



# The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	EN020015
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	Kath Dunne
<b>Date</b>	14 January 2016
<b>Meeting with</b>	National Grid
<b>Venue</b>	Planning Inspectorate Offices, Temple Quay House
<b>Attendees</b>	<u>National Grid:</u> Jacqui Fenn – National Grid Eloise Frank – National Grid  <u>Planning Inspectorate:</u> Kathryn Dunne – Infrastructure Planning Lead
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Telecon project update
<b>Circulation</b>	All attendees

### Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

National Grid was familiar with the Planning Inspectorate's statutory duty, under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 as amended (PA 2008), to record the advice that is given in relation to an application or a potential application and to make this publicly available. National Grid was also aware that any advice given by the Planning Inspectorate does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.

### Project Update

National Grid explained that their non-statutory consultation has closed and 2249 responses were received, 1800 of which were standard objection letters with an opposition to the use of overhead power lines, in favor of subsea cables.

National Grid explained that they are providing consultation presentations in both English and Welsh, and have ensured that they bring Welsh speakers to their events, they have received positive feedback from attendees for this. The Planning Inspectorate advised National Grid to liaise with the Welsh Language Commissioner on their approach going forward and in relation to the application documents. National Grid asked whether PINS had an example of best practice plans for Welsh NSIP schemes. (Post meeting note – the Planning Inspectorate confirmed that to date, developers of Welsh NSIP schemes have not translated the text on plans).

National Grid is proposing to release additional information on the Menai Strait crossing during the summer (2016). Statutory consultation on the project is currently planned for October – November 2016.

National Grid is submitting a scoping request to the Planning Inspectorate, on behalf of the Secretary of State, in April 2016.

The Planning Inspectorate confirmed it is happy to attend a meeting with National Grid, Welsh Government (and other relevant parties) to discuss National Grid's approach to consent regarding what is proposed to be included within the NSIP application.