The Great Grid Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham

NHHM-NG-CNS-REP-0018

North Humber to High Marnham

Volume 5: Reports and Statements

Document 5.8.2 Statement of Common Ground - Historic England

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nationalgrid

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1. Purpose of the Statement of Common Ground

1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by National Grid Electricity Transmission (National Grid / 'the Applicant') and Historic England regarding the proposed North Humber to High Marnham Development Consent Order (DCO) application ('the Application').

1.1.2 Section 4 sets out the matters 'agreed' between the Parties, for which no further issues have been raised. It also identifies matters that remain 'under discussion', where agreement has not yet been reached and further negotiations are required to establish an agreed approach.

1.1.3 This SoCG is structured as follows:

- Section 1: An introduction to this SoCG and a description of its purpose
- Section 2: Gives a description of the project.
- Section 3: Summarises engagement between Parties to date
- Section 4: Summarises the key matters and captures the status of each issue / matter.
- Section 5: Sets out matters not agreed between the Parties.
- Section 6: Sets out the approvals and the signing off sheet between the Parties.

1.1.4 The aim of the SoCG is to clarify the shared understanding of any issues and facilitate an efficient resolution process. Any reference to 'the Parties' means National Grid and Historic England.

1.1.5 This draft SoCG has been prepared at an early phase of the DCO process, ahead of submission. It is intended to be a live and working document which will be updated as the project progresses and shared with Historic England at key points for discussion. A final SoCG will be prepared ahead of the close of the DCO Examination. Unlike a final SoCG, this draft SoCG has not been officially signed by either party.

2. Project Description

2.1.1 The North Humber to High Marnham Project (the Project) is a new 400 kilovolt (kV) electricity transmission connection of approximately 90 kilometres (km) in overall length between two proposed new substations: the 400 kV Birkhill Wood Substation and 400 kV High Marnham Substation.

2.1.2 The proposed new substations are subject to separate planning applications. For more information, see **Application Document 5.4 Consents and Licences Required Under Other Legislation**.

2.1.3 The Project comprises:

- Approximately 90 km of new overhead line (Route Code 4AF) between the proposed new 400 kV Birkhill Wood Substation and 400 kV High Marnham Substation;
- Replacement and re-alignment of a section of the existing 400 kV overhead line (Route Code 4ZQ) between Brantingham and east of Broomfleet;
- Replacement and re-alignment of a section of the existing 400 kV overhead line (Route Code ZDA) between Ealand and west of Keadby;
- Line entry connections to a proposed new 400 kV Birkhill Wood Substation;
- Line entry connections to a proposed new 400 kV High Marnham Substation; and
- The Project would include other required works, for example, temporary diversions for works on existing overhead line routes, temporary access roads, highway works, temporary works compounds, work sites and ancillary works. The Project would also include utility diversions and drainage works. There would also be land required for environmental mitigation, offsetting, compensation and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

2.1.4 A full description of the Project is provided in **Application Document 6.4 Environmental Statement Chapter 4 Description of the Project**.

3. Record of Engagement

3.1 Role of the Consultee in the process

3.1.1 The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE) is better known as Historic England. Historic England was established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and is the lead body for the heritage sector and the Government's principal adviser on the historic environment. Historic England are a statutory consultee under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 as set out in the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. Historic England administers the consent system for Scheduled Monument Consent on behalf of its sponsoring department the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport ("DCMS"), and also advises DCMS who acts on behalf of Government as State Party on meeting and complying with the requirements of the 1972 Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and National Heritage.

3.1.2 Historic England's interest relates to the potential impact of the proposed development on the Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage), and in particular designated heritage assets including World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields.

3.1.3 A period of non-statutory consultation was held for eight weeks, between 1 June 2023 and 27 July 2023. Historic England submitted a response to this Consultation. Historic England also submitted a response to the Planning Inspectorate following the applicant's request for a scoping opinion in August 2023.

3.1.4 A localised non-statutory consultation was held for four weeks, between 9 July 2024 and 6 August 2024. That consultation introduced a potential alternative corridor for routeing and sought the views of the public and relevant stakeholders, including Historic England. Historic England did not submit a response to this consultation.

3.1.5 Statutory consultation was held for a period of eight weeks from 18 February 2025 to 15 April 2025. That consultation provided an opportunity to see how the proposals had developed, how previous feedback had been considered and sought the views of the public and stakeholders on the updated proposals. Historic England submitted a response to this consultation on the 15 April 2025.

3.2 Summary of pre-application discussions

3.2.1 Table 3.1 provides an overview of the engagement that has taken place between National Grid and Historic England.

Table 3.1 – Summary of Engagement between National Grid and Historic England

Date	Format	Topic	Description
27/06/2022	Email	**Initial Engagement**	Email from National Grid to Historic England to introduce the project and arrange a project briefing meeting.
20/07/2022	Meeting	**Initial briefing**	Initial briefing by National Grid to Historic England on the Project, including need for the project, strategic optioneering and next steps.
31/05/2023	Letter	**Public Consultation**	Letter - Notification for the start of non-Statutory Consultation as a prescribed consultee under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.
31/05/2023	Email	**Consultation**	Email from National Grid to invite Historic England to provide feedback on the EIA scoping report.
29/06/2023	Email	**Consultation**	Email from National Grid to invite Historic England to provide feedback for the consultation and a draft of the Cultural Heritage chapter of the EIA scoping report.
24/07/2023	Meeting	**Methodology**	Meeting to brief Historic England on the draft heritage methodology to be submitted as part of EIA scoping report.
19/08/2023	Email	**Methodology and Non-Stat Feedback**	Email from Historic England to National Grid with initial pre-application advice and response to non-statutory consultation.
05/03/2025	Meeting	**Project Update**	Meeting with Historic England where National Grid provided a project update prior to statutory consultation.
15/04/2025	Email	**Statutory Feedback**	Email from Historic England to National Grid with feedback to the statutory consultation.
01/05/2025	Email	**Survey query**	Email exchange with Historic England as to whether a geophysical survey area, adjacent to Hall Garth Moated Site Scheduled Monument, would require a S42 Licence. As not within the Scheduled Area, the S42 Licence was not required for the survey to be undertaken.

Date	Format	Topic	Description
25/09/2025	Meeting	**Design**	Meeting for National Grid to update Historic England on design updates following statutory consultation, and the ongoing surveys.
20/05/2026	Meeting	**Results of fieldwork**	Meeting for National Grid to update Historic England on the results of archaeological trial trenching at Ousefleet in proximity to Hall Garth Scheduled Monument and the proposed approach to archaeological mitigation.

4. Matters Agreed or Under Discussion

4.1 Overview

4.1.1 This section details the matters relevant to Historic England which have been agreed or are under discussion between the parties.

4.1.2 The red, amber, green status shows, at a glance, the level of agreement with Historic England, as seen in Table 4.1.

Table 4.1 – Agreement Status

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.

Table 4.2 – Matters Agreed or Under Discussion

ID	**Matter**	**Agreed Position** (working towards)	**Historic England Position** (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	**Date** (last discussed / date agreed)	**Status**
HE-01	Consents	In relation to the assessed effects of the project, no associated heritage consents are required in relation to Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings.	Matter agreed. Historic England has no further comments in response to this matter.	15/07/2026	Agreed
HE-02	Policy and Legislation	The policy context, legislation and guidance considered when undertaking the Cultural Heritage assessment is presented in **Application Document 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 Legislation and Policy Context** and **Application Document 6.10.A1 Environmental Statement Appendix 10.1 Regional and Local Planning Policy**. All relevant legislation, policy and guidance has been identified and considered to inform the assessment.	Historic England awaits **Application Document 6.2 Environmental Statement Chapter 2 Legislation and Policy Context** and **Application Document 6.10.A1 Environmental Statement Appendix 10.1 Regional and Local Planning Policy** in order to confirm whether they have identified additional material that requires reference.	15/07/2026	Under Discussion
HE-03	Study area and baseline information	The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate. A review of all designated assets within the 1km and 3km study areas was undertaken as part of the updates to **Application Document 6.10.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 10.2 Cultural Heritage Baseline Report** in order to inform the assessment presented in **Application Document 6.10**	Matter agreed. The study area was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and **Application Document5.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 5.2 Scoping Opinion** received from the Planning Inspectorate.	15/07/2026	Agreed

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	Historic England Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
		Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage.			
HE-04	Data Sources	Sufficient desktop and survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage.**	Historic England awaits **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage** in order to confirm whether they have identified additional material that requires reference/production.	15/07/2026	Under Discussion
HE-05	Assessment Methodology	The methodology for assessing Cultural Heritage was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion received from the Planning Inspectorate and is considered appropriate.	Matter agreed. The methodology was agreed through the EIA Scoping Report and **Application Document 6.5.A2 Scoping Opinion 5.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 5.2 Scoping Opinion** received from the Planning Inspectorate. Historic England has not requested amendments to the methodology.	15/07/2026	Agreed
HE-06	Individual Heritage Assets – Scope of Assessment	A phased approach to assessment of listed buildings has been implemented to most effectively focus the environmental assessment on likely significant effects. National Grid has provided details on 'scoping out' the listed buildings in **Application Document 6.10.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 10.2 Cultural Heritage Baseline Report**.	Matter agreed. Historic England has no further comments in response to this matter.	25/09/2025	Agreed

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	Historic England Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
HE-07	Baseline conditions and receptors	The baseline conditions and receptors for Cultural Heritage are presented in **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage** and **Application Document 6.10.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 10.2 Cultural Heritage Baseline Report.** The baseline conditions and receptors presented are considered appropriate. National Grid will continue to engage with Historic England on this matter.	Historic England awaits **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage** and **Application Document 6.10.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 10.2 Cultural Heritage Baseline Report** in order to confirm whether they have identified additional conditions or receptors for inclusion.	15/07/2026	Under Discussion
HE-08	Mitigation	Standard mitigation measures to reduce potential effects during construction are summarised in **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage**, and **Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice** and are secured in **Application Document 7.9 Outline Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation** and **Application Document 7.10 Outline Cultural Heritage Management Plan**. The standard mitigation is considered appropriate and adequate, in terms of its nature and scale, to address potential effects.	Historic England awaits the Applicant's **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage**, and **Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice, Application Document 7.9 Outline Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation** and **Application Document 7.10 Outline Cultural Heritage Management Plan** to review the measures prior to confirming whether they have identified necessary revisions to these documents.	15/07/2026	Under Discussion
HE-09	Mitigation Hierarchy	The mitigation hierarchy has been applied to the Project throughout the iterative design process and is considered in	Historic England awaits **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage**	15/07/2026	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	Historic England Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
		Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage. The use of the mitigation hierarchy to avoid and minimise effects to heritage assets is considered appropriate and proportionate. Where effects to heritage assets would be unavoidable, appropriate mitigation and/or off-setting measures are in place to mitigate these impacts.	in order to confirm whether they have identified necessary revisions to these documents.		
HE-10	Assessment findings	The findings of the cultural heritage assessment included in **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage** and are considered appropriately assessed.	Historic England awaits the **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage** in order to consider the impacts on heritage assets by the Project and confirm whether they have identified necessary revisions to these documents.	15/04/2025	Under Discussion
HE-11	Outline CoCP	**Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice** includes relevant construction mitigation measures specified in **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage** and is appropriate for managing construction impacts from the Project. **Application Document 7.9 Outline Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation** and **Application Document 7.10 Outline Cultural Heritage Management Plan** present	Historic England awaits the Applicant's **Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice** includes relevant construction mitigation measures specified in **Application Document 6.10 Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Cultural Heritage, Application Document 7.9 Outline Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation** and **Application Document 7.10 Outline Cultural Heritage Management Plan** to review the measures prior to confirming	15/07/2026	Under Discussion

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	Historic England Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
		appropriate additional mitigation measures; the content and approach are considered appropriate and proportionate for managing construction impacts from the Project.	whether they have identified necessary revisions to these documents.		
HE-12	Draft DCO, Requirements, Explanatory Memorandum and Draft Requirements	Requirements included in Schedule 2 of **Application Document 3.1 the Draft Development Consent Order** include suitable measures to manage environmental effects.	Historic England awaits the Draft DCO requirements, Explanatory Memorandum and Draft Requirements to review these requirements prior to confirming whether they have identified necessary revisions to these documents.	15/07/2026	Under Discussion
HE-13	Routing	It is agreed that the overhead line routing has sought to minimise heritage setting impacts, balancing heritage impacts and other Project constraints.	Historic England initially queried the possibility for undergrounding certain sections of the Project, particularly in the Yorkshire Wolds and the Isle of Axholme, areas with potential for designation as AONB. In a subsequent meeting, Historic England agreed the overhead line routing has sought to minimise heritage setting impacts, balancing heritage impacts and other Project constraints.	15/04/2025	Agreed
HE-14	Archaeological Fieldwork	National Grid set out a suitable staged approach to the archaeological evaluations, including aerial photographic and LiDAR assessment, cartographic analysis, geoarchaeological assessment, geophysical survey and archaeological trial	Matter agreed. Historic England has no further comments on the initial scope of archaeological evaluations but awaits the reporting of that work and may advise further.	15/07/2026	Under discussion

ID	Matter	Agreed Position (working towards)	Historic England Position (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	Date (last discussed / date agreed)	Status
		trenching in order to provide an adequate evidence base for the DCO application.			
HE-15	Hall Garth moated Site Mitigation	Trial trenching revealed archaeological remains within the order limits that could be associated with the scheduled Hall Garth moated site in Ousefleet (NHLE 1013190).	Historic England advised that for this type of archaeological remains (which contributes directly to the significance of the adjacent scheduled monument) a reactive response during detailed design and construction is not appropriate. The mitigation response needs to be well planned and methodical. Historic England agreed in principle to detailed excavation of the archaeological remains outside the scheduled Hall Garth moated site but within the Order Limits in advance of construction. Historic England set out that this approach of extensive excavation is appropriate where it is deemed necessary to provide the main works contractor with maximum flexibility within what is a confined working area. This would be National Grid's choice based upon their judgement of the demands of effective scheme delivery (as opposed to taking a much more restrictive approach to the main works contractor's operations in that area for instance by creating a very tightly defined ground protected route).	20/05/2026	Agreed
HE-16	Viewpoints	Viewpoints for cultural heritage assessment	Historic England confirmed agreement with the proposed viewpoint locations and suggested additional viewpoint locations -	12/03/2026	Agreed

ID	Matter	**Agreed Position** (working towards)	**Historic England Position** (including actions to be taken by National Grid)	**Date** (last discussed / date agreed)	**Status**
			from the scheduled site of St Helen's Church (NHLE 1006391), in the Scheduled Monument of the medieval settlement and open field system immediately southeast of Low Farm (NHLE: 1017741) and looking southwest towards the Grade II* listed Church of St Peter and St Paul (NHLE: 1275773) in Sturton-le-Steeple.		

5. Matters Not Agreed

5.1 Overview

5.1.1 This section details the matters relevant to Historic England which have not been agreed between the parties.

5.1.2 [TABLE TO BE INSERTED AT EXAMINATION TO INCLUDE MATTERS NOT AGREED. THERE ARE NO MATTERS NOT AGREED AT THIS STAGE]

6. Confirmation of Agreement

The above SoCG is agreed between National Grid and Historic England on the date specified below.

Signed for and on behalf of National Grid:

……

Date:

……

Signed for and on behalf of Historic England:

……

Date:

……

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