



# Planning Inspectorate

**Application by National Grid Electricity Transmission for an order granting development consent for the Norwich to Tilbury Project**

**Agenda for open floor hearing (updated 19 June 2026):**

<b>Hearing</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Open floor hearing 4 (OFH4)</b>	<p><b>Tuesday 23 June 2026</b></p> <p>See annex A for further details including the start and registration times for each session</p> <p><b>Hearing starts at 10:00</b></p> <p>Registration and seating available at venue from 09:00 and virtual registration process from 09:00</p>	<p><b>The Sports Bar</b></p> <p><b>Chelmsford City Racecourse</b></p> <p><b>Chelmsford</b></p> <p><b>Essex</b></p> <p><b>CM3 1QP</b></p> <p>And by virtual means using Microsoft Teams</p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>

## Agenda items

Please note that the following agenda is indicative and may be amended by the Examining Authority (ExA) at the start of the hearing.

1. **Welcome, introductions, and arrangements for the hearing**
2. **Purpose of the open floor hearing**
3. **Confirmation of those who have notified the ExA of a wish to be heard at the open floor hearing and the order in which parties will be heard**
4. **Representations by interested parties and others**

Each interested party who has indicated a wish to speak will be invited in turn by the ExA to speak.

Speakers will be heard in the order shown under the list of speakers in **annex A** and will be allocated the following maximum speaking times:

- 3 minutes for individual interested parties, including businesses
- 5 minutes for those representing groups, membership organisations or Councils, and MPs.

The ExA may ask questions of each speaker about matters arising from written and oral submissions. If they do so during a timed oral submission, the time taken by the ExA will not count against the speaking time.

5. **Close of the open floor hearing**

## Participation, conduct and management of the open floor hearing

OFHs are hearings where interested parties who are individuals, groups and organisations have the opportunity to raise any matters that they consider are important and relevant to the consideration of the application.

**Three OFHs have already taken place** at the start of the examination, between 10 and 12 February 2026 [[EV2-001](#), [EV2-003](#) and [EV2-004](#)]. The examination timetable published on 17 February 2026 [[PD-011](#)] set deadline 1 (26 February 2026) for requests to be heard at a further OFH. This was for those interested parties who had not spoken at one of the previous three hearings.

Those who have not previously registered to participate in this hearing and have not been allocated a slot in the speaking list at **annex A** of this agenda should contact the case team if they have not previously made submissions at an OFH and wish to attend this hearing.

Additional affected persons with an interest in the land subject to the applicant's 'proposed provisions' as set out in change requests 1 and 2 have until **deadline 5A (Wednesday 17 June)** to notify of their wish to speak at hearings (as set out in our letter dated 22 May 2026 [[PD-022](#)]). Such additional affected persons may not be listed in **annex A** of this agenda, but will still be able to make submissions at OFH4.

The ExA will use its discretion to hear interested parties who have not previously registered to speak (and have not spoken at a previous OFH), if time permits.

If you have already spoken at a previous OFH you are invited instead to submit your further comments in writing at the next deadline.

Oral submissions should be based on previous representations made in writing. The ExA has read all of these, therefore participants do not need to repeat submissions already made, but should provide further detail, explanation or evidence to help inform the examination of the application.

Speakers have been given a time slot based on the information provided during the registration process (3 or 5 minutes as set out in the list at **annex A** of this agenda). These are the same time limits applied to the previous OFHs held in February, and are applied to allow everyone to have a fair opportunity to be heard. There will be a timer clearly displayed. Anyone who is not able to provide all their oral submissions by the end of their time limit or by the close of the hearing should follow it up in writing by **deadline 6, Tuesday 7 July 2026**. Speakers are also advised that visual presentations are not permitted at the hearing.

Please contact the case team as soon as possible using the contact details below if you wish to attend via a different method (in person or virtually), or if you are no longer able to attend.

It would also assist the ExA if written summaries of anything that you say are submitted by **deadline 6 (Tuesday 7 July 2026)**.

People who have land or rights affected by compulsory acquisition or temporary possession (affected persons) have a right to be heard at a compulsory acquisition hearing (CAH). If you are an affected person wishing to speak about your land or rights then CAH3 taking place on **Wednesday 24 June** will be the best forum to raise any such issues and you should contact the case team to register your attendance.

The applicant will attend this OFH to listen to the submissions. The applicant will not be asked to address questions raised by interested parties at the hearing, but will do so in written submissions at the next relevant deadline. It is not the purpose of these hearings to enable the applicant to make its case.

The event will be livestreamed and a link for watching it will be posted on the [Norwich to Tilbury project page](#) of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the event date. Interested parties and members of the public who wish to observe the hearing can view and listen to the hearing using the livestream, or view and listen to the recording after it has concluded.

## **Event registration process**

Parties who have registered to speak at the OFH will receive a joining instruction email shortly before the hearing which will include a link to the virtual event on Microsoft Teams, and a telephone number should they need to participate by telephone. The joining instruction email will be sent to all registered parties, including those due to appear in person.

If you are attending virtually, please join at the virtual registration start time set out in the relevant agenda to ensure that the registration process is completed in good time.

If you are attending in person, please be aware registration at the venue may be busy and you are encouraged to ensure you arrive as early as possible after the registration process opens. It is your responsibility to ensure you have allowed enough time to register. Failure to register at the hearing prior to its start may affect your ability to participate.

## **Advice**

To help you participate effectively, the Planning Inspectorate has published the following advice which it is highly recommended you refer to before the event:

- [Registering to speak at, or attend, a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event](#)
- [What to expect at a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project event](#)

## Annex A

### Open floor hearing 4 Chelmsford Racecourse Tuesday 23 June 2026 10:00

Order	Name/ organisation	Time limit	Attendance: Virtual (V) Physical (P) Attendance method not specified (-)
1	James Cartlidge MP	5	P
2	Essex County Council	5	V
3	Chris Whitfield	3	P
4	Dick Lanham	3	P
5	Clare Lanham	3	V
6	Andrew Buxton	3	P
7	Alexander Micklem	3	P
8	Carolyn Mason	3	P
9	James Abbott	3	P
10	Carolyn Gordon for Northumbrian Water	3	V
11	Elizabeth Reynolds	3	P
12	William Peterson	3	P
13	Russell Matthews	3	V
14	R D & J Burridge	3	-
15	John Stacey	3	-
16	Elizabeth Fey Beatrix Jones	3	-
17	Bianca Moller	3	-
18	Richard Long Group Limited	3	-
19	Brumfelda History Group, Broomfield	5	-
20	D&J Starling	3	-
21	Stephen Knight of Stanfords LLP for Gent Fairhead and Co Ltd	3	P
<b>End</b>			