

**Ferrybridge Carbon Capture and Storage -
EN0710002
enfinium Limited**

**Section 51 Advice Log
Version: 02 March 2026**

There is a statutory duty under [section 51 \(s51\) of the Planning Act 2008](#) for the Planning Inspectorate to record the advice that it gives in relation to an application or potential application, and to make this publicly available.

This document comprises a record of the advice that has been provided by the Inspectorate to the applicant (enfinium Limited) and their consultants during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant during which s51 has been provided. The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Inspectorate's draft record of advice before it is published.

The applicant will use this Advice Log as the basis for demonstrating regard to section 51 advice within the application.

Project name -s51 Advice Library

Topic

Meeting date: 4 November 2024

Inspectorate comments on the Programme Document

- The Applicant must ensure that the Programme Document (PD) is hosted and maintained on the Applicant's website.
- It would be helpful for the PD to have a diagram setting out the key milestones during the pre-application stage, to accompany the written information set out in the PD;
- The Applicant anticipates October 2025 for its submission date. It would be helpful if the Applicant could keep the Inspectorate updated on any potential change to the specific date referenced in the appended PDF 'Programme' – currently 30 October 2025.
- It would be helpful if the PD could provide approximate timescales for project update meetings with the Inspectorate. It would also be helpful to list any future meetings with key stakeholders to enable those parties to deploy resources effectively.
- The PD does not provide any timescales for the submission of draft documents for the Inspectorate's review, or confirmation of what documents will be submitted. If applicable, the PD should be updated to provide an accurate date for this submission, allowing a six-week period for the Inspectorate's review, ensuring sufficient time before the application submission date to demonstrate regard to the Inspectorate's comments.
- The PD does not provide any timescales for the Adequacy of Consultation milestone (AoCM). The pre-application guidance sets out that the AoCM should be early enough to enable applicants to consider how to take any additional engagement that may be needed, but sufficiently towards the end of the pre-application stage to assess the adequacy of consultation that has been done, therefore no later than 3 months before the intended date for the submission of the application.

Topic

Meeting date: 19 February 2025

Non-statutory consultation update

Non-statutory consultation took place in October 2024 with several public events both in-person and online. The project was generally well received.

The applicant highlighted an overlap with a neighbouring SSE project and confirmed that it is in communication with

	<p>SSE to ensure they are not competing when it comes to consultation. No action groups have been confirmed and have not historically been involved with previous Ferrybridge projects.</p> <p>The Inspectorate queried if any responses had been received by local authorities – nothing has been received directly but engagement has continued throughout pre-application since the section 35 direction.</p> <p>The Inspectorate queried whether any feedback had been received from Natural England (NE). No feedback has been received yet, but NE has submitted its first set of costs as part of the Scoping Opinion and engaged with the scoping exercise.</p> <p>The Inspectorate queried the Environment Agency (EA). The applicant highlighted that the EA has been proactive but noted time constraints in 2025. The applicant is aware of the permitting queue for the EA and asked to be prioritised, with permitting being ran in parallel with the DCO application.</p>
<p>Programme changes</p>	<p>The applicant is considering possible options to increase the capacity for carbon capture on the site. The Inspectorate advised the applicant to consider whether this would require a new Scoping Opinion to be issued for the proposed development, to ensure this does not become an issue at the Acceptance or Examination stages.</p>
<p>Timeline update</p>	<p>Statutory consultation is now planned for Q3 2025. Environmental surveys will be completed this year, allowing sufficient time for the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM) following advice from the Inspectorate. The surveys are ongoing, including consultation with the Coal Authority due to an existing coal mine within the Order Limits.</p> <p>A two-month period has been allocated to the AoCM, with the Inspectorate advising that this should be done at least four months before submission to ensure engagement activities can be completed in time.</p> <p>The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) is expected to be complete by Q3 2025.</p>
<p>Draft document review</p>	<p>The Inspectorate asked when draft documents would be submitted for review and advised the applicant to provide more specific timescales than those currently provided. The Inspectorate further advised for the draft document review to be included in the programme document and timeline.</p> <p>The applicant highlighted that the Planning and Infrastructure Bill may be enacted by the draft document review, so it may not require this service.</p>

	The Inspectorate also advised that it would be helpful to have well advanced versions of draft documents to ensure that adequate feedback can be provided.
Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM)	<p>The Inspectorate advised that with the AoCM planned after statutory consultation, there should be leeway to push the AoCM back if further engagement is required after the consultation period ends – as it will limit the level of advice that the Inspectorate can provide. If the applicant is committed to an AoCM date, then the applicant should be aware that the Inspectorate cannot review a second iteration.</p> <p>The Inspectorate advised the applicant to look at the pre-application guidance if there is a fundamental issue with the consultation.</p>
Submission date	The applicant highlighted a delay of around six months to the submission date, with submission now expected in Q2 2026, not Q2 2025.
Good design advice page	<p>The Inspectorate referred the applicant to the good design advice page, published at the end of 2024. It also suggested the applicant view the good design webinar.</p> <p>The applicant noted that the number of technical requirements, resulting from the industrial nature of the project, means it might be more limited in following the good design advice provided.</p>
Topic	Meeting date: 5 February 2026
Design changes	The Inspectorate advised that one of the acceptance checks is how the application and environmental impact assessment reflect the advice given in its Scoping Opinion. The Inspectorate noted the applicant's view that the recent and ongoing design changes would not impact the Scoping Opinion. It advised the applicant to document and explain the changes and make them clear in their application.
Draft documents timing	The Inspectorate advised the applicant to program 6 to 8 weeks for the draft document review, after which they will receive written feedback. The applicant may consider using one of its update meetings to discuss that feedback in more detail. However, the Inspectorate raised concerns that the current timetable of draft document review in June/July 2027 did not allow significant time for any necessary changes resulting from the feedback to be incorporated into the application for the projected submission of August 2027, and advised that the applicant be aware of this potential issue.

<p>Consultation process</p>	<p>The Inspectorate anticipated that central government would be releasing a ‘roadmap’ to the changes resulting from the Planning and Infrastructure Act, to provide more detail as to the timing of these changes, and advised that late Spring remained the current expectation for the removal of duties under sections 42 and 47. It agreed with the applicant’s approach of proceeding on the basis of the extant legislation until such time as other arrangements are confirmed, and also advised that their current programme, with consultation in September 2026, appeared able to accommodate forthcoming changes.</p> <p>The Inspectorate also reminded the applicant to ensure that its section 46 notice was submitted prior to the start of consultation (assuming that remains the legislative requirement at the relevant time). It advised that best practice is to submit this in advance to ensure that, in the event of corrections being required, they can be resolved without impacts on the consultation process itself. It also noted that transitional arrangements are often tied to key milestones such as the submission of this notice.</p>
<p>Pre-application service levels</p>	<p>The Inspectorate noted that the applicant was keeping its service tier under review with the possibility of dropping to a basic level of service, and reminded the applicant that this would require three months’ notice in writing. The Inspectorate confirmed that there was no set time of the year that this had to take place, and that ongoing fees would be pro-rated from the change of tier level. However, it reminded the applicant that a draft document review was not available at basic tier level, and that a further three months’ notice would be required if the applicant wished to upgrade its service level again to use that facility.</p>
<p>Ferrybridge Next Generation project (Ferrybridge NGP)</p>	<p>The Inspectorate advised that it was not aware of any particular environmental issues from Ferrybridge NGP that the applicant needed to consider in relation to its own scheme. It welcomed the applicant’s confirmation that it was in regular communication with the Ferrybridge NGP team and had built in timescales to enable it to review up to date documents before its own application submission. The applicant should also consider monitoring the section 51 advice log for the Ferrybridge NGP project for any updates as that scheme progresses.</p> <p>Due to the potential overlap in consultation periods between the projects, the Inspectorate advised the applicant to include clear explanations of the difference and separation between the two schemes, including their timescales, within its consultation material.</p>

Other nearby schemes

The Inspectorate noted that a data centre project is being promoted near to the site on former Scottish and Southern Energy land and advised the applicant to consider the water usage and availability implications of that development while undertaking its cumulative impact assessments.