



Meeting note

Project name	Yorkshire GREEN
File reference	EN020024
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	12 October 2021
Meeting with	National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET)
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Inception Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

The Inspectorate advised they will take a note of the meeting and publish to the website under s51 advice.

Project update

The Applicant provided a summary of the need for the project and showed its geographical area on a map (Appendix A). A corridor and preliminary routing and siting study established Corridor B as the preferred route (Appendix B). Non-statutory consultation was carried out on the full extent of Corridor B, siting areas for cable sealing end compounds and the location of the substation (Appendix C). The Applicant identified areas it seeks to avoid, including areas of residential property and other sensitive areas such as ancient woodland. Non-statutory consultation was also carried out on two options for the overhead line route, Option 1 was chosen as the preferred route (Appendix D). The Applicant advised that the substation proposed to the north of York has now been renamed as Overton substation. A new substation is proposed at Monk Fryston (Appendix E) adjacent to the existing substation.

Consultation and engagement to date

Non-statutory consultation was held from March 2021 to April 2021. Consultation material was sent to around 10,000 local residents and directly to 446 key stakeholders.

Engagement included website engagement, seven webinars and a peak of 312,222 social media interactions. 79% of respondents agreed with the need for the project, with 63% supportive of National Grid's (NG) new infrastructure targets towards the UK's net-zero goals. Feedback has helped inform next steps in regard to the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) has been sent to Local Authorities (LA); no significant comments have been made.

The Inspectorate queried whether any physical exhibitions are likely to be held, in addition to the virtual consultation. The Applicant explained how it is eager for face-to-face consultation, however at non-statutory consultation it was required to focus on virtual consultation. This is due to the ease of accessibility for parties, as well as a mitigation measure should COVID restrictions return. However, the proposal for statutory consultation includes face to face public events.

Project description

The Applicant shared a map, splitting the project into six sections and explained their context in relation to the wider project (Appendix F). The Inspectorate queried whether provisions have been agreed with the landowners shown to the north of the map presented. The Applicant explained how it is looking to seek provisions voluntarily and is in ongoing discussions at this stage. The Inspectorate queried the power output of the two proposed overhead lines leaving the substation. The Applicant confirmed a 400kV overhead line to the north of the substation and two 275kV overhead lines to the south of substation, noting that it is looking to realign and remove existing pylons to ensure they have capacity for this power. The Applicant explained that in some locations there will be a need for temporary diversion of existing overhead line during construction. The Applicant confirmed that two construction compounds are proposed at each of the following sites: Overton substation; Tadcaster Cable Sealing End Compound (CSEC); and Monk Fryston substation. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to be wary of using dotted lines to illustrate overhead cables in plans, this is due to the potential confusion that they could be interpreted as underground cables.

Update on approach to EIA

The Applicant provided an update on engagement since scoping with Natural England (NE), the Environment Agency, and LA's (including landscape officers to discuss viewpoint locations and environmental health officers regarding noise surveys). An update was also provided on the changes to the draft order limits outside of the scoping boundary, which included some areas of reduction and also some additional land to facilitate access and re-tension activity. The Applicant confirmed that changes would be explained in the Environmental Statement (ES) and study areas/ technical assessments would be updated to align with the order limits. The scoping opinion requested a greenhouse gas assessment (GHG), this will be included as an appendix in the PEIR and as a chapter within the ES. It will comprise a qualitative assessment. The Applicant advised that it does not have detailed GHG assessments for other projects and wider

environmental benefits that the Proposed Development will support. The Inspectorate confirmed that information about wider environmental benefits should still be presented in the DCO application. The Applicant noted it will be limiting file sizes to 10mb.

Although not captured in The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, the Inspectorate advised the inclusion of any relevant combined authority mayors in its statutory consultation. The Applicant confirmed that the West Yorkshire Combined Authority had been identified as a consultee. The Applicant sought advice on how to continue engagement with NE, who's resources are limited, in concern to survey responses and hard to access areas. The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant will not be at a disadvantage compared to other projects, and to retain an audit trail of the attempts to contact them.

Programme

Statutory consultation will run from October 2021 to December 2021. Submission of the Application is anticipated winter 2022/2023, with the anticipated decision for the DCO in Spring 2024 and construction is also expected to begin later in 2024. The Inspectorate advised that should the submission of the Application go beyond mid-November; it is recommended to submit early in the new year. This will ensure sufficient time is provided for LA's to respond to the Adequacy of Consultation. It will also ensure sufficient resources are available at the Inspectorate, should they need to contact the Applicant for further information.

The Applicant explained how it aims to facilitate face-to-face engagement throughout statutory consultation. Four events will be held along the proposed project area on various days at various times. Additionally, seven webinars will be held between October 2021 and December 2021.

A.O.B

It was agreed that meetings will be held between the Applicant and the Inspectorate at key milestones, leading up to the submission of the Application. The next meeting is proposed in May/June 2022, following statutory consultation and the drafting of the ES. The Applicant explained that time has been allocated to targeted consultation, post statutory consultation, should it be required.

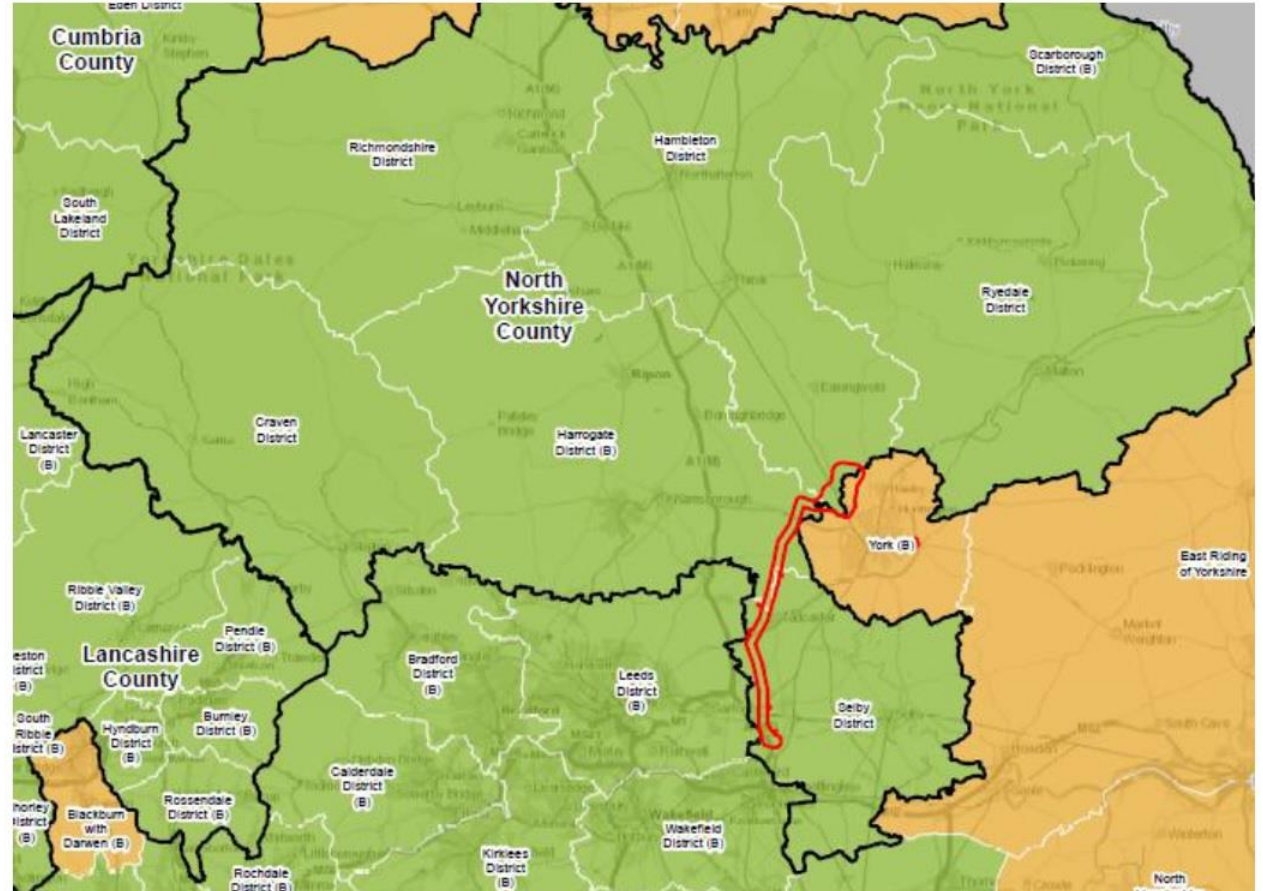
Specific decisions/ follow-up required?

The following actions were agreed:

- Next meeting proposed May/June 2022

Project Update

Strategic Proposal A new Overhead line in Yorkshire

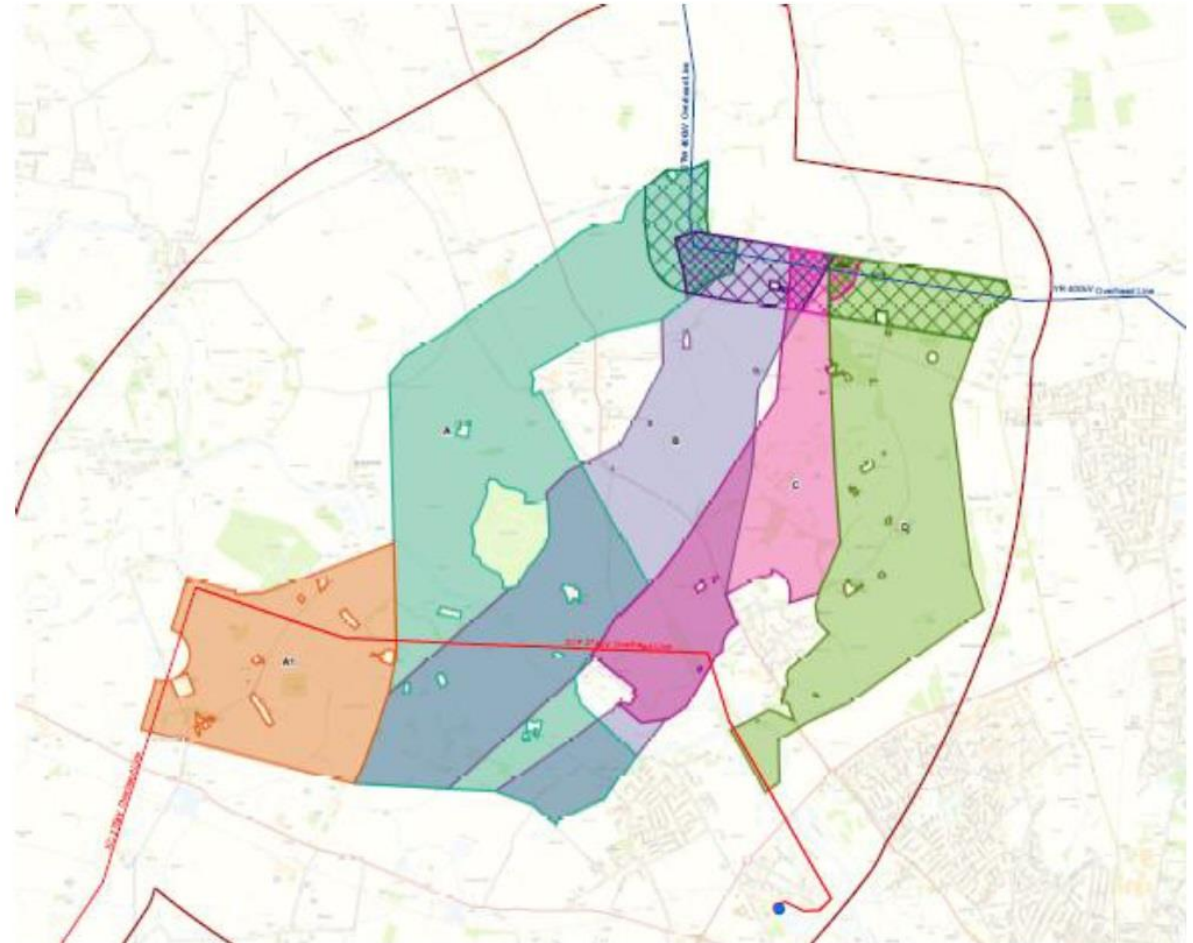


Appendix B - Preferred Corridor Route (Corridor B)

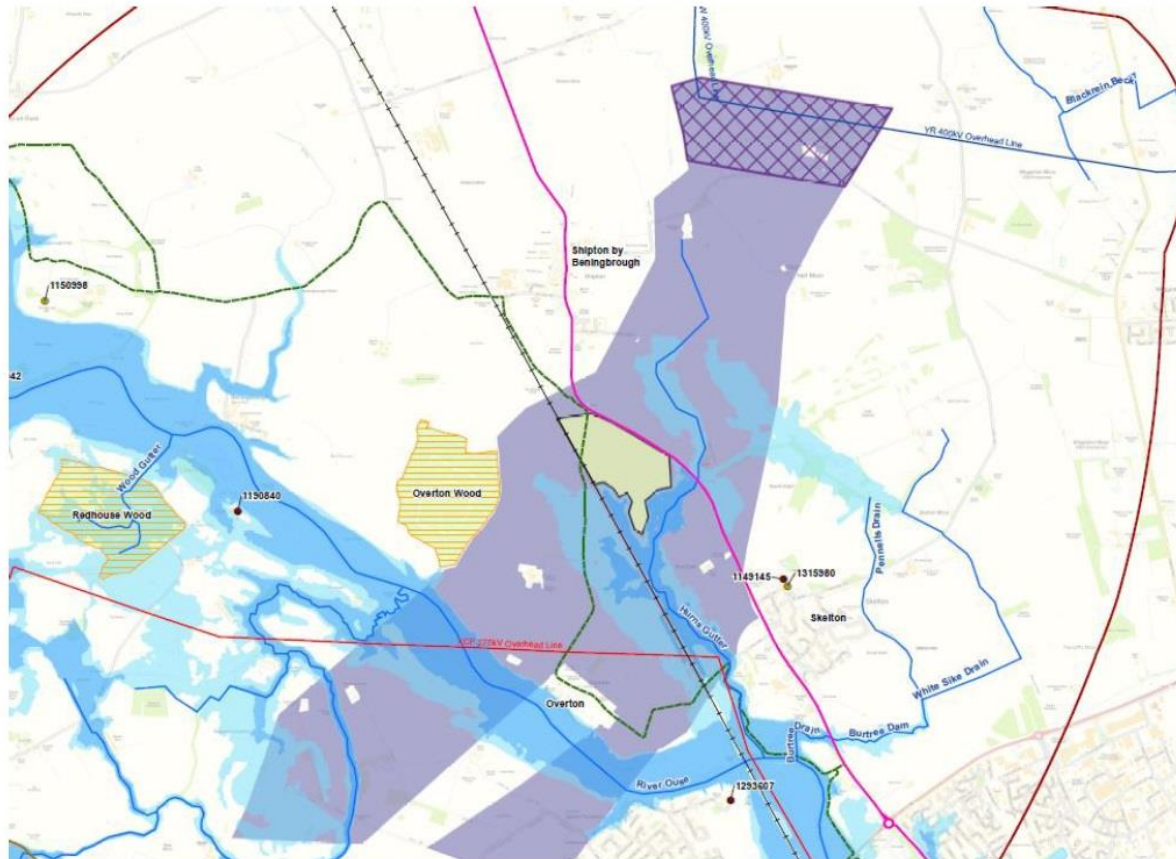
Project Update

Corridor and Preliminary Routing and Siting Study (CPRSS)

Corridor B identified as preferred corridor



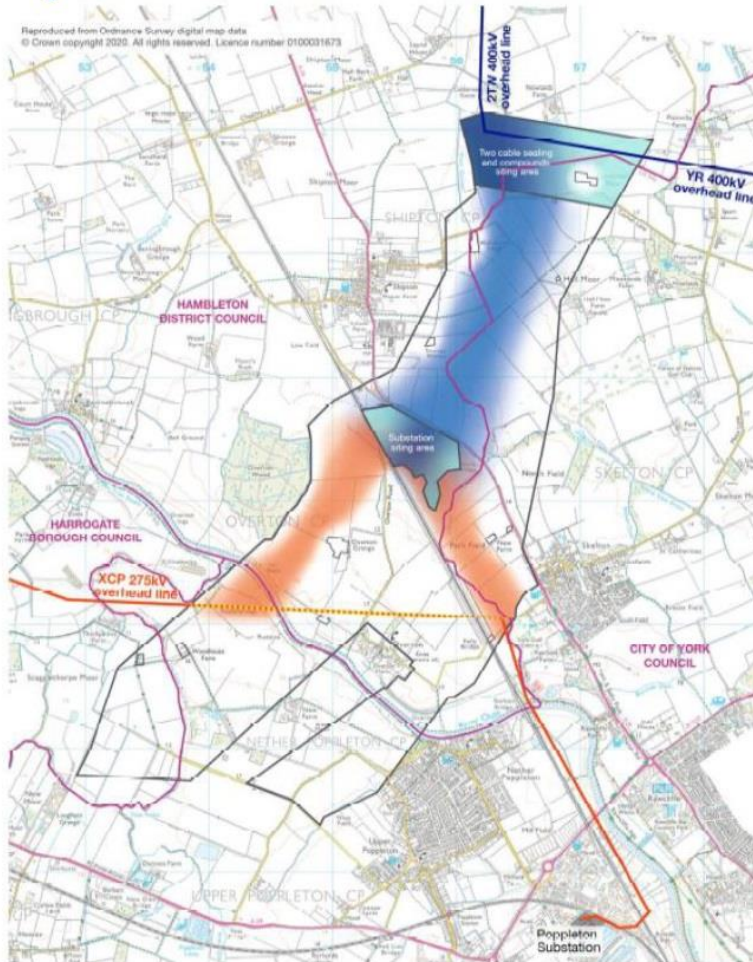
Project Update



**Preferred corridor
and siting areas for
Cable Sealing End
Compounds and
Substation**

Appendix D – Preferred Overhead Line Route (Option 1)

Project Update



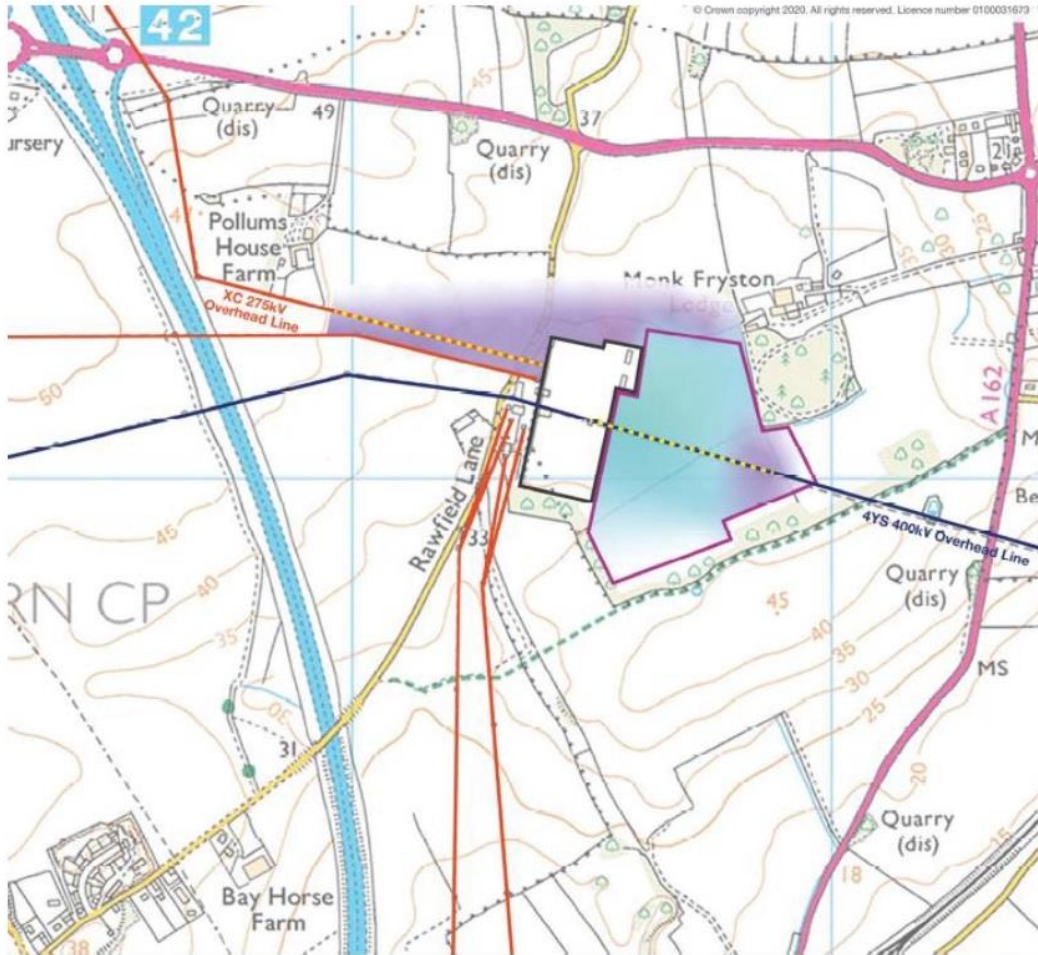
**Preferred Option 1
for the new overhead
line route**

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Appendix E – New Proposed Substation (Monk Fyston)

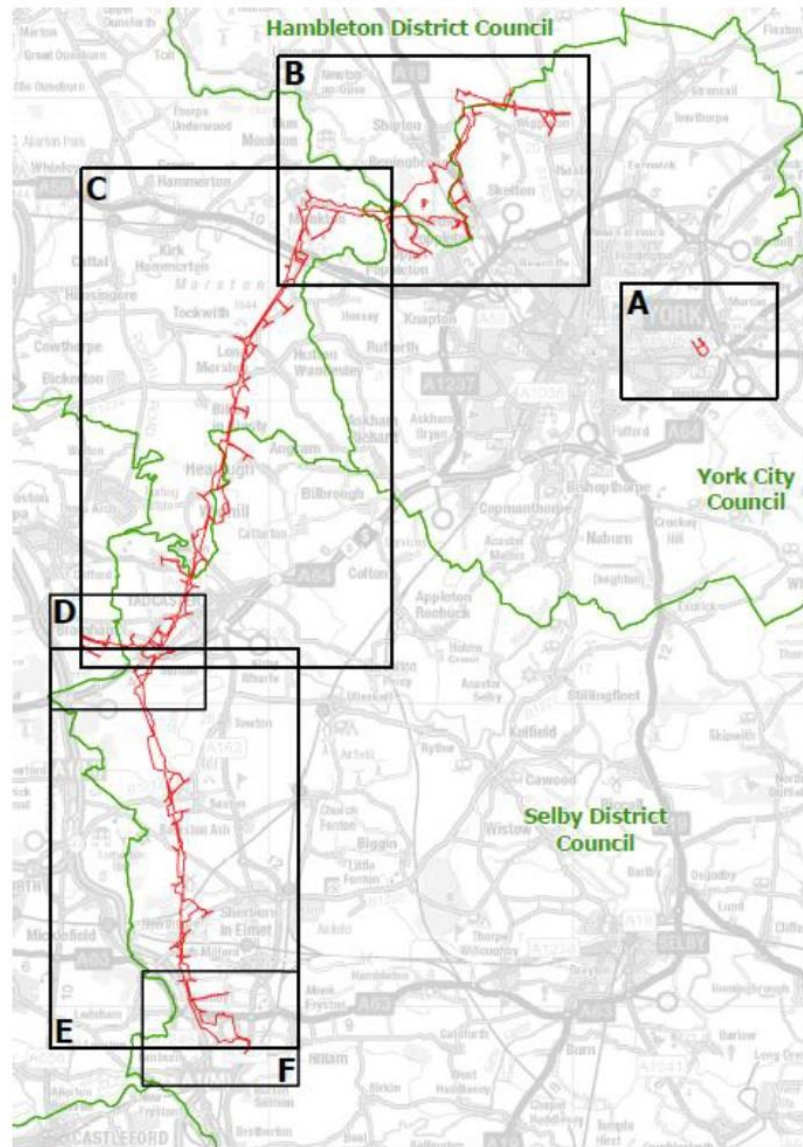
Project Update



Monk Fyston

Appendix F – Sectioned Map

Project Description



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