The Great Grid Upgrade

North Humber to High Marnham

NHHM-AEC-CNS-REP-0139

North Humber to High Marnham

Volume 7: Other Documents

Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan

Final Issue A

October 2026

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN020034

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 Regulation 5(2)(q)

nationalgrid

Contents

Executive Summary 1

1. Introduction 3

1.1 Overview 3

1.2 Purpose and Structure of the Document 4

1.3 Environmental Gain 6

2. Project Commitments 8

2.1 Overview 8

2.2 Construction and Landscape Schedule 8

2.3 Construction Working Hours 9

2.4 Surveys Supporting the Outline LEMP 10

3. Project Team Roles and Responsibilities 11

3.1 Environmental Management Systems 11

3.2 Project Responsibilities 11

3.3 Information Training Awareness 11

4. Landscape and Ecological Features 12

4.1 Landscape Character and Designated Landscapes 12

4.2 Ecological Designations 12

5. Ecology Species-Specific Mitigation 15

5.1 Protected Species Mitigation 15

6. Vegetation Retention and Protection 32

6.1 General Approach 32

6.2 Working Near Trees 33

6.3 Tree Protection Measures 33

6.4 General Principles of Tree Work 36

6.5 Working near Designated Woodland/Trees 37

6.6 Protection of Hedgerows 43

6.7 Protection of Watercourses 43

6.8 Protection of Soil Resources 44

6.9 Biosecurity 44

7. Vegetation and Tree Removal 46

7.1 General Approach 46

7.2 Woodland Tree Removal 47

7.3 Hedgerows 48

8. Landscape and Ecological Reinstatement and Other Mitigation 49

8.1 General Approach 49
8.2 Landscape and Ecological Reinstatement Planting 49
8.3 Reinstatement of Woodland, Small Groups and Individual Trees 50
8.4 Reinstatement of Hedgerows 51
8.5 Reinstatement of Grassland 51
8.6 Reinstatement of Watercourses 54
8.7 Landscape Mitigation 54

9. Aftercare 63

9.1 General Aftercare 63
9.2 Woodland, Trees, Hedgerows and Mitigation Planting Areas 63
9.3 Grassland 64

10. Implementation 65

10.1 Implementation of the LEMP 65
10.2 General Site Checks and Reporting 65
10.3 Monitoring of Mitigation Planting Areas 65
10.4 Monitoring Designated Sites 65
10.5 Monitoring in Relation to Protected Species 66
10.6 Change Process 66

Table 1.1 – Structure of the Outline LEMP 5
Table 2.1 – Baseline surveys and desk studies supporting the Outline LEMP 10
Table 4.1 – Statutory ecological designated sites relevant to the Outline LEMP 13
Table 4.2 – Non-statutory ecological designated sites relevant to the Outline LEMP 13
Table 6.1 – Mitigation hierarchy for veteran trees 38
Table 6.2 – Definitions of Project activity 39
Table 6.3 – Surveyed veteran trees and veteran groups within the arboricultural study area 40
Table 7.1 – Categories for potential impacts from the Project on individual trees, groups of trees, woodlands 46
Table 8.1 – Timeline of tasks for reinstatement of CG3 *Bromus erectus* grassland community 53
Table 8.2 – Mitigation Planting Areas 54
Table 8.3 – Assumptions of growth rates for planting types 62

References 67

Appendix A Indicative Planting Schedules

Executive Summary

Purpose of this Report

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) is developing the North Humber to High Marnham Project (the Project), a proposed new 400 kV electricity transmission connection between East Riding of Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire. The Project would reinforce the national electricity transmission network, enabling the connection of new low carbon energy generation and supporting the delivery of the UK Government's clean power and net zero ambitions. The Project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) for which development consent is being sought through a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (HM Government, 2008). It is recognised as a critical reinforcement to provide the network capacity required to meet future electricity demand and support the transition to a low-carbon energy system

The Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) has been prepared by National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) as part of the application for development consent.

This document provides the preliminary framework for the principles and procedures that the Main Works Contractor(s) must implement to minimise, manage and mitigate the potential environmental impacts of construction works associated with the Project. This Outline LEMP will be fully developed based on detailed design information to be provided by the Main Works Contractor(s). The Final LEMP will be submitted for approval in accordance with the relevant Requirement of **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order** prior to commencement of the relevant stage of the development. This process ensures that detailed design is developed with clear alignment to the principles and procedures within this document.

This Outline LEMP sets out how the land, vegetation and habitats would be reinstated following construction. It includes details on additional mitigation measures required for ecology and landscape during and post-construction, as well as detailing any required management of these features post-construction.

The measures detailed in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments** and this Outline LEMP would ensure legislation and best practice guidance to avoid, reduce, mitigate or compensate for any adverse impacts on landscape and the visual environment or ecological features are followed.

The objectives of the Outline LEMP are as follows:

- To provide a mechanism for the delivery of landscape and ecological measures, in accordance with the relevant Requirement within Schedule 2 of **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order**, to mitigate or compensate for environmental effects identified in the Environmental Statement (Volume 6 of the application for development consent).
- To provide details of what vegetation would be affected by the Project, how vegetation would be retained and protected on the Project, where vegetation would be removed, and how this would be undertaken.

- To provide details of the vegetation which would be provided as part of the proposed embedded mitigation measures, control and management measures, or additional mitigation measures.
- To highlight the roles and responsibilities for implementing the identified mitigation measures.
- To ensure that legislation and best practice is adhered to by the Project.

1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

1.1.1 National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) owns and maintains the national high voltage electricity transmission network throughout England and Wales.

1.1.2 The transmission network connects the power from where it is generated to the regional distribution network operators who then supply businesses and homes.

1.1.3 National Grid holds the Transmission Licence for England and Wales, and its statutory duty is to develop and maintain an efficient, coordinated and economical system of electricity transmission and to facilitate competition in the generation and supply of electricity, as set out in the Electricity Act 1989.

1.1.4 National Grid has developed plans for the North Humber to High Marnham Project (the Project). The Project would support the UK government's net zero target through the connection of new low carbon energy generation and by reinforcing the transmission network.

1.1.5 The Project would establish a new 400 kilovolt (kV) transmission connection approximately 90 kilometres (km) in length between a new substation to be built in the vicinity of Birkhill Wood, located to the north of Hull near Creyke Beck in the East Riding of Yorkshire, and a new substation at High Marnham in Nottinghamshire.

1.1.6 The reinforcement is needed because the existing transmission network, even with current upgrading, will not have sufficient capacity for the new renewable energy (a substantial proportion of which would be generated by offshore wind) that is expected to connect to the network over the next 10 years and beyond. Completion of the Project, together with other new reinforcements across the country, will meet this future energy transmission demand across the UK.

1.1.7 The Project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), and National Grid is seeking development consent under the Planning Act 2008. NSIPs require a type of planning permission known as a Development Consent Order (DCO). Instead of applying to the local authority for planning permission, the developer must apply to the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate for a DCO.

1.1.8 National Grid has submitted an application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate for the Project. The Examining Authority (consisting of one or more examining inspectors), after a period of public examination, will make its recommendation to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, who in turn will decide on whether development consent should be granted.

1.1.9 The Project has been identified as being critical to delivering a network which supports the clean power pathways for 2030 delivery.

1.2 Purpose and Structure of the Document

1.2.1 This Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) forms part of the application for development consent. It sets out the principal measures that are required to avoid, minimise, mitigate and compensate (where relevant) for the potential ecological and landscape and visual effects of the Project during and post-construction, as per the mitigation hierarchy.

1.2.2 Embedded mitigation measures, control and management measures, and additional mitigation measures are included within **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**, which should be read in conjunction with this Outline LEMP.

1.2.3 All pre commencement operations must be carried out in accordance with this document unless otherwise agreed with the relevant planning authority and/ or Natural England (where required) and implement all applicable environmental commitments and monitoring requirements identified in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**.

1.2.4 This Outline LEMP will be developed into a Final LEMP and be based on the detailed design and construction methodology information to be provided by the Main Works Contractor(s). The Final LEMP will be submitted for approval in accordance with the relevant Requirement within Schedule 2 of **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order** prior to commencement of development. This process ensures that detailed design is developed with clear alignment to the principles and procedures within this document.

1.2.5 The Outline LEMP describes the works undertaken pursuant to the DCO whether this is undertaken by National Grid and any appointed contractors appointed. This document refers to the 'contractors' when referring to any organisation responsible for constructing components of the Project.

1.2.6 Any appointed contractors would carry out all work in accordance with the Final LEMP during the construction, reinstatement and the necessary aftercare period for that part of the Project.

1.2.7 The Outline LEMP has been produced to detail the approaches and mechanisms for securing the delivery, management and monitoring of the landscape and ecological measures identified in the Environmental Statement as reported in **Application Document 6.6 Environmental Statement Chapter 6 Landscape**, **Application Document 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 Visual**, **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology** and **Application Document 6.9 Environmental Statement Chapter 9 Ornithology**.

1.2.8 This Outline LEMP sets out how the land, vegetation and habitats would be reinstated following construction. It includes details on additional mitigation measures required for ecology and landscape during and post-construction, as well as detailing any required management of these features post-construction.

1.2.9 The measures detailed in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments** and this Outline LEMP would ensure legislation and best practice guidance to avoid, reduce, or compensate for any negative impacts on landscape and the visual environment or ecological features are followed.

1.2.10 The objectives of the Outline LEMP are as follows:

- To provide a mechanism for the delivery of landscape and ecological measures, in accordance with the relevant Requirement within Schedule 2 of **Application**

Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order), to mitigate for environmental effects identified in the Environmental Statement (Volume 6 of the application for development consent).

- To provide details of what vegetation would be affected by the Project, how vegetation would be retained and protected on the Project, where vegetation would be removed, and how this would be undertaken.
- To provide details of the vegetation which would be provided as part of the proposed embedded mitigation measures, control and management measures, or additional mitigation measures.
- To highlight the roles and responsibilities for implementing the identified mitigation measures.
- To ensure that legislation and best practice is adhered to by the Project.

1.2.11 The structure of this Outline LEMP is set out in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 – Structure of the Outline LEMP

Chapter	Content
1 – Introduction	This chapter sets out the purpose of the Outline LEMP and how it is structured.
2 – Project Commitments	This chapter outlines the embedded mitigation measures, control and management measures and additional mitigation measures for the Project. This also sets out the ecological and arboricultural survey work that has been undertaken to inform the Outline LEMP.
3 – Project Team Roles and Responsibilities	This chapter sets out the main roles and responsibilities relevant to the Outline LEMP and the training and awareness that will be provided.
4 – Landscape and Ecological Features	This chapter sets out the landscape resource and ecological designations relevant to the Outline LEMP and summarises the main land uses crossed by the Project.
5 – Ecology Species Specific Mitigation	This chapter sets out the ecology species-specific mitigation required pre-construction and during the works.
6 – Vegetation Retention and Protection	This chapter sets out how vegetation and habitat features that are to be retained on-site will be protected during construction.
7 – Vegetation and Tree Removal	This chapter sets out how vegetation and habitat features will be removed during construction, with reference to the Arboricultural Impacts Plan in Appendix D of **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment.**
8 – Landscape and Ecological Reinstatement and Other Mitigation	This chapter sets out how vegetation and habitat features will be reinstated following construction. This includes outline landscape design information for the mitigation planting areas.
9 – Aftercare	This chapter sets out the aftercare proposed on the Project with regards to vegetation.

Chapter	Content
10 – Implementation	This chapter explains procedures in relation to site checks and reporting and how material or non-material change would be managed, if change were necessary to implement the Project.

1.3 Environmental Gain

1.3.1 In recent years, the UK Government has introduced legislation and policy that puts biodiversity at the heart of the planning system. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), describes Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) as an approach to development that makes sure habitats for wildlife are left in a measurably better state than they were before development (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2026). The statutory requirement for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) to achieve a specified biodiversity gain objective (as set out in a biodiversity gain statement) will be mandatory for applications made from 2 November 2026. The biodiversity gain objective for energy NSIPs, as set out in the Nationally significant infrastructure projects: biodiversity gain statement for energy (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2026), will require that the biodiversity value attributable to a development exceeds the pre-development biodiversity value of the on-site habitat by at least 10%. This is referred to as 10% BNG.

1.3.2 The Project application for development consent is being submitted prior to 2 November 2026 and therefore the provision of 10% BNG is not mandatory. Notwithstanding, the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (HM Government, 2026) states that NSIPs should seek opportunities to provide BNG, including wider environmental gains and benefits to local communities and national policy priorities, where possible, and the Secretary of State should give appropriate weight to environmental net gain and BNG during decision making. However,10% BNG is not a legal requirement for this application for development consent.

1.3.3 National Grid's environmental and social commitments in its Social and Environmental Action Plan (National Grid, 2026) include a commitment to deliver a minimum of 10% BNG with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits for all developments for which planning permission or development consent is required, whether or not under the Environment Act 2021 (HM Government, 2021). Therefore, the Project proposes to deliver 10% BNG with potential for wider environmental and societal benefits on a voluntary basis, and substantively follows the guidance set out in Nationally significant infrastructure projects: biodiversity gain statement for energy (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2026).

1.3.4 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**.

1.3.5 The Project has identified land adjacent to Treswell Wood Nature Reserve, Wood Lane, Retford as suitable for delivering voluntary BNG and has included this land within the Order Limits as shown in **Application Document 2.3 Land Plans - Section E Sheets 11 and 12**. The land is located approximately 450 m west of the proposed new overhead line.

1.3.6 This Outline LEMP refers to retention, replacement planting and on-site habitat creation within the Order Limits. In line with **Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**, this Outline LEMP excludes off-site BNG habitat requirements. It is anticipated that any off-site BNG, considered to be enhancement, would be delivered through alternative mechanisms outside of the main construction works. The added environmental and societal value will be reported through the final iteration of the BNG Report post-consent based on final detailed design and an updated metric.

2. Project Commitments

2.1 Overview

2.1.1 The Project design is the result of an iterative design process that has taken into account environmental considerations from the Project inception. Knowledge gained through the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, involving baseline surveys and the assessment of impacts, along with consultation with interested parties have influenced the Project design. Where practicable, key environmental constraints have been avoided and/or impacts reduced. These measures are considered embedded mitigation as they are intrinsic to and built into the Project design.

2.2 Construction and Landscape Schedule

2.2.1 Prior to the grant of DCO consent, a number of pre-construction environmental surveys would be undertaken. Should consent be granted, it is anticipated that construction of the Project would commence in 2028 and continue through to 2031 with reinstatement continuing into 2033.

2.2.2 Advance works may also take place prior to development consent, where consented under alternative regimes. Any such early works would be controlled under the terms of the relevant planning permission and would not relate to development that can only be carried out under the DCO.

2.2.3 In accordance with the relevant Requirement within Schedule 2 of **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order**, authorised development may not commence until a written scheme setting out the stages of the authorised development has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority.

2.2.4 Construction activities would be sequenced and of a transient nature given the linear construction site. There are likely to be works occurring simultaneously in various locations on different Project elements.

2.2.5 Habitat reinstatement, for all areas where works are considered temporary, would be undertaken at the earliest opportunity and no later than by the first available planting (unless otherwise agreed with the relevant planning authority or discharging authority) season after that part of the authorised development, to which the habitat reinstatement works apply, is first brought into operational use.

2.2.6 A specific landscape planting schedule (recognising the indicative planting schedule provided within Appendix A) will be created by the relevant Main Works Contractor(s) for each mitigation planting area, which will identify where advanced planting works ahead of or during construction can take place and where planting will be undertaken on completion of construction works (before operational use).

2.2.7 The final landscape planting schedule will take into account timings relevant to the EIA where practicable and other seasonal restrictions set out within the Environmental Statement or relevant European Protected Species (EPS) Licence (where identified as necessary and applicable).

2.3 Construction Working Hours

2.3.1 Core working hours for construction are set out in **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order**, and are as follows:

- Monday to Friday, 07:00–19:00; and
- Saturday, Sunday and public holidays, 08:00–17:00.

2.3.2 The core construction working hours exclude start-up and close-down activities, which would take up to one hour before and after the core construction working hours.

2.3.3 Unless otherwise agreed with the local highway authority, no heavy goods vehicle (HGV) deliveries would be made to site outside of the hours of 06:00 to 19:00 Monday to Friday and 07:00 to 17:00 on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

2.3.4 The following typical operations may take place outside the proposed core working hours:

- Trenchless crossing operations including beneath highways, utilities, pipelines, railway lines, woodlands, nature reserves or watercourses;
- The installation and removal of conductors, pilot wires and associated protective netting (included but not limited to) across highways, railway lines or watercourses;
- The jointing of underground cables;
- The completion of operations commenced during the core working hours which cannot safely be stopped;
- Any highway works or works within the highway where the relevant highway authority has requested such works to be undertaken outside the core working hours;
- The testing or commissioning of any electrical plant installed as part of the authorised development including undertaking of any identified corrective activities;
- The completion of works delayed or held up by severe weather conditions which disrupted or interrupted normal construction activities;
- Activity necessary in the instance of an emergency where there is a risk to persons or property;
- Security monitoring;
- Non-intrusive surveys;
- Intrusive surveys;
- The installation and removal of temporary bridges including the installation of any safety systems;
- Delivery of abnormal indivisible loads; and
- Mechanical and electrical installation works within buildings once erected and enclosed.

2.4 Surveys Supporting the Outline LEMP

2.4.1 Surveys and desk studies undertaken to provide baseline information for use in the assessments carried out as part of the EIA process are fully detailed in their respective documents. A summary is provided in Table 2.1.

Table 2.1 – Baseline surveys and desk studies supporting the Outline LEMP

Baseline surveys and desk studies	Document reference
Designated sites	Information relating to designated sites of relevance are provided in **Application Document 6.8.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.2 Designated Sites Information**.
Extended Phase 1 habitat	**Application Document 6.8.A3 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.3 Habitat Survey Report**
National Vegetation Classification (NVC) and yellow bird's-nest (*Hypopitys monotropa*) survey	**Application Document 6.8.A4 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.4 Botanical Report**
Badger (*Meles meles*)	**Application Document 6.8.A5 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.5 Badger Report (Confidential)**
Otter (*Lutra lutra*) and water vole (*Arvicola amphibius*)	**Application Document 6.8.A6 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.6 Otter and Water Vole Report**
Bat surveys	**Application Document 6.8.A7 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.7 Bat Roost Report** and **Application Document 6.8.A8 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.8 Bat Activity Report**
Hazel dormouse surveys (*Muscardinus avellanarius*)	**Application Document 6.8.A9 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.9 Hazel Dormouse Report**
Aquatic habitats	**Application Document 6.8.A10 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.10 Aquatic Ecology Report**
Great crested newt (GCN) (*Triturus cristatus*)	**Application Document 6.8.A12 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.12 Great Crested Newt Report for Nottinghamshire**
Habitat Condition Assessments	**Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**
Arboricultural surveys	**Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment**
Modular River Physical (MoRPh) survey	**Application Document 7.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Report**
Ornithology	**Application Document 6.9 Environmental Statement Chapter 9 Ornithology**

3. Project Team Roles and Responsibilities

3.1 Environmental Management Systems

3.1.1 National Grid will implement management processes and briefings so that the works are carried out in accordance with current legislation and guidance. This will be achieved by application of well-established work processes that apply the recognised BS EN ISO 14001:2026 (British Standards Institution, 2026) or equivalent.

3.1.2 All Main Works Contractor(s) will have an Environmental Policy that meets the requirements of ISO 14001 (British Standards Institution, 2026) or equivalent, through their internal Business Management System procedures. The policy statement will be displayed on the site notice boards, publicised to all site staff and operatives, and made available to interested parties upon request.

3.2 Project Responsibilities

3.2.1 All Main Works Contractor(s) will undertake the works in accordance with the DCO and its associated documents including the Final LEMP. A briefing on the contents of the Final LEMP will be given by the Main Works Contractor(s) to all relevant contractors at commencement of works, to highlight the environment commitments and responsibilities to those undertaking the works.

3.2.2 Overall roles and responsibilities relevant to this Outline LEMP are presented within **Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice**. These roles may be delivered by multiple individuals across the Project, depending on the specific requirement.

3.3 Information Training Awareness

3.3.1 In accordance with **Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice** and **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**, all staff and operatives working on the Project will undergo a site-specific induction, which is anticipated to include the following environmental topics:

- Working in or adjacent to protected sites and Priority Habitats, invasive flora, protected species management;
- Working around tree/hedgerow root protection areas;
- Working in or near water; and
- Soil management and protection of soil quality.

3.3.2 Environmental toolbox talks will be provided by the Main Works Contractor(s). These will give targeted information about site-specific issues or activities taking place at that time.

4. Landscape and Ecological Features

4.1 Landscape Character and Designated Landscapes

Landscape Character

4.1.1 Landscape character is described at the national, regional and local levels in a series of published landscape character assessments. This section describes the landscape character at the regional scale, within reference to the following:

- East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment (East Riding of Yorkshire Council, 2018);
- North Lincolnshire Landscape Character Assessment (North Lincolnshire Council, 2022); and
- East Midlands Region Landscape Character Assessment (East Midlands Landscape Partnership, 2010).

4.1.2 Effects on landscape character are described in **Application Document 6.6 Environmental Statement Chapter 6 Landscape** and **Application Document 6.6.A3 Environmental Statement Appendix 6.3 Landscape Baseline and Assessment**.

Designated Landscapes

4.1.3 There are no nationally designated landscapes within or close to the Order Limits.

4.1.4 At the northern end of the Project in Route Section A, the landscape is locally designated as the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area by East Riding of Yorkshire Council. This local designation covers the Order Limits between the A164 and the A63. Designated under Policy ENV2 of the East Riding Local Plan Update (East Riding of Yorkshire Council, 2025), this designation looks to protect and enhance landscape character.

4.2 Ecological Designations

4.2.1 All statutory sites designated for nature conservation that were identified within the ecology and ornithology study areas are presented within **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**, **Application Document 6.9 Environmental Statement Chapter 9 Ornithology** and **Application Document 6.8.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.2 Designated Sites Information**.

4.2.2 Table 4.1 summarises the statutory ecological designated sites where direct impacts have been identified within **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology** and **Application Document 6.9 Environmental Statement Chapter 9 Ornithology** and therefore those that are relevant to this Outline LEMP.

Table 4.1 – Statutory ecological designated sites relevant to the Outline LEMP

Site name	Designation[1]	Distance from the Order Limits	Closest Route Section
Brantingham Dale	SSSI	Partly within Order Limits	A
Chesterfield Canal	SSSI	Partly within Order Limits	E
Humber Estuary	SAC/SPA/ Ramsar/SSSI	Partly within Order Limits	B

4.2.3 Table 4.2 summarises the non-statutory ecological designated sites that are relevant to this Outline LEMP, and their location in relation to the Order Limits.

Table 4.2 – Non-statutory ecological designated sites relevant to the Outline LEMP

Site name	Distance From Order Limits (m)	Closest Route Section
Jillywood Lane LWS	Partly within Order Limits	A
Brantingham Dale Historic LWS	Partly within Order Limits	A
Folly Drain North LWS	Partly within Order Limits	C
Hatfield Waste Drain LWS	Partly within Order Limits	C
North Engine Drain, Belton LWS	Partly within Order Limits	C
Paupers' Drain LWS	Partly within Order Limits	B
River Torne LWS	Partly within Order Limits	C
South Engine Drain, Belton LWS	Partly within Order Limits	C
Stainforth and Keadby Canal Corridor LWS	Partly within Order Limits	C
Warping Drain Corridor LWS	Partly within Order Limits	D
South Moor Covert and Fishpond Plantation LWS	Partly within Order Limits	D
Dolegate Road, East Drayton Candidate LWS	Partly within Order Limits	E
Retford Gate Green Lane LWS	Partly within Order Limits	E

[1] Designated site acronyms defined as follows: Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Local Nature Reserve (LNR).

4.2.4 Other important ecological features which are found within the Order Limits comprise:

- Habitats of Principal Importance in England, i.e. Priority Habitats, including traditional orchard, lowland meadows, mudflats, reedbeds, lowland calcareous grassland, lowland dry acid grassland, coastal saltmarsh and deciduous woodland; and
- Protected and notable species, e.g. bats, GCN, otter, water vole, badger; birds, hazel dormouse, reptile species, invertebrates, yellow bird's-nest (plant), macrophytes, aquatic macroinvertebrates and fish.

4.2.5 Ancient woodland, other areas of woodland recorded by the Project as having characteristics of ancient woodland, ancient trees, trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) and veteran trees are summarised in section 6 of this Outline LEMP. More detail is provided within **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment Appendix E Veteran Tree Survey Methodology** and **Application Document 6.8.A4 Appendix 8.4 Botanical Report**.

4.2.6 Many of the requirements to protect the designated sites listed in Table 4.1 and Table 4.2 are covered by the measures already listed within this Outline LEMP. Specific measures relevant for each site will be detailed in the Final LEMP.

5. Ecology Species-Specific Mitigation

5.1 Protected Species Mitigation

5.1.1 This chapter provides outline details of measures to minimise and mitigate potential impacts on protected and notable species (i.e. species of conservation importance, including legally protected species and those listed as Species of Principal Importance under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (HM Government, 2006)) and ensure compliance with relevant wildlife-related legislation, e.g. the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (HM Government, 1981) and The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (HM Government, 2017).

5.1.2 Due to the time that will have elapsed since the last surveys and the possibility that species presence or activity could have changed in the intervening period, pre-construction surveys will be undertaken for several species/ species groups. Where pre-construction surveys are deemed to be required, this has been outlined within the relevant species sections below.

5.1.3 The results of the pre-construction surveys will be used to identify whether any changes to the mitigation measures are required, and the Final LEMP will be updated to reflect the survey results, as required.

Bats

5.1.4 Details pertaining to bats are provided in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**, **Application Document 6.8.A7 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.7 Bat Roost Report** and **Application Document 6.8.A8 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.8 Bat Activity Report**.

5.1.5 The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts to bats during construction of the Project, and to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation, while maintaining the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.6 Habitats within the Order Limits form part of a functionally connected network used by bats for commuting and foraging. The retention, protection and appropriate management of important habitat features, such as woodland, watercourses and other linear features, including hedgerows, will ensure that ecological connectivity is maintained.

5.1.7 Sections of hedgerows to be removed will be minimised to only that which is essential, such as the width of the required construction access track, without the additional width required for passing places and topsoil storage areas, which will be restricted to being located within the fields either side. Where practicable and efficient to do so, third party asset modification works will be undertaken using trenchless techniques beneath hedgerows instead of open cut trench techniques. Stringing areas and crossing protection areas will be set back from hedgerows to avoid direct effects where practicable.

5.1.8 Stringing methods will seek to avoid complete removal of hedgerows underneath the proposed overhead line, and any small section which may require temporary management will be reduced in height only within the year required and will not be removed throughout the full construction period. This will minimise the loss of linear habitats used by bats and maintain connectivity.

5.1.9 Sections of hedgerow that require temporary removal to facilitate construction of the Project will be reinstated post-construction to the same (or improved) condition. For example, species-poor gappy hedgerows would be replaced with intact species-rich hedgerows where practicable.

5.1.10 Where appropriate, and subject to agreement with landowners, bat boxes will be installed on retained trees to provide roosting opportunities.

5.1.11 Retained and newly created habitats forming commuting and foraging routes will be managed in accordance with the habitat management prescriptions set out within the Final LEMP. Installed bat boxes will be inspected periodically and maintained where necessary to ensure their continued functionality. Required duration will depend on if they are installed as part of a bat mitigation licence or just to replace habitat lost. Typical timeframes include 2 to 5 years following installation, which should be done preconstruction or at the start of construction when trees with bat suitable features are removed (whichever is soonest). Therefore, the duration of monitoring could fall wholly within the construction period.

5.1.12 Trees identified as supporting potential roost features (PRFs) and requiring removal or direct works will be subject to appropriate pre-construction surveys to confirm the presence or likely absence of roosting bats. Surveys may include dusk emergence surveys, detailed aerial inspection and/or soft-felling under an ecological watching brief overseen by a suitably licensed ecologist, as appropriate to the confirmed roost potential category and in accordance with current best practice guidance (Reason & Wray, 2025).

5.1.13 For trees considered suitable for hibernation, and those with potential to support roosting bats but not confirmed as roosts, felling will take place outside both the main Summer roosting season (May to September) and key hibernation periods (March, early April and October), subject to weather conditions.

5.1.14 Where bat roosts are confirmed to be present, works will be undertaken under a European Protected Species Mitigation Licence (EPSML) and in compliance with licence conditions.

European Protected Species mitigation licensing (bats)

5.1.15 Following pre-construction surveys, where impacts on roosting bats cannot be avoided, a Bat Mitigation Licence Application Form (A13), including a method statement, reasoned statement and work schedule, will need to be submitted to Natural England.

5.1.16 Once the licence has been granted, tree felling will be undertaken in a manner that minimises the risk of harm to bats. Works will avoid the main Summer roosting season (May to September inclusive), which is particularly sensitive for maternity roosts (typically May to August).

5.1.17 Tree felling under licence will be undertaken under the supervision of a named ecologist on the licence or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence.

Badgers

5.1.18 Details pertaining to badgers, including sett locations and classifications, can be found in **Application Document 6.8.A5 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.5 Badger Report (Confidential)**.

5.1.19 The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts to badgers during construction of the Project and to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation, while maintaining the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.20 Pre-construction surveys will be undertaken to confirm the status of all previously recorded badger setts prior to the commencement of works and to check for any new setts that may have been created in the interim period.

5.1.21 Active badger setts within or in close proximity to the Order Limits will be protected where practicable. Works will be avoided within 30 m of active badger setts, unless this is not feasible. Where works are undertaken in proximity to an active sett, a minimum 30 m buffer will be clearly demarcated using fencing or other appropriate markers, unless otherwise permitted under licence conditions.

5.1.22 There are two active main setts which are potentially at risk of direct impacts (damage to setts) from the construction of the Project, as detailed in **Application Document 6.8.A5 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.5 Badger Report (Confidential)**.

5.1.23 Some active non-main setts (including annex, subsidiary and outlier setts) may also be at risk of direct impacts and may require closure where avoidance is not possible. Closure of any active badger sett will be undertaken under a Natural England Badger Mitigation Licence and in accordance with licence conditions. Replacement setts will only be required where closure of a main sett is necessary.

5.1.24 Some active setts located within 30 m of working areas may be subject to indirect impacts such as disturbance from vibration or lighting. These setts will be protected through the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and licensing where required. Some active setts greater than 30 m from pylon foundations (up to 100 m) may be disturbed by the foundation installation technique. There remains the potential for requiring piling for some pylons, including driven piling. This type of foundation installation creates a potential for greater disturbance through noise and vibration than other methods. Natural barriers in some locations may reduce this noise level, and some noise mitigation for human receptors may also help reduce the noise levels.

5.1.25 Disused setts that are impacted will not require mitigation or licensing, provided that their status remains unchanged.

5.1.26 The following measures will be implemented during construction to minimise the risk of impacts to badgers:

- All contractors will receive a toolbox talk detailing the presence of badgers and relevant legal protection, with measures set out within **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**;
- Any trenches or excavations left open overnight will be covered or fitted with a suitable means of escape such as a battered slope or wooden ramp;
- All trenches and pits will be checked each morning to ensure no animals have become trapped overnight;

- If a badger is encountered within an excavation, the ECoW or a suitably qualified ecologist will be contacted immediately for advice;
- Storage of topsoil and soft construction materials will be managed to prevent badgers excavating temporary setts. Material will be stored in a manner that prevents access or in mounds no greater than approximately 2 m in height;
- Where there is no conflict with other ecological requirements, soil will remain uncompacted to reduce suitability for sett formation;
- Construction lighting will be task specific and not be directed at badger sett entrances or adjacent habitat used by badgers; and
- Temporary construction fencing (excluding fencing around excavations or soil storage areas) will retain gaps beneath to allow badgers to pass through, maintaining commuting routes.

Badger mitigation licensing

5.1.27 Where pre-construction surveys confirm that impacts on active badger setts cannot be avoided, works will be undertaken under a Natural England Badger Mitigation Licence.

5.1.28 The licence application will be submitted to Natural England and will include a method statement, reasoned statement and programme of works.

5.1.29 Where a replacement artificial badger sett is required, it will be constructed and made available for use in advance of any exclusion from, or closure of, the affected sett, in accordance with the requirements of the licence.

5.1.30 Exclusion of badgers from setts will only be undertaken under licence and will be carried out between July and November inclusive, unless otherwise agreed in writing with Natural England. Exclusion measures will be installed and monitored to confirm that setts are no longer in use prior to closure. This may also apply to disturbance for some badger setts such as main setts.

5.1.31 No destructive works to badger setts will commence until the absence of badgers has been confirmed by the named ecologist on the licence or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence.

5.1.32 All works affecting badgers or their setts will be overseen by the named ecologist on the licence or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence.

5.1.33 Where required by the licence, post-construction monitoring shall be undertaken to verify the effectiveness of mitigation measures, including the use of any replacement setts.

Birds

5.1.34 The following measures will be implemented to avoid and minimise impacts to breeding and wintering birds during construction and operation of the Project and to maintain the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits. Information regarding the survey effort for birds can be found in **Application Document 6.9 Environmental Statement Chapter 9 Ornithology**.

5.1.35 Environmental considerations have been incorporated into the design of the Project from the outset to avoid or minimise impacts on ornithological receptors where reasonably practicable. This has included the sensitive routeing and siting of infrastructure, taking into account designated sites, Priority Habitats and key ecological features, in accordance with relevant National Policy Statements. Where practicable, the proposed overhead line alignment has been designed to run in close parallel to existing overhead lines, thereby reducing the overall footprint of new infrastructure and limiting potential impacts on previously unaffected habitats.

5.1.36 During construction, measures set out within **Application Document 7.2 Outline Code of Construction Practice** and **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments** will be implemented to reduce disturbance to birds and protect nesting habitats. These include environmental training for construction personnel, ecological supervision where required, and the establishment of protective buffer zones around sensitive ecological features.

5.1.37 Vegetation clearance and works affecting habitats that may support nesting birds will be undertaken outside of the bird breeding season (generally March to August inclusive) where practicable. Where works cannot avoid this period, affected habitats will be checked for nesting birds by the ECoW or a suitably qualified ornithologist prior to clearance. Surveys will normally be undertaken within 24 hours of works commencing, although this period may extend to 48 hours where necessary, in which case vegetation removal will be undertaken under ecological supervision.

5.1.38 Where active nests are identified, appropriate exclusion zones will be established to prevent disturbance. These will normally comprise a minimum stand-off distance of 5 m, although larger buffers may be implemented depending on the species, location and nature of works. Exclusion zones will remain in place until the nest is no longer active, as determined through monitoring by the ECoW.

5.1.39 Where vegetation, structures, pylons or other features with potential to support nesting birds are required to be removed during the breeding season, these will be inspected by the ECoW or a suitably qualified ornithologist prior to works commencing. If definitive evidence of nesting cannot be determined, works will be undertaken under ecological supervision. Additional pre-construction surveys may also be undertaken to update baseline information and identify any protected or notable bird species present within or adjacent to the Order Limits.

5.1.40 Pre-works checks for Schedule 1 bird species listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (HM Government, 1981) will be undertaken where appropriate. These checks will be carried out within 500 m of mature trees and existing pylons and within 200 m of nest boxes, buildings and trees with potential to support nesting birds, with mitigation measures implemented on a case-by-case basis where required.

5.1.41 Specific mitigation measures will also be implemented for barn owl (*Tyto alba*) where suitable nesting sites occur that are considered a risk of disturbance within 175 m of pylon working areas, stringing locations, site compounds, or construction access tracks. Where required, potential nesting locations will be soft blocked outside of the breeding season once it has been confirmed that they are not occupied. Alternative nest boxes will be installed in suitable locations outwith the disturbance buffer, not explicitly within the order limits but also potentially in other areas subject to agreement with the landowner(s), dependent on findings during pre-construction surveys. Soft blocking will be removed following completion of the works and the installed nest boxes will remain in place to provide long-term nesting opportunities.

5.1.42 Measures will also be implemented to protect kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) where works occur adjacent to watercourses. For works within 10 m of the Market Weighton Canal, pre-construction surveys will be undertaken to identify any active kingfisher nesting burrows. Where nests are identified, works will be restricted within 10 m of the canal bank and, where breeding is confirmed, works will be scheduled outside of the kingfisher breeding season (March to August inclusive). (**See Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**).

5.1.43 Pre-works surveys will also be undertaken along the North Soak Drain, South Engine Drain and adjacent watercourses where kingfisher habitat is present. Where nesting kingfishers are identified within 100 m of construction access tracks or working areas, visual and acoustic screening will be installed to prevent disturbance from construction activities and construction traffic. Any scaffolding required to enable crossings of watercourses such as the South Soak Drain will be constructed in a manner that avoids disturbance to riverbanks and potential kingfisher nesting habitat.

5.1.44 Temporary construction areas will be reinstated following completion of works, and habitats temporarily affected will be restored to their original condition or an enhanced condition where practicable.

Water Voles

5.1.45 Information pertaining to water voles is provided in **Application Document 6.8.A6 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.6 Otter and Water Vole Report** with recorded presence illustrated on Figure A8.6.2.

5.1.46 The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts to water vole during construction of the Project and to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation, while maintaining the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.47 Where watercourses (including ditches) supporting water vole populations are crossed by the Project, clear-span bridges (or alternative assessed technology) will be used in preference to culverts to prevent damage and disturbance to water vole habitat. Bridge crossings will incorporate a minimum 5 m clearance span either side of the top of the banks to retain natural bankside habitat and allow continued movement of water voles along the watercourse.

5.1.48 Prior to the commencement of works, pre-construction surveys will be undertaken 200 m upstream and downstream of each crossing point within the Order Limits to confirm the current presence or likely absence of water voles. This will also be required where works alongside watercourses cannot maintain a 5 m buffer to prevent impacts to water vole habitats. Where practicable, buffers of 5 m have been incorporated into the design to minimise the potential for disturbance and destruction of water vole burrows.

5.1.49 Where pre-construction surveys confirm that water voles are no longer present at previously recorded locations, the crossing design may revert from a bridge to a culvert where appropriate (a bridge may be required for other reasons). Conversely, where water voles were previously recorded as likely absent but are confirmed present during pre-construction surveys, the crossing design will be amended from a culvert to a bridge in order to avoid impacts. If it is not feasible to build a bridge, works will be carried out under the relevant Natural England licence.

Water vole mitigation licensing

5.1.50 As the Project will be applying for a class licence for water voles (CL31), there is no requirement for submitting a draft 'ghost' licence to Natural England for review unless it is confirmed prior to examination that an A11 Mitigation Licence is required instead should additional watercourses used by water voles be confirmed to be unavoidable and affect the same populations as other locations requiring mitigation. Natural England have stated that the proposals are currently sufficient to allow the issue of a class licence and will issue a letter of comfort to confirm.

5.1.51 Where impacts on water voles or their habitat cannot be avoided, works will be undertaken under the relevant Natural England licence, as informed by pre-construction surveys.

5.1.52 Within Route Section B and D, there are three watercourses where water vole are present. These watercourses are marked by crossing points C-031 and C-094; C-118 and BC-29 respectively. For the former, bridges are not feasible due to safety and logistical limitations associated with bridge construction within bellmouths and underneath crossing protections. In the case of the latter, bridges are not preferred due to the potentially complex interactions with existing oil pipelines and proposed third-party works (see Figure A8.6.2 in **Application Document 6.8.A6 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.6 Otter and Water Vole Report**). At these locations, mitigation will be implemented through habitat enhancement and water vole displacement under a Natural England Class Licence (CL31). This form of mitigation is possible at these locations as the separation between the three watercourses is sufficient for the water vole identified to be from different populations.

5.1.53 Prior to displacement activities being undertaken, suitable receptor (enhancement) habitat will be established in advance, in accordance with licence requirements. Two water vole mitigation areas will be created in Route Section B, as shown in Figure A8.6.2 in **Application Document 6.8.A6 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.6 Otter and Water Vole Report**. The water vole mitigation areas will provide suitable alternative habitat for water voles which are displaced under licence from areas of watercourses which will be impacted during construction.

5.1.54 Mitigation areas will be established between 9 and 15 months in advance of displacement works, depending on the time of year, to allow sufficient vegetation establishment. Monitoring will be undertaken by the named ecologist on the licence (or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence) to confirm successful establishment of habitat prior to displacement from the affected construction areas (continued throughout construction), and to identify signs of water vole presence. Post construction monitoring requirements will be dictated by the licence.

5.1.55 Should further areas be found during pre-construction where works cannot be avoided within 5 m of the watercourse with water voles present, and any of these locations are too close to an existing water vole licence area, or each other, then a class licence approach may not be permitted by Natural England and a site-specific Mitigation Licence will be required. This would also be the case should any location affect more than 50 m of water vole habitat.

5.1.56 Water vole displacement will be undertaken in the presence of the named ecologist on the licence or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence, and in accordance with licence conditions, and will include:

- Initial cutting of marginal vegetation and destructive searches in the area where water voles are being displaced from, during the Spring period of between 15 February to 15 April or in the Autumn period of 15 September to 31 October in suitable weather conditions (no snow, frost, minimum temp no less than 5°C);

- Following vegetation removal, the cut area will be left intact for a minimum period of five consecutive days and a maximum of 10 consecutive days prior to undertaking a destructive search; and
- Works will commence within five days of completing the destructive search. Where this is not possible, measures will be implemented to prevent recolonisation, including maintaining vegetation at ground level or covering the area with geotextile material secured in place.

Otter

5.1.57 Information pertaining to otters is provided in **Application Document 6.8.A6 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.6 Otter and Water Vole Report**, with the location of potential holts illustrated on Figure A8.6.3.

5.1.58 The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts to otter during construction of the Project and to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation, while maintaining the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.59 In the first instance, impacts on otters will be avoided through the implementation of good practice construction measures, including restriction of works to daylight hours where practicable, and the retention of a minimum 30 m buffer around potential holts and resting places where possible.

5.1.60 Where temporary lighting is required during construction, a precautionary approach will be adopted to minimise potential disturbance to otter. Lighting will be directional, task-specific, and designed to avoid light spill onto adjacent habitats, including watercourses and riparian corridors used by otters.

5.1.61 The potential but unconfirmed holt found is not expected to be impacted by the Project as the Order Limits have been adjusted to provide a 30 m buffer from this feature. The potential holt was also monitored by trail cameras between December 2025 and May 2026, which returned a single visit by an adult otter in February 2026. The duration of use by the otter was considered to be too short to confirm it as an active holt, therefore it remains a potential holt only.

5.1.62 The potential holt found in Route Section A, will potentially need to be closed due to the undergrounding works required for third-party assets. It is assumed that the works will impact the feature directly. An artificial holt may be required to be provided if this is the case within an otter mitigation area. Attempts to monitor the existing holt by trail cameras in December 2025 and January 2026 were unsuccessful due to interference with the camera traps. Monitoring to mid-August has yielded no signs of otter, therefore this is not currently considered an active holt, but this could change by commencement of construction. Monitoring will be repeated pre-construction to determine usage status prior at that time.

5.1.63 Works affecting active otters and their habitat require a EPSML from Natural England. To grant a licence, Natural England must be assured that there is no satisfactory alternative and that the status of otter will be maintained at the site.

European Protected Species mitigation licensing (otter)

5.1.64 Should further monitoring or pre-construction surveys identify an active holt or resting place, then a draft ‘ghost’ licence application will be submitted to Natural England for review. This will include a detailed method statement setting out mitigation,

compensation and enhancement measures. The review process will enable Natural England to confirm whether the proposals are sufficient to allow the issue of a Letter of No Impediment (LONI), or whether further information or amendments are required. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

5.1.65 Where impacts on otters or their active resting places cannot be avoided, works will be undertaken under a Natural England EPSML and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

5.1.66 Where a holt is confirmed to be affected, a suitable alternative resting or breeding site will be provided in advance of any disturbance or closure, in accordance with licence requirements. If required, an artificial holt will be constructed within a designated otter mitigation area in Route Section A, prior to any closure of the potential existing holt. The artificial holt will be located away from main construction activity and will maintain connectivity to existing habitat features (e.g. watercourses and hedgerows). It will be partially buried, secured, and covered with suitable materials (e.g. brash) to provide appropriate shelter and screening.

5.1.67 Any required habitat clearance will be minimised, and mitigation planting will be implemented as part of the licensed works. The mitigation area will be protected from disturbance (e.g. through fencing) to allow vegetation establishment and provide suitable conditions for otter use.

5.1.68 All works undertaken would be overseen by the named ecologist on the licence or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence and in accordance with licence conditions. This is to ensure that impacts on otters are appropriately mitigated and that the favourable conservation status of the species is maintained.

Hazel Dormouse

5.1.69 Information pertaining to hazel dormouse is provided in **Application Document 6.8.A9 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.9 Hazel Dormouse Report**.

5.1.70 The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts to hazel dormouse during construction of the Project and to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation, while maintaining the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.71 The presence of hazel dormouse has been confirmed within suitable habitats in the hazel dormouse survey area in Route Section E. Where impacts cannot be avoided, works will be undertaken under a Natural England EPSML.

5.1.72 Construction activities, including the formation of construction access tracks, bellmouths, pylon working areas, third-party modification works and crossing protections will require the temporary removal of sections of hedgerow vegetation. This will result in temporary gaps within hedgerows (widths dependent on the activity). In addition, vegetation clearance required beneath the proposed overhead line (approximately 20 m either side of the proposed overheard line subject to span length) will result in the permanent loss of taller trees where present, although hedgerows and low-level scrub will be retained where practicable.

5.1.73 Vegetation clearance within suitable dormouse habitat will follow a two-stage clearance method designed to minimise the risk of disturbance or mortality. This will comprise:

- Initial reduction of woody vegetation to just above ground level during the Winter period; and
- Subsequent removal of ground vegetation, stools and roots during the Spring period.

5.1.74 These works will be overseen by the named ecologist on the hazel dormouse licence or a suitably qualified ecologist accredited on the licence.

5.1.75 All personnel working in suitable hazel dormouse habitat will receive toolbox talks and site briefings to raise awareness of hazel dormouse, their legal protection, and the mitigation measures to be implemented.

5.1.76 Measures will be implemented to minimise habitat fragmentation and maintain connectivity. These will include the retention of connectivity where practicable, and the use of brash-filled gaps or temporary corridors to facilitate movement through affected areas. If temporary lighting is required in the hazel dormouse licence area, a precautionary approach will be adopted to minimise disturbance. Lighting will be directional, task-specific, and designed to avoid light spill onto adjacent hedgerows and habitats used by dormice.

5.1.77 Habitat loss and degradation will be compensated through landscape planting and habitat enhancement, including woodland, hedgerow and scrub planting using species beneficial to hazel dormouse.

5.1.78 Mitigation planting will be established within 10 areas across the hazel dormouse licensed area, incorporating species such as hazel (*Corylus avellana*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*), Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*). The Project has identified land adjacent to Treswell Wood Nature Reserve, Wood Lane, Retford as suitable opportunity for delivering voluntary BNG, and if taken forward would include woodland planting using species suitable for hazel dormouse, which could provide habitat connectivity and an extended habitat for wildlife, including successfully reintroduced dormouse at Treswell Wood.

5.1.79 Following the completion of the construction works, habitats temporarily affected by the Project will be reinstated either like-for-like or to an enhanced condition, including the replacement of species-poor or defunct hedgerows with intact species-rich hedgerows containing species beneficial to hazel dormouse. These habitats will be subject to a five-year period of monitoring and management to ensure successful establishment.

5.1.80 Where temporary structures or measures are used to maintain connectivity during construction, these will be monitored where required by the licence to ensure they remain functional and appropriately connected to adjacent habitats.

European Protected Species mitigation licensing (hazel dormouse)

5.1.81 Where impacts on hazel dormouse cannot be avoided, works will be undertaken under a Natural England EPSML and in accordance with the conditions of that licence.

Licensing

5.1.82 A draft ‘ghost’ licence application will be submitted to Natural England for review. This will include a detailed method statement setting out mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures. The review process will enable Natural England to

confirm whether the proposals are sufficient to allow the issue of a LONI, or whether further information or amendments are required. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

Reptiles

5.1.83 Information pertaining to reptiles are provided in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**.

5.1.84 The following measures will be implemented to avoid impacts to reptiles during construction of the Project and to ensure compliance with relevant wildlife legislation, while maintaining the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.85 Habitats suitable for reptiles will be subject to two-stage habitat manipulation undertaken between mid-March and mid-October:

- During the first stage, vegetation will be cut to approximately 150 mm above ground level, with arisings removed from the working area. This work will be overseen by the ECoW or a suitably qualified ecologist and the area left for a minimum of 24 hours to allow reptiles to disperse naturally from the affected area.
- During the second stage, vegetation will be cleared down to ground level, which would be overseen by the ECoW or a suitably qualified ecologist.

5.1.86 Vegetation clearance will be undertaken using equipment appropriate to the vegetation type, extent of habitat affected and the need to minimise the risk of injury or mortality to reptiles. Construction works may commence immediately following completion of the second stage of vegetation clearance.

5.1.87 Where practicable, potential reptile hibernacula will be retained and protected during construction. Where impacts to hibernacula cannot be avoided, vegetation clearance and groundworks affecting these features will be timed to avoid the reptile brumation period (late October to early March). Replacement hibernacula and refugia will be provided where required to maintain suitable sheltering opportunities within the landscape.

5.1.88 Implementation of these measures will be overseen by the ECoW or a suitably qualified ecologist, with detailed delivery arrangements to be confirmed by the Main Works Contractor(s).

Great Crested Newt

5.1.89 Information pertaining to great crested newt (GCN) is provided in **Application Document 6.8.A12 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.12 Great Crested Newt Report for Nottinghamshire**.

5.1.90 GCN surveys undertaken in 2024, 2025 and 2026 confirmed the presence of GCN within several waterbodies located within 250 m of the Order Limits, with one pond (P031) located within the Order Limits. None of the ponds where GCN presence has been confirmed will be lost or directly affected by the Project. However, construction activities have the potential to disturb or harm GCN should they be present within suitable terrestrial habitats such as grassland, scrub, hedgerows, woodland or tree root systems within the Order Limits. Much of the land within the Order Limits comprises arable land which provides sub-optimal terrestrial habitat for the species.

Natural England Licensing

5.1.91 To address potential impacts, National Grid will utilise the Natural England District Level Licensing (DLL) scheme for GCN where the Project falls with East Riding of Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire. Natural England has agreed to the use of the DLL approach in these counties, and implementation of the licence will be administered and overseen by Natural England.

5.1.92 National Grid will secure a DLL from Natural England prior to the commencement of works that may affect suitable GCN habitat. The DLL approach will ensure that impacts to GCN are appropriately mitigated through the strategic creation and enhancement of habitat delivered through the licensing scheme.

5.1.93 Works affecting suitable terrestrial habitat within the Order Limits will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Natural England DLL, ensuring that construction activities are carried out in a lawful manner and that the favourable conservation status of GCN populations is maintained.

5.1.94 For the section of the Project within Nottinghamshire, as DLL is not available for this county, it is likely that the Project will be applying for an A14 mitigation licence for great crested newts, unless otherwise agreed with Natural England.

5.1.95 Natural England have agreed to provide a letter of comfort for the use of DLL in the two counties stated above, and will follow with an impact assessment and conservation payment certificate (IACPC) once the DLL is processed.

5.1.96 Where the Project is located in Nottinghamshire, a draft 'ghost' licence application will be submitted to Natural England for review if an A14 licence is sought. This will include a detailed method statement setting out mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures. The review process will enable Natural England to confirm whether the proposals are sufficient to allow the issue of a LONI, or whether further information or amendments are required. All works will be undertaken in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

Other Amphibian Species

5.1.97 Information pertaining to other amphibian species and the Project are provided in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**.

5.1.98 The following measures will be implemented to reduce impacts to common amphibians, including common frog (*Rana temporaria*), common toad (*Bufo bufo*), smooth newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*) and palmate newt (*Lissotriton helveticus*), during construction of the Project.

5.1.99 Targeted surveys for common amphibians were not undertaken as part of the ecological surveys for the Project. However, ponds and ditches located within and adjacent to the Order Limits may support common amphibian species, and observations of these species were recorded during the desk study and surveys undertaken for GCN. Suitable terrestrial habitats within the Order Limits include hedgerows, scrub, semi-improved grassland and woodland, which may provide sheltering, foraging and dispersal opportunities.

5.1.100 Potential impacts to common amphibians will be reduced through the implementation of mitigation measures developed for other ecological receptors, including two-stage vegetation clearance undertaken for reptiles, the retention of suitable terrestrial

habitats where practicable, and the protection of waterbodies and associated buffer zones within the Order Limits.

5.1.101 Where vegetation clearance or groundworks are required within habitats that may support amphibians, works will be undertaken in a sensitive manner under ecological an ecological watching brief where appropriate, allowing amphibians to disperse naturally from the affected areas prior to construction activities commencing.

Terrestrial Invertebrates

5.1.102 Information pertaining to terrestrial invertebrates and the Project is provided in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**.

5.1.103 The following measures will be implemented to avoid and minimise impacts to terrestrial invertebrates during construction of the Project and to maintain the ecological functionality of habitats within the Order Limits.

5.1.104 Temporary impacts to habitats used by invertebrates may occur during construction activities such as the establishment of access routes, pylon working areas, stringing positions, scaffolding and undergrounding of third-party assets. Where practicable, impacts to areas identified as having higher potential value for invertebrates will be minimised through the use of existing access routes and the retention of suitable habitats.

5.1.105 Habitats temporarily affected during construction will be reinstated to their original condition, or an enhanced condition, following completion of works.

5.1.106 Vegetation beneath the proposed overhead line and around the pylon areas will generally be retained as low-level vegetation and ground flora, which may provide suitable habitat for invertebrates where agricultural or forestry management is no longer feasible.

5.1.107 Mitigation and landscape planting areas will provide opportunities to create and enhance habitats suitable for invertebrates, including the establishment of grassland, scrub and woodland edge habitats.

Aquatic Species (including fish)

5.1.108 The following measures will be implemented to avoid and minimise impacts to aquatic species during construction of the Project and to maintain the ecological functionality of watercourses within the Order Limits. Information pertaining to the survey effort for aquatic species can be found in **Application Document 6.8.A10 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.10 Aquatic Ecology Report**.

5.1.109 Construction access tracks will require the crossing of multiple ditches, drains and watercourses. Watercourses identified as sensitive, including main rivers, watercourses with Water Framework Directive (WFD) status, or those supporting protected or notable species, will be crossed using clear span bridges or suitably assessed alternatives. The soffit height of clear span crossings will be determined on a site-specific basis following detailed design and survey by the appointed Main Works Contractor(s). For watercourses with high or good WFD status for invertebrates, soffit heights will be set as high as practicable above the Q95 water level, subject to site constraints, to minimise impacts to aquatic habitats. Crossings of other watercourses will be designed to maintain hydrological connectivity, flow conveyance and aquatic species passage.

5.1.110 Where works are required within or adjacent to watercourses, measures will be implemented to maintain longitudinal connectivity and allow the continued movement of aquatic species, including fish. Where necessary, works will be timed to avoid sensitive periods such as fish spawning seasons, and fish rescue operations may be undertaken, overseen by a suitably qualified ecologist where construction activities could affect watercourses.

5.1.111 Good practice measures will be implemented for works undertaken in or near watercourses to protect aquatic habitats and water quality. These will include measures to prevent sediment mobilisation, pollution incidents and disturbance to riparian habitats.

5.1.112 Where practicable, opportunities to enhance watercourses and associated riparian habitats will be considered, including improvements to habitat structure and riparian vegetation, which may provide benefits to aquatic species and contribute to wider biodiversity objectives.

Other Species of Principal Importance

5.1.113 Information pertaining to Species of Principal Importance and the Project can be found in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**.

5.1.114 Desk study records and incidental field observations identified several Species of Principal Importance listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (HM Government, 2006), including brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*), harvest mouse (*Micromys minutus*), hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*) and polecat (*Mustela putorius*) within the wider study area. Suitable habitats within the Order Limits include arable farmland, hedgerows, field margins, grassland, woodland edges and watercourse corridors, which may provide opportunities for foraging, sheltering and dispersal.

5.1.115 The following measures will be implemented to avoid and minimise impacts to other Species of Principal Importance during construction of the Project.

5.1.116 Given the widespread nature of these species and the availability of suitable habitats within the surrounding landscape, these species are considered likely to occur locally within the Order Limits.

5.1.117 Potential impacts during construction may include temporary habitat loss, disturbance, fragmentation of habitats and incidental mortality associated with vegetation clearance, groundworks and construction traffic.

5.1.118 Measures implemented to mitigate impacts on other ecological receptors will also reduce potential impacts to these species. These include two-stage vegetation clearance for reptiles, the retention of hedgerows, woodland and other semi-natural habitats where practicable, and the reinstatement or enhancement of habitats following construction. Additionally, measures to maintain commuting routes across the site for badger, such as ensuring that temporary construction fencing (excluding fencing around excavations or soil storage areas) will retain gaps beneath to allow badgers to pass through, will benefit these species too.

5.1.119 Where vegetation clearance or groundworks are required within habitats that may support these species, works will be undertaken in a sensitive manner, overseen by an ECoW where appropriate, allowing animals the opportunity to disperse from the affected areas prior to construction activities commencing.

5.1.120 Temporary habitat loss will be minimised where practicable and habitats affected during construction will be reinstated to their original condition or an enhanced condition following completion of works. Mitigation and landscape planting areas associated with the Project will provide opportunities to create and enhance habitats such as species-rich hedgerows, grassland and woodland edge habitats, which may benefit these species.

Yellow Bird's-Nest

5.1.121 The rare plant (in the north and west of the United Kingdom) yellow bird's-nest was found to be present within sections of woodland at Brantingham Dale in Route Section A. This species is listed as Endangered on the Vascular Plant Red List for England (Stroh, et al., 2014), and as Vulnerable on the New Vascular Plant Red List for Great Britain (Stroh, et al., 2025) reflecting the updated GB-wide assessment. It is also a UK Priority Species (HM Government, 2022). Its status in the JNCC 2026 Consolidated Red List (Joint Nature Conservation Committee, 2026) is Endangered – an assessment based on the Change Index, which shows it to be declining in Britain. A review of the Southeast Yorkshire (vc61) Rare Plant Register (Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland, 2015) describes yellow bird's-nest as being regionally extinct and last recorded in 1969.

5.1.122 Yellow bird's-nest was found within plantation woodland at Bilks Hill (Route Section A), as shown on Figure A8.4.2 Yellow Bird's-Nest Survey Results (Annex B) in **Application Document 6.8.A4 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.4 Botanical Report**, but not in the wider woodlands in the vicinity of Brantingham Dale. Yellow bird's-nest does not photosynthesise; it is myco-heterotrophic in that it parasitises *Tricholoma* fungi, which are themselves mycorrhizal with trees. It is sometimes described as epiparasitic in that it is indirectly parasitic on trees. *Tricholoma* fungi must be present and connected to host trees for yellow bird's-nest to occur as it depends on these fungi for nutrient uptake. Most sections of woodland did not provide the right conditions.

5.1.123 Yellow bird's-nest is most sensitive to disturbance between May and September, though soil disruption should be minimised year-round to protect its fungal network.

5.1.124 To protect ground flora that supports the presence of yellow bird's-nest, exclusion zones will be identified by the ECoW and demarcated for all construction works within Brantingham Dale Wood between proposed pylons 4ZQ78 and 4ZQ76. No works will be undertaken within these exclusion zones unless an ECoW is present.

5.1.125 Any trees removed within the area of potential yellow bird's nest woodland will not be removed to below ground level where possible, and not grubbed out to reduce the impact to soil and ground flora. Any wood chipping will be done outside of the woodland and removed.

5.1.126 General mitigation measures to protect the plant species yellow bird's-nest focus on keeping soils undisturbed for at least 100 m from populations to protect fungal mycorrhiza. However, this will be unavoidable where works are required in and close to areas where this plant has been recorded (see Figure A8.4.2 of **Application Document 6.8.A4 Environmental Statement Appendix 8.4 Botanical Report** for locations). Where this can be implemented, the following timings would be appropriate:

- Dormant (October – April): Avoid soil disturbance as the fungal network is still active;
- Emergence (May): Implement exclusion fencing;
- Flowering (June – July): No works within buffer zone; and
- Fruiting (August – September): Maintain canopy and fungal integrity.

5.1.127 Where destruction or disturbance of this plant is unavoidable, individual plants will be transplanted elsewhere within the area of within the area of Brantingham Dale woodland that lies within the Order Limits but remains unaffected (although only if absolutely necessary, as the success rate is considered low due to it being an epiparasitic plant with very specific requirements).

5.1.128 If there is no alternative, and transplanting is the only remaining option, the following should be adhered to:

- Move a whole soil block: If unavoidable (e.g. emergency works), take a large intact block of soil (including leaf litter and fungal network) around the plant of at least 30–50 cm radius and the full depth of root zone. First, water to dampen the soil.
- Keep orientation and shade: Maintain original orientation and canopy conditions.
- Immediate replanting: Minimise time out of soil. Dig a hole in the new location that is twice as wide and the same depth as the yellow bird's-nest's root ball. This will provide ample space for roots to spread and establish.
- Watering: Thoroughly water immediately after planting to settle the soil around the roots. Continue to water until the ground is saturated.
- Expert oversight: Engage a mycorrhizal specialist and Ecological Clerk of Works.

5.1.129 The locations will be selected by the ECoW and will be nearby, within the Order Limits, but unaffected by the construction works. As its habitat requirements are highly specific and dependent on this symbiotic network (Woodland Wildlife Toolkit, 2025), the following conditions will be required:

- **Light**: Requires shade in wooded areas, as it does not perform photosynthesis and direct sunlight is not beneficial.
- **Associated trees**: The host fungi form a mycorrhizal association with certain trees. The plant is most often found under:
  - Beech and hazel trees in neutral or calcareous soils; and
  - Pine and occasionally willow trees in more acidic soils.
- **Soil**: Needs consistently moist, undisturbed soil rich in organic matter (leaf litter and humus) to support the extensive underground fungal network.
- **Moisture and drainage**: Thrives in damp, but not waterlogged, conditions.
- **Undisturbed environment**: Highly sensitive to soil disturbance; maintaining an undisturbed environment is crucial for the survival of the delicate fungal mycelium it depends on.

5.1.130 The optimal period for transplanting yellow bird's-nest is from late Spring to early Summer, a time when the soil is sufficiently warm. Transplanting in this timeframe allows yellow bird's-nest to establish roots before the peak heat of Summer, minimising transplant shock.

5.1.131 Mitigation planting areas in the vicinity of Brantingham Dale will include species such as beech and hazel to encourage eventual colonisation of these woodland areas, however this cannot be guaranteed even if exact conditions are provided and will not be relied upon as a mitigation. Translocation to these areas would not be effective as new planting would be too young to provide the correct conditions initially, such as the shade requirements.

6. Vegetation Retention and Protection

6.1 General Approach

6.1.1 The overarching aim will be to retain vegetation wherever practicable in accordance with **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**. Where reasonably practicable, construction elements (such as working areas, accesses, laydown and temporary construction compounds) will be kept to the minimum required and micro-sited to avoid impacts on ecologically important features. Overseen and informed by the ECoW and ArbCoW sensitive habitats will be demarcated to ensure contractors protect as much vegetation as possible.

6.1.2 Impacts to trees are defined as any individual tree, tree group, or woodland which has the potential to be impacted by the Project. All construction elements likely to impact on retained trees will be addressed within an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) containing a Tree Protection Plan to be produced following detailed design and agreed with the relevant local planning authorities, as secured through the applicable Requirement within **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order**. The stage-specific AMSs will provide detail specified methodologies to limit, mitigate or manage the impact on trees based upon the mitigation and commitments presented in **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment** and the general measures in the in the sections below.

6.1.3 Prior to construction activity commencing, stage-specific AMSs will be produced for each construction stage and agreed with the relevant local planning authorities. These stage-specific AMSs will include protection measures including tree protection fencing.

6.1.4 In accordance with good practice measures, a full record of condition will be carried out (photographic and descriptive) of the site and surrounding areas that may be affected by the construction activities, such as trees, woodland, hedgerows, walls and fences. This record will be available for comparison following reinstatement after the works have been completed to demonstrate that the standard of reinstatement at least meets that recorded in the pre-condition survey or as agreed in the Final LEMP.

6.1.5 Access into and out of the working area will be along agreed routes only. Machinery and vehicles will not be permitted to move outside the agreed access routes and working area.

6.1.6 In accordance with good practice measures, working areas will be demarcated to ensure no accidental encroachment into retained habitats. Tree protection fencing is discussed further in section 6.3. The type of fencing installed will take into consideration the level of security required in relation to the surrounding land, rural or urban environment and arable or stock farming. Fencing will be regularly inspected and maintained and removed as part of the demobilisation unless otherwise agreed with the relevant landowner to meet ecological objectives. It is anticipated that the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW will contribute to discussions on appropriate signage and/or fencing to protect environmentally sensitive features.

6.1.7 Areas of the Order Limits that are only identified to be used for landscape and ecological mitigation (i.e. not part of the construction working area) are anticipated to be inherently low impact works. These include mitigation planting areas and areas where dormouse, bat and bird boxes would be installed subject to agreement with landowners. In these areas, access may be required on foot or by a small van and works would be completed without recourse to tree felling or pruning. It is not intended that works to mitigate for effects on landscape and visual receptors and biodiversity will give rise to other effects on trees.

6.2 Working Near Trees

6.2.1 All trees (which may include individual trees or collectively as groups, tree belts and woodlands) within the Order Limits and immediate surrounds have been surveyed in broad accordance with BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations (British Standards Institution, 2012), where land access was granted. The results of the survey can be found in **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment**.

6.2.2 Retained trees that are at risk of impacts arising from construction activities will be protected during construction in accordance with the measures set out in BS 5837:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012) and BS 3998:2010 Tree work – Recommendations (British Standards Institution, 2010). Relevant protection measures will be agreed with and works to trees will be undertaken by qualified arborists following BS 3998:2010 (British Standards Institution, 2010) under the supervision of, the Project Arboriculturist or ArbCoW.

6.2.3 No building materials shall be stored within Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of retained trees. Spoil from any site activity, including dismantling of existing infrastructure, and any materials from the Project designated for re-use, shall either be removed from site; or, if kept on-site, shall be stored or piled no nearer than 3 m from the RPAs of retained trees.

6.2.4 The delivery, storage, mixing and use of concrete and all other cement-based materials shall be carried out so that there is no runoff and spillage near the RPAs of retained trees. No substances that are potentially injurious to plant tissue (including diesel, bitumen, concrete, mortar and other phyto-toxic materials) shall be stored, discharged, prepared or used, where direct contact, infiltration or runoff might reasonably be considered liable to harmfully affect existing root growth or other parts of retained trees.

6.3 Tree Protection Measures

6.3.1 Working in accordance with clause 6.2 of BS 5387:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012), barriers and/or ground protection will be used to safeguard RPA on site around trees to be retained and illustrated on a Tree Protection Plan in accordance with clause 5.5 of BS 5387:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012). A precautionary RPA has been provided around groups of trees with the RPA reflecting the maximum calculated extent. In accordance with clause 6.2.1.1 of BS 5387:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012), all barriers and ground protection will be installed prior to construction at each relevant location, detailed within the stage-specific AMS and agreed with the relevant local planning authority.

6.3.2 The type of barrier installed will be dependent on the level of risk posed to the RPA and to suit the location in accordance with clause 6.2.2.3 of BS 5387:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012), as agreed with the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW on-site. For example, this may be cone and rope, or netlon-type fencing in low-risk areas, or, in high-risk areas, welded mesh panels on rubber feet with stabiliser struts, commonly known as Heras-type fencing. Barrier types will be submitted for approval under the relevant Requirement within Schedule 2 of **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order** to the relevant local planning authorities as part of the final iteration of the LEMP.

6.3.3 A physical barrier is to be erected to demarcate the RPA and to prevent works encroaching into the RPA. In accordance with clause 6.2.2.1 of BS 5387:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012), the barriers are to be maintained so that they remain rigid and complete for as long as they are in situ.

Tree Protection Fencing

6.3.4 Tree protection fencing will be used to prevent access to the RPAs of retained trees. In all instances, the following specification will be strictly adhered to:

- No construction activities, storage of materials or pedestrian or vehicular access shall take place within this area.
- All-weather notices will be attached to the tree protection fencing at suitable intervals of 20 m and shall include suitably sized informative text containing the following statement: **TREE PROTECTION FENCING CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE – NO ACCESS**.

6.3.5 Tree protection fencing shall be fit for the purpose of excluding construction activity and appropriate for the degree and proximity of work taking place. Frequent checks by the Main Works Contractor(s) are to be undertaken to ensure that fencing is complete and remains as is set out in the specifications.

6.3.6 Tree protection fencing types are expected to include:

- Level 3 Protection: Level 3 Protection is to be the default level of protection; only with ArbCoW sign off may lower levels be implemented. This will be used to protect all retained trees within areas of high construction activity. It could include measures such as braced Heras-type panels with signage or solid hoarding in areas where it provides a combined function of protecting trees and providing security and screening.
- Level 2 Protection: This will be used to reduce the risk of construction encroachment, for example for trees at the edge of the working area. This may include rigid pedestrian barriers.
- Level 1 Protection: This will be used in areas with a low risk to trees, for example marking the RPA of trees lying outside of the working area. This may include orange netting on steel pins (or similar) to mark out the extent of the RPA for trees beyond the working area.

6.3.7 It is assumed that physical barriers will not be provided where retained vegetation is in a location where there is a very low risk of accidental damage being caused, for example at the top of a steep cutting where the cutting itself provides protection.

6.3.8 Tree protection fencing is to remain in situ until construction has been completed and the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW has advised that it is safe to remove.

Ground Protection within RPAs

6.3.9 It is not always practicable to keep construction vehicles outside of the RPAs of retained trees, as temporary access for construction activities may be required. In such cases, suitable ground protection is to be used when access into the RPA of a retained tree is required. The ground protection specified should be capable of supporting any traffic without distorting or causing compaction of underlying soil.

6.3.10 Suitable ground protection with the objective of avoiding soil compaction should be installed where the RPAs for retained trees exceed the perimeter of the tree protection fencing. To accord with clause 6.2.3.3 in BS 5837:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012), ground protection shall comply with the following specification:

- Areas of unmade ground: For pedestrians only, access ground protection measures will include for example, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed on top of a suitable compressible load-distributing layer (e.g. arboricultural woodchip, no-fines aggregate, proprietary cellular confinement product, or similar approved material) laid onto a geotextile membrane. In order to avoid the introduction of pests and diseases, woodchip will only be used where it has been generated as a result of the tree pruning/removal works generated from offcuts within the immediate working area.
- For pedestrian routes requiring regular or repeated access within an RPA, ground protection may comprise scaffold boards placed over a compressible layer (e.g. woodchip) laid on a geotextile membrane, or an alternative system providing equivalent protection against soil compaction.
- Where permanent infrastructure, hardstanding, culverts, highways works or other engineered structures are proposed within an RPA, site-specific engineering and arboricultural solutions shall be developed in accordance with BS 5837:2012 and agreed with the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW and relevant planning authority prior to implementation.

Areas of existing hard surfacing

6.3.11 Areas of existing hard surfacing will be assessed by an engineer to ensure that they are sufficient to prevent damage or disturbance to the underlying soil. A precautionary approach to any anticipated loadings should be adopted.

6.3.12 In instances where the engineer identifies existing surfacing as inadequate, then a specification for additional protection must be provided and any requirements actioned on-site.

6.3.13 On completion of all works, and upon the approval of the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW, the above systems will be removed, and surface de-compaction and root zone enhancement measures may then be undertaken. This may include spiking, aeration and/or injection of rhizobium inoculants. Any such works that require sub-surface activity would be reviewed in accordance with **Application Document 7.9 Outline Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation** for areas of archaeological sensitivity.

6.4 General Principles of Tree Work

Working around Roots in Roads

6.4.1 Where tree roots are encountered beneath an existing road located within the RPA of a retained tree, as described in clause 6.2.3.1 of BS 5837:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012), the existing road pavement will be left in place to provide the ground protection, where practicable. The Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW will confirm that the existing road pavement is suitable to provide appropriate ground protection to tree roots or will advise on alternative methods if retaining the pavement is not practicable.

Open Cut Works within an RPA

6.4.2 It is anticipated that excavation in an RPA of a tree that is to be retained will be detailed within the stage-specific AMS and undertaken under the supervision of an ArbCoW. It is anticipated that the following excavation techniques, individually or in combination, will be used to reduce any potential damage to the roots during open cut works, as agreed with the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW:

- Use of an air lance or air spade: This provides a concentrated air flow in a high velocity stream jet which penetrates and dislodges the soil without damage to roots. An air compressor is used to power the lance/spade. An experienced operator will be able to effectively dislodge the soil around the roots for removal. This method may be used with a vacuum excavation wagon, which sucks up the displaced soil without damaging the roots and is an accepted method of excavating safely in accordance with clause 7.2.1 of BS 5837:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012). The soil displaced during excavation can be stored to use later for reinstatement activities.
- Hand excavation: This involves hand digging the soil around tree roots using a spade or other suitable non-mechanised tools. The soil would typically be stored so that it is available for reuse after works are completed. Hand digging would be used to allow placement of Project components around or between roots without impacting them where practicable, or in the worst case it is to allow clean severance of roots with sharp saw or secateurs.

6.4.3 Where on initial excavation there is an absence of roots within the works area, and in agreement with the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW, a small rubber-tracked excavator may be used to excavate the soil. All excavated spoil will be removed from the area or placed on temporary ground protection to be used for back filling upon completion.

6.4.4 It is assumed that any roots uncovered during the works will be assessed and treated in accordance with clauses 7.2.2, 7.2.3 and 7.2.4 of BS 5837:2012 (British Standards Institution, 2012).

6.4.5 Roots, whilst exposed, will be wrapped in damp hessian or covered to prevent desiccation and to protect them from temperature changes. Any wrapping will be removed prior to backfilling, which will take place as soon as practicable once construction is complete.

6.4.6 Upon reinstatement, the roots will be surrounded with topsoil, sharp sand (builders sand will not be used due to its high salt content which would harm the trees and soil) or other loose inert granular fill, before soil or other medium is replaced. This material

should be uncontaminated and free from injurious objects. Temporary ground protection will be removed in a backwards direction away from the tree so as always to be positioned on protected and not on unprotected ground. Once the work area is cleared of ground protection, the recently backfilled spoil will be watered.

6.5 Working near Designated Woodland/Trees

Approach for Brantingham Dale SSSI

6.5.1 Works within Brantingham Dale SSSI is restricted to tree loss of only those essential for the proposed overhead line clearance.

6.5.2 All affected trees in Brantingham Dale SSSI will be soft felled to above ground level only and not grubbed out to reduce the impact to soil and ground flora of the calcareous grassland within the SSSI. Any wood chipping will be done outside of the woodland and removed, to protect the ground flora.

6.5.3 No other access during construction will be taken for works through the woodlands to protect ground flora and retained trees.

Approach for Ancient Woodland

6.5.4 The Project has considered the Natural England and Forestry Commission standing advice relating to Ancient Woodland (as defined in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**). Where areas have been identified as Ancient Woodland, the Project has sought to accommodate the recommended buffer distances set out within the standing advice. Where woodland recorded by the Project as having characteristics of ancient woodland has been identified, precautionary measures may also be applied where appropriate.

6.5.5 The standing advice published by Natural England and the Forestry Commission which recommends a minimum 15 m buffer from the boundary of Ancient Woodland to avoid root damage. This buffer has been accommodated where practicable. Where woodland recorded by the Project as having characteristics of ancient woodland has been identified, a precautionary approach may also be adopted where appropriate and in accordance with the mitigation measures set out in **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**.

6.5.6 All affected trees in woodland recorded by the Project as having characteristics of ancient woodland will be soft felled to above ground level only and not grubbed out to reduce the impact to soil and ground flora of the woodland. Any wood chipping will be done outside of the woodland and removed, to protect the ground flora.

6.5.7 No other access during construction will be taken for works through the woodlands to protect ground flora and retained trees.

Approach for Veteran Trees

6.5.8 The approach for working near veteran trees is based on the protection measures for retained trees outlined in Section 6.3. In recognition of their elevated ecological and arboricultural value, additional protection measures have been incorporated where appropriate.

6.5.9 The Project has applied the Natural England and Forestry Commission standing advice (Natural England and Forestry Commission, 2022), which recommends a minimum buffer zone around ancient and veteran trees equivalent to 15 times the stem diameter, or 5 m beyond the canopy edge where this provides a larger buffer. This buffer has been incorporated where practicable and relevant to the design.

6.5.10 Any tree works undertaken on veteran trees shall be completed by a suitably qualified arborist with VETcert certification, or equivalent demonstrable expertise and experience in veteran tree management.

6.5.11 Veteran trees are recognised as irreplaceable habitats and require additional consideration during project design and construction. In accordance with the mitigation hierarchy adopted for the Project, impacts on veteran trees will first be avoided wherever practicable, before measures are considered to minimise, remediate or compensate for residual impacts. The hierarchy of potential mitigation measures that may be applied to veteran trees is summarised in Table 6.1. The specific measures adopted will depend on the type and extent of potential impact and will be determined by the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW on a case-by-case basis.

Table 6.1 – Mitigation hierarchy for veteran trees

Order of hierarchy	Potential measures
Avoid	• Design refined to avoid buffer zones of veteran trees. • Protective measures during construction (as set out in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**) to ensure health and vitality of trees is maintained, addressing the rooting and above-ground environments of trees, together with ongoing monitoring and maintenance. • Protective measures may include construction methodologies, micro-siting, and/or use of fencing to exclude construction traffic from buffer zones.
Minimise	Same protective measures as above, as well as ground, stem and limb protection. Assumes that avoidance and protective measures will not fully mitigate impacts. Crown management intervention including coppicing and heavy crown reduction is identified in order to retain veteran trees during construction and during operation of the proposed overhead line. Targeted facilitation pruning, so as to minimise uncontrolled damage to above ground components of trees. Other pruning techniques adopted for veteran trees (i.e. coronet cuts, retrenchment pruning, fracture pruning)) to be advised by Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW. Where excavation within buffer zones occurs, Root pruning/severance may be specified to minimise uncontrolled damage caused unintentionally during the process (to be specified by Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW).
Remediate	• Will primarily focus on post-construction remediation works (i.e. soil improvements, competition removal, halo pruning) to be specified by Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW.

Order of hierarchy	Potential measures
	• Remedial pruning works may be required following unforeseen mechanical damage during construction. Pruning to be specified by the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW.
Compensate	Where avoid, minimise or rectify are not suitable options, then suitable compensation is required. Different compensation options are available and should be specified on a case-by-case basis by the Project Arboriculturist/ArbCoW. These may include but are not limited to the below and may be used in conjunction with each other: • Phased tree pruning, 'retrenchment pruning' appropriate for tree species and subject to individual tree assessments. • Veteranisation[2] of nearby mature trees to maintain habitat continuity. • Genetic conservation: To preserve the genetic heritage of the veteran trees identified for removal, seeds could be collected before any clearing begins (generally between September and November). This seed collection would focus on gathering a diverse range of native tree and understory species, ensuring that the genetic material from the original tree can be used for propagation in the new planting areas, thereby maintaining a direct ecological link to the lost habitat. Sapling relocation where appropriate. • Compensation planting: Veteran trees are acknowledged as being irreplaceable, therefore full compensation is unachievable. Compensation Planting will take place within the Order Limits as set out in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**. Compensation planting may include a combination of new planting, sapling relocation, establishment of a seed bank using local provenance material. • Commitment to maintain and monitor compensation areas for a minimum of 30 years. • Retention of felled timber as near to tree as possible, considering if attaching to another tree as habitat is appropriate.

6.5.12 Table 6.2 provides definitions of the project activities referred to in the veteran tree assessment and mitigation process.

Table 6.2 – Definitions of Project activity

Project activity	Definition
Excavations	Construction activities that break the soil surface.
Overhead lines	Construction activities associated with the stringing and final strung locations of conductors.
Temporary construction	All temporary access routes/haul roads, any works that will not remain post-construction.

[2] Veteranisation is the practice of artificially damaging or wounding younger, healthy trees to fast-track the creation of ancient/veteran tree features such as hollows, rot holes, and torn branches.

6.5.13 A total of 37 veteran trees and one group of veteran trees (hereafter referred to as a 'veteran group') have been identified within the arboricultural study area. Based upon the Project design set out in **Application Document 6.4 Chapter 4 Description of the Project** and shown in **Application Document 6.4.F1 Figure 4.1 Proposed Project Design, Application Document 6.4.F3 Figure 4.3 Temporary Construction Works** and **Application Document 6.4.F4 Figure 4.4 Third Party Works**, all veteran trees will be retained, however 11 veteran trees and one veteran group have been identified for management/pruning. Further details are provided in **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment**. Specific commitments in relation to veteran trees are set out in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**. Pruning specifications are to be confirmed and agreed with a suitably qualified arboriculturist, with VETCert qualifications[3] and undertaken to best industry standards i.e. BS 3998:2010 (British Standards Institution, 2010).

6.5.14 In the event the flexibility of the Limits of Deviation (LoD) are used to the south in its location, one veteran tree (T4) in Route Section A would require removal in order to construct a safe and reliable power grid. Should removal of T4 be required, Socken Wood (which is also located in Route Section A) has been identified for mitigation planting and replanting ratio of 30:1 for the loss of this tree has been agreed with Natural England and East Riding of Yorkshire Council, secured through **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments.** Additionally, should the flexibility of the LoD be used in their locations, a further ten veteran trees and one veteran group may require management/pruning[4] with further details provided in **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment**.

6.5.15 A list of surveyed veteran trees within the arboricultural study area (Order Limits plus 30 m) is provided in Table 6.3[5].

Table 6.3 – Surveyed veteran trees and veteran groups within the arboricultural study area

Tree ID	Species	Root Protection Area (m)	Route Section	Assumed mitigation under current design (Refer to Table 6.1 for details)	Assumed mitigation should the flexibility afforded by the Limits of Deviation (LoD) be used in each location (Refer to Table 6.1 for details)
T4	Common oak - *Quercus robur*	21.8	A	Avoid	Compensate

[3] VETcert is a pan-European certification scheme, co-ordinated in the UK by the Arboricultural Association, that sets professional standards for the management and care of ancient and veteran trees.

[4] Noting that this includes two veteran trees which are currently managed by the local authority due to their proximity to the highway. The requirement for interim management by the Project will be dependent on their current management cycle rather than flexibility afforded by the LoD.

[5] Due to the iterative nature of the design process, surveys were undertaken in line with the Order Limits as defined at each date of survey, resulting in survey data being collected for areas which are now beyond the 30 m study area buffer. These data are not considered in the assessment as the arboricultural study area used within this report reflects the Order Limits at time of submission.

Tree ID	Species	Root Protection Area (m)	Route Section	Assumed mitigation under current design (Refer to Table 6.1 for details)	Assumed mitigation should the flexibility afforded by the Limits of Deviation (LoD) be used in each location (Refer to Table 6.1 for details)
T12	Ash - *Fraxinus excelsior*	18.0	A	Minimise	Minimise
T13	Ash	15.0	A	Minimise	Minimise
T15	Ash	15.0	A	Avoid	Avoid
T16	Field Maple - *Acer campestre*	12.6	A	Avoid	Avoid
T31	Ash	8.1	A	Avoid	Avoid
T36	White Willow - *Salix alba*	18.8	A	Minimise	Minimise
T44[6]	White Willow	24.0	A	Avoid	Minimise
T46[6]	White Willow	25.5	A	Avoid	Minimise
T49	Crack willow - *Salix fragilis*	25.5	A	Minimise	Minimise
T67	Crack willow	22.5	A	Minimise	Minimise
T77	Common oak	16.5	A	Avoid	Minimise
T83	Common oak	13.1	A	Avoid	Minimise
T90	Crack Willow	19.5	B	Avoid	Minimise
T97	White Willow	25.1	B	Avoid	Avoid
T122	Common Oak	22.5	D	Avoid	Avoid
T126	White Willow	23.6	D	Avoid	Avoid
T128	Common Oak	12.0	D	Avoid	Avoid
T130	White Willow	24.3	D	Avoid	Minimise
T144	White Willow	12.0	D	Avoid	Minimise
T151	White Willow	26.4	D	Avoid	Avoid
T154	White Willow	25.5	D	Avoid	Avoid
T155	White Willow	16.0	D	Avoid	Avoid

[6] T44 and T46 are currently managed by the local authority due to their proximity to the highway. The requirement for management by the Project will be dependent on their current management cycle, rather than use of the LoD.

Tree ID	Species	Root Protection Area (m)	Route Section	Assumed mitigation under current design (Refer to Table 6.1 for details)	Assumed mitigation should the flexibility afforded by the Limits of Deviation (LoD) be used in each location (Refer to Table 6.1 for details)
T157	White Willow	24.6	D	Minimise	Minimise
T171	Ash	16.5	E	Avoid	Avoid
T214	Crack Willow	37.5	E	Minimise	Minimise
T215	Crack Willow	37.5	E	Minimise	Minimise
T216	White Willow	34.5	E	Minimise	Minimise
T219	White Willow	13.9	E	Minimise	Minimise
T238	Common oak	22.5	E	Avoid	Avoid
T240	White Willow	19.5	E	Avoid	Minimise
T242	Crack Willow	37.5	E	Avoid	Avoid
T244	White Willow	22.5	E	Avoid	Avoid
T245	White Willow	30.0	E	Avoid	Minimise
T246	White Willow	27.0	E	Minimise	Minimise
T249	White Willow	27.8	E	Avoid	Avoid
T252	White Willow	15.0	F	Avoid	Minimise
G41	Crack Willow	19.2	B	Minimise	Minimise

Veteran trees potentially removed

6.5.16 As stated in paragraph 6.5.13, one veteran tree (T4) has the potential to be removed depending on the final detailed design within the LoD for the Project. This is a Common oak located in Route section A.

6.5.17 Based upon the Project design set out in **Application Document 6.4 Chapter 4 Description of the Project** and shown in **Application Document 6.4.F1 Figure 4.1 Proposed Project Design, Application Document 6.4.F3 Figure 4.3 Temporary Construction Works** and **Application Document 6.4.F4 Figure 4.4 Third Party Works**, eleven veteran trees and one veteran group have been identified for management/pruning, and a further ten veteran trees may require management/pruning should the flexibility of the LoD be applied at their locations[4].

6.5.18 When removing and/or managing the above ground parts of veteran trees, there are a number of options available, e.g. pollarding, coppicing, simulated windfall and stem monolith. All of these options seek to retain the woody material in situ. All brash, timber and material from the tree would be retained on-site in brash/wood piles as

close to the original location of the tree as possible. This material provides a niche habitat for specialist fungi, invertebrates and mammals. Where temporary disturbance of, or works within, the Root Protection Area (RPA) of a veteran tree is required again a number of mitigation options are available, these range from bespoke mitigation measures that would be specified following detailed design by the Main Works Contractor(s) (such as design refinements to avoid or reduce encroachment, micro-siting, working from track side, hand digging, arboricultural supervision, or the implementation of 'no dig' solutions (such as geocellular ground protection and protective fencing), to installing temporary ground protection measures to prevent soil compaction and root damage, to the establishment of a construction exclusion zone (CEZ) demarcated by tree protection fencing for the duration of construction. Further details are provided in **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment**.

Approach for Trees with a Tree Preservation Order

6.5.19 The approach for trees with a TPO is the same as for any retained tree, with principles and guidelines to be followed as set out in section 6.3. The complete list of trees with TPOs within the arboricultural study area (Order Limits plus a 30 m buffer) can be found in Appendix B of **Application Document 7.14 Arboricultural Impact Assessment**.

6.6 Protection of Hedgerows

6.6.1 Hedgerows lie within the Order Limits. Important Hedgerows will be identified as part of ongoing environmental surveys under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (HM Government, 1997) for either ecological or heritage reasons.

6.6.2 Prior to construction works commencing in each working area, all sections of hedgerow due for removal or requiring management will be marked out by the Main Works Contractor(s). These markings will differentiate between hedgerows due for removal and those which require management. As set out within the general protection measures section, construction works will be micro-sited to reduce the impact on hedgerows wherever practicable including those identified as important under the Hedgerows Regulations 1997 (HM Government, 1997).

6.6.3 A 5 m root protection zone buffer, where practicable, should be applied to retained hedgerows, to ensure no damage to the hedgerows' root systems. This may include use of suitable fencing to protect the hedgerows from accidental encroachment.

6.7 Protection of Watercourses

6.7.1 A 10 m protection buffer from the top of the bank from all retained watercourses will be applied where practicable and clearly demarcated to avoid accidental encroachment. Measures relating to pollution prevention are set out in the **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**.

6.7.2 Pylons will not be constructed within 16 m of the top of bank of main rivers, in accordance with requirements for regulated activities set out in the guidance for environmental permits for flood risk activities (Environment Agency and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2025). It is anticipated that

pylons would also not be located within 3.5 m of an ordinary watercourse. This will also reduce disturbance to river channels, banks and riparian corridors. The works to watercourses will require a Flood Risk Activity Permit for main rivers from the Environment Agency. The Project seeks to disapply s23 of the Land Drainage Act 1991 (HM Government, 1991).

6.7.3 To facilitate the temporary construction access tracks, the Project will cross both Environment Agency Main Rivers and minor watercourses, by either temporary clear span bridges (or other suitably assessed alternatives) or culverts. All bridge and culvert types will allow continued water flow and will impact as little of the bank habitat as possible.

6.7.4 Once construction works are complete, the construction access tracks and associated culverts will be removed (where not considered an upgrade to an existing culvert) and the bank reinstated. The banks will be allowed to naturally re-vegetate. **Application Document 6.4.A2 Environmental Statement Appendix 4.2 Indicative Bridge and Culvert Schedule** provides further details on specific watercourse crossings.

6.8 Protection of Soil Resources

6.8.1 All soil resources will be handled in accordance with the soil management measures set out in the Soil Management Plan, which must be substantially in accordance with **Application Document 7.5 Outline Soil Management Plan**.

6.9 Biosecurity

6.9.1 National Grid and its Main Works Contractor(s) will comply with any measures required by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs or other statutory bodies regarding biosecurity measures for national outbreaks such as bird flu or foot and mouth disease.

Invasive Plants

6.9.2 Biosecurity is defined as a set of precautions that aim to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful organisms. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (HM Government, 1981) it is an offence to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild any species listed on Schedule 9. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (HM Government, 1990) also imposes a duty of care on persons concerned with controlled waste, which includes some invasive plant species.

6.9.3 Pre-construction surveys will be undertaken in advance of each phase of the works where vegetation removal is required (including aquatic invasive non-native plants). This will accurately identify areas of Japanese knotweed, Himalayan balsam and any other Schedule 9 invasive plant species within or adjacent to the works area.

6.9.4 Prior to works commencing, an exclusion zone will be demarcated by the ECoW around any stands of invasive plant species; the exact buffer distances will be determined by the ECoW based on the species and extent identified (e.g. 7 m for Japanese knotweed) to be in line with standard best practice measures. The exclusion zone will be demarcated by fencing or tape and 'Invasive Species' warning signage to denote species and restrictions imposed. Construction works resulting in ground or soil disturbance will be avoided where feasible within the exclusion zones, as will tracked and/or heavy machinery. Access through these exclusion zones will also require further mitigation, as passing vehicles using the track (including existing

tracks) could spread these species to other parts of the site or off-site by catching small pieces or seeds as they pass close by.

6.9.5 If vegetation clearance works are required within the exclusion zones, cut vegetation and associated soils within the areas containing invasive species will be treated as contaminated waste and appropriately disposed of accordingly. This may require disposal at a licensed landfill site.

6.9.6 Removal of aquatic invasive species will be dealt with according to species and location. Methods used may include raking the species out and placing it in a dry stockpile along the bank but away from the working areas until it dies or removing it off-site or spraying.

6.9.7 Use of herbicides along watercourses is subject to Environment Agency permit and will require consultation with the Environment Agency prior to use.

6.9.8 Any machinery working and tools used within these areas would be cleaned prior to use in other areas as appropriate to the risk, for example using wheel washing facilities or using proprietary alcohol-based disinfectants on tools. Construction workers leaving the biosecurity areas would also employ measures suitable to the risk, for example boot washing at the egresses to the site boundary and using alcohol-based disinfectants to clean clothes.

6.9.9 Toolbox talks will be undertaken to inform construction workers of applicable biosecurity risks and areas where additional measures would apply. Reinstatement planting and landscape contract arrangements will be designed based on the findings of pre-construction surveys to avoid further transmission of biosecurity risks.

6.9.10 Construction works around watercourses will follow the Check, Clean, Dry guidelines (GB Non-native species secretariat, 2025). This ensures that pre-works checks are undertaken on equipment being brought onto site prior to use, equipment is appropriately cleaned before moving between sites or on completion of site activities, and equipment is then allowed to dry before use elsewhere. Appropriate disinfectants will also be used to ensure microscopic propagules or seeds are rendered unviable and are not transferred between sites.

7. Vegetation and Tree Removal

7.1 General Approach

7.1.1 **Application Document 2.13 Trees and Important Hedgerows to be Removed or Managed Plans** identifies vegetation potentially affected by the Project and categorises vegetation in accordance with Table 7.1. The categories reflect the current design and assessment assumptions and may be refined through detailed design within the parameters and flexibility provided by the DCO.

Table 7.1 – Categories for potential impacts from the Project on individual trees, groups of trees, woodlands

Category	Definition
Not Affected	Individual trees, groups of trees, woodland and sections of hedgerows not affected by the Project
Potentially Affected	Individual trees, groups of trees, woodland and sections of hedgerows unlikely to be affected by the Project if the design shown on the Works Plans is implemented, but which may be affected, managed or removed should the flexibility afforded by the Order Limits or Limits of Deviation be utilised.
Affected Managed	Individual trees, groups of trees, woodland and sections of hedgerows that would be managed through pruning, coppicing, pollarding or reduction in height for construction and/or operation of the Project.
Removed	Individual trees, groups of trees, woodland and sections of hedgerows that would need to be removed for construction and/or operation of the Project

7.1.2 Vegetation with the potential to support breeding birds will be removed outside of the breeding bird season (March to August inclusive) where practicable. If vegetation clearance is required within the breeding bird season, an experienced ECoW will conduct a nesting bird check prior to any vegetation removal. Trees with features suitable for bats and any trees with a confirmed bat roost (in accordance with an EPSML) will be soft felled at the appropriate time of year as outlined in section 5 of this Outline LEMP following inspection by a Natural England licensed ECoW.

7.1.3 In the event that an active nest is found, appropriate protection measures will be put in place. This will include exclusion zones around active nests until chicks fledge or nests become inactive. The size of the exclusion buffer will be determined on a ‘case-by-case’ basis by the ECoW. There will be a minimum buffer distance of 5 m which will likely be increased in many cases, such as for ground nesting birds or Schedule 1 species listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (HM Government, 1981).

7.1.4 During the pre-construction survey the ECoW will identify areas suitable to support other protected species as detailed within section of this Outline LEMP such as bats, badger, hazel dormouse and reptiles.

7.1.5 The treatment of arisings produced by tree/ hedgerow removal or pruning will be location specific and determined by the ECoW. If there is an ecological objective, there is sufficient room within the Order Limits outside of works areas so that, where the landowner agrees, habitat piles can be created. Cut vegetation will not be stockpiled within working areas, as this may create suitable habitats for protected species. Cut vegetation will be removed from the working area daily or chipped and spread thinly in areas agreed with the ECoW, and subject to landowner agreement, but not within ancient or woodland recorded by the Project as having characteristics of ancient woodland, the sections of Brantingham Dale comprising the SSSI or where yellow bird's-nest are present (see **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**). Any vegetation that cannot be accommodated on-site will be removed as green waste.

7.1.6 Tree removal will be kept to a minimum within these habitats and disturbance to the ground will be avoided where practicable or reduced from standard working practices. The type of ground protection will be selected, either matting, timber, metal, rubberised or similar, dependent on the ground conditions and the machinery/plant being used. Commitments have been made for works in proximity to woodland as detailed within in **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments**.

7.1.7 Woodland and tree clearance and any works within the 15 m buffer of ancient woodland or veteran trees will be supervised by the ArbCoW. Measures will be implemented to ensure only the essential works occur within the 15 m buffer during vegetation removal works.

7.2 Woodland Tree Removal

7.2.1 Woodland, tree and hedgerow removal works would be coordinated with archaeological mitigation as set out in **Application Document 7.9 Outline Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation** and relevant Detailed Written Scheme of Investigations for areas of archaeological sensitivity.

7.2.2 All tree works will comply with BS 3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations (British Standards Institution, 2010).

7.2.3 Tree removal will be required to facilitate construction of the Project. Micro-siting of the construction access tracks and working areas will seek to avoid mature trees where practicable.

7.2.4 It is currently assumed, and has been assessed within **Application Document 6.6 Environmental Statement Chapter 6 Landscape**, **Application Document 6.7 Environmental Statement Chapter 7 Visual** and **Application Document 6.8 Environmental Statement Chapter 8 Ecology**, that any trees present within the vegetation removal swathe beneath the proposed overhead line will be removed in line with **Application Document 2.13 Trees and Important Hedgerows to be Removed or Managed Plans** and as per the definitions within Table 7.1 to facilitate both the construction and operation of the proposed overhead line.

7.2.5 **Application Document 7.3 Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments** includes a commitment that, following detailed design and prior to the construction (of relevant parts of the Project), relevant surveys will be undertaken of vegetation that may be impacted or need to be removed to ensure any tree/hedgerow removal is reduced as far as practicable.

7.2.6 Third-party undergrounding works are considered minor works and, given the flexibility of the works, will avoid tree loss where at all possible.

7.2.7 Tree removal or management will be required at bellmouths and within visibility splays for traffic safety reasons. Trees located within the visibility splays will be managed to ensure road safety, with all reasonably efforts being made to limit the amount of coppicing.

7.3 Hedgerows

7.3.1 All hedgerow works will comply with BS 3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations (British Standards Institution, 2010).

7.3.2 Temporary loss of hedgerow will be required to facilitate the construction of the Project. Micro-siting of the construction access road will use existing gaps in the hedgerow where practicable. A Project commitment has been made that where construction access tracks require the temporary removal of hedgerows, to minimise loss the loss of habitat, where feasible and safe to do so, these works will be pinched and a reduced swathe of vegetation removed. (**See Application Document 7.3 Environmental Actions and Commitments Register**).

7.3.3 There will be hedgerow impacts required to facilitate the stringing of the conductors. This will be short-term temporary coppicing during stringing only. In these small sections where breaking through of a hedgerow is required, the hedgerow will be cut to as low as necessary (see **Application Document 2.13 Trees and Important Hedgerows to be Removed or Managed Plans** and the definitions within Table 7.1) and will be allowed to grow back on completion of stringing works.

7.3.4 Third-party undergrounding works are considered minor works and, given the flexibility of the works, will avoid hedgerow loss where at all possible.

7.3.5 Hedgerow management will be required along bellmouths where a visibility splay has been identified for traffic safety reasons. The amount of hedgerow removal required within the visibility splays will be reduced as much as possible, and instead the hedgerows will be cut to stump to allow them to grow back on completion of works. Ongoing management of these hedgerows may be required depending on the duration of the works in the area, and reinstatement will be undertaken.

8. Landscape and Ecological Reinstatement and Other Mitigation

8.1 General Approach

8.1.1 As a general principle, all land which is temporarily impacted by the Project will be reinstated where practicable to its pre-construction condition land use. The only exception to this will be restrictions on tree planting below the proposed overhead line and directly on top of the underground cables for third party modifications. Species mixes will allow for low growing and shallow rooted tree/scrub species as an alternative in these locations.

8.1.2 In addition to the reinstated habitats across the route, there will also be 'mitigation planting areas' located in key locations through the Project. The locations of these areas are detailed within Application Document 6.4.F1 Environmental Statement Figure 4.1 Proposed Project Design. The habitats to be created and/or enhanced in these areas (on-site mitigation) have been designed to provide landscape and visual mitigation while also offering ecological value.

8.2 Landscape and Ecological Reinstatement Planting

8.2.1 All reinstatement planting will be undertaken by a suitably experienced contractor in line with the current British Standards outlined in BS 4428:1989 Code of Practice for general landscape operations (British Standards Institution, 1989) and BS 8545 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape (British Standards Institution, 2026) and will adhere to the following general principles:

- Reinstatement planting will occur at the earliest opportunity and no later than the first available planting season after that part of the authorised development is first brought into operational use. Planting swill be carried out in Winter (November to March) and will be timed to avoid periods of frost, drought, or other inclement weather, as far as practicable.
- Trees and shrubs will be of local provenance to minimise the spread of pests and diseases. Efforts will be made to source planting stock (procured as early as possible) from local nurseries.
- Protection from browsing and grazing damage will be installed where necessary to aid establishment. For trees and shrubs this will include biodegradable tree guards and fencing to shelter young trees from browsing animals. Fencing may also be installed around areas of recently planted grassland to protect them from grazing damage.

8.2.2 Where appropriate, the proposed species mixes for reinstatement planting will be selected to reflect the existing species and habitat compositions present on the site. Where appropriate, landscape planting will take also into consideration climate change resilience.

8.2.3 This will be informed by the relevant landscape character assessment for the area. In some cases, it may be inappropriate to reinstate the existing species, for example

sites containing invasive plants or species at higher risk of disease. In these instances, alternative species mixes will be chosen. If difficulties arise with sourcing the proposed species mixes, alternative species will be discussed and agreed with the relevant local planning authority.

8.3 Reinstatement of Woodland, Small Groups and Individual Trees

Reinstatement Planting

8.3.1 Replacement tree planting will commence at the earliest suitable time of year following the completion of works associated with the planting requirement; this will generally be between November and March when the trees are dormant. Woodland and tree planting will adhere to the following principles:

- Where practicable, trees will be replanted in the same or close to the location from which they were removed. Exceptions to this include areas where tree planting would be unsuitable, for example areas under the proposed overhead line, areas located above third party underground cables, or areas with existing constraints which preclude tree planting. In these cases, tree planting will be undertaken as close as possible to the original location and still within the Order Limits.
- In locations where replacement standard tree planting is unsuitable due to the proposed overhead lines and third party underground cables, low height and shallow rooted scrub species will be included as alternative planting.
- Where practicable, removed woodland and trees will be replaced on-site with the same species or another locally appropriate species. Consideration will be made to ecological enhancement of these areas, with a more diverse mix of native species planting. These trees will be sourced from British provenance stock to minimise the spread of pests and diseases.
- Mature trees will be replaced with a mix of trees which will match the existing species composition and planting density present on the site.
- Where replacement planting is to take place within the RPAs of retained trees, hand tools only should be used.

8.3.2 Reinstatement planting will initially be protected to shield young trees from browsing rabbits and deer during establishment, for example using biodegradable tree/shrub shelters or fencing. Protection, for example fencing, will also be considered around planting in fields that are grazed by livestock.

Small Groups and Individual Trees

8.3.3 National Grid has committed to a 3:1 replacement ratio for individual trees and individual trees within small groups. The tree replanting will be in accordance with the following site selection principles:

- Within the Order Limits (on-site landscape mitigation);
- Where practicable, trees will be replanted in the same or close to the location from which they were removed; and

- If constraints preclude tree planting in the same or close to the location from which they were removed, tree planting will be undertaken as close as possible to the original location.

8.3.4 Details of the on-site tree planting will be provided in accordance with the Final LEMP secured under the relevant Requirement within **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order**.

Natural Regeneration of Woodland

8.3.5 Natural regeneration of woodland post-construction is proposed for woodlands where existing third-party infrastructure is being removed from woodlands and where works are minimal such as the proposed drainage works. Removal of third-party assets is considered a long-term ecological benefit, as the woodland would have been subject to an existing vegetation management regime under the existing overhead lines.

8.3.6 Natural regeneration will allow the woodland to regenerate based on existing seed bank within the soil. Where deemed necessary, supplementary planting of saplings will be added to the woodland, which will comprise tree species present within the retained woodland habitat.

8.4 Reinstatement of Hedgerows

8.4.1 Following completion of works, hedgerows will be reinstated at the earliest appropriate opportunity within the correct planting season. Hedgerows will typically be planted at 300 mm centres in a double-double staggered row arrangement (4 rows) 450 mm apart (14 per linear metre) and will use species-rich mixes or other locally appropriate species that provide ecological enhancement. Some of the tree species within the hedgerows will be planted using feathered stock to help establish a robust and traditional hedgerow structure, where appropriate for the landscape.

8.4.2 Hedge planting areas will initially be protected to shield young trees from browsing rabbits and deer during establishment, for example using biodegradable tree/shrub shelters or fencing. Protection, for example fencing, will also be considered around planting in fields that are grazed by livestock. Dead hedging will be also used where appropriate to provide habitats and ecological connectivity until permanent reinstatement can be undertaken. Organic mulch or mulch mats will be used for weed suppression.

8.4.3 In addition to this, where new hedgerows are being planted, consideration will be given to the hedgerows' heritage value, such as hedgerows on parish boundaries or historic field boundaries.

8.5 Reinstatement of Grassland

8.5.1 Grasslands will be reinstated at the earliest appropriate time of year following the completion of works. In many areas, impacted grasslands and verges will be reinstated using grass seeding. In some more specific locations, where it is deemed more suitable and in agreement with the Project's ECoW, areas of grassland will be left to regenerate naturally.

Grass Seeding

8.5.2 Most grassland areas will be replanted using an appropriate grass seed mix for the habitat affected, suited to the existing soil conditions and land use. Seeds will be sown at a suitable time of year; this will typically be in either Autumn or Spring but may include other times of year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture.

Calcareous Grassland

8.5.3 Calcareous grasslands will be avoided as far as possible. Should access be required across calcareous grassland, any topsoil and subsoil stripped will be kept separate to surrounding habitats and reinstated on completion.

Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail/Ellerker Footpath No.2 north of Pylon 4ZQ78 – Brantingham grasslands north of Bilks Hill

8.5.4 A strip of rank ungrazed calcicolous grassland, with affinities to the NVC CG3 *Bromus erectus* grassland community, lines either side of the footpath through the fields north of pylon 4ZQ78. This grassland is of importance because calcareous grassland is an HPI, albeit this is a poor example of CG3 due to lack of management.

8.5.5 A stone construction access track is proposed that crosses this section of the Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail/Ellerker Footpath No.2.

8.5.6 Approximately 110 m^2 of the CG3 grassland would be temporarily lost and/or damaged during the works as a result of the installation of the construction access track.

8.5.7 In order to reinstate the CG3 *Bromus erectus* grassland post-construction, the following measures are required:

Pre-construction measures

- Topsoil stripping:
  - Strip existing topsoil to a depth of 150 mm and store according to best practice, separate to topsoil of adjacent grassland types.
  - Locate storage areas away from vehicle routes and prevent contamination by weeds.
- Protection of adjacent grassland:
  - Install demarcation to protect retained habitat from damage.

Post-construction reinstatement

- Soil replacement:
  - Re-spread separately stored topsoil evenly across the reinstatement area.
  - Avoid importing fertile soil or applying fertilisers.
- Surface preparation:
  - Lightly firm the surface by rolling or treading.

Seeding

- A locally sourced calcareous grassland seed mix or green hay from a donor site within the same region will be applied.
- Target species: sheep's fescue (*Festuca ovina*), quaking grass (*Briza media*), wild thyme (*Thymus serpyllum*), bird's-foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), kidney vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*), species of orchid (family: Orchidaceae).
- Sown at low rates (2 to 4 g/m²) to avoid dominance by fast-growing species.

Aftercare and management

- First year:
  - Monitor for invasive species; remove by hand or spot treatment.
  - No fertiliser or irrigation unless extreme drought threatens survival.
- Ongoing:
  - Implement light grazing or annual mowing (late Summer) with arisings removed to maintain low fertility.
  - Continue monitoring for at least 3 to 5 years.

8.5.8 Table 8.1 outlines a timeline of tasks for the reinstatement of CG3 *Bromus erectus* grassland community.

Table 8.1 – Timeline of tasks for reinstatement of CG3 *Bromus erectus* grassland community

Phase	Task	Timing
Pre-construction	Strip topsoil (150 mm depth), store according to best practice.	Before track installation
	Fence off adjacent grassland to prevent damage.	
During works	Maintain stored soil weed-free and undisturbed.	Throughout construction period
Post-construction	Re-spread stored topsoil in original orientation.	Immediately after track removal
	Lightly firm surface (rolling/treading).	Same period
Seeding	Apply local calcareous grassland seed mix or green hay if gaps exist.	Autumn (September–October) or Spring (March–April)
Year 1 aftercare	Monitor for invasive species; remove manually or spot treat.	Monthly checks (April–October)
	No fertilizer or irrigation unless extreme drought.	As needed
Year 2 to 5	Implement light grazing or annual late-Summer mowing (remove arisings).	August–September annually
	Continue monitoring species recovery and soil conditions.	Annual surveys

8.6 Reinstatement of Watercourses

8.6.1 Following the completion of works, all temporarily impacted watercourses will be reinstated to their former state, or better. All temporary structures such as culverts bridges and dams will be removed, and all impacted watercourse features including bank profile, bed levels, and gradients will be reinstated (where not considered an upgrade to an existing culvert). This will include the replacement of any substrate or vegetation that was temporarily removed.

8.7 Landscape Mitigation

Mitigation Planting Areas

8.7.1 Along the proposed overhead line, 60 landscape mitigation planting areas have been identified within the Order Limits to provide landscape and visual mitigation, whilst also delivering ecological benefits.

8.7.2 All landscape mitigation planting proposals have been developed having regard to the proposed overhead line alignment, associated electrical clearance requirements and Limits of Deviation, and future maintenance needs. Tree planting will not be undertaken beneath conductors, and species selection will be designed to avoid future conflicts with operation and maintenance requirements.

8.7.3 Indicative landscape proposals for each of these areas are included in Table 8.2 and shown on **Application Document 6.4.F1 Environmental Statement Figure 4.1 Proposed Project Design**. Indicative species lists for planting types are in Appendix A Indicative Planting Schedules.

Table 8.2 – Mitigation Planting Areas

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
01	North of pylon 4AF8 to the east of the A164 and adjacent to Jillywood Lane	To mitigate for potential loss of trees and vegetation associated with the overhead line corridor, including Jillywood Lane trees (if LoD are utilised) and vegetation along the A164	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species mix to consider the existing planting along Jillywood Lane.
02	Socken Wood near pylon 4AF26	To mitigate for loss of woodland at Socken Wood and to compensate for veteran tree (T4) (if required).	Woodland creation with links to existing Socken Wood, following lines of woodlands previously present in this area. Comprises deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge mix. Lower height species to be used under the proposed overhead line to maintain electrical clearances.

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
03	To east of Woodale near pylon 4AF37	To mitigate for loss of woodland between pylons 4AF37 and 4AF38	Extension to existing woodland planting in Woodale. Comprises deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Planting to be offset from low voltage overhead line.
04	Adjacent to Cliffs Plantation to the west of pylon 4AF39	To mitigate for loss of woodland between pylons 4ZQ78 and 4ZQ76 at Bilkshill Plantation and improve connectivity. Tailored to be of potential benefit to yellow bird's-nest (*Hypopitys monotropa*).	Woodland creation with links to existing Cliffs Plantation. Comprises deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge mix. Species mix to consider the existing planting within Cliffs Plantation, but will include areas of beech.
05	Adjacent to Cliffs Plantation to the northwest of pylon 4AF40	To mitigate for loss of woodland between pylons 4ZQ78 and 4ZQ76 at Bilkshill Plantation and improve connectivity. Tailored to be of potential benefit to yellow bird's-nest.	Woodland creation with links to existing Cliffs Plantation. Comprises deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge mix. Species mix to consider the existing planting within Cliffs Plantation, but will include areas of beech.
06	Adjacent to Cliffs Plantation to the northwest of pylon 4AF40	To mitigate for loss of woodland between pylons 4ZQ78 and 4ZQ76 at Bilkshill Plantation and improve connectivity. Tailored to be of potential benefit to yellow bird's-nest.	Habitat creation including woodland, woodland edge, scrub and species-rich grassland, will include areas of beech within the woodland. **Detailed design to be undertaken in collaboration with landowner who has drafted outline designs of a similar nature for this area**
07	Off Whin Moor Lane to south of pylon 4ZQ72	To mitigate for loss of woodland between pylons 4ZQ72 and 4ZQ73 and improve connectivity	Woodland creation comprising deciduous woodland mix. Planting to have regard for Ellerker Footpath No.4 public right of way which links Whin Moor Lane and Ellerker and species in adjacent woodland.
08	To the west of Blacktoft House Drive near pylon 4AF73	To mitigate for loss of woodland between pylons 4AF72 and 4AF73	Strip of woodland planting comprising deciduous woodland mix. Planting to have regard for those species in adjacent existing woodland and those removed during construction.
09	To the north side of Pennyhill Cottages in Ousefleet	To filter views towards pylon 4AF78 (crossing pylon) and pylon 4AF79	Individual tree planting. Extra heavy standard trees and be planted approx. 3 m from kerbline and no closer than 5 m centres. Locations to have regard for any services in verge and accesses into field. No tree planting under conductors.

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
10	To the north side of Pennyhill Cottages in Ousefleet	To filter views towards pylon 4AF78 (crossing pylon)	Individual tree planting. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted approx. 3 m from kerbline and no closer than 5 m centres. Locations to have regard for any services in verge and accesses into field.
11	On field boundary to the south of pylon 4AF93	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF93 and 4AF94	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
12	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF116	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF116 and 4AF117	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Planting design shall maintain operational access and electrical safety clearances
13	To south of M180 adjacent to Mill Hill Wood	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF133 and 4AF134 along the M180	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction adjacent the M180 and those within Mill Hill Wood.
14	To the north of Belton Road to the west of Beltoft	To filter views for people living and moving around Beltoft	Species-rich hedgerow with trees.
15	To the south of Belton Road to the west of Beltoft	To filter and screen views for people living and moving around Beltoft	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix and species-rich hedgerow with trees along Belton Road.
16	To the west of Hollingsworth Lane to the south of Beltoft	To filter views for people living and moving around Beltoft	Species-rich hedgerow with trees.
17	To the west of Hollingsworth Lane adjacent to pylon 4AF138 (north of proposed overhead line)	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF137 and 4AF138	Individual tree planting to the north of the proposed overhead line. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted at approx. 8 m centres to mimic trees on west side of Hollingworth Lane. No tree planting under conductors.
18	To the west of Hollingsworth Lane adjacent to pylon 4AF138 (south of	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF137 and 4AF138	Individual tree planting to the south of the proposed overhead line. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted at approx. 8 m centres to mimic trees on west side of Hollingworth Lane. No tree planting under conductors.

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
	proposed overhead line)		
19	On field boundary to west of pylon 4AF142	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF142 and 4AF143	Species-rich hedgerow with trees.
20	To west of pylon 4AF150	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF148 and 4AF151	Woodland creation including deciduous woodland mix, woodland edge mix and species-rich hedgerow with trees along field boundary. Planting design shall maintain operational access and electrical safety clearances
21	To west of pylon 4AF156	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF155 and 4AF157	Woodland creation including deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge. Woodland edge to be used on eastern side of planting where clearance to conductors would be required. Planting design shall maintain operational access and electrical safety clearances.
22	To south of Ferry Road south of pylon 4AF158	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF158 and 4AF159	Woodland creation comprising deciduous woodland mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction and in adjacent woodland block.
23	To the north of Warping Drain near pylon 4AF161	To mitigate for loss of vegetation between pylons 4AF161 and 4AF162 along Warping Drain	Native scrub mix. Small groups to be planted to create an area of scattered scrub and grassland.
24	To the south of Warping Drain and north of Gunthorpe Road near pylon 4AF162	To mitigate for loss of vegetation between pylons 4AF161 and 4AF162 along Warping Drain	Native scrub mix. Small groups to be planted to create an area of scattered scrub and grassland.
25	To the south of Gunthorpe Road near pylon 4AF162	To mitigate for loss of vegetation between pylons 4AF161 and 4AF162 along Warping Drain	Native scrub mix. Small groups to be planted to create an area of scattered scrub and grassland.
26	To east of Station Road near pylon 4AF166	To mitigate for loss of vegetation along the railway between pylons 4AF166 and 4AF167	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction and those along the railway.

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
27	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF172	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF172 and 4AF173	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
28	On field boundary to west of pylon 4AF174 and to the north of Cornley Road	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF173 and 4AF174	Species-rich hedgerow with trees. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
29	To north of access to Leys Farm and pylon 4AF184	To mitigate for loss of trees along the Project	Woodland creation with links to existing planting to the west. Comprises deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge mix. Species mix to consider the existing planting.
30	To north of access to Leys Farm and pylon 4AF184	To mitigate for the loss of scrub and grassland, and improve connectivity in this area near to the Chesterfield Canal	Area of scrub and species-rich grassland under the conductors, where tree planting is not possible.
31	To north of access to Leys Farm and pylon 4AF184	To mitigate for loss of trees along the Project, and improve connectivity in this area near to the Chesterfield Canal	Woodland creation with links to existing planting to the west. Comprises deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge mix. Species mix to consider the existing planting.
32	To the north of the Chesterfield Canal	To filter views for people using the canal and users of the Cuckoo Way, and improve connectivity in this area near to the Chesterfield Canal	Species-rich hedgerow with trees. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
33	To the south of the Chesterfield Canal	To filter views for people using the canal and users of the Cuckoo Way, and improve habitat connectivity in this area near to the Chesterfield Canal	Species-rich hedgerow with trees. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
34	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF187	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF187 and 4AF188	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
35	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF188	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF187 and 4AF188	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Species to have

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
			consideration of those removed during construction.
36	To east of Wood Lane near pylon 4AF194	To mitigate for loss of vegetation between pylons 4AF193 and 4AF194 near Wood Farm	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
37	Along watercourse to east of Wood Lane and north of pylon 4AF195	To mitigate for loss of vegetation between pylons 4AF193 and 4AF194 near Wood Farm	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction and those along the watercourse.
38	Along watercourse to east of Wood Lane and north of pylon 4AF195	To improve connectivity along the watercourse between proposed woodland blocks	Woodland edge mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction and those along the watercourse.
39	Along watercourse to east of Dogholes Wood and northeast of pylon 4AF195	To mitigate for loss of vegetation between pylons 4AF195 and 4AF196	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction and those along the watercourse.
40	On field boundary to south of Gainsborough Road near pylon 4AF202	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF202 and 4AF203	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
41	On field boundary to west of pylon 4AF205 and south of High House Farm	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF205 and 4AF206 and filter views across the landscape	Species-rich hedgerow with trees.
42	To the west of Gainsborough Road adjacent to pylon 4AF209	To filter views for people living and moving around Sturton le Steeple	Woodland creation comprising deciduous woodland mix. Planting to have regard for species in adjacent vegetation along Gainsborough Road.
43	To the west of Gainsborough Road to the north of Sturton le Steeple	To filter views for people living and moving around Sturton le Steeple	Species-rich hedgerow with trees.
44	To the north of Station Road to the west of Sturton le Steeple	To filter views for people living and moving around Sturton le Steeple	Individual tree planting within existing and reinstated hedgerow. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted at

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
			approx. 8 m centres. No tree planting under conductors.
45	To the south of Station Road to the west of Sturton le Steeple	To filter views for people living and moving around Sturton le Steeple	Individual tree planting within existing and reinstated hedgerow. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted at approx. 8 m centres. No tree planting under conductors.
46	Along existing ditch to southwest of Sturton le Steeple near pylon 4AF212	To filter views for people living and moving around Sturton le Steeple	Species-rich hedgerow with trees.
47	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF216	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF216 and 4AF217	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Mix of native scrub and individual trees. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse. Planting design shall maintain operational access and electrical safety clearances.
48	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF216	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF216 and 4AF217	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Mix of native scrub and individual trees. Species to have consideration of those removed during construction, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse. Planting design shall maintain operational access and electrical safety clearances.
49	Adjacent to pylon 4AF220	To filter views of pylon 4AF220 which is a D90 tension pylon on higher ground	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
50	To north of pylon 4AF221	To filter views of pylon 4AF220 which is a D90 tension pylon on higher ground	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
51	To west of Meeting House Lane near pylon 4AF225	To mitigate for loss of trees along the Project	Woodland creation with links to existing planting to the south. Comprises deciduous woodland mix and woodland edge mix. Species mix to consider the existing planting,

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
			including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
52	To north of pylon 4AF228	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF226 and 4AF228 and to increase connectivity between Lee Beck and wider landscape	Species-rich hedgerow with trees. Tree species to have consideration of those removed during construction, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse. No tree planting beneath conductors.
53	Adjacent to Lee Beck to the west of pylon 4AF228 and north of Forewood Lane	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF228 and 4AF229	Deciduous woodland mix with woodland edge mix. Species to consider those removed during construction and those in existing vegetation along Lee Beck, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
54	On field boundary between pylons 4AF229 and 4AF230	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF229 and 4AF230	Deciduous woodland mix, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
55	To east of North Beck near pylon 4AF234	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF233 and 4AF235 along North Beck	Deciduous woodland mix. Species to consider those removed during construction and those in existing vegetation along North Beck, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
56	To east of North Beck near pylon 4AF234	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF233 and 4AF235 along North Beck	Deciduous woodland mix. Species to consider those removed during construction and those in existing vegetation along North Beck, including hazel and midland hawthorn to be of benefit for hazel dormouse.
57	To east of North Beck near pylon 4AF234	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF233 and 4AF235 along North Beck	Individual tree planting within existing and hedgerow. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted no closer than 8 m centres.
58	On field boundary to south of pylon 4AF238	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF238 and 4AF239	Area for replacement tree planting where trees cannot be replanted under conductors. Mix of native scrub and individual trees. Planting of species to have consideration of those removed during construction.
59	To the east of Darlton Road near pylon 4AF244	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF243 and 4AF244	Individual tree planting. Extra heavy standard trees to be planted to mimic existing avenue planting and mitigate for those removed beneath

Ref	Location	Primary purpose	Proposal
			conductors. Species to match existing avenue.
60	To the west of Fledborough Road near pylon 4AF255	To mitigate for loss of trees between pylons 4AF255 and 4AF256	Deciduous woodland mix. Species to consider those removed during construction and those in existing vegetation along disused railway.

Growth Rates

8.7.4 Growth rates for proposed landscape replacement/mitigation planting are based on information from the Forestry Commission agency Forest Research (Forest Research, 2016). Table 8.3 presents the assumptions regarding average growth rates for a selection of planting types with the majority planted at 450 mm. Referred to as 'whips', these are bare-root or container-grown plants with a single thin stem (or a few shoots), designed to establish quickly and grow into mature trees/shrubs over time.

8.7.5 Trees planted as whips, and planted alongside some larger specimens, are expected to provide an effective visual screen by around year 15, subject to successful establishment and management. With typical growth rates and initial planting at standard sizes, vegetation is anticipated to reach sufficient density and canopy structure to substantially filter or fully screen lower-level elements of a development. While some limited seasonal or filtered visibility may remain in Winter, depending on species mix, the overall screening effect is expected to be robust and long-term.

Table 8.3 – Assumptions of growth rates for planting types

Planting type	Specification at Yeat 1 of operation	Average growth rate (range)	Assumed minimum height at Year 15 of operation
Native woodland	Mix of 450 mm whips and 1.2 m feathers with occasional standard trees	230–450 mm per year	3.67 to 7.7 m tall
Native trees	3.5 m standard	300 mm per year	7.5 to 7.5 m tall
Native scrub	600 mm whip	300–450 mm per year	4.65 m to 6.05 m tall
Native hedgerows	600 mm whips	300–450 mm per year	Managed to 2–2.5 m tall

9. Aftercare

9.1 General Aftercare

9.1.1 Habitats reinstated after construction will be returned to the landowner. A five-year adaptive aftercare period has been agreed for sites with reinstated woodland, trees and hedgerows to be carried out by National Grid and their Main Works Contractor(s). For other habitat types (i.e. grasslands) which are considered easier to replace than tree habitats, a review of the habitat status will be undertaken to ensure successful re-establishment prior to the landowner taking back the rights of the land.

9.1.2 The proposed aftercare measures will be adaptive to reflect the results of the ongoing monitoring of new tree/hedgerow planting. This may include the use of alternative native tree/hedgerow species, should it be found during the monitoring period that a substantial amount of the original tree/hedgerow species used has failed and therefore considered unsuitable for the particular location. This will be determined by the Landscape Clerk of Works (LCoW).

9.2 Woodland, Trees, Hedgerows and Mitigation Planting Areas

9.2.1 Sites with woodland, tree or hedgerow reinstatement will be monitored/managed for a five-year period following the completion of the reinstatement works. The five-year aftercare period will include inspections by a suitably qualified person to:

- Check and replace any dead or failing plants, each year, between November and end of March, until the target stock density is achieved. The proposed target stocking density is aimed at creating deciduous woodland that reflects the baseline conditions for woodlands with a spacing density between 2.5 m and 3 m and hedgerow density of six whips per linear metre.
- Re-firm plants and inspect, adjust or remove stakes, guards and ties as required.
- Apply herbicide to maintain weed-free plant circles around base of transplants and spot-treat undesirable species (where necessary), complying with any restrictions on use of herbicides in certain locations, for example in proximity to watercourses or other sensitive habitats. Selective hand weeding and/or mulching may be required where there are no suitable alternative methods.
- Check mulch level/mulch mats. Where organic mulch or mulch mats have been used for weed suppression, the depth of mulch in individual plant circles shall be inspected at least once per year during the aftercare period and restored to a depth of 75 mm; mulch mats shall be inspected as part of the aftercare inspections, and any mats and pegs which are not secure would be re-fixed and missing ones replaced.
- Check and treat any invasive species that may be identified through the routine inspections.
- Water new plants as required to minimise failures in periods of drought, during the five-year aftercare period.

9.2.2 Inspections will also be undertaken of any areas that were coppiced during construction to check that the coppicing is re-establishing. This will confirm that these areas are regenerating as planned or will identify the need for further measures, such as additional planting where the coppicing is not leading to successful regrowth.

9.3 Grassland

9.3.1 Grassland will be reinstated at the end of construction and will be handed back to the landowner once the grass sward has re-established to the baseline habitat type identified prior to construction works.

Brantingham Dale SSSI

9.3.2 Any trees removed within the SSSI affected as part of the ongoing management will be required to continue to remain as removing trees only to above ground levels by soft felling, to ensure continuing protection of the grassland. All arisings will be removed and not spread within the SSSI as could adversely affect the plants and soil conditions that allow them to grow.

- First year:
  - Monitor for invasive species; remove by hand or spot treatment.
- Ongoing:
  - Continue monitoring for 3 to 5 years.

Yorkshire Wolds Way National Trail/Ellerker Footpath No.2 north of Pylon 4ZQ78 – Brantingham grasslands north of Bilks Hill

Aftercare and management

- First year:
  - Monitor for invasive species; remove by hand or spot treatment.
  - No fertiliser or irrigation unless extreme drought threatens survival.
- Ongoing:
  - Implement light grazing or annual mowing (late Summer) with arisings removed to maintain low fertility.
  - Continue monitoring for 3 to 5 years.

10. Implementation

10.1 Implementation of the LEMP

10.1.1 National Grid's appointed Main Works Contractor(s) will be responsible for developing a Final LEMP in substantial accordance with this Outline LEMP for approval by the relevant local planning authority, and for implementing the measures as approved.

10.1.2 The Main Works Contractor(s) will brief all operatives on the specific details within the Outline LEMP prior to the commencement of works. The briefings will be delivered by a suitably trained member of the team such as the Environmental Manager or Works Supervisor.

10.1.3 National Grid will put in place robust procedures to inform and supervise all those working on the Project, including its Main Works Contractor(s), to make sure all measures set out within the Final LEMP are adhered to while undertaking construction works authorised by the DCO.

10.2 General Site Checks and Reporting

10.2.1 During the construction phase, regular site visits will be carried out to monitor compliance with the Final LEMP. The programme of site visits will be managed by the Environmental Manager, who will draw on appropriate suitably experienced specialists for specific tasks.

10.2.2 Site checks and inspections will include checks against compliance with good practice measures and other commitments made by the Project.

10.2.3 A 'stop work authority' will be granted to those individuals undertaking the site inspections and should be enacted in the event that non-compliance with the measures set out within the Final LEMP are identified.

10.2.4 Further details regarding on site checks and reporting will be provided by the Main Works Contractor(s) in the Final LEMP.

10.3 Monitoring of Mitigation Planting Areas

10.3.1 Monitoring and reporting are required in order to determine that the functions documented within this Outline LEMP are being achieved and to determine whether any remedial management action may be required. A post-construction monitoring programme and reporting procedures will be formalised, agreed with the relevant planning authority and included within the Final LEMP, prior to construction works commencing.

10.4 Monitoring Designated Sites

10.4.1 Monitoring visits will be undertaken during and following the completion of the habitat reinstatement works over a five-year period as presented within **Application Document 7.3 Environmental Actions and Commitments Register**. The pre-construction baseline habitat surveys will be used as the target condition for habitats

within each designated site, unless otherwise agreed with either Natural England and/or the relevant local planning authority. The aim of the site inspections is to identify whether adaptive measures need to be taken, so that the designated sites return to the required habitat type and condition.

10.4.2 All habitat monitoring will be undertaken by suitably qualified ecologists.

10.5 Monitoring in Relation to Protected Species

10.5.1 The requirement and scope for protected species monitoring will be set out in the draft EPS Licence applications and agreed with Natural England. Any corrective actions that may be required will be agreed with Natural England and implemented as required. Completed monitoring forms will be returned to Natural England as part of the licence return process.

10.5.2 All protected species monitoring will be undertaken by suitably qualified ecologists.

10.6 Change Process

10.6.1 The LEMP is one of the plans listed in Scheduled 2 of **Application Document 3.1 Draft Development Consent Order**.

10.6.2 Where there is a need to update the Final LEMP beyond derogations addressed pursuant to the above, changes to the LEMP itself would be managed through the process set out in Schedule 6 of the Planning Act 2008 (HM Government, 2008).

LEMP Changes

10.6.3 It may be necessary to amend the details contained in the Final LEMP as a result of the iterative discussion and engagement that will continue after the Final LEMP has been approved. The resulting changes would not alter any of the underlying commitments, mitigations and methodologies set out in the Final LEMP. An example may be where a pre-construction survey identifies that a measure already committed to is no longer required in the Final LEMP. In every case, consideration will be given to any changes to the outcome of the assessment of environmental effects.

10.6.4 Where there is a proposed change to the Final LEMP, National Grid will provide details to the relevant planning authority together with evidence of relevant stakeholder engagement, whereupon the relevant planning authority will, acting reasonably, endeavour to respond within 28 days to either confirm its consent to the change to the Final LEMP or provide its reasons why the change is not accepted.

References

Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland. (2015). *South-east Yorkshire (vc61) Rare Plant Register, Third edition.* Retrieved from BSBI.org: https://bsbi.org/media/pages/learn/publications/rare-plant-registers/south-east-yorkshire-2015/939708fd8c-1751634701/south-east-yorkshire-2015.pdf

British Standards Institution. (1989). *BS 4428:1989 Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces).* London: British Standards Institution.

British Standards Institution. (2010). *BS 3998:2010 Tree work. Recommendations.* London: British Standards Institution.

British Standards Institution. (2010). *BS3998:2010 - Tree Work Recommendations.* London: BSI.

British Standards Institution. (2012). *BS 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. Recommendations.* London: British Standards Institution.

British Standards Institution. (2026). *BS 8545:2014+A1:2026 Trees from nursery to independence in the landscape – Code of practice.* London: British Standards Institution.

British Standards Institution. (2026). *BS EN ISO 14001:2026 Environmental management systems. Requirements with guidance for use.* London: British Standards Institution.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. (2026). Retrieved from NSIPS: Biodiversity Net Gain Statement for Energy: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6a185a1765bc5f798327f4c5/biodiversity-gain-statement-for-energy.pdf

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. (2026). Retrieved from Understanding Biodiversity Net Gain: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/understanding-biodiversity-net-gain

East Midlands Landscape Partnership. (2010, April). *East Midlands Region Landscape Character Assessment.* Retrieved February 3, 2026, from https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5635681403535360

East Riding of Yorkshire Council. (2018, November). *East Riding of Yorkshire Landscape Character Assessment.* Retrieved February 3, 2026, from www.eastriding.gov.uk: https://www.eastriding.gov.uk/planning-permission-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-the-local-plan/landscape-character-assessment/

East Riding of Yorkshire Council. (2021). *Local Plan Update 2030-2039.* Retrieved from https://www.downloads.eastriding.org.uk/corporate/planning/proposed-submission-local-plan-update/PS-LP01%20Strategy%20Document%20Update.pdf

East Riding of Yorkshire Council. (2025, April 2). *East Riding Local Plan Update 2020-2039.* Retrieved February 3, 2026, from www.eastriding.gov.uk: https://www.eastriding.gov.uk/planning-permission-and-building-control/planning-policy-and-the-local-plan/east-riding-local-plan-update/

Environment Agency and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. (2025). *Guidance - Flood risk activities: environmental permits*. Retrieved from GOV.UK: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-activities-environmental-permits

Forest Research. (2016). *Forest Yield: A handbook on forest growth and yield tables for British forestry.* Retrieved from https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/publications/forest-yield-a-handbook-on-forest-growth-and-yield-tables-for-british-forestry/

GB Non-native species secretariat. (2025). *Check Clean Dry.* Retrieved from nonnativespecies.org: https://www.nonnativespecies.org/what-can-i-do/check-clean-dry

HM Government. (1981). *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.* Retrieved February 12, 2026, from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69/contents

HM Government. (1989). *Electricity Act 1989.* Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/contents

HM Government. (1990). *Environmental Protection Act 1990.* Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/43/contents

HM Government. (1991). *Land Drainage Act 1991.* Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1991/59/contents

HM Government. (1992). *Protection of Badgers Act 1992*. Retrieved March 11, 2026, from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1992/51/contents

HM Government. (1997). *The Hedgerows Regulations 1997.* Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1997/1160/contents

HM Government. (2006). *Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.* Retrieved February 12, 2026, from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents

HM Government. (2008). *Planning Act 2008.* Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents

HM Government. (2008). *Planning Act 2008.* Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/contents

HM Government. (2017). *The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.* Retrieved February 12, 2026, from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents

HM Government. (2021). Retrieved from The Environment Act: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2021/30/contents

HM Government. (2022). Retrieved from Habitats and Species of Principal Importance Defra: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england

HM Government. (2022). *Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions.* Retrieved from https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-ancient-trees-and-veteran-trees-advice-for-making-planning-decisions

HM Government. (2026). Retrieved from Overarching National Policy Statement for energy (EN-1) 2025: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/overarching-national-policy-statement-for-energy-en-1-2025

Institution of Lighting Professionals and Bat Conservation Trust. (2023). *Guidance Note 08/23 Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night.* Retrieved from https://theilp.org.uk/resource/gn08-bats-and-artificial-lighting-pdf.html

Joint Nature Conservation Committee. (2026, June 9). *Conservation Designations for UK Taxa 2026*. Retrieved July 2026, from jncc.gov.uk: https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/conservation-designations-for-uk-taxa/

National Grid. (2024). *RIIO-T3 Business Plan.* Retrieved from https://www.riiot3.nationalgrid.com/document/30069/download

National Grid. (2026). Retrieved from Social and Environmental Action Plan (2026-2031): https://www.nationalgrid.com/document/564326/download

Natural England and Forestry Commission. (2022). *Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions*. Retrieved November 11, 2025, from GOV.UK: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-ancient-trees-and-veteran-trees-advice-for-making-planning-decisions

North Lincolnshire Council. (2022). *North Lincolnshire Landscape Character Assessment.* Retrieved February 3, 2026, from www.northlincs.gov.uk: https://m.northlincs.gov.uk/public/localplan/evidence/NLC%20Landscape%20Character%20Assessment%20v2%20(4).pdf

Reason, P., & Wray, S. (2025, August). *UK Bat Mitigation Guidelines: A Guide to Impact Assessment, Mitigation and Compensation for Developments Affecting Bats. Version 1.2.* Ampfield: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. Retrieved February 12, 2026, from cieem.net: https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Bat-Mitigation-Guidelines-2025-V1.2.pdf

Stroh, P. (2025, November 16). *A new vascular plant Red List for Great Britain.* Retrieved May 6, 2026, from BSBI.org: https://bsbi.org/about/news/latest-news/a-new-vascular-plant-red-list-for-great-britain

Stroh, P. A., Pescott, O. L., Bateman, R. M., Cooke, E. L., Cousins, M., Fay, M. F., . . . Walker, K. J. (2025). A new vascular plant Red List for Great Britain. *British and Irish Botany, 7*(3), 148-216. doi:https://doi.org/10.33928/bib.2025.07.148

Stroh, P., Leach, S. J., August, T. A., Walker, K., Pearman, D., Rumsey, F., . . . Taylor, I. (2014). *A Vascular Plant Red List for England.* Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (BSBI).

Wells, D., Chanin, P. R., & Gubert, L. (2025). *Hazel Dormouse Mitigation Handbook.* (F. Mathews, Ed.) Gloucester: The Mammal Society.

Woodland Wildlife Toolkit. (2025). *Species Factsheets*. Retrieved from Woodland Wildlife Toolkit: https://woodlandwildlifetoolkit.sylva.org.uk/factsheets

Appendix A Indicative Planting Schedules

Contents

Executive summary **A-1**

Purpose of this report A-1

A.1 Introduction A-2

A.2 Woodland Planting A-3

A.3 Individual Tree Planting A-5

A.4 Hedgerows A-6

A.5 Scrub Planting A-7

A.6 Grass Seeding A-8

Table A.1 – Abbreviations used A-3
Table A.2 – W1 Mixed broadleaved native woodland A-4
Table A.3 – W2 Woodland edge A-4
Table A.4 – T1 Individual tree planting A-5
Table A.5 – T2 Street trees A-5
Table A.6 – H1 Species rich hedgerow A-6
Table A.7 – H1 Species rich hedgerow with trees A-7
Table A.8 – S1 Scrub mix A-8
Table A.9 – G1 Species rich grass seed mix A-8
Table A.10 – G2 Low maintenance grass seed mix A-9
Table A.11 – G3 Grass seed mix for amenity grassland (where grazing is likely) A-10
Table A.12 – G4 Calcareous Grassland Mix A-10
Table A.13 – G5 Grass Seed Mix for Marshy Grassland A-11

Executive summary

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) is developing the North Humber to High Marnham Project (the Project), a proposed new 400 kV electricity transmission connection between East Riding of Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire. The Project would reinforce the national electricity transmission network, enabling the connection of new low carbon energy generation and supporting the delivery of the UK Government's clean power and net zero ambitions. The Project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) for which development consent is being sought through a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act (HM Government, 2008). It is recognised as a critical reinforcement to provide the network capacity required to meet future electricity demand and support the transition to a low-carbon energy system.

Purpose of this report

This document provides Indicative Planting Schedules to support the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP). The schedules establish the proposed species mixes, planting densities and typical plant sizes that will guide reinstatement and landscape and ecological mitigation associated with the Project. They are intended to provide a basis for detailed landscape design, with final planting and reinstatement plans to be submitted to the relevant planning authorities for approval in accordance with the applicable planning requirements.

The planting proposals are organised into five principal vegetation types:

- Woodland planting
- Individual tree planting
- Hedgerow planting
- Scrub planting
- Grass seeding

A.1 Introduction

Overview

A.1.1 National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (National Grid) owns and maintains the national high voltage electricity transmission network throughout England and Wales.

A.1.2 National Grid has developed plans for the North Humber to High Marnham Project (the Project). The Project would support the UK government's net zero target through the connection of new low carbon energy generation and by reinforcing the transmission network.

A.1.3 The Project would establish a new 400 kilovolt (kV) transmission connection approximately 90 kilometres (km) in length between a new substation to be built in the vicinity of Birkhill Wood, located to the north of Hull near Creyke Beck in the East Riding of Yorkshire, and a new substation at High Marnham in Nottinghamshire.

A.1.4 The following indicative planting schedules have been produced to support **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan** (LEMP).

Purposes of the Planting Schedules

A.1.5 The Indicative Planting Schedules have been produced to set out the typical species mixes and where relevant, plant sizes that would be planted during the landscape contract of the Project. These will be a starting point for the detailed design stages of the Project and in accordance with the applicable Requirement within **Application Document 3.1 Draft DCO** the LEMP including Planting Schedules will be submitted to the relevant planning authorities alongside the reinstatement plans and detailed planting plans for approval at that stage.

A.1.6 Locations for mitigation planting are indicated on Application Document 6.4.F1 Environmental Statement Figure 4.1 - Proposed Project Design and details of each area are provided in Table 8.2 of Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan.

A.1.7 All planting will be in line with BS 3936 Nursery Stock and BS 8545 From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape and plant sizes in the following tables are taken from the Horticultural Trade Association (HTA) National Planting Specification.

Structure of the Planting Schedules

A.1.8 The Planting Schedules are divided into vegetation type as follows:

- Chapter 2: Woodland Planting;
- Chapter 3: Individual Tree Planting;
- Chapter 4: Hedgerow Planting;
- Chapter 5: Scrub Planting; and
- Chapter 6: Grass Seeding.

A.1.9 Table A.1 sets out the abbreviations that are used within the tables in this Appendix.

Table A.1 – Abbreviations used

Abbreviation	Reference
Root Zone	
B	Bare rooted and bagged
RB	Root balled
C	Container grown
Form and Age/Method of Growth	
L	Container size in litres
1+0	One year seedling that has not been transplanted
1+1	Two year seedling transplanted after first year
0/2	Two year cutting not transplanted
2x	Two times transplanted
Breaks	Minimum number of branches, breaks or shoots

A.2 Woodland Planting

Introduction

A.2.1 This chapter sets out the typical mixes and sizes for woodland planting as follows:

- W1 Mixed broadleaved native woodland; and
- W2 Woodland edge.

A.2.2 It is noted that currently in the UK, some species of trees are not available due to ongoing issues with disease. This includes ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) which is present along the route of the Project and in particular at Socken Wood. Ash is therefore not specified, but if guidance changes and ash becomes available then should be considered during detailed design.

W1 Mixed Broadleaved Native Woodland

A.2.3 Table A.2 sets out the planting mix for W1 Mixed broadleaved native woodland. Woodland would be planted at a density of 1/m^2.

A.2.4 For selected locations (as identified in Table 8.2 of **Application Document 7.8 Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan**), woodland on calcareous soils should be tailored to be of potential benefit to yellow bird's-nest (*Hypopitys monotropa*). This may include an increase in percentage of beech or hazel species planted at a high density adjacent to existing woodland to create deep shade to encourage its spread.

Table A.2 – W1 Mixed broadleaved native woodland

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth	% of Mix
Acer campestre	Field maple	175-200	B	Feather; 2x; 5 breaks	5
Acer campestre	Field maple	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Alnus incana	Grey alder	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Corylus avellana	Hazel	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	175-200	B	Feather; 2x; 5 breaks	6
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	250-300	RB	Standard; 2x; 8-10 cm girth	2
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	40-60	C	2L; leader and laterals	5
Prunus avium	Wild cherry	40-60	C	2L; leader and laterals	10
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Quercus robur	Oak	175-200	B	Feather; 2x; 5 breaks	5
Quercus robur	Oak	250-300	RB	Standard; 2x; 8-10 cm girth	2
Tilia cordata	Small leaved lime	175-200	B	Feather; 2x; 5 breaks	5
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaying tree	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5

W2 Woodland Edge

A.2.5 Table A.3 sets out the planting mix for W2 Woodland edge. Woodland edge would be planted at a density of 1/m^2. This mix would be used where a lower woodland edge is required or for locations where clearances require a slightly lower height species mix.

Table A.3 – W2 Woodland edge

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth	% of Mix
Acer campestre	Field maple	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Alnus incana	Grey alder	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Corylus avellana	Hazel	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	125-150	B	Feather; 2x	20
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	40-60	C	2L; leader and laterals	5

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth	% of Mix
Prunus avium	Wild cherry	40-60	C	2L; leader and laterals	10
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Viburnum lantana	Wayfaying tree	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5

A.3 Individual Tree Planting

Introduction

A.3.1 This chapter sets out the species and sizes for individual tree planting as follows:

- T1 Individual tree planting.

Native Trees

A.3.2 Table A.4 sets out the species for field boundaries, where new trees are required within existing hedgerows.

Table A.4 – T1 Individual tree planting

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth
Alnus incana	Grey alder	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth
Prunus avium	Wild cherry	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth
Quercus robur	Oak	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth
Tilia cordata	Small leaved lime	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth

Street Trees

A.3.3 There may be occasion to use larger street trees in order to provide more instant screening or where a more formal line of trees is required. Table A.5 sets out some example species and sizes that could be considered.

Table A.5 – T2 Street trees

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth
Carpinus betulus	Hornbeam	425-600	RB	Extra heavy standard; 3x; 14-16cm girth
Fagus sylvatica	Beech	300-350	RB	Extra heavy standard; 3x; 14-16cm girth
Quercus rubra	Red oak	300-350	RB	Extra heavy standard; 3x; 14-16cm girth
Sorbus aucuparia	Rowan	300-350	RB	Extra heavy standard; 3x; 14-16cm girth

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth
Sorbus aria	Whitebeam	300-350	RB	Extra heavy standard; 3x; 14-16cm girth

A.4 Hedgerows

Introduction

A.4.1 This chapter sets out the typical mixes and sizes for hedgerow planting as follows:

- H1 Species rich hedgerow mix; and
- H2 Species rich hedgerow mix with trees.

A.4.2 Hedgerows would provide low level screening to visual receptors, reinstate lost field boundaries and enhance landscape character, provide green infrastructure connectivity, additional habitat for nesting birds and wildlife corridors.

A.4.3 Hedgerows will be planted in double double staggered rows (four rows of planting) at 450 mm linear centres. Species to be planted in random groups of 5-7.

H1 Species Rich Hedgerow

A.4.4 Table A.6 sets out the planting mix for H1 Species rich hedgerow mix. This mix will be used where the locations of overhead lines requirements for visibility splays precludes the use of tree species within the hedgerows.

A.4.5 There may be locations which require additional species when linked to specific ecological mitigation. For example, hedgerows reinstated near Treswell Wood should include Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata)* to benefit hazel dormouse.

Table A.6 – H1 Species rich hedgerow

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth	% of Mix
Acer campestre	Field maple	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Corylus avellana	Hazel	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	40-60	B	1+1; branched; 3 breaks	10
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	40-60	C	2L; leader and laterals	10
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Rosa canina	Dog rose	40-60	B	1+0; branched	5
Viburnum opulus	Guelder rose	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5

H2 Species Rich Hedgerow with Trees

A.4.6 Table A.7 sets out the planting mix for H2 Species rich hedgerow mix with trees. This mix will be used where the locations of overhead or requirements for visibility splays do not preclude the use of tree species within the hedgerows.

A.4.7 Trees will be planted at random spacings along the length of the hedgerow at no closer than 5 m centres.

Table A.7 – H1 Species rich hedgerow with trees

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth	% of Mix
Acer campestre	Field maple	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	10
Corylus avellana	Hazel	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	40-60	B	1+1; branched; 3 breaks	8.5
Ilex aquifolium	Holly	40-60	C	2L; leader and laterals	10
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Rosa canina	Dog rose	40-60	B	1+0; branched	5
Viburnum opulus	Guelder rose	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5
Tree Species					
Alnus incana	Grey alder	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth	1.5 for tree species
Prunus avium	Wild cherry	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth	
Quercus robur	Oak	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth	
Tilia cordata	Small leaved lime	300-350	RB	Standard; 2x; 10-12cm girth	

A.5 Scrub Planting

Introduction

A.5.1 This chapter sets out the typical mixes and sizes for scrub planting as follows:

- S1 Scrub mix

S1 Scrub Mix

A.5.2 Table A.8 sets out the planting mix for S1 Scrub mix. Scrub would be planted at a density of 0.44/m^2 or 1.5 m centres and should be arranged in naturalistic groups rather than on a grid pattern.

Table A.8 – S1 Scrub mix

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height (cm)	Root	Form and Age/ Method of Growth	% of Mix
Cornus sanguinea	Dogwood	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5
Corylus avellana	Hazel	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	20
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	40
Euonymus europaeus	Spindle	40-60	B	1+1; branched; 3 breaks	10
Ligustrum vulgare	Wild privet	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	5
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn	40-60	B	1+1; branched, 2 breaks	15
Rosa canina	Dog rose	40-60	B	1+0; branched	5

A.6 Grass Seeding

Introduction

A.6.1 This chapter sets out the typical mixes for grass seeding as follows:

- G1 Species rich grass seed mix;
- G2 Low maintenance grass seed mix;
- G3 Grass seed mix for amenity grassland (where grazing is likely);
- G4 Calcareous grassland mix; and
- G5 Grass seed mix for marshy grassland.

A.6.2 There may be requirements for more site specific seed mixes associated with areas such as the chalk escarpment. These mixes would be specified at detailed design stage as will be dependant on location.

G1 Species Rich Grass Seed Mix

A.6.3 Table A.9 sets out the seeding mix for G1 Species rich grass. This would be sown at a density of 4g/m^2 and requires a low nutrient soil.

Table A.9 – G1 Species rich grass seed mix

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Betonica officinalis	Betony	1.0
Centurea nigra	Common Knapweed	3.5
Daucus carota	Wild Carrot	0.1
Filipenula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	1.0
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	0.3

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	0.5
Lotus corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	0.9
Malva moschata	Musk Mallow	1.0
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	2.0
Primula veris	Cowslip	0.1
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	0.1
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	1.0
Vicia cracca	Tufted Vetch	3.5
Agriostis capillaris	Common Bent	8.5
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	34
Festuca rubra	Red Fescue	25.5
Poa pratensis	Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass	17.0

G2 Low Maintenance Grass Seed Mix

A.6.4 Table A.10 sets out the planting mix for G2 Low maintenance grass seed mix suitable for reinstatement of road verges. This would be sown at a density of 40g/m^2 and would work on a variety of soil types.

Table A.10 – G2 Low maintenance grass seed mix

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Lolium perenne	Perennial ryegrass	25
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	20
Poa pratensis	Smooth stalk Meadow-grass	10
Festuca brevipila	Hard fescue	30
Agrostis capillaris	Common bent	10
Trifolium repens	White clover	5

G3 Grass Seed Mix for Amenity Grassland (Where Grazing is Likely)

A.6.5 Table A.11 sets out the planting mix for G3 Grass seed mix for amenity grassland and contains species suitable for grazing livestock.

Table A.11 – G3 Grass seed mix for amenity grassland (where grazing is likely)

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Trifolium repens	White clover	5
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	20
Festuca ovina	Sheep's fescue	45
Agrostis capillaris	Common bent	10
Lolium perenne	Perennial ryegrass	20

G4 Calcareous Grassland Mix

A.6.6 Table A.12 sets out the planting mix for G4 Calcareous Grassland Mix for locations where reinstatement is required within existing calcareous grassland such as near Brantingham. This is an 80% grass and 20% wildflower mix and would be sown at a density of 5g/m^2, requiring a free draining and lime rich soil.

A.6.7 It may be appropriate to consider introducing species of the orchid family (*Orchidaceae*) into areas of calcareous grassland. Due to difficulties in germination, this is not included in the seed mix below, but plug planting could be considered.

A.6.8 It may also be possible to consider use of donor sites in the local area for seed, e.g. green hay from a donor site, but if this is not possible then the following mix should be used as a starting point for detailed design.

Table A.12 – G4 Calcareous Grassland Mix

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	1.0
Centaurea nigra	Common knapweed	1.4
Centaurea scabiosa	Greater knapweed	1.4
Clinopodium vulgare	Wild basil	0.2
Daucus carota	Wild carrot	1.2
Filipendula vulgaris	Dropwort	0.4
Galium verum	Lady's bedstraw	1.6
Knautia arvensis	Field scabious	1.8
Leontodon hispidus	Rough hawkbit	0.4
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye daisy	1.2
Lotus corniculatus	Birdsfoot trefoil	1.2
Origanum vulgare	Wild marjoram	0.2
Plantago media	Hoary plantain	1.2

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Poterium sanguisorba	Salad burnet	1.0
Primula veris	Cowslip	0.2
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	1.6
Ranunculous bulbosus	Bulbous buttercup	1.4
Ranunculous acris	Meadow buttercup	1.2
Reseda lutea	Wild mignonette	0.2
Salvia verbenaca	Wild clary	0.6
Scabiosa columbaria	Small scabious	0.6
Agrostis capillaris	Common bent	3
Cynosaurus cristatus	Crested dogstail	22
Koeleria macrantha	Crested hair-grass	2
Briza maxima	Quaking grass	2
Festuca ovina	Sheep's fescue	24
Festuca rubra	Slender creeping red fescue	16
Phleum pratense	Timothy	3
Bromus erectus	Upright brome	4
Trisetum flavescens	Yellow oat grass	3

G5 Grass Seed Mix for Marshy Grassland

A.6.9 Table A.13 sets out the planting mix for G5 Grass seed mix for marshy grassland where soils are seasonally wet flooding for short times over the winter months. This is an 80% grass and 20% wildflower mix and would be sown at a density of 40g/m^2.

Table A.13 – G5 Grass Seed Mix for Marshy Grassland

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Achillea millefolium	Yarrow	2.4
Betonica officinalis	Betony	1.0
Centurea nigra	Common Knapweed	4
Daucus carota	Wild Carrot	0.1
Filipenula ulmaria	Meadowsweet	0.4
Galium album	Hedge Bedstraw	0.6
Galium verum	Lady's Bedstraw	2

Botanical Name	Common Name	% of Mix
Leucanthemum vulgare	Oxeye Daisy	0.3
Lotus corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	0.2
Lotus pedunculatus	Greater Bird's-foot Trefoil	0.4
Medicago lupulina	Black Medick	0.2
Plantago lanceolata	Ribwort Plantain	4.0
Primula veris	Cowslip	0.1
Ranunculus acris	Meadow Buttercup	1.4
Rhinanthus minor	Yellow Rattle	1.5
Rumex acetosa	Common Sorrel	0.1
Silaum silaus	Pepper Saxifrage	0.1
Silene flos-cuculi	Ragged Robin	1.6
Succisa pratensis	Devil's-bit Scabious	0.1
Agriostis capillaris	Common Bent	2
Anthoxanthum odoratum	Sweet Vernal-grass	2
Briza media	Quaking Grass	4
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested Dog's-tail	48
Deschampsia cespitosa	Tufted Hair-grass	2
Festuca Rubra	Red Fescue	22

National Grid plc
National Grid House,
Warwick Technology Park,
Gallows Hill, Warwick.
CV34 6DA United Kingdom

Registered in England and Wales
No. 4031152
nationalgrid.com