not agree with the values assigned to listed buildings as set out in the PIER. Thurrock Council requested that all designated heritage assets should be categorised as 'high value' and that some non-designated heritage assets should be considered of medium value as they may be of regional importance. National Grid's methodology already accounts for non-designated heritage assets being assigned a range of values, including some which are considered medium value. There is precedent for the approach to designated heritage assets and professional judgement is always used when assigning these values. Therefore, as per the Scoping Opinion report, the majority of Grade II listed buildings will remain medium value assets.</p>	<p>this stage, the methodology for the assessment of heritage specific viewpoints presented in March 2023 is felt to be insufficient in scope, with limited information given on the reasons for inclusion/ omission of numerous assets.</p>	
3.6.7	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p>	<p>Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.</p>	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.6.8	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in Section 11.5 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p>	<p>Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.6.9	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Historic Environment effects, are set out in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.6.10	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 72]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.6.11	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.6.12	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	With regards to the EIA Assessment Conclusions (3.6.12 and 3.6.13), Thurrock Council would expect that in due course the overall assessment of the harm to individual heritage assets arising from the scheme should be shown in the SoCG under Matters Agreed and Matters Not agreed (as applicable).	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
3.6.13	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>	With regards to the EIA Assessment Conclusions (3.6.12 and 3.6.13), Thurrock Council would expect that in due course the overall assessment of the harm to individual heritage assets arising from the scheme should be shown in the SoCG under Matters Agreed and Matters Not agreed (as applicable).	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.6.14	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) 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>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.6.15	Environmental Actions and Commitments	<p>Mitigation measures/ environmental commitments will be highlighted in the Outline CoCP.</p>	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the REAC.	Under discussion
Other matters as required				
3.6.16	Written Scheme of Investigations (WSIs) for pre-consent geophysical	<p>National Grid shared overarching WSIs in March – June 2024 and December 2024. Site specific WSIs are forthcoming that have yet to be issued.</p> <p>The scope and methodology of WSIs for geophysical surveys and archaeological trial</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
	surveys and archaeological trial trenching.	trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.		
3.6.18	Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI	The contents of the Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated. In April 2025, National Grid issued the Draft Archaeological Outline Mitigation Strategy and Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.		Under discussion
3.7.19	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.	Thurrock 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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
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 Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 9.2 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES.	The flood risk for planning map has been updated in March 2025. Please ensure that Chapter 12 of the ES is updated with the current information. Due consideration for sequential approach shall be enumerated as part of the assessment in line with the revised NPPF as of December 2024.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		<p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
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 Section 12.4 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES .	Awaiting the revised Environmental Statement.	Under discussion
3.7.4	Assessment methodology	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.	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.	Agreed
3.7.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk assessment are summarised in Section 12.4 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	Awaiting the revised Environmental Statement	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.7.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk are presented in Section 12.5 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of	Awaiting the revised Environmental Statement	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		the ES . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
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 Section 12.6 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Awaiting the revised Environmental Statement	Under discussion
3.7.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 12.6 of Chapter 12 (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.	Awaiting the revised Environmental Statement	Under discussion
3.7.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 12.6 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Awaiting the revised Environmental Statement	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.7.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 12.7 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
3.7.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 12.7 of Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) of the ES . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.7.12	Outline CoCP (including Flood Warning and Evacuation Plan)	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in Chapter 12 (Hydrology, Land Drainage and Flood Risk) 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>	Thurrock position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
Other matters as required				
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 from Thurrock council will be taken on board for the next iteration of this document.</p>	<p>The flood risk for planning map has been updated in March 2025. Please ensure that Chapter 12 of the ES is updated with the current information.</p> <p>Due consideration for sequential approach shall be enumerated as part of the assessment in line with the revised NPPF as of December 2024.</p>	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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Landscape and Visual assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 13.2 Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Agreed	Agreed
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.8.2	Study area	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.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.8.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted and will be considered for the ES and supporting documents.</p>	This was agreed but further discussion regarding Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3. Re need for additional viewpoints and Cumulative Assessment re LTC and Major Housing Applications.	Under discussion
3.8.4	Assessment methodology (including LVIA methodology)	The outline methodology for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	This was agreed but further discussion regarding Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3. Re need for additional viewpoints and Cumulative Assessment re LTC and Major Housing Applications.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
	and viewpoints)	<p>Meetings were held on the 25 September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology as well as the number and location of viewpoints.</p> <p>March 2025, National Grid issued an update on the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Viewpoints and Methodology.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted and will be considered for the ES and supporting documents.</p>		
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Landscape and Visual assessment are summarised in Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	Agreed.	Agreed
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Landscape and Visual are presented in Section 13.5 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted and will be considered for the ES and supporting documents.</p>	Agreed following suggested amendments to Viewpoints. However, further discussion regarding Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3. Re need for additional viewpoints and Cumulative Assessment re LTC and Major Housing Applications.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Landscape and Visual effects, are set out in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Agreed	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Landscape and Visual effects during construction are summarised in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) 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.	Agreed	Agreed
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted and will be considered for the ES and supporting documents.</p>	Thurrock requested consideration of mitigation beyond the proposal red line boundary. This request has been repeated with specific regard to Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.8.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted and will be considered for the ES and supporting documents.</p>	Previously agreed however, further discussion regarding Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3. Re need for additional viewpoints and Cumulative Assessment re LTC and Major Housing Applications.	Under discussion
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Thurrock Council comments are noted and will be considered for the ES and supporting documents.</p>	Previously agreed however, further discussion regarding Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3. Re need for additional viewpoints and Cumulative Assessment re LTC and Major Housing Applications.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) 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> <p>Comments will be taken on board for the next iteration of this document.</p>	Thurrock requested consideration of mitigation beyond the proposal red line boundary. This request has been repeated with specific regard to Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3.	Under discussion
3.8.13	Outline LEMP	<p>The Outline LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES 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>Comments will be taken on board for the next iteration of this document.</p>	Targeted Consultation Thurrock-3. Re need for Cumulative Assessment re LTC and Major Housing Applications and resulting LEMP.	Under discussion
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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
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 Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 15.2 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.9.2	Study area	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated: "The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities".</p> <p>A meeting was held on 14th November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion. Technical Notes were shared in June 2023 and April 2024.</p> <p>Following the meeting held on 14th November 2024, it was agreed that the study area for businesses would be expanded from 1km to 3km to take into account potential visual effects on businesses.</p> <p>A 3rd Technical Note was issued in March 2025 to seek to agree the study area and methodology.</p>	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.9.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		within Section 15.2 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES.		
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>.</p> <p>A meeting was held on 14th November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion. Technical Notes were shared in June 2023 and April 2024.</p> <p>A 3rd Technical Note was issued in March 2025 to seek to agree the study area and methodology.</p>	<p>In Sept 23, Thurrock Council signposted to the WHIASU guidance, particularly in relation to consideration of potentially vulnerable groups. Thurrock Council has provided examples of other baseline metrics which could be used to inform the assessment and requested that consideration of potential health effects to arise during operational stage is given.</p> <p>National Grid confirmed that WHIASU guidance will be used to help inform the identification of potentially vulnerable groups. Additional baseline data sources and metrics provided by Thurrock Council will be incorporated into the ES where relevant. The PEIR includes a summary of health effects relating to both physical and mental health during construction and operation (and maintenance) phases.</p>	Under discussion
3.9.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment are summarised in Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p>	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.9.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism are presented in Section 15.5 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.9.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects, are set out in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.9.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects during construction are summarised in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) 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.	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.9.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.9.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.9.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.9.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) 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>	Thurrock Council's position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Other matters as required				

3.10 Traffic and Transport

The matters relating to traffic and transport are still under discussion between both parties.

3.11 Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

The matters relating to PRoW are still under discussion between both parties.

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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.12.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Cumulative Effects assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 17.2 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
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 Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
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
3.12.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Cumulative Effects assessment are summarised in Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council 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 Section 17.5 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council 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 Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council 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 Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP (document reference 7.2). The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		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 Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.12.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 17.7 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council 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 Section 17.7 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.12.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9 th October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.	Thurrock Council position pending sight of the ES. Still under discussion.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
		A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.		
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	Thurrock Council's Position	Status
3.11.1	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 Thurrock Council on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

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Date:

.....

Signed for and on behalf of Thurrock Council:

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Date:

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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
NCR	National Cycle Route
NETS	National Electricity Transmission System
NPSs	National Policy Statements
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PRoW	Public Right of Way
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation
ZoI	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