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<u>C</u>	<u>12 May 2026</u>	<u>Deadline 4</u>

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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~~The Applicant' 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 Basildon Borough Council (BBC). ~~Basildon Borough Council~~BBC 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 ~~14~~14. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the Project progresses and shared with BBC 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 ~~33~~33):
- 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

1.2 Summary of Matters Under Discussion

1.2.1 As requested by the Examining Authority, the below table provides an ‘at a glance’ summary of matters which are under discussion, together with a deadline by which such matters are expected to be resolved.

<u>SoCG ID</u>	<u>Summary of matter under discussion</u>	<u>Deadline for resolution</u>
<u>Project development, description and design</u>		
<u>3.2.2 – Project timing</u>	<p><u>BBC acknowledges the grid capacity offered by the project is needed by the timescales proposed, however the timeframes to achieve the network reinforcement is more uncertain, as per the Hiorns Report.</u></p> <p><u>The Applicant is legally obliged to provide capacity to the offshore windfarms contracted to connect the network in 2030, as formally agreed in contracts with energy generators by NESO. This position is provided in Section 3.2 of Applicant’s Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030]</u></p>	<u>This matter is unlikely to be agreed as the Applicant is legally obliged to meet the timings as agreed with the offshore wind farms and NESO.</u>
<u>3.2.3 – Onshore route</u> <u>3.2.4 - Predominantly overhead line route</u>	<p><u>BBC’s preferred strategic option is that of securing an integrated offshore technology that minimises onshore transmission infrastructure and does not include overhead lines (OHLs) and pylons along its entire length.</u></p> <p><u>The Applicant has proposed an alignment in line with national policy statement EN-5 that meets the capacity requirements of the needs case. This position is provided in Sections 3.3 and 3.4 of Applicant’s</u></p>	<u>This matter is unlikely to be agreed as the Applicant does not propose changing the technology to offshore or underground</u>

<u>SoCG ID</u>	<u>Summary of matter under discussion</u>	<u>Deadline for resolution</u>
	<u>Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030]</u>	
<u>3.2.10 – Impact on future housing allocations</u>	<p><u>BBC stresses it should be understood that this housing allocation forms part of the wider growth ambition of BBC in our intent to meet the Government’s revised Standard Method of housing allocation. Norwich to Tilbury must not inhibit the community development potential for Basildon.</u></p> <p><u>The Applicant has taken into consideration the location of planning applications and housing allocations in establishing the baseline as part of the routeing and siting studies to minimise any potential for direct impacts on housing development site.</u></p>	<u>Resolution likely by Deadline 7</u>
<u>3.2.11 – Dunton Hills Garden Village (DHGV)</u>	<p><u>BBC considers that the Applicant has not adequately assessed the impact of the alignment on the deliverability and viability of DHGV and that the proposals undermine Garden Community Principles.</u></p> <p><u>The Applicant has taken into account the potential effect of its proposals when developing the alignment and works within the context of the planning status of other projects including DHGV. The Applicant’s position is that deliverability of DHGV is not prejudiced by the Project. Further detail on this position is provided in Section 3.8 of Applicant’s Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030]</u></p>	<u>Resolution likely by Deadline 7</u>
<u>Ecology and Biodiversity</u>		
<u>3.3.1 Policy and legislation</u> <u>3.3.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.3.6 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.3.7 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.3.8 Embedded mitigation</u> <u>3.3.10 Additional mitigation</u> <u>3.3.11 Construction</u>	<p><u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Ecology and Biodiversity and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u></p>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder</u>

<u>SoCG ID</u>	<u>Summary of matter under discussion</u>	<u>Deadline for resolution</u>
<u>effects</u> <u>3.3.12 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u> <u>3.3.13 Outline CoCP</u> <u>3.3.14 Outline LEMP</u> <u>3.3.15 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)</u> <u>3.3.16 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)</u>		
<u>Air Quality</u>		
<u>3.4.1 Policy and legislation</u> <u>3.4.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.4.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.4.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.4.7 Embedded mitigation</u> <u>3.4.9 Additional Mitigation</u> <u>3.4.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.4.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Air Quality and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>Noise and Vibration</u>		
<u>3.5.1 Policy and legislation</u> <u>3.5.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.5.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.5.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.5.7 Embedded mitigation</u> <u>3.5.8 Standard mitigation</u> <u>3.5.9 Additional mitigation</u> <u>3.5.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.5.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Noise and Vibration and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>Health and Wellbeing</u>		
<u>3.6.1 Policy and legislation</u> <u>3.6.3 Data sources</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Health and Wellbeing and will provide</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending</u>

<u>SoCG ID</u>	<u>Summary of matter under discussion</u>	<u>Deadline for resolution</u>
<u>3.6.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.6.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.6.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.6.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u>	<u>the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>Historic Environment</u>		
<u>3.7.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.7.4 b Assessment methodology (Non-designated heritage assets)</u> <u>3.7.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.7.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.7.7 Embedded mitigation</u> <u>3.7.9 Additional Mitigation</u> <u>3.7.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.7.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u> <u>3.7.14 Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI</u> <u>3.7.15 Programme for completion of archaeological fieldwork</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Historic Environment and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>3.7.13</u>	<u>EPS on behalf of BBC have requested amendments to the WSIs, and the Applicant has confirmed that these have been taken into account when preparing the final versions of WSIs. The Applicant will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>Landscape and Visual</u>		
<u>3.8.1 Policy and legislation</u> <u>3.8.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.8.4 Assessment methodology (including LVIA methodology)</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Landscape and Visual and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>

<u>SoCG ID</u>	<u>Summary of matter under discussion</u>	<u>Deadline for resolution</u>
<u>3.8.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.8.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.8.8. Standard mitigation</u> <u>3.8.9 Additional Mitigation</u> <u>3.8.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.8.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u> <u>3.8.13</u>		
<u>3.8.7 Embedded mitigation</u>	<u>BCC have queries relating to adequacy of undergrounding, mitigation and lack of compensation are all still under discussion. The Applicant notes that the Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism</u>		
<u>3.9.2 Study area</u>	<u>BBC note that the methodology should consider how the project will impact on health in respect of Disruption to Green Space and Nature, Traffic and Transport, Water, Soil contamination and General community disruption. The Applicant notes that all of these elements have been assessed and reported on within the ES.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>3.9.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.9.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.9.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.9.7 Embedded mitigation</u> <u>3.9.9 Additional mitigation</u> <u>3.9.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.9.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Socio-economics and Tourism and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>3.9.4 Assessment methodology</u>	<u>BBC have requested the quantification of employment numbers to be generated on</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending</u>

<u>SoCG ID</u>	<u>Summary of matter under discussion</u>	<u>Deadline for resolution</u>
	<u>a borough by borough basis or at a local community level within the assessment. The Applicant notes that a detailed assessment of the potential effect on the economy and employment within the Wider Study Area has been undertaken however, a district or borough breakdown of direct and indirect employment generation will not be available as job uptake will be skills level dependent, as well as taking into account suitability.</u>	<u>further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>3.9.13 Skills and Employment</u>	<u>BBC consider it is essential that National Grid proactively explores mitigation strategies to minimise these impacts and works closely with local partners to identify opportunities to support and strengthen the local economy. The assessments undertaken by the Applicant conclude that there would be no significant impacts on the local economy as a result of the Project. The Applicant now proposes to prepare and submit an Employment and Skills Plan into the Examination at Deadline 5.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>
<u>Cumulative Effects</u>		
<u>3.10.1 Policy and legislation</u> <u>3.10.3 Data sources</u> <u>3.10.5 Key parameters and assumptions</u> <u>3.10.6 Baseline conditions and receptors</u> <u>3.10.7 Embedded mitigation</u> <u>3.10.9 Additional Mitigation</u> <u>3.10.10 Construction effects</u> <u>3.10.11 Operational (and maintenance) effects</u> <u>3.10.13 Dunton Hills Garden Village</u>	<u>BCC is reviewing these sections relating to Cumulative Effects and will provide the Applicant with an update once complete. The Applicant will liaise with BCC once feedback is received.</u>	<u>Likely timeframe for resolution pending further discussion with stakeholder.</u>

1.3 ~~1.2~~ Project Description

1.3.1

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

- A new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 180 km overall length from Norwich Main Substation to Tilbury Substation via Bramford Substation, a new East Anglia Connection Node (EACN) Substation and a new Tilbury North Substation, including:
 - Approximately 159 km of new overhead line supported on approximately 509 pylons, either standard steel lattice pylons (approximately 50 m in height) or low height steel lattice pylons (approximately 40 m in height) and some of which would be gantries (typically up to 15 m in height) within proposed Cable Sealing End (CSE) compounds or existing or proposed substations
 - Approximately 21 km of 400 kV underground cabling, some of which would be located through the Dedham Vale National Landscape (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (~~AONB~~[†][AONB](#)¹))
- 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.

1.3.2

~~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).

1.3.3

~~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.

1.3.4

~~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

[†] National Landscape is the rebranded name of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) from 22 November 2023

(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.

1.4 ~~1.3~~ Format and Structure of this Document

1.4.1 ~~1.3.1~~ This SoCG is structured as follows:

- **Section 22** provides a summary of the key engagement undertaken to date with BBC
- **Section 33** summarises the key matters and captures the status of each issue / matter
- **Section 44** includes the sign off sheet

2. Record of Key Engagement

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 ~~National Grid~~The Applicant has engaged with ~~Basildon Borough Council~~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~~Consultations in Spring 2025
- Regular meetings with lead officers about the Project as a whole
- Regular ‘Thematic Group’ meetings bringing together host authorities to discuss specific topics
- One to one / small group technical meetings on specific detailed matters
- Sharing of papers and draft documentation at key stages

2.1.2 Further details on ~~National Grid's~~the Applicant's engagement with stakeholders is provided in ~~the~~5.1 Consultation Report ~~and~~ Appendix A: Meetings and correspondence with stakeholders [APP-067] and throughout 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~~The Applicant 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 BBC in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.~~

Table 2.1 Summary of Key Engagement between ~~National Grid~~The Applicant and Basildon Borough Council

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

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	Dunton Hills Garden Village discussion.
July 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
October 2023 - Ongoing	Meeting	Monthly informal catch-up meetings.
November 2023	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
December 2023	Meeting	Dunton Hills Garden Village discussion.
December 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant issued the SoCC to all host authorities for statutory consultation.
May 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop.
September 2024	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued the draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) to all host authorities for comment.
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant held a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) and Outline CoCP.
November 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss approach to targeted consultation
November 2024	Meeting	All host authority workshop
January 2025	Meeting	Meeting to provide project and design update
January 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
March 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop

Date	Format	Topic/Description
May 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
June 2025	Meeting	Meeting to discuss Statement of Common Ground
June 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued draft DCO, explanatory memorandum and draft requirements
July 2025	Meeting	All host authority workshop
August 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant 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
February 2026	Scheduled Meeting	Scheduled meeting to progress Statement of Common Ground
March 2026	Email	Email to agree approach for Statement of Common Ground deadline 4 submission
March 2026	Meeting	All host authority workshop

Ecology and Biodiversity

July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant 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 the Applicant presented on the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology and Arboriculture Assessment Methodology and sought feedback from BBC and other authorities.
September 2023	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant discussed the potential off-site scheme/initiatives for BNG.
March 2024	Meeting	Biodiversity Thematic Group to discuss the methodology and scope of ecology surveys outside the remit of Natural England.
May 2024	Technical Note	National Grid The Applicant 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	National Grid The Applicant shared the Outline

Date	Format	Topic/Description
	Correspondence	Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (oLEMP)
October 2024	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on draft versions of the Outline LEMP and CoCP.
January 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued the Protected Species Proposed Mitigation Measures to stakeholders including BBC.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant shared the Biodiversity Net Gain BNG Strategy.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant hosted a meeting to discuss comments received on the draft Biodiversity Net Gain Report.
January 2025	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant hosted a meeting to discuss comments from stakeholders on the second iteration of the Outline LEMP and Outline CoCP.
May 2025	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Air Quality assessment for review and comment.
Noise and Vibration		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued the proposed methodology and scope of the Noise and Vibration assessment for review and comment.
Health and Wellbeing		
September 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued the Health and Wellbeing Assessment Methodology to all host authorities.
September 2024	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant issued a refreshed Health and Wellbeing technical note on the

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		proposed approach to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), including guidance, study area, scope, and assessment methodology.
Historic Environment		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued a document detailing the scope and methodology for the Historic Environment assessment and baseline to all host authorities and Historic England.
July 2022	Meeting	Historic Environment Thematic Group to discuss the proposed approach for the EIA assessment.
September 2022	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant 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 The Applicant held a meeting with all host authorities to discuss landscape and heritage viewpoints.
June 2023	Technical Note	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant shared the updated viewpoints (including ZTV) for feedback from all host authorities, Natural England and Historic England.

Date	Format	Topic/Description
March 2024	Technical Note	National Grid The Applicant shared the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for review and comment.
May 2024	Meeting	Optional Statutory Consultation Thematic Group call.
May 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
June 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
July 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
August 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
September 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
October 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
November 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
December 2024	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
January 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
February 2025	Meeting	Thematic Group meeting to discuss the Historic Environment Viewpoints.
February 2025	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant Hosted a meeting to discuss the Heritage Baseline report.
February 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued updated the Historic Environment Viewpoints information to stakeholders including BBC.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project.
March 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
April 2025	Email Correspondence	The Applicant issued the Draft Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project
April 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
May 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
June 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
June 2025	Email Correspondence	The Applicant shares an Archaeological fieldwork summary for comment

Date	Format	Topic/Description
July 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
August 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
September 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
September 2025	Technical note	The Applicant shared Priority Geophys Prelim Grayscale with stakeholders for consideration
October 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
November 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
November 2025	Technical Note	The Applicant shared shapefiles of the Phase 2 Geophysical Survey with the priority survey areas
December 2025	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
December 2025	Technical Note	The Applicant shared the WSI for the Phase 2 Geophysical Survey
January 2026	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
February 2026	Email Correspondence	The Applicant shared the Supplementary Environmental Information submitted to Planning Inspectorate on the geophysical survey and archaeological trial trenching completed to date with the Archaeology Working Group Stakeholders.
February 2026	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group
March 2026	Meeting	Archaeology Working Group

Landscape and Visual

July 2022	Meeting	Landscape and Visual Thematic Group Meeting. National Grid The Applicant shared the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) Methodology and Arboricultural Assessment Methodology for review.
January 2023	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued plans showing proposed viewpoint locations for review and comment to all host authorities.
April 2023	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant held a meeting to discuss stakeholder's feedback on EIA viewpoints previously shared.
May 2023	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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.

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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
November 2024	Meeting	Thematic group meeting to discuss viewpoints and methodology.
March 2025	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology.
March 2026	Email Correspondence	The Applicant sent an e-mail to seek further clarification and detail in relation to requests for additional landscape and visual measures.
Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism		
July 2022	Email Correspondence	National Grid The Applicant issued the assessment methodology to stakeholders for review ahead of the Thematic Group Meeting in July 2022.
July 2022	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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 The Applicant 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 The Applicant 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 The Applicant shared an updated technical note with all host authorities to demonstrate how their feedback had been considered in developing the PEIR.
September 2024	Meeting	Meeting to discuss and agree the Scope and Methodology for the updated Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism Technical note on the ES Chapter.
September 2024	Technical Note	National Grid The Applicant shared the Socio-economic, Recreation and Tourism technical note with stakeholders.
November 2024	Meeting	National Grid The Applicant 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

Date	Format	Topic/Description
		Chapter.

3. Matters Agreed, Not Agreed or Under Discussion

3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 This chapter details the matters relevant to Basildon 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 [33](#)

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 3.11~~[Table 3.2 to Table 3.10](#) 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	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
Strategic options/needs case				
3.2.1	Needs case	<p>Norwich to Tilbury is being proposed because the existing network in East Anglia doesn't have sufficient capacity to manage the expected (and in some cases, contracted) increase in offshore wind farms (and interconnectors) needing to connect to the grid as part of the Government's target of reaching net zero by 2050. The project sits alongside other work to reinforce and upgrade the existing network in East Anglia.</p> <p>Norwich to Tilbury is listed as a key project in Annex 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report.</p> <p>For The Applicant's position on needs case, please refer to Section 3.2 'Needs Case and Timing' in Applicant's Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030]</p>	<p>BBC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>Basildon Council has always acknowledged that the grid capacity offered by the Norwich to Tilbury project is needed. National Grid's own Strategic Options Backcheck and Review (April 2024), as well as ongoing liaison with the project team and earlier consultation material have sufficiently made the case for the project.</p>	Agreed
3.2.2	Project timing	<p>Timing for the project is driven by the needs case – when offshore wind farms are contracted to connect to the UK network – the first of which are contracted to connect in 2030. National GridThe Applicant is legally obliged (under our Transmission Owner License) to provide capacity at the dates formally agreed in contracts with energy generators (or customers) by NESO.</p> <p>Annex 2 of the NESO Clean Power 2030 Report shows that the constraint costs associated with a</p>	<p>BBC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>It remains unclear why the project must be in place by 2030/31, as the ESO study also found that undergrounded High Voltage Direct Current would be cost comparable to overhead pylons assuming a 2034 completion date. Overall, the latter date may still prove to be a better option given the greater efficiency of this approach.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>delay to the project timing as being between £2.7 and £2.8 billion.</p> <p>For the Applicant's position on project timing, please refer to Section 3.2 'Needs Case and Timing' in 8.8.2 Applicant's Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030]</p> <p>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 Applicant considers it is unlikely that the two parties will find a mutually agreed position, and therefore suggest this matter is moved to Not Agreed.</p>	<p>Basildon Relevant Representation (November 2025):</p> <p>Basildon Council accepts that the network reinforcement offered by this project is needed to accommodate the additional planned electricity generation in the East Anglia region. It would also assist in the decarbonisation of the UK's energy supply and help deliver the Government targets of net zero by 2050.</p> <p>However, the timeframes to achieve the required network reinforcement is more uncertain. The Applicants assert that the project is required to be delivered by 2030 to meet Government targets and contract and/or licensing requirements. Conversely, the independently commissioned (Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils) Hiorns report (November 2023) suggested that having regard to the realities of when connection of new generation sources to the transmission network was likely to be required, an exceedance of current or committed transmission network capacity (including the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement which is currently underway) was not likely before 2035. If indeed the timing for the network reinforcement is less acute as suggested in the Hiorns report, The current application proposes predominantly 50m high lattice pylons, with targeted AC undergrounding in the Dedham Vale National Landscape. As such, the scheme as put</p>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
			<p>forward would have very significant impacts including landscape and visual. If indeed the timing for the network reinforcement is less acute as suggested in the Hiorns report, The Council consider that alternative schemes to the current lattice pylons scheme should be explored in more detail (such as off-shore and High Voltage Direct Current undergrounding) to ascertain whether they would achieve better environmental outcomes overall than the current submitted scheme, and if so, put forward at pace to achieve the required network reinforcement instead of the submitted scheme. Owing to the above, the Council request that the Examining Authority carefully consider the available evidence including the Hiorns Report and have an Issue Specific Hearing to assess this issue of timeframes further.</p>	
3.2.3	Onshore route	<p>An onshore route allows for greater energy capacity and connectivity to feed into the grid. In assessing offshore options to deliver the same capacity as an onshore overhead line, we would need to build three subsea cables and associated infrastructure, which would add significant cost and not meet the needs case for Norwich to Tilbury.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents</p> <p>published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes,</p>	<p>BBC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>BBC believe credible alternatives to overhead transmission lines, such as an offshore centered approach or HVDC Undergrounding, delivered at pace, to minimise onshore infrastructure should be explored fully</p> <p>Basildon Relevant Representation (November 2025):</p> <p>Basildon Council's preferred strategic option is that of securing an integrated offshore technology that minimises onshore</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>including offshore alternatives.</p> <p><u>For the Applicant's position on the onshore route, please refer to Section 3.3 'Alternatives – Offshore Alternatives' in 8.8.2 Applicant's Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030].</u></p> <p>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 Applicant considers it is unlikely that the two parties will find a mutually agreed position, and therefore suggest this matter is moved to Not Agreed.</p>	<p>transmission infrastructure and does not include overhead lines (OHLs) and pylons along its entire length.</p> <p>Basildon, along with ECC considers that option could deliver the best outcome in the interests of safeguarding the amenities of communities and the environment.</p> <p>We believe that alternative solutions, including undergrounding or different pylon design, should have been assessed in line with the mitigation hierarchy and principles of good design in NPS EN-1 and EN-5.</p>	
3.2.4	Predominantly overhead line route	<p>Norwich to Tilbury has been designed in line with policy statement EN-5 (which covers the development of new energy infrastructure) which concludes that in most cases, the government expects that overhead lines will be appropriate and should be used as standard to reinforce the grid.</p> <p>Updated Strategic Options and Backcheck Review documents published at each consultation compare the environmental, technical, socioeconomic and financial implications for alternative routes, including underground alternatives.</p> <p>The work undertaken shows that undergrounding, including using HVDC cables, would be significantly more expensive and have environmental impacts and present engineering challenges. Due to the higher price that would be</p>	<p>BBC Response to Targeted Consultations (March 2025):</p> <p>BBC believe credible alternatives to overhead transmission lines, such as an offshore centered approach or HVDC, undergrounding, delivered at pace, to minimise onshore infrastructure should be explored fully.</p> <p>Basildon Relevant Representation (November 2025):</p> <p>The current application proposes predominantly 50m high lattice pylons, with targeted AC undergrounding in the Dedham Vale National Landscape. As such, the scheme as put forward would have very significant impacts including landscape and visual.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>involved in an underground alternative, we do not believe that this would be the most suitable option as all costs ultimately go onto domestic energy bills.</p> <p>For the Applicant's position on the predominantly overhead line route, please refer to Section 3.4 'Technology Choice – Overhead Line and Underground Cables' in 8.8.2 Applicant's Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030].</p> <p>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 Applicant considers it is unlikely that the two parties will find a mutually agreed position, and therefore suggest this matter is moved to Not Agreed.</p>	<p>It is imperative that Norwich to Tilbury does not impede or inhibit growth potential for Basildon and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>We request that all means to mitigate the impact of the OHP scheme be pursued, including the securing of an underground solution to minimise the viability and deliverability of both DHGV and adjacent Basildon Local Plan housing (H11) site.</p> <p>Basildon Council's preferred strategic option is that of securing an integrated offshore technology that minimises onshore transmission infrastructure and does not include overhead lines (OHLs) and pylons along its entire length.</p>	
Project development process - Consultation				
3.2.5	2022 non-statutory consultation	<p>Non-statutory consultation took place between 21 April 2022 – 16 June 2022. Details of this consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report. 5.1 Consultation Report – Appendix B: 2022 non-statutory consultation [APP-068]</p> <p>The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.</p>		Under discussion
3.2.6	2023 non-statutory consultation	<p>Non-statutory consultation took place between 27 June 2023 – 21 August 2023. Details of this</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>consultation are outlined in the Consultation Strategy, and responses to feedback received during consultation are included in the Feedback Report. 5.1 Consultation Report – Appendix C: 2023 non-statutory consultation [APP-069]</p> <p>The non-statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published Consultation Strategy.</p>		
3.2.7	2024 statutory consultation	<p>Statutory Consultation took place from Wednesday 10 April 2024 to 26 July 2024 (the end date was extended from 18 June 2024 due to the general election-). Details of this consultation are outlined in the SoCC. Responses to feedback received during statutory consultation are available within the5.1 Consultation Feedback Report [APP-066].</p> <p>The statutory consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published SoCC.</p>		Under discussion
3.2.8	2025 targeted consultation	<p>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 are contained within the5.1 Consultation Feedback Report – Appendix K: Targeted Consultation 2025 [APP-066-077].</p> <p>The targeted consultations were undertaken in accordance with the published Targeted Consultation Strategy.</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>The approach to targeted consultation was undertaken in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 and associated guidance: Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024).</p>		
Other matters as required				
3.2.9	Community Benefits	<p>Socio-economic impacts on the local economy and the tourism sector are assessed in 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 – Socio-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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p>		Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>(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. <u>The Applicant is preparing a community funds package in line with the 'Guidance: Community funds for transmission infrastructure' (DESNZ, 2025). In line with this guidance, the community funds will be delivered outside the development consent process, as they are not a material consideration in the decision on the proposed Project nor a matter to be secured as part of the Development Consent Order. Later in spring 2026, the Applicant will begin consulting on how the community funds should be used for Norwich to Tilbury, subject to the Project receiving consent. Throughout that consultation, we will engage with local communities and elected representatives to understand local priorities and where community funds could deliver long-lasting benefits.</u></p>		
3.2.10	Impact on future housing allocations	<p>National Grid <u>The Applicant</u> has taken into consideration the location of planning applications and housing allocations in establishing the baseline as part of the routeing and siting studies to minimise any potential for direct impacts on housing development site, where possible. At all stages in the development of the Project, National Grid <u>the Applicant</u> has considered local plan allocations (both adopted and emerging) as well as planning applications along the route.</p> <p>Updated position (February 2026): National Grid provided a response to this matter at</p>	<p>BBC Response to Statutory Consultations (July 2024):</p> <p>National Grid's <u>The Applicant's</u> preferred solution of an overhead line poses questions for Basildon Borough Council's ability to propose site allocations in the west of Basildon borough in its new Local Plan, given the concerns which an overhead route raises around the ability to secure the necessary infrastructure funding from new development. Uncertainties over the ability to propose allocations close to the Norwich to Tilbury route places issues on viability</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Deadline 1 through the relevant representations process (document reference 8.4.1).</p>	<p>evidence which would identify an infrastructure funding gap. This, in turn, helps to influence viability and any identified gap could be significantly higher if the pylon route subsequently provokes a deterioration in house prices/land values close to the route.</p> <p>Basildon Relevant Representation (November 2025):</p> <p>Basildon is in the process of preparing a New Local Plan to guide future development and Basildon also made a joint Expression of Interest to the New Towns Task Force earlier this year. This illustrates future growth potential in this area, which will look to Basildon as the largest sub-regional town centre in the area and one of the largest economies in Essex, as a focus for redevelopment. It is imperative that Norwich to Tilbury does not impede or inhibit growth potential for Basildon and the surrounding areas.</p> <p>It should also be understood that this housing allocation forms part of the wider growth ambition of Basildon Borough Council in our intent to meet the Government's revised Standard Method of housing allocation. Norwich to Tilbury must not inhibit the community development potential for Basildon</p>	
3.2.11	Dunton Hills Garden Village	<p>National Grid The Applicant has taken into account the potential effect of its proposals when</p>	<p>Basildon Relevant Representation (November 2025):</p>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>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 DHGV proposals.</p> <p>National Grid The Applicant 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 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.</p> <p>The 7.21 2024 Design Development Report for the Project [APP-359] 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.</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter. For the Applicant's position on Dunton Hills Garden Village, please refer to Section 3.8 'Alternatives – Dunton Hills Garden Village' in 8.8.2 Applicant's Comments on Local Impact Reports [REP2-030].</p>	<p>It is our view that this current preferred alignment fails to mitigate locally significant effects on DHGV and surrounding allocations and thereby undermines the planned delivery of housing and infrastructure in Brentwood, Basildon and Thurrock. The Applicant has not properly taken this into account in route selection, contrary to Holford Rule 7. The pylons and overhead lines are likely to have a materially adverse effect on residential values and residual land value (circa £17.5m reduction), with consequential risks to the delivery of affordable housing and essential infrastructure at DHGV and other emerging sites.</p> <p>The route has a direct impact on the Dunton Hills proposal. Dunton Hills Garden Village is a cross-boundary allocated strategic housing site in Brentwood and runs along the boundary of Basildon, and is directly impacted by the Norwich to Tilbury route. It is dealt with directly by a separate dedicated application.</p> <p>Dunton Hills Garden Village (DHGV) is an allocated strategic housing site (Policy R01) in the Brentwood Local Plan adopted on 23rd March 2022 to deliver circa 4000 new homes together with associated infrastructure. This allocation was identified to meet the majority of Brentwood's housing need, within the Plan period and beyond. In support of this policy objective, Brentwood Borough Council approved the Dunton Hills Supplementary</p>	

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
			<p>Planning Document in January 2023 (SPD). Brentwood is in the process of reviewing its adopted Local Plan accordingly.</p> <p>As the marginal viability of the proposed development of Dunton Hills Garden Village (DHGV) could impact the provision delivery of affordable housing and necessary infrastructure, we request that all means to mitigate the impact of the OHP scheme be pursued, including the securing of an underground solution to minimise the viability and deliverability of, both, DHGV and adjacent Basildon Local Plan housing (H11) site, which is also designed to meet the Garden City standards</p>	

3.3 Ecology and Biodiversity

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

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon 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 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 (- Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 8.2 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026].	Not yet seen the ES so cannot comment at this stage.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has<u>have</u> been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.3.2	Study area	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	Agreed
3.3.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 8.4 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES- [AS-026].</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p>BBC position pending sight of the ES</p>	Under discussion
3.3.4	Assessment Methodology	<p>The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	<p>The assessment methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	Agreed
3.3.5	Survey Methodology	<p>National Grid<u>The Applicant</u> 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.</p> <p>No comments received to date on the Technical Note from BBC, no comments received at</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>No comments received to date on the</p>	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		Statutory Consultation, therefore it is assumed that this matter is agreed.	Technical Note from BBC, no comments received at Statutory Consultation, therefore it is assumed that this matter is 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 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.3.7	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Ecology and Biodiversity are presented in Section 8.5 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
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 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026].	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
3.3.9	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Ecology and Biodiversity effects during construction are summarised in Section 8.6 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES- [AS-026] and set out in the7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [2-025]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p>CoCP comments are being provided by Essex Place Services (EPS) on behalf of all the Essex councils. The Council defers to that response.</p>	<p>Under discussion Not applicable</p>
3.3.10	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures areis presented in Section 8.6 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES- [AS-026]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p>BBC position pending sight of the ES.</p>	<p>Under discussion</p>

EIA – Assessment Conclusions

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.3.11	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 8.7 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.3.12	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 8.7 of 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026]. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.3.13	Outline CoCP	<p>The 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025] includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address</p>	The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
3.3.14	Outline LEMP	<p>The 7.4 Outline LEMP [AS-046] Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP3-030] includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 (- Ecology and Biodiversity) of the ES [AS-026] and is appropriate.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP [AS-046]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	EPS response to the draft outline LEMP on 22nd 22 October 2024.	Under discussion
Other matters as required				
3.3.15	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	<p>National Grid The Applicant will deliver at least 10 % BNG with wider environmental and societal benefits on its construction projects. The 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report [PPAPP-299] sets out the approach to BNG.</p> <p>Offsite BNG will be secured by a legal agreement and delivered through collaboration with partners and purchased from commercially registered providers.</p> <p>National Grid shared the Biodiversity Net Gain strategy with stakeholders in January 2025.</p>	No comments received from BBC on this matter.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.3.16	Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)	<p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p> <p>National Grid shared the AIA in March 2025.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter. <u>The AIA has been prepared in accordance with Appendix J of 6.19 Scoping Report - including appendices B to K [APP-296] and is considered appropriate for this stage of the project.</u></p>	No comments received from BBC on this matter.	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	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.4.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Air Quality assessment is presented in 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 (– Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 7.2 of 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (– Air Quality) [APP-147] of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.4.2	Study area	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p>	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.4.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 7.4 of 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (– Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147].</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
3.4.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Air Quality was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] 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 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147]. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
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 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147]. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.4.7	Embedded mitigation	Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Air Quality	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>effects, are set out in Section 7.6 of 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (← Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147]. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
3.4.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 7.6 of 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (← Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147] and set out in the7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	CoCP comments are being provided by EPS on behalf of all the Essex councils. The Council defers to that response.	Under discussion Not applicable
3.4.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 7.6 of 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (← Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.4.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 7.7 of <u>6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7</u> (– Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.4.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 7.7 of <u>6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7</u> (– Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147]. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.4.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The <u>7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]</u> includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in <u>6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7</u> (– Air Quality) of the ES [APP-147] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p>	CoCP comments are being provided by EPS.	Under discussion <u>Not applicable</u>

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
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	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.5.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Noise and Vibration assessment is presented in 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 (= Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 14.2 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (= Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256].</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.5.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA 6.19	The study area was agreed through the EIA	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	
3.5.3	Data sources	Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 14.4 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (– Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256] . Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.5.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Noise and Vibration was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] 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 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (– Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256 [APP-256] . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
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	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
<p>6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (of the ES [APP-256]). The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>				
<p>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</p>				
3.5.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Noise and Vibration effects, are set out in Section 14.6 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (of the ES [APP-256]). Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.5.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 14.6 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (of the ES [APP-256]) and set out in the 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.5.9	Additional mitigation	<p>on this matter.</p> <p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 14.6 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.5.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 14.7 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.5.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 14.7 of 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256]. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		on this matter.		
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.5.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300] Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025] includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in 6.14 Environmental Statement Chapter 14 (Noise and Vibration) of the ES [APP-256] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	CoCP comments to be provided by EPS.	Under discussion Not applicable

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	Basildon 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	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Wellbeing assessment is presented in 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)- [APP-126] and Section 10.2 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192].</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
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. Agreed. The Council did submit a response to the initial Health and Wellbeing technical note.	Agreed
3.6.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 10.4 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192].</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.6.4	Assessment methodology	A meeting was held on 24 September 2024 to agree the assessment methodology of the Health and Wellbeing ES chapter.	A meeting was held on 24 September 2024 to agree the assessment methodology of the Health and Wellbeing ES chapter.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		The Methodology was also agreed through the Health and Wellbeing Refreshed Approach – Technical Note issued in October 2024.	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.	
3.6.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with Health and Wellbeing are summarised in Section 10.4 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192] . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
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 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192] . The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.6.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Health and Wellbeing effects, are set out in Section 10.6 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192]. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC refer to EPS for comments on the oCoCP.	Under discussion Not applicable
3.6.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 10.6 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192] and set out in the 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300] Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC refer to EPS for comments on the oCoCP.	Under discussion Not applicable
3.6.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 10.6 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale,</p>	BBC refer to EPS for comments on the oCoCP.	Under discussion Not applicable

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.6.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 10.7 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192].</p> <p>The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.6.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 10.7 of 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192].</p> <p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.6.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025] includes all relevant mitigation measures specified in 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 (Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192].</p>	<p>The content of the CoCP is still under discussion.</p> <p>As 3.6.8, CoCP comment to be provided by EPS.</p>	<p>Under discussion Not applicable</p>

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Health and Wellbeing) of the ES [APP-192] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		

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	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.7.1	Policy and legislation	<p>The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Historic Environment assessment is presented in 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 (Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and Section 11.2 of 6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208] [AS-068].</p>	<p>Agreed in respect of the area covered by BBC.</p> <p>The Council defers to EPS comments on the historic environment submitted March 2025.</p>	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.7.2	Study area	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>The study area was also agreed through subsequent thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.</p>	<p>The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>The study area was also agreed through subsequent thematic group meetings where further comments were addressed.</p>	Agreed
3.7.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 11.4 of 6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11 (– Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]].</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.7.4 a	Assessment methodology (General)	<p>The scoping opinion stated: ‘<i>The Applicant should make effort to discuss and agree relevant non-designated heritage assets for assessment and the detailed assessment methodology with relevant local planning authorities.</i>’</p> <p>The assessment methodology has been discussed at a number of Historic Environment Thematic Group Meetings held between July 2022 and November 2024.</p> <p>It is considered that the assessment methodology has been agreed, with the</p>	<p>The scoping opinion stated: ‘<i>The Applicant should make effort to discuss and agree relevant non-designated heritage assets for assessment and the detailed assessment methodology with relevant local planning authorities.</i>’</p> <p>The assessment methodology has been discussed at a number of Historic Environment Thematic Group Meetings held between July 2022 and November 2024.</p> <p>It is considered that the assessment</p>	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>exception of non-designated heritage assets, where the method is still under discussion. Historic Environment Viewpoints feedback will be taken into account for the assessment.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p>	<p>methodology has been agreed, with the exception of non-designated heritage assets, where the method is still under discussion. Historic Environment Viewpoints feedback received on 4th March 2025 from EPS.</p>	
3.7.4 b	<p><u>Assessment methodology (Non-designated heritage assets)</u></p>	<p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter It is considered that the <u>assessment methodology has been agreed, with the exception of non-designated heritage assets, where the method is still under discussion.</u></p>	<p><u>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.</u></p>	Under discussion
3.7.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Historic Environment assessment are summarised in Section 11.4 of 6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11 (= Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>In March 2025, National Grid issued an updated version of the Historic Environment (HE) Viewpoints information.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.7.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Historic Environment are presented in Section 11.5 of 6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11 (= Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]. The baseline conditions and</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.7.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Historic Environment effects, are set out in Section 11.6 of 6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11 (= Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.7.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in Section 11.6 of 6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11 (= Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068] and set out in the 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	CoCP comments are being provided by EPS on behalf of all the Essex councils. The Council defers to that response.	Under discussion Not applicable
3.7.9	Additional	The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 11.6 of 6.11	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
	mitigation	<p><u>Environmental Statement Chapter 11</u> (Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.7.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 11.7 of <u>6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11</u> (Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.7.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 11.7 of <u>6.11 Environmental Statement Chapter 11</u> (Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208 [AS-068]. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.7.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025] includes all relevant construction mitigation measures specified in Chapter 11 (Historic Environment) of the ES [APP-208] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the 7.2 Outline CoCP- [APP-300Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p>	<p>CoCP comments are being provided by EPS on behalf of all the Essex councils. The Council defers to that response.</p>	<p>Under- discussion No t applicable</p>
Other matters as required				
3.7.13	<p>Written Scheme of Investigations (WSIs) for pre-consent geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching.</p>	<p>The scope and methodology of WSIs for geophysical surveys and archaeological trial trenching is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.</p> <p>Responses from EPS will be taken on board<u>have been taken into account in producing the final approved versions of these WSIs.</u></p> <p>National Grid issued the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and draft Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project in April 2025.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p>EPS email on 6th<u>6</u> March 2025 on behalf of BBC requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra research aims added into this section in case the archaeology is later or earlier in date than is expected. • Need to have consistency if this is a full strip. In this small section 1 m is sufficient but for future ones a percentage would be more appropriate (normally we would recommend 10% as minimum). • Second bullet point is more related to evaluations and this is not occurring on site at present. The level of excavation will be high enough to provide a full record of the archaeological deposits. • Metal detecting needs to state excavation or strip map and record. 	<p>Under discussion</p>

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any complex deposits will require full excavation. 	
3.7.14	Draft Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI	<p>The contents of the Draft 7.5 Outline Archaeological Mitigation Strategy and Outline WSI Written Scheme of Investigation [APP-328] is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.</p> <p><u>The Applicant issued the Draft Outline Mitigation Strategy and Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for post-consent stage of the project in April 2025 for comment.</u> Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.7.15	Programme for completion of archaeological fieldwork	<p>The programme for archaeological fieldwork is considered appropriate and proportionate to the level of impact anticipated.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

3.8 Landscape and Visual

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

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
EIA – Regulatory, Planning Policy Context and Guidance				
3.8.1	Policy and	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Landscape and	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
	legislation	<p>Visual assessment <u>Impact Assessment</u> is presented in <u>6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 (- Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)-</u> [APP-126] and <u>within Section 13.2 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (- Landscape and Visual)-</u> [APP-226] of the ES.</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has <u>have</u> been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.8.2	Study area	<p>The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA <u>6.19 Scoping Report and the [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297]</u> received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops.</p>	<p>The study area for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and the Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops.</p>	Agreed
3.8.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data (<u>excluding viewpoints</u>) has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 13.4 of <u>6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (- Landscape and Visual)-</u> of the ES [APP-226].</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.8.4	Assessment methodology	<p>The outline methodology for assessing Landscape and Visual was agreed through the</p>	EPS provided comments on the proposed viewpoints in Essex South in an E-mail on	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
	(including LVIA methodology and viewpoints)	<p>EIA6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate and through subsequent thematic workshops.</p> <p>A meeting was held in September 2024 to seek to agree the detailed methodology. A further meeting was held in November 2024 to follow up any additional changes to the assessment.</p> <p>National Grid issued an update on LVIA Viewpoints and Methodology in March 2025.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter. <u>The LVIA methodology is set out in 6.13.A1 Environmental Statement Appendix 13.1 - Landscape and Visual Methodology [APP-227].</u></p>	25 th 25 October 2024. Viewpoints are still under discussion.	
3.8.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Landscape and Visual assessmentImpact Assessment are summarised in Section 13.4 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226]. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.8.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Landscape and Visual are presented in Section	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
<p>13.5 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (– Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226]. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>				
<p>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</p>				
3.8.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Landscape and Visual effects, are set out measures are those that are intrinsic to and built into the design of the Project, which are presented in Table 4.2 in 6.4 Environmental Statement Chapter 4 - Project Description [APP-130] and also Paragraphs 13.6.2 to 13.6.4 in Section 13.6 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (– Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226]. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p>EPS email 5th Nov 2024 – Landscape – adequacy of undergrounding, mitigation and lack of compensation are all still under discussion.</p>	Under discussion
3.8.8	Standard mitigation	<p>Standard mitigation measures comprise management activities and techniques which would be implemented during construction of the Project to limit effects through adherence to good site practices and achieving legal compliance.</p> <p>Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential</p>	<p>More information sought.</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Landscape and Visual effects during construction are summarised in Section 13.6 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226] and set out in the 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
3.8.9	Additional mitigation	<p>Additional mitigation comprises measures over and above any embedded and standard mitigation measures. The consideration of additional mitigation measures are^{is} presented in Section 13.6 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.8.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 13.7 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p>	More information sought.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
3.8.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 13.7 of 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (- Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226] . The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	More information sought.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.8.12	Outline CoCP	The 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300] Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025] includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (- Landscape and Visual) of the ES [APP-226] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	The content of the CoCP is still under discussion. As 3.6.8, CoCP comment to be provide by EPS.	Under discussion Not applicable
3.8.13	Outline LEMP	The 7.4 Outline LEMP [AS-046] Landscape and	E-mail from EPS dated 22nd 22 October 2024	Under

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Ecology Management Plan [REP3-030] includes all relevant operational related mitigation measures specified in 6.13 Environmental Statement Chapter 13 ([- Landscape and Visual) of the ES- [APP-226] and is appropriate.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline LEMP [AS-046]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	with comments on the structure of the Outline LEMP. No further comments received on the 2 nd iteration to date.	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	Basildon 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-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment is presented in 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 ([- Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context)- [APP-126] and Section 15.2 of 6.15 Environmental Statement	Agreed - subject to further clarification on social value/community benefits information.	Agreed

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>Chapter 15 (- Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265].</p> <p>All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to inform the assessment.</p>		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.9.2	Study area	<p>The Scoping Opinion stated: “<i>The Applicant should seek to agree the study area with the relevant local authorities</i>”.</p> <p>A meeting was held in 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 in November 2024, it was agreed that the study area for businesses would be expanded from 1km to 3km to take into account potential visual effects on businesses.</p> <p>The 3rd Technical Note was issued in March 2025 to seek agreement on the study area and methodology.</p> <p><u>In regard to the disruption to green space and nature, an assessment has been undertaken of the potential impact and effect on access to recreational land within 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 - Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism [APP-265]. The assessment approach and methodology are set out in Section 15.4, with the assessment set out in Table 15.23 and Table 15.29.</u></p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):-</p> <p>National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.<u>In regards to the potential health</u></p>	<p>Basildon Council responded to the Socio Economic & Tourism technical note consultation on 17 July 2023.</p> <p>A response to the non-technical Health note was also provided where BBC stated that the methodology should consider how the project will impact on health in respect of the following:</p> <p>Disruption to Green Space and Nature: assessing whether construction of the project could result in the loss of green space used for leisure and recreation purposes.</p> <p>Traffic and Transport: Linking to the Council's full consultation response, will there be any possible human health effects e.g. physical injury from accidents due to more traffic on the roads, or increased congestion and driver stress?</p> <p>Water: Is there a risk of human health effects during construction if and where contaminants of groundwater enters the public water supply? How will this be prevented? Some consideration may need to be given to the new National Policy</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>impact on traffic and transport; water; soils contamination; and general community disruption, these are set out in 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 - Health and Wellbeing [APP-192].</p>	<p>Statement on water, which came into force in September 2023.</p> <p>Soil contamination: Soil quality is linked to Nutrient Neutrality matters and thus the potential to disrupt nature. Would there be any potential build-up of ground gases and/or soil contamination from construction activity? What impacts, if any, on human health, could arise?</p> <p>General community disruption: This would test general effects on well-being; and what effects (if any) the construction of the route will have on communities, and whether or not this varies in different local authorities across the route?</p>	
3.9.3	Data sources	<p>Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Section 15.4 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265].</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p>BBC position pending sight of the ES.</p>	Under discussion
3.9.4	Assessment methodology	<p>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>.</p> <p>A meeting was held in November 2024 to seek to agree this point in the Scoping Opinion.</p> <p>The 3rd Technical Note was issued in March 2025</p>	<p>During the Thematic Group Meeting (August 2023), BBC requested the quantification of employment numbers to be generated on a borough by borough basis or at a local community level within the assessment.</p> <p>BBC statutory consultation response also reiterated the above stating that: <i>Failing to set out what the project will achieve in this</i></p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>to seek agreement on the study area and methodology.</p> <p>National Grid<u>The Applicant's</u> response to the Statutory Consultation response:</p> <p>A detailed assessment of the potential effect on the economy and employment within the Wider Study Area will be<u>has been</u> undertaken in the ES-<u>stage-6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 - Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism [APP-265]</u>, refer to <u>paragraphs 15.7.2 to 15.7.19.</u></p> <p>However, a district or borough breakdown of direct and indirect employment generation will not be available. This is due to the fact that job uptake will be skills level dependent, as well as taking into account suitability. The potential employment opportunities for the Project would also serve a much wider scale, including short tenure and mobile employment. Therefore, it will be appropriate to assess the employment generation assessment in the Wider Study Area as a whole.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	<p><i>respect appears to go against the heart of the LURA 2023 legislation, and, By this stage of the project, clear facts and figures about the opportunities N-T will create should really be available.</i></p> <p>Govt policy now expects community benefits information to be provided. The Council feels that information on job creation will help National Grid to demonstrate co-working with LPAs if a breakdown at local level can be provided.</p>	
3.9.5	Key parameters and assumptions	<p>Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism assessment are summarised in Section 15.4 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (- Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<p>appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
EIA – Baseline Conditions				
3.9.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism are presented in Section 15.5 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures				
3.9.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project relevant to Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects, are set out in Section 15.6 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
3.9.8	Standard	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential	As 3.6.8, CoCP comment to be	Under

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
	mitigation	<p>Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism effects during construction are summarised in Section 15.6 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265] and set out in the 7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	provide provided by EPS.	<p>discussion Not applicable</p>
3.9.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Section 15.6 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.9.10	Construction effects	<p>The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Section 15.7 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.9.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p> <p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Section 15.7 of 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.9.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025] includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 (Socio-economics, Recreation and Tourism) of the ES [APP-265]. and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the7.2 Outline CoCP [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on</p>	Content is still under discussion. CoCP comments are being provided by EPS on behalf of all the Essex councils. BBC defers to that response.	Under discussion Not applicable

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
this matter.				
Other matters as required				
3.9.13	Skills and Employment	<p>Socio-economic impacts on the local economy and the tourism sector are assessed in 6.15 Environmental Statement Chapter 15 - Socio-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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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). Therefore, any community benefit or investment would be captured under the National Grid Community Grant Scheme and dealt with separately to the EIA.</p> <p>In response, and to elaborate on what the</p>	<p>Basildon Relevant Representation (November 2025):</p> <p>It is essential that National Grid proactively explores mitigation strategies to minimise these impacts and works closely with local partners to identify opportunities to support and strengthen the local economy. This includes ensuring that Essex-based businesses are able to benefit from the project through meaningful engagement with the supply chain, procurement opportunities, and targeted support to help them meet project requirements</p> <p>Given the acute national and local skills shortages, the employment and skills benefits—both during construction and operation—are significant and must be fully recognised and planned for.</p> <p>We support the calls by Essex County Council to request National Grid to provide detailed labour market demand data as early as possible. This will allow for timely coordination with local education and training providers, enabling the development of targeted upskilling programmes and reducing the risk of workforce shortages that could delay project delivery. Also, the request that the applicant should actively engage with relevant partners to mitigate risks associated with skills shortages and</p>	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		<u>Applicant set in response to Relevant Representations and without prejudice to the Applicant's position that such matters do not constitute mitigation, the Applicant now proposes to prepare and submit an Employment and Skills Plan into the Examination at Deadline 5. This document is intended to provide transparency and clarity regarding the approach that the Applicant and its delivery partner, The Great Grid Partnership, will take to employment, skills, training and supply chain engagement during construction of the Project. The Applicant will engage with host authorities to inform the content of the Employment and Skills Plan.</u>	consider opportunities for shared apprenticeships, traineeships, and collaborative training programmes across concurrent projects. A strategic approach that considers the wider infrastructure pipeline will help maximise social value and ensure long-term benefits for the local workforce.	

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	Basildon 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 <u>6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2</u> (– Key Legislation and Planning Policy Context) [APP-126] and <u>Section 17.2 of 6.17 Environmental Statement Chapter 17</u> (– Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281]. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and appropriately considered to	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		inform the assessment. Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
EIA – Approach and Methods				
3.10.2	Study area	The study area was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] 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 Sections 17.4 and 17.5 of 6.17 Environmental Statement Chapter 17 (– Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281] . Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
3.10.4	Assessment methodology	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA 6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 – APP-296] and 6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297] received from the Planning Inspectorate.	The methodology for assessing Cumulative Effects was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate.	Agreed
3.10.5	Key parameters and assumptions	Key parameters and assumptions associated with the Cumulative Effects assessment are summarised in Sections 17.5 and 17.6 of 6.17 Environmental Statement Chapter 17 (– Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281] . The key parameters and assumptions presented are considered appropriate.	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
<p style="text-align: center;">Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>				
<p>EIA – Baseline Conditions</p>				
3.10.6	Baseline conditions and receptors	<p>The baseline conditions and receptors for Cumulative Effects are presented within the environmental topic chapters (Chapters 6 – 16 of the ES [APP-138 to APP-280]).– The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
<p>EIA – Embedded, Standard and Additional Mitigation Measures</p>				
3.10.7	Embedded mitigation	<p>The assessment of cumulative effects considered the residual effects identified during construction and operation (and maintenance) within the environmental topic chapters (Chapters 6 – 16 of the ES [APP-138 to APP-280]). Embedded mitigation measures, designed as an inherent part of the Project are set out in the environmental topic chapters (Chapters 6 – 16 of the ES [APP-138 to APP-280]).– Embedded mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.10.8	Standard mitigation	<p>The assessment of cumulative effects considers the residual effects identified during construction and operation (and maintenance) within the environmental topic chapters (Chapters 6 – 16 of the ES [APP-138 to APP-280]). Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential Cumulative Effects during construction are summarised in the environmental topic chapters (Chapters 6 – 16 of the ES [APP-138 to APP-280]) and set out in the7.2 Outline CoCP- [APP-300 Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	CoCP comments are being provided by EPS on behalf of all the Essex councils. BBC defers to that response.	Under discussion Not applicable
3.10.9	Additional mitigation	<p>The consideration of additional mitigation measures are presented in Sections 17.4 and 17.5 of Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281]. Additional mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):- National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
EIA – Assessment Conclusions				
3.10.10	Construction	The assessment of effects during construction is presented in Sections 17.4 and 17.5 of 6.17	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
	effects	<p><u>Environmental Statement Chapter 17</u> (– Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281]. The assessment of effects during construction presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>		
3.10.11	Operational (and maintenance) effects	<p>The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) is presented in Sections 17.4 and 17.5 of <u>6.17 Environmental Statement Chapter 17</u> (– Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281]. The assessment of effects during operation (and maintenance) presented is considered appropriate.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026): National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.</p>	BBC position pending sight of the ES.	Under discussion
Draft DCO / Outline Management Plans / Mitigation and Monitoring				
3.10.12	Outline CoCP	<p>The <u>7.2 Outline CoCP</u> [APP-300] <u>Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]</u> includes all relevant construction related mitigation measures specified in Chapter 17 (Cumulative Effects) of the ES [APP-281] and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project.</p> <p>A meeting was held in October 2024 to agree on the structure for the Outline CoCP [APP-300]. A further meeting was held in January 2025 to address comments from stakeholders.</p> <p>Updated Position (February 2026):</p>	Content is still under discussion. CoCP comments are being provided by EPS on behalf of all the Essex councils. BBC defers to that response.	Under discussion <u>Not applicable</u>

ID	Matter	National Grid's Position	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
		National Grid will continue to engage with BBC on this matter.		
Other matters as required				
3.10.13	<u>Dunton Hills Garden Village</u>	<p><u>6.17 Environmental Statement Chapter 17 – Cumulative Effects [APP-281]</u> presents an assessment of cumulative effects based on agreed methodology in <u>6.19 Scoping Report [APP-288 to APP-296]</u> and <u>6.20 Scoping Opinion [APP-297]</u>. Dunton Hills Garden Village is assessed within <u>6.17.A3 Environmental Statement Appendix 17.3 – Inter-Project Cumulative Effects [APP-284]</u> which concludes significant adverse effects on landscape and visual, agriculture and soils and the historic environment. Significant effects are anticipated owing to landscape and visual effects due to the scale of construction of both sites and the presence of both projects following construction, the agricultural land take required for both projects and the cumulative effect from both projects on a Grade II listed building (1208245). Mitigation is outlined in <u>7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice [REP3-025]</u> and <u>7.4 Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan [REP3-030]</u>.</p>		<u>Under discussion</u>

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	Basildon Borough Council's Position	Status
3.11.1	DCO Requirements			
3.11.2	DCO Wording			
Other matters as required				

3.12 Other Matters

4. Confirmation of Agreement

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

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

.....

Date:

.....

Signed for and on behalf of Basildon Borough Council:

.....

Date:

.....

Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Reference
AIL	Abnormal Indivisible Loads
AIS	Air Insulated Switchgear
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BBC	Basildon 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
EPS	Essex Place Services
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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