



## 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 12 and 13 October 2020 (USI4)

#### Background

The Examining Authorities (ExAs) undertook their fourth unaccompanied site inspections (USI4) on the afternoon of 12 October 2020 and on 13 October 2020 to support examinations of applications for development consent for the proposed East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Offshore Wind Farms (the applications).

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 inspections are recorded in this note, the purpose of which is to inform the Applicant, Interested Parties (IPs) and other persons of actions taken by the ExAs. 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 3 on document management of 23 December 2019<sup>1</sup>. Whilst 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. Previous site inspection notes can also be found in both libraries<sup>2</sup> on the same basis.

Further site inspections will be required. The site inspection programmes will be developed in the light of inspection requests submitted at Deadline 1 (2 November 2020). The Applicant, IPs and other persons have been 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 on an unaccompanied basis (USIs) and on accompanied basis – known as accompanied site inspections (ASIs).

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.

Arrangements for ASIs have been included in the ExAs' Examination Timetables. They may decide not to hold an ASI if all relevant features can be observed and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The ExA's Procedural Decision 3 for <u>East Anglia ONE North</u> can be seen here at Annex B. The ExA's identical Procedural Decision 3 for <u>East Anglia TWO</u> can be seen here at Annex B. <sup>2</sup> USI1, 2 and 3 notes in the <u>East Anglia ONE North</u> library can be seen here. Identical USI1, 2 and 3 notes in the <u>East Anglia TWO</u> library can be seen here.



understood from locations in the public domain. Public health controls in force at the proposed time may also limit the scope of ASIs or prevent them from being carried out, in which case alternative measures including the use of extended USIs and virtual site inspections (incorporating the use of plans, videos, photographs and written submissions or techniques such as the use of drones) may be used.

USIs may be carried out by the ExAs as required to inform them and without notice and the programme of USIs will continue unless these are prevented by public health controls. When further USIs are carried out, further inspection notes will be published.

#### **Particulars of the Inspections**

The inspections were undertaken by members of the ExAs consisting of: Rynd Smith (Lead), Jon Hockley, Caroline Jones and Guy Rigby. The ExAs members were supported by Emre Williams (Case Manager). The purposes of the inspections were as follows:

- to review the Applicants' seascape impact assessments;
- to inspect the constructed landfall for East Anglia ONE and the proposed landfall for East Anglia THREE at Bawdsey;
- to inspect highways works locations;
- to undertake a sequence of crossings of the cable alignments works areas observing natural environment values in the Sandlings area before the turn of the autumn season (a route and timing requested by Interested Party Mr Paul Chandler of Save Our Sandlings); and
- to enable the Case Manager to continue discussions about possible Covid-secure venue use.

The inspections were carried out over two days.

**Day 1**: 12 October 2020 – The inspections were undertaken by car and on foot.

- Rynd Smith and Jon Hockley: seascape impact assessments;
- Caroline Jones and Emre Williams: Friston village and environs; and
- Guy Rigby: highway works locations.

**Seascapes Route 1** – the inspections viewed the Applicants' seascape visualisation locations between Felixstowe and Orford, at or as close as possible to the locations from which these were obtained. They also viewed the East Anglia ONE and East Anglia THREE offshore wind farms landfall location at Bawdsey. They were undertaken by car and then on foot at each inspection location, commencing at 12:30pm. Weather conditions were dry and cloudy with good visibility. This was adequate to appreciate seascapes and views to existing constructed offshore wind farms at sea in turn providing location and scale references for the proposed developments at sea. Journeys to and between inspection locations by car also enabled the ExAs to observe coastal landscapes including the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and additional elements of the proposed applications' sites and settings. The inspection concluded at 4.45pm.

**Highways Inspections** – the inspections viewed locations proposed in the applications for highways works or subject to highways impacts. They were



undertaken by car and then on foot at each inspection location, commencing at 1.30pm. Weather conditions were dry and cloudy with good visibility. There were some locations where it was either not possible or not safe to stop for an inspection on foot, and these are noted below, but it was nevertheless possible to appreciate views of the proposed highways works locations and of other highways locations of interest to the ExAs. The inspections concluded at 4.00pm.

**Friston Inspections** – the inspections re-visited the immediate site and surroundings of the proposed substations and transmission connection at Friston to obtain views in the autumn season. They were undertaken on foot commencing at 3.40pm. Weather conditions were dry and cloudy with good visibility. This was adequate to appreciate views of the wider area and the context of the grid connection works and substation site works in and around Friston. The inspections concluded at 4.45pm.

**Day 2**: 13 October 2020 - The inspections were again undertaken by car and on foot.

- Jon Hockley and Guy Rigby: seascape impact assessments;
- Rynd Smith, Caroline Jones and Emre Williams (part): inspection of the Sandlings works areas; and
- Emre Williams: potential venue arrangements.

**Seascapes Route 2** – the inspections viewed the Applicants' seascape visualisations between Aldeburgh and Walberswick, at or as close as possible to the locations from which these were obtained. They were undertaken by car and then on foot at each inspection location, commencing at 10.00am. Weather conditions commenced as dry but overcast with declining long-range visibility as showers and then steady rain commenced at midday. The intended seascape impact assessments inspections programmed for this day were not completed due to the onset of heavier rain and inadequate visibility from 1:30pm, as long-range views to the sea horizon and to constructed offshore wind farms are required for this work to be carried out. Further coastal landscape and seascape impact assessment inspections of visualisation locations north of Walberswick will be required.

**Sandlings Works Inspections** – the inspections viewed works sites within the Sandlings, with reference to a route requested by Mr Paul Chandler of Save our Sandlings and were carried out to enable viewing before the end of the autumn season as requested by that IP. They were undertaken on foot, commencing at 10.45am. Weather conditions commenced as dry but overcast with declining long-range visibility as showers and then steady rain commenced after midday. Emre Williams joined at midday. On the basis that the main focus of these inspections was on natural environment and biodiversity values, land-use and short-range views, the weather conditions were adequate to enable them to be completed at 2.00pm.

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

Reference to Environmental Statement Viewpoints (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 (12 October 2020):

#### Seascapes Route 1 viewed the following:

- Landguard Fort, Felixstowe
- Old Felixstowe
- Bawdsey Manor
- East Anglia ONE and East Anglia THREE landfall location, Bawdsey
- Bawdsey
- Shingle Street
- River Ore
- Orford Quay

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point <b>1</b> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked southwards and in a loop around beach/nature reserve.	Landguard Fort	E
Parked at point <b>2</b> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked to cliff top.	Old Felixstowe	17
Parked at point <sup>3</sup> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked in south -east loop around beach	Bawdsey Manor	F
Parked at point <b>4</b> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked eastwards to coast.	East Anglia ONE and East Anglia THREE landfall location (The inspection in this location was undertaken to provide a comparator with the landfall location proposed in the current applications.)	
Parked at point <b>S</b> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked to beach edge.	Bawdsey	16
Parked at point <sup>6</sup> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked to beach edge.	Shingle Street	15
Parked at point <b>7</b> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked through RSPB reserve to river edge	River Ore	Н
Parked at point <sup>3</sup> on Annex A Route 1 map. Walked to quay edge.	Orford Quay (The inspection in this location was undertaken as a substitute for ES viewpoint 14 as Orford Castle was not open to the public.)	



- A12 at Marlesford Bridge, Marlesford
- A12 at Little Glemham
- A12 at Stratford St Andrew
- A12 at Farnham
- A12/A1094 junction at Friday Street
- A12/B1122 junction at Yoxford
- B1122 at Theberton
- A1069 at Knodishall / Coldfair Green
- B1353 at Aldringham
- A1094/B1069 junction between Snape and Aldeburgh
- A1094 at junction with B1121 to/from Friston

Location(s)	<b>Relevant Observations</b>	Works Nos. (where applicable)
Parked at point <b>1</b> on Annex A Highways Inspections map and walked back to the A12.	Marlesford Bridge on the A12 and location of proposed construction compound in field to the north west of the bridge.	Works Plans Sheet 12 Works Nos. 37
Passed point <b>2</b> on Annex A Highways Inspections map: no available parking places and unsafe to stop due to traffic.	Little Glemham; able to view A12 passing through the village.	
Parked at point <b>3</b> on Annex A Highways Inspections map.	A12 passing through Stratford St Andrew.	
Parked at point ④ on Annex A Highways Inspections map and walked back down to A12.	A12 passing through Farnham from the Farnham Bends.	
Parked at point <b>5</b> on Annex A Highways Inspections map and walked back along the A1094 to its junction with the A12.	Layout and priorities at A12/A1094 junction at Friday Street: also site of possible new roundabout junction in field to the south of the junction {proposed for Sizewell C (SZC)}.	Works Plans Sheet 11 Works Nos. 36 {SZC Works Plans Sheet 18 Work No. 11A}
Parked at point 6 on Annex A Highways Inspections map.	Layout and environs of A12/B1122 junction at Yoxford.	
Parked at point 🕏 on Annex A Highways Inspections map.	B1122 passing through Theberton.	
Passed point <sup>3</sup> on Annex A Highways Inspections map: no available parking places and unsafe to stop due to roadworks and traffic queues.	Proposed cable crossing point on A1069 at Knodishall/ Coldfair Green.	Works Plans Sheet 6 Works Nos. 23, 25 and 26, Street works 6c – 6d.

Location(s)	<b>Relevant Observations</b>	Works Nos. (where applicable)
Passed point ③ on Annex A Highways Inspections map: no available parking places and unsafe to stop due to traffic.	Proposed cable crossing point on B1353 east of Aldringham.	Works Plans Sheet 5 Works Nos. 17 and 18, Street works 5a – 5b.
Parked at point <b>10</b> on Annex A Highways Inspections map and walked back up track to junction.	Layout of A1094 at its junction with B1069 between Snape and Aldeburgh.	Works Plans Sheet 10 Works Nos. 35, Street
Parked at point <b>11</b> on Annex A Highways Inspections map	Layout of A1094 at its junction with B1121 to/from Friston.	works 10a – 10b, 10c – 10d and 10e – 10f.

#### Friston Inspections viewed the following:

- Environs of 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)	<b>Relevant Observations</b>	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point <b>①</b> on Annex A Friston Inspections map. Walked southwards on Grove Road before turning right on to Church Road <b>②</b> .	Environs of Friston.	4
Walked westwards along Church Road then in a north easterly direction <b>③</b> along the public footpath across the agricultural field to the north of St Mary the Virgin Church.	General locations of properties. St Mary the Virgin Church.	2
Walked northwards towards Little Moor Farm before turning right <b>4</b> towards Grove Road <b>5</b> .	Proposed substation works site. Proposed grid connection works. General location of properties.	
Walked via Grove Road returning to point <b>1</b> on Annex A Friston Inspections map.	South eastern extent of grid connection works site/RLB. Grove Wood.	14



## Day 2 (13 October 2020):

Seascapes Route 2 viewed the following:

- Aldeburgh
- Thorpeness
- Sizewell Beach
- Minsmere Nature Reserve
- Dunwich Heath & Beach
- Dunwich
- Walberswick

Location(s)	<b>Relevant Observations</b>	ES VP (where applicable)
Parked at point <b>1</b> on Annex A Route 2 map, walked to beach edge.	Aldeburgh	13
Walked to point <sup>2</sup> on Annex A Route 2 map, walked to beach edge.	Thorpeness	12
Parked at point <b>3</b> on Annex A Route 2 map, walked to beach edge.	Sizewell Beach	10
Parked at point ④ on Annex A Route 2 map, walked in an eastwards direction through RSPB reserve to beach edge and then northwards to cliff top.	Minsmere Nature Reserve Dunwich Heath & Beach	9, 8
Parked at point <b>5</b> on Annex A Route 2 map, walked to beach edge.	Dunwich	7
Parked at point 6 on Annex A Route 2 map, walked in a south easterly loop around beach.	Walberswick	6

The originally intended inspections were not completed and work ceased at 13:30 following the onset of heavy rain and a significant reduction in long range visibility.

#### Sandlings Works Inspections viewed the following:

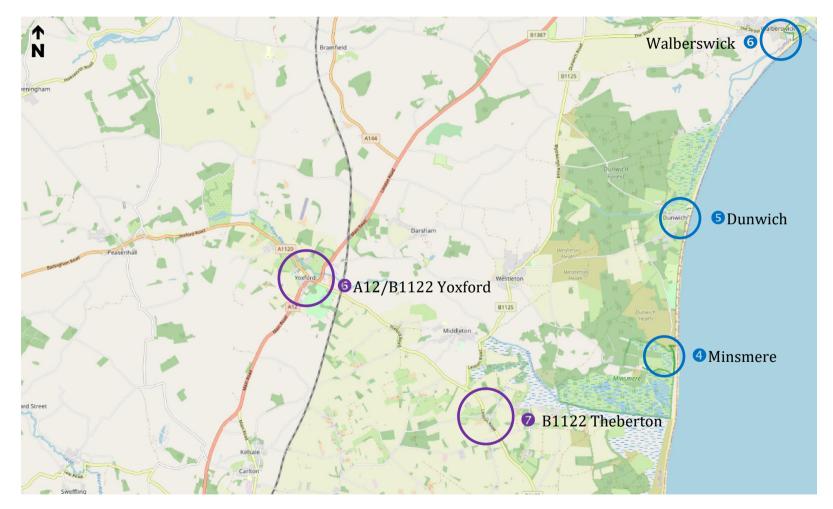
- Effects of proposed cable corridors and related associated development on the Sandlings SPA (Leiston Aldeburgh SSSI) and environs.
- Habitats in the Sandlings area.
- Landscapes in the Sandlings area.
- Land use in the Sandlings area (residential and agriculture).

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	Works Nos. (where applicable)
Parked at point <b>1</b> on Annex A Sandlings map, Sizewell Beach car park.	Sizewell beach.	
Followed 'Sandlings Walk' along footpath towards Vulcan PH and entrance to Sizewell Power Stations to Sizewell Hall Road junction 2.		
Followed Sizewell Hall Road past Home Farm S and turned SW, leaving Sandlings Walk for footpath (FP)26. Followed to Fiveways 4 and then to Halfway Cottages 5.	Sizewell Common and proposed cable corridor to SE (PRoW closure 2a – 2b). Proposed cable corridor and proposed HDD compound/ temporary construction	Works Plans Onshore Sheets 2 Works Nos. 9
Hullway collages C.	consolidation sites to NW. Crossing proposed cable corridor (PRoW closure 3g – 3h). Direct SPA impact.	Works Nos. 11 Works Nos. 12
Followed bridleway (BW)27 Grimsey's Lane via Crown Lane Cottage <sup>(3)</sup> and former rail track bed to junction with	Crossing proposed access point and track (PRoW closure 3q – 3r). Views to proposed cable corridor and proposed HDD compound to	Works Nos. 15
BW15.	S. Views to proposed cable corridor to S.	Works Nos. 13 Works Nos. 16
Followed BW 15 to 'Forty Acre Belt' •.	Views to proposed cable corridor to E. Crossing works with views to N and W (PRoW closure 4a – 4b).	Works Nos. 16 Works Nos. 16/ 17
Followed unclassified track SE of Forty Acre Belt <b>2</b> .	Works site NW of Forty Acre Belt.	,
Followed FP22 returning to Crown Lane Cottage 6.	Crossing works with views to E and W (PRoW closures 3p – 3n – 3o). Views to proposed cable corridor and proposed HDD compound.	Works Nos. 13/ 16
Followed FP29 and FP24 returning to Fiveways 4.	Crossing works with views to NE and SW (PRoW closures 3I – 3j – 3k). Views to proposed cable corridor and proposed HDD compound.	Works Nos. 13/ 12
Followed unclassified track SSE from Fiveways to Thorpe Vent Wood <sup>(3)</sup> .	Extensive heathland habitat (SPA) to SW. Proposed cable corridor to NE.	
Followed bridleway open to all traffic (BOAT) 25 NE to the Dower House 9.		

Location(s)	Relevant Observations	Works Nos. (where applicable)
Followed BOAT 26 N to	Crossing works with views to NW	
Sizewell Hall Conference	and SE (PRoW closures 2a – 2b).	
Centre entrance gate 0.	Views to proposed cable corridor.	Works Nos. 9
Followed FP20 along N		
boundary to Sizewell Hall		
Conference Centre, returning		
to Sizewell Beach.		
Parked at point  On Annex A		
Sandlings map, Sizewell Beach		
car park.		

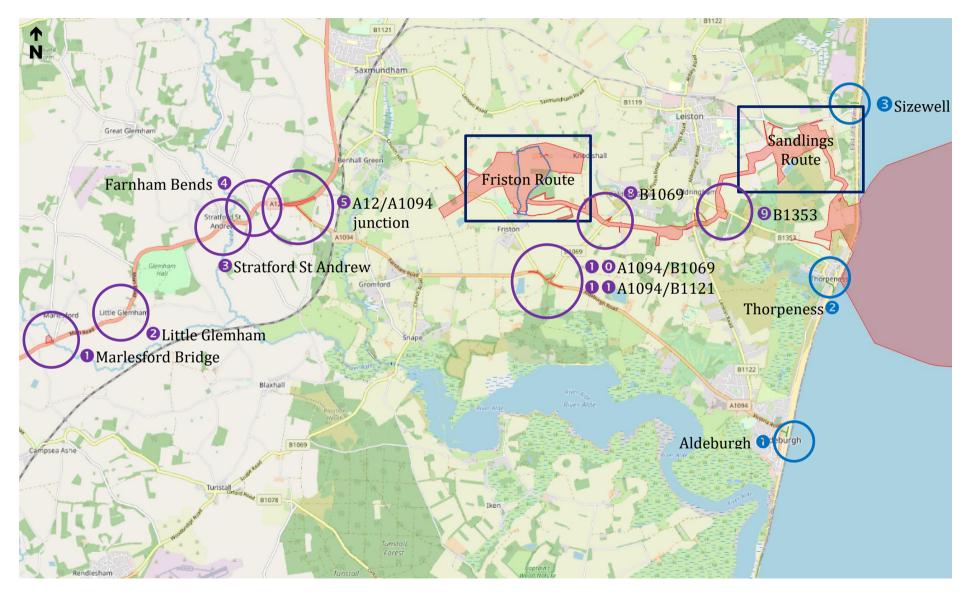
Annex A

## USI4 Key Plans (North to South) Walberswick to Sizewell

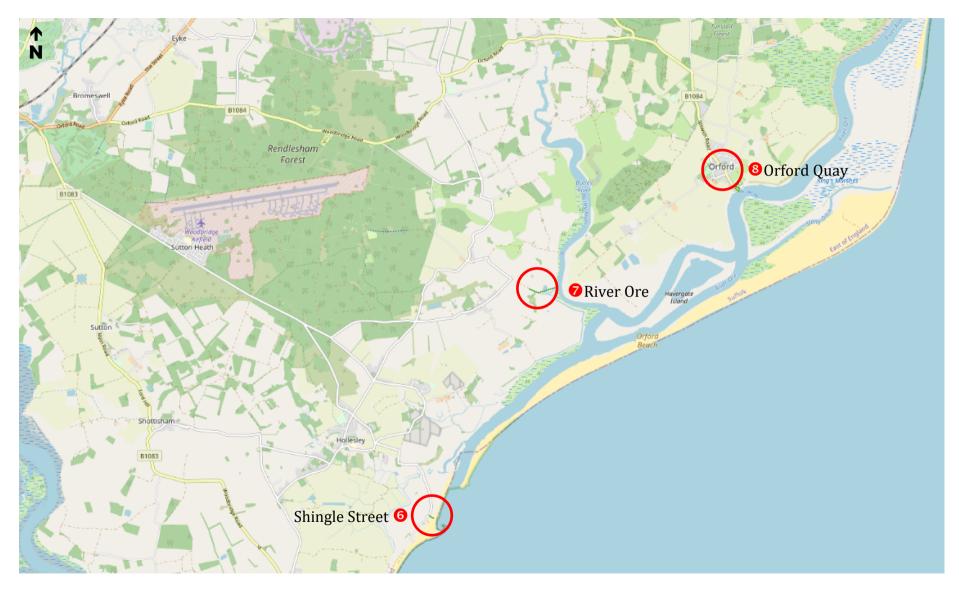




#### **Sizewell to River Alde**



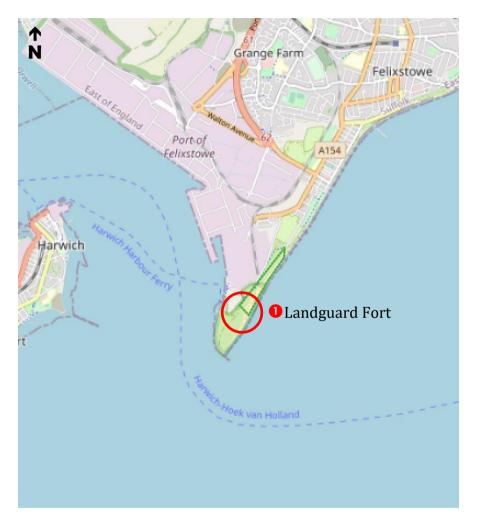
## **Orford to Shingle Street**











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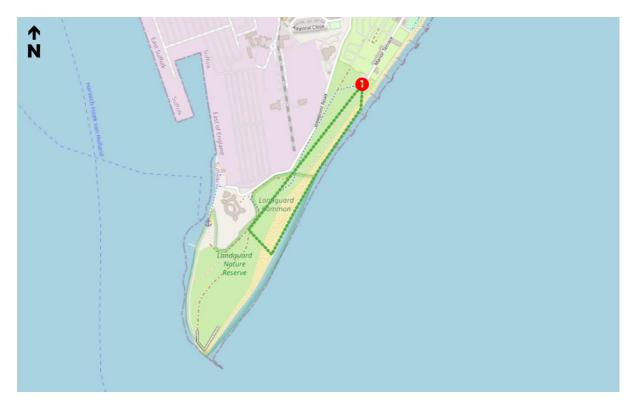


## Key to Plan Notations

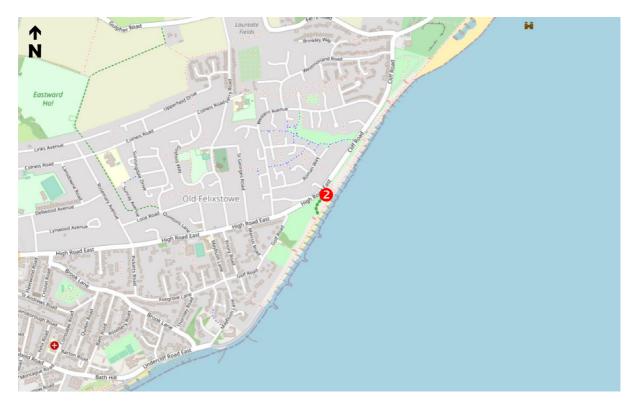
	Land within the red line boundary (RLB) for East Anglia ONE North Land marked cross hatched is within the RLB for both applications Land within the RLB for East Anglia TWO
	Walking routes taken by the ExAs during USI4
$\bigcirc$	Seascapes Route 1 inspections locations
$\bigcirc$	Seascape Route 2 inspections locations
$\bigcirc$	Highways inspections locations
Friston Route	Friston inspections
Sandlings Route	Sandlings works inspections



## Landguard Fort, Felixstowe (Viewpoint E)



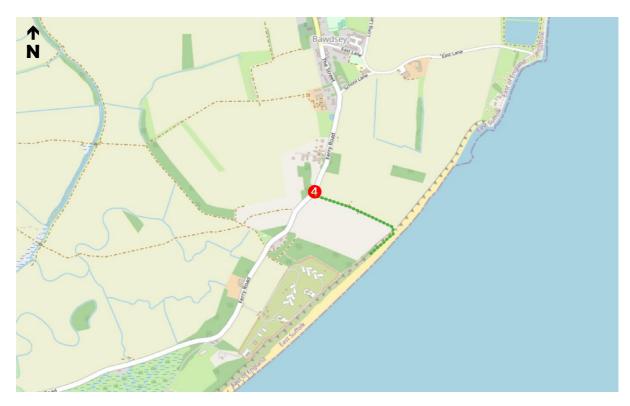
#### **Old Felixstowe (Viewpoint 17)**



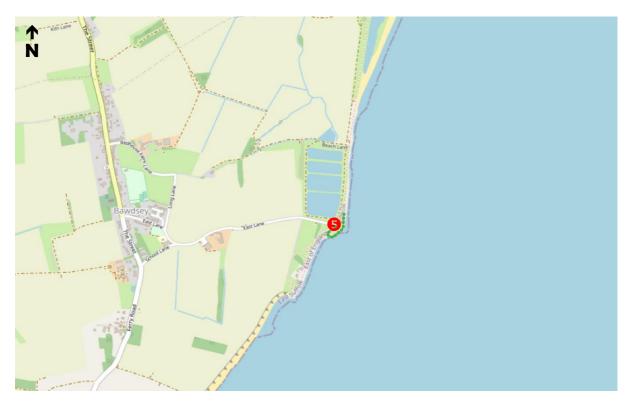
Bawdsey Manor (Viewpoint F)



# Bawdsey East Anglia ONE (constructed) and East Anglia THREE (proposed) landfall site

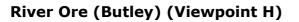


## Bawdsey (Viewpoint 16)



## Shingle Street (Viewpoint 15)







## Orford Quay (Substitute – Viewpoint 14)

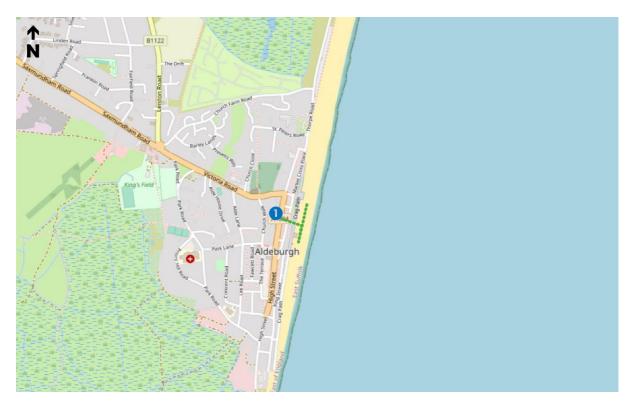


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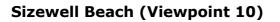
## **Seascapes Route 2:**

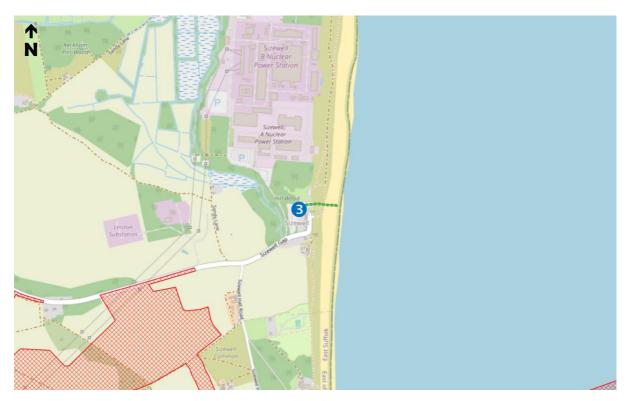
## Aldeburgh (Viewpoint 13)



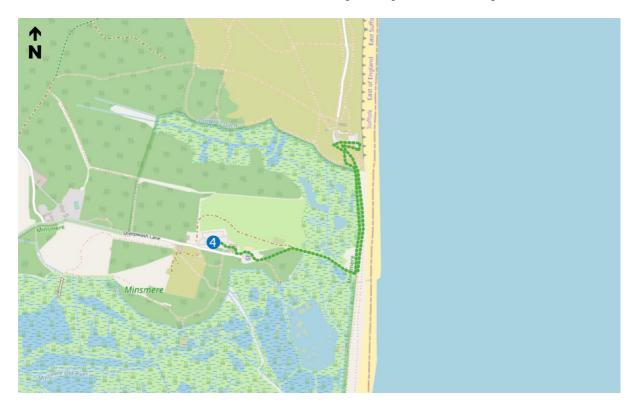
**Thorpeness (Viewpoint 12)** 







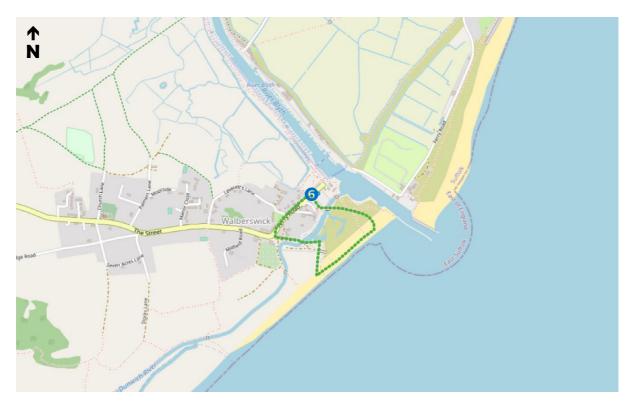
#### Minsmere and Dunwich Heath & Beach (Viewpoints 9 & 8)



#### Dunwich Beach (Viewpoint 7)



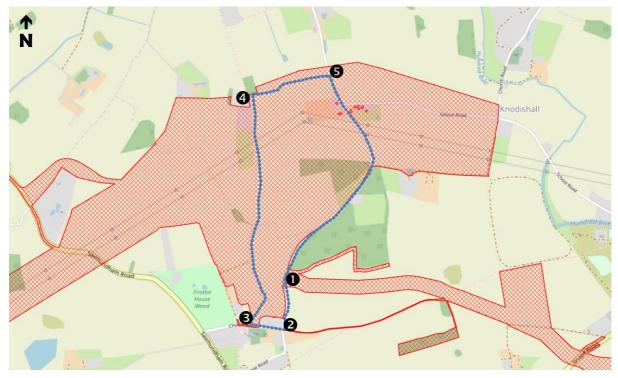
## Walberswick (Viewpoint 6)



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## **Friston Inspections**

#### **Friston Route:**



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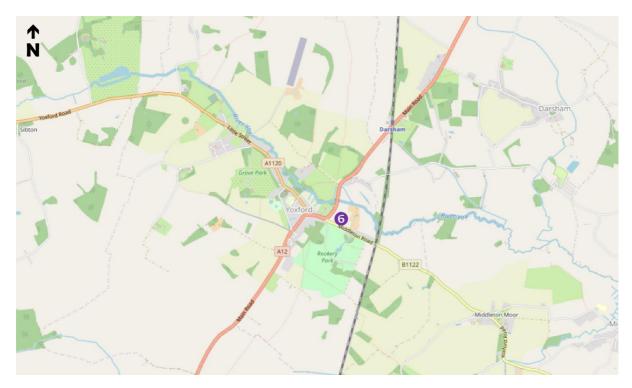
## Sandlings Works Inspections Sandlings Route:



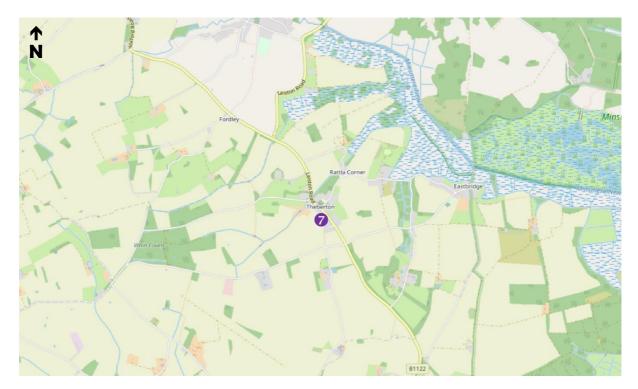
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## Highways Inspections A12 - B1122 Yoxford

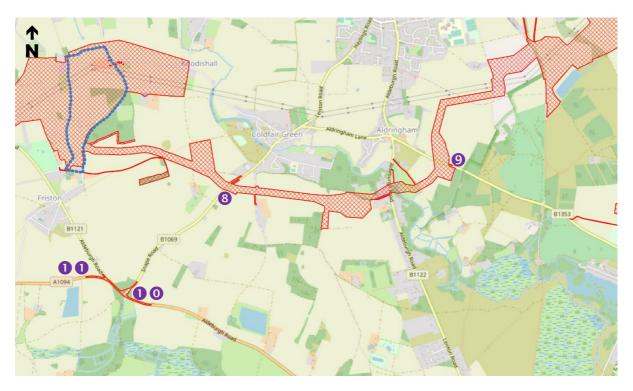


#### **B1122** Theberton

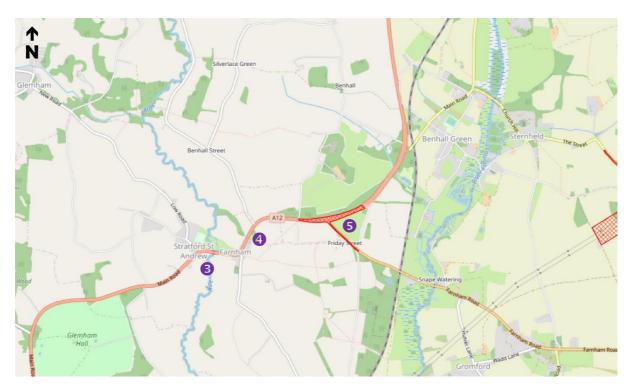




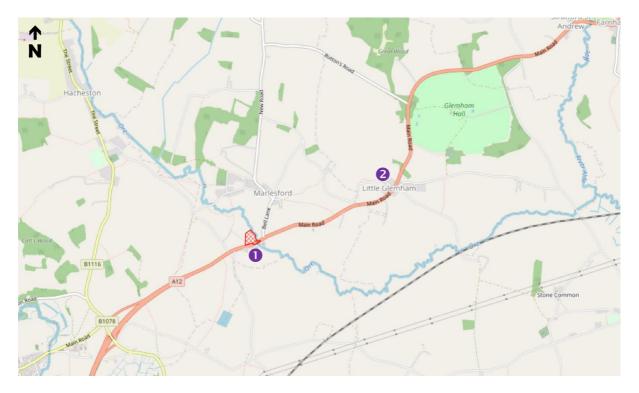
## B1353 Aldringham, A1094, B1069, B1121



#### A12 Stratford St Andrew to Benhall Green



#### A12 Marlesford to Little Glemham



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