


From: 
To: [SizewellC](#)
Subject: Principal Issue: children's rights
Date: 01 April 2021 15:51:20
Attachments: [PI children's rights and SZC.docx](#)

Further to preliminary meeting, please find attached my comments regarding this important area for examination of the applicant's plans.

Best regards
Laura Bonnett

[REDACTED]

Thursday 1 April 2021

Dear Wendy Mackay and team,

Children's rights as Principal Issue and Sizewell C

I raised this issue at the Preliminary meeting:

“Speaking as a Theberton resident, a parent and a teacher (but not speaking on behalf of any particular local school), I requested the Inspectorate examine how the proposal impacts the precious years of childhood, specifically if the plans contravene the UN Rights of a Child and the right for a child to access what they need to have a good life.

Article 3 (best interests of the child) : The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

I think we can see from our recent lockdown how one year of lockdown has impacted the mental health and education of children. What impact will 12+ years of the Sizewell C development have on children's lives here? My main concern is the length of the construction measured in childhood years, that is, a whole childhood, a whole period of education.

Will local children, and visiting children who come to Suffolk coast on holiday, have the same level of wellbeing whilst such an enormous development happens?

My list of what makes a good childhood here is:

- ability to see stars in the night sky
- access to nature and see the abundance of wildlife
- swimming and sailing in the sea
- walking on footpaths and quiet lanes
- visiting woods and climbing trees
- riding bikes and horses
- access to midwifery services, maternity units and health visitors
- good air quality
- safety due to current demographic, especially for young and teenage girls
- viability of small rural schools
- attendance at recreation including festivals such as Latitude and Folk East
- affordability and availability of family homes
- very little time spent in traffic
- and lastly relative ease to evacuate in event of an incident at the nuclear power station.

Is the real legacy of this build actually a robbed childhood, a huge financial debt and toxic waste to deal with in their futures, not the jobs that EDF cite?

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When you investigate the traffic modelling please consider the trip-chaining of car users in this area who provide childcare, maternity and child services as well as the social care for SEND children and vulnerable adults.”

Further comments to clarify and extend my point:

Below is an example of *some* of the home-school transport services likely to be impacted greatly by an increase of traffic due to SZC the 12 years of Sizewell C construction. Additionally, please consider that not all children use the home-school transport, some are driven in private cars by parents. Suffolk County Council should be able to provide accurate figures on this but for this area of Suffolk, a significant number of students live more than 3 miles away from their local and nearest school (primary, secondary and further education) and have no safe footpath to manage that journey by any other means than by road.

I would urge you to also look at how routes, both main roads, footpaths and quiet lanes for walking and cycling, to school and recreation for our local children will be cut off by the Sizewell Link Road.

I would urge to look at potential air quality and noise pollution issues for our children living in Theberton and Eastbridge – how are EDF anticipating their play outdoors and their quality of sleep will be impacted in say Doughty Wylie Crescent, for example. Does this breach Article 3 of the UN Rights of a Child? **Please visit us to see how play happens here as one of your site visits!**

I would urge you to look at impact of workforce on safety of young girls walking alone in the area

I would urge you to look at change in journey length to maternity units and visits from community midwife and health visitors for start-of-life care

I would urge you to examine how the construction would impact those children requiring SEND provision which usually involves lengthier journeys to educational settings

I would urge you to look at affordability and availability of family accommodation in the area so children can continue to live here

And lastly, I would urge you to re-evaluate whether children can be safely evacuated if there were an incident at Sizewell B during the 12 years of C construction. Our schools and nurseries do not have transport to move our children. With the likely congestion, would parents be able to collect their children and move them to safety quickly enough?

I appreciate that as part of process you do not need to hear opinions at this stage but I feel the following needs to be stated:

I wish to speak up for children and the massive potential impact on their lives in a rural idyll. I do believe looking at the plans and attending the consultations that SZC would be a disaster for the quality of childhood years spent here. They feel safe here and have access to a good quality of recreation. Children love the woods, wildlife and the coast here and seeing the stars in our dark sky. They are enthused by a future of solar, renewable energy, energy efficiency and recycling. They are tuned in to the climate emergency. They enjoy playing outdoors and do not like traffic – in fact children here are rarely caught in any traffic congestion and the home-school transport network relies on that.

Children do not like having their freedoms taken away but they currently have no voice in this consultation

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Some school staff and school leaders I have spoken to do buy EDF's spin to mitigate community impact of the "jobs for the future". Many education staff are also reluctant to raise concerns for fear of upsetting the parents who currently work at Sizewell B. However, there are real concerns over how children's journeys to and from education will be impacted.

I thank you for your support,

Laura Bonnett

home-school transport routes potentially impacted by construction traffic for 12 years:

- LS003 Blythburgh - Darsham - Westleton - Theberton - Leiston Alde Valley School
- LS004 Theberton - Middleton Primary School / Saxmundham Free School – Yoxford
- LS006 Bruisyard - Rendham - Saxmundham Free School
- LS007 Walberswick - Yoxford Primary School
- LS008 Sibton - Peasenhall - Yoxford Primary School
- LS010 Wenhaston - Walpole - Darsham - Yoxford Primary School - Saxmundham Free School
- LS011 Ramsholt - Bawdsey - Chillesford - Saxmundham Free School
- LS012 Friston - Eastbridge- -Alde Valley Academy
- LS014 Chillesford - Snape - Friston - Saxmundham Free School
- LS017 Sutton - Snape - Leiston Alde Valley School
- LS018 Little Glemham - Saxmundham Free School - Leiston Alde Valley
- LS019 Ipswich - Wickham Market - Saxmundham Free School
- LS022 Little Glemham - Benhall St Mary's Primary School
- LS023 Friston - Coldfair Green Primary School
- LS024 Middleton - Leiston - Saxmundham Free School
- LS025 Friston - Thorpeness - Alde Valley School, Leiston
- LS521 Halesworth - Leiston
- LS522 Peasenhall - Sibton - Yoxford - Saxmundham Free School - Alde Valley Academy
- LS964 (Service 64) Aldeburgh - Alde Valley School, Leiston
- FR547 Cratfield - Badingham - Dennington - Thomas Mills
- FR549 Badingham - Dennington - Thomas Mills High School
- FR552 Metfield - Framlingham, Thomas Mills High School
- FR554 Monewden - Cretingham - Ashfield - Earl Soham Primary School
- FR555 Debenham - Earl Soham - Thomas Mills High School

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FR556 Monewden - Easton Primary School - Framlingham, Sir Robert Hitcham - Thomas Mills High School

FR557 Great Glemham - Parham - Cransford - Thomas Mills High School - Sir Robert Hitcham CP

FR558 Campsea Ashe - Thomas Mills High School

FR561 Letheringham, Charsfield - Thomas Mills High School

FR563 Marlesford - Framlingham, Thomas Mills High School

FR566 Framlingham - Badingham - Dennington Primary School

FR963 Woodbridge - Wickham Market - Thomas Mills High School

FX73 Woodbridge - Martlesham - Trimley St Martin - Felixstowe Academy

WE007 Felixstowe - Trimley St Mary - Woodbridge - Otley College

WE893 Capel St Andrew - Butley - Farlingaye High School - Hollesley Primary School - Sutton

WE900 Clopton - Farlingaye High School - Kyson Primary

WE901 Snape - Rendham - Farlingaye High School

WE908 Waldringfield - Farlingaye High School

WE909 Farlingaye - Great Bealings - Martlesham

WE910 Hollesley - Sutton Base - Farlingaye High School

WE911 Tunstall - Eyke Primary School - Farlingaye High School

WE912 Wickham Market - Campsea Ash - Tunstall - Farlingaye High School

WE913 Sudbourne - Iken - Orford Primary School

WE914 Iken - Sudbourne - Orford - Butley - Farlingaye High School

WE915 Rendlesham - Farlingaye High School

WE916 Campsea Ashe - Eyke Primary School - Rendlesham - Farlingaye High School

WE917 Rendlesham - Farlingaye High School

WE918 Tunstall - Rendlesham - Farlingaye High School

WE920 Witnesham - Grundisburgh Primary School

WE921 Clopton - Grundisburgh Primary School


WE923 Henley - Clopton - Burgh - Grundisburgh - Farlingaye High School

WE924 Framlingham - Debenham - Grundisburgh - Farlingaye

WE926 Boulge - Debach - Dallinghoo - Farlingaye High School/Kyson Primary

WE927 Otley - Ashbocking - Woodbridge, Farlingaye High School

WE972 and IP972 Woodbridge - Little Bealings - Kesgrave High - Farlingaye High



WE982 Butley - Farlingaye High School

WE983 Sutton - Hollesley Primary School - Farlingaye High School

WE984 Bawdsey - Sutton - Melton Primary School - Farlingaye High School

BR001 Kessingland - Carlton Colville - Beccles, Sir John Leman

BR005 Hulver Gate - Sotterley - Wrentham - Beccles Free School - Sir John Leman, Beccles

BR011 Reydon - Wangford - Shadingfield - Sir John Leman, Beccles

BR012 Beccles - Brampton Primary.

BR015 Wrentham - Frostenden - Wangford - Reydon Primary School

BR016 Barsham - Sir John Leman, Beccles

BR020 Southwold - Reydon - Wrentham - Beccles Free School

BR022 Uggeshall - Stoven - Brampton - Redisham - Sir John Leman, Beccles

BR024 Barsham - Ilketshall - Sir John Leman High School - Ringsfield Primary

BR025 Ilketshall St Andrew – Ringsfield Primary School

BR027 North Cove - Beccles Free School - Sir John Leman High School