

Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm

Consultation Report

Appendix 22.2 Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

Applicant: Norfolk Boreas Limited
Document Reference: 5.1.22.2
Pursuant to APFP Regulation: 5(2)(q)

Date: June 2019
Revision: Version 1
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Photo: Ormonde Offshore Wind Farm

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Statement of Community Consultation

Have your say on the proposed Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm.

1. Purpose of this document

Norfolk Boreas Limited (the Applicant), a development company set up by Vattenfall UK, is proposing to build the Norfolk Boreas Offshore Wind Farm (the Project). This Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) sets out how we intend to consult with local communities about our proposals.

Due to its size, the wind farm is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) by the Planning Act 2008 (the Act). This means we need to make an application under the Act for a permission known as a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build and operate the Project. The application will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate which will examine it and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). The Secretary of State will then decide whether the Project is granted consent.

Section 47 of the Act requires that consultation is carried out with the local community before an application is submitted. In accordance with section 47, this SoCC sets out how we have identified who to consult, the consultation methods proposed, the timescales for consultation and how consultees can help shape the Project.

As part of the development of this SoCC, we have consulted the relevant local councils, Norfolk County Council, North Norfolk, Broadland and Breckland District Councils, as well as The Broads Authority for their comments.

Views on this document were also sought from a number of other key stakeholders, such as Great Yarmouth Borough Council and the Planning Inspectorate. As the project includes both offshore and onshore elements, this document was also issued to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) for its input before it was finalised.

The SoCC has been advertised in the Eastern Daily Press and is available on the Project website - www.vattenfall.co.uk/norfolkboreas.

As well as local community consultation, we will also consult with statutory consultees and anyone known to have an interest in land affected by the Project. A Consultation Report will be submitted as part of our formal application for a DCO which will explain how we have undertaken pre-application consultation and how we have had regard to responses received.

2. Introduction

The wind farm would be 73km from the coast of Norfolk at its closest point to land and would cover a total area of up to 725km² and with an offshore cable corridor covering 226km².

The project would consist of between 90 and 200 wind turbines, each having a rated capacity of between 9MW and 20MW, to give an export capacity of up to 1,800MW at the point of connection to the offshore electrical platform(s). Once fully operational Norfolk Boreas could produce enough energy to power 1.3 million homes in the UK¹. This represents 25% of the East of England's total (commercial, industrial and domestic) power requirements².

Consultation is an important part of the planning and development process. The Act requires developers to publicise their proposals widely as well as to consult with the local community, local authorities, statutory bodies and persons with an interest in land potentially affected by the proposed NSIP. This process is referred to as 'pre-application consultation' and must be carried out before an application for a DCO can be accepted by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State for BEIS.

¹ <http://www.renewableuk.com/page/UKWEDEExplained> assuming a load factor of 34.88

² https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/552059/Chapter_5_web.pdf

Consultation and local engagement is important to Vattenfall and to Norfolk Boreas Limited (NBL). We believe involving local people and stakeholders helps us to make sustainable and robust decisions as we shape our proposals for the Project.

Norfolk Boreas has a sister project, called Norfolk Vanguard, which is approximately one year ahead of Norfolk Boreas in its development. In order to minimise local impacts overall, a strategic decision was made early on to co-locate, or ‘share’ as much of the onshore and offshore cable routeing and infrastructure as possible. Thus, consultation on elements of the Norfolk Boreas project, including construction proposals and embedded mitigation have already taken place in conjunction with Norfolk Vanguard. High levels of participation in relation to

this engagement and consultation (including Norfolk Vanguard’s Statutory Consultation) have helped shape our thinking and this will be reflected in the detailed proposals described in the Norfolk Boreas Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).

Further information about our approach to engagement and consultation and the consultation undertaken to date can be found in Sections 5.1, 6 and 8.

We have also developed a report, available on our website, which describes how community and stakeholder feedback has shaped the Project ahead of the forthcoming statutory consultation, available here: www.vattenfall.co.uk/norfolkboreas.

Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard timeline

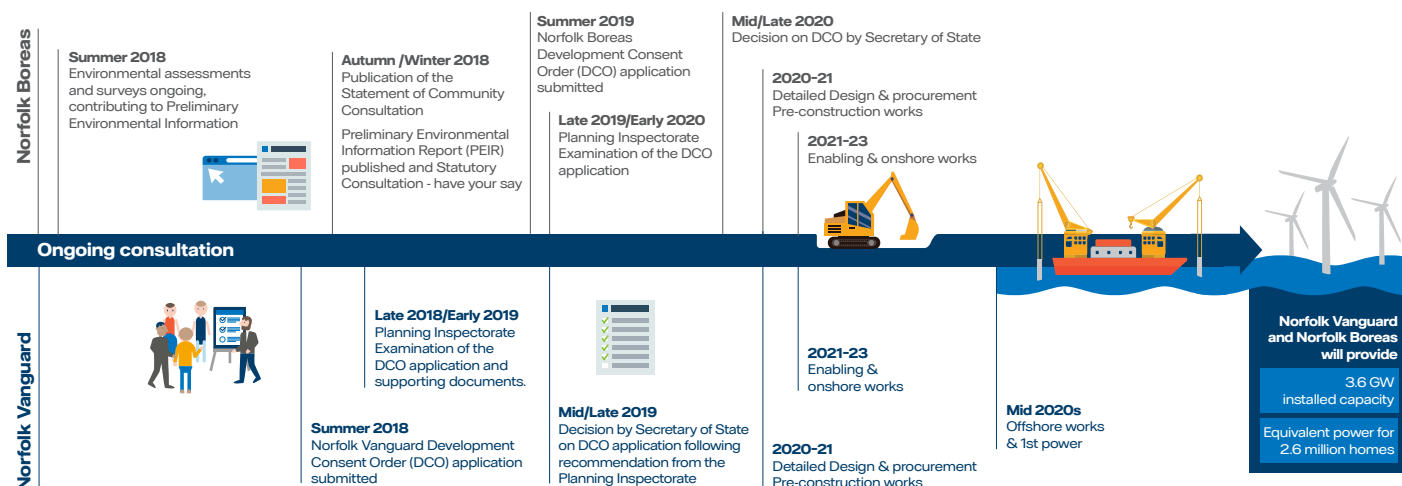


Figure 1. Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard timeline

3. What is the Consenting and Consultation Process?

NBL will apply for a DCO through the NSIP planning process³. The Planning Inspectorate will need to be satisfied that we have carried out effective pre-application consultation with statutory consultees and local communities in accordance with section 42, 43, 44 and section 47 of the Act. We will also be publicising the Project in local and national publications under section 48 of the Act.

Section 42 of the Act requires that we formally consult with a prescribed list of people, which includes local planning authorities, anyone known to have an interest in land affected by the Project, and bodies such as the Marine Management Organisation and Natural England, for example. Section 47 of the Act requires that we prepare a statement setting out how we propose to consult people living in the vicinity of the land about the application for the Project. Consultation must then be carried out in accordance with that document. This SoCC is such a document for the purpose of Section 47 of the Act.

Provided that the Planning Inspectorate is content that such pre-application consultation has been carried out effectively, and other criteria met, the DCO application will be accepted. There will then be an Examination of the DCO application with the Planning Inspectorate acting as 'Examining Authority'. The Examining Authority reviews the application that has been made, asks written questions and can hold hearings during the Examination process. The Planning Inspectorate will then make a recommendation, in the form of a report, to the Secretary of State for BEIS who will make the decision on whether or not to grant a DCO for the Project. Throughout this process, both prior to submission of the application and during the Examination period, interested parties (including members of the local community) will be entitled to participate by commenting on the proposed Project before it is finalised and an application submitted, and by making representations to the Examining Authority as part of the Examination.

³ Further information about this process can be found on the Planning Inspectorate website <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

4. About Vattenfall

Vattenfall is the Swedish state-owned energy company, employing more than 20,000 people, with operations in Sweden, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Finland and the UK. Vattenfall is the second largest operator in the global offshore wind sector.

In the UK Vattenfall has ten offices and some 400 members of staff. Since 2008, Vattenfall has invested more than £3bn in the UK, primarily in onshore and offshore wind projects, as well as in solar farms and innovative technologies, including heat, e-mobility and providing 100% renewable power to domestic and business customers. Our aim is to help drive the transition to fossil fuel free energy systems while delivering a secure, reliable and cost-effective energy supply.

Vattenfall exists to power climate smarter living, with the aim of enabling our customers to live free from fossil fuels within a generation. Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas are key to realising this purpose, alongside our recent move into British electricity supply, electric vehicle charge point provision, smart electricity networks, and heat networks.

5. The Project

It is proposed, the Project will be located 73km offshore (at the closest point). The Project would consist of between 90 and 200 wind turbines, each having a rated capacity of between 9MW and 20MW, to give an export capacity of up to 1,800MW at the point of connection to the offshore electrical platform(s). Once fully operational Norfolk Boreas could produce enough energy to power 1.3 million homes in the UK⁴. This represents 25% of the East of England's total (commercial, industrial and domestic) power requirements⁵.

Offshore infrastructure would also include up to two offshore electrical platforms, monitoring equipment (wave, wind and current), and buried cables linking wind turbines to electrical platforms. The proposals consider the option of building an offshore accommodation platform and a project interconnector cable which would connect Norfolk Boreas to Norfolk Vanguard.

The Norfolk Boreas wind farm will be connected to the shore by offshore export cables. These will make landfall south of Happisburgh. Onshore, buried cables and associated infrastructure will transmit power from the wind farm to the existing 400kV National Grid substation near Necton, Norfolk.

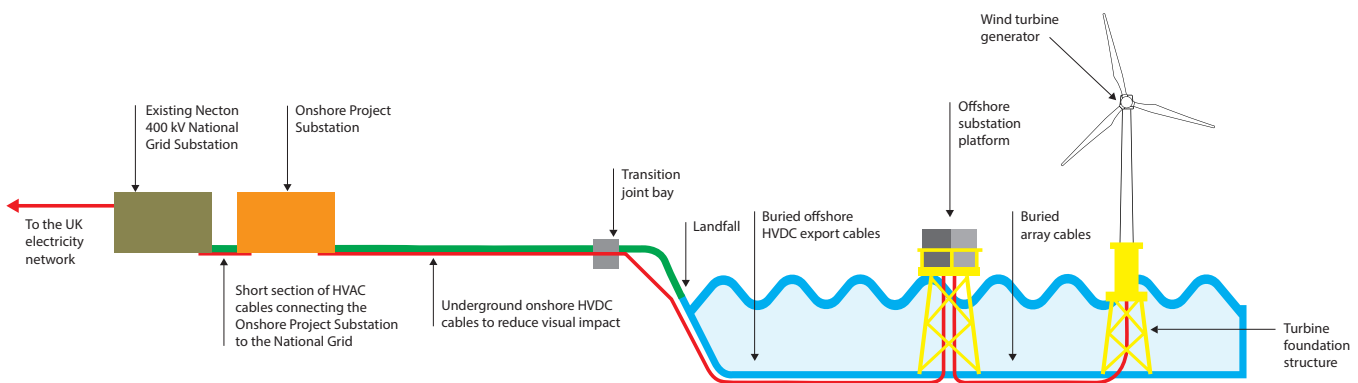


Figure 2. Project schematic showing the proposed on and offshore energy generation and transmission infrastructure.

⁴ <http://www.renewableuk.com/page/UKWEDEexplained> assuming a load factor of 34.88

⁵ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/552059/Chapter_5_web.pdf

5.1 The Relationship between the Project and the Proposed Norfolk Vanguard Project

Norfolk Boreas is the second offshore wind farm being developed by Vattenfall in this part of the southern North Sea. The Norfolk Vanguard Project, also classified as a NSIP, submitted its DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate in June 2018. Norfolk Vanguard has the same proposed maximum export capacity of up to 1.8GW (1,800MW).

The Norfolk Boreas DCO application will consider two scenarios. Scenario 1 is where both Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas are delivered (with associated synergies which are set out below), and Scenario 2 is where only Norfolk Boreas is delivered.

It has been Vattenfall's intention from the outset that synergies between the two projects should be optimised in relation to the development, construction, operation and eventual decommissioning, and overall impacts reduced.

Some of the proposed synergies include:

- Norfolk Boreas offshore cable corridor is 226km² and 97% of its area is shared with Norfolk Vanguard.
- From landfall to the onshore project substation 100% of the onshore cable route is shared (including all associated access points and mobilisation zones).
- Norfolk Vanguard plan to install onshore ducting⁶ for the transmission cables for both projects over a period of four years, in total, with pre-construction preparation conducted over two years and two years for construction (securing 400-500 jobs during the most intense period of working).

This approach eliminates:

- The need for a second phase of duct installation for Norfolk Boreas.
- Co-location of landfall, south of Happisburgh, and onshore project substations near to Necton.

This approach means a shared operations and maintenance base at Great Yarmouth port⁷ – employing 150 engineers, marine specialists and other highly skilled roles over 20+ years.

If both projects secure consent and progress to construction, these synergies will be realised. It is Vattenfall's intention that both projects will be built, however, Norfolk Boreas needs to consider the possibility that the Norfolk Vanguard project may not be built. In order for Norfolk Boreas to be considered as an independent project by the Planning Inspectorate, this scenario must be provided for within the Norfolk Boreas DCO application.

Therefore within the application two scenarios will be considered:

- **Scenario 1 - Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas** – Norfolk Vanguard proceeds to construction, and installs ducts and carries out other shared enabling works to benefit Norfolk Boreas. This scenario is optimal and the most probable outcome.
- **Scenario 2 - Norfolk Boreas only** – Norfolk Vanguard does not proceed to construction and Norfolk Boreas proceeds alone. The Norfolk Boreas EIA will also consider associated constraints and opportunities, under Scenario 2 and undertakes all works required as an independent project.

Why two scenarios?

Map 1 (below) illustrates how the principle differences between Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas relate to the offshore elements of the projects. Turbines generating power for the Norfolk Boreas project are located in a wind park area lying to the east and north of the two Norfolk Vanguard wind park areas. This means that while there are also similarities between projects, there will be some variance in the constraints and opportunities influencing project proposals. These need to be studied and assessed independently (and thus are subject to an independent DCO application). So, for example, environmental assessments and the NSIP process may result in a decision to develop Norfolk Boreas but not Norfolk Vanguard. We believe this is not a likely outcome, but it is possible, and this is why the Norfolk Boreas DCO considers two scenarios.

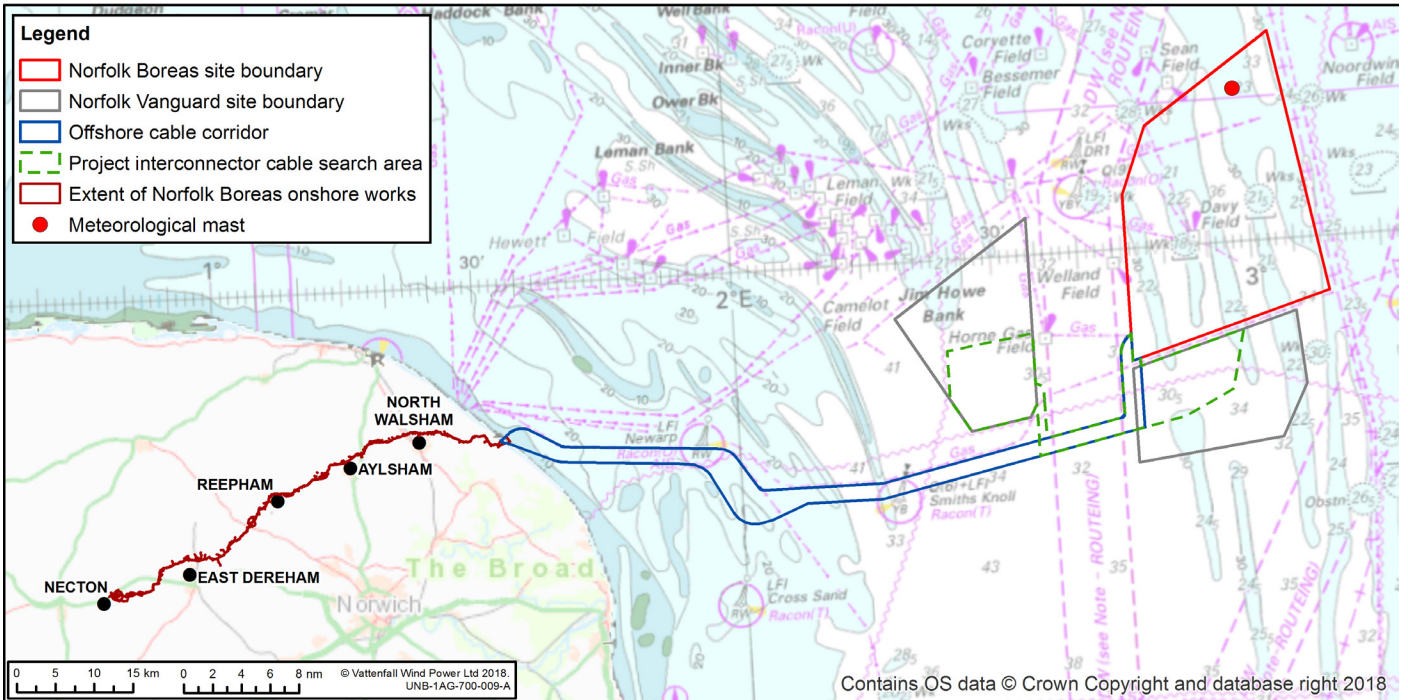
⁶ A duct is a length of underground piping, which is used to house electrical and communication cables

⁷ The operations base will serve Vattenfall's Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas projects. More details here: bit.ly/VattenfallPeelPorts. Operations at Great Yarmouth are not included within the Norfolk Boreas DCO application, and so will be subject to a separate application.

The table below describes project elements and required works under Scenario 1 and Scenario 2. The table below, along with an explanation of what each onshore element includes, can be found in Chapter 5 (Project description) of the PEIR.

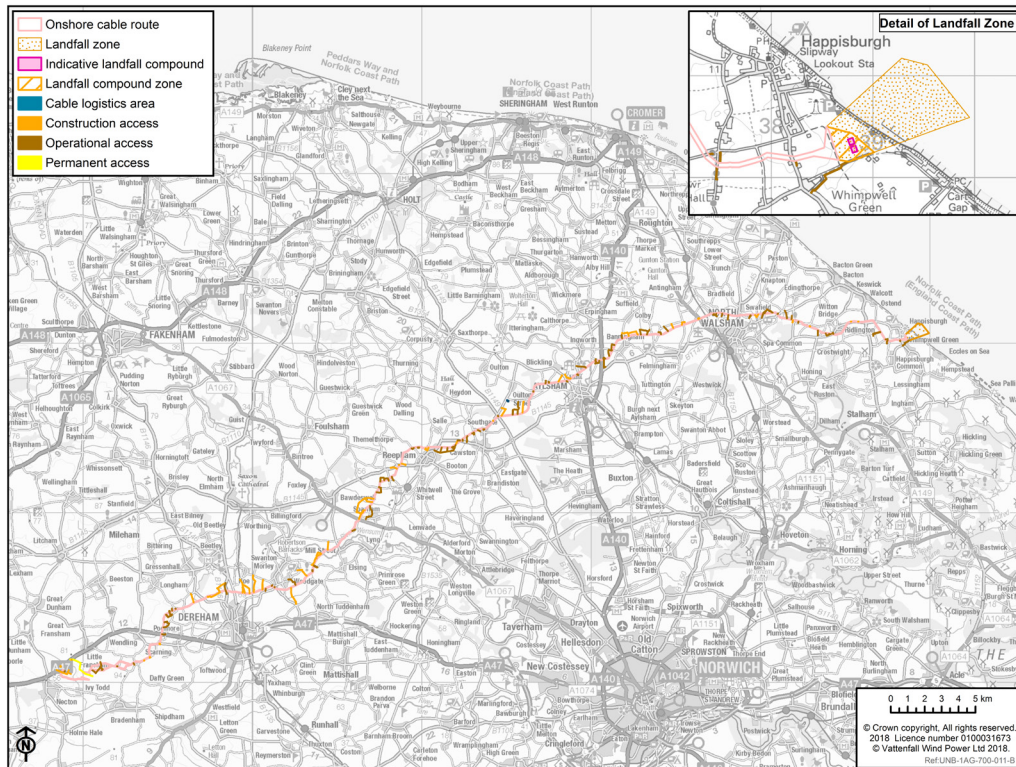
Onshore elements	Scenario 1 - Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas <small>Norfolk Vanguard proceeds to construction and installs ducts and carries out other shared enabling works to benefit Norfolk Boreas.</small>	Scenario 2 - Norfolk Boreas only <small>Norfolk Vanguard does not proceed to construction and Norfolk Boreas proceeds alone. Norfolk Boreas undertakes all works required as an independent project.</small>
Landfall		
Landfall compounds	✓	✓
Cable duct installation via HDD	✓	✓
Transition pits and link boxes	✓	✓
Cable pulling	✓	✓
Onshore Cable Route		
Pre-construction works	✓	✓
Cable duct installation via open cut trenching	✗ (installed by Norfolk Vanguard)	✓
Cable duct crossings (e.g. hedgerows, underground services, roads or tracks, watercourses)	✗ (installed by Norfolk Vanguard)	✓
Trenchless crossings (e.g. HDD) and associated trenchless compounds	✗ (installed by Norfolk Vanguard)	✓
Mobilisation areas	✗ (not required)	✓
Running track	✓ (approx. 12km)	✓ (approx. 60km)
Accesses	✓	✓
Cable pulling	✓	✓
Cable logistics area	✓	✓
Jointing pits and link boxes	✓	✓
Onshore Project Substatio		
Pre-construction works	✓	✓
A47 junction improvement	✗ (installed by Norfolk Vanguard)	✓
Access road to onshore project substation	✓ (extension of road installed by Norfolk Vanguard by approx. 125m)	✓ (approx. 1.8km)
Construction of onshore project substation	✓	✓
Screening	✓	✓
National Grid Substation Extension and Overhead Modifications		
Pre-construction works	✓	✓
Extension to existing Necton National Grid Substation	✓ (easterly direction)	✓ (westerly direction)
National Grid Overhead line modifications	✗ (installed by Norfolk Vanguard)	✓
Screening	✓	✓

Please note that larger versions of all the maps below can be found in Appendix 3.



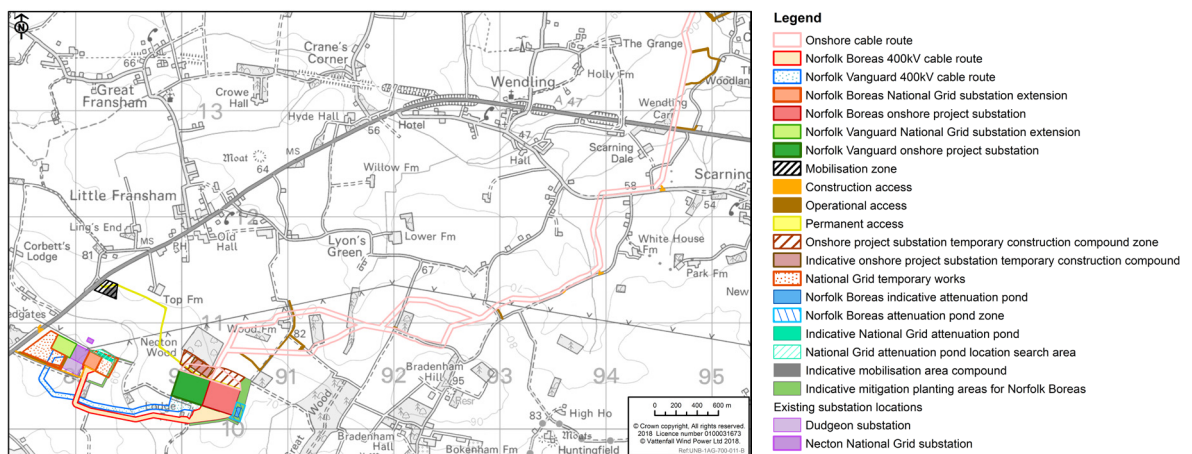
Map 1. The map above shows the proposed offshore locations for both the Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas projects as well as the proposed offshore cable corridor and onshore cable route from Happisburgh through to National Grid’s substation outside Necton.

Scenario 1 - Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas



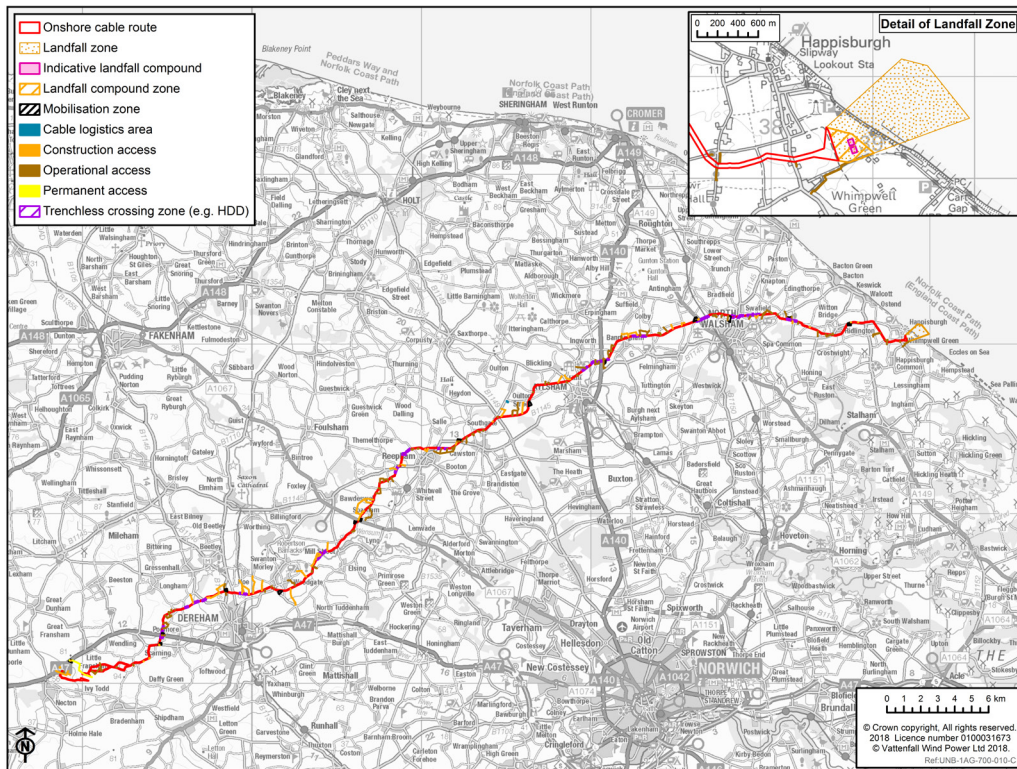
Map 2. Route for the shared onshore cable connection (Scenario 1).

The project is seeking development consent for an electrical transmission system to transmit power from the offshore turbines to the onshore project substation, located north, north east of Necton, and from there, underground cables will connect to the existing 400kV National Grid substation outside Necton. The map above shows the route for the shared onshore cable connection (Scenario 1), and the map below shows the proposed locations for onshore substations for both the Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas projects.



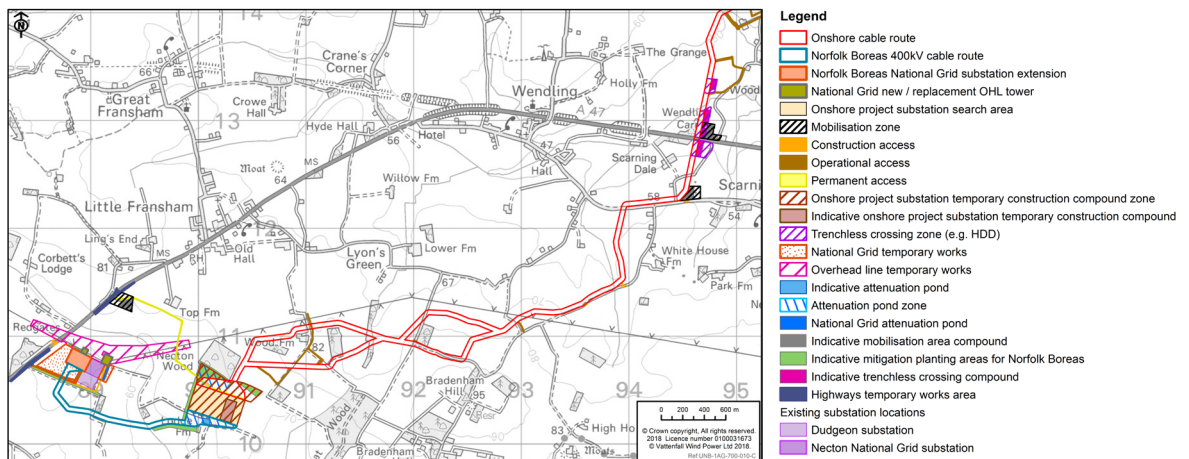
Map 3. Proposed locations for onshore substations for both the Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas projects.

Scenarion 2 - Norfolk Boreas only



Map 4. Route for the onshore cable connection (Scenario 2).

The map above shows the route for the onshore cable connection under Scenario 2, and the map below shows the proposed location for the onshore substation if only Norfolk Boreas is consented.



Map 5. Proposed location for the onshore substation if only Norfolk Boreas is consented.

6. Defining the scope of the Norfolk Boreas proposals

6.1 Refining the Project through consultation in conjunction with Norfolk Vanguard

As set out above, Vattenfall is seeking to develop the Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard projects in a way that allows them to share infrastructure wherever possible. This aligns with the UK Government's desire to bring down the cost of offshore wind in order to provide sustainable and cost effective energy supplies for the future (see Section 7.1, below) as it allows for more efficient deployment of on and offshore infrastructure.

Given the shared offshore and onshore cable corridor and co-location of onshore project substations, certain elements of both Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard have been consulted upon at the same time. This has taken place through informal consultation events since early 2016 (further information on this can be found in Section 8.2) and during and following Norfolk Vanguard's Statutory Consultation and subsequent expert stakeholder and landowner engagement. The diagram (Figure 3) below sets out how the Environmental Impact Assessment and design of the Project evolves, with engagement and input throughout the process.

As a result, refinements to the Norfolk Boreas project are already advanced. These refinements are reflected in the Norfolk Boreas PEIR, which will be made available during the statutory consultation period (see section 9 for more information).

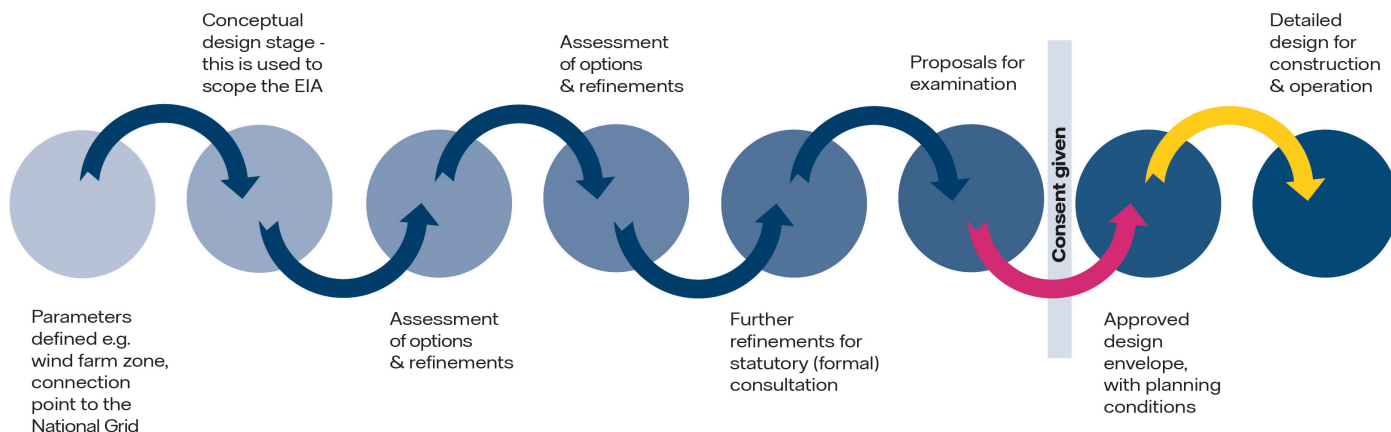
Project refinements and fixed design assumptions include:

- The proposal to deploy HVDC transmission technology, which:
 - requires fewer cables than High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC);
 - reduces the offshore impacts;
 - reduces the cable route working width (from 50m to 35m);
 - reduces the permanent cable easement onshore (from 54m to 20m) for both projects;
 - removes the need for Cable Relay Stations;
 - reduces the time required for cable pull operations (from 3 years to 2 years per project); and
 - reduces the number of drills needed at trenchless crossings (including landfall).
- Where both projects proceed (Scenario 1), committing to ducting Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard in one construction operation.
- Locating landfall at Happisburgh South, with long Horizontal Directional Drilling deployed at landfall, which helps to avoid any disruptions and access impact to beach users.
- Refining the onshore cable corridor and siting zone of the onshore project substation east north east of Necton.
- Dedicated works access to keep onshore project substation construction and operation traffic out of Necton and Ivy Todd.
- Engaging with relevant offshore stakeholders on how to manage sandbank habitats of conservation importance within the order limits of the offshore cable corridor – further design refinement will build on the principles agreed in relation to Norfolk Vanguard.

A larger version of this diagram can be found in Appendix 4.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process consultation

The diagram below illustrates the importance of consultation and engagement in the EIA process, which enables developers to progress their proposal, taking into account all appropriate constraints and opportunities to ensure an environmentally sensitive proposal emerges. Physical, social and environmental issues are addressed holistically through this consultation and engagement, with time and space programmed in for feedback loops – so ideas can be presented, discussed, tested, worked on further, re-presented and so on. For this methodology to be effective, developers engage at an early stage of development, when many decisions remain open, and the proposals are conceptual.



Stakeholder & community review

Consultation and engagement involving statutory stakeholders, expert topic groups, landowners & land interests, community, and appropriate regard to feedback built into next phase of project development through the EIA process

Examination

Carried out by the Planning Inspectorate - an independent planning authority on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

Detailed design

Incorporates planning conditions set out in the Development Consent Order and deploys best-in-class innovation to ensure future-proof design is constructed

Figure 3. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process consultation

7. How Environmental Effects are assessed

Norfolk Boreas is classified as an environmental impact assessment development under Schedule 2 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This means that an Environmental Statement, describing the potential effects of the Project on the environment, must be prepared to accompany the DCO application.

The Environmental Statement will assess the potential environmental impacts of the Project and propose mitigation to reduce impacts identified as significant. In advance of preparation of the Environmental Statement a report containing 'Preliminary Environmental Information' (PEIR) will be provided as part of the statutory consultation process, which will set out the preliminary findings from the Environmental Impact Assessment process. Section 9 explains how you can view this information during the statutory consultation period.

7.1 Potential Benefits and Effects

7.1.1 Delivering on National Policies and Targets

Offshore wind already generates 5% of the UK's electricity, and by 2021 this will double to over 10%⁸. The Project will generate a further 2% of the UK's electricity requirements, or roughly a quarter of the total energy needs (commercial, industrial and domestic) of the East of England region⁹. The Project will save two and a half million tonnes of CO₂ each year¹⁰; this represents a significant contribution to the UK's carbon reduction targets.

The Project represents a new generation of Offshore Wind Power development. The Project's deployment of innovative technology including larger turbines, HVDC export solution and its large scale and close strategic development with Norfolk Vanguard will lead to economies of scale and increased operational efficiency. These factors should mean the Project will maintain the trend

of bringing down the cost of energy for the British consumer, and contribute to the delivery of the UK's Industrial Strategy¹¹. The UK Government's Green Paper published in January 2017 sets out ten key pillars of its industrial strategy to drive growth across the UK.

The Project can directly contribute at scale to three of these and locally will support a fourth, namely:

- Investing in science, research and innovation – the UK aspires to become a more innovative economy and do more to commercialise our world leading science base to drive growth across the UK.
- Delivering affordable energy and clean growth – keeping costs down for businesses, and securing the economic benefits of the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- Driving growth across the whole country – building on the particular strengths of different places. The East of England is already at the heart of the UK offshore wind industry. Norfolk can reap economic and social benefits of industry growth into the 2020s and beyond as projects currently in construction are completed¹².
- Developing skills – helping people and businesses to thrive; building a new system of technical education to benefit the half of young people who do not go to university; boosting STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) skills, digital skills and numeracy. Work is already underway on developing the necessary links and opportunities to help develop skills in Norfolk. The Vattenfall Local Liaison Officer (LLO) has been working with education providers and businesses to help build the skills that can deliver green power projects¹³.

⁸ <http://www.renewableuk.com/news/news.asp?id=327446>

⁹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/552059/Chapter_5_web.pdf

¹⁰ <http://www.renewableuk.com/page/UKWEExplained>

¹¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/611705/building-our-industrial-strategy-green-paper.pdf

¹² http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/www.renewableuk.com/resource/resmgr/publications/East_Regional_WInd_Factsheet.pdf

¹³ Some training provision is detailed in our previous newsletters: <https://corporate.vattenfall.co.uk/projects/wind-energy-projects/vattenfall-in-norfolk/norfolkvanguard/documents/>

7.1.2 Delivering Regional and Local Economic Benefits

The Project signifies a multibillion pound investment in the economy of Norfolk, East Anglia and the UK during its development, operation and decommissioning. The size, timing and scope of the Project means that it will naturally have a significant positive impact on competition in the offshore wind sector and with a commitment to at least 50% UK content over the lifetime of the Project, will encourage growth of the UK and regional supply chain.

During construction, there will be significant jobs and contractual opportunities for local and UK companies. NBL has already begun building its supply chain, and has recently issued a Request for information (RFI) to identify and engage with businesses at an early stage. The aim is to encourage as many local businesses as possible to develop links with and provide services to the Project during construction and operation. NBL is keen to work with local businesses to help them develop the skills they need to form part of the supply chain for both Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard. See Chapter 31 (Socio-economics) in the Project PEIR for more details.

7.1.3 Innovation

Innovation is key to the success of modern offshore wind farms. NBL aims to be at the forefront of a trend of increasing proportions of UK electricity needs being delivered by offshore wind, and dramatic decreases in the levelized energy cost¹⁴ of offshore wind. The deliverability of offshore wind continues to outstrip alternatives, with projects delivered efficiently, on time and on budget.

In line with Vattenfall's aims of being a leader in maturing the use of HVDC technology in the offshore wind energy sector, Norfolk Boreas will not be considering the potential use of High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) transmission technology. The commitment to deploy an HVDC transmission system aligns with the industry's need to innovate to ensure lower levelised energy costs, and will future proof the project, whilst

delivering direct benefits to local communities through minimising the requirement for additional project infrastructure.

Norfolk Boreas and Norfolk Vanguard will be built in currently undeveloped areas of the southern North Sea, and therefore the project design and engineering must strike a balance between innovation and risk management. The technology deployed must be advanced and appropriately robust and resilient.

For these reasons, in order to maintain optionality in a rapidly developing industry, and ensure affordable green energy is delivered to the UK consumer, the Project will maintain flexibility in some key areas of design until after consent is granted, including turbine foundation type, turbines (size, model), cable burial depth and the use of cable protection material.

7.1.4 Environmental Effects

The Project would be a large construction scheme, with major construction activities taking place from a port on the East Coast of the Southern North Sea (to be determined), and along the onshore cable corridor over a number of years. Although not visible from Norfolk, once constructed, the wind farm would become a significant feature within the offshore environment. Onshore, the transmission cables themselves would not be visible, as they would be buried, however some required electrical infrastructure such as the Project substation would be visible new features in the local landscape.

Our consultation materials, specifically the PEIR, will include information on the potential community and environmental effects of the proposed changes, covering topics such as socio-economics, tourism, recreation, traffic and transport, noise, air quality, soils, hydrology, ecology, the marine environment, and landscape and visual impacts (see Appendix 2 for a full list of topic chapters in the PEIR). We also outline the potential environmental mitigation we will provide to reduce any adverse impacts on local communities, as well as explain any enhancements or benefits of the Project. This could, for example, include landscaping and the provision of new wildlife features and habitats.

¹⁴ Levelized Energy Cost (LEC), also known as levelized cost of electricity (LCoE) is the cost per unit of electricity generated over the lifetime of a project

8. Our approach to consultation

Norfolk Boreas Limited is committed to honest and open engagement. We want your opinions to assist us in shaping the project.

National Policy Statements¹⁵ establish the need for energy and renewable energy generation and we are not seeking views on national policy as part of the Norfolk Boreas statutory consultation. Similarly, where strategic decisions have already been made on shared infrastructure as part of the Norfolk Vanguard project, we are not inviting feedback. Rather our focus is to involve people in shaping decisions that have yet to be made, and which ensure the project works well in the local and regional context.

8.1 Our principles

Vattenfall and NBL recognises the importance of engaging with stakeholders, including communities, through its work. Our principles¹⁶, which are adhered to throughout all our projects, including Norfolk Boreas, are:

- Openness and transparency
- Providing opportunities to get involved
- Sharing information and understanding
- Listening and responding
- Respect

8.2 Early engagement informing preparation of the SoCC

As Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas are strategically linked, in order to optimise the potential of both projects, and minimise local impacts, NBL has been actively engaging to inform local communities and stakeholders of our interest in developing both of these significant infrastructure projects.

The diagram below summarises the informal consultation already undertaken, which has helped shape the Norfolk Boreas wind farm proposals, and outlines the statutory consultation planned for Autumn / Winter 2018 and further engagement, beyond statutory consultation¹⁷. Phases of consultation denoted in the diagram generally follow a pattern of highlighting project news (via newsletters sent to addresses initially within the Norfolk Vanguard scoping area and subsequently within a Norfolk Boreas Primary Consultation Zone (see Section 9.1), inviting informed participation, and reporting back to participants and stakeholders once responses are gathered.

At each stage of consultation, NBL considered how effective the consultation process was and tailored future phases accordingly.

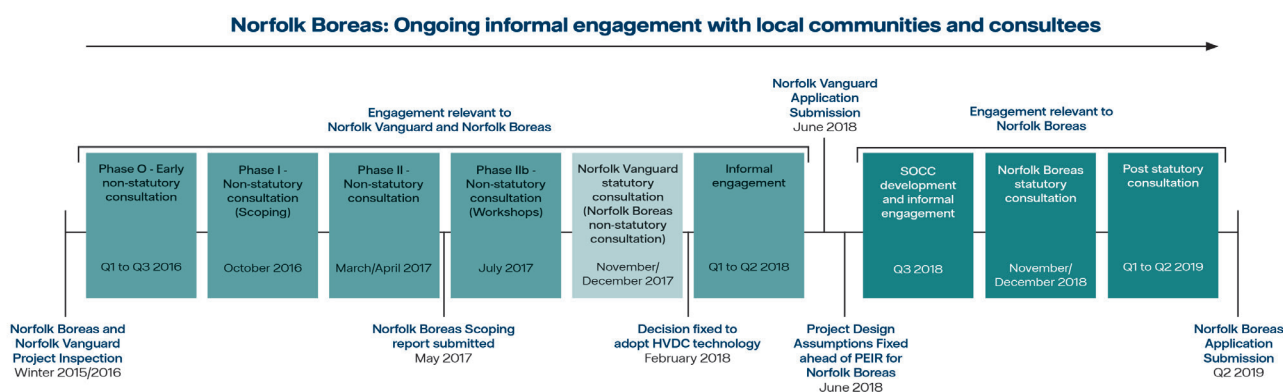


Figure 4. Ongoing informal engagement with local communities and consultees.

¹⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-policy-statements-for-energy-infrastructure>

¹⁶ <https://corporate.vattenfall.co.uk/globalassets/uk/communities/principles-of-engagement.pdf>

¹⁷ Whilst one stage of consultation (Winter 2017) represented statutory ('formal') consultation on the Norfolk Vanguard project, it forms an 'informal' stage of consultation for Norfolk Boreas. For further detail on consultation (process and content) leading up to this SoCC, refer to 'Norfolk Boreas Engagement and Development Report' and to the Norfolk Vanguard Consultation Report.

In response to local interest in the EIA process and siting of onshore infrastructure, two focussed workshops and follow-up drop-ins were held in July 2017. In addition to sharing information about opportunities and constraints influencing siting options, including visualisations and 3D modelling, we gathered a range of views held by members of the local community living in close proximity to 1) the Project Cable Relay Station (CRS) zones¹⁸ and 2) the Project substation zone.

We have learnt a great deal from discussions and consultation events with members of the local community and stakeholders to date and this has assisted in shaping the Project to its current form. Following each stage of consultation, a feedback report was published detailing the outcome of that consultation and highlighting where the Project proposals had been refined.

9. Statutory Consultation

9.1 Who we are consulting and where

Consultation is open to all with an interest in the Project or who feel directly or indirectly impacted by our proposal.

From the start of informal consultation, we sought inclusive engagement (See Section 7.2), sending newsletters to households across our Scoping Area. Through the EIA and consultation process, the focus of the project has narrowed to a refined area within which onshore infrastructure is likely to be sited, sometimes known as a “red line boundary”.

A Primary Consultation Zone was identified for the combined Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas informal consultation and the Norfolk Vanguard statutory consultation.

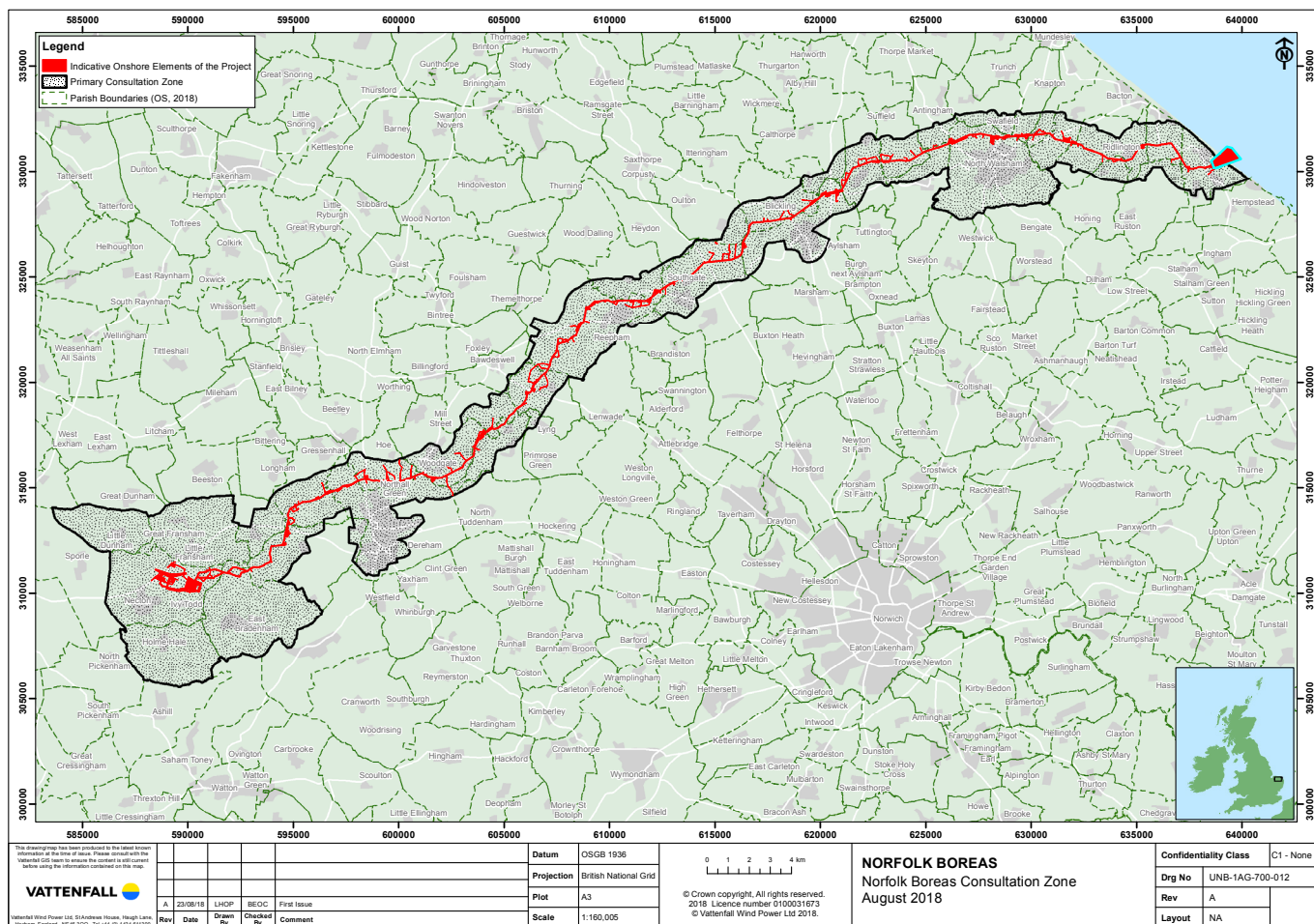
Following further refinements to the Project, we have identified a narrower PCZ for the Norfolk Boreas Project (see Map 6 below), as an envelope within which we will make particular efforts to keep people informed and engaged, for example by sending newsletters and communications to households and businesses, and targeting the information provided to the interests and needs of these communities. The PCZ is 1km around the Project’s indicative cable corridor, where impacts could be felt during the construction phase. We extended this 1km boundary, to include the key market towns along the corridor, namely Aylsham, Reepham, North Walsham and Dereham, as hubs for more rural communities, and where during informal consultation we already have experienced significant levels of interest and response.

Around where we are seeking to locate permanent visible onshore infrastructure close to the substation zone, we will consult more widely and follow relevant Parish / Town Council boundaries to define the PCZ.

The consultation is open to everyone and we will publicise it through website updates, social media posts, local newspaper advertisements and an additional consultation event outside of the PCZ at Norwich.

If during the consultation, issues and interests emerge, which show there is a need to consult directly with people outside the PCZ, we will do so, and consider any responses as part of the consultation process.

¹⁸The CRS is no longer required, following the decision to deploy an HVDC transmission system for Norfolk Vanguard and Norfolk Boreas



Map 6. Map showing the Norfolk Boreas Primary Consultation Zone (PCZ). Please see Appendix 1 for larger scale map or visit <https://corporate.vattenfall.co.uk/projects/wind-energy-projects/vattenfall-in-norfolk/norfolkboreas/public-consultation/> for online interactive map. Alternatively, contact us using the details on page 25.

In addition to local individuals, we will continue to consult with relevant Parish and Town Councils, and seek to enhance engagement with community groups, organisations representing local business communities, those representing the interests of the local tourism and leisure sectors, and skills and education providers, to increase awareness of the consultation process and enable participation.

We recognise that residents, communities, organisations and other stakeholders will have different requirements for information and our process of consultation will reflect this.

For this reason, we are also providing engagement and consultation opportunities in Norwich – the principal urban centre for Norfolk, which is the locus of many business, educational, social and cultural activities.

As well as this community consultation, we will be discussing the Project with a range of statutory consultees (under Section 42 of the Act) including:

- County and District Councils, Parish and Town Councils.
- The Marine Management Organisation, Natural England, The Environment Agency and other Statutory and Regulatory Bodies.
- Owners, tenants and occupiers of the land affected by the DCO application.
- Commercial stakeholders (including asset owners and the fishing industry), and
- Environmental organisations.

9.2 How we shall Consult

9.2.1 Timescales for consultation and the statutory consultation period

We are launching a statutory consultation period on 7th November 2018 closing at 11.59 pm on 9th December 2018. This covers a period of 33 days, exceeding the minimum 28 days under the Act. We will publish the consultation materials, including the PEIR, up to one week ahead of the start of consultation. Alongside receiving comments from statutory consultees, we would welcome comments from the local community. This will be an opportunity for us to take on board those comments, which will help in forming the final Project design that will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

All consultation responses must be received no later than 11.59pm on Sunday 9th December 2018, or we may not be able to take them into account.

Once the consultation period has finished, we will be finalising the DCO application and so there will only be a limited amount of ways that it will be possible to directly influence the Project design. We will of course continue to provide the local community with updates and information throughout the pre-application process. We would also welcome comments from the local community throughout the pre-application period via the communication methods referred to in the SoCC. Responses we receive prior to the end of the statutory consultation period will be summarised and reflected in the Consultation Report.

9.2.2 Consultation with local authorities

We met informally with relevant councils and local planning authorities to consult with them on our approach to the SoCC. We will continue to work with the relevant planning authority community consultation and communications officers to implement locally relevant and good consultation practice. Local involvement plans and public involvement guidelines were considered in the preparation of this SoCC, to align principles and appropriate consultation approaches that would best meet the needs of the local community.

This SoCC has been drawn up to incorporate feedback received on the Norfolk Vanguard SoCC from Local Authorities to ensure that a suitable approach to consultation is taken.

9.2.3 Associated Guidance relating to the NSIP process

The SoCC has also been prepared in accordance with the pre-application process Guidance Note prepared by DCLG in March 2015 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-the-pre-application-process-for-major-infrastructure-projects>.

9.2.4 Consulting 'hard to reach' groups

NBL has undertaken informal consultation, including with a number of groups and organisations that represent 'Hard to Reach', or 'Seldom Heard' groups in Norfolk. These represent demographic groups that do not usually engage in consultation activity, as well as people with disabilities who may have problems accessing the consultation information. Throughout the statutory consultation period, NBL will be offering presentations and providing information directly to such groups in order to facilitate their participation in the consultation process.

The following methods will be used to inform local communities, including 'Hard to Reach' groups, of the opportunities to get involved with the consultation on the Project:

- Newsletter within the Norfolk Boreas Primary Consultation Zone
- Newspaper adverts
- Posters, along the cable corridor
- Press releases to local media
- Letters to elected representatives, parish councils and local groups
- Posts on social media
- E-newsletter to those who have registered an interest in the project

9.2.5 Consultation documents/materials

We want to create opportunities for as many people as possible to get involved with the consultation.

We will therefore publish or provide the following consultation documents and other informative material:

- Online information hub – a documents page has been created on the Project webpage.
- Slide pack – to enable us to offer presentations to local groups who are interested in hosting a session.
- 3D virtual model – a model showing what the Project might look like will be available at local drop-in events.
- Exhibition materials – we will run drop-in exhibitions as part of the consultation that will be open to everyone. Information boards and materials exhibited will provide context to and summarise the PEIR. Staff will be on hand to answer questions, talk to and aid the understanding of participants at the exhibitions with the aim of assisting them to contribute their views.

- Consultation documents – including the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)¹⁹, a Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEIR and the consultation summary document will be available at local planning authority offices and in libraries (as listed below in this SoCC) on the 31st October 2018 and also online through the Project website.

The full suite of consultation documents is made up of:

- A consultation summary document – to provide a summary of our proposals
- The Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)
- A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEIR
- A feedback form
- This Statement of Community Consultation

Participants requiring materials in different formats (e.g. braille, audio or large text) are invited to contact us and we can make these available.

9.2.6 Methods to provide feedback

There are various ways that you can respond to the consultation:

- Feedback form at local drop-in events.
- Freepost feedback forms, which will be sent with the consultation summary document to local groups.
- Online feedback form that can be filled in at any time online throughout the statutory consultation period.
- Comment books at local consultation events.
- A project email address, Freepost address and Freephone number will also be available to contact the Project team.

¹⁹ Contained on USB sticks unless otherwise stated

9.3 What will we consult on

The purpose of pre-application consultation is to gather views while proposals for the Project are being developed and to allow people the opportunity to influence the design and development in a number of key areas. It is important that it is clear what is being consulted upon during the statutory consultation, what is not subject to consultation, and why. Comments on all aspects of the Project, as described in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR see section 9.5) will be given consideration by the Norfolk Boreas project team. Below, we outline that the scope to change the project is limited, noting that (in accordance with community and stakeholder preference) the design envelope is narrowed and defined following extensive consultation to date. Having said this, new insights relating to constraints and opportunities relevant to the environmental impact assessment process, will always be given due regard.

9.3.1 Key Topics for Consultation

Early consultation with the public, as well as landowners and key regulatory and environmental stakeholders has had very positive influence in defining the Project, and it's "red line boundary" – the area within which Project infrastructure (turbines, cables and project substation) could be placed. Therefore, we will not be asking for input into siting decisions under Scenario 1. There is limited scope for influencing micrositing decisions under Scenario 2.

During statutory consultation, we are particularly seeking local input on:

- Factors which may influence micro-siting of the Norfolk Boreas onshore project substation under Scenario 2 (i.e. where the Norfolk Vanguard project does not proceed).
- Proposals to mitigate any impacts of the Boreas onshore project substation (under both Scenario 1 and Scenario 2), for example, suggested planting schemes and landscaping mitigation.
- Proposals to mitigate any impacts of the Boreas National Grid substation extension.

Local input will also be sought on whether there are any other environmental, operational or visual impacts from the construction, operation or decommissioning of the onshore and offshore elements of the project that should be considered.

9.4 Environmental Information

The Project falls within the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive. Therefore, in parallel to our community consultation, we are undertaking an EIA of the Project (for both the offshore and onshore elements). The scope and methodology of the EIA has been agreed with regulatory bodies and relevant planning authorities.

As explained above, the statutory consultation, described in this SoCC, will seek to gather views on the PEIR – this document builds on the Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion, and comments received during the early (informal) consultation process, undertaken before September 2017. It will incorporate the findings of surveys and initial assessments and will enable consultees to develop an informed view of the potential environmental effects of the Project.

The Environmental Statement will form part of the submitted DCO application and will advance the content of the PEIR to explain the environmental effects predicted as a result of the Project. It will incorporate the responses from the PEIR consultation and any further surveys undertaken (if required).

It will also describe any mitigation measures that would be implemented.

9.5 Accessing the consultation materials

We want to make sure information is accessible locally.

All consultation materials, including electronic copies of the PEIR (which comprises a detailed set of documents, including maps, figures, and photomontages describing the Project, as well as a set of plans showing the overall location of the Project), a much shorter combined non-technical summary (NTS), a consultation summary document and feedback form will be made available in the following ways throughout the statutory consultation:

- On the Project website - www.vattenfall.co.uk/norfolkboreas

- Printed versions will be available at the consultation events to review.
- Copies of the feedback form and consultation summary document will be available to takeaway along with USB sticks containing the full suite of consultation materials at consultation events and information points listed below from 31st October to 9th December 2018
- Due to the size of the PEIR, it will only be available to view at Dereham and North Walsham libraries as well as online and at the consultation events.
- Electronic copies of the PEIR may be accessed and are available to view free of charge for inspection from 31st October 2018 to 9th December 2018 at the listed locations (below):

Venue Address	Opening Times
Aylsham Library 7 Hungate St, Aylsham, Norwich, NR11 6AA	Mon and Fri: 9.30am - 12.30pm; 1.30 - 7:00pm; Tues and Thurs: 9.30am - 12.30pm; 1.30 - 5:00pm; Wed: 1.30 - 7:00pm; Sat: 9.30am - 4:00pm; Sun: 11:00am - 2:00pm
Dereham Library* 59 High St, Dereham, NR19 1DZ	Mon, Wed and Thurs: 9.15am - 5:00pm; Tues and Fri: 9.15am - 7:00pm; Sat: 9.15am - 4:00pm
Norwich Millennium Library The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich, NR2 1AW	Mon-Fri: 10:00am - 7:00pm; Sat: 9:00am - 5:00pm
North Walsham Library* New Rd, North Walsham, NR28 9DE	Mon and Thurs: 9:30am - 7:30pm; Tues and Fri: 9:30am - 5:00pm; Wed and Sat: 9:30am - 1:00pm
North Norfolk District Council Council Offices, Holt Road, Cromer, NR27 9EN	Mon, Tues and Thurs: 8:30am-5:00pm; Wed: 10:00am - 5:00pm; Fri: 8:30am - 4:30pm
Broadland District Council Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Norwich, NR7 ODU	Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 5:00pm
Breckland District Council Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham, NR19 1EE	Mon-Fri: 8:30am - 5:00pm
Norwich City Council St Peters Street, Norwich, NR2 1NH	Mon-Fri: 8:45am - 5:00pm
Great Yarmouth Borough Council Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF	Mon-Fri: 9:00am - 5:00pm
Swaffham Library The Pightle, Swaffham, PE37 7DF	Tues and Thurs: 10.00am - 7.00pm; Fri: 1.00-7.00pm; Sat:10.00am - 4.00pm

***Full copy of PEIR located at these libraries**

The opening times of these organisations are dependent on and are governed by them and may be subject to change.

Digital copies of all documents and relevant supporting materials will be provided to the Parish Councils within the PCZ. Please contact the Parish Clerk, NBL or visit the project website (www.vattenfall.co.uk/norfolkboreas) for further details. Where a copy of the documents is requested from NBL, this can be provided free

of charge on a USB device. USBs will also be available to takeaway from consultation events and inspections points. The documents can be made available in hard copy format on request at an approximate cost of:

- Non-Technical Summary of Preliminary Environmental Information - £22;
- Full Preliminary Environmental Information Report with annexes - £2600;
- A set of 18 (A4) Indicative Cable Corridor Plans - £15

9.6 Statutory consultation events

During the consultation period we will hold a series of events, which anyone who is interested in the Project can attend, read the consultation documents,

see visual displays of our proposals, talk to our team, and leave feedback. These events will be staffed by members of the Norfolk Boreas team.

The events will take place as follows:

Location	Address	Date/Time
Happisburgh	The Wenn Evans Centre, Blacksmiths Ln, Happisburgh, Norwich NR12 0QY	Wednesday 14th November 1pm - 7pm
Aylsham	Aylsham Town Hall, Town Hall, Market Place, Aylsham, Norwich NR11 6EL	Thursday 15th November 1pm - 7pm
Necton	Necton Rural Community Centre, 13 Tun's Road, Necton, Swaffham, PE37 8EH	Friday 16th November 1pm - 7pm
Norwich	The Forum, Bethel St, Millennium Plain, Norwich NR2 1BH	Wednesday 21st November 11am - 6:30pm
Dereham	Dereham Sixth Form College, Crown Rd, East Dereham NR20 4AG	Thursday 22nd November 1pm - 7pm
North Walsham	North Walsham Community Centre, New Road, North Walsham, Norfolk, NR28 9DE	Friday 23rd November 1pm - 7pm
Reepham	St Michael's Church, Reepham, Norfolk, NR10 4JL	Saturday 24th November 10am - 3pm

All of our event venues have disabled access, however for specific mobility or access requirements, please contact us using the details on page 25.

9.7 Providing your feedback to the consultation

There are various ways that you can respond to the consultation. All consultation responses must be received no later than 11.59pm on Friday 9th December 2018, or we may not be able to take them into account.

From 31st October 2018, feedback forms will be available on the project website (see below), at information points and at all public consultation events. You can either fill out a feedback form:

- **online at** www.vattenfall.co.uk/norfolkboreas
- **at an event** (listed on page 24)
- **post a hard copy** to FREEPOST NORFOLK BOREAS
- **or email an electronic copy** to info@norfolkboreas.co.uk

9.8 Consultation Results and Next Steps

After the statutory consultation closes we will collate and review the outcomes to produce a Consultation Report. This will set out consultee responses and how NBL have had regard to those responses in formulating our DCO application. Following this, we may carry out additional targeted consultation with members of the local community, as feedback is received and the project is refined. Wider consultation could be carried out if considered appropriate.

We will carefully consider all of the issues raised in the feedback and will take this into account when finalising the DCO application. Issues identified from feedback will be included in a detailed Consultation Report submitted as part of the DCO application, where we will show how each issue has been considered and if it has led to a change in the proposal. We intend to submit a DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate at the end of June 2019.

9.9 Other Projects and Consultations

NBL will actively seek to keep abreast of other consultations, developments and applications affecting and of interest to the consultees, local community and others, who may wish to respond to our consultation.

We will ensure all our materials are clearly identified as relating to the Norfolk Boreas Project.

10. How to contact us and find out more

You can contact us in the following ways

Visit our project website:
www.vattenfall.co.uk/norfolkboreas

General Enquiries

Call: 0800 019 3517

Email: info@norfolkboreas.co.uk

Local Liaison Officer/Community Queries

Sue Falch-Lovesey

Call: 07817 544235

Email: susan.falch-lovesey@vattenfall.com

Land Matters

Bob McCarthy

Call: 07787 783517 / 01223 859221

Email: vattenfallinnorfolk@consentssolutions.com

Fisheries Liaison

Jonathan Keer, Brown and May Marine Ltd

Call: 01379 872143

Email: jonathan@brownmay.com

Post: FREEPOST NORFOLK BOREAS

11. Appendices

Appendix 1

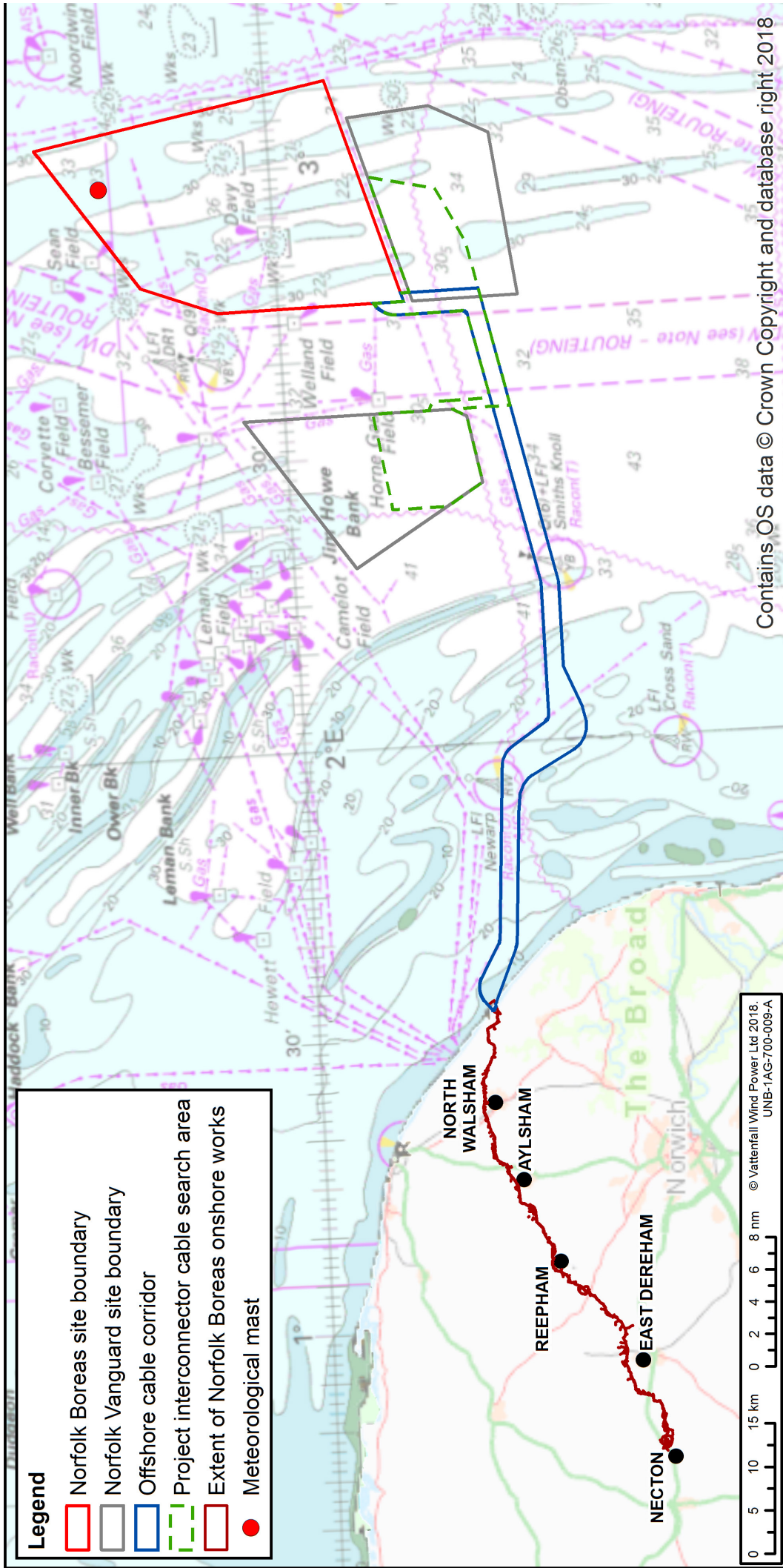
Appendix 2

Preliminary Environmental Information Report Chapter numbers and titles	
Number	Title
1.	Introduction
2.	Need For The Project
3.	Policy And Legislative Context
4.	Site Selection And Assessment Of Alternatives
5.	Project Description
6.	EIA Methodology
7.	Consultation
8.	Marine geology, oceanography and physical processes
9.	Marine water and sediment quality
10.	Benthic and Intertidal ecology
11.	Fish and shellfish ecology
12.	Marine mammal ecology
13.	Offshore ornithology
14.	Commercial fisheries
15.	Shipping and navigation
16.	Aviation and Radar
17.	Offshore and Intertidal archaeology and Cultural Heritage
18.	Infrastructure and Other Users
19.	Ground Conditions and Contamination
20.	Water Resources and Flood Risk
21.	Land Use and Agriculture
22.	Onshore Ecology
23.	Onshore Ornithology
24.	Traffic and Transport
25.	Noise and Vibration
26.	Air Quality
27.	Human Health
28.	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
29.	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
30.	Tourism and Recreation

31	Socio-Economics
32	Offshore Cumulative and Transboundary Impact Assessment
33	Onshore Cumulative Impact Assessment
34	Summary

Appendix 3

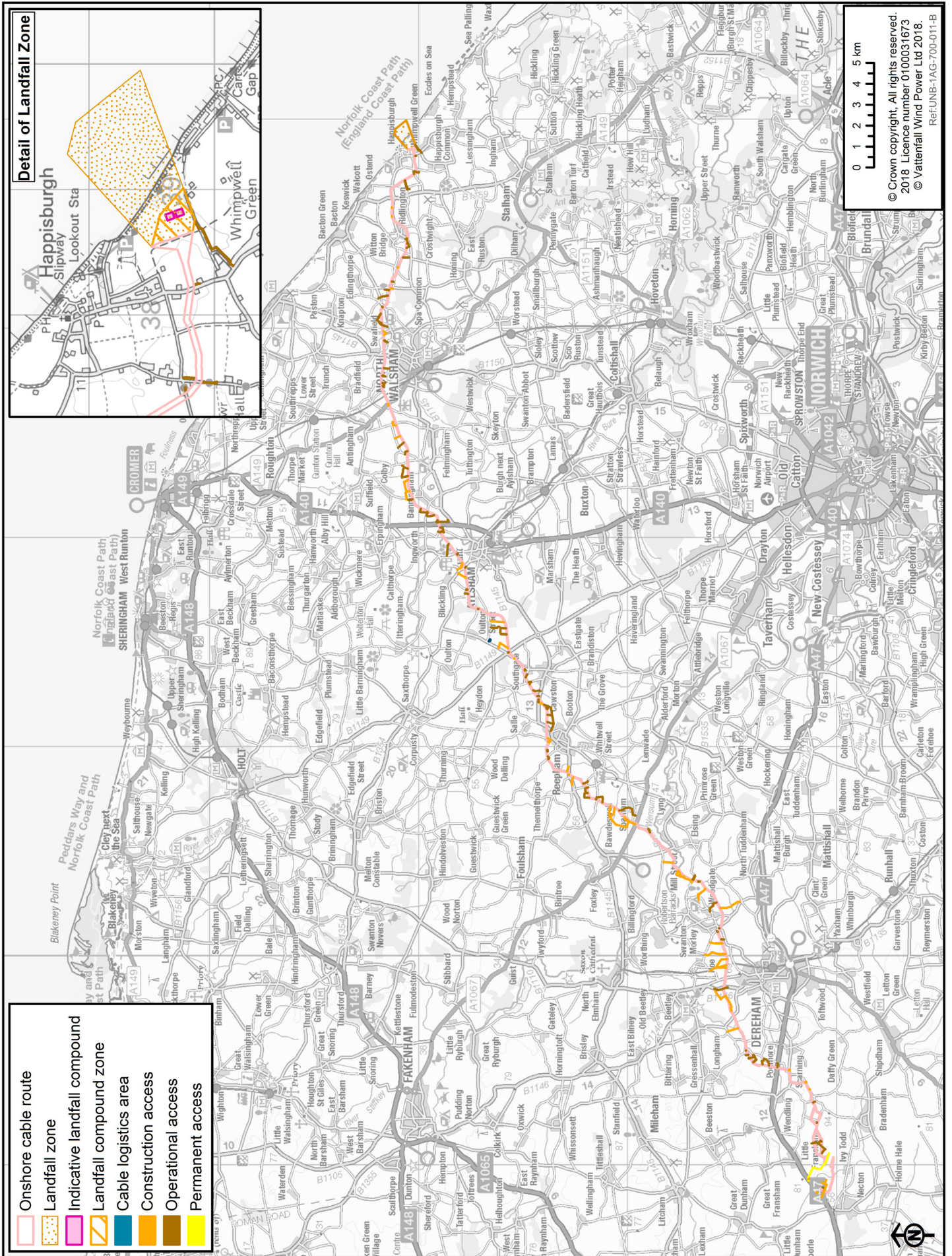
Map 1.



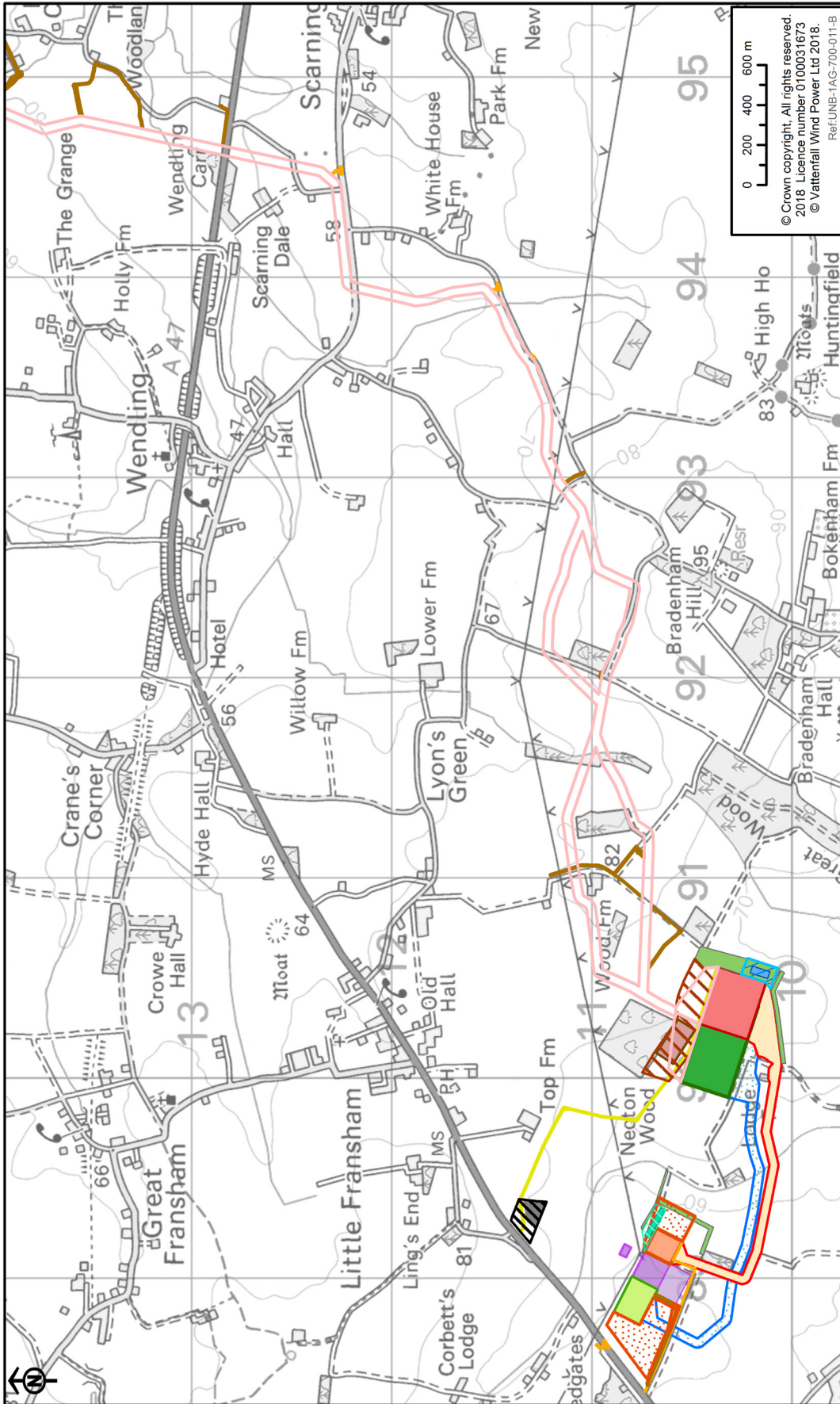
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Map 2.

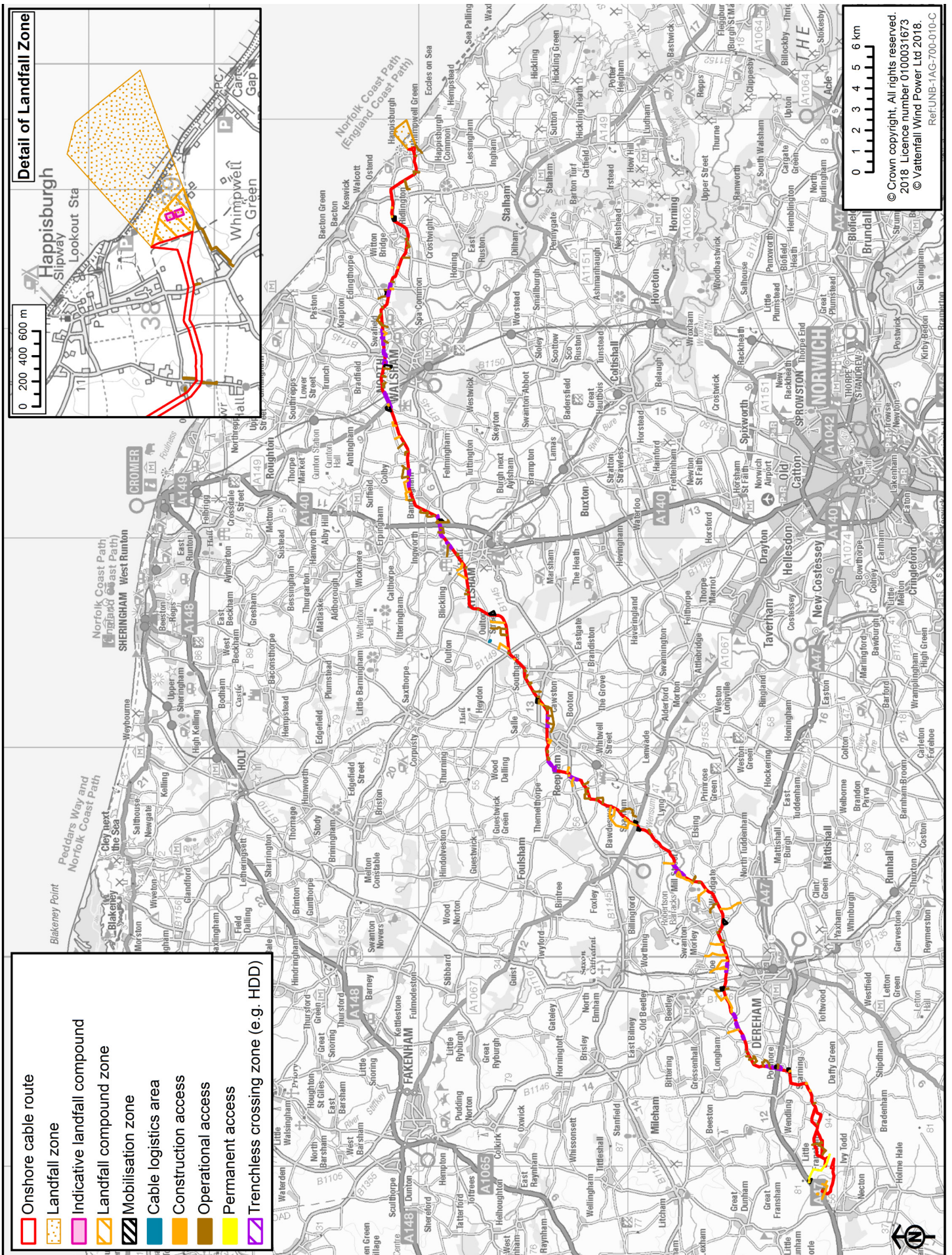


Map 3.

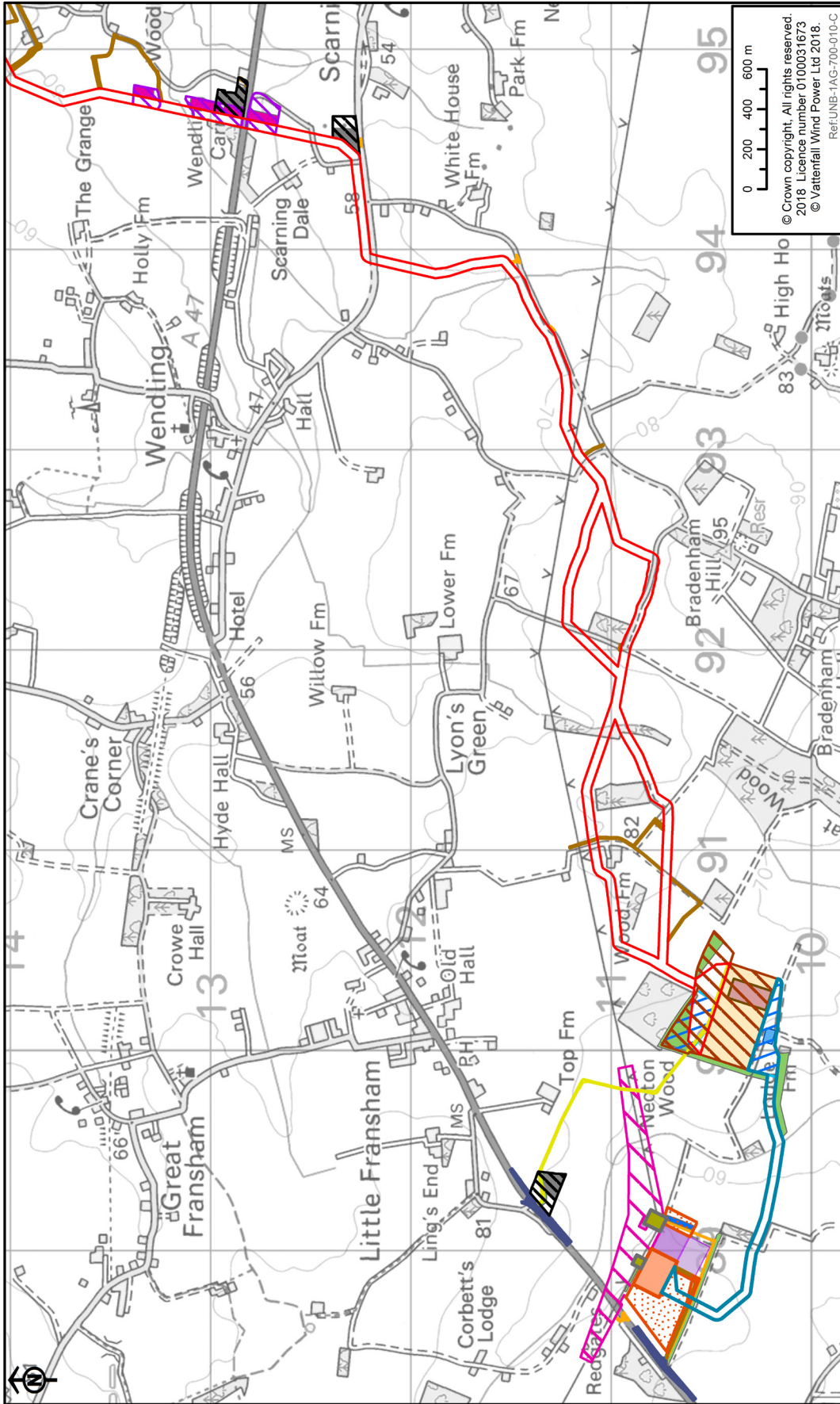


- Legend**
- Onshore cable route
 - Norfolk Boreas 400kV cable route
 - Norfolk Vanguard 400kV cable route
 - Norfolk Boreas National Grid substation extension
 - Norfolk Boreas onshore project substation
 - Norfolk Vanguard National Grid substation extension
 - Norfolk Vanguard onshore project substation
 - Mobilisation zone
 - Construction access
 - Operational access
 - Permanent access
 - Onshore project substation temporary construction compound zone
 - Indicative onshore project substation temporary construction compound
 - National Grid temporary works
 - Norfolk Boreas indicative attenuation pond
 - Norfolk Boreas attenuation pond zone
 - Indicative National Grid attenuation pond
 - National Grid attenuation pond location search area
 - Indicative mobilisation area compound
 - Indicative mitigation planting areas for Norfolk Boreas
 - Existing substation locations
 - Dudgeon substation
 - Necton National Grid substation

Map 4.



Map 5.



0 200 400 600 m
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Legend

- Onshore cable route
- Norfolk Boreas 400kV cable route
- Norfolk Boreas National Grid substation extension
- National Grid new / replacement OHL tower
- Onshore project substation search area
- Mobilisation zone
- Construction access
- Operational access
- Permanent access
- Onshore project substation temporary construction compound zone
- Indicative onshore project substation construction compound

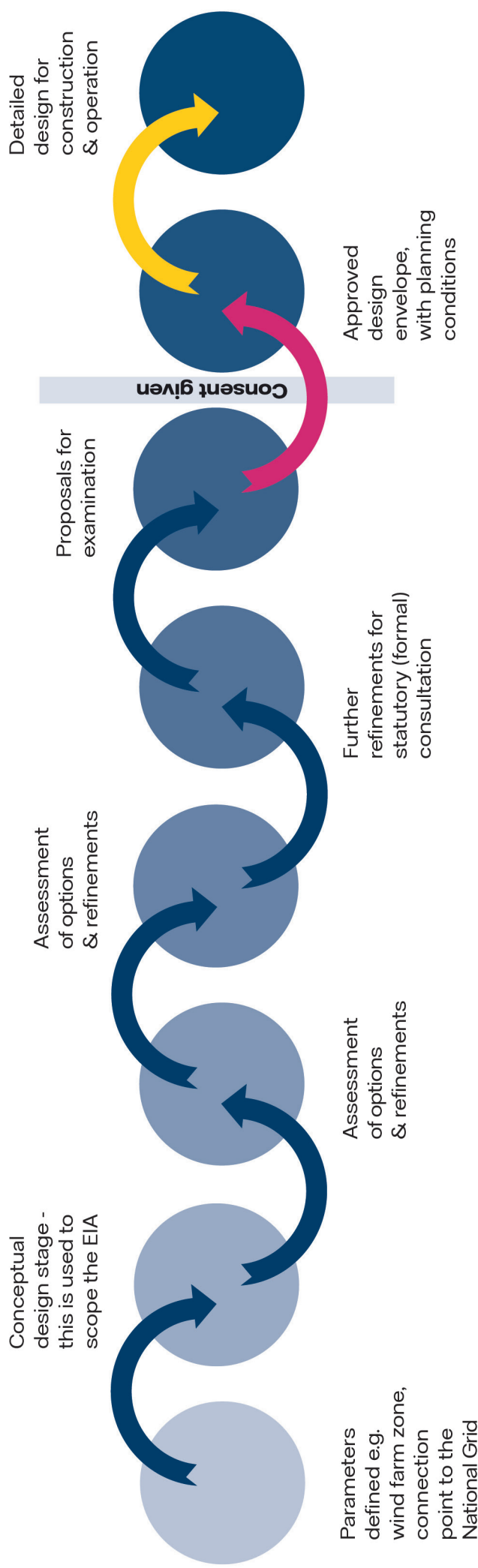
Legend

- Trenchless crossing zone (e.g. HDD)
- National Grid temporary works
- Overhead line temporary works
- Indicative attenuation pond
- Attenuation pond zone
- National Grid attenuation pond
- Indicative mobilisation area compound
- Indicative mitigation planting areas for Norfolk Boreas
- Indicative trenchless crossing compound
- Highways temporary works area
- Existing substation locations
- Dudgeon substation
- Necton National Grid substation

Appendix 4

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process consultation

The diagram below illustrates the importance of consultation and engagement in the EIA process, which enables developers to progress their proposal, taking into account all appropriate constraints and opportunities to ensure an environmentally sensitive proposal emerges. Physical, social and environmental issues are addressed holistically through this consultation and engagement, with time and space programmed in for feedback loops - so ideas can be presented, discussed, tested, worked on further, re-presented and so on. For this methodology to be effective, developers engage at an early stage of development, when many decisions remain open, and the proposals are conceptual.



Stakeholder & community review

Consultation and engagement involving statutory stakeholders, expert topic groups, landowners & land interests, community, and appropriate regard to feedback built into next phase of project development through the EIA process

Examination

Carried out by the Planning Inspectorate - an independent planning authority on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

Detailed design

Incorporates planning conditions set out in the Development Consent Order and deploys best-in-class innovation to ensure future-proof design is constructed

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