

Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind

**(Draft) Statement of Common Ground with
Lincolnshire County Council (LCC)**

Date: October 2024

Document No. 18.10

Rev: V1

Company:	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind			Asset:	Whole Asset	
Project:	Whole Wind Farm			Sub Project/Package:		
Document Title or Description:	Statement of Common Ground with Lincolnshire County Council					
Document Number:	PP1-ODOW-DEV-CS-STA-0028			3 rd Party Doc No (If applicable):	n/a	
Rev No.	Date	Status / Reason for Issue	Author	Checked by	Reviewed by	Approved by
0.1	04 Oct 24	Draft for LCC review	ODOW	S&W	ODOW	ODOW
0.2	15 Oct 24	Updated draft for LCC review	ODOW	S&W	ODOW	ODOW
1.0	23 Oct 24	Deadline 1	ODOW	S&W	ODOW	ODOW

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Abbreviations / Acronyms

Abbreviation / Acronym	Description
ECC	Export Cable Corridor
ES	Environmental Statement
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment
GW	gigawatt
IDB	Internal Drainage Board
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
NGET	National Grid Energy Transmission
ODOW	Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind
OnSS	Onshore substation
PAMP	Public Access Management Plan
PROW	Public Rights of Way
SOCG	Statement of Common Ground

Terminology

Term	Definition
The Applicant	The Applicant is GTR4 Limited (a joint venture between Corio Generation and, TotalEnergies and Gulf Energy Development), trading as Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind.
Environmental Statement	The suite of documents that detail the processes and results of the EIA
The Project	Refers to the Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind Project

1 Introduction

1.1 Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (ODOW)

1. Outer Dowsing Offshore Wind (“The Project”) is a proposed offshore windfarm, with an Array Area located approximately 33miles (54km) off the coast of Lincolnshire. The Project has a total installed capacity of 1.5GW which is roughly equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of over 1.6 million UK households.
2. The Project includes the offshore and onshore infrastructure required to transmit the power generated by the wind turbines to an onshore substation (OnSS) at Surfleet Marsh and subsequently into the National Grid Transmission System at Weston Marsh, the grid connection point specified by National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO), in its grid connection offer for the Project.

1.2 The purpose of this Statement of Common Ground (SOCG)

3. This Statement of Common Ground (SOCG) has been prepared between GTR4 Limited (the Applicant) and Lincolnshire County Council (LCC). It identifies topics that are relevant to LCC’s statutory role and its assets and states whether relevant matters are agreed, not agreed or still under discussion. This SOCG has been prepared with due regard to the Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (2024).
4. The need for a SOCG between the Applicant and LCC was set out by the Examining Authority (ExA) on 4 September 2024 (PD-009).
5. The onshore elements of the Project are wholly located within the county of Lincolnshire. LCC’s role in relation to the DCO process derives from the Planning Act 2008 (the ‘Act’) and secondary legislation made under the Act. LCC as a County Council is classified as a consultee under section 42 of the Act, meaning applicants must consult with LCC before submitting a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) application. LCC have been a key consultee during the pre-application stage of the Project and due to the statutory functions held, will play a role in the discharge of DCO Requirements (and other required consents and licences) for the Project.
6. LCC has a range of statutory responsibilities to provide services and discharge regulatory functions, which together affect a great many aspects of the built, natural and social environment. LCC is the highway authority for the area affected by the onshore infrastructure and manages highway works under a Permit Scheme, having established the Lincolnshire Permit Scheme. It also has responsibilities for Public Rights of Way (PROW) and is the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA). LCC also has a number of other functions including Waste Planning Authority, Minerals Planning Authority, County Planning Authority, Fire Authority (including public safety), and Public Health.

1.3 Topics addressed in this SOCG

7. Table 1 sets out the topics addressed in this SOCG which relate to LCCs statutory function. The topics referred to are referenced against the relevant chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES), or other DCO application plans or documents.

Table 1 Topics included in this SOCG

Topic	Application Documents and references
Project wide aspects	<p>ES Project Description (APP-058)</p> <p>Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives (APP-059)</p>
Highways	<p>ES Project Description: Crossing Schedule (AS1-062)</p> <p>Onshore Crossing Plans (PD1-021)</p> <p>Accesses to works plan (PD1-012)</p> <p>Outline Code of Construction Practice (PD1-038))</p> <p>Draft DCO (PD1-024)</p> <p>Chapter 27 Traffic & Transport (AS1-052)</p> <p>Transport Assessment (AS1-086)</p> <p>Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (APP-289)</p> <p>Outline Travel Plan (APP-290)</p> <p>Streets Plan (PD1-014)</p> <p>Traffic Regulation Order Plan (PD1-023)</p>
Public Rights of Way	<p>Public Rights of Way Plan (PD1-013)</p> <p>Draft DCO (PD1-024)</p> <p>Outline Public Access Management Plan (PD1-062)</p> <p>Transport Assessment: Public Rights of Way (APP-224)</p>
Surface Water, Flooding and Drainage	<p>OnSS Flood Risk Assessment (AS1-070, AS1-072, AS1-074, AS1-076, AS1-078, AS1-080, AS1-082, AS1-084)</p> <p>ECC and 400kV cable Flood Risk Assessment (PD1-036)</p> <p>Outline Operational Drainage Management Plan (APP-286)</p> <p>Outline Surface Water Drainage Strategy (Construction) (APP-273)</p>
Onshore Archaeology	<p>Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (AS1-048)</p> <p>Onshore Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for Archaeological Works (APP-283PD1-052)</p> <p>Chapter 20 Appendix 2 Heritage Statement (APP-188)</p> <p>Chapter 20 Appendix 20.1 Parts 1-8 Desk Based Assessment (APP 180, APP-181, APP-182, APP-183, APP-184, APP-185, APP-186 and APP-187).</p>

Topic	Application Documents and references
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	Chapter 28 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (APP-083) Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Strategy (OLEMS) (PD1-054))
Land Use (including Minerals and Waste)	Chapter 25 Land Use (AS1-050) Outline Site Waste Management Plan (APP-274)
Cumulative Effects	Onshore Cumulative Effects Assessment Approach (APP-148)
Biodiversity Net Gain	Biodiversity Net Gain Report Principles and Approach (APP-302) Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report Figure 3 Habitat Retention and Loss Status (AS-011) Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report (AS-014)
Socio-economics	Chapter 29 Socio-economic Characteristics (APP-084)
Ecology	Onshore Ecology Desk Based Assessment (APP-189) Chapter 21 Onshore Ecology (APP-076 OLEMS (PD1-054)
Draft DCO	Draft Development Consent Order (PD1-024))

1.4 Identification of items agreed / not agreed / in discussion

8. The following sections of this SOCG identify the level of agreement between the Applicant and LCC for each of the relevant topics listed in Table 1. The following topic tables detail the position of the Applicant, alongside those of LCC and whether the matter is agreed, not agreed or in discussion using a colour coding system. The system used throughout this SOCG is summarised in Table 2 below.

Table 2 Colour coding system – Position status key

Classification	Meaning
Agreed	Agreement has been reached between the parties
In discussion	This matter has not been 'agreed' or 'not agreed' but discussions are continuing, or information is to be provided with the intention of reaching agreement.
Not agreed (No material impact)	This matter has not been agreed, but discussions have been concluded and it is considered that it does not have a material impact upon the conclusions of the assessment.
Not Agreed	This matter has not been agreed, but discussions have been concluded. It is considered that it does have a material impact upon the conclusions of the assessment.

1.5 Consultation and Engagement undertaken to date

9. The Applicant engaged with LCC early on in the pre-application process, through the quarterly Expert Topic Group (ETG) meetings undertaken throughout the pre-application process and through regular bilateral meetings which are ongoing. This section highlights key meetings and engagement held directly with the LCC out with the EPP. In addition, there have been a number of further meetings with LCC officers and LCC appointed consultants and the Applicant to address specific topics of interest, namely Traffic & Transport, Onshore Archaeology and LVIA.

Table 3 Engagement with LCC

Date	Headline Topics
July 2022	Project Introduction
August 2022	Project Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Introduction • Consultation overview • Onshore ECC and substation site selection process • Community benefit process
January 2023	Planning Committee Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeology and Heritage • Community Benefit Fund
February 2023	Monthly meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lincs Green • Cumulative impact assessment • Planning Committee Meeting presentation • Energy Infrastructure Framework Position
March 2023	Monthly meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members on Planning Committee briefing on Project
April 2023	Monthly meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLG Presentation Slides • Programme update • PINS early adopter programme • Council resources
May 2023	Monthly meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use/Agricultural land • Community Benefit Fund
June 2023	Monthly meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land use/Agricultural land • Section 42 PEIR consultation • LCC land interest at landfall and update on progress of discussions • Lincolnshire Energy Position Paper
July 2023	Monthly meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach survey works • Early Adopters Programme

Date	Headline Topics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Benefit Fund • Draft DCO documents
August 2023	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 42 responses • Phase 2 consultation • Grid connection
September 2023	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Grid engagement • Autumn Consultation PID dates • Upcoming community events • Community benefit fund
October 2023	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLG presentation • Archaeology • LVIA • Traffic and Transport
November 2023	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Autumn Consultation PIDs • Autumn Consultation LCC response • Traffic • Archaeology • Cumulative projects in Lincolnshire • Programme Updates
December 2023	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Archaeology • LCC Energy Position • Community Benefit Fund • Targeted Consultation • Autumn Consultation
January 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLG meetings • Draft DCO provisions • Section 42 Highway responses • Examination venues
January 2024	<p>Substation Local Design Panel Meeting 1 (LDP1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Panel Introduction & design progression discussion
February 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CLG meetings • Substation Design Review Process • Section 42 Highways response • Post submission Councillor briefing
April 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p>

Date	Headline Topics
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acceptance of DCO Application by PINS • Inter-relationship report & cumulative impacts • Discussion of Cllr Site Visit in September • Discussion of LCC Committee presentation Sept/ Oct • Request for hard copy of specific examination sites
May 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SoCGs proposed to be progressed following publication of the LIR
June 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming Surfleet Marsh CLG & Design Panel meeting • Surveys • Archaeology Trial Trenching Campaign
July 2024	<p>Substation Local Design Panel Meeting 2 (LDP2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Panel presented with progressed visual options for the OnSS • External Design Review Panel in attendance to discuss their review conclusions
July 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Meeting • Relevant representations • SoCGs
August 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle Areas of Disagreements (PADS) • Cumulative Impacts & inter relationship report • Minerals
September 2024	<p>Monthly meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Local Impact Report • Committee meeting ODOW Registration • PADS & SoCGs

2 Statement of Common Ground

2.1 Project wide aspects

10. The following aspects relate to the overall Project, including compliance with relevant policy, the development of the site selection process and how the Applicant has engaged with LCC throughout the application process to date.

Table 4 Project wide aspects

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
National and Local Policy			
LCC1	As set out in the NPS EN-1 and EN-3 there is a Critical National Priority (CNP) for the provision of nationally significant low carbon infrastructure, and the Project is classified as CNP infrastructure. The Project therefore accords with national renewable energy targets and objectives.		
LCC2	As outlined in the Policy Compliance Document (AS-012), the application has identified all relevant local policy and appropriate consideration has been given to them in the assessment of the Project.		
Site Selection			
LCC3	As described in Chapter 3 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives (APP-059) the methodology adopted in respect of the site selection is considered robust and appropriate.		
LCC4	The Applicant's consultation with LCC in respect of the iterative site selection process is considered robust and appropriate.		
Good Design			
LCC5	The Applicant has submitted a Design Principles Statement (APP-293) and Design Approach Document		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	(APP-292) which set out the overarching principles and objectives in respect of good design that the Project will be delivered in accordance with. These overarching principles and objectives are acceptable.		
Climate Change			
LCC6	As set out in section 7 of the LCC's Local Impact Report, to be submitted into examination, the LCC is supportive of the principle of offshore wind development in helping to tackle the challenges faced by climate change and the targets set by the UK Government.		
LCC7	As set out in section 7 of the LCC's Local Impact Report, the LCC recognises the national importance of having a balanced supply of electrical generation including increasing renewable energy supplies from offshore turbines in helping decarbonise the UK's energy sector, which the Project will contribute towards.		

2.2 Highways, Traffic and Transport

11. The Applicant has considered the potential impacts of the Project on onshore traffic and transport in respect of the highway infrastructure within the LCC area as set out in Chapter 27 Onshore Traffic and Transport (AS1-052).
12. Traffic and transport were included within the Traffic & Transport, Air Quality, Noise, Health and Socioeconomics Expert Topic Group (ETG) as part of the Evidence Plan Process (EPP). Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 5 Highways, Traffic and Transport

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC8	The ES adequately characterises the baseline environment in terms of Traffic and Transport as set out in Chapter 27 Traffic		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	and Transport (APP-082) and Transport Assessment (APP-119).		
Identification of the LCC Highway Infrastructure			
LCC9	The Crossing Schedule (AS1-062) and Onshore Crossing Plan (PD1-021) included in the Application accurately identify the LCC highway assets within the Order Limits.		
Basis of Assessment			
LCC10	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's Traffic and Transport impacts as set out in Chapter 27 Traffic and Transport (APP-082) and Transport Assessment (APP-119).		
LCC11	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's cumulative Traffic and Transport impacts in combination with other projects as set out in Chapter 27 Traffic and Transport (APP-082) and Transport Assessment (APP-119).		
Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)			
LCC12	The outline CTMP (APP-289) is appropriate for the management of construction traffic for the Project and is suitable as the basis for the final CTMP. A final CTMP will be produced and submitted to LCC for approval prior to commencement of a stage of the onshore transmission works and will be in accordance with the principles established in the Outline CTMP, as set out in Requirement 21 (Traffic) of the draft DCO (PD1-024).		
LCC13	The outline CTMP sets out access routes (APP-289 Figure 3). The access routes ensure the avoidance of access through all Conservation Areas within the search area except for Wrangle, whose northern boundary includes the A52.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC14	The use of the A52 as referenced above for construction traffic would not be deemed to affect the character and appearance of the Conservation Area.		
LCC15	The Applicant has committed to installing cables at all adopted roads by trenchless technology, as shown in the Project Description Plan (Indicative Onshore Infrastructure (Detailed) Basis of Assessment Figs 3.4.1-3.4.57 (APP-089).		
Outline Travel Plan (TP)			
LCC16	The outline TP (APP-290) is suitable to be developed into a final TP. A final TP will be produced and submitted to LCC for approval prior to commencement of a stage of the onshore transmission works and will be in accordance with the principles established in the Outline Travel Plan, as set out in Requirement 21 (Traffic) of the draft DCO (PD1-024).		
Traffic Regulation Orders			
LCC17	The draft DCO (PD1-024) and the Traffic Regulation Order Plan (PD1-023) are appropriate for the TROs required to manage traffic in the parts of the highway affected by construction activity and traffic.		
The Lincolnshire Permit Scheme			
LCC18	The Applicant has engaged with LCC regarding management of street works and it is agreed that the Applicant will use the existing LCC system for the permitting of works.		
Highways Act Section 278 (Minor Works Permit)			
LCC19	The Applicant has engaged with LCC regarding minor works within the highway that are outside of the order limits, and it is agreed that where such works are agreed to be necessary, these will require 'Minor Works Permits' by LCC under s278 of the Highways Act.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC20	Proposals for Passing Places have been agreed in terms of indicative numbers and locations. Technical details of the passing places will be approved as section 278 minor works.		
COCP			
LCC21	The Outline Code of Construction Practice (PD1-038), and its suite of associated documents, contain the general principles and management measures to be adopted during construction of the onshore infrastructure associated with the Project. As secured under Requirement 18 (Code of construction practice) of the draft DCO (PD1-024), a final CoCP will be produced and submitted to the relevant planning authority for approval before construction of the onshore infrastructure and will be in accordance with the principles established in this Outline CoCP.		
LCC22	As stated in Section 8.1.8 of APP-058, once commissioning is complete, demobilisation and reinstatement can occur. Reinstatement will be undertaken in line with the COCP which must accord with the Outline Code of Construction Practice (APP-268) as set out in Requirement 18 (Code of construction practice) of the draft DCO. Additional information on reinstatement measures can be found in Section 5.10 of the Outline Soil Management Plan (APP-271).		

2.3 Public Rights of Way

13. The Applicant has considered the potential impacts of the Project on Public Rights of Way (PRoW) as set out in Annex 1 to Chapter 27 Appendix 1 Transport Assessment: Public Rights of Way (APP-224).
14. PROW were discussed as part of the Traffic & Transport, Air Quality, Noise, Health and Socioeconomics Expert Topic Group (ETG) as part of the Evidence Plan Process (EPP). Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 6 PROW

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC23	The Applicant has engaged with LCC regarding the PROW network and has accurately presented this in the PROW plan, noting this was updated at the Procedural Deadline to incorporate recently approved PRoWs (AS1-013).		
Basis of Assessment			
LCC24	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's impacts upon PROW users in Annex 1 to Chapter 27 Appendix 1 Transport Assessment: Public Rights of Way (APP-224).		
Outline Public Access Management Plan (PAMP) (PD1-062)			
LCC25	The Applicant has consulted LCC regarding the management of PROW during the construction phase of the Project and that the management measures set out in the outline PAMP (APP-291) are appropriate for the protection of the users. A final PAMP will be produced and submitted to LCC for approval prior to commencement of a stage of the onshore transmission works or onshore preparation works that would affect a public right of way specified in Schedule 3 (public rights of way to be temporarily stopped up) of the draft DCO, and will be in accordance with the principles established in the outline PAMP, as set out in Requirement 22 (Public rights of way) of the draft DCO (PD1-024).		
LCC26	As set out in Schedule 3 of the DCO and on the Public Rights of Way PRoW) plan (PD1-013) a number of diversions to PRoW have been proposed to facilitate safe passage of pedestrians across or around the		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	construction works. These proposed diversions are suitable and acceptable to maintain public safety.		

2.4 Surface Water, Flood Risk and Drainage

15. The following aspects relate to LCC's role as LLFA. The Applicant has assessed the potential impacts of the Project on onshore hydrology, hydrogeology and flood risk during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases. The Applicant has submitted Flood Risk Assessments for the OnSS (AS1-070 – AS1-084) and the Onshore ECC and 400kV (PD1-036) which assesses the potential for the onshore infrastructure to be impacted by flooding.

16. Flood risk and drainage was discussed as part of the Onshore Ecology, Hydrology and Ground Conditions ETG (which later included Land Use). Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 7 Surface Water, Flood Risk and Drainage requirements

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC27	ES Chapter 24 Hydrology Hydrogeology and Flood Risk (APP-079) adequately characterises the baseline environment in terms of onshore hydrology, hydrogeology and flood risk during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases.		
Basis of Assessment			
LCC28	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment (APP-079) of the Project's impacts on onshore hydrology, hydrogeology and impacts to flood risk during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases.		
Outline Operational Drainage Management Plan (APP-286)			

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC29	The Applicant has engaged with the relevant Internal Drainage Board (Welland and Deepings IDB) and LCC regarding the drainage design and attenuation systems and discharge arrangements into the Risegate Eau drain.		
LCC30	The agreed principles to be adopted in the detailed design are set out in the Outline Operational Drainage Management Plan (APP- 286) and are acceptable to LCC as the LLFA to be developed into a final plan for approval by the relevant planning authority, (in consultation with LCC as LLFA) in accordance with Requirement 15 of the DCO.		
Outline Surface Water Drainage Strategy (APP-273)			
LCC31	The Applicant has prepared an outline Surface Water Drainage Strategy (APP- 273) as part of its outline CoCP (PD1-038). A final Surface Water Drainage Strategy will be developed as part of the final CoCP and submitted for approval in accordance with Requirement 18 the DCO. The principles, monitoring and controls outlined are considered appropriate by LCC to manage flood risk during the construction stage of the Project.		

2.5 Onshore Archaeology

17. The Applicant has considered the potential impact of the Project on onshore archaeology and cultural heritage within Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (AS1-048)
18. Onshore archaeology and cultural heritage was discussed as part of the Marine and Onshore Archaeology & Cultural Heritage ETGs. Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 8 Onshore Archaeology

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC32	The study areas identified within Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage [AS1-048] are adequate for the assessment.		
LCC33	The ES adequately characterises the baseline environment in respect of Onshore Archaeology as set out in Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (AS1-048).		
LCC34	Appropriate datasets have been presented to inform the assessments detailed within Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (AS1-048).		
LCC35	All relevant plans and policies have been identified in Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (AS1-048) and have been appropriately considered in the assessment.		
LCC36	Sufficient survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Chapter 20 Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (AS1-048).		
Heritage Statement			
LCC37	The Heritage Statement (APP-188) adequately assesses the potential impacts through setting change to assets within the vicinity of the OnSS and the vicinity of the onshore ECC and 400kV cable.		
LCC38	The Heritage Statement (APP-188) adequately characterises the baseline.		
LCC39	The methodology utilised in the Heritage Statement (APP-188) conforms with good practice.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC40	The conclusions of the Heritage Statement (APP-188) are appropriate.		
Archaeological Field Evaluation			
LCC41	Geophysical magnetometer survey sufficiently evaluated the Order Limits for EIA. The results of electromagnetism survey undertaken alongside magnetometer survey will be used to target trial trenching.		
LCC42	Following the submission of the application, the Applicant undertook further engagement with LCC and Historic England (HE) to seek to understand their concerns. In order to address concerns raised, a programme of geoarchaeological boreholes, trial trenching and slit trenching/test pitting is ongoing due for completion in October 2024. This programme of works, includes trial trenching targeting magnetometer anomalies and slit trenching/test pitting in some blank areas. Results of these surveys will be shared with LCC upon completion of the works.		
LCC43	The ongoing 2024 survey works will inform further pre-construction trial trenching including the trial trenching of further blank areas as secured by Requirement 17(1) of the draft DCO (PD1-024), which was updated in response to LCC's Relevant Representation (RR-004).		
LCC44	Blank areas will be targeted by the post-consent works. In the 63% of the Order Limits evaluated through electromagnetic survey, the testing of blank areas will be guided by the results of the electromagnetism geophysical survey and revised deposit modelling. The electromagnetism results in particular will assist in the placement of trenches between the wet/dry interface which may be inferred by areas of low and high conductivity but potentially more		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	<p>specifically between areas of high conductivity and high susceptibility. The use of this technique to guide trial trenches will reduce the risk of archaeological remains on the wet/dry interface being uncovered late in the process. Outside of the areas targeted for geophysical survey, the targeting of blank areas will be proportionate to the rationale which excluded these areas for geophysical survey and will reflect the lower archaeological potential of these areas based on deposit modelling and historic coastlines. "</p>		
LCC45	<p>Further pre-construction trial trenching, slit trenches/test pitting and geoarchaeological boreholes will be agreed with LCC and HE through a review of the 2024 results and the provision of further WSIs in accordance with the OWSI (PD1-052), as set out in Requirement 17 (Onshore archaeology) of the draft DCO (PD1-024).</p>		
Archaeological Mitigation			
LCC46	<p>The Applicant has committed to undertaking trenchless techniques in order to avoid the deserted medieval village earthworks at Slackholme as shown on the Project Description Figures (APP-089). As set out within the OWSI (PD1-052), other areas of archaeology of high importance identified through archaeological evaluation will be preserved in situ through trenchless techniques also.</p>		
LCC47	<p>A package of other suitable mitigation options has been identified within the OWSI (PD1-052) and the Applicant has progressed archaeological trial trenching, geoarchaeological boreholes and slit trenches/test pitting to begin to further inform the mitigation requirements. The OWSI confirms that all archaeological works will be undertaken in accordance</p>		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	with WSIs approved by LCC in consultation with HE as secured by Requirement 17 of the draft DCO (PD1-024).		

2.6 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA)

19. The Applicant has assessed the potential impacts of the Project on landscape and visual receptors within Chapter 28 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (APP-083).

20. Landscape and Visual Impacts were discussed as part of the Seascape and Landscape Visual Impact Assessment ETG. Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 9 : Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC48	The ES adequately characterises the baseline environment in respect of landscape and visual receptors as set out in Chapter 28 Landscape and Visual (APP-083)		
LCC49	Appropriate datasets have been presented to inform the assessments detailed within Chapter 28 Landscape and Visual (APP-083).		
LCC50	The landscape and visual impacts of the OnSS has been assessed in respect of a 5km study area, which was agreed during consultation and given the scale and mass of the Project is considered appropriate.		
LCC51	The eleven representative viewpoints assessed within the LVIA were agreed during consultation with LCC and provide an acceptable representation of visual receptors in the local area.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC52	All relevant plans and policies have been identified in Chapter 28 Landscape and Visual (APP-083) and have been appropriately considered in the assessment.		
LCC53	Sufficient survey data has been collected to inform the assessment as presented within Chapter 28 Landscape and Visual (APP-083)		
Basis of Assessment			
LCC54	The methodology is concise and conforms to best practice principles including those set out in GLVIA3.		
LCC55	The landscape and visual receptors have been selected following desk based and on-site research. These provide an accurate representation of the potential for landscape and visual impacts as a result of the Project.		
LCC56	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's landscape and visual impacts during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases.		
LCC57	The cumulative scenarios have been assessed in accordance with best practice presented in GLVIA3 and IEMA 2013.		
LCC58	The assessment conclusions (both for the project on its own and cumulatively) are appropriate.		
Outline Landscape and Ecology Management Strategy (OLEMS)			
LCC59	The OLEMS (PD1-054) sets out in-principle measures designed to avoid, reduce, mitigate or compensate for potential impacts on landscape resources arising from the onshore elements of the Project. The OLEMS contains the key landscape principles to inform the Landscape Management Plan (LMP) which requires to be submitted to the relevant planning authority for approval prior to		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	construction, in accordance with Requirement 10 (Provision of landscaping) of the draft DCO(PD1-024).		

2.7 Land Use (including Minerals and Waste)

21. The Applicant has assessed the potential impacts of the Project on land use within Chapter 25 Land Use (AS1-050). This section also includes Minerals and Waste aspects, which were addressed in Geology and Ground Conditions ES Chapter (APP-078).

22. Land Use was discussed as part of the Onshore Ecology, Hydrology, Geology & Ground Conditions and Land Use. Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 10 Land Use (including Minerals and Waste)

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC60	The ES adequately characterises the baseline environment in respect of land use aspects (AS1-050).		
Basis of Assessment			
	The methodology utilised in the Land Use assessment (AS1-050) is appropriate.		
LCC61	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's impact upon land use during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases, as presented within the Land Use chapter (AS1-050).		
Agricultural Land			
LCC62	As detailed in Section 8.4 and Section 9.4.1.2 of the Site Selection and Consideration of Alternative ES Chapter (APP-059) the Applicant has had due consideration of the relevant policies in respect of Best and Most Versatile (BMV) land during the site selection process.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC63	As discussed in Section 8.4 (APP-059), it was not possible to locate the onshore substation (OnSS) outside of Grade 1 Land,		
LCC64	The Applicant made a significant alteration to the onshore ECC in response to feedback (as set out in Section 9.4 of APP-059) which significantly lowered the amount of BMV Grade 1 land that would be temporarily impacted by the construction of the onshore ECC.		
LCC65	The majority of the land impacted will only be impacted temporarily during the construction and restoration period.		
Outline Soil Management Plan (SMP) (PD1-040)			
LCC66	ALC surveys will be undertaken prior to construction. As per paragraph 16 of the Outline Soil Management Plan (SMP) [PD1-040], the ALC surveys and British Standard soil testing will be undertaken at survey points positioned at least every 100m, or in each field where the field is less than 100m in length.		
LCC67	As set out in the paragraph 12 of the outline SMP, an Agricultural Liaison Officer (ALO) and Soil Clerk of Works will be appointed who will supervise works as they proceed.		
LCC68	The Outline SMP sets out the principles and procedures for general good practice mitigation for soil management during the onshore construction works to minimise the adverse effects on the nature and quality of the soil resource. The Outline SMP provides a suitable basis from which to develop the Final SMP, which will be secured through DCO Requirement 18 (Code of construction practice), as part of the COCP, which must be submitted and approved by the relevant planning authority, in consultation with LCC prior to		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	commencement of any stage of the onshore transmission works.		
Minerals and Waste			
LCC69	No part of the Order Limits affects safeguarded mineral resources and no sterilisation of mineral resources will occur.		
LCC70	There are no existing or allocated mineral sites in proximity to the ECC, 400kv Cable Route or the OnSS.		
LCC71	The principles outlined in the Outline Site Waste Management Plan (APP-274) are acceptable. The management of all site waste will comply with the Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP) that will form part of the final CoCP that will be submitted for approval to the relevant planning authority, following consultation with LCC under Requirement 18 (Code of construction practice) of the draft DCO (PD1-024)		
LCC72	Offshore waste management provisions and arrangements will be included within the Project Environmental Management Plan as set out in the Outline Project Environmental Management Plan (APP-277).		

2.8 Cumulative Effects

23. Cumulative effects have been assessed within the relevant chapters throughout the ES application. The approach to Onshore Cumulative Effects was presented in APP-148.

Table 11 Cumulative effects

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC73	The approach for the onshore Cumulative Effects Assessment (APP-148) followed a staged process as per the guidance in Advice Note 17 on Cumulative Effects Assessment (Planning		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	Inspectorate, 2019) and the process undertaken identified the correct projects for the assessment based on the information available in the public domain at the time.		
LCC74	The Applicant has engaged with all the 3 projects referenced by LCC in their relevant representation [RR-004]. At this time none of the projects have released any environmental assessment, spatial project information or detailed programmes in the public domain. The Applicant will continue to monitor the development and availability of environmental, spatial and temporal project information for these and other emerging projects in the region to foster collaboration, noting it will be the responsibility of future projects that come forward for planning to undertake their own Cumulative Effects Assessment as per the guidance in Advice Note 17.		

2.9 Biodiversity Net Gain

24. The Applicant continues to explore opportunities for Biodiversity Net Gain. The approach to BNG has been presented by the Applicant within APP-302 and subsequent submissions AS-011 and AS014-AS020.

Table 12 Biodiversity Net Gain

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC75	A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report was submitted to the ExA in August 2024 (AS-014) and provides an appropriate assessment of the BNG baseline and approach to consideration of net gain.		
LCC76	The Applicant has committed to pursuing BNG opportunities in line with existing policy. The Applicant will continue to engage with LCC on this matter.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC77	As commitments pertaining to BNG are realised and can be secured (either through the DCO or voluntary agreements) the OLEMS (PD1-054 will be updated to reflect these commitments where this is relevant. Any commitments made in the OLEMS are secured by the requirement to submit an ecological management plan prior to commencement of any stage of the onshore transmission works that must accord with the OLEMS, as set out in Requirement 12 (Ecological management plan) of the draft DCO (PD1-024).		

2.10 Socio-economics

25. The Applicant has assessed the potential impacts of the Project on socio-economics, tourism and recreation within Chapter 29 Socio-Economics Characteristics (APP-084).

26. These aspects (including tourism) was discussed as part of the Traffic & Transport, Air Quality, Noise Health and Socio-economics ETG. Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 13 Socioeconomics (including tourism)

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC78	The ES adequately characterises the baseline environment in respect of socio-economic aspects (APP-084).		
Basis of Assessment			
LCC79	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's impact upon socio-economic aspects during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases.		
LCC80	Chapter 29 of the Applicant's ES has assessed the sensitivity of individual assets and the tourism economy in general and		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
	how the significance of these effects has been considered. The key drivers of tourism in the area are identified in Table 29.19 and the assessment on the key drivers of tourism in the area has been considered.		
LCC81	The impact of the Project on the UK vegetable market has been considered in sections 29.8.2 (construction), 29.8.3 (operation) and 29.9 (cumulative) of the Socio-economic Characteristics chapter of the ES (APP-084) and concluded a negligible impact.		

2.11 Onshore Ecology and Ornithology

27. The Applicant has assessed the potential impacts of the Project on onshore ecological receptors within Chapter 21 Onshore Ecology (APP-076) and Chapter 22 Onshore Ornithology (APP-077).

28. Onshore Ecology and Onshore Ornithology was discussed as part of the Onshore Ecology, Hydrology and Ground Conditions ETG. Minutes of the meetings held as part of the EPP can be found in Appendix 5.1.15 of the Consultation Report submitted as part of the application for development consent (APP-052).

Table 14 Onshore Ecology

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
Baseline Environment			
LCC82	The baseline environment in terms of onshore ecology and ornithology is adequately characterised as set out in Chapter 21 Onshore Ecology (APP-076) and Chapter 22 Onshore Ornithology (APP- 077).		
LCC83	The survey methodologies are appropriate and sufficient to inform the assessment and onshore ecology surveys were undertaken in accordance with industry best practice.		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	Status
LCC84	The impact assessment methodologies used for the ES provides an appropriate approach to assessing potential impacts of the Project.		
Basis of Assessment			
LCC85	The Applicant has carried out a robust assessment of the Project's impact upon onshore ecology and ornithology receptors during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases.		
LCC86	The conclusions of the assessments set out in Chapter 21 Onshore Ecology (APP-076) and Chapter 22 Onshore Ornithology (APP- 077) (for the project both on its own and cumulatively) are appropriate.		
Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Strategy (OLEMS)			
LCC87	The OLEMS sets out in-principle measures designed to avoid, reduce, mitigate or compensate for potential impacts on ecological resources arising from the onshore elements of the Project. The OLEMS sets out the key ecology principles to inform the Ecological Management Plan (EMP) which require to be submitted to the relevant planning authority for approval under with Requirement 12 of the DCO.		
LCC88	The mitigation proposed in the OLEMS (PD1-054) is suitable.		

2.12 Draft DCO

29. The Applicant continues to engage with LCC with regards to the submitted draft Development Consent Order (APP-303 and updated within PD1-024).

Table 15 Draft DCO

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	
Part 3 (Streets)			
LCC89	The dDCO (PD1-024), Streets Plan (APP-015) and Access to Works Plan (APP-013) accurately identify the works required for the Project and include the necessary powers whilst providing protection for the LCC's assets and operations.		
Schedule 1 (Part 3) Requirements			
LCC90	LCC is satisfied that the wording of the draft Requirements within Schedule 1 (Part 3) of the dDCO and that it provides the necessary control required by LCC.		
LCC91	LCC is satisfied that its role within the discharge of Requirements has been adequately reflected within Schedule 1 (Part 3) of the draft DCO where LCC is the discharging authority in respect of Requirement 17 (Onshore archaeology), Requirement 20 (Highway Accesses), Requirement 21 (Traffic) and Requirement 22 (Public rights of way), and is to be consulted by the discharging authority in respect of Requirement 9 (Detailed onshore design parameters), Requirement 10 (Provision of landscaping), Requirement 11 (Implementation and maintenance of landscaping), Requirement 15 (Operational drainage management and emergency flood response), Requirement 18 (Code of construction practice), Requirement 23 (Restoration of land used temporarily for construction), Requirement 24 (Onshore decommissioning), and Requirement 30 (Skills, supply chain and employment).		
LCC92	The time period given for the discharging authority included within the procedure for discharge of		

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	
	requirements, as set out in Schedule 20 of the dDCO (PD1-024) is adequate.		

2.13 S106 Agreement

30. The Applicant has begun to engage in discussions with LCC in respect of a s106 agreement.

Table 16: s106 Agreement

Ref	ODOW Position	LCC Position	
LCC93	The Applicant is agreeable to entering into a s106 agreement with LCC and will continue to negotiate in respect of the obligations to be included.		

3 Signatures

This SOCG has been prepared by the Applicant and LCC and is agreed on the date below.

Signed for LCC	
Name	
Position	
Date	
Duly authorised for and on behalf of LCC	

Signed for the Applicant	
Name	
Position	
Date	
Duly authorised for and on behalf of the Applicant	