



Development Consent Application: East Anglia ONE North Offshore Wind Farm (Case Ref: EN010077)

Development Consent Application: East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farm (Case Ref: EN010078)

Examining Authorities' Note of Unaccompanied Inspections of Sites Undertaken 15 and 16 July 2020 (USI2)

Background

The Examining Authorities (ExAs) undertook their first unaccompanied site inspections (USI1) on the afternoon of 20 January 2020 and on 21 January 2020. A note of these first inspections has been published on the National Infrastructure Planning website.

On 30 June 2020, Jonathan Hockley was appointed to the ExAs for both Examinations to replace the previously appointed Mike Harris¹. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) published by the ExAs on 16 July 2020 noted that Mr Hockley would carry out his own site inspections to locations previously inspected by the ExAs. These inspections took place on the afternoon of 15 July and 16 July 2020.

Inspections were undertaken from publicly accessible land including highways and public rights of way. No access was required to private land, so advance permission to enter land was not required and these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The purpose of this note is to inform the Applicant, Interested Parties (IPs) and other persons of these inspections undertaken by Mr Hockley. As all of the locations inspected were affected by both applications, a single note has been produced. It is endorsed with the yellow and blue icon used to identify materially identical documentation in accordance with the ExAs' procedural decisions on document management of 23 December 2019². Whilst for completeness of the record this note has been published to the Examination Libraries for both applications, if it is read in one library, there is no need to read it again in the second library.

Further site inspections may be required. The site inspection programmes will be discussed at the Preliminary Meetings (PMs) to be held in due course. The Applicant, IPs and other persons will be provided with an opportunity to provide comments to the ExAs on the approach that they should take to site inspections and to nominate site inspection locations. Subject to such public health restrictions as may be in force to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, opportunities may be provided to propose inspections of private land, land where accompaniment is required for safety and related reasons and land where specific features need to be drawn to the ExAs'

¹ Letters of appointment for [East Anglia ONE North](#) and [East Anglia TWO](#) can be seen here.

² The ExA's procedural decision of 23 December 2019 made in respect of the application for [East Anglia ONE North](#) can be seen here at Annex B. The ExA's identical procedural decision of 23 December 2019 made in respect of the application for [East Anglia TWO](#) can be seen here, also at Annex B.



attention on an accompanied basis – known as accompanied site inspections (ASIs). If ASIs are not feasible then alternative virtual processes may be proposed.

Before agreeing to site inspections at any particular location, the ExAs will consider the degree to which it is necessary to visit a site that has been nominated for an inspection to inform them about the application. They may decide not to visit nominated locations where they consider that it is not necessary to see the features to be observed there. They may decide not to hold an ASI if all relevant features can be observed and understood from locations in the public domain.

Arrangements for any ASIs or alternative virtual processes are included in the ExAs' Examination Timetables and procedural decisions. USIs may be carried out by the ExAs as required to inform them and without notice. However, if further USIs are carried out, further inspection notes will be published.

Particulars of the Inspections

The inspections were undertaken by new ExAs member Jonathan Hockley on his own. The purpose of the inspections was for Mr Hockley to become familiar with the applications and largely to view sites previously inspected by the other members of the ExAs. He inspected:

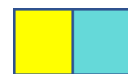
- land proposed to form parts of the applications' sites onshore;
- local features, including but not limited to roads, topography, landmarks, settlements etc within the applications' sites and their settings;
- views of the proposed grid connection works sites;
- views of the proposed cable alignment works sites; and
- views of the proposed landfall areas.

The inspections were carried out over two days.

Day 1: 15 July 2020 - The main inspections were undertaken on foot commencing at 12:30. Weather conditions were cloudy and humid, with occasional light showers. Visibility was good and was adequate to appreciate views of the wider area and the context of the cable alignment works, grid connection works and substation works sites in and around Friston, Knodishall, and Aldringham. The inspection concluded at 16:40. Journeys to and between inspection locations by car also enabled Mr Hockley to observe additional elements of the proposed applications' sites and settings.

Day 2: 16 July 2020 - The main inspections were again undertaken on foot commencing at 08:45. Weather conditions were cloudy but bright, which was adequate to appreciate views of the wider area and the context of the works together with details of the cable landing areas in Thorpeness and cable alignment works in the Sizewell and wider area. Areas of proposed highway works at Friday Street and Marlesford Bridge were also viewed, and a visit to recently constructed offshore wind farm transmission system connection points and substations at Burstall, to the west of Ipswich was undertaken. The inspection concluded at 15:30. Journeys to and between inspection locations by car also enabled Mr Hockley to observe additional elements of the proposed applications' sites and settings.

The individual locations inspected over both days and the purposes of those inspections are recorded below with route maps provided at **Annex A**. Route numbers as shown on the maps are set out below.



Reference to Environmental Statement View Points (ES VP) is taken to be to Figures 28.5 and 29.4 for seascape and onshore receptors (Examination Library references APP-319 and APP-394 respectively); these references are common to both applications.

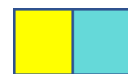
Day 1 (15 July 2020):

The approach towards Friston by car from the north along the B1121 enabled Mr Hockley to view proposed transmission connection works from the west and approaching the works' site from Red Lane and Redbarn Lane and SLVIA VP8, before parking on Saxmundham Road

Inspection 2.1 viewed the following on foot:

- Environs of Knodishall and Friston
- Proposed cable alignment works
- Proposed grid connection works
- Proposed substation works
- General location of properties
- St Mary the Virgin church
- Setting of listed buildings
- Affected public rights of way

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point ① on Annex A map 2.1. Walked southwards along Saxmundham Road and then northwards along public footpath towards Church Road. Crossed the road and carried on northwards on public footpath.	Environs of Friston. Woodside Farm. Boundary of Friston House. Proposed pylon rearrangement	SLVIA VP1 SLVIA VP6
Walked eastwards on public footpaths	Fristonmoor Moor Farm Little Moor Farm	SLVIA VP5
Walked southwards on public footpaths back to Friston.	Proposed substations works site.	SLVIA VP2
Walked northwards along Grove Road and eastwards to the south of Knodishall	Proposed grid connection works. Southeastern extent of proposed grid connection works site/red line boundary (RLB). Grove Wood.	SLVIA VP4 SLVIA VP14
Walked southwards on public footpaths and then westwards back to Friston; Watch Walk Whin, the Sandlings, Church Farm	Long range views and general environs of Friston. St Mary the Virgin Church Walls Cottages Friston War Memorial	SLVIA VP7 Illustrative VPs B, C



Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Walked along Mill Road and partially on footpath to north; then returned to parked vehicle.	Friston Post Mill	

Following conclusion of Inspection (2.1), Mr Hockley then drove to Aldringham and parked south of the village.

Inspection 2.2 viewed the following on foot:

- Hundred River Valley Special Landscape Area
- Views towards Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Views towards designated ancient woodland

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point ② on map 2.2 in Annex A on the B1122. Walked rights of way in a loop via Saint Andrew's Church to Fitches Lane.	Hundred River. Proposed cable alignment in agricultural land and cable crossing point of B1122	
Fitches Lane to junction of Sloe Lane/Snape Road and woodland and open land rights of way.	Raidsend woodland. Round Covert. Portobella Covert. Five Acre Pickle. Four crossings of the proposed cable alignments.	
Fitches Lane (south of Coldfair Green) to B1122 (Aldeburgh Road)	Residential properties fronting Fitches Lane. Raidsend woodland	
B1122 (Aldeburgh Road) to parked vehicle	Environs of Aldringham Court Bridge over Hundred River	Illustrative VP A

Day 2 (16 July 2020):

Mr Hockley drove to Aldeburgh and viewed the seascape from SLVIA VP13. He then drove to Thorpeness and parked there.

Inspection 2.3 viewed the following on foot:

- Heritage Coast
- Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Leiston-Aldeburgh SSSI
- Sandlings SPA
- Views towards Sizewell Marshes SSSI



Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Commenced in Thorpeness at location ③ on map 2.3 in Annex A. Walked to proposed cable landfall (Thorpeness beach).	Beach including existing cliff defences. Thorpeness Common.	VP12
Walked north across landfall area to Sizewell along Suffolk Coast Path.	General seascape. General location of properties including Ness House.	VP10 VP11
Walked from Sizewell to Crown Farm via Sandy Lane and Lover's Lane.	Environs of Sizewell A & B. Existing sub-station infrastructure associated with Galloper and Greater Gabbard offshore wind farms (OWFs) Broom Covert site. Vegetated boundaries to Lover's Lane & Sizewell Road.	
Walked from Crown Farm to Thorpeness via footpaths adjacent to Shellpits Cottages, Square Covert, Margaret Wood and Thorpeness Common.	Significant elements of proposed cable works areas. SPA. SSSI.	

Mr Hockley then proceeded by car to the Friday Street junction of the A1094 with the A12, stopping to view the junction briefly by foot, before proceeding to Marlesford. He stopped again here to view the Marlesford bridge and surroundings by foot. Mr Hockley then drove to Burstall, to the west of Ipswich via the A12 and A14.

Inspection 2.4 viewed the following on foot:

- Bullen Lane National Grid Substation
- East Anglia One substation and ongoing landscaping works
- Views from Burstallhill and Burstall

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Commenced in Burstall at location ④ on map 2.4 in Annex A. Walked northwards along public footpaths, then heading eastwards on diverted footpath between substations.	National Grid substation East Anglia One substation Ongoing landscaping works	
Walked back and headed westwards on public footpath to Burstallhill	Longer range views of substations from Church Hill	



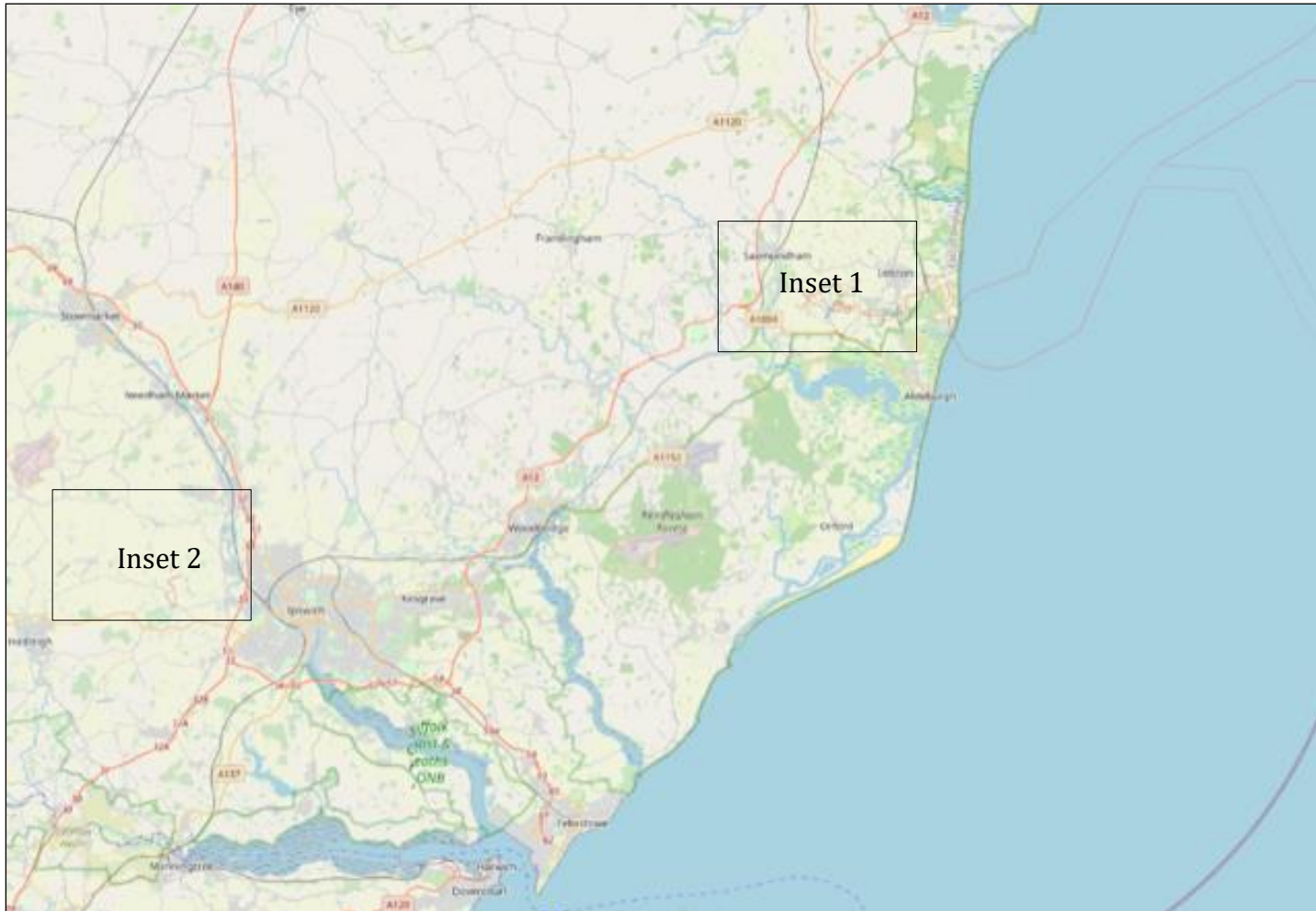
Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Walked southwards along Church Hill back to Burstall	Burstall St Mary's Church Burstall	



Annex A

USI2

Key Plan: Regional Overview



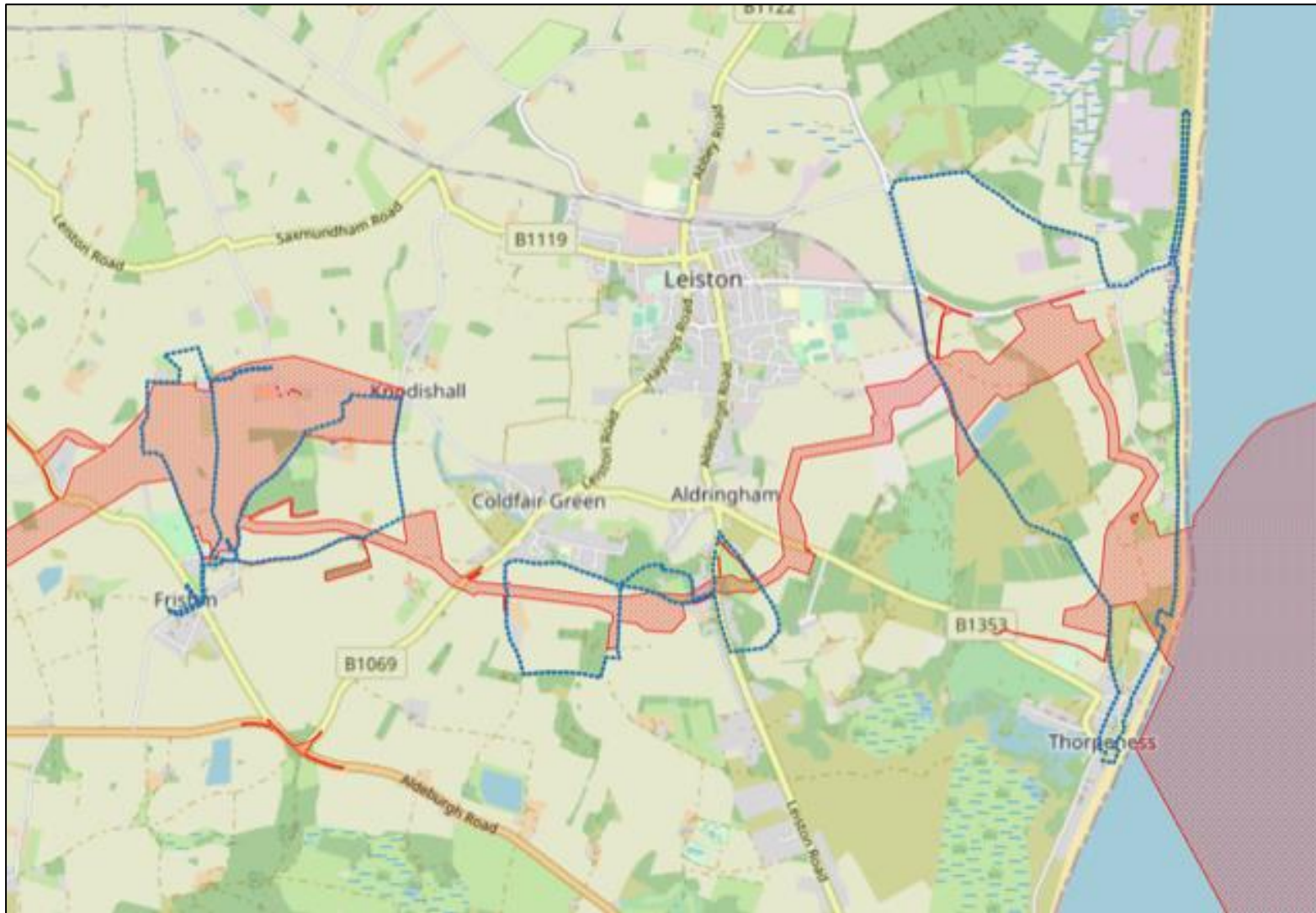
Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](https://www.openstreetmap.org/) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale

ExA's Note of Unaccompanied Inspection of Sites
Inspection 2: 17 and 18 July 2020

Annex A: 1



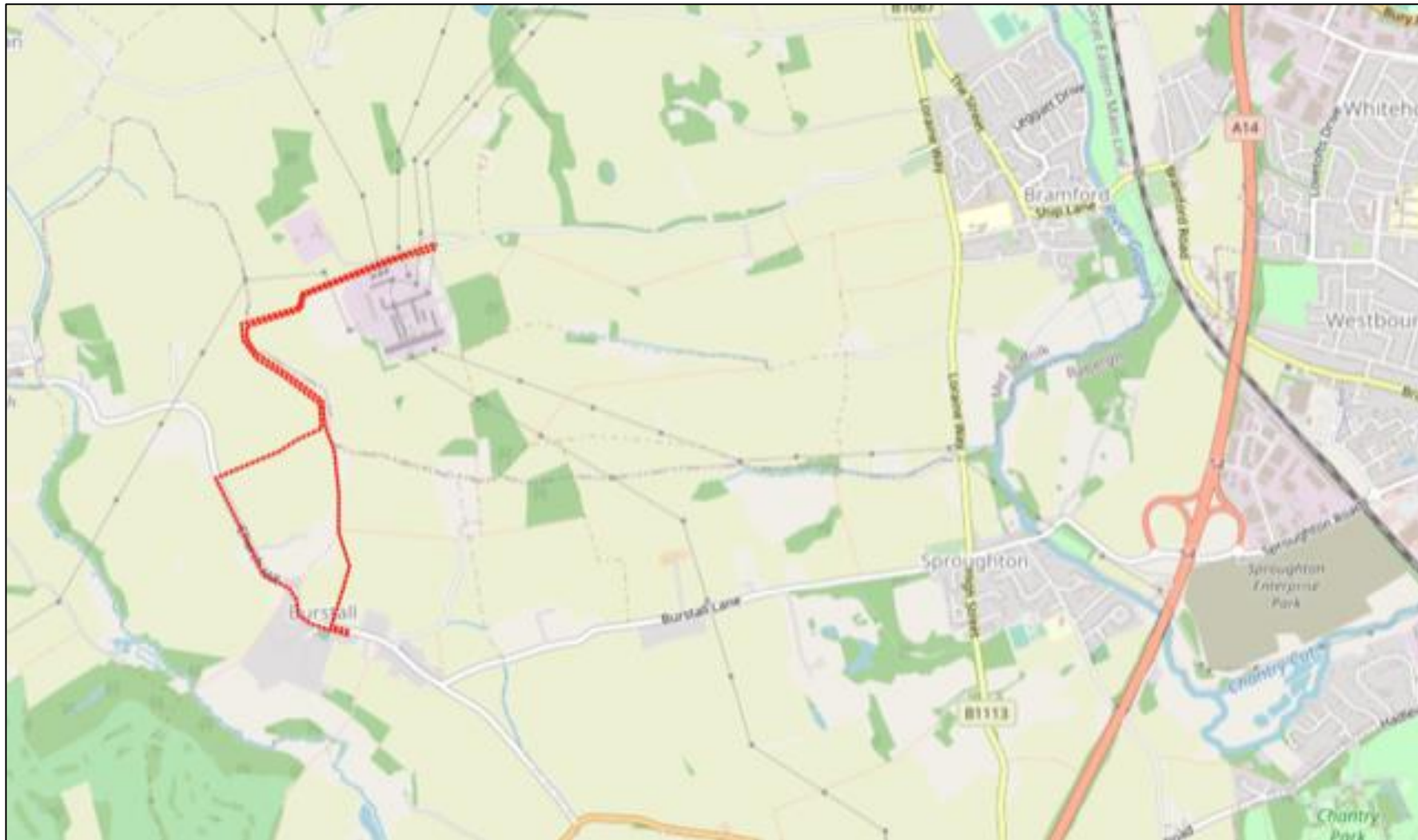
Key Plan: Inset 1 – Friston to Thorpeness



Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](https://www.openstreetmap.org/) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale



Key Plan: Inset 2 – Burstall & Burstallhill



Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](https://www.openstreetmap.org/) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale



Key to Plan Notations



Land within the red line boundary (RLB) for East Anglia ONE North



Land marked cross hatched is within the RLB for both applications

Land within the RLB for East Anglia TWO



Walking routes taken by Mr Hockley during USI2



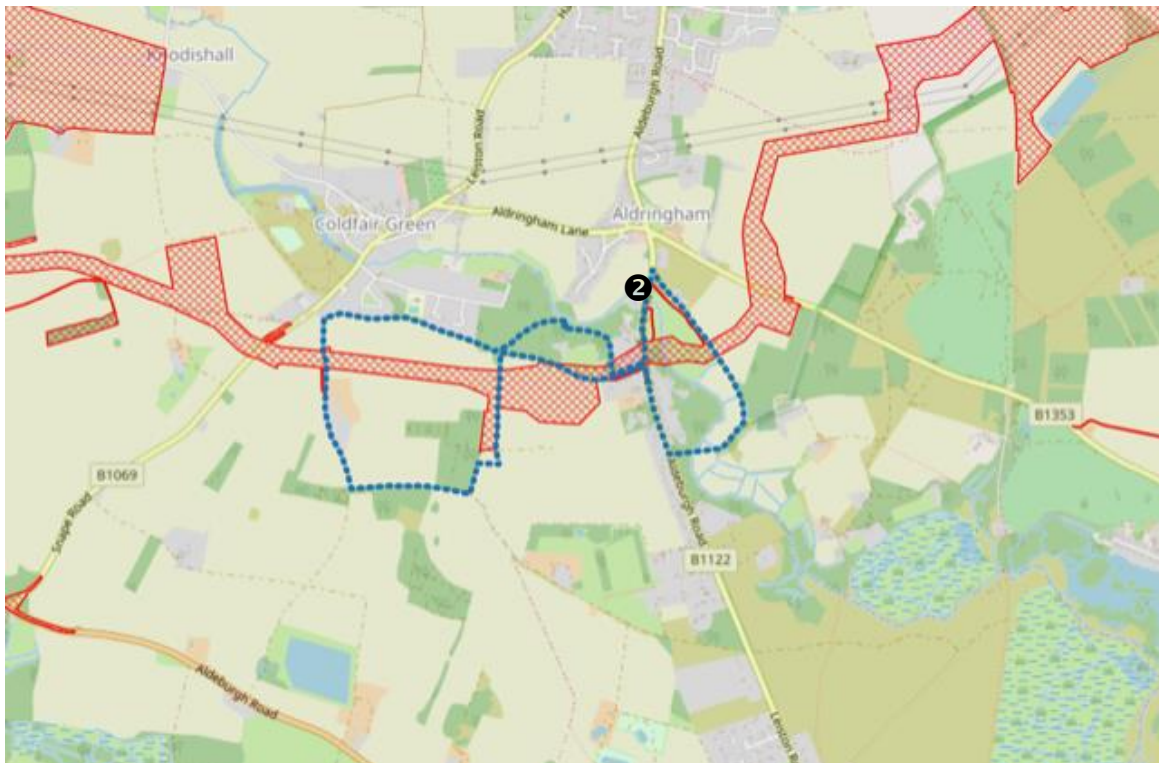


Inspection 2.1:
Knodishall, Friston & Fristonmoor: Proposed Transmission Connections



Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](#) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale

Inspection 2.2:
Aldringham & Coldfair Green: Proposed Cable Alignments

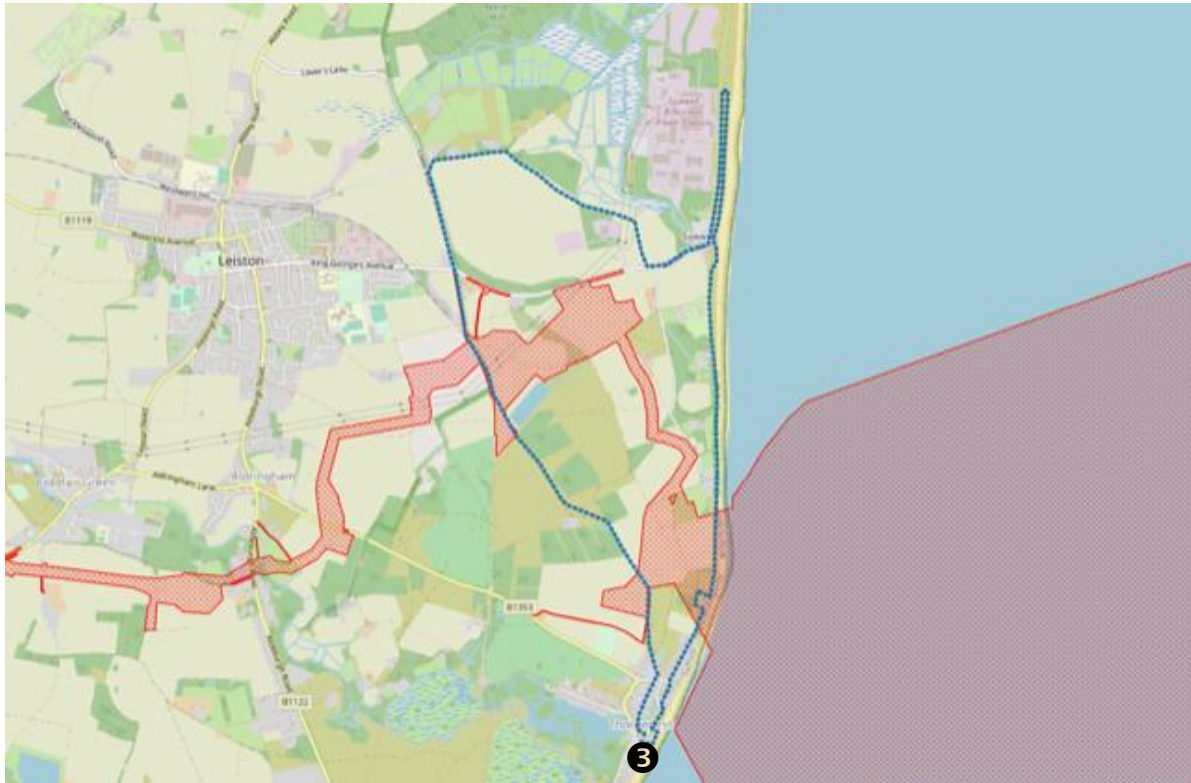


Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](#) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale



Inspection 2.3:

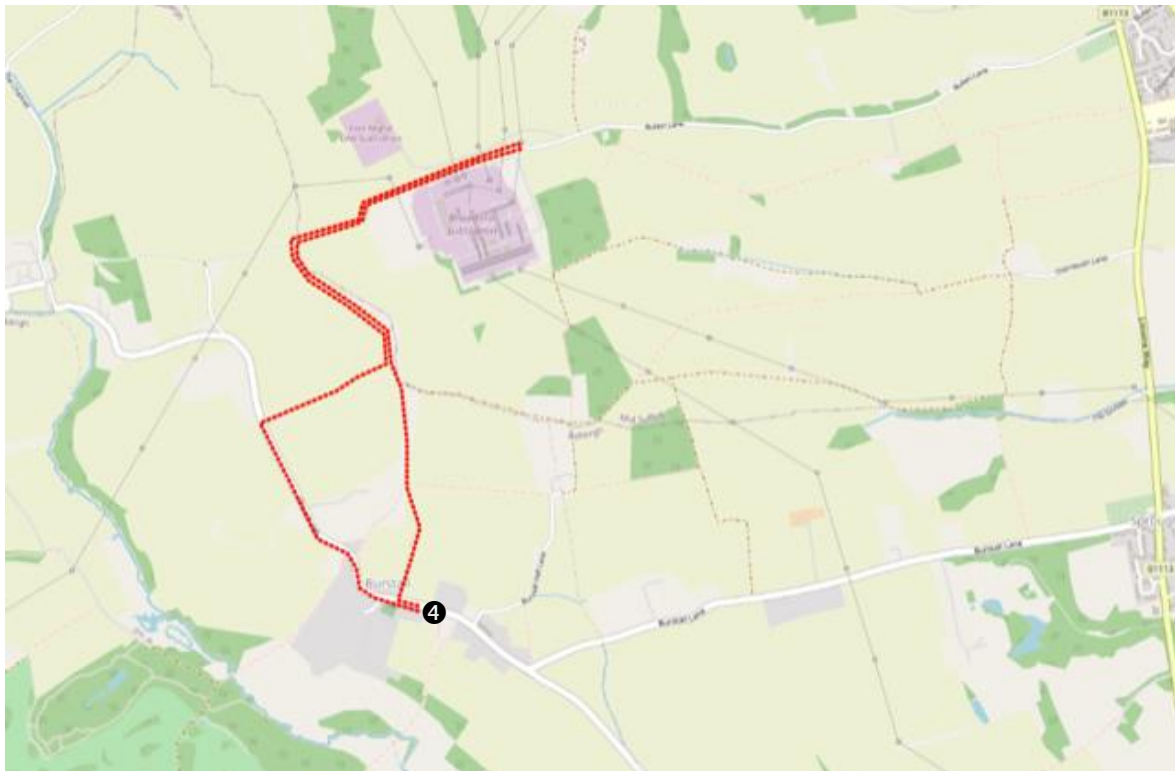
Thorpeness, Sizewell & Broom Covert: Proposed Landfalls & Cable Alignments



Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](#) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale

Inspection 2.4:

Burstall and Burstallhill: Transmission Connections for East Anglia ONE



Base Map Source: © [Open Street Map](#) Contributors (EPSG: 3857 – WGS 84) via QGIS (July 2020) Do not scale