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Borough Council - Clean Version

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared relating to the application for development consent for the proposed Norwich to Tilbury project (the 'Project') made by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (referred to as 'National Grid' within this document). It has been prepared in accordance with the guidance published by the Department of Communities and Local Government (Department for Communities and Local Government, 2015).
- 1.1.2 This SoCG has been prepared by National Grid as the Applicant and Brentwood Borough Council (BBC). Brentwood Borough Council is a prescribed consultee under Section 43 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) as a Host Authority.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.
- 1.1.4 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties. It identifies areas of the Project within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application ('the Application'), where matters are agreed, under discussion or not agreed between the parties.
- 1.1.5 The engagement between the parties across the breadth of matters is ongoing. The SoCG is an evolving document and detailed wording within it is still being discussed between the parties.
- 1.1.6 This draft SoCG has been prepared at an early stage of the DCO examination process, for Deadline 1. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the Project progresses and shared with Brentwood Borough Council at key points for discussion.
- 1.1.7 Future iterations will evolve from this point and all parties reserve the right to supplement the matters identified as we progress the discussions to ensure it is comprehensive. There are many items within it that although not currently agreed have the potential to be resolved. 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.
- 1.1.8 The parties will continue to work together, seeking resolution where appropriate to ensure this SoCG is a reliable and up to date document which can inform the examination.
- 1.1.9 This SoCG has been structured to reflect topics of the Application which are relevant to BBC. The applicable matters considered within this SoCG apply to BBC'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

Brentwood Borough Council will have regard to any points raised by statutory bodies and other relevant Interested Parties in respect of the matters covered in the SoCG. Therefore, this version reflects the current position of Brentwood Borough Council but may be subject to change during the examination. A final position will be recorded in the final SoCG to be submitted close to the examination.

1.2 Project Description

1.2.1 The Project is a proposal by National Grid to upgrade the electricity transmission system in East Anglia between Norwich and Tilbury, comprising:

- A new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 180 km overall length from Norwich Main Substation to Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation, a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and a new Tilbury North Substation, including:
 - Approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 509 pylons, either standard steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 m in height) or low height steel lattice pylons (approximately 40 m in height) and some of which would be gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds or existing or proposed substations
 - Approximately 21 km of 400 kV underground cabling, some of which would be located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB1))
- Up to seven new CSE compounds (with permanent access) to connect the overhead lines to the underground cables
- Modification works to connect into the existing Norwich Main Substation and a substation extension at the existing Bramford Substation
- A new 400 kV substation on the Tendring Peninsula, referred to as the EACN Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be an Air Insulated Switchgear (AIS) substation
- A new 400 kV substation to the south of Orsett Golf Course in Essex, referred to as the Tilbury North Substation (with a new permanent access). This is proposed to be a Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) substation

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

1.3 Format and Structure of this Document

- 1.3.1 This SoCG is structured as follows:
- **Section 2** provides a summary of the key engagement undertaken to date with BBC
 - **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 BBC on the Project throughout the pre-application process. This has included:
- Non-statutory consultation in Spring 2022 and Summer 2023
 - Statutory consultation in Spring 2024
 - Targeted consultations in Spring 2025
 - Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
 - Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
 - One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
 - Sharing of papers and documentation at key stages
- 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 BBC.
- 2.2.2 It is agreed that the below is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between National Grid and Brentwood Borough Council in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

Table 2.1 Summary of Key Engagement between National Grid and Brentwood Borough Council

Date	Format	Topic/Description
General		
August 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch-up and consultation feedback with BBC.
September 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2022	Meeting	Informal project catch up with BBC
November 2022	Meeting	Briefings on issued response to questions from OffSET with all host authorities.
November 2022	Meeting	All host authority workshop.

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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the 2 nd iteration draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
May 2025	Email correspondence	National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCoCP)
May 2025	Email correspondence	National Grid issued a new appendix to the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (oCoCP) - Appendix H, Draft Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy
May 2025	Email correspondence	National Grid issued the Long List of Other Developments
June 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued draft DCO, explanatory memorandum and draft requirements
July 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
August 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued draft Heads of Terms for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and off-site tree provision
August 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
September 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
November 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2026	Meeting	All host authority workshop
Ecology and Biodiversity		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology for review ahead of the Thematic Group meeting.
July 2022	Meeting	Ecology and Biodiversity Thematic Group meeting - National Grid presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from BBC 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.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Thematic Group call.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including BBC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the second iteration of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared second iteration of the Outline LEMP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a technical note to all host authorities outlining the protected species proposed mitigation measures for agreement/comment.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Strategy.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA).
April 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on second iteration of proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss the updated Proposed Protected Species Mitigation document.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued an updated iteration of the draft Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP).

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared a new appendix to the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP) – Appendix D, Outline Landscape Proposals
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid hosted a meeting to discuss comments from the updated proposed mitigation for species outside the remit of Natural England.
Air Quality		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
October 2025	Meeting	Optional thematic group meeting to discuss feedback on the Noise and Vibration section of the Environmental Statement.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss and agree the proposed assessment scope and methodology for the Health and Wellbeing chapter of the ES.
October 2024	Technical note	National Grid issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid presented an updated approach to defining study areas, scoping of walkover and scoping of historic buildings to consider in the assessment, in response to feedback received.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the plans showing the proposed viewpoint locations for landscape and heritage ahead of the Thematic Group meeting in February 2023 to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid issued a technical note to Historic England and host authorities to agree methodology for the selection of viewpoints for the Historic Environment assessment.
September 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed heritage viewpoint methodology with all host authorities and Historic England.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss the proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with host authorities and Historic England. Feedback was received from stakeholders regarding proposed viewpoints and additional viewpoints were proposed.
November 2023	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group meeting to discuss proposed locations of heritage viewpoints with all host authorities and Historic England. Viewpoint locations shared in PDF and shapefile.
January 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid shared the updated Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Geophysical Surveys with the Archaeology Working Group Members.
March 2024	Email Correspondence	Project response to Stakeholder feedback on Heritage Viewpoints.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
February 2025	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Technical note	National Grid shared the Draft Heritage Baseline Report with Annex C and D.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic Group Meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline report
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including BBC.
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.
May 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
June 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting
June 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid share an Archaeological fieldwork summary for comment.
July 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
August 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
September 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group Meeting.
October 2025	Meeting	Optional thematic group meeting to discuss feedback on the heritage section of the Environmental Statement

Landscape and Visual

July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
February 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting to discuss proposed viewpoint locations in Essex. National Grid sought agreement on the viewpoint locations to include in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and the ES.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid presented and discussed the responses to the feedback on the viewpoint locations received from the February meeting (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

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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the draft Arboricultural Impact Assessment.
May 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid shared the next iteration of the Outline LEMP including Appendix D – Outline Landscape Proposals.
October 2025	Meeting	Optional thematic group meeting to discuss feedback on the Landscape section of the Environmental Statement.
October 2025	Meeting	Further optional thematic group meeting to discuss feedback on the Landscape section of the Environmental Statement.
January 2026	Meeting	Joint meeting attended by LPA's who are represented by Essex Place service for Landscape to discuss the Statement of Common Ground.
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid held a Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism Thematic Group Meeting to seek feedback on the proposed approach to the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment prior to formal submission of the Scoping Report to the Planning Inspectorate. This meeting was attended by several stakeholders, including BBC.
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.

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

3. Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to Brentwood Borough Council which have been agreed, not agreed or are under discussion between the parties. Matters are arranged by topic (using broad headings, or EIA chapter headings where appropriate) and each matter is given a unique reference number to aid identification.
- 3.1.2 The red, amber, green status shows the level of agreement with BBC. 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 Table 3.3 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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
Strategic options/needs case				
3.2.1	Needs case	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. Norwich to Tilbury is listed as a key project in Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report. Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1).	BBC recognises the national importance of delivering grid reinforcement to support the transition to a low-carbon energy network. However, the Council objects to the Norwich to Tilbury proposals as currently submitted because they fail to demonstrate full consideration of credible alternatives and do not adequately address the significant environmental, social, and economic impacts on Brentwood's communities, landscape, heritage, and strategic growth areas.	Under discussion
3.2.2	Project timing	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	BBC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025): BBC acknowledge that the grid capacity offered by the Norwich to Tilbury project is needed by the timescales proposed, noting NESO's Clean Power Action Plan. However, BBC also supports the ECC position that the	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		formally agreed in contracts with energy generators (or customers) by NESO. Appendix 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report shows that the constraint costs associated with a delay to the project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion. Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1).	applicant must not restrict the justification on future network expansion solely based on the ESO contracted position, particularly when this limits the proper consideration of alternatives in accordance with good planning.	
3.2.3	Onshore route	An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same 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. 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. Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant	While BBC recognises the national need for grid reinforcement, it considers that the submission of this DCO (Development Consent Order) application is premature because credible alternatives have not been fully assessed. The Council objects to the application on this basis and urges the Applicant to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of options that could deliver the required capacity with significantly reduced environmental and community impacts. In particular, the Council seeks further investigation of a coordinated offshore solution and High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) undergrounding, both of which were identified in the ESO East Anglia Network Study as viable alternatives. Furthermore, in the NG Eastern Green Link 3 and 4 Strategic Options Report, it is suggested in paragraph 5.0.3 that capital costs for	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		representations process (document reference 8.4.1).	alternative solutions are similar. Therefore, these options should be evaluated transparently, with robust cost-benefit analysis and consideration of planning, environmental, and socio-economic implications before progressing with an overhead line solution. This is especially the case in the context of a national housing crisis and with BBC making strenuous efforts to deliver housing through its Local Plan to meet identified need, which is in no way aided by the OHL solution and the broader visual blighting of potential development land along the route within Brentwood and beyond.	
3.2.4	Predominantly overhead line route	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. Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including underground alternatives. The work undertaken shows that undergrounding, including using HVDC cables, would be significantly more expensive and have environmental impacts and present engineering	While BBC recognises the national need for grid reinforcement, it considers that the submission of this DCO (Development Consent Order) application is premature because credible alternatives have not been fully assessed. The Council objects to the application on this basis and urges the Applicant to undertake a comprehensive appraisal of options that could deliver the required capacity with significantly reduced environmental and community impacts. In particular, the Council seeks further investigation of a coordinated offshore solution and High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) undergrounding, both of which were identified in the ESO East Anglia Network Study as viable alternatives. Furthermore, in	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		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. Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1).	the NG Eastern Green Link 3 and 4 Strategic Options Report, it is suggested in paragraph 5.0.3 that capital costs for alternative solutions are similar. Therefore, these options should be evaluated transparently, with robust cost-benefit analysis and consideration of planning, environmental, and socio-economic implications before progressing with an overhead line solution. This is especially the case in the context of a national housing crisis and with BBC making strenuous efforts to deliver housing through its Local Plan to meet identified need, which is in no way aided by the OHL solution and the broader visual blighting of potential development land along the route within Brentwood and beyond.	
Project development process - Design				
3.2.5	Haverings Grove	National Grid has taken into account the potential effect of its proposals when developing the route alignment. We have considered several alternatives in this area to move the alignment further west from Haverings Grove. We are proposing to underground part of the 132 kV overhead line in this area which therefore facilitates the change to the alignment slightly further to the west. The residual effects in the area around Haverings Grove will be reported in the Environmental Statement supporting the DCO.	BBC acknowledges and welcomes the changes to the proposals at Haverings Grove made during National Grid's targeted consultation, including the undergrounding of approximately 2km of the existing UKPN 132kV line, the repositioning of pylons TB209 to TB211, and the relocation of the temporary construction laydown area. However, despite these refinements, the Council maintains its objection to the proposed alignment in this locality. The routing of the 400kV overhead line along the northern, western, and southern boundaries	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1).	of Haverings Grove creates a harmful severing effect, acting as an imposing physical barrier between the settlement and Hutton. The proximity of the transmission line to residential properties at this 'pinch point' exacerbates the adverse impact on local amenity and community cohesion. The Council reiterates its request for serious consideration of alternative solutions, including re-routing or undergrounding, to mitigate these impacts. In addition, concerns remain regarding the suitability of proposed access routes for construction compounds, which risk unacceptable disruption to local agricultural operations. BBC seeks reassurance that these access arrangements have been fully assessed and that appropriate mitigation will be secured through enforceable requirements within the DCO.	
3.2.6	Dunton Hills Garden Village	National Grid has taken into account the potential effect of its proposals when developing the route alignment. In this location we have to work within the context of the planning status of other projects, including the Dunton Hills Garden Village proposals. National Grid has developed its proposal in this area in line with EN-1 and EN-5, the starting presumption being overhead line as the area is not subject to a national landscape designation (or within its setting) which would lead to a change in technology (underground cable) in	Brentwood Borough Council considers that: • The Applicant has not adequately assessed the impact of the proposed alignment on the deliverability and viability of DHGV, contrary to Holford Rule 7 and NPS EN-1 and EN-5. • Evidence commissioned by Essex County Council (Savills) indicates that overhead pylons could reduce residual land value by approximately £17.5m, materially affecting viability and the	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		line with EN-5. We do not consider the level of effects meets the threshold for undergrounding elsewhere as set out in 2.9.23 of EN-5. The 2024 Design Development Report identified that there would be a direct loss of development footprint by the use of underground cable. The current proposed overhead line alignment follows the corridor created by the safety zone of an existing gas pipeline, which in combination with detailed master planning, would substantially mitigate potential effects on developable land and indirect effects. Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1). <u>National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BBC on this matter.</u>	ability to deliver affordable housing and infrastructure. • The proposals undermine Garden Community principles and the design quality required by Policy R01 and R02 of the Brentwood Local Plan. The Council requests that the Applicant: • Demonstrates how the scheme will avoid or mitigate these impacts, including consideration of alternative alignments or undergrounding. • Provides clear commitments within the DCO to safeguard the delivery of DHGV and associated infrastructure. • Engages jointly with Brentwood, Essex, and Basildon to agree measures that protect strategic growth objectives.	
3.2.7	Sensitivity of land east of Ingatestone	National Grid has taken into account the potential effect of its proposals when developing the route alignment. National Grid has developed its proposal in this area in line with EN-1 and EN-5, the starting assumption being overhead line as the area is not subject to a landscape designation (or within its setting) which would lead to a change in technology (underground cable) in line with EN-5. We do not consider the level of effects meets the threshold for undergrounding elsewhere as set out in 2.9.23 of EN-5.	There remains concern that despite the change in the route alignment there is a continued risk of significant adverse heritage, landscape and visual effects in this location, highlighting the need for serious consideration of re-routing or undergrounding in this area of particular sensitivity.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		The ES includes relevant assessments, including Heritage Impact Assessment and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) which have been undertaken to assess the level of effects from the Project. On the basis of the assessments, no change to the technology in this location is proposed. These assessments will be presented in the Environmental Statement (ES) and will identify any need for additional mitigation.		
Project development process - Consultation				
3.2.8	2022 non-statutory consultation	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. The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.	BBC acknowledges the non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the Consultation Strategy. BBC refers to its response to this consultation dated in August 2023 and awaits sight of the Consultation Report to assess the consultation responses that were received	Under discussion
3.2.9	2023 non-statutory consultation	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. The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.	BBC acknowledges the non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the Consultation Strategy. BBC refers to its response to this consultation dated in August 2023 and awaits sight of the Consultation Report to assess the consultation responses that were received.	Under discussion
3.2.10	2024 statutory consultation	Statutory Consultation took place from Wednesday 10 April 2024 to 26 July 2024 (the	BBC acknowledges the statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		end date was extended from 18 June 2024 due to the general election.) Details of this consultation are outlined in the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC). Responses to feedback received during statutory consultation is contained within the Consultation Report [APP-066]. The statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published SoCC.	with the Statement of Community Consultation. BBC refers to its response to this consultation in July 2024 and awaits sight of the Consultation Report to assess the consultation responses that were received.	
3.2.11	2025 targeted consultation	Targeted consultations for Essex took place from 25 February 2025 – 27 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 is contained within the Consultation Report [APP-066]. The targeted consultations were undertaken in accordance with the published Targeted Consultation Strategy. 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).	BBC acknowledges the targeted consultation was undertaken in accordance with the Consultation Strategy. BBC refers to its response to this consultation in March 2025 and awaits sight of the Consultation Report to assess the consultation responses that were received. BBC highlighted in its response to the targeted consultation and AoCM a number of areas where the consultation process including the lack of feedback to the statutory consultation undertaken in summer 2024 and which informed the scope of the targeted consultation, was considered harmful to the transparency and legitimacy of the process.	Under discussion
Other matters as required				
3.2.12	Community Benefits	Socio-economic impacts on the local economy and the tourism sector are assessed in 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 - Socio-	BBC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		economics, Recreation and Tourism [APP-265]. The chapter concludes that there would be no significant impacts on the local economy as a result of the Project. In addition to the ES, the Applicant is committed to providing a coordinated local and regional approach to community benefits. The Government has published its guidance on community funds for transmission infrastructure (DESNZ, 2025). The Applicant is committed to working with Ofgem, industry partners, local communities and their representatives to ensure community benefits are delivered fairly and effectively, driving lasting, positive change for the people and places integral to our developing electricity network. This would be delivered outside the development consent process, since it is not a material consideration in the decision on the Project or a matter to be secured as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO), as per the Community Funds for Transmission Infrastructure: Guidance (DESNZ, 2025) 14. Therefore, any community benefit or investment would be captured under the National Grid Community Grant Scheme and dealt with separately to the EIA. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BBC on this matter.	BBC strongly encourage NGET to positively respond to the issue of social value and community benefits as set out in our response to the statutory consultation in 2024 particularly having regard to the Government's recently published Community Funds for Transmission Infrastructure. In particular, significant benefits should be realised from N2T for education, skills, and employment during construction and operation.	

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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.3.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 8.2 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed. BBC confirmed in call regarding the Statement of Common Ground in January 2026 that this matter is considered agreed.	Agreed
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.3.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.3.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. Further survey information from the 2025 season has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in November 2025, achieving coverage of 97% of the Order Limits.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed apart from in relation to bat survey data which requires further information.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.3.4	Assessment Methodology	The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
3.3.5	Survey Methodology	National Grid issued a Technical Note in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment. All methodologies for surveying licensable species, including water voles have been agreed with Natural England. Refer to information positions presented in ID 3.3.19.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed apart from in relation to survey methodology for bats which requires further information.	Agreed
3.3.6	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Ecology and Biodiversity assessment are summarised in Section 8.4 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. National Grid await further response from BBC on requirements.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue that it is under review and that BBC will provide further comment following consideration around reinstatement.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. Further survey information from the 2025 season has been submitted to PINS in	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue that it is agreed for all areas apart from in relation to baseline conditions and receptors for bats which requires further information (see ID3.3.20).	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		November 2025, achieving coverage of 97% of the Order Limits.		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.3.8	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Ecology and Biodiversity effects, are set out in Section 8.6 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
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 [AS-026] and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. National Grid issued the 'Summary of Proposed Protected Species Mitigation' document on 16th January 2025. NG will take on board the comments received from BBC when further developing the mitigation outlined in the ES.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is considered agreed for all areas apart from in relation to standard mitigation for bats (see ID3.3.21).	Agreed
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 [AS-026] . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.		
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 [AS-026]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. Updated position (February 2026): Table 8.23 and 8.24 within biodiversity chapter do not restate a specific timeframe for residual effects because the duration of impacts has already been assessed and defined within the magnitude assessment using the agreed categories of short term (up to 1 year), medium term (1–10 years) and long term (greater than 10 years). Duration, along with other magnitude components, is fully considered and described in the earlier stages of the assessment, where it informs the evaluation of unmitigated effects. This approach reflects standard EIA practice, in which the residual effects section presents the final significance outcome, with the underlying factors—such as duration—embedded within the earlier magnitude assessment rather than restated. The survey approach to bat roost surveys has been agreed with Natural England (the statutory responsible body for bats) and is considered a pragmatic approach to a project of	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue that it is still under discussion for reasons outlined in their SoCG.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		this scale. Full aerial/emergence surveys will be undertaken on trees due to be lost during detailed design. Any roost affected will be covered under a Natural England licence following pre-agreed mitigation measures.		
3.3.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 8.7 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.3.13	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Updated position (February 2026): Full details of the ECoW's qualifications / experience will be provided within the Final CoCP. As stated within the management plans the ECoW will be supported by a range of species specialists as required, this will include a bat licenced surveyor.	BBC supports the ECC position that this matter is still under discussion, and that further clarification is sought around Ecological Clerk of Works.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.3.14	Outline LEMP	The Outline LEMP [AS-046] includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] and is appropriate. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP [AS-046]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Updated position (February 2026): Natural England (the statutory responsible body for bats) have approved the method to classify potential roost features which are in line with standard guidelines. A risk-based approach has been taken when assessing trees for their hibernation potential for bats. While some features assessed as PRF-I or PRF-M may allow individual bats to hibernate for very short periods of time, only tree features where the PRF is highly likely to provide constant cool, stable and humid conditions, and therefore a higher likelihood of being used for longer periods of time, have been highlighted as having hibernation potential. For a project of such a large scale, to assume hibernation for all trees with any PRF is not reasonable and not realistic to apply appropriate and effective mitigation while ensuring project feasibility. The approach to mitigation involves all trees with PRFs that will be unavoidably impacted will undergo an updated GLTA survey and aerial /	BBC supports the ECC position that this matter is still under discussion, and that further clarification is sought around bat hibernation.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		emergence surveys, during which time the potential of each feature can be re-assessed for its suitability for hibernation using the same assessment as outlined above.		
Other matters as required				
3.3.15	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) – Onsite and Assessment	National Grid will deliver at least 10 % BNG with wider environmental and societal benefits on its construction projects. The Biodiversity Net Gain Report [APP-299] sets out the approach to BNG. National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain strategy with stakeholders in January 2025.	BBC would like an assurance that BNG initiatives will be relevant to the affected areas of the authority and co-developed with the relevant stakeholders. BBC also supports the ECC position that NG should aim for 20% rather than 10% BNG. BBC would like this matter to remain under discussion. This matter cannot be considered fully accepted and agreed until the issue presented in ID 3.3.6 is resolved.	Under discussion
3.3.16	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) - Offsite	National Grid will deliver at least 10 % BNG with wider environmental and societal benefits on its construction projects. The Biodiversity Net Gain Report [APP-299] sets out the approach to BNG. Offsite BNG will be delivered through collaboration with partners and purchased from commercially registered providers.	The Council notes that BNG is proposed, which is welcomed in principle, but there is no clarity on how off-site habitat creation will benefit Brentwood or how long-term monitoring will be secured beyond the proposed five-year period. BBC confirmed in meeting regarding the Statement of Common Ground in January 2026 that this matter is still under discussion, and that further clarification is sought around Offsite BNG.	Under discussion
3.3.17	Arboriculture Impact Assessment (AIA)	National Grid issued the draft Arboricultural Impact Assessment in March 2025. National Grid will be seeking to retain the veteran trees through their detailed design.	BBC objects to the removal of veteran trees and any direct or indirect impact on ancient woodland within its administrative area. The Council considers that the proposed mitigation is inadequate and fails to comply	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Paragraph 7.2.41 of the 5.6 Planning Statement [APP-085] and Section 9.7 of the 7.4 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [AS-046] [APP-321] set out the Applicant's position on landscape compensation. The 7.4 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [AS-046] [APP-321] confirms off-site provision for tree replacement may be required; where this is the case, this is considered to be compensation. Landscape compensation measures are considered in relation to the mitigation hierarchy but there is no requirement under policy to compensate for all residual effects. The residual effects that remain following the application of the mitigation hierarchy and any compensation provided then falls to the planning balance. Commitment GG14 of the CoCP states: <i>'Following detailed design and prior to construction (of relevant parts of the Project), relevant surveys will be undertaken of arboricultural features that may be impacted or need to be removed to ensure any tree/ hedgerow removal is reduced as far as practicable.'</i> National Grid will continue to discuss this matter with BBC.	with EN-1 policy requirements for irreplaceable habitats. While National Grid proposes a 3:1 replacement planting ratio, this constitutes reinstatement rather than compensation and lacks detail on stock size, biosecurity, and aftercare. BBC therefore requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable commitments for a full Arboricultural Method Statement, justification for any veteran tree loss, and appropriate compensation measures. Replacement planting must meet minimum standards, including 10–12 cm girth stock sourced from biosecure nurseries and maintained in accordance with BS8545. In addition, the Council seeks a strategic tree and woodland compensation package beyond reinstatement to offset residual harm.	Under discussion
3.3.18	Data sources (bats)	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 [AS-026].	As for the survey data, circa 12.5% of the Order Limits are still undergoing ecological survey. There are also certain protected species surveys where the results are more incomplete (for otter and water vole only 65% reported; see also ES Chapter 8, Table	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Further survey information from the 2025 season has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in November 2025, achieving coverage of 97% of the Order Limits.	8.4). This missing information in the dataset is anticipated to be provided in November 2025; position pending.	
3.3.19	Survey Methodology (Bats)	National Grid issued a Technical Note in May 2024 outlining survey methods and the scope of surveys for species outside the remit of Natural England for agreement / comment. All methodologies for surveying licensable species have been agreed with Natural England. The survey approach to bat roost surveys has been agreed with Natural England and is considered a pragmatic approach to a project of this scale. Full aerial/emergence surveys will be undertaken on trees due to be lost during detailed design. Any roost affected will be covered under a Natural England licence following pre-agreed mitigation measures.	Whilst bat roost climbing inspections for every PRF-M and FAR tree at risk of impact is perhaps not a practical expectation, ECC believes further survey effort prior to DCO consent is feasible. Enough at-height inspection surveys should be possible to facilitate a data-based estimation of the percentage of the PRF-M and FAR trees that will support non-minor bat roosting and will be lost to the project. This would lead to a better supported estimation of impact and the design of a more confidently proportionate mitigation/compensation scheme.	Under discussion
3.3.20	Baseline conditions and receptors (Bats)	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in Section 8.5 of Chapter 8 (Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. The survey approach to bat roost surveys has been agreed with Natural England and is considered a pragmatic approach to a project of this scale. Full aerial/emergence surveys will be undertaken on trees due to be lost during detailed design. Any roost affected will be	BBC confirmed in meeting regarding the Statement of Common Ground in January 2026 that the baseline conditions and receptors for roosting bats requires further information and review.	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		covered under a Natural England licence following pre-agreed mitigation measures.		
3.3.21	Standard mitigation (Bats)	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 [AS-026] and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. The mitigation approach to bat roost surveys has been agreed with Natural England and is considered a pragmatic approach to a project of this scale. Full aerial/emergence surveys will be undertaken on trees due to be lost during detailed design. Any roost affected will be covered under a Natural England licence following pre-agreed mitigation measures.	Measure B16's assumption that any action requiring a Natural England derogation licence can be "<i>reasonably anticipated to maintain the favourable conservation status of a species or provide a conservation benefit</i>" is considered unsound. ECC considers that the widespread lack of effective post mitigation licence monitoring does not allow for reliable 'reasonable anticipation' of success in situations where derogation licensing is covering non-minor impacts. This is particularly relevant to the concerns stated for ID 3.3.11. BBC confirmed in meeting regarding the Statement of Common Ground on 14 January 2026 that the standard mitigation for bats requires further information and review.	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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.4.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Air Quality assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 7.2 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.4.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
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 Section 7.4 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.4.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Air Quality are presented in Section 7.5 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.4.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Air Quality effects, are set out in Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BBC is concerned that the proposed construction activities, including the movement of heavy goods vehicles, haul road operations, and extended working hours, will lead to increased emissions and dust generation, adversely affecting local air quality. These impacts are likely to be most pronounced near sensitive receptors such as residential areas, schools, and recreational spaces, particularly around Havering Grove. While the ES identifies mitigation measures, the Council considers these insufficient given the scale and duration of the works. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable commitments for robust air quality management, including continuous monitoring at agreed locations, dust	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
			suppression measures, and restrictions on vehicle idling, to ensure compliance with national air quality objectives and protect public health.	
3.4.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): The mitigation measures specified are aligned with industry standard best practice IAQM construction dust guidance and are considered appropriate for the level of dust risk impact anticipated from the Project. There is scope in the Outline CoCP (7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [APP-300]) for agreeing location specific mitigation measures once construction activities and locations are further developed through detailed design.	BBC is concerned that the proposed construction activities, including the movement of heavy goods vehicles, haul road operations, and extended working hours, will lead to increased emissions and dust generation, adversely affecting local air quality. These impacts are likely to be most pronounced near sensitive receptors such as residential areas, schools, and recreational spaces, particularly around Havering Grove. While the ES identifies mitigation measures, the Council considers these insufficient given the scale and duration of the works. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable commitments for robust air quality management, including continuous monitoring at agreed locations, dust suppression measures, and restrictions on vehicle idling, to ensure compliance with national air quality objectives and protect public health.	Under discussion
3.4.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 7.6 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and	BBC is concerned that the proposed construction activities, including the movement of heavy goods vehicles, haul road operations, and extended working hours, will lead to increased emissions and	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): The mitigation measures specified are aligned with industry standard best practice IAQM construction dust guidance and are considered appropriate for the level of dust risk impact anticipated from the Project. There is scope in the Outline CoCP (7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [APP-300]) for agreeing location specific mitigation measures once construction activities and locations are further developed through detailed design.	dust generation, adversely affecting local air quality. These impacts are likely to be most pronounced near sensitive receptors such as residential areas, schools, and recreational spaces, particularly around Havering Grove. While the ES identifies mitigation measures, the Council considers these insufficient given the scale and duration of the works. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable commitments for robust air quality management, including continuous monitoring at agreed locations, dust suppression measures, and restrictions on vehicle idling, to ensure compliance with national air quality objectives and protect public health.	

EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.4.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 7.7 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. Updated position (February 2026): The construction dust assessment was carried out in line with the IAQM construction dust assessment guidance. Dust is likely to be generated by the Project and mitigation is designed so there would be no significant effect on	BBC is concerned that the proposed construction activities, including the movement of heavy goods vehicles, haul road operations, and extended working hours, will lead to increased emissions and dust generation, adversely affecting local air quality. These impacts are likely to be most pronounced near sensitive receptors such as residential areas, schools, and recreational spaces, particularly around Havering Grove. While the ES identifies mitigation measures, the Council considers these insufficient given the scale and	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		sensitive receptors, including those around Havering Grove. The mitigation measures specified are aligned with industry standard best practice IAQM construction dust guidance and are considered appropriate for the level of dust risk impact anticipated from the Project. There is scope in the Outline CoCP (7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [APP-300]) for agreeing location specific mitigation measures once construction activities and locations are further developed through detailed design.	duration of the works. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable commitments for robust air quality management, including continuous monitoring at agreed locations, dust suppression measures, and restrictions on vehicle idling, to ensure compliance with national air quality objectives and protect public health.	
3.4.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 7.7 of Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP [APP-300] includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in Chapter 7 (Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.	BBC is concerned that the proposed construction activities, including the movement of heavy goods vehicles, haul road operations, and extended working hours, will lead to increased emissions and dust generation, adversely affecting local air	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Updated position (February 2026): There is scope in the Outline CoCP [APP-300] for agreeing location specific mitigation measures once construction activities and locations are further developed through detailed design.	quality. These impacts are likely to be most pronounced near sensitive receptors such as residential areas, schools, and recreational spaces, particularly around Havering Grove. While the ES identifies mitigation measures, the Council considers these insufficient given the scale and duration of the works. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable commitments for robust air quality management, including continuous monitoring at agreed locations, dust suppression measures, and restrictions on vehicle idling, to ensure compliance with national air quality objectives and protect public health.	

Other matters as required

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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.5.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Noise and Vibration assessment is presented in Chapter 2	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		(Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 14.2 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.5.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.5.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
3.5.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.5.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Noise and Vibration are summarised in Section 14.4 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.5.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Noise and Vibration are presented in Section 14.5 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Noise and Vibration effects, are set out in Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): The Applicant does not agree that the ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction. On the contrary, the ES indicates that significant adverse effects are not expected at any location including in the Brentwood Borough, due to construction noise and vibration. Suitable noise and vibration control measures are detailed in the ES, the Code of Construction	The ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction, particularly near haul roads, compounds, and pylon sites. BBC considers that the mitigation proposed is insufficient given the proximity of works to residential areas and recreational spaces. Extended working hours will exacerbate these impacts, reducing opportunities for respite and affecting health and wellbeing. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure robust noise control measures, including enforceable limits, continuous monitoring, and clear commitments to provide temporary noise barriers where appropriate. BBC notes that the ES identifies potential vibration impacts on sensitive structures	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Practice [APP-300], and the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan [APP-306].	during construction, including listed buildings and historic farmsteads. While mitigation measures are referenced, the Council is concerned about the lack of detail on monitoring and response protocols. Vibration can cause structural damage and distress to residents if not properly managed. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require enforceable commitments for pre-construction condition surveys, real-time vibration monitoring, and a clear communication protocol for affected property owners to report concerns and seek remedial action.	
3.5.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): The Applicant does not agree that the ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction. On the contrary, the ES indicates that significant adverse effects are not expected at any location including	The ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction, particularly near haul roads, compounds, and pylon sites. BBC considers that the mitigation proposed is insufficient given the proximity of works to residential areas and recreational spaces. Extended working hours will exacerbate these impacts, reducing opportunities for respite and affecting health and wellbeing. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure robust noise control measures, including enforceable limits, continuous monitoring, and clear commitments to provide temporary noise barriers where appropriate.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		in the Brentwood Borough, due to construction noise and vibration. Suitable noise and vibration control measures are detailed in the ES, the Code of Construction Practice [APP-300], and the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan [APP-306].	BBC notes that the ES identifies potential vibration impacts on sensitive structures during construction, including listed buildings and historic farmsteads. While mitigation measures are referenced, the Council is concerned about the lack of detail on monitoring and response protocols. Vibration can cause structural damage and distress to residents if not properly managed. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require enforceable commitments for pre-construction condition surveys, real-time vibration monitoring, and a clear communication protocol for affected property owners to report concerns and seek remedial action.	
3.5.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 14.6 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): The Applicant does not agree that the ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction. On the contrary, the ES indicates that significant adverse effects are not expected at any location including	The ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction, particularly near haul roads, compounds, and pylon sites. BBC considers that the mitigation proposed is insufficient given the proximity of works to residential areas and recreational spaces. Extended working hours will exacerbate these impacts, reducing opportunities for respite and affecting health and wellbeing. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure robust noise control measures, including enforceable limits, continuous monitoring, and clear	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		in the Brentwood Borough, due to construction noise and vibration. Suitable noise and vibration control measures are detailed in the ES, the Code of Construction Practice [APP-300], and the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan [APP-306].	commitments to provide temporary noise barriers where appropriate. BBC notes that the ES identifies potential vibration impacts on sensitive structures during construction, including listed buildings and historic farmsteads. While mitigation measures are referenced, the Council is concerned about the lack of detail on monitoring and response protocols. Vibration can cause structural damage and distress to residents if not properly managed. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require enforceable commitments for pre-construction condition surveys, real-time vibration monitoring, and a clear communication protocol for affected property owners to report concerns and seek remedial action.	

EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.5.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 14.7 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. Updated position (February 2026): The Applicant does not agree that the ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction. On the	The ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction, particularly near haul roads, compounds, and pylon sites. BBC considers that the mitigation proposed is insufficient given the proximity of works to residential areas and recreational spaces. Extended working hours will exacerbate these impacts, reducing opportunities for respite and affecting health and wellbeing. The Council requests that the Examining	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		contrary, the ES indicates that significant adverse effects are not expected at any location including in the Brentwood Borough, due to construction noise and vibration. Suitable noise and vibration control measures are detailed in the ES, the Code of Construction Practice [APP-300], and the Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan [APP-306].	Authority secure robust noise control measures, including enforceable limits, continuous monitoring, and clear commitments to provide temporary noise barriers where appropriate. BBC notes that the ES identifies potential vibration impacts on sensitive structures during construction, including listed buildings and historic farmsteads. While mitigation measures are referenced, the Council is concerned about the lack of detail on monitoring and response protocols. Vibration can cause structural damage and distress to residents if not properly managed. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require enforceable commitments for pre-construction condition surveys, real-time vibration monitoring, and a clear communication protocol for affected property owners to report concerns and seek remedial action.	
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 14.7 of Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. The Applicant will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP [APP-300] includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) [APP-256] of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Updated position (February 2026): The Applicant does not agree that the ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction. On the contrary, the ES indicates that significant adverse effects are not expected at any location including in the Brentwood Borough, due to construction noise and vibration.	The ES acknowledges that significant adverse noise effects will occur during construction, particularly near haul roads, compounds, and pylon sites. BBC considers that the mitigation proposed is insufficient given the proximity of works to residential areas and recreational spaces. Extended working hours will exacerbate these impacts, reducing opportunities for respite and affecting health and wellbeing. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure robust noise control measures, including enforceable limits, continuous monitoring, and clear commitments to provide temporary noise barriers where appropriate. BBC notes that the ES identifies potential vibration impacts on sensitive structures during construction, including listed buildings and historic farmsteads. While mitigation measures are referenced, the Council is concerned about the lack of detail on monitoring and response protocols. Vibration can cause structural damage and distress to residents if not properly managed. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require enforceable commitments for pre-construction condition surveys, real-time vibration monitoring, and a clear	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
			communication protocol for affected property owners to report concerns and seek remedial action.	
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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.6.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Health and Wellbeing assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 10.2 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.6.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Refreshed Approach – Technical Note issued in October 2024.	The study area was agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Refreshed Approach – Technical Note issued in October 2024. No comments received from BBC on the Health and Wellbeing Refreshed Approach – Technical Note to date. It is therefore assumed that the study area is agreed.	Agreed
3.6.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES . National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
3.6.4	Assessment methodology	A meeting was held on 24 September 2024 to agree the assessment methodology of the Health and Wellbeing ES chapter [APP-192] . The Methodology was also agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Refreshed Approach – Technical Note issued in October 2024.	A meeting was held on 24 September 2024 to agree the assessment methodology of the Health and Wellbeing ES chapter. The Methodology was also agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Refreshed Approach – Technical Note issued in October 2024. There were no comments, correspondence or objections from BBC following the meeting on 24 September, therefore it is assumed that the assessment methodology is agreed.	Agreed
3.6.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Health and Wellbeing are summarised in Section 10.4 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES . The key parameters and	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		assumptions presented are considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.6.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Health and Wellbeing are presented in Section 10.5 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. Updated position (February 2026): The proposed construction core working hours (unless otherwise approved by the relevant planning authority) are: - Monday to– Friday: 07:00 to 19:00 - Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holidays/Public Holidays: 07:00 to 17:00 Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays: 07:00 to 17:00. Details relating to the proposed construction working hours and any associated restrictions are contained within ES Chapter 4 - Project Description [APP-130]. The working hours are secured through Requirement 7 of Schedule 3 of the 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-056] (draft DCO). The assessment within the ES (Volume 6 of the DCO application) is based on a set of parameters	BBC is concerned that the proposed core working hours, 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on weekends and public holidays, are excessive and will cause unacceptable disruption to residents. These hours significantly exceed standard working hours for construction, which typically restrict weekend and holiday working to protect amenity. Extended hours will increase noise, traffic, and general disturbance in sensitive rural and residential areas, particularly near Haverings Grove. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require alignment with local standards and impose enforceable restrictions on working hours to minimise harm to public amenity.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		which includes the core working hours for the construction phase of the Project. The Noise and Vibration assessment ES Chapter 14 - Noise and Vibration [APP-256]) assessed the impact to sensitive receptors from noise and vibration during the construction phase. The assessment concluded that, with the embedded mitigation and controls set out in the Outline CoCP, [APP-300] , significant effects from noise and vibration during the construction phase are not anticipated. The measures set out within the Outline CoCP will be secured via Requirement 4(1)(a) (Construction Management Plans) of 3.1the draft DCO [APP-056] within the final CoCP. The Traffic and Transport assessment ES Chapter 16 - Traffic and Transport [APP-271] assessed the impact of construction traffic on sensitive receptors. The assessment concluded that, with the embedded mitigation and controls set out in the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan [APP-309] (Outline CTMP), significant effects are not anticipated. The measures set within the Outline CTMP will be secured via Requirement 4(1)(b) (Construction Management Plans) of 3.1 draft DCO [APP-056] the draft DCO within the final CTMP. For further context, the construction works are largely linear and would not occur along the entire length of the Project for the full duration of the construction programme. Rather, there would be periods of higher and lower intensity working in		

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		each specific geographical area. Varying shift patterns for workers and construction crews mean that downtime would occur at specific locations within the working week. These shift patterns would be rolling, and with workers not undertaking a five-day working week, the days on which downtime may occur would vary from week to week, and working will not take place every weekend or bank holiday. The defined core working hours provide essential flexibility. Importantly, the core working hours permit, but do not require, working on Sundays and public holidays. This flexibility is critical to maintaining programme resilience, allowing the Project to respond to challenges that are often outside the control of the Applicant such as adverse weather, poor ground conditions, supply chain disruption, seasonal restrictions and access constraints. Maintaining programme resilience is also necessary to accommodate interface dependencies between activities and contractors, manage delays to one work element without causing consequential delay to the overall programme, and enable safe and efficient sequencing of works where extended stoppages would be impractical or disruptive. Where progress can be recovered through limited additional working rather than prolonging the programme, this can reduce overall construction duration and avoid extended impacts on communities, traffic networks, landholdings, and the environment.		

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Any blanket restrictions on weekend and public holiday working would remove this necessary flexibility, increasing the risk of programme slippage, inefficient stop-start working, and a longer overall construction period, which would itself result in greater long-term exposure to construction impacts than occasional controlled working on those days. Such a restriction would also undermine the deliverability of this critical national priority project, where timely delivery is in the public interest. The Applicant considers that the proposed approach therefore represents a balanced and proportionate control, providing flexibility to maintain programme resilience while retaining safeguards through other DCO controls to manage impacts included in Table 6.1 of the Outline Code of Construction Practice [APP-300], including controls on nuisance-generating activities (GG17), traffic impacts (GG33), dust (AQ01), lighting (GG26), monitoring and compliance (GG09, GG01), applications for prior consent under Section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 (NV03) and advance community notification (GG30).		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.6.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Health and Wellbeing effects, are set out in Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered	BBC is concerned that the proposed core working hours, 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on weekends and public holidays, are excessive and will cause unacceptable disruption to residents. These	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. See response to ID 3.6.6.	hours significantly exceed standard working hours for construction, which typically restrict weekend and holiday working to protect amenity. Extended hours will increase noise, traffic, and general disturbance in sensitive rural and residential areas, particularly near Haverings Grove. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require alignment with local standards and impose enforceable restrictions on working hours to minimise harm to public amenity.	
3.6.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300] . The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. See response to ID 3.6.6.	BBC is concerned that the proposed core working hours, 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on weekends and public holidays, are excessive and will cause unacceptable disruption to residents. These hours significantly exceed standard working hours for construction, which typically restrict weekend and holiday working to protect amenity. Extended hours will increase noise, traffic, and general disturbance in sensitive rural and residential areas, particularly near Haverings Grove. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require alignment with local standards and impose enforceable restrictions on working hours to minimise harm to public amenity.	Under discussion
3.6.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 10.6 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered	BBC is concerned that the proposed core working hours, 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on weekends and public holidays, are excessive and will cause	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. See response to ID 3.6.6.	unacceptable disruption to residents. These hours significantly exceed standard working hours for construction, which typically restrict weekend and holiday working to protect amenity. Extended hours will increase noise, traffic, and general disturbance in sensitive rural and residential areas, particularly near Haverings Grove. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require alignment with local standards and impose enforceable restrictions on working hours to minimise harm to public amenity.	

EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.6.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 10.7 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. See response to ID 3.6.6.	BBC is concerned that the proposed core working hours, 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on weekends and public holidays, are excessive and will cause unacceptable disruption to residents. These hours significantly exceed standard working hours for construction, which typically restrict weekend and holiday working to protect amenity. Extended hours will increase noise, traffic, and general disturbance in sensitive rural and residential areas, particularly near Haverings Grove. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require alignment with local standards and impose enforceable restrictions on working hours to minimise harm to public amenity.	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.6.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 10.7 of Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion

Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring

3.6.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) [APP-192] of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. See response to ID 3.6.6.	BBC is concerned that the proposed core working hours, 07:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on weekends and public holidays, are excessive and will cause unacceptable disruption to residents. These hours significantly exceed standard working hours for construction, which typically restrict weekend and holiday working to protect amenity. Extended hours will increase noise, traffic, and general disturbance in sensitive rural and residential areas, particularly near Haverings Grove. The Council requests that the Examining Authority require alignment with local standards and impose enforceable restrictions on working hours to minimise harm to public amenity.	Under discussion
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Other matters as required

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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.7.1	Policy and legislation (Archaeology)	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 11.2 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068]. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. Further discussion will take place following review of the information within the LIR.	BBC supports ECC's (Archaeology) current review of the relevant documentation and that the ES Chapter 11.2 looks to contain all relevant legislation, policy and guidance. Further information will be included in the LIR.	Under discussion
3.7.2	Policy and legislation (Built Heritage)	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 11.2 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068]. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. National Grid notes the LPAs request for further clarity in relation to non-designated heritage assets. All non-designated heritage assets were assessed to determine their value in accordance	BBC supports the BBC (Built Heritage) position that based on a further review of the identification and assessment of the value of NDHA buildings in Document: 6.11.A1 Environmental Statement Appendix 11.1 Historic Environment Baseline Report [APP-209] we are able to agree this matter.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		with the Scoping Report (6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296]), Scoping Opinion (6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297]) and the methodology set out in Chapter 11: Historic Environment of the ES (6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11- Historic Environment [AS-068]). Those assets assessed to have a low or negligible value and located outside the Order Limits did not have a settings assessment undertaken. As they would not experience physical impacts there is no potential for significant effects as a result of change to setting for assets of these values. While some harm would still be possible, given their value and nature of potential impacts this would be at the very lowest end of the harm scale. In NPS (EN-1) instructions regarding the Applicant's assessment paragraph 5.9.9 'The applicant should undertake an assessment of any likely significant heritage impacts of the proposed development as part of the EIA, and describe these along with how the mitigation hierarchy has been applied in the ES' and in several places refers to detail being proportionate to the importance/significance of the heritage asset. The Project therefore considers that it has appropriately complied with relevant policy in the NPS (EN-1) regarding assessment of impacts to non-designated heritage assets.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.7.3	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		The study area was also agreed through thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.	The study area was also agreed through thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.	
3.7.4	Data sources (Built Heritage)	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 [AS-068]. Updated position (February 2026): Non-designated historic buildings were identified in addition to those included in the HER and Local Lists. This was primarily through historic mapping. The methodology for desk-based research and walkover included identification of any previously unknown heritage assets, including historic buildings. The Historic Environment Baseline Report (6.11.A1 Environmental Statement Appendix 11.1 - Historic Environment Baseline Report [APP-209]) is organised geographically and by period and includes baseline information on non-designated historic buildings.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
3.7.5	Data sources (Archaeology) - Desktop	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068] .	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
3.7.6	Data sources (Archaeology) - Survey data	Sufficient survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068] .	BBC supports the ECC position: ECC notes the fieldwork proposed prior to application has not been completed and the impact of this to inform the assessment is under	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		National Grid will continue to engage on this matter.	review. This matter remains under discussion	
3.7.7	Assessment methodology (Built Heritage)	The methodology for assessing Historic Environment was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate. 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> The assessment methodology has been discussed at a number of Historic Environment Thematic Group Meetings held between July 2022 and November 2024. It is considered that the assessment methodology has been agreed, with the exception of non-designated heritage assets, where the method is still under discussion. BBC comments noted and Historic Environment Viewpoints feedback will be taken into account for the assessment. National Grid position regarding non-designated heritage assets is as outlined in section 3.6.1 (Policy and Legislation) above.	BBC wishes to highlight the section at Ingatestone Hall within close proximity to Heron Hall as being one of historic sensitivity. The preferred route as proposed will pose a significant impact on the setting of these listed buildings and potentially have a direct impact for significant Ancient Monuments and archaeological deposits. BBC stresses the importance of a full assessment of the impact of the proposal on the historic, architectural, and associative value of these heritage assets (above and below ground) and all other affected heritage assets across the route. On this matter, BBC request NGET seek detailed advice with the regional team at Historic England. Historic Environment Viewpoints feedback received on 4th March 2025 from BBC. BBC (Built Heritage) is in agreement with this matter.	Agreed
3.7.8	Assessment Methodology (Archaeology)	The methodology for assessing Historic Environment was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.7.9	Key parameters and assumptions (Built Heritage)	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	BBC supports the position that this matter is agreed following review of the ES.	Agreed
3.7.10	Key parameters and assumptions (Archaeology)	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in Section 11.4 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068] . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. February 2025, National Grid issued Historic Environments (HE) Viewpoints information and held a thematic group meeting on the topic. March 2025, National Grid issued an updated version of the Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information.	ECC (Archaeology) is currently reviewing the ES Chapter. Until the completion of intrusive field evaluation there is not agreement with the statement under 11.4.33 that " <i>The information obtained to date provides sufficient detail to characterise the likely nature and extent of any currently unrecorded remains.</i> "	Under Discussion

EIA – Baseline Conditions

3.7.11	Baseline conditions and receptors (Built Heritage)	The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in Section 11.5 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
3.7.12	Baseline conditions and receptors (Archaeology)	The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in Section 11.5 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.7.13	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Historic Environment effects, are set out in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Matter remains under discussion for archaeology.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue: ECC (Archaeology) agrees that through sensitive routing impacts on known/identified heritage assets can be reduced however the impact on unknown archaeological remains can only be better understood through further intrusive archaeological evaluation. This is most relevant in areas of underground cable where there will be an impact on archaeological remains	Under discussion
3.7.14	Standard mitigation (Built Heritage)	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): Regarding commitment H06 the term 'appropriate' in this context refers to the reinstatement of landscape features (such as hedgerows, fences, walls, and earthworks) in a manner that is sensitive to the local character, setting, and historic significance of the area. The general approach and reinstatement plans can be found in Section 9 of 7.4 Outline Landscape and Ecological	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue. This matter is agreed with regards to commitment H06. Whilst we understand that the anticipated effects of construction vibration on designated heritage assets are limited to the Grade II listed Little Bromley War Memorial (1493299) in Tendring District (which is not a dwelling) we would still recommend expansion of H07, to create a hotline or method of contact for building owners who are concerned about the effects of construction vibration on their buildings as works are undertaken to allay fears and allow the monitoring of effects.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Management Plan [APP-321]. Specifically, this means: Replacement features will be of a similar type, scale, and material to those lost, wherever possible, reflecting the character and function of the original feature Design and siting will be informed by local landscape character assessments, historic environment records, and where relevant, consultation with Local Planning Authorities and heritage specialists Species selection for replanting (e.g., hedgerows) will seek to match historic or locally appropriate species mixes, and construction/restoration of walls or banks will use traditional techniques and materials where feasible If retention of a feature is not possible, the replacement or reinstatement will be designed to ensure that the heritage, ecological, and landscape value is maintained, or where possible, enhanced. Regarding H07 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 - Noise and Vibration [APP-256] did not identify any heritage assets in Colchester, Braintree, Brentwood, Basildon or Thurrock that would be impacted by the Project. The vibration assessment identified one historic structure, the grade II listed Little Bromley War Memorial (1493299), in Tendring that has potential to be impacted. As this is not a residence the current		

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		approach in H07 and the associated NV04 is considered to be appropriate.		
3.7.15	Standard mitigation (Archaeology)	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068] and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300] . The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
3.7.16	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 11.6 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. Updated position (February 2026): Matter will remain under discussion for archaeology until the outline AMS WSI is finalised. The Applicant proposes to update 7.5 Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Outline Written Scheme of Investigation [APP-328] during the examination phase in consultation with the Local Planning Authority Archaeological Advisors, as discussed and agreed at regular monthly meetings with the Local Planning Authorities and Historic England.	BBC supports the ECC position. The requirement for additional mitigation for archaeology is agreed. The effectiveness of this will depend on the methodologies proposed in the Outline AMS-WSI and so agreement on this document is key to achieving successful mitigation. ECC noted during call in January 2026 that this matter is not relevant for Built Heritage.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.7.17	Construction effects (Built Heritage)	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	Agreed
3.7.18	Construction effects (Archaeology)	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.	This section is currently under review (ECC Archaeology) Email 4th Nov 2024 - Archaeology – consultants not assessing significant areas of 132 kV or 400kV cable undergrounding or overhead line tower locations intrusively prior to submission. Email 6th Nov 2024 – further discussion required regarding vibration assessments. Following review of the ES, BBC (Archaeology) confirmed agreement on this matter during call in January 2026.	Agreed
3.7.19	Operational (and maintenance) effects (Built Heritage)	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) [AS-068] of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. NG have considered the positioning of this pylon through the design process and have avoided placing pylons in one of the intentional view corridors from the Grade II listed Church of St	BBC Statutory Consultation response: The positioning of pylon TB226 will profoundly impede upon intentional view corridors which are specified in the SPD, from the Church of St Mary to the historic Farmstead and onwards to the Church of All Saints. Despite the Council having previously raised this concern during the non-statutory consultation stages, to date this unacceptable impact has not been	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Mary and Dunton Hall. However, other constraints have meant it has not been possible to reposition pylons out of all view corridors. Historic England have been consulted on all elements of the Project design, however they have not commented on Grade II listed buildings as this falls under the remit of the Local Planning Authorities. Due to the level of expected harm and in line with current policy, NG are unable to accommodate moving the position of this pylon without creating direct effects to the development footprint or moving closer to other heritage assets.	addressed, nor is the Council aware of any correspondence with Historic England specifically on this issue. The Council recognises and expects that to achieve a satisfactory outcome this will require effective collaboration between NGET, Historic England and the Council. BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is agreed.	
3.7.20	Operational (and maintenance) effects (Archaeology)	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 11.7 of Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068] . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	Following review of the ES, ECC confirmed agreement on this matter during call in January 2026.	Agreed
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.7.21	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP [APP-300] includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [AS-068] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.	BBC supports the ECC position that this issue is under review for Archaeology and that 3.7.8 covers the position for Built Heritage. Further comments will be included within the LIR which require action.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		See 3.6.14 and 3.6.15 for current position.		
		Discussion will be progressed following review of the LIR.		
Other matters as required				
3.7.22	Overarching Written Scheme of Investigation (WSIs) for pre-consent geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching.	National Grid shared overarching WSIs in March – June 2024 and December 2024. The scope and methodology of the overarching WSI for pre-consent geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required.	The scope and methodology of the overarching WSI for pre-consent geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required.	Agreed
3.7.23	Site specific Written Schemes of Investigation (WSIs) for pre-consent archaeological trial trenching.	The scope and methodology of WSIs for archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required.	The scope and methodology of WSIs for archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required.	Agreed
3.7.24	Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI.	The contents of the Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI (AMS-OWSI) [APP-328] is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required. National Grid issued the Outline AMS-OWSI for the post-consent stage of the project in April 2025.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue that the Outline AMS-OWSI is currently not agreed and that further comments will be provided in the relevant Local Impact report (ECC Archaeology).	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.7.25	Programme for completion of archaeological fieldwork	A summary of the progress to date and future programme for the archaeological evaluation fieldwork for the Project was presented in the technical note: 'Summary of Archaeological Fieldwork - Progress and Programme', issued on the 27 June 2025. A phased approach to archaeological evaluation is being undertaken. The Project has defined 'priority areas' on the basis of the likely scale of impact on archaeological remains, flexibility in design and construction programme. A proportion of the evaluation of 'priority areas' was complete at submission with the rest proposed to be completed pre examination. Evaluation of 'non priority areas' is proposed to be undertaken following completion of 'priority areas'. The programme for archaeological fieldwork is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required.	The programme for archaeological fieldwork is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of evaluation required.	Agreed

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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.8.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Landscape and Visual assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		[APP-126] and Section 13.2 Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.8.2	Study area	The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops.	The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops.	Agreed
3.8.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	Under discussion
3.8.4	Assessment methodology (including LVIA methodology and viewpoints)	The outline methodology for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops A meeting was held on the 25 September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology. A further meeting was held on 28th November 2024 to	The outline methodology for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops. A meeting was held on the 25 September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology. A further meeting was held on	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		follow up any additional changes to the assessment. Viewpoints are still under discussion. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	28th November 2024 to follow up any additional changes to the assessment. BBC provided comments on the proposed viewpoints in Essex South in an E-mail on 25th October 2025. Viewpoints are still under discussion. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Landscape and Visual assessment are summarised in Section 13.4 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	The ES acknowledges significant adverse effects within 0.5 km of the overhead line, but the Council considers that major adverse impacts will extend up to 1 km and moderate adverse effects up to 1.5 km, particularly in open, semi-enclosed landscapes such as the Brentwood Hills and Dunton Settled Claylands. Even beyond these distances, the cumulative effect of multiple pylons and the continuous overhead linear character of the project will industrialise rural landscapes and erode scenic beauty, tranquillity, and sense of place, contrary to GLVIA3 guidance and National Policy Statement EN-1 (paras 4.3.4 and 5.10.6). Key concerns: • LCA D2: Brentwood Hills – semi-enclosed hills, high sensitivity, major adverse effects up to 1 km. • LCA 13: Dunton Settled Claylands – wholly impacted; incompatible with	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
			Dunton Hills Garden Village vision for a sustainable garden community. • VRA G1 Ingatestone & Fryerning – significant adverse effects on PRoW (St Peter's Way) and heritage settings. • VRA G4 Ingrave & Herongate – major adverse effects on Thorndon Country Park and Dunton Hills Garden Village. BBC objects to the proposed overhead line alignment within its administrative area due to unacceptable landscape and visual harm, incompatibility with strategic growth objectives, and failure to comply with EN-1 policy requirements. The Council seeks undergrounding in sensitive areas and a strategic compensation package as a minimum. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable requirements within the DCO for undergrounding in sensitive locations (particularly Brentwood Hills and DHGV) and a strategic landscape compensation package to offset residual harm. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Landscape and Visual are presented in Section 13.5 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES . The baseline conditions	The ES acknowledges significant adverse effects within 0.5 km of the overhead line, but the Council considers that major adverse impacts will extend up to 1 km and	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		and receptors presented are considered appropriate. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	moderate adverse effects up to 1.5 km, particularly in open, semi-enclosed landscapes such as the Brentwood Hills and Dunton Settled Claylands. Even beyond these distances, the cumulative effect of multiple pylons and the continuous overhead linear character of the project will industrialise rural landscapes and erode scenic beauty, tranquillity, and sense of place, contrary to GLVIA3 guidance and National Policy Statement EN-1 (paras 4.3.4 and 5.10.6). Key concerns: • LCA D2: Brentwood Hills – semi-enclosed hills, high sensitivity, major adverse effects up to 1 km. • LCA 13: Dunton Settled Claylands – wholly impacted; incompatible with Dunton Hills Garden Village vision for a sustainable garden community. • VRA G1 Ingatestone & Fryerning – significant adverse effects on PRow (St Peter's Way) and heritage settings. • VRA G4 Ingrave & Herongate – major adverse effects on Thorndon Country Park and Dunton Hills Garden Village. BBC objects to the proposed overhead line alignment within its administrative area due to unacceptable landscape and visual harm, incompatibility with strategic growth objectives, and failure to comply with EN-1	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
			policy requirements. The Council seeks undergrounding in sensitive areas and a strategic compensation package as a minimum. The Council requests that the Examining Authority secure enforceable requirements within the DCO for undergrounding in sensitive locations (particularly Brentwood Hills and DHGV) and a strategic landscape compensation package to offset residual harm. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	

EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures

3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Landscape and Visual effects, are set out in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. It is NG's view that adopting the alignment of the existing 132 kV overhead line (by placing this section of the 132kV underground and using the vacant corridor for the 400kV alignment) from the north of Bushwood Farm and across the A129 would not be appropriate. This alignment, if used for the 400 kV connection, would cross the grounds of a school and require additional tree removal and management to create the necessary cleared corridor for a 400 kV alignment. It is however proposed to replace a 2	BBC Statutory Consultation response: The proposed routing of the overhead line to the northern, western and southern boundary of Haverings Grove serves to create a harmful severing effect, acting as an imposing physical barrier on the landscape between this settlement and Hutton. BBC wish to highlight the unacceptable impacts of overhead lines in this location and the need for serious consideration of re-routing or undergrounding of the route around Haverings Grove. Notwithstanding the above, the Council considers that there are opportunities for the Norwich to Tilbury project to facilitate the removal of the 132kV pylon line, running to the west of Haverings Grove, operated by	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		km section of the 132 kV overhead line from north of Bushwood Farm to south of Creasey's Farmhouse with underground cable, and modify the 400kV arrangement. The modification occurs southwards from the A129 and changes the angle pylon to a suspension to move the pylons and the alignment further to the south of Havering's Grove to reduce effects. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	UK Power Networks (UKPN), to reduce the cumulative visual impact of energy infrastructure in this location and, to some extent, compensating for the additional visual impact of the new Norwich to Tilbury 400kV power lines. The Council recognises, and expects, that this will require effective collaboration between NGET, UKPN and Ofgem. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Landscape and Visual effects during construction are summarised in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	Under discussion
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 13.6 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.8.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter. Further detail on vegetation loss within each LCA or LCT will be provided by the Applicant.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	Under discussion
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 13.7 of Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP [APP-300] includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	BBC supports the current ECC position on this issue. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.8.13	Outline LEMP	The Outline LEMP [APP-321] includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) [APP-226] of the ES and is appropriate. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP [APP-321]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Comments received from EPS will be taken on board and addressed in the next iteration of the Outline LEMP [APP-321]. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	BBC email on 23rd October 2024 regarding the draft outline LEMP: BBC noted that clarity is needed on the differences between Mitigation Areas, Environmental Areas, Landscape and Visual Mitigation. BBC noted that discussion is needed on how long replacement planting, landscape and visual mitigation and compensatory planting will be cared for. BCC noted that the Councils would want to see an ongoing role/consultation in the monitoring of any replacement, mitigation or compensatory planting to ensure long term success. Following a meeting held in January 2026, their position on this matter is unchanged.	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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.9.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Socio-	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 15.2 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.9.2	Study area	The Scoping Opinion stated: <i>“The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities”</i>. A meeting was held on 14th November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion. Technical Notes were shared in June 2023 and April 2024. Following the meeting held on 14th November, it was agreed that the study area for businesses would be expanded from 1 km to 3 km to take into account potential visual effects on businesses. The 3rd technical note was issued to BBC on 28th March 2025 to seek to agree on the study area and methodology. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	No comments received to date on the Technical Notes. During the Thematic Group meeting in November 2024, it was proposed that the study area for businesses was increased from 1 km to 3 km to account for visual effects on businesses.	Under discussion
3.9.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.9.4	Assessment methodology	The Scoping Opinion stated <i>“The ES should detail the criteria used to identify businesses likely to be affected and the Applicant should seek to agree these with relevant local authorities”</i>. A meeting was held on 14th November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion. A 3rd Technical Note was prepared to seek to agree the study area and methodology, therefore this area is still under discussion. The 3rd technical note was issued to BBC on 28th March 2025 to seek to agree on the study area and methodology. National Grid welcomes continued engagement with BCC on this matter.	No comments from BBC on the technical note.	Under discussion
3.9.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment are summarised in Section 15.4 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. BBC comments are noted, and National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter. The scale of construction employment arising from the Project is modest, as set out in ID 3.9.3. Regional employment and skills analysis are set out in the ES, Chapter 15: Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism, Paragraph 15.5.8 to 15.5.15 [APP-265]. Notwithstanding this, the Applicant is committed to working constructively	While the applicant refers to skills development and regional employment opportunities, there is no commitment to deliver measurable outcomes such as apprenticeships, local supply chain engagement, or community investment within Brentwood. The Council also notes the absence of detail on how the Government's proposed electricity bill discount scheme and wider community benefit funds will be implemented locally. While references are made to regional employment and skills development, there is no enforceable strategy to secure local jobs, apprenticeships, or supply chain opportunities for Brentwood businesses.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		with Local Authorities and local partners to understand priorities relating to skills and employment and to support, where appropriate, initiatives that leave a positive legacy for communities. These activities will be progressed through non-statutory community benefit and engagement mechanisms, rather than through the development consent process, consistent with established guidance. Further discussions will take place following National Grid's review of BCC's LIR.	The Council also notes the potential negative impact on the visitor economy, particularly at Thorndon Country Park and other recreational assets, due to prolonged construction activity, visual intrusion, and disruption to public rights of way. BBC requests that the Examining Authority require enforceable commitments for a comprehensive social value strategy, including local employment and training targets, support for community facilities, and transparent delivery of community benefit funds to offset the significant visual and amenity impacts of the scheme. BBC requests that the Examining Authority require the applicant to prepare and implement a Local Economic and Skills Plan, including measurable targets for local employment, training, and procurement, alongside measures to mitigate adverse impacts on tourism and leisure facilities.	
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.9.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism are presented in Section 15.5 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.9.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects, are set out in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES . Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
3.9.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects during construction are summarised in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300] . The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
3.9.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 15.6 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES . Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.9.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265]	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		of the ES . The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.		
3.9.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 15.7 of Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.9.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP [APP-300] includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) [APP-265] of the ES. and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.10.1	Policy and legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Cumulative Effects assessment is presented in Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 17.2 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	This matter remains under discussion pending further review by BBC.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
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 Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
3.10.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate. National Grid is aware of the Brentwood Southern Growth Corridor and the development sites identified (which include Dunton Hills Garden Village). As part of the DCO process, National Grid has undertaken a cumulative effects assessment (CEA) in accordance with the Scoping Report [APP-288 -to APP-296] and Scoping Opinion [APP-297] which is presented in ES Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects [APP-281].	Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate. BBC Statutory Consultation response: <i>Cumulative Effects are an important issue given the number and scale of developments proposed across Brentwood's 'Southern Growth Corridor', and the need for a full assessment of environmental, socio-economic, transport and construction impacts of the cumulative effects of the Norwich to Tilbury in conjunction with those other projects, which includes the build out of DHGV and the Brentwood Enterprise Park, each with associated supporting infrastructure, in addition to works connected with the Lower Thames Crossing.</i>	
3.10.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Cumulative Effects assessment are summarised in Section 17.4 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. Updated position (February 2026): An assessment of Cumulative Effects undertaken in accordance with the Scoping Report [APP-288 -to APP-296] and Scoping Opinion [APP-297] is presented in Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects of the ES [APP-281]. The assessment includes cumulative effects	BBC is concerned about the cumulative impacts arising from the Norwich to Tilbury project being delivered alongside other major developments, notably DHGV and the Lower Thames Crossing (LTC). The co-location and overlapping construction timeframes of these schemes are likely to amplify adverse effects across multiple receptors, including traffic, noise, and community amenity. While the Applicant has indicated engagement with National Highways to address cumulative impacts, no substantive evidence has been provided to demonstrate how these will be effectively	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		with the Lower Thames Crossing and Dunton Hills Garden Village (DHGV). All known developments that might impact the Primary Access Routes (PARs) using the local highway network were identified and considered in 6.16 Environmental Statement Chapter 16 - Traffic and Transport [APP-271] and 7.11 Transport Assessment - Appendix D - Committed Developments [APP-337]. The DHGV was included within the review of committed developments, but was excluded from the assessment given the operational phase would not coincide with the peak year construction activity for the Project. Details on construction programmes and flows were not available. Brentwood Enterprise Park is located approximately 6 km from the nearest PAR. Flows from this development are unlikely to be significant on the PAR given the surrounding highway network and access to the strategic road network. This development was therefore not included within our assessments. No significant effects were concluded for traffic and transport, noise or socio-economics with Dunton Hills Garden Village. No significant effects were concluded for traffic and transport, noise or socio-economics with the Lower Thames Crossing.	mitigated. In particular, there is no information on the phasing of the Norwich to Tilbury project, which is essential to minimise disruption and manage cumulative effects on host communities. The Council also reiterates concerns raised during statutory consultation regarding the wider Brentwood Southern Growth Corridor, which includes DHGV and Brentwood Enterprise Park. These strategic developments, combined with the proposed transmission infrastructure, present significant risks to the local road network and access arrangements. The Council requests that the Applicant explore alternative access options aligned with the phasing of DHGV to reduce harm and maintain safe and efficient operation of the local highway network. BBC considers that the cumulative impacts of these projects have not been adequately assessed in accordance with NPS EN-1 and EN-5 and requests that the Examining Authority require the Applicant to provide a robust cumulative effects assessment and commit to enforceable phasing and mitigation measures within the DCO.	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.10.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Cumulative Effects are presented in Section 17.5 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.10.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Cumulative Effects, are set out in Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
3.10.8	Standard mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Cumulative Effects during construction are summarised in Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES and set out in the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.10.9	Additional mitigation	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 17.6 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

EIA – Assessment Conclusions

3.10.10	Construction effects	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 17.7 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate. Updated position (February 2026): An assessment of Cumulative Effects undertaken in accordance with the Scoping Report [APP-288 -to APP-296] and Scoping Opinion [APP-297] is presented in Chapter 17: Cumulative Effects of the ES [APP-281]. The assessment includes cumulative effects with the Lower Thames Crossing and Dunton Hills Garden Village. All known developments that might impact the Primary Access Routes (PARs) using the local highway network were identified and considered in 6.16 Environmental Statement Chapter 16 - Traffic and Transport [APP-271] and 7.11 Transport Assessment - Appendix D - Committed Developments [APP-337]. The DHGV was included within the review of committed	BBC is concerned about the cumulative impacts arising from the Norwich to Tilbury project being delivered alongside other major developments, notably DHGV and the Lower Thames Crossing (LTC). The co-location and overlapping construction timeframes of these schemes are likely to amplify adverse effects across multiple receptors, including traffic, noise, and community amenity. While the Applicant has indicated engagement with National Highways to address cumulative impacts, no substantive evidence has been provided to demonstrate how these will be effectively mitigated. In particular, there is no information on the phasing of the Norwich to Tilbury project, which is essential to minimise disruption and manage cumulative effects on host communities. The Council also reiterates concerns raised during statutory consultation regarding the	Under discussion
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ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		developments, but was excluded from the assessment given the operational phase would not coincide with the peak year construction activity for the Project. Details on construction programmes and flows were not available. Brentwood Enterprise Park is located approximately 6 km from the nearest PAR. Flows from this development are unlikely to be significant on the PAR given the surrounding highway network and access to the strategic road network. This development was therefore not included within our assessments. No significant effects were concluded for traffic and transport, noise or socio-economics with Dunton Hills Garden Village. No significant effects were concluded for traffic and transport, noise or socio-economics with the Lower Thames Crossing.	wider Brentwood Southern Growth Corridor, which includes DHGV and Brentwood Enterprise Park. These strategic developments, combined with the proposed transmission infrastructure, present significant risks to the local road network and access arrangements. The Council requests that the Applicant explore alternative access options aligned with the phasing of DHGV to reduce harm and maintain safe and efficient operation of the local highway network. BBC considers that the cumulative impacts of these projects have not been adequately assessed in accordance with NPS EN-1 and EN-5 and requests that the Examining Authority require the Applicant to provide a robust cumulative effects assessment and commit to enforceable phasing and mitigation measures within the DCO.	
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) [APP-281] of the ES. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.10.12	Outline CoCP	The Outline CoCP [APP-300] includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified	BBC supports the ECC position on this issue.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		in Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) [APP-281] of the ES and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. Meeting held on 9th October to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held on 29th January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		

Other matters as required

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	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.11.1	DCO Requirements	National Grid's position is that a 28- day decision-making timeframe is proportionate and appropriate to each of the applications proposed to be made in this case, whilst ensuring that the delivery of the Project, which is of critical importance to the UK government's Clean Power Target of 2030, is not unnecessarily delayed by means outside the control of National Grid. In each instance, the 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-056] allows for the relevant decision-making authority and the undertaker to	The timeframes set out for discharging requirements must allow sufficient opportunity for the Council to undertake necessary checks, consult stakeholders, and respond appropriately.	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		agree 'such other period' as may be appropriate in the circumstances. Likewise, there is scope within Paragraph 1(1)(c) of Schedule 4 (Discharge of Requirements) of the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-056])[APP-056] to extend the 28- day period for the discharge of Requirements by agreement in writing between the undertaker and the relevant authority, and within Paragraph 2 for the relevant authority to seek further information from the Applicant and to consult with those required by the terms of the Requirement in question.		
3.11.2	DCO Requirements	The Applicant notes the authority's comments regarding the Requirements and awaits further detailed comments. The Register of Requirements referred to in the A122 (Lower Thames Crossing) Development Consent Order 2025 relates to a tracker of Requirements that need to be discharged by the Secretary of State. At present, there are no Requirements proposed to be discharged by the Secretary of State. Each authority should maintain a register of Development Consent Order DCO Requirement discharge applications, as it would planning condition discharge applications and, therefore, the Applicant does not consider it necessary or proportionate for it to maintain a composite public Register of Requirements.	The draft Requirements require further discussion, particularly in relation to construction hours, piling, and noisy works. Communities must have appropriate periods of respite from intrusive construction activity. For transparency and accountability, the Council strongly encourages the inclusion of a Register of Requirements within the DCO, similar to that adopted for the Lower Thames Crossing, to ensure ongoing fairness and clarity throughout the project's delivery.	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
3.11.3	DCO Wording	In preparing the draft Development Consent Order (DCO) (3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-056]), recent precedents have been followed and guidance in Advice Note 15 and Planning Act 2008: Content of a Development Consent Order required for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects has been taken into account and complied with. The Applicant has considered each article and the provisions of each schedule to the draft DCO on a Project-specific basis and by reference to the issues relevant to the relevant article or schedule. The structure and content of the draft DCO is referenced extensively throughout the application documents, and any material change to the structure of the document in particular would require updating a very significant amount of the application documentation and cannot be supported on that basis given the scale of the application that has to be examined in the examination period.	The Council acknowledges that the draft Order broadly follows the structure of previously approved DCOs. However, given the scale and complexity of this project, it is essential that the Order reflects local requirements and does not simply replicate precedent where this would compromise effective implementation.	
3.11.4	DCO Wording – Scope of Development and Limits of Deviation	The Applicant is unclear as to the concern raised. The authorised development and associated development are described in Schedule 1 to the draft DCO. The authorised development is further shown on 2.3 Works Plans [APP-017 to APP-024]. In addition, the Applicant submitted 5.14 Details of Associated Development, with references to documents [APP-121] with its application, which delineates the authorised development and the associated development. The limits of deviation are set out in Article 5 (limits of deviation) to the draft DCO (3.1 Draft Development Consent Order [APP-056]), are shown on the Works Plans and in	Clarity is needed on the scope of authorised development and the limits of deviation, so that the consent granted accurately reflects the development examined.	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Brentwood Borough Council's Position	Status
		the table of parameters at the back of the Works Plans for each section.		
3.11.5	DCO Wording – Disapplication of Hedgerows Regulations 1997	Hedgerow surveys in line with the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 have been undertaken across the route. Details of these hedgerow surveys have been presented within 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology and Biodiversity [AS-026] and 6.8.A3 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.3 - Hedgerows Regulations Report [APP-161] . All native species hedgerows are considered to be Habitats of Principal importance and are to be safeguarded. Impacts to hedgerows have been minimised as far as possible. Measures to safeguard hedgerows are presented within 7.4 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [AS-046] and therefore the Applicant is satisfied that there will be sufficient protections in place for hedgerows, even with the disapplication of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.	The Council is concerned about the proposed disapplication of the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 under Article 50. Before this can be agreed, the Applicant must provide a proper assessment of the impact on protected hedgerows and demonstrate how these will be safeguarded.	
3.11.6	DCO Wording – Protective Provisions	The Applicant notes that Essex County Council has raised comments on the protective provisions and the Applicant has responded to these directly.	As highway authority for the borough, Essex County Council has raised detailed concerns regarding protective provisions, and Brentwood supports the need for robust measures to ensure the integrity of the local highway network.	
Other matters as required				

3.12 Other Matters

4. Confirmation of Agreement

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

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

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Date:

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Signed for and on behalf of Brentwood Borough Council:

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Date:

.....

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Reference
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BBC	Brentwood Borough 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
ES	Environmental Statement
GI	Ground Investigation
GW	Gigawatt
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MIIA	Mineral Infrastructure Impact Assessment
MRA	Minerals Resource 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
WHIASU	Wales Health Impact Assessment Support Unit
WIIA	Waste Infrastructure Impact Assessment
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation
ZoI	Zone of Influence
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

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