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# Norwich to Tilbury

## Volume 5: Reports and Statements

Document: 5.9.6 Draft Statement of Common Ground - Babergh and  
Mid Suffolk District Council

Final Issue A

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**nationalgrid**

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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 Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils (BMSDC). 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 BMSDC. The applicable matters considered within this SoCG apply to BMSDC'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
  - Air Quality
  - Noise and Vibration
  - Health and Wellbeing
  - Historic Environment
  - Landscape and Visual
  - Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism
  - 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 Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council at key points for discussion. A final SoCG will be prepared ahead of the close of the DCO Examination. Unlike a final SoCG, this draft SoCG has not been officially signed by either party.

## 1.2 Project Description

- 1.2.1 The Project is a proposal by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury, comprising:
- A new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 180 km overall length from Norwich Main Substation to Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation, a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and a new Tilbury North Substation, including:
    - Approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 509 pylons, either standard steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 m in height) or

low height steel lattice pylons (approximately 40 m in height) and some of which would be gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds or existing or proposed substations

- Approximately 21 km of 400 kV underground cabling, some of which would be located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB )

- Up to seven new CSE compounds (with permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- Modification works to connect into the existing Norwich Main Substation and a substation extension at the existing Bramford Substation
- A new 400 kV substation on the Tendring Peninsula, referred to as the EACN Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation
- A new 400 kV substation to the south of Orsett Golf Course in Essex, referred to as the Tilbury North Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation
- Modifications to the existing National Grid Electricity Transmission overhead lines to facilitate the connection of the existing network into the new Tilbury North Substation to provide connection to the Tilbury Substation
- Ancillary and/or temporary works associated with the construction of the Project.

1.2.2 In addition, third party utilities diversions and/or modifications would be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. There would also be land required for environmental mitigation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

1.2.3 As well as the permanent infrastructure, land would also be required temporarily for construction activities including, for example, working areas for construction equipment and machinery, site offices, welfare, storage and temporary construction access.

1.2.4 The Project would be designed, constructed and operated in accordance with applicable health and safety legislation. The Project will need to comply with design safety standards including the Security and Quality of Supply Standard (SQSS), which sets out the criteria and methodology for planning and operating the National Electricity Transmission System (NETS). This informs a suite of National Grid policies and processes, which contain details on design standards required to be met when designing, constructing and operating assets such as those proposed for the Project.

## 1.3 Format and Structure of this Document

1.3.1 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- **Section 2** provides a summary of the key engagement undertaken to date with BMSSDC
- **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 BMSDC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:
- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
  - Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
  - Targeted consultations in Spring 2025
  - Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
  - Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
  - One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
  - Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages
- 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 BMSDC.

Table 2.1 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and BMSDC

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

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

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

Date	Format	Topic/description
		mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the BNG Strategy to stakeholders including BMSDC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the 2 <sup>nd</sup> iteration of the Outline LEMP
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> iteration of the Outline Lemp
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
<b>Air Quality</b>		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
<b>Noise and Vibration</b>		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the EIA Assessment, including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.

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

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

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

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

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

### 3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils 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 BMSDC. 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 3.2 to Table 3.11 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	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>Strategic options/needs case</b>				
3.2.1	Needs case	<p>Norwich to Tilbury is being proposed because the existing network in East Anglia doesn't have sufficient capacity to manage the expected (and in some cases, contracted) increase in offshore wind farms (and interconnectors) needing to connect to the grid as part of the Government's target of reaching net zero by 2050. The project sits alongside other work to reinforce and upgrade the existing network in East Anglia.</p> <p>Norwich to Tilbury is listed as a key project in Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report.</p>	<p>BMSDC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>BMSDC acknowledge the stated need case for a scheme of electricity transmission network capacity improvement to enable connection of offshore wind generation, required to meet net zero commitments, and to increase capacity of the transmission network to meet this additional demand, as reiterated by the Hiorns report.</p>	Agreed
3.2.2	Project timing	<p>Timing for the project is driven by the needs case – when offshore wind farms are contracted to connect to the UK network – the first of which are contracted to connect in 2030. National Grid is legally obliged (under our Transmission Owner License) to provide capacity at the dates formally agreed in contracts with energy generators (or customers) by NESO.</p> <p>Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report shows that the constraint</p>	<p>BMSDC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>BMSDC suggest the project is premature, whilst there is a known and recognized likelihood of alternative technologies and / or infrastructure design arrangements, that a strategic approach to energy infrastructure planning through the responsibilities of the imminent National Energy System Operator (NESO) and Regional Energy Strategic Planner (RESP) functions, and recognizing the findings of the Hiorns report that the need</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		costs associated with a delay to the project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion.	for additional transmission capacity is more likely be closer to 2035 than National Grid's programme delivery date of 2030.	
3.2.3	Onshore route	<p>An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same capacity as an onshore overhead line, we would need to build three subsea cables and associated infrastructure, which would add significant cost and not meet the needs case for Norwich to Tilbury.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including offshore alternatives.</p>	Whilst BMSDC recognise the findings of the East Anglia study the councils maintain a preference for a coordinated offshore solution.	Under discussion
3.2.4	Predominantly overhead line route	<p>Norwich to Tilbury has been designed in line with policy statement EN-5 (which covers the development of new energy infrastructure) which concludes that in most cases, the government expects that overhead lines will be appropriate and should be used as standard to reinforce the grid.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical,</p>	<p>BMSDC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>BMSDC would prefer more undergrounded sections of the route.</p> <p>BMSDC acknowledge the concerns of our communities regarding the impact of overhead line development and will continue to request consideration of undergrounding where appropriate.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>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>		
<b>Project development process - Design</b>				
3.2.5	Waveney Valley	<p>At statutory consultation in 2024, National Grid presented proposals for an overhead line across the Waveney Valley, along with an underground cable alternative for community and stakeholder feedback. After considering feedback, and the findings of our ground investigation (GI) and environmental surveys, the decision was made to proceed with an overhead line in this area. This decision considered a range of factors, including potential environmental impacts, planning policy, cost to consumers and alternate installation techniques for underground cables in response to GI</p>	<p>BMSDC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>The omission of the Waveney Valley alternative is disappointing, and the councils will continue to request consideration of undergrounding where appropriate</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		surveys and the Waveney and Little Ouse Recovery project.		
<b>Project development process - Consultation</b>				
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>	No reason to dispute. No other comments	Agreed
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>	No reason to dispute. No other comments	Agreed
3.2.8	2024 statutory consultation	<p>Statutory Consultation took place from Wednesday 10 April 2024 to 26 July 2024 (the end date was extended from 18 June 2024 due to the general election.) Details of this consultation are outlined in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Responses to</p>	<p>BMSDC look forward to seeing the consultation feedback report.</p> <p>No reason to dispute. No other comments</p>	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>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>		
3.2.9	2025 targeted consultation	<p>Targeted consultations for Suffolk took place from 30 January 2025 – 3 March 2025. Details of these consultations are outlined in the Targeted Consultation Strategy and associated targeted 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>	No reason to dispute. No other comments	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
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 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.	BMSDC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025): BMSDC recognise the emerging position from government towards a package of recommendations for community benefits from electricity transmission infrastructure development. If the districts' communities are to host this development NGET should offer a reasonable, proportionate and practicable package of community benefits, outside the scope of the necessary and expected mitigation and compensation measures for the DCO. Community benefits should be in addition to required mitigation. The councils welcome further dialogue on the content and delivery of an appropriate community benefits package.	Under discussion
3.2.11	Supply and connectivity around the Freeport at Gateway 14	National Grid liaises regularly with electricity Distribution Network Operators (DNO). In East Anglia that is UK Power Networks (UKPN). Potential opportunities to rationalise, or make new connections to, the local network, or high demand centres, such as Gateway 14 requires a combination of the developer, the DNO and National Grid identifying a need case that would be supported by the regulator, Office of gas and electricity markets (Ofgem), or funded by some other means. National Grid is required under its transmission	BMSDC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025): BMSDC consider potential benefits, through appropriately coordinated delivery of interrelated energy projects and network infrastructure, could include improved connectivity for Freeport East at Gateway 14 as well as other major commercial operations and other interests in the area. BMSDC are calling on NGET to recognise and act upon the value such strategic coordination will add to the Norwich to Tilbury project, the wider Great Grid Upgrade	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		licence, to make connections where applications are made including to local networks or demand centres. If a connection application is made National Grid would progress it accordingly.	objectives by enabling effectively, appropriate and sustainably planned local generation and storage for focused local distribution and consumption as part of the government's priorities for a decarbonised economy and to contribute to the challenge of fuel poverty.	

### 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	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.3.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 8.2 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES.</b></p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	Have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review but based on the PEIR content this is likely to be agreed.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
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.	Have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review, but based on the PEIR BMSDC expect that sufficient desktop data has been collected. Cannot comment on the sufficiency of survey data since that information has not yet been shared.	Under discussion
3.3.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Ecology and Biodiversity was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Ecology and Biodiversity was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.3.5	Survey Methodology	National Grid issued a Technical Note in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.  In response to the comments received regarding smaller ancient woodland parcels, NG can ensure that field survey work has been undertaken across 2023 and 2024 including habitat assessments of woodland blocks. It is anticipated that any smaller ancient woodland parcels will be identified through these on-site surveys.	National Grid issued a Technical Note in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment. Statutory Consultation response stated that smaller ancient woodland parcels are not included in the Natural England inventory. We expect completed habitat survey work to identify any such parcels in the study area. PEIR and Tech Note comments issued previously. The intended survey methods have been broadly acceptable, but final analysis will depend on the actual survey methods that were executed. Presumably	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			this will be detailed in Chapter 8 of the ES, which has not yet been issued.	
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.	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment are not explicitly summarised in the PEIR, and BMSDC have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	Have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review, but based on the PEIR content this is agreed with respect to the determination of receptors. Cannot comment on baseline condition coverage and survey adequacy.	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
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 <b>Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>NG can confirm the mitigation hierarchy will be rigorously applied, avoiding impact wherever possible. An extensive</p>	<p>Statutory Consultation response stated that BMSDC seeks reassurance that the mitigation hierarchy will be rigorously applied to avoid impacts before needing to consider mitigation and compensation.</p> <p>BMSDC also awaits the results of further protected species and habitats assessment to inform the mitigation hierarchy and support the Statement of Common Ground.</p> <p>BMSDC have reviewed and commented on the Outline CoCP, Outline LEMP, and the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy. However, we have not received Chapter 8 of</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		change control process is used which includes changes to avoid as many sensitive ecology features as possible.	the ES to review. BMSDC are not comfortable with confirming the adequacy of mitigation measures without having had sight of the ecology survey data and of any impact assessments.	
3.3.9	Standard mitigation	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.	BMSDC have reviewed the Outline CoCP, Outline LEMP, and the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy. However, we have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review. BMSDC are not comfortable with confirming the adequacy of mitigation measures without having had sight of the ecology survey data and of any impact assessments.	Under discussion
3.3.10	Additional mitigation	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	Have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review. BMSDC cannot comment on the adequacy of additional mitigation measures without having had sight of the ecology survey data and of any impact assessments.	Under discussion

### EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.3.11	Construction effects	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	BMSDC cannot comment as we have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review and have had no sight of any survey-based impact assessments.	Under discussion
3.3.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is	BMSDC cannot comment as we have not received Chapter 8 of the ES to review and	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		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.	have had no sight of any survey-based impact assessments.	
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
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 on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>B&amp;MSC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with B&amp;MSC on this matter.</p>	<p>The content is still under discussion. Comments received EPS on 24th February raised the following summarised points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CoCP and LEMP need to be fully consistent and not provide contractors with conflicting prescriptions.</li> <li>• The CoCP and LEMP need to effectively cross-reference the other document if the other document is the more comprehensive of the two documents on any ecological mitigation aspect.</li> <li>• ECoW specialist required</li> <li>• Specific requests in relation to the Coombs, Parkhill Wood and Stour and Orwell Estuaries, Judas Gap Marsh with reference to how they are referenced in the document</li> <li>• Wording changes in relation to terminology reflected in the document.</li> </ul> <p>BMSDC cannot comment whether the Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 8 of the ES as we have not received that document.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.3.14	Outline LEMP	<p>The LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity)</b> of the ES and is appropriate.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BMSDC on this matter.</p>	<p>See comments in row 3.3.13 above.</p> <p>BMSDC cannot comment whether the Outline LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 8 of the ES as we have not received that document.</p>	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				
3.3.15	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	<p>Although not currently mandatory for NSIP applications, National Grid are committed to delivering at least 10% BNG with wider environmental and societal benefits for the Norwich to Tilbury scheme. This 10% net gain will be delivered through a combination of on site and off site measures.</p> <p>National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain strategy with stakeholders in January 2025.</p>	<p>Statutory Consultation response stated that BMSDC notes that the project is indicating a - 6% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) for area habitat units and that they expect the mandatory 10% BNG to be achieved through off-site measures.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.3.16	Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)	National Grid issued the draft AIA in March 2025.		Under discussion

## 3.4 Air Quality

Table 3.4 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Air Quality

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.4.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Air Quality assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 7.2 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the ES.  All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.4.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		presented within <b>Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the ES.		
3.4.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Air Quality was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Air Quality was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Air Quality are summarised in <b>Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.4.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Air Quality are presented in <b>Section 7.5 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.4.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Air Quality effects, are set out in <b>Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.4.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.4.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's 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 <b>Section 7.7 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.4.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 7.7 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 7 (Air Quality)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>The CoCP will adopt the best industry practice for water suppression, especially during dry and windy conditions.</p> <p>Comments are still under review.</p>	<p>Statutory Consultation response stated: 'Whilst dust control is addressed we recommend the CoCP specifies the means of water suppression to be used and how this supply will be maintained particularly during periods of dry and windy weather. The supply shall be suitable and sufficient having regard to the size of the area under development.'</p> <p>Comments received on 25th February raised the following summarised points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviews to the dust management plan in relation to compounds</li> <li>• The use of satellite locations to understand areas that generate dust.</li> </ul>	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				

## 3.5 Noise and Vibration

Table 3.5 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Noise and Vibration

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.5.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Noise and Vibration assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 14.2 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the ES.  All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	No comments in respect of this aspect	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.5.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.5.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the ES.	No comments in respect of this aspect	Under discussion
3.5.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	
3.5.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Noise and Vibration are summarised in <b>Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	No comments in respect of this aspect	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.5.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Noise and Vibration are presented in <b>Section 14.5 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	No comments in respect of this aspect	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Noise and Vibration effects, are set out in <b>Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted,</p>	<p>The Noise and Vibration Management plan should include;</p> <p>Proposed noise/vibration limits and justification for limits proposed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Details of how monitoring will be undertaken, monitoring positions, frequency and duration with how access would be provided via a web-based system of monitoring the above parameters in real time.</li> <li>The documentation states that use of percussive piling methods is to be</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.	<p>avoided. If piling is required, other methods should be used and a specific noise and vibration assessment undertaken in accordance with BS5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific attention should be made within the assessment to Compounds and any areas of remote work where portable machinery or equipment may be used i.e. generators or suchlike.</li> <li>• Having regard to the length of time for which compounds may remain in situ and use, the following is required; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— A noise impact assessment (NIA) and vibration impact assessment (VIA) for each proposed compound</li> <li>— The assessments are to be undertaken in accordance with British Standard 4142 and British Standard 5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>— A list of all noise sensitive receptors marked on a plan together with the predicted noise/vibration impact and specific noise/vibration mitigation measures proposed.</li> <li>— Figures to be provided for the LOAEL levels as well as the SOAEL levels for noise and vibration.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibrations relating to and mitigation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<p>proposed relating to the construction of compound itself.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibration associated with and mitigation proposed in respect of the creation of and use of each access track.</li> </ul>	
3.5.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 14.6</b> of <b>Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>The Noise and Vibration Management plan should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed noise/vibration limits and justification for limits proposed</li> <li>• Details of how monitoring will be undertaken, monitoring positions, frequency and duration with how access would be provided via a web-based system of monitoring the above parameters in real time.</li> <li>• The documentation states that use of percussive piling methods is to be avoided. If piling is required, other methods should be used and a specific noise and vibration assessment undertaken in accordance with BS5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>• Specific attention should be made within the assessment to Compounds and any areas of remote work where portable machinery or equipment may be used i.e. generators or suchlike.</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having regard to the length of time for which compounds may remain in situ and use, the following is required; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— A noise impact assessment (NIA) and vibration impact assessment (VIA) for each proposed compound</li> <li>— The assessments are to be undertaken in accordance <b>with British Standard 4142</b> and <b>British Standard 5228</b> (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>— A list of all noise sensitive receptors marked on a plan together with the predicted noise/vibration impact and specific noise/vibration mitigation measures proposed.</li> <li>— Figures to be provided for the LOAEL levels as well as the SOAEL levels for noise and vibration.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibrations relating to and mitigation proposed relating to the construction of compound itself.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibration associated with and mitigation proposed in respect of the creation of and use of each access track.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.5.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>The Noise and Vibration Management plan should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed noise/vibration limits and justification for limits proposed</li> <li>Details of how monitoring will be undertaken, monitoring positions, frequency and duration with how access would be provided via a web-based system of monitoring the above parameters in real time.</li> <li>The documentation states that use of percussive piling methods is to be avoided. If piling is required, other methods should be used and a specific noise and vibration assessment undertaken in accordance with BS5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>Specific attention should be made within the assessment to Compounds and any areas of remote work where portable machinery or equipment may be used i.e. generators or suchlike.</li> <li>Having regard to the length of time for which compounds may remain in situ and use, the following is required; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A noise impact assessment (NIA) and vibration impact assessment (VIA) for each proposed compound</li> <li>The assessments are to be undertaken in accordance with <b>British Standard 4142</b> and <b>British</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<p><b>Standard 5228</b> (or any subsequent revisions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— A list of all noise sensitive receptors marked on a plan together with the predicted noise/vibration impact and specific noise/vibration mitigation measures proposed.</li> <li>— Figures to be provided for the LOAEL levels as well as the SOAEL levels for noise and vibration.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibrations relating to and mitigation proposed relating to the construction of compound itself.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibration associated with and mitigation proposed in respect of the creation of and use of each access track.</li> </ul>	

#### EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.5.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 14.7 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted,</p>	<p>The Noise and Vibration Management plan should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed noise/vibration limits and justification for limits proposed</li> <li>• Details of how monitoring will be undertaken, monitoring positions, frequency and duration with how access would be provided via a web-based</li> </ul>	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.	<p>system of monitoring the above parameters in real time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The documentation states that use of percussive piling methods is to be avoided. If piling is required, other methods should be used and a specific noise and vibration assessment undertaken in accordance with BS5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>• Specific attention should be made within the assessment to Compounds and any areas of remote work where portable machinery or equipment may be used i.e. generators or suchlike.</li> <li>• Having regard to the length of time for which compounds may remain in situ and use, the following is required; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— A noise impact assessment (NIA) and vibration impact assessment (VIA) for each proposed compound</li> <li>— The assessments are to be undertaken in accordance with <b>British Standard 4142</b> and <b>British Standard 5228</b> (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>— A list of all noise sensitive receptors marked on a plan together with the predicted noise/vibration impact and specific noise/vibration mitigation measures proposed.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Figures to be provided for the LOAEL levels as well as the SOAEL levels for noise and vibration.</li> <li>Include an assessment of noise and vibrations relating to and mitigation proposed relating to the construction of compound itself.</li> <li>Include an assessment of noise and vibration associated with and mitigation proposed in respect of the creation of and use of each access track.</li> </ul>	
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 14.7 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>The Noise and Vibration Management plan should include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed noise/vibration limits and justification for limits proposed</li> <li>Details of how monitoring will be undertaken, monitoring positions, frequency and duration with how access would be provided via a web-based system of monitoring the above parameters in real time.</li> <li>The documentation states that use of percussive piling methods is to be avoided. If piling is required, other methods should be used and a specific noise and vibration assessment undertaken in accordance with BS5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific attention should be made within the assessment to Compounds and any areas of remote work where portable machinery or equipment may be used i.e. generators or suchlike.</li> <li>• Having regard to the length of time for which compounds may remain in situ and use, the following is required; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— A noise impact assessment (NIA) and vibration impact assessment (VIA) for each proposed compound</li> <li>— The assessments are to be undertaken in accordance with <b>British Standard 4142</b> and <b>British Standard 5228</b> (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>— A list of all noise sensitive receptors marked on a plan together with the predicted noise/vibration impact and specific noise/vibration mitigation measures proposed.</li> <li>— Figures to be provided for the LOAEL levels as well as the SOAEL levels for noise and vibration.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibrations relating to and mitigation proposed relating to the construction of compound itself.</li> <li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibration associated with and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			mitigation proposed in respect of the creation of and use of each access track.	
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in Chapter 14 (<b>Noise and Vibration</b>) of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amendments to the construction hours as to not affect nearby amenities.</li> <li>• Inclusion of noise/vibration limits, detailed monitoring requirements, and noise and vibration monitoring in relation to compound areas.</li> </ul> <p>BMSDC would agree that this section remains under discussion and would wish to reiterate the following:</p> <p><u>CONSTRUCTION HOURS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We would ask that the construction hours (including vehicle movements on site) are restricted as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— 07.30 - 18.00hrs Mondays to Fridays</li> <li>— 08.00 - 13.00hrs Saturdays</li> <li>— No working and/or plant operated on Sundays and Bank Holidays.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Scheduled overruns/out of hours working are subject to <i>COPA1974 S61 prior consent</i> with the submission of an application detailing times of work, plant details and noise/vibration levels at least 28 days prior to commencement. This would be essential in the case of</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<p>horizontal directional drilling (HDD) which is identified as being likely to require night time working to complete trenchless crossings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where noise levels have been agreed with the LPA for a <i>COPA1974 S.61</i> prior consent, this will provide a defence to the person undertaking the construction activities providing they remain within those levels with no exceedances. However, where levels are exceeded then Statutory Nuisance may exist under the <i>EPA1990 S.79</i>. The LA may take action under S.80.</li> <li>It should be noted that an individual aggrieved may still take action under the <i>EPA1990 S.82</i> or seeking an injunction.</li> <li>Control and mitigation measures in respect of noise, vibration, dust and light are in place to reduce the likelihood of a Statutory Nuisance however they may not completely exclude the possibility of action being taken under the provisions of the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1990</i>.</li> <li>We would not consider the agreement to these by the Local Planning Authority to be a reasonable and proportionate defence against future nuisance action.</li> </ul> <p><u>NOISE AND VIBRATION MANAGEMENT</u> The Noise and Vibration Management plan should include;</p>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposed noise/vibration limits and justification for limits proposed</li> <li>Details of how monitoring will be undertaken, monitoring positions, frequency and duration with how access would be provided via a web-based system of monitoring the above parameters in real time.</li> <li>The documentation states that use of percussive piling methods is to be avoided. If piling is required, other methods should be used and a specific noise and vibration assessment undertaken in accordance with BS5228 (or any subsequent revisions).</li> <li>Specific attention should be made within the assessment to Compounds and any areas of remote work where portable machinery or equipment may be used i.e. generators or suchlike.</li> <li>Having regard to the length of time for which compounds may remain in situ and use, the following is required; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A noise impact assessment (NIA) and vibration impact assessment (VIA) for each proposed compound</li> <li>The assessments are to be undertaken in accordance with <b>British Standard 4142</b> and <b>British Standard 5228</b> (or any subsequent revisions).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— A list of all noise sensitive receptors marked on a plan together with the predicted noise/vibration impact and specific noise/vibration mitigation measures proposed.</li><li>— Figures to be provided for the LOAEL levels as well as the SOAEL levels for noise and vibration.</li><li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibrations relating to and mitigation proposed relating to the construction of compound itself.</li><li>— Include an assessment of noise and vibration associated with and mitigation proposed in respect of the creation of and use of each access track.</li></ul>	
Other matters as required				

## 3.6 Health and Wellbeing

Table 3.6 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Health and Wellbeing

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.6.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Health and Wellbeing assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 10.2 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES.</b> All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.6.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.6.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES.</b>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.6.4	Assessment methodology	A meeting was held on 24 September 2024 to agree the assessment	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>methodology of the Health and Wellbeing ES chapter.</p> <p>National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Technical Note – Refreshed Approach in October 2024.</p> <p>December 2024, National Grid held an additional meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.</p> <p>This is still under discussion.</p>		
3.6.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Health and Wellbeing are summarised in <b>Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.6.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Health and Wellbeing are presented in <b>Section 10.5 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.6.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Health and	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		Wellbeing effects, are set out in <b>Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.6.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.6.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.6.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 10.7 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.6.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 10.7 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the ES.</p> <p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.6.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing)</b> of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>	The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				

## 3.7 Historic Environment

Table 3.7 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Historic Environment

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.7.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 11.2 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.7.2	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
3.7.3	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.	See 3.7.4 re: NDHAs (Essex Place Services (EPS)) Built Heritage, June 2025)	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.7.4	Assessment methodology	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated: <i>“The Applicant should make effort to discuss and agree relevant non-designated heritage assets for assessment and the detailed assessment methodology with relevant local planning authorities.”</i></p> <p>The assessment methodology has been discussed at a number of Historic Environment Thematic Group Meetings held between July 2022 and October 2024. BMSDC raised at statutory consultation that they did not agree with the value assigned to heritage assets. However, there is precedent for the approach proposed and professional judgement is always used when assigning value to heritage assets. Therefore, as per the Scoping Opinion report, the value assigned to heritage assets will remain the same.</p> <p>It is considered that the assessment methodology has been agreed, with the exception of the value of Grade II listed buildings, where the method is still under discussion.</p> <p>Historic Environment Viewpoints feedback will be taken into account for the assessment.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted,</p>	<p>The assessment methodology has been discussed at a number of Historic Environment Thematic Group Meetings held between July 2022 and October 2024.</p> <p>BMSDC raised at statutory consultation that they did not agree with the value assigned to heritage assets. BMSDC stated that they were in agreement that decommissioning effects could be scoped out. This is considered acceptable subject to the provision of a guarantee within the DCO that decommissioning of the project will require appropriate assessment.</p> <p>Email from Suffolk County Council 4th Nov 2024 - Built heritage – consultant’s methodology not agreed, and all assets affected not identified.</p> <p>It is considered that the assessment methodology has been agreed, with the exception of the value of Grade II listed buildings, where the method is still under discussion.</p> <p>Historic Environment Viewpoints feedback received on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 from EPS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It appears that the only NDHAs included in Annex A are those that appear on the relevant Historic Environment Record. This is concerning as not all built NDHAs will be included on the HER. Unfortunately, no text has been provided which addresses various comments and questions previously raised regarding</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.	<p>whether there was a methodology for identifying NDHAs as part of site walkovers, whether this has been undertaken, or whether any have been identified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As such, there are still concerns that not all NDHAs have been included (EPS – Built Heritage, June 2025)</li> <li>• A 'spot check' of the Draft Heritage Baseline Report was carried out by EPS which raised questions and concerns regarding the robustness of the methodology. These comments were submitted to NG in a letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025 (EPS – Built Heritage, June 2025)</li> </ul>	
3.7.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in <b>Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>In March 2025, National Grid issued an updated version of the Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information.</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.7.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in <b>Section 11.5 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	A 'spot check' of the Draft Heritage Baseline Report was carried out by EPS which raised questions and concerns regarding the robustness of the methodology. These comments were submitted to NG in a letter dated 6th March 2025 (EPS – Built Heritage, June 2025).	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.7.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>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.</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.7.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.7.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.7.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.  BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.	Email 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 - Archaeology – consultants not assessing significant areas of 132kV or 400kV cable undergrounding or overhead line tower locations intrusively prior to submission.	Under discussion
3.7.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	<u>BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES</u>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.7.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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 still under review.</p>	<p>Comments received from EPS 25th February on behalf of BMSDC raised the following summarised points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns of not referencing impacts to built heritage during construction.</li> <li>Further information required on managing and agreement of monitoring on PPV levels, including any construction traffic.</li> </ul> <p>The structure of the CoCP is agreed but the contents are not. Comments were provided to NG in letters dated 24th February 2025 and 3rd June 2025 (EPS - Built Heritage, June 2025).</p>	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				
3.7.13	Written Scheme of Investigations (WSIs) for pre-consent geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching.	The scope and methodology of WSIs for geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.7.14	Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI	The contents of the Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI is considered	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.  National Grid issued the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project in April 2025.		
3.7.15	Programme for completion of archaeological fieldwork	The programme for archaeological fieldwork is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	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	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Landscape and Visual assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) and Section 13.2 Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES.</b>  All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and	Reference is also needed to the DEFRA guidance note (2024) in relation to the enhanced duty for National Landscapes under LURA (2023). Likely material.  <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-protected-landscapes-duty/guidance-for-relevant-authorities-on-seeking-to-further-the-purposes-of-protected-landscapes">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-protected-landscapes-duty/guidance-for-relevant-authorities-on-seeking-to-further-the-purposes-of-protected-landscapes</a>  Add reference to Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) Para 4.3.4 in relation to compensation for significant negative	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>impacts 'To consider the potential effects, including benefits, of a proposal for a project, the applicant must set out information on the likely significant environmental, social and economic effects of the development, and show how any likely significant negative effects would be avoided, reduced, mitigated or compensated for, following the mitigation hierarchy'</p>	

### EIA – Approach and Methods

3.8.2	Study area	<p>A meeting was held on the 25th September 2024 to seek to agree the study area and discuss where changes have been proposed. A further meeting was held on 28th November 2024 to follow up any additional changes to the study area.</p>	<p>BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES</p>	Under discussion
3.8.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES.</b></p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>BMSDC remain unhappy with the number of viewpoint assessments proposed (Email November 2024).</p> <p>Whilst we welcome the inclusion of criteria against which landscape value will be assessed, we remain unhappy with aspects of the approach to Landscape Value assessment (Email 22.04.2025).</p>	Under discussion
3.8.4	Assessment methodology (including LVIA methodology and viewpoints)	<p>A meeting was held on the 25th September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology. A further meeting was held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024 to follow up any additional changes to the assessment.</p>	<p>BMSDC remain unhappy with the number of viewpoint assessments proposed. (Email November 2024).</p> <p>Whilst we welcome the inclusion of criteria against which landscape value will be assessed, we remain unhappy with aspects of the</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>Viewpoints are still under discussion. National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology in March 2025. Regarding comments raised in response to the first iteration of the SoCG.</p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>approach to Landscape Value (Email 22.04.2025).</p> <p>We also have reservations regarding the methodology for assessing the value of views as this is heavily skewed towards published data.</p>	
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Landscape and Visual assessment are summarised in <b>Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>The preliminary key parameters and assumptions are presented at 13.5 in relation to LVIA. It is understood '<i>This information is iterative and will be updated for the ES as the design evolves and relevant changes are accounted for in the assessment</i>'.</p>	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Landscape and Visual are presented in <b>Section 13.5 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p>	<p>BMSDC remain unhappy with the number of viewpoint assessments proposed. (Email November 2024).</p> <p>Whilst BSMDC welcome the inclusion of criteria against which landscape value will be assessed, we remain unhappy with aspects of the approach to Landscape Value (Email 22.04.2025).</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.	We also have reservations regarding the methodology for assessing the value of views as this is heavily skewed towards published data.  An approach to compensation is needed, not just mitigation, where and how it has been identified and described, how the applicant has sought engagement from the local authority on this issue etc. (See below)	

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

3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Landscape and Visual effects, are set out in <b>Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Statutory consultation response stated that ‘In order to reduce significant landscape and visual impacts at the operational stage over the length of the Project, more use of undergrounding is required to protect valued local landscapes, long-distant rights of way and rural amenity sites.’</p> <p>BMSDC do not agree on the response as to why there no further undergrounding is proposed e.g. in the Gipping Valley which has the qualities of a Special Landscape Area. We do not see how this conclusion can be made in advance of a valued landscape assessment being carried out and shared with us.</p> <p>Local landscape designation has not been national policy for decades. The Holford Rules are out of date on this issue and haven't been reviewed since the 1990s when landscape characterisation became the tool for understanding landscape and guidance from the 2000s on valued landscape assessment outside designated landscapes was introduced.</p>	Not agreed
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including underground alternatives. BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>Even if, as stated, '<i>policy statement EN-5 (which covers the development of new energy infrastructure) ... concludes that in most cases, the government expects that overhead lines will be appropriate and should be used as standard to reinforce the grid</i>' it doesn't follow that there are no significant residual negative effects and therefore that potentially further undergrounding or compensation '<i>as far as possible</i>' might be required.</p> <p>Where undergrounding isn't proposed, explanation is needed as to why compensation isn't being offered instead, except at substations and sealing end compounds, when the PEIR states that significant landscape and visual impacts will occur along the length of the project length.</p> <p>Embedded mitigation measures are not addressing substantial significant negative residual impacts.</p> <p>As above, an approach to compensation is required.</p> <p>We have been calling for engagement on this issue since 2023.</p>	
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Landscape and Visual effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP <b>[document reference 7.2]</b>. The standard mitigation is considered</p>	<p>Standard mitigation measures are not addressing substantial significant negative residual impacts.</p>	Not agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>		
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>Additional mitigation measures are not addressing substantial significant negative residual impacts.</p> <p>BMSDC do not agree that the mitigation hierarchy has been effectively applied as it does not include compensation for the negative impacts of the overhead lines and pylons.</p> <p>An approach to compensation is required, where and how it will be identified and described, how the applicant will engage on this topic with the local authority. We do not consider the applicants have considered or met either the EIA Regs or EN-1 requirements in relation to compensation. It appears the likely significant negative landscape and visual effects of the project are generally not to be compensated for.</p> <p>We suggest the test of 'as far as possible' has not been met in any reasonable way in relation to the overwhelming likely permanent negative landscape and visual impacts along the length of the project described by the applicant within the PEIR.</p>	Not agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.8.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>E-mail received on 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 suggested that concerns had been raised regarding the lack of assessment for tree and hedgerow loss along the route.</p> <p>NG can confirm that tree and hedgerow loss will be assessed as part of the assessment of effects on landscape character during construction and operation. This will also be captured within the Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Ecology Biodiversity Net Gain assessment.</p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>E-mail received on 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 suggested that concerns had been raised regarding the lack of assessment for tree and hedgerow loss along the route.</p> <p>Statutory Consultation (2024) response for BMSDC identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous instances where we judge the extent of significant impacts on landscape character and receptors would be greater than identified in the PEIR.</li> <li>In relation to visual impact, we understand that the Visual Receptor Areas are a pragmatic way of organising the data, but fear clarity and detail may have been lost as a result.</li> <li>Visual Receptor Areas B4, B5 and B6 do not appear to be labelled on Figure 3 Pages 3 or 4.</li> <li>Suggested changes to siting, alignment, viewpoint assessments and visualisations that have not necessarily been addressed.</li> <li>Instances where we judge the operational impacts would be wider than stated in the PEIR</li> </ul>	Under discussion
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The assessment of effects during</p>	<p>Statutory Consultation (2024) response for BMSDC identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Numerous instances where we judge the extent of significant impacts on landscape</li> </ul>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>BMSDC comments are noted, and NG will continue to engage with BSMDC on this matter.</p>	<p>character and receptors would be greater than stated in the PEIR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In relation to visual impact, we understand that the Visual Receptor Areas are a pragmatic way of organising the data, but fear clarity and detail may have been lost as a result.</li> <li>• Visual Receptor Areas B4, B5 and B6 do not appear to be labelled on Figure 3 Pages 3 or 4.</li> <li>• Suggested changes to siting, alignment, viewpoint assessments and visualisations that have not necessarily been addressed.</li> <li>• Instances where we judge the operational impacts would be wider than stated in the PEIR</li> </ul>	
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p>	<p>No comments received on the structure of the Outline CoCP (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Iterations) at the time of writing. It is therefore assumed that the structure of the CoCP is agreed.</p> <p>The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p>Meeting held in March 2025 to discuss the second iteration of the Outline CoCP.</p> <p>A further iteration of the Outline CoCP was issued in May 2025 following the meeting and feedback in writing.</p>		
3.8.13	Outline LEMP	<p>The LEMP includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual)</b> of the ES and is appropriate.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>	The content and structure of the oLEMP is still under discussion as highlighted in emails sent on October 22 <sup>nd</sup> 2024 and 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2024.	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	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Socioeconomics, 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.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.8.2	Study area	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated: <i>"The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities"</i>.</p> <p>A meeting was held on 14th November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion.</p> <p>BMSDC stated in their statutory consultation response: <i>"It is welcomed that the Study Area has been expanded to include Ipswich, Norwich and West Suffolk, but it is unclear whether there has been any direct engagement with these councils to understand their</i></p>	<p>BMSDC stated in their statutory consultation response: <i>"It is welcomed that the Study Area has been expanded to include Ipswich, Norwich and West Suffolk, but it is unclear whether there has been any direct engagement with these councils to understand their position in relation to the potential impact of this proposal."</i></p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p><i>position in relation to the potential impact of this proposal."</i></p> <p>NG can confirm that Ipswich, Norwich and West Suffolk received the PEIR and will be added to the communication list for the 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration of the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Technical Note.</p>		
3.8.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES.</b></p> <p>In response to the statutory consultation response: baseline data on employment and economic activity have been gathered for the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism PEIR assessment. This will also be undertaken for ES stage. However, for the purpose of local economy and employment assessment, one dataset is required for the Wider Study Area in order to maintain a proportionate assessment.</p>	<p>Statutory consultation response: "A range of the data in the PEIR is not broken down by District. There is a huge variation in this data across the region and it would be preferable if this data wasn't amalgamated in this way."</p>	Under discussion
3.8.4	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</i></p>	<p>BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		<p><i>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.</p>		
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment are summarised in <b>Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism are presented in <b>Section 15.5 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects, are set out in <b>Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and</p>	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects during construction are summarised in <b>Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socioeconomics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and set out in the Outline CoCP [document reference 7.2]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in <b>Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.8.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in <b>Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in <b>Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

#### 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 <b>Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism)</b> of the <b>ES</b>. and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>No comments received on the structure of the Outline CoCP (1st and 2nd Iterations) at the time of writing. It is therefore assumed that the structure of the CoCP is agreed.</p> <p>The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.</p>	Under discussion
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#### Other matters as required

## 3.10 Cumulative Effects

Table 3.10 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Cumulative Effects

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance</b>				
3.10.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Cumulative Effects assessment is presented in <b>Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)</b> and <b>Section 17.2 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the ES.  All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Approach and Methods</b>				
3.10.2	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
3.10.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within <b>Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the ES.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.10.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	
3.10.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Cumulative Effects assessment are summarised in <b>Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Baseline Conditions</b>				
3.10.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Cumulative Effects are presented in <b>Section 17.5 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</b>				
3.10.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Cumulative Effects, are set out in <b>Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.10.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Cumulative Effects during construction are summarised in	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
		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 adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
3.10.9	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.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
<b>EIA – Assessment Conclusions</b>				
3.10.10	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.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.10.11	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.	BMSDC's position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils' Position	Status
<b>Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring</b>				
3.10.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in <b>Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects)</b> of the <b>ES</b> and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</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>No comments received on the structure of the Outline CoCP (1st and 2nd Iterations) at the time of writing. It is therefore assumed that the structure of the CoCP is agreed.</p> <p>The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.</p>	Under discussion
<b>Other matters as required</b>				

### 3.11 Development Consent Order

Table 3.11 Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion in relation to Development Consent Order

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's Position	Status
3.111.1	DCO Requirements			
	DCO Wording			
	Other matters as required			

# 4. Confirmation of Agreement

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

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

.....

Date:

.....

Signed for and on behalf of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council:

.....

Date:

.....

# Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Reference
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BMSDC	Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council
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
EPS	Essex Place Services
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

Abbreviation	Full Reference
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation
Zol	Zone of Influence
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

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