

National Infrastructure Planning
Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN



2nd May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning Inspectorate Ref: EN010109

RSPB Registration Identification Ref: 20033327

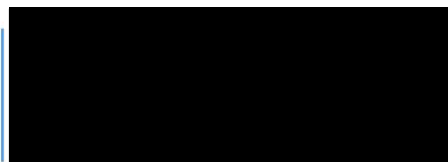
RSPB capacity and engagement with the Examination for Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Shoal Extension projects

The RSPB has engaged with the Applicant throughout the pre-application stage of these projects to provide our constructive advice as the Applicant has developed its projects. We will continue to seek to engage with the Applicant throughout the Examination period.

We are, however, facing serious capacity issues due to staff long term illness and vacancies within key teams that have occurred since the start of the Examination. As a consequence, we will not be able to engage with any hearings associated with these projects and will engage through written communications only.

Our ability to respond to all documents provided by the Applicant will also be significantly limited by the same capacity issues. We will attempt to engage with the Sandwich tern compensation measures discussions where we can add value,

RSPB England
Norwich Office
Stalham House, 65 Thorpe Road
Norwich, Norfolk
NR1 1UD



The RSPB is part of Birdlife International, a Partnership of conservation organisations working to give nature a home around the world.

as well as discussions concerning kittiwake compensation measures. We are involved in the wider conversations about strategic compensation measures and, if appropriate, will contribute updates on those discussions to aid the Examination. We will review further Written Questions as these are produced and provide comments on those directed to us.

Having reviewed the timeline of submissions, we are at this stage unable to engage with the Applicant to provide a draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) in time for Deadline 3. We will work with the Applicant to submit a SoCG before the end of the Examination period.

At Deadline 3, our submissions comprise this cover letter and responses to the second round of written questions directed to us.

We trust these comments are helpful in clarifying our current position.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Philip Pearson
Senior Conservation Officer (Norfolk and Lincolnshire)

RSPB England
Norwich Office
Stalham House, 65 Thorpe Road
Norwich, Norfolk
NR1 1UD



The RSPB is part of BirdLife International, a Partnership of conservation organisations working to give nature a home around the world.