The Great Grid Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham

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North Humber to High Marnham

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1. Regional and Local Planning Policy

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 This appendix of **Application Document 9.1 Chapter 9 Ornithology** sets out the planning policies from the relevant regional and local plans listed in **Application Document 6.2 Chapter 2 Legislation and Policy Context** which are considered relevant to the ornithology assessment.

1.1.2 Policies within the following plans are considered relevant to ornithology and have been detailed in Table 1.1 to Table 1.14

- East Riding Local Plan Update 2020 – 2039 (East Riding of Yorkshire Council, 2025);
- Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (2024 – 2039) (Ellerker Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan , January 2026)
- North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy, Adopted 2011 (North Lincolnshire Council, 2011);
- Saved Policies of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003 Updated October 2024 (North Lincolnshire Council, 2024);
- Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038, Adopted 2024 (Bassetlaw District Council, 2024);
- Cottingham Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide 2015 – 2029 (Cottingham Parish Council, 2018);
- Treswell with Cottam Neighbourhood Plan Review 2023 (Bassetlaw District Council, 2024);
- Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan 2019 – 2035, Adopted 2021 (Walkeringham Parish Council, 2020);
- Misterton Neighbourhood Plan Review 2022 – 2038 (Misterton Parish Council, 2023); and
- Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan Review 2021 - 2037 (Sturton Ward Planning Group , 2021).
- Clarborough and Welham Neighbourhood Development Plan (2016 – 2031) (Clarborough and Welham Parish Council, 2016)
- Rampton and Woodbeck Neighbourhood Plan (2019 – 2037) (Rampton and Woodbeck Parish Council , 2019)
- Headon, Upton, Grove and Stokeham Neighbourhood Plan 2018 – 2035 (HUGS Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, 2018)
- East Drayton Neighbourhood Plan 2024 – 2038 (East Drayton Neighbourhood Planning Group, 2025)

East Riding Local Plan Update 2020 – 2039

1.1.3 The policies set out in Table 1.1 are considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.1 – East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039 - Strategy Document Update April 2025 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy ENV4: International, national and local sites of importance for biodiversity; Proposals that are likely to have a significant adverse effect on statutory designated sites (alone or in combination) will be considered in the context of the statutory protection afforded to the site. Development should follow the mitigation hierarchy to first avoid, then mitigate, and where necessary compensate for loss or harm to biodiversity. Where loss or harm to a national or local designated site, cannot be avoided, or adequately mitigated, as a last resort compensation for the loss/harm must be agreed. Development will be refused if loss or significant harm cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated or compensated for.	Mitigation measures are included in **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** which apply the mitigation hierarchy and aim to avoid significant harm to important ornithological features that are qualifying features of designated sites where possible and adopt additional mitigation measures where required. As set out in **Application Document 5.12 Design development Report** the Project design has considered environmental issues from the earliest stage to keep adverse effects to a reasonably practicable minimum.
Policy ENV5: Enhancing biodiversity and geodiversity; New developments are expected to optimise opportunities to safeguard biodiversity and geodiversity and deliver enhancements that result in a biodiversity net gain, contribute to the aims of biodiversity strategies and initiatives, and support the achievement of Water Framework Directive targets.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** sets out the potential effects of the Project on designated sites of ornithological importance and protected ornithological species identified as being of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity. The chapter provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity, in line with the requirements of the planning policy.

Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (2024 – 2039)

1.1.4 The policies set out in Table 1.2 are considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.2 – Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (2024 - 2039) Adopted Version policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 6: Ecology and Wildlife As appropriate to their scale, nature and location development proposals, changes in land use, public realm and infrastructure projects should, in achieving biodiversity net gain and supporting nature recovery: i. Protect and, where practicable enhance Ellerker's existing biodiversity assets including Ellerker Beck, wildflowers, existing hedgerows, woodlands, street trees, grass verges and green frontages. ii. Use native and wildlife friendly trees, shrubs, grasses, and plants to enhance local biodiversity. iii. Reflect the international and national ecological importance of the Humber Estuary and support the creation and enhancement of ecological corridors and the management of flooding, provision of shade or wind shelter belts.	**Application Document 6.8 Chapter 8 Ecology, Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** and **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan including Landscape Maintenance Management Plan** set out how the Project design has incorporated existing wildlife habitats, where practicable, and has included new habitats. Such features include watercourses, hedgerows and woodland. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment is also provided in **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**. As set out in **Application Document 5.12 Design development Report** the Project design has considered environmental issues from the earliest stage to keep adverse effects to a reasonably practicable minimum. **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** sets out the potential effects of the Project on designated sites of ornithological importance and, in conjunction with **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**, the mitigation measures secured to reduce these to levels that are not signficant.

North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2006 – 2026

1.1.5 The policies set out in Table 1.3 are considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.3 – North Lincolnshire Local Development Framework Core Strategy 2006-2026 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
CS17: Biodiversity This policy is primarily about conserving and enhancing North Lincolnshire's wildlife.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** sets out the potential effects of the Project on designated sites of ornithological importance and protected ornithological species identified as being of principal importance for the

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
	conservation of biodiversity. The chapter provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity, in line with the requirements of the planning policy.

Saved Policies of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003 Updated October 2024

1.1.6 The policies set out in Table 1.4 are considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.4 – Saved Policies of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2003 Updated October 2024

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Saved Policy LC1 Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar Sites Proposals for development which may affect a SPA, a proposed SPA, a SAC or candidate SAC will be assessed according to their implications for the site's conservation objectives. Proposals not directly connected with, or necessary for, the site, and which are likely to have a significant effect on the site (either individually or in combination with other proposals), will not be permitted unless it can be conclusively demonstrated that; there is no alternative solution; and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for the development. Where the site hosts a priority natural habitat type or a priority species, proposals will not be permitted unless it can be conclusively demonstrated that it is necessary for reasons of human health or public safety, or for consequences of primary importance for nature conservation.	**Application Document 5.2 Habitats Regulations Assessment Report** and **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** consider whether the Project is likely to have any significant effects on areas that have been internationally designated for nature and conservation purposes (habitat sites) including Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Ramsar sites (and potential sites), the latter two of which are relevant specifically to the ornithology assessment.
Saved Policy LC2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest and National Nature Reserves Proposals for development in, or likely to affect, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) will be subject to special scrutiny. Where such development may have an adverse effect, directly or indirectly on the	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides an assessment of potential effects of the Project on relevant Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs) that support qualifying ornithological features.

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
SSSI, it will not be permitted unless the reasons for the development clearly outweigh the nature conservation value of the site itself and the national policy to safeguard the national network of such sites.	
Saved Policy LC3 Local Nature Reserves This policy provides a list of areas proposed to be Local Nature Reserves (LNRs).	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides an assessment of effects on relevant local statutory and non-statutory designated sites. LNRs that support qualifying ornithological features. LNRs considered in the assessment are those for which details have been provided by the local records centre and that lie within 2 km of the Order Limits.
Saved Policy LC4 Development Affecting Sites of Local Nature Conservation Importance Any development or land use change which is likely to have an adverse impact on a Local Nature Reserve, a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation or a Regionally Important Geological Site will not be approved unless it can be clearly demonstrated that there are reasons for the proposal which outweigh the need to safeguard the intrinsic nature conservation value of the site or feature. In all cases where development is permitted which may damage the nature conservation value of the site, such damage shall be kept to a minimum.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides an assessment of effects on relevant local statutory and non-statutory designated sites that support qualifying ornithological features. Local sites that are considered in the assessment are those for which details have been provided by the local records centre and which lie within 2 km of the Order Limits.
Saved Policy LC5 Species Protection Planning permission will not be granted for development or land use changes which would have an adverse impact on species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Where development is permitted that may have an effect on such species, conditions or the use of planning agreements will be considered to provide protection, reduce disturbance and provide alternative suitable habitat.	Mitigation measures are set out in **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** which aim to avoid significant harm to important ornithological features, including protected species and their habitats. The requirement for further mitigation is also identified, where impacts cannot be avoided.
Saved Policy LC6 Habitat Creation Provision will be made for the creation of nature reserves and new wildlife habitats. Where appropriate, in granting planning permission, the creation of such areas will	**Application Document 6.8 Chapter 8 Ecology, Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** and **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan including Landscape Maintenance**

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
be required for specific types of development.	**Management Plan** set out how the Project design has incorporated existing wildlife habitats, where practicable, and has included new habitats. Such features include watercourses, hedgerows and woodland. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment is also provided in **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**.

Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038

1.1.7 The policy set out in Table 1.5 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.5 – Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy ST37: Green and Blue Infrastructure This policy relates to enhancement, extension and management of the connectivity, quality, multifunctionality, biodiversity and amenity value of the green and blue infrastructure network.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** and **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan including Landscape Maintenance Management Plan** set out how the Project design has incorporated existing green and blue infrastructure features, and has incorporated new features, where practicable and of direct relevance to birds and bird populations. Such features include watercourses, hedgerows and woodland. The Project proposes to deliver a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits, on a voluntary basis. Detail on the Project's approach to voluntary BNG is provided in **Application Document 7.20 Design Development Report - 2025** and **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**.
Policy ST38: Biodiversity and Geodiversity This policy seeks to protect and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity of Bassetlaw, including international, national and local designated sites and other locally important ecological features. In line with national legislation, all new development should make provision for net biodiversity gain on site, or where it can be demonstrated after following the mitigation	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** sets out the effects on designated sites of ornithological importance and protected ornithological species identified as being of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity. The chapter provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
hierarchy that this is not practicable, off-site provision will be considered.	
Policy ST39: Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows This policy seeks to protect existing trees, woodland and hedgerows and secure additional planting that increases canopy cover in the interests of biodiversity, amenity and climate change.	**Application Document 6.8 Chapter 8 Ecology, Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** and **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan including Landscape Maintenance Management Plan** set out how the Project design retains and protects existing trees, hedgerows and woodlands as far as practicable and provides information on proposed habitat creation, where these considerations are of direct relevance to birds and bird populations. **Application Document 7.13 Arboriculture Impact Assessment** sets out how existing trees will be impacted by the Project.

Cottingham Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide 2015 - 2029

1.1.8 The policy set out in Table 1.6 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.6 – Cottingham Neighbourhood Plan and Design Guide 2015 – 2029 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
GP5B Biodiversity and the green network (wildlife) This policy seeks to ensure that the community concerns and aspirations embodied in the Neighbourhood Plan with regard to sustainable transport and biodiversity are taken into consideration when detailed proposals for new development are drawn up and when views are expressed and decisions are made on planning applications relating to them.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The Project proposes to deliver a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits, on a voluntary basis. Detail on the Project's approach to voluntary BNG is provided in **Application Document 7.20 Design Development Report - 2025** and **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**.

Treswell with Cottam Neighbourhood Plan Review 2023

1.1.9 The policy in Table 1.7 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.7 – Treswell with Cottam Neighbourhood Plan Review 2023 policy relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 9: Lee Beck Green Corridor Development proposals, which enhance the setting of Lee Beck, and its associated amenity value and biodiversity, will be supported. Where appropriate, development proposals adjacent to Lee Beck, should seek to retain and enhance, where possible, public access and extend access through the formation of waterside walkways. They must not increase any increased risk of flooding or surface water runoff to nearby properties and should preserve and enhance its amenity, biodiversity, identified important trees and hedgerows and recreational value.	The Project crosses Lee Beck, west of Treswell. The ornithology assessments presented in **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** considers any impacts specifically on birds that might affect the integrity of the Green Corridor. **Application Document 6.8 Chapter 8 Ecology** and **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan including Landscape Maintenance Management Plan** describe how the Project has put in place mitigation to protect the integrity and continuity of this feature and to minimise any losses of supporting habitat.

Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan 2019–2035

1.1.10 The policy set out in Table 1.8 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.8 – Walkeringham Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2035 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Neighbourhood Plan Policy 2: Protecting the natural environment and landscape character Development across Walkeringham Parish should demonstrate that; 6. Development should incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) where practicable and related to the circumstances of the site concerned. SuDS proposals should be managed in line with the Government's Water Strategy. In particular SuDs proposals should; a) provide multifunctional benefits (for example enhancing biodiversity) by providing natural flood management and mitigation through the improvement or creation of green infrastructure. 7. Proposals that would result in the net loss of biodiversity will not be supported. Development should aim to achieve a net biodiversity gain, in accordance with local and national planning policy. If significant ecological impacts are identified,	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity where this is of direct relevance to ornithology. The Project proposes to deliver a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits, on a voluntary basis. Detail on the Project's approach to voluntary BNG is provided in **Application Document 7.20 Design Development Report - 2025** and **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**.

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
appropriate mitigation or compensation measures will be required. These measures should be targeted to benefit local conservation priorities as identified in the Nottinghamshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	

Misterton Neighbourhood Plan Review 2022 – 2038

1.1.11 The policy set out in Table 1.9 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.9 – Misterton Neighbourhood Plan Review 2022 - 2038 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 2R: Improving green and blue infrastructure and biodiversity Development which is directly related to improving or extending access to green infrastructure such as opportunities for walking and cycling in the Parish will be supported where the proposals; a) do not detract from the landscape character or ecological value; and b) are for improving access to the Local Wildlife Sites and the River Idle corridor	**Application Document 6.8 Chapter 8 Ecology** and **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan including Landscape Maintenance Management Plan** set out how the Project design has incorporated existing green and blue infrastructure features, where practicable, and has incorporated new features. Such features include watercourses, hedgerows and strips of woodland. **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** sets out where these provisions are of direct relevance ornithology. The Project proposes to deliver a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits, on a voluntary basis. Detail on the Project's approach to voluntary BNG is provided in **Application Document 7.20 Design Development Report - 2025** and **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**.

Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan Review 2021 - 2037

1.1.12 The policy set out in Table 1.10 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.10 – Sturton Ward Neighbourhood Plan Review 2021 - 2037 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 2b: Enhancing biodiversity Proposals which would improve existing environmental assets and enhance biodiversity will be supported. The following enhancements will be particularly supported: e) providing habitat improvements (i.e. nest or bat boxes) to benefit all bats and bird species of conservation concern such as swifts, swallow, house martin and house sparrows	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity. The Project proposes to deliver a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits, on a voluntary basis. Detail on the Project's approach to voluntary BNG is provided in **Application Document 7.20 Design Development Report - 2025** and **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**.

Clarborough and Welham Neighbourhood Plan 2016 – 2031

1.1.13 The policy set out in Table 1.11 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.11 – Clarborough and Welham Neighbourhood Plan 2016 - 2031 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 6: Improve Green Infrastructure and the Natural Environment 1. All development outside the development boundary which is directly related to improving or extending cycling, walking or bridleways will be permitted where the proposals: a) do not detract from the landscape character or ecological value as defined in the most recent Landscape Character Assessment Study; and b) are for enhancing, understanding or protecting the biodiversity; and c) for improving access to the local wildlife sites as identified on Map 11, page 61; and d) are consistent with other development plan Policies.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides information on how the Project has taken advantage of opportunities to conserve and enhance biodiversity where this is of direct relevance to ornithology.

Rampton and Woodbeck Neighbourhood Plan 2019 – 2037

1.1.14 The policy set out in Table 1.12 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.12 – Rampton and Woodbeck Neighbourhood Plan 2019 - 2037 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 10: The Protection of the Parish Landscape Insofar as they relate to the scale, nature and the location of the proposed development, proposals for new development within the wider Parish should demonstrate the following: The areas identified as local wildlife sites, as identified on Map 12 are safeguarded as areas for nature conservation. Development at these sites will not be supported unless other material considerations outweigh those of nature conservation or that its impact can be appropriately mitigated against on a new or adjoining site.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides an assessment of effects on relevant local statutory and non-statutory designated sites that support qualifying ornithological features. Local sites that are considered in the assessment are those for which details have been provided by the local records centre and which lie within 2 km of the Order Limits.

Headon, Upton, Grove and Stokeham Neighbourhood Plan 2018 – 2035

1.1.15 The policy set out in Table 1.13 is considered relevant to ornithology.

Table 1.13 – Headon, Upton, Grove and Stokeham Neighbourhood Plan 2018 - 2035 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 3: Landscape Character All new proposals should seek to preserve, and where possible, enhance the existing, environmental assets[1] as identified on Map 10. Where opportunities exist, proposals should seek to restore underused, or poorly maintained, assets, whilst retaining their amenity value.	**Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** provides an assessment of effects on relevant statutory designated sites that support qualifying ornithological features.

East Drayton Neighbourhood Plan 2024 – 2038

1.1.16 The policy set out in Table 1.14 is considered relevant to ornithology.

[1] The environmental assets identified in the Neighbourhood Plan are SSSIs.

Table 1.14 – East Drayton Neighbourhood Plan 2024 - 2038 policies relevant to ornithology

Policy	Where this is covered in the Application
Policy 3: Protecting and Enhancing biodiversity Development proposals which would have significant negative ecological impacts will not be supported unless appropriate mitigation and/or compensation measures are incorporated in the overall development package.	Mitigation measures are set out in **Application Document 6.9 Chapter 9 Ornithology** which aim to avoid significant harm to important ornithological features, including protected species and their habitats. The requirement for further mitigation is also identified, where impacts cannot be avoided, with specific mitigation measures identified in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**.

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