

RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited

RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited

Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms

**Consultation Report
Volume 5**

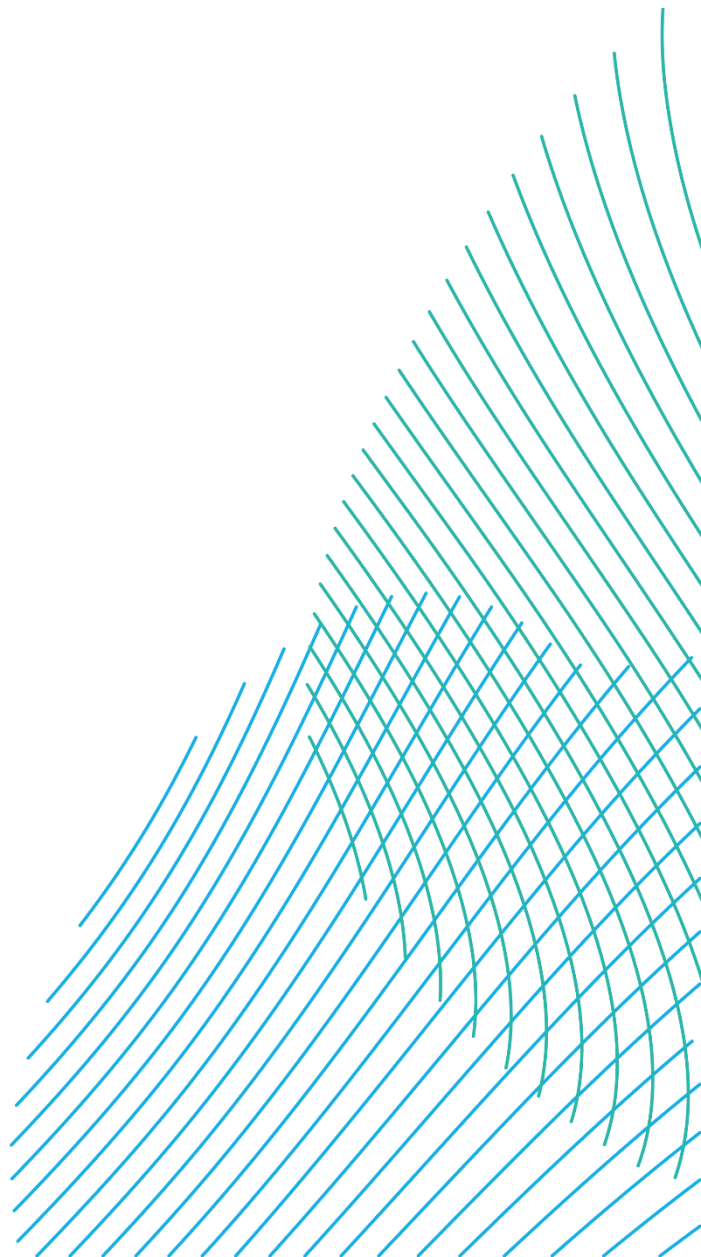
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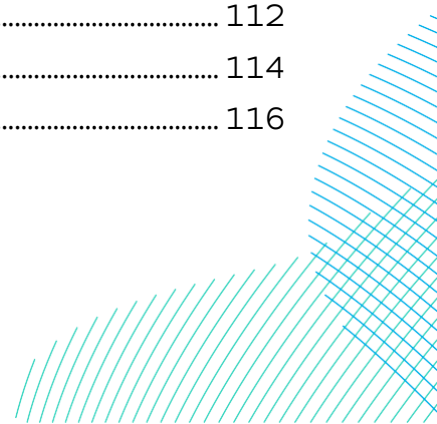
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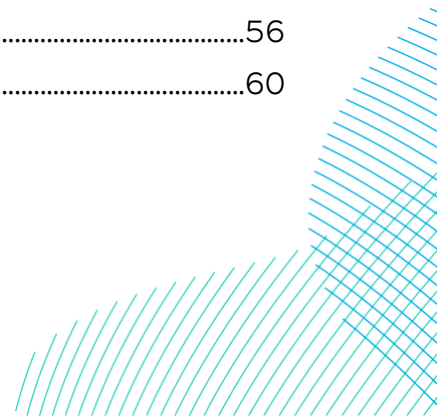


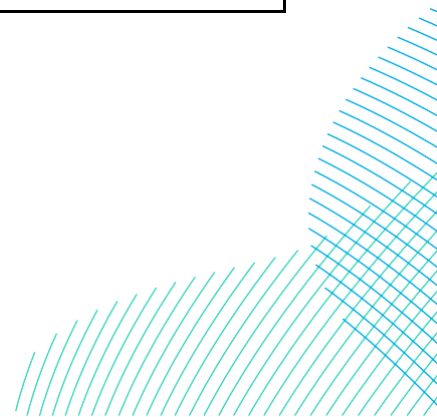
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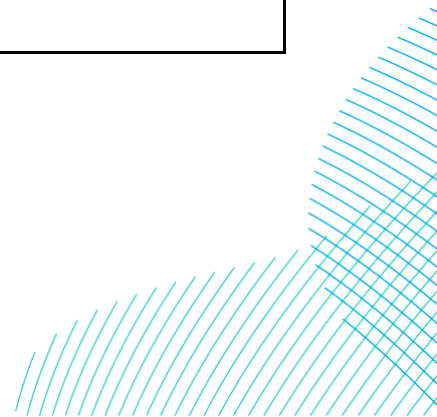
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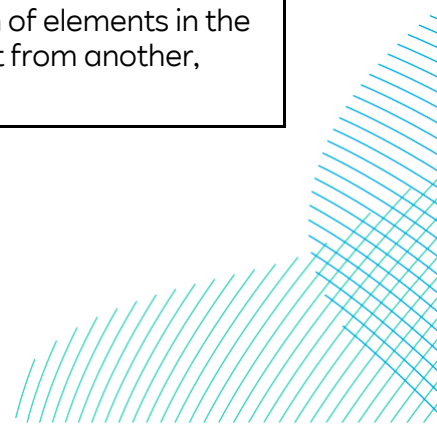
Term	Definition
Agreement for Lease (AfL) Area	The Area of the seabed leased by The Crown Estate to the Applicants.
Agricultural Land Classification	Agricultural Land Classification is a grading system used to assess and compare the quality of agricultural land in England and Wales. A combination of climate, topography and soil characteristics and their unique interaction determines the grade of the land. The grades range from 1 to 5. Grade 1 being excellent, Grade 2 very good, Grade 3a and 3b good to moderate (no subdivide), Grade 4 poor and Grade 5 very poor.
Aquifer	Geological strata that hold water.
Array Areas	The DBS East and DBS West offshore Array Areas, where the wind turbines, offshore platforms and array cables would be located. The Array Areas do not include the Offshore Export Cable Corridor or the Inter-Platform Cable Corridor within which no wind turbines are proposed. Each area is referred to separately as an Array Area.
Cumulative Effects	The combined effect of the Projects in combination with the effects of a number of different (defined cumulative) schemes, on the same single receptor / resource.
Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA)	The assessment of the combined effect of the Projects in combination with the effects of a number of different (defined cumulative) schemes, on the same single receptor/resource.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Dogger Bank South (DBS) Offshore Wind Farms	The collective name for the two Projects, DBS East and DBS West.
EIA Regulations	The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.



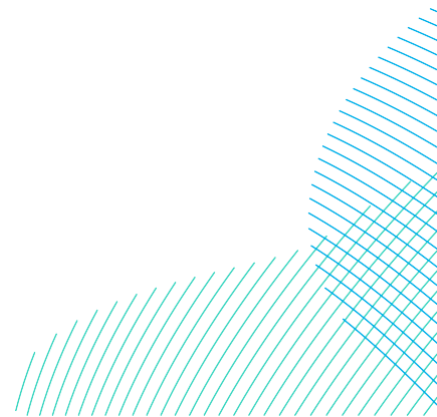
Term	Definition
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A statutory process by which certain planned projects must be assessed before a formal decision to proceed can be made. It involves the collection and consideration of environmental information, which fulfils the assessment requirements of the EIA Directive and EIA Regulations, including the publication of an Environmental Statement (ES).
Environmental Statement (ES)	A document reporting the findings of the EIA and produced in accordance with the EIA Directive as transposed into UK law by the EIA Regulations.
Erosion	Wearing away of the land or seabed by natural forces (e.g. wind, waves, currents, chemical weathering).
European Site	Sites designated for nature conservation under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive. This includes candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, and is defined in regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
European Offshore Marine Site	Sites located in the offshore marine area designated for nature conservation under the Habitats Directive and Birds Directive. This includes Special Areas of Conservation and candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, and Special Protection Areas, and is defined in regulation 18 of the Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
Evidence Plan Process (EPP)	A voluntary consultation process with specialist stakeholders to agree the approach, and information to support, the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for certain topics.
Habitats Regulations	Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	The process that determines whether or not a plan or project may have an adverse effect on the integrity of a European Site or European Offshore Marine Site.



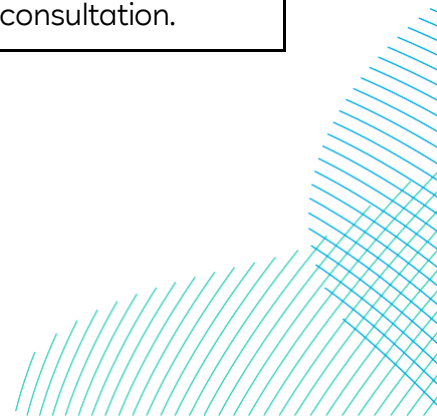
Term	Definition
Haul Road	The track along the Onshore Export Cable Corridor used by traffic to access different sections of the onshore export cable route for construction.
Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV)	HGV is the term for any vehicle with a Gross Weight over 3.5 tonnes. This is also used as a proxy for HGVs and buses / coaches recognising the similar size and environmental characteristics of the respective vehicle types.
High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC)	High voltage alternating current is the bulk transmission of electricity by alternating current (AC), whereby the flow of electric charge periodically reverses direction.
High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC)	High voltage direct current is the bulk transmission of electricity by direct current (DC), whereby the flow of electric charge is in one direction.
Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD)	HDD is a trenchless technique to bring the offshore cables ashore at the landfall and can be used for crossing other obstacles such as roads, railways and watercourses onshore.
Introductory consultation	Non-statutory public and stakeholder consultation carried out in 2022 to introduce the projects; explain the site selection process and options for the substation zones and onshore cable corridor and collect feedback on the proposals.
Jointing Bays	Underground structures constructed at regular intervals along the onshore cable route to join sections of cable and facilitate installation of the cables into the buried ducts.
Landfall	The point on the coastline at which the Offshore Export Cables are brought onshore, connecting to the onshore cables at the Transition Joint Bay (TJB) above mean high water.
Landfall Zone	The generic term applied to the entire landfall area between Mean Low Water Spring (MLWS) and the Transition Joint Bays (TJBs) inclusive of all construction works, including the landfall compounds, Onshore Export Cable Corridor and intertidal working area including the Offshore Export Cables.
Landscape character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another, rather than better or worse.



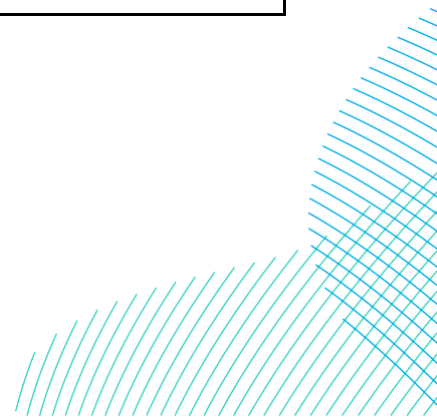
Term	Definition
Link Boxes	An underground metal box placed within a concrete pit where the metal sheaths between adjacent export cable sections are connected and earthed, installed with a ground level manhole to allow access to the Link Box for regular maintenance or fault-finding purposes.
Local Authority	The Local Authority is a body empowered by law to exercise various statutory functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom. This includes County Councils, District Councils and the Broads Authority, as set out in section 43 of the Planning Act 2008. East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) is the Local Authority for the entirety of the Onshore Development Area.
Main River	Main Rivers are usually large rivers or streams that are designated under the Water Resources Act (1991) and are shown on the statutory Main River Map. They are managed by the Environment Agency, who carry out construction, maintenance and improvement works to manage flood risk.
Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)	MHWS is the average of the heights of two successive high waters during a 24 hour period.
Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS)	MLWS is the average of the heights of two successive low waters during a 24 hour period.
Non-statutory consultee	An organisation or individual that the Applicants may choose to engage (if there are planning policy reasons to do so) who are not designated in law but may be likely to have an interest in a proposed development.
Offshore Export Cable Corridor	This is the area which will contain the offshore export cables (and potentially the ESP) between the Offshore Converter Platforms and Transition Joint Bays at the landfall.
Onshore Converter Stations	A compound containing electrical equipment required to transform and stabilise electricity generated by the Projects so that it can be connected to the electricity transmission network. There will be one Onshore Converter Station for each Project.



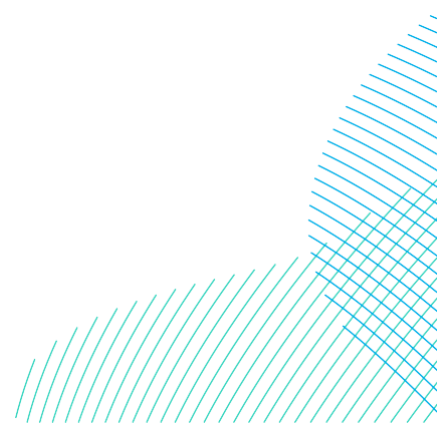
Term	Definition
Onshore Development Area	The Onshore Development Area for ES is the boundary within which all onshore infrastructure required for the Projects would be located including Landfall Zone, Onshore Export Cable Corridor, accesses, Temporary Construction Compounds and Onshore Converter Stations
Onshore Export Cable Corridor	This is the area which includes cable trenches, Haul Roads, spoil storage areas, and limits of deviation for micro-siting. For assessment purposes, the cable corridor does not include the Onshore Converter Stations, Transition Joint Bays or temporary access routes; but includes Temporary Construction Compounds (purely for the cable route).
Onshore Export Cables	Onshore Export Cables take the electric from the Transition Joint Bay to the Onshore Converter Stations.
Onshore Substation Zone	Parcel of land within the Onshore Development Area where the Onshore Converter Station infrastructure (including the Haul Roads, Temporary Construction Compounds and associated cable routing) would be located.
Ordinary watercourse	Rivers which are not Main Rivers are called 'ordinary watercourses'. Lead local flood authorities, district councils and internal drainage boards carry out flood risk management work on ordinary watercourses.
Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)	Defined in the EIA regulations as information referred to in part 1, Schedule 4 (information for inclusion in environmental statements) which has been compiled by the applicant and is reasonably required to assess the environmental effects of the development.
Projects Design (or Rochdale) Envelope	A concept that ensures the EIA is based on assessing the realistic worst-case scenario where flexibility or a range of options is sought as part of the consent application.
Red Line Boundary	The proposed Onshore Development Area as outlined above which has been refined following the statutory consultation.



Term	Definition
Scoping opinion	The report adopted by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State.
Scoping report	The report that was produced in order to request a Scoping opinion from the Secretary of State.
Section 42 consultee	Organisations and individuals that are required to be consulted by the Applicants under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008. Non-prescribed section 42 consultees may be included by Applicants if identified as being of significance.
Section 47 consultee	An organisation or individual that the Applicants may choose to engage (if there are planning policy reasons to do so) who are not designated in law but may be likely to have an interest in a proposed development.
Section 47 consultee	A consultee identified in the Projects' Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), as being individuals living in the vicinity of the land. The Applicants have a duty under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 to carry out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC.
Sequential Scenario	A potential construction scenario for the Projects where DBS East and DBS West are constructed with a lag between the commencement of construction activities. Either Project could be built first.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Strictly protected sites designated pursuant to Article 3 of the Habitats Directive (via the Habitats Regulations) for habitats listed on Annex I and species listed on Annex II of the Directive
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Strictly protected sites designated pursuant to Article 4 of the Birds Directive (via the Habitats Regulations) for species listed on Annex I of the Directive and for regularly occurring migratory species
Statutory consultation	The Statutory Consultation ran in two periods. The first period ran between 6th June and 15th July 2023, with a Supplementary Statutory Consultation period between 4th August - 15th September (see below).



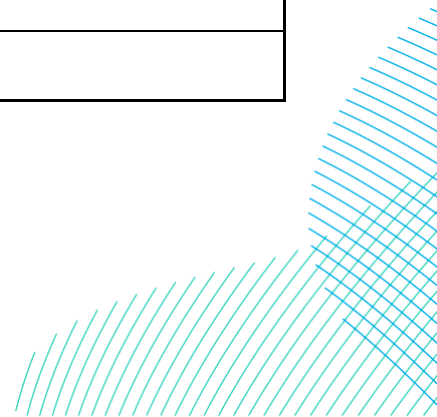
Term	Definition
Statutory consultee	Organisations and individuals that are required to be consulted by the Applicants under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008. Not all consultees will be statutory consultees (see non-statutory consultee definition).
Supplementary Statutory Consultation	Supplementary Statutory Consultation period to allow for consultees to respond that had not been previously notified of consultation. 4 th August – 15 th September 2023.
Targeted consultation	Period of consultation carried out after the Statutory Consultation which focused on those directly impacted by changes adopted as a result of the Statutory Consultation. 13 th November – 10 th December 2023.
Temporary Construction Compound	An area set aside to facilitate construction of the Projects. These will be located adjacent to the Onshore Export Cable Corridor and within the Onshore Substation Zone, with access to the highway.
The Applicants	The Applicants for the Projects are RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited. The Applicants are themselves jointly owned by the RWE Group of companies (51% stake) and Masdar (49% stake).
The Projects	DBS East and DBS West (collectively referred to as the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms).
Transition Joint Bay (TJB)	The Transition Joint Bay (TJB) is an underground structure at the landfall that houses the joints between the Offshore Export Cables and the Onshore Export Cables.
Transition Joint Bay Compound	A temporary construction compound located with the 'Landfall Zone' to undertake the trenchless crossing technique e.g. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) and for the construction of the Transition Joint Bays.



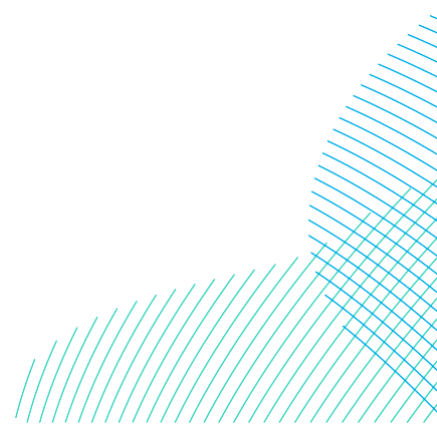
Acronyms

Term	Definition
ADNOC	Abu Dhabi National Oil Company
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Cefas	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
COWSC	Collaboration in Offshore Wind Strategic Compensation
DBS	Dogger Bank South
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DCO	Development Consent Order
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
EEA	European Economic Area
ECC	Export Cable Corridor
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPP	Evidence Plan Process
ES	Environmental Statement
ETG	Expert Topic Group
GW	Gigawatt
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
HMLR	Her Majesty's Land Registry
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current

Term	Definition
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
IFCA	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
IPC	Infrastructure Planning Commission
JLAF	Joint Local Access Forum
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
km	Kilometres
kV	Kilovolt
LIQ	Land Interest Questionnaires
LLC	Local Liaison Committee
LOQ	Land Ownership Questionnaires
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MIEU	Major Infrastructure Environment Unit
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
NFFO	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
NFU	National Farmers Union
NGIH	National Grid Interconnector Holdings
NPS	National Policy Statement
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
NTS	Non-technical summary
OWIC	Offshore Wind Industry Council
PA 2008	The Planning Act 2008
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report



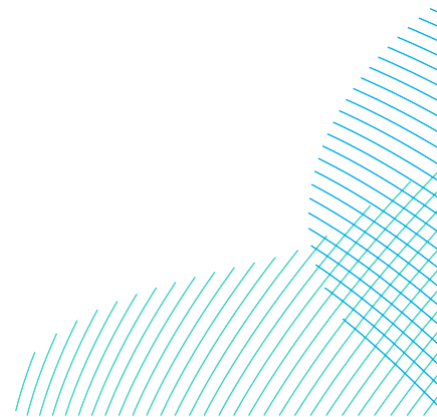
Term	Definition
PILs	Persons with an interest in land
PINS	The Planning Inspectorate
PPA	Planning Performance Agreement
RCP	Reactive Compensation Platform
RIAA	Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
RSPB	The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SANS	Strategic Artificial Nesting Structures
SLVIA	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SPF	Sweden Pelagic Federation Producer Organisation
TAQA	Abu Dhabi National Energy Company
UK	United Kingdom
YWT	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust



1 Introduction

1.1 Overview and purpose of the Consultation Report

1. This Consultation Report has been prepared by RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited (hereafter known as 'the Applicants'), in support of the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 ('PA 2008') for the Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms ('the Projects').
2. This Consultation Report follows the guidance provided by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on the pre-application process for major infrastructure projects (DCLG, 2015), which emphasises the importance of early engagement with local authorities, statutory consultees and the local community. Paragraph 20 of the DCLG guidance recommends that for consultation to be of most value, it should be:
 - Based on accurate information that gives consultees a clear view of what is being proposed including any options;
 - Shared at an early enough stage so that the proposal can still be influenced, while being sufficiently developed to provide some detail on what is being proposed; and
 - Engaging and accessible in style, encouraging consultees to react and offer their views.
3. This report also draws on advice provided by The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in Advice Note 14: Compiling the Consultation Report (February 2021) (Version 3) (PINS, 2021), which provides developers with guidance on the format and content of the Consultation Report. Further detail on the relevant legislation, guidance and advice followed is presented in section 1 of this report.
4. In line with the advice presented in Advice Note 14 (PINS, 2021), this document presents an overview of the whole pre-application stage as it relates to the DCO application. This Consultation Report has been prepared in accordance with pre-application consultation requirements contained in sections 37(3)(c), 37(7), 42, 45, 47(7), 48 and 49 of the Planning Act (PA) 2008.



5. This Consultation Report therefore covers both statutory and non-statutory consultation activities as well as engagement since the inception of the Projects. The report also covers a summary of consultation under other regulations (Environmental Impact Assessment, Scoping, Transboundary and Habitats Regulations Assessment). An explanation of the consultation undertaken is presented in a high-level summary form to ensure that the information presented is clear and concise from the outset.

1.2 Structure of this Consultation Report

6. The structure of this Consultation Report is set out below (**Table 1-1 and Table 1-2**).

Table 1-1 Structure of this Consultation Report

Section	Title	Contents
1	Introduction	An introduction to the Consultation Report including structure, a high-level Project description and information about the Applicants.
2	Legislative context and compliance	Checklist of compliance against key legislation and guidance.
3	Engagement	Details of engagement that was carried out alongside and in support of consultation since inception of the Projects.
4	Development of Environmental Assessments	Discussion of engagement and consultation throughout the progression of environmental assessments
5	Non-statutory Introductory Consultation	Details of the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation carried out on the early proposals.
6	Statutory Consultation	An overview of the Statutory Consultation undertaken between 6 th June and 17 th June 2023 including details of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation under section 42; • Notification of the Secretary of State under section 46; • Activity and consultation under section 47; • Details of publicity under section 48;

Section	Title	Contents
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The key themes of responses received from both S42 and S47 consultees; and The changes to the Projects as a result of consultation feedback. <p>Information regarding the Supplementary Statutory Consultation is also provided in this section.</p>
7	Targeted Statutory Consultation	An overview of why the targeted consultation was required and a summary of the responses received.
8	Conclusions and next steps	Conclusions of the Consultation Report.

7. This Consultation Report is supported by a series of appendices which provide additional information and evidence demonstrating how the consultation was delivered, the issues raised from feedback and how that has been considered by the Applicants. References are also made to other application documents, particularly **Volume 7, Environmental Statement (ES) Chapters 1 to 30 (application ref: 7.1 to 7.30)** and **Volume 3, Draft Development Consent Order (application ref: 3.1)**. Therefore, this report should be read alongside those documents, which are particularly relevant as they demonstrate how consultation feedback has been regarded.

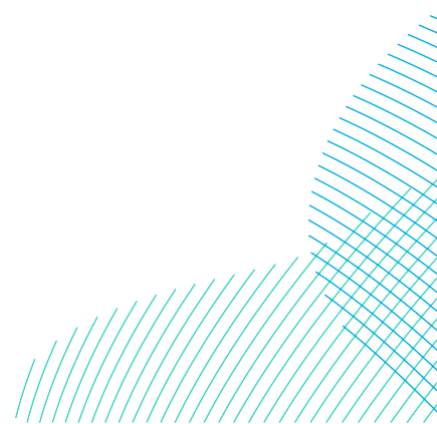
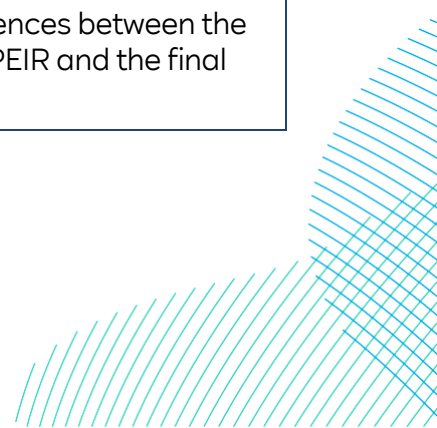


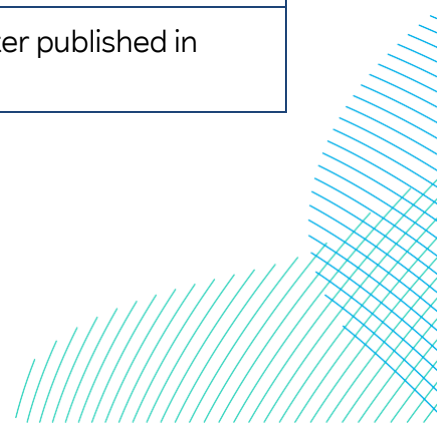
Table 1-2 Structure of the Consultation Report Appendices

Appendix	Document Title	Description / Overview
Volume 5, Appendix A - Compliance checklist (application ref: 5.2)		
Appendix A	Compliance checklist	Overview of how the statutory consultation requirements have been met by the Applicants. The checklist sets out the relevant legislation requirements and how they have been met.
Volume 5, Appendix B - Section 42 consultation (application ref: 5.3)		
B1	Regulation 8 notification	Letter sent to PINS on 26 th July providing Regulation 8 notification.
B2	Regulation 11 list	List of Regulation 11 statutory consultees as provided by PINS.
B3	List of all section 42 consultees	Full list of all consultees under section 42 of the PA 2008 and additional non-statutory consultees identified and considered as being of importance.
B4	Section 42 consultation letter	Copy of the letters issued to section 42 consultees providing notification of the Statutory Consultation dated 5 th June 2023.
B5	Section 46 notification	Letter sent to the Secretary of State providing section 46 notification on 5 th June 2023 via the Planning Inspectorate and the formal acknowledgement of receipt of the section 46 notification.
B6	Targeted section 42 consultation letter	Copy of the letter sent to targeted section 42 consultees dated 10 th November 2023 providing notification of the targeted statutory consultation 13 th November to 10 th December 2023. As noted in section 7.1, this focused on landowners and PILs, including newly identified landowners and PILs, and potential Category 3 claimants.
B7	Post-PEIR changes to Onshore Development	A map illustrating the differences between the boundary consulted on for PEIR and the final Order Limits for application.



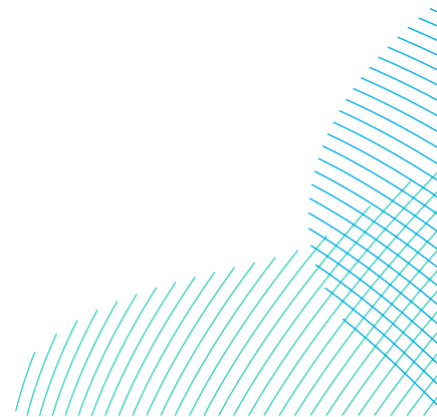
Appendix	Document Title	Description / Overview
	Area/ red line boundary plan	
B8	Scoping Report - withdrawn	Scoping Report submitted to Planning Inspectorate on 5 th November 2021 which was subsequently withdrawn.
B9	Scoping Report	Scoping Report submitted to Planning Inspectorate on 26 th July 2022 which was adopted as stated in the Scoping Opinion.
B10	Scoping Opinion	Scoping Opinion adopted by the Planning Inspectorate on 2 nd September 2022 (on behalf of the Secretary of State) pursuant to Regulation 10 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
Volume 5, Appendix C -Section 44 consultation (land) (application ref: 5.4)		
C1	Survey access request	Sample letter sent to landowners and PILs asking for access to land for surveys.
C2	Request for information letter	Sample letter sent to landowners and PILs asking for a request for information form to be filled out and returned.
C3	Land interest questionnaire	Sample questionnaire sent with the request for information letter for landowners to complete.
C4	Site notice	Copy of the site notice erected in locations within the Onshore Development Area/red line boundary.
C5	Site notice evidence	Map of the locations of the notices.
C6	Land referencing methodology	Details of how land referencing has been undertaken.
Volume 5, Appendix D - Section 47 consultation (application ref: 5.5)		
D1	Draft SoCC	Copy of the draft SoCC that was consulted on with local authorities prior to publication of the final SoCC.

Appendix	Document Title	Description / Overview
D2	Invitation to comment on draft SoCC	Email issued to local authorities consulted on the draft SoCC dated 16 th February 2023.
D2.1	Response from East Riding of Yorkshire Council	Response from local planning authority regarding draft SoCC.
D2.2	Response from Hull City Council	Response from adjacent local authority regarding draft SoCC.
D3	Final SoCC	Final Statement of Community Consultation for DBS.
D4	SoCC advertisement	Notice of SoCC advertised in local press titles May-June 2023.
D5	SoCC advertisement - Lloyds List	Notice of SoCC advertised in Lloyds List.
D6	Web evidence	Screenshots showing publication of SoCC on both consultation and project websites.
D7	Statutory Consultation questionnaire	Copy of the consultation questionnaire available to the local community June-July 2023.
D8	Banners - Introductory Consultation	Copies of the banners presented at the introductory consultation events.
D9	Banners - Statutory Consultation	Copies of the banners presented at the Statutory Consultation events.
D10	Statutory Consultation Brochure	Copy of the consultation brochure produced for the Statutory Consultation.
D11	Newsletter 1	Copy of the project newsletter published in September 2022.
D12	Newsletter 2	Copy of the project newsletter published in Winter 2022.
D13	Newsletter 3	Copy of the project newsletter published in June 2023.



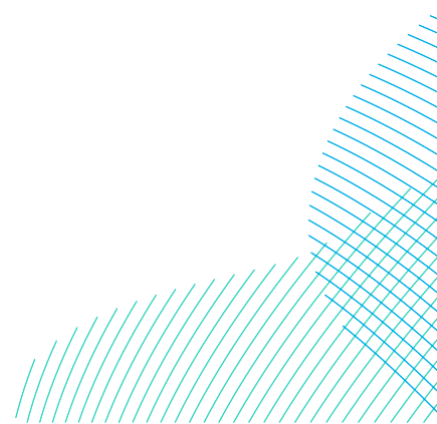
Appendix	Document Title	Description / Overview
D14	Newsletter 4	Copy of the project newsletter published in Winter 2023.
D15	Statutory consultation letter to residents and businesses	Copy of the letter to residents and businesses which was issued to 44,500 addresses within the consultation zone in advance of the consultation launch. Copy of the letters sent to various community, amenity and hard to reach groups
		List of groups, bodies and elected representatives sent section 47 notification
D16	Supplementary Statutory Consultation letter	Copy of the letter issued to 109 properties omitted from the section 47 Statutory Consultation.
	Supplementary Statutory Consultation letter to 3 rd party section 42 stakeholders	Copy of the letter issued to non-statutory – consultees treated as section 42 consultees not initially included in the Statutory Consultation
D17	Press release	Copy of the project press release issued in June 2023.
D18	Statutory Consultation Webinars	Presentation materials from the webinar events are provide in this appendix
Volume 5, Appendix E - Section 48 publicity (application ref: 5.6)		
E1	Section 48 Notice	Copy of the section 48 notice informing of the intent to apply for a DCO.
E2	Section 48 Notice evidence	Copies of the section 48 notices as they appeared in newspapers.
Volume 5, Appendix F - Non-statutory consultation and engagement (application ref: 5.7)		
F1	Minutes of meetings – ETG	Evidence of meeting minutes from Expert Topic Group (ETG) meetings.

Appendix	Document Title	Description / Overview
F2	Minutes of meetings – Commercial Fisheries and Shipping and Navigation	Evidence of meeting minutes from Fisheries and Shipping and Navigation liaison meetings.
F3	Minutes of meetings – MMO Meeting minutes	Evidence of meeting minutes from regular meetings with the MMO.
F4	Mail out letter – Introductory consultation	Copy of introductory consultation mail out letter dated 8 th September 2022.
F5	Introductory Community Consultation questionnaire	Copy of the introductory consultation questionnaire available to the local community.
F6	Introductory Community Consultation leaflet	Copy of the introductory community consultation leaflet.
F7	Introductory consultation email to stakeholders	Copy of the introductory consultation email to stakeholders.
F8	Introductory Consultation Report	Introductory Consultation Report.
Volume 5, Appendix G - Section 42 and 47 responses and Applicants regard (application ref: 5.8)		
G1	Responses received from section 42 consultees and Applicants regard	Breakdown of responses received from section 42 consultees during the Statutory Consultation, supplementary consultation and targeted consultation. Responses are presented alongside description of how the Applicants had regard to those responses.
G2	Themed responses received from section 47 consultees and Applicants regard	Summary of themed responses received from section 47 consultees during the Statutory Consultation and supplementary consultation alongside description of how the Applicants had regard to those responses.



1.3 About the Applicants

8. The Applicants for the Projects are RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (West) Limited and RWE Renewables UK Dogger Bank South (East) Limited. The Applicants are themselves jointly owned by the RWE Group of companies (51% stake) and Masdar (49% stake).
9. RWE is a leading partner in the delivery of the UK's Net Zero ambitions and energy security, as well as in contributing to the UK build-out target for offshore wind of 50 gigawatt (GW) by 2030. RWE already operates ten offshore wind farms across the UK. Including the three Norfolk offshore wind projects from Vattenfall, RWE is developing nine offshore wind projects in the UK, representing a combined potential installed capacity of around 9.8GW, with RWE's pro rata share amounting to 7GW.
10. Furthermore, RWE is constructing the 1.4GW Sofia offshore wind project in the North Sea off the UK's east coast. RWE's unparalleled track record of more than 20 years in offshore wind has resulted in 19 offshore wind farms in operation. The company's goal is to triple its global offshore wind capacity from 3.3GW today to 10GW in 2030.
11. Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar) is the United Arab Emirates' clean energy champion and one of the fastest growing renewable energy companies in the world, advancing the development and deployment of renewable energy and green hydrogen technologies to address global sustainability challenges.
12. Established in 2006, Masdar has developed and partnered projects in over 40 countries, helping them to achieve their clean energy objectives and advance sustainable development. Masdar is jointly owned by Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), Mubadala Investment Company (Mubadala), and Abu Dhabi National Energy Company (TAQA), and under this ownership the company is targeting a renewable energy portfolio capacity of at least 100GW by 2030.



1.4 The Projects

13. The UK is facing significant climate, energy and cost of living challenges, requiring substantial investment in new technologies and infrastructure.
14. National planning policy makes a clear commitment to the delivery of low carbon renewable energy generation that will help us to tackle climate change, secure energy supplies and reduce the cost of energy.
15. In February 2021, under The Crown Estate's Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 tender process, RWE was awarded the status of preferred bidder for two projects which make up Dogger Bank South Offshore Wind Farms ('the Projects') located in the Southern North Sea.
16. The Projects are known individually as DBS East and DBS West and will be located over 122 and 100 kilometres (km) off the coast of northeast England respectively.
17. Each area defined by the boundaries of the Agreements for Lease is approximately 500km² in size. The application area for each Project array area is approximately 350km². When combined, the Projects would have an estimated combined capacity of 3GW, capable of generating enough electricity to meet the average domestic energy needs of around 3 million typical UK households each year¹.
18. Each of the Projects would be served by its own project specific infrastructure, which will be co-located where practicable to ensure good coordination between the Projects. Additionally, during construction, construction compounds will be co-located where practicable to reduce impacts on communities and the environment.
19. The Projects' proposed offshore construction works would include necessary site preparation activities, the installation of wind turbines and associated offshore platforms and the required cabling and cable protection works to connect these cables from the Array Areas to a Landfall Zone on the East Riding of Yorkshire coastline near Skipsea.

¹ Calculation based on 2021 generation, and assuming average (mean) annual household consumption of 3,509 kWh, based on latest statistics from Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (Subnational Electricity and Gas Consumption Statistics Regional and Local Authority, Great Britain, 2021, Mean domestic electricity consumption (kWh per meter) by country/region, Great Britain, 2021



20. The Projects' proposed onshore construction works would consist of installation of buried Onshore Export Cables from the Landfall Zone near Skipsea, to (up to) two newly constructed Onshore Converter Stations to the south of Beverley. An Onward Cable Connection would transfer power from the Onshore Converter Stations to a proposed new National Grid substation, known as the proposed Birkhill Wood National Grid Substation, located close to the existing Creyke Beck substation which is subject to its own separate planning permission.
21. The key offshore components comprise:
 - Wind turbines;
 - Offshore platforms, including offshore collector and / or converter platforms, an Electrical Switching Platform and an Accommodation Platform (hereafter collectively referred to as offshore platforms unless specified);
 - Foundation structures for wind turbines and offshore platforms;
 - Array cables;
 - Inter-platform cables;
 - Offshore Export Cables from the Array Areas to the landfall;
 - Scour / cable protection (where required); and
 - Landfall, intertidal works between Mean High Water Springs and Mean Low Water Springs.
22. The key onshore components comprise:
 - Landfall works and associated Transition Joint Bays (TJBs);
 - Onshore Export Cables installed underground from the TJBs to the Onshore Converter stations and associated Jointing Bays and Link Boxes;
 - Onshore Converter stations;
 - Onward 400 kilovolt (kV) Cable Connection to the proposed Birkhill Wood National Grid Substation;
 - Trenchless crossing locations (e.g. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD));
 - Construction and operational accesses; and
 - Construction compounds.
23. A full description of the Projects is provided are outlined in **Volume 7, Chapter 5 Project Description (application ref: 7.5)**.

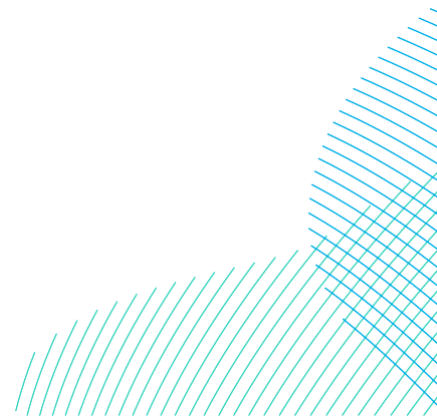
1.5 Consultation Process

24. In this Consultation Report, the term ‘consultation’ is used to describe defined periods of time in which the Applicants have sought comment from stakeholders on published materials. Consultation was carried out to fulfil the requirements of, or adhere to guidance relating to, pre-application in the Planning Act 2008.
25. Consultation is one part of engagement. Engagement covers all other activity where the Applicants have engaged with external stakeholders throughout the development of the Projects. Information in relation to engagement carried out by the Applicants can be found in section 3 of this report.
26. Engagement on the Projects commenced shortly after RWE was awarded the status of preferred bidder for the two Array Areas. To ensure this engagement prior to the first consultation for the Projects (Non-statutory Introductory Consultation) is not disregarded, this initial period is referred to as ‘Pre-scoping engagement’.
27. Following this point, key project changes can be tied to the relevant consultations outlined below alongside relevant technical factors. The timeline of consultations for the Projects is set out in **Table 1-3** below.

Table 1-3 Consultation timeline

Consultation	Timeline	Purpose
Non-statutory Introductory Consultation	9 th September - 14 th October 2022	Non-statutory consultation with the local community to consult on the Projects and original options for Landfall, the Onshore and Offshore Export Cable Corridor and Onshore Converter Stations.
Statutory Consultation	6 th June - 17 th July 2023	Statutory consultation to share updated proposals and options including findings of Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).
	4 th August - 15 th September 2023	Supplementary Statutory Consultation carried out to include small number of properties and 12 non-statutory stakeholders.
Targeted Consultation	13 th November - 10 th December 2023	Targeted S42 consultation to address landowners affected by changes to cable corridor from landfall to the converter stations.

28. Following the completion of consultations, the Applicants have taken time to have due regard of feedback received to further develop the Projects prior to fixing the Design Envelope for the Projects for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (as outlined in **Volume 7, Chapter 5 Project Description (application ref: 7.5)**) and apply for a DCO.



2 Legislative Context and Compliance

29. This section of the Consultation Report sets out how the Applicants have complied with the relevant legislation and guidance.
30. The Projects are defined under Section 15(3) of the PA 2008 as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). The Applicants have therefore undertaken pre-application consultation in accordance with the requirements of the PA 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact) Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('EIA Regulations').²

2.1 Legislation

2.1.1 The Planning Act 2008

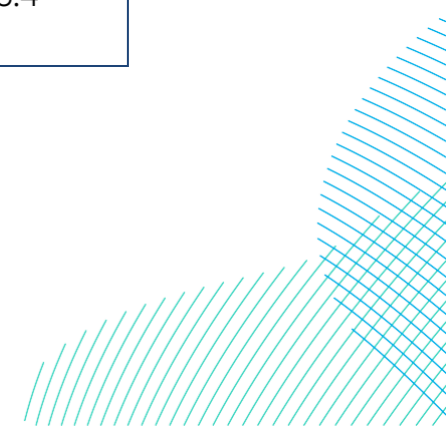
31. Demonstrating compliance with the pre-application consultation requirements of the PA 2008 is one of the main purposes of this Report. Throughout this Report, the use of 'section 42 - 50' refers to the relevant sections of the PA 2008.
32. The requirement for a Consultation Report is set out in Section 37(3)(c) of the PA 2008. Section 37(7) of the PA 2008 defines the Consultation Report as a document giving details of:
 - What has been done by the applicants in order to comply with sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008 in relation to a proposed application that has since become an application;
 - Any relevant responses received to statutory consultation undertaken; and
 - The account taken by the applicants of any relevant responses.
33. **Table 2-1** below sets out the key sections of the PA 2008 that are relevant and the locations within this report that the evidence of compliance is captured.

² Consultation was carried out shortly after the emergence of the 2023 National Policy Statements (NPS) EN-1 and EN-5 and prior to the publication of NPS EN-3. These are considered the relevant policy for the Projects, but it must be acknowledged that parts of the consultation process were progressed under the 2011 National Policy Statements.

Table 2-1 Sections of the Planning Act 2008 and the Applicants' Compliance

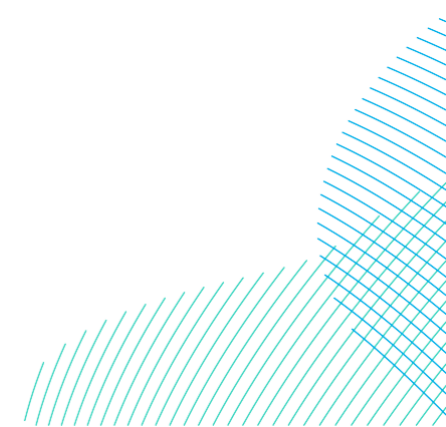
Section	Compliance
<p>42. Duty to consult</p> <p>(1) The applicant must consult the following about the proposed application:</p> <p>(a) such persons as may be prescribed,</p> <p>(aa) the Marine Management Organisation, in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in subsection,</p> <p>(b) each local authority that is within section 43,</p> <p>©the Greater London Authority if the land is in Greater London, and</p> <p>(d) each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in section 44</p>	<p>Consultation under sections 42(1)(a), (aa), (b), and (d) was carried out during the Statutory Consultation, between 6th June and 17th July 2023. A Supplementary Statutory Consultation ran from 4th August to 15th September 2023 to consult 12 non-statutory section 42 consultees and 109 properties, missed from the Statutory Consultation notifications. Further detail regarding the identification and consultation of section 42 consultees in respect of the Statutory Consultation can be found in section 6.5.3 of this report.</p> <p>Additional targeted consultation under section 42 was carried out between 13th November 2023 and 10th December 2023. A full breakdown of this consultation as it relates to section 42 can be found in section 7 of this report. Section 42 consultees contacted for the purposes of the consultations above are listed in Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref:5.3).</p> <p>Consultation under section 42(1)(c) was not required as the Projects do not affect land in Greater London.</p>
<p>43. Local authorities for purposes of section 42(1)(b)</p> <p>(1) A local authority is within this section if the land is in the authority's area.</p> <p>(2) A local authority ("A") is within this section if:</p> <p>(a) the land is in the area of another local authority ("B"),</p> <p>(aa) B is a unitary council or a lower-tier district council, and</p> <p>(b) any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area.</p> <p>(2A) If the land is in the area of an upper-tier county council ("C"), a local authority ("D") is within this section if:</p> <p>(a) D is not a lower-tier district council, and</p> <p>(b) any part of the boundary of D's area is also part of the boundary of C's area.</p>	<p>The Statutory Consultation under Section 42 is detailed in section 6 of this report. The local authorities identified and consulted at the Statutory Consultation are outlined in Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3).</p> <p>The local authorities consulted were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Local Planning Authority; • Hull City Council – adjacent Local Authority with regard to traffic and transport, noise, air quality, landscape and visual and cumulative impacts; • City of York Council – Neighbouring Local Authority; • Doncaster City Council – Neighbouring Local Authority; North Lincolnshire Council – Neighbouring Local Authority; • North Yorkshire Council – Neighbouring Local Authority; • Ryedale District Council - Neighbouring Local Authority; • Selby District Council - Neighbouring Local Authority; and • Scarborough Borough Council - Neighbouring Local Authority.
<p>44. Categories for purposes of section 42(1)(d)</p> <p>(1) A person is within Category 1 if the applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person is an owner, lessee, tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land.</p> <p>(2) A person is within Category 2 if the applicant, after making diligent inquiry, knows that the person:</p>	<p>The process used to identify all landowners and people with interest in land is summarised in section 3 of this report. The diligent inquiry undertaken includes land registry searches and written requests for information. Information about the process of ongoing engagement with persons with an interest in the land is set out in section 3.</p> <p>The Applicants' appointed land agents, Dalcour Maclaren, who provided their benchmark DCO land referencing methodology for undertaking diligent enquiry of Persons with an Interest in the Land (PILs). This is included in Volume 5, Appendix C6 (application ref: 5.4).</p>

Section	Compliance
<p>(a) is interested in the land, or</p> <p>(b) has power:</p> <p>(i) to sell and convey the land, or</p> <p>(ii) to release the land.</p> <p>(3) An expression, other than “the land”, that appears in subsection (2) of this section and also in section 5(1) of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (c. 56) has in subsection (2) the meaning that it has in section 5(1) of that Act.</p> <p>(4) A person is within Category 3 if the applicant thinks that, if the order sought by the proposed application were to be made and fully implemented, the person would or might be entitled:</p> <p>(a) as a result of the implementing of the order,</p> <p>(b) as a result of the order having been implemented, or</p> <p>(c) as a result of use of the land once the order has been implemented, to make a relevant claim. This is subject to subsection (5).</p> <p>(5) A person is within Category 3 only if the person is known to the applicant after making diligent inquiry.</p> <p>(6) In subsection (4) “relevant claim” means:</p> <p>(a) a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965 (c. 56) (compensation where satisfaction not made for the taking, or injurious affection, of land subject to compulsory purchase);</p> <p>(b) a claim under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973 (c. 26) (compensation for depreciation of land value by physical factors caused by use of public works);</p> <p>(c) a claim under section 152(3).</p>	<p>Dalcour Maclaren has confirmed to the Applicants that this methodology was followed for the Projects.</p>
<p>45. Timetable for consultation under section 42</p> <p>(1) The applicant must, when consulting a person under section 42, notify the person of the deadline for the receipt by the applicant of the person’s response to the consultation.</p> <p>(2) A deadline notified under subsection (1) must not be earlier than the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the person receives the consultation documents.</p> <p>(3) In subsection (2) “the consultation documents” means the documents supplied to the person by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the person.</p>	<p>The consultation period for the Statutory Consultation, which included consultation with all groups identified under section 42, ran from 6th June to 17th July 2023 which is 6 weeks. The letters sent to section 42 consultees are available in Volume 5, Appendix B4 (application ref: 5.3) which confirmed the consultation period and deadline for responses and provided information about where the consultation materials discussed further in section 6.4 could be viewed.</p> <p>The Supplementary Statutory Consultation which included 12 non-statutory consultees which were treated as section 42 consultees, ran for 6 weeks between 4th August and 15th September. The letter sent to those consultees can be found in Volume 5, Appendix D16 (application ref: 5.5) and includes information relating to the deadline for comments, providing links to the Projects’ consultation website where the documents in section 6.4 could be viewed.</p>



Section	Compliance
	<p>The consultation period for the targeted consultation, which included consultation with targeted people with interest in land under section 42, ran from 13th November to the 10th December 2023, which is 28 days. The letter in Volume 5, Appendix B6 (application ref: 5.5) sent to the targeted consultees confirms the deadline for responses and contact details for how further information can be requested.</p>
<p>46. Duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed application</p> <p>(1) The applicant must supply the Secretary of State with such information in relation to the proposed application as the applicant would supply to the Secretary of State for the purpose of complying with section 42 if the applicant were required by that section to consult the Secretary of State about the proposed application.</p> <p>(2) The applicant must comply with subsection (1) on or before commencing consultation under section 42.</p>	<p>Notification under section 46 was sent as part of the Statutory Consultation. The notification of the Secretary of State was carried out via the Planning Inspectorate via a letter and email on 5th June 2023.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate confirmed receipt on 3rd July 2023. More information about notification under section 46 can be found in section 6.6 of this report6. Copies of the letters are included in Volume 5, Appendix B5 (application ref: 5.3).</p>
<p>47. Duty to consult local community</p> <p>(1) The applicant must prepare a statement setting out how the applicant proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land.</p> <p>(2) Before preparing the statement, the applicant must consult each local authority that is within section 43(1) about what is to be in the statement.</p> <p>(3) The deadline for the receipt by the applicant of a local authority’s response to consultation under subsection (2) is the end of the period of 28 days that begins with the day after the day on which the local authority receives the consultation documents.</p> <p>(4) In subsection (3) “the consultation documents” means the documents supplied to the local authority by the applicant for the purpose of consulting the local authority under subsection (2).</p> <p>(5) In preparing the statement, the applicant must have regard to any response to consultation under subsection (2) that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by subsection (3).</p> <p>(6) Once the applicant has prepared the statement, the applicant [F1]must—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - (za) make the statement available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land, - (a) publish, in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land, a notice stating where and when the statement can be inspected, and - (b) publish the statement in such manner as may be prescribed. <p>(7) The applicant must carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the statement.</p>	<p>For Statutory Consultation, a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) was drafted, consulted on with East Riding of Yorkshire Council as Local Planning Authority and Hull City Council in line with section 47(2), published on 5th May 2023 and in line with section 47(1) and then delivered to the community access points and mobile libraries listed in Table 6-1.</p> <p>Local authorities were consulted between 16th February 2023 and 15th March 2023, for 28 days, in line with section 47(3). No comments were received from the two local authorities consulted. The draft SoCC can be found in Volume 5, Appendix D1 (application ref: 5.5) and the final SoCC can be found in Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5).</p> <p>The SoCC was published online on the Project’s website and placed in eight local community access points and mobile libraries detailed in full in Table 6-1 and section 6.7.</p> <p>Notices were placed in the following newspapers setting out where and when the SoCC could be inspected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hull Daily Mail (29th May 2023); • Driffield and Wolds Weekly (30th May 2023); • Holderness and Hornsea Gazette (1st June 2023); • Beverley Life (June 2023 edition), • Just Beverley (June 2023 edition); and • Beverley Mag (June 2023 edition). <p>More information on the preparation and the publication of the SoCC can be found in section 6.7. The draft SoCC has been included in Volume 5, Appendix D1 (application ref: 5.5). The published SoCC has been included in Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5). Further information regarding compliance with the SoCC is provided in Table 6-4.</p>

Section	Compliance
<p>48. Duty to publicise</p> <p>(1) The applicant must publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner.</p> <p>(2) Regulations made for the purposes of subsection (1) must, in particular, make provision for publicity under subsection (1) to include a deadline for receipt by the applicant of responses to the publicity.</p>	<p>Notices complying with section 48 were published between 22nd May and 31st May 2023. The prescribed manner for publication and how the notice was drafted is set out section 6.8 of this Consultation Report. The section 48 notice included a deadline of 17th July 2023 for responses to the Statutory Consultation. Copies of the notices can be found in Volume 5, Appendix E1 and E2 (application ref: 5.6).</p>
<p>49. Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity</p> <p>(1) Subsection (2) applies where the applicant:</p> <p>(a) has complied with sections 42, 47 and 48, and</p> <p>(b) proposes to go ahead with making an application for an order granting development consent (whether or not in the same terms as the proposed application).</p> <p>(2) The applicant must, when deciding whether the application that the applicant is actually to make should be in the same terms as the proposed application, have regard to any relevant responses.</p> <p>(3) In subsection (2) “relevant response” means:</p> <p>(a) a response from a person consulted under section 42 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed by section 45 in that person’s case,</p> <p>(b) a response to consultation under section 47(7) that is received by the applicant before any applicable deadline imposed in accordance with the statement prepared under section 47,</p> <p>(c) a response to publicity under section 48 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed in accordance with section 48(2) in relation to that publicity.</p>	<p>The consideration of relevant responses received to the statutory consultations under Sections 42, 47 and 48 is set out in Volume 5, Appendix G1 and G2 (application ref: 5.8).</p>
<p>50. Guidance about pre-application procedure</p> <p>(1) Guidance may be issued about how to comply with the requirements of this chapter.</p> <p>(2) Guidance under this section may be issued by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>(3) The applicant must have regard to any guidance under this section.</p>	<p>The following guidance has been followed in the compilation of this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the Pre-Application Process (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2015); and • Advice Note Fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report (PINS, 2021), though this advice does not have formal status as guidance under section 50. <p>How this guidance has been followed is set out fully in section 2.1.2 (Table 2-2) of this report.</p>



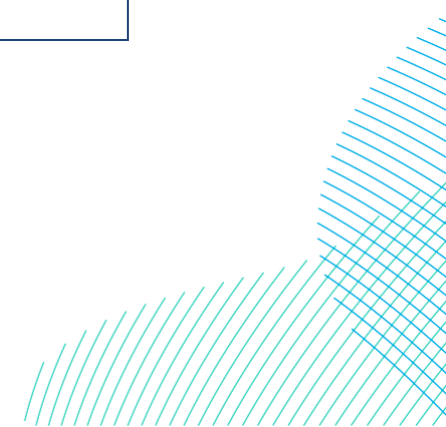
2.1.2 The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

34. The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (“the EIA Regulations”) provide additional requirements for pre-application consultation for projects that classify as Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) developments.

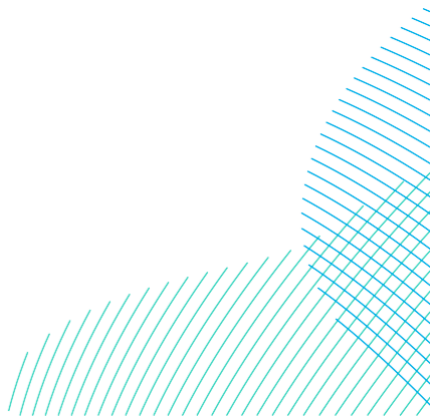
Table 2-2 Relevant Sections of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and the Applicants’ compliance

Section of regulations	Compliance
<p>3. Interpretation</p> <p>“the consultation bodies” means—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A body prescribed under s42(1)(a) of the PA2008 (duty to consult) and listed in column 1 of the table set out at Schedule 1 to the APFP Regulations where the circumstances set out in column 2 are satisfied in respect of that body (referred to as ‘prescribed consultees’ within this Advice Note’); • Each authority that is within s43 of the PA2008 (local authorities for purposes of s42(1)(b)) (referred to as ‘s43 local authorities’ within this Advice Note’); and • If the land to which the application, or proposed application, relates or any part of that land is in Greater London, the Greater London Authority. 	<p>The prescribed bodies under section 42(1)(a) of the PA 2008 as relate to the Projects are listed in Appendix B3 for the Statutory Consultation. The local planning authorities identified under section 43 of the Act are set out in Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3).</p> <p>The Projects do not relate to land in Greater London.</p>
<p>8. Procedure for establishing whether environmental impact assessment is required</p> <p>(1) A person who proposes to make an application for an order granting development consent must, before carrying out consultation under section 42 M1 (duty to consult) either:</p> <p>(a) ask the Secretary of State to adopt a screening opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates; or</p> <p>(b) notify the Secretary of State in writing that the person proposes to provide an environmental statement in respect of that development.</p>	<p>The Applicants provided Regulation 8 notification to the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) via the request for a Scoping Opinion regarding the Projects.</p> <p>This was fulfilled on 26th July 2022 and a copy of the letter sent to the Planning Inspectorate can be found in Volume 5, Appendix B1 (application ref: 5.3).</p>
<p>10. Application for a scoping opinion</p> <p>(1) A person who proposes to make an application for an order granting development consent may ask the Secretary of State to state in writing their opinion as to the scope, and level of detail, of the information to be provided in the environmental statement.</p> <p>(3) A request under paragraph (1) must include:</p> <p>(a) a plan sufficient to identify the land;</p> <p>(b) a description of the proposed development, including its location and technical capacity;</p> <p>(c) an explanation of the likely significant effects of the</p>	<p>The Applicants asked the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) to carry out a scoping opinion regarding the Projects and notified the Secretary of State (also via the Planning Inspectorate) of its intention to provide an Environmental Statement. Both of these requirements were complied with on 26th July 2022 and a copy of the letter sent to the Planning Inspectorate can be found in Volume 5, Appendix B1 (application ref: 5.3).</p>

Section of regulations	Compliance
<p>development on the environment; and</p> <p>(d) such other information or representations as the person making the request may wish to provide or make.</p> <p>(4) A request under paragraph (2) must include:</p> <p>(a) the reference number of the order granting development consent in respect of which the applicant proposes to make a subsequent application;</p> <p>(b) a description of the proposed development, including its location and technical capacity;</p> <p>(c) an explanation of the likely significant effects of the development on the environment which were not identified at the time the order granting development consent was made; and</p> <p>(d) such other information or representations as the person making the request may wish to provide or make.</p>	
<p>12. Consultation statement requirements</p> <p>(1) The consultation statement prepared under section 47(1) (duty to consult local community) must set out:</p> <p>(a) whether the development for which the applicant proposes to make an application for an order granting development consent is EIA development; and</p> <p>(b) if that development is EIA development, how the applicant intends to publicise and consult on the preliminary environmental information.</p> <p>(2) In this regulation, “preliminary environmental information” means information referred to in regulation 14(2) which:</p> <p>(a) has been compiled by the applicant; and</p> <p>(b) is reasonably required for the consultation bodies to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the development (and of any associated development).</p>	<p>The SoCC set out that the Projects are EIA developments, and that preliminary environmental information was to be made available and consulted on as part of the Statutory Consultation. The SoCC includes how the consultation will be delivered.</p> <p>That preliminary environmental information was then published as part of the Statutory Consultation in the form of a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).</p> <p>The published SoCC can be found in Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5) and references the intention to consult on preliminary environmental information during the Statutory Consultation.</p>
<p>13. Pre-application publicity under section 48 (duty to publicise)</p> <p>Where the proposed application for an order granting development consent is an application for EIA development, the applicant must, at the same time as publishing notice of the proposed application under section 48(1), send a copy of that notice to the consultation bodies and to any person notified to the applicant in accordance with regulation 11(1)(c).</p>	<p>Letters (Volume 5, Appendix B4 (application ref: 5.3)) including a link to the website where consultation documents including the PEIR and section 48 notice could be accessed were sent to section 42 consultees providing information about the consultation, what was being consulted upon and how they could provide feedback.</p> <p>A list of these consultees can be found in Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3). A copy of the section 48 notice can be found in Volume 5, Appendix E1 (application ref: 5.6).</p>



Section of regulations	Compliance
	<p>Whilst no copy of the section 48 was sent separately, the Applicants consider that the consultees were aware of the consultation, had access to all pertinent documents, and were able to participate effectively. Therefore, the non-compliance did not result in any disadvantage or prejudice to any party, and there is no practical benefit to re-sending the notice at this stage of the DCO process. For further details refer to section 6.8.1.1 of this report.</p>

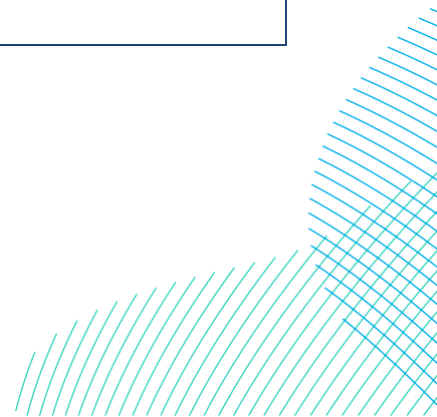


2.1.3 The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

35. The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations) provide details for how parts of the pre-application consultation must be carried out (**Table 2-3**).

Table 2-3 Compliance with the APFP Regulations 2009

Section of Regulations	Compliance
<p>3. Prescribed consultees</p> <p>The persons prescribed for the purposes of section 42(a) (duty to consult) are those listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 1 to these Regulations, who must be consulted in the circumstances specified in relation to each such person in column 2 of that table.</p>	<p>The ‘prescribed consultees’ for the purpose of s42(1)(a) are set out in Regulation 3 and Schedule 1 to these regulations.</p> <p>The consultees from Schedule 1, who were consulted in respect of the Projects pursuant to section 42(1)(a) for the Statutory Consultation, are set out in Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3).</p>
<p>4. Publicising a proposed application</p> <p>(a) the name and address of the applicant;</p> <p>b) a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Commission;</p> <p>l a statement as to whether the application is EIA development;</p> <p>(d) a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development;</p> <p>l a statement that the documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the proposed development are available for inspection free of charge at the places (including at least one address in the vicinity of the proposed development) and times set out in the notice;</p> <p>(f) the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection</p>	<p>Regulation 4 specifies what must be included in the notice, publicising an application under section 48, and where it must be published. The section 48 notices published as part of the Statutory Consultation contained the required information and were published as prescribed. More information about the section 48 notice can be found in section 6.8 of this report.</p>



Section of Regulations	Compliance
<p>(being a date not earlier than the deadline in sub-paragraph (i));</p> <p>(g) whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge;</p> <p>(h) details of how to respond to the publicity; and</p> <p>(i) a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published.</p>	

2.2 Advice and Guidance

36. In addition to the requirements covered above, the following documents were used to inform the consultation activities undertaken and the drafting of this Consultation Report.

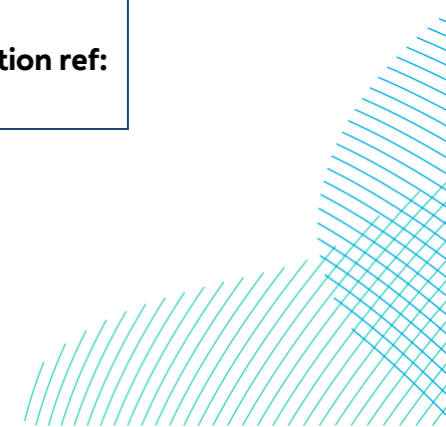
2.2.1 Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the Pre-Application Process (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2015)

37. In line with section 50 of the Act, this document³ provides guidance on how to carry out pre-application consultation, what is an appropriate amount of consultation and how best to respond to issues raised during the consultation (**Table 2-4**).

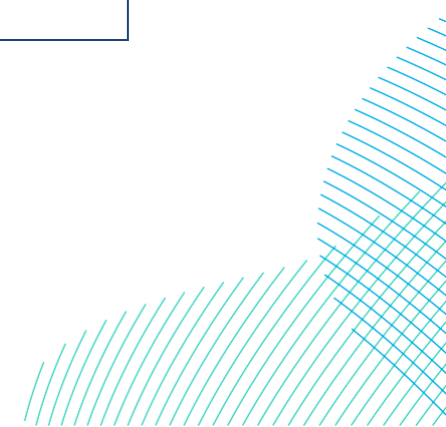
³ On the 30th April 2024 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, on behalf of the Secretary of State, launched The Infrastructure Planning (miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2024. Whilst the projects are not directly impacted by this regulation in regard to the DCO application, the Applicants' sought to understand the changes and to ensure that they were able to comply with the potential range of legislation changes.

Table 2-4 Adherence with the DCLG Guidance on the Pre-Application Process

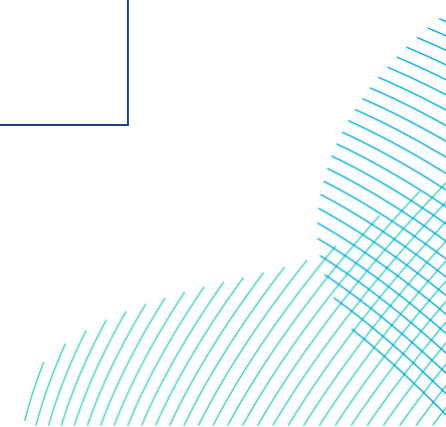
Paragraph	Adherence to Guidance
<p>20. Experience suggests that, to be of most value, consultation should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on accurate information that gives consultees a clear view of what is proposed including any options; • Shared at an early enough stage so that the proposal can still be influenced, while being sufficiently developed to provide some detail on what is being proposed; and • Engaging and accessible in style, encouraging consultees to react and offer their views. 	<p>The Applicants published material for consultation in a range of formats, designed to make it as easy as possible for consultees to identify the potential benefits and impacts of the Projects, and the options that were being consulted on.</p> <p>For the Statutory Consultation, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing information at different levels of complexity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Consultation Booklet that set out the proposals and potential benefits and impacts in summary in plain English; ○ The Non-Technical Summary of the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) that summarised the main findings of each chapter of the PEIR; ○ An interactive map available on the Projects’ website, showing the proposals and allowing feedback on a specific locations was provided; and ○ PEIR itself that contained the full technical detail. • The primary optionality presented during the Statutory Consultation was between the Substation Zone and landfall options. In addition to being set out clearly in the Consultation materials, there were dedicated questions on these items in the Questionnaire. In addition, the Applicants specifically encouraged feedback on the Onshore Export Cable Corridor and the offshore elements of the proposals. <p>With regards to the need to balance the ability to influence proposals and sufficient information being available, the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation was held at a time where the designs were still formative but key issues and information were provided. Following this Consultation, some Onshore Export Cable Corridor options and Substation Zone options were dropped ahead of the Statutory Consultation.</p> <p>The Statutory Consultation was held when there was still optionality in the design (the two Onshore Substation Zones and two landfall options) but more information (including a preferred location within each Substation Zone and the preliminary environmental information) could be provided than at the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation.</p> <p>The targeted consultation for S42(1)(d) stakeholders was undertaken due to changes in the Onshore Export Cable Corridor route.</p>
<p>21. Where an applicant has not been able to follow this guidance, they should provide comments setting out why this is the case, in the Consultation Report.</p>	<p>The consultation complied with this DCLG guidance.</p>
<p>27. The Planning Act and Regulations set out the statutory consultees and prescribed people who must be consulted during the pre-application process. ... Applicants are therefore encouraged to consult widely on project proposals.</p>	<p>In order to ensure wide consultation, additional potentially interested stakeholders not defined within in section 42 or the prescribed list were sent the same level of information as section 42 consultees.</p> <p>For the Statutory Consultation, this list can be found in Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3).</p>



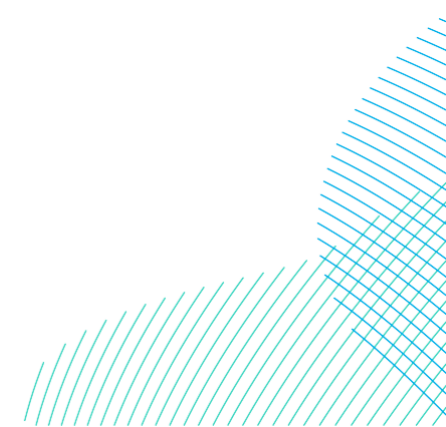
Paragraph	Adherence to Guidance
28. Whether or not an alternative is identified, the Consultation Report should briefly note any cases where compliance with statutory requirements was impossible and the reasons why.	The Applicants are not currently aware of any non-compliances, save for the issue explained and discussed in section 6.8.1.1.
41. Where a local authority raises an issue or concern on the SoCC which the applicant feels unable to address, the applicant is advised to explain in their Consultation Report their course of action to the Secretary of State when they submit their application.	No comments were received on the draft SoCC. Copies of confirmation of this are provided in Volume 5, Appendix D2 (application ref: 5.5) .
52. Applicants should explain in the Consultation Report how they have dealt with any new interests in land emerging after conclusion of their statutory consultation having regard to their duties to consult and take account of any responses.	Land interest identified after the Statutory Consultation were included in the targeted consultation 13 th November to 10 th December 2023. The Applicants contacted these interests to introduce the Projects, and provided details of how further information could be requested. A copy of the letter is provided in Volume 5, Appendix B6 (application ref: 5.3) .
68. To realise the benefits of consultation on a project, it must take place at a sufficiently early stage to allow consultees a real opportunity to influence the proposals. At the same time, consultees will need sufficient information on a project to be able to recognise and understand the impacts.	<p>The Non-statutory Introductory Consultation was held at a time where the designs were still formative but key issues and information were provided. The design at the point of Statutory Consultation which was the basis of PEIR still provided optionality in the design (the two Substation Zone search areas and two landfall options).</p> <p>Sufficient information was provided at each stage to enable consultees to recognise and understand the potential impacts of the proposals. In order to help consultees understand the potential benefits and impacts of the Projects, information was presented at multiple levels of technical complexity. More detail about how this was achieved is covered in the section in this table dealing with paragraph 20 of the guidance.</p>
69. Applicants will often also require detailed technical advice from consultees, and it is likely that their input will be of the greatest value if they are consulted when project proposals are fluid, followed up by confirmation of the approach as proposals become firmer. In principle, therefore, applicants should undertake initial consultation as soon as there is sufficient detail to allow consultees to understand the nature of the project properly.	In addition to the multi-stage consultation process set out in Table 1-3 above and throughout this Consultation Report, the Applicants set up a series of ETGs prior to the EIA Scoping stage to engage technical experts throughout the development of the proposals.
70. To manage the tension between consulting early, but also having project proposals that are firm enough to enable consultees to comment, applicants are encouraged to consider an iterative, phased consultation consisting of two (or more) stages, especially for large projects with long development periods. For example, applicants might wish to consider undertaking non-statutory early consultation at a stage where options are still being considered. This will be helpful in informing proposals and assisting the applicant in establishing a preferred option on which to undertake statutory consultation.	The Applicants' approach to consultation followed the suggested iterative approach of a non-statutory consultation (Non-statutory Introductory Consultation) early in the project lifecycle followed by a more detailed statutory consultation where details were more fixed and more information was available.
71. Where an iterative consultation is intended, it may be advisable for applicants to carry out the final stage of consultation with persons who have an interest in the land once they have worked up their project proposals in sufficient detail to identify affected land interests.	The targeted consultation is demonstrative of following this approach, ensuring that all land interests identified in Volume 4, Book of Reference (application ref: 4.2) had an opportunity to consider the potential benefits and impacts of proposals, and comment on them.



Paragraph	Adherence to Guidance
<p>72. The timing and duration of consultation will be likely to vary from project to project, depending on size and complexity, and the range and scale of the impacts. The Planning Act requires a consultation period of a minimum of 28 days from the day after receipt of the consultation documents. It is expected that this may be sufficient for projects which are straightforward and uncontroversial in nature. But many projects, particularly larger or more controversial ones, may require longer consultation periods than this. Applicants should therefore set consultation deadlines that are realistic and proportionate to the proposed project. It is also important that consultees do not withhold information that might affect a project, and that they respond in good time to applicants. Where responses are not received by the deadline, the applicant is not obliged to take those responses into account.</p>	<p>The consultation period for Non-statutory Introductory Consultation ran from 9th September to 14th October 2022 which is 7 weeks. The consultation period for the Statutory Consultation, which included consultation with all groups identified under section 42, ran from 6th June to 17th July 2023 which is 6 weeks.</p> <p>A Supplementary Statutory Consultation ran from 4th August to 15th September 2023 to consult 12 non-statutory consultees and 109 properties, missed from the Statutory Consultation notifications. Further detail regarding the identification and consultation of section 42 consultees in respect of the Statutory Consultation and Supplementary Statutory Consultation can be found in section 6.5.3.</p> <p>A letter notifying section 42 stakeholders of the targeted consultation was dated 10th November and outlined a consultation from the 13th November to the 10th December 2023. A copy of this letter is available in Volume 5, Appendix B6 (application ref: 5.3).</p>
<p>73. Applicants are not expected to repeat consultation rounds set out in their Statement of Community Consultation unless the project proposals have changed very substantially. However, where proposals change to such a large degree that what is being taken forward is fundamentally different from what was consulted on, further consultation may well be needed. This may be necessary if, for example, new information arises which renders all previous options unworkable or invalid for some reason. When considering the need for additional consultation, applicants should use the degree of change, the effect on the local community and the level of public interest as guiding factors.</p>	<p>The Projects proposals did not change after the Statutory Consultation in a way that introduced significant new adverse potential impacts. As such, no further Project-wide consultation was required. Instead, land interests potentially affected by specific changes were consulted as part of targeted consultation.</p>
<p>80. The Consultation Report should provide a general description of the consultation process undertaken, which can helpfully include a timeline.</p>	<p>This information can be found in section 1, Table 1-3.</p>
<p>80. The Consultation Report should set out specifically what the applicant has done in compliance with the requirements of the Planning Act, relevant secondary legislation, this guidance, and any relevant policies, guidance or advice published by Government or the Inspectorate.</p>	<p>This is covered in section 1 and covered in Volume 5, Appendix A (application ref: 5.2).</p>
<p>80. The Consultation Report should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - set out how the applicant has taken account of any response to consultation with local authorities on what should be in the applicant’s statement of community consultation. - set out how the applicant has taken account of any response to consultation with local authorities on what should be in the applicant’s statement of community consultation. - provide an explanation as to why responses advising on major changes to a project were not followed, including advice from statutory consultees on impacts. - outline where the applicant has not followed the advice of the local authority or not complied with this guidance or any relevant Advice Note published by the Inspectorate, provide an explanation for the action taken or not taken. 	<p>This information can be found in section 6.7 below.</p>



Paragraph	Adherence to Guidance
<p>80. The Consultation Report should be expressed in terms sufficient to enable the Secretary of State to understand fully how the consultation process has been undertaken and significant effects addressed. However, it need not include full technical explanations of these matters.</p>	<p>A summary of the compliance with all requirements has been set out in section 1 of this Consultation Report. A summary of the changes made as a result of consultation has been set out in section 8 of this report. A more detailed breakdown of how issues from feedback have been considered and addressed (or why they were not) are contained within Volume 5, Appendices G1 and G2 (application ref: 5.8).</p>
<p>81. It is good practice that those who have contributed to the consultation are informed of the results of the consultation exercise; how the information received by applicants has been used to shape and influence the project; and how any outstanding issues will be addressed before an application is submitted to the Inspectorate.</p>	<p>As part of the Statutory Consultation, the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation Report (see Volume 5, Appendix F8 (application ref: 5.7)) was shared with stakeholders to provide responses to previously raised feedback. In addition, after the Statutory Consultation, Project Updates and Newsletters have been communicated to our stakeholder database (please see section 3) and via the Projects' website. These updates have included a summary of the key themes of feedback from the Statutory Consultation and responses to these themes.</p>
<p>81. Applicants should consider producing a summary note in plain English for the local community setting out headline findings and how they have been addressed, together with a link to the full Consultation Report for those interested.</p>	<p>A summary of the key issues raised in feedback was produced and sent to subscribers to the Project's newsletter. This update can be found in Volume 5, Appendix D14 (application ref: 5.5)</p>



2.2.2 Planning Inspectorate Advice Notes

38. The Planning Inspectorate has published a series of Advice Notes in relation to NSIPs. These are non-statutory but provide advice and information on a range of issues potentially arising throughout the application process. The Applicant's approach to consultation and engagement has been informed by a range of the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Notes, taking account of the extant version at the relevant time and any amendments.
39. Notes of particular relevance include:
- Advice Note Two: The Role of Local Authorities in the Development Consent Process (PINS, 2015);
 - Advice Note Three: EIA Consultation and Notification (PINS, 2017);
 - Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents (PINS, 2012);
 - Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment: Preliminary Environmental Information, Screening and Scoping (PINS, 2020a);
 - Advice Note Eight: Overview of the nationally significant infrastructure planning process for members of the public and others (PINS, 2016);
 - Advice Note Ten: Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) relevant to nationally significant infrastructure projects (PINS, 2022);
 - Advice Note Eleven: Working with public bodies in the infrastructure planning process (PINS, 2017);
 - Advice Note Twelve: Transboundary impacts and process (PINS, 2020b); and
 - Advice Note Fourteen: Compiling the Consultation Report (PINS, 2021).
40. The approach to consultation and engagement has been guided by additional discussions with relevant local authorities, statutory consultees, the Scoping Opinion and by a review of best practice on recent applications of a similar nature and scale.
41. This Consultation Report has taken account of Advice Note 14 (PINS, 2021) in the formation of its structure and the detail of its contents.

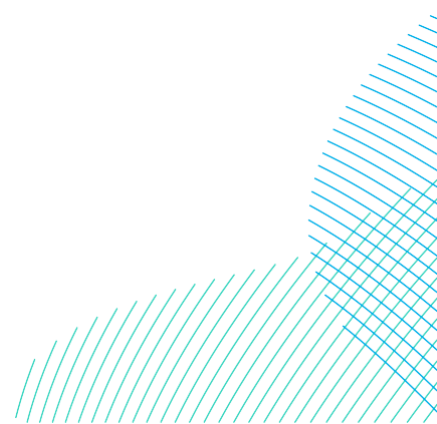
2.2.3 National Policy Statements

42. Consultation has been undertaken with reference to the relevant National Policy Statements (NPS) which form the primary national guidance documents for NSIPs. These documents encourage applicants to carry out pre-application consultation with a range of stakeholders. The relevant NPS for the Projects are:

- EN-1 – Overarching NPS for Energy (DESNZ, 2023a);
 - EN-3 – Renewable Energy Infrastructure (DESNZ, 2023b); and
 - EN-5 – Electricity Networks Infrastructure, which covers the electrical infrastructure in conjunction with EN-1 (DESNZ,2023c).
43. Revisions to the energy NPSs have now been consulted on and the updated NPSs were designated on 17 January 2024. The 2024 NPSs are therefore the designated NPS for the purposes of determination of the DCO application for the Projects.
44. A summary of engagement undertaken in accordance with the EIA Regulations and Habitats Regulations is included in this report, however, the primary focus of this Consultation Report is on consultation undertaken in accordance with sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008.

2.2.4 The Gunning Principles

45. The Gunning Principles set out four key principles for lawful consultation:
- The Gunning Principles consultation must take place when the proposal is still at a formative stage;
 - Sufficient reasons must be put forward for the proposal to allow for intelligent consideration and response;
 - Adequate time must be given for consideration and response; and
 - The results of consultation must be conscientiously taken into account.
46. The Projects have had regard of these principles when developing its consultation approach and authoring this Consultation Report.



3 Engagement

3.1 Engagement in the Context of Pre-Application Consultation

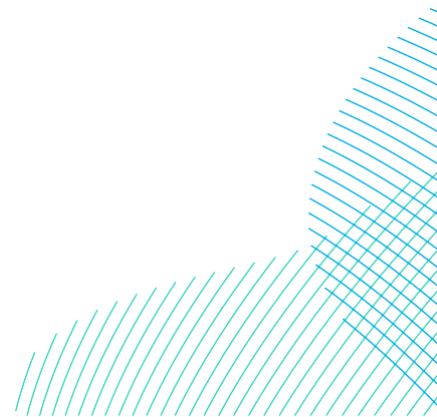
47. Information to support this section of the Consultation Report can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix F (application ref: 5.7)**.
48. There is no statutory requirement for non-statutory engagement or consultation to be undertaken or reported on. However, the DCLG guidance on pre-application notes, in paragraph 21, states that technical expert input from key stakeholders will often be needed in advance of formal compliance with the pre-application requirements and early engagement with these 'technical' bodies / organisations can help in avoiding unnecessary delays and the costs of having to make changes at later stages of the process.
49. In addition, paragraph 52 of the DCLG guidance suggests that applicants might wish to consider non-statutory early consultation at a stage when options are still being considered, as this will be beneficial in informing the proposals and assisting the applicant in establishing preferred options on which to undertake statutory public consultation.
50. Early engagement on the Projects started Thanks in 2021, however this was largely with technical stakeholders and the local authorities. Engagement with the wider community started in 2022.
51. The Applicants' approach to engagement is based on the following key principles:
- **Regular communication:** Due to the length of the Projects' development time, there are significant periods between major milestones. The Applicants have therefore carried out regular communication in a predictable pattern, to enable those interested in the Projects to stay informed.
 - **Responsiveness:** The Projects understand that large developments can cause concerns for residents and landowners about potential impacts on homes and businesses. The Applicants have maintained a dedicated Freephone number and email address since the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation to ensure that stakeholders could contact the team at any time. In addition, dedicated contact channels were established for landowners, fishermen / commercial fisheries and key consultees.
 - **Proportionality and coordination:** In addition to the Projects, there are several other similar Nationally Significant Infrastructure projects which affect many of the same communities and stakeholders. The Dogger

Bank A and B and Hornsea Project Four Offshore Wind Farm projects affect a similar set of communities and land interests. This has meant that there is a large amount of information provided and consultation being carried out in a single area. The Dogger Bank South Projects have had cognisance of the potential for consultation fatigue in the development of its engagement and consultation strategy.

3.2 Community Engagement

3.2.1 Project Updates

52. Since inception, the Projects identified the local communities as essential stakeholders to the development of the scope of the Projects and have sought to keep them involved. The Applicants have sought to do this by attending Parish Council meetings and through the publication of Newsletters.
53. To build the stakeholder database to receive this project update information, the questionnaire for the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation and the Statutory Consultation included asking whether stakeholders would like to sign-up to receive future newsletters and their preferred method of receiving this information (by email or post). Stakeholders were able to sign up and consent for their details to be added to the stakeholder database by emailing the Projects' email address, writing to the Projects' Freepost address or by calling the Projects' Freephone number to register their details. In December 2022, all addresses within 1.5km of each shortlisted substation and Landfall zone and 1km of the proposed cable corridor were issued an A5 postcard to confirm the newsletter had been published on the Applicants' website and issued to all host and neighbouring Parish Councils.
54. In September 2022, the Applicants held their Non-statutory Introductory Consultation. Further detail is provided on this in section 5. The Applicants issued their first Community Newsletter for the Projects to coincide with the launch of this Consultation. As part of this consultation, letters advertising the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation were sent to all addresses within 1.5km of each shortlisted substation and Landfall Zone and 1km of the proposed cable corridor. Those completing consultation questionnaires were asked if they would like to receive future newsletters via email or by post by registering to be on the Projects' Mailing List.



55. All newsletters since inception have been published on the Projects' website and sent electronically to all host and neighbouring Parish Councils and shared with members of the Stakeholder Database via their preferred method of communication. The content and timing of the five newsletters published to date are provided below:
- September 2022 – This newsletter was produced to coincide with the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation and provided basic information about the Applicants and the proposals, including the early consideration of landfall and substation locations and the proposed Onshore Export Cable Corridor;
 - December 2022 – This edition of the newsletter focused on providing an update on feedback received from the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation and a site selection update;
 - June 2023 – This edition correlated with the Statutory Consultation and summarised the information being consulted upon and how to get involved in the consultation;
 - November 2023 – The fourth edition of the newsletter provided an update on feedback from the Statutory Consultation and an update following the final site selection to inform the DCO application; and
 - Spring 2024 – This was issued to provide further updates regarding progress with the DCO pre-application stage and to provide general project updates.
56. The Applicants are committed to keep utilising the publication of newsletters to keep local people informed about the progress of the Projects.
57. Outside of the publication of newsletters the Applicants also engaged with local Parish Councils and offered them meetings to provide updates on our proposals. A list of Parish Council meetings attended by the Applicants is provided in **Table 3-1** below.

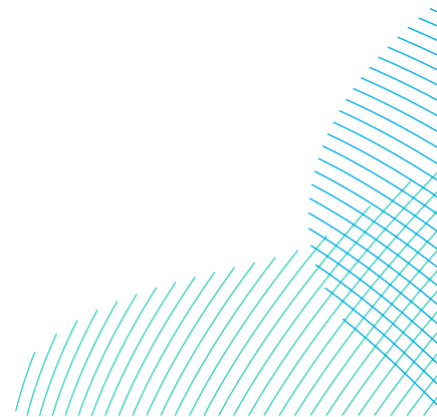
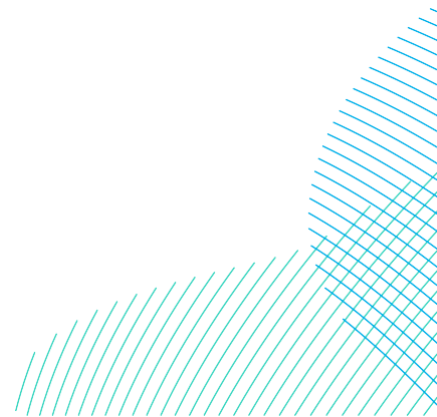


Table 3-1 Parish Council Meetings

Date	Parish Council
01/11/2022	Skidby Parish Council
20/12/2022	Rowley Parish Council
16/01/2023	Woodmansey Parish Council
10/07/2023	Beverley Town Council
12/07/2023	Rowley Parish Council

3.2.2 Local Liaison Committee

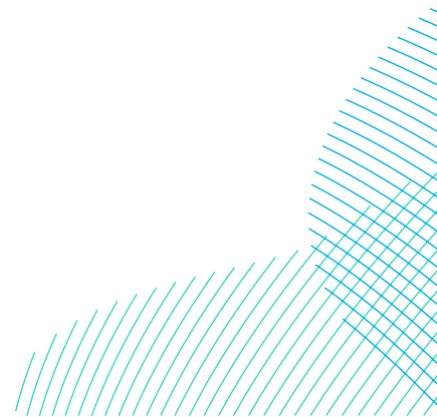
58. The Applicants have established a Local Liaison Committee (DBS LLC) as a forum to discuss upcoming activities relating to development and any potential future construction works required for the Projects. Committee members are invited to help identify appropriate means and timescales to communicate information to the wider community.
59. The DBS LLC comprises representatives of the local community (representatives from Parish Councils) and the Projects' team. The DBS LLC comprises three separate groups at different geographic locations (Skipsea, Catwick / Leven and Beverley) to take into account the length of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor. Consistency within the DBS LLC, between the three groups, is maintained by the independent Chair of the committee.
60. The first round of DBS LLC meetings was held in early 2024. The DBS LLCs will remain active throughout the pre-construction and construction phases of the Projects. Committee meetings will take place every three to four months. Due to the submission of the DCO application for the Projects, the next round of DBS LLC meetings are due to take place in early July 2024.
61. During the first round of DBS LLC meetings, representatives of the Projects' team presented a general project update (onshore and offshore where relevant), amendments to the Projects' design following the Statutory Consultation, the draft Landscape Management Plan (where relevant) and an update on archaeology investigations, skills and employment and community benefits.



62. The DBS LLC is non-partisan; it is not intended as a forum in which support is harnessed, and nor will it act as a forum for those who may choose to oppose the Projects. The DBS LLC does not have authority over any aspect of the development or construction of the Projects, although, any points for discussion or actions raised by the DBS LLC are recorded and distributed within the Projects' team to discuss whether any updates are required to the Projects' design. For example, feedback received from committee members attending the first round of DBS LLC meetings did result in amendments to the **Outline Landscape Management Plan (Volume 8, application ref: 8.11)**.
63. Any complaints or concerns relating to development or construction activities will not be dealt with by the DBS LLC, but the DBS LLC will advise on the appropriate mechanism to discuss and resolve complaints or concerns.
64. The Applicants will administer the meetings and meet all related costs, such as venue hire, refreshments, and reasonable traveling costs for members. Minutes will be kept as a record of the meetings, and these will be circulated prior to and agreed at the following meeting.
65. The Applicants will provide adequate funding to meet the needs of any relevant communications, meetings, or events reasonably requested and agreed upon by the DBS LLC.

3.2.3 Key Stakeholder Briefings

66. Whilst specific engagement regarding the development of environmental topics has been undertaken as part of the Evidence Plan Process (EPP) discussed in section 3.3 below, the Projects have also undertaken considerable engagement with key stakeholders to ensure they are kept up to date with Projects development and key decisions.

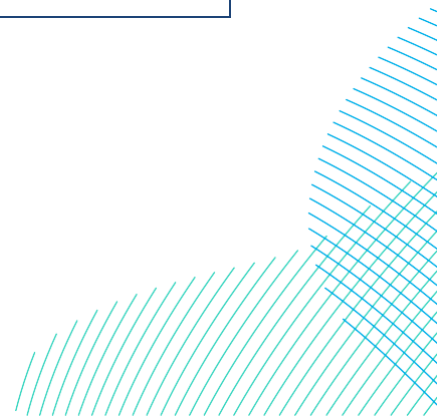


3.2.3.1 East Riding of Yorkshire Council

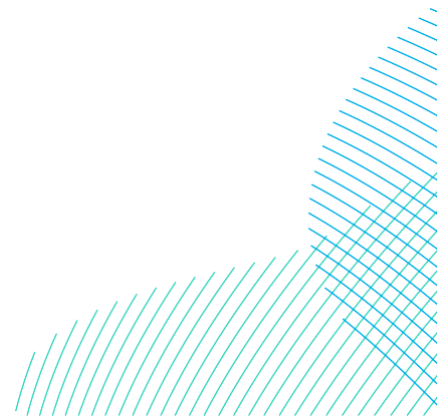
67. Throughout the Projects’ development, the Applicants have held meetings with the host Local Planning Authority (East Riding of Yorkshire Council) for the onshore works. The Applicants have identified that early engagement with East Riding of Yorkshire Council will have multiple benefits for both parties, both in helping East Riding of Yorkshire Council understand the development of the Projects and maximise the benefits of this, but also ensuring the Projects give due regard to comments from the stakeholder. The Applicants entered into a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) with East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 19th July 2023. The aim of the PPA was to ensure that the Applicants and East Riding of Yorkshire Council jointly agree to appropriately resource the consideration of any key planning issues that arise; and that the intended outcomes are appropriately considered and resolved to an agreed timetable. A summary of briefings held outside of the ETG process with East Riding of Yorkshire Council are recorded in **Table 3-2** below.

Table 3-2 East Riding of Yorkshire Council Stakeholder Briefings

Date	Briefing Type	Contents
10/11/2022	Meeting	Meeting to brief the Planning Officer on the Projects, provide a Project Update, and talk through the contents of the SoCC.
23/03/2023	Meeting	An introductory meeting with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council Jocks Lodge Improvement Project Team, to introduce the Projects, and discussion on potential design interactions between the Projects and Jocks Lodge Scheme.
22/05/2023	Meeting	Meeting with Planning Officer to discuss the route at Riston Grange minerals extraction area.
30/05/2023	Email	Correspondence to inform East Riding of Yorkshire Council of the start of the Projects’ Site Investigation Works, including a map of site investigation locations.
07/08/2023	Meeting	A meeting to discuss East Riding of Yorkshire Council’s lack of section 42 consultation response.



Date	Briefing Type	Contents
02/11/2023	Letter	Letter to confirm in writing East Riding of Yorkshire Council's stated position on section 42 consultation.
21/11/2023	Meeting	Meeting with new Strategic Planning Manager to provide a briefing on the Projects and engagement requirements with East Riding of Yorkshire Council.
13/12/2023	Meeting	A meeting with East Riding of Yorkshire Council Jocks Lodge team to discuss project updates on both sides.
07/02/2024	Meeting	Presentation of the Projects' initial design concepts for a ducted solution to cross the Jocks Lodge Improvement Scheme. Discussion on engineering, environmental and land considerations.
14/02/2024	Email	Request for East Riding of Yorkshire Council comment and approval of the Onshore Cumulative Effects Assessment Schemes Longlist.
27/02/2024	Email	Confirmation via email that the Projects will not be progressing with the ducted crossing of the Jocks Lodge Scheme due to potential risks.
25/04/2024	Meeting	Meeting with Strategic Planning Manager to provide a Project Update, and discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCO submission timelines; • Local Impact Report; • Statement of Common Ground; and • East Riding of Yorkshire Council feedback on draft DCO requirements.



3.2.3.2 Marine Management Organisation

68. In order to ensure a firm understanding of the Projects were grasped by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), engagement has been undertaken on a bi-monthly basis since December 2021 to keep the MMO informed of developments in the Projects. The frequency of this engagement has been scheduled so that the MMO can understand the design progression process, as well as the progress of activities such as survey campaigns. These meetings also allowed feedback to be provided on emerging proposals. Minutes of these meetings are provided in **Volume 5, Appendix F3 (application ref: 5.7)**.

3.2.3.3 Natural England

69. Monthly meetings have been held with Natural England since March 2023. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss ongoing development works relating to the Projects. Additional ad-hoc meetings have been held with Natural England since 2021 to discuss specific matters where required.

3.3 Engagement to Inform Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment

70. DCLG guidance (2015) encourages applicants to consult widely on the Projects' proposals. The Applicants have an extensive list of consultees that goes beyond those prescribed by section 42 of the PA 2008 and those captured as part of the community consultation process under section.

3.3.1 The Evidence Plan process

71. The EPP was initially developed by the Major Infrastructure Environment Unit (MIEU) of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to provide a formal mechanism for Applicants and statutory bodies to agree what information and evidence should be submitted in support of an NSIP application, with specific focus on HRA matters. However, in practice, the MIEU advises that topic areas that may be evidenced in an Evidence Plan can be expanded, at the request of the Applicants, to include broader EIA issues as well as HRA issues. For the purposes of the Projects' evidence plan, the remit has been widened to EIA topics in addition to HRA aspects.

72. The purpose of the EPP is to seek agreement on key assessment steps. Terms of Reference relating to the Projects' EPP were agreed with consultees at the start of the EPP.

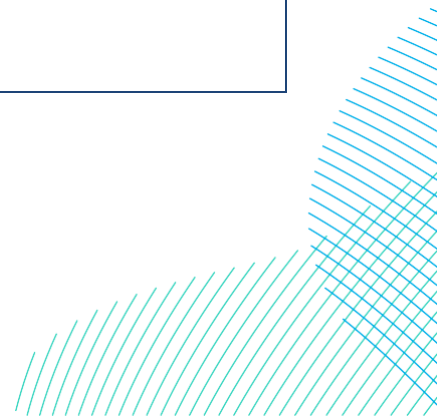
73. The Applicants have consulted with stakeholders on a non-statutory basis through the EPP since 2021, with key consultation outcomes recorded in the relevant topic specific chapters of the ES.

74. The EPP helps to agree on the information to be provided to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the DCO application, such that the Projects can show compliance with the EIA Regulations and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
75. The EPP aimed to assist all parties during the evolution of the DCO application process by providing:
- Greater confidence in the range and accuracy of existing information for use within the application;
 - The identification of knowledge gaps which may need to be fulfilled and the planning of subsequent survey work to fill such gaps;
 - Opportunities to effectively plan timing and resourcing, ensuring key issues are identified at an early stage to avoid the duplication of matters and streamline the process; and
 - Opportunities for multiple agencies and stakeholders to discuss a particular topic. Meetings, agreements and actions from the meetings are all recorded.
76. The EPP does not replace or duplicate existing requirements and has been structured to fit with the Planning Act 2008 DCO application process, including the statutory pre-application consultation processes.
77. The Applicants have undertaken the majority of EIA and HRA technical consultation through the EPP, EIA consultation that was undertaken outside the EPP is detailed in section 3.3.2.
78. As the Projects have been progressed together, early consultation through the Projects' EPP included discussions around both Projects.
79. The EPP groups consultees into several ETGs which follow the majority of topics covered by the EIA and HRA. The ETGs are used to discuss, and if possible agree, the detail of the EIA information requirements for the DCO application. Each ETG is comprised of experts from the relevant statutory and non-statutory bodies. ETGs have the following functions:
- Agree on the relevance, appropriateness and sufficiency of existing baseline data for the specific assessments, including both site-specific and contextual data, and agree on the scope of any project-specific surveys to be undertaken;
 - Agree on the methods for data analysis;
 - Agree on realistic worst-case parameters for the assessments;

- Agree on assessment methodology (including impact and levels of significance where possible);
 - Agree on the in-combination / cumulative impact assessment details, along with consideration of which projects to scope in and associated evidence;
 - Agree on focus areas for post-consent monitoring and mitigation;
 - Agree on whether and when to change the evidence requirements and collect additional evidence (updating the plan and timetable as necessary); and
 - Record discussions through in ETG meeting minutes and agreed outcomes in Agreement Logs which will be used to generate the Statement(s) of Common Ground (SoCG).
80. The process is iterative with each ETG, through the above functions, reaching agreements as far as possible during the pre-application period. This has led to the development of agreement logs which will be used to develop SoCG following the DCO submission and through the examination process.
81. It was recognised early in the development of the Projects that some non-statutory stakeholders had significant interest in the development of the Projects and valuable advice and insight. Where relevant, these stakeholders were treated as section 42 consultees and engaged through the Evidence Plan Process and in other non-statutory consultation. This applied to the stakeholders listed below:
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB);
 - The Wildlife Trusts;
 - Humber Archaeology Partnership;
 - Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC);
 - East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull Joint Local Access Forum (JLAF);
 - Cefas; and
 - North-Eastern IFCA.
82. A breakdown of the various groups and organisations represented is provided in **Table 3-3** below. The table is organised into offshore, onshore and Project wide ETGs. Although the Evidence Plan Process is not part of the Statutory Consultation, it provides the audit trail for the EIA and HRA process associated decision-making.

Table 3-3 Expert Topic Groups and members

Expert Topic Group	Member Organisations
Offshore	
Seabed (Marine Physical Processes, Benthic and Intertidal Ecology and Fish and Shellfish Ecology)	MMO Natural England Cefas Environment Agency JNCC The Wildlife Trusts Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA)
Offshore Ornithology	MMO Natural England JNCC The Wildlife Trusts Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust RSPB
Marine Mammal and Underwater Noise	MMO Natural England The Wildlife Trusts Cefas
Onshore	
Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology	Natural England Environment Agency RSPB Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust East Riding of Yorkshire Council

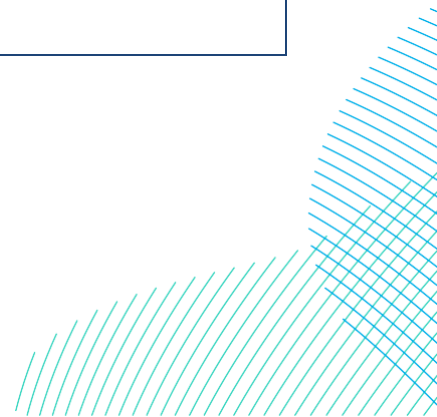


Expert Topic Group	Member Organisations
Noise	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council
Air Quality	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council
Traffic and Transport	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council National Highways
Public Rights of Way and Access	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Natural England East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull JLAF
Flood Risk and Hydrology / Geology and Land Quality	Natural England Environment Agency Beverley & North Holderness Internal Drainage Board (IDB) East Riding of Yorkshire Council (Lead Local Flood Authority)
Project Wide	
Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact (SLVIA) ⁴	Natural England Historic England East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council Humber Archaeological Partnership

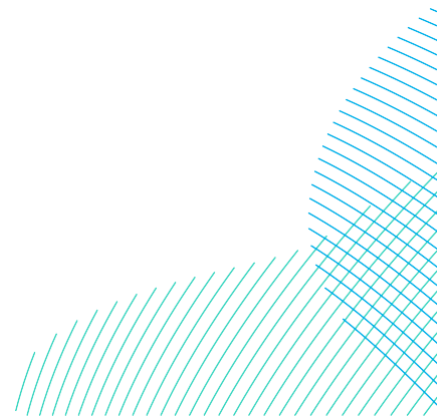
⁴ This ETG was project-wide until scoping until impacts on seascape were scoped out.



Expert Topic Group	Member Organisations
Human Health	Director of Public Health Office for Health Improvements and Disparities Health Security Agency
Historic Environment (Offshore and Onshore)	Historic England East Riding of Yorkshire Council – Historic Environment Advisory Service Humber Archaeological Partnership
Site Selection	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Eastern IFCA Environment Agency Historic England MMO National Highways North Eastern IFCA RSPB The Wildlife Trusts Yorkshire Wildlife Trust York Consortium of Drainage Boards
HRA	MMO Natural England Cefas Environment Agency RSPB The Wildlife Trusts East Riding of Yorkshire Council



83. Through the lifetime of this project, ETG meetings have been organised to share the current progression of site selection, the EIA and HRA. Initial meetings with ETGs through to the submission of the EIA Scoping Report in summer 2022 were largely to introduce the Projects, outline the proposed scope of works and areas of current optionality. Depending on the topic, at this stage they may have also included discussion regarding the scope and programme of surveys to be undertaken.
84. In addition, two significant meetings were held with the site selection ETG in May 2022 to present the progress of, and to seek stakeholder feedback on, site selection work undertaken up to that point. In addition guidance on key site selection decisions was sought ahead of Scoping. An example of the input provided at this juncture included removing from consideration an offshore cable corridor which crossed the Smithic Bank, an Annex I sandbank offshore of Bridlington, in line with stakeholder direction.
85. Following the submission of the Applicants' Scoping Report in July 2022, and the Planning Inspectorate subsequent consultation with the prescribed bodies (as described under section 42(1)(a)) on the Scoping Report, the Planning Inspectorate issued their Scoping Opinion in September 2022 **(Volume 5, Appendix B10 (application ref: 5.3))**.
86. ETG meetings after the issue of the Scoping Opinion were used as an opportunity for the Projects to give an update to attending stakeholders regarding the progression of Site Selection and Alternatives, but generally focused more on the scope and methodology of assessment prior to the production of the PEIR.
87. Following the Statutory Consultation, ETG meetings have generally provided the Applicants an opportunity to share the findings of ongoing surveys, results from the assessment and discuss finer points of detail in assessment methodology. In addition, written correspondence with the site selection ETG was used to confirm the selection of the Offshore Export Cable Corridor to be taken forward for the Environmental Statement, with correspondence with the Ornithology ETG also used to seek feedback on the refinement of the Array Areas from the Agreement for Lease boundaries, to those included in the ES.

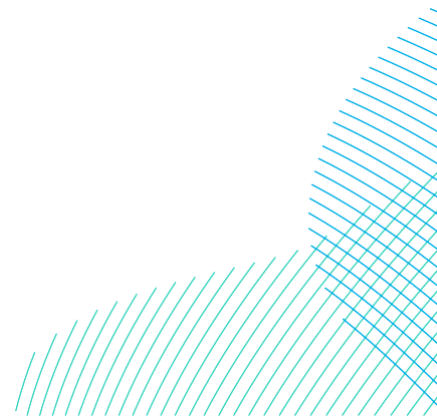


88. Discussions regarding Project Level compensation under the HRA have been undertaken as part of relevant ETGs for the correlating EIA topic area. In practice, this has meant that Project Level compensation related issues have generally been discussed within the Offshore Ornithology ETG, whilst Dogger Bank strategic sandbank compensation has been focused in the Seabed ETG. Marine mammal related matters were discussed with the Marine mammal ETG. Further information regarding the development of the HRA is provided in section 4.2.
89. **Table 3-4** lists the meetings undertaken over the pre-application stage and summarises the key items for discussion at these meetings. Minutes for these meetings are provided in **Volume 5, Appendix F1 (application ref: 5.7)**.

Table 3-4 ETG Meetings During the Pre-Application Stage

Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Traffic and Access, Onshore Noise and Air Quality - Pre-Scoping	14 th September 2021	National Highways Lincolnshire County Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Onshore Ecology and Ornithology - Pre-Scoping	14 th September 2021	Natural England Environment Agency RSPB Durham Wildlife Trust Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Durham County Council East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Historic Environment - Pre-Scoping	15 th September 2021	Historic England East Riding of Yorkshire Council Lincolnshire County Council East Lindsey District Council
Historic Environment - Pre-Scoping	15 th September 2021	Durham County Council Hartlepool Borough Council

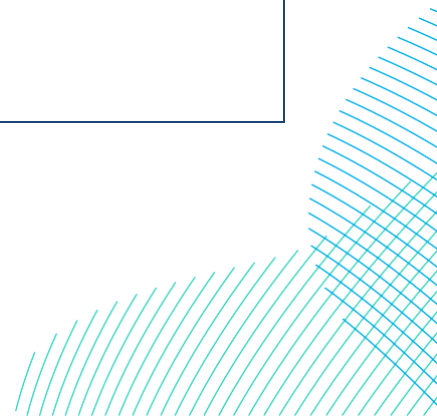
Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Water Resources - Pre-Scoping	17 th September 2021	Environment Agency East Riding of Yorkshire Council Yorkshire and Humber Drainage Board Beverley & North Holderness IDB
Marine Mammal and Underwater Noise - Pre-Scoping	17 th September 2021	Natural England The Wildlife Trusts MMO
SLVIA - Pre-Scoping	23 rd September 2021	Natural England Durham County Council Lincolnshire County Council The Wildlife Trusts East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Seabed - Pre-Scoping	28 th September 2021	Natural England The Wildlife Trusts MMO North Eastern IFCA
Offshore Ornithology - Pre-Scoping	13 th October 2021	Natural England RSPB MMO



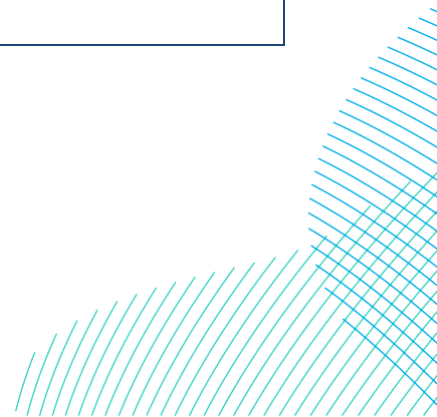
Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Site Selection ETG	4 th May 2022	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environment Agency Historic England MMO NEIFCA RSPB Yorkshire Wildlife Trust York Consortium of Drainage Boards National Highways Natural England The Wildlife Trusts
Site Selection ETG	23 rd May 2022	Natural England MMO
Seabed – Method Statements	26 th May 2022	Natural England Joint Nature Conservation Committee North Eastern IFCA MMO Environment Agency Cefas
HRA Update Meeting	15/09/22	Natural England MMO Environment Agency JNCC Cefas RSPB The Wildlife Trust
Geological Sites at Landfall	26 th September 2022	Natural England East Riding of Yorkshire Council



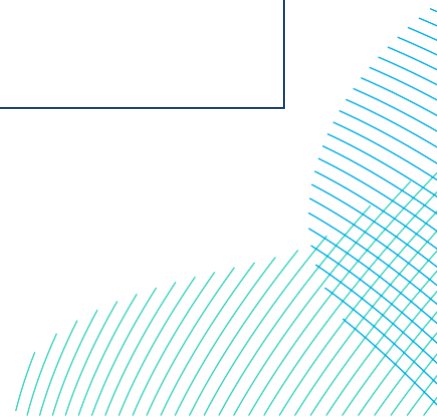
Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Onshore Archaeology - Survey Update	20 th October 2022	Historic England Humber Archaeology Partnership
Traffic and Access - PEIR Approach	21 st November 2022	National Highways Hull City Council
Traffic and Access - PEIR Approach and Access	23 rd November 2022	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
LVIA - PEIR Approach	13 th December 2022	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council Historic England
Onshore and Offshore Archaeology - PEIR Approach	19 th January 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Historic England Humber Archaeology Partnership
Marine Physical Environment - PEIR Approach	20 th January 2023	Natural England Environment Agency JNCC MMO
Offshore Ornithology - PEIR Approach	7 th February 2023	Natural England RSPB Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts
Seabed ETG - PEIR Approach	7 th February 2023	Natural England Environment Agency Cefas JNCC MMO The Wildlife Trusts



Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Marine Mammals ETG – PEIR Approach	21 st February 2023	Natural England MMO Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts
Traffic and Transport ETG	7th March 2023	National Highways Hull City Council
Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology – Project Update, Surveys, PEIR Assessment	20th April 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environment Agency Natural England
Non-Kittiwake Compensation Call	9th May 2023	Natural England MMO RSPB Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts
Offshore Archaeology – Geophysical / Geoarchaeological Assessment Approach	10th May 2023	Historic England
Onshore Heritage ETG – Onshore Archaeology and Heritage Update	25th May 2023	Humber Archaeology Partnership Historic England
Traffic and Transport – Indicative Access Design	23rd June 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Noise and Air Quality – PEIR Assessments	3rd July 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council



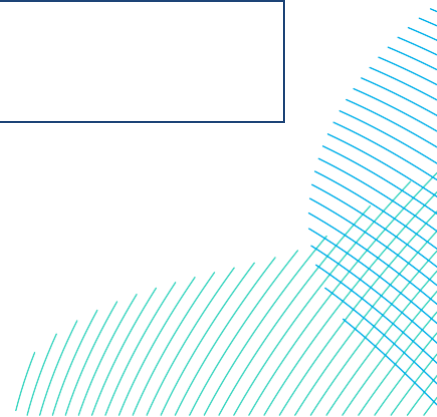
Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Flood Risk and Hydrology / Geology and Land Use – PEIR Assessments	20th July 2023	Beverley & North Holderness IDB East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environment Agency
Traffic and Transport – Project Update and PEIR Comments	6th September 2023	Hull City Council National Highways JSJV
Traffic and Transport – Project Update and PEIR Comments	8th September 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Marine Physical Environment - PEIR comments	11th September 2023	Natural England MMO Cefas Environment Agency
Marine Mammals – PEIR Comments	14th September 2023	Natural England MMO Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts Cefas
Offshore Archaeology – PEIR Comments	20th September 2023	Historic England Hull Archaeological Partnership
Seabed ETG – PEIR Comments	21st September 2023	Natural England MMO Cefas Environment Agency Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts



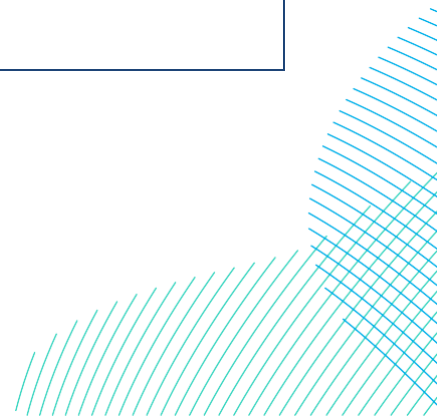
Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Noise ETG – ES Assessment Methodology	21st September 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Noise and Air Quality ETG	27th November 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council
Onshore Historic Environment ETG	5th December 2023	Historic England Humberside Archaeological Partnership East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Flood Risk and Geology ETG	7th December 2023	Beverley and North Holderness IDB Natural England
Terrestrial Ecology ETG	11th December 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environment Agency Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
Flood Risk and Geology ETG	13th December 2023	Environment Agency East Riding of Yorkshire Council
PRoW and Access ETG	14th December 2023	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Kingston upon Hull & East Riding of Yorkshire area JLAF
Terrestrial Ecology ETG	14th December 2023	Natural England
Offshore Archaeology – Geoarchaeological and palaeo landscape assessment discussion	14th December 2023	Historic England
Human Health ETG Meeting	19th December 2023	UK Health Security Agency East Riding of Yorkshire Council Department of Health and Social Care



Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Marine Mammals – Pre ES ETG	15th January 2024	Natural England MMO Cefas
Landscape and Visual ETG	26th January 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Benthic Ecology / Marine Physical Environment – Pre-ES ETG	29th January 2024	Natural England MMO Cefas Environment Agency JNCC The Wildlife Trust Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Offshore Ornithology – Pre-ES ETG	6th February 2024	Natural England RSPB MMO Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Fish and Shellfish Ecology – Pre-ES ETG	23rd February 2024	Natural England MMO Cefas Environment Agency Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Traffic and Transport ETG	27th February 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Draft Auk Compensation Plan (Meeting 1) ETG	29th February 2024	Natural England RSPB MMO
Traffic and Transport ETG	7th March 2024	National Highways Hull City Council



Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Noise and Air Quality ETG Meeting	14th March 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council
Onshore PRow and Access ETG	14th March 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Kingston upon Hull & East Riding of Yorkshire area Joint Local Access Forum
Landscape and Visual Impact ETG	15th March 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Hull City Council
Onshore Historic Environment ETG Meeting	19th March 2024	Humber Archaeological Partnership Historic England East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Terrestrial Ecology ETG	19th March 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Natural England
Flood Risk and Geology ETG	20th March 2024	East Riding of Yorkshire Council Environment Agency Beverley & North Holderness IDB
Human Health ETG Meeting	25th March 2024	UK Health Security Agency Office of Health Improvement and Disparities East Riding of Yorkshire Council Director of Public Health
Draft Auk Compensation Plan (Meeting 2) ETG	10th April 2024	MMO Natural England RSPB Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts



Meeting Title	Meeting Dates	Consultees
Benthic Compensation Plan ETG	11th April 2024	MMO Natural England Cefas Environment Agency JNCC The Wildlife Trusts Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust
Kittiwake Compensation Plan ETG	25th April 2024	MMO Natural England RSPB Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust JNCC The Wildlife Trusts

3.3.2 Non-Evidence Plan Engagement

90. Marine stakeholders have been party to the engagement set out in sections 3.1 and 3.2.1 above. In addition, the Applicants have also engaged with the commercial fisheries, DEFRA, The Crown Estate, shipping and navigation stakeholders, cable owners and aggregates extraction companies and aviation stakeholders. Update and technical meetings have also taken place with Natural England and the MMO in addition to their involvement in the Evidence Plan process (see sections 3.2.3.2 and 3.2.3.3 for further details).
91. The offshore Environmental Statement sections detail specific engagement that has taken place with specific stakeholders in relation to assessing environmental impacts. Engagement commenced pre-EIA scoping to discuss landfall and export cable route selection and offshore survey methods. **Table 3-5** below is not exhaustive but sets out key meetings and engagement, beyond the Evidence Plan process and statutory engagement that has informed the development of the project.

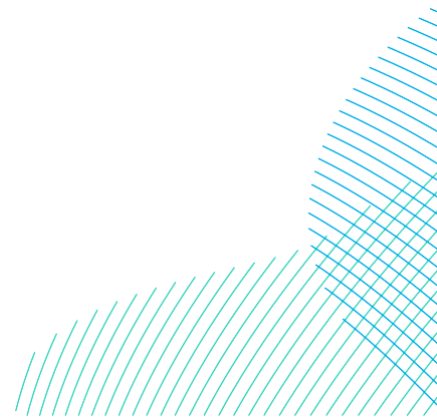
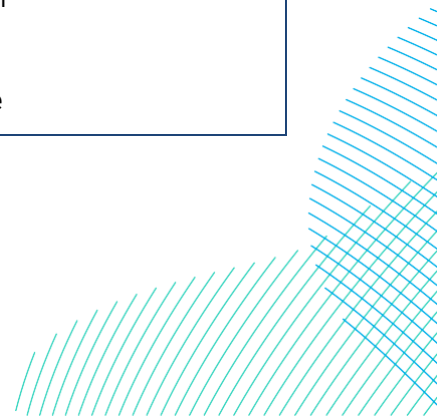


Table 3-5 Non-evidence plan offshore engagement

Meeting Title	Meeting Date	Stakeholder
RWE Joint Commercial Fisheries Working Group	30 th March 2022	Rederscentrale Chair of Danish Pelagic Fisherman's Association Danish Fishing Association CRPMEM Normandie CNPMEM Normadie CNPMEM Boulogne German Fisheries Association NFFO Dutch Fishing Representative VisNed North West Dutch Fisheries Producer Organisation Deep Wind Offshore and Former Norwegian FLO SWFPO SPFPO
PMSL Meeting with Andy Wheeler	27 th April 2022	Consulting and Holderness n Representative
PMSL Meeting with Jamie Robertson	29 th April 2022	HFIG
PMSL & MEP Meeting with Jamie Robertson	12 th May 2022	HFIG
PMSL & MEP Meeting with Andy Wheeler	19 th May 2022	Andy Wheeler Fisheries Consultancy Limited
DBS Commercial Fisheries Working Group	6 th January 2023	Economic Assessment Specialist German Fisheries Association NFFO Dutch Fishing Representative



Meeting Title	Meeting Date	Stakeholder
		North West Dutch Fisheries Producer Organisation SWFPO Independent Fisheries Consultant HFIG Independent Bridlington Fishermen
DBS Commercial Fisheries Working Group	11 th July 2023	Economic Assessment Specialist Independent Fisheries Consultant Independent Bridlington Fishing Vessel Owner Representative of Dutch Fishermen German Fisheries Association Representative of the Norwegian Fishermen's Association Scottish Fisherman's Federation - Policy Officer Swedish Pelagic Federation Producer Organisation
DBS Commercial Fisheries Working Group	22 nd November 2023	Norwegian Fishermen's Association CRPMEM Boulogn sur Mer VisNed"

92. Engagement for EIA topic areas with these organisations, for which there are long-established EIA engagement processes, have been undertaken outside the Evidence Plan Process. Principally, this engagement relates to the following of the ES:

- **Volume 7, Chapter 13 Commercial Fisheries (application ref: 7.13);**
- **Volume 7, Chapter 14 Shipping and Navigation (application ref: 7.14);**
- **Volume 7, Chapter 15 Aviation and Radar (application ref: 7.15);** and
- **Volume 7, Chapter 16 Infrastructure and Other users (application ref: 7.16).**

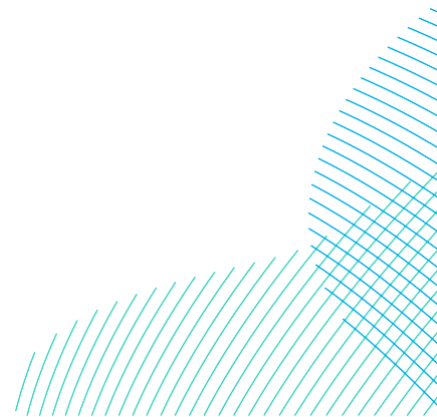
93. Minutes from meetings with non-evidence plan stakeholders and interest groups can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix F3 (application ref: 5.7)**.

3.3.2.1 Fisheries Liaison

94. During the development of the Projects, the Applicants have developed a good working relationship with local fishermen and in accordance with the Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) guidance (FLOWW, 2015). As such, local fishermen have been included in consultation activities from an early stage. During the pre-application phase, there were opportunities for fishermen to provide their views on the proposed development and the approach to assessment, both formally and informally through commercial fisheries working group meetings and one-to-one interviews.

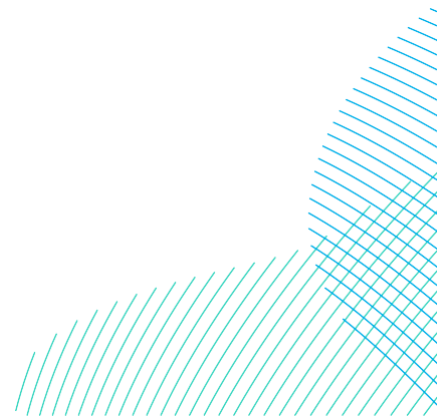
95. The Applicants appointed Precision Marine Survey Limited as Fisheries Liaison Officer who conducted extensive engagement and consultation with groups and individuals in collaboration with the EIA consultants as evidenced in **Volume 5, Appendix F3 (application ref: 5.7)**.

96. Fisheries liaison has focused on gathering information about the types of fishing activity that take place within the region of the Projects, how the Projects would potentially impact these and what coexistence and mitigation measures could be implemented. As part of the application, the Applicants have also included **Volume 8, Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (application ref: 8.28)** which sets out the commitments to facilitate co-existence between the proposed development and local fishing interests during the construction, operation and maintenance (O&M) and decommissioning of the Projects. The Outline Plan was produced with the aim of providing local fishermen with confidence in the extent and mechanisms of liaison. Details of this engagement are provided in **Volume 7, Chapter 13 Commercial Fisheries (application ref: 7.13)**.

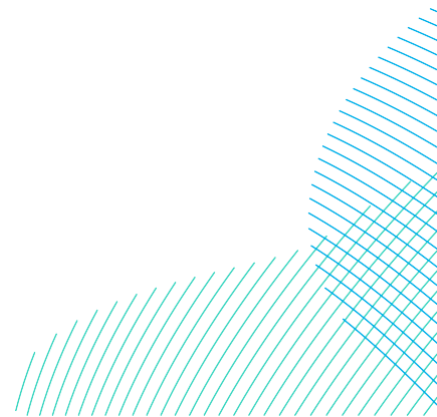


3.4 Landowner Engagement

97. The Applicants' land agent, Dalcour Maclaren, first contacted landowners in April 2022 to introduce the Projects and to notify them of the non-intrusive surveys and the survey timeline. Outside of the consultation phases of the Projects, Dalcour Maclaren has continued to engage extensively with landowners along the route of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor.
98. In response to initial engagement regarding non-intrusive surveys, Dalcour Maclaren were advised by a core group of land representatives of the route of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor that a working group of land agents had been formed to deal with the Projects and that they had agreed a singular point of contact. The group, made up of 10 local landowners / land agents, subsequently known as the 'Land Interest Group' (LIG) initially worked together on the drafting and implementation of licences for environmental surveys scheduled for 2022 to help inform route refinement and the EIA. Similarly, those who decided against joining the LIG were liaised with directly by Dalcour Maclaren and the Applicants to facilitate survey access.
99. Engagement with landowners continued prior to, during and following the Introductory Consultation Period, consisting of individual letters, newsletters with project updates, phone calls, emails, and face-to-face meetings to log and record feedback to help further refine the project proposals. Individual meetings were offered to all identified landowners along the Onshore Export Cable Corridor at this time.
100. Further engagement and negotiations were undertaken with landowners in 2023 with regards to intrusive surveys and further non-intrusive surveys required along the Onshore Export Cable Corridor.
101. During the Statutory Consultation, the Applicants' agent offered to individually meet with all landowners and their appointed agents over a three-day period from the 19th to the 23rd June 2023. The meetings were well received and approximately 85%- 90% met with the Applicants and Dalcour Maclaren during this period.

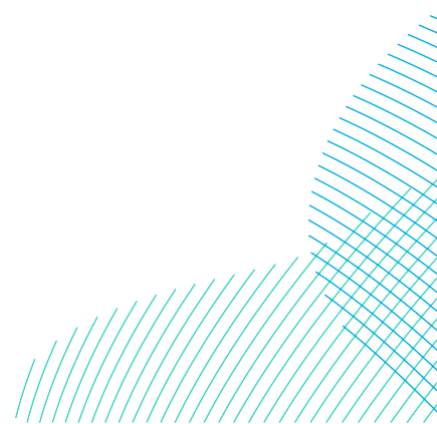


102. Landowners and occupiers represented by both LIG and non-LIG agents were invited to a Dogger Bank South Agents Briefing in October 2023 which was organised to give an update on the Projects since the Statutory Consultation Period. In this briefing, the next steps for the Projects were outlined and to address key concerns raised as part of the consultation, further information was provided regarding Land Drainage. This briefing was hosted by the Applicant's agents Dalcour Maclaren and LDCL (Land Drainage Consultants Ltd) and covered measures to be taken to mitigate any impacts on existing drainage systems. Examples were provided from previous projects of the proposed works with representatives dealing with any queries raised. This briefing was well attended by both LIG and non-LIG members.
103. The Applicants along with Dalcour Maclaren since December 2023 have continue to have regular meetings with the LIG members on Heads of Terms to agree a generic document. The LIG have met with the Applicants agent on four separate occasions, and in between these meetings have continued to have regular email correspondence with the LIG. Between each meeting the Applicants have issued revised Heads of Terms via email as a result of these discussions.
104. Where agents decided to not become a member of the LIG group, the Applicants have continued discussions with these agents to progress the Heads of Terms and Option Agreements, of which a generic Heads of Terms document was sent to non-LIG agents in November 2023. The Applicants actively engaged with all non-LIG agents to request and attend meetings whether online or in person to respond to any queries raised and to provide reassurance to individual landowners regarding the Projects. Where matters have been agreed between the Applicants and the LIG, non-LIG members benefitted from these revisions, and have been sent a number of revised Heads of Terms ensuring no landowner was disadvantaged if their agent was not a LIG member.
105. The Applicants are continuing positive engagement and constructive commercial negotiations are ongoing with all affected landowners and occupiers. An overview of the current state of negotiations for voluntary agreements with all affected landowners and occupiers is set out in **Volume 4, Statement of Reasons Appendix B (application ref: 4.1)**.



3.5 Outline Skills and Employment Strategy Engagement

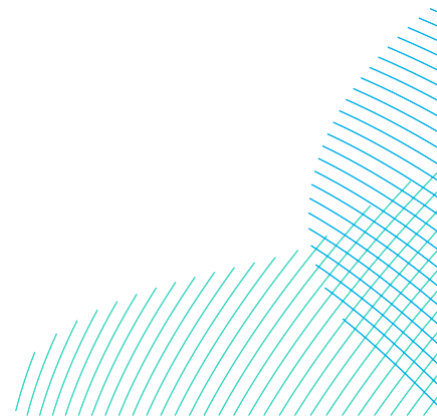
106. Engagement and consultation has taken place with East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council and Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership in the development of **Volume 8, Outline Skills and Employment Strategy (OSES) (application ref: 8.5)** for the Projects. The initial meeting with Hull and East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership took place in September 2023 with ongoing engagement through the Humber Offshore Wind Cluster. Final consultation and alignment meetings took place in May 2024. Further information, including a summary of the key comments raised through OSES engagement is provided in the OSES.
107. As the Projects develop, the OSES will evolve to focus the approach and key areas of exploration. A working group will be established to regularly discuss the OSES and ensure new challenges and opportunities are listed.
108. The working group will continue to develop the OSES and, through this engagement, it will be possible to shortlist and prioritise actions and activities that will form the basis of the agreed commitments within the final Skills and Employment Strategy for the Projects, which will include detail on timelines, monitoring and commitments.



4 Development of Environmental Assessments

4.1 EIA Engagement

109. The applicants initially commenced engagement regarding the scope of the environmental assessments as part of the ETGs as outlined in section 3.3.1 above and in further technical engagement outlined in 3.3.2. The Applicants submitted an initial Scoping Report (**Volume 5, Appendix B8 (application ref: 5.3)**) on the 5th November 2021 which included details regarding the initial engagement carried out with stakeholders. This was subsequently withdrawn to allow the Applicants to further develop the Projects' proposals. The early engagement work contributed to the further development of a second Scoping Report and optioneering.
110. The Applicants submitted their Regulation 8 Notification under the EIA Regulations and requested a formal Scoping Opinion (pursuant to Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations) from the Planning Inspectorate on 26th July 2022, which was accompanied by a Scoping Report (**Volume 5, Appendix B9 (application ref: 5.3)**) containing the relevant information required under Regulation 10(3) of the EIA Regulations.
111. A Scoping Opinion (**Volume 5, Appendix B10 (application ref: 5.3)**) was received from the Planning Inspectorate on 2nd September 2022. The Planning Inspectorate also provided a transboundary issues notification under Regulation 32 on 1st February 2023. Further information on this is provided in section 4.3 below.
112. Scoping responses from prescribed consultees were received by the Planning Inspectorate to help formulate their Scoping Opinion. These comments from prescribed consultees were taken into account during the development of the PEIR and subsequently the ES and formed the basis of multiple ETG discussions. Each assessment chapter of the Environmental Statement includes an appendix to capture engagement and consultation with statutory consultees via the ETG and the Statutory Consultation processes.



4.2 Habitat Regulations Assessment Engagement

113. Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) relating to potential effects on European Sites or National Site Network sites (under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017) is undertaken alongside the EIA as part of the DCO process. Engagement is required with relevant statutory and any relevant non-statutory nature conservation bodies to gather evidence to support the HRA. The consultation for both EIA and HRA has been undertaken together for the relevant topics as the two assessments are closely linked.
114. One way of consulting on HRA matters is to agree an Evidence Plan Process (EPP). Guidance on Evidence Plans was produced by Defra in 2012. The guidance provides an overview of the process and roles of the parties. Its focus is on compliance with the Habitats Regulations and the corresponding Planning Inspectorate Advice Note Ten (HRA relevant to NSIPs) (PINS, 2022). It is now common practice however, for the EPP to include all issues where there are potential significant environmental impacts which may benefit from additional engagement over and above that proposed as part of wider stakeholder consultation arrangements. This approach was followed for the Projects, with the EPP having been initiated in September 2021. See section 3.3.1 above for further details.

4.2.1 Project Level HRA

115. HRA screening for the Projects was undertaken in September 2022 and a Stage 1 Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report accompanied the issue of the PEIR during the Statutory Consultation. Further consideration of responses received during the Statutory Consultation, as well as engagement through the ETGs since that period, has taken place and a final RIAA has been submitted as part of the application (**Volume 6, Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment Habitats Regulations Assessment (application ref: 6.1)**).
116. The HRA screening determined that the Projects had the potential to (either alone or in-combination with other plans, projects and activities) have a likely significant effect (LSE) on a number of sites that form part of the UK National Site Network designated under the Habitats Regulations.
117. An Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the implications of the Projects will therefore need to be undertaken by the Secretary of State in respect of the conservation objectives applicable to the relevant sites.

118. In accordance with DCLG guidance (DCLG, 2015), the Applicants engaged with the relevant statutory and non-statutory bodies to obtain evidence to inform **Volume 6, Report to Information Appropriate Assessment Habitats Regulations Assessment (application ref: 6.1)** which accompanies the DCO application.
119. The Project level HRA has involved its own engagement exercise through the project HRA, ornithology, marine mammal and benthic ETGs outlined in section 3.3.1 above. Through the ETGs relevant consultees have been kept abreast of the development of the Project Level HRA.

4.2.2 Plan Level HRA

120. Given their genesis within the Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4 process, the Projects were included within the Offshore Wind Round 4 Plan Level Habitats Regulations Assessment Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) (NIRAS, 2022). This process included engagement with Government departments and delivery bodies and with specific environmental non-governmental organisations, including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB). With the exception of sandbank features at Dogger Bank SAC alone and in-combination and kittiwake at Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA in-combination, the Plan Level HRA RIAA recommended that The Crown Estate's Appropriate Assessment conclude that the Round 4 Plan alone and in-combination will not have an Adverse Effect on Integrity on any of the Protected Sites considered in the report.

4.2.2.1 Compensation for plan-level impacts on kittiwake at Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA

121. A Steering Group was set up by The Crown Estate in December 2022 to develop compensation for Plan-level impacts on kittiwake at Flamborough and Filey Coast SPA. The group included representatives from The Crown Estate, Natural England, JNCC, Defra, Department Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and representatives from the Projects.
122. The final **Volume 6, Round 4 Kittiwake Strategic Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.1.1)** produced with input from the Steering Group was published by The Crown Estate in January 2024. The plan noted that the most ecologically effective means of increasing breeding success and therefore populations of kittiwake, was through the management of key kittiwake prey, particularly sandeel, and associated ecosystem-based management. This compensation measure is reliant on Government intervention around fisheries management to increase prey availability and there is some doubt as to whether this will be available as a compensation option for offshore wind projects.

123. The Steering Group therefore also included a further option in the Kittiwake SCP around the installation of offshore strategic artificial nesting structures (SANS). The Applicants have therefore submitted a project level Kittiwake Compensation Plan (**Volume 6, Appendix 1 - Project Level Kittiwake Compensation Plan (application ref: 6.2.1)**) which aligns with the Kittiwake Strategic Compensation Plan and sets out potential options to deliver the level of compensation required, including the construction of SANS should it be required. The Applicants are currently engaged with other developers regarding cooperating on the delivery of offshore SANS.

4.2.2.2 Compensation for plan-level impacts on Dogger Bank SAC

124. A Dogger Bank Steering Group was set up by The Crown Estate in December 2022 and included representatives from The Crown Estate, Natural England, JNCC, Defra, DESNZ and representatives from the Projects. A total of thirteen meetings were held up to April 2024.

125. The final **Dogger Bank Strategic Compensation Plan (DBSCP) (Volume 6, application ref: 6.2.3.1)** (The Crown Estate, 2024b) was published by The Crown Estate in April 2024. The plan identified that the creation of new or extended designated sites was the preferred compensation measure with other measures, principally restriction of fishing measures and seagrass restoration (as part of a package of measures) potentially being available. The Applicants note that the delivery of new or extended designated sites are principally reliant on Government intervention but have assisted in the process by surveying a potential extension area for the Dogger Bank SAC and providing the results see **Volume 6, Annex C - Extension of the Dogger Bank SAC for HRA Derogation Compensation - rationale and evidence base, (application ref: 6.2.3.3)** to the Steering Group.

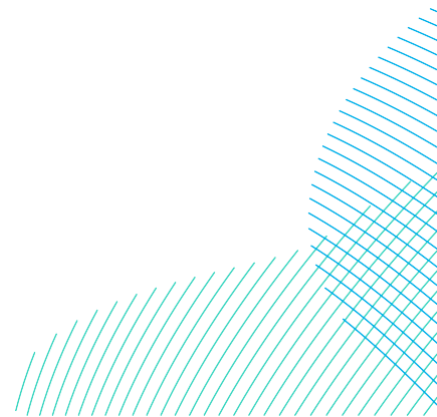
126. The Applicants have played a key role in both Steering Groups, suggesting and commenting on potential compensation measures and providing information to the groups as well as collaborating with the Steering Groups to agree the final version of the SCPs setting out the key compensation measures.

127. The Plan Level HRA has been a critical point of reference for the HRA completed by the Projects, with both Plan and Project level HRAs running in tandem for a significant portion of time.

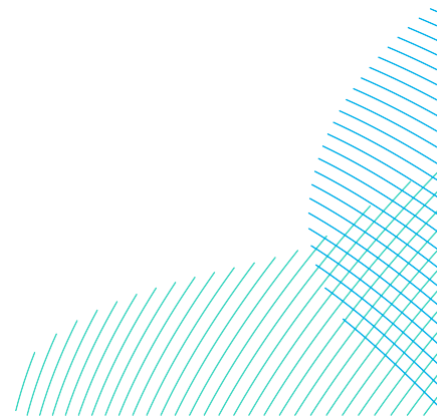
128. The Applicants have also been participants in a number of strategic and industry workstreams on strategic compensation for offshore wind developments including the Offshore Wind Industry Council (OWIC) Derogation Group and the Collaboration in Offshore Wind Strategic Compensation (COWSC) initiative. The Applicants continue to participate in the workstreams and are committed to participating in strategic solutions for compensation where possible.

4.3 Transboundary co-operation

129. The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention (the ‘Espoo Convention’) sets out the obligations of states to notify and consult each other on all major projects under consideration that have the potential to give rise to significant adverse environmental effects across international boundaries (termed ‘transboundary effects’).
130. Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations establishes the procedural duties necessary where the Planning Inspectorate is of the view that an NSIP is likely to have significant effects on the environment in an European Economic Area (EEA) State; or where an EEA State is of the view that its environment is likely to be significantly affected by an NSIP.
131. The Planning Inspectorate Advice Note Twelve sets out the procedures for transboundary notification and consultation associated with NSIP applications, where such an application may have transboundary effects (PINS, 2020b). Developers are advised to identify any possible significant transboundary effects.
132. Initial consideration of the potential for transboundary effects was made at the scoping stage, based on the information that was available at that time. Following this, the Planning Inspectorate provided a transboundary issues notification under Regulation 32 on 1st February 2023. This identified Denmark, France, Germany, Belgium, The Netherlands, Sweden and Norway as states requiring notification due to potential impacts on marine mammals, offshore ornithology, commercial fisheries, aviation and radar, shipping and navigation and offshore archaeology and cultural heritage.
133. Following the issue of this notification, the Planning Inspectorate confirmed to the Applicants on the 22nd March 2023 that, Germany, The Netherlands and Norway had expressed their wish to participate under Regulation 32. Sweden expressed their wish to not participate further, and no response was received from Belgium, Denmark or France.



134. Whilst it was noted that Sweden did not wish to participate further as part of these discussions with the Planning Inspectorate, a response to the Statutory Consultation was received on the 26th June 2023. Details of their comments and the Applicants regard to these can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.
135. After the commencement of the Statutory Consultation, it was decided that Germany, The Netherlands and Norway would be considered as non-prescribed consultees and would be consulted under section 42 of the Planning Act. They were therefore sent letters as part of the Supplementary Statutory Consultation. Please see section 6.3 for further details. Where relevant, details of transboundary consultation undertaken is provided in each of the technical chapters of the ES together with an assessment of the potential effects. The assessments presented in the ES identify the potential for any significant transboundary effects and which EEA states may be affected.
136. A response from the Netherlands Government (Dutch reaction) was received on the 15th August 2023 in response to the supplementary consultation. Details of their comments and the Applicants regard to these can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.
137. No further transboundary responses were received either during the statutory or supplementary consultation periods.



5 Non-statutory Introductory Consultation

5.1 Purpose and Scope of the Consultation

138. Whilst there is no statutory need for non-statutory consultation, in-line with DCLG guidance (2015), the Applicants launched a Non-statutory Introductory Consultation for local residents, businesses, communities and other interested parties between the 9th September 2022 and 14th October 2022 after receipt of the Scoping Opinion (application case ref: EN01025) in September 2022. The purpose of the consultation was to:

- Introduce the Projects;
- Explain the site selection process and options for the Landfall, Substation Zones and Onshore Export Cable Corridor, and
- Collect feedback on the proposals.

139. Whilst the non-statutory consultation was not carried out under the section 42, 47 or 48 processes, the Applicants considered any feedback, and it has helped to shape the application. Such responses have been treated by the Applicants as non-statutory consultation but are described in this Consultation Report for completeness.

5.2 Publicity

140. The Applicants invited local residents, businesses and persons with an interest in land (PILs) along with parish councils and elected representatives to participate in the introductory public consultation. This was done using a variety of methods:

- Mailing invitation letters (**Volume 5, Appendix F5 (application ref: 5.7)**) to approximately 19,000 residential and business addresses within a defined consultation area;
- Email notifications issued to Local MPs, Councillors and Parish Councils;
- Informing statutory stakeholders via expert topic groups and the commercial fisheries working group; and
- Issuing a press release to local and national newspapers and online channels at the start of the consultation. A copy of the press release can be found in the **Introductory Consultation Report (Volume 5, Appendix F8 (application ref: 5.7))**.

141. A dedicated section of the Projects' website was created where people could view the proposals in detail and complete the online consultation questionnaire. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix F5 (application ref: 5.7)**.

5.3 Consultation Activity

142. Four public consultation events were held during the consultation period. A total of 393 people attended the events. These events were located at the locations outlined in **Table 5-1** below.

Table 5-1 Consultation events for the Non-statutory Consultation

Date	Time	Venue	Attendees
Tuesday 27 th September 2022	2pm -6pm	Skipsea Village Hall, Bridlington Road, Skipsea, YO25 8TJ	61
Wednesday 28 th October 2022	3pm – 7pm	Beverley Memorial Hall, 73 – 75 Lairgate, Beverley HU17 8HN	147
Friday 7 th October 2022	3pm – 7pm	Catwick Village Hall, Rowpit Lane, Catwick HU17 5PR	53
Saturday 8 th October 2022	11am – 3pm	Beverley Memorial Hall, 73 – 75 Lairgate, Beverley HU17 8HN	132

143. Each of the consultation events was open to parish councillors and elected members for one hour prior to opening to the public.

144. Attendees were able to view information about the projects on a series of display banners as well as having the opportunity to discuss the proposals with members of the projects team. In addition, attendees were able to comment on the proposals via the consultation questionnaire feedback form.

145. In addition to the public, this period was mirrored with increased engagement with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders. This consultation took place by means of the EPP, one-to-one meetings, workshops on specific subjects to which different stakeholders were invited, written correspondence or telephone conversations.

146. Wherever possible, the Applicants endeavoured to minimise the consultation burden on stakeholders by ensuring that, where appropriate, multiple subjects were covered in a session, suitable pre-reading was sent in advance, accurate minutes were produced and agreed by those attending, and a suitable amount of time was provided for post-meeting comments to be provided.

5.4 Consultation Materials

147. The main consultation materials included banners introducing the projects and sharing information about the proposals and a questionnaire. Both of these two main deliverables were available at both the consultation events and on the Projects' website.
148. The following methods were available for people to respond to the consultation:
- A paper questionnaire was printed and made available at events;
 - A digital version of the questionnaire was available to complete online, linked from the consultation information pages;
 - A freepost address (Freepost DBS) was set up so people could send either the completed questionnaire or any other feedback to the projects team; and
 - Feedback could also be emailed directly to the projects team via a dedicated email address: dbs@rwe.com.

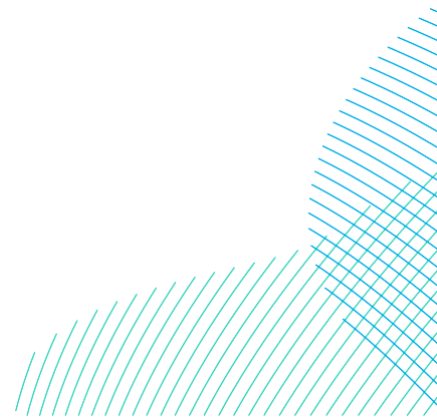
5.5 Response to the Consultation

149. The Applicants received a total of 65 consultation responses to the Introductory Consultation, the majority in person at events. Of these consultation responses, 53 of the responses came from the public, five were identified as landowners and six responses were received from stakeholder groups such as Parish councils and the East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull Joint Local Access Forum and one response was received from a Parish Councillor.
150. The comments and issues raised in the Introductory Public Consultation, along with the Applicants' response are provided in the **Introductory Consultation Report in Volume 5, Appendix F8 (application ref: 5.7)**. A summary of some of the key issues raised through this consultation is provided below.
- **Co-ordinating with other developers** – Suggestions were made about using the same route and co-ordinating with other developers in the area;
 - **General comments on substation sites / cable routes** – Comments were made on potential impacts on communities for all of the Onshore Export Cable routes and Substation Zones and that cables should be routed as far from properties as possible;
 - **Archaeology and cultural heritage** – Comments were raised on potential impacts of the Projects;

- **Cumulative impact of development on the community** – Concern was raised about general industrialisation of the area with multiple schemes planning to connect to a new National Grid substation adjacent to Crekye Beck substation;
- **Concerns about construction disturbance** – Concern was raised regarding additional congestion of roads and construction noise;
- **Feedback regarding landscape and visual effects** – feedback about visual elements of various substation options and the potential impact on PRowS and effects on tourism receptors; and
- **Statements of support and objections to the projects.**

5.6 Changes to Proposals as a result of feedback

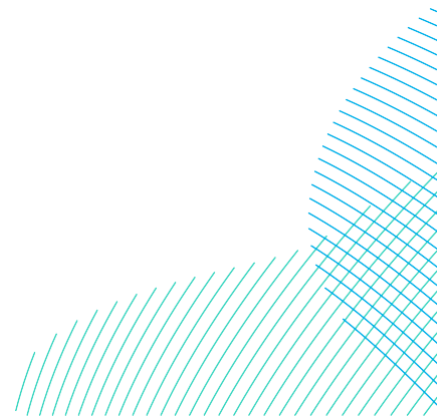
151. Feedback from the Introductory Consultation along with the data collected from surveys, engineering studies and discussions with statutory bodies and other stakeholders, resulted in a number of changes to the Projects. Key changes between the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation and the Statutory Consultation included:
- Reducing the number of shortlisted Substation Zones from three to two; and
 - Reducing the number of potential onshore cable routes from three to one.
152. Substation Zone 5 was removed from further consideration due to potential impacts on buried archaeology and the visual amenity of Risby Park. It was also recognised that there was potential for landscape and visual impacts due to its location a relatively prominent area of high ground compared to the remaining two Substation Zones.
153. Both Substation Zone 4 and Substation Zone 1 were carried forward for further assessment and included in the Statutory Consultation.
154. Onshore Export Cable route 1 was removed from consideration as it required routeing beneath residential properties and had comparatively poor ground conditions, increased levels of flood risk, difficult access locations and could potentially conflict with other infrastructure, including a potential solar farm.



155. Onshore Export Cable route 5 was also removed from consideration as studies indicated it had high potential to impact buried archaeology and presented significant engineering challenges. This was also the longest onshore cable route and, as such, could result in more environmental and social impacts during construction as well as being comparatively more expensive than shorter routes.
156. Onshore Export Cable route 3 was taken forward to the statutory consultation as it combined a high degree of engineering feasibility with comparatively low levels of environmental impact as well as having good potential for efficient routing to the two substation zone options still being considered at the time. Comments around potential impacts on Beverley Westwood and But Farm World War 2 anti-aircraft scheduled monument were noted and considered in further assessments.
157. Further details of the above changes are set out in the Introductory Consultation Report in **Volume 5, Appendix F8 (application ref: 5.7)** and winter 2022 newsletter **Volume 5, Appendix D12 (application ref: 5.5)**.
158. Other changes to the Projects relating to the key issues raised in the Introductory Consultation are set out below:
 - **Co-ordinating with other developers** – The Applicants are in discussions with other developers working in the area and continue to work with them to minimise impacts on local communities where appropriate. It should also be noted that the Projects themselves are two separate projects but are being developed together to take advantage of synergies, including the scope to minimise environmental impacts and disruption for the general public;
 - **Substation Zone sites/Onshore Export Cable routes** – Potential impacts on local communities have been part of our consideration in the selection of the Onshore Converter Station and Onshore Export Cable Corridor route selection and the Applicants have sought to avoid built up areas as far as possible. The EIA process considered potential impacts and how they can be mitigated. Further information on this was set out within the PEIR published during the statutory consultation and is included within the DCO submission, including in **Volume 7, Chapter 4 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives (application ref: 7.4)**;
 - **Archaeology and cultural heritage** – Archaeology and cultural heritage have been taken into account as part of our impact assessments (**Volume 7, Chapter 17 Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage** and **Chapter 22 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage application ref: 7.17 and 7.22**). As noted previously in this section, it is

one of the factors in the selection of substation zones, including the removal of Substation Zone 5 from consideration as the Projects' Substation Zone;

- **Cumulative impact of development on the community** – Consideration of Cumulative Effects forms part of the EIA process;
- **Concerns about construction disturbance** – Noise impact assessments (both temporary noise during construction and ongoing operational noise) were carried out for the PEIR and ES (**Volume 7, Chapter 25, Noise (application ref: 7.25)**) and a Traffic and Transport Assessment carried out (**Volume 7, Chapter 24, Traffic and Transport (application ref: 7.24)**). An **Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) (Volume 8, application reference: 8.13)** which seeks to minimise disruption on the local road network and agree access routes for construction vehicles has been submitted with the DCO application; and
- **Feedback regarding landscape and visual effects** – A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was carried out as part of the EIA (**Volume 7, Chapter 23, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (application ref: 7.23)**), with preliminary findings set out in the PEIR as part of the Statutory Consultation. Mitigation measures such as screening of substation buildings are set out in the **Outline Landscape Management Plan (Volume 8, application ref: 8.11)**.



6 Statutory Consultation

6.1 Introduction

159. This stage of consultation was the main statutory stage of consultation undertaken by the Applicants. In addition to consultation on more detailed proposals than were made available at Introductory Consultation, preliminary environmental information was published to set out in detail the potential benefits and impacts of the Projects. This consultation fulfilled the requirements of sections 42, 46, 47 and 48 of the Act.
160. The Statutory Consultation ran from 6th June to 17th July 2023.
161. During the consultation period over 400 people attended an in-person or online event, and 110 responses to the consultation were received.

6.2 Scope of consultation

162. This consultation fulfilled the requirements of sections 42, 46, 47 and 48 of the Act. The scope of the consultation was to gain feedback from section 42 and section 47 consultees on the Projects' proposals at that point of time to help inform decision making prior to the further progression of the EIA and project development process.
163. Comment was welcome on any element of the proposals or preliminary environmental information; however, the consultation also sought specifically to collect feedback on the:
- Proposed onshore underground cable route corridor;
 - Proposed Landfall locations;
 - Search areas and indicative locations for the Onshore Converter Stations;
 - Proposed offshore cable route corridor;
 - Mitigation proposals for potential impacts; and
 - Environmental Impact Assessment information about the Project (as was set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report).

6.3 Consultation activity summary

164. Persons interested in the Projects had multiple opportunities to learn of the consultation, including the option to register on the consultation website to receive further details. The consultation was widely publicised in the form of letters, press releases and advertisements in local and national press and online media channels.
165. As outlined in section 3 above, various stakeholders had already opted to receive the Projects' newsletter. The Applicants issued a newsletter on the 5th June in advance of the Statutory Consultation to all newsletter recipients (c350) which included some statutory consultees and political stakeholders.
166. The list of methods used by the Applicants to raise awareness of the consultation were shared on the website and with key stakeholders. They were also made available in local libraries, mobile libraries and at the public consultation events as described in **Table 6-1**. Details of how section 47 and wider consultees communities were made aware of the consultation and could access consultation materials are described in **Table 6-1** below.
167. There were 5 public consultation events held during the consultation period, details of which can be found in the table below. The Applicants received direct comments regarding 'consultation fatigue' from the local community at the events, and the level of response may also evidence this.

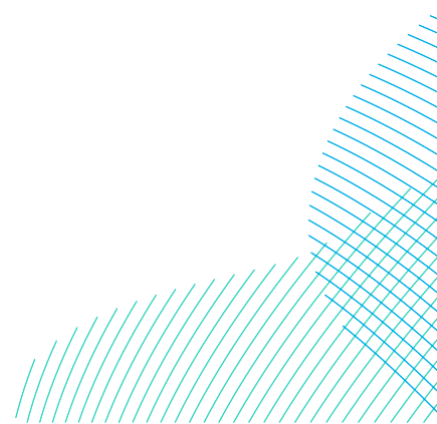
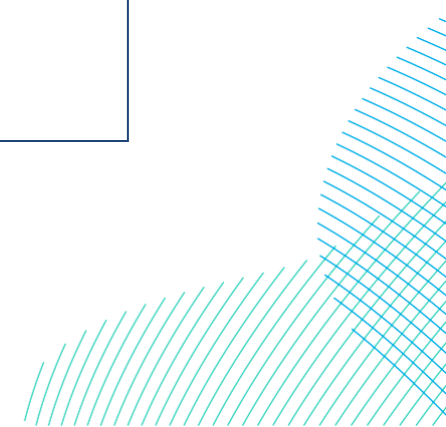


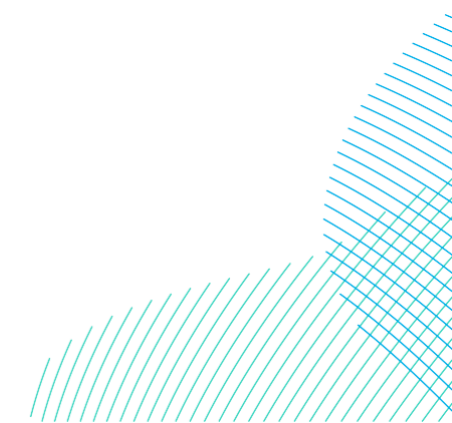
Table 6-1 Consultation Methods, Events and Local Deposit Points

Method	Detail	Reference
Project Website	Dedicated project website linking to the consultation website and where documents including the SoCC and project newsletters were available to download.	https://doggerbanksouth.co.uk/
Consultation website	The consultation website was set up as a dedicated portal where all consultation materials were made available including the PEIR, consultation brochure, consultation questionnaire and interactive map. Access to this information was available 24/7.	www.consultation.doggerbanksouth.co.uk
Stakeholder briefings	Briefings were made available to all Parish Councillors and Elected Representatives, as well as attending Parish Council meetings before, during and after the Statutory Consultation period.	Emails containing the consultation letter and invitation to the consultation pre-briefing prior to events were sent on 30/05/23.
Project newsletters	Newsletters have been regularly sent out to a mailing list of organisations and individuals, usually every quarter. In the run up to the Statutory Consultation, the newsletters were published more frequently in line with events. The newsletters have updated stakeholders about the proposed project and promoted participation in the Statutory Consultation. The mailing list was kept up-to-date and the newsletters were also available on the project website.	Volume 5, Appendix D11 to D14 (application ref: 5.5).
Consultation mail-out	The Projects sent letters to circa 45,000 residents and businesses within the prescribed consultation zone as shown in the SoCC (Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5)). The letter included details of the Projects' consultation website, information about the public consultation events, webinars and local access points and provided details of how to respond to the Statutory Consultation.	Volume 5, Appendix D15 (application ref: 5.5) (Letter issued to residents and businesses).
Statutory notices	Statutory notices announced the publication of the SoCC and the Statutory Consultation itself both locally and nationally. Notices were published in the Hull Daily Mail, the Telegraph, the London Gazette, Lloyd's List and Fishing News. The notices directed stakeholders to the project website for further information about the Statutory Consultation.	Volume 5, Appendix D4 (application ref: 5.5), Volume 5, Appendix E1 and E2 (application ref: 5.6).
Consultation events: 6th June - 17th July 2023		Number of attendees
Friday 9th June 2023 (3pm - 7pm)	Beverley Memorial Hall, 73 - 75 Lairgate, Beverley, HU17 8HN	Volume 5, Appendix D7 to D10 (application ref: 5.5). 204
Saturday 10 th June 2023 (3pm - 7pm)	Skipsea Village Hall, Bridlington Road, Skipsea, YO25 8TJ	42

Method	Detail	Reference
Thursday 22 nd June 2023 (3pm – 7pm)	Leven Sports Hall, North Street Leven, HU17 5NF	17 28 91
Friday 23 rd June 2023 (3pm – 7pm)	Skipsea Village Hall, Bridlington Road, Skipsea, YO25 8TJ	
Saturday 24 th June 2023 (11am – 4pm)	Beverley Memorial Hall, 73 – 75 Lairgate, Beverley, HU17 8HN	
Community Access Points		
Driffield Centre	Cross Hill, Driffield, YO25 6RQ	Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5).
Beverley Library	Champney Road, Beverley, HU17 8HE	
Bridlington Central Library	King Street, Bridlington, YO15 2DF	
Cottingham Centre	Market Green, Cottingham, HU16 5QG	
Greenwood Avenue Library	220 Greenwood Avenue, Hull, HU6 9RA	
Hornsea Library	Broadway, Hornsea, HU18 1RU	
Leven Library	74 East Street, Leven, HU17 5NG	
Bridlington Community Hub	1st Floor, 2a Marshall Avenue, Bridlington, YO15 2DS	
Mobile Libraries - additional community access points		
Mobile library community access points. Venues available in hard to reach village locations via the mobile community access library.	Skipsea Village Green, Main Street, Skipsea, YO23 8SZ	In addition to the publicised community access points above, consultation materials were made available via the East Riding Library mobile community services.
	Sigglesthorne, East Lane opposite Bentinck Lane, Sigglesthorne, HU11 5QQ	
	Atwick, The Green, Church Lane, Atwick, YO25 8DH	
	Beeford Community Centre Main Street, Beeford, YO25 8AY	
	Beeford St Leonards, St Leonards Close, Beeford YO25 8BU	
	Brandesburton, Market Cross, Cross Hill, Brandesburton, YO25 8RG	



Method	Detail	Reference
	Long Riston, Main Street, Near School, Long Riston, HU11 5JL	
	Tickton, Primary School Playing Field, Main Street, Tickton, HU17 9RZ	
	Ulrome, The Crofts, Main Street, Ulrome, YO25 8UE	
	Walkington, East End, Walkington, HU17 8RX	
	Skirlaugh Poplar Close, Poplar Close, Skirlaugh, HU11 5HA	
	Skirlaugh Council Offices, Skirlaugh, HU11 5HN	
	Consiton, Swine Lane, Coniston, HU11 4JT	
	Bilton, Dawney Road / Holmes Lane, Bilton, HU11 4HA	
Webinars - 27th June 2023 and 6th July 2023		
Webinar 1 27 th June 2023 - 6pm - 7pm	Online webinars, where the key project details from the consultation materials were presented by the project team to people who registered to attend.	The webinars were advertised in the project newsletter, consultation brochure, press advertisements and on the consultation website. The presentation materials used during the webinars are provided in Volume 5, appendix D18 (application ref: 5.5) .
Webinar 2 6 th July 2023 - 6pm - 7pm		



6.4 Consultation Materials

168. The consultation documents which were made available online via the consultation website (<https://consultation.doggerbanksouth.co.uk>) consisted of:
- A non-technical summary of the PEIR;
 - The full PEIR by chapter including visualisations and associated appendices;
 - Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) screening report and annexes;
 - Marine Conservation Zone Screening Assessment;
 - Outline Code of Construction Practice;
 - Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan;
 - Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC);
 - Consultation Brochure;
 - Consultation Questionnaire;
 - Event Banners;
 - Section 48 Notice;
 - Introductory Consultation Report;
 - Community Newsletter;
 - Scoping Opinion;
 - Scoping Report;
 - Fact Sheet;
 - Onshore substation visualisations;
 - Consultation zone map; and
 - Red line boundary map.
169. As the Statutory Consultation under sections 42 and 47 of the PA 2008 were carried out simultaneously, documents and activities employed under section 47 also formed the suite of documents and activities employed under section 42.
170. The following methods were made available for providing feedback to the Applicants during the consultation period:
- Completing the online questionnaire;
 - Completing a printed questionnaire (available at the public events, upon request and at the local access points as described in **Table 6-1**);
 - By emailing the project via The Projects dedicated inbox (dbs@rwe.com);

- In writing to the project Freepost address;
- By submitting a message on the project website under the ‘contact us’ section; and
- By submitting a response in person by attending one of the public consultation events (as detailed above in **Table 6-1**).

171. The public were also able to find out more about the Projects by the following routes (from which they were advised how to submit a formal response):

- By attending one of the public events and speaking to a member of the team;
- By telephoning the project team via the dedicated number provided;
- By attending one of the online webinar sessions; and
- By emailing the team via the Projects’ dedicated inbox (dbs@rwe.com).

6.5 Section 42

6.5.1 Introduction

172. This section sets out the activities undertaken by the Applicants to comply with its duty to consult under section 42 of the PA 2008. It provides the information relevant to section 42 consultation as required under section 37(7)(a) of the PA 2008 and associated guidance (summarised in Section 2). The Applicants carried out this Statutory Consultation to ensure that prescribed consultees were engaged and had opportunities to comment.

173. The Applicants aligned its section 42 and section 47 consultation to the same period, running from 6th June 2023 to 17th July 2023, to simplify the processes and allow consultees an opportunity to comment simultaneously.

174. In addition to the Statutory Consultation, a subsequent Supplementary Statutory Consultation was carried out from 4th August 2023 until 15th September 2023, when it was identified that a small number of properties within the consultation zone had been omitted from the Statutory Consultation, and a number of 3rd party developers and transboundary stakeholders were not consulted as part of the Statutory Consultation. These were consulted on the same information as outlined in the Statutory Consultation.

175. A targeted consultation for specific section 42 consultees, following amendments to the red line boundary after the Statutory Consultation, was carried out from 13th November to 10th December 2023. Further details are provided in section 7 of this Consultation Report

6.5.2 Legislative context

176. As outlined in **Table 2-1** above, section 42(1) of the PA 2008 requires Applicants to consult the following about the proposed development:
- a) such persons as may be prescribed;
 - aa) the Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
 - b) each Local Authority that is within section 43 of the Act
 - c) the Greater London Authority, if the land is in Greater London; and
 - d) each person who is within one or more categories set out in section 44 of the Act.
177. The Greater London Authority was not consulted on the grounds that the Projects did not fall within their jurisdiction.

6.5.3 How Section 42 consultees have been identified

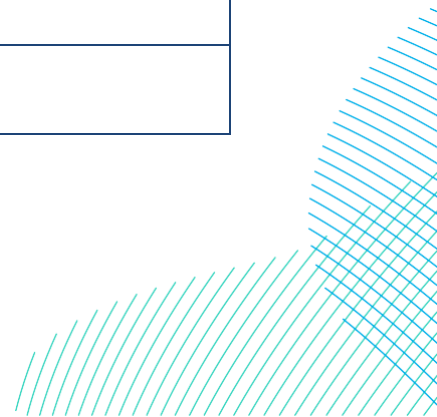
6.5.3.1 Section 42(1) (a) and (aa)

178. Section (1)(a) requires an applicant to consult with prescribed bodies. These are set out in regulations and comprise bodies with specific expertise and/or statutory responsibility for a given discipline(s). Prescribed bodies cover the main statutory bodies that are to be consulted under section 42.
179. The starting point for identifying the prescribed bodies relevant to the Applicants was the list of consultees prescribed in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations. These include consultees that need to be consulted in specific circumstances. See **Table 6-2** below:

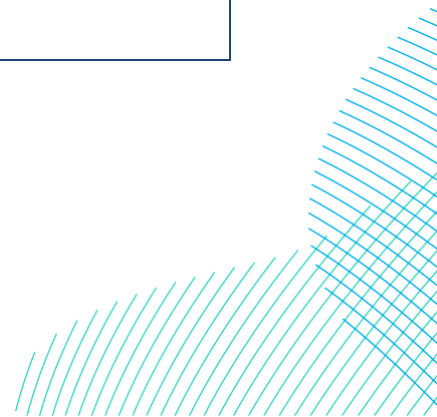
Table 6-2 List of Schedule 1 bodies from the APFP regulations relevant to the Projects

Schedule 1 Consultee	Organisation
The Health and Safety Executive	Health and Safety Executive
The National Health Service Commissioning Board	NHS England
The relevant Integrated Care Board	NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Natural England	Natural England
Natural England (Offshore Wind Farms)	Natural England (Offshore Wind Farms)

Schedule 1 Consultee	Organisation
The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England	Historic England
The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (Offshore)	Historic England
The relevant fire and rescue authority	Humberside Fire and Rescue Service
The relevant police and crime commissioner	Humberside Police and Crime Commissioner
The relevant parish council	Rowley Parish Council
	Walkington Parish Council
	Bishop Burton Parish Council
	Cherry Burton Parish Council
	Wawne Parish Council
	Bewholme Parish Council
	Leven Parish Council
	Skipsea Parish Council
	Ulrome Parish Council
	Skidby Parish Council
	Cottingham Parish Council
	Molescroft Parish Council
	Woodmansey Parish Council



Schedule 1 Consultee	Organisation
	Leconfield Parish Council
	Riston Parish Council
	Seaton Parish Council
	Atwick Parish Council
	Beeford Parish Council
	Tickton and Routh Parish Councils
	Catwick Parish Council
	Sigglesthorne Parish Council
The Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
The Joint Nature Conservation Committee	JNCC
The Maritime and Coastguard Agency	Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA)
The Maritime and Coastguard Agency - Regional Office	MCA - Hull Marine Office
The Marine Management Organisation	MMO
The Civil Aviation Authority	Civil Aviation Authority
The Relevant Highways Authority	East Riding of Yorkshire Council
The relevant strategic highways company	National Highways



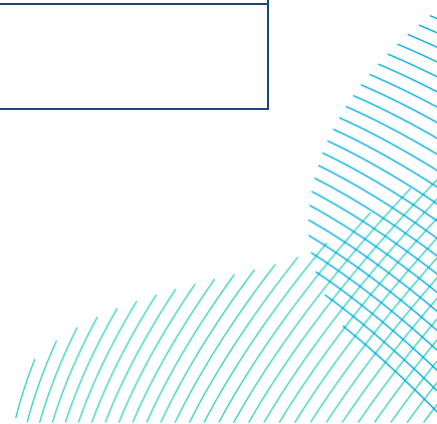
Schedule 1 Consultee	Organisation
The Coal Authority	The Coal Authority
The relevant IDB	Beverley and North Holderness IDB
Trinity House	Trinity House
United Kingdom Health Security Agency, an executive agency of the Department of Health and Social Care	UK Health Security Agency
The Crown Estate Commissioners	The Crown Estate
The Forestry Commission	Yorkshire and Northeast
The Secretary of State for Defence	Ministry of Defence

180. This list of consultees was augmented with additional bodies who were notified of the proposed application by the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations ((the Regulation 11 list). The production of this list was in response to the Applicants notifying the Planning Inspectorate that it proposed to provide an ES in respect of the development under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations (**Volume 5, Appendix B2 (application ref: 5.3)**).

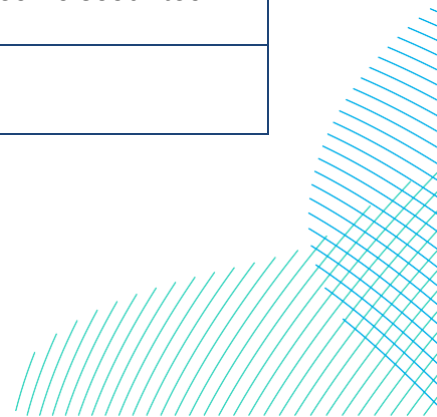
181. The additional bodies included statutory undertakers as detailed in **Table 6-3** below. Note, all statutory undertakers were contacted prior to the Statutory Consultation, but some were discounted as not having any interests within the vicinity of the Projects.

Table 6-3 Statutory Undertakers

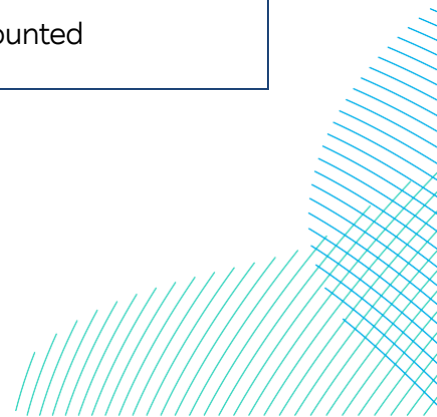
Statutory Undertaker	Organisation
The relevant Clinical Commissioning Group	NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
The National Health Service Commissioning Board	NHS England



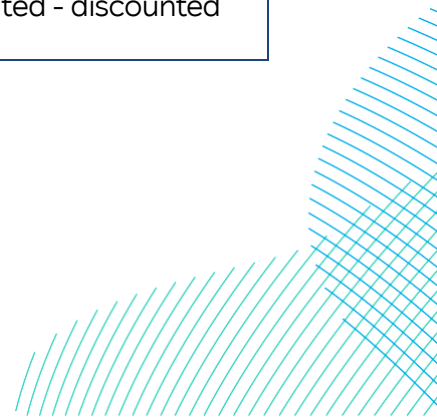
Statutory Undertaker	Organisation
The relevant NHS Trust	Yorkshire and the Humber Ambulance Service NHS Trust
Railways	Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd
Railways	Highways England Historical Railways Estate
Dock and Harbour authority	Bridlington Harbour Commissioners
Civil Aviation Authority	Civil Aviation Authority
Licence Holder (Chapter 1 Of Part 1 Of Transport Act 2000)	NATS En-Route Safeguarding
Universal Service Provider	Royal Mail Group
Homes and Communities Agency	Homes England
The relevant Environment Agency	The Environment Agency
The relevant water and sewage undertaker	Yorkshire Water
The relevant public gas transporter	Cadent Gas Limited
	Northern Gas Networks Limited
	Scotland Gas Networks Plc
	Southern Gas Networks Plc - discounted
	Wales and West Utilities Ltd - discounted
	Energy Assets Pipelines Limited - discounted
	ES Pipelines Ltd - discounted



Statutory Undertaker	Organisation
	ESP Networks Ltd - discounted
	ESP Pipelines Ltd – discounted
	ESP Connections Ltd – discounted
	Fulcrum Pipelines Limited - discounted
	Harlaxton Gas Networks Limited - discounted
	GTC Pipelines Limited - discounted
	Independent Pipelines Limited – discounted
	Indigo Pipelines Limited – discounted
	Leep Gas Networks Limited – discounted
	Last Mile Gas Ltd - discounted
	Mua Gas Limited – discounted
	Quadrant Pipelines Limited – discounted
	Squire Energy Limited - discounted
	National Grid Gas Plc
The relevant electricity distributor with compulsory purchase order powers	Eclipse Power Network Limited – discounted
	Energy Assets Networks Limited – discounted
	ESP Electricity Limited – discounted



Statutory Undertaker	Organisation
	Fulcrum Electricity Assets Limited - discounted
	Harlaxton Energy Networks Limited - discounted
	Independent Power Networks Limited - discounted
	Indigo Power Limited - discounted
	Last Mile Electricity Ltd - discounted
	Leep Electricity Networks Limited - discounted
	Mua Electricity Limited - discounted
	Optimal Power Networks Limited - discounted
	The Electricity Network Company Limited - discounted
	UK Power Distribution Limited - discounted
	Utility Assets Limited - discounted
	Vattenfall Networks Limited - discounted
	Northern Powergrid (Yorkshire) plc
	National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc
	National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited
	National Grid Viking Link Limited - discounted



182. As per section 42(1)(aa) the MMO was included as a consultee due to the project comprising an offshore wind farm in waters adjacent to England up to the seaward limits of the territorial sea in accordance with section 42(2).

6.5.3.2 Section 42(1) (b)

183. Section 42(1)(b) requires consultation with those local authorities within section 43. This section identifies 'host authorities' in whose area the project is proposed to be located, and adjoining authorities at both upper and lower tier levels. In order to identify the section 43(1) local authorities, the land for the proposed development was defined as the area within which the onshore infrastructure could be located. The onshore electricity cable corridor, onshore substation, accesses are all proposed to be situated on land within the jurisdiction of 'host authorities' for the project. The applicant is required to:

- Consult the 'host authority' on the project under section 42; and
- Consult the 'host authority' on the contents of the SoCC under section 47(2).

184. Local authorities under section 43 also include those that share a boundary with the host authority, as above, these are both upper tier and lower tier authorities.

185. In addition, Planning Inspectorate Advice Note Three (PINS, 2017) recommends that, where projects are located offshore, developers also consult local authorities that may be visually impacted by the offshore elements of the proposals, even if they are not captured within the definitions set out under section 43 of the Act.

186. Local authorities identified under section 43 are listed below and listed in **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3)**.

- East Riding of Yorkshire Council – local planning authority;
- Hull City Council – adjacent local authority with regard to traffic and transport, noise, air quality, landscape and visual and cumulative impacts;
- City of York Council – neighbouring local authority;
- Doncaster City Council – neighbouring local authority;
- Ryedale District Council - neighbouring local authority;
- Selby District Council - neighbouring local authority;
- Scarborough Borough Council - neighbouring local authority;
- North Lincolnshire Council – neighbouring local authority; and



- North Yorkshire Council – neighbouring local authority.

6.5.3.3 Section 42(1)(d)

187. For the purposes of section 42(d), a person is within section 44 of the PA 2008 if the applicant knows (after making diligent inquiry) that the person is:
- An owner, lessee, tenant, or occupier of the land (Category 1, section 44(1));
 - Interested in the land or has the power to sell and convey the land, or to release the land (Category 2, section 44(2)); or
 - Entitled to make a relevant claim if the Order sought by the proposed application were to be made and fully implemented (Category 3, section 44(4)).
188. The Applicants appointed Dalcour Maclaren to carry out the land agency work, including land referencing, managing communications with identified landowners and arranging access to land as might be required.
189. To identify relevant land interests, the Applicants commissioned a Her Majesty's Land Registry (HMLR) Polygon Plus search within the Scoping Boundary. A copy of applicant appointed land agents, Land Referencing Methodology can be found at **Volume 5, Appendix C6 (application ref: 5.4)**.
190. This was then extended and varied in certain areas where amendments were made, or route options added. This search identified the relevant HMLR titles within the scoping boundary and the registers and title plans were ordered in order to source the relevant land interests and to accurately identify the land ownership boundaries. TracelQ, Atkins utility search, Council searches were used, and desktop research conducted to identify any additional interests of the land within the scoping boundary. Unregistered land interests were identified where possible by utilising public sources of information including TracelQ, site visits, site noticing and discussions with neighbouring land interests.
191. Land Ownership Questionnaires (LOQs) were populated from the information obtained using the methods detailed above, all relevant land interests were issued an LOQ on 5th April 2022 (**Volume 5, Appendix C2 (application ref: 5.4)**) requesting information on:
- Contact details;
 - Details of the landowner and or / lessee;
 - Nature of land interest;
 - Details of land use; and

- Information that the landowner would want the applicant to be made aware of.
192. The purpose of the LOQ was to check that land interests identified on HMLR was correct and to ask if they could provide additional information on tenancies.
193. Land Interest Questionnaires (LIQs) were pre-populated from the information obtained using the methods above and all relevant land interests were served an LIQ on the 3rd February 2023 (**Volume 5, Appendix C4 (application ref: 5.4)**). The purpose of the LIQ is to identify all land interests that may be associated with a specific parcel and to accurately record land ownership boundaries. Chases were conducted for those that had not responded to the LIQ by the specified deadline and took the form of a combination of reminder letters, site visits, phone calls and emails.
194. LIQs were first issued by the Applicants on 3rd February 2023. Some interests were added or removed following this process and landowner / interest feedback. Any new land interests identified through contact referencing, LIQ form completion and correspondence with landowners were also issued with a LIQ where appropriate.
195. Dalcour Maclaren also liaised with landowners to request access for intrusive surveys (**Volume 5, Appendix C1 (application ref: 5.4)**) and the placing of site notices regarding the proposed Projects (**Volume 5, Appendices C3 and C4 (application ref: 5.4)**).
196. Under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, landowners may be entitled to compensation where the value of their interest in land is depreciated by physical factors caused by the use of public works, including works used in the exercise of statutory powers.
197. Dalcour Maclaren, on behalf of the Applicants, undertook diligent inquiry to identify the relevant land interests under section 44 via searches of the land registry, questionnaires, and identification of potential Category 3 claimants. Potential Category 3 interests were identified and are listed in **Volume 4, Book of Reference (application ref: 4.2)**.
198. A person is classified as Category 3 if they would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim, and that 'relevant claim' means a claim under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, a claim under Part 1 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, and a claim under section 152(3) of the Planning Act 2008.
199. In total 465 PILs were identified and consulted with during the Statutory Consultation.

200. The identification of potential Category 3 interests was an iterative process, and further potential Category 3 interests were identified following the Statutory Consultation in preparation of the targeted consultation (see section 7).

6.5.3.4 Non-statutory consultees

201. In addition to those prescribed through the above processes, stakeholder mapping identified numerous other stakeholder groups to be consulted. Whilst these groups may have received an invite to comment on the consultation as section 47 consultees their feedback was evaluated, and it was deliberated that their feedback should be considered as section 42 feedback. These stakeholders are included within section 2.6 of **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3)**, and their consultation feedback, if any was received, has been considered and responded to in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.

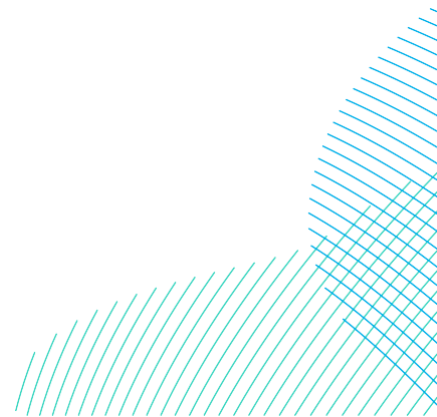
6.5.4 How Section 42 Consultees Were Notified of the Consultation

6.5.4.1 The Statutory Consultation

202. For the statutory Consultation, all of the consultees identified under sections 42(1)(a), 42(1)(aa), 42(1)(b) and 42(1)(d) were invited to provide comments on the proposed application under section 42 and the published preliminary environmental information for the Projects as required by the EIA Regulations. All section 42 consultees contacted as part of the Statutory Consultation are listed in Section 2 of **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3)**.

203. All section 42 consultees were sent a letter detailing the details of the consultation, the deadline for responses, how responses could be submitted, the materials available and how the materials could be viewed. The PEIR and all consultation documentation were made available on the Projects' website at the start of the consultation on the 6th June, and links to the website were provided in the section 42 letter.

204. The letters were sent electronically via email where email addresses were available and hard copies were sent via Royal Mail to registered offices. Different variants of the letters were provided on the basis of the category of consultee, with evidence of the different variants for the letters provided in **Volume 5, Appendix B4 (application ref: 5.3)**.



6.5.4.2 The Supplementary Statutory Consultation

205. The consultees listed in section 3 of **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3)** were invited to provide comments on the proposed application under section 42 for the Supplementary Statutory Consultation and the deadline for the receipt of comments. Letters were sent on the 1st August 2023 (**Volume 5, appendix D16 (application ref:5.5)**) ahead of the consultation opening on the 4th August providing a link to where the consultation materials could be accessed. Printed copies of all consultation materials were available upon request.

6.6 Section 46

206. Section 46 requires an applicant to notify the relevant Secretary of State of its intention to submit an application for development consent. The Applicants notified the Secretary of State via the Planning Inspectorate of its intention to carry out statutory consultation in advance of submitting a DCO application under section 46 of the PA 2008. This notification was sent in an email on 5th June 2023 (**Volume 5, Appendix B5 (application ref: 5.3)**).

207. In accordance with section 46(1), the notification to the Secretary of State was accompanied by the same information that was provided to section 42 consultees.

6.7 Section 47

208. The Applicants carried out statutory consultation under section 47 of the PA 2008 to ensure that section 47 consultees were engaged from an early stage in the development of DBS and had multiple opportunities to comment. A SoCC was prepared (**Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5)**) which set out how the Applicants proposed to consult the local community under section 47 and subsequently delivered on the proposals.

6.7.1 Preparation of the SoCC

209. The Non-statutory Introductory Consultation that was carried out between 9th September and 14th October 2022 explicitly sought feedback from stakeholders on what to include at the next stage of consultation. More information about the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation is included in section 5 of this report.

210. Feedback on this topic was used in the preparation of **Volume 5, Appendix D1 - Draft SoCC (application ref: 5.5)**. The draft SoCC was prepared which set out how the Applicants proposed to consult people living in the vicinity of the land to which the application relates about the proposed application (in accordance with section 47(1)).

211. At this stage, the Projects took onboard the requirement of Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations and ensured it clearly stated that the Projects comprised EIA developments and described how the Applicants intended to publicise and consult on the PEIR.
212. The Applicants also had regard to the DCLG guidance (DCLG, 2015) on the pre-application process (section 50).
213. In accordance with section 47(2) of the PA 2008, the Applicants consulted East Riding of Yorkshire Council on the contents of the draft SoCC as the local authority in-line with section 43(1) of the PA 2008. However, the applicants extended consultation on the draft SoCC to Hull City Council, a neighbouring local authority due to the potential construction traffic impacts within their administrative area. The draft SoCC was consulted upon from 16th February to 15th March 2023, allowing a period of 28 days for responses (section 47 (3)), and was approved by both authorities with no comments or changes required. Evidence of these responses are contained in **Volume 5, Appendix D2 (application ref: 5.5)**.

6.7.2 Publication of the Statement of Community Consultation

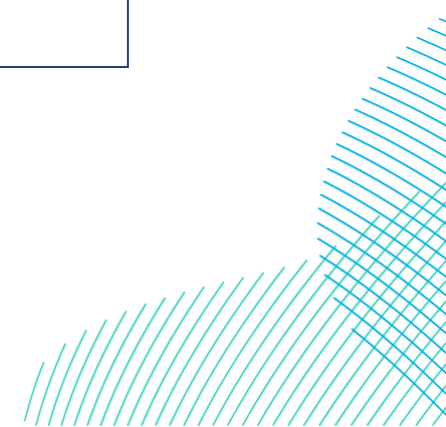
214. As required by section 47(6) of the Act, the final SoCC was published on 5th May 2023 on the Projects' website. The published SoCC can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix D3 (application ref: 5.5)**. Screenshots of the webpage can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix D6 (application ref: 5.5)**. The final SoCC was made available at information points in the areas that were being consulted with. These include the consultation events, community access points and mobile libraries outlined in **Table 6-1**.
215. Notice of the final SoCC was also published in the following newspapers with evidence provided in **Volume 5, Appendix D4 (application ref: 5.5)**:
 - Hull Daily Mail (29th May 2023);
 - Drifffield and Wolds Weekly (30th May 2023);
 - Holderness and Hornsea Gazette (1st June 2023);
 - Beverley Life (June 2023 edition); and
 - Just Beverley (June 2023 edition).
 - Beverley Mag (June 2023 edition).

6.7.3 Delivery against the Statement of Community Consultation

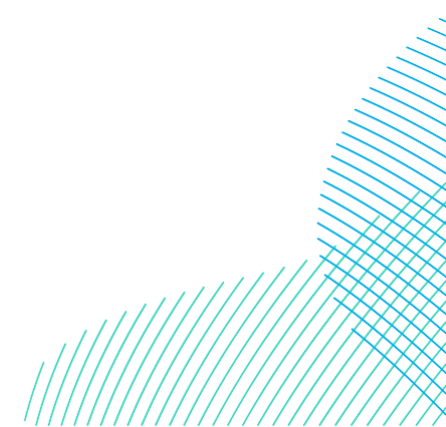
216. **Table 6-4** below sets out the commitments made in the SoCC on consulting section 47 consultees and how the Applicants fulfilled those requirements. Reference may be made to appendices, where the information or evidence is too large to include within the table.

Table 6-4 SoCC Commitments and adherence

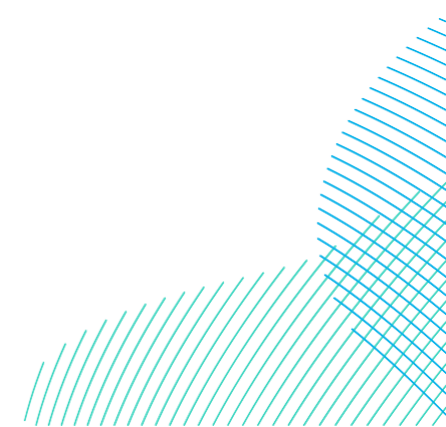
SoCC Commitment	Compliance with Commitment
Who the Applicants are consulting	
<p>The Applicants will write to residential and business addresses within the consultation zone.</p> <p>The consultation zone includes all properties within 3km of the proposed substations zones, within 1.5km of proposed Landfall Zones and within 1km of the proposed onshore cable corridor.</p>	<p>Notice of the consultation was sent to approximately 45,000 within the consultation zone via Royal Mail in advance to ensure they arrived no later than the 6th June.</p> <p>Due to errors in this process, 109 properties did not receive notice of the consultation. These properties were provided relevant details as part of the 'supplementary consultation' from 4th August to 15th September 2023.</p>
<p>The Applicants will consult with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local residents and businesses within the consultation zone; Local elected representatives, including Members of Parliament, county councillors and district councillors and parish and town councils; and Resident, community, tourism and business organisations. 'Seldom heard' and 'hard to reach' groups drawn to our attention Local interest groups, such as residents' associations, and groups with particular specialisms, such as local heritage or wildlife. 	<p>The Applicants carried out extensive research to identify all key organisations and individuals and ensured that the contact details were maintained throughout each stage of consultation and engagement.</p>
<p>The Applicants will consult prescribed bodies and local authorities under section 42(1)(a), (aa) and (b) of The Act. We will also consult Persons with an Interest in Land (PILs) under sections 42(1) (d) and 44.</p>	<p>Details on how section 42 consultees have been identified are provided in Section 6.5.3 of this Consultation Report. Section 42 consultees were sent letters to inform them of the consultation, what is being consulted upon, how and where they can find further information and how they can provide feedback. See Volume 5, Appendix B4 (application ref: 5.3) for details.</p>
What the Applicants have consulted on	
<p>The Applicants will seek feedback on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals for the offshore array; Proposals for the onshore infrastructure (onshore underground cable corridors, substation locations, connection to the national grid); 	<p>The scope for the Statutory Consultation is reiterated in the consultation brochure (see Volume 5, Appendix D10 (application ref: 5.5)), and the consultation questionnaire (see Volume 5, Appendix D7 (application ref: 5.5)) published as part of the suite of documents.</p>



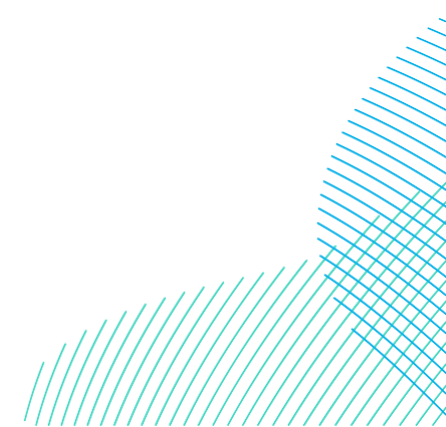
SoCC Commitment	Compliance with Commitment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • potential environmental effects (e.g. landscape and visual amenity, terrestrial/marine ecology, wildlife); • economic effects (e.g. commercial activities such as shipping and fisheries, employment opportunities); • community effects (e.g. public rights of way); • traffic and transport impacts; • construction methodology and temporary construction areas; and • potential environmental mitigation. 	<p>The materials published as part of the consultation included the PEIR, which provided information on the proposed Projects, construction methodologies and a preliminary assessment of the likely impacts of the proposals. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the PEIR was provided to increase the accessibility of this information.</p> <p>A draft Outline Code of Construction Practice (OCoCP) and draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (OCTMP) were shared as part of the consultation to provide further information regarding the mitigation to be implemented by the Projects to manage onshore construction impacts.</p>
<p>How the Applicants have consulted</p>	
<p>The Applicants will distribute the newsletter in advance of the consultation to all residential and business addresses with postcodes in the consultation zone (set out above).</p> <p>Copies of the newsletter will also be mailed directly to MPs, elected members, parish / town councils, and neighbouring local authorities / councils.</p>	<p>The consultation letter sent out to all addresses within the consultation zone Appendix D15 (application ref: 5.5) provided information on how to get involved with the consultation and provide feedback. This included a link to the Projects' website where the newsletter could be accessed and signed up to for future updates.</p> <p>The newsletter itself was not mailed to the addresses in the consultation zone, for the GDPR reason explained below. The newsletter was sent to those parish councils which had signed up to receive project information, but was not sent to the other stakeholders mentioned for the same GDPR reason.</p> <p>After the SoCC had been publicised, the Applicants became concerned that a general mailing of the newsletter could be non-compliant with GDPR (as promotional material) and a decision was taken only to send the newsletter to those who had requested it as per the SoCC commitment to do that.</p>
<p>The Applicants will raise awareness of the consultation to those living outside of this area through the following methods of engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • placing advertisements in local newspapers (including the local edition of the Hull Daily Mail and Beverley Life); • liaising with all parish councils along the onshore cable route to advertise the consultation in parish magazines and on local parish websites and social media pages where possible. We will also provide posters to display locally to raise awareness of the consultation; and • issuing media releases to local TV, radio and press to promote the consultation. 	<p>Advertisements launching the publication of the SOCC and section 48 notices were placed in local newspapers (Volume 5, Appendix E (application ref: 5.6)).</p> <p>A press release was issued to local media channels announcing the launch of the Statutory Consultation on 5th June 2023 (Volume 5, Appendix D17 (application ref: 5.5)).</p> <p>Letters were sent to all host and neighbouring parish councils along the route to notify them of the consultation and how they could provide feedback.</p>



SoCC Commitment	Compliance with Commitment
<p>The consultation will also be promoted via statutory notices published in local and national newspapers (including the London Gazette), giving details about the consultation in accordance with section 47 and 48 of The Act.</p>	<p>Notice of the publication of the SoCC in line with section 47 was undertaken in newspapers outlined in section 6.7.2 above.</p> <p>Further information on the Projects' section 48 notice and how it was published is provided in section 6.8 below.</p>
<p>How the Applicants will consult?</p>	
<p>Public Consultation Events</p> <p>The applicant will hold five public consultation events during the consultation period. These will be located:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · two events close to the potential Landfall Zones; · two events near to the potential substation zones; · one event broadly midpoint along the proposed onshore cable corridor. 	<p>Five consultation events were undertaken for the Statutory Consultation. The location and timing of these events are provided in Table 6-1.</p>
<p>Consultation Webinars</p> <p>The Applicants will hold two webinars during the consultation period, the precise dates and times are to be confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · one webinar during normal office hours; · one webinar during the evening. 	<p>Two webinars were undertaken for the Statutory Consultation in compliance with the SoCC. The date and time for these are outlined in Table 6-1.</p>
<p>Stakeholder briefings</p> <p>The Applicants will offer face to face and / or virtual briefing meetings with the following stakeholders in the run up to or during the consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Members of Parliament; · elected representatives of East Riding of Yorkshire Council; · parish and town councils close to the proposals; · local planning authority officers. <p>The Applicants will meet with other organisations and individuals on request. These may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prescribed bodies and local authorities under section 42(1)(a), (aa) and (b) of The Act; • persons with an Interest in Land (PILs) under sections 42(1) and 44 of The Act; • groups and organisations representing local residents, businesses and communities; <p>other interest groups with a close relationship to the DBS projects.</p>	<p>Briefings were offered to Parish Councils, elected representatives, and members of Parliament (VL to provide details)</p> <p>Virtual briefing meetings were held with officers from East Riding of Yorkshire Council (see Table 3-2).</p>



SoCC Commitment	Compliance with Commitment
<p>Consultation Website</p> <p>There will be a dedicated website that will remain available throughout the consultation period holding all information available at public exhibition events.</p>	<p>The website: https://consultation.doggerbanksouth.co.uk held all information for the duration of the consultation period. The site has remained open for people to utilise to learn more about the project, with information provided on how they can get in touch now the consultation has closed.</p>
<p>Community access points</p> <p>Copies of the consultation booklet, non-technical summary of the PEIR, newsletter and questionnaire will be made available at the following locations from the 6 June 2023.</p>	<p>The Projects provided this information at the Community access points and mobile library facilities listed in Table 6-1.</p>
<p>How responses have been received</p>	
<p>During the consultation period people will be able to submit their feedback on the proposals for the Projects. This can be done in the following ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online via the Projects’ website www.doggerbanksouth.co.uk or the consultation website (linked directly to the Projects’ website) www.consultation.doggerbanksouth.co.uk • By completing a questionnaire at one of the public consultation events • By post via FREEPOST DBSOWF • By email (dbs@rwe.com) • Responses provided orally, such as via telephone, will be accepted in exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis when someone may not otherwise be able to respond to the consultation 	<p>All these methods of response were utilised for receiving consultation feedback. No consultation feedback was received via telephone.</p>



6.8 Section 48

217. This section of the Consultation Report sets out the activities undertaken by the Applicants to comply with its duty to publicise the proposed application under section 48 of the PA 2008. It provides the information relevant to section 48 publicity as required in the Consultation Report under Section 37(7) and the relevant parts of Planning Inspectorate and DCLG guidance.

6.8.1 Legislative context

218. Section 48(1) of the PA 2008 requires applicants to publicise a proposed application at the pre-application stage in the prescribed manner. Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations prescribes the manner in which an applicant must undertake this publicity. Regulation 4(2) sets out what the publicity must entail, including the publishing of a notice, and Regulation 4(3) provides detail of the matters which must be included in that notice.

219. In developing and publishing the notice, regard must be had to the EIA Regulations and relevant guidance about pre-application procedure. Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations stipulates that, where the development is an EIA development, applicants must at the same time as publicising the notice of the proposed application under section 48(1), send a copy of the notice to the consultation bodies and to any person notified to the applicant by the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations.

220. Guidance provided by the Planning Inspectorate and DCLG pertinent to section 48 publicity can be summarised as follows:

- Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 14 (PINS, 2021) on Pre-Application Stages notes that it would be helpful if the published deadlines for receipt of views on the application set out in the section 48 notice are as close as possible to deadlines given in the section 42 consultation; and
- DCLG Guidance on Pre-Application Consultation notes in paragraph 41 that section 48 publicity is an integral part of the local community consultation process and, where possible, the first of the two required local newspaper advertisements should coincide approximately with the beginning of the consultation with communities. However, given the detailed information required for the publicity in secondary legislation, aligning publicity with consultation may not always be possible, especially where a multi-stage consultation is intended.
- On the 30th April 2024 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, on behalf of the Secretary of State, launched The Infrastructure Planning (miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations 2024.

Whilst the projects are not directly impacted by this regulation in regard to the DCO application, the Applicants' sought to understand the changes and to ensure that they were able to comply with the potential range of legislation changes.

6.8.1.1 Regulation 13 non-compliance

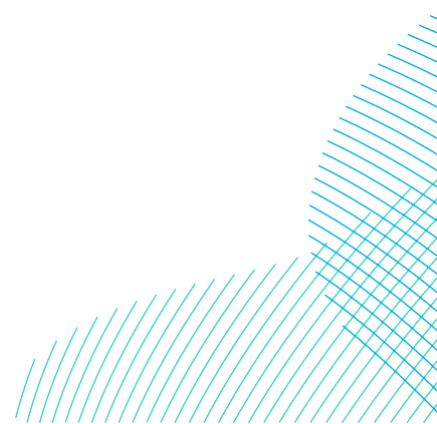
221. The Applicants acknowledge the requirement set out in Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, which stipulates that the applicant must send a copy of the notice to the consultation bodies and any person notified to the applicant in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(c) at the same time as publishing notice of the proposed application under section 48(1). In preparing the Consultation Report it has come to light that a copy of the section 48 Notice was not sent separately to the relevant consultation bodies as required by Regulation 13, instead a link to all relevant documents, including the notice, was provided in the section 42 consultation letters sent to all relevant consultees which are listed in **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref 5.3)**. A copy of the letters can be found in **Volume 4, Appendix B4 (application ref 5.3)**.
222. Therefore, notwithstanding technical non-compliance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations, the essential purpose of the regulation—to ensure consultees are informed and have access to relevant documents—was fulfilled for the following reasons:

6.8.1.1.1 Availability of Notice and Relevant Documents

223. Although the notice was not expressly signposted in the correspondence, it was included within the suite of documents accessible through the provided link. This ensured that all necessary information was available to the consultees.

6.8.1.1.2 Awareness and Engagement

224. All consultees received the letters containing the link, thereby making them aware of the consultation, related events, timescales for the Statutory Consultation, and the PEIR. The majority of the prescribed consultees under section 42(1)(a) outlined in section 6.5.3.1 above responded to the consultation, indicating that they were adequately informed and had access to the necessary documentation.



225. The Applicants have continued to engage with the relevant consultation bodies and prescribed consultees as part of the EPP to share updates about the proposals and the progression of environmental assessments and continue to receive feedback via this engagement. The ETG's include some of the stakeholders who did not provide a response to the Statutory Consultation, evidencing that the Applicants have made efforts to keep them adequately informed. **Table 3-4** of this report provides a list of ETG meetings across the history of the Projects and the highlights the significant amount of engagement that has continued since the Statutory Consultation. The Applicants have continued to engage with parish councils and the wider community including the setting up the Local Liaison Committee. Engagement has also been ongoing with a number of statutory undertakers affected by the Projects.

6.8.1.1.3 *No Prejudice to Parties*

226. The Applicants consider that ultimately no parties have been prejudiced by the manner in which the notice was circulated. The consultees had access to the required documents, were aware of the consultation process, and had the opportunity to participate and respond. Given the advanced stage of the process, re-sending the notice separately at a later date or at present would not yield any change or additional benefit to the outcome of the consultation or proposed application.

227. In summary, the Applicants consider that the consultees were aware of the consultation, had access to all pertinent documents, and were able to participate effectively. Therefore, the technical non-compliance did not result in any disadvantage or prejudice to any party, and there is no practical benefit to re-sending the notice at this stage of the DCO process.

6.8.2 **The Dogger Bank South Section 48 Notice**

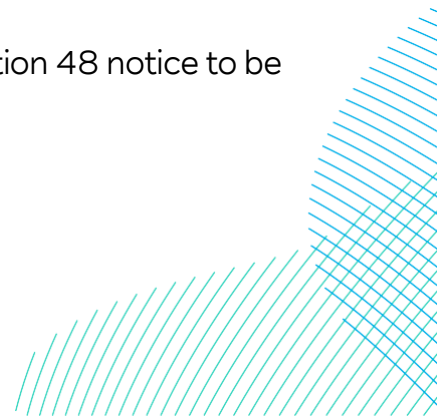
6.8.2.1 *Development of the notice*

228. The section 48 notice was prepared in accordance with the above legislation and guidance documents. A copy of the final notice is provided in **Volume 5, Appendix E1 (application ref: 5.6). Volume 5, Appendix E2 (application ref: 5.6)** evidences the publication of the notices.

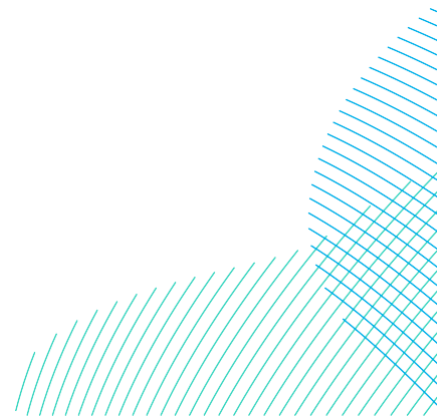
6.8.2.2 *Timing and Publication of the Notice*

229. The Applicants publicised (in accordance with the requirements of section 48) the application to coincide with the statutory section 42 and 47 consultations.

230. Regulation 4(2) of the APFP Regulations requires the section 48 notice to be published as set out below.



231. Applicants must publish a notice, which must include the matters prescribed by paragraph (3) of this Regulation, of the proposed application:
- a) For at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the proposed development would be situated;
 - b) Once in a national newspaper;
 - c) Once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and
 - d) Where the proposed application relates to offshore development –
 - i. Once in the Lloyd’s List; and
 - ii. Once in an appropriate fishing trade journal.
232. The first section 48 notice was published in the Hull Daily Mail on 22nd May 2023. The remaining notices appeared in the press between 25th-31st May 2023, to coincide with the start of the section 42 and 47 consultation period on the 6th June 2023, and copies of the notice were sent to all consultation bodies (listed in **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3)**) by 5th June 2023.
233. The notice was also published on the Projects’ website and appeared in the following newspapers:
- Hull Daily Mail – 22nd and 29th May 2023;
 - Fishing News – 25th May 2023;
 - Daily Telegraph – 2nd June 2023;
 - London Gazette – 26th May 2023; and
 - Lloyd’s List – 31st May 2023.
234. Press releases and invitations to a pre-consultation briefing at Beverley Memorial Hall on Friday 9th June from 1pm-3pm were issued to the following online and printed media titles on Monday 5th June:
- Scarborough News;
 - Hull Daily Mail;
 - Beverley Life;
 - HU17 (online);
 - Grimsby Telegraph Business Live;
 - Yorkshire Times;
 - The Hull Story;



- Hull Is This;
- BW (Business Works) Magazine (Hull);
- Look North BBC; and
- Holderness Gazette.

235. A copy of the press release issued to the local media can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix D17 (application ref: 5.5)**.

6.9 Responses to Section 42 Consultees

236. There were 110 responses received to the Statutory Consultation. 67 were received from members of the public (and not a category of consultee defined by section 42 or included within **Volume 5, Appendix B3 (application ref: 5.3)**).
237. The issues raised in feedback, and how the Applicants have considered them, are set out in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 and G2 (application ref: 5.8)**. These appendices also note where the issues have led to a change in the proposals.
238. In total, 43 section 42 responses were received, including 11 from landowners and PILs. Responses were categorised according to the topic area(s) they covered and are considered by ES topic in the subsequent sections.
239. There were two section 42 responses to the Statutory Consultation that were submitted after the closing date 17th July 2023. These responses have also been included as have the four responses received following the supplementary consultation that took place from 4th August to 15th September 2023.
240. The Local Planning Authority, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, did not provide a s42 Consultation Response. The Applicant held a meeting with East Riding of Yorkshire Council shortly after the s42 consultation period concluded to request a s42 response. During the meeting East Riding of Yorkshire Council confirmed their position that no s42 response would be provided, and that they were satisfied that any comments or concerns could be addressed through the ongoing engagement with topic-specific ETGs. Further details relating to correspondence with East Riding of Yorkshire Council is summarised in **Table 3-2**.
241. Further details can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.

242. In addition, a total of 67 Section 47 responses were received, plus four responses that were duplicate responses from individuals responding more than once. The issues raised have been summarised as part of the consultation questionnaire in section 6.10.1 below and full details including responses to issues raised can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)**.
243. Responses to landowner comments from the Statutory Consultation are detailed in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**. It should be noted that discussions are ongoing with several landowners and PILs, and that the comments received, and the Applicants' response to them, represent a point in time during the first Statutory Consultation in June-July 2023 and the targeted consultation in November-December 2023.
244. A summary of the Section 42 responses by PEIR chapter, key topics and respondents is provided in **Table 6-5** below.

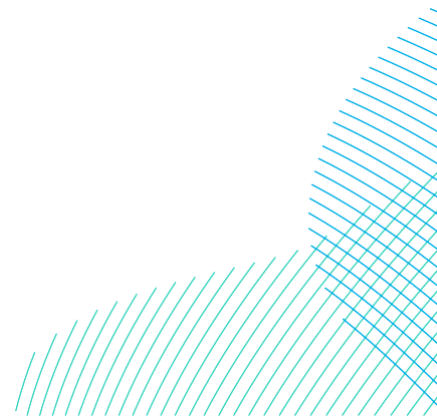
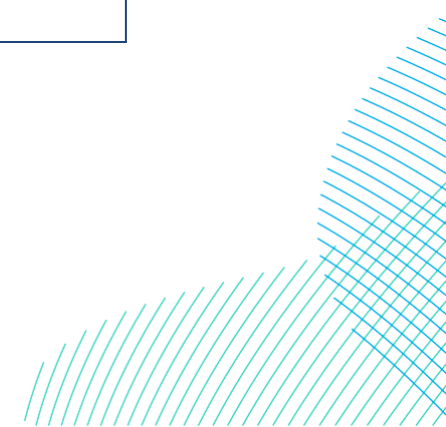


Table 6-5 Summary of S42 responses by PEIR Chapter, Topic and Respondent

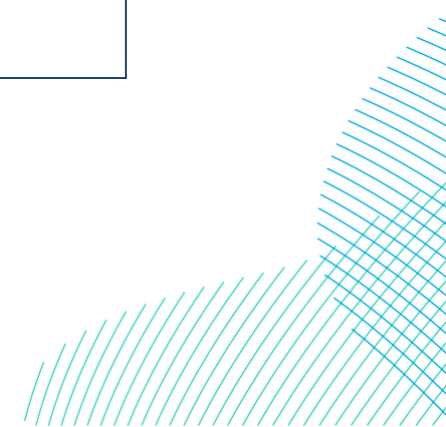
PEIR Chapter		Key Topics	Respondents
1	Introduction	There were no comments relating to the introduction.	N/A
2	Need for the Project	There were no comments relating to the Need for the Project Chapter	N/A
3	Policy and Legislative Context	Clarity on whether the Projects are in accordance with policies relating to the East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans (MMO) Request for ongoing consultation and coordination (Dogger Bank D – SSE Renewables and NGIH)	MMO, Dogger Bank D – SSE Renewables and National Grid Interconnector Holdings (NGIH). Dogger Bank D and NGIH responses were received as a result of the Supplementary Statutory Consultation.
4	Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives	Comments received included Substation Zone preferences, land impacts, Onshore and Offshore Export Cable Corridor locations and minimising impacts on Public Rights of Way (PRoWs) and commercial enterprises.	Beverley and North Holderness IDB, Beverley Ramblers, Beverley Butcher's, Doggerland Foundation, Haven Leisure Ltd, Mewburn (landowner), Orsted, Riplingham Estate, Sinkler / Manor Farm, Los Trustee's, Walter Stuart Kirkwood (Landowner), NGIH, Econergy International Ltd (White Hall Solar Farm), Historic England, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Rowley Parish Council and the Health and Safety Executive.
5	Project Description	Clarity on what works will be applied for under each of the proposed Deemed Marine Licences. Clarification on number of platforms and whether mix of large and small turbines could be installed. Recommendation that the Onshore Development Area of the Projects be reduced to create additional sea room.	Natural England, UK Chamber of Shipping, the MMO, Dogger Bank A-C, Historic England, Mr Moos (Landowner), National Farmers Union, Orsted, Sinkler (Landowner), Trinity House and Riplingham Estate (Landowner).
6	EIA Methodology	Recommendation that the Rochdale envelope principles be followed. Robust justification will need to be provided for any parameters used to determine the magnitude and significance of any impacts. A clear distinction should be made between evidence-based and value-based judgements so that it is possible to assess the level of subjective evaluation that has been used (CIEEM, 2018).	Natural England
7	Consultation	There were no responses received regarding the PEIR Consultation chapter. Details of consultation comments in general can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	N/A
8	Marine Physical Environment	Extensive comments were received from Natural England, the Environment Agency and MMO. Please see Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) for full details. Additional details can also be found in Volume 7, Appendix 8-1 Marine Physical Environment Consultation Responses (application ref: 7.8.8.1) .	Natural England, Environment Agency, MMO

PEIR Chapter		Key Topics	Respondents
9	Benthic Habitats	The MMO recommended that consideration is given to the impact of paint flakes (as microplastic pollution), originating from maintenance and operation of the Projects. Natural England provided an extensive response to the consultation. Full details of their comments are in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	Natural England, MMO, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and Doggerland Foundation.
10	Fish and Shellfish Ecology	Concerns about sandeels raised by both MMO and Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust. Comments were also received regarding data (National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations – NFFO) and what activities might cause either temporary or permanent habitat loss (MMO).	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, NFFO, MMO, Doggerland Foundation and transboundary responses from Sweden and Netherlands Government.
11	Marine Mammals	Comments received included recommendations regarding noise propagation modelling and concerns of significant potential to exceed the area-based noise thresholds.	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Orsted, MMO, Dutch reaction and Natural England
12	Offshore Ornithology	Natural England raised a number of comments regarding Offshore Ornithology, including (but not limited to) concerns about the baseline data surveys, the proposed approach for assessing impacts of construction or decommissioning displacement, and that no details were provided at PEIR regarding vessel or helicopter movements, routes or schedules. Full details of their comments and Applicants responses can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) and Volume 7 Appendix 12-1 Offshore Ornithology, Consultation Responses (application ref: 7.12.12.1) . The Netherlands Government commented about cumulative impacts and concerns regarding considerable habitat loss for various bird species by the development of the Projects. Orsted also mentioned cumulative and in-combination impacts, particularly relating to shipping, navigation, ornithology and marine mammals.	Natural England, Netherlands Government, Orsted.
13	Commercial Fisheries	MMO recommended early engagement with NFFO NFFO welcomed commitment to Fisheries Liaison and Co-Existence Plan and asked for clarity on what is meant by best practice with regard to fisheries liaison. SPF raised concerns about low frequency underwater noise, changed current and electromagnetic fields around cables.	MMO, NFFO and the Sweden Pelagic Federation Producer Organisation (SPF).
14	Shipping and Navigation	Trinity House raised a number of comments including that the Kingfisher Information Service of Seafish must be informed of details of vessel routes and timings relating to construction, and that any navigable channel or corridor between Dogger Bank A and the DBS array area should comply with MGN 654. Full details of all their comments and the Applicants' responses can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	MCA, Trinity House, UK Chamber of Shipping, Orsted, Dogger Bank A, B and C, Royal Yachting Association and Cruising Association.

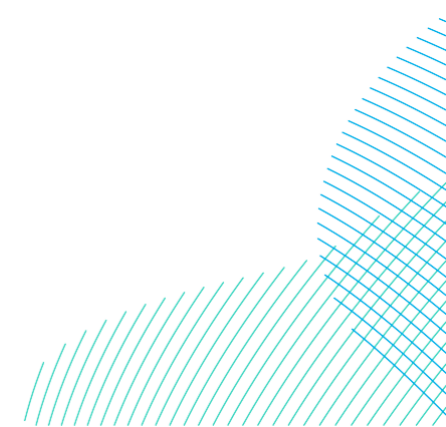
PEIR Chapter		Key Topics	Respondents
		Orsted mentioned that all environmental impacts should be fully assessed including cumulative or in combination effects with Hornsea Four. MCA also provided a number of comments, details of which can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	
15	Aviation and Radar	The CAA stated they require notification of a change to aviation obstacles if it or they are 100m or more above sea level.	Civil Aviation Authority
16	Infrastructure and other users	Comments were received regarding; cumulative impacts and Cumulative Effects assessments, potential spatial overlap between respective wind farm areas, and sharing knowledge regarding EIA and HRA.	Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust, Orsted, Hornsea Four and Dogger Bank D (SSE), Dogger Bank A - C.
17	Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Historic England raised a wide range of comments regarding Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage – details can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	Historic England
18	Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology	Natural England provided a comprehensive list of comments, details of which can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) . Comments included concerns about the completeness of ecological surveys and landowner access, ancient woodland, wood, pasture parkland or ancient and veteran trees, protected species survey methodology queries including bats and badgers and potential loss of functionally linked land associated with the Humber Estuary SPA / Ramsar / SSSI. In addition, the assessment of potential impacts to ecological receptors from construction road vehicle exhaust emissions and the air quality assessment methodology. The Environment Agency also raised concerns about gaps in protected species survey data, fish, invasive species and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) and the requirements for an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW). The NFU also raised BNG concerns, that highly productive agricultural land was not used to create new habitats. YWT also raise concerns about impacts on Nature Conservation Sites, requirements for an ECoW, air quality impacts (Nitrogen deposition) and BNG.	Natural England, the Environment Agency, the National Farmers Union (NFU) and the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT).
19	Geology and Land Quality	Comments regarding pollution/risks and receptors, private water supplies and principal aquifers (ground water and Source Protection Zones) were noted. Support for the Outline Code of Construction Practice was also noted. General Pollution Prevention Measures, contaminated land and waste management was also raised by the Environment Agency and the requirement to apply the waste hierarchy in the Outline Site Waste Management Plan . Natural England noted that only those potential effects identified as major or moderate are regarded as 'significant' in EIA terms as a concern and had concerns about the Landfall 9 option and potential impacts on Withow Gap SSSI. The Health and Safety	The Environment Agency, MMO, Health and Safety Executive and Natural England.



PEIR Chapter		Key Topics	Respondents
		Executive raised queries about the need for a hazardous substances consent. The MMOs concerns related to clarifications about works in the Landfall Zone.	
20	Flood Risk and Hydrology	Lifetime of development considerations, coastal erosion and the implications of coastal change on flood risk were raised by the Environment Agency. They also asked for measures to monitor flood defences which the Projects propose to cross under and provided specific parameters for the installation of cables and the permitting requirements. They also commented on the draft Flood Risk Assessment and the requirement to limit works in the floodplain. The IDB raised concerns about flood risk associated with open cut crossings of ordinary watercourses, crossing methodologies and provided details of permitting requirements and specifications for works near or under its assets. Natural England raised concerns relating to water quality and connectivity to the Humber Estuary SAC / SPA / Ramsar / SSSI.	The Environment Agency, Beverley and North Holderness IDB and Natural England.
21	Land Use	Comments included request for details of PRow diversions and that any temporary PRow closure where a diversion cannot be implemented should be minimised. Another comment highlighted a number of major accident hazard pipelines that the onshore project area crosses. Natural England mentioned that an Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) survey had not been undertaken. The National Farmers Union (NFU) raised a number of issues and comments, including impacts on agricultural business, loss of agricultural land, the depth of cable burial, heat dissipation of the operational cables and queries on the width of the proposed Onshore Export Cable Corridor. Details can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	Beverley Ramblers, East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull JLAF, Health and Safety Executive, Natural England and NFU.
22	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Historic England requested further clarity on the Landfall site selection, decommissioning, electrical solutions, and expressed concerns about terminology used in the impact assessment methodology. A full list comments and responses to these issues can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) . Humber Archaeology Partnership identified that the CITIZAN database had not been used and that access issues for the geophysical surveys should not influence the trial trenching campaign. Full details can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	Historic England, Humber Archaeology Partnership
23	Landscape and Visual Impact	Concerns regarding the screening of buildings and minimising height were noted. Impacts on long-term viability of caravan and camping site due to visual amenity of area and request for soil bund with planting were noted from landowner.	Natural England, Rowley Parish Council and the agent acting on behalf of Butt Farm Caravan and Camping site.
24	Traffic and Transport	Support for the Volume 8, Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (application ref: 8.13) and methodologies identified in the Volume 7, Appendix 24-2 Transport Assessment (application ref: 7.24.24.2) was noted from Hull City Council. National Highways raised a number of technical queries on the assessment methodology. Full details can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	Hull City Council, National Highways & Hornsea Project Four.

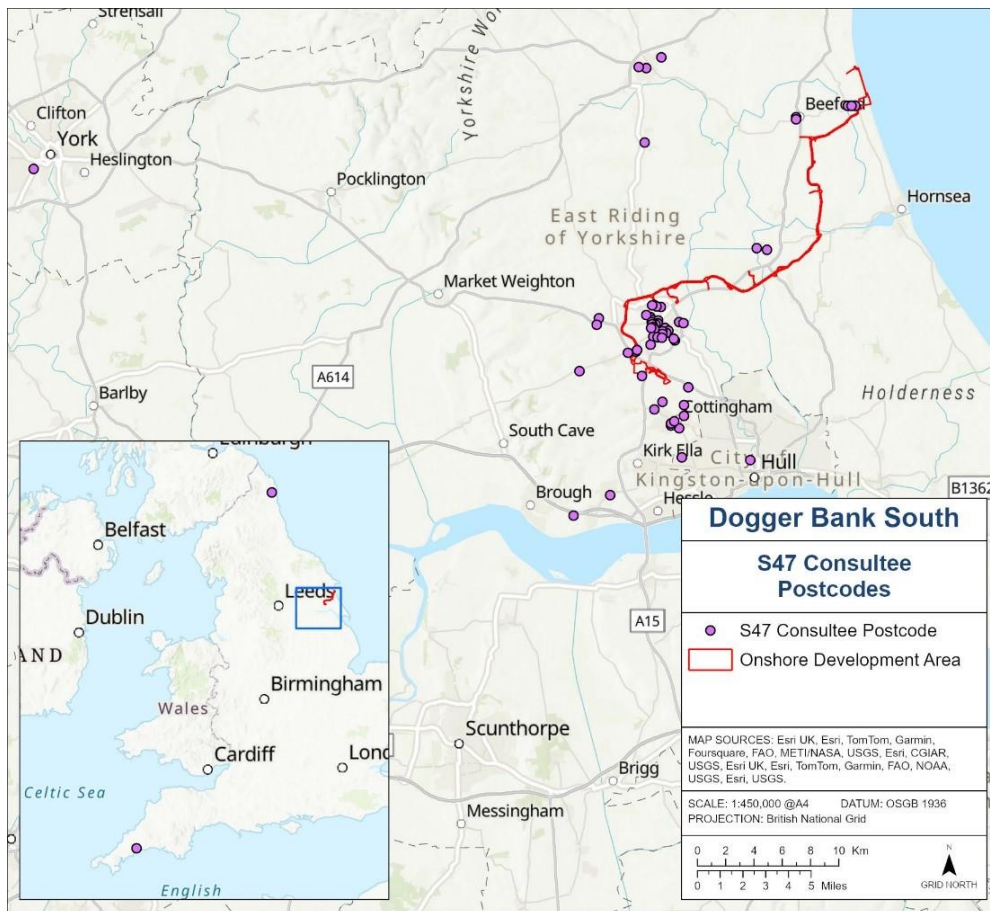


PEIR Chapter		Key Topics	Respondents
25	Noise	Support for assessment methodology for construction traffic noise was received from Hull City Council. Haven Leisure stated the PEIR did not take into account location of Far Grange in relation to Landfall Zone 9.	Hull City Council and Haven Leisure. (Butt Farm) also commented.
26	Air Quality	Comments requesting further information on assessments and cumulative impacts were received. Further analysis was requested in relation to Landfall Zone 9 and Far Grange. Natural England raised an extensive number of comments regarding Air Quality – all the details can be found in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) .	Hull City Council, Haven Leisure, Natural England.
27	Human Health	Haven Leisure raised concerns about the air quality and noise impacts during the construction period. East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull Joint Access Forum raised concerns about PRowS (also raised in response to Land Use chapter). Full details are provided in Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8) and Volume 7, Appendix 27-1 Human Health Consultation Responses (application ref: 7.27.27.1) .	Haven Leisure Ltd & East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull JLAF.
28	Socio-economics	Rowley Parish Council commented that there was no mention of any compensation for residents or any scheme to support cost of living during the construction and operation of the Projects. Both Orsted and Swedish Pelagic Federation raised concerns regarding the Cumulative Effects on fishing and navigation.	Rowley Parish Council, Orsted & SPF.
29	Tourism and Recreation	Comments included a suggestion that the King Charles III England Coast Path be recognised as an additional nationally important receptor, and concerns regarding the assessment of effects on tourism and recreation during construction and impacts on the Minster Way.	East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull JLAF, Beverley Ramblers – Ramblers Association & Haven Leisure.
30	Climate Change	There were no comments received from Section 42 consultees regarding the Climate Change chapter. Details of comments raised by Natural England and Environment Agency during the scoping stage can be found in Volume 7, Appendix 30-1 Climate Change Consultation Responses (application ref: 7.30.30.1) .	N/A



6.10 Section 47 Responses

245. As part of the consultation carried out under section 47, members of the public were invited to complete a consultation questionnaire, which asks for responses to pre-defined questions about their main areas of concern and the project design. A copy of the consultation questionnaire is provided in **Volume 5, Appendix D7 (application ref: 5.5)**. In total, 67 completed questionnaires were received from members of the public. There were an additional four responses from members of the public that were duplicate responses from individuals who had already responded, which have not been counted but comments have been considered fully. Not all respondents provided answers to every single question.
246. Summaries of the responses to the questions asked are provided in the subsequent sections.
247. Geographic data captured by postcode is provided in **Plate 6-1** against the Order Limits and the boundaries presented in the PEI



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Plate 6-1 S47 Consultee Comments by Postcode Against Onshore Development Area Boundary

248. The questionnaire asked people if they represented an organisation, or whether they were a landowner or PILs. Respondents described their interest as shown below.
249. Only four respondents stated they were an organisation and one stated they were a PIL. These responses have been moved to the S42 consultation responses to issues raised in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.

6.10.1 Consultation Questions

250. A series of questions (described below) were asked in conjunction with information provided within the consultation brochure, exhibition materials, website and PEIR documentation to ensure that respondents were able to make an informed response to questions that they felt were of relevance.
251. Outlined below are the questions, the total number of responses to each question from section 47 consultees, and a summary of the issues raised.
252. The consultation questionnaire included 14 questions which have been listed below along with a summary of some of the key comments raised. See **Volume 5, Appendix D7 (application ref: 5.5)** for a copy of the Statutory Consultation questionnaire. A summary of comments received and the Applicants' response to comments can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)**.
253. Responses to feedback from the consultation questionnaire have been themed by subject relating to ES chapter topics. Where respondents have covered multiple themes within their responses, these have been accounted for in **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)**.

6.10.1.1 Need and Rationale

254. **Question 1** - Do you believe that Offshore Wind has a role to play in the UK's energy future?
 - (yes / no);
 - A) why / why not?; and
 - B) please add any further comments you may have.
255. There were 46 unique questionnaire responses to this question. A total of 33 respondents agreed that Offshore Wind has a role to play in the UK's energy future, two were unsure and 10 disagreed.
256. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.2 Offshore

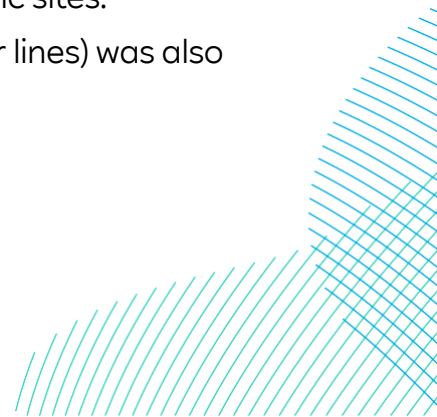
257. **Question 2** – Do you have any comments on the proposals for the offshore elements of the Dogger Bank South projects and how we intend to construct them, including the cable export corridor?
258. There were 34 unique responses to this question. Almost half (16) respondents stated they had no comments in relation to the offshore elements of the Projects.
259. Concerns were raised regarding environmental effects, in particular relating to migratory birds, marine life and the impact of the construction on fish stocks and feeding seabirds.
260. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.3 Landfall

261. **Question 3** – Looking at the Landfall Zone, is there anything you feel would be relevant for the Projects to know about this particular area?
262. There were 39 unique responses to this question, with 11 respondents stating they had no comments in relation to the Landfall Zone.
263. Coastal erosion was the most frequently mentioned issue regarding the Landfall Zone, mentioned by 12 respondents.
264. The choice of landfall area and the presence of Withow Gap SSSI were also commented on.
265. Concerns were also raised regarding coordination with other developers, as well as impacts on Tourism and Recreation.
266. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.4 Onshore

267. **Question 4** – Do you have any comments or suggestions in relation to the onshore cable route?
268. There were 40 unique questionnaire responses to this question. The majority of respondents provided comments (35) with 5 respondents having no comments in relation to the onshore cable route.
269. Concerns were raised about the choice of Onshore Export Cable Corridor, particularly requests to avoid residential areas and specific sites.
270. Support for buried cables (as opposed to overhead power lines) was also noted.



271. Comments regarding environmental sensitivities and avoiding both Beverley Westwood and Burton Bushes were mentioned by several respondents in various sections of the questionnaire.
272. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.
273. **Question 5** – Do you have any comments regarding the substation location scenarios?
274. There were 46 unique responses in relation to the substation location scenarios. The majority of respondents (39) provided comments with 7 respondents stating they had no comment on the substation location scenarios.
275. The most frequent comments were regarding Landscape and Visual Impact. Comments included:
- Why has the location of the Substation Zone, where the two Onshore Converter Stations are located been selected?;
 - Will the Onshore Converter Stations have significant effects on the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area (ILA)?;
 - The buildings are too large and will have significant landscape and visual effects, on neighbouring residential receptors located to the south of Beverley, the historic town of Beverley [on approach via the A1709] and Beverly Minster; and
 - Will there be views to Beverley parks and visual effects on PRoW?
276. Other comments regarding the Substation Zone location included: Why can't the Onshore Converter Stations be located with the Dogger Bank substation on the other side of the A1079? Why is the Substation Zone larger than Dogger Bank A&B? The location and the size of the development will have significant landscape and visual effects.
277. Various comments were raised about the landscape planting at the Substation Zone including:
- What landscaping will be provided to screen the Onshore Converter Stations?;
 - Will off-site tree planting or a contribution to tree planting initiatives locally be undertaken?;
 - Can landscaping be planted before construction to allow more time for the trees to grow, could a separate planning application be made prior to the DCO?; and

- How long will it take for the landscaping to reach maturity?
278. Other comments included concerns regarding the loss of agricultural land (including impacts on food production), and noise impacts from the substations.
279. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.5 Construction, Traffic and Transport

280. **Question 6** – Do you have any comments about how we intend to construct the new wind farms and associated infrastructure?
281. A total of 40 unique responses were received in relation to the construction of the new wind farms and associated infrastructure. There were 13 responses with no comments to note.
282. The comments regarding construction were varied. The main theme arising was in relation to construction traffic management and impacts.
283. Clarification was requested by one respondent regarding the Projects' sustainable waste management plan.
284. Requests that the land be reinstated fully and as soon as possible were also raised.
285. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.
286. **Question 7** – Do you have any specific concerns regarding traffic and transport impacts related to the projects?
287. There were 39 unique responses regarding traffic and transport impacts related to the Projects. The majority (32) provided comments with seven respondents saying they had no comments regarding traffic and transport impacts.
288. Comments received regarding traffic and transport impacts included general concerns about the management of construction traffic (see response to Question 6 above).
289. Specific issues regarding traffic and transport in and around Skipsea were noted.
290. Concerns about potential conflict with the A164 Jocks Lodge improvement scheme and cumulative impacts of the scheme were also raised.
291. See **Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.6 Tourism and Recreation

292. **Question 8** – Do you know of any recreational or tourism activities that the Projects should be made aware of in relation to the construction and operation of the Projects?
293. A total of 39 unique responses were received in relation to any recreational or tourism activities that the projects should be made aware of. The majority of respondents (35) made specific comments, with four stating they had no comment.
294. Concerns were raised about the impacts on tourism and recreation at the landfall, specifically the golf course, caravan parks and cafe.
295. Comments were noted regarding both Landfall Zones 8 and 9.
296. Concerns regarding the impacts on Beverley as a tourist destination were also mentioned. These included the historic market town, Beverley racecourse and Beverley Westwood.
297. See **Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.7 Community

298. **Question 9** – Do you have any suggestions as to how Dogger Bank South Projects could engage with and benefit the local community?
299. A total of 45 unique responses were received to the question regarding suggestions as to how the Projects could engage with and benefit the local community. There were six responses with no comments or suggestions.
300. Suggestions included providing employment opportunities and working with local schools.
301. Other comments included providing support towards a new community centre in Beverley, support for the existing community centre in Skipssea and a number of other local community projects.
302. See **Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

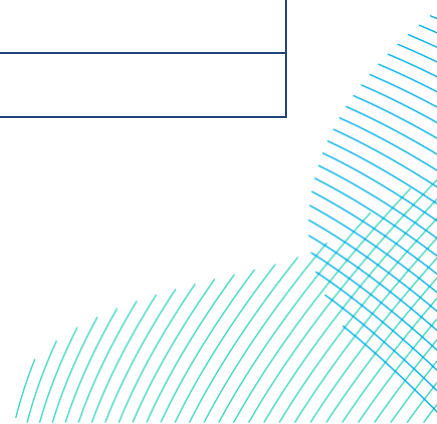
6.10.1.8 Consultation Process

303. **Question 10** – Do you have any comments on the consultation process?
304. A total of 43 responses were received regarding comments on the consultation process with seven respondents saying that they had no specific comments.

305. Several respondents stated that they felt the consultation process was well presented, informative and staff at events were helpful in answering questions.
306. Other comments received included concerns about what will be done with feedback from consultation and insufficient publicity of consultation.
307. See **Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.
308. **Question 11** – Please select methods used:
- Website;
 - Consultation event;
 - Webinar; and
 - Other.
309. The responses to this question related to the consultation methods used by respondents. There were 50 responses to this question, including three responses where no method was recorded.
310. The methods used, including number of responses for each method are as outlined in **Table 6-6**.

Table 6-6 Consultation methods used by respondents

Consultation Method/s	Number of responses
Consultation event	20
Website, Consultation event	9
Website	5
Other	5
Undefined or N/A	3
Website, Webinar, Consultation event, Other	2
Website, Webinar, Consultation event	1
Website, Library	2
Website, Webinar	1
Website, Other	1
Webinar	1



- 311. **Question 12** – Do you have any comments about the consultation materials?
- 312. There were 34 responses in relation to the consultation materials, nine of the responses were ‘no comment’.
- 313. A total of 12 respondents stated that the materials were well presented and informative. One respondent stated that some useful information was lacking but did not state details. Two respondents said that the maps were too small and one mentioned that the map didn’t show flood plain. Another two respondents felt that the information was too technical and one suggested that summary sheets would have been helpful.
- 314. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details.

6.10.1.9 Preliminary Environmental Information Report

- 315. **Question 13** – Do you have any comments regarding the project’s PEIR? Please be as specific as possible and refer to documents / chapters as clearly as possible where relevant.
- 316. There were 30 unique responses to the question regarding comments regarding the PEIR, with seven respondents stating they had no specific comments.
- 317. Comments mentioned welcoming off-site planting / contribution to tree planting initiatives locally.
- 318. Concerns regarding traffic management and comments regarding the PEIR being too technical and unwieldy were noted.
- 319. The value of greenfield land was also raised with suggestion for investment in local land to compensate impacts.
- 320. Other comments included concern that the PEIR relied heavily on desk-based research in relation to PEIR chapters 10 & 11 (Fish and Shellfish and Marine Mammals).
- 321. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants’ regard to issues raised.

6.10.1.10 Other comments

- 322. **Question 14** -Do you have any other comments about the Dogger Bank South Projects proposals?
- 323. There were 37 unique responses regarding any other comments about the Projects’ proposals, with 11 stating they had no further comments.
- 324. Additional comments received about the DBS proposals included concerns about the Cumulative Effects, particularly with National Grid.



- 325. There were seven respondents that showed general support for renewable energy in answering this question.
- 326. Concern about polluting main rivers and the impact on fish was also raised.
- 327. See **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)** for full details of comments and the Applicants' regard to issues raised.

6.10.2 Most frequent issues raised by S47 consultees

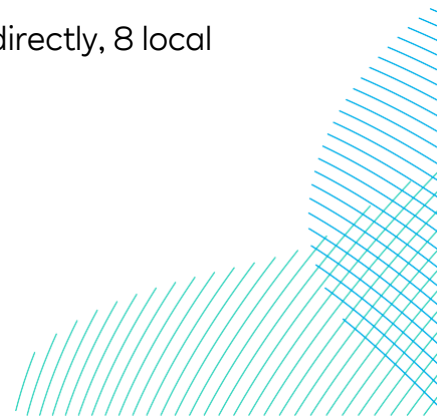
- 328. The most frequently raised comments / issues from S47 consultees are outlined in the **Table 6-7** below. There was support for renewable energy / projects that reduce reliance from fossil fuels (46 comments) and positive feedback for the consultation events (22 comments). These have not been listed as a key issue in order to ensure that the main topics of concern are highlighted.
- 329. For full details of all responses, please see **Volume 5, Appendix G2 (application ref: 5.8)**.

Table 6-7 Top 5 issues from S47 consultee feedback

Issue from feedback	Number of times raised
Concerns around the management of construction traffic – general	29
Concerns about routing through Beverley Westwood	20
Queries about the Projects' Involvement with the local community, especially in schools helping improve understanding of climate change and the importance of renewable energy.	19
General commentary on Substation Zone selection	18
Comments about choice of cable route	17

6.10.3 Feedback received at Consultation Events

- 330. Below is a summary of the anecdotal feedback received at the consultation events held during the statutory consultation period. The feedback has been summarised by the location of the events.
- 331. Whilst no elected officials responded to the consultation directly, 8 local councillors attended the events.

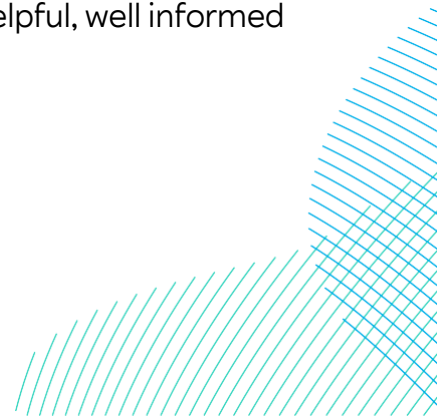


332. The feedback from the two events held in Beverley included:

- Beverley West Wood and Burton Bushes – concerns were raised due to a recent campaign by a local resident incorrectly stating that the Onshore Cable Route would be going through these areas. Attendees were reassured that this was not the case and staff evidenced this using the maps showing the actual proposed Onshore Export Cable route.
- Substation Zones – the majority of attendees at the Beverley events wanted to discuss the proposed Substation Zones and the impacts on their properties, construction routes and landscape and visual impacts. Staff were on hand to talk through concerns and using visuals and maps were able to answer questions and ensure attendees were well informed.
- Website – a small number of attendees said that the website was too complicated and difficult to navigate, however they were satisfied that they had all information they needed after attending event and speaking to members of the team.
- Letter / invitation – one resident stated that they did not receive the letter when neighbours did. This resulted in the Applicants identifying that a small number of properties within the Consultation Zone had not received the initial letter, resulting in the supplementary consultation being carried out in Aug-Sept 2023.
- One attendee mentioned that the interactive map on the consultation was difficult to find and that it needed to have a scale added to make it easier to understand. This point was addressed immediately and the website was updated within 24 hours of the event. In addition, the Applicants also added an aerial view on the map to provide more functionality and a better user experience of the map.

333. The feedback from the two events held in Skipsea included:

- One resident raised that they had not had feedback from the Land team regarding their property. This was immediately dealt with by the Land representatives from the project addressing the residents' concerns at the event.
- Several attendees thanked the team for taking the time to hold consultation events stating that the staff were very helpful, well informed and willing to listen to and address issues raised.



- Other comments were regarding concerns around the Landfall Zones, impacts on tourism and construction traffic.

334. Leven – Due to the low number of attendees at this event, no feedback was received.

6.11 Key Changes Influenced by Statutory Consultation

335. Feedback from the Statutory Consultation along with the data collected from surveys, engineering studies and discussions with statutory bodies and other stakeholders, resulted in a number of changes to the Projects. Key changes between the Statutory Consultation and DCO submission included:

- Refinement of, and design changes within, the Array Areas;
- Refinement of, and design changes within, the Offshore Export Cable Corridor;
- Reducing the number of Substation Zones from two to one;
- Selecting the final Landfall Zone; and
- Refining the Onshore Export Cable Corridors to account of the reduction in Substation Zones and landfalls and as a result of feedback and further studies.

336. Further information on these changes is included in the following sections of this Consultation Report and in **Volume 7, Chapter 4 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives (application ref: 7.4)** and in the November 2023 newsletter in **Volume 5, Appendix D14 (application ref: 5.5)**.

337. In addition to the design changes outlined below, feedback from the Statutory Consultation had a direct impact on the methodology and approach to environmental assessment. Recommendations and comments were carefully considered and the Applicants identified and implemented changes directly as a result of feedback.

6.11.1 Refinement and design changes within Array Areas

338. Between PEIR and DCO submission the offshore Array Areas were refined to take into account the potential for interference on Ministry of Defence Staxton Wold air defence radar, seabed conditions and water depths and other environmental information including bird and commercial fisheries survey data. Due to the presence of these potential constraints, the Array Areas were refined as shown in **Volume 7, Figure 4-2 (application ref: 7.4.1)**.

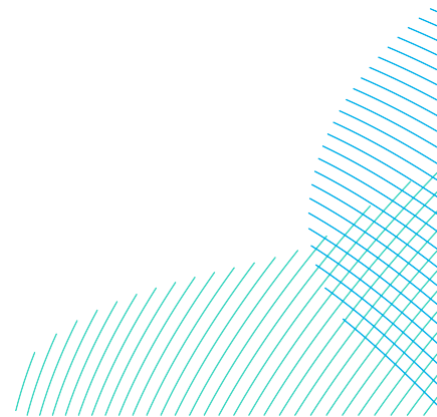
339. Design changes included a reduction in the maximum monopile diameter and maximum hammer energy, removing the potential to install offshore platforms in the Array Areas using gravity base and suction bucket foundation types and reducing the amount of cable protection allowed on the offshore export cables from 20% to 10% of their length. These changes helped to mitigate impacts on marine mammals and benthic habitats and were made in part due to consultation feedback received as part of the Statutory Consultation.

6.11.2 Refinement of and design changes within the Offshore Export Cable Corridor

340. For DBS West, the Offshore Export Cable Corridor was refined to select the shortest of the remaining cable route options which cable burial was assessed as likely across a large percentage of the route. For DBS East the preferred corridor was selected as it was the shortest cable route of the remaining options, with cable burial likely across a large percentage of the route and the length of cabling required within the Dogger Bank SAC is reduced. This aligned with stakeholder feedback received in suggesting that cable burial was generally preferable to the use of cable protection for the Offshore Export Cable Corridor. See section 4.11.6 of **Volume 7, Chapter 4 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives (application ref: 7.4)**.
341. The removal of High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) technology allowed the removal of the Reactive Compensation Platform (RCP) in the Offshore Export Cable Corridor as an RCP is not required for High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) technology, whilst also allowing the total number of cables required for installation offshore to be reduced by two. The Applicants have also now committed to not piling in the Offshore Export Cable Corridor during the herring spawning season in line with consultation feedback.

6.11.3 Substation Location and Technology Choice

342. During the Statutory Consultation, the Applicants presented four different Onshore Converter Station options across two different Substation Zones. The options were based on two different ways to transmit electrical power through cabling: HVAC and HVDC.
343. Following feedback from stakeholders regarding the width of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor (which is wider with HVAC) and further engineering assessment, the decision was made to remove HVAC from the design as this necessitates a wider Onshore Export Cable Corridor.



344. A further consequence of removing HVAC from the design the overall area required for each of the project substations (technically called converter stations for HVDC technology). In PEIR one of the Project substations could have been HVAC and up to 135,000m² in area, the other had already been confirmed as HVDC. By committing to both Projects having HVDC converter stations the maximum area for each converter station would be 64,000m² or 129,000m² combined footprint for both Projects.
345. The removal of HVAC transmission technology also contributed to the decision to locate both HVDC converter stations in Substation Zone 4, which aligned with consultee feedback highlighting preferences that the substations be co-located (although noting that some consultees preferred Substation Zone 1 over Substation Zone 4).

6.11.4 Selecting the final Landfall Zone

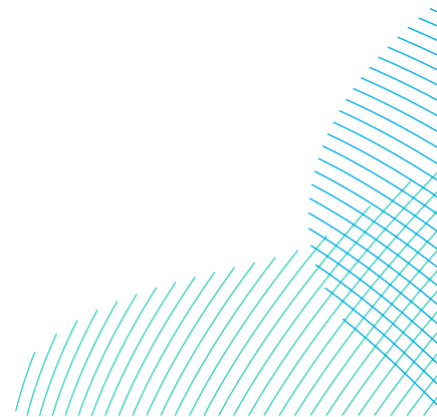
346. There was a slight preference for landfall option 9 over landfall option 8 in the section 47 feedback. However, further comments in the section 42 feedback did state a preference for the avoidance of the Holderness Inshore Marine Conservation Area.
347. Following the Statutory Consultation, the applicants chose to progress with Landfall Zone 8 which delivers the following advantages:
- Provides beach emergency access without accessing Seaside Caravan Park at Ulrome;
 - Avoids the need for permanent infrastructure within the Holderness Inshore Marine Conservation Area;
 - Simplifies the earthworks required for the trenchless crossing technique e.g. HDD compound; and
 - Avoids potential impact of Withow Gap Site of Special Scientific Interest.

6.11.5 Onshore Export Cable Corridor

348. Taking into consideration consultation feedback, environmental surveys and ongoing engineering work, the Onshore Export Cable Corridor from the Landfall Zone to the Onshore Converter Stations was refined. The Onshore Export Cable Corridor width reduced from 100m presented in the PEIR to 75m (reflecting the decision to move forwards with HVDC for energy export), widening to 90m at HDD locations. The change in route was found to have the following advantages:
- Works with existing proposals for a new wind turbine at Dunnington;



- Reduces the potential to sterilise safeguarded mineral reserves at Long Riston;
 - Mitigates potential impacts on a proposed solar farm at Riston Grange;
 - Provides alternative access at Routh to avoid a poultry farm;
 - The use of trenchless crossing techniques to avoid priority habitat;
 - Avoids the application for a proposed recycling centre at Molescroft (noting that the planning application has since been refused);
 - Avoids the designated landscape at Westwood Common; and
 - Avoids significant heritage assets identified around Nunkeeling Priory.
349. The width of the 400 kilovolt (kV) Onward Cable Connection Corridor from the Onshore Converter Stations to propose National Grid substation at Birkhill Wood has been refined to 100m. A section of this Onward Cable Connection corridor splits with one route north of a high pressure gas (Ineos) pipeline and one route south of the pipeline. The width of each split section is 53m, which also accommodates a temporary Haul Road.
350. A number of additional construction phase commitments were made at this stage, which addressed concerns about the construction phase impacts for the Onshore Export Cables for the two Projects, either concurrently or sequentially. These include:
- Commitment to have one shared Haul Road between both DBS East and DBS West Projects, rather than a Haul Road for each Project;
 - Commitment to shared Temporary Construction Compounds and accesses, between the two Projects; and
 - A commitment that the first Project will install onshore ducting for the second Project should a 'sequential' build occur.
351. Further information is provided in **Volume 7, Chapter 4 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives (application ref: 7.4)**. The key areas of change for onshore are shown on **Plate 6-2** to **Plate 6-5** below.



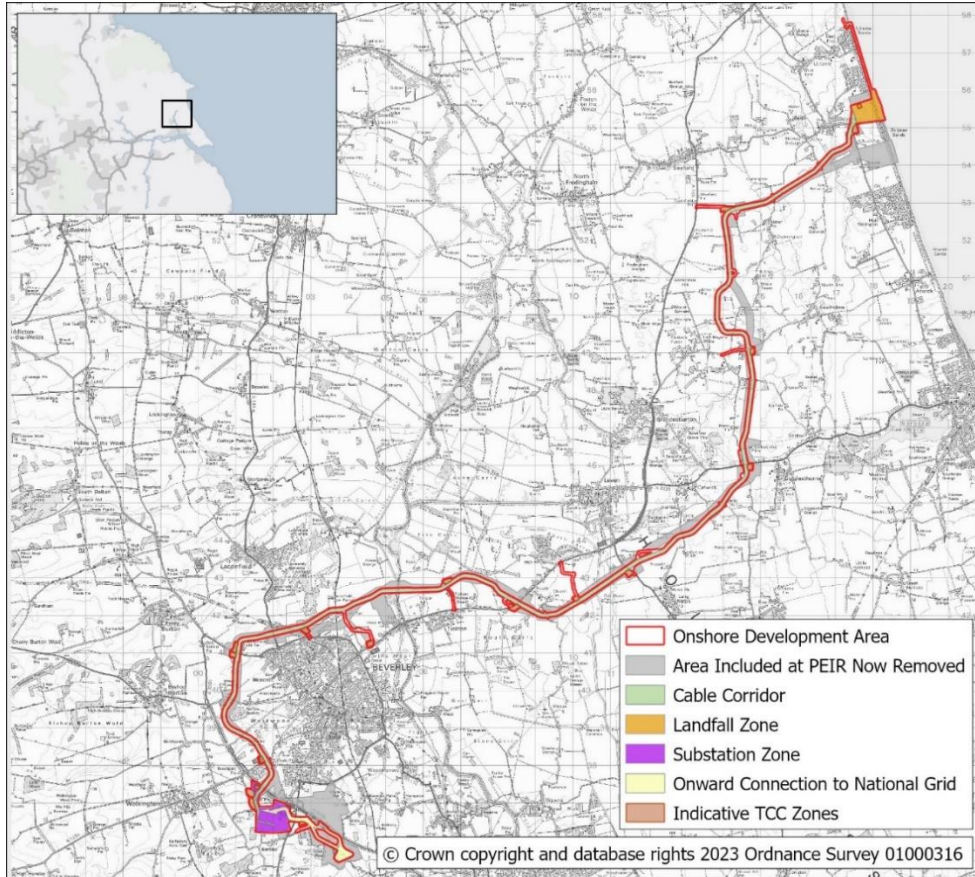


Plate 6-2 Onshore Development Area changes since PEIR

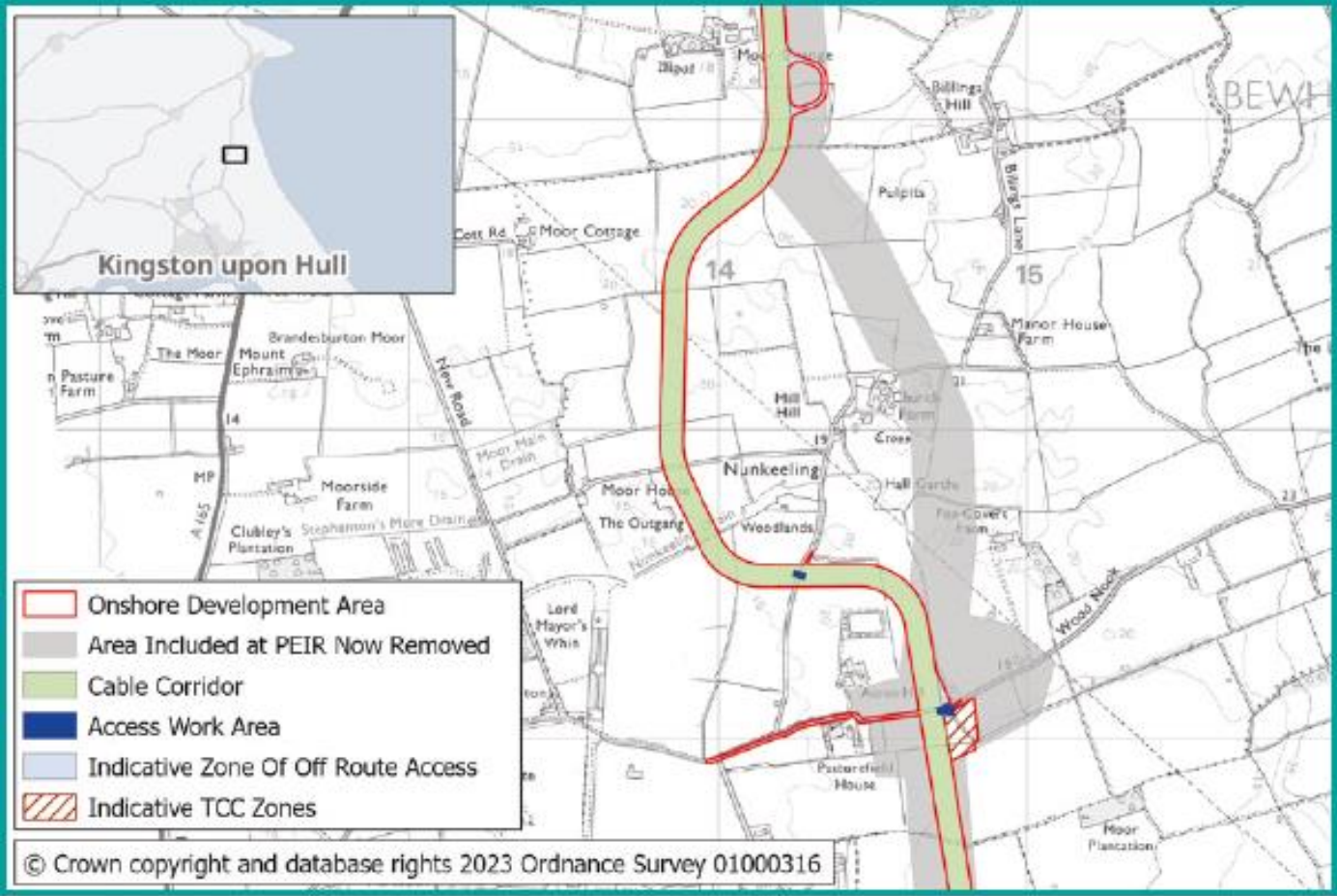


Plate 6-3 Onshore Export Cable Corridor changes at Nunkeeling

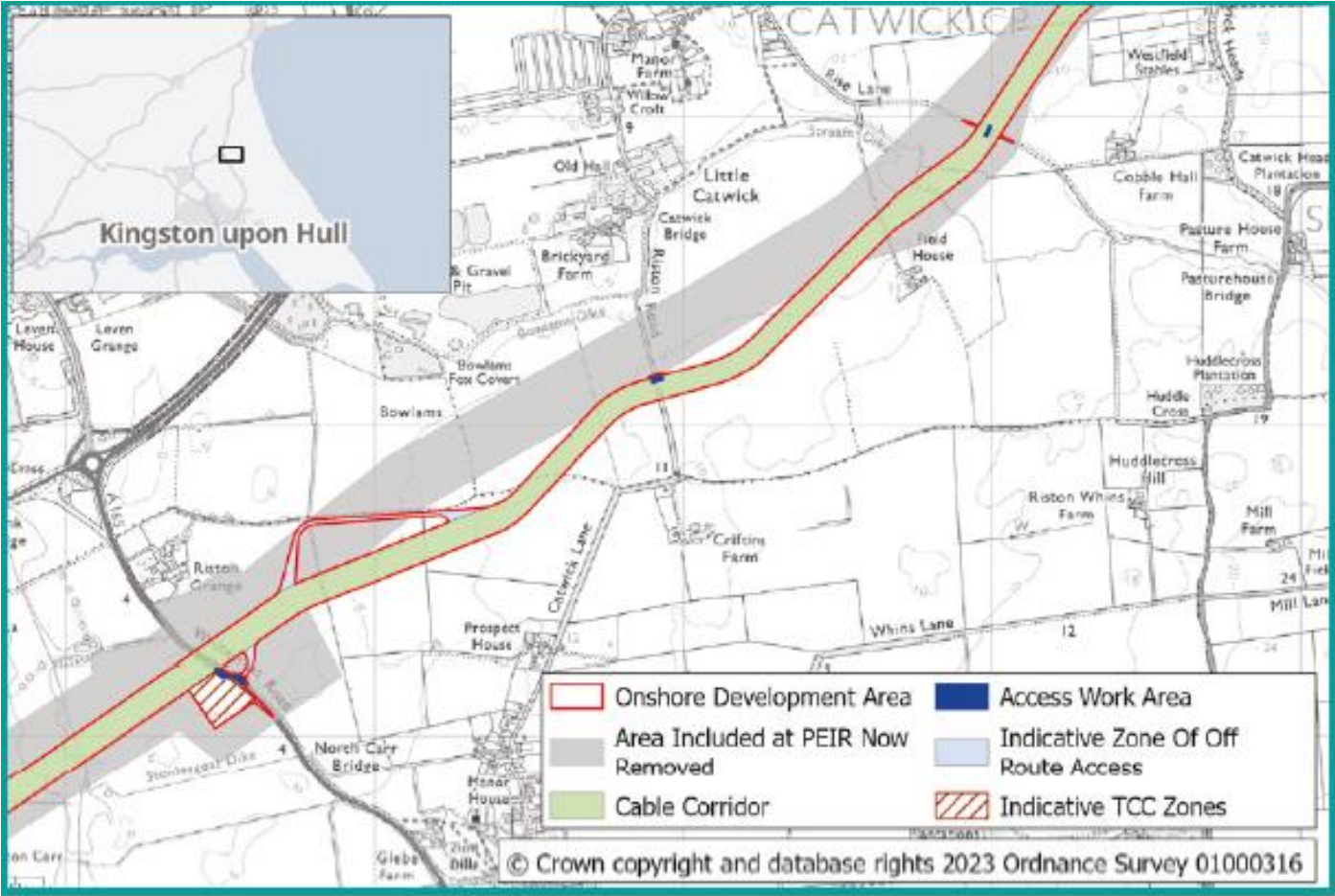


Plate 6-4 Onshore Export Cable Corridor changes at Long Riston

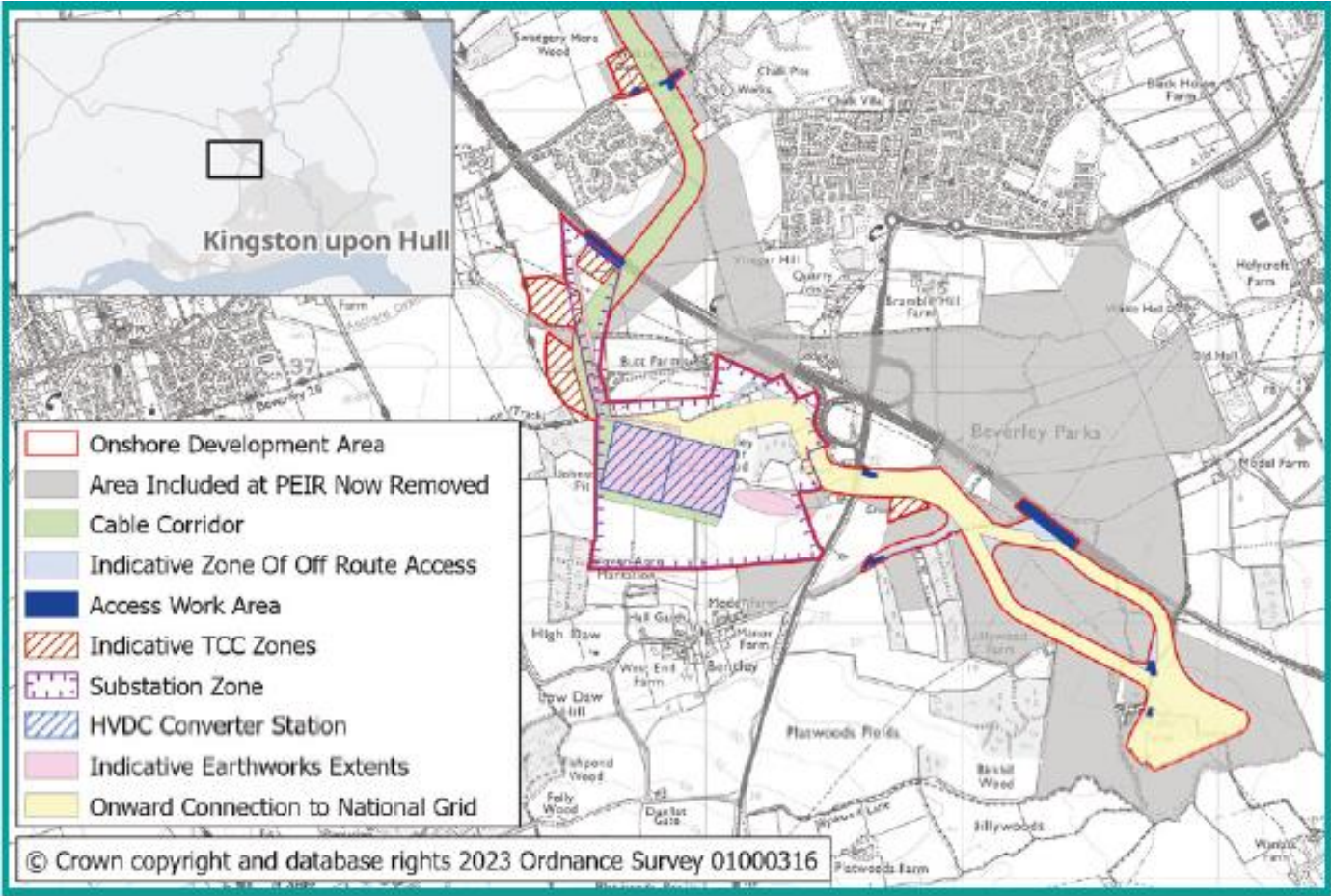


Plate 6-5 Changes to onshore cable route to the proposed Birkhill Wood National Grid Substation

7 Targeted Consultation

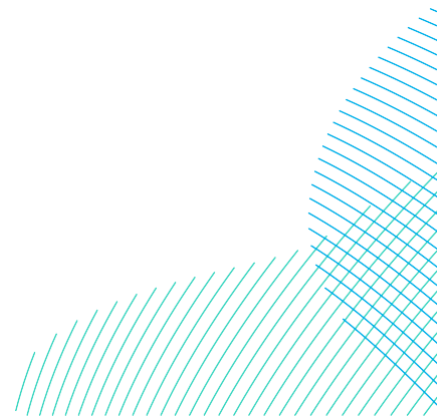
7.1 Overview

352. Following the statutory consultation, the Applicants developed proposals further, taking into account responses to the consultation alongside technical work and environmental studies. Following some minor changes in the Onshore Export Cable Corridor alignment, some new section 42(1)(d) PILs as set out in section 44 of the PA 2008 were identified.
353. The Applicants undertook a targeted consultation with landowners and PILs affected by changes to Onshore Development Area (Red Line Boundary) between the Statutory Consultation on the PEIR and application. East Riding of Yorkshire Council were notified of the targeted consultation with affected landowners and PILs.
354. The key changes to the Onshore Development Area affecting landowners were as a result of taking consultation feedback into consideration, environmental surveys and ongoing engineering work resulting in refinements to the Onshore Export Cable Corridor from the landfall to the Onshore Converter Stations.
355. Although the changes were considered non-material and did not result in changes to the outcomes of assessments presented in the PEIR, the Applicants sent a letter to directly affected landowners / PILs, notifying them of the changes and the start of the statutory targeted section 42 consultation. This letter was dated 10th November 2023 notifying the reader of consultation starting on the 13th December at 9:00 AM and gave a deadline of 10th December 2023 to provide responses to the consultation.

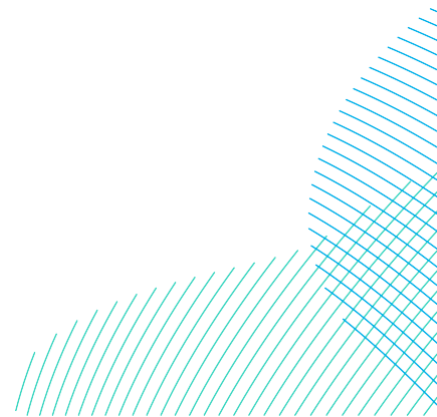
7.2 Responses

356. There were six consultation responses received from landowners and PILs from the targeted consultation.
357. Responses were received from:
358. **Los Trustees** – a representation on behalf of Los Trustees was submitted by their agent, Michael Glover LLP on the 8th December 2023. The response reiterated key points raised during the Statutory Consultation and details of the points raised along with the Applicants' regard can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.
359. **Riplingham Estates Ltd** – Michael Glover LLP, on behalf of Riplingham Estates responded to reiterate their earlier objection to any impacts on their land, as stated during the Statutory Consultation (response dated 17th July 2023) – see **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.

360. It was acknowledged that the Applicants and Dalcour Maclaren had developed a less damaging proposal for the cable route which now only affects the north-west portion of land, whereas previously it passed through the centre of the block.
361. The agent, Michael Glover maintained that Riplingham Estates would still rather not have the cable run on its land, and that it was still unclear how the scheme might be modified in the future.
362. **East Yorkshire Concrete** – A formal response on behalf of East Yorkshire Concrete was received from their representatives, Alnwick Farming and Property Consultants. Concerns raised included the Cumulative Effect on their business as a result of the existing Dogger Bank A and B, and Hornsea Project Four projects. It was stated that East Yorkshire Concrete do not wish to be impacted by another Project and would prefer the route be revised to avoid their land completely.
363. If ultimately their land is impacted by the Projects, East Yorkshire Concrete would prefer for the Project to consider the following:
- The proposed accesses to the Work Area to be removed as they are not considered necessary if the hedges are to be removed (as shown on the interactive map on the Project website).
 - Two accesses should not be needed in any event.
 - The landowners do not wish to have a Temporary Construction Compound on their land and notwithstanding this the Temporary Construction Compound is considered to be too large.
 - The cables to be installed using HDD under Dunnington Lane rather than full the width of their hedges being removed, diminishing the bio-diversity value of their farm. An access point can be created in the revised cable route rather than impacting more of their retained land by using the two access points shown.
 - No detail has been provided on the proposed road widening of Dunnington Lane. Please provide specific detail on what is proposed.
 - The Clients wish for the cable route to be moved eastwards where it impacts their land at Moor Grange to avoid the field being severed into two.



364. **Mewburn** – A formal response was received from Alnwick Farming and Property Consultants. Concern regarding the impact of the cable route on the property and potential impact on ground source heating and amenity was mentioned.
365. It was also stated that the revised cable route would still sterilise land and that the proximity of construction work would not be welcomed due to issues with noise, dust and vibration.
366. **Molescroft** – a representation from the landowner’s agent, Brockthorpe was received which provided an updated position from the response received during the Statutory Consultation. The landowner and agent were pleased to note that the route is now only going north of Carr Farm, as opposed to north and south as originally shown.
367. A request was made that the pipeline be pushed further north along the boundary fields which have been marked for development. It was also commented that by pushing the pipeline further north it would minimise the amount of residential development land lost to the north of Grange Way and to the north and south of Malton Road. It would be recommended that the pipeline be adjacent to the Orsted / Hornsea Project Four pipeline rather than sterilising prime development land closer to Molescroft.
368. **Riston Farms/Kirkwood** - the landowner commented that a small movement to the west for the cable route would make a big difference to the cost in renewing the outfall across both of their fields, as well as maintaining some level of drainage during construction.
369. Details of the responses and the Applicants’ regard can be found in **Volume 5, Appendix G1 (application ref: 5.8)**.



8 Conclusions and next steps

8.1 Summary

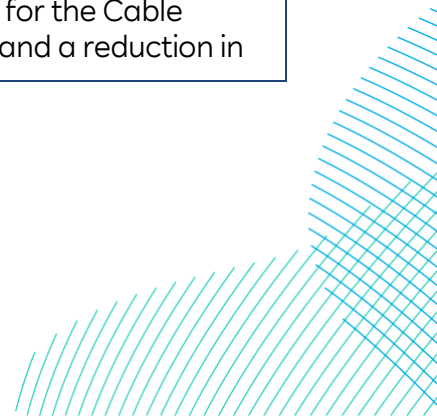
370. The Applicants carried out an extensive multi-stage consultation process in accordance with all relevant legislation, regulation and guidance.
371. The initial technical engagement via the EPP ETG process helped shape the Projects' development and the scope of the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation. This enabled the Projects to engage with a wide range of stakeholders and consult with the community on the proposals presented at the non-statutory stage.
372. This was followed by the Statutory Consultation, which presented the Projects' preliminary environmental information and asked for feedback on all aspects of the information which was detailed in the PEIR. There were 5 consultation events held locally and two webinars for people who could not make it to an event.
373. A Supplementary Statutory Consultation was carried out from 4th August 2023 until 15th September 2023, when it was identified that a small number of properties within the consultation zone had been omitted from the Statutory Consultation, and a number of 3rd party developers and transboundary stakeholders were not consulted as part of the Statutory Consultation. These were consulted on the same information as outlined in the Statutory Consultation.
374. The statutory and Supplementary Statutory Consultations are considered as one phase as the consultation subject matter was exactly the same.
375. Finally, a targeted consultation was undertaken with section 42(1)(d) consultees as a result of design changes which came into effect partly as a result of consultation feedback on the Projects to ensure they had opportunity to comment on proposals before the submission of the application.
376. In total, 185 separate consultation responses were received over the three phases of consultation.
377. This feedback has, in combination with other technical considerations, led to multiple changes, contributing to the ongoing design evolution of the Projects and the measures to be utilised during implementation. Feedback from prescribed consultees under section 42(1)(a) and (aa) on the PEIR have also had a strong influence in the development and methodologies utilised for environmental assessments which are submitted as part of the DCO application.

378. The Applicants have sought to accurately reflect the various stages of consultation carried out and fairly summarise the issues raised from feedback received during those stages in this Consultation Report and its supporting appendices (**Volume 5, Appendix G1 and G2 (application ref: 5.8)**). Compliance with the Planning Act 2008, EIA Regulations, APFP Regulations, and supporting guidance is set out in section 2 of this report. These checklists demonstrate that all relevant requirements and guidance have been adhered to (except for the point discussed in section 6.8.1.1) when undertaking consultation on the Projects.
379. In addition to the three phases of consultation discussed in sections 5, 6 and 7 of this report, the Projects have also undertaken significant engagement with both the local community and statutory stakeholders as outlined in section 3. This, in addition to the consultation above, has had a significant impact on the design evolution of the Projects throughout the DCO pre-application stage, as well as playing a significant role in the structure and shape of environmental assessments to understand the impact of the Projects.
380. **Table 8-1** below outlines key feedback from both consultation and engagement from both the local community and consultation bodies and how this has led to changes in the Projects over the pre-application stage.

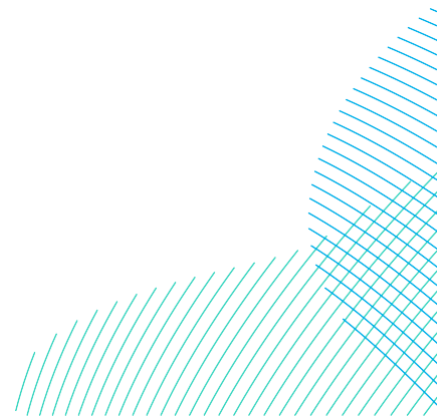
Table 8-1 Summary of the major changes as a result of consultation and engagement

Summary of Issue	Resulting Change
Pre-scoping Engagement	
Comments received through the ETG process prior to EIA Scoping regarding concern for impacts on the Smithic Bank Annex I sandbank from Offshore Cable Routes 1 and 2.	Offshore Cable routes 1 and 2 were dropped from the Projects' optioneering and the cable route was refined to those used in the Non-statutory Introductory Consultation.
Concerns raised through the ETG process for potential impacts on Flamborough Head reef from Landfall option 1 and Offshore Cable Route 1.	Offshore Cable routes 1 and 2 were dropped from the project prior to EIA scoping as a result of this engagement exercise.
Concerns raised with potential cable corridor options from landfalls 8/9 crossing Figham Common due to likely ground conditions.	Options which involved the crossing of Figham Common were dropped and the Cable route was refined to those utilised in the PEIR.

Summary of Issue	Resulting Change
Non-statutory Introductory Consultation	
Concerns of potential impacts on communities for all of the Onshore Export Cable routes that cables should be routed as far from properties as possible.	Onshore Export Cable route 1 was removed from consideration as it required routeing beneath residential properties and had comparatively poor ground conditions.
	Onshore Export Cable route 5 was also removed from consideration as studies indicated it had high potential to impact buried archaeology and presented significant engineering challenges.
	Onshore Export Cable route 3 was taken forward to the statutory consultation but comments around potential impacts on Beverley Westwood and Butt Farm World War 2 anti-aircraft scheduled monument were noted and considered in further design refinement.
Concerns of potential impacts on communities for all of the Substation Options.	Substation Zone 5 was removed from further consideration due to potential impacts on buried archaeology potential for landscape and visual impacts due to its location on a relatively prominent area of high ground.
Concern was raised regarding additional congestion of roads and construction noise.	Further work was undertaken with regards to construction traffic routes and construction noise to ensure suitable information could be provided as part of the Statutory Consultation.
Concerns about impacts of onshore works on archaeology.	Onshore Export Cable route 5 was removed from consideration as studies indicated it had high potential to impact buried archaeology and presented significant engineering challenges.
The Statutory Consultation	
Comments were received outlining concern about the impacts on farmland due to the width of the Onshore Export Cable Corridor and size of Onshore Converter Stations.	A decision for the project to utilise HVDC transmission technology rather than HVAC was made following the consultation which enabled a reduction in the working area for the Cable Corridor from 100m to 75m and a reduction in



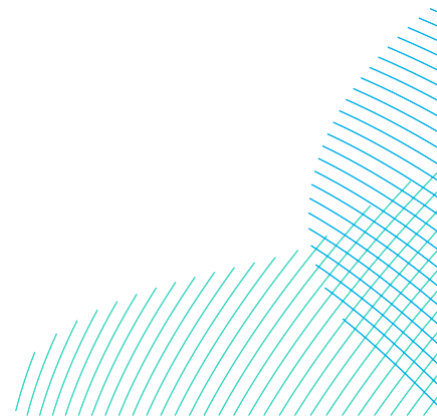
Summary of Issue	Resulting Change
	permanent land-take of agricultural land at the Onshore Converter Stations.
Concerns about sterilisation of safeguarded mineral reserves and impacts of the cable route on potential archaeology.	Revised proposals for the cable route sought to reduce the amount the cable corridor routed through the mineral safeguarded zone. It was not possible to completely avoid this area due to potential archaeological constraints identified by geophysical survey.
Comments from landowners regarding potential impacts during construction on the operation of their business as works cross their land.	<p>The Onshore Export Cable Corridor has been revised for the DCO submission to provide revised haul route arrangements to avoid a poultry farm.</p> <p>It was decided that in a Sequential Scenario, the first project would install the ducting and any necessary infrastructure (e.g. drainage) first to reduce the disturbance of the works to agricultural functions.</p>
Comments from landowners regarding potential sterilisation of their land for future business opportunities as a result of Substation Zone 1.	A decision was made to utilise zone 4 for the Onshore Converter Stations, which removes the potential for this impact.
Comments were received that stated preference for substation for the DBS West and DBS East Projects specifically to be co-located.	This preference was a contributing factor for the utilisation of substation zone 4 for both Onshore Converter Stations and dropping Substation zone 1 from the project prior to the DCO application.
Comments were received regarding potential impacts of the landfalls and potential impacts on the Holderness Inshore MCZ.	Landfall 8 was selected for the project because it scored better in multiple engineering feasibility considerations and did not include permanent burial within the Holderness Inshore MCZ amongst other advantages over Landfall 9.



Summary of Issue	Resulting Change
Concerns regarding cable protection and preference for cable burial.	A multitude of factors, including cost, potential reduction in fishing disturbance, and stakeholder preference for cable burial over cable protection led to the removal of Offshore Export Cable Corridor options A and A1 from the Projects after the PEIR stage.

8.2 Ongoing engagement

- 381. The Applicants are committed to ensuring that stakeholders and the local community are able to engage with the Projects from concept to completion.
- 382. The ETGs will continue to be held to further shape the development of the Projects, providing essential input and specialist knowledge which will be invaluable as the Projects move into construction and operation phases.
- 383. The key focus of the ETGs will be the development of and progression of the statements of common ground.
- 384. During the DCO examination period (date TBC) there will be opportunities for stakeholders and the public to meet with the project team and experts in the planning process to raise any questions or issues.
- 385. In addition, the Applicants welcome feedback from all interested parties at any point during the Projects' lifecycle. The project team can be contacted by email: dbs@rwe.com or in writing: Dogger Bank South Projects, Windmill Hill Business Park, Whitehill Way, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN5 6PB.



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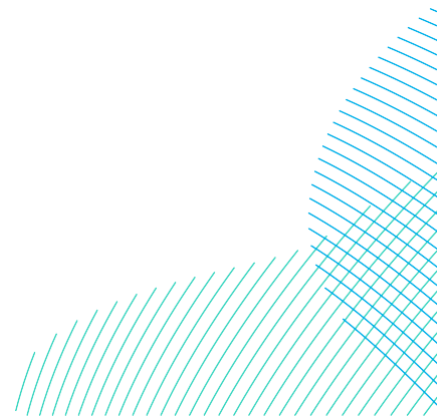
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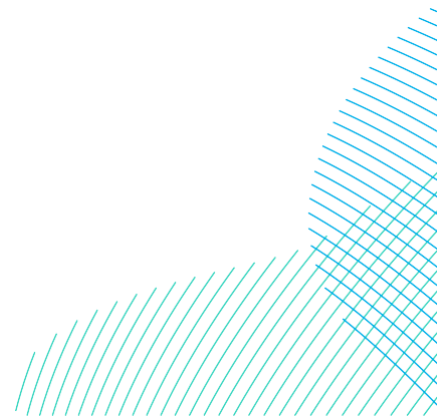
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