



The Planning Inspectorate  
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

# Section 55

## Acceptance of Applications Checklist

**Appendix 3** of [Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents](#)

**Version:** August 2022

## Bramford to Twinstead Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/55>

**DISCLAIMER:** This Checklist is for information only and is not a formal application document. It is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the Applicant does not hold weight at the Acceptance stage. Unless specified, **all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.**

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.	Date received	28 day due date	Date of decision
		<b>27 April 2023</b>	<b>25 May 2023</b>	<b>23 May 2023</b>
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:		Planning Inspectorate comments		
<b>Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent</b>				
2	Is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project <sup>1</sup> (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that it is an application for a Development Consent Order <sup>2</sup> (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates (i.e. which category or categories in ss14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>The Proposed Development set out in <b>Schedule 1</b> of the <b>Draft DCO (Doc 3.1)</b> includes development falling within the categories in s14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of a new overhead electricity transmission connection in England and satisfies section 14(1)(b), section 16(1)(a) and section 16(2) of the PA2008.</p> <p>This is consistent with the summary provided in <b>section 4</b> of the <b>Application Form (Doc 1.2)</b> which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p>		

<sup>1</sup> NSIP is defined generally in s14 with the detailed thresholds for each of the specified categories being set out in ss15 to 30

<sup>2</sup> Development consent is required for development to the extent that the development is or forms part of an NSIP (s31 of the PA2008)

	If the development does not fall within the categories in ss14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?	
3	<b>Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)</b>	The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the <b>Draft DCO (Doc 3.1)</b> includes development for which development consent is required.
<b>Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)</b>		
4	In accordance with the EIA Regulations <sup>3</sup> , did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development?	<b>Yes</b> On 10 May 2021 the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 of its intention to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Proposed Development. The notification was received before the start of statutory consultation on 25 January 2022. A copy of the notification letter is provided at <b>Appendix D3</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.4)</b> .
5	Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations <sup>4</sup> been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?	<b>Yes</b> There are 27 host and neighbouring authorities, of which 10 responded to the Planning Inspectorate's invitation to make an Adequacy of Consultation Representation (AoCR) dated 27 April 2023. All 10 responding authorities confirmed in their AoCR that either the Applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA2008 and/ or that

<sup>3</sup> Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (2017 EIA Regulations), or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (2009 EIA Regulations)

<sup>4</sup> Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received

their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:

- South Norfolk District Council (A authority)
- Colchester City Council (A authority)
- East Suffolk District Council (A authority)
- Tendring District Council (A authority)
- Braintree District Council (B authority)
- Babergh District Council (B authority) \*
- Mid Suffolk District Council (B authority) \*
- Suffolk County Council (C authority) \*
- Norfolk County Council (D authority)
- The Broads Authority (D authority)

\* Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and Suffolk County Council made a combined response, in which they confirmed that whilst the Applicant declined to attend a meeting during the consultation, which is not a statutory requirement, the local authorities are satisfied that the Applicant has complied with the statutory requirements of the Act.

All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020002/documents?stage-2=Adequacy+of+Consultation+Representation&date-from-day=&date-from-month=&date-from-year=&date-to-day=&date-to-month=&date-to-year=&searchTerm=&itemsPerPage=25>

## Section 42: Duty to consult

Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?

6	Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed <sup>5</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 19 January 2022 at <b>Appendix F1</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.6)</b>.</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at <b>Appendix F3</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.6)</b>.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate has identified the following parties based on a precautionary interpretation of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations) that do not appear to have been consulted by the Applicant under s42:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mua Electricity Limited</li> <li>• National Grid Electricity System Operator Limited</li> </ul> <p>The Applicant's <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> does not explain why the bodies identified above do not appear to have been consulted. However, it is noted that the licences held by these bodies cover Great Britain or various smaller areas and the operational areas of each are not clear from information in the public domain.</p> <p>None of the bodies listed above have been identified by the Applicant as having an interest in the Order lands and are not listed in the <b>Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)</b>.</p> <p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matter: <a href="https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN020002-000664">https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN020002-000664</a></p>
7	Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation <sup>6</sup> ?	<b>N/A</b>
8	Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43 <sup>7</sup> ?	<b>Yes</b>

<sup>5</sup> Statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations)

<sup>6</sup> In any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008

**Table 6.1** of the **Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)** lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b) on 19 January 2022.

The host 'B' authorities were consulted:

- Mid Suffolk District Council
- Babergh District Council
- Braintree District Council

The host 'C' authorities were consulted:

- Suffolk County Council
- Essex County Council

The boundary 'A' authorities were consulted:

- South Cambridgeshire District Council
- West Suffolk District Council
- Breckland District Council
- South Norfolk District Council
- East Suffolk District Council
- Ipswich District Council
- Tendring District Council
- Colchester District Council
- Maldon District Council
- Chelmsford District Council

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<sup>7</sup> Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uttlesford District Council</li> </ul> <p>The boundary 'D' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Broads Authority</li> <li>• Norfolk County Council</li> <li>• Cambridgeshire County Council</li> <li>• Hertfordshire County Council</li> <li>• Enfield Council</li> <li>• London Borough of Redbridge</li> <li>• Thurrock Borough Council</li> <li>• Southend-on-Sea Borough Council</li> <li>• Medway Borough Council</li> <li>• London Borough of Waltham Forest</li> <li>• London Borough of Havering</li> </ul> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at <b>Appendix F3</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.6)</b>.</p>
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	<b>Yes</b>
10	Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories <sup>8</sup> ?	<b>Yes</b> <b>Table 6.2</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> shows when persons identified under s42(1)(d) were consulted.

<sup>8</sup> Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim.

		<p><b>Paragraphs 6.6.3 to 6.6.9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> summarise how the Applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the <b>Draft DCO (Doc 3.1)</b>. The full methodology undertaken by the Applicant is provided in <b>Appendix J of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.10)</b>.</p> <p>The persons consulted under s42(1)(d) are listed at <b>Appendix G1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.7)</b>.</p> <p>A sample of the letters is provided at <b>Appendices G2, G3, G4 and G5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.7)</b>.</p>
<b>Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation</b>		
11	Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at <b>Appendices F3, G2, G3, G4 and G5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.6 and 5.1.7)</b>.</p> <p>The sample letters dated 19 January 2022, 27 January 2022, 3 February 2022, 10 February 2022 and 18 February 2022 confirmed that consultation commenced on 25 January 2022 and closed on 21 March 2022, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p>
<b>Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application</b>		
12	Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>The Applicant gave notice under s46 on 21 January 2022, which was before the beginning of s42 consultation.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter is provided at <b>Appendix D1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.4)</b> and a copy of the s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at <b>Appendix D2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.4)</b>.</p>
<b>Section 47: Duty to consult local community</b>		



13	Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>A copy of the final SoCC is provided at <b>Appendix E10</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.5)</b>.</p>
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Table 3.4</b> of the Consultation Report (<b>Doc 5.1</b>) shows the Applicant sent the draft SoCC to the following Local Authorities ('B Authorities')</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mid Suffolk District Council</li> <li>• Babergh District Council</li> <li>• Braintree District Council</li> </ul> <p>And the following 'C Authorities'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suffolk County Council</li> <li>• Essex County Council</li> </ul> <p>This was sent on 9 November 2021 and set a deadline of 7 December 2021 for responses; providing the required minimum time for responses to be received.</p>
15	Has the Applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Appendix E8</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.5)</b> provides a summary of the consultation responses from Essex County Council; Suffolk County Council; Braintree District Council; and joint responses from Babergh and Mid-Suffolk Councils in respect of the draft SoCC and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to their content.</p> <p>Examples of changes from the draft SoCC to the final SoCC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extending the previously agreed consultation period of six weeks to eight weeks as suggested by Essex County Council supported by Suffolk County Council and Braintree District Council;</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification that a fee will not be charged for printed copies of the project background document or the project development options report in response to a request from Essex County Council; and</li> <li>• Identification of digitally isolated parties as a seldom heard group as requested by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils.</li> </ul> <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant had regard to the responses received when preparing the SoCC.</p>
16	<p>Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>The section 47 notice provided in Appendix H1 of the Consultation Report (<b>Doc 5.1.8</b>) confirms that that the SoCC was available on the Applicant’s website.</p> <p>The final SoCC was made available at the following locations, provided in <b>Table 6.11</b> of the Consultation Report (<b>Doc 5.1</b>) which is reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the Proposed Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sible Hedingham Library</li> <li>• Sudbury Library</li> <li>• Hadleigh Library</li> </ul> <p>A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colchester Gazette 18 January 2022</li> <li>• East Anglian Daily Times 21 January 2022</li> </ul> <p>The published SoCC notice, provided at <b>Appendix H1</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.8)</b> states where and when the final SoCC was available to inspect.</p> <p>Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at <b>Appendix H2</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.8)</b>.</p>

17	Does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development <sup>9</sup> ; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Paragraphs 3.2.2 to paragraph 3.2.4</b> of the final SoCC at <b>Appendix E10</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.5)</b> sets out that the development is EIA development and sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information.</p>
18	Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Section 6.9</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> set out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p><b>Table 6.3</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> sets out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the final SoCC.</p> <p><b>Appendices C, F, G, H and I</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> provide evidence that the commitments within the final SoCC have been carried out.</p>
<b>Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application</b>		
19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the APFP Regulations which may encompass changes made by The Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Paragraph 6.10.1</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> states: “National Grid must receive all responses by 23:59 on 21 March 2022 to ensure their consideration”.</p> <p><b>Table 6.4</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> displays the newspapers and dates of s48 publicity as set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice is provided at <b>Appendix H</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.8)</b>.</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at <b>Appendix H</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.8)</b>:</p>

<sup>9</sup> Regulation 12 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 10 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

		Newspaper(s)	Date	
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;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Anglian Daily Times</li> <li>• Colchester Gazette</li> </ul>	21 January 2022 and 27 January 2022  18 January 2022 and 25 January 2022	
b)	once in a national newspaper;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Guardian</li> </ul>	25 January 2022	
c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• London Gazette</li> </ul>	25 January 2022	
d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	N/A	N/A	
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of APFP Regulations , which may encompass changes made by The Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020?	<b>Yes</b> The published s48 notice, supplied at <b>Appendix H</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1.8)</b> , contains the required information as set out below:		
Information		Paragraph	Information	Paragraph
a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	1	b) a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	1

c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	9	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development	2
e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the nature and location of the Proposed Development</li> <li>The address of the website</li> <li>The place on the website</li> <li>A telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps.</li> </ul>	10	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection	10
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	13	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	13
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	16			
21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?				
	<b>No</b>				

22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with the EIA Regulations <sup>10</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation, as confirmed in <b>paragraph 8.1.3</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b>.</p> <p>A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at <b>Appendix F</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> confirms a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p>
<b>s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity</b>		
23	Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Section 7.6</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> sets out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p>
<b>Guidance about pre-application procedure</b>		
24	To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process' <sup>11</sup> ?	<p><b>Paragraph 8.1.3</b> of the <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> states that the Applicant has taken into consideration all relevant statutory and other guidance. Having reviewed the application, the Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has identified and had regard to the relevant statutory guidance.</p>
25	<b>Summary: Section 55(3)(e)</b>	The Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008.

<sup>10</sup> Regulation 13 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 11 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

<sup>11</sup> The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50

In respect of the minor consultation discrepancies identified, s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant how in this regard, available here:  
<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN020002-000664>

**s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)**

26	<p>Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and</li> <li>• a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p><b>Section 4</b> of the <b>Application Form (Doc 1.2)</b> explains why the development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p><b>Section 5</b> of the <b>Application Form (Doc 1.2)</b> provides a brief non-technical description of the site and <b>section 6</b> provides the location of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>A <b>Location Plan (Doc 2.2)</b> has been provided.</p>	
27	<p>Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>The application is accompanied by a <b>Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)</b> and <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.1.1 - 5.1.12)</b>.</p>	
28	<p>Where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets?<sup>12</sup></p>	<p><b>Yes</b></p>	
29	<p>Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?</p>	<p><b>Yes</b> (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).</p>	
<p><b>Information</b>                      <b>Document</b></p>		<p><b>Information</b>                      <b>Document</b></p>	

<sup>12</sup> Regulation 5(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations <sup>13</sup> and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	<b>Environmental Statement (ES) Non Technical Summary (Doc 6.1)</b> <b>ES Chapters 1 to 17 (Docs 6.2.1 to 6.2.17)</b> <b>ES Appendices (Docs 6.3.1.1 to 6.3.15.5)</b> <b>ES Figures (Docs 6.4.1 to 6.4.10)</b> <b>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report (Docs 6.5.1 to 6.5.3)</b> <b>Scoping Opinion (Doc 6.6)</b>	b)	The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	<b>Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)</b>
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>
c)	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	<b>Explanatory Memorandum (Doc 3.2)</b>	d)	Where applicable, a Book of Reference	<b>Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)</b>
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>
e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	<b>Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) (Doc 5.5)</b>	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters	<b>A Statement of Statutory Nuisance (Doc 5.4)</b> has been provided, which considers the matters set out in

<sup>13</sup> The 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, the 2009 EIA Regulations



			set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	Section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act.  It draws on information and assessments carried out as part of the ES ( <b>Doc 6.2</b> ), in particular, Chapter 4 Project Description ( <b>Doc 6.2.4</b> ) and Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual Impact ( <b>Doc 6.2.6</b> ) for artificial lighting, Chapter 13 Air Quality ( <b>Doc 6.2.13</b> ) and Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration Document ( <b>Doc 6.2.14</b> ).  The Applicant concludes that with implementation of the mitigation measures described in the and Construction Environmental Management Plan ( <b>Doc 7.5</b> ) and Code of Construction Practice ( <b>Doc 7.5.1</b> ) there would be no effects giving rise to statutory nuisance.
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b> (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>
h)	A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	<b>Funding Statement (Doc 4.1)</b> <b>Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.2)</b>	i) A Land Plan identifying:-  (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development;  (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of	(i-iii) <b>Land Plans.pdf (Doc 2.3)</b>  (iv) <b>Special Category Land Plans.pdf (Doc 2.4)</b>

			<p>Compulsory Acquisition or any rights to use land;</p> <p>(iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and</p> <p>(iv) any special category land and replacement land</p>	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>
j)	<p>A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:-</p> <p>(i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and</p> <p>(ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried</p>	(i-ii) <b>Traffic Regulation Order Plans (Doc 2.6)</b>	k)	<p>Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation</p> <p><b>Access Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigational Plans (Doc 2.7)</b></p>

	out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO				
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	
<b>l)</b>	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-</p> <p>(i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological or landscape importance;</p> <p>(ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and</p> <p>(iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed</p>	<p>(i) Statutory and Non-Statutory Sites of Nature Conservation Geological and Landscape Importance Plans (<b>Doc 2.8.1</b>).</p> <p>An assessment of effects on statutory and non-statutory sites of nature conservation is provided in Tables 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 and 6.4 of ES Chapter 6 Landscape and Visual (<b>Doc 6.2.6</b>), and Section 7.6, Section 7.7 and Table 7.8 of ES Chapter 7 Biodiversity (<b>Doc 6.2.7</b>).</p> <p>Additional information is provided in a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) Report (<b>Doc 5.3</b>), ES Appendices 6.2 Assessment of Effects on Designated Landscapes (<b>Doc 6.3.6.2</b>), 6.2 Annex A Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Approach and Identification of Setting Study (<b>Doc 6.3.6.2.1</b>), 6.3 Assessment of Effects on Landscape</p>	<b>m)</b>	<p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Statutory and Non-Statutory Sites and Features of the Historic Environment (<b>Doc 2.8.3</b>).</p> <p>An assessment of effects on statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment is provided in Sections 8.6, 8.7 and Table 8.4 of ES Chapter 8 Historic Environment (<b>Doc 6.2.8</b>).</p> <p>Additional information is provided in ES Appendices 8.1 Historic Baseline Environment (<b>Doc 6.3.8.1</b>), 8.1 Annex A Historic Environment Gazetteer (<b>Doc 6.3.8.1.1</b>), 8.2 Historic Environment Impact Assessment (<b>Doc 6.3.8.2</b>), 8.2 Annex A Hintlesham Hall Assessment (<b>Doc 6.3.8.2.1</b>), and ES Figures Part 6 (<b>Doc 6.4.6</b>) and Part 7 (<b>Doc 6.4.7</b>).</p>

Development	<p>Character (<b>Doc 6.3.6.3</b>), 7.1 Habitats Baseline Report (<b>Doc 6.3.7.1</b>), ES Figures Part 1 (<b>Doc 6.4.1</b>) and Part 2 (<b>Doc 6.4.2</b>).</p> <p>(ii) Habitats of Protected Species and Important Habitats Plan (<b>Doc 2.8.2</b>).</p> <p>An assessment of effects on habitats of protected species and important habitats is provided as outlined above at 29(l)(i).</p> <p>(iii) The locations of water bodies in a River Basin Management Plan are shown on <b>Doc 2.8.4</b> and Figure 1 of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) Assessment (<b>Doc 5.6</b>).</p> <p>An assessment of effects is outlined in the WFD Assessment (<b>Doc 5.6</b>).</p> <p>Additional information is provided in Sections 9.6 and 9.7 of ES Chapter 9 Water Environment (<b>Doc 6.2.9</b>), ES Appendix 9.1 Water Environment Baseline (<b>Doc 6.3.9.1</b>), and ES Figures Part 8 (<b>Doc 6.4.8</b>) and Part 9 (<b>Doc 6.4.9</b>).</p>			
Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b> (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>

n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	<b>N/A</b>	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	<b>General Arrangement Plans (Doc 2.10)</b> <b>Access Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (Doc 2.7)</b> <b>Water Bodies in the River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.8.4)</b> <b>Trees or Hedgerows to be Removed or Managed Plans (Doc 2.9)</b>
Is this of a satisfactory standard?		<b>N/A</b>	Are they of a satisfactory standard?		<b>Yes</b> (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30).
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	<b>N/A</b>	q)	Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	<b>Planning Statement (Doc 7.1)</b> <b>Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (Doc 7.10)</b> <b>Need Case April 2023 (Doc 7.2.1)</b> <b>Strategic Options Report June 2011 (Doc 7.2.2)</b> <b>Route Corridor Study October 2009 (Doc 7.2.3)</b> <b>Connection Options Report May 2012 (Doc 7.2.4)</b> <b>Substation Siting Study February</b>

				<b>2013 (Doc 7.2.5)</b> <b>Evolution of the Project (Doc 7.2.6)</b> <b>Status of Statements of Common Ground (Doc 7.3)</b> <b>Environmental Gain Report (Doc 7.4)</b> <b>Construction Environmental Management Plan (Doc 7.5)</b> <b>Construction Traffic Management Plan (Doc 7.6)</b> <b>Materials and Waste Management Plan (Doc 7.7)</b> <b>Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Doc 7.8)</b> <b>7.9 Archaeological Framework Strategy (Doc 7.9)</b>
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	<b>N/A</b>	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	<b>Yes</b>
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?			
	<b>Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 5.5)</b> <p>The Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) describes that the Proposed Development is primarily located in Flood Zone 1, with areas in Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3. The FRA does not specify whether these components located within Flood Zone 3 are Flood Zone 3a or Flood Zone 3b or a combination. Flood Zone 3a and Flood Zone 3b are not differentiated on the figures in the FRA.</p> <b>Water Bodies in the River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.8.4)</b> <p>River Brett and River Box are identified as WFD water bodies. They are listed in the key of <b>Doc 2.8.4</b>, which comprises plans</p>			

showing the location of WFD water bodies that could be affected by the Proposed Development but are not shown on Sheets 10 and 14 of the plans respectively. The locations of the River Brett and River Box are shown on Figure 1 of the WFD Assessment (**Doc 5.6**).

**Plans**

It would be helpful if the Applicant could review all plans and resubmit in response to the s51 advice issued following Acceptance. For example, the Water Bodies in the River Basin Management Plan (**Doc 2.8.4**) does not identify areas of water drainage or surface water management. The Access Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (**Doc 2.7**) do not contain any information relating to car parking. The Access Rights of Way and Public Rights of Navigation Plans (**Doc 2.7**) when compared with Schedule 7 of the Draft Development Consent Order (**Doc 3.1**) also has a numbering convention discrepancy. The start and end points each have the same references as evidenced below:

Suffolk County Council W-174/012/0 Between points P-AB-3 and P-AB-3 as shown on Sheet 1

Suffolk County Council W-318/014/0 Between points P-AB-6 and P-AB-6 as shown on Sheet 2

**Missing document**

On 28 April 2023, the Applicant informed the Inspectorate that one of the application documents submitted was missing a figure, which should have been enclosed with the document. This is the Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (OWSI) (**Doc 7.10**). The Applicant should now submit this document.

31 Is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the

**Yes**

A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report has been provided (**Doc 5.3**).  
 The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.  
 Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the Examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform

	implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)? <sup>14</sup>	the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this during the statutory timetable of the Examination.
32	If requested by the Planning Inspectorate, two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans <sup>15</sup>	<b>No hard copies requested.</b>
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance', and has this regard led to the application being prepared to a standard that the Planning Inspectorate considers satisfactory?	<b>Yes</b> The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.
34	<b>Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)</b>	The Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory. In respect of the discrepancies identified in Box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application. That advice is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website, here: <a href="https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN020002-000664">https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/EN020002-000664</a>
<b>The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)</b>		
<b>Fees to accompany an application</b>		
35	Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made <sup>16</sup> ?	The fee was received on 12 April 2023; before the application was made.

<sup>14</sup> Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations

<sup>15</sup> Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations

<sup>16</sup> The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made



<b>Role</b>	<b>Electronic signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
Case Manager	<i>Jake Stephens</i>	23 May 2023
Acceptance Inspector	<i>Rory Cridland</i>	23 May 2023