



The Sizewell C Project

5.1 Consultation Report

Revision: 1.0
Applicable Regulation: Regulation 5(2)(q)
PINS Reference Number: EN010012

May 2020

Planning Act 2008
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009



Contents

Executive Summary	1
1. Introduction	5
1.1 Purpose of this document	5
1.2 The applicant	5
1.3 The Sizewell C Project.....	6
1.4 Legislative and policy context	7
1.5 Overview of the consultation process	9
1.6 Consultation report structure	11
2. Approach to Consultation	12
2.1 Introduction	12
2.2 Compliance with legislation, guidance and advice.....	12
2.3 Statutory purpose of the consultation	13
2.4 Overview of approach.....	15
2.5 Consultation under EIA and Habitats Regulations.....	32
2.6 Taking account of the consultation responses.....	38
2.7 Influencing the evolution of the Sizewell C Project	39
2.8 List of statutory consultation publications, letters and events	39
3. Initial Informal Engagement (Pre-Stage 1).....	41
3.1 Introduction.....	41
3.2 Engagement with local communities.....	41
3.3 Engagement with key stakeholders	46
3.4 How pre-Stage 1 engagement influenced consultation.....	47
4. Stage 1 Pre-Application Consultation: November 2012 – February 2013	48
4.1 Introduction.....	48
4.2 Content of consultation	49
4.3 Purpose of Consultation	50
4.4 Statement of community consultation	52

4.5	Who was consulted?.....	55
4.6	Consultation material and activities	55
4.7	Ways that feedback was received	63
4.8	Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it.....	67
4.9	Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 1 consultation.....	68
5.	Informal Consultation (Development Sites) – March and August 2014.....	70
5.1	Introduction.....	70
5.2	Associated development site options.....	70
5.3	Consultation overview.....	71
5.4	Feedback received	74
5.5	How SZC Co. had regard to the feedback.....	76
6.	Stage 2 Pre-Application Consultation: November 2016 – February 2017	79
6.1	Introduction.....	79
6.2	Content of consultation	81
6.3	Statement of community consultation	84
6.4	Who was consulted?.....	87
6.5	Consultation material and activities	88
6.6	Ways that feedback was received	97
6.7	Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it.....	102
6.8	Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to Stage 2 consultation.....	103
7.	Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation: 4 January 2019 – 29 March 2019.....	104
7.1	Introduction.....	104
7.2	Content of consultation	105
7.3	Statement of community consultation	108
7.4	Who was consulted?.....	108
7.5	Consultation material and activities	109
7.6	Ways that feedback was received	117
7.7	Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it.....	119

7.8	Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 3 consultation.....	120
8.	Stage 4 Pre-Application Consultation: 18 July – 27 September 2019	122
8.1	Introduction.....	122
8.2	Content of consultation.....	123
8.3	Statement of community consultation.....	125
8.4	Who was consulted.....	125
8.5	Consultation material and activities	126
8.6	Ways that feedback was received	133
8.7	10 December 2019 - 31 January 2020	135
8.8	15 January to 13 February 2020.....	136
8.9	Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it.....	137
8.10	Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 4 consultation.....	138
9.	Ongoing Informal (Non-Statutory) Consultations and Engagement.....	139
9.1	Introduction.....	139
9.2	Conclusion.....	186
10.	Conclusion.....	187

Tables

Table 2.1:	Planning Act 2008 requirements for approach to consultation.....	15
Table 2.2:	Statement of community consultation (2012) key milestones	29
Table 2.3:	Updated statement of community consultation (2016) key milestones	30
Table 2.4:	Publication of SoCC notices	30
Table 2.5:	Deposit locations for SoCC (2012), SoCC (2016) and consultation documents .	30
Table 2.6:	Section 48 notices published at Stage 4.....	31
Table 2.7:	Statutory consultation publications, letters and events	39
Table 4.1:	Consultation activities and compliance with SoCC (2012).....	56
Table 4.2:	Stage 1 consultation questions and number of responses.....	64
Table 5.1:	Focus groups and bespoke questionnaires	72
Table 5.2:	Issues raised in focus group meetings.....	74
Table 5.3:	Questionnaire responses.....	76

Table 6.1: Stage 2 consultation activities and compliance with updated statement of community consultation (November 2016) 89

Table 6.2: Responses received by method..... 97

Table 6.3: Stage 2 consultation questions and number of responses..... 99

Table 7.1: Stage 3 consultation activities and compliance with updated SoCC (November 2016) 110

Table 7.2: Responses received by method..... 118

Table 7.3: Stage 3 consultation questions and number of responses..... 118

Table 8.1: Stage 4 consultation activities and compliance with updated Statement of Community Consultation (November 2016)..... 127

Table 8.2: Stage 4 responses received by..... 134

Table 8.3: Stage 4 consultation questions and number of responses..... 134

Table 9.1: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that informed the scope and methodology of the terrestrial ecology and ornithology assessment..... 143

Table 9.2: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that informed the scope and methodology of the noise assessment..... 149

Table 9.3: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the Air Quality Assessment 150

Table 9.4: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the LVIA 151

Table 9.5: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the amenity and recreation assessment..... 154

Table 9.6: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the Groundwater and Surface Water Assessment 156

Table 9.7 Summary of consultation and engagement responses 166

Table 9.8: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the geology and land contamination assessment..... 167

Table 9.9: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the Materials and Waste Strategy 168

Table 9.10: Summary of Informal Consultation Responses on Water Resource Storage Area and Underground Water Pipe and new Wet Woodland Habitat..... 172

Table 9.11: Summary of Community and Stakeholder Engagement 177

Plates

Plate 1.1: Sizewell C consultation timeline 10

Plate 2.1: Category A authorities map	23
Plate 2.2: Category B authorities map	24
Plate 2.3: Category C authorities map	25
Plate 2.4: Category D authorities map	26
Plate 4.1: Inner area	54
Plate 4.2: Outer area	54
Plate 6.1: Inner area	86
Plate 6.2: Outer area	87
Plate 9.1: Socio-economic workstream.....	162

Figures

None provided.

Annexes (Consultation summaries and responses)

- Annex A: Stage 1 – Issues Tables
- Annex B: Stage 1 –Consultee Response Summaries
- Annex C: Stage 2 – Issues Tables
- Annex D: Stage 2 –Consultee Response Summaries
- Annex E: Stage 3 – Issues Tables
- Annex F: Stage 3 – Consultee Response Summaries
- Annex G: Stage 4 – Issues Tables
- Annex H: Stage 4 –Consultee Response Summaries

Appendices (Evidence of consultation)

Appendices – Part A: Informal Consultation (Pre-Stage 1)

- A.1 Sizewell Nuclear New Build Newsletter (December 2008)
- A.2 Initial Community Newsletter (November 2009)
- A.3 Newsletter (April 2010)
- A.4 Newsletter (October 2010)
- A.5 Newsletter (July 2011)
- A.6 Newsletter (December 2011)
- A.7 Newsletter (May 2012)

- A.8 Newsletter (September 2012)
- A.9 Press Release (21 September 2012)
- A.10 Press Release (29 October 2012)
- A.11 Press Release (8 November 2012)
- A.12 Pre-Stage 1 Community Meetings
- A.13 Pre-Stage 1 Hard to Reach Group Meetings
- A.14 Pre-Stage 1 Meetings Relating to the Regional Economy
- A.15 Pre-Stage 1 Meetings with Parish Councils
- A.16 Pre-Stage 1 Core Project Team Meetings with Local Authorities

Appendices – Part B: Stage 1 Pre-Application Consultation

- B.1 Letters consulting Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) and SCC on Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) (21 September 2012) and SCDC and SCC feedback on the SoCC (19 October 2012)
- B.2 Letters from SZC Co. to SCDC and SCC enclosing table explaining how SZC Co. responded to their comments on the draft SoCC (7 November 2012)
- B.3 Consultation Document (Stage 1) (November 2012)
- B.4 Consultation Summary Document (Stage 1) (November 2012)
- B.5 Environmental Report Supporting Document (Stage 1) (November 2012)
- B.6 Transport Strategy Supporting Document (Stage 1) (November 2012)
- B.7 S42 Sample Letters
- B.8 Sample Consultation Materials
- B.9 Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 1
- B.10 Example Newspaper Notice of the Published SoCC (November 2012)
- B.11 Published SoCC (Stage 1) (November 2012)
- B.12 Newsletters (Stage 1) (November 2012)
- B.13 Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation
- B.14 Newsletter (May 2013)
- B.15 Sample Print Advert (November 2012)

Appendices – Part C: Informal Consultation (Development Sites)

- C.1 Newsletter (November 2013)
- C.2 Sizewell C Community Forum Presentation (November 2013)
- C.3 Theberton and Eastbridge – Development Site Campus Questionnaire (March 2014)
- C.4 Darsham – Park and Ride North Questionnaire (March 2014)
- C.5 Hacheston – Park and Ride South Questionnaire (March 2014)
- C.6 Sizewell C Community Forum Presentation (March 2014)
- C.7 Sizewell C Focus Group Research (March 2014)
- C.8 Sizewell C Questionnaire Research (April 2014)
- C.9 Sizewell C Questionnaire Research – Marlesford and Campsea Ashe (August 2014)

Appendices – Part D: Stage Two Pre-Application Consultation

- D.1 Letters consulting Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) and Suffolk County Council (SCC) on Draft Updated Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) (26 November 2014)
- D.2 SCDC and SCC feedback on the Updated SoCC (19 December 2014)
- D.3 Letters from SZC Co. to SCDC and SCC enclosing SZC Co. response to their December 2014 comments and amended draft Updated SoCC (13 January 2016)
- D.4 Letter from SCDC and SCC in response to amended draft Updated SoCC (10 February 2016)
- D.5 Example Newspaper Notice of the Published Updated SoCC (November 2016)
- D.6 Published Updated SoCC (Stage 2) (November 2016)
- D.7 Consultation Document (Stage 2) (November 2016)
- D.8 Consultation Summary Document (Stage 2) (November 2016)
- D.9 S42 Sample Letters
- D.10 Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation
- D.11 Sample Consultation Materials
- D.12 Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 2
- D.13 Newsletters between Stages 1 and 2
- D.14 Newsletter (April 2018)

Appendices – Part E: Stage Three Pre-Application Consultation

- E.1 Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 1 – Development Proposals (January 2019)
- E.2 Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 2A – Preliminary Environmental Information (January 2019)
- E.3 Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 2B – Preliminary Environmental Information (January 2019)
- E.4 Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 3 – Preliminary Environmental Information Figures (January 2019)
- E.5 Consultation Summary Document: Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation (January 2019)
- E.6 Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation (January 2019)
- E.7 S42 Sample Letters
- E.8 Sample Consultation Materials
- E.9 Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation
- E.10 Stage 3 Consultation Feedback Newsletter (July 2019)

Appendices – Part F: Stage Four Pre-application Consultation

- F.1 Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document (July 2019)
- F.2 Stage 4 Consultation Document (July 2019)
- F.3 S42 Sample Letters
- F.4 S48 Notices (Publicity)
- F.5 Sample Consultation Materials
- F.6 Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 4 (July 2019)
- F.7 Notice of S47 Consultation
- F.8 Targeted consultation S42 Sample Letter (December 2019)
- F.9 Targeted consultation S42 Letters (January 2020)
- F.10 Project Update Newsletter (January 2020)
- F.11 Targeted Informal Consultation Summary Document (January 2020)

Appendices – Part G: Other Appendices

- G.1 Scoping Opinion (June 2014)

- G.2 Scoping Opinion (July 2019)
- G.3 List of Prescribed Consultees
- G.4 Example Land Referencing Questionnaire
- G.5 Example Site Notice
- G.6 Example Request for Information Form
- G.7 Design Council Letter (November 2019)
- G.8 Design Council Letter (March 2014)

Executive Summary

a) Introduction

This Consultation Report is submitted pursuant to Section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act).

Pre-application consultation has been a central feature of the Sizewell C Project. Commencing formally in 2012, there have been four principal and two targeted stages of statutory consultation. Throughout the process SZC Co. has sought to explain and test its emerging thinking and has listened to and learned from the feedback received from the local community, statutory consultees and the general public. That learning has been used to enhance the proposals. In accordance with the Act, this Report outlines the pre-application consultation undertaken by SZC Co., sets out the relevant responses received and explains how SZC Co. has had regard to the responses to develop its proposals.

b) The applicant

NNB Generation Company (SZC Co.) Limited, the applicant for the Sizewell C Project, is currently a wholly owned subsidiary of NNB Holding Company (SZC Co.) Limited.

NNB Generation Company (SZC Co.) Limited is the company within the EDF Energy Group that is applying for development consent to construct, operate and maintain Sizewell C (referred to in this Application as “SZC Co.”).¹

EDF Energy Group is one of the largest businesses in the energy sector in the UK; producing around 20% of the nation’s electricity and supplying electricity and gas to its residential and business customers. EDF Energy Group’s installed capacity is around 16.5 gigawatt (GW), and the company has over 5.5 million businesses and residential customers.

Currently, EDF Energy Group operates eight nuclear power stations across the United Kingdom (UK), with a combined capacity of almost 9,000MW. These comprise seven advanced gas-cooled reactor power stations (each with two reactors) at six locations on the coast of Britain, and a pressurised water reactor (PWR) located at Sizewell B.

¹ SZC Co. was incorporated in October 2014. The consultation that took place before SZC Co. had been incorporated was carried out by NNB Generation Company Limited (referred to as EDF Energy in the consultation material). For ease of reference, however, throughout this Report we refer to all consultation having been carried out by SZC Co.

c) The Sizewell C Project

The development proposed in the Development Consent Order (DCO) application comprises:

- a new nuclear power station and associated development on the main development site (comprising five components: the main platform; Sizewell B relocated facilities and National Grid land; offshore works area; Temporary Construction Area; and Land East of Eastlands Industrial Estate (LEEIE); together with off-site sports facilities at Leiston; fen meadow dcompensation sites to the south of Benhall and to the east of Halesworth; and a marsh harrier habitat improvement area to the west of Westleton (if required)); and
- associated development at other locations necessary to support construction or operation of the power station or to mitigate its impacts.

Separately, planning permission has been granted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for two related applications:

- ecological mitigation works at Aldhurst Farm, which have now been implemented; and
- the relocation of some facilities related to the operation of the Sizewell B power station (for which consent is also sought in the DCO application).

d) The focus of the Consultation Report

The focus of this Consultation Report is the consultation carried out in relation to the DCO proposals. Stages of consultation

Engagement with the local community and stakeholders about a new nuclear power station at Sizewell has been ongoing since 2008. The principal stages of non-statutory and statutory consultation have been:

- **Initial (Non-Statutory) Informal Engagement (Pre-Stage 1)**, which ran from December 2008 to November 2012. This early engagement prior to statutory consultation informed the community and stakeholders about the development aspirations for Sizewell from an early stage and helped to provide an early understanding of local issues and priorities.
- **Statutory Stage 1 consultation**, which ran from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013. This sought comments on the initial overall proposals for Sizewell C, options for associated development and the potential effects on the local community and environment.
- **Informal (Non-Statutory) consultation (Development Sites)**, which took place in March and August 2014. This sought views on reclassified options

for the associated development sites focussing on learning from the Stage 1 consultation and additional technical work.

- **Statutory Stage 2 consultation**, which ran from 23 November 2016 to 3 February 2017. This sought views on all elements of the emerging strategy and proposals across the whole Sizewell C Project, and in relation to proposed scheme changes since the Stage 1 consultation.
- **Statutory Stage 3 consultation**, which ran from 4 January 2019 to 29 March 2019. Views were again sought on all elements of the Sizewell C Project and in relation to changes proposed since the Stage 2 consultation.
- **Statutory Stage 4 consultation**, which ran from 18 July to 27 September 2019. This provided an update on elements of the proposals that had changed since the Stage 3 consultation and principally sought views on new proposals for the transport of freight and the provision of additional land to compensate for environmental impacts. Minor changes were proposed to the Order Limits following the close of the Stage 4 consultation. Targeted consultation under section 42 of the Act was therefore undertaken with affected consultees who were provided with the consultation materials for Stage 4 and were consulted for a minimum of 28 days, as follows:
 - 10 December 2019 to 31 January 2020: as a result of proposed changes to the Order Limits relating to the two village bypass and Saxmundham to Leiston branch line, persons with an interest in the land were consulted under section 42.
 - 15 January to 13 February 2020: as a result of proposed changes to the Order Limits at the main development site in respect of proposals for a water storage area, persons with an interest in the land (EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited and Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT)) were consulted under section 42. Informal consultation was also carried out with relevant stakeholders.
- **Informal (Non-Statutory) Ongoing Engagement**, which has been undertaken throughout the pre-application period and will continue following submission of the application as appropriate. SZC Co. has also participated in consultation carried out by third parties regarding other projects which are related or relevant to the Sizewell C Project. In addition, SZC Co. has also conducted a structural process of direct engagement with a number of statutory stakeholders.

e) [Response to pre-application consultation](#)

SZC Co. has regard to all relevant responses as defined in section 49 of the Act in finalising its proposals. Taking into account feedback received as part of the pre-application process, SZC Co. has made a number of changes to the

proposed Sizewell C Project throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project. These changes are explained in this Consultation Report.

Feedback has influenced the choice of site options and scheme layout, the design of the development, the selection of associated development sites and proposed mitigation measures.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

1.1.1 This Consultation Report supports the Application for the DCO for the Sizewell C Project. It is submitted pursuant to section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act).

1.1.2 Section 37(7) of the Act defines the Consultation Report as a document giving details of:

- what has been done at the pre-application stage in compliance with section 42 (duty to consult prescribed consultees, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), local authorities and persons who fall within one or more of the categories listed in section 44), section 47 (duty to consult the local community) and section 48 (duty to publicise) in relation to a proposed application that has become the application;
- any relevant responses, as defined in section 49 of the Act; and
- the account taken of any relevant responses.

1.1.3 This Report demonstrates how SZC Co. has complied with these provisions.

1.2 The applicant

1.2.1 NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of NNB Holding Company (SZC) Limited.

1.2.2 NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited is the company currently within the EDF Energy Group that is applying for development consent to construct, operate and maintain Sizewell C (referred to in this application as “SZC Co.”).

1.2.3 EDF Energy Group is one of the largest businesses in the energy sector in the UK; producing around 20% of the nation’s electricity and supplying electricity and gas to its residential and business customers. EDF Energy Group’s installed capacity is around 16.5GW, and the company has over 5.5 million businesses and residential customers.

1.2.4 Currently, EDF Energy Group operates eight nuclear power stations across the UK, with a combined capacity of almost 9,000MW. These comprise seven advanced gas-cooled reactor power stations (each with two reactors) at six locations on the coast of Britain, and a PWR located at Sizewell B.

1.2.5 In addition to the eight existing, operational nuclear power plants, EDF Energy Group was granted a DCO to construct and operate a new nuclear

power station in Somerset, known as Hinkley Point C, in March 2013². Hinkley Point C is currently under construction and is expected to start generating in 2025. Hinkley Point C is the first new nuclear power station to be constructed in the UK for more than 20 years. Like Sizewell C, it will use the UK European Pressurised Reactor (EPR™) technology.

1.3 The Sizewell C Project

1.3.1 The proposed Sizewell C power station would comprise two UK EPR™ units with an expected net electrical output of approximately 1,670 megawatts (MW) per unit, giving a total site capacity of approximately 3,340MW. The design of the UK EPR™ units is based on technology used successfully and safely around the world for many years, which has been enhanced by innovations to improve performance and safety. The UK EPR™ design has passed the Generic Design Assessment process undertaken by UK regulators (Office for Nuclear Regulation and Environment Agency), and has been licenced and permitted at Hinkley Point C. Once operational, Sizewell C would be able to generate enough electricity to supply approximately six million homes in the UK.

1.3.2 In addition to the key operational elements of the UK EPR™ units, the Sizewell C Project comprises other permanent, and temporary, development to support the construction and operation of the Sizewell C power station. The key elements are the main development site, comprising the Sizewell C power station itself, offshore works, land used temporarily to support construction including an accommodation campus, the enhancement of sports facilities in Leiston, fen meadow and marsh harrier compensation habitat (if required), and a series of off-site associated development sites in the local area. These are:

- two temporary park and ride sites; one to the north-west of Sizewell C at Darsham (the 'northern park and ride') and one to the south-west at Wickham Market (the 'southern park and ride');
- permanent road improvements on the A12 to bypass Stratford St Andrew and Farnham (referred to as the 'two village bypass');
- a permanent road linking the A12 to the Sizewell C main development site (referred to as the 'Sizewell link road');
- permanent highway improvements at Yoxford roundabout and other road junctions;

² Through NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited (CRN: 06937084), whose registered office is at 90 Whitfield Street, London W1T 4EZ.

- a temporary freight management facility (FMF) at Seven Hills on land to the south-east of the A12/A14 junction; and
- a temporary extension of the existing Saxmundham to Leiston branch line into the main development site ('the green rail route') and other permanent rail improvements on the Saxmundham to Leiston branch line.

1.3.3 Separately, planning permission has been granted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for two related applications:

- ecological mitigation works at Aldhurst Farm, which have now been implemented; and
- the relocation of some facilities related to the operation of the Sizewell B power station (for which consent is also sought in the DCO application).

1.3.4 The focus of this Consultation Report is the consultation carried out in relation to the DCO proposals.

1.4 Legislative and policy context

1.4.1 The Sizewell C Project meets the criteria of a nationally significant infrastructure project (NSIP) under section 15 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) (Ref. 1.3), as it would bring forward a new onshore generating station in England with a capacity of over 50 MW. Therefore, the Act is the primary legislation which establishes the legal framework for applying for, examining and determining the application for the proposed development. The application for development consent is submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). Consent for the Sizewell C Project would take the form of a DCO and would be granted by the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

1.4.2 The Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1) and NPS for Nuclear Power Generation (EN-6) provide the framework for development consent for decisions on applications for new nuclear power stations which are capable of deployment by the end of 2025. Sizewell was one of the sites listed in NPS EN-6 as potentially suitable for the deployment of a new nuclear power station by the end of 2025. Whilst SZC Co. remains confident that Sizewell is suitable for the deployment of a new nuclear power station, it is no longer possible for deployment to take place by the end of 2025.

1.4.3 A Ministerial Statement on Energy Infrastructure published on 7 December 2017 ('2017 Ministerial Statement') (Ref. 1.4) states that for projects yet to apply for development consent and due to deploy beyond 2025, the

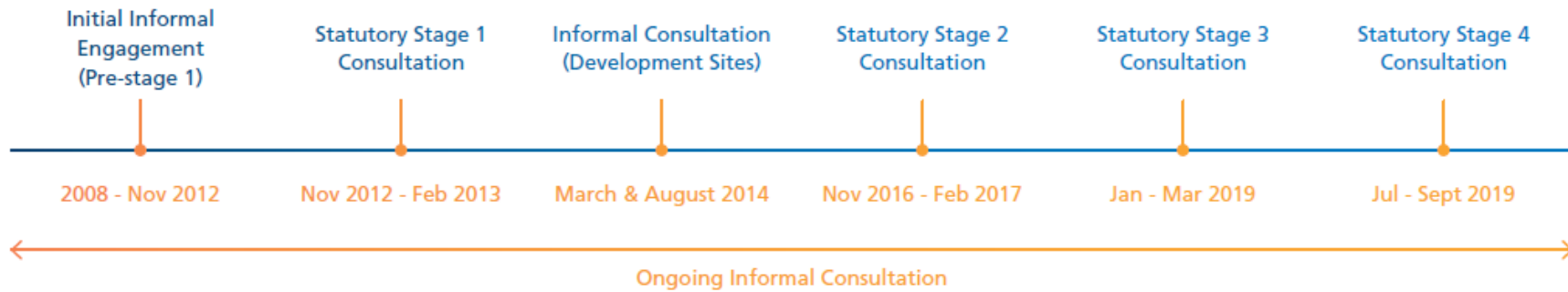
Government continues to give its strong in-principle support to proposals at those sites currently listed in EN-6. The 2017 Ministerial Statement recognises that, even if NPS EN-6 is considered not to have effect under section 104 of the Act for such a project (which provides that an application would have to be determined in accordance with a relevant NPS subject to limited exceptions), section 105 of the Act would apply to the decision on whether or not to grant development consent.

- 1.4.4 The 2017 Ministerial Statement explains that the Government is confident that both EN-1 and EN-6 incorporate information, assessments and statements which will continue to be important and relevant for projects which will deploy after 2025, including statements concerning the need for nuclear power, as well as environmental and other assessments that continue to be relevant for those projects.
- 1.4.5 The 2017 Ministerial Statement goes on to conclude that, in respect of matters where there is no relevant change of circumstances, it is likely that significant weight would be given to the policy in EN-1 and EN-6.
- 1.4.6 Between December 2017 and March 2018, the Government consulted on the siting criteria and process for a new NPS for nuclear power with single reactor capacity over 1GW beyond 2025. SZC Co. nominated Sizewell as a site that is suitable for the deployment of a new nuclear power station by 2035.
- 1.4.7 The Government Response (July 2018) confirmed that the proposed process for assessing and designating potential sites was firstly to carry the list of potentially suitable sites from EN-6 through to the new NPS subject to them meeting the updated siting criteria and updates of their environmental statements. The response confirmed that there would be no window for new site nominations until the 2020s.
- 1.4.8 In the meantime, the Government Response at paragraph 3.10 confirmed that *“sites listed in EN-6 on which a new nuclear power station is anticipated to deploy after 2025 will continue to be considered appropriate sites and retain strong Government support during the designation of the new NPS”*.
- 1.4.9 There has been no relevant change of circumstances which would suggest that anything less than significant weight should be given to the policy in EN-1 and EN-6. Indeed, it is considered that the need for new nuclear power is now even greater than when NPS EN-1 and NPS EN-6 were designated.
- 1.4.10 **Chapter 3 of the Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4) explains in more detail the legislative and planning policy context for the Sizewell C Project.

1.5 Overview of the consultation process

- 1.5.1 This Consultation Report sets out what SZC Co. has done during the statutory and non-statutory pre-application consultation processes. It explains the issues raised in the consultation responses, how the Sizewell C proposals have evolved through and in response to the consultation stages, and how feedback from consultees has influenced the options and choices made in the DCO application.
- 1.5.2 There were four principal stages of statutory pre-application consultation, as seen in **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report. Minor changes were proposed to the Order Limits following the close of the Stage 4 consultation and targeted consultation under section 42 of the Act was therefore undertaken with affected section 42 consultees, shown in **Chapter 8**, and informally with relevant stakeholders, shown in **Chapter 9** of this Report. Outside of these consultation stages, informal consultation also took place, shown in **Chapters 3, 5 and 9** of this Report. **Plate 1.1** illustrates schematically the principal stages of consultation.

Plate 1.1: Sizewell C consultation timeline



1.6 Consultation report structure

1.6.1 This Report is structured as follows:

- **Chapter 1** – Introduction: introduces SZC Co. and the Sizewell C Project.
- **Chapter 2** – Approach to Consultation: explains how SZC Co. has undertaken consultation on the Sizewell C Project in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidance.
- **Chapter 3** – Initial Informal Engagement (Pre-Stage 1): details the non-statutory engagement activities undertaken prior to the first statutory stage of consultation, the responses received, and how SZC Co. had regard to these responses.
- **Chapter 4** – Stage 1 Pre-Application Consultation: details the consultation process followed in accordance with the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) (2012) during the first statutory stage of consultation, provides an issues-based review of the consultation responses received and sets out how SZC Co. had regard to these responses.
- **Chapter 5** – Informal Consultation (Development Sites): details the non-statutory consultation activities undertaken in relation to the development sites.
- **Chapter 6** – Stage 2 Pre-Application Consultation: as per **Chapter 4**, but in relation to the second statutory stage of consultation which was undertaken in accordance with the Updated SoCC (2016).
- **Chapter 7** – Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation: as per **Chapter 6**, but in relation to the third statutory stage of consultation.
- **Chapter 8** – Stage 4 Pre-Application Consultation: as per **Chapter 7**, but in relation to the fourth statutory stage of consultation and the two targeted consultations that were carried out due to minor changes to the Order Limits proposed after the close of Stage 4.
- **Chapter 9** – Ongoing Informal (Non-Statutory) Consultations and Engagement: details the non-statutory consultation that has been undertaken informally throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project outside of the above statutory and non-statutory stages, including informal consultation with relevant stakeholders undertaken in January to February 2020.

- **Chapter 10** – Conclusion: draws conclusions on the key themes of the consultation responses and the changes that SZC Co. has made to the proposed development in response to the consultation undertaken.

2. Approach to Consultation

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This chapter sets out SZC Co.'s approach to the statutory stages of consultation in relation to the Sizewell C Project. It explains how the consultation has been undertaken to ensure compliance with the requirements of legislation and guidance. It also explains how SZC Co. has analysed and had regard to the relevant responses received to inform the evolution of the Sizewell C Project.

2.1.2 As noted in **Chapter 1** of this Report, non-statutory consultation has also been undertaken by SZC Co. This included initial informal engagement (Pre-Stage 1) between 2008 and 2012, informal consultation (Development Sites) in March and August 2014, and ongoing informal (non-statutory) consultations and engagement throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project. The approach to other non-statutory consultation work is explained in **Chapters 3, 5 and 9** of this Report.

2.2 Compliance with legislation, guidance and advice

2.2.1 This chapter focuses on the statutory consultation, which was carried out through Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4 and the two targeted stages following the close of Stage 4.

2.2.2 It is a legal requirement for pre-application consultation to be carried out in connection with proposals for NSIPs in advance of the submission of an application for development consent under the Act.

2.2.3 The consultation stages have been designed to comply with the requirements set out within the following legislation:

- Planning Act 2008 (the Act).
- Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations).
- Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)) Regulations 2009 (EIA Regulations 2009) (at Stage 1 and 2).
- Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017) (at Stages 3 and 4 and the targeted consultation after the close of Stage 4).

- The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007.

2.2.4 All statutory stages of consultation have also had due regard to the ‘Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the Pre-Application Process’ (former Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2015) (the DCLG Guidance) published under section 50 of the Act.

2.2.5 In addition, a series of non-statutory advice notes in connection with carrying out pre-application consultation for NSIPs have been prepared by the PINS. The principal document is Advice Note 14: Compiling the Consultation Report (April 2012), with which SZC Co.’s consultation report accords.

2.2.6 A **Section 55 Application Checklist** (Doc Ref. 1.1b), setting out how SZC Co. has complied with the above legislation and guidance, is submitted in support of the DCO application.

2.2.7 Other relevant PINS advice notes have also informed SZC Co.’s pre-application consultation work, including in particular:

- Advice Note 2: The Role of Local Authorities in the Development Consent Process (February 2015).
- Advice Note 3: EIA Consultation and Notification (August 2017).
- Advice Note 7: EIA: Preliminary Environmental Information, Screening and Scoping (December 2017).
- Advice Note 8: Overview of the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Planning Process for Members of the Public and Others (December 2016).
- Advice Note 9: Rochdale Envelope (July 2018).

2.3 Statutory purpose of the consultation

2.3.1 The DCLG Guidance explains the purpose of the pre-application consultation process. It states:

“Effective pre-application consultation will lead to applications which are better developed and better understood by the public, and in which the important issues have been articulated and considered as far as possible in advance of submission of the application to the Secretary of State. This in turn will allow for shorter and more efficient examinations” (paragraph 15).

2.3.2 It explains at paragraph 18 that the early involvement of local communities, local authorities and statutory consultees can bring about significant benefits for all parties. These benefits are summarised below and SZC Co. has designed all stages of consultation with the aim of achieving these:

- helping the applicant identify and resolve issues at the earliest stage;
- encouraging the community to help shape the proposal to maximise local benefits, and minimise any downsides;
- helping local people understand the potential nature and local impact of the proposed project;
- enabling applicants to obtain important information about the economic, social and environmental impacts of a scheme from consultees;
- enabling potential mitigating measures to be considered before an application is submitted; and
- identifying ways in which the project could, without significant costs to promoters, support wider strategic or local objectives.

2.3.3 With regard to the number of stages of consultation, the DCLG Guidance sets out that:

“To manage the tension between consulting early, but also having project proposals that are firm enough to enable consultees to comment, applicants are encouraged to consider an iterative, phased consultation consisting of two (or more) stages, especially for large projects with long development periods. For example, applicants might wish to consider undertaking non-statutory early consultation at a stage where options are still being considered. This will be helpful in informing proposals and assisting the applicant in establishing a preferred option on which to undertake statutory consultation” (paragraph 70).

2.3.4 Paragraph 76 adds that *“in circumstances where a particular issue has arisen during the pre-application consultation, or where it is localised in nature, it may be appropriate to hold a non-statutory, targeted consultation”* (paragraph 76).

2.3.5 In accordance with the DCLG Guidance, and as shown in the Consultation Timeline in **Plate 1.1** in **Chapter 1**, SZC Co. has taken an iterative approach to consultation on the Sizewell C Project. Non-statutory informal pre-Stage 1 engagement was first undertaken at a very early stage³ to inform the

³ From December 2008 – November 2012.

development of options to be consulted on during the statutory stages of consultation. Four principal statutory stages of consultation were then undertaken⁴, with targeted consultation carried out subsequent to the close of the Stage 4 consultation as a result of minor proposed scheme changes⁵. Ongoing informal consultation was carried out in-between and after the principal stages of consultation⁶.

2.3.6 This approach has allowed SZC Co. to ensure that the evolution of the design of the Sizewell C proposals, and any proposed mitigation measures, have been closely informed by consultation feedback.

2.3.7 SZC Co. has worked to ensure that all relevant individuals and organisations have been consulted and kept informed throughout the development of the Sizewell C Project through informal and formal communications to inform the evolution of the Sizewell C Project. A structured process of engagement has taken place with a number of principal stakeholders and this is explained in **Chapter 9** of this Report.

2.4 Overview of approach

2.4.1 SZC Co.’s approach to consultation has been structured to accord with the legal framework and to provide a high quality and meaningful process of consultation with the local community, statutory consultees and the general public.

2.4.2 For all statutory stages of consultation, the requirements of Part 5 of the Act have been complied with. Full details are provided in **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report. **Table 2.1** sets out the legal requirements and where further information on how SZC Co. has complied with those requirements can be found.

Table 2.1: Planning Act 2008 requirements for approach to consultation

Section	Requirement	Further Information
42(1)(a)	<i>“Duty to consult ...such persons as may be prescribed”⁷.</i>	Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(a) of this chapter.

⁴ Stage 1 in November 2012–February 2013; Stage 2 in November 2016–February 2017; Stage 3 in January–March 2019 and Stage 4 in July–September 2019.

⁵ 10 December 2019 – 31 January 2020; 15 January 2020 – 13 February 2020.

⁶ Including the Informal (Non-Statutory) Consultation (Development Sites) in March and August 2014 and informal consultation with relevant stakeholders about minor proposed changes to the Order Limits in January to February 2020.

⁷ Under The Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, the persons prescribed for the purposes of section 42(1)(a) (duty to consult) are those listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 1 to the Regulations, who must be consulted in the circumstances specified in relation to each such person in column 2 of that table.

Section	Requirement	Further Information
		A list of prescribed consultees is provided at Appendix G.3 of this Report.
42(1)(aa) and (2)	<p><i>“Duty to consult</i> <i>... (aa) the Marine Management Organisation, in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in subsection (2).</i></p> <p>...</p> <p><i>(2) The areas are—</i> <i>(a) waters in or adjacent to England up to the seaward limits of the territorial sea...”⁸.</i></p>	Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(b) of this chapter.
42(1)(b) ⁹	<p><i>“Duty to consult</i> <i>...each local authority that is within section 43”.</i></p>	Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(c) of this chapter.
42(1)(d)	<p><i>“Duty to consult</i> <i>...each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in section 44”.</i></p>	Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(d) of this chapter.
43	<p><i>“Local authorities for purposes of section 42(1)(b)</i> <i>(1) A local authority is within this section if the land is in the authority's area.</i> <i>(2) A local authority (“A”) is within this section if—</i> <i>(a) the land is in the area of another local authority (“B”),</i> <i>(aa) B is a unitary council or a lower-tier district council, and</i> <i>(b) any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area.</i> <i>(2A) If the land is in the area of an upper-tier county council (“C”), a local authority (“D”) is within this section if—</i> <i>(a) D is not a lower-tier district council, and</i></p>	Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(c) of this chapter.

⁸ The other categories listed in section 42(2) do not apply.

⁹ The duty to consult the Greater London Authority in section 42(1)(c) does not apply as the land is not in Greater London.

Section	Requirement	Further Information
	<p><i>(b) any part of the boundary of D's area is also part of the boundary of C's area.</i></p> <p><i>(3) In this section—</i> <i>"local authority" means—</i></p> <p><i>(a) a county council, or district council, in England;</i> <i>(b) a London borough council;</i> <i>(c) the Common Council of the City of London;</i> <i>(d) the Council of the Isles of Scilly;</i> <i>(e) a county council, or county borough council, in Wales;</i> <i>(f) a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government etc (Scotland) Act 1994;</i> <i>(g) a National Park authority;</i> <i>(h) the Broads Authority;</i></p> <p><i>"lower-tier district council" means a district council in England for an area for which there is a county council;</i></p> <p><i>"unitary council" means a local authority that is not an upper-tier county council, a lower-tier district council, a National Park authority or the Broads Authority;</i></p> <p><i>"upper-tier county council" means a county council in England for each part of whose area there is a district council".</i></p>	
44	<p><i>"Categories for purposes of section 42(1)(d)</i></p> <p><i>(1) A person is within Category 1 if the applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person is an owner, lessee, tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land.</i></p> <p><i>(2) A person is within Category 2 if the applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person—</i></p> <p><i>(a) is interested in the land, or</i> <i>(b) has power—</i></p> <p><i>(i) to sell and convey the land, or</i> <i>(ii) to release the land.</i></p> <p>...</p>	<p>Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(d) of this chapter.</p> <p>The Book of Reference (Doc Ref. 4.3) contains a list of Category 1, 2 and 3 persons.</p>

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Section	Requirement	Further Information
	<p><i>(4) A person is within Category 3 if the applicant thinks that, if the order sought by the proposed application were to be made and fully implemented, the person would or might be entitled—</i></p> <p><i>(a) as a result of the implementing of the order,</i></p> <p><i>(b) as a result of the order having been implemented, or</i></p> <p><i>(c) as a result of use of the land once the order has been implemented,</i></p> <p><i>to make a relevant claim. This is subject to subsection (5).</i></p> <p><i>(5) A person is within Category 3 only if the person is known to the applicant after making diligent inquiry.”</i></p>	
45	<p><i>“Timetable for consultation under section 42</i></p> <p><i>(1) ... the deadline for the receipt by the applicant of the person’s response to the consultation ...</i></p> <p><i>(2) ... must not be earlier than the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the person receives the consultation documents”.</i></p>	<p>Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report.</p>
47	<p><i>“Duty to consult local community</i></p> <p><i>(1) The applicant must prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land.</i></p> <p><i>(2) Before preparing the statement, the applicant must consult each local authority that is within section 43(1) about what is to be in the statement.</i></p> <p><i>(3) The deadline for the receipt by the applicant of a local authority’s response to consultation under subsection (2) is the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the local authority receives the consultation documents.</i></p> <p>...</p>	<p>Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 of this Report and section 2.4(e) of this chapter.</p>

Section	Requirement	Further Information
	<p><i>(5) In preparing the statement, the applicant must have regard to any response to consultation under subsection (2) that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by subsection (3)</i></p> <p><i>(6) Once the applicant has prepared the statement, the applicant must—</i></p> <p><i>(za) make the statement available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land,</i></p> <p><i>(a) publish, in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land a notice stating where and when the statement can be inspected, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) publish the statement in such manner as may be prescribed.</i></p> <p><i>(7) The applicant must carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the statement”.</i></p>	
48	<p><i>“Duty to publicise</i></p> <p><i>(1) The applicant must publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner...”</i></p>	<p>Chapter 8 of this Report and section 2.4(f) of this chapter.</p>
49	<p><i>Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity</i></p> <p><i>(1) Subsection (2) applies where the applicant—</i></p> <p><i>(a) has complied with sections 42, 47 and 48, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) proposes to go ahead with making an application for an order granting development consent (whether or not in the same terms as the proposed application).</i></p> <p><i>(2) The applicant must, when deciding whether the application that the applicant is actually to make should be in the same terms as the proposed application, have regard to any relevant responses.</i></p> <p><i>(3) In subsection (2) “relevant response” means—</i></p> <p><i>(a) a response from a person consulted under section 42 that is received by the applicant</i></p>	<p>Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8 and Annexes A, C, E and G of this Report.</p>

Section	Requirement	Further Information
	<p><i>before the deadline imposed by section 45 in that person's case,</i></p> <p><i>(b) a response to consultation under section 47(7) that is received by the applicant before any applicable deadline imposed in accordance with the statement prepared under section 47, or</i></p> <p><i>(c) a response to publicity under section 48 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed in accordance with section 48(2) in relation to that publicity.</i></p>	

2.4.3 The paragraphs below explain how consultees under sections 42 and 47 of the Act have been identified and how the proposed application was publicised in accordance with section 48 of the Act.

a) Identification of prescribed consultees (section 42(1)(a))

2.4.4 SZC Co. identified prescribed consultees in two principal ways:

- with careful reference to the list within Schedule 1 of the Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure Regulations 2009; and
- with reference to the lists provided in the EIA Scoping Opinions. The first EIA Scoping Opinion (June 2014) was issued under the 2009 Regulations, provided in **Appendix G.1** to this Report. The EIA was re-scoped in 2019 under the 2017 Regulations to include additions and changes to the Sizewell C Project proposals, including to the temporary and permanent off-site associated development sites. The second EIA Scoping Opinion was received on 3 July 2019, provided in **Appendix G.2** to this Report.

2.4.5 A full list of prescribed consultees is attached at **Appendix G.3** of this Report. At each stage of consultation, consultees were given a deadline of at least 28 days to respond to the consultation. Further details are provided in **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report respectively.

2.4.6 SZC Co. has actively sought to obtain views from a wide range of other non-prescribed consultees such as town and parish councils, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), the SWT and the National Trust. These bodies were consulted due to their local knowledge and interest in the environmental topics assessed as part of the DCO application.

b) Marine Management Organisation (section 42(1)(aa))

- 2.4.7 SZC Co. is seeking a Deemed Marine Licence as part of the DCO application for all project activities that lie below the mean high-water spring-tidal limit in accordance with the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
- 2.4.8 The MMO, established under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, is the authority responsible for issuing, regulating and enforcing marine licences. Pursuant to section 149A(1) of the Act, a DCO may include provision deeming a marine licence to have been issued under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.
- 2.4.9 The MMO has been consulted on marine impact assessment outputs as part of a Marine Technical Forum established by SZC Co. to coordinate consultation on marine elements of the Sizewell C Project. The Environment Agency, Natural England and East Suffolk Council (ESC) are also members of the Marine Technical Forum, whilst the RSPB, SCC, and the Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) have attended as ‘participating guests’. A total of 20 Marine Technical Forum meetings have been held between March 2014 and June 2019.
- 2.4.10 SZC Co. has also consulted separately with the MMO to discuss the scope and preparation of the Deemed Marine Licence.

c) Identification of relevant local authorities (section 42(1)(b) and 43)

- 2.4.11 On 1 April 2019 SCDC and Waveney District Council (WDC) were replaced by a new local authority ‘ESC’.
- 2.4.12 The relevant authorities are:
- Category “A”¹⁰
 - Mid Suffolk District Council.
 - Babergh District Council.
 - Ipswich Borough Council.
 - Tendring District Council.
 - South Norfolk District Council (only an A local authority from 1 April 2019 following ESC’s creation).

¹⁰ Following the creation of ESC, SZC Co. re-assessed which local authorities fell within section 42(1)(b) of the Act and identified South Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Broads Authority as authorities to be consulted. Each of these authorities was therefore sent the Stage 4 consultation material and given a minimum of 28 days to respond to the consultation.

- Great Yarmouth Borough Council (only an A local authority from 1 April 2019 following ESC’s creation).
- Broads Authority (only an A local authority from 1 April 2019 following ESC’s creation).
- WDC (prior to becoming ESC as of 1 April 2019).
- Category “B”
 - ESC (prior to 1 April 2019, SCDC).
- Category “C”
 - SCC.
- Category “D”
 - Essex County Council.
 - Norfolk County Council.
 - Cambridgeshire County Council.
 - Broads Authority.

2.4.13 The administrative boundaries of the above authorities are shown in **Plates 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4.**

Plate 2.1: Category A authorities map

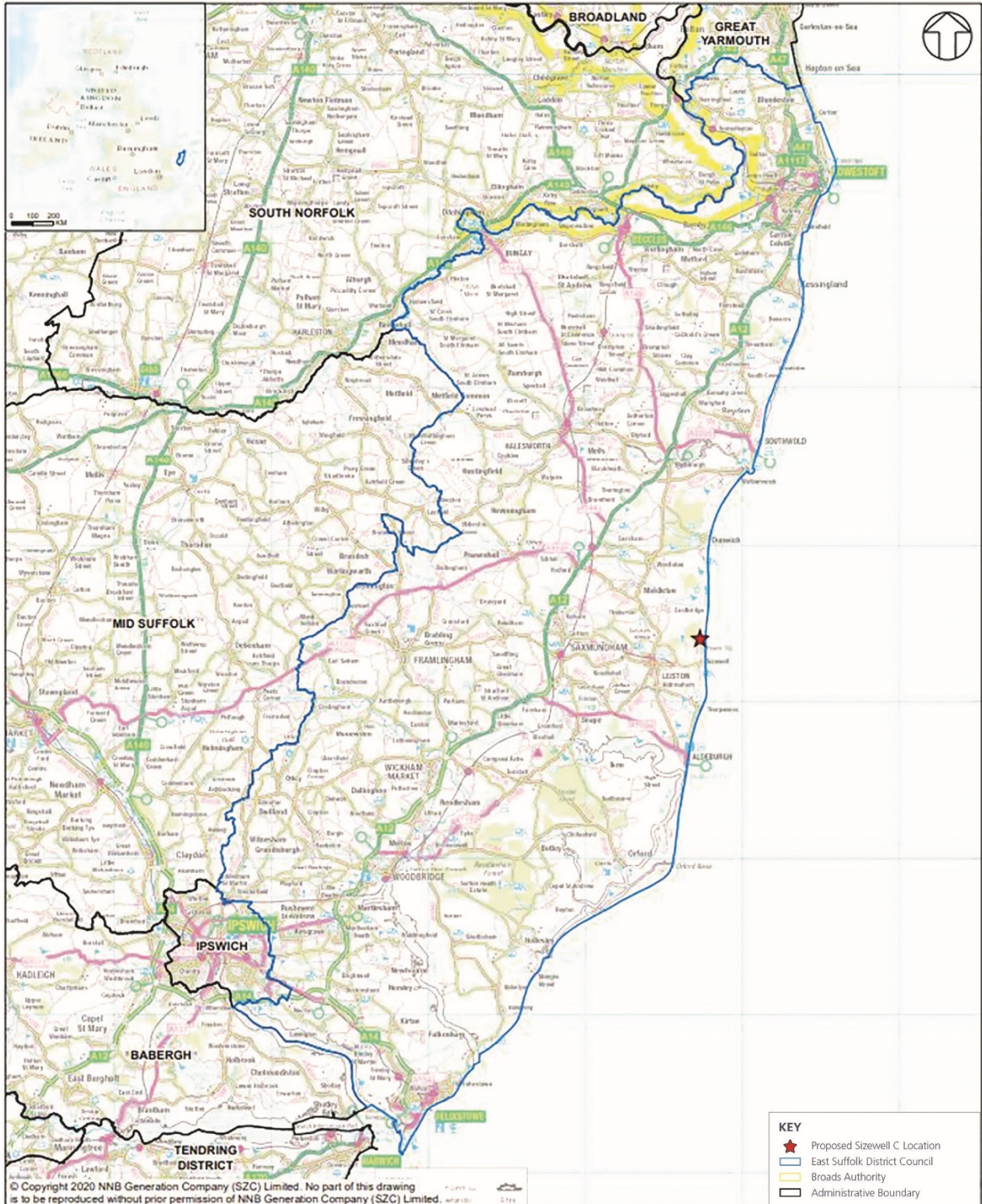


Plate 2.2: Category B authorities map

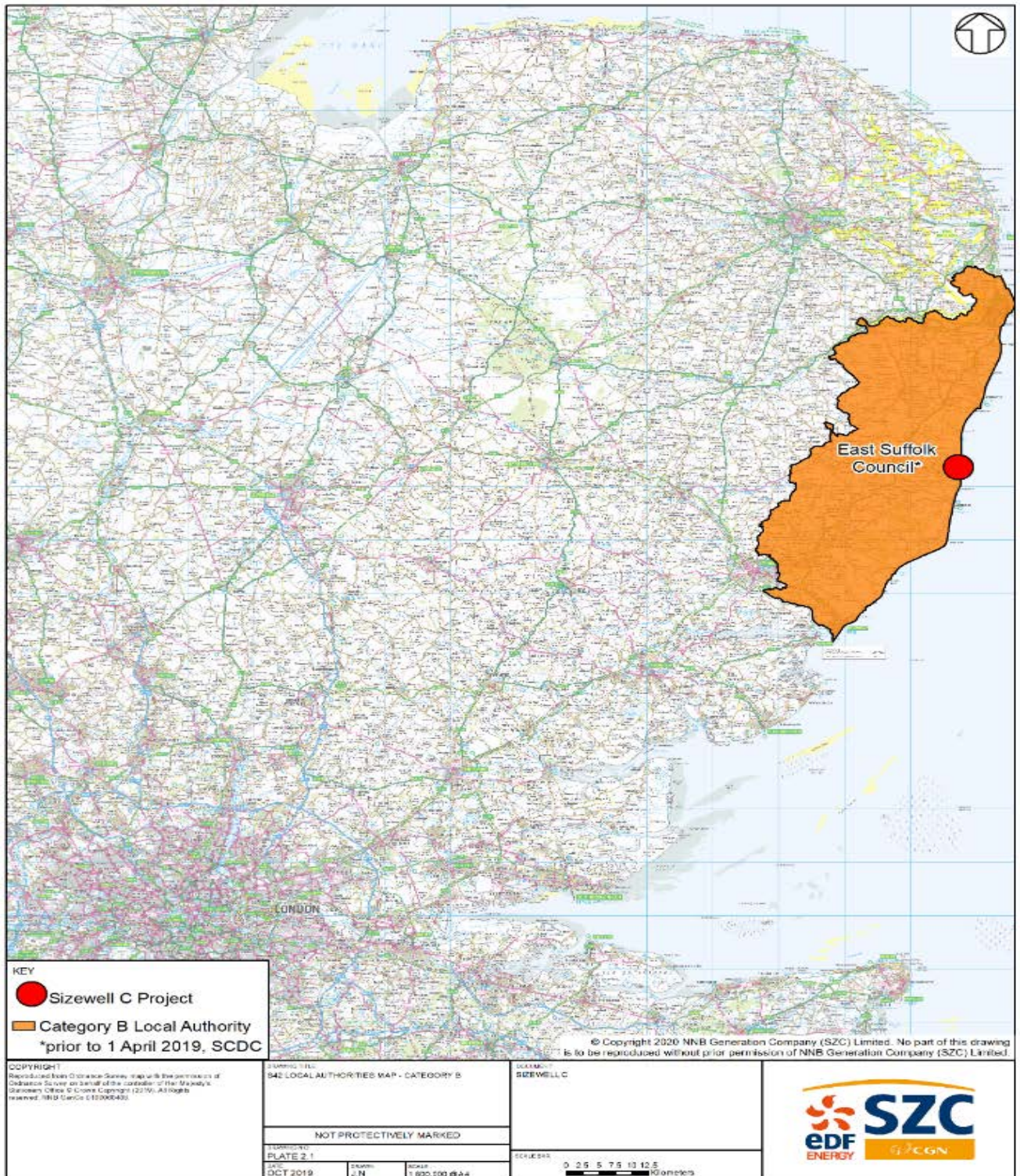


Plate 2.3: Category C authorities map

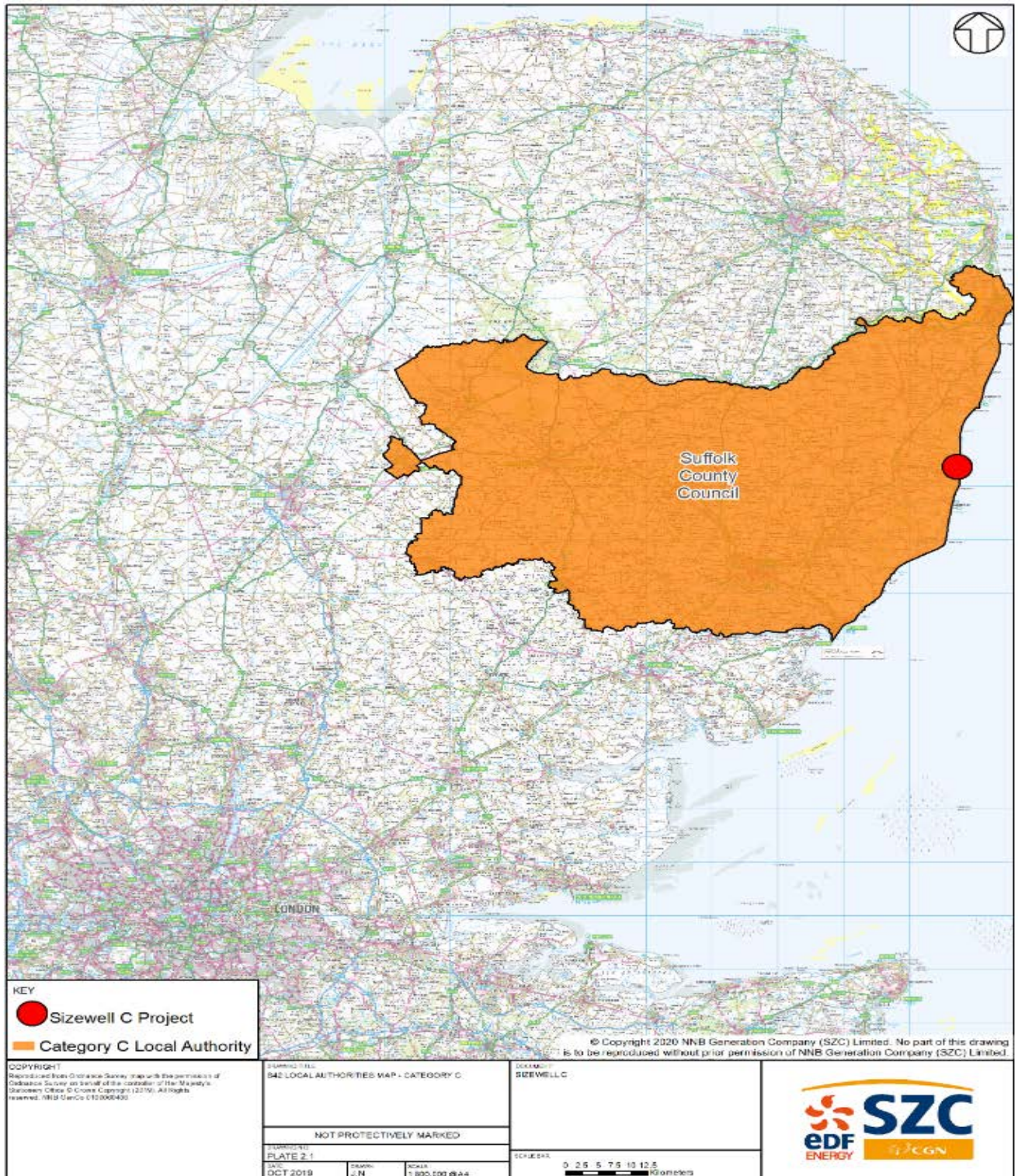
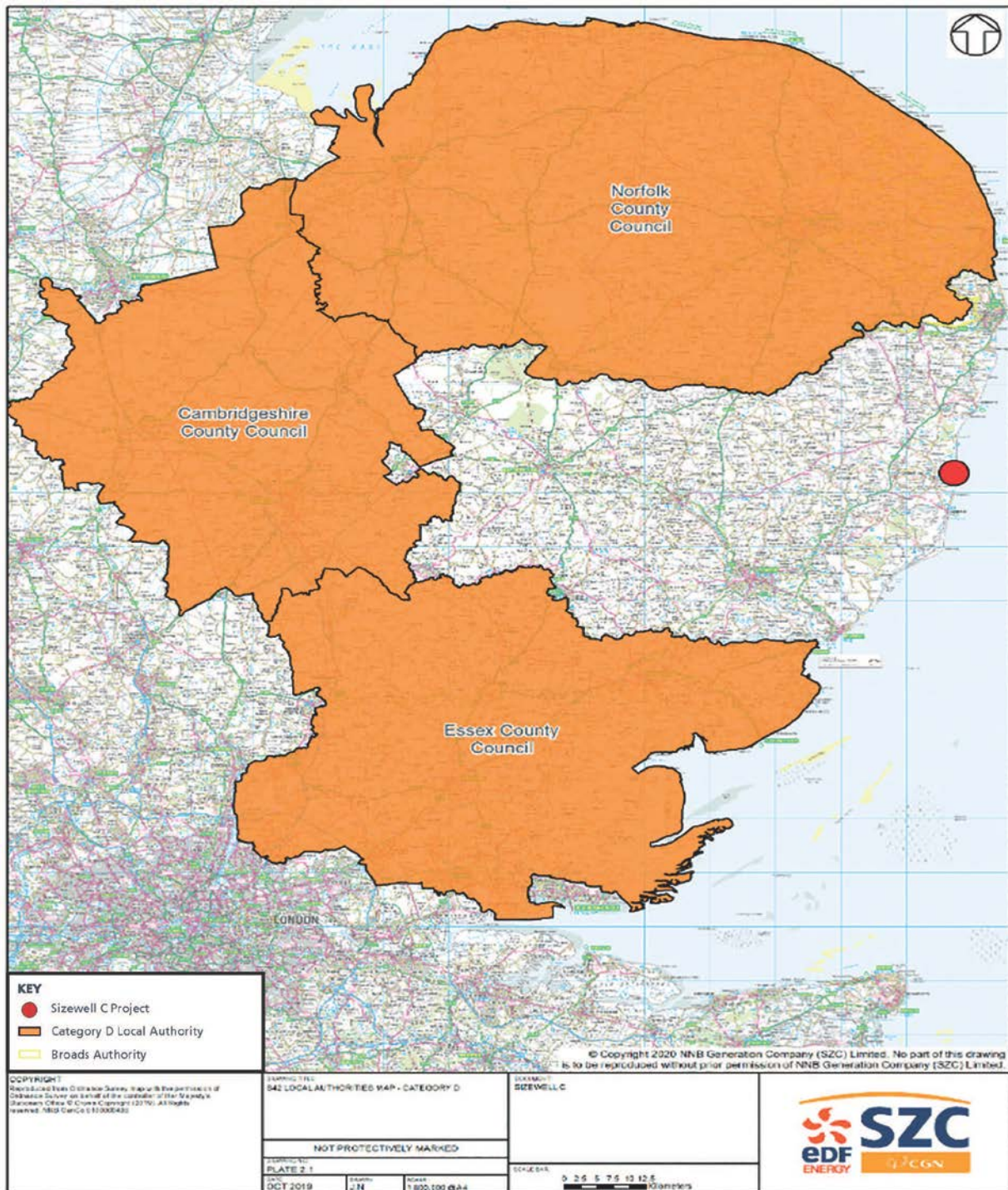


Plate 2.4: Category D authorities map



2.4.14 PINS Advice Note 3: EIA consultation and notification (August 2017) also recommends that developers of offshore schemes consult local authorities that may be visually impacted by the offshore elements of the proposals, even if they are not captured within the categories of A, B, C or D local authorities.

2.4.15 The only piece of visible offshore infrastructure is the beach landing facility (BLF). The only elements of this that would be visible from the shore are the piles, as the bridge panels would be removed once construction of the power station is complete and, during operation of the power station, the bridge panels would only be installed when the BLF is required. None of the cooling water infrastructure would be visible as it would all be below the water level. No additional local authorities would be visually impacted by the offshore elements of the proposals and no further consultation was therefore required in this regard.

d) **Identification of persons with an interest in the land (section 42(1)(d))**

2.4.16 Under section 42(1)(d) of the Act, the applicant must consult each person who is within one or more of the three categories set out in section 44. These categories are:

- Category 1: A person is within Category 1 if the applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person is an owner, lessee, tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land.
- Category 2: A person is within Category 2 if the applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person is interested in the land, or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land.
- Category 3: A person is within Category 3 if the applicant thinks that, if the DCO were made and fully implemented, the person would or might be entitled as a result of (a) the implementing of the DCO, (b) the DCO having been implemented, or (c) use of the land once the DCO has been implemented, to make a “*relevant claim*”. There are three types of relevant claim: a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965; a claim under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973; and a claim under section 152(3) of the Planning Act 2008. A person is within Category 3 only if the person is known to the applicant after making diligent inquiry. These parties were identified based on scheme proposals, redline boundaries, construction activities, and environmental information available at the point of statutory consultation.

2.4.17 The persons with an interest in the Order Limits changed between and after the statutory pre-application stages, as a result of design changes and also

a result of changes to land ownership and occupation. A full list of persons with an interest in land is included within the **Book of Reference** (Doc Ref. 4.3).

2.4.18 Land referencers were appointed by SZC Co. prior to the commencement of the Stage 1 consultation to complete a diligent enquiry process prior to and throughout each stage of consultation to identify relevant persons with an interest in land. The following process was followed for all stages of consultation:

- Landowners and other interested parties were identified initially through title searches with the Land Registry. These searches were refreshed at regular intervals to ensure the information held was accurate. Previously unregistered areas of land were also periodically checked to ensure the land remained unregistered.
- Request for information forms, provided in **Appendix G.6** of this Report, were issued to all interests identified through Land Registry searches. These forms sought to confirm the contact details of the affected parties and also to ask for details of any other parties who may hold an interest in the land. Where new interested parties were revealed, these parties were also issued with a request for information form to confirm the details provided. This confirmation process has been on going throughout all stages of consultation.
- Where ownership could not be determined or request for information forms were not returned, further reminder letters were issued and site visits were conducted. The site visits involved identifying and visiting potential landowner residences, neighbours and other properties to try and identify landowners and/or occupiers. Land referencing questionnaires, provided in **Appendix G.4** of this Report, requesting clarity on land ownership, and details of other persons with an interest in the land, were issued and completed on site where possible.
- Further information was obtained where possible with follow up site visits, desktop research, letters, emails and telephone calls.
- Where landowners remained unknown, site notices, provided in **Appendix G.5** of this Report, were erected where possible in suitable visible locations and were replaced at regular intervals (for example on gateways or nearby telegraph poles).

2.4.19 The combination of the above land referencing activities produced a list of interests for the stages of statutory consultation.

e) Duty to consult the local community (section 47)

2.4.20 In accordance with section 47 of the Act, SZC Co. made available for inspection by the public a SoCC from 8 November 2012, provided in **Appendix B.11** of this Report, prior to the beginning of the Stage 1 consultation period. This set out how SZC Co. would consult on the Sizewell C proposals.

2.4.21 The key milestones in connection with the preparation of the SoCC (2012) are summarised in **Table 2.2**:

Table 2.2: Statement of community consultation (2012) key milestones

Date	Milestone
21 September 2012.	Letters consulting SCDC ¹¹ and SCC on draft SoCC, as provided in Appendix B.1 of this Report. The letters set a deadline of 20 October 2012 to provide a response, meeting the 28-day requirement.
19 October 2012.	Joint feedback on draft SoCC from SCDC and SCC issued to SZC Co., provided in Appendix B.1 of this Report.
7 November 2012.	Letters sent from SZC Co. to SCDC and SCC enclosing a table explaining how SZC Co. responded to their comments on the draft SoCC, provided in Appendix B.2 of this Report.

2.4.22 As detailed in **Chapter 4** of this Report, the Stage 1 consultation was undertaken in accordance with the approach set out within the SoCC (2012).

2.4.23 Following the feedback received from consultees at Stage 1, SZC Co. decided to undertake additional stages of formal consultation. To reflect this approach, an Updated SoCC was prepared and made available for inspection by the public from 9 November 2016, prior to the beginning of the Stage 2 consultation period – the Updated SoCC, provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report. Notices were also published in local newspapers stating where the SoCC could be inspected provided in **Appendix D.5** of this Report.

2.4.24 The key milestones in connection with the preparation of the updated SoCC (2016) are summarised in **Table 2.3**.

¹¹ On 1 April 2019 SCDC and Waverney District Council were replaced by a new local authority 'East Suffolk Council'

Table 2.3: Updated statement of community consultation (2016) key milestones

Date	Milestone
26 November 2014.	Letters sent from SZC Co. to SCDC ¹² and SCC, enclosing draft Updated SoCC , provided in Appendix D.1 of this Report. The letters set a deadline of 31 December 2014 for providing a response, exceeding the 28-day requirement.
19 December 2014.	Joint response from SCDC and SCC issued to SZC Co., provided in Appendix D.2 of this Report.
13 January 2016.	Letters from SZC Co. to SCDC and SCC, enclosing SZC Co.'s response to their December 2014 comments, and an amended draft Updated SoCC, provided in Appendix D.3 of this Report.
10 February 2016.	Response received from SCDC and SCC in relation to amended draft Updated SoCC, provided in Appendix D.4 of this Report.

2.4.25 As detailed in **Chapters 6, 7 and 8** of this Report all consultation from November 2016 onwards was undertaken in accordance with the approach set out within the Updated SoCC (2016).

2.4.26 In accordance with section 47(6) of the Act, notice was published in local newspapers stating where and when the SoCC (2012) and Updated SoCC (2016) (respectively) could be inspected as shown in **Tables 2.4 and 2.5** in **Appendices B.10 and D.5** of this Report.

Table 2.4: Publication of SoCC notices

Local Newspaper	SoCC (November 2012)	Updated SoCC (November 2016)
East Anglian Daily Times.	8 November 2012.	9 November 2016.
Eastern Daily Press.	8 November 2012.	9 November 2016.
Beccles and Bungay Journal.	8 November 2012.	9 November 2016.
Lowestoft Journal.	8 November 2012.	9 November 2016.
Coastal Scene.	8 November 2012.	9 November 2016.
Ipswich Evening Star.	8 November 2012.	9 November 2016.

Table 2.5: Deposit locations for SoCC (2012), SoCC (2016) and consultation documents

Libraries		
Aldeburgh	Chantry	Lowestoft
Beccles	Ipswich County	Oulton Broad

¹² On 1 April 2019 SCDC and Waverney District Council were replaced by a new local authority 'East Suffolk Council'

Libraries		
Broomhill	Kessingland	Rosehill
Framlingham	Leiston	Saxmundham
Gainsborough Community	Woodbridge	Southwold
Halesworth	Wickham Market.	
Local Authority Offices		
Ipswich Borough Council	SCC.	SCDC*
WDC*	Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council	
SZC Co.		
The Sizewell C information office, 48 High Street, Leiston.		
*By Stage 4 consultation SCDC and WDC had formally merged. For Stage 4, documents were sent to the offices of ESC.		

f) [Duty to publicise \(section 48\)](#)

- 2.4.27 SZC Co. published a notice that complies with section 48 of the Act at Stage 4, see **Appendix F.4** of this Report, in the manner prescribed by Regulation 4 of the Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure Regulations 2009.
- 2.4.28 Regulation 4(2) required SZC Co. to publish a notice of the proposed application: for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers; once in a national newspaper; once in the London Gazette; and as the proposed application relates to offshore development, once in Lloyd’s List and once in an appropriate fishing trade journal.
- 2.4.29 In accordance with these requirements, section 48 notices were published on the dates set out in **Table 2.6**.

Table 2.6: Section 48 notices published at Stage 4

Publication	Dates publicised
East Anglian Daily Times.	18 July and 25 July 2019.
The Times.	18 July 2019.
London Gazette.	18 July 2019.
Lloyd’s List.	18 July 2019.
Fishing News.	24 July 2019.

- 2.4.30 Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations 2017 also requires that where the application is for EIA development, a copy of the section 48 notice must be sent to:

- the consultation bodies (i.e. prescribed consultees under section 42(1)(a) and the local authorities for the purposes of section 42(1)(b) listed at **Appendix G.3** of this Report); and
- any person notified to the applicant by the Secretary of State under Regulation 11(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations 2017 (i.e. persons whom the Secretary of State considers are, or are likely to be, affected by, or have an interest in the proposed development, and are unlikely to become aware of the proposed development by means of the measures taken in compliance with Part 5 of the Act. SZC Co. has not been notified of any Regulation 11(1)(c) persons.

2.4.31 Copies of the section 48 notice were sent to the consultation bodies and sample letters satisfying these requirements can be found at **Appendix F.4** of this Report.

2.5 Consultation under EIA and Habitats Regulations

2.5.1 At the time of the Stage 1 and 2 consultations, the EIA Regulations 2009 were in force. At the time of the Stage 3 and 4 consultations, the EIA Regulations 2017 were in force.

2.5.2 PINS Advice Note 14 (PINS, 2012) states:

"Applicants may wish to draw attention to consultation responses received under the EIA process, but any reference to this consultation should be kept separate from the statutory consultation carried out under the provisions of the Planning Act 2008."

2.5.3 Consultation on preliminary environmental information (PEI) is also part of the consultation process under the Act and therefore, in the most part, it is difficult to separate these two processes and the responses received. **Chapters 4, 6, 7** and **8** of this Report respectively explain what PEI was made available to consultees at Stages 1, 2, 3 and 4 as part of the pre-application consultation carried out pursuant to the Act, and when and how it was made available.

2.5.4 **Annexes A, C, E** and **G** to this Report also contain tables which summarise the issues (including environmental issues) raised at each statutory stage of consultation.

2.5.5 In addition, each of the technical chapters of the **Environmental Statement (ES)** (Doc Ref. 6) explains the informal consultation undertaken with regard to environmental assessments and mitigation requirements. **Volume 1, Appendix 6C** of the **ES** provides a tabulated response to the Scoping Opinion comments received.

- 2.5.6 The paragraphs below explain the consultation processes which relate to Regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations 2009 / Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations 2017 (Application for a Scoping Opinion) and Regulation 24 of the former / Regulation 32 of the latter (Development with Significant Transboundary Effects).
- 2.5.7 A short summary of the consultation process undertaken in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (Habitats Regulations) is also set out. A summary of the issues raised is provided in the **Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report** (Doc Ref. 5.10).
- a) [Consultation \(Scoping\) under EIA Regulations 2009](#)
- 2.5.8 On 23 April 2014, SZC Co. submitted a request to the PINS for a Scoping Opinion for the Sizewell C Project under Regulation 8 of the EIA Regulations 2009. The Secretary of State provided a Scoping Opinion in June 2014, provided in **Appendix G.1** of this Report.
- 2.5.9 The Scoping Opinion confirmed that consultation on the Scoping Report took place and the responses received had been taken into account in adopting the Opinion. The Secretary of State was satisfied that the topic areas identified in the Scoping Report encompassed those matters identified in Schedule 4, Part 1, Paragraph 19 of the 2009 EIA Regulations.
- 2.5.10 The Scoping Opinion confirmed that the main potential issues related to:
- socio-economics;
 - transport;
 - terrestrial ecology and ornithology;
 - groundwater;
 - surface water;
 - coastal geomorphology and hydrodynamics; and
 - construction impacts (including noise and vibration and air quality).
- 2.5.11 The Scoping Opinion confirmed that matters were not scoped out unless specifically addressed and justified by SZC Co., and confirmed as being scoped out by the Secretary of State.
- 2.5.12 The Scoping Opinion noted that SZC Co. had not at that stage indicated whether the proposed development was likely to have significant effects (including cumulative effects together with other projects) on another

European Economic Area (EEA) Member State. The Secretary of State recommended that the **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** should identify whether the proposed development has the potential for significant transboundary impacts and, if so, what these are, and which EEA States would be affected.

2.5.13 SZC Co. has assessed whether there are any transboundary impacts and this is detailed within **Volume 10** of the **ES** which concludes that there are no likely significant effects on EEA States.

b) [Consultation \(Scoping\) under EIA Regulations 2017](#)

2.5.14 Following scoping in 2014, the proposals for the Sizewell C Project evolved substantially, particularly with regard to the temporary and permanent off-site associated development sites away from the main development site for the power station.

2.5.15 In addition, the 2014 EIA Scoping Opinion was obtained prior to the transposition of the 2014 EIA Directive into UK legislation in 2017 through the EIA Regulations 2017. This established the requirement for additional environmental effects to be considered within the EIA process, in particular: climate change, human health and risk of major accidents and disasters.

2.5.16 On 22 May 2019, SZC Co. submitted a request to the PINS for a Scoping Opinion for the Sizewell C Project under Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations 2017. The Secretary of State provided a Scoping Opinion in July 2019, provided in **Appendix G.2** of this Report.

2.5.17 The purpose of the EIA Scoping Report 2019 was to present the proposed scope of the EIA for the new elements of the proposed development (not scoped in 2014 EIA Scoping Opinion), and to scope the additional environmental effects required by the EIA Regulations 2017.

2.5.18 The Scoping Opinion published by the Secretary of State confirmed that consultation on the Scoping Report took place, and the responses received had been taken into account in adopting the Scoping Opinion.

2.5.19 The Scoping Opinion acknowledged the new and changed proposed development since 2014, including the options for the road-led and rail-led freight management strategies. At the time of scoping, the ‘integrated’ strategy was not a proposed option, however the proposed associated development and scope of assessments was covered by those defined for the road-led and rail-led strategies. Section 2 of the Scoping Opinion set out the requirements of the **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** in terms of detail for the proposed development, and strongly advised that a transport strategy be decided upon prior to making an application for development consent.

2.5.20 Sections 3 and 4 of the Scoping Opinion provided specific comments on the approach, scope and detail of information to be provided on the technical environmental assessments.

2.5.21 The Scoping Opinion also recognised the potential need to carry out an assessment under the Habitats Regulations, and noted that the assessment must be co-ordinated with the EIA in accordance with Regulation 26 of the EIA Regulations. The **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** has, therefore, been coordinated with the assessment made under the Habitats Regulations.

c) **Habitats Regulations assessment**

2.5.22 When the preparations for the Sizewell C Project **Shadow HRA Report** (Doc Ref. 5.10) were initiated, SZC Co. prepared an HRA Evidence Plan, published in 2014.

2.5.23 At this time the Evidence Plan process was a relatively new mechanism to establish, upfront, the evidence that an applicant should provide for HRA. It remains a voluntary process and comprises four stages (Stages 1 and 2 were both completed in 2014 and the Stage 3 and 4 Topic Group meetings were held with the HRA working group (see below) between 2014 and 2019):

- **Stage 1** – Applicant registers a request with the Major Infrastructure and Environment Unit to prepare an Evidence Plan.
- **Stage 2** – Preparation of the Evidence Plan; including European site scoping.
- **Stage 3** – Topic Group Meetings/likely significant effects screening.
- **Stage 4** – Topic Group Meetings/Appropriate Assessment.

2.5.24 As detailed in the **Shadow HRA Report** (Doc Ref. 5.10), in 2014, SZC Co. prepared an HRA Evidence Plan which:

- set out the scope of cause-effect pathways to be considered at the likely significant effects screening stage based on best-available project and environmental information;
- helped to ensure that evidence gathering focussed on areas of likely significant effects;
- outlined the types of evidence that needed to be provided;
- defined and programmed a series of technical workshops for more detailed consideration of evidence requirements, outputs and impact assessments;

- defined the roles, responsibilities and working arrangements of SZC Co. and participating technical stakeholders throughout the Evidence Plan process; and
- set out some of the important aspects, considerations and methodologies for the HRA (e.g. determination of likely significant effects, the methodology for in-combination assessment and the process of change management).

2.5.25 The Evidence Plan was prepared by SZC Co. following consultation and agreement with the HRA working group that included:

- The Major Infrastructure and Environment Unit – which maintained oversight of the process and acted as a facilitator.
- Natural England – the lead statutory nature conservation body for agreement of the Evidence Plan and provision of specialist technical advice during its implementation.
- The Environment Agency – which provided advice and input into the Evidence Plan process (as the competent authority for the environmental permit applications).
- The PINS – which maintained a watching brief.
- The MMO – which maintained a watching brief regarding effects on the marine environment.
- SCDC.
- SCC.
- SWT.
- RSPB.

2.5.26 The Evidence Plan Steering Group constituted SZC Co., the Major Infrastructure and Environment Unit, Natural England, the Environment Agency and the PINS. SCDC, SCC, SWT and the RSPB offered expert views on the process and made available local knowledge and expertise in the context of the agreed risk-based approach.

2.5.27 The Evidence Plan Steering Group was consulted on the draft Stage 1 HRA screening assessment (including screening matrices in the format required by the PINS) in January 2019. Written responses were received from Natural England, the Environment Agency, the RSPB, SWT and the MMO by 28 February 2019.

2.5.28 A consultation meeting was held with the MMO in Newcastle-upon-Tyne on 26 February 2019. A separate HRA working group meeting was held on 4 March 2019 in Leiston and attended by representatives from the following working group members:

- Natural England;
- the Environment Agency;
- SCDC;
- SCC;
- SWT; and
- the RSPB.

2.5.29 All written and verbal comments were collated into a tracking spreadsheet, and circulated to the working group members as a record of how their comments had been addressed within the HRA process for the Sizewell C Project. A number of amendments were subsequently made, including extending the scope of the assessment to include additional European Sites which were more remote, but had the potential to be linked through movements of mobile marine species (e.g. seals). Following this consultation exercise, the likely significant effects screening matrices were updated.

2.5.30 A series of topic group meetings were held with the working group members between late 2018 and late 2019 (Stage 4 of the process) to discuss evolving assessments for individual species, groups of species or assessment themes, as follows:

- Marsh harriers.
- Waterfowl, including Gadwall and Shoveler.
- Recreational displacement (the effect of people being displaced from walking around the Sizewell Estate during construction and using other areas nearby which could include European Sites).
- Marine bird species, including Red-throated Divers, Little Tern and Common Tern.

2.5.31 All written and verbal comments from the working group members were collated and used to revise the assessments which comprise a major element of the **Shadow HRA Report** (Doc Ref. 5.10).

2.6 Taking account of the consultation responses

2.6.1 SZC Co. is required under section 49 of the Act have regard to responses to consultation and publicity that it received pursuant to sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Act. The paragraphs below explain how consultation responses were recorded, analysed and had regard to throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project.

a) Recording of consultation responses

2.6.2 SZC Co. appointed a specialist team to record the consultation responses received through a range of methods. Those consulted were able to respond to the Stage 1, 2, 3 and 4 consultations, and the targeted consultations, in a variety of ways, including by:

- completing a questionnaire either online (www.sizewellc.co.uk) or by Freepost;
- by emailing sizewell@edfconsultation.info;
- by posting comments to the free post address; or
- by calling 0800 197 6102 during normal office hours.

2.6.3 Each consultation response was then allocated a unique reference number, collated and copies of all responses were saved. Their content was then recorded in a database.

b) Analysis of consultation responses

2.6.4 With reference to PINS Advice Note 14, SZC Co. has followed an “*issues-led approach*” in analysing the consultation responses received.

2.6.5 To aid interpretation of the responses and ensure that the information is digestible, SZC Co. has not produced schedules which set out each individual consultation response within this Report.

2.6.6 Instead, taking the issues-led approach, for each statutory stage of consultation SZC Co. has reviewed the individual responses received and prepared tables which group common issues raised under theme headings—see **Annexes A, C, E and G** of this Report. Full details of the approach taken at each stage are provided in **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report.

2.6.7 These tables were then passed to the relevant design and technical specialists for analysis, as detailed further in **section 2.7** of this Report.

2.7 Influencing the evolution of the Sizewell C Project

2.7.1 In accordance with the Act, SZC Co. has had regard to the consultation responses received and, where possible and appropriate, the Sizewell C Project has evolved in response.

2.7.2 Within the thematic tables, SZC Co.’s design and technical specialists have explained how the issues raised at each stage have been considered and responded to and how the consultation feedback influenced the evolution of the Sizewell C Project design and mitigation measures. As explained in detail in **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report, the regard that SZC Co. has had is recorded within the tables in **Annexes A, C, E and G** of this Report, which further state whether the feedback resulted in SZC Co. making a ‘change’ to the Sizewell C Project.

2.7.3 In addition to addressing consultation feedback and comments from consultees, the Sizewell C Project has evolved and changed in response to a range of other factors, including further environmental information, design assessment work, and technical/mitigation requirements arising through the EIA process.

2.8 List of statutory consultation publications, letters and events

2.8.1 As highlighted in this chapter, the Act, Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure Regulations 2009, EIA Regulations 2009 and EIA Regulations 2017 set a number of statutory requirements for consultation. **Table 2.7** lists publications, letters and events through which SZC Co. has complied with these requirements and more detail is included in **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report.*****

Table 2.7: Statutory consultation publications, letters and events

Consultation Activity	Date	Appendix
Stage 1 Pre-Application Consultation (November 2012 to February 2013)		
Letters consulting SCDC and SCC on draft SoCC.	21 September 2012.	B.1
Local authority feedback on the draft SoCC.	19 October 2012.	B.1
Example newspaper notice regarding the published SoCC.	November 2012.	B.10
Published SoCC (Stage 1).	8 November 2012.	B.11
Consultation Summary Document (Stage 1).	21 November 2012.	B.4
Environmental Report Supporting Document (Stage 1).	21 November 2012.	B.5
Transport Strategy Supporting Document (Stage 1).	21 November 2012.	B.6
S42 sample letters.	20 November 2012.	B.7
Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation.	November 2012.	B.13

Consultation Activity	Date	Appendix
EIA scoping request.	23 April 2014.	Not appended
EIA Scoping Opinion.	2 June 2014.	G.1
Stage 2 Pre-Application Consultation (November 2016 to February 2017)		
Letters consulting SCDC and SCC on draft Updated SoCC.	26 November 2014.	D.1
SCDC and SCC feedback on the draft Updated SoCC.	19 December 2014.	D.2
Letters from SZC Co. to SCDC and SCC enclosing SZC Co. response to their December 2014 comments and amended draft Updated SoCC.	13 January 2016.	D.3
Letter from SCDC and SCC in response to amended draft Updated SoCC.	10 February 2016.	D.4
Example newspaper notice regarding the published SoCC.	November 2016.	D.5
Published Updated SoCC (Stage 2).	9 November 2016.	D.6
Consultation Document (Stage 2).	23 November 2016.	D.7
Consultation Summary Document (Stage 2).	23 November 2016.	D.8
S42 sample letters.	21 November 2016.	D.9
Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation.	November 2016.	D.10
Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation (January to March 2019)		
Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 1 – Development Proposals.	4 January 2019.	E.1
Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 2A – PEI.	4 January 2019.	E.2
Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 2B – PEI.	4 January 2019.	E.3
Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 3 – PEI Figures.	4 January 2019.	E.4
Consultation Summary Document: Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation.	4 January 2019.	E.5
Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation.	4 January 2019.	E.6
S42 sample letters.	3 January 2019.	E.7
Sample consultation materials.	December 2018.	E.8
Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation.	January 2019.	E.9
Stage 4 Pre-Application Consultation (July – September 2019) and targeted consultations (December 2019 – February 2020)		
Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document.	18 July 2019.	F.1
Stage 4 Consultation Document.	18 July 2019.	F.2

Consultation Activity	Date	Appendix
S42 sample letters.	16 July 2019.	F.3
S48 Notices (Publicity).	July 2019.	F.4
Sample consultation materials.	July 2019.	F.5
Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 4.	18 July 2019.	F.6
Publication/Notice of S47 Consultation.	July 2019.	F.7
Targeted consultation S42 sample letter.	10 December 2019.	F.8
Targeted consultation S42 sample letter.	15 January 2020.	F.9

3. Initial Informal Engagement (Pre-Stage 1)

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This chapter explains the approach to initial, informal engagement undertaken in connection with the Sizewell C Project, what happened and how it influenced the approach to consultation.

3.1.2 Informal engagement commenced in 2008, prior to the start of the statutory Stage 1 consultation in November 2012. During this period, SZC Co.¹³ worked closely with stakeholders, engaged with the local community to inform residents about nuclear new build and its intended progress towards Stage 1 consultation, obtained their views and feedback, and built relationships with key stakeholders and community representatives.

3.2 Engagement with local communities

3.2.1 First, an overview is provided of the work undertaken to engage with the local community prior to the commencement of the statutory Stage 1 consultation.

3.2.2 In 2008, British Energy owned and operated Sizewell B power station and the neighbouring Sizewell C site. In July 2008, British Energy undertook community meetings on nuclear new build. This was in order to prepare for the nomination of Sizewell as a potential site for inclusion in the Government’s ‘Strategic Siting Assessment Process’. Sites which met criteria set by the Government were to be put onto a list of potentially suitable sites for new nuclear power stations in the (then) emerging NPS EN-6. As explained in **Chapter 2** of the **Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4), there had

¹³ SZC Co. was incorporated in October 2014. The consultation that took place before SZC Co. had been incorporated was carried out by NNB Generation Company Limited (referred to as EDF Energy in the consultation material). For ease of reference, however, throughout this Report we refer to all consultation having been carried out by SZC Co.

long been an understanding that Sizewell C may be proposed adjacent to Sizewell B.

3.2.3 In September 2008, the boards of EDF Energy and British Energy announced they had reached agreement on terms for EDF Energy to acquire the entire share capital of British Energy Group plc.

3.2.4 The Government published the conclusions of the Strategic Siting Assessment Process in its draft NPS EN-6 in 2009. The Sizewell C site was identified as a potentially suitable site for a new nuclear power station in the draft NPS, and later in the designated NPS EN-6 (2011).

3.2.5 In this context, SZC Co. determined that early engagement with local communities and stakeholders, in relation to a DCO application for a new nuclear power station at Sizewell C, would be important ahead of formal statutory stages of consultation on the Sizewell C Project.

3.2.6 Pre-Stage 1 informal engagement involved direct communication with the local community around the Sizewell C site. This was conducted in the following ways.

- Sizewell C community newsletters.
- Press releases for print and broadcast media.
- The Sizewell C Project website was established.
- The recruitment of a local communications team.
- The establishment of a Sizewell C information office in Leiston.
- Meetings with local representatives and community organisations.

a) **Sizewell C community newsletters**

3.2.7 In December 2008, an initial ‘Sizewell Nuclear New Build’ newsletter was published by British Energy provided in **Appendix A.1** of this Report.

3.2.8 Before Stage 1 public consultation, seven further newsletters were issued by SZC Co. to homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of the Sizewell site.

3.2.9 The first was in November 2009, provided in **Appendix A.2** of this Report, and informed local residents that the Sizewell C site was included in the list of potential nuclear new build sites set out in draft NPS EN-6. It also introduced the Nuclear New Build Team.

- 3.2.10 The April 2010 newsletter summarised some of the investigative works taking place, provided in **Appendix A.3** of the Report. The October 2010 newsletter introduced the Head of Off-Site Development for Sizewell C, and provided an update on investigative works, alongside early supply chain engagement news provided in **Appendix A.4** of the Report.
- 3.2.11 The July 2011 newsletter provided an update on site surveys, the Sizewell C Project information office, and an introduction to the staff who would be working in it, provided in **Appendix A.5** of this Report. The December 2011 newsletter included a short summary of the ongoing investigative works for Sizewell C, provided in **Appendix A.6** of this Report.
- 3.2.12 The May 2012 newsletter provided a Sizewell C Project update, noting that preparations for Stage 1 public consultation were progressing, and that consultation would be launched later that year. The newsletter included a report of a meeting with representatives from local schools, colleges, councils and the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce on the economic opportunities nuclear new build could bring to Suffolk and the wider region, provided in **Appendix A.7** of this Report.
- 3.2.13 The September 2012 newsletter informed the public that the draft SoCC had been submitted to the local authorities for their feedback - see **Chapter 4** of this Report. The newsletter also explained the overall consultation process and the ways in which SZC Co. would present the Sizewell C proposals, provided in **Appendix A.8** of this Report.
- b) [Press releases](#)
- 3.2.14 The first Sizewell C press release was issued on 21 September 2012, and noted that the planning process for Sizewell C was set to begin, provided in **Appendix A.9** of this Report.
- 3.2.15 On 29 October 2012, SZC Co. alerted local media that the company would fund independent planning guidance and support to town and parish councils during Stage 1 public consultation provided in **Appendix A.10** of this Report.
- 3.2.16 The publication of the SoCC was highlighted in a press release on 8 November 2012. It also announced the start date of Stage 1 public consultation (21 November 2012), and provided the details on public exhibitions, and how to contact the Sizewell C Project Team, provided in **Appendix A.11** of this Report.
- c) [The Sizewell C Project website](#)
- 3.2.17 In 2009 a website on EDF Energy's nuclear new build projects at Hinkley and Sizewell was launched (www.edfconsultation.info). The website was

updated in preparation for Stage 1 consultation during the summer of 2012: www.edfenergyconsultation.info.

3.2.18 Separate to the consultation website, SZC Co. had entered into a partnership with Suffolk Chamber of Commerce to help develop, and raise awareness of, the potential local supply chain opportunities for Sizewell C. An online portal was created for Suffolk and Norfolk businesses to register their interest: www.sizewellcsupplychain.co.uk. News of the public consultation was published on the supply chain portal, and a link provided to the consultation website.

d) **Local communications team**

3.2.19 In August 2010, SZC Co. recruited a Communications Manager for Sizewell C to manage the public consultation and a new local information office (see below). By the time Stage 1 public consultation was launched in November 2012, there were five full-time members of staff responsible for engaging with the public from the local information office.

e) **Sizewell C Information Office**

3.2.20 The Sizewell C information office (48 High Street, Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4EW) was operating as an office and meeting venue for SZC Co. staff working on the Sizewell C Project from January 2011.

3.2.21 It opened to the public on 21 November 2012 on the launch of Stage 1 consultation.

f) **Meetings**

3.2.22 Prior to the formal statutory Stage 1 consultation, informal engagement meetings took place at a variety of local locations, including village halls, and the Sizewell C information office.

i. **Community groups**

3.2.23 Community groups such as Suffolk Young Enterprise forged early relationships with the Sizewell C information office for sponsorship and support for various activities. Other campaigns, events, and organisations were supported by the Sizewell C information office to help build links with the community. They included: the SCC 'Raising the Bar' campaign to raise aspirations and attainment in the education sector in the county; the East Anglian Daily Times Annual Business Awards; and the annual Suffolk Show, hosted and organised by the Suffolk Agricultural Association.

- 3.2.24 Details of the dates and content of the pre-Stage 1 informal engagement meetings with community groups are provided at **Appendix A.12** of this Report.
- ii. [Hard-to-reach groups](#)
- 3.2.25 SZC Co. also engaged with representative organisations of hard-to-reach groups prior to the commencement of the Stage 1 consultation. The purpose of meeting with these organisations was to understand the actions that SZC Co. should take to make formal public consultation as accessible as possible. Details of the dates and content of these meetings are provided at **Appendix A.13** of this Report.
- iii. [Business and education community](#)
- 3.2.26 SZC Co. also built early relationships with representatives of the business community and education providers in Suffolk and Norfolk. The purpose of establishing these relationships was to ensure that businesses, schools and colleges were aware of the proposals, and could get involved in the public consultation. In many instances, these were important stakeholders for the Sizewell C Project team to work with in particular on the socio-economic workstream of the application for development consent.
- 3.2.27 SZC Co. and the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce have a long-standing relationship in developing the local supply chain for Sizewell C. Up until 2013, Norfolk Chamber of Commerce were also involved in the contract for this work before handing over the development for both counties to Suffolk Chamber.
- 3.2.28 SZC Co. representatives were also involved in the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), which covers both Suffolk and Norfolk. The New Anglia LEP was tasked by central Government to be the first LEP to research and recommend actions for LEP areas on their transition to a green economy. SZC Co. was represented on the Green Economy Pathfinder Board and later, the New Anglia LEP Skills Board, which advises on the skills and education strategies for the counties.
- 3.2.29 SZC Co. is also a member of Suffolk Chamber of Commerce and the East of England Energy Group, the trade association for the energy sector in the east of England.
- 3.2.30 Issues discussed with these organisations included skills, education, business opportunities, economic growth, the low-carbon economy, sustainability, local and regional infrastructure. The pre-Stage 1 meetings with these groups are listed in **Appendix A.14** of this Report.

iv. **Members of Parliament**

3.2.31 SZC Co. also kept the local constituency Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal informed on progress as well as the neighbouring Members of Parliament for Ipswich, Lowestoft and Waveney, and Central Suffolk and North Ipswich.

v. **Sizewell B**

3.2.32 An internal briefing was provided by SZC Co. on the public consultation to the senior management team at Sizewell B on 15 November 2012. The senior management team then cascaded the information to all 750 colleagues working at the power station at that time. The EDF Energy intranet page also highlighted the Stage 1 public consultation.

3.3 **Engagement with key stakeholders**

3.3.1 The following paragraphs provide an overview of the work undertaken by SZC Co. to engage with key stakeholders prior to the commencement of the Stage 1 consultation.

a) **Parish councils**

3.3.2 SZC Co. prioritised early introductory meetings with parish councils.

3.3.3 SZC Co. organised meetings with the chairs and clerks of the parishes located closest to Sizewell. The meetings covered introductions, an explanation of the consultation and DCO process and the general views and issues of each community they represented. The meetings are listed at **Appendix A.15** of this Report.

b) **Local authorities**

3.3.4 SZC Co. also worked closely with the local authorities, SCC and SCDC (now ESC), prior to Stage 1.

3.3.5 Members of SZC Co.'s Sizewell planning and communications teams worked with the strategic planning leads from both local authorities. The local authorities had established a joint project office funded through a planning performance agreement with SZC Co. Early discussions with the local authorities took place in core project team meetings, made up of planning managers from SZC Co. and the local authorities, and considered the following:

- Potential locations for associated development, such as an accommodation campus for workers and park and ride facilities.

- Infrastructure changes that would need to be factored into Sizewell C construction.
- Environmental issues including designated sites and coastal processes.
- Programme of technical assessments and environmental surveys being undertaken by SZC Co.
- Road traffic counts and studies.
- Community concerns.
- The approach to public consultation, aided by the lessons learned through the public consultation undertaken for Hinkley Point C.

3.3.6 The meetings also included discussion on the draft SoCC which would be consulted on formally with the local authorities in 2012 - see **Chapter 4** of this Report.

3.3.7 Core project team meetings took place on a monthly basis on the dates listed at **Appendix A.16** of this Report. The core project team fed into a strategic planning board which met on a quarterly cycle. Minutes of these meetings were recorded by the local authorities and posted on the SCDC website.

3.3.8 As the Sizewell C Project progressed toward the Stage 1 consultation, the council officers reported into a Joint Local Authorities Group (JLAG), made up of cabinet members and local councillors from both SCC and SCDC. SZC Co. was requested to present to the JLAG on 9 March 2012 and 6 July 2012 regarding the emerging Sizewell C proposals and draft SoCC - see **Chapter 4** of this Report.

3.3.9 SCDC set up a 'task group on Sizewell' made up of local councillors in relation to the main development and associated development sites. The task group invited SZC Co. to present and discuss the draft SoCC on 8 October 2012.

3.3.10 Other introductory meetings with key stakeholders before Stage 1 included Suffolk Constabulary (9 March 2011, 21 June 2011 and 24 April 2012), and meetings with neighbouring councils including Great Yarmouth Borough Council (5 July 2011), Norwich City Council (5 July 2011), WDC (23 February 2012) and Ipswich Borough Council (12 October 2012).

3.4 How pre-Stage 1 engagement influenced consultation

3.4.1 This chapter has provided an overview of the initial informal engagement undertaken by SZC Co. prior to the statutory Stage 1 consultation.

3.4.2 Early engagement with the stakeholders identified in this chapter was important to ensure that:

- The community and stakeholders were aware of the development aspirations for Sizewell from the outset.
- SZC Co. had an early understanding of local issues and priorities (and it was clear that transport, infrastructure and the environment were the principal areas of interest).
- The community and stakeholders knew when the statutory Stage 1 consultation would take place and how to respond.
- Relationships were established between SZC Co. and key community groups, organisations and stakeholders from the outset.

3.4.3 The pre-Stage 1 informal engagement was also helpful in informing the draft SoCC, which set out SZC Co.'s proposed commitments regarding the approach to community consultation. **Chapter 4** of this Report provides further information on the content of the SoCC.

4. Stage 1 Pre-Application Consultation: November 2012 – February 2013

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 This chapter explains SZC Co.'s approach to Stage 1 pre-application consultation. An overview of what was consulted on is provided together with an explanation of the approach to consultation set out within the SoCC (2012). This chapter sets out:

- who SZC Co. consulted;
- the consultation material and activities undertaken;
- the ways that feedback was received;
- the feedback themes and how SZC Co. had regard to the feedback; and
- the changes to the Sizewell C Project made in response to the Stage 1 consultation.

4.1.2 Stage 1 consultation was compliant with the pre-application consultation requirements of the Act and in accord with the SOCC (2012), as detailed in this chapter. Consultation commenced on 21 November 2012 and the closing date for receiving feedback was 6 February 2013.

4.2 Content of consultation

- 4.2.1 Pre-Stage 1 informal engagement indicated that local communities and key stakeholders particularly wanted to understand SZC Co.'s initial proposals for the management of transporting freight and people to the Sizewell C main development site, as well as details of the scale of construction and how non-home based workers (NHB) would be accommodated. The potential impacts on the local area, especially the area of outstanding natural beauty (AONB), were factors the local community wanted to understand and be able to influence through the consultation process.
- 4.2.2 Taking this into account, at Stage 1 consultation SZC Co. presented its initial proposals for the main development site and options for the associated development sites required to support construction or operation of Sizewell C or mitigate its impacts.
- 4.2.3 With regard to the movement and accommodation of people, SZC Co. consulted on its initial proposals for the park and ride facilities which would move workers from private cars into buses and an accommodation campus which would help to house NHB workers. Site options for a visitor centre during the operation of Sizewell C were also presented for feedback.
- 4.2.4 With regard to the movement of freight, SZC Co. consulted on a transport strategy which outlined its initial thinking on the ways in which freight could potentially be delivered to site by road, sea and rail. SZC Co. made it clear that its aim was to reduce the potential volume of freight on the roads by using sea and rail to move construction materials where practical. Initial options for road and rail improvements were shown, as well as an option of building a jetty (known as a marine offloading facility) to deliver very large loads and bulk construction materials, and to export unusable excavated soil.
- 4.2.5 The Stage 1 consultation material explained that SZC Co.'s aim was to accommodate the power station development appropriately within the AONB, and to make long-term landscape improvements once the power station is built.
- 4.2.6 Transport and the environment were key subjects of interest for communities and stakeholders. Therefore, alongside the consultation document which outlined the initial proposals, SZC Co. produced supporting documents with further preliminary information on transport (Transport Strategy and Supporting Information) and a report on a range of the potential impacts on the environment that could arise from the construction and operation of Sizewell C. The Environmental Report provided information on the assessment of whether these impacts would be likely or significant.

4.2.7 SZC Co. felt that the initial proposals presented at this first stage of formal consultation provided information on the key issues of interest that the local community and stakeholders had raised prior to the launch of Stage 1 consultation.

4.2.8 The consultation document was also produced in a summary format with a questionnaire to help consultees respond.

4.3 Purpose of Consultation

4.3.1 The purpose of the Stage 1 consultation was to seek views on:

- SZC Co.'s emerging proposals to build the Sizewell C power station;
- options for associated development (such as park and ride sites and accommodation for workers) needed to support the construction or operation of the power station or mitigate its impacts; and
- the potential effects on the local community and environment, both positive and negative.

4.3.2 The Stage 1 Consultation Questionnaire is included at **Appendix B.9** of this Report. The local community and statutory consultees were asked for feedback on the following elements of the proposals.

a) Overarching comments

- Overall views on SZC Co.'s proposals to build a new power station at Sizewell C and associated development.
- The proposed temporary developments at the Sizewell C main development site.

b) Visitor centre

- Proposals for a new visitor centre for Sizewell. There were three potentially suitable site options:
 - Option 1: Lover's Lane.
 - Option 2: Sizewell Beach.
 - Option 3: Goose Hill.

c) Accommodation strategy

- Overall views on SZC Co.'s overall accommodation strategy, and three alternative options for the temporary accommodation campus:

- Option 1: Development site.
- Option 2: Sizewell Gap.
- Option 3: Leiston East.

d) **Transport strategy**

- Overall views on SZC Co.'s transport strategy.
- Views on the alternative options for the northern park and ride facility:
 - Option 1: Yoxford Road.
 - Option 2: Darsham.
 - Option 3: A12/A144.
- Views on three alternative site options for the southern park and ride facility:
 - Option 1: Wickham Market (preferred option).
 - Option 2: Woodbridge.
 - Option 3: Potash Corner.
- Views on combining the southern park and ride facility with a lorry park to manage heavy goods vehicles (HGV) movements.
- Views on a standalone lorry park, and three alternative site options:
 - Option 1: Orwell Lorry Park West.
 - Option 2: Orwell Lorry Park East.
 - Option 3: A12/A14 Seven Hills.
- Three potential options to address the road capacity issue at Farnham on the A12:
 - Option 1: Farnham bypass.
 - Option 2: Road widening.
 - Option 3: HGV controls.
- Views on the potential impact of Sizewell C traffic on the local road network.
- Two alternative options to increase the scope to use rail during the construction of Sizewell C:

- Option 1: New rail terminal.
 - Option 2: Temporary rail extension (preferred option).
 - If the existing rail line were extended to the main development site, three alternative options for the route:
 - Option 1: Red route (one of our preferred options).
 - Option 2: Green route (one of our preferred options).
 - Option 3: Blue route.
- 4.3.3 The consultation also sought views on SZC Co.’s approach to education, training, and local supply chain initiatives, and any comments on the public consultation itself.
- 4.4 **Statement of community consultation**
- 4.4.1 Section 47 of the Act required that the Stage 1 section 47 local community consultation on the proposed development was undertaken in accordance with an approach set out within a SoCC, which the relevant local authorities had been consulted on in advance.
- 4.4.2 SZC Co. formally consulted SCDC (now East Suffolk Council) and SCC on the proposed content of the draft original SoCC on 21 September 2012 - see **Appendix B.1** of this Report.
- 4.4.3 As part of this, SCDC and SCC’s views were sought in relation to:
- the size and coverage of the proposed consultation exercise;
 - the appropriateness of consultation techniques, including electronic based techniques;
 - design and format of consultation materials;
 - issues which could be covered in consultation materials;
 - suggestions for places and timings of public events;
 - local bodies and representative groups which should be consulted; and
 - timescales for consultation.
- 4.4.4 SCDC and SCC provided a formal joint response on 19 October 2012 - see **Appendix B.1** of this Report. This response led to changes which included:
- Extending the duration of Stage 1 consultation from eight weeks to ten.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- Further information in the document on the role of the local authorities.
- Noting the Suffolk Resilience Forum's forthcoming public consultation on off-site emergency planning for Sizewell A and Sizewell B.
- Relabelling the locations identified for consultation as inner and outer 'areas' rather than 'zones'.

4.4.5 SZC Co. responded to SCC and SCDC on the draft SoCC, enclosing a table setting out how SZC Co. had had regard to the councils' comments and a copy of the final version of the SoCC, on 7 November 2012 - see **Appendix B.2** of this Report. The commitments in the SoCC were informed by the responses received from SCC and SCDC.

4.4.6 SZC Co. made the SoCC available for public inspection from 8 November 2012, prior to the start of the Stage 1 consultation period. The SoCC stated that the views of both SCDC and SCC had been taken into account before it was made available for inspection by the public. Notices were also published in local newspapers stating where the SoCC could be inspected. **Appendix B.10** of this Report contains an example of a newspaper notice in respect of the published SoCC.

4.4.7 Consultation at Stage 1 was carried out in accordance with the commitments made in that SoCC.

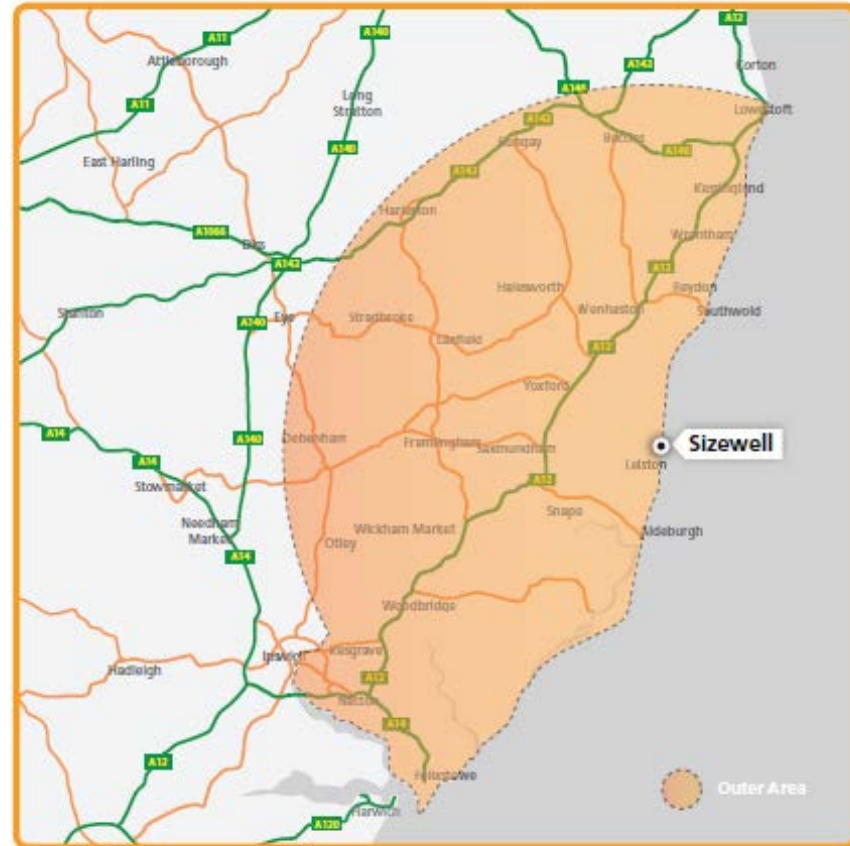
4.4.8 The SoCC identified communities to consult across two geographical areas.

Plate 4.1: Inner area



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2012

Plate 4.2: Outer area



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2012

- Inner Area: covering communities within an approximate ten-mile radius of Sizewell and in the vicinity of notic proposed associated development sites (this included any potential associated development sites beyond the ten-mile radius of Sizewell) (see map at **Plate 4.1**).
- Outer Area: a 20-mile radius which included Lowestoft to the north, the east of mid-Suffolk to the west but stretched further to the south to incorporate the A14 corridor from the east of Ipswich to Felixstowe (see map at **Plate 4.2**).

4.5 Who was consulted?

4.5.1 The following steps were taken:

- Duty to Consult (section 42): Under section 42 of the Act, SZC Co. was required to consult prescribed consultees (section 42(1)(a)), the MMO (section 42(1)(aa)), local authorities (section 42(1)(b)), and persons within one or more of the categories in section 44. In accordance with these requirements, a consultation letter was sent to all section 42 consultees on 20 November 2012. The deadline for the submission of responses was 6 February 2013, well exceeding the 28-day requirement - see **Appendix B.7** of this Report: section 42 sample letters.
- Duty to Consult the Local Community (section 47): In line with section 47 of the Act, Stage 1 consultation was carried out in accordance with the SoCC (2012), provided in **Appendix B.11** of the Report. The local community within the identified Inner Area and Outer Area were consulted on the application through a range of methods, to ensure a thorough and robust approach. A copy of the newspaper notice publicising the start of the consultation is provided at **Appendix B.13** of this Report.
- Duty to Publicise (section 48): There was no requirement to publish a notice under section 48 at Stage 1.

4.6 Consultation material and activities

4.6.1 The consultation material published at Stage 1 comprised the following documents:

- Consultation Document (November 2012) - see **Appendix B.3** of this Report.
- Consultation Summary Document (November 2012) - see **Appendix B.4** of this Report.

- Environmental Report Supporting Document (November 2012) - see **Appendix B.5** of this Report.
- Transport Strategy Supporting Document (November 2012) - see **Appendix B.6** of this Report.

4.6.2 Copies of the above consultation documents were sent directly to the section 42 consultees. For the local community they were made available to view during the consultation period in a number of locations in hard and electronic copy:

- at the exhibitions;
- at the Sizewell C information office (48–50 High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EW), which was open 09:30–17:00 Monday–Friday and 9:00–12:00 Saturday;
- in the offices of SCC, SCDC, WDC, Leiston-Cum-Sizewell Town Council and Ipswich Borough Councils;
- at local public libraries; and
- on the Sizewell C Project website (<http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info>).

4.6.3 With cross reference to the requirements of the SoCC, **Table 4.1** provides an overview of the consultation activities at Stage 1.

Table 4.1: Consultation activities and compliance with SoCC (2012)

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
2	The first stage of consultation will consider the 'Initial Proposals and Options' for Sizewell C. Where possible, it will set out options for development so that the views of consultees can be taken into account in drawing up more detailed plans.	Stage 1 consultation on initial proposals and options was held from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013. As outlined above, options for development were consulted on.
2	Following Stage 1 consultation, the responses and feedback gathered will inform the development of the plans.	Annex A to this Report summarises how the scheme changed in response to the feedback received at Stage 1.
2	EDF Energy intends to publicise each stage of consultation well in advance of the start of the process.	Full page adverts were published in the East Anglian Daily Times, Eastern Daily Press, Beccles & Bungay Journal, Lowestoft Journal, Coastal Scene and The Ipswich Evening Star on 8 November 2012, provided in Appendix B.10 of this Report.

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
2	<p>The main consultation document published for the Stage 1 consultation will include summary PEI in respect of the initial options and proposals.</p> <p>EDF Energy will also publish a separate Environmental Report as part of the Stage 1 consultation, which will provide more detailed PEI.</p>	<p>The Consultation Document (Stage 1) (November 2012), provided in Appendix B.3 of this Report, and the Consultation Summary Document (Stage 1) (November 2012) in Appendix B.4 of this Report included a summary of the environmental considerations in respect of the initial options and proposals.</p> <p>SZC Co. also published an Environmental Report Supporting Document (Stage 1) (November 2012) provided in Appendix B.5 of this Report and a Transport Strategy Supporting Document (Stage 1) (November 2012) in Appendix B.6 of this Report as part of the Stage 1 consultation.</p>
3	<p>EDF Energy will endeavour to confirm dates for all stages of consultation, and publicise these dates at least ten days in advance of the start of each consultation period.</p> <p>EDF Energy will do this in a number of ways which could include: publicising the consultation in local media and publishing advertisements in local newspapers; writing to the county, district, town and parish councils and other key stakeholders; and circulating a newsletter to all homes and businesses within a ten mile radius of Sizewell.</p> <p>Details of the consultation activities involved will be included in this publicity including dates and venues of public exhibitions.</p>	<p>The Stage 1 consultation dates were confirmed on 8 November 2012, 13 days in advance of the consultation period starting on 21 November 2012 in: the local media; local newspaper advertisements; in writing to the county, district, town and parish councils and other stakeholders; and through circulating a newsletter to 20,276 homes and businesses within a ten mile radius of the Sizewell C development and emailed to a database of over 1,000 email addresses. Copies of sample consultation material can be found at Appendix B.8 of this Report.</p> <p>Details of the consultation activities involved were included in this publicity including dates and venues of public exhibitions.</p>
3	<p>Stage 1 consultation on initial proposals and options will involve consideration of our early proposals and we have therefore set a period of eleven weeks for formal consolidation.</p>	<p>Stage 1 consultation ran for 11 weeks (21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013).</p>
3	<p>EDF Energy will then consider the feedback received.</p> <p>EDF Energy is committed to carrying out in-depth consultation and to consider all the feedback received. We will take the time necessary to do this and will develop our preferred proposals informed by the feedback from the Stage 1 consultation.</p>	<p>SZC Co. undertook a thorough review of the feedback received, and used this to inform the evolution of the proposals.</p> <p>Full details are contained within sections 4.7–4.9 of this chapter.</p>
3	<p>After the Stage 1 consultation, EDF Energy will summarise the main issues raised during the consultation and present this in a newsletter which will be circulated to all</p>	<p>The main issues raised in the Stage 1 consultation were summarised in the Sizewell newsletter (May 2013) - see Appendix B.14 of this Report.</p>

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
	homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of Sizewell.	
3	EDF Energy will continue to engage with consultees in between the stages of consultation, including any further stages of consultation, up to and beyond the submission of the application for development consent.	Ongoing informal consultation with the local community and key stakeholders has taken place outside of the principal consultation stages. Full details are provided in Chapter 9 of this Report.
3	EDF Energy will report on the consultation responses received during the pre-application phase in a Consultation Report, which will form part of the application for development consent.	Annexes A and B of the Consultation Report provide details of the consultation responses received at Stage 1.
4	Community consultation will be undertaken within two geographic areas – the ‘Inner Area’ within a ten-mile radius of Sizewell, and the ‘Outer Area’ within a 20-mile radius of Sizewell.	SZC Co. consulted with communities within the Inner Area and Outer Area.
6	While the views of those living, working or otherwise using the local areas closest to the proposed Sizewell C site and any associated development sites expressed through this consultation will be influential in developing proposals, EDF Energy will also have regard to the views of local authorities, other statutory consultees and members of the public.	SZC Co. engaged with local authorities and other statutory consultees at Stage 1 and throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project. Responses from members of the public from outside of the Inner Area and Outer Area were also taken into account. Sections 4.7–4.9 of this chapter explain how responses were taken into account following Stage 1.
6	EDF Energy will produce the following documents for the Stage 1 Consultation: Consultation Document; Consultation Summary Document; Environmental Report; Transport Strategy and supporting information.	SZC Co. published these documents in November 2012 - see Appendices B.3, B.4, B.5 and B.6 of this Report.
6	Hard copies of all of the documents will be available to view at the EDF Energy Leiston office, at public exhibitions, in selected libraries and council offices in Suffolk Coastal, Waveney and Ipswich. Copies of the documents for consultees to take away with them will be available upon request and may be subject to reasonable copying charges. The documents will also be available at all of these locations on DVD and to download from the Sizewell C Project website:	SZC Co. ensured hard copies of all documentation was made available at the Leiston Office from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013 so that members of the public could have access to all information. Copies of all documents were provided at all public exhibitions, and distributed to libraries within the Inner Area and Outer Area, and five local authority offices on the morning of 21 November 2012.

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
	http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info	<p>Copies of the documents were available for consultees to take away with them upon request.</p> <p>The documents were also available at all of these locations on DVD and to download from the Sizewell C Project website: http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info</p>
6	The Stage 1 consultation and summary documents will be accompanied by forms to assist the local community in completing and submitting their feedback to EDF Energy’s proposals. If requested, we will commission translation into any minority languages used locally (such as Polish, Lithuanian and Portuguese).	<p>The Stage 1 Summary Document provided in Appendix B.4 of this Report enclosed a questionnaire, provided in Appendix B.9 of this Report, to assist the local community in providing their feedback.</p> <p>No requests for translation were made but arrangements were in place with the Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality translation service should it have been required.</p>
6	EDF Energy will publicise the consultation programme, including information on how people can respond and reports on key Sizewell C Project milestones, in its ‘Sizewell C’ newsletter. The newsletter will be distributed to all homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of Sizewell.	SZC Co. publicised the Stage 1 consultation in the Sizewell C newsletter (November 2012) - see Appendix B.12 of this Report distributed to 20,276 homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of the Sizewell C development, and emailed to a database of over 1,000 email addresses.
6	EDF Energy will publicise the consultation and associated activities in the local media ahead of the formal public consultation stages and will update local broadcast and print media channels on its consultation activity.	<p>Full page adverts were published in the East Anglian Daily Times, Eastern Daily Press, Beccles & Bungay Journal, Lowestoft Journal, Coastal Scene and The Ipswich Evening Star on 8 November 2012. Press releases were also issued to these titles and the journalists briefed on the Stage 1 proposals. The Sizewell C Stage 1 proposals were covered in these titles on or just after the 21 November 2012 - see Appendix B.13 of this Report.</p> <p>SZC Co. responded to broadcast requests and TV interviews with ITV Anglia and BBC Look East which took place on 21 November 2012 (the launch of Stage 1). BBC Radio Suffolk broadcast live from the Sizewell C Information Office in Leiston from 06:00-09:00 on the 21 November 2012.</p>
7	<p>EDF Energy will hold exhibitions and events throughout the consultation period.</p> <p>An early event will be held at Sizewell with the Sizewell Residents’ Association.</p> <p>The following locations in and just beyond the Inner Area are likely to host staffed</p>	<p>Public exhibitions were held at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Sizewell event for Sizewell Residents Association (21 November 2012); • Leiston (23/24 November 2012); • Theberton (26 November 2012);

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
	<p>exhibitions, which will use presentation boards and literature to explain the proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston; • Aldeburgh; • Theberton; • Saxmundham; • Westleton; • Stratford St Andrew; • Yoxford; • Southwold; • Wickham Market; and • Halesworth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westleton (27 November 2012); • Saxmundham (29 November 2012); • Yoxford (30 November 2012); • Stratford St Andrew (1 December 2012); • Southwold (4 December 2012); • Halesworth (5 December 2012); • Wickham Market (6 December 2012); • Aldeburgh (7 December 2012); and • Melton/Woodbridge (8 December 2012). <p>The venues chosen were discussed with the local authorities and the parish councils and advertised in advance.</p> <p>Each exhibition consisted of a number information boards, provided in Appendix B.8 of this Report, all presenting different aspects of the Sizewell C Project.</p> <p>Hard copies of the consultation summary document were available for consultees to take away along with CD copies of the Consultation Document, Environmental Report and Transport Strategy Supporting Document.</p> <p>During each exhibition, SZC Co. staff were present to answer any questions that the visitors had.</p> <p>All visitors were asked to complete a questionnaire handed out at the exhibition or electronically via the Sizewell C Project website.</p>
8	<p>In the outer area, and in centres with large populations such as Ipswich, we may hold shorter exhibitions or community meetings at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ipswich; • Woodbridge; • Lowestoft; • Felixstowe; • Framlingham; • Beccles; and • Kesgrave. 	<p>SZC Co. held public exhibitions in Melton and Woodbridge, Ipswich, Lowestoft and Felixstowe on 8 December 2012, 10 January 2013, 16 January 2013 and 23 January 2013, respectively.</p> <p>Approaches were made to Kesgrave Town Council but a presentation was not requested. Additional ad-hoc public meetings took place on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Framlingham Town Council Offices, 18 December 2012. • Beccles Town Council, 15 January 2013. • Woodbridge Job Centre Plus, 31 January 2013.

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
8	<p>Workplace exhibitions will be held for staff at the Sizewell A and B power stations, and for staff of SCDC and SCC. Other public exhibitions and events may be organised if required.</p>	<p>SZC Co. held an open drop-in session for staff at Sizewell A and Sizewell B on 22 November and 21 November 2012, respectively.</p> <p>An exhibition for staff of SCDC took place on 10 December 2012 and an exhibition for staff of SCC took place on 12 December 2012.</p> <p>Smaller exhibitions were delivered on request at Middleton on 11 December 2012, Bredfield on 15 December 2012, Wenhaston on 17 December 2012, Framlingham on 18 December 2012, Rendlesham on 15 January 2013, Aldringham-cum-Thorpe on 17 January 2013, Leiston Job CentrePlus and Woodridge Job CentrePlus on 17 and 24 January 2013 respectively.</p>
8	<p>Following the public exhibitions at Stage 1, exhibition materials will be on permanent public display at EDF Energy's Leiston office. The exhibition material will remain available for the public to view when the formal consultation stages have finished, as well as being available to download from the Sizewell C Project website.</p>	<p>The consultation documents and exhibition materials were made available in the Sizewell C information office in Leiston for members of the public to review (within office hours).</p> <p>The consultation documents and exhibition materials are also available on the website for viewing, here: https://www.edfenergy.com/download-centre?keys=&tid=1098&year%5Bvalue%5D%5Byear%5D= Due to the size of the exhibition material, only the boards providing a general overview of the Sizewell C Project were uploaded to the website.</p>
9	<p>Town and parish councils can request meetings and presentations during the public consultation programme.</p> <p>Some villages or towns which are not locations for exhibitions, or those communities which require more opportunities to engage with the EDF Energy Team, may find 'drop-in sessions' useful. These sessions would operate like surgeries, where local people can have discussions with members of the team.</p>	<p>As well as the public exhibitions, SZC Co. organised or participated in over 100 public events - including meetings, exhibitions, drop-in sessions, media engagements and council presentations. This also included meetings with members and officers of the local authorities, and additional events with key business organisations in Suffolk.</p> <p>In total, there were 25 presentations to councils, residents and residents' associations and eight additional drop-in sessions, listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middleton; • Bredfield; • Wenhaston; • Framlingham; • Rendlesham; • Aldringham-cum-Thorpe;

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leiston Job CentrePlus; and Woodridge Job CentrePlus.
9	<p>EDF Energy has consulted a number of organisations which represent ‘hard-to-reach’ stakeholders (i.e. demographic groups that do not usually engage in consultation activity, as well as people with disabilities who may have problems accessing the consultation information). Following the feedback received, home visits, bespoke presentations and advertorials in specific publications are among some of the proposed actions to be considered.</p>	<p>Prior to consultation, on 5 and 6 November 2012, SZC Co. met with groups representing disabled people (Optua, East Suffolk Association for the Blind, Suffolk Deaf Association), the elderly (Age UK Suffolk), ethnic minorities (ISCRE) and young people (Youth Action Suffolk).</p> <p>For the elderly population, in November 2012, SZC Co. sponsored a ‘mailout’ which was issued to the Age UK Suffolk mailing list and included a large print advert for the public exhibitions and how to arrange a home visit (two home visits took place and submissions were taken by phone). A copy is provided at Appendix B.15 of this Report.</p> <p>Presentations were delivered to the Access Group Suffolk and Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum on 29 January 2013.</p> <p>To engage with young people in the Inner Area SZC Co. took part in two events at the Alde Valley Academy in Leiston on 11 January 2013, and met with young people in the local Youth Club CYDS on 6 February 2013, in addition to sponsoring the local authority’s ‘Go With the Flow’ Youth Bus. The Bus toured Aldeburgh, Leiston, Saxmundham and Wickham Market on 17, 18 and 19 January 2013 which allowed for a greater level of engagement with young people.</p> <p>With regard to ethnic minorities, translation services were available.</p>
9	<p>All consultation material will be available to download from the Sizewell C Project website: http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info</p> <p>Consultees will be able to submit their feedback in hard copy by post or via an online form.</p>	<p>All consultation materials were available on the Sizewell C Project website (now www.sizewellc.co.uk), and consultees were able to submit their feedback by post and online.</p>
9	<p>EDF Energy will establish a Twitter account so followers can be updated on the latest events and the milestones achieved during the public consultation.</p>	<p>SZC Co. set up the Twitter account @edfesizewellc</p>

Page No.	SoCC (2012)	Relevant Stage 1 Activities
9	<p>EDF Energy will also set up a Sizewell C community forum. It will consider and advise on issues that might affect the local community, as a result of EDF Energy’s planning proposals, principally those arising from the development of a new power station on land to the north of Sizewell B and any associated development.</p> <p>Consideration of the principle of building new nuclear power stations will not be within the scope of the forum. The membership will be made up of representatives of the local community and local stakeholder organisations.</p>	<p>The independently chaired Sizewell C community forum had its first meeting at Snape Maltings on 13 December 2012.</p> <p>The SZC Co. Team presented the Stage 1 proposals, and took questions from local representatives.</p> <p>The forum consists of representatives from local communities, statutory and non-statutory consultees.</p> <p>SZC Co. provided feedback from the Stage 1 consultation in the forum meeting on April 2013.</p> <p>A newsletter was sent out in May 2013, provided in Appendix B.14 of this Report, which provided similar detail as that provided to the community forum. This was circulated to all residents that fell within the Outer Area of consultation.</p>
9	<p>The EDF Energy Team will consider helping to organise workshops on relevant and appropriate aspects of the development.</p> <p>EDF Energy could commission focus groups, or hold other events as necessary, to engage specific interests or hard-to-reach groups.</p>	<p>Due to the extensive activity outlined above, it was not deemed necessary to undertake any additional workshops and focus groups.</p>

4.7 Ways that feedback was received

4.7.1 To optimise the response rate from statutory consultees and across the local community, those consulted were able to respond to the Stage 1 consultation in a variety of ways, including by:

- completing a questionnaire either online (www.sizewellc.co.uk) or by free post;
- emailing sizewell@edfconsultation.info;
- posting comments to the free post address;
- calling 0800 197 6102 during normal office hours..

4.7.2 For the Stage 1 consultation over 4,400 local residents and stakeholders (both statutory and non-statutory) were engaged with in over 100 exhibitions, meetings and presentations, including 731 people visiting the Sizewell C information office in Leiston, during the Stage 1 period.

4.7.3 In total, 1,298 responses were received during the Stage 1 consultation. A total of 440 respondents submitted feedback via the online questionnaire, 309 through the paper questionnaire and 549 gave feedback via email or phone over the 75 days of consultation period. The questionnaire asked consultees to answer 16 questions. A total of 9,738 answers to these questions were obtained from those 1,298 responses. A copy of the questionnaire is provided at **Appendix B.9** of this Report.

4.7.4 A period of one week after the deadline was permitted to allow for postal delays. Southwold Town Council and Sweffling Parish Council were allowed three further days to submit their responses at their request.

4.7.5 **Table 4.2** below sets out the number of responses received in relation to each question:

Table 4.2: Stage 1 consultation questions and number of responses

Question	Responses
1: Overall proposals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are your overall views on EDF Energy’s proposals to build a new power station at Sizewell C and associated development? 	703
2: Temporary developments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are your views on the proposed temporary developments at the Sizewell C development site? 	590
3: Visitor centre Our proposals include a new visitor centre for Sizewell. There are three potentially suitable locations for the visitor centre: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1: Lover’s Lane Option 2: Sizewell Beach Option 3: Goose Hill Please explain your preferences below.	616
4: Accommodation strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are your views on EDF Energy’s overall accommodation strategy? 	570
5: Accommodation campus sites We have proposed three alternative options for the temporary accommodation campus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1: Development Site Campus (our preferred option). This campus would be immediately adjacent to the Sizewell C development site, next to the site entrance on the B1122. Option 2: Sizewell Gap Campus. This site is off the Sizewell Gap, 2.5km from the Sizewell C development site on Lover’s Lane. Option 3: Leiston East Campus. This site is to the east of Leiston in the fields to the south of the Sizewell Sports and Social Club. Please explain your preferences below.	595

Question	Responses
<p>6: Transport strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your views on EDF Energy’s overall transport strategy? 	596
<p>7: Northern park and ride sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Yoxford Road. This site is approximately 1.5km south-east of the village of Yoxford on the B1122. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. • Option 2: Darsham. This site is located next to Darsham station. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. • Option 3: A12/A144 Junction. This site is located at the junction of the A12 and the A144 south of Halesworth. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. <p>Please explain your answers below.</p>	603
<p>8: Southern park and ride sites</p> <p>There are three alternative options for the southern park and ride. Our preferred southern site is Option 1 at Wickham Market.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Wickham Market (our preferred southern option). This is located at the junction between the A12 and the B1078/B1116 to the north-east of Wickham Market. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. • Option 2: Woodbridge. This is located to the west of the A12 at the A12/A1152 Woods Lane junction, north-west of Woodbridge. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. • Option 3: Potash Corner. This is located at Potash Corner on Scott’s Lane, west of the A12 close to the village of Bredfield. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. <p>Please explain your preferences below.</p>	657
<p>9: Transport: Road Freight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are your views on this approach to managing HGV movements, including whether you prefer locating the lorry park with a park and ride facility or separately? 	514
<p>10: Transport: Lorry Park</p> <p>There are three proposed alternative locations for a standalone lorry park (rather than at the southern park and ride):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Orwell Lorry Park (West). This site is located on land to the west of the existing Orwell Crossing Lorry Park on the A14. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. • Option 2: Orwell Lorry Park (East). This site is located on land to the east of the existing Orwell Crossing Lorry Park on the A14. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. • Option 3: A12/A14 Seven Hills Junction. This site is located at the A12/A14 Seven Hills Junction. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don’t know. <p>Please explain your preferences below.</p>	577
<p>11: Transport: Junction and Road Improvements</p>	618

Question	Responses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1: A bypass of Farnham. This is a bypass around the village of Farnham. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. Option 2: Widen the road at Farnham bend. This would involve the widening the road at Farnham bend. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. Option 3: HGV traffic controls at Farnham. This is to implement HGV traffic at Farnham bend. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. <p>Please explain your answers below.</p>	
<p>12: Road improvements: general</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have any further comments about the potential impact of Sizewell C related traffic on the local road network? 	507
<p>13: Rail options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1: New rail terminal. This is to build a new, larger rail terminal north of King George's Avenue near Leiston industrial estate. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. Option 2: Temporary rail extension (preferred option). This is to extend the existing rail line into the Sizewell C development site, which would bring freight directly to the construction areas, removing the need for additional HGV trips on Lover's Lane. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. <p>Please explain your answers.</p>	596
<p>14: Rail routes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red route (one of our preferred routes). The red route passes through Leiston, spurring off to the Sizewell C site north of Leiston industrial estate. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. Green route (one of our preferred routes). The green route spurs off before Leiston. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. Blue route. The blue route also spurs off the existing track before Leiston. It is the longest of the routes and would enter the site where we would prefer to locate our campus accommodation. Do you think that this option is appropriate/inappropriate/don't know. <p>Please explain your answers.</p>	532
<p>15: People and economy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have any comments on our proposals, including our approach to education, training and local supply chain initiatives? 	433
<p>16. Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have any comments about the consultation process so far? 	483
<p>Responses not responding to a question</p>	548
<p>Total</p>	9738

4.8 Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it

4.8.1 SZC Co. undertook a careful review of the Stage 1 consultation responses received in accordance with the relevant guidance. PINS Advice Note 14 advises that:

“applicants group responses under the three strands of consultation as follows:

- *section 42 prescribed consultees (including section 43 and section 44);*
- *section 47 community consultees; and*
- *section 48 responses to statutory publicity”.*

4.8.2 Two sets of ‘issues tables’ are provided at **Annex A** of this Report. These set out an ‘issues-led’ review of the comments received under the following titles:

- Section 42 statutory consultees.
- Section 47 local community consultees.

4.8.3 An issues table dedicated to section 48 responses has not been prepared as there was no requirement to publish a notice under section 48 of the Act at Stage 1.

4.8.4 The tables are organised under themed headings. The themes are largely derived from different elements of the proposals or site options and, beneath these, sub-themes correspond with the chapters of the **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** (where consultation responses were submitted concerning that theme). This is to help anyone interested to cross-reference as required.

4.8.5 To avoid repetition, where the same comment or issue has been raised by section 42 and section 47 consultees, this is denoted in bold and shaded grey in the section 42 tables, and not repeated within the section 47 tables.

4.8.6 The following process was adopted in the preparation of the tables:

- A grounded theory methodology was used to analyse responses to the consultation, through which responses were analysed at a sentence level, using themes to group together comments on similar topics.
- A coding framework was developed centrally by senior analysts with codes then applied to each response by an analysis team which met

regularly to discuss their work and suggest amendments to the coding framework as and when it may be needed.

- An individual response was coded in as many layers as required to ensure the whole sentiment of the comment was captured.
- The coding process enabled all responses to be indexed according to the issues raised by respondents and allowed a detailed summary to be prepared of the content by themes and topics raised.

4.8.7 Key points raised by prescribed consultees, local authorities and town and parish councils are summarised in **Annex B** of this Report. The annex also includes a summary of the comments raised by section 42(1)(d) consultees, arranged by theme. All issues raised by these bodies have been captured and responded to by SZC Co. in the issues tables at **Annex A** of this Report.

4.9 Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 1 consultation

4.9.1 In response to the Stage 1 consultation feedback received, and further technical and environmental work, a number of changes were made to the Sizewell C Project by SZC Co. - see **Annex A** of this Report. Full details of the reasons why these changes were made are set out in the Site Selection Report appended to the **Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4).

4.9.2 In many respects the Stage 1 consultation feedback reflected the sensitivity of issues of which SZC Co. was already aware from pre-consultation engagement. The feedback reinforced, for instance, SZC Co.'s determination to develop detailed strategies and commitments for traffic management, community safety, education, training and local procurement. Traffic was clearly communicated as a significant concern, particularly on local roads and along the B1122 as well as through Farnham. The weight of local community and stakeholder concern on these issues has driven SZC Co.'s work to develop the optimum transport strategy and to propose mitigation to limit or remove the most sensitive impacts. This feedback has had a significant influence on SZC Co.'s Sizewell C Project development since Stage 1.

4.9.3 The principle of a park and ride strategy was welcomed by the majority of respondents. Wickham Market was identified by SZC Co. as the preferred site for the southern park and ride (with a different site boundary to Stage 1 following further archaeological investigations), with Woodbridge as the primary reserve option and Potash Corner the secondary reserve option (it was subsequently discontinued before Stage 2). Design development of the sites continued in the light of feedback received about local sensitivities.

Darsham was identified as SZC Co.'s preferred site for the northern park and ride, with the A12/A144 site as the reserve. The Yoxford Road site was not taken forward.

- 4.9.4 The main development site was selected as the preferred site for an accommodation campus, with Leiston East as the reserve site (it was subsequently discounted before Stage 2). All other potential accommodation campus sites were not taken forward.
- 4.9.5 The proposal to combine park and ride facilities with lorry parks was opposed by consultees at Stage 1. Following Stage 1, the Sizewell C Project team proceeded to investigate the feasibility of a transport strategy that did not require lorry parks.
- 4.9.6 The Farnham bypass option was preferred by the majority of respondents rather than HGV limits or demolition at Farnham Bend - and feedback included many suggestions that the bypass of a single village should be extended to include the three villages to the southwest: Marlesford, Little Glemham and Stratford St Andrew. SZC Co. continued to discuss the A12 and local aspirations for a bypass of the four villages with SCC and other stakeholders following Stage 1. Having regard to feedback and further technical and environmental assessments, at Stage 2 SZC Co. promoted four options: no change; widening the road at the Farnham bend; a one village bypass of Farnham; or a two village bypass of Farnham and Stratford St Andrew.
- 4.9.7 There was support for sea and rail modes of freight transport from the majority of respondents, although concerns were expressed for the impact of marine options on ecology, coastal processes and visual impact. The green and blue routes were the clear preferences for the rail spur off the Saxmundham to Leiston branch line. By Stage 2, SZC Co. had identified the green route as the preferred route, which remained consistent throughout the remainder of the consultation.
- 4.9.8 Many respondents agreed that local young people must have the maximum opportunity to gain skills and employment on the Sizewell C Project, and that SZC Co. needed to invest in local schools and colleges and the local supply chain. As a result, SZC Co. worked with the Chamber of Commerce to enhance, and improve, the online supply chain portal for Suffolk and Norfolk businesses prior to Stage 2, and also entered into more detail discussions with SCC and Further Education colleges.
- 4.9.9 Concern was expressed from some Stage 1 consultees that seasonal traffic effects had not been sufficiently taken into account. This concern was

specifically addressed in the subsequent preparation of the **Transport Assessment** (Doc Ref. 8.5).

4.9.10 SZC Co. responded to local feedback and reported on the responses received through the May 2013 Sizewell C newsletter provided in **Appendix B.14** of the Report, and a presentation to the Sizewell C Community Forum on 25 April 2013.

5. Informal Consultation (Development Sites) – March and August 2014

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 Following the statutory Stage 1 consultation, which closed in February 2013, SZC Co. undertook further informal consultation in March and August 2014 in relation to proposed associated development site options.

5.1.2 This chapter explains this non-statutory stage of consultation. It provides an overview of the content of the consultation, and who SZC Co. consulted, the consultation activities undertaken, and the ways that SZC Co. had regard to feedback received.

5.2 Associated development site options

5.2.1 Following the Stage 1 consultation, SZC Co. reviewed the feedback received at Stage 1 consultation in relation to potential associated development site options, and undertook further technical assessment work. This was to help to determine which options should be moved into further, more detailed study.

5.2.2 In light of this, SZC Co. provisionally re-classified the options it had presented for the accommodation campus and the park and ride facilities as follows:

- Main development site campus – Lead site.
- Leiston East campus – Reserve site.
- Sizewell Gap campus – Discontinued site.
- Wickham Market southern park and ride – Lead site.
- Woodbridge southern park and ride – Reserve site (primary).
- Potash Corner southern park and ride – Reserve site (secondary).
- Darsham northern park and ride – Lead site.

- A12/A144 northern park and ride – Reserve site.
- Yoxford Road northern park and ride – Discontinued site.

5.3 Consultation overview

5.3.1 The following paragraphs provide an overview of the approach to the informal consultation.

a) Purpose

5.3.2 The purpose of this informal stage of consultation was to:

- share and test the prospective selection and draft plans for associated development in the neighbourhood with local communities;
- obtain feedback at an early stage to identify any obvious reasons why the plans might not be appropriate;
- understand what options there might be to mitigate the impact of the planned infrastructure; and
- ensure that the subsequent statutory Stage 2 consultation was informed by comments and suggestions made by local residents.

b) Newsletter

5.3.3 The proposed amendments to the associated development site options were first explained in a newsletter distributed to over 30,000 homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of Sizewell in November 2013 provided in **Appendix C.1** of this Report.

5.3.4 The final page of the newsletter noted that SZC Co. intended to invite local parish representatives and residents living near the lead sites to engage in focused informal consultation on the sites in early 2014.

c) Community forum meeting

5.3.5 A Sizewell C community forum meeting was held in November 2013.

5.3.6 The Sizewell C community forum is an independent group of local representatives and stakeholders which plays an important consultative role in the Sizewell C Project. It has provided a mechanism for discussion during the planning and construction process between SZC Co., representatives of the local community and other key stakeholders.

5.3.7 The aim of the Sizewell C community forum has been to assist SZC Co. in arriving at proposals which limit the impact on the local community from the Sizewell C Project, as well as making the most of what the development could offer East Suffolk.

5.3.8 At the meeting, the newsletter at **Appendix C.1** of this Report was circulated and SZC Co. delivered a presentation on the proposed reclassification of the options - see **Appendix C.2** of this Report.

d) Questionnaires and focus groups

5.3.9 An informal consultation period then commenced for 14 days from 12 March 2014 to 26 March 2014. As set out in **Table 5.1**, the consultation methods comprised:

- Focus groups: held on 3 and 4 March 2014, and led by independent consultancy the Sustainable Research Unit, in the parishes where the lead sites were located. While this was a non-statutory stage of consultation, the focus groups were undertaken in accordance with the SoCC published in November 2012, provided in **Appendix B.11** of this Report, which stated:
“Focus Groups: EDF Energy could commission focus groups, or hold other events as necessary, to engage specific interests or hard-to-reach groups”.
- Questionnaires: bespoke, site-specific questionnaires were mailed out to all households in the parishes where the lead sites were located on 12 March 2014. A period of 14 days was provided to respond, by 26 March 2014.

Table 5.1: Focus groups and bespoke questionnaires

Parish	Relevant Development Site Option	Focus Group Meeting Date	Bespoke Questionnaire
Theberton and Eastbridge.	Main development site campus.	04/03/2014	See Appendix C.3 of this Report.
Darsham	Park and ride north.	04/03/2014	See Appendix C.4 of this Report.
Hacheston and Wickham Market.	Park and ride south.	03/03/2014	See Appendix C.5 of this Report.

5.3.10 The questionnaires were predominantly a quantitative exercise, designed to ascertain the opinions of the community through a series of multiple-choice questions to understand the communities' preferences regarding:

- visual screening;
- vehicular entry and exit points;
- road impacts and improvement measures;
- uses for the park and ride sites/accommodation campus after the construction of Sizewell C;
- parking, leisure and recreational facilities at the accommodation campus;
- mitigation measures;
- level of information; and
- methods of consultation.

5.3.11 A Sizewell C community forum meeting took place the day after the deadline for the submission of informal consultation responses, on 27 March 2014 - see presentation at **Appendix C.6** of this Report. At that meeting, representatives of Marlesford Parish Council and Campsea Ashe Parish Council suggested that their residents should also be consulted about the southern park and ride site due to its proximity to these parishes. The questionnaire was subsequently sent to residents in these parishes in August 2014, and they were given 14 days to respond.

5.3.12 Local authorities were notified about the above informal consultation activity.

5.3.13 The questions for the local communities around associated development sites were focused on how the impacts of the proposed sites could be limited if they were built in those locations. For example, the covering letter to residents of Theberton and Eastbridge which accompanied the questionnaire on the location of the accommodation campus provided in **Appendix C.3** of this Report stated that:

“As a local resident, EDF Energy recognises that you will have views about the proposal. However, we are keen to understand what you think could be done to limit the impact if the proposed campus were built in this location. In this context, please take the time to respond to this survey, as your views are important in shaping the plans for this site – if it is taken forward for potential development”.

5.3.14 Every questionnaire sent to the residents of each parish (Theberton and Eastbridge, Darsham, Hacheston and Wickham Market and later Campsea Ashe and Marlesford) included the plans for the associated development in their respective areas and the focus group meetings also displayed the plans.

5.4 Feedback received

5.4.1 The following paragraphs provide an overview of the feedback received at the focus group meetings and within the completed questionnaires.

a) Focus group feedback

5.4.2 The feedback received during the focus group meetings can be grouped into the following themes:

- General points – knowledge and communication.
- Traffic, legacy and construction.
- Park and ride south.
- Park and ride north.
- Accommodation.

5.4.3 The issues raised in relation to each theme are summarised in **Table 5.2**.

Table 5.2: Issues raised in focus group meetings

Theme	Issues
General points – knowledge and communication.	Most residents were aware of SZC Co.’s plans for a park and ride and an accommodation campus in the areas close to where they lived. They referred to village hall presentations, leaflets, local newspaper articles, and the SZC Co. information office in Leiston as ways that they had been informed.
	Many were concerned that SZC Co. representatives did not always have the answers to their questions at this early stage and sought changes to the format of community consultation. It was suggested there should be more feedback from SZC Co. following the exhibitions.
Traffic, legacy and construction.	A significant local issue for people living in Hacheston, Wickham Market, Theberton and Eastbridge, and Darsham was traffic. The construction project at Sizewell C was a source of concern in this respect.
	Another local issue raised was over-development of housing, with the sprawl causing villages to lose their individual identity.
	Respondents expressed opposition to building pavements in Darsham, while there was a consensus in Theberton for building pavements.
	Respondents felt that construction staff should use designated roads and they should face penalties for driving through minor roads in the village.

Theme	Issues
	<p>Respondents wanted each site to be surrounded by mounds and trees to screen it from their villages.</p> <p>Respondents were concerned that the 24-hour nature of the Sizewell C Project construction would result in significant light and noise pollution at all sites.</p> <p>Respondents wanted the sites to be returned to agricultural land at the conclusion of construction of Sizewell C, however most of the respondents believed that this would not happen.</p> <p>Respondents had concerns over the security of all of the associated development sites.</p> <p>A significant traffic concern for respondents was the B1122 Leiston Road, with many believing that it would not have capacity for the estimated 600 lorry movements a day.</p>
Park and ride south.	<p>Wickham Market residents did not want there to be a shop at the park and ride but did want a petrol station.</p> <p>Hacheston and Wickham Market residents wanted changes to the planned access point and a widening of the B1078 at the Wickham Market end.</p> <p>Concerns were also raised about the existing viability of the roundabout and its ability to cope with the traffic and the already heavily congested Border Cot Lane.</p> <p>Some participants expressed an interest in having free bus rides on the route to Sizewell which they would share with the workforce.</p> <p>Concerns were raised over HGV rat running through B1078 and through Wickham Market.</p>
Park and ride north.	<p>Suggestions were made for car parking spaces in the northern park and ride site to be made available for users of Darsham railway station. There was also a suggestion that some of the parking should be retained for rail users as a legacy.</p> <p>Darsham residents generally welcomed the location of a park and ride north as it would reduce the amount of traffic going through their village.</p> <p>Residents had concerns about the access point, stating that both entry and exit should be at different points on the A12 as this could lead to congestion.</p> <p>There were also concerns that 'The Street' could see extra traffic and turn into a 'rat-run'.</p>
Accommodation	<p>Residents in Theberton and Eastbridge had concerns about the accommodation campus. These included size, light pollution, anti-social behaviour and inappropriate location.</p>

5.4.4 The Sustainable Research Unit prepared a report of the ‘Sizewell C Focus Group Research’ findings in March 2014, which provides further details of the responses received, provided in **Appendix C.7** of this Report.

b) Questionnaire feedback

5.4.5 SZC Co. received a total of 413 completed questionnaires, broken down as shown in **Table 5.3**.

Table 5.3: Questionnaire responses

Parish	Relevant Development Site Option	Associated No. of Questionnaire Responses
Theberton and Eastbridge.	Development site campus.	97
Darsham	Park and ride north.	68
Hacheston and Wickham Market.	Park and ride south.	248

5.4.6 With regard to the parishes listed in **Table 5.3**, the Sustainable Research Unit prepared a report of the ‘Sizewell C Questionnaire Research’ findings in April 2014, seen in **Appendix C.8** of this Report. This provides a short summary of the responses received in relation to each question.

5.4.7 In addition, 70 completed questionnaires were received from Marlesford Parish and Campsea Ashe Parish residents in August 2014. The feedback received from the Marlesford and Campsea Ashe Parishes is summarised in **Appendix C.9**.

5.4.8 The questionnaire responses received largely reflected the feedback received during the focus groups, set out within **Table 5.2**. However, at the focus groups local participants had the opportunity to discuss and challenge the views raised.

5.5 How SZC Co. had regard to the feedback

5.5.1 The purpose of this programme of informal consultation is outlined in paragraph 5.3.2 of this Report.

5.5.2 While a number of respondents objected to the proposals in principle, none stated that the proposals were unworkable or impossible to implement.

5.5.3 SZC Co. wanted to understand what options there might be to mitigate the impact of the proposed infrastructure and received helpful feedback, which it had regard to in progressing its proposals.

a) Knowledge and communication

5.5.4 With regard to the consultation process, SZC Co. had regard to this feedback as follows:

- There was some negative feedback from the focus groups regarding the Stage 1 public exhibitions. SZC Co. fed this back to colleagues staffing the exhibitions in order to prepare effectively for future stages of consultation.
- It was suggested by some respondents there should be more feedback from SZC Co. following the exhibitions. SZC Co. issued a summary of the feedback received in newsletters after every stage of formal consultation - see **Chapters 4, 6, 7 and 8** of this Report. SZC Co. also began to send a regular project email to all 117 parish council clerks in Suffolk Coastal District, so that local community representatives had regular contact from the Sizewell C Project and up-to-date information. In addition, SZC Co. offered regular public meetings with parish councils. Such meetings took place ahead of Stage 2 with communities in Wickham Market, Hacheston and Theberton and Eastbridge.
- All subsequent public exhibitions had appropriate staffing levels for the turnout of members of the public anticipated.
- Future newsletters and stages of consultation provided more detail on the associated developments, so that residents could be reassured on issues such as returning sites to their original use following the construction of Sizewell C and so that rumours could be addressed.

b) Park and Ride South

- Concerns raised over traffic levels on the B1078 were considered as the Sizewell C Project proposals developed further. At Stage 3, two options to mitigate potential delays on the B1078 between Border Cot Lane and River Deben bridge were presented. At Stage 4 an alternative option was presented of working with the parish council to bring forward a public realm improvement scheme within the public highway. Following this feedback, SZC Co. proposes to provide a Wickham Market transport contribution to fund pedestrian, cycle, and public realm improvements at Wickham Market to mitigate impacts on driver and passenger delay - see draft Section 106 Heads of Terms provided as an appendix to the **Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4).
- Concerns over HGVs 'rat-running' were addressed in the next parish newsletter, and in the proposals from there on in, with confirmation that all vehicles over 3.5 tonnes would need to adhere to strictly approved

routes. No HGVs would therefore be routed through the B1078 or the village of Wickham Market.

- Returning the site to its original use post-construction is a planning requirement which SZC Co. has committed to. This was confirmed at all meetings with the parishes, and at later stages of consultation.
- In terms of questionnaire responses, staggered arrival times for workers to avoid excess traffic would also be managed by the timing of shift patterns around standard working hours and school drop-off and collection times.
- The site would include on-site security and the **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** includes information on noise mitigation measures and appropriate lighting to minimise light pollution from the site as far as practicable.
- The questionnaire responses were helpful with reference to the landscape proposals and a rural aesthetic being preferred. As a result, the design of the site features a landscaped buffer zone on the site perimeter to screen the development as much as possible.

c) **Park and Ride North**

- Feedback indicated that light at night from the park and ride facility is a key concern in Darsham. This was investigated further through the EIA and a lighting strategy developed.
- Concerns about the use of The Street as a ‘rat-run’ were addressed by the confirmation of designated HGV routes that prohibit heavy vehicles from using rural roads like The Street. The location of the park and ride site means that workers would have no reason to use The Street rather than the A12 to access the site.
- In terms of access to and from the site, there have been significant changes made since the informal consultation to optimise safety and amenity considerations. New proposals including a roundabout and access further to the north were consulted on at Stages 3 and 4.
- In response to issues relating to visual impacts, Stages 2, 3 and 4 have shown the landscaped buffer around the perimeter of the site, with natural features including trees and hedgerow.
- With regard to the suggestions that car parking spaces in the northern park and ride site should be made available for users of Darsham railway station, whilst SZC Co. had regard to this feedback, it does not

consider this is necessary as mitigation for the Sizewell C Project and this is not therefore included in the Application.

d) **Accommodation campus**

- Stage 1 feedback had generally been supportive of a significant scale campus close to the main development site in order to reduce the impact of daily worker commuting and to take pressure away from the local private rented and tourism sectors. For these reasons a campus located adjacent to the construction site remained as SZC Co.'s preference - as was communicated by SZC Co. at the Sizewell C community forum meeting that took place in November 2013.
- Feedback from the informal consultation helped SZC Co. to understand the sensitivity of local landscape and other issues and was used to inform the subsequent design development of the campus.
- Stages 2, 3 and 4 sought to address concerns raised in relation to the size and scale of the accommodation campus and the relationship with the nearby villages. By Stage 4, the land required for the campus had reduced significantly from that shown at Stage 1.
- The informal consultation confirmed that there were concerns about traffic and amenity impacts on the B1122. The proposed use of the B1122 changed following this informal consultation. At Stage 2 proposals for improvements to the B1122 were presented. Feedback at that stage, along with the views expressed in response to this informal consultation, led to transport strategy options at Stages 3 and 4 showing bypasses of the B1122, thereby diverting construction traffic from Theberton and the junction with Church Lane (the road from Theberton to Eastbridge).

6. Stage 2 Pre-Application Consultation: November 2016 – February 2017

6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 This chapter explains SZC Co.'s approach to the Stage 2 pre-application consultation. An overview of what was consulted on is provided together with an explanation of the approach to consultation set out within the Updated SoCC¹⁴. This chapter sets out:

¹⁴ See **Chapter 2** of this Report for an explanation of the SoCC.

- who SZC Co. consulted;
- the consultation material and activities undertaken;
- the ways that feedback was received;
- the feedback themes and how SZC Co. had regard to them; and
- the changes made to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 2 consultation.

6.1.2 Stage 2 consultation commenced in November 2016. Following the Stage 1 consultation a considerable amount of technical and environmental work was undertaken to inform the evolution of the proposals, having regard to the feedback from the Stage 1 consultation. In this context, updated scheme proposals and options were consulted on at Stage 2.

6.1.3 Following Stage 1, and the period of informal consultation with parishes and residents near associated development sites, SZC Co. continued to keep the local community informed about the Sizewell C Project, through emails to parish clerks, newsletters - see **Appendix D.13** of this Report, media activity, and meetings with parish councils and community groups.

6.1.4 The newsletters provided information on the various environmental surveys SZC Co. was undertaking, activities such as Aldhurst Farm Habitat Creation Scheme and work with schools and colleges, as well as updates on Hinkley Point C, and progress with investment partners. The newsletters were sent to homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of Sizewell in April 2014¹⁵, October 2014¹⁶, April 2015, September 2015, December 2015 and November 2016. Since July 2015, email updates on the Sizewell C Project have also been sent to the clerks of all local parish councils¹⁷.

6.1.5 Stage 2 consultation was carried out between 23 November 2016 and 3 February 2017.

¹⁵ The consultation area extended to 27,879 addresses to include parishes further to the south following engagement with more interested community groups.

¹⁶ The consultation area extended again to 39,382 addresses to include parishes further to the west following engagement with more interested community groups.

¹⁷ Throughout, in between and subsequent to statutory stages of consultation, on: 30/07/2015; 31/08/2015; 30/09/2015; 15/10/2015; 30/11/2015; 29/12/2015; 30/01/2016; 27/02/2016; 30/03/2016; 30/04/2016; 30/05/2016; 30/07/2016; 31/10/2016; 31/01/2017; 31/03/2017; 30/08/2017; 30/12/2017; 21/11/2018; 11/12/2018; 14/12/2018; 04/02/2019; 12/02/2019; 12/06/2019; 18/07/2019; 31/07/2019; and 23/10/2019.

6.2 Content of consultation

6.2.1 The purpose of the Stage 2 consultation was to seek views on all elements of the strategy and proposals. SZC Co. was interested in receiving comments across the whole Sizewell C Project, however the consultation material also identified specific issues where direct questions were raised, including in relation to changes proposed since Stage 1 consultation. Specific matters raised in the consultation are set out below.

a) Main development site (permanent development)

- The concept proposals for the external finish of the turbine halls.
- The junction arrangement for the new access road with the B1122.
- The location of the crossing of the site of special scientific interest (SSSI), of which there were four options:
 - **Option 1:** causeway over culvert for both the construction and operational phase.
 - **Option 2:** single span bridges with vertical wing walls.
 - **Option 3:** three span bridges for both the construction and operational phases.
 - **Option 4:** a causeway over a culvert with an adjacent short-term bridge.
- The proposals for the flood defence and coastal protection measures.
- A BLF to receive occasional deliveries of abnormal indivisible loads (AILs) by sea.
- The landscape proposals, detailing how the land around Sizewell C would be restored following construction.

b) Main development site (construction phase)

- The provision of on-site spoil/stockpile arrangements using a ‘borrow pit’, for which there were three potential siting options:
 - **Option 1:** Field east of Eastbridge Road (Field 1), and field west of Eastbridge Road (Field 2).
 - **Option 2:** Field west of Eastbridge Road (Field 2), and field north of Ash Wood (Field 3).

- **Option 3:** Field north of Ash Wood (Field 3), and field west of Ash Wood (Field 4).
 - Marine delivery solutions proposed in order to accept bulk construction materials, equipment and AILs to the main development site:
 - **Option 1:** a full jetty.
 - **Option 2:** a slim jetty.
 - **Option 3:** a BLF.
 - Development of the LEEIE proposed for the following uses:
 - **Option 1:** for construction and caravan accommodation purposes, and provision for a new rail terminal as an alternative to the green rail route.
 - **Option 2:** if the green rail route is selected, use for construction and caravan accommodation purposes only.
 - An accommodation campus at the main development site, for which there were three potential layout options:
 - **Option 1:** campus buildings both east and west of Eastbridge Road, with sports fields on the western land parcel.
 - **Option 2(i):** campus buildings to the east of Eastbridge Road, with sports fields on the western land parcel.
 - **Option 2(ii):** campus buildings to the east of Eastbridge Road, with sports fields to be located off-site in a location to be identified.
- c) **Associated development (rail)**
- The rationale for site selection for possible rail improvements and works considered, and options for rail deliveries:
 - **Option 1:** the green rail route that would enable deliveries directly into the main development site.
 - **Option 2:** LEEIE, comprising a new rail terminal and land for construction and caravan accommodation purposes.
 - The above being in addition to a possible new facility on land south of King George’s Avenue (known as Sizewell Halt) that was considered for use in the early years before a new terminal at either LEEIE or within the main development site is in place.

d) **Associated development (northern park and ride)**

- The rationale for site selection of the Darsham site as SZC Co.'s preferred proposal.
- The draft masterplan and the PEI.

e) **Associated development (southern park and ride)**

- The rationale for site selection of the Wickham Market site as SZC Co.'s preferred proposal.
- The draft masterplan and the PEI.

f) **Associated development (highways improvements)**

- The options for works along the A12 near Farnham:
 - **Option 1:** no change, whereby no change would be made to the Farnham bend, the Sizewell C traffic would simply use the A12 through Farnham as it exists at present.
 - **Option 2:** Farnham bend road widening, comprising the demolition of a property to create a widening of the bend with associated landscaping.
 - **Option 3:** Farnham bypass (also known as the one village bypass), comprising a single lane carriageway and associated works around the north of the village of Farnham.
 - **Option 4:** Farnham and Stratford St Andrew bypass (also known as the two village bypass), comprising a single lane carriageway and associated works around the villages of Farnham and Stratford St Andrew.
- The scope of works proposed along the B1122, which comprise:
 - An improvement to the junction of the B1122 with the A12 at Yoxford - either a roundabout or a signalised junction.
 - Speed limit reductions on various sections of the B1122.
 - An improvement of the B1122 to the west of the junction with Mill Street for visibility purposes.
 - Options for enhancing the pedestrian environment in Theberton, through the creation of a new footpath near Pump Cottages and extending the footpath near Ivy Cottages.

- An improvement to the alignment of the B1122 between Theberton and the main development site entrance to improve forward visibility.

6.2.2 Following the Stage 1 consultation, SZC Co. had continued to develop PEI to identify any likely significant environmental effects that may arise in connection with the Sizewell C Project and to help inform project choices. In doing so, by Stage 2 it had a better understanding of how these effects may be addressed, for example through the identification of mitigation measures. The PEI collected at that time was, therefore, also consulted on at Stage 2, to provide stakeholders with an understanding of the environmental issues, as far as was known at that stage of the pre-application process, and to enable respondents to give informed feedback.

6.2.3 The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Guidance (Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the Pre-Application Process, March 2015) (paragraph 93) requires the applicant to provide sufficient PEI to enable consultees to develop an informed view of the project. As set out in the Updated SoCC (2016), and in compliance with the DCLG Guidance, the PEI provided at Stage 2 set out the environmental considerations that had informed the determination of options (e.g. the borrow pits) and development of proposals at that stage. In addition, the PEI explained the further studies/surveys proposed at that time to inform a full EIA for the Sizewell C Project.

6.3 Statement of community consultation

6.3.1 Section 47 of the Act required that the Stage 2 consultation was undertaken in accordance with an approach set out within a SoCC, on which the relevant local authorities had been consulted in advance.

6.3.2 SZC Co. formally consulted SCDC and SCC on the draft Updated SoCC between 26 November and 31 December 2014 - see letters at **Appendix D.1** of this Report. The letters invited both parties to provide their views on the draft Updated SoCC.

6.3.3 SCDC and SCC formally responded in a joint letter on 19 December 2014, as seen in **Appendix D.2** of this Report. SZC Co. wrote to SCDC and SCC on 13 January 2016, enclosing a response to SCDC and SCC's December 2014 comments, together with an amended draft Updated SoCC - see **Appendix D.3** of this Report. The authorities issued a joint response on 10 February 2016 - see **Appendix D.4** of this Report. Their response informed the published Updated SoCC.

6.3.4 SZC Co. made the Updated SoCC available for inspection from 9 November 2016, prior to the start of the Stage 2 consultation period. The Updated SoCC

stated that the views of both SCDC and SCC had been taken into account before it was made available for inspection by the public. Notices were also published in local newspapers stating where the SoCC could be inspected - see **Appendix D.5** of this Report.

6.3.5 All consultation undertaken from November 2016 up to submission of the DCO application was undertaken in accordance with the Updated SoCC.

6.3.6 The Updated SoCC, provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report, set out:

- The reasons for its publication.
- What the permanent development was proposed to comprise.
- What the temporary development was proposed to comprise.
- That PEI would be consulted on.
- The planning process to secure development consent.
- The proposed consultation process and timetable.
- The geographical area of public consultation.
- The consultation activities that would be undertaken, exhibition locations and the available consultation material - see **section 6.5** of this chapter.

6.3.7 The Updated SoCC identified communities to consult across two geographical areas:

- **Inner Area:** Communities within an approximate 10-mile radius of the main development site (see **Plate 6.1**) and, beyond this, communities within the vicinity of potential associated development sites beyond the 10 mile radius of the main development site. Due to the proximity of those living, working or otherwise using the local areas closest to the main development site, consultation was proposed to be most intensive within the Inner Area, with public events near locations where development was proposed.
- **Outer Area:** Communities within a 20-mile radius of the main development site (see **Plate 6.2**), including Lowestoft to the north, from the east of mid-Suffolk to the west, stretching further to the south to incorporate the A14 corridor from the east of Ipswich to Felixstowe. Public and stakeholder engagement also took place over this area to help facilitate feedback.

Plate 6.1: Inner area



Plate 6.2: Outer area



6.4 Who was consulted?

6.4.1 The following steps were taken:

- Duty to consult (section 42): SZC Co. was required to consult prescribed consultees (section 42(1)(a)), the MMO (section 42(1)(aa)), local authorities (section 42(1)(b)), and persons within one or more of the categories in section 44. In accordance with these requirements, a consultation letter was sent to section 42 consultees on 21 November 2016. The deadline for the submission of responses was 3 February 2017, exceeding the 28-day requirement, provided in **Appendix D.9** of this Report.

- Duty to consult the local community (section 47): In line with section 47 of the Act, the Stage 2 consultation was carried out in accordance with the Updated SoCC provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report. The local community within the identified Inner Area and Outer Area were consulted on the proposals through a range of methods, seen in **section 6.5** of this chapter, to ensure a thorough and robust approach.
- Duty to publicise (section 48): There was no requirement to publish a notice under section 48 at Stage 2.

6.5 Consultation material and activities

6.5.1 The consultation material published at Stage 2 comprised the following documents:

- Consultation Document (Stage 2) (November 2016) (this document also provided technical and PEI), see **Appendix D.7** of this Report.
- Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire (Stage 2) (November 2016), see **Appendix D.8** and **Appendix D.12** of this Report.

6.5.2 Copies of the Consultation Document, Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire were made available to view in a number of locations in hard and electronic copy during the Stage 2 consultation period:

- at the exhibitions;
- at the Sizewell C information office (48–50 High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EW), which was open 09:30 to 17:00 Monday to Friday and on Saturdays from 09:30 to 12:00;
- in the offices of SCC, SCDC, WDC, Leiston-Cum-Sizewell Town Council and Ipswich Borough Council;
- at local public libraries; and
- on the Sizewell C Project website (<http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info>).

6.5.3 Copies of the Consultation Document, Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire were sent to all the section 42 consultees in hard and soft copy.

6.5.4 With cross reference to the requirements of the Updated SoCC, **Table 6.1** provides an overview of the consultation activities at Stage 2.

Table 6.1: Stage 2 consultation activities and compliance with updated statement of community consultation (November 2016)

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
4	Consultation will take place in three main stages, which may be supplemented by further stages of limited focussed consultation if considered necessary.	As set out in Chapter 4 of this report, the Stage 1 consultation was held from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013. As set out in this chapter, the Stage 2 consultation was held from 23 November 2016 to 3 February 2017. As set out in Chapter 7 of this Report, the Stage 3 consultation was held from 4 January to 29 March 2019. As set out in Chapter 8 of this Report, the Stage 4 consultation was held from 18 July to 27 September 2019, with targeted consultation held from 10 December 2019 to 31 January 2020 and 15 January to 13 February 2020.
5	EDF Energy will confirm the dates for each stage of consultation and publicise these dates at least ten working days in advance of the start of the relevant consultation period.	The Stage 2 consultation dates were confirmed 21 days in advance of the consultation period starting in: the local media; local newspaper advertisements; in writing to SCC, SCDC and town and parish councils and other stakeholders; and through circulating a newsletter - see Appendix D.11 of this Report. This publicity included the dates and venues of the public exhibitions.
5	The Stage 1 consultation ran for 11 weeks. Further stages of consultation will run for at least eight weeks, but could be extended should the consultation run over a major public holiday.	The Stage 2 consultation ran for ten weeks (23 November 2016 to 3 February 2017). This is two weeks beyond the minimum period referred to in the Updated SoCC, as it ran over the Christmas public holidays.
5	After each stage of formal consultation, EDF Energy will summarise the main issues raised during the consultation and present this in its Sizewell C newsletter.	The main issues raised in the Stage 2 consultation were summarised in the Sizewell newsletter in April 2018 and sent to 37,400 homes and businesses - see Appendix D.14 of this Report.
5	EDF Energy will continue to engage with consultees in between the stages of consultation up to and beyond the submission of the application for development consent.	Ongoing informal consultation with the local community and key stakeholders has taken place outside of the formal stages of consultation. Full details are provided in Chapter 9 of this Report.
5	EDF Energy will report on the consultation responses received during the pre-application phase in a Consultation Report, which	Annexes C and D of the Consultation Report give information on the consultation responses received at Stage 2.

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
	will form part of the application for development consent.	
6	While the views of those living, working or otherwise using the local areas closest to the proposed Sizewell C site and any associated development sites expressed through this consultation will be influential in developing proposals, EDF Energy will also have regard to the views of local authorities, other statutory consultees and members of the public.	<p>SZC Co. consulted with communities within the Inner Area and Outer Area. Responses from members of the public from outside of these areas were also taken into account.</p> <p>SZC Co. also engaged with local authorities and statutory consultees at Stage 2, and throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project.</p>
8	EDF Energy will produce a Consultation Summary Document and Consultation Document.	SZC Co. published these in November 2016 - see Appendix D.7 and D.8 of this Report.
8	EDF Energy will publicise the consultation programme, including information on how people can respond and reports on key Sizewell C Project milestones, in the Sizewell C Project newsletter. The newsletter will be distributed to all homes and businesses within each parish that falls within the Inner Area Plan, as well as parishes that include any proposed associated development sites outside of this area.	<p>A consultation newsletter was distributed on 23 November 2016 to over 37,400 households and business addresses within the Inner Area Plan (see Plate 6.1) and parishes including associated development sites outside of this area - see Appendix D.11 of this Report.</p> <p>The newsletter included information regarding the consultation programme; what to expect as part of the next round of consultation activities; a summary of Stage 1 consultation; introduction of the new Sizewell C Project Development Director; details on public exhibitions; and how to respond to the consultation.</p> <p>Copies of the newsletters were made available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sizewell C information office; • EDF Energy office, London; • Sizewell A visitors centre; • Sizewell B visitors centre; • Lowestoft and Waveney Chamber; • Suffolk Chamber of Commerce; • SCC; • SCDC; • WDC; • Ipswich Borough Council; • Norfolk County Council. <p>all public exhibitions; and on the Sizewell C Project website (https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c)</p> <p>A digital copy of the newsletter was also distributed to approximately 1,500 email subscribers (individuals and</p>

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
		organisations) via the community information line (info@sizewellc.co.uk).
8	EDF Energy will publicise the consultation and associated activities in the local media ahead of the formal public consultation stages and will update local broadcast and print media channels on its consultation activity.	<p>Adverts of the Sizewell C Project and Stage 2 consultation were placed in the East Anglian Daily Times, Coastal Scene, the Ipswich Evening Star, the Lowestoft Journal, Beccles and Bungay Journal and the Eastern Daily Press on 9 November 2016 to announce the consultation and promote the exhibition schedule. Reminder adverts for the close of consultation period were in the same papers over 27, 28 and 30 January 2017 - see Appendix D.11 of this Report.</p> <p>All press releases were posted on the Sizewell C Project website, here: https://www.edfenergy.com/media-centre</p> <p>Media interviews were completed with Anglia TV, BBC Look East, BBC Radio Suffolk, East Anglian Daily Times, Town 102 and Beach Radio during the Stage 2 consultation.</p>
8	EDF Energy will hold exhibitions and events in support of formal stages of consultation. An early event will be held with the Sizewell Residents' Association for each stage of consultation.	<p>23 public exhibitions were held across East Suffolk to present information about the Sizewell C Project proposals, to allow the public to ask questions of SZC Co. staff and to encourage responses to the Stage 2 pre-application consultation.</p> <p>The chair of the Sizewell Residents Association was notified about the first public exhibition at the Sizewell visitor centre on 24 November 2016 and members were encouraged to attend.</p> <p>Exhibitions were held at the following locations at different times throughout the day to allow for school and work schedules, in order for the greatest number of people to attend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sizewell, visitor centre, Sizewell B, 24 November 2016 15:00 to 19:00; • Theberton & Eastbridge, Jubilee Hall, 25 November 2016 14:00 to 20:00; • Leiston, community centre, 26 November 2016 10:00 to 16:00; • Melton, Ufford Park Hotel, 28 November 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Snape, The Concert Hall Café, 29 November 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Westleton, Village Hall, 29 November 2016 16:00 to 20:00; • Aldeburgh, community centre, 30 November 2016 12:00 to 18:00; • Wickham Market, Village Hall, 1 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Saxmundham, Market Hall, 2 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00;

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stratford St Andrew, Riverside Centre, 3 December 2016 10:00 to 16:00; • Rendlesham, community centre, 5 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Lowestoft, The Hotel Victoria, 5 December 2016 16:00 to 20:00; • Blythburgh, Village Hall, 7 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Southwold, St Edmund's Hall, 7 December 2016 16:00 to 20:00; • Darsham, High Lodge, 8 December 2016 14:00 to 20:00; • Ipswich, Town Hall, 9 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Marlesford, Village Hall, 12 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Campsea Ashe, Victory Hall, 12 December 2016 16:00 to 20:00; • Woodbridge, Community Hall, 13 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Middleton, Village Hall, 14 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Halesworth, The Rifle Hall, 15 December 2016 11:00 to 15:00; • Hacheston, Village Hall, 16 December 2016 15:00 to 20:00; and • Yoxford, Village Hall, 19 December 2016 14:00 to 20:00.
8	<p>Town and parish councils can request meetings and presentations during the public consultation programme, which EDF Energy will seek to accommodate where possible. This is in addition to the support being offered to the town and parish councils from Planning Aid England to empower them in their involvement in the consultation process.</p>	<p>To support parishes within the consultation zone, packs including a letter, flyers and posters were sent directly to the named contact of each parish council, informing them of the consultation, and asking them to encourage involvement from their community.</p> <p>A copy of the Consultation Document, and a box of Consultation Summary Documents and Questionnaires, were also sent to local libraries within the Inner Area and Outer Area.</p> <p>The following meetings and presentations were requested by and held with town and parish councils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston Town Council, 13 December 2016; • Melton Parish Council, 11 January 2017; • Kelsale Parish Council, 25 January 2017; and • Dunwich Parish Council Meeting, 27 January 2017. <p>SZC Co. funded an independent service provided by Planning Aid England to help and advise town and parish councils with their responses. A dedicated team from Planning Aid England held introductory sessions with the parishes, and focussed workshops with them during Stage 2.</p>
8	Some villages or towns which are not locations for	Additional events were organised to inform a wider demographic of the consultation proposals, and support those

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
	<p>exhibitions, or those communities which require more opportunities to engage with the EDF Energy Team, may find ‘drop-in’ sessions useful. EDF Energy will seek to accommodate any requests where possible. These sessions would operate like surgeries, where local people can have discussions with members of the team.</p>	<p>who may not be able to access mainstream communication channels or to attend any of the public exhibitions.</p> <p>These are listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Abbey Care Home, 23 November 2016; • Darsham Nurseries, 30 November 2016; • Sam’s Café Drop-in, Lowestoft, 5 December 2016; • University of Suffolk, 13 December 2016; • Suffolk Chamber Board of Directors Presentation, 13 December 2016; • Felixstowe 41 Club, 14 December 2016; • Alde and Ore Estuary Partnership, 15 December 2016; • Suffolk Hearing Advisory Service, Hard of Hearing Club, 4 January 2017; • Theberton and Eastbridge Against Sizewell C Workshop, 5 January 2017; • Sizewell Residents Meeting, 5 January 2017; • Suffolk Coastal District Council, 5 January 2017; • East Anglian Rail Futures Meeting, 5 January 2017; • Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum Presentation, 9 January 2017; • Hearing Advice Centre, 10 January 2017; • Leiston WI, 10 January 2017; • Aldeburgh WI, 11 January 2017; • Community Action Suffolk, 12 January 2017; • Senior Stakeholders Dinner, 12 January 2017; • Suffolk Local Access Forum, 12 January 2017; • Melton WI, 16 January 2017; • Bredfield Youth Club Drop-in, 16 January 2017; • Suffolk Chamber of Commerce TiG, 17 January 2017; • Rotary Club, Framlingham, 17 January 2017; • St Margaret’s Church Drop-in, Leiston, 18 January 2017; • New Anglia LEP, 18 January 2017; • CYDS and Leiston Youth Club at Sizewell B, 18 January 2017; • The Dolphin Drop-in, Thorpeness, 20 January 2017; • Sizewell Residents Association, 23 January 2017; • Leiston GP: Meeting with practitioners, 23 January 2017; • EASB, 23 January 2017; • Theberton and Eastbridge Against Sizewell C, 23 January 2017;

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk Coalition of Disabled People, 24 January 2017; • Leiston Children’s Centre Drop-in, 25 January 2017; • Rotary Club Presentation, 26 January 2017; • Leiston Football Club, 31 January 2017; and • SAA Trinity Park, 2 February 2017. <p>SZC Co. also partnered with a local charity, Rural Coffee Caravan, to host a further nine information sessions (listed below) for rural communities that may have not been able to attend any other public meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hollesley, 3 January 2017; • Kettleburgh, 6 January 2017; • Stratford St Andrew, 10 January 2017; • Framlingham, 16 January 2017; • Bruisyard, 18 January 2017; • Benhall Green, 19 January 2017; • Thorpeness, 18 January 2017; • Orford Community Hall, 21 January 2017; and • Dunwich, 27 January 2017. <p>The Sizewell C Project Team visited four immediate neighbouring schools during Stage 2 to inform students of the socio-economic, educational and skills, and employability benefits of the Sizewell C Project. These were Alde Valley Sixth Form, Saxmundham Free School, Summerhill School in Leiston and Thomas Mills High School.</p> <p>At the drop-in sessions, copies of the Consultation Document, Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire, and easy read versions of the Consultation Summary Document, were available. All documentation was made available in 27 different languages upon request – but no such requests were made.</p>

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
8	EDF Energy has consulted a number of organisations which represent 'hard-to-reach' stakeholders (i.e. demographic groups that do not usually engage in consultation activity, as well as people with disabilities who may have problems accessing the consultation information). Following the feedback received, home visits, bespoke presentations and advertorials in specific publications are among some of the actions which will be considered by EDF Energy in order to provide opportunities for such groups to engage in the consultation process.	<p>SZC Co. produced a recorded version of the Stage 2 Consultation Summary Document and advertised the consultation to members of the following organisations in literature and mailouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age UK Suffolk; • Community Action Suffolk – Young People; • East Suffolk Association for the Blind; • Suffolk Deaf Association; • Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality; • Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum; and • Suffolk Hearing Advisory Service. <p>SZC Co. received no requests for home visits or bespoke presentations.</p>
8	All consultation material will be available to download from the Sizewell C Project website (www.sizewellc.co.uk). Consultees will be able to submit their feedback in hard copy by post or via an online form. Information about all exhibitions will also be available online.	<p>During Stage 2 there was a dedicated Sizewell C website (www.sizewellc.co.uk) to host all of the details for both the Stage 1 and Stage 2 consultations.</p> <p>This has since been re-directed and merged as part of the main EDF Energy site, with its own dedicated section, here: https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c. The content was still also accessible through www.sizewellc.co.uk.</p> <p>The website contained all of the consultation documents and the details of the Stage 2 consultation events, including venues, dates and times. Consultees were able to submit their feedback in hard copy by post or via an online form.</p>
8	Sizewell C has a Twitter account and followers will be updated on the latest events and news during the public consultation: @edfesizewellc.	SZC Co. continued to use Twitter (@edfesizewellc) as part of the Stage 2 consultation activities. Tweets were posted for each of the consultation events including exhibitions, in addition to sharing press coverage, clips from the Stage 2 Computer Generated Imagery, promotion of documents and encouraging the followers to get involved.
8	EDF Energy has set up a Sizewell C community forum which meets on a roughly biannual basis. It considers issues that might affect the local community as a result of EDF Energy's planning proposals, principally those arising from the development of a new power station on land to the north of Sizewell B, and	The Sizewell C community forum met on 1 December 2016, and the SZC Co. Team presented the Stage 2 proposals and answered questions from members.

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 2 Activities
	any associated development. Consideration of the principle of building new nuclear power stations is not within the scope of the forum. The membership is made up of representatives from the local community and local stakeholder organisations.	
9	<p>At stage 2, public exhibitions will be held in the parishes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston-cum-Sizewell; • Theberton & Eastbridge; • Hacheston; • Stratford St Andrew with Farnham; • Darsham; • Middleton; • Westleton; • Marlesford; • Wickham Market; • Campsea Ashe; • Saxmunham; • Melton; • Woodbridge; • Blythburgh; • Aldeburgh; • Southwold; • Snape; • Halesworth; • Rendlesham; • Lowestoft; and • Ipswich. 	Public exhibitions were held in all of the parishes listed in the Updated SoCC, as explained above.
9	Additional workshops and focus groups may be carried out if necessary.	This additional activity was not deemed necessary given the events and exhibitions listed above.

6.5.1 In addition to the above, information was made available throughout the Stage 2 consultation period at the Sizewell C public information office in Leiston. This included the Consultation Document, Consultation Summary Document, Questionnaire and Computer Generated Imagery of the proposed development.

6.6 Ways that feedback was received

6.6.1 To optimise the response rate from statutory consultees and across the local community, responses to the Stage 2 consultation could be submitted in a variety of ways, including by:

- completing a questionnaire either online (www.sizewellc.co.uk) or by free post;
- emailing sizewell@edfconsultation.info;
- posting comments to the free post address; or
- calling 0800 197 6102 during normal office hours.

6.6.2 A total of 1,059 responses from consultees were received in response to the Stage 2 consultation.

6.6.3 The online system was closed at midnight on the final day of the consultation period. A period of one week after the deadline was, however, permitted to allow for postal delays.

6.6.4 **Table 6.2** shows the number of responses received via each of the possible methods of providing feedback.

Table 6.2: Responses received by method

Online questionnaire.	364
Paper questionnaire.	331
Email / letter.	364
Telephone.	0
Total responses.	1,059

6.6.5 The Questionnaire asked consultees to answer 14 questions, but explained that consultees were welcome to answer as many, or as few, of the questions

as they liked, provided in **Appendix D.12** of this Report. **Table 6.3** sets out the number of responses received in relation to each question.

Table 6.3: Stage 2 consultation questions and number of responses

Sizewell C Proposals: Overall	
What are your overall views on EDF Energy's proposals to build a new nuclear power station, Sizewell C, and associated development?	721
Main Development Site: Environment	624
What are your views on the potential environmental impacts and proposed mitigation at the main development site?	
Main Development Site: New Access Road	604
Views sought on: Option 1 (causeway over culvert). Option 2 (single span bridges). Option 3 (three span bridges). Option 4 (causeway over culvert with adjacent short-term bridge).	
Main Development Site: Managing Construction Materials	572
Views sought on three potential field combinations proposed for the borrow pits: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 (field east of Eastbridge Road (field 1) and west of Eastbridge Road (field 2)). • Option 2 (field west of Eastbridge Road (field 2) and north of Ash Wood (field 3)). • Option 3 (field north of Ash Wood (field 3) and west of Ash Wood (field 4)). 	
Accommodation: Overall Strategy	580
What are your views on our overall accommodation strategy for home based and NHB workers?	
Accommodation: Campus Layout	579
Views sought on two main layout options for accommodation campus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1 (east and west of Eastbridge Road). • Option 2(P) (east of Eastbridge Road – with sports facilities to the west of Eastbridge Road). 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 2(ii) (east of Eastbridge Road - with sports facilities located remotely). <p>Please explain your views. Please provide any thoughts on your preferred location for the sports facilities if we pursue Option 2(ii).</p>	
<p>Transport: Overall Strategy</p> <p>What are your views on our overall transport strategy?</p>	580
<p>Transport: Rail</p> <p>Views sought on two options to further increase ability to use rail during construction of Sizewell C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1: Temporary rail extension. Option 2: A new, temporary rail terminal. 	611
<p>Transport: Sea</p> <p>Views sought on three options for transporting material directly to the site by sea during construction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 (wide jetty (temporary)). Option 2 (narrow jetty (temporary)). Option 3 (BLF (for use during construction phase)). 	590
<p>Transport: Park and Ride</p> <p>Views sought on two proposed park and ride facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Southern park and ride – Wickham Market. Northern park and ride – Darsham. 	606
<p>Transport: Road Improvements – A I2</p> <p>Views sought on options for mitigation at Farnham to improve traffic flow and safety through the narrow bend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 (no change). Option 2 (Farnham bend road widening). Option 3A (Farnham bypass (a one-village bypass) – Sweffling Road junction). Option 3B (Farnham bypass (a one-village bypass) – south-west T-junction). 	634

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 4 (Farnham and Stratford St Andrew bypass (a two village bypass)). 	
<p>Transport: Road Improvements – Yoxford / B1122</p> <p>Views sought on two options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1 (roundabout). Option 2 (signalised junction). 	597
<p>People and Economy</p> <p>Do you have any comments on our people and economy proposals, including our approach to education, training and local supply chain opportunities?</p>	477
<p>Consultation Process</p> <p>Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions about the consultation process.</p>	487

6.7 Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it

6.7.1 SZC Co. undertook a careful review of the Stage 2 consultation responses received in accordance with the relevant guidance. The PINS Advice Note 14 advises that:

“applicants group responses under the three strands of consultation as follows:

- *Section 42 prescribed consultees (including section 43 and section 44).*
- *Section 47 community consultees.*
- *Section 48 responses to statutory publicity”.*

6.7.2 Accordingly, two sets of ‘issues tables’ are provided at **Annex C** of this Report. These set out an ‘issues-led’ review of the comments received from:

- Section 42 statutory consultees.
- Section 47 local community consultees.

6.7.3 An issues table dedicated to section 48 responses has not been prepared as there was no requirement to publish a notice under section 48 at Stage 2.

6.7.4 The tables are organised under themed headings. The themes largely derive from different elements of the proposals or site options; and beneath these tables subheadings denote subthemes which correspond with the chapters of the **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** (where consultation responses were submitted concerned that theme).

6.7.5 To avoid repetition, where the same comment or issue has been raised by section 42 and section 47 consultees, this is denoted in bold and shaded grey in the section 42 tables, and not repeated in the section 47 tables.

6.7.6 See paragraph 4.8.6 of **Chapter 4** of this Report for an explanation of the process adopted in preparing these tables.

6.7.7 Key points raised by prescribed consultees, local authorities and town and parish councils are summarised in **Annex D** of this Report. The annex also includes a summary of the comments raised by section 42(1)(d) consultees, arranged by theme. All issues raised by these bodies have been captured and responded to by SZC Co. in the issues tables at **Annex C** of this Report.

6.8 Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to Stage 2 consultation

6.8.1 SZC Co. received over 1,000 responses to the Stage 2 consultation. In response to the Stage 2 consultation feedback received, and further technical and environmental work, a number of changes were made to the Sizewell C Project by SZC Co. This includes changes to the design of the development, and proposed mitigation measures. The changes are explained in detail within the issues tables at **Annex C** of this Report.

6.8.2 In addition to having regard to feedback from statutory stakeholders and communities, SZC Co. also needed to have regard to the technical and environmental work and the need to progress with the most sustainable proposals. Therefore, although option 1 for crossing the SSSI on the main development site was not the preference shown by the majority of respondents to the Stage 2 consultation, it was the option selected by SZC Co. to be progressed. SZC Co.'s reasoning is explained further in the **Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4).

6.8.3 There was support from respondents for SZC Co.'s accommodation proposals, but feedback also contained opposition from communities living to the north-west of the main development site, principally Theberton and Eastbridge. Respondents from there, including the parish council, indicated they would prefer the accommodation campus to be located elsewhere, or split into several smaller sites. The view of SZC Co. was that this would create more traffic and greater impact to all communities as a result. Therefore, in order to try and mitigate the perceived impact of the main development site campus as much as practicable, option 2(ii) for the accommodation campus was taken forward, moving the entirety of the campus development to the east of Eastbridge Road.

6.8.4 This meant that the land required for the main development site campus had decreased by a third from that presented at Stage 1. As a result of the feedback received at Stage 2, SZC Co. continued to work to reduce the heights of some of the campus blocks which had been shown at five storeys. Further work was also commenced to have careful regard to the landscaped boundaries to the east and north of the main development site campus to further separate the temporary facility from the local communities nearby. The sports facilities associated with the campus would be located off-site at Leiston, where they could be shared with the local community.

6.8.5 In response to concerns relating to visual impact and amenity, option 2 for the management of construction materials was discounted, meaning the borrow-pits would be located to the east of Eastbridge Road, removing any potential impact from construction traffic crossing the road on local residents and visitors.

- 6.8.6 In terms of the transport strategy there was support from respondents for the principle of mitigating the impact of construction traffic on local rural roads, but there were differing views on how this should be achieved.
- 6.8.7 With regard to rail, a majority of respondents favoured the ‘green route’ option, a temporary extension of track from the Saxmundham to Leiston branch line into the main development site. The route was, therefore, subject to further on-site physical assessment, and presented as an option to take forward under a rail-led strategy at Stage 3, and as part of a rail-led or integrated strategy at Stage 4.
- 6.8.8 There was support for a ‘marine-led’ approach. However, communities on the coast raised concerns and required more details on the impact to coastal processes from the potential construction and operation of a jetty. Further environmental assessment took place and it was determined that a jetty would have a detrimental impact on marine ecology and the coast. As a result, it was discounted at Stage 3 but the BLF was presented as a feature in both the rail-led and road-led strategies shown at Stage 3 and also the integrated strategy proposed at Stage 4. This would continue to allow for deliveries of very heavy ALLs by sea.
- 6.8.9 Following feedback on the road proposals, including continuing concern for impacts in Farnham, SZC Co. took forward the two village bypass of Farnham and Stratford St Andrew at Stages 3 and 4.
- 6.8.10 Communities living on the B1122 raised continued concerns about the capacity and suitability of the road to handle heavy goods vehicles for the construction period. SZC Co. considered this feedback carefully alongside further analysis and environmental assessments, particularly in Theberton, and presented options for bypassing the area at Stage 3.
- 6.8.11 Feedback also continued to reinforce themes of community cohesion, housing pressures and pressures on public services, which served to reinforce the progress SZC Co. was already making with stakeholders to develop comprehensive strategies in these areas.

7. Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation: 4 January 2019 – 29 March 2019

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 This chapter explains SZC Co.’s approach to the Stage 3 pre-application consultation. It provides an overview of the content of the consultation and explains:

- who SZC Co. consulted;

- the consultation material and activities undertaken;
- the ways that feedback was received;
- the feedback themes and how SZC Co. had regard to them; and
- the changes made to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 3 consultation.

7.1.2 Stage 3 commenced on 4 January 2019. Following the Stage 2 consultation SZC Co.'s team of technical and environmental specialists undertook a considerable amount of work to inform the evolution of the proposals, taking into account the Stage 2 consultation feedback. It was in this context that updated scheme proposals and options were consulted on at Stage 3.

7.1.3 Consultation was carried out between 4 January 2019 and 29 March 2019, with the latter being the closing date for receiving feedback.

7.2 Content of consultation

7.2.1 The purpose of the Stage 3 consultation was to seek views on all elements of the strategy and proposals. SZC Co. remained interested in receiving comments in relation to the overall proposals, the associated development needed to support the construction or operation of the power station, or to mitigate its impacts, and the potential effects of the Sizewell C Project (both positive and negative) and proposed mitigation measures. As with previous stages, the consultation material also identified specific issues where direct questions were raised in order to help refine the proposals, including in relation to the changes since the Stage 2 consultation. The principal content of the Stage 3 consultation is set out below. In particular, it explained how the Sizewell C Project design was developing in relation to the following:

a) Main development site

- SSSI crossing: causeway over a culvert confirmed as the preferred option for the construction and operational phases, based on the technical and environmental assessments undertaken during and since Stage 2.
- Sea defence: designs for effective sea defence and landscape features were progressed since Stage 2.
- Training building: proposed location at Goose Hill (north of the main platform, adjacent to the main car park). This was also a new feature of the developing proposals.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- Emergency response equipment store and backup generator: equipment store proposed to enable rapid response to an emergency event, with a combined heat and power plant for the accommodation campus retained for backup power during operation. This was a change from Stage 2.
- Electrical connection: connection to the Grid via an overhead line within the Sizewell C main development site as further work had shown safety and programme risks associated with underground cables.
- Borrow pits: use of the proposed borrow pit field most visible from Eastbridge Road was discounted. At Stage 3 it was proposed to retain the three remaining fields from the four Stage 2 options for borrow pits.
- Electrical substation: a new substation, located east of Old Abbey Farm required to complete the electrical connection between the Leiston substation at Sizewell Wents, the emergency equipment store and the ancillary buildings.
- More details on the junction arrangement for the new access road with the B1122.

b) Transport

- Movement of materials: proposals for the movement of materials had developed significantly since Stage 2. At Stage 3 SZC Co. consulted on two alternative strategies to support freight movement:
 - rail-led: direct access into the main development site for five trains a day using the green rail route, and a road bypass of Theberton; or
 - road-led: a new Sizewell link road from the A12 to the B1122, and a FMF to the east of Ipswich, along with two trains a day to Sizewell Halt or a new rail siding at LEEIE throughout construction.
- Saxmundham to Leiston branch line: upgrades to nine level crossings (between the Saxmundham junction and Sizewell Halt) under both the rail-led and road-led strategies.
- East Suffolk line: significant improvements under the rail-led strategy, including upgrades of 33, and closure and diversion of 12, level crossings. It was identified that some improvements may be required for the road-led strategy, subject to further assessment with Network Rail.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- Sizewell Halt or new rail siding: use of the existing terminal known as Sizewell Halt or construction of a new rail siding on LEEIE on the same Saxmundham to Leiston branch line.
- Northern park and ride: at Darsham a new entrance to the site, more car parking spaces (although the size of the site remained the same), and revised landscaping was proposed.
- Southern park and ride: at Wickham Market, more car parking spaces were proposed although the size of the site remained the same, and two options to mitigate potential delays on the B1078 between Border Cot Lane and River Deben bridge that may occur as a result of the southern park and ride.
- Marine-led approach: SZC Co. confirmed that it was no longer considering a marine led strategy, due to the predicted impact on marine ecology of building a jetty. Measures to limit this impact would significantly increase construction time, would not fully address impacts, or meet the government-identified "urgent" need for new nuclear power stations. The BLF for sea deliveries of AILs remained proposed for construction and operation.

c) **Accommodation**

- Campus: at Stage 2 principal options had been presented. On the basis of feedback received and to reduce the perceived impact on the immediate local community, at Stage 3 all development related to the proposed 2,400-bed accommodation campus was proposed to be located to the east of Eastbridge Road. Only three-storey and four-storey (rather than up to five-storey as shown at Stage 2) accommodation buildings were proposed. Off-site sports facilities (in Leiston) were proposed to be shared with the community during construction and left as a legacy afterwards.
- Caravans: around 400 pitches proposed on LEEIE, available in the early years before the campus is established, and retained throughout construction as an option for workers.

d) **Road Improvements:**

- A12: following feedback on the four options presented at Stage 2, SZC Co. at Stage 3 proposed a bypass of both Farnham and Stratford St Andrew (a two village bypass), with key design changes predominantly aimed at reducing environmental impacts.

- Additional B1122 mitigation: proposed bypass to reduce the impact of peak construction traffic on the B1122 through Theberton. Under the rail-led strategy, the Theberton bypass would run from a point between Middleton Moor and Theberton, and end on the B1122 east of Theberton. Under the road-led strategy, the bypass would be known as the Sizewell link road. It would incorporate the route of the Theberton bypass, and extend further to also bypass Middleton Moor, joining the A12 south of Yoxford. This was a change to previous stages of consultation, where the use of the B1122 had been a significant concern to some local communities.

7.2.2 Further PEI was provided as part of the Stage 3 consultation, to provide stakeholders with an enhanced understanding of the environmental issues, as far as was known at that stage of the Sizewell C Project, and to enable respondents to give informed feedback.

7.3 Statement of community consultation

7.3.1 Under section 47 of the Act, the Stage 3 local community consultation was undertaken in accordance with the Updated SoCC (November 2016), provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report. Full details of its content and local authority feedback are provided in **Chapter 6** of this Report.

7.4 Who was consulted?

7.4.1 The following steps were taken:

- Duty to consult (section 42): SZC Co. was required to consult prescribed consultees (section 42(1)(a)), the MMO (section 42(1)(aa)), local authorities (section 42(1)(b)), and persons within one or more of the categories in section 44. In accordance with these requirements, a consultation letter was sent to section 42 consultees on 3 January 2019. The deadline for the submission of responses was 29 March 2019, exceeding the 28-day requirement - see **Appendix E.7** of this Report.¹⁸
- Duty to consult the local community (section 47): in line with section 47 of the Act, the Stage 3 consultation was carried out in accordance with the Updated SoCC, provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report. The local community within the Inner Area and Outer Area identified in the Updated SoCC- see **Plates 6.1** and **6.2** in **Chapter 6** of this Report - were consulted on the proposals through a range of methods (see **section 7.5** of this chapter) to ensure a thorough and robust approach.

¹⁸ Following the start of the Stage 3 consultation, SZC Co. wrote to a number of affected owners where further land interests and land titles had been identified. These consultees were allowed a minimum of 28 days to submit their comments on the Stage 3 proposals.

- Duty to publicise (section 48): There was no requirement to publish a notice under section 48 at Stage 3.

7.5 Consultation material and activities

7.5.1 The consultation material published at Stage 3 comprised the following documents:

- Consultation Summary Document: Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation (January 2019) - see **Appendix E.5** of this Report.
- Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 1 – Development Proposals (January 2019) - see **Appendix E.1** of this Report.
- Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 2A – PEI (January 2019) - see **Appendix E.2** of this Report.
- Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 2B – PEI (January 2019) - see **Appendix E.3** of this Report.
- Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation Document: Volume 3 – PEI Figures (January 2019) - see **Appendix E.4** of this Report.
- Consultation Questionnaire: Stage 3 Pre-Application Consultation (January 2019) - see **Appendix E.6** of this Report.

7.5.2 Copies of the consultation documents were made available to view during the consultation period in a number of locations in hard copy:

- at the exhibitions;
- at the Sizewell C information office (48–50 High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EW), which was open 09:30 to 17:00 Monday to Friday and Saturday 09:00 to 12:00;
- in the offices of SCC, SCDC, WDC, Leiston-Cum-Sizewell Town Council and Ipswich Borough Council and Norfolk County Council;
- at local public libraries; and
- on the Sizewell C Project website (<http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info>).

7.5.3 Copies of the Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire were sent to all the statutory consultees in hard and soft copy, and the main consultation document was sent in soft copy but hard copies were available upon request.

7.5.4 With cross reference to the requirements of the SoCC, **Table 7.1** provides an overview of the consultation activities at Stage 3:

Table 7.1: Stage 3 consultation activities and compliance with updated SoCC (November 2016)

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
4	Consultation will take place in three main stages, which may be supplemented by further stages of limited focussed consultation if considered necessary.	<p>As set out in Chapter 4 of this Report, the Stage 1 consultation was held from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013.</p> <p>As set out in Chapter 6 of this Report, the Stage 2 consultation was held from 23 November 2016 to 3 February 2017.</p> <p>As set out in this Chapter 7 of this Report, the Stage 3 consultation was held from 4 January to 29 March 2019.</p> <p>As set out in Chapter 8 of this Report, the Stage 4 consultation was held from 18 July to 27 September 2019, with targeted consultation held from 10 December 2019 to 31 January 2020 and 15 January to 13 February 2020.</p>
5	EDF Energy will confirm the dates for each stage of consultation and publicise these dates at least 10 working days in advance of the start of the relevant consultation period.	<p>The Stage 3 consultation dates were confirmed six weeks in advance of the consultation period starting in: the local media; local newspaper advertisements; in writing to SCC, SCDC and town and parish councils and other stakeholders; and through circulating a newsletter - see Appendix E.8 of this Report.</p> <p>This publicity included the dates and venues of the public exhibitions.</p>
5	The Stage 1 consultation ran for 11 weeks. Further stages of consultation will run for at least eight weeks but could be extended should the consultation run over a major public holiday.	Stage 3 consultation ran for 12 weeks (4 January 2019 to 29 March 2019).
5	After each stage of formal consultation, EDF Energy will summarise the main issues raised during the consultation and present this in its Sizewell C newsletter.	<p>SZC Co. issued a newsletter in July 2019 to over 38,000 homes and businesses within a ten-mile radius of Sizewell and the parishes near associated development sites provided in Appendix E.10 of this Report.</p> <p>As at Stage 1 and Stage 2, the newsletter summarised the main issues raised in the feedback to Stage 3 consultation. SZC Co. also presented a summary of the feedback received at every stage of formal public consultation to the Sizewell C community forum.</p>
5	EDF Energy will continue to engage with consultees in between the stages	Ongoing informal consultation with the local community and key stakeholders has taken place

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
	of consultation up to and beyond the submission of the application for development consent.	outside of the formal stages of consultation. Full details are provided in Chapter 9 of this Report.
5	EDF Energy will report on the consultation responses received during the pre-application phase in a Consultation Report, which will form part of the application for development consent.	Annexes E and F of the Consultation Report report on the consultation responses received at Stage 3.
6	While the views of those living, working or otherwise using the local areas closest to the proposed Sizewell C site and any associated development sites expressed through this consultation will be influential in developing proposals, EDF Energy will also have regard to the views of local authorities, other statutory consultees and members of the public.	<p>SZC Co. consulted with communities within the Inner Area and Outer Area. Responses from members of the public from outside of these areas were also taken into account.</p> <p>SZC Co. also engaged with local authorities and statutory consultees at Stage 3 and throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project.</p>
8	EDF Energy will produce a Consultation Summary Document and Consultation Document.	SZC Co. published these in January 2019 - see Appendices E.1, E.2, E.3, E.4 and E.5 of this Report.
8	EDF Energy will publicise the consultation programme, including information on how people can respond and reports on key project milestones, in the Sizewell C Project newsletter. The newsletter will be distributed to all homes and businesses within each parish that falls within the Inner Area Plan, as well as parishes that include any proposed associated development sites outside of this area.	<p>A consultation newsletter, provided in Appendix E.8 of this Report, was distributed on 4 January 2019 to 38,224 households and business addresses within the Inner Area Plan (see Plate 6.1) and parishes including associated development sites outside of this area. A copy was also emailed to approximately 2,400 email subscribers via the community information email info@sizewellc.co.uk</p> <p>The newsletter included information regarding the consultation programme; what to expect as part of the next round of consultation activities; details on public exhibitions; and how to respond to the consultation.</p> <p>Copies of the newsletters were made available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Sizewell C information office; • Sizewell B visitors centre; • Sizewell A visitors centre; • SCC; • SCDC; • WDC; • Ipswich Borough Council; • Lowestoft and Waveney Chamber; • Suffolk Chamber of Commerce;

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Norfolk County Council; EDF Energy Office, London; all public exhibitions; and on the Sizewell C Project website (https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c).
8	<p>EDF Energy will publicise the consultation and associated activities in the local media ahead of the formal public consultation stages and will update local broadcast and print media channels on its consultation activity.</p>	<p>Adverts of the Sizewell C Project and Stage 3 pre-application consultation were placed in the Aldeburgh Times, Southwold Organ, Woodbridge Talk, Leiston Observer, Sax News, Beccles and Bungay Independent, Harleston Community News, Ebb and Flow, Framlingham, Saxmundham and Alde Community News, Woodbridge and Melton Community News, East Anglian Daily Times, Ipswich Star, Waveney Advertiser, The Lowestoft Journal and Eastern Daily Press on 21, 22 and 23 November 2018 to announce the consultation and promote the exhibition schedule. See Appendix E.8 of this Report.</p> <p>Reminder adverts for the close of consultation period were published in the East Anglian Daily Times, Ipswich Star, Waveney Advertiser, The Lowestoft Journal and Eastern Daily Press on 14 and 15 March 2019 - see Appendix E.8 of this Report.</p> <p>All press releases were posted on the Sizewell C Project website, here: https://www.edfenergy.com/media-centre.</p>
8	<p>EDF Energy will hold exhibitions and events in support of formal stages of consultation. An early event will be held with the Sizewell Residents' Association for each stage of consultation.</p>	<p>14 public exhibitions were held across East Suffolk to present information about the Sizewell C Project proposals, to allow the public to ask questions of SZC Co. staff and to encourage responses to the Stage 3 pre-application consultation.</p> <p>Exhibitions were held at the following locations at different times throughout the day to allow for school and work schedules, in order for the greatest number of people to attend:</p> <p>Visitor Centre, Sizewell B, Friday 4 January 2019, 16:00 to 20:00 – Sizewell Residents' Association invited;</p> <p>Leiston United Church, High Street, Leiston IP16 4EL, 5 January 2019 11:00 to 17:00;</p> <p>Theberton, Jubilee Hall, 7 January 2019 11:00 to 17:00;</p> <p>Yoxford, Village hall, 8 January 2019 11:00 to 17:00;</p>

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
		<p>Darsham, High Lodge, 9 January 2019, 14:00 to 20:00;</p> <p>Hacheston, Village Hall, 10 January 2019, 14:00 to 20:00;</p> <p>Wickham Market, Village Hall, 11 January 2019, 14:00 to 20:00;</p> <p>Saxmundham, Market Hall, 12 January 2019, 10:00 to 16:00;</p> <p>Woodbridge, Community Hall, 15 January 2019, 10:00 to 16:00;</p> <p>Middleton, Village Hall, 16 January 2019, 11:00 to 17:00;</p> <p>Southwold, Methodist Church Hall, 17 January 2019, 11:00 to 17:00;</p> <p>Aldeburgh, Community Centre, 18 January 2019, 11:00 to 19:00;</p> <p>Stratford St Andrew, Riverside Centre, 19 January 2019, 10:00 to 16:00; and</p> <p>Trimley St Martin, Trimley Sports and Social Club, Tuesday 22 January 2019, 11:00 to 17:00.</p>
8	<p>Town and parish councils can request meetings and presentations during the public consultation programme, which EDF Energy will seek to accommodate where possible. This is in addition to the support being offered to the town and parish councils from Planning Aid England to empower them in their involvement in the consultation process.</p>	<p>To support parishes within the Inner Area and Outer Area, packs including a letter, flyers and posters were sent directly to parish councils informing them of the consultation and asking them to promote it to their community.</p> <p>A copy of the Consultation Document and a box of Consultation Summary Documents and Questionnaires were also sent to local libraries within the Inner Area and Outer Area.</p> <p>Below is a list of councils that requested additional meetings and presentations during Stage 3 consultation and the dates these meetings took place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bealings and Playford Parish Council on 5 March 2019; • Benhall and Sternfield Parish Council Planning Committee on 1 March 2019; • Blythburgh Parish Council on 12 March 2019; • Bramfield and Thorington Parish Council on 18 February 2019; • Cookley and Walpole Parish Council on 18 February 2019; • Campsea Ashe Parish Council on 18 March 2019; • Dennington Parish Council on 25 February 2019;

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunwich Parish Meeting on 22 February 2019; • Hacheston Parish Council on 21 February 2019; • Halesworth Town Council on 11 March 2019; • Ipswich Borough Council on 27 February 2019; • Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council on 30 January 2019; • Leiston Town Council on 19 February 2019; • Melton Parish Council on 15 February 2019; • Middleton Parish Council on 12 February 2019; • Nacton Parish Council on 21 March 2019; • Sudbourne Parish Council on 22 January 2019; • Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council on 13 February 2019; • Ufford Parish Council on 19 March 2019; • Wickham Market Parish Council on 4 March 2019; • Walberswick Parish Council on 4 February 2019; and • Yoxford Parish Council on 5 February 2019. <p>As at Stage 2 SZC Co. funded an independent service to provide help and advise parish and town councils as they prepared their responses to the consultation. The Planning Aid England service continued at Stage 3 and they held introductory sessions with groups of parishes and individual workshops during the course of Stage 3.</p>
8	<p>Some villages or towns which are not locations for exhibitions, or those communities which require more opportunities to engage with the EDF Energy Team, may find 'drop-in' sessions useful. EDF Energy will seek to accommodate any requests where possible. These sessions would operate like surgeries, where local people can have discussions with members of the team.</p>	<p>Additional events were organised to inform a wider demographic of the consultation proposals, and support those who may not be able to access mainstream communication channels or to attend any of the public exhibitions.</p> <p>SZC Co. also partnered with local charity, Rural Coffee Caravan, to host a further six information sessions (listed below) for rural communities that may have not been able to attend any other public meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knodishall; • Campsea Ashe; • Easton; • Rendham; • Thorpeness; and • Tunstall.

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
		<p>Part of the Stage 3 consultation engagement plan was to visit local schools within the area, to inform students of the socio-economic, educational and skills, and employability benefits of the Sizewell C Project. The Sizewell C Project Team visited nine immediate neighbouring schools during the formal consultation stage. These were Alde Valley Academy, Farlingaye High School, Ipswich Academy, Ipswich School, Saxmundham Free School, Lowestoft College, Suffolk New College on the Coast, Sir John Leman High School and West Suffolk College.</p> <p>The drop-in sessions included copies of the Consultation Document, Consultation Summary Document including the Questionnaire, and easy read versions of the Consultation Summary Document. All documentation was made available in 27 different languages upon request – but no such requests were received.</p>
8	<p>EDF Energy has consulted a number of organisations which represent 'hard-to-reach' stakeholders (i.e. demographic groups that do not usually engage in consultation activity, as well as people with disabilities who may have problems accessing the consultation information). Following the feedback received, home visits, bespoke presentations and advertorials in specific publications are among some of the actions which will be considered by EDF Energy in order to provide opportunities for such groups to engage in the consultation process.</p>	<p>SZC Co. produced a recorded version of the Stage 3 Consultation Summary Document and an easy-read version. SZC Co. advertised the consultation to members of the following organisations in literature and mailouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age UK Suffolk; • Community Action Suffolk – Young People; • East Suffolk Association for the Blind; • Suffolk Deaf Association; • Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality; • Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum; and • Suffolk Hearing Advisory Service. <p>No home visits were requested but a presentation followed by a Q&A session with the Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum took place on 8 January 2019.</p>
8	<p>All consultation material will be available to download from the Sizewell C Project website (www.sizewellc.co.uk). Consultees will be able to submit their feedback in hard copy by post or via an online form. Information about all exhibitions will also be available online.</p>	<p>During Stage 3 there was a dedicated Sizewell C website (www.sizewellc.co.uk) to host all of the details for Stages 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p>This has since been re-directed and merged as part of the main SZC Co. site, with its own dedicated section, here: https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c. Content was also still accessible through www.sizewellc.co.uk.</p> <p>The website contained all of the consultation documents and the details of the Stage 3 consultation events, including venues, dates and</p>

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
		times and directed visitors to the online form so they could complete their response online.
8	Sizewell C has a Twitter account and followers will be updated on the latest events and news during the public consultation: @edfesizewellc.	SZC Co. continued to use Twitter (@edfesizewellc) as part of the Stage 3 consultation activities. Tweets were posted for each consultation event including exhibitions, in addition to sharing press coverage, clips from the Stage 3 Computer-Generated Imagery, promotion of documents and encouraging the followers to get involved.
8	EDF Energy has set up a Sizewell C Community Forum which meets on a roughly biannual basis. It considers issues that might affect the local community as a result of EDF Energy’s planning proposals, principally those arising from the development of a new power station on land to the north of Sizewell B, and any associated development. Consideration of the principle of building new nuclear power stations is not within the scope of the forum. The membership is made up of representatives from the local community and local stakeholder organisations.	The Sizewell C Community Forum met on 23 January 2019, and the SZC Co. Team presented the Stage 3 proposals and answered questions from members.
9	Public exhibitions will be held in the parishes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston-cum-Sizewell; • Theberton & Eastbridge; • Hacheston; • Stratford St Andrew with Farnham; • Darsham; • Middleton; • Westleton; • Marlesford; • Wickham Market; • Campsea Ashe; • Saxmunham; • Melton; • Woodbridge; • Blythburgh; • Aldeburgh; • Southwold; 	Public exhibitions were held in the parishes listed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldeburgh; • Darsham; • Hacheston; • Leiston; • Middleton; • Saxmundham; • Sizewell; • Southwold; • Stratford St Andrew; • Theberton; • Trimley St Martin; • Wickham Market; • Woodbridge; and • Yoxford. <p>All of the exhibitions above were located close to those parishes listed in the Updated SoCC where an exhibition did not take place and the choice of</p>

Page No.	Updated SOCC	Relevant Stage 3 Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snape; • Halesworth; • Rendlesham; • Lowestoft; and • Ipswich. 	<p>venues was informed through discussions with the parish councils. Presentations and Q&A sessions with the parish councils and members of the public took place in Blythburgh (12 March 2019), Halesworth (11 March 2019), Rendlesham (4 March 2019 – this included a drop-in event). In the case of Ipswich, this was at a meeting of the full Ipswich Borough Council on 27 February 2019. Very few members of the public visited the Stage 1 and 2 exhibitions in Ipswich and Lowestoft. Therefore, meetings with business and civic leaders took place in Ipswich and Lowestoft on 11 and 14 March 2019 respectively.</p>
9	Additional workshops and focus groups may be carried out if necessary.	This additional activity was not deemed necessary given the events and exhibitions listed above.

7.5.5 In addition to the above, information was made available throughout the Stage 3 consultation period at the Sizewell C public information office in Leiston. This included the Consultation Document, Summary Document, Questionnaire and Computer Generated Imagery of the proposed development.

7.6 Ways that feedback was received

7.6.1 To optimise the response rate from statutory consultees and across the local community, those consulted were able to respond to the Stage 3 consultation in a variety of ways, including by:

- completing a questionnaire either online (www.sizewellc.co.uk) or by free post;
- emailing sizewell@edfconsultation.info;
- posting comments to the free post address; and
- calling 0800 197 6102 during normal office hours.

7.6.2 The online system was closed at midnight on the final day of the consultation period. A period of one week after the deadline was, however, permitted to allow for postal delays.

7.6.3 A total of 11,311 responses were received in response to the Stage 3 consultation. **Table 7.2** shows the number of responses received via each of the possible methods of providing feedback:

Table 7.2: Responses received by method

Response Type	Count
Online Questionnaire.	379
Paper Questionnaire.	280
Email / Letter.	10,652
Telephone	0
Total Responses.	11,311

7.6.4 The Questionnaire asked consultees to answer 15 questions, but explained that consultees were welcome to answer as many or as few of the questions as they like - see **Appendix E.6** of this Report. **Table 7.3** sets out the number of responses received in relation to each question.

Table 7.3: Stage 3 consultation questions and number of responses

	Question within Questionnaire	Number of Responses
1.	Sizewell C Proposals: Overall What are your views on EDF Energy’s proposals to build a new nuclear power station, Sizewell C, and associated development?	620
2.	Main Development Site: Overall What are your views on our proposals for the main development site?	519
3.	People and Economy Do you have any comments on our people and economy proposals, including our approach to education, training, local supply chain opportunities, tourism, and managing community and social impacts of Sizewell C?	491
4.	Accommodation: Overall Strategy What are your views on our overall Accommodation Strategy?	498
5.	Accommodation: Temporary Campus and Caravan Site Please tell us your views on our temporary accommodation proposals.	460
6.	Transport: Movement of Materials Views sought the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rail-led strategy. • Road-led strategy. 	517
7.	Transport: Sizewell Halt or New Rail Siding Views sought on the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: reconfiguration of the existing Sizewell Halt rail terminal south of King George’s Avenue to accommodate longer trains and an overhead conveyor system to move material over King George’s Avenue into LEEIE. • Option 2: a new rail siding adjacent to the existing branch line on the LEEIE. 	324

	Question within Questionnaire	Number of Responses
8.	<p>Transport: Rail-Led Strategy, Buckleswood Road</p> <p>Views sought on the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: temporary closure of Buckleswood Road to vehicles with a new footbridge to provide a pedestrian connection. • Option 2: a new level crossing on Buckleswood Road. 	281
9.	<p>Transport: Level Crossings</p> <p>Please tell us your views on our Saxmundham to Leiston level crossings proposals.</p>	346
10.	<p>Transport: Level Crossings (Rail-Led)</p> <p>Please tell us your views on our East Suffolk line level crossings proposals.</p>	383
11.	<p>Transport: Road-Led Strategy, FMF</p> <p>Views sought the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: a site of approximately 9.9 hectares (ha) close to the A12/A14 Seven Hills Junction which would be accessed off the Old Felixstowe Road. • Option 2: a site of approximately 9ha at Innocence Farm, located immediately to the north of the A14. 	333
12.	<p>Transport: Park and Ride</p> <p>Northern park and ride - Darsham - Do you have any views on our northern park and ride proposals?</p> <p>Southern park and ride - Wickham Market / Wickham Market mitigation - Please explain your views on the options. Please also tell us if you have any views on our southern park and ride proposals.</p>	378 328
13.	<p>Transport: A12 Two Village Bypass</p> <p>Do you have any comments on our proposal for a bypass of Farnham and Stratford St Andrew?</p>	432
14.	<p>Transport: Road Improvements</p> <p>Please provide comments on any or all of our proposed road improvements. Please specify the improvements to which your comments refer.</p>	364
15.	<p>Consultation Process</p> <p>Please let us know if you have any comments about the consultation process.</p>	381

7.7 Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it

7.7.1 As with Stages 1 and 2, SZC Co. undertook a careful review of the Stage 3 consultation responses received in accordance with the PINS Advice Note 14.

7.7.2 Two sets of ‘issues tables’ are provided at **Annex E** of this Report. These set out an ‘issues-led’ review of the comments received from:

- section 42 statutory consultees.
 - section 47 local community consultees.
- 7.7.3** An issues table dedicated to section 48 responses has not been prepared as there was no requirement to publish a notice under section 48 at Stage 3.
- 7.7.4** The tables are organised under themed headings. The themes are largely derived from different elements of the proposals or site options; and, beneath these, sub-themes correspond with the chapters of the **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** (where consultation responses were submitted concerning that theme).
- 7.7.5** To avoid repetition, where the same comment or issue was raised by section 42 and section 47 consultees, this is denoted in bold and shaded in grey in the section 42 tables, and not repeated in the section 47 tables.
- 7.7.6** See paragraph 4.8.6 of **Chapter 4** of this Report for an explanation of the process adopted in preparing these tables.
- 7.7.7** Key points raised by prescribed consultees, local authorities and town and parish councils are summarised in **Annex F** of this Report. The annex also includes a summary of the comments raised by section 42(1)(d) consultees, arranged by theme. All issues raised by these bodies have been captured and responded to by SZC Co. in the issues tables at **Annex E** of this Report.
- 7.8** **Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 3 consultation**
- 7.8.1** In response to the Stage 3 consultation feedback received, and further technical and environmental work, a number of changes were made to the Sizewell C Project by SZC Co. This includes changes to the design of the development, the transport strategy and proposed mitigation measures. Full details of the reasons why these changes were made are set out in the Site Selection Report, appended to the **Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4).
- 7.8.2** The changes are explained in detail within the issues tables at **Annex E** of this Report. They can be summarised as follows:
- There were a number of elements introduced at Stage 3 which had evolved from engineering and environmental assessments. The training centre located at Goose Hill caused some respondents to suggest that an alternative location outside the area of outstanding natural beauty would be better. However, a training facility needs to be in close proximity to the operating station. SZC Co. recognised that the training centre would need to be of a design befitting its location.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- The overground pylons caused some respondents concern over their visual impact. SZC Co. subsequently worked further on proposals to reduce the height of the pylons, and introduced two options aimed at achieving this at Stage 4.
- The RSPB's campaign 'Love Minsmere' prompted many responses, alongside the campaigns of anti-nuclear groups. The concerns raised in the campaign included the impact on wildlife, the coast, groundwater levels and on Minsmere Nature Reserve as a business. The Sizewell C Project team met with RSPB Minsmere at Stage 3, and undertook a number of workshops on these issues with the organisation, which continued beyond Stage 3 and helped inform mitigation proposals presented at Stage 4, particularly for ground-nesting birds.
- Respondents wanted more details on the employment and training opportunities referred to in the socio-economic chapter of the Stage 3 Consultation Document. Concerns were also raised about impacts on tourism. SZC Co. subsequently published more details at Stage 4 and undertook a substantial tourism survey, with input from the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Destination Management Organisation.
- Transport and the movement of materials was the main issue for many respondents. The rail-led strategy was the preference of many communities and statutory stakeholders. SZC Co. therefore retained the rail-led strategy, as well as the road-led strategy, in its Stage 4 consultation. However, in light of feedback and ongoing technical and environmental assessments, SZC Co. also introduced a new integrated strategy, which combined elements of both strategies.
- Communities living along the East Suffolk line raised concerns over the closure of pedestrian crossings and the diversion routes presented for public rights of way (PRoW). After Stage 3, SZC Co. continued to work with SCC to develop appropriate diversion proposals where PRoW must be closed to ensure public safety during construction and operation. The integrated option presented at Stage 4 would mean that there could be more rail deliveries than the road-led strategy without works requiring pedestrian closures on the East Suffolk line.
- A new rail-siding at LEEIE rather than continued use of Sizewell Halt (which would involve crossing King Georges Avenue) was preferred by respondents. SZC Co. continued to consult on both options, but also added a new option which would involve the construction of a new railhead extended into the middle of the LEEIE site. This would also avoid the crossing of King George's Avenue.

- At Buckleswood Road a new level crossing was supported by respondents over stopping up the road. SZC Co. took this option forward.
- The two village bypass of Farnham and Stratford St Andrew was supported by key stakeholders, including local authorities. SZC Co.'s proposals for the two village bypass remained unchanged at Stage 4 except for some minor changes to the proposed development boundary in response to feedback and further environmental studies.
- The bypass of Theberton under the rail-led strategy received a mixed response. There was a strong request to avoid stopping up Pretty Road, which SZC Co. responded to in the Stage 4 proposals. Similar access and egress issues were raised regarding the Sizewell link road. In response, SZC Co. engaged with stakeholders to determine the most appropriate roads to access from the route, and which roads would be required to be stopped up.
- The Sizewell link road was supported by some respondents but many others, including parishes along the B1122, suggested the route was too close the existing road and should be located further to the south. Following Stage 3, SZC Co. commissioned a review of the respective routes to consider if the preferred route was the best option. The conclusion of this work confirmed that the route proposed for Sizewell link road was appropriate.
- A number of respondents wanted to see a full ES prior to submission of the DCO application. SZC Co. is however confident that the PEI provided during consultation was sufficient to enable respondents to gain an informed view of the proposed development and provide meaningful feedback. A full **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** is submitted with this DCO application.

8. Stage 4 Pre-Application Consultation: 18 July – 27 September 2019

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 This chapter explains SZC Co.'s approach to the Stage 4 pre-application consultation. As with the chapters dealing with Stages 1, 2 and 3, this chapter provides an overview of the content of the Stage 4 consultation and explains:

- who SZC Co. consulted;
- the consultation material and activities undertaken;

- the ways that feedback was received;
- the feedback themes and how SZC Co. had regard to them; and
- the changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 4 consultation.

8.1.2 Stage 4 commenced on 18 July 2019. Following the Stage 3 consultation, SZC Co.'s team of technical and environmental specialists undertook further work to inform the evolution of the proposals, taking into account the Stage 3 consultation feedback. The updated scheme proposals and options were consulted on at Stage 4. Consultation was carried out between 18 July 2019 and 27 September 2019.

8.1.3 Minor changes were proposed to the Order Limits following the close of the Stage 4 consultation. Targeted consultation under section 42 of the Act was therefore undertaken with affected consultees who were provided with the consultation materials for Stage 4 and were consulted for a minimum of 28 days, as follows:

- 10 December 2019 to 31 January 2020: as a result of proposed changes to the Order Limits relating to the two village bypass and Saxmundham to Leiston branch line, persons with an interest in the land were consulted under section 42 - see **section 8.7** below.
- 15 January to 13 February 2020: as a result of proposed changes to the Order Limits at the main development site in respect of proposals for a water storage area, persons with an interest in the land were consulted under section 42 - see **section 8.8** below. Informal consultation was also carried out with relevant key stakeholders - see **Chapter 9** of this Report.

8.2 Content of consultation

8.2.1 The purpose of the Stage 4 consultation was to provide an update on some of the proposals that had changed since Stage 3 and to introduce an alternative, third option for moving materials on and off-site during the construction period (the Integrated Strategy). Stage 4 consultation focused on a limited set of issues and proposals.

8.2.2 These proposals emerged in light of feedback at Stage 3, ongoing engagement with stakeholders, further technical and environmental assessments, close working with Network Rail, and learnings from Hinkley Point C.

8.2.3 At the time of the Stage 4 consultation, SZC Co. was also continuing to consider the proposals and options in the Stage 3 consultation before

deciding on the proposals for which development consent would be sought. Feedback was therefore welcomed on both the Stage 3 and Stage 4 proposals during the Stage 4 consultation period.

8.2.4 In addition, the consultation sought views on the refined plans and new proposals below, which related principally to the transport of freight to and from the main development site and the provision of additional land to compensate for environmental impacts. The principal features of the consultation included:

a) **Main development site**

- Minor red line changes to include an alternative entrance roundabout layout.
- Minor red line changes to include land necessary for National Grid's electricity pylons.
- Two new options presented for the Sizewell C electricity pylons.
- A new option for the rail head on LEEIE.
- Minor red line changes to accommodate public rights of way diversions.
- Minor red line changes to amend the off-site sport facilities.
- Minor red line changes to include Round House.
- Minor red line changes to include Kenton Hills car park.
- Proposed sites for ecological compensation land for marsh harriers following workshops and discussions with relevant statutory stakeholders, and environmental surveys and assessments.
- Proposed sites for ecological compensation land for fen meadows following workshops and discussions with statutory stakeholders and environmental surveys and assessments.
- Proposed sites for flood compensation land following workshops and discussions with relevant statutory stakeholders and environmental surveys and assessments.

b) **Transport**

- Freight management strategy: an alternative freight management strategy option – the “integrated strategy”.

- Green rail route and other rail improvements: red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.
- Sizewell link road: red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement and consideration of whether all or part of the Sizewell link road should be temporary only.
- Theberton bypass: red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.
- Two village bypass: red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.
- Northern park and ride (Darsham): red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.
- Southern park and ride (Wickham Market): description of an alternative approach for managing traffic impacts through Wickham Market. Red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.
- FMF: red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.
- Yoxford roundabout and other highway improvements: red line changes as a result of design development and stakeholder engagement.

8.3 Statement of community consultation

8.3.1 Under section 47 of the Act, the Stage 4 consultation was undertaken in accordance with the approach set out within the Updated SoCC (November 2016), provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report. Full details of the content of the Updated SoCC, and local authority feedback are provided in **Chapter 6** of this Report.

8.4 Who was consulted

8.4.1 The following steps were taken:

- Duty to consult (section 42): SZC Co. was required to consult prescribed consultees (section 42(1)(a)), the MMO (section 42(1)(aa)), local authorities (section 42(1)(b)), and persons within one or more categories in section 44. In accordance with these requirements, a consultation letter was sent to section 42 consultees on 16 July 2019. The consultation ran from 18 July to 27 September 2019, with the deadline for the submission of responses exceeding the 28-day

requirement - see **Appendix F.3** of this Report: section 42 sample letters.¹⁹

- Duty to consult the local community (section 47): in line with section 47 of the Act, the Stage 4 consultation was carried out in accordance with the Updated SoCC provided in **Appendix D.6** of this Report. The local community within the Inner Area and Outer Area identified in the Updated SoCC, seen in **Plates 6.1** and **6.2** in **Chapter 6** of this Report, were consulted on the proposals through a range of methods - see **section 8.5** of this chapter, to ensure a thorough and robust approach.
- Duty to publicise (section 48): SZC Co. published a notice summarising the main proposals and setting out details of the proposed consultation, including the deadline for the receipt of responses, in local and national newspapers. The content and publication of the section 48 notice was compliant with regulation 4 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. See **Appendix F.4** of this Report for a copy of the notices. As required by regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations 2017, a copy of the section 48 notice was sent to the consultation bodies. The PINS has not notified SZC Co. of any Regulation 11(1)(c) bodies. The section 48 notice was made available for inspection at the local libraries as listed in **Chapter 2** of this Report. The section 48 notice was published on the following dates:
 - East Anglian Daily Times: 18 and 25 July 2019.
 - Fishing News: 24 July 2019.
 - Lloyds List: 18 July 2019.
 - The London Gazette: 18 July 2019.
 - The Times: 18 July 2019.

8.5 Consultation material and activities

8.5.1 The consultation material published at Stage 4 comprised the following documents to ensure that sufficient information was provided to enable consultees to provide an informed response:

- Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document (July 2019) (**Appendix F.1**).
- Stage 4 Consultation Document (July 2019) (including preliminary environmental information; **Appendix F.2**).

¹⁹ Following the start of the Stage 4 consultation, SZC Co. wrote to a number of affected owners where the original consultation letters had not been received (eg because an incorrect address had been used or the letter was not collected) or further land interests and land titles had been identified. These consultees were allowed a minimum of 28 days to submit their comments on the Stage 4 proposals.

- Stage 4 Consultation Questionnaire (July 2019) (**Appendix F.6**).

8.5.2 Copies of the consultation documents were made available to view during the consultation period in a number of locations in hard copy:

- at the exhibitions;
- at the Sizewell C Information Office (48–50 High Street, Leiston, IP16 4EW), which was open 09:30 to 17:00 Monday to Friday and Saturdays 9:00 to 12:00;
- in the offices of Suffolk County Council (SCC), East Suffolk Council (ESC), Ipswich Borough Council, Leiston-Cum-Sizewell Town Council and Norfolk County Council;
- at local public libraries; and
- on the Sizewell C Project website (<http://sizewell.edfenergyconsultation.info>).

8.5.3 Copies of the Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire were sent to all statutory consultees in hard copy. Soft copies of the Stage 4 Consultation Document, Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document and Questionnaire and the Stage 3 consultation materials were sent to all the statutory consultees as well, with hard copies available upon request.

8.5.4 With cross reference to the requirements of the SoCC, **Table 8.1** provides an overview of the consultation activities at Stage 4.

Table 8.1: Stage 4 consultation activities and compliance with updated Statement of Community Consultation (November 2016)

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	Relevant Stage 4 Activities
4	Consultation will take place in three main stages, which may be supplemented by further stages of limited focussed consultation if considered necessary.	As set out in Chapter 4 the Stage 1 consultation was held from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013. As set out in Chapter 6 , the Stage 2 consultation was held from 23 November 2016 to 3 February 2017. As set out in Chapter 7 , the Stage 3 consultation was held from 4 January to 29 March 2019. The Stage 4 consultation was held from 18 July to 27 September 2019. Stage 4 consultation focused on a limited set of issues and proposals as described in section 8.2 of this chapter. Following the close of Stage 4, targeted consultation was held from 10 December 2019 to 31 January 2020 and 15 January to 13 February 2020, as described in sections 8.7 and 8.8.

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	Relevant Stage 4 Activities
4	EDF Energy will confirm the dates for each stage of consultation and publicise these dates at least ten working days in advance of the start of the relevant consultation period.	The Stage 4 consultation dates were confirmed two weeks in advance of the consultation period starting in: the local media; local newspaper advertisements; in writing to SCC, ESC and town and parish councils and other stakeholders; and through circulating a newsletter (see Appendix F.5). This publicity included the dates and venues of the public exhibitions.
5	The Stage 1 consultation ran for 11 weeks. Further stages of consultation will run for at least eight weeks but could be extended should the consultation run over a major public holiday.	Stage 4 consultation ran for ten weeks (18 July 2019 to 27 September 2019).
5	After each stage of formal consultation, EDF Energy will summarise the main issues raised during the consultation and present this in its Sizewell C newsletter.	SZC Co. sent a newsletter to homes and businesses within a ten-miles radius of Sizewell, and in parishes neighbouring associated development sites further away, such as the freight management facility sites. This was sent in January 2020 (see Appendix F.10).
5	EDF Energy will continue to engage with consultees in between the stages of consultation up to and beyond the submission of the application for development consent.	Ongoing informal consultation with the local community and key stakeholders has taken place outside of the formal stages of consultation. Full details are provided in Chapter 9 of this Report.
5	EDF Energy will report on the consultation responses received during the pre-application phase in a Consultation Report, which will form part of the application for development consent.	Annexes G and H of the Consultation Report on the consultation responses received at Stage 4 and the two targeted consultations.
6	While the views of those living, working or otherwise using the local areas closest to the proposed Sizewell C site and any associated development sites expressed through this consultation will be influential in developing proposals, EDF Energy will also have regard to the views of local authorities, other statutory consultees and members of the public.	SZC Co. consulted with communities within the Inner Area and Outer Area. Responses from members of the public from outside of these areas were also taken into account. SZC Co. also engaged with local authorities and statutory consultees at Stage 4 and throughout the evolution of the Sizewell C Project.
8	EDF Energy will produce a Consultation Summary Document and Consultation Document.	SZC Co. published these in July 2019 (see Appendices F.1 and F.2).
8	EDF Energy will publicise the consultation programme, including information on how people can respond and reports on key project	A notice of consultation newsletter (see Appendix F.5) was distributed on 3 July 2019. Copies of the newsletters were sent to over 42,782 homes within the Inner Area and the parishes near associated

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	Relevant Stage 4 Activities
	<p>milestones, in the Sizewell C Project newsletter. The newsletter will be distributed to all homes and businesses within each parish that falls within the Inner Area Plan, as well as parishes that include any proposed associated development sites outside of this area.</p>	<p>development sites beyond this area, such as the freight management facility sites.</p> <p>The newsletter included information regarding the consultation programme; what to expect as part of the next round of consultation activities; details on public exhibitions; and how to respond to the consultation.</p> <p>Copies of the newsletters were also made available at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Sizewell C Information Office; • Sizewell B Visitors Centre; • Sizewell A Visitors Centre; • Suffolk County Council; • East Suffolk Council; • Suffolk Coastal District Council; • Waveney District Council; • Ipswich Borough Council; • Lowestoft and Waveney Chamber; • Suffolk Chamber of Commerce; • Norfolk County Council; • EDF Energy Office, London; • at all public exhibitions; and • on the Sizewell C Project website (https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c).
8	<p>EDF Energy will publicise the consultation and associated activities in the local media ahead of the formal public consultation stages and will update local broadcast and print media channels on its consultation activity.</p>	<p>Adverts of the Sizewell C Project and the Stage 4 consultation were in the East Anglian Daily Times (18 and 25 July 2019), Fishing News (24 July 2019), Lloyd's List (18 July 2019), The London Gazette (18 July 2019) and The Times (18 July 2019) to announce the consultation and promote the exhibition schedule (see Appendix F.4). The press release for the Stage 4 consultation was sent to local broadcast media and the start of Stage 4 consultation was featured in the news on BBC Radio Suffolk on 18 July 2019</p>
8	<p>EDF Energy will hold exhibitions and events in support of formal stages of consultation. An early event will be held with the Sizewell Residents' Association for each stage of consultation.</p>	<p>Six public exhibitions were held across East Suffolk to present information about the Sizewell C Project proposals, to allow the public to ask questions of SZC Co. staff and to encourage responses to the Stage 4 pre-application consultation.</p> <p>Exhibitions were held at the following locations at different times throughout the day to allow for school and work schedules, in order for the greatest number of people to attend:</p>

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	of Relevant Stage 4 Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston United Church, High Street, Leiston IP16 4EL, 23 July 2019, 14:00 to 20:00; • Yoxford, Village hall, 24 July 2019, 13:00 to 18:00; • Wickham market, Village Hall, 25 July 2019, 12:00 to 15:00; • Hacheston, Village Hall, 25 July 2019, 17:00 to 20:00; • Woodbridge, Community Hall, 26 July 2019, 14:00 to 20:00; and • Stratford St Andrew, Riverside Centre, 27 July 2019, 10:00 to 16:00. <p>An exhibition was also held at Sizewell Sports and Social Club on Friday 19 July 2019 13:00 – 15:00. This exhibition was for the Sizewell Residents' Association.</p>
8	<p>Town and parish councils can request meetings and presentations during the public consultation programme, which EDF Energy will seek to accommodate where possible. This is in addition to the support being offered to the town and parish councils from Planning Aid England to empower them in their involvement in the consultation process.</p>	<p>To support parishes within the Inner Area and Outer Area, packs including a letter, flyers and posters were sent directly to parish councils informing them of the consultation and asking them to promote it to their community.</p> <p>A copy of the Consultation Document, and a box of Consultation Summary Documents and Questionnaires, were also sent to local libraries within the Inner Area and Outer Area.</p> <p>Below is a list of councils that requested additional meetings and presentations during Stage 4 consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council – 14 August 2019; • Levington Parish Council – 21 August 2019; • Sizewell Residents' Association – 28 August 2019; and • Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council – 3 September 2019. <p>Wickham Market Parish Council requested and were sent consultation materials for a public meeting they were holding independently on 4 September 2019.</p> <p>Planning Aid England once again was funded by SZC Co. to provide an independent advice service to town and parish councils for Stage 4.</p>

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	Relevant Stage 4 Activities
8	<p>Some villages or towns which are not locations for exhibitions, or those communities which require more opportunities to engage with the EDF Energy Team, may find ‘drop-in’ sessions useful. EDF Energy will seek to accommodate any requests where possible. These sessions would operate like surgeries, where local people can have discussions with members of the team.</p>	<p>Drop-in sessions were held at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESC Offices, Canning Road, Lowestoft – 4 July 2019; • Ipswich Borough Council Offices, Grafton Road, Ipswich – 5 July 2019. <p>There were no other requests for drop-in sessions,</p>
8	<p>EDF Energy has consulted a number of organisations which represent ‘hard-to-reach’ stakeholders (i.e. demographic groups that do not usually engage in consultation activity, as well as people with disabilities who may have problems accessing the consultation information). Following the feedback received, home visits, bespoke presentations and advertorials in specific publications are among some of the actions which will be considered by EDF Energy in order to provide opportunities for such groups to engage in the consultation process.</p>	<p>SZC Co. produced an easy-read version of the Stage 4 Consultation Summary Document. SZC Co. advertised the consultation to members of the following organisations in literature and mailouts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age UK Suffolk; • Community Action Suffolk – Young People; • East Suffolk Association for the Blind; • Suffolk Deaf Association; • Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality; • Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum; and • Suffolk Hearing Advisory Service. <p>There were no requests for home visits or bespoke presentations for this stage of consultation.</p>
8	<p>All consultation material will be available to download from the project website (www.sizewellc.co.uk). Consultees will be able to submit their feedback in hard copy by post or via an online form. Information about all exhibitions will also be available online.</p>	<p>During Stage 4 there was a dedicated Sizewell C website here: https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c. Content could still be accessed through www.sizewellc.co.uk.</p> <p>Consultees were able to submit their feedback in hard copy to the Freepost address and online. The online questionnaire was accessible via a link from the Sizewell C website.</p> <p>The website contained all of the consultation documents and the details of the Stage 4 consultation events, including venues, dates and times.</p>

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	Relevant Stage 4 Activities
8	Sizewell C has a Twitter account and followers will be updated on the latest events and news during the public consultation: @edfesizewellc.	SZC Co. continued to use Twitter (@edfesizewellc) as part of the Stage 4 consultation activities. Tweets were posted for each of the consultation events; including exhibitions, in addition to sharing press coverage, clips from the Stage 4 Computer-Generated Imagery, promotion of documents and encouraging the followers to get involved.
8	EDF Energy has set up a Sizewell C Community Forum which meets on a roughly biannual basis. It considers issues that might affect the local community as a result of EDF Energy's planning proposals, principally those arising from the development of a new power station on land to the north of Sizewell B and any associated development. Consideration of the principle of building new nuclear power stations is not within the scope of the forum. The membership is made up of representatives from the local community and local stakeholder organisations.	The Sizewell C Community Forum met on 3 July 2019 to announce the Stage 4 consultation and answered questions from members. The Sizewell C Community Forum met again in December 2019, and the SZC Co. Team presented a summary of the Stage 4 feedback and answered questions from members.
9	Public exhibitions will be held in the parishes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston-cum-Sizewell; • Theberton & Eastbridge • Hacheston; • Stratford St Andrew with Farnham; • Darsham; • Middleton; • Westleton; • Marlesford; • Wickham Market; • Campsea Ashe; • Saxmunham; • Melton; • Woodbridge; • Blythburgh; • Aldeburgh; • Southwold; • Snape; 	Public exhibitions were held in the below parishes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leiston; • Yoxford; • Wickham Market; • Hacheston; • Woodbridge; and • Stratford St Andrew. <p>The Stage 4 consultation focused on a limited set of issues and proposals. Therefore, exhibitions were only held in locations where substantive changes had been proposed to ensure that the affected local communities were informed of the changes. The exhibition venues were all within a few miles of the associated development sites, apart from the freight management facility site. However, only minor boundary changes to both the Seven Hills and Innocence Park sites since Stage 3 were included at Stage 4. This was considered to be a proportionate approach consistent with the DCLG Guidance on the pre-application process.</p>

Page	Updated Statement of Community Consultation	Relevant Stage 4 Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halesworth; • Rendlesham; • Lowestoft; and • Ipswich. 	
9	Additional workshops and focus groups may be carried out if necessary.	<p>SZC Co. invited Wickham Market Parish Council for a focussed workshop on how aspirations outlined in the Neighbourhood Plan could be delivered alongside mitigation for potential rat-running on the B1078.</p> <p>Following discussions with the Parish, a meeting took place after Stage 4 on 9 December 2019, where it was decided to establish an integrated working group made up of Wickham Market Parish Council representatives, highways officers from SCC, planning officers from ESC and SZC Co. in order to inform proposals for the DCO application and to facilitate ongoing engagement throughout the post-submission process.</p>

8.5.5 In addition to the above, information was made available throughout the Stage 4 consultation period at the Sizewell C Public Information Office in Leiston. This included the Consultation Document, Summary Document, Questionnaire and Computer-Generated Imagery of the proposed development.

8.6 Ways that feedback was received

8.6.1 To optimise the response rate from statutory consultees and across the local community, those consulted were able to respond to the Stage 4 consultation in a variety of ways, including by:

- completing a questionnaire either online (www.sizewellc.co.uk) or by free post;
- emailing sizewell@edfconsultation.info;
- posting comments to the free post address; and
- calling 0800 197 6102 during normal office hours.

8.6.2 The online system was closed at midnight on the final day of the consultation period. A period of one week after the deadline was however permitted to allow for postal delays. A further additional week was given to a resident on the B1122 to respond, to reflect SZC Co.'s delay in responding to questions that the resident had raised.

8.6.3 A total of 637 responses were received in response to the Stage 4 consultation. **Table 8.2** shows the number of responses received via each of the possible methods of providing feedback.

Table 8.2: Stage 4 responses received by

Online questionnaire	79
Paper questionnaire	37
Email / letter	520
Telephone	1
Total responses	637

8.6.4 The Questionnaire asked consultees to answer 11 questions, but explained that consultees were welcome to answer as many or as few of the questions as they liked (see **Appendix F.6**). **Table 8.3** sets out the number of responses received in relation to each question.

Table 8.3: Stage 4 consultation questions and number of responses

	Question within Questionnaire	Number of Responses
1.	Sizewell C Proposals: What are your views on EDF Energy’s proposals to build a new nuclear power station, Sizewell C, and associated development?	104
2.	Main Development Site: Please provide comments on any or all of the changes proposed to the main development site. Please specify the changes to which your comments refer.	67
3.	Sizewell C Pylon Options: Views sought on two options for minimising the visual impact of pylons: Option 1 (four pylons): reducing the height of three pylons (excluding the northernmost pylon) by around 25%. Option 2 (five pylons): reducing the height of all pylons by 25%, but with the requirement for an additional pylon near to the SSSI crossing. This would be needed to ensure the overhead lines go around the emergency diesel generator building rather than over it.	65
4.	Freight Management Facility: Please provide comments on the changes proposed to the two potential sites for the Freight Management Facility. Please specify the changes to which your comments refer.	61
5.	Transport: Movement of Freight:	85

	Question within Questionnaire	Number of Responses
	Views sought on three options for supporting the movement of construction materials needed for Sizewell C: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Rail-led Strategy. • Option 2: Road-led Strategy. • Option 3: Integrated Strategy. 	
6.	Transport: Sizewell Link Road and Theberton Bypass: Please provide your views on whether some or all of Sizewell link road/Theberton bypass should be removed and the land restored once Sizewell C is operational.	74
7.	Road Improvements: Please provide comments on the changes to any or all of our proposed road improvements, including the A12 two village bypass and others.	72
8.	Sizewell Halt or rail siding or spur at LEEIE for early years: Views sought on the following options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: reconfiguration of the existing Sizewell Halt rail terminal on the branch line to accommodate longer trains, and an overhead conveyor system to move material over King George’s Avenue into LEEIE. • Option 2: a new rail siding adjacent to the existing branch line in the LEEIE. • Option 3: a new rail spur located more centrally within the LEEIE, allowing longer trains to be used and more freight to be delivered per train. The railway track would have a straighter alignment compared with Option 2, and would avoid the need to cross King George’s Avenue (Option 1). 	58
9.	Park and Ride: What are your views on our amended proposals for the park and ride sites, including the alternative approach to Wickham Market mitigation?	61
10.	Consultation Process: Please let us know if you have any comments about the consultation process.	60
11.	Stage 3 proposals: Please provide any comments you wish to make about Stage 3, or if you prefer, by filling in the Stage 3 questionnaire available online at www.sizewellc.com or by calling 0800 197 6102 for a hard copy.	37

8.7 10 December 2019 - 31 January 2020

8.7.1 Following the close of Stage 4, SZC Co. progressed its preparations for submission of the DCO application. That work identified small areas of additional land required in connection with the two village bypass and Saxmundham to Leiston branch line. The combined effect of the inclusion of

that additional land within SZC Co.'s proposals was minor and not considered to be material.

8.7.2 As a result of the changes to the proposed red line boundary, SZC Co. undertook targeted consultation under section 42 of the Act with 12 persons with an interest in the affected land between 10 December 2019 and 31 January 2020.

8.7.3 The focus of the consultation was to obtain the views of those consultees in relation to the inclusion of the additional land within the Order Limits of the proposed DCO application.

8.7.4 The consultees were provided with the consultation materials for the Stage 4 consultation and a letter explaining the changes to the proposed Order Limits relating to the two village bypass and branch line (see **Appendix F.8**). They could respond using any of the methods of feedback available at Stage 4. No responses were received to this targeted consultation.

8.8 15 January to 13 February 2020

8.8.1 The scheme proposals were further refined in January 2020, which resulted in minor proposed changes to the Order Limits at the main development site on land owned by EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited. The scheme refinements comprised:

- Construction of a Water Resource Storage Area (the Storage Area) to store non-potable water for use during construction and an associated underground waterpipe.
- An area of wet woodland habitat adjacent to the Storage Area.
- The proposals sought to develop the Storage Area and wet woodland habitat within the application site boundary set out in the Stage 4 consultation. The land was previously identified as a flood compensation area, however further flood risk assessment work demonstrated that this was no longer necessary. The flood compensation area would have been up to approximately three meters (m) below existing ground level and would have been a permanent feature in the landscape. The boundary to the flood compensation area would have sought to avoid an overly engineered appearance and would have adopted a naturalistic design. Planting for wetland habitats would have also been provided in the northern part of the main development site and works would have taken place early in the construction phase.

8.8.2 Similar to the discounted flood compensation area proposal, the proposed design changes would also be natural in appearance. The Storage Area

would be part below existing ground level and part above existing ground level and would be a temporary feature for the duration of the construction period and land would be restored to the current topography.

8.8.3 The additional land is required to connect the Storage Area with the main construction activities to the south via a newly proposed underground water pipe. Additional land to construct the pipe is required east of Ash Wood.

8.8.4 In addition to this, wet woodland was proposed to the south of the Storage Area, extending along the edge of the Grove to enhance ecological value.

8.8.5 EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited is the owner of the affected land and targeted consultation under section 42 of the Act was undertaken with it between 15 January and 13 February 2020. Suffolk Wildlife Trust was also identified as a person interested in the affected land and therefore was consulted under section 42 on these dates (it was also consulted informally in its capacity as a stakeholder with an interest in the substance of the updated proposals, see below). The focus of the consultation was to obtain views on the updated proposals. **Appendix F.9** contains copies of the letters sent to these parties.

8.8.6 In addition, informal consultation on these changes was carried out with the EA, RSPB, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, NE, ESC and SCC (see **Chapter 9** below). **Appendix F.11** contains a sample copy of the consultation document sent to these parties.

8.8.7 Consultees could respond using any of the methods of feedback available at Stage 4. A total of five responses were received in response to the consultation, from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the EA, RSPB and NE and a joint response from ESC and SCC. All responses were received by email or letter.

8.9 Feedback received and how SZC Co. had regard to it

8.9.1 As with Stages 1, 2 and 3, SZC Co. undertook a careful review of the Stage 4 consultation responses (including five responses to the targeted consultation after the close of Stage 4) received in accordance with the Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 14.

8.9.2 Two sets of ‘issues tables’ are provided at **Annex G**. These set out an ‘issues-led’ review of the comments received from:

- Section 42 statutory consultees.
- Section 47 local community consultees.

8.9.3 A table has not been dedicated to section 48 responses, as it is not possible to ascertain which of the responses received were in response to section 48

notices in a newspaper article (in most cases this has not been explicitly stated). The above tables therefore also capture section 48 responses to statutory publicity.

8.9.4 The tables are organised under themed headings. As with the Stage 1, 2 and 3 tables, the themes are largely derived from different elements of the proposals or site options; and, beneath, these sub-themes correspond with the chapters of the **Environmental Statement** (where consultation responses were submitted concerning that theme).

8.9.5 To avoid repetition, where the same comment or issue was raised by section 42 and section 47 consultees, this is denoted in bold and shaded in grey in the section 42 tables, and not repeated in the section 47 tables.

8.9.6 See paragraph 4.8.6 of **Chapter 4** of this Report for an explanation of the process adopted in preparing these tables.

8.9.7 Key points raised by prescribed consultees, local authorities and town and parish councils are summarised in **Annex H**. The annex also includes a summary of the comments raised by section 42(1)(d) consultees, arranged by theme. All issues raised by these bodies have been captured and responded to by SZC Co. in the issues tables at **Annex G**.

8.10 Changes to the Sizewell C Project in response to the Stage 4 consultation

8.10.1 In response to the Stage 4 consultation feedback received (including the targeted consultation after the close of Stage 4), and further technical and environmental work, a number of changes were made to the Sizewell C Project by SZC Co. This includes changes to the design of the development, the transport strategy and proposed mitigation measures.

8.10.2 The changes are explained in detail within the issues tables at **Annex G**. Full details of the reasons why these changes were made are set out in the **Site Selection Report**, appended to the **Planning Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.4).

8.10.3 They can be summarised as follows:

- Additional land is included within the application for ecological mitigation (marsh harrier and fen meadow habitat).
- Confirmation of the four pylon solution.
- Confirmation of the integrated freight management strategy.
- Confirmation of the Seven Hills site for the freight management facility.

- A decision was made to propose the Sizewell link road as a permanent facility, rather than temporary.
- Additional land is included within the application to connect the Storage Area with the main construction activities to the south via a newly proposed underground water pipe.
- Creation of wet woodland to the south of the Storage Area, extending along the edge of the Grove to enhance ecological value.
- Additional land is included within the application following minor scheme refinement of the two village bypass and Saxmundham to Leiston branch line.

9. Ongoing Informal (Non-Statutory) Consultations and Engagement

9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 This chapter explains how and why SZC Co. has undertaken informal consultation and engagement outside of the requirements of the Act with the local community and key stakeholders prior to, in between and since the principal stages of statutory consultations. For details on the informal consultation (development sites) carried out in March and August 2014, see **Chapter 5**.

9.1.2 This consultation and engagement has involved workshops, exhibitions, home visits, community liaison groups and meetings. Gathering feedback in this way has been invaluable to SZC Co. and the evolution of the Sizewell C Project.

9.1.3 With reference to *'The Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the Pre-Application Process'* (March 2015), prepared by (the former) DCLG (para. 70 and 76), this informal consultation has allowed the community to be consulted while options were still being considered. This was helpful in informing SZC Co.'s proposals and establishing preferred options on which to undertake the statutory stages of consultation.

9.1.4 Carrying out informal consultation also allowed targeted consultation to be carried out regarding localised issues. SZC Co. has worked to ensure that all relevant individuals and organisations were included in this process where their interests were affected.

9.1.5 A summary of SZC Co.'s informal consultation and engagement with key stakeholders and the local community is set out below. The ways that SZC

Co. had regard to their views and how they contributed to the evolution of the project are also explained.

a) **Informal engagement with landowners**

- 9.1.6 SZC Co. has consulted both formally and informally at length with statutory consultees including landowners who would be affected by the Sizewell C Project. SZC Co.'s informal consultation with landowners affected by the proposed development has been ongoing since 2012, throughout the development of the Sizewell C Project through both SZC Co. and its appointed agents.
- 9.1.7 In addition to formal consultation, SZC Co. has also engaged with a number of landowners since 2012 on a commercial basis to secure rights in land across the main development site and associated development sites. This includes in respect of temporary access for surveys to further inform the proposals and also long-term rights to secure the land for the construction and operation of facilities.
- 9.1.8 The majority of informal landowner engagement took place via meetings and telephone conversations, with site visits being undertaken where relevant. Between 2012 and 2020, SZC Co. and its agents have met with the majority of landowners within the Order Limits in order to further understand the impact of the proposals on their holdings.
- 9.1.9 During the Stage 3 consultation SZC Co. and its transport consultants offered to meet with landowners impacted by the transport proposals. Meetings were held with the majority of landowners and their agents across the two village bypass and Sizewell link road. A number of amendments were made to the scheme as a result of these meetings, as consulted on at Stage 4.
- 9.1.10 Meetings have been held with other key stakeholders who represent landowners, such as the Country Land and Business Association (CLA) and National Farmers Union (NFU). SZC Co. and Dalcour Maclaren met with the CLA at the Suffolk Show in May 2019, and again most recently in February 2020, and the NFU most recently in March 2019. A general project update was provided as well as an overview of the proposals so that they could update their members as required and answer any basic questions received by them.
- 9.1.11 On 7 May 2019 a letter was sent to all landowners or their appointed agents advising that SZC Co. had appointed Dalcour Maclaren as part of the project team to encourage further landowner engagement. Since Dalcour Maclaren's appointment they have sent numerous letters on behalf of SZC Co. to all landowners in relation to rights in land required by the project. Dalcour Maclaren have taken a number of steps to engage engagement with landowners including the following:

- Set up of a project phone line and email address specifically for landowners.
- Appointment of dedicated agricultural liaison officers who are available to meet landowners at short notice to discuss the proposals and any concerns.
- Appointment of a dedicated team of surveyors with experience in large infrastructure projects to negotiate the acquisition of rights in land.

9.1.12 Dalcour Maclaren, as SZC Co.'s agent, continues to engage with landowners and their appointed agents to understand concerns and secure the land interests required.

9.1.13 In a number of instances, SZC Co. has responded to issues raised by landowners throughout formal and informal consultation by amending the proposals where possible and practical including amended accommodation works, access tracks, field entrances, road crossings and changes to the strategy for road closures.

9.1.14 A number of home visits were undertaken to those potentially affected by the development to help explain the proposals in more detail. These discussions looked to address and explain the background and rationale for the proposals that could have a potential impact, as well as allowing SZC Co. to gain an understanding of their concerns in relation to the proposals. SZC Co. and its agents continue to engage with potential claimants who might be entitled to make a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973 or section 152(3) of the Planning Act 2008. Regard has been had to feedback received from potential claimants in finalising the designs for the proposed development.

b) [Property Price Support Scheme \(PPSS\)](#)

9.1.15 PPSS is a voluntary support plan offered by SZC Co. which is designed to provide financial compensation for homeowners (within defined areas close to the development) who make the decision to sell their property where the sale price of the property has been negatively impacted by the Sizewell C Project. Further details are contained within the **Community Impact Report** (Doc Ref: 5.13).

c) [SZC Workshop Engagement Programme](#)

9.1.16 SZC Co. has consulted at length throughout the development of the project proposals with key stakeholders, such as local authority officers, which has included additional representation at specific workshops from the

Environment Agency, Natural England, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Suffolk Coast and Heath Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Suffolk Wildlife Trust. Early and ongoing engagement with stakeholders in relation to the proposed DCO application has been valuable in developing and evolving the proposals.

9.1.17 The stakeholders were informally consulted through the SZC Workshop Engagement Programme. Workshops were held on a thematic basis and were intended to resolve technical and specific issues in relation to the Sizewell C Project. Workshops were held as required on:

- Design principles of the main development site including the AONB context
- Terrestrial ecology
- Noise
- Air quality
- Landscape and visual
- Recreation and amenity
- Flood risk
- Groundwater and surface water

9.1.18 The workshops aided in formal communication, engagement and sharing of information as well as the opportunity to present key data and outputs from ongoing technical assessments.

9.1.19 The workshops were invaluable in providing clarity on key stakeholders' views in relation to a variety of important matters and helped to provide important feedback which has assisted in the development of mitigation. It served as a useful platform to share evidence.

9.1.20 The topic-focused workshops allowed SZC Co. to have a targeted approach to matters that were particularly relevant to key stakeholders. This allowed key issues to be discussed in an agile way which fed into the evolution of project proposals, allowing stakeholder views to be taken into account where possible in future development.

9.1.21 Workshops were also held with local stakeholders to discuss the requirements and opportunities of the project particularly in relation to Skills and Education. The workshops sought to understand, manage and mitigate impacts on the economy, environment and communities affected by the Sizewell C Project through an informed and open dialogue.

d) Design Principles of the Main Development Site including the AONB context

9.1.22 The design principles have been informed by engagement with CABI at Design Council and through discussions with the relevant local authorities (SCC and ESC, formerly Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC)) and Natural England during the early stages of the design process. The design brief established with stakeholders in 2014 has heavily informed the design process and forms the basis of the design principles contained within the **Main Development Site Design and Access Statement** (Doc Ref 8.1). The design principles have, in turn, informed the design process to date, including for the approximately 65 buildings and structures within the main development site that have been submitted for approval as part of this application for development consent.

i. Terrestrial Ecology

9.1.23 The scope of the terrestrial ecology assessment has been informed by ongoing consultation and engagement with key statutory consultees throughout the design and assessment process. SZC Co. presented key data outputs for discussion. Discussions centred around the assessment approach, baseline evaluation, assumptions etc. The workshops aided in providing a clearer view as to aspects requiring further work to strengthen the assessment, design and mitigation measures. A summary of the consultation and engagement that took place through the workshops is provided in **Table 9.1**. Specific comments on the assessment of the main development site and associated development sites are included within the respective **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** volumes, where relevant.

Table 9.1: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that informed the scope and methodology of the terrestrial ecology and ornithology assessment.

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
Natural England	29 January 2013	<p>The following items were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • survey approach and methods for bats (especially barbastelles (<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>)) as required to inform the EIA and European protected species licence(s); • proposals for mitigation of the effects of the Sizewell C Project on reptiles; • considerations relating to protected species within the Sizewell Marshes SSSI triangle, including but not limited to breeding birds, water vole (<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>) and otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>); and • proposals to mitigate the effects of land take from Sizewell Marshes SSSI through the

Consultee		Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
			creation of replacement habitat at Aldhurst Farm.
Suffolk District (SCDC)	Coastal Council	19 June 2013	SCDC requested the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhancement of ecology at the foreshore; and that ecology should be a priority at the SSSI crossing location given its SSSI status.
SCDC & Natural England		7 November 2013	Location of the SSSI crossing was discussed with regards to minimising disturbance and land take of Sizewell Marshes SSSI.
Natural England		4 June 2014	Natural England confirmed they were confident that SZC Co.'s proposals for reedbed habitat creation at Aldhurst Farm would provide satisfactory compensation, both in terms of quality and quantity, for the permanent loss of SSSI feature reedbed habitat (S26 - <i>Phragmites australis</i> - <i>Urtica dioica</i> tall-herb fen) at Sizewell Marshes SSSI.
Natural England, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) & Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT)		26 September 2014, 3 December 2014 & 9 January 2015	Discussion and site visit (9 January 2015) on the marsh harrier survey methodology and baseline evaluation.
SWT		3 September 2014	Items discussed included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> no further reptile surveys were planned as that would not change the assessment outcomes (i.e. large reptile populations); consultees welcomed the landscape scale approach to the reptile receptor sites and noted the importance of the different receptor sites for different reptile species; discussions were held around the length of time and techniques for establishment of suitable reptile habitat at receptor sites and how certain receptor sites would improve connectivity to Sizewell Marshes SSSI; and the programme of reptile mitigation and how it was intended to commence translocation prior to the DCO decision being made.
Natural England, RSPB & SWT		15 and 30 October 2014	The meeting discussed the design objectives of the Aldhurst Farm habitat creation scheme (mitigation for the loss of reed and ditch habitat within Sizewell Marshes SSSI) which included for a number of specific design principles that were agreed.
RSPB & SWT		30 October 2014	It was discussed that the four principal environmental aspects with potential to affect

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
		non-avian receptors would be changes in hydrology/hydrogeology flows; changes in surface water and groundwater quality; trampling through recreational pressure; and air quality. It was also agreed that whilst litter, spillages, invasive species and construction plant movement through sensitive areas were all potential issues for non-avian receptors, they should be addressed through good construction environmental management under SZC Co.'s Environmental Management & Monitoring Plan (EMMP) framework.
RSPB & SWT	3 March 2015	The RSPB felt that the RSPB Minsmere Reserve had been under-represented in the surveys and requested additional surveys targeting the reserve. This was despite the RSPB signing up to the survey scope for the winter/summer surveys in previous workshops. SZC Co. agreed to take this issue away for further consideration, stating this was unfortunate but it was important for all parties to have confidence in the evidence base in order to agree on the assessment.
Natural England & RSPB	24 April 2015	NVC mapping was agreed for the main development site. It was agreed that the vegetation and invertebrate communities on the coastal dune are of national value (although this is not reflected in the designation which is a CWS). It was agreed that extensive invertebrate sampling had been carried out although stakeholders thought that all habitats to be potentially affected by the Sizewell C Project directly or indirectly should be surveyed. SZC Co. stated that representative habitats had been surveyed, focussing on those habitats within the Sizewell Marshes SSSI triangle that would be lost. There was discussion on the need to compensate for loss of wet woodland on account of its invertebrate interest, and the extent to which this could be done at Aldhurst Farm. There is provision for a small amount of successional habitat including wet woodland at Aldhurst and it was agreed with stakeholders at the time that this should be limited. The bat surveys were also welcomed by stakeholders.
Natural England	25 August 2015	Discussion with Natural England regarding the assessment approach, baseline evaluation, assumptions etc. Based on this discussion, SZC Co. had a much clearer view as to aspects requiring further work to strengthen the assessment. A key point from the meeting was acceptance by Natural England that the proposed marsh harrier (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>) mitigation

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
		land is likely to be acceptable “in principle” despite not involving any wetland creation, provided it offered appropriate prey abundance and availability.
SCDC & Natural England	4 November 2015	Discussion on the sea defences design and the need to maintain a plant source/seed bank for early recolonisation and establishment of planting.
Natural England, RSPB & SWT	24 November 2015	<p>With regards to disturbance effects on birds, the draft assessment and mitigation approach were broadly agreed. Consultees agreed with the proposed noise threshold of 70 dBLAmax. There was some uncertainty over appropriateness of the assumed 150m visual buffer especially in the vicinity of the borrow pits and main stockpile. Concerns were expressed over the potential mitigation land to be compromised by noise from the borrow pits. There were concerns about why some historic harrier survey data which appeared to show greater use by harriers of the Sizewell belts had not been used in the assessment. One of the key recommendations (from SWT) was to investigate whether their wetland reserve at Trimley Marshes next to Felixstowe docks, where a pair of marsh harriers forage and could potentially breed, could be used to investigate the relationship between noise and harrier foraging (and breeding) activity, to strengthen the evidence base in the HRA.</p> <p>Concerns were raised with regards to potential impacts on the marsh harrier mitigation area due to use of the field north of Ash Wood. SZC Co. stated that in developing proposals for a borrow pit on this land, SZC Co. would take account of the need to protect the mitigation land from unacceptable levels of noise/disturbance.</p>
Natural England	16 December 2015	Discussions were held on the Sizewell Marshes SSSI development and crossing options. The SSSI crossing options were to look at designs that minimise adverse environmental effects and maximise potential advantages for bats and landscape planting.
Natural England, RSPB & SWT	25 February 2016	SZC Co.’s mock assessment for recreational disturbance effects was largely agreed. It was agreed that sufficient user surveys had been carried out and that upper range (precautionary) baseline estimates should be used in the assessment. There was broad agreement with the baseline evaluation of designated sites. SZC Co.’s view that potential impacts on designated sites could not be discounted at a handful of sites

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
		including Westleton heath was broadly accepted. There was consensus that the proposed mitigation approach was sensible.
SCDC	14 April 2016	The following were confirmed: Natural England needs to be engaged on the assessment of effects on designated habitat sites; and the construction dust assessment was to consider effects on ecological receptors.
Natural England, RSPB & SWT	26 April 2016	It was agreed that Aldhurst Farm would not provide compensation for loss of fen meadow so a complimentary scheme is required. It was also agreed that fen meadow should be regarded as irreplaceable due to the difficulties in creating it from scratch and the length of time involved. SZC Co.'s focus should therefore be on impact avoidance/minimisation although it was understood that some loss was unavoidable. A number of different approaches for compensation were discussed. Most stakeholders agreed with SZC Co.'s preference for a "site rescue" approach, whereby a degraded fen meadow site is restored/enhanced.
Natural England	22 June 2016	Subject to SZC Co. making a compelling economic case for the SSSI crossing option, neither the Environment Agency nor Natural England is likely to object to the proposals subject to the following: appropriate sizing and design of the culvert including a large aperture; retention of existing ditch channel in situ; incorporation of appropriate dry ledges for voles/otters as well as potentially dry runs for otters; and the landscape scheme to incorporate significant tree planting on the embankment to provide landscape screening and ecological mitigation in the form of hop-overs for bats and birds that may need to cross. SZC Co. will need to demonstrate that the proposals have been designed in a manner that minimises land take from Sizewell Marshes SSSI.
Natural England, RSPB & SWT	26 June 2016	There was general consensus that a lot of ecological survey work has been carried out using a number of different techniques over many years and that it was therefore likely to be relatively robust. The key area of outstanding work that was acknowledged was on completing the tree roost survey strategy. SZC Co.'s emerging strategy to avoid creating bat corridors through the main development site other than at the SSSI crossing was discussed. It was flagged that connectivity to/from roosts at Upper Abbey Farm needed to be considered. It was noted that whilst the focus on barbastelle was appropriate the mitigation

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
		strategy needed to accommodate as much of the bat assemblage as possible. The sizing of any culvert would be key. It was also noted that noise/light disturbance at either end of the culvert and within the Sizewell Belts would need to be mitigated. There was concern that the proposed landscape strategy (heathland generation) may not fully mitigate loss of foraging habitat represented by Goose Hill. It was felt by consultees that further attention was required for hiberacula.
Natural England	7 July 2016	It was discussed that SZC Co. was to develop proposals for the recreation strategy.
Natural England	27 July 2016	There was agreement on the baseline evaluation of the floristics of the M22 fen meadow communities within the Sizewell Belts and the extent of potential inadequacies in published evidence on tolerances and sensitivities to hydrological change. A proposed approach for assessing hydrological impacts against baseline conditions was discussed.
SCDC	20 October 2016	With regards to the operational emissions assessment for the diesel generators, it was discussed that further work was required to consider the sensitivity of ecological receptors in the vicinity of the site. At this stage it was considered unlikely that there would be any significant effects on ecological receptors.
Natural England	29 November 2016	<p>The following was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it should be possible to displace water voles from the SSSI crossing on Leiston Drain rather than opting for translocation, as recommended in the current guidance for ditch habitat more than 50m in length; and • contrary to Natural England’s written response to the previous workshop, autumn trapping within the rest of the Sizewell Marshes SSSI triangle that would be affected, including the Sizewell Drain, may be acceptable. This was in recognition of the unacceptably high impact that spring trapping would have on the Sizewell C Project business case since it would not be possible to undertake large-scale vegetation clearance within Sizewell Marshes SSSI until the following autumn/winter due to breeding birds.

ii. Noise

9.1.24 The scope of the noise assessment has also been informed by ongoing consultation and engagement with SCC and ESC throughout the design and assessment process. A summary of the consultation and engagement that took place through the workshops is provided in **Table 9.2** below.

Table 9.2: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that informed the scope and methodology of the noise assessment.

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
SCC and SCDC (now ESC).	15 December 2015.	Discussion of approach to assessment work, including proposed assessment criteria and details of baseline surveys. This included discussion of preferred approach to rail and road.
SCC and SCDC (now ESC).	28 July 2016.	Discussion on criteria and consideration of LOAELs and SOAELs for road traffic noise, main development site construction noise, rail, campus and associated development sites. Also, discussion of operational noise from power station in the context of low background levels in the area.
SCC and SCDC (now ESC).	15 March 2019.	<p>SZC Co. presented an overview of the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● assessment approach; ● previous consultations; ● baseline survey work; ● summary of assessment work and findings at Stage 3 consultation; and ● work plan for 2019. <p>Discussion also included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● revision to assessment criteria as a result of recent changes to guidelines; and ● plans for community liaison and monitoring during construction.
	9 May 2019.	<p>SZC Co. provided a detailed explanation showing how the proposed assessment criteria were derived, with references provided to relevant guidance and standards, as requested by ESC/SCC.</p> <p>Detailed discussion of proposed road traffic criteria was also undertaken.</p>
	19 June 2019.	<p>This purpose of this meeting was to discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the predictions of noise levels from the main development site during construction; ● the methodology for how the noise levels were predicted as well as the outputs for different receptors / receptor groups to the north and west of the main development site for each phase of construction; and

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> an overview of additional baseline survey work in 2019 relating to the main development site, road and rail networks and associated development sites. <p>ESC requested a list of construction noise source data, including sound power levels and equipment on times assumed for each phase. This information was provided on 21 August 2019.</p>
	22 August 2019.	<p>Discussions were focussed on baseline monitoring and main development site construction noise predictions, covering earlier presentations in greater detail.</p> <p>SZC Co. presented further details on these, including plans showing all baseline survey locations.</p>

Air Quality

9.1.25 The scope of the air quality assessment has also been informed by ongoing consultation and engagement with statutory consultees throughout the design and assessment process. Consultation on the assessment methodology and conclusions has been undertaken with Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council (formerly Suffolk Coastal District Council). A summary of consultation relating to the Air Quality assessment is provided in **Volume 1, Appendix 6H** of the **ES** (Doc Ref 6.2). A summary of the consultation and engagement that took place through the workshops is provided in Table 9.3.

Table 9.3: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the Air Quality Assessment

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
SCDC Suffolk County Council (Meeting).	20 October 2016.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General agreement on proposed modelling and assessment methodologies for traffic emissions; use of Euro VI emission standards and Defra EFT7; regard for local air quality management within assessment of operation combustion plant; consideration of coastal path users; and use of 200mg/m²/d dust soiling threshold and assessment approach using IAQM and United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) AP-42 methodology; discussion of future monitoring requirements.
Suffolk County Council (Meeting).	May 2019.	<p>Points of discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responses to Stage 3 consultation. New Integrated Strategy.

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt IAQM “highly recommended” embedded mitigation for construction dust control. Campus energy provision and assessment.
ESC Suffolk County Council (Workshop).	12 June 2019.	<p>ESC recommended an amended approach to gauge the risk of short-term NO₂ objectives being breached.</p> <p>Recommended to present a modelling scenario using peak construction traffic flows from each scheme or justify calculation of construction traffic flows in a more realistic scenario.</p> <p>Recommended to use IAQM’s more sensitive traffic screening criteria within AQMA’s and areas at risk of higher pollutant concentrations.</p>

iii. Landscape and Visual

9.1.26 SZC Co. has met with landscape and visual impact assessment (LVIA) consultees (SCC, ESC, NE and Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) on several occasions to reach agreement to the scope and approach to the main development site LVIA, including the methodology to be used; the location of representative and illustrative viewpoints; the selection of viewpoints for the preparation of visualisations; and baseline references to be used in the assessment.

9.1.27 **Appendix 6H** of **Volume 2** of the **ES** (Doc Ref 6.3) summarises all meetings undertaken with LVIA consultees to discuss matters specific to the assessment. The minutes of the concluding meeting with LVIA consultees is appended as a formal record of agreement to the approach adopted in the LVIA (**Annex 13H.2** of **Volume 2** (Doc Ref 6.3)). A summary of the consultation and engagement that took place through the workshops is provided in **Table 9.4** below.

Table 9.4: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the LVIA

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
SCC, ESC, NE and Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	19 March 2014	During discussions conducted in the meeting and whilst on-site, agreement was reached on the methodology proposed; the extent of the LVIA study area for the assessment of operational phase effects; and the Suffolk County Landscape Character Assessment (Ref. 13.1) as forming a key reference for understanding local landscape character, supplemented with several other studies.
SCC, ESC, NE and Suffolk Coast and	8 June 2015	Discussion on the location of illustrative and representative viewpoints, including viewpoints discussed with Historic England, National Trust and

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty		Local Planning Authority Heritage Officers. Consideration was also given (including with reference to material supplied after the meeting) to the location of offshore viewpoint locations.
SCC, ESC, NE and Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	7 December 2015	The focus of the meeting was to present the findings of the Seascape Character Assessment undertaken for the Sizewell C LVIA study area which would form the baseline to assess effects on seascape character in the LVIA. The draft Seascape Character Assessment had been presented to the Suffolk Coast Forum and several comments were received and had been incorporated into the assessment.
SCC, ESC, NE and Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	17 October 2016	<p>Consultees agreed that the offshore viewpoint 1800m directly east of the site should be included as a representative viewpoint and that the offshore viewpoint 12 nautical miles from shore was not required.</p> <p>Visits were made to agree the location of two additional representative viewpoints to address construction phase works (Valley Road allotments and footpath south of Theberton).</p> <p>Furthermore, the extent of the 15 kilometre (km) study area was agreed as appropriate for the assessment of construction phase effects (with reference to parameters based modelling of 125 metre high cranes). Additional illustrative viewpoints were agreed at the edge of the 15km study area (on the footpath east of Framlingham and Parnham airfield control tower).</p> <p>Agreement was reached on the location of illustrative and representative viewpoints and the selection for the production of visualisations.</p>
Natural England (NE) Suffolk County Council (SCC) Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils (SCDC/WDC) (now ESC) Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB.	7 February 2019.	<p>The purpose of the meeting was to confirm several matters regarding the scope and approach to the LVIA, which had previously been discussed during several meetings, the first of which was in March 2014.</p> <p>The LVIA methodology is to be used as the basis of the landscape and visual assessment chapters.</p> <p>The Suffolk County Council LCA is to be used as the basis for the assessment of effects on landscape character, informed by other studies, including the recently published Suffolk Coastal LCA.</p> <p>The landscape and visual assessment identifies the likely effects of the Sizewell C Project on landscape character types presented in the Suffolk County Council</p>

Consultee	Date	Summary of Discussion/Comments.
		<p>LCA. Where appropriate, reference is made to several other published LCAs.</p> <p>The Suffolk, South Norfolk and North Essex SCA is to be used as the basis for the assessment of effects on seascape character, informed by other studies, including the unpublished SCA of the Sizewell C study area.</p> <p>The landscape and visual assessment identifies the likely effects of the proposed main development site on seascape character types presented in the Suffolk, South Norfolk and North Essex SCA. Where appropriate, reference is made to the unpublished SCA of the Sizewell C study area.</p> <p>Version 1.8 of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Natural Beauty and Special Qualities indicators is to be used as the basis of the assessment of effects on the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB.</p> <p>The landscape and visual assessment identifies the likely effects of the Sizewell C Project on the natural beauty and special qualities indicators of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB as recorded in Version 1.8 of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Natural Beauty and Special Qualities indicators document.</p> <p>The Special Landscape Areas Paper (November 2016) is to be used as the basis of the assessment of effects on the Special Landscape Area Designation.</p> <p>The landscape and visual assessment identifies the likely presents an assessment of the effects of the Sizewell C Project on the Special Landscape Areas Designation as recorded in the Special Landscape Areas Paper (November 2016).</p> <p>Agreement was also reached on the location of representative viewpoints, illustrative viewpoints and the location of viewpoints to be used to generate photowire and photomontage visualisations.</p> <p>The landscape and visual assessment identifies the likely effects of the Sizewell C Project on visual receptors. Reference is made to agreed representative and illustrative viewpoint photographs. Visualisations have been prepared for agreed viewpoint locations.</p>

iv. Recreation and amenity

9.1.28 The scope of the recreation and amenity assessment has been informed by ongoing consultation and engagement with statutory consultees throughout the design and assessment process. A summary of the consultation and engagement that took place through the workshops is provided in **Table 9.5**. Specific comments on the assessment of the main development site and

associated development site are included within the respective **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** volumes, where relevant.

Table 9.5: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the amenity and recreation assessment

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
SCC, SCDC, Natural England.	7 December 2015 (Meeting).	Consultees felt that further consideration and justification of the proposed offshore study area was required. SZC Co. advised that offshore consultees would be consulted on the offshore study area. The offshore study area was agreed at the meeting on 3 April 2019 described below in this table.
SCC, SCDC.	7 December 2015 (Meeting).	SCC and SCDC's written response following the meeting on 7 December 2015 questioned how the assessment of geographical extent would work in relation to footpath severance.
SCC, SCDC.	7 February 2019 (meeting). 13 March 2019 (written response).	SZC Co.'s approach to assessing tranquillity was presented at the meeting with consultees (SCC, SCDC, Natural England and the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership) on 7 February 2019. SCC and SCDC's written response following the meeting stated <i>"We stress that tranquillity is an important factor for amenity and recreation impacts which should be considered for areas within and outside of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty."</i> Effects on tranquillity of users of recreational resources is assessed within the amenity and recreation assessment chapters, informed by other topics including noise, visual effects and air quality.
Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership.	8 February 2019 and 3 May 2019.	On 8 February 2019 the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Partnership provided commentary on the assessment of tranquillity within the assessment. LDA Design replied on 3 May 2019. Effects on tranquillity of users of recreational resources is assessed within the amenity and recreation assessment chapters, informed by other topics including noise, visual effects and air quality.
SCC, SCDC.	13 March 2019 (written response to meeting on 7 February 2019).	SCC and SCDC requested further detail be included in the Method Report regarding the potential for additional users attracted to parts of the network and other locations to view the construction site/activity.
Scottish Power, the Royal Yachting Association (RYA), the Cruising Association, Sizewell Residents Association.	3 April 2019 (Meeting).	Offshore consultees agreed to the 8km offshore study area. The 8km offshore study area was also confirmed in the updated Scoping Report (2019).

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
SCC	3 September 2019 (Meeting)	SCC agreed that the visitor surveys undertaken at the main development site in 2014, RSPB Minsmere in 2015, and the green rail route and Regional Cycle Route 42 (the main development site) in 2016 and 2018 were sufficient and that surveys at other associated development sites were not necessary. These surveys are included in Volume 2, Chapter 15, Appendices 15A, 15B and 15C of the ES .

e) Flood risk

9.1.29 Consultation responses from Natural England and the Environment Agency (in Stage 3 and Stage 4 responses and informal engagement) noted concerns on the potential impacts on flood risk, ecology and landscape arising from the River Alde crossing, and stated a preference for a viaduct crossing of both the River Alde and associated floodplain, rather than the design presented during the consultation stages.

9.1.30 Following Stage 4 consultation, SZC Co. informally consulted further with Natural England and the Environment Agency on the design of the river crossing, supported by the results of hydraulic modelling, and presented the evolving design and reasons for discounting a viaduct crossing. This design presented during this consultation (and included in the proposed development) included a longer bridge (increasing in length from 36m to 60m) and larger flood arch culverts. The hydraulic modelling demonstrated that a 60m bridge with eight flood relief culverts (5.4m by 3m), four on either side of the bridge, would not impede in-channel river flows or morphology and minimises the impact on flood plain flows. The bridge and culverts would also enable passage of wildlife under the road crossing.

9.1.31 A viaduct crossing was discounted as:

- The crossing of the River Alde and associated floodplain by a viaduct would involve the requirement of at least 36 piers across 540m. Due to existing ground conditions, this would likely require the need for the piled foundations for each pier.
- The construction of a viaduct is likely to cause damage to the adjacent marshland due to the construction techniques involved, and would introduce a more prominent structure into the landscape.
- A viaduct would have a longer construction period, and would impact the timescale for delivering the proposed development and the development that it supports, the Sizewell Project C main development site. The potential delay associated with a viaduct would have led to the

bypass not being available for the early construction phases of the Sizewell C Project leading to an increase in traffic due to the associated construction work. In comparison, an embankment and bridge over the River Alde would have a shorter construction period.

i. Groundwater and surface water

9.1.32 Workshops were held with the Environment Agency, Natural England, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Water Management Alliance (WMA), Suffolk County Council (SCC), Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) (now East Suffolk Council (ESC)), Coastal Partnership East (CPE) and Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) to discuss the approach of the groundwater and surface water assessments, the impacts on groundwater and surface water resources and the potential ecological implications.

9.1.33 A summary of the consultation and engagement that took place through the workshops is provided in Table 9.6.

Table 9.6: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the Groundwater and Surface Water Assessment

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
Environment Agency, Natural England, RSPB, SWT.	9 April 2014	Workshop to establish and agree approach to groundwater assessment.
Environment Agency, Natural England RSBP, SCC, SCDC, SWT.	14 October 2014	Workshop to discuss and agree hydrogeological conceptual site model.
Environment Agency, Natural England, RSPB, SCC, SCDC, SWT.	9 December 2014	Workshop to discuss and agree groundwater numerical modelling approach.
Environment Agency, Natural England, RSPB, SCC, SCDC, SWT.	1 March 2015	Workshop to discuss and agree approach to surface water assessment.
Environment Agency, Natural England.	12 May 2015	Workshop to discuss numerical modelling progress with technical specialist stakeholders.
Environment Agency, Natural England.	7 July 2015	Teleconference to discuss numerical modelling progress with technical specialist stakeholders.
Environment Agency, Natural England, RSBP, SCC, SCDC, SWT.	6 August 2015	Workshop to discuss SSSI crossing options.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
Environment Agency, Natural England, IDB, RSBP, SCC, SCDC, SWT.	15 September 2015	Combined groundwater and surface water workshop to demonstrate alignment between assessments.
Environment Agency, Natural England.	7 December 2015	Workshop to discuss numerical modelling progress with technical specialist stakeholders.
Environment Agency, Natural England, IDB, RSBP, SCC, SCDC, SWT.	16 December 2015	Workshop to discuss and agree preferred SSSI crossing option.
Environment Agency, Natural England.	7 June 2016	Workshop to discuss numerical modelling progress with technical specialist stakeholders.
Environment Agency, Natural England, RSBP, SWT.	27 July 2016	Workshop to discuss and agree approach to eco-hydrological assessment.
Environment Agency, ESC, SCC.	27 February 2019	Workshop to discuss the scope of work for all forms of flooding, application of climate change scenarios, permitting approach and drainage.
Environment Agency, Natural England, ESC, RSPB, SCC, SWT.	28 February 2019	Workshop to discuss groundwater, surface water and eco-hydrological assessment, and present worked example.
Environment Agency, Natural England.	3 April 2019	Workshop to discuss numerical modelling progress with technical specialist stakeholders.
Environment Agency.	18 April 2019	Telephone call to discuss joint probability analysis in coastal environment and application of climate change in breach analysis.
Environment Agency, SCC, WMA.	18 April 2019	Telephone call to discuss outline scope for a drainage strategy.
Environment Agency, SCC, WMA.	9 May 2019	Workshop with detailed discussions on progress in modelling fluvial, coastal and breach for the main development site and principles with regard to flood compensatory storage.
Environment Agency, SCC, WMA.	17 May 2019	Telephone call held to present key principles in approaching the management of stormwater drainage.
Environment Agency, Natural England, ESC, RSBP, SCC, SWT.	21 May 2019	Workshop to discuss groundwater, surface water and eco-hydrological assessment and present initial results.
SCC	11 June 2019	Workshop to discuss approach to management of highways drainage, considering SuDS and infiltration potential.
Environment Agency, SCC, WMA.	24 June 2019	Workshop to discuss strategic approach at each site for stormwater management and preliminary discussion on foul drainage arrangements.

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/ comments
Environment Agency, Natural England, ESC, RSBP, SCC, SWT.	18 July 2019	Workshop to discuss groundwater, surface water and eco-hydrological assessment and present results.
Environment Agency, Natural England, ESC, RSBP, SCC, CPE, WMA.	14 August 2019	Telephone call held to agree key technical approach and individual issues, and enable completion of flood modelling.
Environment Agency, Natural England.	18 September 2019	Teleconference to close out comments on numerical modelling with technical specialist stakeholders.
Environment Agency, ESC, SCC.	23 September 2019	Workshop held to share interim findings of the drainage strategy, including design parameters and constraints for each site. Discussion on monitoring and maintenance requirements and implementation through the CoCP .
Environment Agency.	11 November 2019	Draft ES (Doc Ref. 6) chapter on groundwater and surface water provided.
Environment Agency.	19 November 2019	Numerical modelling report provided.
Environment Agency.	6 February 2020	Monitoring and response strategy provided.

f) Design Council

9.1.34 In addition to the formal consultation process, meetings have been held with the Design Council on two separate occasions over the course of developing the proposals.

9.1.35 SZC Co. first consulted the Design Council in March 2014 prior to Stage 2 consultation to review the emerging masterplan and initial design concepts for the turbine halls for the operational phase of the project. Subsequent design development addressed comments raised following that review along with ongoing stakeholder consultation.

9.1.36 SZC Co. reconsulted the Design Council in November 2019 following a considerable period of design development and stakeholder consultation. The strategic design review sought to assess particular aspects of the proposal comprising:

- landscape masterplan;
- turbine halls;
- operational service centre; and
- worker accommodation campus.

9.1.37 The Design Council responded on 28 November 2019 and noted:

- *‘Extensive steps are being taken by the project team to carefully integrate the Sizewell C site into its historic, coastal setting. Overall we think the proposal is being approached with great care and attention...’*
- *‘The proposed height, massing, layout and form of buildings on the power plant site and landscape approach are broadly successful, as a result of a robust design process.’*

9.1.38 Two key recommendations were made:

- *‘...that key design decisions for Sizewell C - The siting and scale of the buildings and infrastructure , and their treatment - have a collective visual impact, and therefore should be made based on their ‘composition’ within the landscape.....In the overall composition of Sizewell C in its landscape, we strongly recommend the inclusion of the dry fuel store as a detailed component of the DCO application given it key role.’*
- *‘...that the health and well being of users, particularly staff living and working on the site, be considered more comprehensively and enhanced in the development of the overall proposal...’. ‘In particular the current design of the Operational Service Centre (OSC) appears to address the wider site considerations.....at the expense of the staff within the proposed building’. However, ‘The architecture and external appearance of the ...OSC....is developing well...’.*

9.1.39 Regarding the landscape masterplan the response noted:

‘The design ambition for the landscape and its ecological stewardship is exemplary...a coherent design narrative and approach that factors in long term landscape enhancements with short-term requirements for construction. We support the approach to the sea defences’

9.1.40 The Design Council were broadly supportive of the design and design process that the design team were undertaking, with an appreciation of the design exploration of:

- the collective visual impact based on composition within the landscape;
- the approach to the colour and texture of external panels and their detailing to inform how buildings are perceived;
- the tests undertaken in relation to colour, shape, material and orientation, plus behaviour in different conditions; and
- the exploration of internal / external relationship of OSC / staff experience whilst maintaining the ‘calm’ appearance of buildings and dark skies.

9.1.41 The letters from the Design Council can be found at **Appendix G.7 and G.8.**

9.1.42 The **Main Development Site Design and Access Statement** (Doc Ref 8.1) captures the design evolution that has occurred throughout the consultation, including how SZC Co. has responded to the comments received.

g) **Marine Technical Forum**

9.1.43 The scope of marine ecology and coastal processes assessment has been informed by ongoing consultation and engagement with statutory consultees throughout the design and assessment process. To facilitate engagement with statutory stakeholders on the marine assessments, the Sizewell C marine technical forum was established on 26 March 2014.

9.1.44 The marine technical forum has an independent chair, supported by a technical secretariat supplied by SZC Co. together with nominated technical representatives from Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), together with consultants working on their behalf. The Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority, Suffolk Country Council and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) have also been in attendance at marine ecology and fisheries marine technical forum meetings as participating guests.

9.1.45 The key aim of the marine technical forum is to provide a means whereby the nature of the marine monitoring at Sizewell and the results and their outcomes can be readily discussed. Agreement or consensus between SZC Co. and the statutory environmental bodies, and clarity on any points of difference, is sought. The marine technical forum aims to seek a common view whilst respecting the independence of the statutory environmental bodies so that relevant advice to SZC Co. may be distilled, and that statutory environmental bodies' consultations and decision making may be best informed.

9.1.46 In advance of the submission of the Sizewell C DCO application, the Sizewell C marine technical forum has sought to develop a shared understanding of the status and sufficiency of the marine studies advanced by SZC Co., the assessments of project impact based upon these studies and the proposed means of mitigation, in order both to facilitate advice given by its members to the Planning Inspectorate and inform their own procedures.

9.1.47 Since November 2018, the marine technical forum has convened on four occasions for marine ecology and fisheries discussions alone. The meetings have focused on the following areas:

- 1 November 2018: Presentations of evidence in support of the Stage 3 PEI.

- 1 – 2 May 2019: Presentations of assessments for all receptors and updates to underwater noise and dredge modelling assessments.
- 18 June 2019: Focussed session on impingement and entrainment assessments.
- 18 December 2019: Sizewell B visit to observe impingement monitoring followed by presentations on updates to impingement and entrainment assessments and *Sabellaria spinulosa* at the site.

h) Local Authorities

9.1.48 SZC Co. has held meetings on a quarterly basis with SCC and ESC officers and lead members to discuss the overview of the programme and strategic issues. The meetings allowed attendees the opportunity to provide policy or regulation updates that may be relevant to proposed development.

9.1.49 In addition to this, regular meetings were held with lead local authority officers to discuss project specific issues and queries and the coordination of matters at a working level. The meetings were intended to resolve technical and specific issues in relation to the Sizewell C Project. Where specialist technical input was required separate topic specific meetings were organised.

9.1.50 The following topics have been discussed in detail and the detail of consultation is set out in **Volume 1** of the **ES** (Doc Ref 6.2):

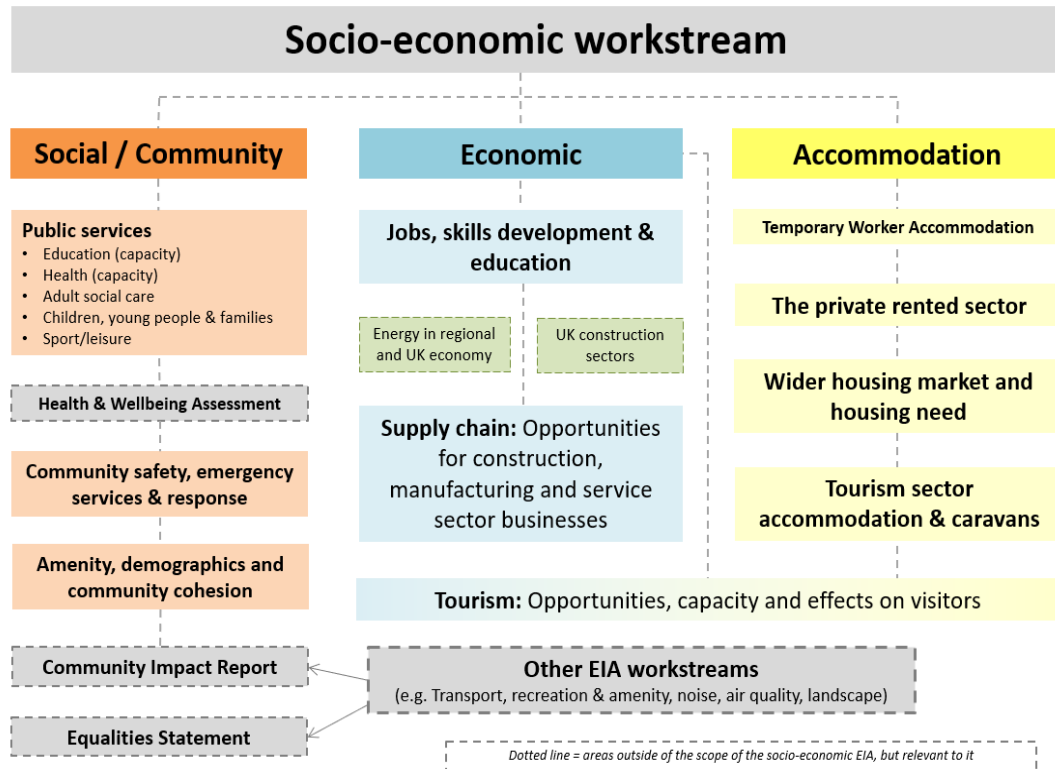
- Socio-economics
- Transport
- Historic Environment
- Soils and Agriculture
- Soils and Land Quality
- Materials and Waste

i. Socio-economics

9.1.51 A series of formal socio-economic working groups, incorporating representatives from ESC and SCC and SZC Co., were established from 2013. The working groups have considered the Sizewell C Project assumptions and methodology adopted for the assessment, the approach to assessing effects and identifying critical issues, and the development of analysis leading to mitigation. Membership of the working groups has expanded to include other relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to local tourism and skills/educational organisations, the emergency services

and the NHS as the assessment has progressed. **Plate 9.1** sets out the approach to issues within the wider socio-economic workstream, which has influenced the working groups’ membership and scope.

Plate 9.1: Socio-economic workstream



9.1.52 A series of formal socio-economic working groups, incorporating representatives from ESC, SCC, other public bodies where appropriate/relevant (including but not limited to Destination Management Organisation, local tourist accommodation and visitor attraction providers, the Clinical Commissioning Group and Public Health bodies, the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership and various skills and training providers across the region), and SZC Co. were established from 2013. The working groups have considered the Sizewell C Project’s assumptions and methodology adopted for the socio-economic assessment, the approach to assessing effects and identifying critical issues, and the development of analysis leading to mitigation.

9.1.53 Critically, where there are risks of potential effects on public services such as housing or social care, SZC Co. has worked with providers of these services to develop a suite of mitigation measures in order to avoid or reduce the effects.

- 9.1.54 **Plate 9.1** sets out the approach to socio-economic engagement across the workstream, which has influenced the working groups' membership and scope. The following paragraphs summarise the approach to engagement on key socio-economic issues, which is described in more detail between the suite of socio-economic documents within the application for development consent, e.g. the **Socio-economic Chapter** of the ES (Volume 2, Chapter 9), the **Accommodation Strategy** (Doc Ref. 8.10), the **Community Safety Management Plan** (Doc Ref. 8.16) and the **Economic Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.9).
- 9.1.55 In some cases, this has included the sharing and review of technical notes on issues such as Sizewell C Project assumptions (e.g. gravity model, workforce profile and accommodation assumptions) and issues of methodology (e.g. assessing effects on labour market churn) as well as developing positions on mitigation (e.g. measures to be funded by a Housing Fund, Tourism Fund and measures associated with the **Employment, Skills and Education Strategy** (Doc Ref. 8.9, Appendix A) and **Supply Chain Strategy** (Doc Ref. 8.9, Appendix B)).
- 9.1.56 SZC Co. recognises the importance of developing the socio-economic assessment iteratively as the Sizewell C Project has been developed and consulted upon. It also recognises the importance of on-going engagement throughout the planning, examination and implementation stages of the Sizewell C Project going forward, and has therefore taken steps to ensure collaborative working in the form of a Socio-economic Advisory Group going forward – terms of which will be secured by the Section 106 Agreement.
Housing / Accommodation
- 9.1.57 SZC Co. has engaged regularly with housing officers at ESC on issues regarding housing need and vulnerability, capacity and churn/change in the stock, the role of the PRS, SZC Co.'s proposals for project accommodation, and the scope of impact assessments and development of mitigation.
- 9.1.58 A detailed list of meetings undertaken with ESC housing officers is included at Table 2.2 of the **Accommodation Strategy** (Doc Ref. 8.10).
Economic Effects – Jobs, Skills and Businesses
- 9.1.59 SZC Co. has regularly met with economic development, skills and training and business development officers at SCC and ESC, as well as sector-skills leads from New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and the Suffolk Chamber of Commerce to:
- inform and explain the Sizewell C Project's labour demands, workforce profile, approach to recruitment, training and workforce development;

- set out the potential economic effects of the Sizewell C Project including the overall value, wages and multipliers, and potential perceived adverse effects on labour market churn; and
- develop mitigation and enhancement measures for the labour market and supply chain in the local and regional context, using existing policy structures and public sector plans to ensure that the Sizewell C Project is embedded within the Energy Coast.

9.1.60 Further details of engagement are included within the **Economic Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.9) and its appendices.

Tourism

9.1.61 SZC Co. established a working group with SCC, ESC, the New Anglia LEP, the Suffolk Coast Destination Management Organisation (DMO), the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) (Minsmere) and the National Trust (Dunwich Heath) in order to consider the potential for effects related to the Sizewell C Project on tourism.

9.1.62 This working group considered:

- the approach to measuring the baseline in terms of the overall scale, value and volume of tourism in the local and wider area – including quantitative measures and information related to the area’s particular tourist offer and visitor profile;
- how the Sizewell C Project may have the potential to affect sensitivities that existing and potential visitors may have to change;
- the development of a tourism survey – appended to the **Socio-economic Chapter** of the ES (Volume 2, Chapter 9) – used to identify potential areas of risk; and
- ways in which risk could be reduced, through the development and securing of a Tourism Fund.

9.1.63 Further details of engagement are included within the **Economic Statement** (Doc Ref. 8.9).

Community and Public Services

9.1.64 SZC Co. has regularly met with ESC and SCC, along with Public Health providers and the CCG in the region, to discuss the potential for the Sizewell C Project’s workforce to affect the delivery of critical statutory and non-statutory public services. This has included specific engagement with, for example:

- Adult and Children’s Care services (social services) with regard to potential recruitment, safeguarding, demographic and community cohesion/integration effects;
- Education Planning services, with regard to the potential for workers’ families to increase demand for school places; and
- Sports, Recreation and Leisure services, with regard to appropriate delivery and management of proposed sports pitches (3G football pitch and MUGA) to be provided by the Sizewell C Project for dual community and Sizewell C Project (workers’) use.

9.1.65 Further details are set out within the **Socio-economic Chapter** of the ES (Volume 2, Chapter 9) (Doc Ref 6.3)

Emergency Services and Community Safety

9.1.66 SZC Co. established a Community Safety Working Group with Suffolk Constabulary, East of England Ambulance Trust, Suffolk Fire and Rescue and ESC and SCC in order to identify and plan for potential effects of the Sizewell C Project on community safety – particularly in relation to the potential net additional effect of the workforce on crime, community cohesion and service provision.

9.1.67 SZC Co. has welcomed the opportunity to share information with these service providers in order to develop a better understanding of the scale of change, and the potential effects on services. This has led to the development of mitigation measures which will be secured by the Section 106 Agreement – including financial measures but also governance through continued collaborative working with the Community Safety Working Group to ensure the Project can respond flexibly to issues as they arise.

9.1.68 Further details are set out within the **Community Safety Management Plan** (Doc Ref. 8.16).

ii. **Transport**

9.1.69 Specific topic areas such as transport matters including strategic modelling, transport strategy and the development of associated development schemes were discussed in detail through regular meetings where required on a monthly or quarterly basis. The feedback assisted in the development of mitigation and refinement of the proposals.

9.1.70 The transport assessment has also been informed by ongoing consultation and engagement with SCC, ESC Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), throughout the design and assessment

process. A summary of the general comments raised and SZC Co.’s responses are detailed in **Volume 1, Appendix 6F** (Doc Ref 6.2).

iii. **Historic Environment**

- 9.1.71 Consultation was undertaken with Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS) with regards to the suitability of the study area for the data search. Confirmation that the assessment and information was adequate was achieved through the Stage 3 consultation, and within the 2019 EIA Scoping Opinion with SCCAS.
- 9.1.72 The Settings Assessment Scoping Report, provided in **Volume 1, Annex 6L.1** of the **ES** (Doc Ref 6.2), was also consulted upon with SCCAS, Historic England and East Suffolk Council (ESC) and the results of that consultation have been incorporated the assessment.
- 9.1.73 A summary of the comments raised and SZC Co.’s responses are detailed in **Volume 1, Appendix 6L** of the **ES** (Doc Ref 6.2).
- 9.1.74 A summary of the comments can be read in **Table 9.7** below.

Table 9.7 Summary of consultation and engagement responses

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussions
SCCAS, Historic England, ESC	Various	The detailed scope for assessment of effects arising through change to setting was consulted upon over the course of the Sizewell C Project. Annex 6L.1 of the ES (Doc Ref. 6) captures specific comments on the main development site and associated developments are included within the respective ES volumes, where relevant.
SCCAS	Various	The scope and methods for archaeological geophysical survey and evaluation trenching were consulted on with SCCAS in advance of works. Specific comments on the main development site and associated developments are included within the respective ES volumes, where relevant.
SCCAS	Various	Spatial extent of study areas for individual elements of the development were agreed with SCCAS through the Stage 2 and Stage 3 consultation process.

9.1.75

iv. Soils and Land Quality

9.1.76 SZC Co. engaged with key statutory consultees including SCC and the Environment Agency throughout the design and assessment process. Technical information was provided for comment and discussion. Specific comments on the assessment of the main development site and associated development sites are included within the respective **ES** volumes, where relevant. A summary of the discussions is provided in **Table 9.8**.

Table 9.8: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the geology and land contamination assessment.

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/comments
Suffolk County Council (SCC)	Various	<p>Details of the scope of the geology and land quality assessment have been consulted on over the course of the pre-application period including the proposed study area (500m) and methodology for the assessment of effects. SCC has also been provided with the Phase 2 Geo-Environmental Interpretative Report for the site (Appendix 18AES (Doc Ref. 6)) for comment.</p> <p>SCC is in general agreement with the proposed scope of the assessment and study area. SCC noted that the previous ground investigations undertaken across the site had not indicated any significant forms of contamination. Further discussion in relation to the previous ground investigations is provided in Chapter 18 of Volume 2 and Appendix 18A of the ES.</p> <p>SCC noted that additional sampling would need to be carried out to inform construction works and remediation/validation undertaken if contamination is identified. Proposed mitigation measures for construction works are provided in the various ES chapters and set out within the CoCP (Doc Ref. 8.11).</p> <p>It was also noted that details of materials to be-reused on site would need to be provided to SCC and the Environment Agency. Further discussion on materials re-use is provided in the various ES chapters and set out within the CoCP (Doc Ref. 8.11) and Materials Management Strategy (Volume 2, Chapter 3 of the ES).</p>

Consultee	Date	Summary of discussion/comments
Environment Agency (EA)	Various	<p>Details of the scope of the geology and land quality assessment have been consulted on over the course of the pre-application period including the proposed study area (500m) and methodology for the assessment of effects. The EA has also been provided with the Phase 2 Geo-Environmental Interpretative Report for the site (Appendix 18A of the ES) for comment.</p> <p>The EA is in general agreement with the proposed scope of the assessment and study area. The EA has also agreed that the conclusions and recommendations of the Phase 2 Report are appropriate.</p> <p>The EA noted that the additional site walkover and intrusive investigation proposed in the Phase 2 report would provide further information in relation to contamination at the site and the requirement for remediation. It was also noted that any risks identified should be addressed through detailed risk assessment and piling risk assessment where appropriate.</p> <p>Details of the findings from the additional site walkover are provided in the various ES chapters. Proposed mitigation measures are provided in the various ES chapters and set out within the CoCP (Doc Ref. 8.11).</p>

v. **Materials and Waste**

9.1.77 SZC Co. met with the Environment Agency, SCC and ESC throughout the design and assessment process to discuss the development of the Waste Management Strategy. On 13 June 2019, a joint consultation meeting was held at the Environment Agency office in Ipswich. The meeting was attended by the interested stakeholders and a presentation of the proposed Conventional Waste Management Strategy (appended at **Volume 2, Appendix 8A** of the **ES**) was given. A summary of the discussions is provided in **Table 9.9**.

Table 9.9: Summary of consultation and engagement responses that have informed the scope and methodology of the Materials and Waste Strategy

Consultee	Date	Comment	SZC Co.. response
Environment Agency	Meeting held on 13 June 2019. Comments received via email on 18 June 2019	The Environment Agency accepted that SZC Co.'s own Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and targets had yet to be finalised. Statutory targets for the recycling of specific materials should be considered. The Environment Agency suggested that rather than creating two consolidation centres, one dedicated permitted waste management facility on site could be provided, which would be managed by an existing local waste	Conventional Waste Management Strategy (refer to Volume 2, Appendix 8A of the ES) has been updated in line with Environment Agency's comments received.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Comment	SZC Co.. response
		management company and where all wastes could be source segregated and stored. SZC Co. would then be able to measure its waste and resource performance locally.	
		SCC are updating their waste strategy and so references to the existing 2011 Core Strategy should be replaced with the imminent SCC Waste and Minerals Plan which covers to 2036.	
		Energy from Waste (EfW) options should be considered in line with the waste hierarchy and one of SZC Co.'s targets should be zero waste to landfill.	
	Meeting held on 13 June 2019. Comment received via email on 18 June 2019	The Environment Agency did not have any further comments to add in addition to the response already provided but stated that it would welcome the opportunity to engage further on the possibility of a dedicated waste transfer station on site, if SZC Co. chose to explore this option, and to review the final strategy prior to DCO application submission.	
Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council	Meeting held on 13 June 2019. Comments received via email on 1 July 2019	The report outlines a waste management strategy for all non-radioactive waste which will be produced during the construction phases, operational phases and where relevant, the post operational and decommissioning phases. The report only takes into account non-radioactive waste streams. The report does not consider the management of conventional waste arisings in the future decommissioning.	The management of conventional waste arisings in the future decommissioning of the power station will be considered in a separate Decommissioning Waste Management Plan in line with regulatory requirements. For further information see Volume 2, Chapter 5 of the ES .
		It is important that the waste is segregated into appropriate waste streams prior to leaving the site for treatment facilities.	The storage calculations in the Conventional Waste Management Strategy are based on source segregation of the waste streams being undertaken.
		The segregation of waste must happen on site using the provision areas. It is noted that SZC Co. currently has no specifically defined	An indication of the area required for waste consolidation is provided in the Conventional Waste

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Comment	SZC Co.. response
		locations for waste consolidation centres. SCC and ESC would encourage that these are located towards the west of the site, close to the stockpiling areas.	Management Strategy (Volume 2, Appendix 8A of the ES). The contractors will be responsible for determining the exact location of waste consolidation centres. This is to be sited to minimise nuisance and risk of pollution to sensitive receptors (refer to Code of Construction Practice (Doc Ref. 8.11)).
		When defining the locations for the waste consolidation centres it is important that human receptors are considered, along with the cumulative impact of other operations and projects.	
		The waste capacity figures for facilities located in Suffolk that were presented are based on Environment Agency Permitting. It must be noted that these figures do not represent up to date real capacity figures. Environment Agency permits are issued in 'bands' therefore a site could have considerably less real-time available capacity, especially landfills. The Environment Agency permitting process is a different system and falls under different legislation to the planning process.	In the absence of more accurate information, the publicly available permitted capacity data have been used. This data has also been updated on the basis of waste capacities included in the Waste Data Interrogator for 2018.
		It is noted that Foxhall Landfill is not included in Table 21 'Landfills located within Suffolk with sufficient remaining capacity' (Page 68).	Foxhall Landfill was not included in the Conventional Waste Management Strategy as on the basis of waste capacity data used, no remaining capacity from the end of 2015 was assumed. The strategy only includes landfills that will have remaining capacity after 2022 when the construction work is expected to start.
		SCC queried whether the unsuitability of EfW facilities to accept waste from the project could be substantiated with further data.	The Conventional Waste Management Strategy has been updated to clarify that construction waste specifically may not be suitable for EfW facilities due to calorific values. The EfW facility would potentially be suitable for accepting residual wastes from the project.
		The construction waste arising figures, broken down into specific waste streams over the construction,	Construction waste arisings for specific waste streams based on composition data

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Consultee	Date	Comment	SZC Co.. response
		operational and decommissioning years, have not been included in the report. These figures must be assessed in accordance with the projected waste arisings in Suffolk to demonstrate whether there is capacity or not within Suffolk.	from Waste and Resource Action Plan's report have been provided in the Conventional Waste Management Strategy, however these cannot be matched to projected Suffolk data for the specific construction waste streams as this information is not available. Therefore, the figures calculated in the Conventional Waste Management Strategy have been compared to the Suffolk projected waste arisings for the overall construction waste arisings from the Sizewell C Project.
		To help reduce waste arisings, especially with the construction of roads and hard standings, a 'cut and fill' method is advised.	Cut and fill has been established as far as reasonably practicable at this stage, however additional reuse opportunities may arise on site during the construction to help reduce the surplus.
		The implementation of parts of the strategy needs to consider the potential for nuisance, in particular noise, dust and odour. Waste collection areas, particularly the large collection areas utilising the 40-yard skips need to be sited in such a way as to prevent nuisance.	Measures to avoid nuisance and minimise the risk of pollution have been set out within the Code of Construction Practice (Doc Ref. 8.11).

i) **Environment Agency**

9.1.78 SZC Co. has engaged at length with the Environment Agency on the development of the project proposals, assessment of impacts and timescales for submission of the required environmental permit applications.

9.1.79 Meetings are structured at different levels of each organisation to ensure that the required working support is in place and issues can be escalated if necessary.

j) **Informal Consultation with Stakeholders – January to February 2020**

9.1.80 Informal consultation with key stakeholders was carried between 15 January and 13 February 2020 in respect of the minor proposed changes to the Order Limits at the main development site made following the close of the Stage 4

consultation. This informal consultation was carried out in parallel with the statutory consultation carried out with persons with an interest in the affected land. Section 8.8 above provides details of the changes, who was consulted and the materials provided.

9.1.81 The responses to the informal consultation have been summarised and grouped into themes. These themes and SZC Co.’s responses are listed below in Table 9.10.

Table 9.10: Summary of Informal Consultation Responses on Water Resource Storage Area and Underground Water Pipe and new Wet Woodland Habitat

Topic	Summary Comments	Response	Change
Wet Woodland	Concern over location and quantum of wet woodland.	<p>SZC Co. proposed the addition of 0.7ha of wet woodland in the targeted consultation, which would be located to the west of the Grove and would establish over the long term. This location is low-lying and considered to be capable of providing wet woodland habitat with relatively modest levels of excavation.</p> <p>This will provide beneficial compensation for the loss of wet woodland associated with the proposed development, specifically permanent development at the main platform and SSSI crossing.</p> <p>It is recognised that there would be an overall net loss of 1.9ha of wet woodland. Wet woodland is not a habitat type for which Sizewell Marshes SSSI is designated although it partly supports the invertebrate assemblage designated feature.</p> <p>SZC Co. has therefore committed to preparing a Wet Woodland Strategy, in consultation with key stakeholders, which will identify additional opportunities to provide wet woodland compensatory habitat.</p> <p>In respect of location, there are few locations within the main development site which are suitable for wet woodland creation and which would not have the potential to cause adverse impacts to the Sizewell Marshes SSSI or require very extensive excavation. The proposed location combines an element of a flood storage compensation (part of earlier proposals) in a relatively low-lying area</p>	N

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Topic	Summary Comments	of Response	Change
		<p>which would require relatively modest excavation.</p> <p>Further details on the Wet Woodland Strategy are set out in Chapter 14, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3).</p>	
Wet Woodland	Supportive of wet woodland creation.	SZC Co. is pleased that the opportunity to create wet woodland is supported. Further details of the approach are provided in the row above.	N
Water resource storage area	Support for the water resource storage area, and suggestion to make it permanent.	<p>SZC Co. is pleased that there is support for the water resource storage area.</p> <p>SZC Co. notes suggestions from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Environment Agency that the water resource storage area could be retained as a permanent facility.</p>	N
Construction impacts	Concern over construction impacts of noise, lighting on nearby habitats and on landscape character.	<p>The construction impacts of the water resource storage area and the adjacent wetland area have been assessed as part of the overall development, in both the Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment processes and reported in Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3) and the Shadow HRA Report (Doc. Ref. 5.10) respectively.</p> <p>Construction works would be timed to minimise disturbance effects on foraging marsh harriers during their breeding season, and effects on both these birds and wintering waterfowl species are assessed as not significant in Chapter 14, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3).</p> <p>There would be no fixed lighting at the water resource storage area and the adjacent wetland, as secured by the Lighting Management Plan, which is located in Appendix 2B, Chapter 2, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3).</p> <p>Screening planting would be provided along the eastern side of Sandy Pytle Plantation and at the northern edge of Dove House Hill. As well as vegetation screening, the banks of the water resource storage area would have a naturalistic design. Further details on design</p>	N

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Topic	Summary Comments	Response	Change
		considerations are set out in Chapter 3, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3).	
Species-specific mitigation	Suitability and effectiveness of mitigation for specific species (bats, marsh harrier).	<p>The water resource storage area and wetland habitat area would be built on a small part of the EDF Energy Estate that has already been established as marsh harrier compensatory habitat. That compensatory habitat is for the predicted loss of foraging land at Sizewell Marshes SSSI, which is required due to a barrier effect caused by construction activity on the main development site.</p> <p>Independently of the water resource storage area and wetland habitat area, the marsh harrier habitat is being further improved through the addition of measures such as scrub planting.</p> <p>The water resource storage area and wetland habitat area are considered to further improve the quality of habitats for marsh harriers, as they will comprise two wetland features, amongst other design considerations. These wetland features can be expected to attract small numbers of wetland birds and mammals, which in turn should attract marsh harriers.</p> <p>Existing woodland corridors adjacent to the main development site boundary in this location, which are used for foraging, commuting and roosting by bats, would be unaffected by the proposed development.</p> <p>There would be no fixed lighting at the water resource storage area and the adjacent wetland, as secured by the Lighting Management Plan, which is located in Appendix 2B, Chapter 2, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3).</p>	N
Groundwater and surface water	Request for additional information to understand impacts on groundwater and surface water.	The impacts of the water resource storage area and the adjacent wetland area on groundwater and surface water have been assessed as part of the main development site in the Environmental Impact Assessment and are reported in Chapter 19, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3). No new significant effects are considered to result on groundwater and surface water receptors as a result of these proposals.	N

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Topic	Summary Comments	of	Response	Change
			Additional information on construction is set out in Chapter 3, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3). The Outline Drainage Strategy, which is inter-related with groundwater and surface water matters, is located in Appendix 2A, Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3).	
Water Supply	Concern raised as to where 25,000m ³ of water will come from without impacting on the adjacent wetlands, particularly in times of drought.		<p>The water supply for the water resource storage area is likely to come from winter flows, stored for use over summer. More specifically, the storage area is expected to capture and store excess water, as well as both greywater and treated effluent collected from within the main development site. All sources of water would be in excess of the natural requirements of the site and surrounding area.</p> <p>In addition to the above, SZC Co. has developed a water supply strategy by engaging with stakeholders including the Environment Agency, Essex & Suffolk Water and Anglian Water to discuss and assess other potential sources of water supply during the construction phase. Further details are set out in Appendix K of the Planning Statement (Doc. Ref. 8.4).</p>	N
Flood Compensation	Concerns regarding increased flood risk to the site and off-site receptors.		<p>The lined water resource storage area is to be located in Flood Zone 3 which has the potential to reduce the extent of the floodplain. However, the adjacent wetland area would involve excavation on the edge of the existing floodplain, thereby providing additional flood compensation, which would help offset this.</p> <p>The impacts of the water resource storage area and the wetland area have been assessed as part of the overall development in the Main Development Site Flood Risk Assessment (Doc. Ref. 5.2). With mitigation in place, all flood risk remains within acceptable levels and there would be no new flooding to receptors and no effect on the overall duration of flooding.</p>	N
Biodiversity net gain	Consideration of whether the development achieves biodiversity net gain.	of the	The water resource storage area and the adjacent wetland area have been assessed as part of the development of the Sizewell C proposals within a biodiversity net gain assessment. This is located at Volume 2 ,	N

Topic	Summary Comments	of Response	Change
		<p>Appendix 14E of the Environmental Statement (Doc. Ref. 6.3). The biodiversity net gain assessment demonstrates that the development as a whole would achieve biodiversity net gain.</p>	

k) Sizewell C Community Forum

9.1.82 The Sizewell C Community Forum was set up by SZC Co. prior to Stage 1 in 2012 and meets on a bi-annual basis. In consultation with the Suffolk local authorities, SZC Co. established the terms of reference and membership. Representatives from 30 parish councils and community groups, statutory stakeholders such as the Environment Agency and local district and county councillors and the local MP are among those on the Forum. Its role is to facilitate communication between SZC Co. and the community and to work as a mechanism to inform and update stakeholders with the latest developments on the Sizewell C Project.

l) Community and Stakeholder Engagement

9.1.83 Prior to, between and after the primary consultation stages, SZC Co. has regularly met with local community organisations, residents and representatives. During the period leading up to Stage 1 (November 2012) and the end of 2019, a total of 702 meetings took place outside of the formal consultation stages.

9.1.84 453 of these events and meetings were with groups or businesses covering a number of interests and responsibilities:

- Parish and town councils, such as Leiston Town Council, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council and several others.
- Schools, colleges and other education providers like Academy Trusts, Alde Valley Academy and Suffolk New College.
- Public service providers ranging from the local GP surgery in Leiston and Leiston and Saxmundham Area Citizens Advice to Suffolk Constabulary.
- Charities and voluntary sector organisations including Inspire Suffolk, Access Community Trust and the Suffolk Community Foundation.
- Community and Residents Groups from across East Suffolk but mainly Sizewell Residents Association, Women’s Institute branches and Rotary Clubs.

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

- Hard-to-Reach Groups including Suffolk Coalition of Disabled People, East Suffolk Association for the Blind and the Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality.
- Environment organisations including the RSPB, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Coast Against Retreat and the Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group.
- Businesses and industry organisations, ranging from individual businesses to Suffolk Chamber of Commerce and the East of England Energy Group.
- Groups opposed to development, from the local branches of anti-nuclear NGOs like Friends of the Earth to local anti-development and anti-nuclear groups like Together Against Sizewell C and Theberton and Eastbridge Action Group on Sizewell Ltd.

9.1.85 The meetings have involved project update presentations, progress on various environmental surveys and technical assessments and skills and supply chain development.

9.1.86 **Table 9.11** below provides a summary of the number of meetings and examples of issues which were discussed. The meetings covered strategic issues including the evolution of project proposals and allowed stakeholders to provide meaningful and constructive feedback. Where possible and practical, action has been taken by SZC Co. as a result of the issues raised. The meetings did not cover technical issues at the level of detail covered in specific project workshops; engagement with the local community focussed on general issues and project progress. Organisations such as RSPB and Suffolk Constabulary are involved in specific project workshops and have also engaged with SZC Co. at the community engagement level.

Table 9.11: Summary of Community and Stakeholder Engagement

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
Parish and Town Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aldeburgh Town Council • Blaxhall Parish Council • Bredfield Parish Council • Campsea Ashe Parish Council • Cookley & Walpole Parish Council 	161	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on designated sites / RSPB Minsmere • Ecology • Accommodation – impacts, benefits, legacy • Accommodation Campus / Caravan Site / Housing • Coastal processes

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darsham Parish Council • Felixstowe Town Council • Great Yarmouth Borough Council • Hacheston Parish Council • Iken Parish Council • Ipswich Borough Council • Kelsale cum Carlton Parish Council • Leiston Town Council • Levington & Stratton Hall Parish Council • Marlesford Parish Council • Martlesham Parish Council • Melton Parish Council • Middleton Cum Fordley Parish Council • New Nuclear Local Authorities Group (NNLAG) • Oulton Parish Council • Parham Parish Council • Saxmundham Town Council • Shadingfield, Sotterley, Willingham and Ellough Parish Council • Sibton Parish Council • Sizewell C Joint Local Authorities Group • Sizewell Parishes Liaison Group • Sudbourne Parish Council 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure changes – options, impacts, benefits, legacy • Socio-economic benefits • Transport – sea, rail, road • Impact on tourism • Workers' behaviour • Traffic impact, volume, speeding, mitigation measures • Boundary treatment of sites • Construction issues – noise, air quality, light pollution • Access and amenity • Pylons and overhead lines

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suffolk Association of Local Councils • Suffolk Chief Executives and Leaders Group • Suffolk Coastal District Council (Melton Hill) • Suffolk County Council • Sweffling Parish Council • Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council • Tunstall Parish Council • Ufford Parish Council • Waveney District Council • Westleton Parish Council • Wickham Market Parish Council • Woodbridge Town Council • Yoxford Parish Council 		
Education Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alde Valley Academy • Anglia Ruskin University • Bright Tribe • Connect Education and Business • East Coast Colleges Group • East Suffolk U3A Science and Technology • Felixstowe Academy • Framlingham College • Lowestoft College • Suffolk New College • Suffolk One • Suffolk Young Enterprise Board • Summerhill School • University Of Suffolk 	23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills and Training • STEM initiatives • Careers Advice • Employment Opportunities • School Transport • Access to FE and HE • Investment • Curriculum • Work experience • Sizewell B and Site Visits

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Suffolk College 		
Public Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Citizens Advice Leiston, Saxmundham & District Coastal Accessible Transport Services Leiston Doctors Surgery Leiston Library Suffolk Constabulary Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service Suffolk Resilience Forum Woodbridge and Leiston Jobcentres (Department for Work & Pensions) 	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public services – impacts, investment and legacy Housing Crime prevention Capacity Medical services on site Pharmaceuticals Employment opportunities
Charities and Voluntary Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspire Suffolk Access Community Trust Communication Action Suffolk Rural Coffee Caravan Suffolk Community Foundation 	15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment Education and Skills Rural communities / isolation Youth services Homelessness
Community and Residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aldeburgh Festival Club Aldeburgh Womens Institute Badingham WI Bungay Rotary Club Capel St Mary WI Carlton Parish Church Chelmondiston WI Community Action Suffolk (CAS) Deben Probus Club East Suffolk Traveller's Association (ESTA) Eastern European Community Project Eye WI Felixstowe 41 Club 	62	<p>Mainly project presentations and Q&A sessions which covered several issues and diverse topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nuclear energy Types of careers Spent Fuel management Roads and traffic Designated sites Environmental impacts

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felixstowe Landguard Rotary Club • Felixstowe Probus 84 Club • Forces Regroup • Gipping Womens Club • Gislingham WI • Gulliver's Girls WI • Halesworth & District Probus Club • Hasketon Friday Supper Club • High Suffolk Rotary Club • Ipswich Wolsey Rotary Club • Knodishall WI • Leiston WI • Leiston Youth & Community Angling Society • Locality Matters • Nacton WI • Orford and Sudbourne WI • Pro Corda • Rose & Sweet William Club • Saxmundham Womens Institute • Sizewell Residents Association • Southwold & Reydon Society • St Margarets Church • Suffolk & Essex Energy and Enviroment Group • Suffolk Community Advocacy • The Suffolk East Federation of Womens Institutes • Walberswick Local History Group • Wangfords Mens Club 		

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodbridge Lions Club • Woodbridge Probus Club • Woodbridge WI • Worlingworth and Tannington WI • Yoxford Bowls club 		
Hard-to-Reach Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age UK Suffolk • Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality • Optua • Suffolk Coalition of Disabled People • Suffolk Hearing Advisory Service 	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation processes and accessibility • Engagement with local groups • Careers • Ongoing engagement
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alde & Ore Estuary Partnership • Anglian coastal network IET • AONB Partnership • Coastal Management Officer • Minsmere Levels Stakeholder Group • National Trust • RSPB • Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB • Suffolk Coast Against Retreat (SCAR) • Suffolk Coast and Estuaries Group • Suffolk Wildlife Trust 	49	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on designated sites • Coastal processes • Ecology and wildlife • RSPB Minsmere • Flood risk • Water • Spoil management • Landscape / Visual Impact • Access and Amenity • Carbon footprint • Coastal defences
Business and Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AECOM (URS) • Aldeburgh Business Association • Anglian Water • Associated British Ports (Ipswich) • Axter Ltd • Banbury Howard • Beach View Holiday Park • Best Estates • Business in the Community 	94	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply chain opportunities • Hinkley Point C supply chain • Transport and Infrastructure • Employment and Skills • Displacement • Indirect economic benefits

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cakes & Ale Limited • Durrants- Beccles • East Anglian Region Structural Engineers • East of England Co-operative Society • East of England Energy Group / Skills for Energy • Federation of Small Businesses • Geaters & Sons • High Lodge Shooting School Leisure Ltd • Ipswich Chamber of Commerce • Larking Gowen • Leiston Business Association • Leiston Enterprise Centre • Leiston Leisure Centre • Lion Inn • Lowestoft and Waveney Chamber of Commerce • Micropress • Molletts Farm • Network Rail • New Anglia Growth Hub • New Anglia LEP • Norfolk Chamber of Commerce • Orbis Energy / NSEA • Parker Hannifin Manufacturing Limited • Pont's Garage • Port of Lowestoft • Roland Plastics Ltd • Royal Haskoning DHV, • Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association 		

	Organisations	Events / Activities / Meetings / Presentations	Examples of issues discussed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stowemarket Chamber of Commerce Stratford Service Station Suffolk Agricultural Association Suffolk Chamber of Commerce Suffolk Coast Business Sweett Group T A Hotel Collection The Suffolk Coast Victory Car Sales Visit East Anglia 		
Anti - Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anglian Energy Planning Alliance B1122 Action Group Communities Against Nuclear Expansion (CANE) Substation Action Save East Suffolk Suffolk Coastal Friends of the Earth Theberton and Eastbridge Action Group on Sizewell Ltd (TEAGS) Together Against Sizewell C 	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anti-nuclear Environment Transport

9.1.87 Members of the local community have also been encouraged to provide feedback on the Sizewell C Project proposals through a number of ways. SZC Co. operates a freephone telephone number, email and freepost service, which are available during and outside formal stages of consultation. SZC Co. aims to respond to queries within five days of receipt. In addition, Sizewell C Information Office on High Street, Leiston has been open to the public on weekdays since 21 November 2012 for information and drop-in sessions.

m) [Engagement on the draft DCO application documents](#)

9.1.88 SZC Co. shared a number of draft application documents with key stakeholders in advance of the submission of the DCO application.

- 9.1.89 The application documents were shared with key stakeholders in draft form on a confidential and without prejudice basis, with the understanding that they represented work in progress but that any feedback would be helpful prior to submission of the DCO application.
- 9.1.90 The draft DCO application documents were shared with the intention to:
- highlight any issues that existed within the draft application documents and work to resolve these prior to the submission of the DCO application; and
 - share information to help work towards resolving issues and narrow areas of disagreement in advance of the submission of the DCO application.
- 9.1.91 Draft documents were shared with 14 key stakeholders in staggered phases between 11 November 2019 and 4 December 2019. The review programme with key stakeholders was structured as follows, although a bespoke approach was agreed with each consultee:
- Four-week review of documents;
 - Written comments to be provided in a standard template by end of the four-week review period.
 - Regular dialogue with parties to raise significant issues as they occurred.
- 9.1.92 Comments were received back from 10 stakeholders:
- MMO
 - EEAST
 - Natural England
 - Environment Agency
 - Bylor
 - ESC
 - SCC
 - National Grid
 - RSPB
 - SWT

- 9.1.93 The feedback received was immensely helpful in highlighting issues, most of which were detailed issues arising from the document drafting, although there remained some issues of principal.
- 9.1.94 SZC Co. established an internal review process to receive and attempt to address all of the comments and issues raised and this exercise helped to enhance the quality of the application documents, including the mitigation proposals.
- 9.1.95 SZC Co. has a direct relationship with each of these principal stakeholders. Direct engagement aims to resolve issues and will be used to form the basis of Statements of Common Ground, which will be developed and formulated following submission of the application.
- 9.2 **Conclusion**
- 9.2.1 This chapter has provided an overview of the ongoing informal engagement and consultation undertaken by SZC Co.
- 9.2.2 Informal (non-statutory) engagement and consultation with the local community and key stakeholders has been invaluable in challenging assumptions and testing or generating project changes that arose out of the statutory consultation stages or which have then informed the next stage of consultation. Non-statutory consultation and engagement has allowed SZC Co. to target certain interest groups and engage with them in a focussed way on matters which are particularly relevant to them.

10. Conclusion

- 10.1.1 This Consultation Report forms part of the Application for the Sizewell C DCO. It is submitted pursuant to section 37(3)(c) of the Act.
- 10.1.2 Pre-application consultation is a legal requirement for NSIPs. In accordance with the Act, this Report outlines the pre-application consultation undertaken by SZC Co., sets out the relevant responses received and explains how regard has been had to these.
- 10.1.3 In addition to compliance with legal requirements, this Report also explains how consultation and engagement has been used positively by SZC Co. to enable the proposals for the Sizewell C Project to evolve in response to feedback.
- 10.1.4 Engagement on a new power station in Sizewell has been ongoing since 2008. There have been four principal stages of statutory pre-application consultation, between 2012 and 2019, and two targeted stages of consultation. Outside of these consultation stages, very extensive informal consultation and engagement has taken place.
- 10.1.5 Through the formal stages of consultation and development of design, SZC Co. has developed and tested various strategies for how the power station should be constructed, in particular the transport, accommodation and mitigation strategies. Each strategy would require different amounts of land and types of associated development to support the construction of Sizewell C and each would have different community effects. Taking account of feedback from the consultation, as well as design development, further modelling and technical and environmental studies, SZC Co. has identified the strategies that are most suitable for the Sizewell C Project. It is on the basis of these strategies that SZC Co. is making its application for development consent.
- 10.1.6 Whilst some elements of the power station proposals were fixed (such as the need for or location of the power station at Sizewell), consultation and engagement has enabled the proposals to be developed and optimised in response to feedback about priorities and sensitivities. Design development, construction strategies and mitigation proposals have all been enhanced as a result.
- 10.1.7 The following principal non-statutory and statutory phases of consultation took place:
- Initial (Non-Statutory) Informal Engagement (Pre-Stage 1) ran from December 2008 to November 2012. This early engagement prior to statutory consultation informed the community and stakeholders about

the development aspirations for Sizewell from an early stage and helped to provide an early understanding of local issues and priorities.

- Statutory Stage 1 Consultation ran from 21 November 2012 to 6 February 2013. This sought comments on the initial overall proposals for Sizewell C, options for associated development and the potential effects on the local community and environment.
- Informal (Non-Statutory) Consultation (Development Sites) took place in March and August 2014. This sought views on reclassified options for the associated development sites focussing on learning from the Stage 1 consultation and additional technical work.
- Statutory Stage 2 Consultation ran from 23 November 2016 to 3 February 2017. This sought views on all elements of the emerging strategy and proposals across the whole project, and in relation to proposed scheme changes since the Stage 1 consultation.
- Statutory Stage 3 Consultation ran from 4 January 2019 to 29 March 2019. Views were again sought on all elements of the Sizewell C Project, and in relation to changes proposed since the Stage 2 consultation.
- Statutory Stage 4 Consultation ran from 18 July 2019 to 27 September 2019. This provided an update on elements of the proposal that had changed since the Stage 3 consultation, and principally sought views on new proposals for the transport of freight and the provision of additional land to compensate for environmental impacts. Minor changes were proposed to the Order Limits following the close of the Stage 4 consultation. Targeted consultation under section 42 of the Act was therefore undertaken with affected consultees who were provided with the consultation materials for Stage 4 and were consulted for a minimum of 28 days, as follows:
 - 10 December 2019 to 31 January 2020: as a result of proposed changes to the Order Limits relating to the two village bypass and Saxmundham to Leiston branch line, persons with an interest in the land were consulted.
 - 15 January to 13 February 2020: as a result of proposed changes to the Order Limits at the main development site in respect of proposals for a water storage area, persons with an interest in the land (EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Limited and Suffolk Wildlife Trust) were consulted. Informal consultation was also carried out with relevant stakeholders.
- Informal (Non-Statutory) Ongoing Engagement, which has been undertaken throughout the pre-application period and will continue

following submission of the application as appropriate. In addition, SZC Co. has conducted a process of direct engagement with a number of statutory stakeholders.

- 10.1.8 All stages of formal consultation presented and consulted on preliminary environmental information (PEI).
- 10.1.9 This Consultation Report has demonstrated that each statutory stage of consultation has met the requirements for consultation set out within the Act. This is summarised and signposted within **Table 2.1** in **Chapter 2**. Overall, SZC Co. has undertaken a thorough approach to consultation in accordance with the requirements of the Act throughout the evolution of the project.
- 10.1.10 The design has evolved in response to the technical environmental work undertaken and the consultation feedback received, to ensure that the scheme is of the optimal design for its location.
- 10.1.11 The consultation process has been effective and productive, and the content of the application and supporting assessments (including the Environmental Statement **ES (Doc Ref. 6)** have been informed and improved as a result.
- 10.1.12 SZC Co. is very grateful to all parties who have responded to consultation or engaged with the evolving development of the Sizewell C Project.