

# Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project Statement of Engagement

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The Southern Water logo consists of three stylized, wavy blue lines of varying lengths, positioned to the right of the text 'Southern Water'.



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## Executive Summary

### Purpose of the Statement of Engagement

1. Southern Water Services Limited (the 'Applicant') has submitted an application under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) for development consent for the Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project (hereafter referred to as 'the Project').
2. The Applicant has undertaken extensive engagement with stakeholders throughout the pre-application stage. Engagement has been continuous, structured, and iterative, enabling stakeholders to shape the Project and influence key design decisions. This engagement has also been of significant benefit to the Applicant, providing a deeper understanding of local issues, informing decisions, and strengthening the evidence base for the application.
3. The Applicant's programme of engagement has run in parallel with, and has been complementary to, statutory and non-statutory consultation. A clear distinction is drawn between engagement and consultation, namely:
  - Engagement encompasses ongoing two-way dialogue between the Applicant and stakeholders outside of non-statutory and statutory consultation periods. This includes technical discussions, working groups, bilateral meetings, and targeted outreach. The outcome is a Project that has evolved iteratively and reflects a balance among project needs, regulatory requirements, and stakeholder feedback, as documented in the Draft Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) and Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5).
  - Consultation refers to processes required under the PA 2008, during which stakeholders and the public are invited to comment on developed proposals. These have occurred at multiple stages and are reported in the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5).
4. This Statement of Engagement sets out how the Applicant has structured and delivered its programme of engagement during the pre-application period. It explains the processes put in place to ensure engagement is transparent, inclusive, and informed by best practice. These processes have established a strong foundation for continued engagement throughout pre-Examination, Examination and the delivery phases of the Project.
5. In line with the principles of the PA 2008, the Applicant has shared emerging information with stakeholders ahead of submission to support issue resolution. While a substantial number of matters have progressed towards agreement, others remain under discussion and are documented within the relevant SoCG and, where applicable, in the Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5) submitted by stakeholders. The DCO Examination will provide the structured forum through which these matters can be explored, tested and, where possible, resolved.

6. As explained throughout this document, pre-application engagement is not the only opportunity for stakeholders to influence the Project. The DCO framework requires ongoing consultation and engagement on key control documents, design details, environmental management plans, and approvals under Schedule 2 requirements. Future engagement is also facilitated through the Applicant's commitment to maintain open channels of communication during Examination, construction, and operation (including communications plans secured via the Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (Outline CEMP) (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7).

### **Identification of stakeholders**

7. The Applicant has undertaken a comprehensive stakeholder mapping process to ensure all relevant individuals, groups, and organisations were identified and engaged proportionately to their statutory roles, interests, and potential to be affected. Engagement has focused on:
- Statutory consultees under section 42 of the PA 2008, including local authorities, statutory environmental bodies, and statutory undertakers;
  - Persons with an Interest in Land (PILs), businesses, parish councils, community groups, and others likely to be most directly impacted by the Project;
  - Promoters of neighbouring projects where interactions, cumulative effects or interface risks have been identified.
8. Full lists of statutory consultees, Parish Councils, and land interests are set out within Appendix F.17 (Lists of consultees) of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) and Book of Reference (Document reference 4.3, DCO Volume 4) and have been kept up to date throughout pre-application engagement.
9. This document has been divided into stakeholder cohorts to outline how engagement approaches have been tailored to reflect different stakeholder functions, statutory status, and spatial or environmental responsibilities. These cohorts include:
- Local authorities
  - Statutory environmental bodies
  - Community groups, parish councils, businesses and customers
  - Statutory undertakers
  - Land and property interests
  - Neighbouring project promoters

### **Local authorities**

10. Engagement with those local authorities directly affected by the Project's location and associated infrastructure has been extensive and structured, supported by Planning Performance Agreements and delivered through Joint

Officer Groups (JOGs), EIA Working Groups, bilateral meetings, and targeted workshops. Engagement has focused on design evolution, environmental assessment, transport and access, rights of way, flood risk, archaeology, and landscape matters.

11. Local authority feedback at all stages has shaped the development of the Project, including corridor selection, above-ground plant siting, tunnelling strategies, mitigation approaches, and design refinements. Issues logs and SoCGs have been used to track and resolve matters and to ensure transparency regarding outstanding issues.
12. Draft SoCGs and issues logs have been shared iteratively with local authorities ahead of submission to capture their positions accurately. Engagement will continue post-submission to progress matters categorised as “under discussion” or “Provisional Agreement Pending Evidence”.

### **Statutory environmental bodies**

13. The Environment Agency, Natural England, Marine Management Organisation, Forestry Commission and Historic England have played a central role in shaping the Project’s environmental assessments, mitigation strategies, and technical design. Engagement has occurred through monthly Technical Working Groups, topic-specific EIA Working Groups, and focused bilateral discussions.
14. This engagement has ensured agreement on methodologies, baseline data, construction techniques, licensing strategies, and mitigation/compensation requirements, supporting a consentable design and efficient progression through secondary consents.
15. Where appropriate, the Applicant has progressed Letters of No Impediment for protected species licencing and has aligned DCO design with permitting requirements to reduce risk during post-consent delivery.
16. SoCGs document the substantial areas of agreement reached with statutory environmental bodies and clearly set out unresolved issues and associated Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5) where relevant.

### **Community groups, parish councils, businesses and customers**

17. Engagement with Community groups, parish councils, businesses and customers has focused on localised impacts, water recycling technology, environmental concerns, and construction impacts. Activities include pilot plant tours, briefings, bilateral meetings, targeted outreach, and participation in local forums, including those linked to the Havant Thicket Reservoir.
18. Feedback from this cohort has shaped the design principles, mitigation commitments, and communication materials and has provided valuable local insight into community priorities and information needs. As part of the ongoing pre-submission engagement, several Parish Councils attended dedicated briefings sessions in February 2026, which provided an update on the Project’s development and outlined the anticipated next steps in the DCO process. These sessions were designed to support Parish Councils’

understanding of how they may be involved once the application is submitted and subsequently enters Examination.

19. Future engagement will be maintained through Engagement and Communications Plans, secured under the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7), ensuring communities remain informed throughout construction and operation.

### **Statutory undertakers and asset owners**

20. Engagement with statutory undertakers has focused on understanding asset interfaces, diversions, protections, and required easements. Preliminary design information has been shared to identify risks early and begin drafting protective provisions.
21. A SoCG has been jointly prepared with Portsmouth Water. For other statutory undertakers, whose assets are directly impacted matters are addressed through alternative mechanisms. Engagement with statutory undertakers will continue post-submission, intensifying as detailed design progresses.

### **Land and property**

22. The Applicant has undertaken extensive engagement with landowners, supported by a detailed land referencing process and structured correspondence regarding surveys, rights, compensation, and reinstatement.
23. While voluntary agreements have been sought, it has not been possible to secure all required rights by agreement, and compulsory acquisition powers are sought in line with Government guidance for linear schemes. Engagement will continue through Examination and into detailed design.

### **Neighbouring projects**

24. The Applicant has sought to avoid interactions or conflicts with other proposed development through the site and route selection process.
25. Where the Project is in close proximity to other proposed development (for example Welborne Garden Village) the Applicant has undertaken engagement to reduce any potential negative impacts either through physical location, design or construction activity.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of the Statement of Engagement

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Engagement has been prepared by the Applicant to support the Project's application made under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) for an order to grant development consent for the Project.
- 1.1.2 While not a statutory requirement under the PA 2008, the Statement of Engagement provides a transparent account of the engagement activities undertaken to date and outlines the approach to ongoing engagement throughout the DCO process. The document demonstrates how the Applicant has proactively engaged with stakeholders and impacted communities during the pre-application phase of the Project. It sets out the principles, methods, and outcomes of engagement and how this has informed the Project's development and been instrumental in building relationships with key stakeholders.
- 1.1.3 Engagement has significantly benefited the Applicant, as it has provided a deeper understanding of local issues and enabled information to be gathered to improve the project and support decision-making. Furthermore, international experience on water recycling projects has demonstrated that early and sustained engagement is critical to build public trust, address concerns around safety and wholesomeness, and demonstrate the environmental and operational need for the proposed solution. As such, the Applicant has explained the rationale for water recycling, showcased its proven effectiveness, and reassured stakeholders about its role in securing a resilient water future for the region.
- 1.1.4 The PA 2008 and associated regulations do not define consultation and engagement as separate concepts. As such, for the purposes of this Statement of Engagement, the Applicant uses the below distinguishment between consultation and engagement, reflecting established practice within the National Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) regime and for clarity of reporting:
- Consultation refers to the statutory pre-application process required by the PA 2008. This includes consultation under sections 42, 47 and 48, carried out within defined timeframes and supported by information that enables consultees to understand the proposals and provide meaningful feedback. These activities have been undertaken in accordance with relevant legislation and guidance.
  - Engagement refers to the wider programme of ongoing, two-way dialogue between the Applicant and stakeholders that takes place outside non-statutory and statutory consultation. This includes technical discussions, working groups, community outreach, and targeted communications. Engagement activities help to identify issues, support iterative design development and promote transparency, consistent with the approach encouraged in the Planning Inspectorate (2024) Nationally Significant

Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus ('Pre-application Prospectus 2024').

- 1.1.5 This Statement of Engagement complements the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) and other application documents by providing a narrative of how engagement has been undertaken, who has been involved, and how feedback has been integrated into the Project.
- 1.1.6 It also sets a foundation for continued engagement throughout the Pre-examination, Examination and delivery phases, ensuring stakeholders remain informed and involved as the Project progresses. To support this engagement during Examination, the Applicant will continue using mechanisms for structured engagement, including maintaining Draft Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) and Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5) and where required, the continuation of topic specific bilateral meetings.
- 1.1.7 Early engagement has provided a foundation for collaboration in future phases, including detailed design and construction. For the latter, a contractor (Contractor) will be appointed and should be read as referring to the Applicant or a person appointed by the Applicant or by anyone else having the benefit of part or all of the DCO to carry out any construction or operation of the Project.
- 1.1.8 As set out in the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7), the Applicant will develop and implement a stakeholder communications plan. This will include arranging meetings with relevant statutory bodies as necessary, maintaining site environmental notice boards with key contact information and guidance, publicising site office contact details in advance of works, and establishing clear procedures for reporting and responding to issues. The Applicant will also monitor and record complaints to help manage and minimise disturbance and will adhere to the Considerate Constructors Scheme. These measures are designed to ensure transparency, responsiveness, and continuity of dialogue, helping to maintain trust and address emerging concerns throughout the construction phase.

## 1.2 Legislation and Guidance

- 1.2.1 The Applicant has undertaken engagement with regard to guidance issued under Section 50 of the PA 2008 concerning pre-application processes, including the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (2024) Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects ('Pre-application Guidance 2024'). The Applicant has undertaken engagement in a manner consistent with principles set out in statutory guidance under Section 50 of the Planning Act 2008 and best practice advice for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). While engagement is not a statutory requirement, the Applicant's approach has been informed by guidance that governs consultation, ensuring it is transparent, inclusive, and proportionate to the scale and complexity of the Project. This approach has ensured that stakeholders were able to engage meaningfully throughout the development of the proposals.

- 1.2.2 The PA 2008 and associated guidance emphasise the importance of early, continuous and meaningful interaction with stakeholders to identify and address issues before submission. While statutory consultation forms a defined part of the pre-application process, the Applicant has applied the same principles of openness, accessibility and iterative information-sharing to its wider programme of engagement. Engagement has been supported through technical working groups, Joint Officer Groups, SoCG, issue-specific sessions, landowner engagement and parish-level briefings, allowing detailed discussion of emerging matters throughout the pre-application period.
- 1.2.3 In preparing this Statement of Engagement, the Applicant has had regard to:
- Pre-application Guidance 2024, which sets expectations for early engagement, proportionality, and a clear demonstration of regard for consultation responses.
  - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus which outlines how applicants, local authorities and statutory bodies should work collaboratively during pre-application.
- 1.2.4 The Applicant's approach to engagement has also reflected the principles set out in the relevant Planning Inspectorate Advice Notes listed below.
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice for Local Authorities (2024), which sets out the role of local authorities in the Development Consent Order process and supports constructive, proportionate and ongoing engagement to enable local authorities to participate effectively throughout pre-application and Examination, including the preparation of informed Local Impact Reports drawing on local policy, evidence and local knowledge and the early and continued preparation and progression of SoCG to identify matters agreed, not agreed, or under discussion.
  - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on working with public bodies in the infrastructure planning process (2025), which sets out good practice for early, proportionate and ongoing engagement with statutory consultees and other public bodies, including maintaining transparent and timely communication, coordinating engagement across organisations, sharing information at appropriate stages, and working collaboratively to prepare and progress SoCG, and to support effective participation throughout pre-application, pre-examination and Examination.
  - Planning Inspectorate (2020) Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment: Process, Preliminary Environmental Information and Environmental Statements, (Version 7), which sets out the importance of iterative engagement with statutory environmental bodies and local authorities on baseline data, assessment methodologies, and mitigation measures.
  - Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the process for obtaining information about interests in land (section 52) and Advice on the process for rights of entry to land (section 53), which set out the framework for fair, clear and proportionate engagement with persons with

an interest in land, including landowners and affected occupiers, emphasising early identification of land interests, transparency about the use of statutory powers, appropriate notice and information sharing, and ongoing dialogue to support informed participation throughout pre-application and Examination.

- 1.2.5 These Notes emphasise constructive relationships with local authorities, iterative engagement on environmental assessment, coordinated working with statutory bodies, fair and transparent engagement with landowners and clear documentation of issues through SoCG. The Applicant has acted in accordance with these principles through its programme of structured technical engagement, collaborative development of assessment methodologies, regular liaison with statutory consultees, and systematic recording of issues and responses across the pre-application period.
- 1.2.6 Engagement activities have been developed to reflect best practice in NSIP pre-application engagement and to support effective, constructive working relationships with stakeholders. This has included sustained two-way dialogue through technical meetings, targeted outreach, and a structured process for receiving and responding to feedback. As a result, engagement has supported the refinement of the Project and has ensured that local knowledge, expert input and stakeholder concerns have informed the evolution of the Project. This approach is fully consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under the PA 2008, as well as the expectations set out in the 2024 pre-application guidance framework.

### **1.3 Project definition and scope of engagement**

- 1.3.1 The development of this Project is rooted in the Applicant's long-term planning to address future water resource challenges in Hampshire. The process has been shaped by statutory requirements under the Water Industry Act 1991, the Water Resources Management Plan 2019 (WRMP19), the emerging Water Resources Management Plan 2024 (WRMP24), submitted to the Secretary of State and awaiting approval to publish, and the Regulators Alliance for Progressing Infrastructure Development (RAPID) gated process overseen by regulators.
- 1.3.2 These frameworks require water companies to identify and progress strategic solutions that deliver resilience, environmental sustainability, and best value for customers. The need for new strategic water resources infrastructure is set out in detail in the Case for the Project (Document reference 5.6, DCO Volume 5) and the identification of the Project and its development to DCO submission is set out in the Scheme Development Report (Document reference 5.10, DCO Volume 5). The following subsections does not seek to repeat the detail in those documents but outlines the role of public consultation and stakeholder engagement in informing the evolution of the Project.
- 1.3.3 The solution initially identified in the Applicant's WRMP19 was a large-scale desalination plant at Fawley (the 'base case'). In line with WRMP19 and the RAPID gated process, the Applicant was required to use all best endeavours to deliver the base case while also investigating alternative options should

desalination prove undeliverable. Accordingly, a public consultation was held in 2021 and sought views on the base case and, in parallel, on alternative solutions, namely water transfer and water recycling schemes, including an early iteration of this Project.

- 1.3.4 The 2021 public consultation gathered feedback from residents and businesses in the Fawley area and from potentially affected landowners in relation to a desalination plant at Fawley and associated pipeline infrastructure. A majority of respondents (51%) strongly disagreed that the base case would be an acceptable solution to the potential future resource challenges in Hampshire. In addition to the feedback from the 2021 consultation, an extensive options appraisal was undertaken later in 2021, which identified desalination as the least preferred option owing to its potential impacts on the marine environment and the New Forest National Park. A combined water recycling and water transfer solution was confirmed as the preferred strategic option to address the supply deficit in Hampshire, supported by regulators through the RAPID Gate 2 assessment, with funding confirmed to progress the Project.
- 1.3.5 The Project was defined at that point (and identified in the Applicants WRMP19 Annual Review process) and has since been developed as the only available strategic scheme capable of delivering the required scale of new water resources within the necessary timeframe. Engagement and consultation before this date related to broader strategic resource planning and alternative options (a summary of which is included in the Chapter 5 of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5)). Accordingly, this Statement of Engagement focuses on engagement activities undertaken in relation to the Project from January 2022 onwards.
- 1.3.6 To provide context on the evolution of engagement and demonstrate continuity from earlier stages, a summary of key activities prior to January 2022 is set out. These examples illustrate how early engagement informed strategic planning and laid the foundation for the current approach, particularly in relation to regulatory engagement under the RAPID gated process and importance of local stakeholder involvement:
- Initial engagement with New Forest District Council (NFDC), New Forest National Park Authority (NFNPA) and Hampshire County Council (HCC): Early discussions focused on the development and consenting implications for a desalination plant at Fawley, including potential impacts on the New Forest National Park and local planning considerations. These authorities provided input on environmental sensitivities and planning risks, which informed the options appraisal process undertaken in 2021 and was a key determining factor in changing from the base case to the Project.
  - Ongoing engagement with RAPID regulators: From Gate 1 through Gate 2, the Applicant engaged extensively with public bodies, including Ofwat, Defra, the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE), the Drinking Water Inspectorate, and the Consumer Council for Water. This included 1-1 briefings and discussions covering methodology for site and route selection, and the evaluation of consenting matters, with the outputs incorporated into a Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) as part of the

options appraisal. Inputs from regulators, including feedback on water quality compliance, environmental assessment requirements, and strategic resilience, shaped the selection of the Project as the preferred solution.

- Engagement with local authorities: To support the development of the options appraisal process, the Applicant briefed all local authorities likely to be affected by the options. Local authorities were also actively engaged as part of the Public Consultation in 2021.
- Engagement with parish councils in Fawley during the Public Consultation 2021: Parish councils in communities likely to be affected by the desalination base case were briefed on the proposals and invited to provide feedback on potential impacts. This engagement complemented the wider consultation exercise and ensured local concerns, such as traffic, construction impacts, and marine environment risks, were captured and considered in the options appraisal process.

## 1.4 Statements of Common Ground

1.4.1 SoCGs are living documents produced to confirm to the Examining Authority matters that are either agreed or not agreed between the Applicant and different stakeholders (and also where matters are still subject to ongoing consideration). They are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific matters that may need to be addressed during the Examination.

1.4.2 The Applicant has sought to jointly prepare SoCGs with stakeholders, who have indicated they would like to enter into a SoCG. The tables within each cohort section of this document provide the status of each of the SoCGs which is summarised using the following categories:

- Final – a SoCG which represents the agreed and final position on the matters it addresses. Final SoCGs have been signed by the parties following completion of the relevant stakeholder governance process, confirming that the document accurately reflects the position reached, including where all matters are resolved or where matters cannot be progressed any further through engagement.
- Draft – a SoCG which accurately describes the matters discussed and the current position in relation to areas of agreement and disagreement between the parties and has been reviewed and signed by the relevant stakeholder officers to confirm that it is representative of the position at an agreed reporting cut-off date prior to submission. Draft SoCGs remain subject to ongoing discussion to resolve outstanding matters and have not yet completed the stakeholder’s formal governance and signing process.

1.4.3 This Statement of Engagement does not replicate the detail of discussions among the various parties; the SoCGs are the primary sources for understanding the issues and how the Applicant has responded to concerns. Instead, the Statement of Engagement describes the engagement approach

undertaken to inform the Project and its iteration and reach common ground with parties.

- 1.4.4 SoCGs are collated in Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5). At the time of submission of the application, approximately 71% of the issues recorded within the Draft Statements of Common Ground are categorised as “matter agreed with other party”. Where labelled as draft, SoCGs may be updated as discussions continue throughout the pre-Examination and Examination phases.

## 1.5 Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements

- 1.5.1 Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (PADSS) can be prepared by stakeholders to sit alongside SoCGs by identifying or highlighting specific areas of disagreement at the point of submission.
- 1.5.2 The Applicant recognises the use of PADSS as a transparent and structured means of identifying and addressing areas of disagreement and has discussed with all parties with whom the Applicant is entering into a SoCG.
- 1.5.3 For this Project, no stakeholders have requested the preparation of PADSS, and as such, no PADSS have been submitted alongside the Application. Accordingly, all matters of agreement and disagreement between the Applicant and stakeholders are set out within the Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5). The Applicant will continue to engage constructively with stakeholders during the pre-Examination and Examination phases, with any outstanding matters addressed through ongoing engagement and, where appropriate, updates to the Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).

## 1.6 Potential Main Issues for Examination

- 1.6.1 The Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) has been prepared by the Applicant in accordance with the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus and Regulation 5(2)(q) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (the ‘APFP Regulations 2009’).
- 1.6.2 The Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) outlines, from the Applicant’s perspective, the matters that are likely to require detailed consideration during the Examination, informed by engagement with stakeholders throughout the pre-application period. It does not represent an exhaustive list and does not preclude stakeholders from raising additional concerns during the Examination.
- 1.6.3 The Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) complements the Draft Statement of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) by collating matters identified through the SoCGs and providing a structured overview of anticipated

Examination topics. It supports early identification of key matters and assists the Examining Authority in preparing the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (IAPI). In line with the Prospectus, the Applicant has sought to agree the Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) with relevant statutory bodies and local authorities, sharing draft content and inviting feedback through working groups, bilateral meetings, and document reviews. Where agreements have been entered in to, this is outlined in the Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5). The Applicant will continue to engage with stakeholders on the matters identified in the Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5), recognising that these issues may evolve as information becomes available and discussions progress during the pre-Examination and Examination phases.

## 1.7 Structure of this document

1.7.1 This document comprises 10 further sections:

- Section 3 describes the objectives of stakeholder engagement, the overall approach to delivering engagement and how this was shaped by the PA 2008 and relevant guidance.
- Section 4 sets out how the Applicant has identified the stakeholders which it has subsequently engaged with.
- Sections 5 to 10 explain the general methodology and approach to stakeholder engagement for each cohort, including:
  - Pre-application engagement undertaken, such as the process for sharing information and how stakeholders have influenced the development of the Project.
  - Development of the SoCGs (where applicable).
  - The proposed approach to stakeholder engagement after the submission of the DCO application and how stakeholders can continue to be involved in shaping the Project.
- Section 11 provides a summary of pre-application engagement and the Applicant's intentions for stakeholder engagement as the Project progresses.

1.7.2 Three appendices form part of this document:

- **Appendix A – Working Groups**, which set out the working groups that have been established to seek stakeholder feedback on proposals during the pre-application period.
- **Appendix B – Engagement Records**, which provide a summary of engagement undertaken prior to submission, focussing on interactions with those local authorities directly affected by the Project's location and associated infrastructure and statutory environmental bodies. Engagement that takes place after submission will be recorded and updated through the live SoCG.

- **Appendix C – Statement of Commonality**, the visual representation of the extent of issues within the SoCG and the overlap and consistency between the stakeholders.

## 1.8 Other relevant documents

1.8.1 This Statement of Engagement does not set out to repeat information that can be found elsewhere in the application though there is an element of crossover with other documents albeit with a different purpose and emphasis. Information on related topics can be found in the following documents including those already referred to in the preceding sections for ease of reference:

- The Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) which sets out the feedback received from pre-application consultations and how the Applicant has had regard to matters raised in response. It also sets out the focus and purpose of each phase of pre-application consultation and summarises the methods that were used to undertake them.
- The Statement of Community Consultation ‘the 2024 SoCC’ which can be found in Appendix E.9 (2024 SoCC of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5)), which sets out how the Applicant consulted with people living in the vicinity of the Project, in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008. The SoCC was prepared in consultation with local authorities within whose administrative areas the Project is located, as well as neighbouring local authorities and aimed to ensure that the statutory consultation was proportionate, accessible, and appropriate to the local context, reflecting the scale and nature of the Project.
- Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) which provide a record of matters that are agreed, not agreed, or subject to ongoing discussion between the Applicant and stakeholders, reflecting the position at the relevant reporting cut-off and recognising that the SoCG is a live document that will continue to evolve.
- Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Documents reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5) which reflect those matters in the SoCGs that are ‘agreed’ matters of disagreement (where no further dialogue would be likely to change the position of the parties). The point of difference with the SoCGs is that the Potential Main Issues for Examination documents (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) have been prepared by the relevant stakeholders and importantly add further commentary on what those stakeholder consider to be the key issues.
- Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) which sets out, in the Applicant’s view, the matters which are likely to require examination having regard to the matters discussed with stakeholders during the pre-application process.
- The Case for the Project (Document reference 5.6, DCO Volume 5) which sets out the need for the Project. It explains the clear and longstanding

need to address a forecast water supply deficit in the Applicant's Western Area, having regard to environmental protection requirements, climate change and population growth. The document describes how the Project would reduce reliance on environmentally sensitive abstractions, support planned housing and economic growth, and enhance the resilience of water supplies. It confirms that the Project is a Strategic Resource Option (SRO) included in the WRSE Regional Plan and Southern Water's emerging WRMP24, and that it is progressing through the RAPID gated process.

## 2 Overview of stakeholder engagement

### 2.1 Objectives of stakeholder engagement

- 2.1.1 Meaningful engagement has been a critical part of the development of the Project. The Applicant recognises that a wide range of stakeholders are interested in the Project, including statutory bodies, local authorities, environmental organisations, community groups, customers, and landowners. The Applicant has sought to communicate openly and build relationships with all stakeholders, whether they support the Project or not.
- 2.1.2 The Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects highlights that early engagement outside consultation enables stakeholders and the public to provide input and helps avoid unnecessary delays and costs later in the process. This principle has underpinned the Applicant's approach to engagement, ensuring that stakeholders have had opportunities to influence the development of the Project from its earliest stages.
- 2.1.3 The Applicant's engagement strategy has also been shaped by guidance issued by RAPID [1], which emphasises the importance of inclusive, proportionate and transparent engagement with statutory bodies, customers, and those directly impacted by the development of Strategic Resource Options. In line with this guidance, the Applicant has undertaken early and sustained engagement with:
- Statutory bodies, as identified in the Planning Inspectorate, Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on the Consultation Report (2024, updated 2025). This has included structured engagement with prescribed consultees and via topic specific and technical working groups to support the development of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and other supporting assessments.
  - Persons with an Interest in Land (PILs) include landowners, tenants, and occupiers, as well as residents near the Project who may be directly affected by its development. This engagement has focused on early awareness, access for surveys, and understanding localised concerns (and where practicable mitigating or explaining where this is not relevant, appropriate or practicable).
  - Customers, with engagement focussed towards communicating the need for the Project and the broader challenge of water scarcity. This approach reflects the findings of the BritainThinks research commissioned by Anglian, Affinity, Cambridge, Southern, Thames and Severn Trent Water in 2022 [2], which found that most household customers prefer to be notified of a change in water source three to six months in advance, with a single reminder closer to the time. Reflecting these findings, the Applicant has focused on building a broader narrative around the reality and urgency of water scarcity, rather than initiating direct contact with customers who will receive water from the Project in the future.

- 2.1.4 For water recycling projects, experience from international projects has demonstrated the importance of building public trust in the water recycling technology being employed. The Applicant has drawn on the findings of the Drinking Water Inspectorate's commissioned research, Public Perception of Water Recycling for Drinking Water Use (Drinking Water Inspectorate (DWI) 70/2/348, Cranfield University, December 2022) [3], which recommends the following when communicating with non-technical stakeholders:
- Using accurate and neutral terminology to talk about water recycling, while avoiding technical language and jargon.
  - Presenting water recycling as part of a broader set of solutions to secure future water supplies, rather than something unusual or risky on its own.
  - Providing reassurance by explaining the strict quality and safety standards in place throughout the treatment process.
  - Using simple diagrams and short animated videos with clear explanations to help communicate the concept of water recycling for drinking water production.
- 2.1.5 These recommendations have informed the Applicant's engagement materials and approach, including developing explanatory content, visual aids, and targeted communications to build understanding and confidence in the proposed water recycling process.
- 2.1.6 The Applicant recognises stakeholder engagement as an ongoing and iterative process that does not end with submitting the DCO application. There will be further opportunities for stakeholders to engage with the Project as it progresses through Examination and detailed design.

## 2.2 Approach to pre-application engagement

- 2.2.1 The Applicant has prioritised early and transparent engagement throughout the Project's development, aiming to identify and resolve issues before submitting the DCO application. While many matters have progressed towards agreement, some remain under discussion and are documented within the relevant Draft Statement of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5). These documents are live records that will continue to be updated post-submission, capturing ongoing engagement and reflecting the Applicant's commitment to collaboration and resolution.
- 2.2.2 In several cases, stakeholders have indicated that their agreement is subject to review of the final Application Documents. As such, some issues are expected to be resolved following submission, once stakeholders have had the opportunity to consider the full detail of the Project in the application.
- 2.2.3 The Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects highlights the importance of early engagement in shaping proposals and identifying appropriate mitigation measures before an application is submitted. The Applicant has followed this principle throughout the pre-application phase, seeking to provide clarity, respond to feedback, and embed changes where appropriate. While it is recognised that agreement may not always be reached on every issue, the Applicant has

focused on constructive dialogue and has sought to find common ground wherever possible. Discussions during pre-application engagement have typically covered:

- Clarification of technical details
- Requests for changes to assessments or mitigation proposals
- Sharing of data and local knowledge
- Proposals for additional mitigation, compensation or community benefits

2.2.4 The Applicant recognises that engagement is not only about consultation; it also involves negotiation and collaboration. Stakeholders have identified opportunities for the Project to address local challenges and deliver wider benefits. However, as a regulated water company, the Applicant must balance these requests against its statutory duties, regulatory obligations, and the need to ensure value for customers. The Project is funded through customer bills and subject to oversight by Ofwat, so decisions must be proportionate, justified, and aligned with regulatory expectations.

2.2.5 In considering stakeholder requests, the Applicant has considered:

- Whether the proposal addresses a specific impact identified in the Environmental Statement and is proportionate to that impact.
- Whether the request is consistent with relevant national policy, including the National Policy Statement for Water Infrastructure (2025)
- Whether the request is consistent with marine policy and other applicable legislative and regulatory frameworks governing the Project.
- Whether the request aligns with planning policy or constitutes a material planning consideration.
- The potential implications for other stakeholders, particularly those with statutory responsibilities.
- Whether the Applicant has the authority and means to implement the proposal, or whether it falls within the remit of another organisation.
- Whether the cost of the proposal is reasonable and justified in the context of customer affordability and regulatory scrutiny.
- Whether alternative mechanisms exist to support local benefits, such as the Applicant's community engagement and education programmes, which promote environmental awareness and water efficiency in partnership with stakeholders.

2.2.6 Where the Applicant has concluded that a request is not to be taken forward, a clear rationale has been provided in the relevant Draft Statement of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) and, where appropriate, within the Application Documents. Stakeholder engagement will continue beyond the pre-application phase. The DCO process provides further opportunities for engagement, and the Applicant is committed to maintaining open dialogue throughout Examination.

## 3 Identification of stakeholders

- 3.1.1 This section outlines how stakeholders relevant to the Project were identified for engagement. The Applicant undertook a stakeholder mapping exercise during the development of its WRMP19, which initially identified a large-scale desalination plant as the preferred solution, alongside consideration of alternative strategic water resource options, including water recycling. This exercise was refined and expanded following the point at which the Project was defined as the preferred strategic solution in late 2021 and has since been reviewed and updated, where required, to reflect subsequent design refinements. This comprehensive stakeholder mapping exercise has ensured that all relevant individuals, organisations and groups were identified and engaged in a manner proportionate to their interests, statutory roles, and potential to be impacted by the Project.
- 3.1.2 Stakeholders were categorised into cohorts to support tailored engagement approaches. These cohorts reflect statutory requirements under the PA 2008 (Sections 42–47), the APFP Regulations 2009, the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the ‘EIA Regulations’), and guidance published under Section 50 of the PA 2008, as well as advice from the Planning Inspectorate and RAPID. The following subsections outline the stakeholder cohorts and how stakeholders within each group were identified and engaged.

### 3.2 Local authorities

- 3.2.1 In accordance with Sections 42 and 43 of the PA 2008, the Applicant undertook consultation with all local authorities within whose administrative areas the Project is located, as well as neighbouring local authorities. In addition, engagement beyond this statutory process was more targeted, focusing primarily on those local authorities directly affected by the Project’s location and associated infrastructure. This includes:
- East Hampshire District Council
  - Eastleigh Borough Council
  - Fareham Borough Council
  - Hampshire County Council
  - Havant Borough Council
  - Portsmouth City Council
  - Winchester City Council
- 3.2.2 During earlier stages of project development, the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) was engaged as a local authority consultee, including during the Summer 2022 Consultation. As the Project evolved, it was confirmed that none of the Project lay within the designated or administrative boundaries of the National Park. Notwithstanding this change and recognising that elements of the Project are in close proximity to, and

therefore have the potential to affect, the National Park, SDNPA has remained a consultee and has continued to play an important role in discussions on the development of the Project. Accordingly, the Applicant has maintained active dialogue with SDNPA throughout the pre-application period.

- 3.2.3 Some local authorities hold specialist functions relevant to the Project. As a result, other authorities deferred to them on issues within those areas of responsibility. This approach was agreed by all parties and is summarised in **Table 3-1**.

**Table 3-1: Local Authority Specialist Functions**

Specialist Function	Responsibility
Highway authority	Hampshire County Council Portsmouth City Council Matters related to the Strategic Road Network deferred to National Highways
Lead Local Flood Authority	Hampshire County Council Portsmouth City Council Matters related to technical agreements on water environment deferred to the EA.
Archaeological services	Hampshire County Council Winchester City Council Portsmouth City Council Matters deferred to Historic England for agreement on methodology and mitigation.

- 3.2.4 This approach ensured that detailed local insight and technical input were obtained from authorities with the greatest Project interaction, while neighbouring authorities were kept informed throughout the pre-application stage via the consultation process.

### 3.3 Statutory environmental bodies

- 3.3.1 For this Project, statutory environmental bodies are organisations with statutory environmental purposes or regulatory functions (e.g., issuing permits, consents and licences) and are statutory consultees for the DCO process under Section 42 of the PA 2008, with the prescribed bodies listed in the APFP Regulations 2009 (as amended); as the Project is EIA development, additional notification and consultation requirements also arise under the EIA Regulations and associated Planning Inspectorate EIA advice on notifying/consulting prescribed bodies at scoping and beyond. All relevant statutory environmental bodies have been consulted in accordance with these requirements.

- 3.3.2 In this context, the bodies set out in **Table 3-2**, are identified for statutory consultation given their respective functions in water and environmental regulation, nature conservation and habitats, marine licensing and regulation, and woodland/ancient woodland interests.

**Table 3-2: Statutory Environmental Bodies**

Body	Statutory basis (provision)	Role/capacity relevant to the Project
EA	Prescribed consultee under PA2008 s42(1)(a) and APFP Regulations 2009, Sch.1; consulted/notified under EIA Regulations where applicable.	Water and environmental regulator; statutory consultee for the DCO.
NE	Prescribed consultee under PA2008 s42(1)(a) and APFP Regulations 2009, Sch.1; participates in EIA/scoping consultation under EIA Regulations and PINS EIA advice.	Nature conservation and Habitat Regulations Assessments (HRA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) adviser; statutory consultee for the DCO.
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	Prescribed consultee for projects affecting the marine area under PA2008 s42(1)(a) and APFP Regulations 2009, Sch.1; consulted/notified under EIA Regulations where relevant.	Marine licensing and regulation, including survey and construction licensing; statutory consultee for the DCO.
Forestry Commission	Prescribed consultee under PA2008 s42(1)(a) and APFP Regulations 2009, Sch.1; may be consulted/notified under EIA Regulations where relevant.	Woodland/forestry interests; statutory consultee for the DCO (with good-practice engagement on ancient woodland).
Historic England	Prescribed consultee under PA2008 s42(1)(a) and APFP Regulations 2009, Sch.1; consulted/notified under EIA Regulations where relevant; statutory adviser under the National Heritage Act 1983.	Statutory adviser on historic environment, archaeology, and heritage assets (including listed buildings and scheduled monuments).
Langstone Harbour Board	Prescribed consultee under PA2008 s42(1)(a) and APFP Regulations 2009, Sch.1; consulted/notified under EIA Regulations where relevant.	Harbour authority with statutory responsibilities for managing Langstone Harbour; engaged on potential marine and water quality impacts, including discharge modelling and ecological effects.

3.3.3 In addition to statutory consultees, the Applicant has engaged with a range of non-statutory environmental organisations whose local knowledge and specialist interests are relevant to the Project's potential effects. These organisations are not statutory consultees under the PA 2008 but have been identified as important stakeholders due to their expertise in biodiversity, fisheries, and water environments. The organisations engaged on this basis include, but are not limited to:

- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB);
  - Wildfish;
  - Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
  - Test Valley Angling Club and Piscatorial Society; and
  - Wessex Rivers Trust.
- 3.3.4 Engagement has also been undertaken with Forestry England in its capacity as a landowner and manager of the Public Forest Estate under the Forestry Act 1967.

### **3.4 Community groups, parish councils, businesses and customers**

- 3.4.1 Community groups and parish councils have been identified and engaged throughout the development of the Project in accordance with statutory requirements. Parish councils are prescribed consultees under section 42 of the PA 2008 and have been identified in line with Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended), which designates ‘the relevant parish council’ as statutory consultees for the DCO process.
- 3.4.2 The following Parish Councils were identified within the boundaries of the Project and have been the primary focus of engagement due to their proximity to proposed infrastructure and the potential for direct impacts:
- Wickham and Knowle Parish Council.
  - Upham Parish Council.
  - Southwick and Widley Parish Council.
  - Shedfield Parish Council.
  - Colden Common Parish Council.
  - Bishopstoke Parish Council.
  - Owlesbury Parish Council.
  - Bishops Waltham Parish Council.
  - Otterbourne Parish Council.
  - Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council.
  - Curdridge Parish Council; and
  - Rowlands Castle Parish Council.
- 3.4.3 Neighbouring parish councils were also consulted as part of the statutory and non-statutory consultation and invited to participate and provide feedback. The full list of relevant parish councils consulted is provided in Table 17-1 in Appendix F.17 (Lists of consultees) of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5).

- 3.4.4 Recognising the importance of engaging a diverse range of voices, Southern Water undertook targeted outreach to seldom-heard groups throughout the consultation process. During the Summer 2022 Consultation, over 20 local and national organisations, including religious groups, disability charities, and charities supporting older people, were contacted directly. For the Summer 2024 Consultation, this was broadened to include groups representing marginalised communities, minority populations, and vulnerable individuals. Although direct responses from these groups were limited, the consultation process provided an open and accessible channel for participation, supported by clear information materials, multiple response options, and targeted publicity to reach those less likely to engage through conventional means. While wider engagement activities complemented this approach, consultation remained the primary mechanism for ensuring these stakeholders had an opportunity to contribute, and their views were considered in the development of the Project.
- 3.4.5 Engagement, including site visits, briefings and presentations, has also been undertaken with the following groupings:
- Community interest groups such as Havant Matters.
  - Community groups associated with the Havant Thicket Reservoir, including the Portsmouth Water-led Havant Thicket Stakeholder Advisory Group.
  - Local specialist environmental groups and organisations such as Hampshire Ornithological Society and Upper Itchen Valley Society.
  - Regional and National environmental charities such as the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE), Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, and Wessex Rivers Trust
- 3.4.6 While there is no statutory requirement under Section 42 of the PA 2008 or associated regulations to consult businesses or industry groups unless they hold a land interest within the meaning of Section 42(1)(d) and Section 44, the Applicant's consultation strategy ensured that businesses were also reached as part of the local community under Section 47. This was achieved through the application of defined consultation zones, which included businesses located within and near the draft Order Limits, recognising that local economic activity and land use may be affected by the Project.
- 3.4.7 Engagement with the business community has focused on representative organisations such as local chambers of commerce and the National Farmers Union (NFU). This approach reflects the nature of the Project, where the principal interests of the business sector relate to land use, agriculture, and local economic activity, rather than direct or widespread operational impacts on the broader business community. By engaging with these representative groups, the Applicant has ensured that the views and concerns of key business and agricultural stakeholders have been considered in the development of the Project.
- 3.4.8 The PA 2008 also does not include a statutory mechanism for consulting end users because its provisions are focused on land use and infrastructure planning rather than service delivery. Instead, customer engagement is

addressed through regulatory frameworks overseen by Ofwat and through water resource planning obligations (such as consultations for the WRMP process). For this Project, engagement with customers has therefore been indirect, focusing on broader themes such as drought resilience and the efficacy of water recycling. This has included surveys to understand public attitudes toward water recycling and targeted communications to raise awareness of long-term resource challenges.

## 3.5 Statutory undertakers

- 3.5.1 The Applicant has engaged with statutory undertakers and asset owners outside the statutory consultation process where their assets may be directly impacted or where the Project may alter the way in which a statutory undertaker or asset owner operates during the construction and/or operation of the Project. The full list of statutory undertakers consulted under section 42 of the PA 2008 is set out in Table 17-1 in Appendix F.17 (Lists of consultees) of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5). In addition, a full list of asset owners impacted by the Project can be found in the Book of Reference (Document reference 4.3, DCO Volume 4).
- 3.5.2 To facilitate the construction and operation of the Project, utilities and other assets will interact with the Project or require diversion, protection, adaptation or removal. These identified statutory undertakers and asset owners include the following:
- Portsmouth Water Limited
  - Southern Water Services Limited
  - National Grid Electricity Transmission PLC (NGET)
  - Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN)
  - Aquind Limited
  - Esso UK
  - Exolum International UK Limited
  - GTC Pipelines Limited
  - Southern Gas Networks PLC (SGN)
  - Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)
  - Openreach Limited
  - Cityfibre Limited
  - Lumen Technologies UK limited
  - Virgin Media Limited
  - Vodafone Limited
  - Neos Networks Limited

- 3.5.3 The Applicant has obtained asset data from statutory undertakers and determined where statutory undertaker apparatus may interact with the Project or could be impacted by the construction or operation of the Project. This information has been shared with those organisations together with proposed design considerations, mitigation measures and other controls. Initial engagement has identified the issues and concern of each statutory undertaker that will require further engagement in order to reach a resolution and these matters have been recorded in stakeholder issue logs, where applicable. Where necessary, a programme of regular engagement, including technical working groups and bilateral meetings has been established with each statutory undertaker to discuss, progress and resolve the issues and concerns identified.
- 3.5.4 The Applicant has communicated the intention to agree protective provisions with a number of statutory undertakers and has initiated engagement to progress agreement of protective provisions which address the issues and concerns raised.
- 3.5.5 The statutory undertakers listed below are those who could potentially be affected by the construction or operation of the Project, and who have therefore been the focus of additional engagement during the pre-application period. All other statutory undertakers identified under Section 42(1)(d) of the Planning Act 2008 were also notified and consulted as prescribed consultees, and a full list of those organisations is provided in Table 17-1 in Appendix F.17 (Lists of consultees) of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5).
- National Highways
  - Network Rail
  - Health and Safety Executive (HSE)
  - UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA)
  - Ministry of Defence (MoD)
  - Southampton Airport

## 3.6 Land and property

- 3.6.1 PILs were identified in accordance with section 42(1)(d) and section 44 of the PA 2008. The Applicant appointed specialist land agents to undertake diligent inquiry and comprehensive land referencing process, ensuring all relevant parties were identified and included. This exercise included identifying owners, lessees, tenants, occupiers, parties with an interest in the land, and those who might be entitled to make a compensation claim if the Project were implemented. Data was gathered from HM Land Registry, local authority records, statutory undertakers, and public sources, and was supplemented by issuing Land Interest Questionnaires (LIQs) to all identified parties. For unregistered land, site notices were erected to notify any unknown interests. The land referencing records were regularly updated to reflect any changes, and all PILs identified were consulted in accordance with statutory requirements as part of the pre-application process, as set out

in the Table 17-1 in Appendix F.17 (Lists of consultees) of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) and the Book of Reference (Document reference 4.3, DCO Volume 4).

- 3.6.2 In total, the land referencing exercise identified 780 plots of land, including a range of property types such as agricultural, residential, commercial, statutory undertaker land, and special category land. The Book of Reference (Document reference 4.3, DCO Volume 4) includes a full list of PILs falling within Section 44 of the PA 2008 and will be kept up to date through DCO Examination.

## 3.7 Neighbouring projects

- 3.7.1 The Applicant has proactively engaged with promoters of neighbouring projects where there is potential for interface with the Project. These neighbouring projects were identified through a structured process comprising:

- Review of planning applications and development proposals notified by local authorities under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- Assessment of cumulative and in-combination effects undertaken as part of the EIA, including the longlist and shortlist of other developments.
- Consideration of NSIPs and other major development schemes located in proximity to the Project.

- 3.7.2 This approach has supported targeted engagement with promoters of the following neighbouring projects during the pre-application stage:

- Havant Thicket Reservoir: A critical interface exists between the Project and Portsmouth Water's Havant Thicket Reservoir scheme. The Project is designed to optimise the reservoir's 8.7 billion litre storage capacity by enabling the transfer of surplus spring water and purified recycled water.
- Welborne Garden Village: Located adjacent to the proposed pipeline route and Intermediate Pumping Station F, Welborne is delivering approximately 6,000 homes.
- Conrad Energy: in relation to the Titchfield Lane Solar Farm project which intersects with the proposed pipeline route to the north of Wickham.
- Aquind Interconnector: A proposed electricity interconnector with infrastructure in the vicinity of the Project's southern sections.
- National Grid – Great Grid Upgrade: National Grid is progressing the Great Grid Upgrade to strengthen the electricity transmission network across southern England. The precise alignment of works in Hampshire is subject to ongoing design and planning, but there is potential for interface with the Project, for example shared land corridors, access requirements, and construction scheduling.

- 3.7.3 The Applicant will continue to monitor emerging development proposals within the vicinity of the Project and maintain engagement with third-party

promoters following submission of the DCO application. Detail of ongoing engagement with neighbouring projects is provided in section 10.

## 4 Local authorities

### 4.1 Overview of pre-application engagement

- 4.1.1 To support effective engagement, Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs) were entered into as early as possible with those local authorities affected by the Project. These agreements ensured that local authorities had the necessary resources to participate fully in the process, including attendance at the forums as set out below, including Scheme Development Workshops, Joint Officer Group (JOGs), EIA Working Groups (working groups are set out in more detail in **Appendix A**), and bilateral meetings (as set out in more detail in **Appendix B**).
- 4.1.2 Through the PPAs, local authorities were able to seek reimbursement for activities that informed their understanding of the Project's impacts and supported timely, constructive input into Project development. The collaborative approach, underpinned by the PPAs, has enabled the delivery of agreed work packages, facilitated technical discussions, and ensured that local knowledge and priorities have been integrated into the Project's evolution. The PPAs cover the pre-application period and have been maintained to support engagement up to submission. The PPAs have been entered into due to the Applicant's recognition that the Project is a large and complex undertaking, presenting significant planning, environmental, and socio-economic challenges and opportunities.

#### Early involvement in Project development

- 4.1.3 The Applicant established early and constructive relationships with those local authorities directly affected by the Project's location and associated infrastructure to ensure that engagement informed scheme development meaningfully while the Project was still at a formative stage. Working collaboratively with those local authorities, the Applicant sought input to guide the selection of the preferred corridor, refine the pipeline route, and identify suitable locations for above-ground infrastructure and construction compounds. Throughout 2022, a series of Scheme Development Workshops brought together representatives from those local authorities, SDNPA and other key stakeholders. During these sessions, the Applicant presented an indicative pipeline route within the preferred corridor, described as the "best engineering solution", alongside preferred zones for Above Ground Plant (AGP) and a proposed site for the Water Recycling Plant (WRP). Emerging proposals for construction compound locations and tunnel shaft options were also shared, with local authorities invited to comment on the suitability of proposed sites, access arrangements, and potential environmental or community impacts.
- 4.1.4 The outputs of these workshops directly informed the refinement of the pipeline route and the siting of above-ground infrastructure, considering environmental, planning, land, and engineering considerations. The workshops provided a forum for local authorities to raise questions and offer input on matters such as corridor options, tunnelling requirements, site

selection for the WRP, and the need to avoid sensitive environmental and heritage features. Feedback from these sessions was recorded and used to inform subsequent design iterations. This collaborative and iterative process enabled the design and routing of the pipeline to be refined in a way that minimised impacts on land holdings, residential areas, and highways, while also addressing environmental, engineering, topographical, construction, and cost constraints. Notably, the potential impacts on the South Downs National Park were a significant consideration, and the proposed pipeline route was developed to avoid the park entirely.

### **Engagement to support further development of the Project and assessments**

- 4.1.5 Engagement with local authorities was maintained through the establishment of the JOG, a bi-monthly forum for lead planning officers to receive Project updates, influence scheme development, discuss and resolve key issues. The JOG provided a consistent platform for technical discussions as the Project progressed, supporting confirmation of the preferred pipeline route, above-ground infrastructure sites, and construction compounds. This forum enabled local authorities to share local knowledge, which directly informed decisions such as the siting of AGP and the selection of construction techniques. For example, feedback from local authorities contributed to the use of construction methods with less impact near sensitive areas, such as tunnelling beneath urban areas and rivers to reduce disruption. To date there has been seventeen JOGs undertaken as part of pre-application engagement.
- 4.1.6 The Project was subject to a rigorous EIA, with engagement on EIA-specific topics facilitated through dedicated working groups. The topics were grouped into the following working groups:
- Community;
  - Historic Environment and Landscape;
  - Resilience, Emissions and Transport; and
  - Biodiversity and Water Environment.
- 4.1.7 Twelve sessions were completed for each working group. Attendees included regulators and statutory bodies, for example, Historic England, attending the Historic Environment and Landscape working group, ensuring a broad range of expertise informed the assessment process. The EIA Working Groups served as forums to present design and environmental information, discuss and agree on baseline data, assessment methodologies, impact significance, and potential mitigation measures, as well as to review proposed construction methodologies and the means of securing mitigation. Outputs from these working groups shaped the scope and methodology of the EIA and highlighted the need to consider cumulative impacts from other consented and planned developments.
- 4.1.8 The establishment of these groups aligned with good practice in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on working with public bodies in the infrastructure planning process (2025). This approach was

rooted in a "no surprises" principle, ensuring clear and timely updates and continuous dialogue between statutory and non statutory consultations. By sharing emerging assumptions and inviting early feedback, the process avoided the "cliff-edge" effect, where stakeholders might otherwise have been confronted with unexpected developments at consultation milestones which may have required significant changes to then accommodate feedback. To support Project development and preparation for application this information was shared with local authorities at these forums to assist each local authority to understand the potential impacts of the Project and mitigation of those impacts in their respective local administrative areas.

- 4.1.9 In addition to group forums, bilateral meetings with individual local authorities were held to address detailed, location-specific matters. These focused discussions of site-specific issues, facilitated the resolution of matters not relevant to all authorities, and promoted a more responsive approach to local concerns and priorities.

### Sharing of information

- 4.1.10 To aid the understanding of the Project and its potential effects, the Applicant has shared extensive amounts of information with local authorities via the JOG, or on a bilateral basis, depending on the issue. The following list of documents and information is not exhaustive but demonstrates the scale and breadth of information shared during the pre-application period:
- Outline Landscape and Visual Survey Strategy – August 2022
  - Scoping report (Document reference 6.2, DCO Volume 6) – August 2023
  - 2024 Statement of Community Consultation, Appendix E.9 of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) – March 2024
  - Future baseline technical note – November 2024
  - Strategy for Technical Approval of Trenchless Crossings beneath Highway Assets – November 2024 – update March 2025
  - Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) – 1<sup>st</sup> draft December 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> draft May 2025
  - Framework Construction Worker Travel Plan (FCWTP) - 1<sup>st</sup> draft December 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> draft May 2025
  - Proposed construction compound locations and access points - 1<sup>st</sup> draft December 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> draft May 2025
  - Framework Traffic Management Strategy (Document reference 7.3, DCO Volume 7) - 1<sup>st</sup> draft December 2024 – 5<sup>th</sup> draft June 2025
  - Access and Public Rights of Way plan (Document reference 2.4, DCO Volume 2) - 1<sup>st</sup> draft December 2024- 5<sup>th</sup> draft June 2025
  - Summer 2024 Consultation Summary of Feedback Report in Appendix F.30 of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) – January 2025

- Cumulative Effects Assessment approach and longlist and shortlist of other developments – February 2025, September 2025
- Flood Risk Assessments surface water drainage strategy and sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) proposals – April and September 2025
- Generic and Site-Specific Design principles – 1<sup>st</sup> iteration April 2025, 2<sup>nd</sup> iteration September 2025, 3<sup>rd</sup> iteration February 2026
- Draft need case for the Project (Document reference 5.6, DCO Volume 5) – May 2025
- Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (Outline WSI) (Document reference 7.6, DCO Volume 7) and other archaeology related reports (i.e. surveys, trial trenching) – June 2025
- Outline Soil Resource Management Plan – July 2025
- Relevant excerpts from location plan, works plans, access and public rights of way plans – September 2025
- Relevant excerpts from Outline Skills and Employment Plan (Outline SEP) (Document reference 7.9, DCO Volume 7) – September 2025
- Relevant excerpts from Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7) – November 2025
- Relevant excerpts from the Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (Outline LEMP) (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7) – November 2025
- Watercourse Crossings and Connections Technical Approval Strategy – November 2025
- Ground investigation factual reports – December 2025
- Relevant excerpts Arboricultural Impact Assessment – January 2026
- Draft Potential Main Issues for Examination (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5) – February 2026.
- The Preliminary Environment Information Report (PEIR), was shared with local authorities during pre-application engagement to support early technical input and iterative review. This engagement was in addition to the statutory consultation on the PEIR in summer 2024 required under Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations.
- Relevant excerpts from the draft Environmental Statement

### **Engagement with Councillors**

4.1.11 The Applicant maintained regular engagement with local Councillors, recognising their vital role in representing communities potentially affected by the Project. Engagement activities included:

- Inviting local Councillors to tour the water recycling pilot plant to understand the process and gain reassurance on safety and quality.

- Delivering all-member briefings undertaken between December 2024 and March 2025, covering the need for the Project, alternative solutions considered, the proposed Project and water recycling technology, pilot plant results, design evolution since the non-statutory consultation in summer 2022, and next steps, including how local authorities could input through the Statement of Community Consultation, Appendix E.9 of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5).
  - Providing follow-up all-member briefings in February 2026 to update Councillors on the development of the Project, outline the next steps in the DCO process, and explain the opportunities for Councillors to contribute during pre-Examination and Examination.
  - Adopting a policy to accept briefing and meeting requests, resulting in targeted sessions with local Councillors from affected wards, notably in Winchester and Havant.
  - Responding to numerous enquiries from local Councillors with detailed written answers on behalf of their constituents.
- 4.1.12 Given the location of the Water Recycling Plant within Havant Borough and its interface with Havant Thicket Reservoir, enhanced engagement was undertaken with Havant Councillors. This included a dedicated briefing in winter 2023, a senior-level meeting in April 2025 with council leadership and representatives from Southern Water and Portsmouth Water, and a summer 2025 drop-in session for cabinet members and Councillors to discuss local issues and strengthen trust. Briefings have also been held with local MPs as the Project has been developed.

### **Influencing the development of the Project**

- 4.1.13 During the development of the Project, many design iterations and changes have been made. Consultation has played a key role in this, as has the direct engagement with stakeholders to shape those changes. Key changes are set out in in the Scheme Development Report (Document reference 5.10, DCO Volume 5), with further changes identified in the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5). Given the wide range of interests that a local authority has, there have been many opportunities for the local authorities to shape the Project and suggest changes. Non exhaustive examples of changes made in response to local authorities' suggestions include:
- An Access and Public Rights of Way plan (Document reference 2.4, DCO Volume 2) was developed in collaboration with Hampshire County Council in its role as Highway Authority. The Framework Rights of Way Management Plan appended to the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) sets out the temporary diversions and closures required during construction, as well as the process for reinstating footpaths once the works are complete. In addition, Hampshire County Council and Portsmouth City Council in their capacity as the highways authority, identified opportunities to route construction traffic via the strategic road network, reducing or avoiding heavy goods vehicle movements on residential streets.

- The Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) sets out the permanent access arrangements to the proposed above-ground plants. Following engagement with Hampshire County Council in its role as Highway Authority, the Applicant removed the permanent access to the Scivier's Lane Break Pressure Tank (BPT-K) from the Project.
- Following engagement with local authorities through bilateral meetings on the Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5), fixing maximum AGP/IPS building heights (e.g. IPS-G at 8m) and embedding these within site-specific Design Principles Document.
- Following engagement with local authorities through bilateral meetings, refinement of massing, finishes, colour palette and landscape integration measures in the Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5).
- Alternative access at Church Lane adopted to address WCC concerns regarding noise, residential amenity and proximity to the South Downs National Park.
- Following engagement with HBC, the Applicant has made a range of design refinements, including reinstating and strengthening several design principles (e.g. sustainable water strategy, permeable surfaces, environmental protection), confirming key WRP design features such as a green/brown roof, Hermitage Stream enhancements and boundary planting.
- Following engagement with PCC, the Applicant has made a number of design refinements, including updating the BPT/IPS-E site-specific design principles to address fencing appearance and landscape integration.
- The Applicant has made several design refinements in response to EBC's feedback, including pipeline realignment and setback increases at Bow Lake, removal of unsuitable compound access, and reduction of construction footprint near heritage assets.
- The Applicant has made a series of design refinements following engagement with the SDNPA, including relocating the pipeline entirely outside the National Park; refining the design, height, screening and materiality of AGP; widening Order Limits to secure additional habitat creation; amending compound layouts to avoid veteran trees; and securing habitat connectivity measures at Otterbourne. These changes respond directly to SDNPA landscape, ecological and setting concerns.
- Through engagement with FBC, the Applicant has refined the pipeline alignment to avoid Welborne Garden Village, re-sited and micro-sited IPS-F to reduce landscape and visual impact, expanded Limits of Deviation to enable additional woodland and hedgerow planting, updated AGP concept designs, strengthened site-specific and general design principles including contextual materials and lighting, and embedded reduced working widths and trenchless construction to protect hedgerows and trees.

## 4.2 Statements of Common Ground

- 4.2.1 To document and respond to comments received during public consultations and technical engagement, the Applicant developed issues logs for each local authority. These logs served as live trackers, recording feedback, the Applicant's position, and actions taken to address concerns. They also helped prioritise key matters for discussion and ensured that responses were reviewed and validated by relevant technical specialists. In total, 1,440 issues were raised by the local authorities, which through ongoing engagement were refined to approximately 350 issues being taken forward into the SoCGs. This process aligns with the Prospectus, which sets out an expectation for Applicants to maintain and share an issues tracker throughout the pre-application stage and as a precursor to developing the Potential Main Issues for Examination document (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5).
- 4.2.2 As engagement progressed, these logs formed the foundation for Draft SoCGs (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) with those local authorities directly affected by the Project's location and associated infrastructure. The process involved collating and refining issues, providing detailed technical responses, and sharing these with authorities to clarify the Applicant's position and facilitate understanding and resolution of outstanding matters. Near submission, the live trackers were converted into structured tables, distilling issues into agreed and outstanding points for inclusion in the Draft SoCGs .
- 4.2.3 The extent of issues within the Draft SoCGs with the local authorities is wide-ranging, and the overlap between the stakeholders can be visualised in the Statement of Commonality (as outlined in **Appendix C** of this document). The status of the SoCGs at the time of submission of the DCO application is outlined in **Table 4-1**.

**Table 4-1: Status of Local Authority SoCG**

Local Authority	Status of SoCG
East Hampshire District Council	Draft
Eastleigh Borough Council	Draft
Fareham Borough Council	Draft
Hampshire County Council	Draft
Havant Borough Council	Draft
Portsmouth City Council	Draft
South Downs National Park Authority	Draft
Winchester City Council	Draft

- 4.2.4 Drafts of the SoCGs and issues logs were shared with the local authorities on multiple occasions prior to the submission of the DCO application. Where required, workshops were held to run through the various matters in collaboration with each local authority.
- 4.2.5 Drafts of all the SoCGs were shared for the final time in April 2026 to enable local authorities to undertake a final review prior to submission. SoCGs

labelled as draft in **Table 4-1** have been reviewed and signed by the relevant local authority officers to confirm that they accurately represent the matters discussed and the current position as at the agreed reporting cut-off date, but remain live and subject to ongoing discussion to resolve outstanding matters. SoCGs labelled as final have completed the relevant local authority governance process and have been signed by the parties to confirm that the document represents the agreed and final position on the matters it addresses.

- 4.2.6 Those issues classified as not agreed have been included in the Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5). This reflects Section 51 pre-application advice from the Planning Inspectorate that it is helpful for applicants to clarify the status of matters at the point of submission, provided they are appropriately characterised in a transparent manner with the stakeholder.
- 4.2.7 There are several matters under discussion because the local authorities do not yet have access to the Application Documents. These documents will be shared with local authorities following submission. Given the large volume of material to be prepared it is unrealistic to share all this information for comment and feedback before submission. However, the significant matters have been covered in the ongoing engagement, including through sharing draft elements of the DCO application documentation where this has been possible. Accordingly, some issues within the SoCG have been categorised as “Provisional Agreement Pending Evidence”. This reflects that the parties have reached an indicative position but cannot confirm final agreement until they have reviewed the relevant documentation in a submitted and accepted application.

### 4.3 Ongoing engagement

- 4.3.1 Engagement in the months following the submission of the DCO application will centre on the matters that remain under discussion within the Draft SoCGs. In a number of cases, the Applicant and the local authorities have agreed to these being ‘Matters subject to further discussion’ or where the issues rely on the local authorities having full access to the application materials, which can only happen after submission ‘Provisional Agreement Pending Evidence’. As such, the Applicant is anticipating that these matters will continue to mature in advance of the Examination period. The Applicant will continue to work collaboratively with the local authorities to ensure that discussions on those matters continue.
- 4.3.2 The SoCGs noted as ‘draft’ in **Table 4-1** above may be subject to change through the Examination of the application and ongoing engagement.
- 4.3.3 Furthermore, the Applicant will be in discussion with local authorities with respect to several agreements, including the following:
- SoCGs –any matters remaining outstanding at the point of DCO application submission will continue to be discussed with the relevant local authority during Examination.

- Planning Performance Agreements – where there is a need for further engagement, the Applicant is seeking to agree an extension to Planning Performance Agreements with the local authorities to enable issue resolution to continue after the submission of the DCO application.
- Development Consent obligations as necessary.
- Local authorities will continue to have an important role to play following any decision by the Secretary of State in relation to the DCO application. This includes the following:
  - Roles set out within the requirements Schedule 2 to the Draft Development Consent Order (Document reference 3.1, DCO Volume 3), as well as in other DCO provisions – the submission and approval of details, including in relation to several of the control documents will be required with the local authorities and/or Secretary of State in consultation with statutory environmental bodies (where necessary) ahead of the commencement of construction works.
  - Working groups – as set out in **Appendix A** of this document, the Applicant has set up a number of working groups and forums to date, some of which may continue into the construction phase of the Project, and further working groups and forums as necessary would be set up with the aim of continuing to work collaboratively with stakeholders.
  - Additional permits – the Applicant may require additional approvals. Discussions have been ongoing and will continue in relation to these and related matters.

## 5 Statutory environmental bodies

### 5.1 Overview of pre-application engagement

#### Engagement to support the development of the Project and assessments

- 5.1.1 Engagement with the statutory environmental bodies has been central to shaping the Project from an early stage, reflecting both the requirements of the PA 2008 regime and the expectations of RAPID. The Applicant adopted a "no surprises" approach, sharing emerging information, inviting early feedback and convening regular forums to enable timely input as the Project moved from option development to a consentable design. This section focuses on the statutory environmental bodies and cross-references where relevant to local authorities, whose involvement through the EIA Working Groups is described in the preceding section.
- 5.1.2 The statutory environmental bodies were members of the EIA Working Groups, which, as noted above, served as forums to present design iteration and environmental information, discuss and agree on baseline data, assessment methodologies, impact significance, and potential mitigation measures particularly relating to the water environment, terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity, marine biodiversity and land quality and ground conditions topics. Twelve sessions were completed for each working group.
- 5.1.3 To allow for more frequent and in-depth engagement, a standing programme of monthly Technical Working Groups was organised, attended by the EA, NE, and the MMO, supplemented by targeted bilateral meetings with technical specialists.
- 5.1.4 In total, 34 monthly Technical Working Groups were held during the pre-application period. Where appropriate, the Technical Working Group was used to share draft application documents, supporting iterative review and a collaborative approach to inform the ongoing development and refinement of the Project, with engagement undertaken on a continuous basis rather than being tied to specific consultation stages.
- 5.1.5 Given the dual roles held by several bodies under the NSIPs regime and RAPID, the Applicant distinguished clearly between engagement conducted in a regulatory programme context and engagement as statutory consultees for the DCO. This approach was particularly relevant to the EA, who also advise and participate in water resources planning under the WRMP framework. For each engagement activity, the capacity in which a body participated was identified and recorded, ensuring clarity over purpose, decision-making routes and outcomes.
- 5.1.6 A significant strand of engagement with the EA, NE and MMO focused on agreeing approaches to baseline data collection and assessment methodologies. Examples of the methodologies engaged on include aquatic habitat data needs for smaller watercourses intersected by the pipeline, the scope of ecological surveys to address species of conservation concern, and the design of marine biodiversity surveys to characterise potential effects on

fish and other sensitive receptors. Engagement also covered the Applicant's approach to water quality modelling, including characterisation of future baseline conditions for Havant Thicket Reservoir and downstream watercourses, and water quality predictions for these water bodies once the Project is operational. The Applicant sought agreement on screening and scoping judgements for the HRA, the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 ('the Water Environment Regulations') assessment method, the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), and the Hydrogeological Impact Assessment. Where issues were raised, the Applicant provided updated analysis or clarifications through the Technical Working Groups or through focused bilateral discussions with relevant specialists.

- 5.1.7 Alongside assessment methodology, engagement with these bodies informed the development of the design, mitigation and monitoring strategies. The Applicant discussed measures to avoid or reduce environmental effects through routing refinements and construction techniques, such as tunnelling beneath sensitive features in urban areas and watercourses to minimise disturbance and set out the approach to securing mitigation within the draft DCO and its supporting documents. For terrestrial and freshwater ecology, discussions addressed the scope of habitat displacement and reinstatement measures, the principles of habitat creation and enhancement, and the overarching approach to the Project's Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) strategy. For the marine interface, engagement considered construction methods within the intertidal and subtidal zones, as well as lighting strategies to protect migratory fish.
- 5.1.8 The Project also required careful consideration of the approach to other consents, licences and permissions that sit outside the DCO. Pre-application surveys requiring marine licences were discussed and obtained as required. In addition, the Applicant engaged with the MMO on the anticipated need for a marine licence for construction activities within the marine environment. Following this engagement, it has been agreed that all licensable marine works associated with the Project will be included within a deemed marine licence to be granted as part of the DCO. The MMO has confirmed in its SoCG (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) that, based on the current design and proposed construction methods, a Marine European Protected Species Licence is not anticipated to be required for the Project, and, if required, would be sought separately rather than being deemed through the DCO. With the EA, discussions focused on permitting requirements and alignment between the DCO design and environmental permits.
- 5.1.9 NE engagement included the progression of protected species licensing where required. Letters of No Impediment (LoNI) have been issued for the draft hazel dormouse and badger licences. For bats, NE has confirmed that no licensable works are required and therefore no licence or LoNI is necessary. Surveys have confirmed the likely absence of great crested newt (GCN) from any water bodies with the potential to be impacted within Havant Borough Council and Portsmouth City Council areas and consequently licensing is not required for the Project in these locations. Within all other local authority areas through which the Project passes, GCN were screened out of the assessment because impacts on them will be covered by a District

- Licence issued by NatureSpace which has confirmed that such a licence can be issued for the Project.
- 5.1.10 The Applicant utilised standing governance and programme-level forums alongside the Technical Working Groups and EIA Working Groups. These included monthly liaison with the Applicant's executive team to engage the EA and NE in their RAPID capacities, as well as six-monthly Water for Life Hampshire Stakeholder Working Group meetings that enabled programme-level engagement with the EA, NE, and MMO. Where issues straddled environmental topics and planning matters, the Applicant ensured alignment with local authorities through the JOG and cross-referred discussions to the EIA Working Groups (see paragraph 4.1.6).
- 5.1.11 In addition to engagement with statutory environmental bodies, the Applicant established the Wildlife and Water Interest Group (WWIG) in July 2022 to engage with non-statutory environmental organisations identified in section 4.3.3. This group includes organisations such as the RSPB, Wildfish, Langstone Harbour Board, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, Test Valley Angling Club and Piscatorial Society, and Wessex Rivers Trust, among others. Engagement through the WWIG has focused on information sharing regarding scheme development, construction proposals, mitigation requirements, relevant survey protocols and results, and EIA assessment findings. These sessions have provided an opportunity for organisations with specialist local knowledge to contribute to the Project's development and have complemented the technical engagement undertaken with statutory bodies.
- 5.1.12 Engagement with the Forestry Commission and Forestry England was grouped due to their overlapping interests and responsibilities for woodland policy and the Public Forest Estate. The Forestry Commission, as a prescribed consultee and non-statutory adviser on ancient woodland, was engaged on the approach to avoiding woodland where practicable, assessing potential effects on trees and woodland, and developing proportionate mitigation and compensation if required. The Forestry Commission's early advice to avoid woodland was incorporated into the routing work, meaning subsequent engagement was ad-hoc, with invitations to relevant EIA Working Groups and further meetings made available where attendance was deemed appropriate. For example, a one-to-one meeting was held in September 2025 to present the findings of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment and to provide an overview of potential tree impacts, which confirmed that effects on trees and woodland had been largely avoided.
- 5.1.13 Forestry England is not a prescribed consultee under the PA 2008 or the APFP Regulations 2009 (as amended). It was engaged in its capacity as a landowner and manager of the Public Forest Estate under the Forestry Act 1967 and good practice guidance but expressed a preference to defer to the Forestry Commission on consenting matters. As a result, Forestry England was engaged on an as-needed basis to address land interest and interface matters and did not participate as a standing member of the EIA Working Groups.

- 5.1.14 Historic England's engagement focused on the archaeology, cultural heritage, landscape, and visual aspects of the EIA, with a particular emphasis on protecting the setting and fabric of heritage assets, as well as managing archaeological risks. The Applicant worked with Historic England to agree on the approach to baseline characterisation, assessment, and mitigation, with particular attention to designated landscapes, registered parks and gardens, scheduled monuments, and designated heritage assets near the route and at above-ground sites. Specific areas of interest included avoiding physical and visual barriers within open parkland and designed woodland, assessing potential effects on features such as the moated site and park pale at Marwell Manor, and ensuring that biodiversity mitigation and enhancement measures do not give rise to adverse effects on heritage assets.
- 5.1.15 In addition, discussions were held with Historic England and the MoD regarding two World War II aircraft crash sites at Pigeonhouse Farm and Frith Farm. These discussions confirmed that the Applicant's approach to avoidance and mitigation was appropriate and that licences under the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986 would be required for works in the vicinity of these sites. The MoD indicated that licences could be issued post-consent and provided a LoNI to support the DCO application.

### Sharing of information

- 5.1.16 Throughout the pre-application process, the Applicant documented their engagement in an issues log for each stakeholder, tracked requests for information, and provided written responses and iterative updates to draft technical assessment and appendices. This iterative engagement supported agreement on assessment scopes, informed refinements to the design and construction methodologies, and provided confidence that the Project, as presented for development consent, could efficiently proceed through secondary consenting following determination.
- 5.1.17 To aid the understanding of the Project and its potential effects, the Applicant has shared extensive amounts of information with the statutory environmental bodies. The following list of documents and information is not exhaustive but demonstrates the scale and breadth of information shared during the pre-application period:
- Marine Benthic Ecology Survey Specification (shared May 2023 with MMO, EA and NE).
  - Multiple iterations of the Habitats Regulations Assessment – Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment and Marine Conservation Zone – Stage 1 Assessment (Document reference 5.2, DCO Volume 5) (shared September 2023, April 2024, November 2024, September 2025 with EA, NE and MMO).
  - Proposed construction methodologies for each point at which the pipelines will cross a watercourse (shared January 2024 with EA and NE).
  - Other Consents and Licences Position Statement (Document reference 5.4, DCO Volume 5) (shared March 2024 with EA, NE and MMO).

- ES Vol II - ES Appendix 19.9 Outline Water Monitoring Plan (Document reference 6.2, DCO Volume 6) (shared with EA December 2024).
- Draft Outline WSI (Document reference 7.6, DCO Volume 7) for the Project (shared June 2025 with Historic England and county archaeologists at Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council).
- ES Vol II - ES Appendix 7.5 Geoarchaeological monitoring reporting (Document reference 6.2, DCO Volume 6) and ES Vol II - ES Appendix 7.9 Trial trenching report (Document reference 6.2, DCO Volume 6) (multiple iterations but most recently shared October 2025 with Historic England).

### Influencing the development of the Project

5.1.18 As set out in the Scheme Development Report (Document reference 5.10, DCO Volume 5) and Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5), many changes were made during the development of the Project. Consultation and direct engagement with statutory environmental bodies played a key role in shaping these changes, particularly in relation to environmental assessment methodologies, mitigation strategies and design refinements. Non-exhaustive examples of these iterative changes made in response to engagement with statutory environmental bodies include:

- The routing and construction approach was refined to reduce impacts on sensitive environmental receptors, including increased use of trenchless techniques beneath watercourses and urban areas to reduce disturbance to habitats, heritage assets and communities.
- Aquatic and terrestrial survey scopes were expanded in response to requests for additional data on specific watercourses and species of concern. Targeted surveys and updated modelling were used to address identified gaps.
- The Project's BNG strategy was strengthened, with clearer commitments to habitat creation and enhancement, and alignment with relevant guidance informed by advice from NE and the EA.
- Marine assessment methods were updated to reflect feedback on fish survey limitations, and lighting strategies were refined to reduce potential effects on migratory fish.
- The approach to assessing the future baseline for Havant Thicket Reservoir and downstream water bodies was clarified, with agreed assumptions captured in the Environmental Statement and Water Environment Regulations (WFD) Assessment.
- For the historic environment, a design and mitigation hierarchy was developed to avoid, reduce or mitigate effects on designated assets and their settings, and the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared in consultation with Historic England.

## 5.2 Statements of Common Ground

- 5.2.1 To document and respond to comments received during public consultations and technical engagement, the Applicant developed issue logs for each statutory environmental body. In total, approximately 335 issues were raised by the EA, NE, MMO, Historic England and the Forestry Commission, which through ongoing engagement were refined to approximately 170 issues being taken forward into the SoCGs.
- 5.2.2 These logs formed the basis for Draft SoCGs (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5 (with the exception of the Forestry Commission, due to the limited number of issues and their request that no SoCG be produced)), capturing agreed matters, outstanding issues and areas under discussion. The process mirrored that described for local authorities in the previous section, with live trackers converted into structured tables near submission to distil issues into agreed and outstanding points for inclusion in the Draft SoCGs.
- 5.2.3 The issues addressed in these SoCGs are wide-ranging, covering EIA methodology, baseline data, mitigation measures, licensing strategies and design refinements. The status of each Draft SoCG at submission is set out in the **Table 5-1**.

**Table 5-1: Status of Statutory Environmental Bodies SoCG**

Organisation	Status of SoCG
EA	Draft
MMO	Agreed
NE	Draft
Historic England	Draft
Forestry Commission	Not required

- 5.2.4 Drafts of the SoCGs were shared with statutory environmental bodies on multiple occasions, with the final drafts issued in April 2026 for review ahead of DCO submission.
- 5.2.5 SoCGs labelled as draft have been reviewed and signed by the relevant officers of the statutory environmental bodies. This confirms that they accurately represent the matters discussed and the current position in relation to areas of agreement and disagreement between the parties at the agreed reporting cut-off date, but that they remain live and subject to ongoing discussion to resolve outstanding matters. SoCGs labelled as final have completed the relevant statutory environmental body governance process and have been signed by the parties to confirm that the document represents the agreed and final position on the matters it addresses.
- 5.2.6 Those issues classified as not agreed have been included in the Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5) where required. This reflects Section 51 pre-application advice from the Planning Inspectorate that it is helpful for applicants to clarify the status of matters at the point of submission, provided they are appropriately characterised in a transparent manner with the stakeholder.

- 5.2.7 Some issues remain under discussion because statutory environmental bodies have not yet reviewed the final Application Documents. These have been categorised as “Provisional Agreement Pending Application Evidence”, reflecting an indicative agreement subject to confirmation once the relevant documentation is available.

## 5.3 Ongoing engagement

- 5.3.1 Engagement with statutory environmental bodies will continue beyond the submission of the DCO application and throughout the Examination, construction, and operation phases. The Applicant recognises that these bodies will play a critical role in influencing the Project during delivery, including through approvals required under Schedule 2 Requirements and secondary consents. Early engagement has established clear principles and working relationships that will support continuity during these later phases.
- 5.3.2 Engagement in the months following the submission of the DCO application will centre on the matters that remain under discussion within the Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5). In several cases, the Applicant and the statutory environmental bodies have agreed to these being 'Matters subject to further discussion' or where the issues rely on the parties having full access to the application materials, which can only happen after submission, 'Provisional Agreement Pending Evidence'. As such, the Applicant anticipates that these matters will continue to mature in advance of the Examination period. The Applicant will continue to work collaboratively with the statutory environmental bodies to ensure that discussions on those matters continue.
- 5.3.3 The Draft SoCGs submitted are not final and remain subject to change through the Examination of the application and ongoing engagement.
- 5.3.4 Discussions on consents, permits, and licences have already commenced and will continue after submission. These include:
- NE: Completion of protected species licence applications to enable NE to issue Letters of No Impediment for hazel dormice and badgers.
  - EA: Ongoing discussions to align environmental permitting requirements with the DCO application and the EIA, and to agree the scope and conditions of relevant discharge consents and abstraction licences.
  - MMO: Progression of the deemed marine licence within the draft DCO, with engagement with the MMO ongoing.
  - Historic England: Continued input on archaeological Written Schemes of Investigation and heritage mitigation measures.
  - Forestry Commission: During the pre-application engagement, the Forestry Commission expressed its general satisfaction with the approach to avoiding woodland wherever practicable and reducing impacts on trees. As such, future engagement may be undertaken on an ad hoc basis as the Project progresses.
- 5.3.5 Statutory environmental bodies will also have a role in the review and approval of control documents required under Schedule 2 Requirements.

Protective provisions for statutory environmental bodies are included in the Draft Development Consent Order (PDF version) (Document reference 3.1, DCO Volume 3), ensuring that their interests are safeguarded during construction and operation. For marine activities, the deemed marine licence provides that works within the marine environment will be subject to MMO conditions and approvals.

- 5.3.6 As outlined in **Appendix A** of this document, the Applicant established several working groups with statutory environmental bodies and non-statutory environmental organisations during the pre-application engagement. At the point of submission, the Applicant and participants are reviewing whether these forums should continue into the next phase, and it is currently anticipated that a shift towards more focussed bilateral discussions may be appropriate, subject to ongoing review.
- 5.3.7 Applications for secondary consents will be sought from these bodies following the determination of the DCO. The Applicant will remain in dialogue with statutory environmental bodies to ensure the timely progression of these approvals and to maintain the "no surprises" approach established during pre-application engagement.

## 6 Community groups, parish councils, businesses and customers

6.1.1 The Applicant undertook an extensive consultation exercise as the primary mechanism for incorporating local knowledge and feedback from this cohort into the Project's design evolution. Consultation informed decisions at key stages, including the selection of pipeline corridors, locations for above-ground plant, the Water Recycling Plant site, and proposed pipeline routes. These consultations were timed to strike a balance between early engagement and providing sufficient detail for meaningful feedback, ensuring that input could be considered in the iterative design process. The engagement outlined below complemented consultation by maintaining continuity of information between consultation stages, ensuring stakeholders were kept informed and equipped to provide meaningful feedback at each stage.

### 6.2 Overview of pre-application engagement

#### Community groups

6.2.1 Engagement with community groups focused on providing clear, accessible information about the Project, highlighting its need and addressing concerns about potential environmental impacts and water recycling technology. Given the location of the Water Recycling Plant within Havant Borough and its interface with Havant Thicket Reservoir, the Project has attracted significant interest and scrutiny from local groups in this locality. The issues raised by community groups in Havant — including questions on alternative solutions, cost, and perceived health risks — were considered indicative of broader concerns that may exist across the wider Project area. While these concerns were not universally expressed elsewhere, their depth and specificity helped shape the Applicant's approach to information provision, including the development of targeted briefings and updates to the Project's dedicated webpage.

6.2.2 Engagement included bilateral meetings, site visits, briefings, and participation in established forums. The Applicant continues to play an active role in Portsmouth Water's Havant Thicket Reservoir Stakeholder Group and has done since its inception – presenting updates on the Project at the regular meetings and ensuring that this group of stakeholders and community representatives were aware of the interface between the Project and the already-approved plans for the reservoir. For example, this included providing assurance that there will be no detrimental impact on the potential for leisure provision in and around the reservoir arising from the operation of the Project.

6.2.3 The DWI commissioned "Public Perception of Water Recycling for Drinking Water Use, 2022", which highlights that communications should emphasise current drinking water standards and monitoring methods and be as transparent as possible about any existing water quality data from water recycling schemes. The Applicant's engagement approach went further by

- generating water quality data directly applicable to the Project and sharing this openly with stakeholders using its pilot plant.
- 6.2.4 Working with international experts and the School of Applied Sciences at the University of Brighton, the Applicant operated a pilot plant to test the efficacy of the selected treatment process. The pilot plant served as a destination for site visits ahead of the briefing series, hosting more than 100 stakeholders from local councils, environmental organisations and interest groups. These visits provided stakeholders with an opportunity to see the technology in operation, ask questions, and gain confidence in the treatment process. As a follow-up to the pilot plant tours, a series of briefings in early 2024 (Winter 2024 briefings) provided updates on the pilot plant results, providing an overview of water recycling processes, the Project selection process, and next steps in assessing water quality via water quality modelling and the EIA process. In total, 17 briefings were conducted with more than 150 attendees from local authorities, parish councils and environmental groups. Community and environment group attendees included the Wessex Rivers Trust, Upper Itchen Valley Society, CPRE, Wild Trout Trust, and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust.
- 6.2.5 As outlined in World Health Organisation guidance (2017), the success of water recycling projects *“can depend on gaining public confidence and trust (both in the process but also in the organisations and authorities responsible for overseeing the delivery of safe water)”*. The pilot plant was used as an engagement tool to achieve this by simplifying the water recycling process through practical demonstration and sharing results transparently. In addition, partnering with a trusted third party to validate the methodology and confirm the efficacy of the treatment process, despite this not being a regulatory requirement, was intended to strengthen confidence in both the technology and the Applicant’s ability to deliver safe drinking water.
- 6.2.6 In addition to proactively engaging with community groups, the Applicant maintained an open approach by accepting requests for briefings and meetings whenever they arose. This included engagement with Havant Matters, a local group representing residents and community associations in Havant who opposed aspects of the Project. The Applicant responded to their correspondence and met with the group on several occasions. Examples of this bilateral engagement include:
- Meeting with Havant Matters and the CEOs of Southern Water and Portsmouth Water in August 2024.
  - Meeting with Havant Matters and the CEOs of Southern Water and Portsmouth Water in April 2025.
  - Meeting with Havant Matters to discuss alternatives to the Project in May 2025.
- 6.2.7 Senior leadership from the Applicant attended a number of the briefings and meetings described above, reflecting the importance placed on addressing issues raised and demonstrating the Applicant’s willingness to engage meaningfully with impacted communities. It is worth noting that some representatives attended meetings in multiple capacities, operating as both

- parish or local council members and community group representatives, meaning attendance and roles were often overlapping.
- 6.2.8 Further to the briefings and site-based engagement undertaken directly by the Applicant, further insight was gained through public site visits to Havant Thicket Reservoir, led by Portsmouth Water between April and November 2025. Although the Applicant was not in attendance at these visits, information boards and Project materials were provided in advance to support accurate and consistent messaging delivered by Portsmouth Water employees.
- 6.2.9 Visitors to the reservoir site were invited to complete a short survey before and after their tour of the reservoir, enabling the collection of indicative feedback on levels of understanding and support for both the reservoir and the water recycling proposals. As of December 2025, 72 pre-visit and 62 post-visit responses had been received. The results demonstrated a marked increase in reassurance and support once visitors had been presented with clear factual information: support for both the reservoir and water recycling increased from 53% before the visit to 77% afterwards, while the proportion of respondents who did not support water recycling fell from 18% to 11%.
- 6.2.10 Overall, the findings offer a useful indication that visitors tended to feel more informed and, in many cases, more supportive of the proposals after being provided with clear explanations during the visit. While the surveys represent only a sample of those attending, the results suggest that accessible, factual information can help strengthen understanding of the Project and its context.

### **Parish councils**

- 6.2.11 As with community groups, the Applicant engaged with parish councils through a dedicated briefing as part of the Winter 2024 briefings on the pilot plant results. This briefing was attended by representatives from Otterbourne Parish Council, Colden Common Parish Council, Allbrook Parish Council, Upham Parish Council, Durley Parish Council, Bishops Waltham Parish Council, Curdrige Parish Council, Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Council, and Boarhunt Parish Council. Further to sharing the pilot plant results, this briefing was also used as an opportunity to outline the consenting process and explain opportunities for involvement in statutory consultation. Feedback at the briefing was constructive, with broad support for the principle of reducing abstraction from the River Test and Itchen and recognition of the Project's role in drought resilience.
- 6.2.12 A further series of briefings with impacted parish councils took place in Winter 2026. These sessions provided parish councils with a further opportunity to understand how the Project had evolved, review the potential impacts and mitigation measures outlined in the Environmental Statement and associated control documents, and receive clarity on next steps, including how they could participate in the DCO process.
- 6.2.13 As per the approach with community groups, beyond proactive engagement, the Applicant adopted an open approach by accepting requests for briefings and meetings whenever they were made by Parish Councils. This included a bilateral meeting with Wickham and Knowle Parish Council in April 2025.

## Businesses

- 6.2.14 Engagement with businesses has been proportionate to the nature of the Project and the PA 2008, which does not require direct consultation with businesses unless they hold a land interest. Accordingly, the primary mechanism for engaging businesses was through statutory consultation, using defined consultation zones to ensure that businesses potentially affected by the Project were contacted directly if located within the draft Order Limits, as illustrated on ES Figure 4.6 Draft Order Limits at the Summer 2024 Consultation (Document reference 6.3, DCO Volume 6). While the draft Order Limits have been subject to minor refinement since that consultation, the figure provides an appropriate representation of the consultation extent used to identify and engage potentially affected businesses.
- 6.2.15 In addition, businesses located beyond the draft Order Limits were engaged through targeted pre-awareness campaigns where relevant. Further details on the consultation approach, including the identification of consultees and consultation zones, are provided in the Statement of Community Consultation (2024), contained in Appendix E.9 of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5).
- 6.2.16 Beyond consultation, the Applicant offered opportunities for engagement through invitations to meetings and briefings. The NFU attended the pilot plant tours, providing an opportunity to discuss the Project and the water recycling process. Invitations were also extended to the Winter 2024 briefings, to organisations such as the Countryside Landowners Association, the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), and the Enterprise M3 LEP, among others. While participation from businesses in these briefings was limited, continued engagement will be undertaken as the Project progresses, with a particular focus nearer the time of implementation.
- 6.2.17 This approach aligns with research undertaken by BritainThinks in 2022, which highlighted that “*most household customers want to be first notified three to six months in advance of the change, although non-household customers are more likely to want a closer notification of a change.*” Additional targeted research within the Water for Life – Hampshire programme reinforced this, noting that businesses with specific operational needs require tailored engagement on technical information, particularly regarding water quality and reliability. These insights will inform future engagement, ensuring that communication is timely, relevant, and responsive to business needs.

## Customers

- 6.2.18 Customer engagement was undertaken at a strategic and programme-level, through two key strands:
- Extensive research and insight gathering as part of the Water for Life – Hampshire (WfLH) programme and WRMP development; and

- Local engagement activities in proximity to the Project area, including multi-disciplinary drop in events such as "Your Water Matters" public drop-ins.
- 6.2.19 More than 5,000 customers have been directly involved in research for Southern Water's WfLH programme, including the use of water recycling, alongside tens of thousands of participants in over 150 industry reports. In addition, the development of Water Resources South East's (WRSE) revised draft Regional Plan and the emerging WRMP24 enabled Southern Water to gain further insight into public opinion on water recycling through deliberative approaches, engaging more than 3,000 customers and stakeholders. These activities included focus groups, in-depth interviews, longitudinal studies, and workshops, as well as targeted surveys, such as the January 2023 "average person on the street" survey.
- 6.2.20 This wider research consistently demonstrated that customers expect a blend of demand and supply solutions and support the use of water recycling to address Hampshire's resource challenges. While some expressed concerns about water quality, reassurance mitigated many immediate issues. Future customers were particularly supportive, expecting companies to already be implementing water recycling. Businesses with specific operational needs indicated a requirement for tailored engagement on technical details.
- 6.2.21 The second strand included a series of 'Your Water Matters' events, which featured representation from multiple Southern Water teams, such as Customer Services, and members of the Project team when events were held in locations along the Project route, including Fareham (July 2025) and Eastleigh (September 2025). The events benefited from having a breadth of Southern Water teams in attendance, which meant the events attracted a wider range of customers and members of the public, including those who might not typically attend a consultation focused solely on the Project. These sessions were advertised through targeted emails to up to 100,000 customers within a 30-minute radius, social media posts, press ads and stakeholder outreach.
- 6.2.22 The Your Water Matters events were designed to demonstrate the Applicant's commitment to being visible, listening, and working collaboratively with communities. These sessions provided an opportunity to inform and educate residents about the work being undertaken, highlight investments to improve resilience (including the necessity of the Project) and performance on all Southern Water operations, and address a wide range of queries and concerns. Attendance by the Project team ensured that customers could access detailed information about the Project and receive answers to questions.
- 6.2.23 The Project has also featured heavily in public engagement and drop-in events on associated pipeline projects such as the Southampton Link Main in Autumn 2024 and Andover Link Main in Autumn 2025. At these events, a stand on the Project was staffed by members of the Project team to give details of the water recycling proposals and answer questions, framing the Project in the context of the wider Water for Life Hampshire programme and

the other projects being delivered to ensure water resilience across the Applicant's Hampshire supply area.

## 6.3 Statements of Common Ground

- 6.3.1 SoCGs were not considered necessary for these cohorts. Engagement with customers, community groups, parish councils and businesses were proportionate to their role and influence on the Project, and SoCGs were therefore not prepared.

## 6.4 Ongoing engagement

- 6.4.1 Engagement with this cohort will continue through the Examination phase of the Project. Notably, parish councils will be offered further briefings to explain what the DCO process involves, what to expect beyond DCO determination, and how they can participate effectively. Additionally, ad hoc engagement opportunities will remain available for community groups, businesses, and customers to address specific queries or provide updates as needed.
- 6.4.2 The Applicant will produce Engagement and Communications Plans that set out how stakeholders will be kept informed of construction activities and how relationships with stakeholders will be maintained throughout the delivery phase. These Plans will be used to discharge communication-specific commitments, including those set out in the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7). As outlined in Section 2.1.8, the Outline CEMP requires the Applicant to develop and implement a stakeholder communications plan prior to the commencement of works. This includes maintaining site notice boards, publicising contact details, arranging meetings with statutory bodies, and establishing procedures for issue reporting and resolution.
- 6.4.3 The Engagement and Communications Plans will provide the framework for delivering these measures, providing a programme of community engagement and outlining how relevant planning authorities, communities, stakeholders, and affected parties will be engaged throughout the construction period. It will identify the stakeholders, communities, and affected parties (such as schools, places of worship, businesses, and environmental organisations), and for each group, identify the proposed methods and likely timing of engagement for each key stage of work. It will also identify the key issues for each group of stakeholders so that stakeholders with common issues can be engaged in an efficient and meaningful way. Such methods may cover, but are not limited to, community drop-in sessions, one-on-one meetings with key stakeholders as relevant, newsletters, and leaflet drops explaining forthcoming works.
- 6.4.4 A dedicated phase of customer engagement will be undertaken ahead of the introduction of the new water source provided by the Project which is planned for 2034. This engagement will focus on informing customers about the change in their water supply, specifically the introduction of purified recycled water as a source of raw water. The timing and approach for this "change of source" engagement have been developed in close collaboration with the DWI. This approach is confirmed in the Applicant's response to RAPID Gate

- 3 Priority Action 7 which requires the Applicant to set out a clear customer engagement plan for the introduction of water recycling at an appropriate point. This forms part of the Applicant's regulatory obligations to RAPID, rather than being secured through the DCO.
- 6.4.5 This phase of engagement will commence approximately two years prior to switch-on, ensuring that communications are timely, accurate, and based on the most mature project information available. The approach aligns with the phased strategy set out in the Applicant's RAPID Gate 3 submission. It also reflects emerging best practice across the sector for delivering water recycling Strategic Resource Options.
- 6.4.6 Engagement will aim to ensure customers are aware of the change, understand the reasons behind it, and recognise the benefits in terms of long-term resilience and environmental sustainability. The plan will be finalised closer to implementation, incorporating customer insight, stakeholder feedback, and regulatory input to ensure the most effective and appropriate communications approach. Stakeholders, including local authorities, elected representatives, community groups, environmental organisations, and other relevant bodies, will also be engaged to support message dissemination through their networks.
- 6.4.7 A range of channels will be considered to ensure all customers who receive the new water (including Southern Water's domestic and non-domestic water supply customers are adequately communicated with. Engagement channels that may be used to achieve this include direct customer communications (e.g. bill inserts, texts, emails), stakeholder briefings, media activity (e.g. press releases, interviews, advertising), Southern Water's owned channels (e.g. website, social media), and signposting by regulators to support public confidence.

## 7 Statutory undertakers

### 7.1 Overview of pre-application engagement

- 7.1.1 The Applicant has shared preliminary design information with statutory undertakers and asset owners in relation to the impacts of the Project on those bodies' assets and any diversions, protections, stopping up of, or new connections to their networks that would be required to facilitate the construction and operation of the Project. Subsequent engagement with each organisation is in the early stages to identify any issues and concerns, and to agree the protective provisions, mitigations and other controls necessary to ensure the works can occur safely, whilst minimising impacts on statutory undertaker's operations and in compliance with regulatory requirements.
- 7.1.2 Engagement with Network Rail has been undertaken to ensure early awareness of the Project and to establish the appropriate framework for managing works which may have the potential to affect their assets. The Applicant has recognised that approvals relating to railway infrastructure are secured through Network Rail's own asset protection, and clearance approvals processes, which sit outside the Development Consent Order regime. Engagement to date has therefore focused on outlining the nature of the Project, the locations where Network Rail assets may be affected, and the proposed approach to securing the necessary agreements and approvals at the appropriate stage. This has included maintaining ongoing dialogue to support future progression of technical and property matters, with the intention of reducing consenting risk and providing confidence in the deliverability of the Project. In parallel to technical and property matters, land related discussions have been undertaken.
- 7.1.3 Engagement with National Highways has been undertaken in close collaboration with Hampshire County Council, reflecting their respective roles as the Strategic Highway Authority and Local Highway Authority. The Applicant has sought to ensure a coordinated approach to engagement where the Project interfaces with both the Strategic Road Network and the local highway network, recognising the importance of consistency across authorities. Engagement with National Highways has been undertaken to address interfaces with the Strategic Road Network and to ensure that the Project has been developed with due regard to highway safety, asset protection, operation, and maintenance considerations. The Applicant has sought to keep National Highways informed of the Project proposals and the principles underpinning access, crossings, and construction activities. Information has been shared on a proportionate basis to support understanding of how the Project would interact with highway assets, while recognising that detailed design and technical approvals would be progressed post-consent through established statutory processes. This approach has supported constructive dialogue, helped to identify and manage potential risks at an early stage, and reduced the likelihood of objection to the DCO. In parallel to technical and property matters, land related discussions have been undertaken.

- 7.1.4 HSE was invited to participate in the Project's Resilience EIA Working Groups (refer to A.8 of this document). However, HSE confirmed that attendance was not required, advising that the matters being considered did not fall within its remit as they did not raise work-related health and safety issues. HSE further advised that it should be contacted should any specific questions arise that fall within its regulatory responsibilities. In recognition of its role as a prescribed consultee under Section 42(1)(a) of the Planning Act 2008, the Applicant ensured that consultation remained the primary mechanism for engaging HSE and capturing any views or comments it wished to provide.
- 7.1.5 UKHSA indicated during pre-application engagement that attendance at the EIA Working Groups was not required. Nevertheless, as a prescribed consultee it was notified and consulted through the statutory consultation process, which served as the main mechanism for securing its feedback. In its Summer 2024 Consultation response, UKHSA requested that engagement be re-established. As such, UKHSA were invited to the EIA Community Working Group and attended the meeting in April 2026.
- 7.1.6 Engagement was undertaken with Southampton Airport to assess any potential bird strike risk associated with the temporary commissioning lagoons required during pipeline testing. Through correspondence, Southampton Airport confirmed that, given the temporary nature, small scale and distance of the lagoons from the airport, the overall risk of bird strike was considered to be low. The Airport requested that measures be included to prevent feral geese from nesting and that they be notified when the lagoons would hold water. These measures have been incorporated into the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7) and were confirmed to satisfy the Airport's requirements. Southampton Airport subsequently confirmed in writing that no additional measures were required.
- 7.1.7 As outlined in 5.1.15 of this document, the Applicant has engaged with the MoD on matters relating to two World War II aircraft crash sites at Pigeonhouse Farm and Frith Farm. Engagement has focused on the Applicant's approach to avoidance and mitigation, the requirements of the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986, and the process for securing licences for works in the vicinity of these sites. Through this engagement, the MoD has confirmed that the Applicant's proposed approach is appropriate, they have issued a LoNI for both crash sites regarding the post-consent granting of PoMRA licences in line with the MoD's preferred process. Engagement has also covered land interests and construction activities beneath MoD owned housing, where discussions remain ongoing to secure the necessary land agreements.
- 7.1.8 Engagement was undertaken with Royal Mail with regards to their feedback to our Summer 2024 and Spring 2025 consultations. Royal Mail's feedback highlighted concerns regarding the impacts of the Project on the local road network and consequently, their operations. Royal Mail requested specific amendments to our traffic management strategy to ensure they are provided with sufficient advanced notice of works that will impact the local road network.

7.1.9 The Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) has been updated to respond to this feedback and provides a list of consultees including Royal Mail who would be consulted on programmed diversions, closures and alternative access arrangements that could affect travel on impacted routes.

## 7.2 Agreement mechanisms

7.2.1 For statutory undertakers, the mechanism for documenting agreement varies depending on the nature of their interests and the type of consents or protections required. Accordingly, agreement has been documented through a range of mechanisms including SoCG, Asset Protection Agreement (APA), a LoNI, protective provisions or other bespoke technical licensing processes, as appropriate. Error! Reference source not found. outlines the relevant mechanism for each statutory undertaker and its agreement status.

**Table 7-1: Status of Statutory Undertaker agreement mechanisms**

Organisation	Agreement mechanism	Status of agreement mechanism
HSE	None required	N/A
UKHSA	None required	N/A
MoD	SoCG	Draft
Southampton Airport	None required	N/A
Portsmouth Water	SoCG; Protective Provisions; Side Agreement	Draft, Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Sothorn Water Services	N/A	N/A
NGET	SoCG; Protective Provisions; Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
SSEN	SoCG; Protective Provisions; Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Aquind	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Esso UK	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Exolum	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
GTC	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
SGN	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
DIO	None	Agreed
Openreach	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Cityfibre	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing

Organisation	Agreement mechanism	Status of agreement mechanism
Lumen Technologies	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Virgin Media	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Vodafone	SoCG; Protective Provisions, Side Agreement	Engagement / negotiations ongoing
Neos Networks	Letter of No Objection	Agreed

## 7.3 Ongoing engagement

- 7.3.1 The Applicant will continue to work with the statutory undertakers to seek to resolve matters set out within the agreement mechanisms following submission of the DCO application. The Applicant will also continue to liaise with the statutory undertakers and asset owners to explore the appropriateness of entering into any side agreements relating to the assets affected.
- 7.3.2 Following any decision to approve the Project, the Applicant will continue to be in dialogue with the statutory undertakers and asset owners throughout the detailed design and undertaking of the works.
- 7.3.3 There are a number of mechanisms which will facilitate this future engagement, including the following:
- The protective provisions set out in the draft Development Consent Order (Document reference 3.1, DCO Volume 3), which require further consultation and, in some instances, approvals from the relevant statutory undertakers. This will ensure that the Applicant and its Contractors work closely throughout the development of the detailed design and undertaking of the works.
  - There will be ongoing dialogue with directly impacted statutory undertakers and asset owners throughout the procurement of the Project to ensure that potential Contractors are aware of design requirements, mitigation measures and other controls relevant to the works.
  - The Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) provides a list of consultees including Royal Mail and the emergency services who would be consulted on programmed diversions, closures and alternative access arrangements that could affect travel on impacted routes.

## 8 Land and property

### 8.1 Overview of pre-application engagement

- 8.1.1 The Applicant has undertaken extensive engagement with PILs throughout the development of the Project. Engagement commenced early in the project lifecycle to facilitate access for surveys, gather PIL information, and explain the rationale behind the Project. This engagement has been iterative, continuing through non-statutory and statutory consultations in Summer, 2022, Summer 2024, Spring 2025, Autumn 2025 and the Spring 2026 Consultations, and is summarised in Chapter 9, 10, 11 and 12 in the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5) respectively.
- 8.1.2 Specialist land agents undertook a comprehensive land referencing exercise to identify all relevant interests in accordance with sections 42(1)(d) and 44 of the PA 2008. This included owners, lessees, tenants, occupiers, and parties entitled to compensation. Data was sourced from HM Land Registry, local authority records, statutory undertakers, and supplemented by issuing Land Interest Questionnaires (LIQs) to all identified parties. For unregistered land, site notices were erected to notify unknown interests. The Book of Reference submitted with the Application (Document reference 4.3, DCO Volume 4) includes a full list of PILs falling within Section 44 of the PA 2008.
- 8.1.3 Engagement with landowners has focused on enabling surveys, providing clear information about the Project and progressing voluntary agreements for the relevant freehold interests, new rights and temporary use of land, to facilitate implementation of the Project. Most landowners have received correspondence regarding general survey access (both non-intrusive and intrusive), project updates with invitations to pre and post statutory consultation meetings, feedback on statutory consultation responses, and the issuing of Heads of Terms. More detail on the status of negotiations can be found in the Statement of Reasons (Document reference 4.1, DCO Volume 4). Key communications included:
- An initial letter explaining the background and purpose of the Project.
  - Data Information Sheet outlining survey requirements.
  - Licences requests for Non-Intrusive and Intrusive Surveys.
  - LIQs (with reminders where necessary).
  - Letter explaining the handover from the feasibility to the delivery team and requesting a meeting.
  - A further letter following the handover to offer introductory meetings and providing a Project update.
  - Section 42 and Section 48 consultation letters in Summer 2024, Spring 2025, and Autumn 2025 (where applicable).
  - Landowner update letter issued in December 2024, inviting further dialogue and offering meetings.

- Written responses to landowners who provided feedback to the Summer 2024 and Spring 2025 Statutory Consultations were sent to landowners and their representatives in December 2025 and January 2026.
- 8.1.4 Alongside landowner meetings and consultation, the Applicant has sought to agree Heads of Terms with the majority of instructed land agents representing landowners affected by the Project since February 2025. Where the acquisition of rights in third party land is required to deliver the Project, the Applicant has issued Heads of Terms to all those able to grant such rights. The landowners and respective rights to be acquired are set out in the Book of Reference (Document reference 4.3, DCO Volume 4). The status of negotiations of voluntary agreements with affected landowners is set out in the Pre-application Land and Rights Negotiations Tracker (Document reference 4.4, DCO Volume 4).
- 8.1.5 The Department for Communities and Local Government, Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Guidance 2024 relates to procedures for the compulsory acquisition of land, it is recognised that where proposals would entail the compulsory acquisition of many separate plots of land (such as for long, linear schemes) it may not always be practicable to acquire each plot of land by agreement. Where this is the case, it is reasonable to include provision authorising compulsory acquisition covering all the land required at the outset. Further details on the approach to compulsory acquisition is set out in the Statement of Reasons (Document reference 4.1, DCO Volume 4).
- 8.1.6 Landowner engagement identified a number of concerns which the Project has sought to address, including:
- Requests for reduced working corridor widths to minimise land-take.
  - Assurance on reinstatement standards for agricultural and equestrian land.
  - Measures to maintain land drainage and access during construction.
  - Clarification on compensation under the Compensation Code and the principle of equivalence.
  - Dialogue on potential impacts to farming businesses and property values.

## 8.2 Statements of Common Ground

- 8.2.1 A number of Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) have been submitted as part of the DCO application for organisations which have land or other interests affected by the Project (such as local authorities). These SoCGs address both land-related matters and broader issues within the remit of those organisations, including planning policy, environmental considerations, and construction impacts. They have been developed to assist the Examining Authority by clarifying areas of agreement and identifying any outstanding matters.
- 8.2.2 For other landowners whose interests are limited to property or land rights, SoCGs have not been entered into. Engagement with these parties has focused on voluntary agreements for land rights and survey access, and no

wider planning or regulatory matters require documentation through a SoCG. The Applicant considers that these issues can be appropriately addressed through ongoing engagement and the compulsory acquisition process, where necessary.

## 8.3 Ongoing engagement

- 8.3.1 The Applicant recognises that engagement with landowners is an ongoing process that will continue throughout the Examination, construction, and operational phases of the Project. The objectives of this engagement are to maintain transparency, address emerging concerns, and ensure that landowners remain informed and involved as the Project progresses.
- 8.3.2 The Applicant will continue to offer one-to-one meetings with landowners to discuss individual circumstances, provide updates on programme and design developments, and respond to queries regarding land rights, reinstatement standards, and compensation. Furthermore, the Applicant will continue to engage with landowners to seek agreement to secure rights ahead of the granting of any compulsory acquisition powers under the DCO.

## 9 Neighbouring projects

### 9.1 Overview of pre-application engagement

9.1.1 To support effective coordination with Portsmouth Water as the promoter of a neighbouring project of direct relevance to the Project, the Applicant has established a structured and well-resourced interface management framework.

- Dedicated interface coordinators from Southern Water and Portsmouth Water meet weekly to maintain alignment on design development, operational interfaces, emerging risks and shared decision-making.
- This is reinforced by a fortnightly escalation forum at Project Director level, providing a transparent mechanism for addressing strategic or cross-organisational matters.
- In the engineering and technical domain, the interface is further underpinned by weekly Water Quality Steering Groups, Technical Working Groups, and Environmental Working Groups, which together support coordinated progression of assessment methodologies, design detail, and mitigation strategies.
- As both projects mature, this interface is expanding to encompass site security, system control, information and operational technology, maintenance planning and access arrangements, ensuring that operational integration is embedded early.
- To facilitate structured scenario testing and stress-testing of assumptions, five Structured What-If (SWIFT) sessions have been completed, exploring design and operational options collaboratively.
- Schedule coordination is a shared discipline across both organisations, with ongoing joint work focused on schedule alignment and dependency mapping to ensure that the timing of key activities remains coherent and deliverable.
- In parallel, the Applicant maintains routine engagement with Portsmouth Water to discuss land parcels with shared or adjacent interests, supporting consistent communication with affected parties and a coordinated approach to land acquisition and stakeholder management.

9.1.2 The proposed pipeline passes close to the Welborne Garden Village site (which is a development for 6,000 homes, a district centre, employment and industrial uses and four schools that received outline planning permission in 2021 (P/17/0266/OA) and is currently under construction). The proposed location of IPS-F is located in close proximity to the east of the development site. The Applicant has undertaken engagement with Welborne Garden Village to discuss route alignment, which avoids intersecting the development other than where required to retain flexibility for the provision of an access track, and to minimise impacts on residential properties, as well as in relation to the design of IPS-F. This has specifically included amending

landscape screening proposals to the south west of IPS-F following discussions.

- 9.1.3 The Applicant has also been in dialogue with Conrad Energy, the promoters of the Titchfield Lane Solar Farm Project in relation to the interface between the solar scheme and the pipeline alignment.

## 9.2 Statements of Common Ground

- 9.2.1 Work is underway in relation to the preparation of a SoCG between the Applicant and Portsmouth Water. The Applicant has proposed the scope and topics that it considers should be covered within the SoCG, reflecting matters relevant to the interface between the respective projects, and discussions are ongoing. No other SoCG have been prepared with other development promoters.
- 9.2.2 As outlined in **Table 9-1**, the status of the SoCG between the Applicant and Portsmouth Water at the time of submission is draft. Engagement between the parties is ongoing, with the Applicant having proposed the scope and topics to be addressed within the SoCG as discussions progress.

**Table 9-1: Status of Portsmouth Water SoCG**

Local Authority	Status of SoCG
Portsmouth Water	Draft

## 9.3 Ongoing engagement

- 9.3.1 Engagement with neighbouring projects will continue through the pre-Examination and Examination stages as necessary.

## 10 Summary

- 10.1.1 Engagement with stakeholders has been a continuous and iterative process throughout the development of the Project. The Applicant has undertaken extensive engagement with a wide range of stakeholders, including statutory consultees, local authorities, environmental bodies, community representatives, businesses, and landowners. This engagement has supported the consultation process, helping to shape key aspects of the Project, including route refinement, mitigation measures, and construction methodologies.
- 10.1.2 Draft Statements of Common Ground (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) have been prepared with key organisations to demonstrate progress and clarify areas of agreement and disagreement. These documents have been iteratively shared and refined to ensure they are as mature as possible at submission, supporting the Examining Authority in understanding the Applicant's position and the nature of ongoing dialogue.
- 10.1.3 The Applicant will maintain proactive engagement throughout the Examination and delivery phases. The Applicant has embedded mechanisms within the draft Development Consent Order (Document reference 3.1, DCO Volume 3) and associated control documents to secure continued engagement during construction and operation. These include requirements for consultation on detailed design and environmental management plans, ensuring stakeholders retain opportunities to influence the Project beyond the application stage.

## 11 References

- [1] R. A. f. P. I. D. (RAPID), "Strategic regional water resource solutions guidance for gate three (Version 2)," August 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/publication/strategic-regional-water-resource-solutions-guidance-for-gate-three/>.
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- [3] D. W. I. (DWI), "Public Perception of Water Recycling for Drinking Water Use," 25 11 2022. [Online]. Available: <https://www.dwi.gov.uk/research/completed-research/consumer/public-perception-of-water-recycling-for-drinking-water-use/>.

## Appendix A Working Groups

A.1.1 This section sets out the various working groups that have been set up to seek stakeholder feedback on proposals during the pre-application period.

### A.2 Technical Working Group (TWG)

A.2.1 To facilitate engagement with statutory environmental bodies on technical matters, including environmental assessment methodologies, baseline data, and mitigation strategies, amongst other topics.

A.2.2 Members include:

- The EA
- NE
- The MMO

A.2.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the Technical Working Groups are listed below.

Name	Purpose	Date
Technical Working Group	The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the DCO process and discuss the engagement plans going forward. The stakeholders were also given an update of scheme development since Gate 2 submission.	May 2022
Technical Working Group	Provide Project updates, including changes to the size of the proposed WRP and the potential for a combined tunnel with Portsmouth Water.	November 2022
Technical Working Group	Discussion on Preliminary Hydrogeological Impact Assessment (HIA) outcomes and recommendations	February 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide update on abandoned ground investigation (GI) casing, including borehole locations, retrieval actions taken so far, analysis of available options, and the proposed way forward.	April 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide update on the marine ecology baseline and sampling methodology.	May 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide update on the engagement plans up to Summer 2024 Consultation.	June 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide update on priority actions and engagements plans.	July 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide a scheme development update including a plan of the preferred corridor, corridor sections no longer being progressed, and the next steps for scheme development.	August 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide summary of previous actions and a reminder of the engagement programme.	August 2023

Name	Purpose	Date
Technical Working Group	Provide update on the TWG schedule, DCO programme and RAPID Gate 3.	September 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide summary of previous actions and a reminder of the engagement programme.	October 2023
Technical Working Group	Provide TWG schedule update and summary of open actions.	January 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide TWG schedule update and summary of open actions.	February 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide TWG schedule update and summary of open actions.	March 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide TWG schedule update and summary of open actions.	April 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide TWG schedule update and summary of open actions.	May 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide TWG schedule update and summary of open actions.	June 2024
Technical Working Group	Discuss environmental permitting and Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) Risk Assessment and Management Plan.	July 2024
Technical Working Group	Discuss Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey methodology and results of the Southern Damselfly surveys.	August 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide updates on the washout approach, INNS Biosecurity Plan, Consents and Licenses, underwater noise assessment and the BNG strategy.	September 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide update on Summer 2024 Consultation feedback from NE in relation to land use and agriculture, and from MMO in relation to marine biodiversity. Provide update on groundwater flood risk, water quality modelling, ancient woodland and the HRA Stage 2.	October 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide update on ecology survey results and water quality modelling. Open Mosaic Habitat on the WRP site.	November 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide an overview of SuDS for WRP site. Review engagement related DCO documents and MMO issues log review.	December 2024
Technical Working Group	Provide an EA issues log review and NE issues log review.	January 2025
Technical Working Group	Provide Environmental Net Gain (ENG) update, scheme development update, underwater noise, marine biodiversity and water quality modelling updates. Air quality cumulative assessment approach.	February 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
Technical Working Group	Spring 2025 consultation reminder, marine biodiversity update, Draft Water Monitoring Strategy, Nutrient Assessment, ecology survey coverage, washouts, Break Pressure Tank Overflows and INNS Biosecurity plan discussion.	March 2025
Technical Working Group	Spring 2025 consultation feedback on the water environment and marine biodiversity. SoCG update.	April 2025
Technical Working Group	Washouts, Stage 2 HRA and Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Stage 1, Outline Soul Resource Management Plan, WRP SuDS Outfall, MMO Issues Log updates.	May 2025
Technical Working Group	MMO issues log updates, Dissolved Inorganic Carbon in Langstone Harbour, Watercourse crossing methodology, Nutrient Assessment methodology, Phosphorous removal options.	June 2025
Technical Working Group	INNS Biosecurity Plan feedback, Design updates, Abstraction reduction benefits, Water Environment Regulations (WER) Assessment, Washouts, Sand eel survey/assessment methodology and the Peacock's tail habitat survey findings.	July 2025
Technical Working Group	BNG strategy, INNS mitigation update and MMO issues log	September 2025
Technical Working Group	Underwater noise and vibration updates, WRP SuDS Outfall (Eels), Abstraction reduction benefits, Hermitage baseline, Magnitude of impacts of groundwater resources, Draft Schedule 2 of the DCO overview and INNS update.	October 2025
Technical Working Group	Draft Schedule 2 of the DCO overview, Draft DCO Plans overview, WRP SuDS outfall (Eels) and Water quality modelling update.	November 2025
Technical Working Group	Discharge permit programme versus DCO programme, District Licence update, Open Mosaic Habitat Mitigation, Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Water quality – updates to EA SoCG latest positions, Underwater noise and vibration, Overview of Otterbourne waste stream treatment process to manage INNS, INNS and pathogens, Tidal flood risk at Budds Farm WTW and Land contamination meeting follow-up.	December 2025
Technical Working Group	Habitats Regulations Assessment Comments Discussion, Nutrient Assessment Findings, Contaminants of Emerging Concern: Approach to assessment in the DCO and Reservoir Water Quality Modelling Report.	January 2026
Technical Working Group	EA-ES-017 Hermitage future baseline update, Scheme Development update, Outline Water	February 2026

Name	Purpose	Date
	Monitoring Plan Technical Note discussion and Underwater noise and vibration meeting follow up.	
Technical Working Group	Discuss Contaminants of Emerging Concern, provide an update on Nutrient Assessment findings, present a summary of the WER assessment, provide an update on reptile translocation, and discuss the position and next steps in relation to the SoCG.	March 2026
Technical Working Group	Provide an update on Contaminants of Emerging Concern, discuss final SoCGs for submission, and outline the approach to post-DCO-submission engagement.	April 2026

### A.3 Joint Officer Group (JOG)

A.3.1 To facilitate engagement with those local authorities directly affected by the Project's location and associated infrastructure, on planning, design, and consenting matters, including pipeline routeing, above-ground infrastructure siting, and construction methodologies, amongst other topics.

A.3.2 Members include:

- East Hampshire District Council
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- South Downs National Park Authority
- Winchester City Council

A.3.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the JOGs is listed below.

Name	Purpose	Date
JOG meeting	Provided project progress summary, scheme development update, planning performance agreement, and non-statutory consultation overview.	September 2022
JOG meeting	Reviewed project progress, Section 35 direction, planning performance agreement, consultation updates, and engagement plans.	June 2022
JOG meeting	Discussed PPA signing, consultation update, local authority engagement plan, scheme development	August 2022

Name	Purpose	Date
	methodology, EIA update, and Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) briefing.	
JOG meeting	Focused on consultation update, programme update, EIA working groups, scheme development, engagement update, and invoicing process.	October 2022
JOG meeting	Covered Project updates, programme updates, WRMP24, engagement update, and Geographic Information System (GIS) briefing.	December 2022
JOG meeting	Reviewed routing and system design, above-ground plant, pipeline crossing sensitivity, temporary compounds, lagoons, and programme update.	March 2023
JOG meeting	Meeting scheduled but cancelled due to availability	April 2023
JOG meeting	Discussed engagement and programme update, planning strategy detail, EIA update, scoping report, and scheme development.	June 2023
JOG meeting	Meeting scheduled but cancelled due to availability	August 2023
JOG meeting	Addressed programme and engagement update, planning strategy, scheme development, consents and licenses, and scoping opinion update.	October 2023
JOG meeting	Focused on the 2024 SoCC which can be found in Appendix E.9 (2024 SoCC of the Consultation Report (Document reference 5.1, DCO Volume 5), GIS tool layers, draft order limits, design vision, and cumulative effects assessment approach.	December 2023
JOG meeting	Reviewed Summer 2024 consultation plans, scheme development recap, design principles, and next steps for engagement with those local authorities directly affected by the Project's location and associated infrastructure.	February 2024
JOG meeting	Discussed draft environmental masterplan, summer consultation, and next steps.	April 2024
JOG meeting	Covered summer consultation overview, design principles update, biodiversity net gain strategy, and local authority role in DCO deliverables.	September 2024
JOG meeting	Addressed supplementary consultation, adequacy of consultation milestone, draft DCO documents, cumulative impact assessment, and PINS engagement.	November 2024
JOG meeting	Focused on Spring 2025 consultation, adequacy of consultation milestone, issues logs, and cumulative effects assessment.	February 2025
JOG meeting	Reviewed emerging themes from spring consultation, scheme development, and draft design principles.	May 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
JOG meeting	Discussed draft DCO documents and plans, design principles, and cumulative effects assessment agreement process.	September 2025
JOG meeting	Reviewed SoCG process, draft design principles, draft Schedule 2 and discussed the local authority Examination preparation	December 2025

## A.4 Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group

A.4.1 To facilitate engagement with statutory consultees relating to biodiversity and water environment, specifically the following EIA topics: terrestrial ecology, aquatic ecology, marine ecology and water quality and surface water, groundwater and soils.

A.4.2 Members include:

- NE
- The EA
- MMO
- Southern Inshore fisheries and conservation authority
- The Forestry Commission
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- Winchester City Council
- South Downs National Park Authority

A.4.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Groups is listed below.

Name	Purpose	Date
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 1 - Introduction	The purpose of the meeting was to provide a clear understanding of the Project and programme of work to DCO application, including the EIA process.	May 2022
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working	Provide an update on the progress of the Project since EIA Working Group Session 1.	August 2022

Name	Purpose	Date
Group - Session 2 - Scoping		
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 3 - Design development and EIA Scoping	Provide a summary of the scheme development content presented at Summer 2022 Consultation and an update on the progress of the Project and changes to design. This includes the phasing of the proposed WRP and integration with Havant Thicket Reservoir plans. Provide update on EIA Scoping Area and the proposed Underground Pipeline between Budds Farm Water Treatment Works (WTW), the proposed WRP, Havant Thicket Reservoir, and Otterbourne Water Supply Works (WSW). Describe the AGP required and the Long Sea Outfall (LSO).	June 2023
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 4 - Post EIA Scoping Opinion	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	November 2023
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 5 - PEIR (Baseline, methodology and approach to mitigation)	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	January 2024
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 6 - PEIR: Assessment, findings, significance and mitigation	Provide a briefing on the PEIR, and the associated documentation that will be published as part of the upcoming Summer 2024 Consultation.	May 2024
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 7 - Post-Summer 2024 Consultation Feedback	Provide an update on the progress of the Project EIA assessment and discuss feedback from the Summer 2024 Consultation.	September 2024
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 8 - Progress towards the ES: assessment updates and management plans	Provide an update on the progress of the Project design.	November 2024
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 9 - Spring 2025 Consultation feedback and EIA progress	Provide a summary of the Spring 2025 Consultation.	June 2025
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 10 -	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the	September 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
Marine Biodiversity and Land Quality and Ground Conditions	Marine biodiversity and Land quality and ground conditions topics.	
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group - Session 11 - Terrestrial and Freshwater Biodiversity and Noise and Vibration	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity and Noise and vibration topics.	October 2025
Biodiversity and Water Environment EIA Working Group – Session 12 – DCO and ES Overview	The final EIA WG session provided an overview of the submitted DCO application, including its structure and key application documents. The session explained the architecture and content of the ES, setting out how assessments, mitigation, monitoring, and enhancement measures are presented and secured. It summarised how consultation and engagement have informed the DCO application and ES, and highlighted key updates since previous EIA WG sessions, confirming the final assessment position.	April 2026

## A.5 Community EIA Working Group

A.5.1 To facilitate engagement with statutory consultees relating to community issues, specifically the following EIA topics: community, health, socioeconomics and land use and agriculture.

A.5.2 Members include:

- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
- NHS Hampshire, Southampton and Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- South Downs National Park Authority
- Winchester City Council

A.5.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the Community EIA Working Groups is listed below.

**Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project**  
**Statement of Engagement**

Name	Purpose	Date
Community EIA Working Group - Session 1 - Introduction	The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the Project, outline its development process and programme, and explain the approach to Environmental Impact Assessment.	June 2022
Community EIA Working Group - Session 2 - Scoping	The purpose of the meeting was to outline the approach to EIA scoping for the Project, provide an update on the development of the Project, and engage stakeholders on socio-economics, health, land use, and agriculture considerations for the DCO	September 2022
Community EIA Working Group - Session 3 - Design Development and EIA Scoping	The meeting aimed to confirm the EIA scoping approach for the Project, share updates on design development and pipeline routes, and engage local authority stakeholders on potential socio-economic, health, land use, and agricultural impacts to inform the DCO.	June 2023
Community EIA Working Group - Session 4 - Post EIA Scoping Opinion	The meeting aimed to update stakeholders on the PEIR and EIA process for the Project, focusing on design updates, baseline data, assessment methodologies, and the approach to mitigation ahead of finalising PEIR chapters	November 2023
Community EIA Working Group - Session 5 - PEIR (baseline, methodology and approach to mitigation)	The meeting reviewed the PEIR for the Project, covering design updates, mitigation strategy, and topic-specific assessments for land use, socio-economics, health, and equality. It introduced tools like GIS and the Mitigation Register, explained primary, secondary, and tertiary mitigation, and outlined next steps for finalising chapters.	February 2024
Community EIA Working Group - Session 6 - PEIR (Assessment, findings, significance and mitigation)	Reviewed the Preliminary Environmental Information Report, covering its purpose, structure, and early findings. Discussions included proposed development details, mitigation strategies, and assessments on land use, socio-economics, health, equality impacts, and cumulative effects. Key points highlighted temporary construction impacts such as loss of agricultural land and disruption to recreation areas, alongside some beneficial socio-economic effects.	May 2024
Community EIA Working Group - Session 7 - Consultation Feedback	Focused on summarising feedback from the Summer 2024 Consultation and outlining next steps. Updates were provided on EIA methodology, cumulative effects, and the development of design principles, including site-specific considerations and the Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7).	October 2024
Community EIA Working Group - Session 8 Progress towards the ES	Focused on progress toward the Environmental Statement and updates on key topics. The meeting covered plans for a supplementary public consultation on water quality impacts related to the proposed WRP, recent Planning Inspectorate	December 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
	advice updates and their implications, and an overview of the DCO documents and control mechanisms. Other discussed topics included mitigation strategies, including primary, secondary, and tertiary measures, and introduced the Commitments Register to capture all Project commitments.	
Community EIA Working Group - Session 9 - Spring 2025 Consultation	Focused on summarising Spring 2025 consultation feedback, scheme development, and progress on the Environmental Statement. Updates were provided on design refinements, the preferred pipeline option between the WRP and Havant Thicket Reservoir, and evolving draft design principles.	June 2025
Community EIA Working Group - Session 10 - Community	Discussed progress toward the Environmental Statement and the upcoming DCO submission, now expected in Spring 2026. Discussions addressed design refinements, legislative updates, baseline conditions, and likely significant effects.	October 2025
Community EIA Working Group - Session 11 - Round Up	Provided an ES round-up for the Project, covering mitigation commitments, skills and employment planning, landscape and ecology management, cumulative and in-combination effects, water quality modelling, Environmental Net Gain, and Habitats Regulations Assessment.	December 2025
Community EIA Working Group - Session 12 – DCO Application and ES Overview	The final EIA WG session provided an overview of the submitted DCO application, including its structure and key application documents. The session explained the architecture and content of the ES, setting out how assessments, mitigation, monitoring, and enhancement measures are presented and secured. It summarised how consultation and engagement have informed the DCO application and ES, and highlighted key updates since previous EIA WG sessions, confirming the final assessment position.	April 2026

## **A.6 Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group**

A.6.1 To facilitate engagement with statutory consultees relating to emissions and transport, specifically the following EIA topics: traffic and transport, air quality and odour, noise and vibration, waste and materials.

A.6.2 Members include:

- National Highways
- The EA (waste)
- NE

- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council (inc. Highways)
- Havant Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- South Downs National Park Authority
- Winchester City Council

A.6.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the Emissions and Transport EIA Working Groups are listed below.

Name	Purpose	Date
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 1 - Introduction	The purpose of the meeting was to provide a clear understanding of the Project and programme of work to DCO application, including the EIA process.	June 2022
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 2 - Scoping	Provide an update on the progress of the Project since EIA Working Group Session 1.	September 2022
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 3 - Design development and EIA Scoping	Provide a summary of the scheme development content presented at Summer 2022 Consultation and an update on the progress of the Project and changes to design. This includes the phasing of the proposed WRP and integration with Havant Thicket Reservoir plans. Provide update on EIA Scoping Area and the proposed Underground Pipeline between Budds Farm WTW, the proposed WRP, Havant Thicket Reservoir, and Otterbourne WSW. Describe the AGP required and the LSO.	June 2023
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 4 (Part 1) - Post EIA Scoping Opinion	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	November 2023
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 4 (Part 2) - Post EIA Scoping Opinion	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	November 2023
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 5 - PEIR (Baseline, methodology and approach to mitigation)	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	February 2024
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 6 - PEIR:	Provide a briefing on the PEIR, and the associated documentation that will be published as part of the upcoming Summer 2024 Consultation.	May 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Assessment, findings, significance and mitigation		
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 7 - Post-Summer 2024 Consultation Feedback	Provide an update on the progress of the Project EIA assessment and discuss feedback from the Summer 2024 Consultation.	September 2024
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 8 - Progress towards the ES: assessment updates and approach to management plans	Provide an update on the progress of the Project design.	November 2024
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 9 - Spring 2025 Consultation feedback and EIA progress	Provide a summary of the Spring 2025 Consultation.	June 2025
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 10 - Air Quality and Odour and Traffic and Transport	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Air quality and odour and Traffic and transport topics.	September 2025
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 11 – Resources and Waste Management	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Resources and waste management topic.	September 2025
Emissions and Transport EIA Working Group - Session 12 – DCO Application and ES Overview	The final EIA WG session provided an overview of the submitted DCO application, including its structure and key application documents. The session explained the architecture and content of the ES, setting out how assessments, mitigation, monitoring, and enhancement measures are presented and secured. It summarised how consultation and engagement have informed the DCO application and ES, and highlighted key updates since previous EIA WG sessions, confirming the final assessment position.	April 2026

## A.7 Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group

- A.7.1 To facilitate engagement with statutory consultees relating to historic environment and landscape, specifically the following EIA topics: cultural heritage, archaeology and landscape and visual amenity.
- A.7.2 Members include:
- Historic England

- NE
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- South Downs National Park Authority
- Winchester City Council

A.7.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the Emissions and Transport EIA Working Groups are listed below.

Name	Purpose	Date
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 1 - Introduction	The purpose of the meeting was to provide a clear understanding of the Project and programme of work to DCO application, including the EIA process.	June 2022
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 2 - Scoping	Provide an update on the progress of the Project since EIA Working Group Session 1.	September 2022
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 3 - Design development and EIA Scoping	Provide a summary of the scheme development content presented at Summer 2022 Consultation and an update on the progress of the Project and changes to design. This includes the phasing of the Proposed WRP and integration with Havant Thicket Reservoir plans. Provide update on EIA Scoping Area and the proposed Underground Pipeline between Budds Farm WTW, the proposed WRP, Havant Thicket Reservoir, and Otterbourne WSW. Describe the AGP required and the LSO.	June 2023
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 4 - Post EIA Scoping Opinion	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	October 2023
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 5 - PEIR (Baseline, methodology and approach to mitigation)	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	January 2024
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 6 - PEIR:	Provide a briefing on the PEIR, and the associated documentation that will be published as part of the upcoming Summer 2024 Consultation.	May 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Assessment, findings, significance and mitigation		
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 7 - Post-Summer 2024 Consultation Feedback	Provide an update on the progress of the Project EIA assessment and discuss feedback from the Summer 2024 Consultation.	September 2024
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 8 - Progress towards the ES: assessment updates and management plans	Provide an update on the progress of the Project design.	December 2024
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 9 - Spring 2025 Consultation feedback and EIA progress	Provide a summary of the Spring 2025 Consultation.	June 2025
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 10 - Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Archaeology and cultural heritage topic.	September 2025
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 11 - Landscape and Visual	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Landscape and visual topic.	September 2025
Historic Environment and Landscape EIA Working Group - Session 12 – DCO Application and ES Overview	The final EIA WG session provided an overview of the submitted DCO application, including its structure and key application documents. The session explained the architecture and content of the ES, setting out how assessments, mitigation, monitoring, and enhancement measures are presented and secured. It summarised how consultation and engagement have informed the DCO application and ES, and highlighted key updates since previous EIA WG sessions, confirming the final assessment position.	April 2026

## A.8 Resilience EIA Working Group

A.8.1 To facilitate engagement with statutory consultees relating to topics relating to resilience specifically the following EIA topics: emergency planning, major accidents and disasters, flood risk and climate change.

A.8.2 Members include:

- Health and Safety Executive

- Civil Aviation Authority
- Hampshire & Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority
- Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner
- Hampshire Prepared Local Resilience Forum
- Hampshire Search and Rescue
- The EA
- Eastleigh Borough Council
- Fareham Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council
- Havant Borough Council
- Portsmouth City Council
- South Downs National Park Authority
- Winchester City Council

A.8.3 Note, membership reflects those invited to participate; however, attendance may have varied across individual sessions. A summary of the Resilience EIA Working Groups is listed below.

Name	Purpose	Date
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 1 - Introduction	The purpose of the meeting was to provide a clear understanding of the Project and programme of work to DCO application, including the EIA process.	September 2022
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 2 - Design development and EIA Scoping	Provide a summary of the scheme development content presented at Summer 2022 Consultation and an update on the progress of the Project and changes to design. This includes the phasing of the proposed WRP and integration with Havant Thicket Reservoir plans. Provide update on EIA Scoping Area and the Proposed Underground Pipeline between Budds Farm WTW, the Proposed WRP, Havant Thicket Reservoir, and Otterbourne WSW. Describe the AGP required and the LSO.	June 2023
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 3 - Post EIA Scoping Opinion	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	December 2023
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 4 - PEIR (Baseline, methodology and approach to mitigation)	Provide an update on the open actions and a recap of the engagement programme.	February 2024
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 5 - PEIR:	Provide a briefing on the PEIR, and the associated documentation that will be published as part of the upcoming Summer 2024 Consultation.	May 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Assessment, findings, significance and mitigation		
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 6 - Post-Summer 2024 Consultation Feedback	Provide an update on the progress of the Project EIA assessment and discuss feedback from the Summer 2024 Consultation.	September 2024
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 7 - Progress towards the ES: assessment updates and management plans	Provide an update on the progress of the Project design.	December 2024
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 8 - Spring 2025 Consultation feedback and EIA progress	Provide a summary of the Spring 2025 Consultation.	June 2025
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 9 - Major Accidents and Disasters	Provide an update on scheme development, the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7) and the approach to decommissioning.	September 2025
Resilience EIA Working Group - Session 10 - Flood risk and Water Environment	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Flood risk and Water environment topics.	September 2025
Resilience EIA Working Group 11 - Carbon and Climate Change	Provide an overview of the assessment of potential likely significant effects, proposed mitigation, and monitoring and enhancement measures for the Carbon and climate change topic.	September 2025
EIA Working Group 11 - Session 12 – DCO Application and ES Overview	The final EIA WG session provided an overview of the submitted DCO application, including its structure and key application documents. The session explained the architecture and content of the ES, setting out how assessments, mitigation, monitoring, and enhancement measures are presented and secured. It summarised how consultation and engagement have informed the DCO application and ES, and highlighted key updates since previous EIA WG sessions, confirming the final assessment position.	April 2026

## Appendix B Engagement Records

- B.1.1 This appendix provides a consolidated record of engagement undertaken with the local authorities and Statutory Environmental Bodies outside of the structured programme of Working Group meetings. These records capture the broader range of discussions, information exchanges, and issue-specific correspondence that have complemented forums such as the JOG, TWG and EIA Working Groups.
- B.1.2 The purpose of this appendix is to present a transparent overview of how engagement has evolved throughout the pre-application period, reflecting the iterative nature of dialogue and the steps taken to share information, resolve issues, and maintain a “no surprises” approach. This is not an exhaustive record of every interaction, but a collation of the most pertinent engagement that has supported and informed the development of the Project and the preparation of the SoCGs.

### B.2 Eastleigh Borough Council

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Progress and Engagement Coordination Meeting	The purpose was to discuss progress on the Project, including updates on scheme development, consultation feedback, invoicing arrangements, and upcoming technical work. It aimed to confirm responsibilities, share information (such as GIS data and consultation material), identify areas where the council will need more detail to provide meaningful input, and outline next steps for continued engagement as the Project moves toward statutory consultation.	September 2022
Scheme Development and Construction Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to update local authorities (including Eastleigh Borough Council) on the development of the Project, focusing particularly on construction related elements such as proposed compound locations, tunnelling requirements, AGP, and anticipated mitigation measures. It aimed to present emerging technical information, gather early feedback from councils, and outline next steps in refining the Project’s design and environmental assessment.	October 2022
Fisher’s Pond and Palmerston Forts Pipeline Route Options Meeting	Focused on selecting the preferred pipeline route at Fisher’s Pond and assessing the proposed underground pipeline’s proximity to the Palmerston Forts at Portsdown Hill. The meeting aimed to share updated technical, environmental, heritage, landscape, and transport considerations, agree that the southern route should be progressed due to fewer constraints, and outline how potential impacts, particularly on highways, historic assets, and local landscapes, would be minimised during construction.	December 2023
Summer 2024 Consultation	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss key elements of the Project with Eastleigh Borough Council, focusing on BNG strategy and opportunities, impacts on mature and	September 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Response Review Meeting	veteran trees, ecological mitigation, renewable energy commitments, and the overall planning and development principles. The session aimed to share updates, address Eastleigh Borough Council concerns, and clarify next steps ahead of the DCO process.	
Design Refinements and Consultation Response Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to update Eastleigh Borough Council on the development of the Project, including the latest consultation materials, approach to water quality, scheme development process update and to discuss their 2024 Consultation response to Design Refinements 22 (Construction Compound L-1) and 24 (Section L).	March 2025
Design Principles and Environmental Mitigation Meeting	The meeting discussed the approach to Design Principles and their role in informing the design process of the Project, including Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Areas. The Applicant updated Eastleigh Borough Council on Construction Compound L-1 and the avoidance of a Veteran Tree and moving away from Bow Lake, the confirmation that the Order Limits had moved from Fisher's Pond and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) opportunities within the borough.	June 2025
Bow Lake and Fisher's Pond Construction Impacts Meeting	The meeting focused on Bow Lake in relation to construction impacts and the Applicant confirming a trenchless method at the watercourse, Fisher's Pond and the Applicant confirming that Park Pale Scheduled Monument will not be impacted and is proposed for environmental and enhancement only. The Applicant presented on the reduced construction compound size within Fielders Farm SINC and discussed Tree Impact Surveys.	July 2025
Design Principles Update and Construction Access Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to update Eastleigh on the update to the Design Principles including tree hierarchy and addressing ecological and landscape concerns and discussing the relocation of construction access from Bishopstoke Lane to Church Lane.	September 2025
Tree Removal Hierarchy and Cumulative Effects Assessment Meeting	The meeting focused on the Project's tree removal hierarchy, cumulative effects assessment and the review of the long and short list within the assessment.	October 2025
Draft SoCG, Outline CEMP and BNG Discussion Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to run through Eastleigh Borough Councils comments on the draft SoCG (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5), present extracts of the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7), discuss the Project's approach to BNG.	November 2025
Fielders Farm SINC, Bow Lake and Cumulative Impacts Meeting	The meeting focused on agreeing matters regarding Fielders Farm SINC, Bow Lake and cumulative impact assessment long and short list. The Applicant and Eastleigh Borough Council also discussed soil protection and restoration at Bow Lake, reject water from Otterbourne WSW, construction timescales, carbon and	January 2026

Name	Purpose	Date
	climate change mitigation and tree survey and the Projects tree replacement strategy in relation to Eastleigh Borough Council's policy.	
Water Quality, Climate Change and Draft SoCG Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential changes to water chemistry and alkalinity associated with the transfer to Otterbourne, the tree replacement strategy, carbon and climate change, including renewable energy strategy. The Applicant and Eastleigh Borough Council also discussed the Draft SoCG - Eastleigh Borough Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) and the Potential Main Issues for Examination (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5).	February 2026

### B.3 Fareham Borough Council

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Progress, PPA and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The purpose of this bilateral meeting was to update Fareham Borough Council on the progress of the Project, discuss feedback on the PPA, review invoicing arrangements, and gather input on scheme development, including consultation feedback, potential construction locations, and environmental considerations.	September 2022
Welborne Garden Village Pipeline Route Options and Coordination Meeting	The meeting aimed to brief local authority officers on the updated pipeline route options around Welborne Garden Village (WGV), explain the rationale for selecting a preferred alternative route, and discuss key issues including draft Order Limits, transport considerations, the proposed Intermediate Pumping Station B (IPS-B) site, and landscape/visual impacts. It also provided a forum for councils to raise concerns, particularly around highways, construction phasing, and interactions with the WGV development, and to agree on follow-up actions to ensure coordination between the two projects.	December 2023
IPS-F Design Principles Review Meeting	The meeting was held to review the general and site-specific design principles for the Intermediate Pumping Station F (IPS-F). The Applicant aimed to explain the developing design approach, present concept layouts, gather initial feedback from Fareham Borough Council officers, and discuss how this input would feed into the upcoming PEIR, the Summer 2024 consultation, and the ongoing issues log to support a future SoCG.	April 2024
Biodiversity Net Gain Strategy and Delivery Opportunities Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was for the Applicant to brief Fareham Borough Council and the Partnership for South Hampshire on the early development of the BNG strategy for the Project, outline anticipated unit and land requirements, and explore potential opportunities for off-site BNG delivery, including land availability, ecological projects, and partnership models, while gathering	June 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
	feedback on constraints, strategic considerations, and next steps for collaboration.	
Project Update and Design Refinements Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to give Fareham Borough Council a tailored update on the Project, focusing on the key design refinements within the Fareham Borough Council area, sharing consultation materials, explaining changes since the previous consultation, and outlining forthcoming discussions on detailed design principles ahead of the DCO submission.	March 2025
Design Principles and Environmental Mitigation Meeting (IPS-F / Welborne Village)	The meeting discussed the approach to Design Principles and their role in informing the design process of the Project, including Environmental Mitigation and Enhancement Areas, and IPS-F in relation to Welbourne Village.	June 2025
Landscape and Visual Impacts and Environmental Masterplan Review Meeting	The meeting focused on Landscape and Visual Impacts and shared viewpoint images, the Projects' interface with Welbourne Village and IPS-F and shared the indicative Environmental Masterplan.	July 2025
Design Principles Terminology and Detailed Design Review Meeting	The meeting discussed the terminology used within a number of Design Principles, with Fareham Borough Council providing comments on wording. Design Principles were also discussed in relation to space allowed for planting around IPS-F, lighting and archaeologically.	October 2025
Draft SoCG and Outline CEMP Review Meeting	Fareham Borough Council provided feedback on the Draft Statement of Common Ground - Fareham Borough Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5), and the Applicant presented extracts from the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7), including approach to community engagement.	November 2025
BNG Opportunities and Outline LEMP Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) opportunities within the borough, provide an update on indicative Environmental Masterplan relating to IPS-F and present extracts on the Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7).	December 2025
IPS-F Planting Strategy and PRow Interface Meeting	The meeting focused on IPS-F and the Project's approach to planting along the southern edge of the site, between the security fencing and existing PRow.	January 2026

## B.4 Hampshire County Council

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Progress, PPA and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The purpose of this bilateral meeting was to update Hampshire County Council on the Project, discuss progress on the PPA, invoicing expectations, and scheme	September 2022

Name	Purpose	Date
	development, and to gather early feedback on route options, consultation responses, and technical matters.	
Scheme Development and Construction Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to update local authorities (including Hampshire County Council) on the development of the Project, focusing particularly on construction related elements such as proposed compound locations, tunnelling requirements, ABG, and anticipated mitigation measures. It aimed to present emerging technical information, gather early feedback from councils, and outline next steps in refining the Project's design and environmental assessment.	October 2022
Welborne Garden Village Pipeline Route Options and Coordination Meeting	The meeting aimed to brief local authority officers (including Hampshire County Council) on the updated pipeline route options around Welborne Garden Village, explain the rationale for selecting a preferred alternative route, and discuss key issues including draft Order Limits, transport considerations, the proposed IPS-B site, and landscape/visual impacts. It also provided a forum for councils to raise concerns, particularly around highways, construction phasing, and interactions with the WGV development, and to agree on follow-up actions to ensure coordination between the two projects.	December 2023
Fisher's Pond and Palmerston Forts Pipeline Route Options Meeting	Focused on selecting the preferred pipeline route at Fisher's Pond and assessing the proposed underground pipeline's proximity to the Palmerston Forts at Portsdown Hill. The meeting aimed to share updated technical, environmental, heritage, landscape, and transport considerations, agree that the southern route should be progressed due to fewer constraints, and outline how potential impacts, particularly on highways, historic assets, and local landscapes, would be minimised during construction.	December 2023
Staunton Country Park Tunnel Shaft and Old Bedhampton Interface Meeting	The purpose of this meeting is to provide a detailed overview and discussion of the proposed pipeline and tunnel shaft at Staunton Country Park, as well as the interface with Old Bedhampton. This includes presenting site selection background, engineering and construction details, proposed draft Order Limits, and key environmental considerations such as impacts on open space, recreation, the historic environment, and landscape and visual setting.	February 2024
Trenchless Crossings Technical Approval Strategy Meeting	The meeting aimed to brief Hampshire County Council and National Highways on the Applicant's proposed approach to technical approval for a series of trenchless pipeline crossings forming part of the Project. It provided an overview of the Project's design, programme, interfaces with Hampshire County Council and National Highway assets, and sought early feedback on the approval pathways, required documentation, geotechnical	March 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
	information needs, and how the technical approval process should align with the upcoming DCO.	
SuDS Concepts and Flood Risk Management Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss the outline SuDS concepts for both the WRP and AGP sites, ensuring Hampshire County Council's LLFA team understood the proposed drainage philosophy, long-term storage approach, exceedance routing, and associated flood-risk considerations. It also aimed to clarify LLFA expectations for later stages, such as detailed design submissions, site-specific packages, modelling requirements, and future consultation, so that these could be incorporated into the Project's development and the forthcoming DCO documentation.	July 2024
Construction Compound Access and Traffic Management Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to review each proposed temporary construction compound and agree suitable access arrangements, ensuring safe and workable routes for construction traffic while addressing constraints such as road width, visibility, pedestrian use, and interactions with other planned developments. It also aimed to identify required surveys, design work, and management measures needed to support the DCO and ES programme.	July 2024
Public Rights of Way Management and Mitigation Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss the scope, methodology, and proposed mitigation measures for the RoWMP associated with the Project. It aimed to outline how PRoW affected during construction would be managed, gather feedback from local authorities and stakeholders, and identify preferred approaches for closures, diversions, communication methods, safety measures, and coordination needs across different Project sections.	October 2024
Biodiversity Net Gain Opportunities and Delivery Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to explore opportunities for collaboration between the Applicant and Hampshire County Council on delivering BNG for the Project. The discussion focused on the Applicant's expected need for off-site BNG units, potential habitat creation or enhancement sites that Hampshire County Council might offer, options for long-term management partnerships, and practical considerations such as grassland and hedgerow requirements, governance, and future commercial arrangements.	December 2024
Trenchless Crossings Technical Approval Strategy Joint Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to present and discuss the Applicant's proposed strategy for obtaining technical approval of trenchless crossings beneath highway assets, ensuring National Highways, Hampshire County Council, and Portsmouth City Council understood the approach, standards, responsibilities, expected levels of design detail, risks, and approval processes ahead of the DCO submission.	January 2025

**Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project**  
**Statement of Engagement**

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Update, Water Quality and Design Refinements Meeting	The meeting aimed to update Hampshire County Council on the development of the Project, including the latest consultation materials, progress on water quality assessments, and a series of design refinements across multiple sections of the scheme. It provided a forum to explain changes since the previous consultation, address questions on highways, environmental impacts, and cumulative effects, and agree on follow-up actions and topics for continued engagement.	March 2025
Framework CTMP Review Meeting	The purpose of this workshop was to discuss the Hampshire County Council's comments on the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7).	April 2025
Access and Public Rights of Way Plan Review Meeting	The workshop was held to discuss the Hampshire Highway Authority's comments on Access and Public Rights of Way plan (Document reference 2.4, DCO Volume 2).	May 2025
Design Principles, Issues Log and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The meeting focused on updating Hampshire County Council about the progress of the Project. It included a discussion of the draft design principles that are guiding the Environmental Assessment. Additionally, the meeting provided a brief update on the comments from the local authority regarding the design refinements received during the Spring 2025 Consultation.	June 2025
Construction Traffic Management and Traffic Flows Workshop	Weekly workshop sessions were held to discuss the Hampshire Highway Authority's comments on the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7), Access and Public Rights of Way plan (Document reference 2.4, DCO Volume 2). July workshops focused on the construction traffic flows.	July 2025
Construction Accesses and Highway Interfaces Review Workshop	The purpose of these workshops were to review the Above Ground Plants permanent accesses, the A334 Wickham Road/ B3035 Botley Road junction, Curdrige Lane Access (construction compounds J-1 and J-2), B3035 Botley Road access (construction compound J-3), haul road typical detail and construction access widths, offsite construction traffic impacts, review of construction traffic impacts demand in the peak periods, Boarhunt Road update, A334/Blind Lane/Titchfield Lane, Titchfield Lane Permanent Access – updated visibility splay, Otterbourne Hill/Kiln Lane option review.	August 2025
Issues Log Review (Needs Case) Meeting	The meeting aimed to discuss the issues log in particular, the issues related to the needs case.	August 2025
Issues Log, Draft SoCG and DCO Drafting Workshop	The purpose of these workshops were to discuss the Hampshire Highway Authority's comments on the Framework Traffic Management Strategy (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) and the Access and Public Rights of Way plan (Document reference 2.4, DCO	September 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
	Volume 2). September workshop session included the DCO drafting and issues log discussion with the Highway Authority.	
Minerals, Waste and Resources Issues Log Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to discuss with Hampshire County Council, Minerals and Waste Authority, related to the Project, including the information requested on the ground investigation reports, the waste management capacity and sensitivity assessment, the landowner engagement and resource sterilisation, the mineral management strategy and the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7), the safeguarded sites and infrastructure impact assessment, the incidental extraction versus prior extraction justification and specific design refinements comments updates provided by the Hampshire County Council, Minerals and Waste Authority.	September 2025
Archaeology Issues Log and Draft SoCG Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to clarify the role of Hampshire Archaeology Advisor, which represents the archaeology service for the majority of local authorities, except Winchester City Council, which has its own archaeologist. The group reviewed the archaeology issues log proposing consolidation, and summarising stakeholders position and agreements for review and inclusion in the Draft SoCG - Hampshire County Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	November 2025
BNG, LNRS Alignment and Highway Issues Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to introduce the BNG project manager and confirm any updates to the publication of the LNRS. The forum reviewed the various unrelated highway raised by Hampshire County Council and the Applicant's latest responses to resolve the issues and agreeing on next steps and follow up actions.	November 2025
Night-time Works and Noise Mitigation Coordination Meeting	The meeting was held to update the Hampshire County Council on Winchester City Council's position on the nighttime works and noise mitigation, and to provide a forum for discussion and questions. Hampshire County Council reviewed the Applicant's latest response in resolving the issue regarding biodiversity and nature conservation, habitats and ecology, land use and agriculture, socio-economics, tourism and recreation and health, viewpoints from key trails and footpath Havant 45. The group outlined the next steps to address ongoing, unrelated highway issues.	December 2025
River Hamble BNG Opportunities and Pilot Site Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss the ongoing work related to the River Hamble Country Park and BNG Pilot and Site Opportunities, which aims to demonstrate the process, costs, and income potential of generating BNG units on council-owned land, with a focus on using lower quality or arable fields for habitat restoration and public engagement. The group agreed to share information to support potential BNG requirements for the Project.	January 2026

Name	Purpose	Date
Issues Log Consolidation and Draft SoCG Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the issue log consolidation and review process with Hampshire County Council Highway Authority.	February 2026
Night-time Highway Works Mitigation Joint Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss the Applicant's proposed nighttime highway works mitigation strategy and explain the stakeholder communications and approval process. The Applicant presented the site-specific access arrangements and resident impact within the Winchester City Council boundary.	February 2026
Draft SoCG Programme and Next Steps Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the timeline regarding the Draft SoCG - Hampshire County Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) and the next steps for the Project.	February 2026
Issues Log Consolidation and DCO Drafting Workshop	The meeting was held to review the issues log consolidation and review process. The Applicant discussed the concerns over DCO drafting and securing access arrangements and legal mechanisms	February 2026
Draft SoCG, Design Principles and PMIE Review Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the draft Draft SoCG - Hampshire County Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5), the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5) and the draft Potential Main Issues for Examination (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5).	February 2026
Highway Issues Consolidation and Draft SoCG Review Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the draft SoCG (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5), including a review and consolidation of highway related issues.	March 2026

## B.5 Havant Borough Council

Name	Purpose	Date
Water Recycling Programme Update and Engagement Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to update Havant Borough Council on the progress of Project, particularly the development of water recycling—and to provide a forum for discussion and questions. the Applicant explained the multi-barrier treatment process and safety of the proposed recycled water and addressed concerns about previous engagement and planning processes.	April 2022
Project Progress, PPA and Emerging Issues Review Meeting	The meeting was held to review progress on the Project and to discuss any emerging issues with Havant Borough Council, including the status of the PPA, invoicing arrangements, scheme development updates, consultation feedback, and emerging concerns such as Site 72, environmental impacts, and public engagement needs.	September 2022

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Update, Site Selection and Officer Briefing Meeting	Meeting held to update Havant Borough Council on the progress of the Project, ensuring new officers were fully briefed, discussing the site-selection process for the proposed WRP, reviewing consultation feedback, and coordinating upcoming actions related to planning, technical interfaces with the Havant Thicket Reservoir, and ongoing stakeholder engagement.	December 2022
WRP Site Selection Review and Additional Sites Assessment Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss the ongoing work related to site selection for the WRP. This included presenting the outcomes of the continual review, gathering feedback from attendees, outlining the next stage of assessing new or additional sites, and agreeing on next steps and follow-up actions.	February 2023
Site Selection Update and Planning Issues Follow-Up Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss site selection updates for the Project, gather Havant Borough Council's feedback on amended and newly considered parcels, clarify planning and environmental issues, and agree on follow-up actions, particularly around wording amendments, environmental considerations, land ownership constraints, and next-step timelines.	March 2023
Site Selection Assessment and RAG Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss the ongoing site-selection process, including updates to assessment methodologies, clarification of recent RAG rating changes, and consideration of constraints and risks associated with the top candidate sites. The group aimed to ensure a shared understanding of assessment outcomes, address concerns raised by stakeholders, and outline next steps for progressing toward a preferred site.	May 2023
Purbrook Tunnel and Break Pressure Tank-1 Route and Site Options Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to provide local authority officers with an overview of the developing proposals for the Purbrook Tunnel and the Break Pressure Tank (BPT-1), including updates on engineering design, construction requirements, environmental and hydrogeological considerations, and site-selection outcomes. It aimed to explain the rationale behind preferred route and site options, present preliminary technical and environmental information, and gather initial feedback ahead of the next stages of Project engagement.	December 2023
Staunton Country Park Tunnel Shaft and Old Bedhampton Interface Meeting	The purpose of this meeting is to provide a detailed overview and discussion of the proposed pipeline and tunnel shaft at Staunton Country Park, as well as the interface with Old Bedhampton. This includes presenting site-selection background, engineering and construction details, proposed draft Order Limits, and key environmental considerations such as impacts on open space, recreation, the historic environment, and landscape and visual setting.	February 2024
Biodiversity Net Gain and	The purpose of the meeting was to open an initial, informal discussion between the Applicant and Havant	July 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Environmental Net Gain Opportunities Meeting	Borough Council about potential opportunities for BNG, Environmental Net Gain ENG, habitat creation, enhancement, and possible mitigation linked to the Project. the Applicant explained that this was an early-stage conversation aimed at understanding what land or partnership opportunities Havant Borough Council might have for biodiversity delivery, including possibilities for purchasing BNG units, collaborating on habitat management, and exploring mitigation options such as the Broadmarsh area and Warblington sites.	
Project Update, Environmental Findings and Consultation Preparation Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to update Havant Borough Council on the development of the Project, including progress since the previous consultation, the latest environmental water quality findings, planned design refinements, and the materials prepared for the Spring 2025 consultation.	March 2025
Design Principles, Issues Log and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the Design Principles approach and their role in informing the design process of the Project. The Applicant provided scheme development updates following Portsmouth Water pipelines received planning permission and Mill Lane construction compound access. The Applicant explained the issue log structure and the Principle Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (Document reference 5.13, DCO Volume 5) in the issues log, as set out in Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects 2024 guidance.	June 2025
Issues Log Review and Site Selection Closure Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to review and agree on the Water Recycling Plant site selection and the Applicant's proposal to close the issues related to Portsmouth Water's pipelines between Bedhampton Springs and Havant Thicket Reservoir.	August 2025
Outline SEP Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was for the Applicant to walk Havant Borough Council through the Outline SEP (Document reference 7.9, DCO Volume 7), share the evidence base underpinning it, and discuss key objectives, local needs, and potential actions. It aimed to gather HBC's feedback, explore how the plan could address local employment and skills challenges, and agree on next steps for refining the Outline SEP.	September 2025
Heritage Impacts and Draft Design Principles Review Meeting	The meeting was focused on the potential impacts on Old Bedhampton Conservation Area and / or the other above ground heritage assets and the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5).	September 2025
Arboricultural Impacts, BNG Broadmarsh and Draft Design Principles Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to update Havant Borough Council on the Arboricultural Impact Assessment and tree survey approach, including methodology, key findings, mitigation strategies, and next steps for stakeholder review. The group discussed the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and Broadmarsh Coastal Park Opportunities. The Applicant	November 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
	provided an overview of the indicative environmental masterplan. The Applicant discussed the ecological and biodiversity issues log with Havant and clarified that all commitments will be tracked in the mitigation register, avoiding duplication between the draft design principles and management plans	
Issues Log, Draft SoCG and Environmental Management Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to explain the relation between the issues log and the draft Draft SoCG - Havant Borough Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5). The group discussed the principle of development, the issues related to the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7), the energy intensity of the Project, the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5), the Council's position on traffic and transport matters and the updates to the water modelling and mitigation measures.	November 2025
Broadmarsh Coastal Park Enhancement Opportunities Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss collaborative opportunities for Broadmarsh Coastal Park enhancements	November 2025
Contaminated Land and Historic Landfill Coordination Meeting	The meeting aimed to review and discuss responses provided by Havant Borough Council relating to the interaction of the Project with the historic landfill west of Budds Farm Wastewater Treatment Works, i.e. the proposed water recycling plant (WRP) site. The Draft SoCG (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) with these stakeholders were updated as a result of this meeting.	November 2025
Old Bedhampton Conservation Area Issues and Outline LEMP Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the consolidated Old Bedhampton Conservation Area issues and provide an overview of the Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7).	December 2025
Broadmarsh Coastal Park Opportunities and Delivery Workshop	The purpose of this workshop was to identify opportunities for the Applicant to support Coastal Park initiatives within Broadmarsh Coastal Park and to discuss potential delivery mechanisms.	December 2025
Draft SoCG Review: Access, Water Quality and Construction Controls	The meeting aimed to explain the proposed access to the Water Recycling Plant (WRP), including the pedestrian and cycling access issues. The Applicant provided an update to the water quality assessment and excerpts of the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7) on the construction hours and construction noise monitoring. The group discussed the approach to the Local Nature Recovery Strategy in the Project.	January 2026
Draft SoCG, Design Principles and Outline oSEP Update Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to provide an update to the Outline SEP and to discuss the draft design principles and progress with the Draft SoCG - Havant Borough Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	February 2026

## B.6 Portsmouth City Council

Name	Purpose	Date
Early Interface Works and Pipeline Coordination Meeting	The meeting was focused on coordinating early interface works required between the Havant Thicket Reservoir and associated pipeline infrastructure. Participants discussed the need to bring forward these works to avoid later disruption, ensure future-proofing, and confirm environmental implications. They also considered potential planning routes, legal advice requirements, and engineering scenarios to determine how best to deliver the pipeline connection within the reservoir's planning framework.	June 2022
Project Progress, PPA and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to review progress on the Project, including updates on the PPA, invoicing arrangements, scheme development (such as pipeline routing, landscape considerations, and construction methods), and upcoming consultation and programme milestones.	September 2022
Scheme Development and Construction Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to update local authorities on the development of the Project, focusing particularly on construction-related elements such as proposed compound locations, tunnelling requirements, above-ground plant, and anticipated mitigation measures. It aimed to present emerging technical information, gather early feedback from councils, and outline next steps in refining the Project's design and environmental assessment.	October 2022
Purbrook Tunnel and BPT Route and Site Options Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to provide local authority officers with an overview of the developing proposals for the Purbrook Tunnel and the BPT-1, including updates on engineering design, construction requirements, environmental and hydrogeological considerations, and site-selection outcomes. It aimed to explain the rationale behind preferred route and site options, present preliminary technical and environmental information, and gather initial feedback ahead of the next stages of Project engagement.	December 2023
Fisher's Pond and Palmerston Forts Pipeline Route Options Meeting	Focused on selecting the preferred pipeline route at Fisher's Pond and assessing the proposed underground pipeline's proximity to the Palmerston Forts at Portsdown Hill. The meeting aimed to share updated technical, environmental, heritage, landscape, and transport considerations, agree that the southern route should be progressed due to fewer constraints, and outline how potential impacts, particularly on highways, historic assets, and local landscapes, would be minimised during construction.	December 2023
AGP SuDS Concepts and Drainage	The purpose of this meeting was to bring together the Applicant, Portsmouth City Council, and LLFA representatives to review the proposed SuDS concept for	June 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Constraints Review Meeting	the AGP, discuss site conditions and drainage constraints, consider feasible discharge options, and identify required follow-up actions such as providing consultation links, washout locations, and drainage information.	
Trenchless Crossings beneath PCC Highway Assets Meeting	The purpose of this meeting is to bring together the Applicant and Portsmouth City Council highways representatives to discuss the Project, specifically focusing on the proposed trenchless crossings beneath Portsmouth City Council highways. The session aims to provide an overview of the pipeline, explain the planned tunnel and shaft proposals, and review Portsmouth City Council's technical approval process and associated standards.	July 2024
Summer 2024 Consultation Response and Local Plan Alignment Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss Portsmouth City Council's emerging Local Plan in relation to the Project, to review Portsmouth City Council's comments on the Summer 2024 consultation, and to provide updates on key technical matters including design principles, landscaping, flood risk, heritage, highways, and environmental considerations such as the Eastney LSO. It also served to clarify issues around access rights, property costs, and to outline next steps in preparation for the DCO submission process.	August 2024
Trenchless Crossings Technical Approval Strategy Joint Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to present and discuss the Applicant's proposed strategy for obtaining technical approval of trenchless crossings beneath highway assets, ensuring National Highways, Hampshire County Council, and Portsmouth City Council understood the approach, standards, responsibilities, expected levels of design detail, risks, and approval processes ahead of the DCO submission.	January 2025
Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Opportunities Meeting	The meeting was held to discuss how the Applicant and Portsmouth City Council could work together on BNG and wider ENG opportunities associated with the Project. This included reviewing expected BNG requirements, clarifying which Project elements contribute to BNG calculations, exploring habitat creation and enhancement options (both within and outside the order limits), and identifying potential collaboration opportunities, such as chalk grassland improvements, badger-related mitigation planning, and broader community or environmental benefits.	March 2025
Horsea Island Environmental Offsetting and BNG Opportunities Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss how Portsmouth City Council and the Applicant could work together to identify and progress potential BNG and wider environmental offsetting opportunities at Horsea Island in support of the Project. This included sharing early information on the Project's BNG needs, understanding current conditions and plans for Horsea Island, and exploring whether the site, or other Portsmouth City	March 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
	Council sites, could contribute to delivering required habitat enhancements.	
Design Principles, Issues Log and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The meeting was held to discuss the draft design principles. This included an overview of the design principles approach and their role to inform the design process of the Project. The Applicant discussed the responses to Portsmouth City Council's comments on the Spring 2025 Consultation. The Applicant explained the issues log structure and its relation to the Draft SoCG - Portsmouth City Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	June 2025
Landscape, Visual and Tertiary Mitigation Issues Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss landscape and visual impacts, ecology issues, and tertiary mitigation, including viewpoints, landscape and visual receptors and potential impacts upon Portsdown Hill and pipeline construction and tertiary mitigation of both pipeline and AGP adjacent to Fort Widley.	July 2025
Eastney Long Sea Outfall and Flood Risk Issues Review Meeting	The meeting was held to discuss the issues related to the Eastney Long Sea Outfall and provide an explanation for its inclusion within the Order Limits. The Applicant presented and discussed the flood risk and water management issues.	August 2025
Landscape, Ecology and Draft Design Principles Issues Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss updates to the draft design principles and multiple issues related to Landscape and Visual Impacts Assessment, vegetation, noise impacts, farmland and chalk grassland soils, mature trees and woodland impacts, and the pipeline section D, BPT-1, IPS-E.	September 2025
PCC Highway Access Proposals Review Workshop	The purpose of this workshop was to review the Project's temporary and permanent access proposals within Portsmouth City Council, including New Down Lane and Gillman Road.	September 2025
Draft Design Principles and SuDS Issues Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss updates to the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5) and the approach to SuDs.	October 2025
BNG Availability, Archaeology and Draft SoCG Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to discuss the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) availability and points of contact, land quality and ground conditions and archaeology issues. The Applicant explained the Draft SoCG - Portsmouth City Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	November 2025
Outline LEMP, Chalk Grassland and BNG Strategy Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss the Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7). The Applicant discussed security fencing and visual integration concerns, the Chalk grassland creation and land ownership coordination and the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) strategy and stakeholder collaboration related issues	December 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
Draft SoCG Programme and Submission Timetable Meeting	The purpose of this bilateral meeting was for the Applicant and Portsmouth City Council discuss the project timeline and submission schedule. The Applicant provided an explanation of the Draft SoCG - Portsmouth City Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	January 2026
Draft SoCG, Design Principles and PMIE Review Meeting	The purpose of this bilateral meeting was for the Applicant and Portsmouth City Council to discuss the project timeline and DCO submission process, the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5) and the draft Potential Main Issues for Examination (Document reference 5.7, DCO Volume 5).	February 2026

## B.7 South Downs National Park Authority

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Progress, PPA and Engagement Framework Update Meeting	The purpose of this bilateral meeting was for the Applicant and the South Downs National Park Authority to review progress on the Project, including confirming administrative arrangements such as the signed PPA and invoicing process, providing updates on scheme development and consultation feedback, and discussing South Downs National Park Authority's expected level of involvement as the Project evolves.	September 2022
Scheme Development and Construction Workshop	The purpose of this meeting was to update local authorities on the development of the Project, focusing particularly on construction-related elements such as proposed compound locations, tunnelling requirements, above-ground plant, and anticipated mitigation measures. It aimed to present emerging technical information, gather early feedback from councils, and outline next steps in refining the Project's design and environmental assessment.	October 2022
IPS-3 Site Selection Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to brief stakeholders on the site-selection process for the IPS-3 pumping station, outlining the background, constraints, and evaluation of alternative site options, and to present the rationale for selecting option IPS-3d as the preferred location. It also aimed to review initial engineering, construction, and landscape considerations and set expectations for upcoming design and consultation steps.	January 2024
BPT-K and IPS-G Site-Specific Design Principles Review Meeting	The meeting was held to review and discuss the site-specific design principles for the BPT-K and IPS-G. Its purpose was to present the evolving concept designs, landscape proposals, and technical considerations; gather feedback from the South Downs National Park Authority; and work through the issues log to confirm outstanding actions and ensure that future detailed design aligns with local character, environmental requirements, and Project objectives.	April 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
<p>Summer 2024 Consultation Response and Remit Clarification Meeting</p>	<p>The purpose of the meeting was to provide a brief bilateral update between the Applicant and the South Downs National Park Authority on key elements of the Project. Discussion focused on clarifying which topics fall within South Downs National Park Authority’s remit, outlining how environmental, biodiversity, PRow, and design-related issues will be addressed through specialised working groups, and explaining the Applicant’s evolving approach to design principles, environmental management plans, and Project timelines.</p>	<p>September 2024</p>
<p>Public Rights of Way Management and Mitigation Workshop</p>	<p>The purpose of this meeting was to present and discuss the scope, methodology, and proposed mitigation measures for the RoWMP associated with the Project. It aimed to outline how PRow affected during construction would be managed, gather feedback from local authorities and stakeholders, and identify preferred approaches for closures, diversions, communication methods, safety measures, and coordination needs across different Project sections.</p>	<p>October 2024</p>
<p>Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Follow-Up Meeting</p>	<p>The purpose of this meeting was to review and discuss the South Downs National Park Authority’s comments from the 2024 Summer Consultation, specifically focusing on how the Project team will address these within the LVIA. Outlined that the meeting was arranged to run through SDNPA’s feedback and agree an approach for assessing likely effects on the National Park designation, as previously agreed at EIA Working Group #7.</p>	<p>December 2024</p>
<p>Project Update and Boundary Design Refinements Meeting</p>	<p>The purpose of this bilateral meeting was to update the South Downs National Park Authority on the latest developments in the Project, including progress on consultation materials, the approach to water quality, and a series of design refinements near the National Park boundary.</p>	<p>March 2025</p>
<p>Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Opportunities Meeting</p>	<p>The purpose of this meeting was for the Applicant and the South Downs National Park Authority to discuss potential opportunities for delivering BNG and broader ENG associated with the Project. The discussion focused on expected BNG requirements, possible habitat creation and enhancement sites, partnership working, and the need for agreements with landowners and conservation organisations, with South Downs National Park Authority invited to share a list of suitable BNG/ENG opportunities.</p>	<p>April 2025</p>
<p>Design Principles, Environmental Mitigation and Document Structure Review Meeting</p>	<p>The purpose of this meeting was to review progress on the Project with the South Downs National Park Authority, focusing on updates to Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5), discussion of environmental mitigation and enhancement proposals, clarification of document structures (including the Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7) and control documents)), and resolution of outstanding issues</p>	<p>September 2025</p>

Name	Purpose	Date
	such as habitat connectivity, access to information, and the status of various design refinements.	
Design Principles Review: AGP Materials, Alma Lane and Compound L-1	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5) including AGP materials and finishes, Alma Lane, Scriviers Lane and Construction Compound L-1. South Downs National Park Authority raised Otterbourne WSW and Meon Valley in relation to habitat connectivity and enhancement opportunities.	November 2025
Outline CEMP and Outline LEMP Review and National Park Duties Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to present extracts of the Outline CEMP (Document reference 7.1, DCO Volume 7) and Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7) to the South Downs National Park Authority. The Applicant's duty to 'further the purposes' of the National Park was also discussed.	December 2025
BNG Approach and Draft SoCG Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to update the South Downs National Park Authority on the approach the BNG and receive comments on the Draft SoCG - South Downs National Park Authority (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) which included closing matters relating to cumulative effect assessment methodology.	January 2026
Draft Design Principles and Draft SoCG Issues Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5), updates to the Applicant's socio-economics and traffic and transport issues in the Draft SoCG - South Downs National Park Authority (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	March 2026

## B.8 Winchester City Council

Name	Purpose	Date
Project Progress, PPA and Consultation Feedback Update Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to provide a bilateral update and discuss key matters relating to the Project, including progress on the PPA, invoicing arrangements, scheme development, responses to the recent non-statutory consultation, and specific issues raised by Winchester City Council.	September 2022
Purbrook Tunnel and BPT Route and Site Options Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to provide local authority officers with an overview of the developing proposals for the Purbrook Tunnel and BPT-1, including updates on engineering design, construction requirements, environmental and hydrogeological considerations, and site-selection outcomes. It aimed to explain the rationale behind preferred route and site options, present preliminary technical and environmental information, and gather initial feedback ahead of the next stages of Project engagement.	December 2023
Welborne Garden Village Pipeline	The meeting aimed to brief local authority officers (including Winchester City Council) on the updated	December 2023

Name	Purpose	Date
Route Options and Coordination Meeting	pipeline route options around Welborne Garden Village, explain the rationale for selecting a preferred alternative route, and discuss key issues including draft Order Limits, transport considerations, the proposed IPS-B site, and landscape/visual impacts. It also provided a forum for councils to raise concerns, particularly around highways, construction phasing, and interactions with the WGV development, and to agree on follow-up actions to ensure coordination between the two projects.	
Fisher's Pond and Palmerston Forts Pipeline Route Options Meeting	Focused on selecting the preferred pipeline route at Fisher's Pond and assessing the proposed underground pipeline's proximity to the Palmerston Forts at Portsdown Hill. The meeting aimed to share updated technical, environmental, heritage, landscape, and transport considerations, agree that the southern route should be progressed due to fewer constraints, and outline how potential impacts, particularly on highways, historic assets, and local landscapes, would be minimised during construction.	December 2023
IPS-3 Site Selection Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to brief stakeholders on the site-selection process for the IPS-3 pumping station, outlining the background, constraints, and evaluation of alternative site options, and to present the rationale for selecting option IPS-3 as the preferred location. It also aimed to review initial engineering, construction, and landscape considerations and set expectations for upcoming design and consultation steps.	January 2024
Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain Opportunities Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to explore potential opportunities for delivering BNG and, where appropriate, ENG within the Winchester area as part of the wider Project. The discussion focused on outlining the Project's BNG requirements, the anticipated need for off-site units, and the Applicant's preference for partnering with local landowners and authorities rather than relying on habitat banks.	March 2024
Break Pressure Tank K and Intermediate Pumping Station G Design Principles Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to introduce Winchester City Council to the Preliminary, General, and Site-Specific Design Principles for two AGP sites – Break Pressure Tank K and Intermediate Pumping Station G. The intention was to explain the design approach, outline key environmental and landscape considerations, gather early feedback, and review the issues log to support ongoing collaboration and the development of agreed design principles for the upcoming DCO submission.	April 2024
Summer 2024 Consultation Response Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was for the Applicant and Winchester City Council to review and discuss key aspects of the Project, including the principle of development, climate-related considerations, pipeline routing and design flexibility, biodiversity and heritage mitigation, and engagement on public rights of way. It served as an opportunity for WCC to provide feedback,	September 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
	confirm areas of support or concern, and clarify next steps for incorporating comments into the developing DCO submission.	
Aircraft Crash Sites Assessment and Mitigation Coordination Meeting	The meeting was held to review and discuss the assessment, significance, and required mitigation for two military aircraft crash sites, Pigeonhouse Farm and Frith Farm, located within the draft Order Limits of the Project. It aimed to update stakeholders on the initial PEI findings, outline constraints and proposed approaches for avoidance or excavation, and agree on next steps for licensing, mitigation strategies, and future reporting.	November 2024
Scheme Development Updates and Design Refinements Meeting	The meeting was held to provide an overview of the Spring 2025 Consultation process update, including a summary of the reasons that supported the design refinements and changes since the Summer 2024 Consultation. These include the Above Ground Plant (AGP) footprints and limits of deviation being increased slightly to respond to Security and Emergency Measures Direction (SEMD) requirements; the inclusion of environmental mitigation and enhancement areas; to respond to landowner feedback; and surveys results.	March 2025
Design Principles, Issues Log and Scheme Development Update Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the Design Principles approach and their role to inform the design process of the Project. The Applicant explained the further refinements that have been made in response to the Spring 2025 Consultation and further design development. The Applicant explained the issue log structure and how it related to the Draft SoCG - Winchester City Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5).	June 2025
Landscape and Heritage Viewpoints Issues Review Meeting	The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the viewpoints from a landscape and heritage perspective.	July 2025
Archaeology, Outline WSI and Reporting Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss key archaeological and historic-environment matters relating to the Project, including viewpoints around the Palmerston Forts, feedback on the geophysical survey and trial trenching, and detailed comments on the draft Outline WSI (Document reference 7.6, DCO Volume 7). It brought together Historic England, local authority archaeological advisors, and the Project team to clarify technical issues, agree principles for future mitigation and evaluation work, and identify actions needed to refine the Outline WSI and related processes.	July 2025
Carbon and Climate Change Issues Log Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the carbon and climate change issues log.	August 2025

Name	Purpose	Date
Biodiversity, Landscape and Draft Design Principles Issues Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to discuss the wildlife corridors, the trenchless construction under river Itchen, the feedback on updated Landscape and Visual Receptors, the link between the east and west compounds for IPS-3 (now IPS-G) over Winchester Road – impact on TPO trees, IPS-G – footpath Wickham 2a, the offsite biodiversity requirements, ES Chapter 8 Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity, Volume I (Document reference 6.1, DCO Volume 6), the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), Wickham Park Golf Club and River Meon, Break Pressure Tank K , Pipeline Section L: Lower Upham to Brambridge, updates to the draft design principles, and the visual Impact Assessment for South Downs National Park from viewpoint 82.	September 2025
Noise and Vibration Assessment and Mitigation Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss noise and vibration related issues, including approach to noise impact assessments for both construction and operational phases, the approach to the nighttime construction of the temporary access for the compounds and construction roads, the pipeline Section L new access from Church Lane.	October 2025
BNG Agreements, Draft SoCG and Scheme Development Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to discuss the BNG third party agreements coordination. The Applicant provided an overview of the draft Statement of Common Ground, explaining how issues are tracked, their status, and the process for updating and resolving them through ongoing engagement. The issues related to construction compounds and scheme development raised by Winchester City Council were reviewed and discussed in this meeting.	November 2025
Archaeology Issues Log and Outline WSI Update Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the archaeology related issues log. The Applicant provided updates to the Outline WSI (Document reference 7.6, DCO Volume 7) to the archaeologist advisor.	December 2025
Otterbourne WSW, Arboricultural Impacts and Outline LEMP Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to provide a Strategic overview of Otterbourne Water Supply Works. The Applicant presented the approach to tree retention and mitigation along the Project route, detailing survey methods, worst-case impact assessments, and mitigation measures, and an overview of the Outline LEMP (Document reference 7.5, DCO Volume 7) and were discussed the issues related to these matters.	December 2025
Draft SoCG, Construction Traffic and Environmental Controls Review Meeting	The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the Framework Construction Traffic Management Plan (Document reference 7.2, DCO Volume 7) and appended Framework Construction Worker Travel Plan and temporary overnight accommodation. The issues related to the River Hamble crossing, construction impacts regarding the trenchless tunnelling under the River Itchen SSSI, construction hours, the concerns over the level of	January 2026

Name	Purpose	Date
	detail expected in submissions following DCO consent and the potential increase in phosphorus levels/need for nutrient neutrality were discussed with Winchester City Council in this meeting.	
Draft SoCG, Design Principles and Programme Review Meeting	The meeting aimed to discuss the Draft SoCG - Winchester City Council (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5), the project timeline and contractor flexibility and the draft Design Principles Document (Document reference 5.11, DCO Volume 5).	February 2026

## B.9 EA

Name	Purpose	Date
Southern Water / Defra / EA bi-monthly catch up	WRMP19 Annual review and WRMP24 timing of submission - updates. S35 request.	January 2022
B.4 Water Recycling Option Indicative Marine Survey Plan	Provide an overview of the Marine Survey Plan, an update on intertidal surveys, seawater quality sampling and subtidal surveys and a summary of next steps.	January 2022
Pipeline Corridor Selection	Present and take feedback on preferred pipeline corridors using GIS.	February 2022
Defra bi-weekly meeting	Discussion of s35 and DCO timelines	March 2022
WRP Discharge Position Statement	Provide an overview of the WRP Discharge Position Statement and discuss the results.	March 2022
EA/NE Day at Otterbourne	Present on the schedule of the DCO application, an overview of the Project and a summary of environmental information.	May 2022
Consents Meeting	Present the stakeholder engagement plan for the next three months.	August 2022
WfLH: Ecology Walkover Meeting	Provide a summary of the river crossing options including for the River Itchen, River Hamble and River Meon.	September 2022
Ecology Freshwater Disciplines Meeting	Provide a brief overview of the Project from an ecological perspective.	March 2024
Site 72 geoenvironmental report discussion	The purpose of the meeting was to address comments and questions received from the EA regarding the site 72 geo-environmental report.	March 2024
Groundwater Monitoring	Provide an overview of the groundwater monitoring scheme.	July 2024
Water Quality Modelling (1)	Discuss the appropriate EA staff to engage with on the proposed approach to water quality modelling.	August 2024
MCDA Emerging Results	Provide an update on final amendments to the scope of the MCDA criteria.	August 2024

Name	Purpose	Date
Water Quality Modelling (2)	Discuss the Technical Note on the proposed approach to water quality modelling	September 2024
Source Protection Zone Risk Mitigation	Route overview and GI summary, Source Protection Zone risk mitigation and management and next steps.	December 2024
Water Quality Modelling Update	Initial model outputs for Havant Thicket Reservoir Compensation Flows Water Quality Modelling	December 2024
WFD Compliance and Ecological Assessments briefing	Compliance to WER thresholds, ecological assessment and next steps	February 2025
Hydrogeological Impact Assessment Meeting	Quantitative Dewatering Assessment methodology. Structures to be assessed and high level overview of approach.	April 2025
Land contamination meeting with HBC, NE and EA	Havant Borough Council open issues, EA and NE open issues related to WRP site and next steps	November 2025
Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP) Disapplication meeting with the EA	A meeting between Southern Water and the EA to discuss the most suitable approach to FRAP disapplication for the HWTWRP. Topics discussed were an overview of trenchless river crossings, seven lower-sensitivity crossings and five higher sensitivity crossings.	February 2026
Underwater Noise and Vibration meeting with the EA	A meeting between Southern Water and the EA to discuss the outstanding EA concerns about the impact of underwater noise and vibration on the marine environment.	February 2026

## B.10 NE

Name	Purpose	Date
B.4 Water Recycling Option Indicative Marine Survey Plan	Provide an overview of the Marine Survey Plan, an update on intertidal surveys, seawater quality sampling and subtidal surveys and a summary of next steps.	January 2022
Pipeline Corridor Selection	Present and take feedback on preferred pipeline corridors using GIS.	February 2022
WRP Discharge Position Statement	Provide an overview of the WRP Discharge Position Statement and discuss the results.	March 2022
EA/NE Day at Otterbourne	Present on the schedule of the DCO application, an overview of the Project and a summary of environmental information.	May 2022
Consents Meeting	Present the stakeholder engagement plan for the next three months.	August 2022
WfLH: Ecology Walkover Meeting	Provide a summary of the river crossing options including for the River Itchen, River Hamble and River Meon.	September 2022

Name	Purpose	Date
Ecology Freshwater Disciplines Meeting	Provide a brief overview of the Project from an ecological perspective.	March 2024
Ecology Terrestrial Disciplines Meeting	The session covered topics including habitats, badgers, great crested newts District Level Licensing (DLL), bats, hazel dormouse, water vole, otter, birds and other notable species.	March 2024
Water Quality Modelling (2)	Discuss the Technical Note on the proposed approach to water quality modelling	September 2024
NE statutory consultation comments on soils assessment methodology and aftercare	Discussion meeting in relation to aftercare and soil assessment methodology.	October 2024
Water Quality Modelling Update	Initial model outputs for Havant Thicket Reservoir Compensation Flows Water Quality Modelling	December 2024
NE: Biodiversity Net Gain	OMH and BNG discussion and potential solutions suggested.	January 2025
NE: Open Mosaic Habitat and BNG	Introduction to the Project and OMH discussion	February 2025
Nutrient Assessment Meeting with NE	Clarification of the Nutrient Assessment Methodology and discussion of Phosphorus and Nitrogen Pathways.	August 2025
Agricultural Land Assessment Criteria	Proposed methodology in relation to agricultural land assessment criteria.	September 2025
Land contamination meeting with HBC, NE and EA	Havant Borough Council open issues, EA and NE open issues related to WRP site and next steps	November 2025

## B.11 MMO

Name	Purpose	Date
B.4 Water Recycling Option Indicative Marine Survey Plan	Provide an overview of the Marine Survey Plan, an update on intertidal surveys, seawater quality sampling and subtidal surveys and a summary of next steps.	January 2022
WRP Discharge Position Statement	Provide an overview of the WRP Discharge Position Statement and discuss the results.	March 2022
MMO Project Briefing	Introduce the MMO to the WfLH programme and a summary of the work to date on public consultation and options appraisal.	February 2024
MMO marine licensing	Meeting with MMO about marine license requirements	August 2025

## Appendix C Statement of Commonality

- C.1.1 This Appendix presents the Statement of Commonality, which provides an overview of the issues raised across all Draft SoCGs (Document reference 5.8, DCO Volume 5) prepared for the Project and identifies the extent to which those issues are agreed, under discussion, or not agreed (further details are outlined in the below table). Its purpose is to assist the Examining Authority by illustrating areas of overlap between stakeholders, highlighting where positions align, and enabling efficient focus on matters that may require detailed examination.
- C.1.2 For each topic area, the Statement of Commonality presents a single issue rating for every stakeholder. This rating reflects the majority position across all issues within that topic, as recorded in the relevant Draft SoCGs.
- C.1.3 Each individual issue is assigned one of four rating categories. To determine the overall rating for a stakeholder/topic combination, the number of issues falling under each category is totalled, and the category with the highest total is returned. This approach provides a clear indication of the prevailing level of agreement within that topic area.
- C.1.4 Where a topic area was not addressed between the parties and therefore no issues were identified for that topic within the Draft SoCGs this is rated as such.

Issue Rating	Explanation
	Most issues within the topic area have been fully agreed between the Applicant and the stakeholder.
	Most issues indicate agreement, subject to the stakeholder reviewing and being satisfied with the supporting evidence in the submitted application.
	Most issues remain under discussion and require further engagement before the parties can establish whether agreement is possible.
	Most issues reflect a fundamental difference in position that is unlikely to be resolved through further discussion.
	Matter not relevant to or discussed within the SoCG.

	Principle of development	DCO and planning	Engagement and consultation	Above ground plant, specific sites and pipeline	Design and construction	Miscellaneous and administrative	Consents and licences	Mitigation and enhancement measures	Air quality and odour	Archaeology, cultural heritage and heritage settings	Habitats and ecology	Marine environment	Carbon and climate change	Biodiversity and nature conservation	Contamination and land quality	Land use and agriculture	Landscape and visual impact	Noise and vibration	Resources and waste	Socioeconomics, tourism, recreation, and health	Traffic and transport	Flood risk and water environment	Cumulative and in-combination effects	Multiple issues
EHDC	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green
EBC	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Orange	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Green	Green
FBC	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green
HBC	Pink	Grey	Green	Grey	Pink	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Grey
PCC	Yellow	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Orange	Green	Green	Yellow
HCC	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Green	Green	Green	Grey
SDNPA	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Yellow
WCC	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Yellow	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Environment Agency	Grey	Green	Green	Yellow	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green
Marine Management Organisation	Grey	Orange	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey
Natural England	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Grey	Grey	Grey	Yellow	Green	Grey	Green
Historic England	Grey	Grey	Orange	Grey	Orange	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Orange	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Ministry of Defence	Grey	Green	Orange	Grey	Grey	Green	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey



from  
Southern  
Water. 

The Southern Water logo graphic consists of three white, wavy lines of varying lengths, stacked vertically, resembling a stylized wave or water droplet.