

# VikingLink

nationalgrid

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## UK Onshore Scheme Statement of Community Involvement

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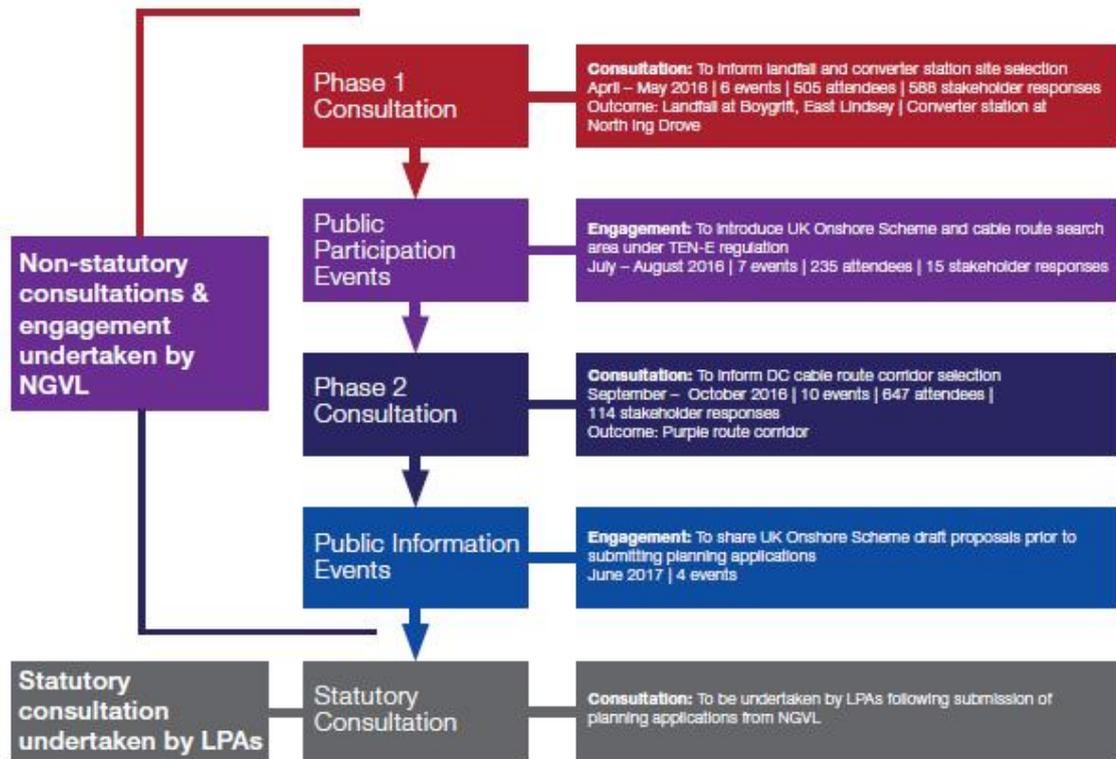
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# 1 Executive Summary

- 1.1.1 National Grid Viking Link Limited (NGVL) has conducted an extensive communications and consultation programme in relation to a 1400 megawatts (MW) high voltage direct current (DC) electricity interconnector between the British and Danish transmission systems, connecting between Bicker Fen, Lincolnshire in Great Britain and Revsing, Jutland in Denmark. The project is commonly referred to as 'Viking Link'.
- 1.1.2 This document sets out the non-statutory pre-application consultation and engagement process undertaken by NGVL on the UK Onshore Scheme. The report presents a detailed account of the stakeholder engagement and public consultation undertaken throughout the course of the Project.
- 1.1.3 The onshore and offshore elements of Viking Link in the UK will be consented by different bodies – East Lindsey District Council, Boston Borough Council, North Kesteven District Council and South Holland District Council for the onshore elements of the project under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA) and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) for the offshore elements (up to 12 nautical miles offshore).
- 1.1.4 The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) sets out how and when the developer (NGVL) and the relevant local planning authority within the vicinity of the proposed Scheme have involved the community in the preparation of the planning application. The SCI will set out when those opportunities have arisen and will highlight the methods in which the stakeholders and residents have had the opportunity to contribute.
- 1.1.5 The importance of pre-application engagement is recognised in the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which states that:
- “Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community”* (Section 188, page 45).
- 1.1.6 NGVL engaged Copper Consultancy Limited, a specialist community relations consultancy, to support the Project, and to co-ordinate public consultations for the UK Onshore Scheme.
- 1.1.7 NGVL has carried out extensive engagement with stakeholders since early 2016, including local communities, landowners, parish and town councils, local authorities and statutory consultees. The flowchart below illustrates each stage of engagement and consultation, including the formal phases of consultation that were carried out regarding site options for the landfall and converter station, and the onshore DC cable route options.



- 1.1.8 In summary across 18 months of engagement, the Project has sent out over 55,000 letters to local residents, landowners and stakeholders. These have comprised letters to introduce the Project, invitations to public events and major Project announcements. The Project has also held 28 public consultation and engagement events, with over 1,650 attendees in total and over 700 stakeholder responses.
- 1.1.9 The first stage of public consultation, Phase 1, was held for six weeks from 11<sup>th</sup> April to 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016 seeking feedback on a preferred landfall, where the offshore cables would be brought ashore, and a preferred converter station location. Six public consultation events were held within the potentially affected parishes, three at the shortlisted landfall site options and three in the affected parishes of the shortlisted converter station site options.
- 1.1.10 Following the Phase 1 Consultation, landfall option ‘LF1a’ at Boygriff, East Lindsey was selected as the preferred landfall site and converter station site option ‘CS1’ at North Ing Drove, South Holland was selected as the preferred converter station site.
- 1.1.11 Public Participation Events were held from 27<sup>th</sup> July until 19<sup>th</sup> August 2016. This was an opportunity for local residents and other stakeholders to find out more about the Project and the areas that would potentially be affected between the preferred landfall and converter station.
- 1.1.12 Phase 2 Consultation sought comment on the proposed onshore DC cable route corridor options between the preferred landfall point and the preferred site for the converter station. These were called the ‘Orange Route Corridor’ and the ‘Purple Route Corridor’.

- 1.1.13 Following comments received from the Phase 1 Consultation, NGVL considered two architectural styles for the proposed converter station as well as the design style options for the converter station building. These were presented at the Phase 2 consultation events.
- 1.1.14 Phase 2 Consultation was held over a six-week period from 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Ten public consultation events were held within parishes along the Purple and Orange Route Corridors identified and in each of the parishes of the preferred converter station site and preferred landfall site.
- 1.1.15 Both phases of public consultations were to provide local communities and stakeholders an opportunity to attend an event, held over a six week period where information on the Project would be provided in different forms of communication.
- 1.1.16 Throughout the consultation programme, various communication channels were made available for people to contact the Project team, ask questions and submit feedback. Each feedback form included an opportunity to leave open comments on what people had seen at the various consultation and engagement events. Respondents were also asked to leave their contact details, should they wish to be kept informed about the proposals.
- 1.1.17 A dedicated Project website (<http://viking-link.com/>) was set up and launched at the time of the first exhibitions. It included information on the proposals and the consultations as well as a feedback form and contact details. Also available was a direct project email address ([vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk](mailto:vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk)) and a free-phone telephone number (+ 44 (0) 800 731 0561). These details were published on all consultation materials. Where appropriate members of the project team contacted people directly to answer questions on more specific details.
- 1.1.18 The feedback received helped shape the Project's proposals as they moved forward and NGVL aimed to address any issues at various consultation and engagement events, setting out reasons for their decisions and any mitigation measures.
- 1.1.19 NGVL is grateful to those who attended the public consultation and engagement events and contributed to the discussion about proposals for the Project. The aim of the consultation events and subsequent engagement was to hear local stakeholders' ideas and comments and to involve them in the proposals.
- 1.1.20 Following both phases of consultation, four Public Information Events were held between 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017, to present updated information on NGVL's proposals which would be included within the planning applications to the local planning authorities.

## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Scope of this document

#### Purpose of the report

- 2.1.1 National Grid Viking Link Limited (NGVL) is applying for full planning permission for the UK Onshore Scheme in Great Britain, to mean low water springs through the local planning process (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) and has reviewed the Statements of Community Involvement (SCI) published by each of the relevant local planning authorities (LPAs) within the vicinity of the UK Onshore Scheme. The SCIs set out how each LPA expects developers to carry out public engagement and consultation on proposals and NGVL has considered the guidance in these documents when planning the consultation and engagement activities.
- 2.1.2 Viking Link (the Project) has been accepted as a Project of Common Interest (PCI) in accordance with the European Union's Trans-European Energy Regulation - EU 347/2013 (referred to as the TEN-E Regulation). The TEN-E Regulation lays down rules for the timely development and interoperability of energy networks in EU Member States and the European Economic Area (EEA). The principles for the consultation process are set out in Annex 6 of the TEN-E Regulation and are set out in section 3.4.2 of this report.
- 2.1.3 This report describes the pre-application consultation that has been undertaken in relation to the proposed Viking Link UK Onshore Scheme and is submitted alongside the relevant onshore consents and planning applications to demonstrate compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework, reference section 3.4.1 of this report for further details. A separate Consultation Report for the UK Offshore Scheme, with the relative pre-application public participation results outlined, has been submitted alongside the Marine Licence application.
- 2.1.4 The purpose of this SCI report is to detail the engagement and consultation activities undertaken by NGVL at the pre-application stage and show how the outcome of these activities have been taken into account in developing the UK onshore planning application submissions.

#### Scope of the report

- 2.1.5 This report presents the pre-application consultation and engagement process undertaken for the UK Onshore Scheme and summarises the results of the consultation and engagement activities, demonstrating how feedback has been incorporated in the revised proposals and the reasons why, if they have not been changed. This includes:
- the background to the Project,
  - the process for consulting,

- the activities undertaken and
  - the results and the weight which the consultation responses have had on the key decisions for the UK Onshore elements of the Project, in compliance with the requirement of Regulation 9(4) of the TEN-E Regulation.
- 2.1.6 This report should be read in addition to the [Viking Link Concept for Public Participation report](#) (September 2016) which describes the concept and programme for stakeholder engagement for public participation across the entirety of the Project to the extent that it affects the UK, Netherlands, Germany and Denmark.
- 2.1.7 The elements of the UK Onshore Scheme for which full planning permission is being sought are set out below:
- Installation of two (2) subsea high voltage direct current (DC) cables between Mean Low Water Springs (MLWS) and landfall at Boygrift in East Lindsey;
  - Installation of two (2) onshore DC cables between the landfall at Boygrift and the converter station at North Ing Drove in South Holland;
  - Construction of associated Temporary Construction Compounds (TCC) and Temporary Works Areas (TWA) and temporary vehicle access arrangements required for DC and AC cable installation;
  - Erection of converter station buildings together with the formation of internal roads, permanent access road from the A52, erection of security fencing, formation of landscaping with associated temporary construction compounds;
  - Installation of up to six (6) onshore high voltage alternating current (AC) cables between the converter station at North Ing Drove and the existing Bicker Fen 400 kiloVolt (kV) Substation owned and operated by National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc (NGET);
  - Installation of link pillars along the AC cable route for inspection and maintenance purposes, these will be contained within fenced areas;
  - Installation of two substation bays at Bicker Fen Substation to allow Viking Link to be connected to the National Grid electricity transmission system;
  - Installation of all associated drainage mitigation works; and
  - Installation of fibre-optic cable(s) with the high voltage AC and DC cables.

## 2.2 Structure of the report

- 2.2.1 The document sets out the organisation of the community engagement process, including the programme of events, details of attendees, issues raised, as well as the outcomes of the process.

Chapter 1 –	Provides an executive summary to consultation on the components of the UK Onshore Scheme as part of the Viking Link Project and the engagement
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undertaken.

- Chapter 2 - Provides a general introduction about the Project and what this report's main aims are.
- Chapter 3 - Provides context with regards to the appropriate national legislation and legislative framework to obtain the required consents and permits.
- Chapter 4 - Outlines the approach to consultation relating to the UK Onshore Scheme.
- Chapter 5 - Provides a summary of the engagement to date, TEN-E Public Participation events, Phase 1 and 2 of the Public Participation Events and the Public Information Events. As well as the engagement that has been undertaken with LPAs, MPs, MEPs and other statutory consultees.
- Chapter 6 - Provides detail on how the consultation has influenced the decisions made on the project.
- Chapter 7 - Provides a summary and conclusion.

## 2.3 Project Overview

- 2.3.1 Viking Link is a proposed 1400 megawatt (MW) high voltage DC electricity link between the Danish and British electricity transmission systems. It will allow electricity to be exchanged between Great Britain and Denmark. It is being jointly developed by NGVL and their development partner Energinet.
- 2.3.2 An overview of the Project is illustrated below. It comprises approximately 762 km (475 miles) of DC onshore and offshore electricity transmission cables between new converter stations at each end of the Project. These are in turn connected to the high voltage electricity transmission networks at existing substations at Bicker Fen, Lincolnshire in Great Britain and Revsing, south Jutland in Denmark.

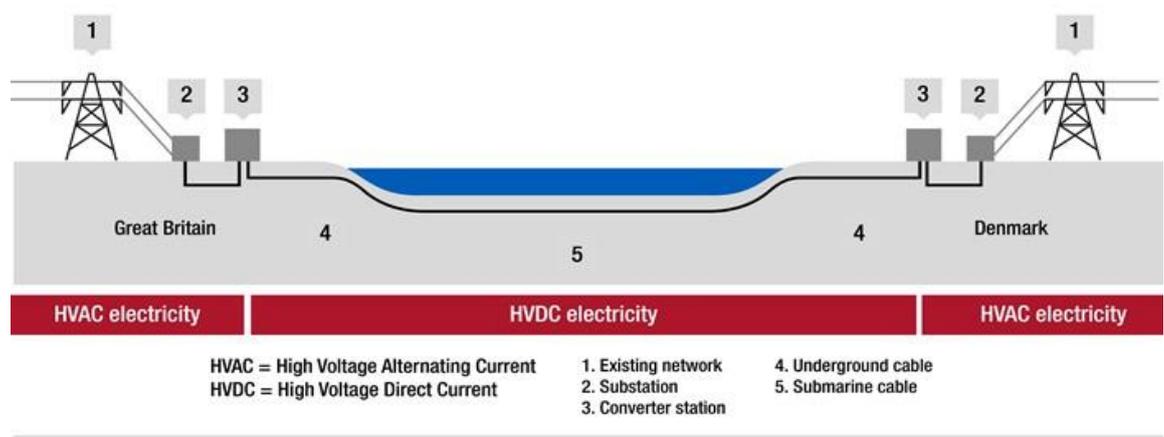
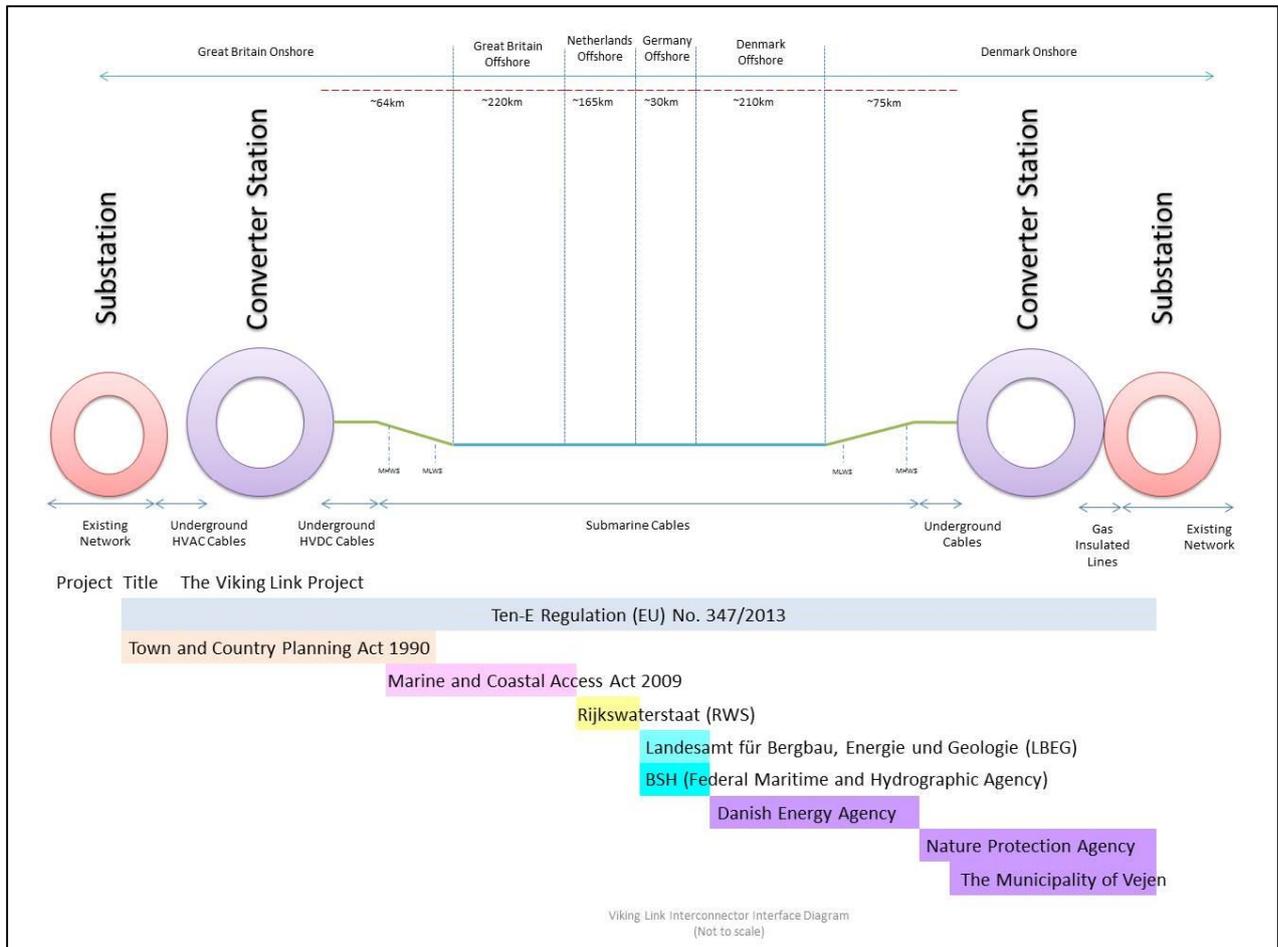


Figure 2.1: Overview of Viking Link

- 2.3.3 More specifically the Project comprises the following:

- In Denmark, referred to as the 'DK Onshore Scheme':
  - New equipment within the existing Revsing 400 kV substation and connection to a new converter station;
  - New converter station to change electricity between AC and DC or vice versa depending on direction of operation;
  - Onshore underground high voltage DC cables from a converter station to a landfall on the coast in western Denmark;
- In the North Sea (Danish, German, Dutch and UK Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs), referred to as respective country's 'Offshore Scheme' submarine high voltage DC cables buried in the seabed for as much of their length as practicable.
- In Great Britain, referred to as the 'UK Onshore Scheme':
  - Onshore underground high voltage DC cables from a landfall at Boygrift, East Lindsey on the Lincolnshire coast to a new converter station;
  - New converter station at North Ing Drove, South Holland to change electricity between DC and AC or vice versa depending on direction of operation;
  - Onshore underground AC cables from the converter station to new equipment within the existing Bicker Fen 400 kV substation which connects to the electricity transmission system.

2.3.4 Figure 2.2, below illustrates the components of the Project, as described above in 2.3.3 as well as the relevant legislation required to consent the Project, as described in Table 3.1 and gives an overview of the Project end-to-end.



**Figure 2.2: End-to-End Viking Link Schematic**

## 3 The Planning Process

### 3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The UK Onshore Scheme and the UK Offshore Scheme will be consented under different legislative frameworks.

### 3.2 Onshore consents and permits

3.2.1 The table below shows the required consent and permits for the UK Onshore Scheme:

Table 3.1 Overview of required consents and permits for the Project		
UK element	Legislation	Consenting or Examining Authority
Onshore	Planning permissions under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011.	Local Planning Authorities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Lindsey District Council;</li> <li>• Boston Borough Council;</li> <li>• North Kesteven District Council; and</li> <li>• South Holland District Council.</li> </ul>

### 3.3 Consent required for the UK Onshore Project

#### Planning Permission

3.3.1 As the UK Onshore Scheme affects four LPAs, an application requesting full planning permission will be submitted to each of the following LPA's:

- East Lindsey District Council;
- Boston Borough District Council;
- North Kesteven District Council; and
- South Holland District Council.

#### Local Council Statement of Community Involvement Documents

3.3.2 Each of the relevant LPAs has their own SCI documents. These set out how the LPA expects developers to carry out public engagement and consultation on proposals.

3.3.3 NGVL has considered the guidance from these documents at all stages of project development, consultation and engagement.

3.3.4 For further information on the LPA SCI documents please see Appendix 1.

### 3.4 Planning Policy

#### National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

3.4.1 The importance of pre-application engagement is recognised in the Government's National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), adopted in March 2012, which states that:

*“Early engagement has significant potential to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning application system for all parties. Good quality pre-application discussion enables better coordination between public and private resources and improved outcomes for the community”* (Section 188, page 45).

#### TEN-E Regulation

3.4.2 Table 3.2 below, demonstrates how NGVL has complied with the requirements of the TEN-E Regulation and the UK Manual of Procedures for Public Participation, which was produced by the UK Government to provide practical guidance on how the requirements of the TEN-E Regulation should be met in respect of PCIs in the UK.

3.4.3 The TEN-E Regulation Manual of Procedures (2014) states that:

*“Some UK consenting regimes set out specific requirements for consultation. For example, the Planning Act 2008 and its implementing regulations have statutory obligations to consult statutory bodies, including environmental bodies such as Natural England and local authorities before submitting an application...The developer is required to submit a report on all the statutory consultation and publicity they have undertaken”*

Table 3.2 Overview of required consents and permits for the Project		
Requirement	Detail	Comment
Creation of dedicated Project website with links to the UK Manual of Procedures has been published	Separate Member State specific websites have been established: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· In English: <a href="http://www.viking-link.com">www.viking-link.com</a></li> <li>· In Danish: <a href="http://www.viking-link.dk">www.viking-link.dk</a></li> <li>· In Dutch: <a href="http://www.viking-link.nl">www.viking-link.nl</a></li> <li>· In German: <a href="http://www.viking-link.de">www.viking-link.de</a></li> </ul>	Requirement completed. Dedicated project website regularly updated
Publication of Project Information Leaflet	Available on dedicated project websites in English, Dutch, German and Danish	Completed and published on dedicated project website. Available at: <a href="http://www.viking-link.com/media/1080/uk-a4-vikinglink.pdf">www.viking-link.com/media/1080/uk-a4-vikinglink.pdf</a>

Table 3.2 Overview of required consents and permits for the Project		
Requirement	Detail	Comment
Publication of Non-Technical Summary	Non-Technical Summary published on project website July 2017	Completed and published on dedicated project website. Available at: <a href="http://viking-link.com/media/1166/uk_vkl-07-37-j800-002-pci-non-technical-summary-gb-final.pdf">http://viking-link.com/media/1166/uk_vkl-07-37-j800-002-pci-non-technical-summary-gb-final.pdf</a>
UK Public Participation Events	Participation held between 27th July and 19th August	All completed
Other Member State Public Participation Events	Denmark – 13 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2016 Netherlands – 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2016 Germany – 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2016  Compliance to hold Public Participation Events within 2 months across Member States affected by the Viking Link project is demonstrated	Complete Complete Complete

## 4 Consultation Framework

### 4.1 Overview

- 4.1.1 This chapter outlines the consultation relating to the UK Onshore Scheme only; consultation relating to the Offshore Scheme is set out in a separate Consultation Report (Appendix A - UK Offshore Consultation Report. Document reference: VKL-07-30-J800-018).
- 4.1.2 NGVL recognised from the early stages of the Project that the inclusion of effective pre-application public consultation would produce better developed planning applications that were more thoroughly and widely understood by the public. The intention of the public engagement was to provide local residents and other stakeholders with an early opportunity to view and understand the Project’s proposed content prior to the submission of the full planning applications to the LPAs.
- 4.1.3 By engaging early on, stakeholders had the opportunity to influence the Project’s key design decisions by providing consultation feedback which contributed to the Project decisions such as the landfall and converter station siting and the cable routing.

### 4.2 Approach to Consultation

- 4.2.1 NGVL adopted a phased approach to engagement to allow feedback from stakeholders to be fed into the decision-making process at points when it could influence the development of the UK Onshore Scheme, see Figure 4.3.

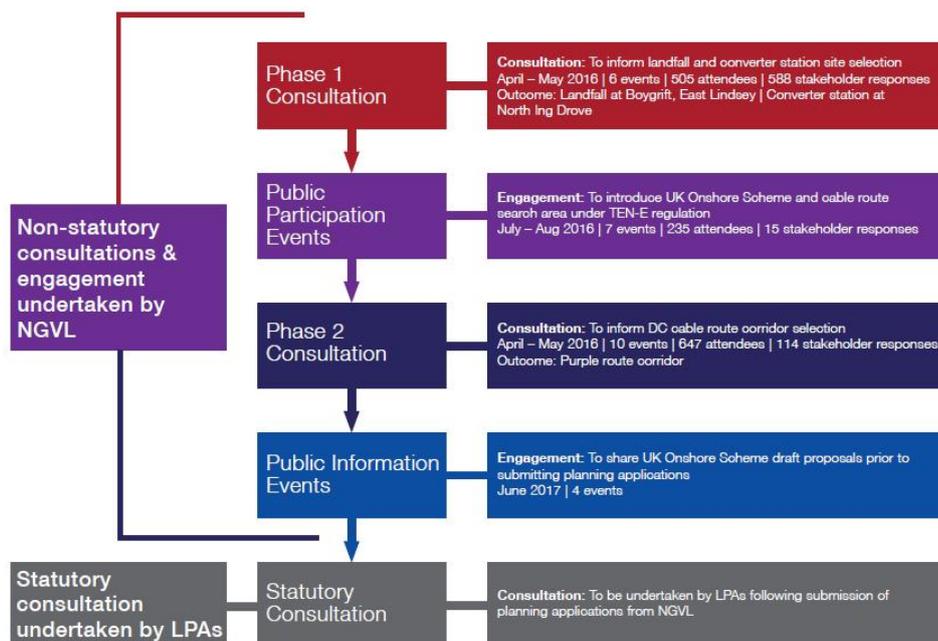


Figure 4.3: Approach to Consultation

### 4.3 Scope of Consultation

#### Approach to consultation

- 4.3.1 NGVL has, from the start of the Project, considered it to be important that local communities and stakeholders be given the opportunity to get involved in the key decisions; given the opportunity to influence and support the Project outcomes as well as having their own needs taken into consideration.
- 4.3.2 NGVL considered a programme of engagement to consult with stakeholders and communities that would potentially be affected by, or interested in the Project. This programme ensured people had access to information, were informed about progress and outcomes, had the opportunity to consider the proposals and express their opinions by providing feedback prior to submission of the planning applications.
- 4.3.3 Initial meetings with LPA’s and key stakeholders were held to inform them of the Project plans. NGVL’s intention was to identify local communities and businesses that would potentially be affected by the Project’s plans as well as identifying other possibly interested stakeholders. The Project’s infrastructure was broken up into three elements in order to manage the engagement process more effectively which are shown below in Table 4.1. These were classed as ‘zones’ for consultation purposes.

Table 4.1 Project Infrastructure for Effective Project Engagement	
Project Infrastructure	
Area around potential landfall site	Classed as ‘zones’ for consultation purposes
Area around the potential converter station site	
Land in between these two sites which were where the potential cables would need to be routed	

- 4.3.4 The UK Onshore Scheme considered the affected communities to be those who live or work/operate locally. The approach was to identify ‘consultation zones’ for each stage of the Project based on proximity to the proposed infrastructure. NGVL decided to consult over two phases; Phase 1 and Phase 2. The residents and businesses within the zones were contacted directly by letter, inviting them to attend consultations, public information events and to participate in the relevant consultations. Both phases sought views on the proposed options via feedback forms that were to be considered when deciding on a preferred option.

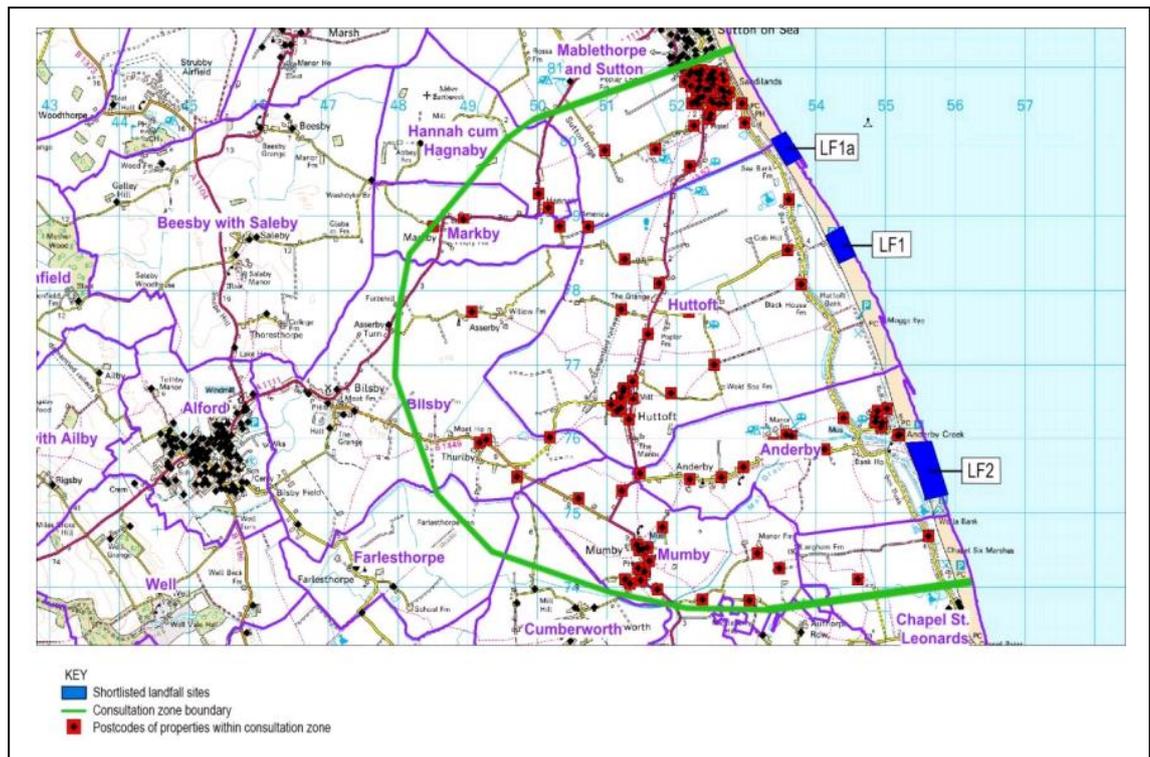
#### Phase 1 Consultation

- 4.3.5 The Phase 1 Consultation presented information and sought feedback on the shortlisted site options for a landfall point and a converter station. Given the distance between them, two discreet consultation zones were identified around the site options.

4.3.6 In January 2016, planning officers were asked to comment on NGVL’s proposed consultation zones for converter station site options to facilitate the Phase 1 consultation. These zones represent the areas within which stakeholders and the local community would be directly invited by letter to participate in the consultation. Planning officers from Boston Borough Council and North Kesteven District Council responded, noting that they were happy with the proposed zones. These officers also gave advice on additional stakeholders they felt should be included in the consultation.

Landfall consultation zone

4.3.7 Given the proximity to the coast and the nature of the work involved, the consultation zone was developed to incorporate properties within the vicinity of the shortlisted landfall sites as well as areas further inland within the vicinity of potential cable route options and access points to the landfall site options. As shown in Figure 4.4, below.



**Figure 4.4: Phase 1 Consultation – landfall consultation zone**

Converter station consultation zone

4.3.8 The consultation zone was defined by a 3km boundary from the edge of each of the converter station sites, a 3km boundary was considered acceptable as to include everyone who would be directly affected, avoiding major urban areas. Please see Figure 4.5 below.

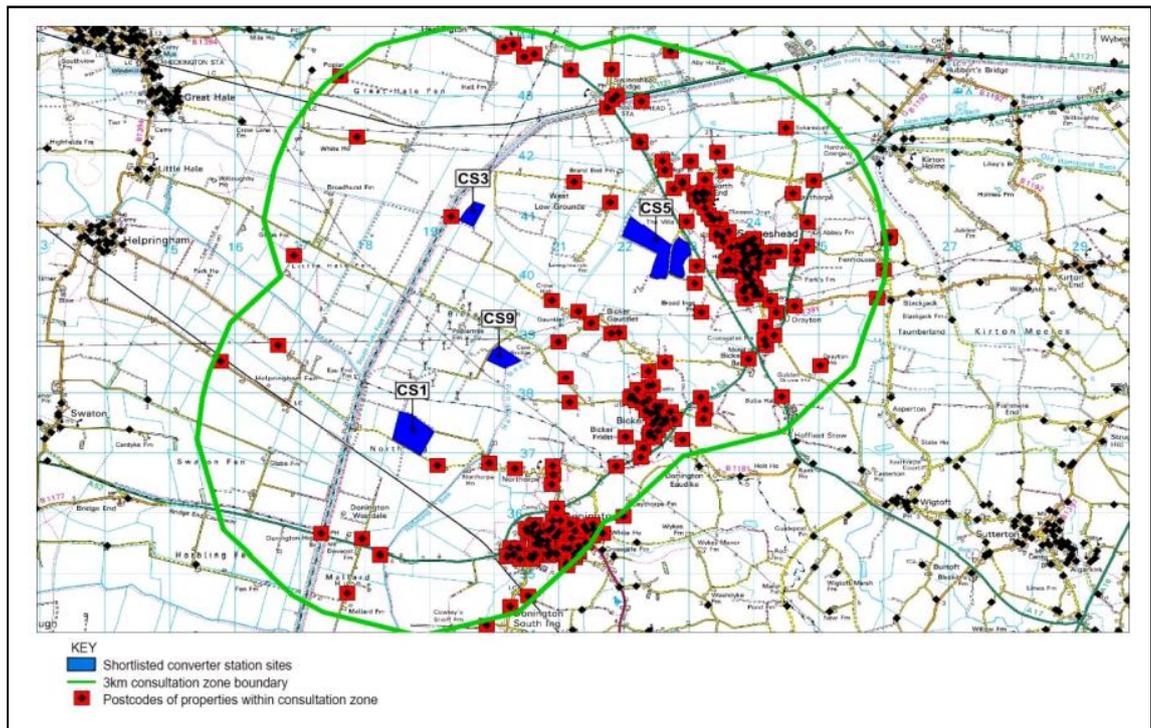


Figure 4.5: Phase 1 consultation – converter station consultation zone

Phase 2 Consultation

- 4.3.9 Phase 2 Consultation presented information on the proposed onshore DC cable route corridor options between the preferred landfall point and the preferred site for the converter station, as well as the design style options for the converter station building.
- 4.3.10 A consultation zone was established based on the approach followed during Phase 1 Consultation. A buffer of 1km either side of the underground cable route corridor options was used and where the edge of the consultation zone divided a small community or row of properties, the zone was extended to include additional properties. The consultation zone is shown in Figure 4.6.

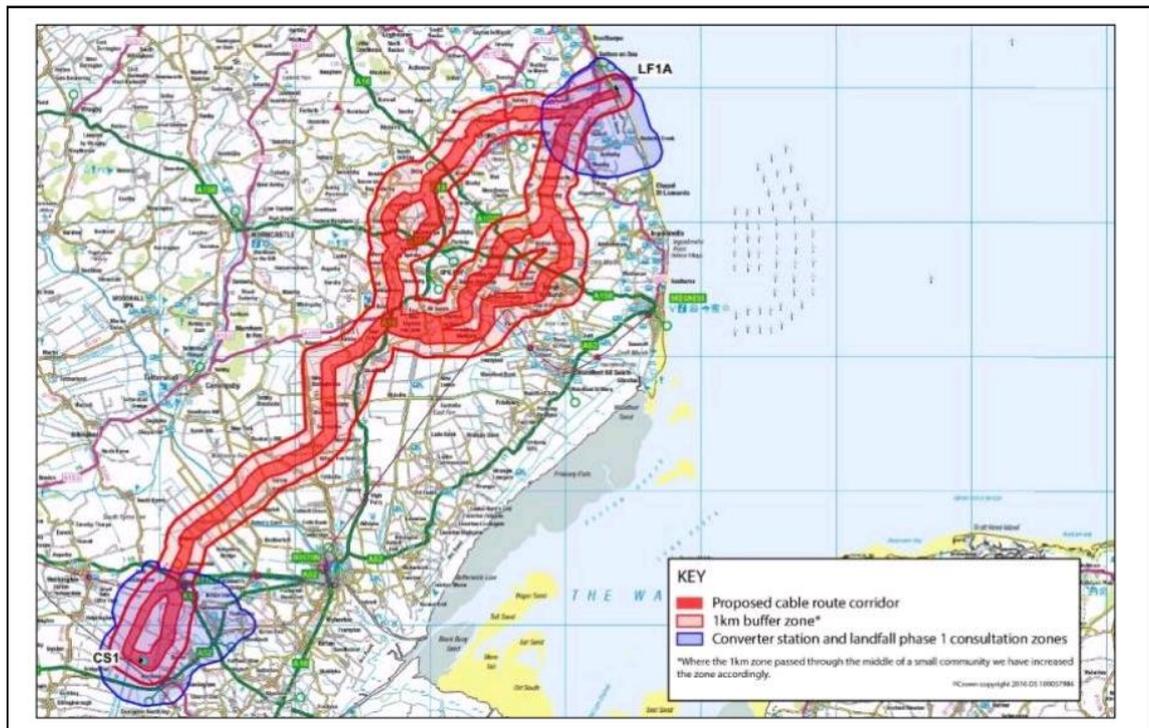


Figure 4.6: Phase 2 Consultation - consultation zone

Stakeholders

4.3.11 The relevant stakeholders identified for Project consultations and engagement is set out in Table 4.2 below:

Table 4.2 Stakeholders consulted	
Scheme	Particulars
Onshore	East Lindsey District Council Boston Borough Council North Kesteven District Council South Holland District Council Lincolnshire County Council Landowners & Tenants Parish Councils Local communities Natural England Environment Agency Historic England Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Lincolnshire Countryside Services National Farmers Union

**Table 4.2 Stakeholders consulted**

Scheme	Particulars
	Countryside Landowner Association Heritage Lincolnshire National Trust Lindsey Marsh Internal Drainage Board (IDB), Witham Fourth IDB Black Sluice IDB Lincolnshire Association of Agricultural Valuers

Phase 1 and 2 Consultation Communication Channels

- 4.3.12 Both phases of public consultations were structured so as to provide local communities and stakeholders an opportunity to attend an event. These events were held over a six week period where information on the Project would be provided in different forms of communication. These different forms of communication included visual presentation boards, access to printed written reports, printed visual graphics and maps, electronic walk through graphics and representatives from the Project team were on hand to verbally provide information and answer any specific questions attendees may have.
- 4.3.13 NGVL recognised how important it was to encourage feedback from the consultations and to then feed the information into the decision-making process at points where it could influence the development of proposals. Feedback forms were handed to each visitor providing the opportunity to give their views and feedback on the consultation and the specific aspects being consulted on the Project. The feedback forms could be completed on the day and handed to the Project team, posted after the consultation event using the freepost envelope provided or completed online via the Project website, by email or telephone directly to the community relations consultancy.
- 4.3.14 After each consultation phase, a document was produced to inform LPA's, stakeholders and other interested parties of the approach taken to conduct the consultation, the feedback received and NGVL's response to feedback. Links to the consultation reports are provided here, Phase 1 Consultation report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)) and Phase 2 Consultation report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)).

## 5 UK Onshore Consultation

### 5.1 Stakeholder Engagement

#### Early Stakeholder Consultation Meetings

- 5.1.1 Early engagement with stakeholders took various forms including meetings, workshops and discussions with representatives from relevant statutory and non-statutory bodies. Further information on stakeholder engagement can also be found in the Phase 1 and Phase 2 Consultation reports (please see section 4.3.14, for links to documents).

#### Local Authorities

- 5.1.2 NGVL identified the potentially affected LPA's and held meetings with planning officers to introduce the Project and discuss the development proposals.
- 5.1.3 Meetings were held at key stages of the Project to inform LPA's and update them on key project development stages and milestones. Meetings were held in November 2015, January 2016, June 2016 and August 2016. Dates and details of these meetings can be found in below in Table 5.1.

Table 5.1 Local authority meetings		
Date of meetings	Purpose of meetings	Attendees
6 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	Update meeting	Lincolnshire County Council East Lindsey District Council Boston Borough Council South Holland District Council
20 <sup>th</sup> November 2015	Update meeting	North Kesteven District Council
15 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Preferred terminal points workshop	Lincolnshire County Council Boston Borough Council North Kesteven District Council South Holland District Council
25 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Preferred terminal points workshop	East Lindsey District Council
21 <sup>st</sup> June 2016	Onshore routeing workshop	Lincolnshire County Council East Lindsey District Council North Kesteven District Council South Holland District Council
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	Update meeting	Boston Borough Council

**Table 5.1 Local authority meetings**

Date of meetings	Purpose of meetings	Attendees
3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016	Targeted routeing workshop	Lincolnshire County Council East Lindsey District Council North Kesteven District Council South Holland District Council

5.1.4 After NGVL had identified the Phase 1 Consultation zones which included the landfill consultation zone (see Figure 4.4) and the converter station consultation zone (see Figure 4.5), the relevant LPA's were consulted on the extent of the zones in January 2016. These zones were selected as explained in section 4.3 of this report above. Boston Borough Council and North Kesteven District Council planning officers responded to confirm they were comfortable with the extent of the proposed zones presented by NGVL. Advice was also given by the LPA's on additional stakeholders that ought to be consulted; these additional stakeholders were added to the consultation strategy.

5.1.5 Additional briefing meetings were held during March and August 2016 with the potentially affected LPA's to inform them of the information which the Project would be consulting on during the Phase 1 Consultation. Dates and details of these meetings can be found in Table 5.2.

**Table 5.2 Local authority meetings**

Date of meetings	Council constituency	Attendees
14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Lincolnshire County Council	County councillors
14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Boston Borough Council	Borough councillors
17 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	South Holland District Council	District councillors
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	North Kesteven District Council	District councillors
23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2016	East Lindsey District Council	District councillors
21 <sup>st</sup> June 2016	Lincolnshire County Council, East Lindsey District Council, North Kesteven District Council, and South Holland District Council	County and District councillors
24 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	Boston Borough Council	Borough councillors
3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016	Lincolnshire County Council, East Lindsey District Council, North Kesteven District Council, and South Holland District Council	County and District councillors.

#### MP's and MEP's

5.1.6 It was important to ensure that Local Members of Parliament (MP) and Members of European Parliament (MEP) were aware of the Project. Between March 2015 and June 2017, Project and

consultation information as well as programme details were provided by letter or email to relevant MP's and MEP's and briefing meetings were held with:

- Victoria Atkins (MP for Louth and Horncastle),
- Matthew Warman (MP for Boston and Skegness),
- Stephen Philips (MP for Sleaford and North Hykeham), who stood down from the position in November 2016 and was replaced by Dr Caroline Johnson in December 2016, and
- John Hayes (MP for South Holland and The Deepings) who was offered briefing meetings and took up the offer to have one in 2017.

5.1.7 A list of the MP's and MEP's along with dates of meetings and correspondence can be found in Table 5.3.

Table 5.3 Meetings and Correspondence with MPs and MEPs			
Date of briefing	Member of Parliament	Constituency	Details
6 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Sir Peter Tapsell Mark Simmonds	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness	Letter – introducing project
6 <sup>th</sup> March 2015	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Glenis Willmott Margot Parker Andrew Lewer	Members of European Parliament	Letter – introducing project
22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2015	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness	Letter – introducing project
22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2015	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness	Letter/email – to update on the project as qualified for 'cap and floor' regime.
22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2015	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Glenis Willmott Margot Parker Andrew Lewer	Members of European Parliament	Letter/email – to update on the project as qualified for 'cap and floor' regime.

Table 5.3 Meetings and Correspondence with MPs and MEPs			
Date of briefing	Member of Parliament	Constituency	Details
29 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness	Letter/email update on the project – now in a position to explain more about the proposals and how we consult with the local communities.
29 <sup>th</sup> September 2015	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Andrew Lewer	Members of European Parliament	Meeting
6 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Matt Warman	Boston and Skegness	Meeting
14 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Stephen Phillips	Sleaford and North Hykeham	Letter/email introduction to the project
27 <sup>th</sup> January 2016	Victoria Atkins Stephen Phillips	Louth and Horncastle Sleaford and North Hykeham	Meeting
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2016	John Hayes	South Holland and The Deepings	Email – introduction to project and offer of meeting
23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2016	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman Stephen Phillips  John Hayes	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness Sleaford and North Hykeham  South Holland and The Deepings	Email update and copied into letter sent to landowners whose land occupies potential landfall and converter station sites
23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2016	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Glenis Willmott Margot Parker Andrew Lewer	Members of European Parliament	Email update and copied into letter sent to landowners whose land occupies potential landfall and converter station sites

Table 5.3 Meetings and Correspondence with MPs and MEPs			
Date of briefing	Member of Parliament	Constituency	Details
14 <sup>th</sup> March 2016	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman Stephen Phillips  John Hayes	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness Sleaford and North Hykeham South Holland and The Deepings	Email update on project re local authority meetings
5 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman Stephen Phillips  John Hayes	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness Sleaford and North Hykeham South Holland and The Deepings	Update on project and invitation to participate in Phase 1 consultation
5 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Glenis Willmott Margot Parker Andrew Lewer	MEPs	Update on project and invitation to participate in Phase 1 consultation
25 <sup>th</sup> April 2016	Matt Warman	Boston and Skegness	Meeting
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2016	Victoria Atkins	Louth and Horncastle	Meeting and site visit
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman Stephen Phillips  John Hayes	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness Sleaford and North Hykeham South Holland and The Deepings	Letter/email update on project
8 <sup>th</sup> June 2016	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Glenis Willmott Margot Parker Andrew Lewer	Members of European Parliament	Letter/email update on project
4 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	Victoria Atkins Matt Warman Stephen Phillips John Hayes	Louth and Horncastle Boston and Skegness Sleaford and North Hykeham South Holland and The Deepings	Letter/email update on project re surveys

Table 5.3 Meetings and Correspondence with MPs and MEPs			
Date of briefing	Member of Parliament	Constituency	Details
4 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	Roger Helmer Emma McClarkin Glenis Willmott Margot Parker Andrew Lewer	Members of European Parliament	Letter/email update on project re surveys
11th August 2016	Matt Warman	Boston and Skegness	
29th November 2016	Victoria Atkins	Louth and Horncastle	
7th December 2016	John Hayes	South Holland and The Deepings	
25th April 2017	Victoria Atkins	Louth and Horncastle	

#### Other Stakeholders

5.1.8 Key stakeholders were identified by the Project, verified with and extended to include additional suggestions by the relevant LPA's. Stakeholder meetings were held between September 2015 and July 2016 with the following bodies:

- Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Services (LWCS);
- Marine Management Organisation (MMO);
- Natural England (NE);
- Environment Agency (EA);
- Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust (LWT);
- Lindsey Marsh IDB, Witham Fourth IDB and Black Sluice IDB;
- Heritage England (HE) and Heritage Lincolnshire (HE) and
- National Trust (NT).

5.1.9 The dates of meetings and workshops with the above stakeholders can be found in below in Table 5.4.

**Table 5.4 Stakeholder workshops and meetings**

Date of meetings	Purpose of meetings	Attendees
21 <sup>st</sup> June 2016	Onshore routeing workshop	Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service Natural England Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Historic England Heritage Lincolnshire National Trust Lindsey Marsh IDB Witham Fourth IDB Black Sluice IDB
21 <sup>st</sup> July 2016	Onshore routeing workshop	Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service Natural England Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust Historic England Heritage Lincolnshire National Trust
3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016	Onshore routeing workshop	Environment Agency Lindsey Marsh IDB Witham Fourth IDB Black Sluice IDB
4 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	Introduction to Viking Link UK Onshore Scheme	National Farmers Union
28 <sup>th</sup> September 2016	Introduction to Viking Link UK Onshore Scheme	Canal and River Trust

#### Parish Council Briefings

- 5.1.10 From January to March 2016, NGVL arranged meetings with parish councillors from 13 parish and town councils identified as being local to the potential converter station and landfall sites. Project information was presented to councillors in order to introduce the Project and seek views on how best to engage with their local communities. Further information on previous correspondence can be found in the Phase 1 Consultation Report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)).
- 5.1.11 A public drop in information event was held on 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Bicker Village Hall in response to a suggestion by the Chairman of Bicker Parish Council who felt that this would be a better way for the Project to engage with the local community rather than a parish council briefing. Bicker

Village Hall is in the vicinity of Bicker Fen Substation and one of the shortlisted converter station site options.

- 5.1.12 A list of the 13 parish and town councils and dates of meetings can be found in Phase 1 Consultation Report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#) and Phase 2 Consultation report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)). A copy of the presentation made to the parish and town councils can be found in Appendix 2. The display boards from the Bicker public information event are published on the project website at [http://www.viking-link.com/media/1050/20160302\\_viking-link\\_bicker-info-event-banners\\_final.pdf](http://www.viking-link.com/media/1050/20160302_viking-link_bicker-info-event-banners_final.pdf).

### Letters and Consultation

- 5.1.13 Letters providing information about the Project and inviting recipients to participate in the Phase 1 consultation events were sent to approximate 4,500 residential properties and local businesses as follows:
- 3,058 letters to residents and businesses located within a 3km boundary from the edge of the four shortlisted converter station sites.
  - 1,548 letters to residents and businesses located within a consultation zone created to incorporate local properties within the vicinity of the landfall sites as well as areas further inland to incorporate potential cable route options and access points to the site options.
  - Press releases were sent to local newspapers and a summary of local media coverage can be found in the Consultation Report.

### Project Website, E-mail and Freephone

- 5.1.14 Stakeholders were directed to and able to access the proposals and other material from the Project website ([www.viking-link.com](http://www.viking-link.com)). This was accessible before, during and after the consultation periods. Project updates, documents and other material and consultation information were published on the website to enable viewing of downloadable information of all material including the information display boards and the feedback questionnaires.
- 5.1.15 The website continues to serve as a primary source of information for the Project during the determination period of the planning applications for the UK Onshore Scheme.
- 5.1.16 Also available was a direct Project email address ([vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk](mailto:vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk)) and a free-phone telephone number (+ 44 (0) 800 731 0561). These details were published on all consultation materials.

## **5.2 Phase 1 Consultation**

- 5.2.1 Phase 1 Consultation was conducted over six weeks with six consultation events taking place within the potentially affected parishes; due to not having a defined route, from 11<sup>th</sup> April to 20<sup>th</sup> May 2016. This consultation was held to consult on the identified alternative shortlisted options for landfall and converter station sites.

### Pre-consultation

- 5.2.2 Following the identification of the consultation zones as explained above in 4.3 Scope of Consultation of this report, MP's, MEP's, local authority officers, parish councils and representatives of statutory and other stakeholder groups were contacted via email or letter to notify them of the Phase 1 Consultation details, inviting them to participate in the consultation events and were asked to provide feedback from their respective organisations regarding the shortlisted options for the landfall and converter station sites.
- 5.2.3 A list of those parties issued with the Phase 1 Consultation letter and email and dates sent and further details of this can also be found in Phase 1 Consultation Report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)).

### Third Parties/landowners

- 5.2.4 There were 264 properties identified through desktop mapping which, at this stage of the Project, were potentially affected by the converter station and landfall elements of the Project. Letters were sent directly to all these properties.
- 5.2.5 After the potential landfall and converter station sites had been defined; an additional 64 landowner properties were sent letters to advise them of the shortlisted sites to be taken forward.
- 5.2.6 All landowner letters included an invite to attend the public consultation events to find out more about the Project, participate in the consultation as well as speak to NGVL land agents if required.
- 5.2.7 Approximately 4,500 local residents and local businesses were identified within the consultation zones and were notified of the Phase 1 Consultation through a variety of contact methods and media. All of the letters to landowners published included details of alternative ways to get in touch via the Project website, telephone, email and address details to contact by letter for more information or to provide comments.
- 5.2.8 Other forms of publicity of the Project's Phase 1 Consultation events were in the form of posters provided to Clerks of Parish Councils to display on local notice boards, briefings with local press and broadcast media and issuing a local press release.

### Public Consultation Events

- 5.2.9 Public consultation events allowed the public to view information on the Project, enabled an understanding of the Project elements and gave the public an opportunity to comment on the site options for the shortlisted landfall and converter station sites. The consultation events were run as 'drop-in' sessions for people to turn up at their own convenience between the specified times. The below table shows the public consultation events and attendance held in the identified six locations.

Table 5.5 Phase 1 Consultation Events			
Location	Date and time	Converter station/landfall	Attendance
Swineshead Village Hall	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 12pm-8pm	Converter station	165
Bicker Village Hall	Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 10am-4pm	Converter station	65
Anderby Village Hall	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2016 12pm-8pm	Landfall	35
Ruby Hunt Centre, Donington	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2016 12pm-8pm	Converter Station	60
Huttoft Village Hall	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April 2016 10am-4pm	Landfall	65
Grange and Links Hotel, Sandilands	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2016 12pm-8pm	Converter station	115

5.2.10 Attendees were given time to view the information boards presented and Project representatives were available to speak to throughout the event. The converter station boards can be found [here](#) and the landfall site information boards can be found [here](#). People were encouraged to provide feedback on the proposals using the feedback forms as shown in Phase 1 Consultation Report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)). A total of 505 people attended the Phase 1 Consultation events.

5.2.11 Details of activities undertaken and feedback received during this phase of consultation along with NGVL's responses can be found in the Phase 1 Consultation report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)). Information on how the feedback received during Phase 1 Consultation has influenced the site selection decisions is summarised in Chapter 7 of this report and further details are set out in NGVL's [Preferred Site Selection Report](#) (EBD-VIK-ONS-DOC-0004).

### 5.3 Public Participation Events

5.3.1 A series of seven events were conducted in July to August 2016 to introduce the Project to local residents, landowners and stakeholders across the DC Cable Route Corridor Search Area. An additional event was held at Grimsby which focused on offshore marine activities. An opportunity for attendees to view Project information and to comment on the proposals was provided. The events met the requirements for a PCI in accordance with the TEN-E Regulation as set out in the [TEN –E Regulation \(EU347/2013\)](#), manual of procedures, section 4; paragraph 4.1.

Table 5.6 TEN- E Public Participation Events			
Location	Date	Time	Attendance
Little Steeping Village Hall	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July 2016	1.30pm – 8.00pm	63
Aby Village Hall	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2016	1.30pm – 8.00pm	12
Orby Village Hall	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August 2016	1.30pm – 8.00pm	26
Huttoft Village Hall	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	1.30pm – 8.00pm	41
Holland Fen Village Hall	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	12.30am – 4.00pm	12
St James Hotel Grimsby	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	2.00pm – 8.00pm	0
Stickford Victory Hall	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	1.30pm – 8.00pm	46
Partney Village Hall	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> August 2016	1.30pm – 8.00pm	35
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>235</b>

## 5.4 Phase 2 Consultation

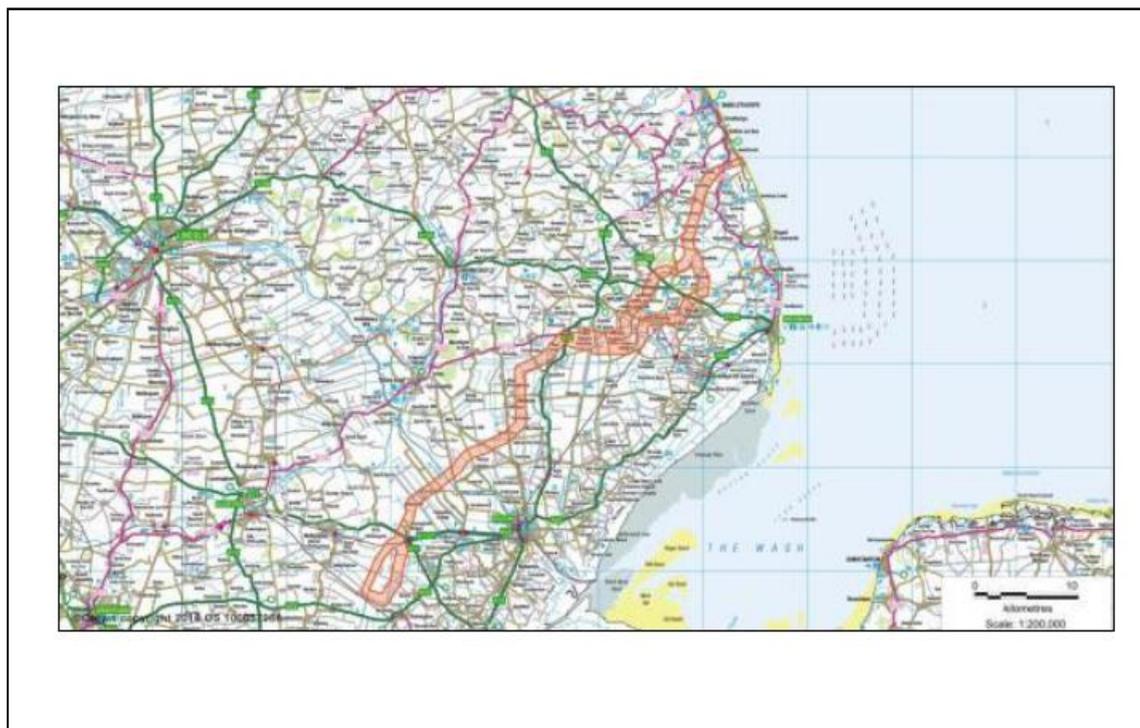
5.4.1 The aim of the Phase 2 Consultation was to help inform the Project alongside technical and environmental assessments to find a suitable DC cable route corridor after the outcome of the Phase 1 consultations, which provided the two ‘end points’ being the preferred converter station site and the landfall site.

### Preferred Cable Route Corridors

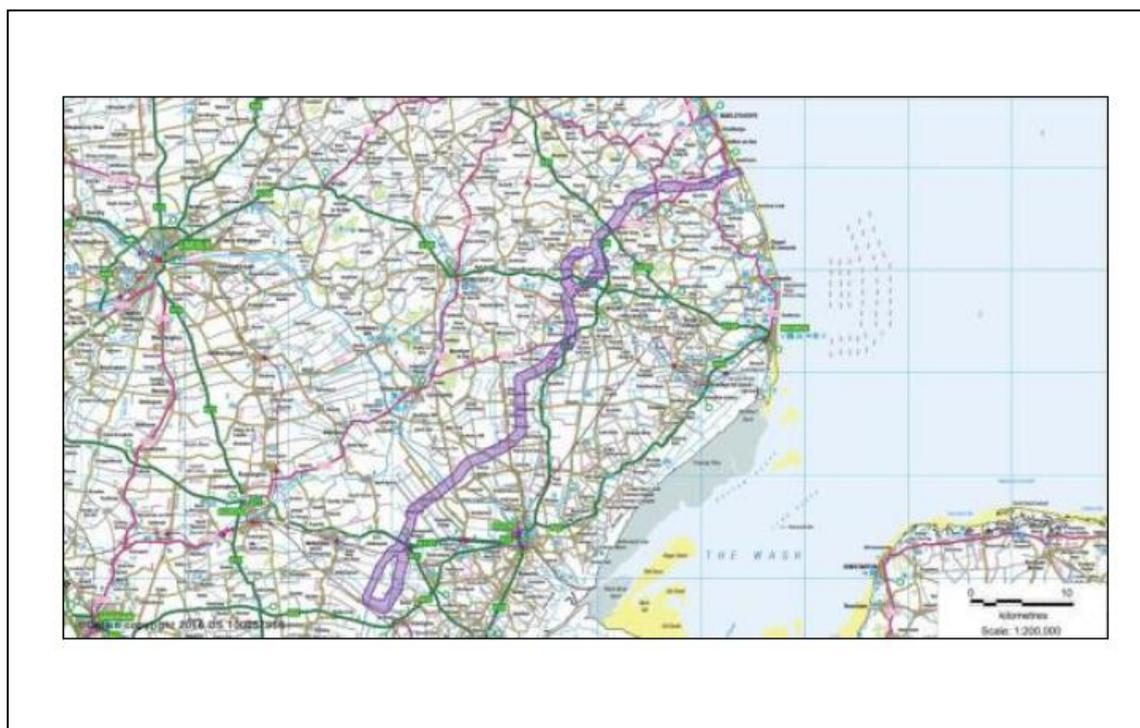
5.4.2 The Phase 2 Consultation provided information and sought feedback on two underground DC cable route corridor options between the preferred landfall point and the preferred site for the converter station, as well as the design style options for the converter station building.

5.4.3 Ten consultation events were held over a six week period, from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Further information on how the cable route corridors were identified can be found in [UK Onshore Scheme Route Corridor Selection Report](#) (VKL-08-06-G500-001).

5.4.4 The two cable route corridors consulted on for Phase 2 Consultation were the Orange and Purple Route Corridors. Figure 5.6 shows the Orange Route Corridor and Figure 5.7 shows the Purple Route Corridor.



**Figure 5.7: Phase 2 Consultation – Orange Route Corridor**



**Figure 5.8: Phase 2 Consultation – Purple Route corridor**

5.4.5 NGVL considered two architectural styles for the proposed converter station following comments received from the Phase 1 Consultation. These two styles were ‘functional’ and ‘contextual’, two

colour variations of the 'functional' style were also proposed. For further information regarding the converter station styles please see UK Onshore Scheme Phase 2 Consultation Feedback Report, Volume 1, VKL-08-39-G500-006 ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)).

### Pre-consultation

- 5.4.6 Following the identification of the Phase 2 Consultation zones, MP's, MEP's, local authority officers, parish councils and representatives of statutory and other stakeholder groups were contacted via email or letter to notify them of NGVL's choice of preferred landfall and converter station sites and providing links to the relevant published reports. Stakeholders notified during Phase 2 Consultation were also notified and, invited to participate in the consultation events and were asked to provide feedback of their respective organisation regarding the shortlisted options for cable route corridors.
- 5.4.7 A list of who was sent the Phase 2 Consultation letter and email with dates sent can be found in the Phase 2 Consultation feedback report [Vol 1](#).
- 5.4.8 Briefing meetings were also held with representatives from organisations such as the National Farmers Union (NFU), the Lincolnshire Association of Agricultural Valuers (LAAV) and the Country Landowners Association (CLA).
- 5.4.9 More than 11,100 local residents and local businesses, identified in the Phase 2 Consultation zone, were sent letters to notify them of the Projects progress and inviting them to participate in the Phase 2 Consultation events and encouraged to provide feedback.

### Third Parties/ Landowners

- 5.4.10 There were 1,279 landowners identified as owning land within either of the two underground cable route corridor options or within the vicinity of the preferred landfall or converter station sites. Letters were sent to each landowner to notify them that some or all of their land was within the cable route corridors being taken forward and consulted on. Invitations to attend the Phase 2 Consultation were also included in the letters providing them with an opportunity to find out more about the progress made on the Project, to speak to a NGVL land agent if required and also encouraged to provide feedback.
- 5.4.11 It was also noted in the letters that Dalcour Maclaren were the land agents for the Project and that they would be in contact regarding organising access for surveys.
- 5.4.12 328 letters were also sent to landowners involved in the Phase 1 Consultation where their land fell within the affected areas, the letters were to keep the landowners up to date on progress of the Project. All example letters can be found in Phase 1 Consultation Report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)).

### Media Coverage

- 5.4.13 Local press and broadcast media were briefed on the Project and a press release was issued to provide information on the Phase 2 Consultation and on the preferred locations for the landfall and converter station sites.
- 5.4.14 Further information on the media coverage relating to Phase 2 Consultation can be found in Phase 2 Consultation report ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)).

### Public Consultation Events

- 5.4.15 Public consultation events allowed the public to view information on the Project enabled an understanding of the Project elements and gave the public an opportunity to comment on the Orange and Purple underground cable route corridor options and the design styles proposed for the converter station. The consultation events were run as 'drop-in' sessions to enable people to turn up at their own convenience between the specified times, and were held in suitable locations along the corridor.

Location	Date and time	Attendance
Bicker Village Hall	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 2pm-8pm	52
Grange and Links Hotel, Sandilands	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 2pm-8pm	119
The Ruby Hunt Centre, Donington	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 2pm-8pm	29
Stickney Village Hall	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 12pm-4:30pm	81
Orby Village Hall	Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 2pm-8pm	75
Helpringham Memorial Hall	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 2pm-8pm	24
Alford Com Exchange	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2pm-8pm	71
Little Steeping Village Hall	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2pm-8pm	81
Partney, Dalby and Dexthorpe Victory Hall	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October 2pm-8pm	74
Hubberts Bridge Community Centre	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2pm-8pm	41

**Table 5.7 Phase 2 Consultation Events**

Location	Date and time	Attendance
<b>Total:</b>		<b>647</b>

- 5.4.16 Attendees were given time to view the information boards presented and representatives were available to speak to throughout the event. People were encouraged to provide feedback on the proposals using the feedback forms. A total of 647 people attended the Phase 2 Consultation events.
- 5.4.17 Details of activities undertaken and feedback received during this phase of consultation along with NGVL’s responses can be found in the Phase 2 Consultation [Feedback report](#). Information on how the feedback received during Phase 2 consultation has influenced the cable route selection decisions is summarised in Chapter 7 of this report and further details are set out in NGVL’s [Route Corridor Selection Report](#) (VKL-08-06-G500-06).
- 5.4.18 Issues raised and how the Project considered and addressed these are set out in the Phase 2 Public Consultation report. Phase 2 Consultation Feedback Report Volumes 1, 2 and 3 were published in December 2016 on the Project website.

## 5.5 Pre-Submission Public Information Events

### MP meetings Pre – Submission Public Information Events

- 5.5.1 In advance of the events, MPs were offered briefing meetings. Three MPs initially accepted the invitation and dates were set but following the unexpected announcement of the General Election in 2017, two felt unable to continue with the meeting.
- 5.5.2 A meeting was held with Victoria Atkins MP on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017, a copy of the presentation made to Victoria Atkins can be found in Appendix 3. An update letter was sent to Matt Warman MP and an introductory letter was sent to Dr Caroline Johnson on 31<sup>st</sup> May. Following the meeting with John Hayes a letter was sent to him in March 2017.

### Final project proposals

- 5.5.3 A final round of public information events was held to present updated information on NGVL’s proposals which would be included within the planning applications to the LPAs.
- 5.5.4 Information on the final proposals and the construction process was displayed along with details on how the work may impact the area and the mitigations proposed by NGVL.
- 5.5.5 Four events were held between 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017. The locations for the venues were selected to ensure all residents within the consultation zone identified did not have to travel more than 11 Miles (18 km).

- 5.5.6 The consultation zone for the final round of public information events was reduced following the final confirmation of the preferred purple route corridor, including the east-west options in December 2016.
- 5.5.7 The buffer was maintained at 1 km either side of the preferred cable route corridor options and extended to include additional properties to the north and south of the preferred landfall point. The area around the preferred converter station was maintained.
- 5.5.8 To continue the landowner engagement an opportunity was provided at the beginning of each event for landowners to attend to review the Project proposals and discuss with the Project team and Land Agents.
- 5.5.9 178 invitation letters for the events were sent to landowners across the Project area where their land fell within the affected areas. A copy of this can be found in Appendix 4.
- 5.5.10 More than 8,000 letters of invitation for the Public Information Events were sent to local residents and local businesses within the final consultation zone. A copy of the letter can be found in Appendix 5.
- 5.5.11 Local press and broadcast media were briefed on the Project and a press release was issued to provide information about the events.

Public Information Events

- 5.5.12 During the events, members of the public were able to view copies of all documents and reports that have been produced as part of the project. This included materials produced for the Phase 1 consultation, Public Participation Events, Phase 2 consultation and Public Information Events, as well as the various reports created following each round of consultation.
- 5.5.13 Materials produced for the Public Information Events that stakeholders could take away with them included a booklet version of the exhibition boards, two different fact sheets which contained landowner focussed information and a comments sheet.
- 5.5.14 The events were run as ‘drop-in’ sessions to enable people to turn up at their own convenience between the specified times. The below table shows the public information events and attendance.

Table 5.8 Public Information Events		
Location	Date and time	Attendance
The Ruby Hunt Centre, Donington	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 12pm-8pm (10am – 8pm for landowners)	58
Grange and Links Hotel, Sandilands	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 12pm-4:30pm (10am – 4.30pm for landowners)	79

Table 5.8 Public Information Events		
Location	Date and time	Attendance
Raithby Village Hall	Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 12pm-8pm (10am – 8pm for landowners)	46
Stickney Village Hall	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2017 12pm-8pm (10am – 8pm for landowners)	81
<b>Total:</b>		<b>264</b>

5.5.15 Attendees were allowed time to view the exhibition boards presented and Project representatives were available to speak to throughout the events. Although NGVL did not request formal feedback on the proposals at this stage, people were able to comment on the usefulness of the events, using comment forms. A total of 264 people attended the Public Information Events.

5.5.16 Key themes raised by land owners at the events included:

- Fees;
- Accessing land to carry out the cable routeing; and
- Location of temporary work compounds.

5.5.17 Other key themes included:

- Construction traffic, including access points to working width and effects in local road network;
- Noise during construction along the cable route;
- Potential noise impact from converter station;
- Converter station building design (appearance);
- Landfall – construction impact on the beach;
- Cabling – effects on marine and land ecology; and
- Timescale of construction programme.

## 6 Consultation Influence

### 6.1 Feedback Results

6.1.1 All consultation feedback was logged and analysed to identify different points, issues or concerns raised by respondents. These respondents included statutory consultees, landowners, local residents, businesses and community groups.

### 6.2 Review of UK Onshore Scheme Phase 1 Consultation Feedback

#### Landfall Sites Overview

6.2.1 In April and May 2016 NGVL undertook the Phase 1 of public consultation on the shortlisted landfall and converter station site options. Full details of the consultation exercise and responses are available in the UK Onshore Scheme Phase 1 Consultation Feedback Report Document ref. VKL-08-06-G500-003 ([Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#)). In summary:

- Three landfall consultation events were held, attended by 215 people;
- In total 45 pieces of feedback were received from the local community on the shortlisted landfall site options; and
- Eight stakeholder responses from councils and other statutory consultees were received.

6.2.2 In order to determine a preferred landfall site, a comparison of all the key technical and environmental factors, that most influenced landfall site selection was undertaken for the three shortlisted sites. Table 6.9 below sets out the results of a comparative assessment of these factors. For each of the shortlisted landfall sites the assessment took into consideration the results of technical and environmental assessments which had been undertaken as well as the feedback received from the Phase 1 Consultation and concluded by identifying whether a particular option was considered to be more or less favourable. It also identified where no clear preference emerged. It should be noted that there is an element of overlap between some of the factors, for example visual/noise and tourism, where visual and noise impacts can have an effect on tourism.

**Table 6.9 Landfall Comparative Assessment**

Factor	Landfall option 1a (LF1a)	Landfall option 1 (LF1)	Landfall option 2 (LF2)	Summary of Assessment
Visual impact	No clear preference	No clear preference	No clear preference	Temporary visual impacts will occur at all of the landfall options, however, the number and type of receptors potentially affected will vary. LF1a is furthest from settlement but has the potential to affect individual properties and users of Sandilands golf course as well as visitors to the LCCP. LF1 is also relatively distant from settlement, however, there are properties present on Roman Bank overlooking the landfall. LF2 is the closest to settlement lying south east of Anderby with the potential to affect residents and visitors to the beach.
Noise impact	No clear preference	No clear preference	Less preferable	Whilst noise impacts would be temporary they were raised as an area of concern during Phase 1 Consultation. LF2 is closer to settlement at Anderby than at the alternative options. Noise has the potential to have an impact on a larger number of people and visitors during the construction phase making the LF2 less preferable than LF1a or LF1. There is no clear preference between LF1a and LF1.
Tourism impact	No clear preference	Less preferable	Less preferable	The impact of construction works was key area of concern raised during Phase 1 Consultation. LF1a is considered to be more preferable as the use of trenchless installation methods will prevent any direct impact on the golf course and reduce disruption. Whilst trenchless methods would also be used for LF1 and LF2 these are considered to be less preferable. These landfalls are adjacent to designated bathing waters and close to car parks/access points to the beach increasing the potential to impact on tourists and visitors.
Traffic and access	More preferable	Less preferable	Less preferable	Phase 1 Consultation highlighted concerns regarding the use of local roads to access potential Landfall sites. LF1a is considered preferable as there is scope to develop a short, direct temporary haul road (1.2km) to the landfall area. Access to LF1 and LF2 is considered less preferable as these options would require longer haul roads (2.2km and 4km respectively) if the use of local roads was to be avoided.

**Table 6.9 Landfall Comparative Assessment**

Factor	Landfall option 1a (LF1a)	Landfall option 1 (LF1)	Landfall option 2 (LF2)	Summary of Assessment
Sea defences	No clear preference	No clear preference	More preferable	All of the landfalls fall within the boundaries of the Lincshore scheme, however, it is expected that any impacts or conflicts with this can be avoided. LF2 is considered slightly more preferable as the sea defences in this location comprise sand dunes whilst further north the sea defences at LF1a and LF1 comprise manmade structures. At all landfalls the use of trenchless installation methods such as HDD will prevent any direct impacts, however, survey would be required at LF1a and LF1 to confirm the below ground extent of the sea defences.
Ecology (protected and designated sites)	More preferable	More preferable	Less preferable	There are ecological interests present at all of the landfall sites including SSSIs (LF1a LF2) as well as non-statutory sites including Nature Reserves, the Anderby /Huttoft LCGMP and Sandilands Golf Course LWS. However, by using trenchless installation techniques direct impacts on these sites are considered to be avoidable. In Phase 1 Consultation Natural England confirmed that there would be more ecological and geological issues to consider at LF2. Overall due to the constraints which are present the opportunities to avoid them LF1a and LF1 are considered more preferable.

Note – ‘LF1a’, ‘LF1’ and ‘LF2’ are the references used to identify the three shortlisted landfall site options identified and which formed part of the Phase 1 Consultation.

6.2.3 Taking into account the findings of the technical and environmental assessments of the shortlisted sites as well as the feedback received in response to the Phase 1 Consultation, NGVL identified LF1a as the preferred landfall site, subject to survey. This site was considered to meet the requirements of NGVL and provided an opportunity to reduce the potential impact on nearby communities and coastal environmental constraints such as the Lincolnshire Coastal Grazing Marsh.

[Converter Station Sites Overview](#)

6.2.4 In April and May 2016 NGVL undertook public consultation on the shortlisted converter station site options. Full details of the consultation exercise and responses are available in the UK Onshore Scheme Phase 1 Consultation Feedback Report. In summary:

- Three converter station consultation events were held, which were attended by 290 people;
- In total 533 pieces of feedback were received from the local community on the shortlisted converter station site options; and
- Eight stakeholder responses from councils and other statutory consultees were received.

6.2.5 In order to determine a preferred converter station site, a comparison of all the key factors that most influence site selection was undertaken for the four shortlisted sites Table 6.10 below sets out the results of a comparative assessment of these factors. For each of the shortlisted converter station sites the assessment took into consideration the results of technical and environmental assessments which had been undertaken as well as the feedback received from the Phase 1 Consultation and concluded by identifying whether a particular option was considered to be more or less favourable. It also identified where no clear preference emerged. It should be noted that there is an element of overlap between some of the factors, for example visual/noise and tourism, where visual and noise impacts can have an effect on the tourism too. For further information please refer to [UK Onshore Scheme Preferred Sites Report](#) VKL-08-06-G500-002.

**Table 6.10 Converter station sites comparative assessment**

Factor	Converter Station option 1 (CS1)	Converter Station option 3 (CS3)	Converter Station option 5 (CS5)	Converter Station option 9 (CS9)	Summary of Assessment
Landscape and visual	More preferable	More preferable	Less preferable	More preferable	CS1, 3 and 9 are considered to be more preferable as they benefit from being located closer to similar types of development and/or being seen in the context of similar types of development. They are also typically more distant to visual receptors. CS5 is considered to be less preferable as it is remote to existing similar development and in closer proximity to visual receptors.
Noise	No clear preference	No clear preference	No clear preference	No clear Preference	Noise is considered to be mitigable through the design of the converter station, for example the use of acoustic enclosures around equipment. As a result it is considered that whilst some sites may be closer to Noise Sensitive Receptors, impacts could be effectively mitigated regardless of location and therefore no clear preference emerges for a particular site.

**Table 6.10 Converter station sites comparative assessment**

Factor	Converter Station option 1 (CS1)	Converter Station option 3 (CS3)	Converter Station option 5 (CS5)	Converter Station option 9 (CS9)	Summary of Assessment
Access	No clear preference	No clear preference	Less preferable	No clear Preference	The proximity of CS5 to the A17 was initially considered to provide some benefits as it would facilitate more direct access, however following the Phase 1 Consultation and taking account of concerns relating to the use of A17 it is now considered to be less preferable. No clear preference emerges for a particular site when considering potential accesses to CS1, 3 and 9 as it considered that each is feasible and meet would key objective of keeping traffic off of smaller local roads and away from settlement. The length of access track varies: CS1 (2.2km), CS3 (3.4km) and CS9 (1.4km – extension to existing road).
Construction Traffic	No clear preference	No clear preference	No clear preference	No clear Preference	The volume of construction traffic would be largely the same for each of the shortlisted sites. There would be some increases in vehicle movements for those sites which require longer access roads/cable routes to be developed. Overall there is no clear preference.
Agricultural land	More preferable	Less preferable	Less preferable	More preferable	CS5 is considered to be less preferable as it is only site which would result in the permanent loss of Grade 1 agricultural land. CS3 was identified as less preferable as it would require the permanent loss of and disturbance of a greater amount of agricultural land when considering access and AC cable route. CS1 and CS9 are considered to be more preferable as they result in the loss or disturbance of comparatively less agricultural land, (in particular CS9).

**Table 6.10 Converter station sites comparative assessment**

Factor	Converter Station option 1 (CS1)	Converter Station option 3 (CS3)	Converter Station option 5 (CS5)	Converter Station option 9 (CS9)	Summary of Assessment
Flood risk	More preferable	Less preferable	More preferable	Less preferable	Whilst flood risk is considered to be mitigable through the design process it is preferable to site the converter station outside of areas of higher flood risk as much as possible. As a result CS5 which avoids flood risk zones is considered to be more preferable. The other sites are at risk of flooding to varying degrees; however, of these CS1 provides more opportunity to micro-site outside of flood risk areas due to the availability of land. As a result CS1 is considered more preferable.
Ecology	No clear preference	Less preferable	Less preferable	No clear Preference	All of the sites have some potential to impact on ecology either as a result of the impact of the converter station or the disturbance resulting from the AC cable connection. CS3 is considered to be less preferable due to its proximity to South Forty Foot Drain and the potential to affect wildlife using it. CS5 is also considered to be less preferable due to the distance of the AC cable connection required. There is no clear preference between CS1 and CS9, however, it was noted that CS9 had the potential for bat roosts to be present.
Archaeology	Less preferable	No clear preference	Less preferable	No clear Preference	CS1 (crop marks) and CS5 (high archaeological potential) are considered to be less preferable as a result of the potential archaeological constraints present, however, impacts are considered to be mitigable through investigation and recording as appropriate. There is no clear preference for CS3 or CS9, whilst no known archaeology constraints are present both have the potential for unknown archaeology to be present

Note – 'CS1', 'CS3', 'CS5' and 'CS9' are the references used to identify the four shortlisted converter station site options identified and which formed part of the Phase 1 Consultation.

- 6.2.6 The results of technical and environmental assessments of the shortlisted converter station sites as well as feedback received in the Phase 1 Consultation highlight that each of the identified sites had positive and negative factors with no clear preferred site emerging overall. In order to identify a preferred site NGVL sought to balance the positive and negative factors of each and select a preferred site which met technical requirements as well as providing opportunities to mitigate impacts on the environment and the local community.
- 6.2.7 On balance of the different factors NGVL identified CS1 as the preferred converter station site, subject to survey. Whilst CS1 required an overall longer DC cable route it met the requirements of NGVL and, importantly, also provided opportunities to mitigate the potential impacts of the converter station on the environment and local community through its planning and design. For further information please refer to [UK Onshore Scheme Preferred Sites Report](#) VKL-08-06-G500-002.

### **6.3 Review of UK Onshore Scheme Phase 2 Consultation Feedback**

#### Orange and Purple DC Cable Route Overview

- 6.3.1 A total of 10 Phase 2 Public Consultation events were held and attended by a total of 647 people. A review of the feedback received in response to the Phase 2 Consultation has taken place and this section highlights the key themes that were raised during the cable route corridor consultation.
- 6.3.2 A total of 114 responses were received. Key themes raised in relation to both the Orange and Purple Route Corridors options were:
- Socio-economic and tourism impact;
  - Impact on agriculture land and soils;
  - Traffic and transport;
  - Property value;
  - Compensation;
  - Co-ordination with other projects;
  - Sea defences
  - Ecology/biodiversity impact;
  - Landscape and visual impact;
  - Electric magnetic fields;
  - Construction impact;
  - Hydrology and land drainage;
  - Communication/consultation approach;
  - Archaeology and cultural heritage;
  - Cable routeing;
  - Noise and vibration;

- Project need; and
  - General comments.
- 6.3.3 Taking into consideration technical, environmental and feedback from the consultations allowed key issues to be considered and for appropriate mitigation measures to be placed into the ES. Further information can be found in [Volume 1](#), [Volume 2](#) and [Volume 3](#) of the Phase 2 Consultation Feedback Report.
- 6.3.4 Following comments from the Phase 2 Consultation, NGVL considered the Purple Route Corridor option to be preferred. Following further surveys in December 2016 to February 2017, NGVL considered the East option in the North to the East of Aswardsby, Langton and Sausthorpe and West option in the South to the west of the South Forty Foot Drain to be preferred subject to survey.

#### Converter Station Design Overview

- 6.3.5 A total of 68 people provided feedback in relation to the converter station design style options. The design style images can be found in the UK Onshore Scheme; Phase 2 Consultation Feedback Report [Volume 1](#) (VKL-08-39-G500-006). Figure 3.3 in the feedback report shows the Converter station contextual design, Figure 3.4 the converter station functional blue design and Figure 3.5 the converter station functional green design.
- 6.3.6 Following comments from the Phase 2 consultation, NGVL considered two architectural styles for the proposed converter station, i.e. contextual and functional.
- 6.3.7 Feedback received in respect of the converter station design styles was also discussed with officers from the affected LPA (South Holland District Council) and their Elected Members. This was to ensure local views formed part of the decision making process when developing the Design Code for the site. The Design Code and Design and Access Statement form part of the formal planning application submission.

## 7 Conclusion

- 7.1.1 Throughout the process, NGVL has aimed to engage openly and transparently with stakeholders and local communities.
- 7.1.2 In total over 55,000 letters have been sent out to stakeholders, NGVL have held 28 public events which were attended by over 1,650 people and have received 717 stakeholder responses to requests for feedback.
- 7.1.3 NGVL notes that participation in public consultation was good with over 500 people attending its first round of public exhibitions and around 650 people attending its second round of public exhibitions.
- 7.1.4 The consultation was an iterative process; issues raised during Phase 1 were responded to as part of the Phase 2 consultation events. The feedback from the whole consultation has shaped the proposals submitted.
- 7.1.5 The Project has taken a best practice approach to consultation, appropriate to the significance of the proposals and having regard to the requirements of National and Local Planning Policy and Guidance. Stakeholder and public consultation has had a direct influence on project development, including the selection of the landfall and converter station sites identifying the route corridor for the onshore DC cable, converter building appearance and landscaping proposals.
- 7.1.6 Feedback regarding the environmental impact of the proposals has informed the mitigation measures included in the ES submitted alongside the applications for the Project.
- 7.1.7 NGVL is committed to ongoing engagement and as such will keep all communication channels open throughout the planning process and ensure interested parties continue to be updated as the planning application moves forward.
- 7.1.8 NGVL continue to engage with affected landowners on a range of issues following submission of the planning applications.



# Appendix 1: Local Council Statement of Community Involvement Documents

## East Lindsey District Council

East Lindsey District Council (ELDC) adopted its SCI in November 2016. ELDC suggests that early community involvement can help to provide information and raise issues that may not have been thought of previously. The SCI also states that:

*“Pre-application discussions between the developer and the local authority are vitally important in providing a better mutual understanding of all planning issues and potential constraints that may be relevant to the proposal.”* (ELDC SCI, 2016).

ELDC SCI can be found at: <http://www.e-lindsey.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1424&p=0>

Below is the ELDC Core Strategy approach to development in the district showing the methods of consultation at early engagement, pre-submission consultation and consultation on the submission document.

Core Strategy																																	
What is it?	The Core Strategy sets out the strategic approach to development in the district and will include strategic core policies.																																
Consultation Stage	Methods of Consultation																																
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Local Advertisement</td> <td>Publish on Web site</td> <td>available at Council Offices</td> <td>Written consultation</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Statutory bodies</td> <td>Local groups, parish councils</td> <td>National organisations</td> <td>Local Media</td> <td>Town and Parish Councils covering Large and Medium sized Villages will be invited to attend individual workshops.</td> <td>Public and Community Group Meetings</td> <td>Interactive Website</td> <td>Questionnaire/Opinion Polls</td> <td>Publicity in the Community</td> <td>Community Workshops and Interactive Events</td> <td>Notice to people requesting submission notification</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Local Advertisement	Publish on Web site	available at Council Offices	Written consultation														Statutory bodies	Local groups, parish councils	National organisations	Local Media	Town and Parish Councils covering Large and Medium sized Villages will be invited to attend individual workshops.	Public and Community Group Meetings	Interactive Website	Questionnaire/Opinion Polls	Publicity in the Community	Community Workshops and Interactive Events	Notice to people requesting submission notification				
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Early Engagement	/ / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / / /																																
Pre-submission Consultation	// // // // // // // // ? / / / / / / / /																																
Consultation on the submission document	// // // // // // // // x x / ? / / x //																																

Figure 7.9: ELDC Core Strategy approach to Consultation Table A

### Boston Borough Council, South Holland District Council and Lincolnshire County Council

South East Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (the Joint Committee) was established in July 2011 and comprises elected members from Boston Borough Council (BBC), South Holland District Council (SHDC) and Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), of which BBC and SHDC are relevant LPA's to the UK Onshore Scheme. The South East Lincolnshire SCI was adopted in April 2012.

It suggests principles to follow for community involvement and states that although pre-application consultation is not currently statutory, the Joint Committee *“actively encourage developers to seek involvement of the community at this stage”*. It also highlighted that, *“significant economic, environmental or social impact”* issues are likely to be raised during the consultation stage.

Type of development	Publicity required
Development where the application: -is accompanied by an Environmental Statement; or -is a departure from the development plan; or -affects a public right of way	Advertised in the local newspaper and site notice posted
Major development (likely to have a significant impact on the local area or create significant public interest or controversy)	Advertised in the local newspaper, site notice posted and neighbour notification
Minor development	Site notice and neighbour notification
Development affecting the setting of a listed building or the character and appearance of a conservation area	Advertisement in the local newspaper and site notice posted
Permitted development requiring prior approval of the local planning authority	Site notice posted

**Figure 7.10: The Joint Committee’s Approach to Publicity**

The SCI also mentions the importance of the local community and other interested parties needing a good understanding of the scheme to enable early consideration of potential issues. There are suggestions of the possible statutory consultee bodies that may be relevant as well as some general consultee bodies in which NGVL have considered. The South East Lincolnshire SCI can be found at:

<http://www.boston.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=9647&p=0>

### North Kesteven District Council

The Central Lincolnshire Statement of Community Involvement was adopted in June 2016 by the Central Lincolnshire Joint Strategic Planning Committee (CLJSPC). The CLJSPC consists of City of Lincoln Council (CLC), North Kesteven District Council (NKDC), West Lindsey District Council (WLDC) and LCC, of which NKDC is a relevant LPA to the UK Onshore Scheme. The Central Lincolnshire SCI can be found at:

<https://www.lincoln.gov.uk/resources/assets/attachment/full/0/9338.pdf>

It is suggested that, “*applicants are encouraged to involve the local community when preparing their proposal, even if legally they don’t have to. Such engagement can be beneficial to both the applicant and the community, as it can foster transparency, and enable proposals to respond to local needs and desires*”.

TYPE OF DEVELOPMENT	MINIMUM PUBLICITY THAT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN
Development where the application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- is accompanied by an Environmental Statement; or</li> <li>- is a departure from the Local Plan; or</li> <li>- affects a public right of way</li> </ul>	Site notice: on display on or near the site for a minimum of 21 days. Will contain details of the application and how to submit comments.  Local newspaper: notice of the application featured in a newspaper which circulates within the locality of the applicant site.  Neighbour notification: the owners/ occupiers of properties adjoining the site notified.
Major development (likely to have a significant impact on the local area or create significant public interest or controversy)	Site notice: on display on or near the site for a minimum of 21 days. Will contain details of the application and how to submit comments.  OR  Neighbour notification (where appropriate): the owners/ occupiers of properties adjoining the site notified.
Cont/ Major development (likely to have a significant impact on the local area or create significant public interest or controversy)	AND  Local newspaper: notice of the application featured in a newspaper which circulates within the locality of the applicant site.
Minor development	Site notice: on display on or near the site for a minimum of 21 days. Will contain details of the application and how to submit comments.  OR  Neighbour notification: the owners/ occupiers of properties adjoining the site notified.
Development affecting the setting of a listed building or the character and appearance of a conservation area.	Site notice: on display on or near the site for a minimum of 21 days. Will contain details of the application and how to submit comments.  Local newspaper: notice of the application featured in a newspaper which circulates within the locality of the applicant site.  Neighbour notification (where appropriate): the owners/ occupiers of properties adjoining the site notified.
Permitted development requiring prior approval of the local planning authority	Site notice: on display on or near the site for a minimum of 21 days. Will contain details of the application and how to submit comments.

**Figure 7.11: Central Lincolnshire’s SCI Minimum Publicity**

## Appendix 2 Parish Council Presentation

**VikingLink** 

ENERGINET/DK | nationalgrid

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# Viking Link Interconnector

Meeting with Parish Councils

January – March 2016

## Introductions

- David Moore – Project Manager
- Liz Wells – Consents Officer
- Donna Burnell – Community Relations

## Why we're here

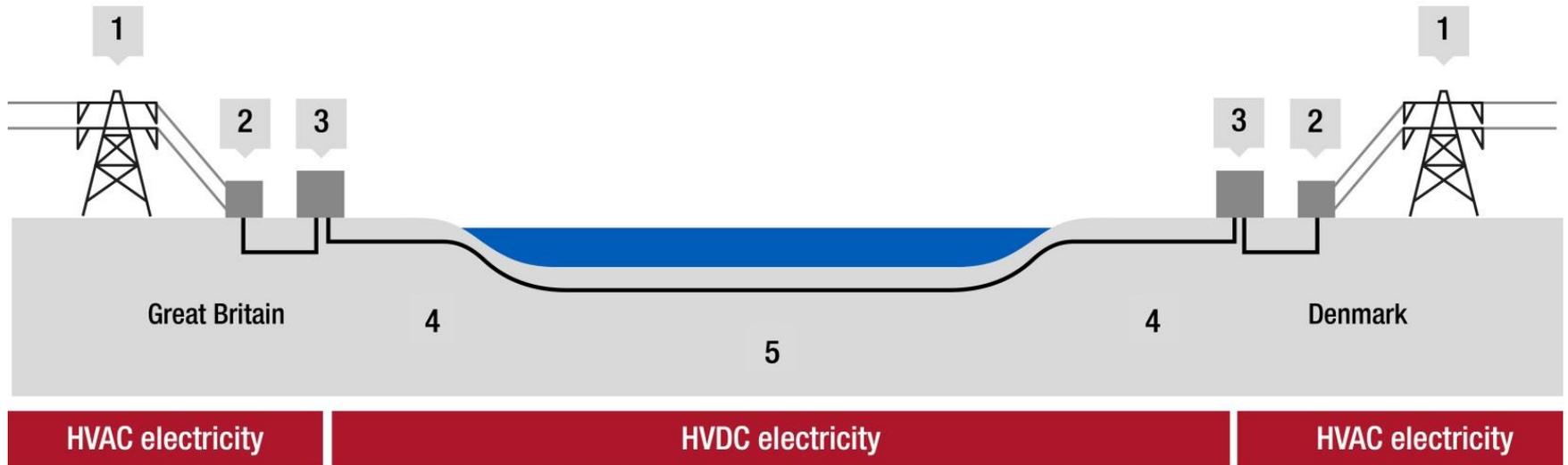
To introduce you to the Viking Link project and to seek your views on what is important to your community

## What is Viking Link?

- A proposal to build a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) electricity interconnector between Great Britain and Denmark
- Being developed by National Grid Viking Link Ltd with its Danish development partner Energinet.dk
- National Grid Viking Link Ltd is separate to National Grid Electricity Transmission Plc which has the licence to own and operate the high voltage electricity transmission system in England and Wales
- Energinet.dk owns, operates and develops the Danish electricity transmission systems. It owns and operates several interconnectors between Denmark and other countries



## What is an electricity interconnector?



1. Existing network
2. Substation
3. Converter station
4. Underground cables
5. Submarine cables

- HVAC = High Voltage Alternating Current
- HVDC = High Voltage Direct Current

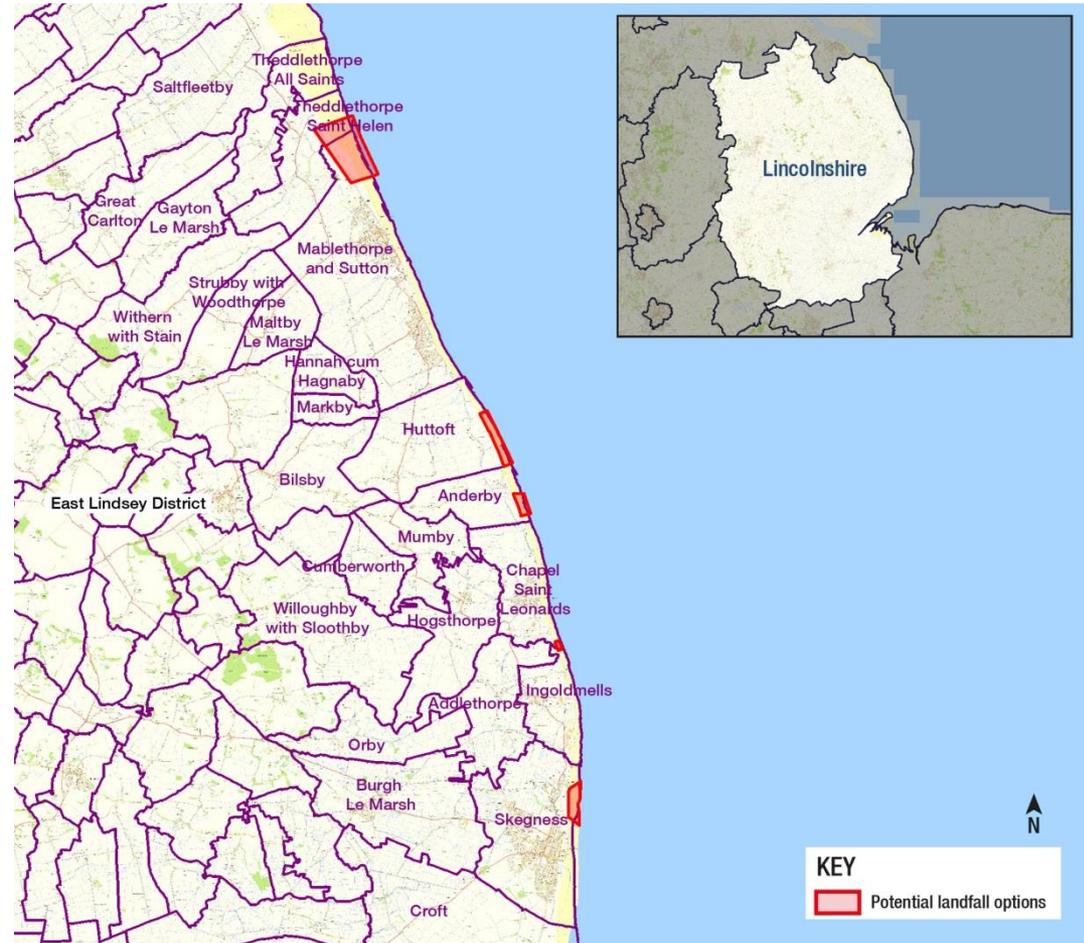


## UK onshore elements

- Bicker Fen substation has been identified as the most appropriate connection into the National Grid
- We need to identify where to bring the interconnector cables onshore
- We need to build a DC/AC converter station close to Bicker Fen substation. Options for converter station sites are being explored
- We want to consult with local communities to hear their views before identifying preferred landfall and converter station sites
- We will then identify cable route corridor options to connect the landfall site to the converter station, and the converter station to Bicker Fen substation

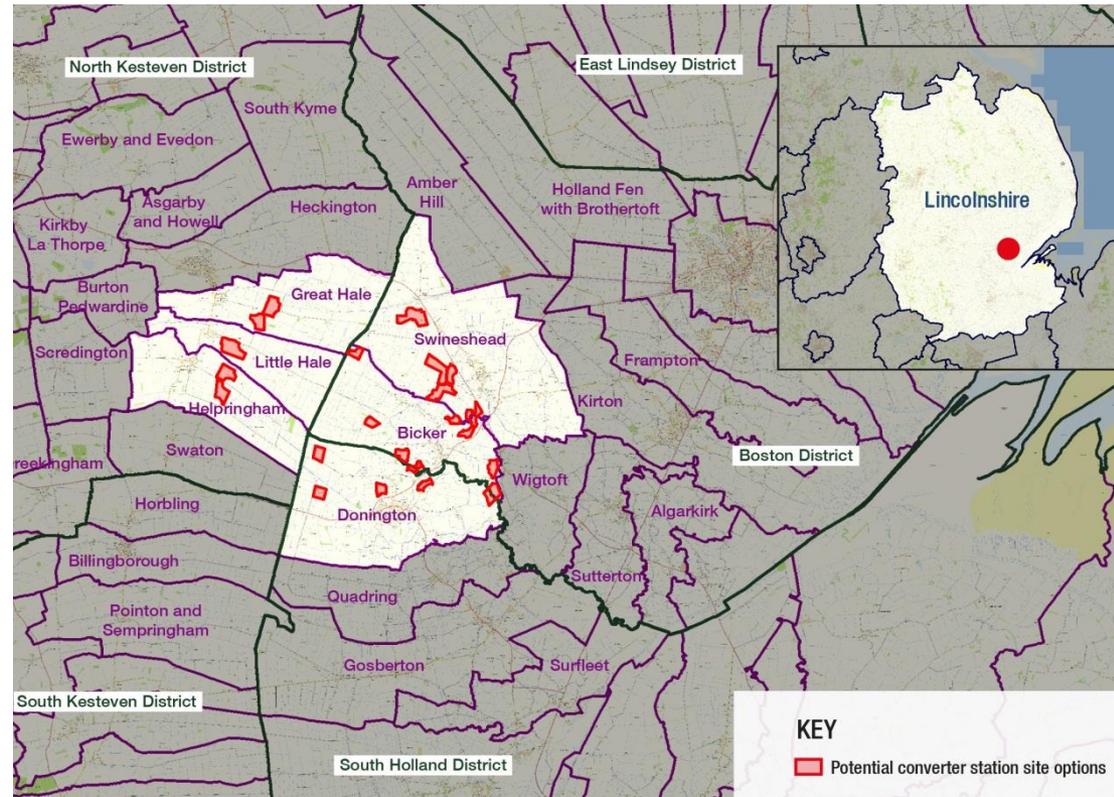
## Cable landing and routing

- We are considering a number of options
  - Assessment of environmental constraints
  - Technical accessibility and feasibility study
  - Assessment of offshore cable route constraints
  - Discussions with parish councils
- We will consult with local communities, local authorities and other stakeholders



## Converter station

- We are considering a number of options
  - Assessment of environmental constraints
  - Accessibility for construction and operational traffic
  - Routing options for AC cable to Bicker Fen substation
  - Discussions with parish councils
- We will consult with local communities, local authorities and other stakeholders



## Cable routeing

- When we have identified our preferred landfall site, we will consider the options for an onshore DC cable route
  - Assessment of environmental constraints
  - Accessibility for construction traffic
  - Drainage and drain crossings
- We will consult with local communities, local authorities and other stakeholders

## What's important to your parish?

**Please let us know what is important in your area and to your local community**

**Please tell us if you have any other concerns**

**We will invite you to participate in our consultation later in the spring or you can tell us at any time by post, email or phone**

## How would you like us to engage?

- We will expect to start public consultation on potential landfall and converter station site options in spring 2016
- How best can we consult with the local community?
  - Public exhibitions in village halls
  - Meetings with landowners
  - Parish newsletters
  - Project website
  - Twitter
  - Other?



**Please let us know how best to engage with the local community**

## Questions

## Contact details

Email: [vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk](mailto:vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk)

Tel: 0800 731 0561

Web: [www.viking-link.com](http://www.viking-link.com)

## Appendix 3: Presentation made to Victoria Atkins MP on 25th April 2017

**VikingLink** 

**nationalgrid**

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## **Viking Link**

Project update briefing for Victoria Atkins MP – CONFIDENTIAL

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017



Co-financed by the European Union  
Connecting Europe Facility

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## Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Project update following preferred direct current (DC) cable route corridor announcement
3. Preferred DC cable route corridor
4. DC cable temporary construction area
5. Alternating current (AC) cable route corridor
6. AC cable temporary construction area
7. Converter station design styles
8. Public information events
9. Submitting planning applications and next steps
10. Questions

## Introductions

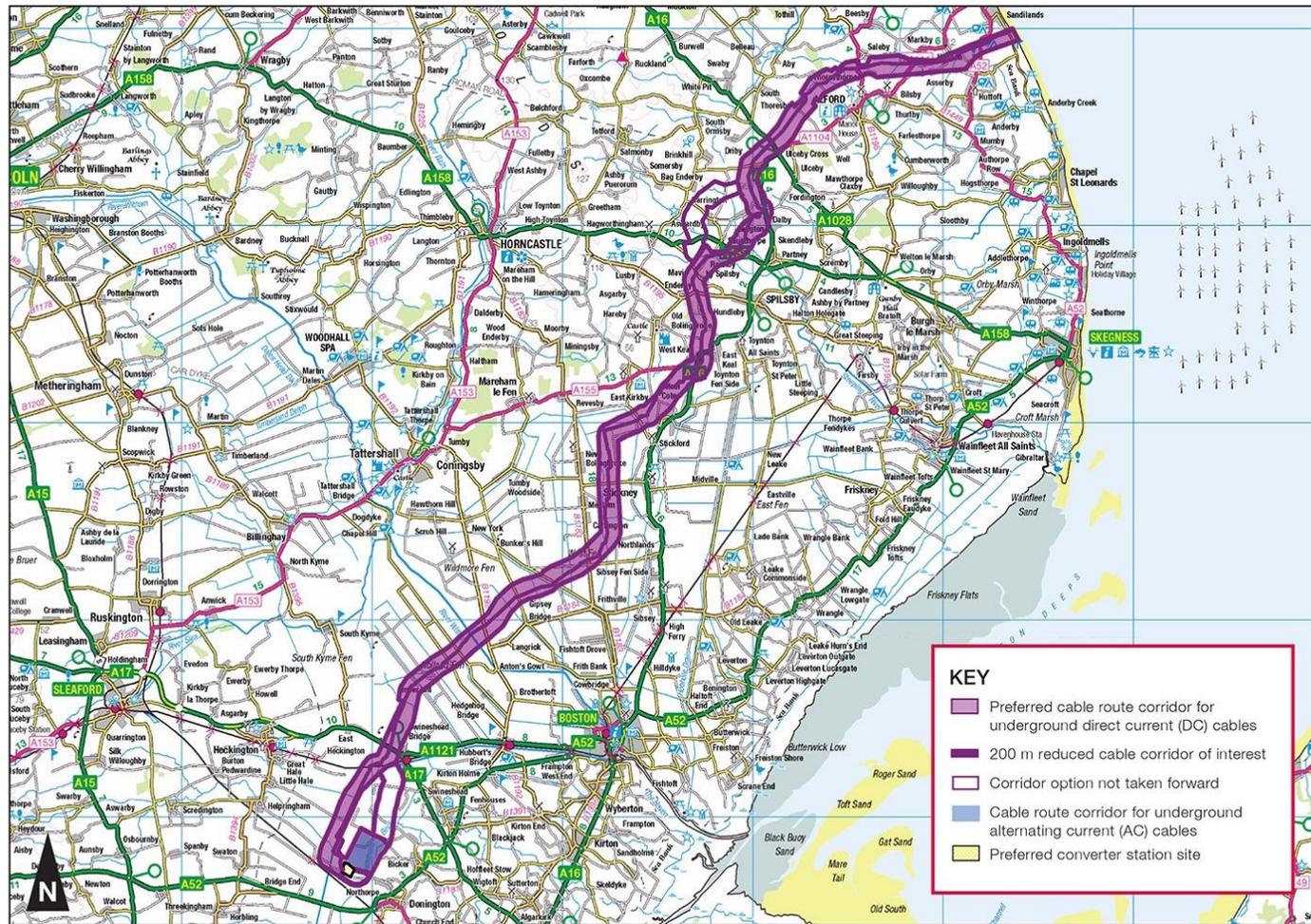
- Oliver Wood                      Project Director
- Julian Barnett                    UK Onshore Consents Lead
- Zee Mughal                        UK & EU Public Affairs

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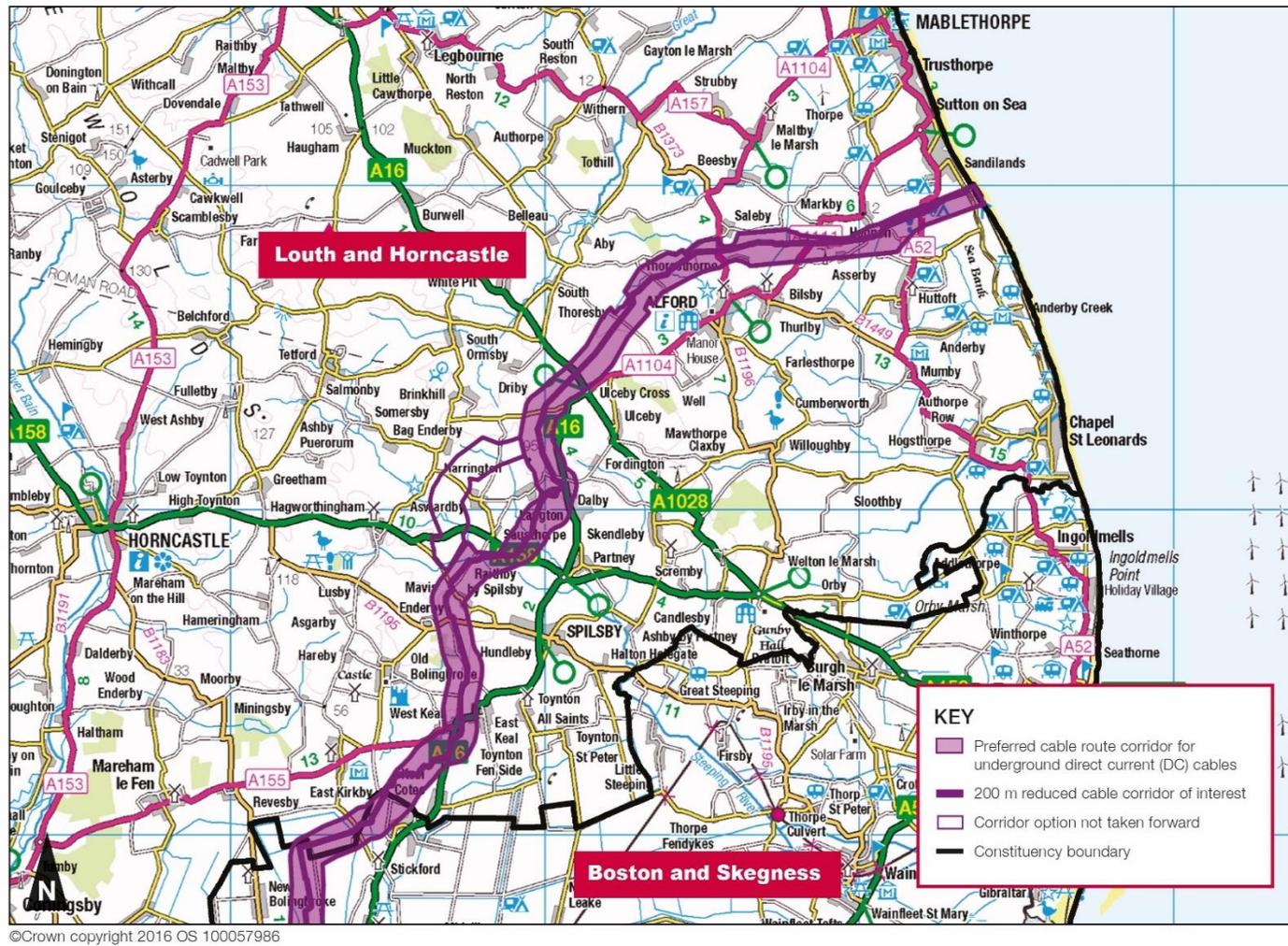
## Preferred DC cable route corridor

- **14 December 2016** – Announced preferred cable route corridor option (purple corridor) for the 2 underground DC cables between the preferred landfall site at Boygrift, East Lindsey, and the preferred converter station site at North Ing Drove, South Holland
- **15 March 2017** – Confirmed remaining 2 route corridor options:
  - Towards the north, subject to survey, option to east of the villages of Aswardby, Langton and Sausthorpe selected
  - To the south and subject to survey, we selected the route corridor option to the west of the South Forty Foot Drain
  - Narrowed down DC cable route corridor from around 1 km wide to 200 m
- Assessments over the coming months to identify an alignment within this reduced route corridor

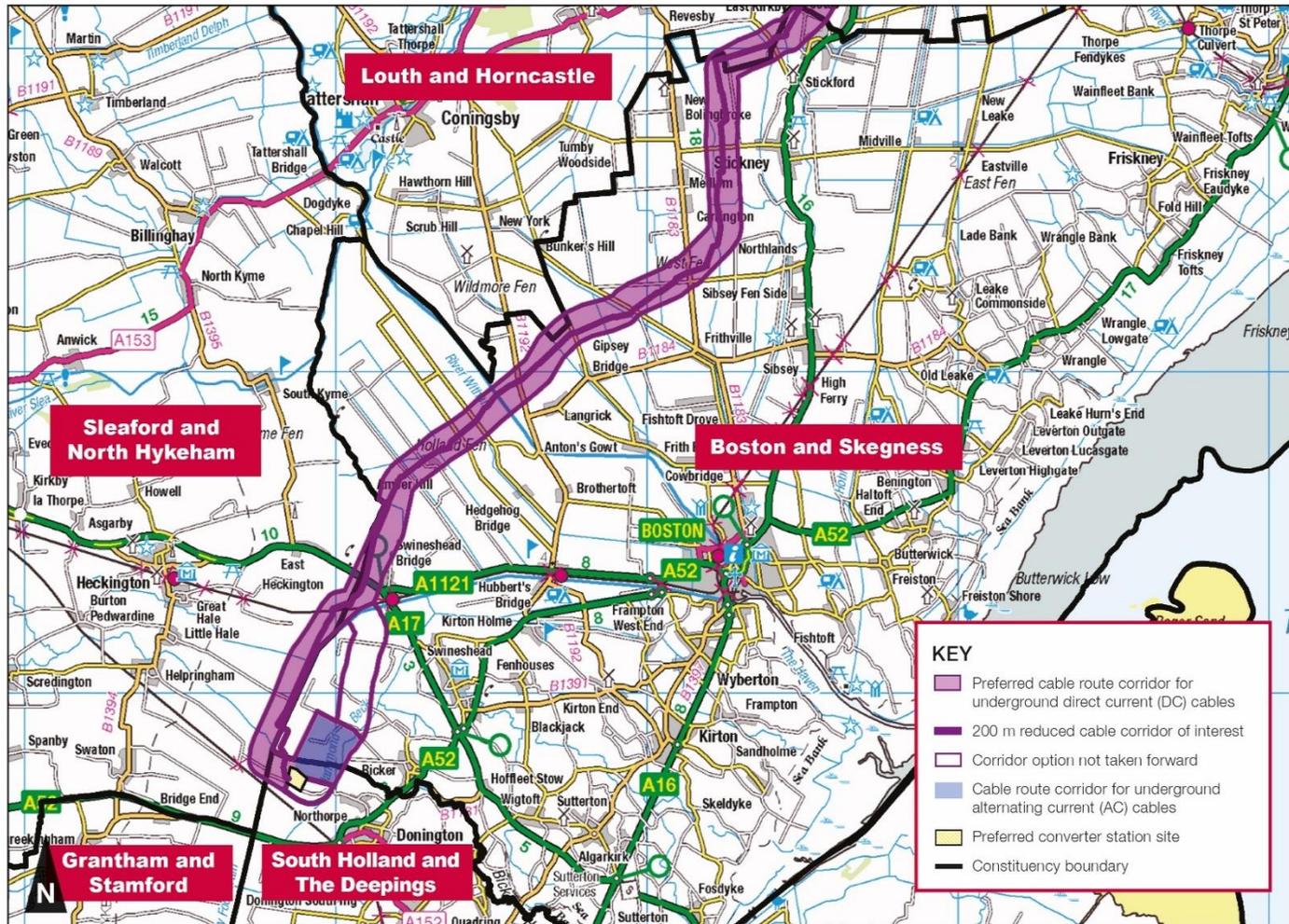
## Preferred DC cable route corridor



## Northern cable route corridor option

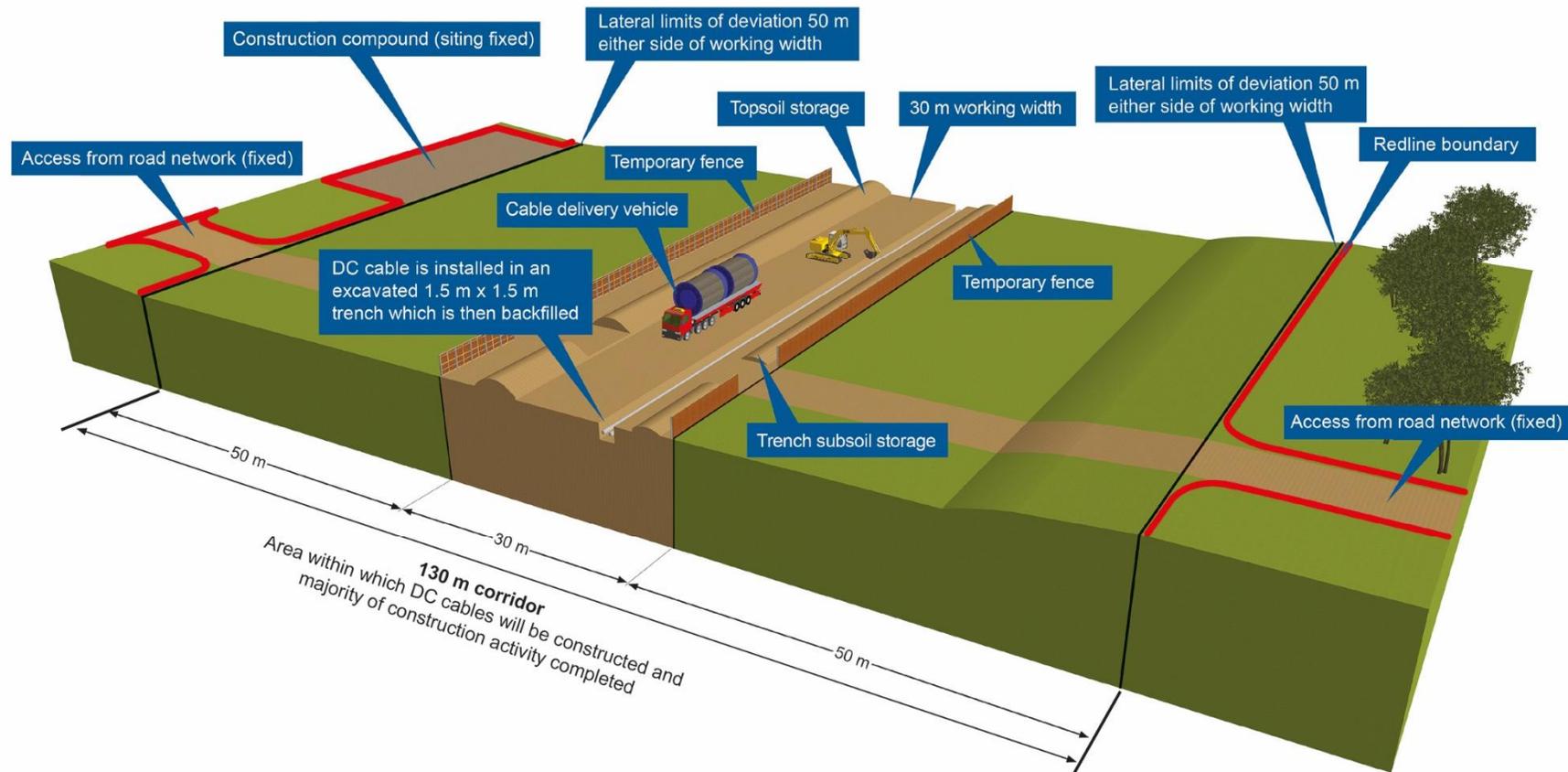


## Southern cable route corridor option

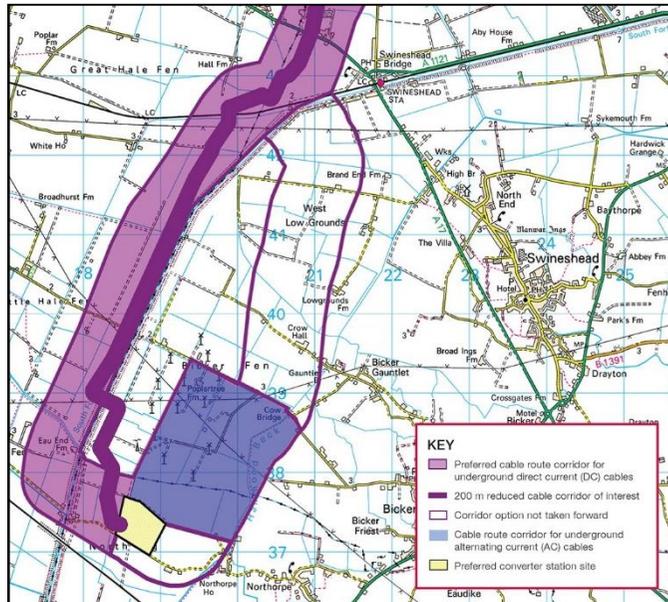


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## DC cable temporary construction area

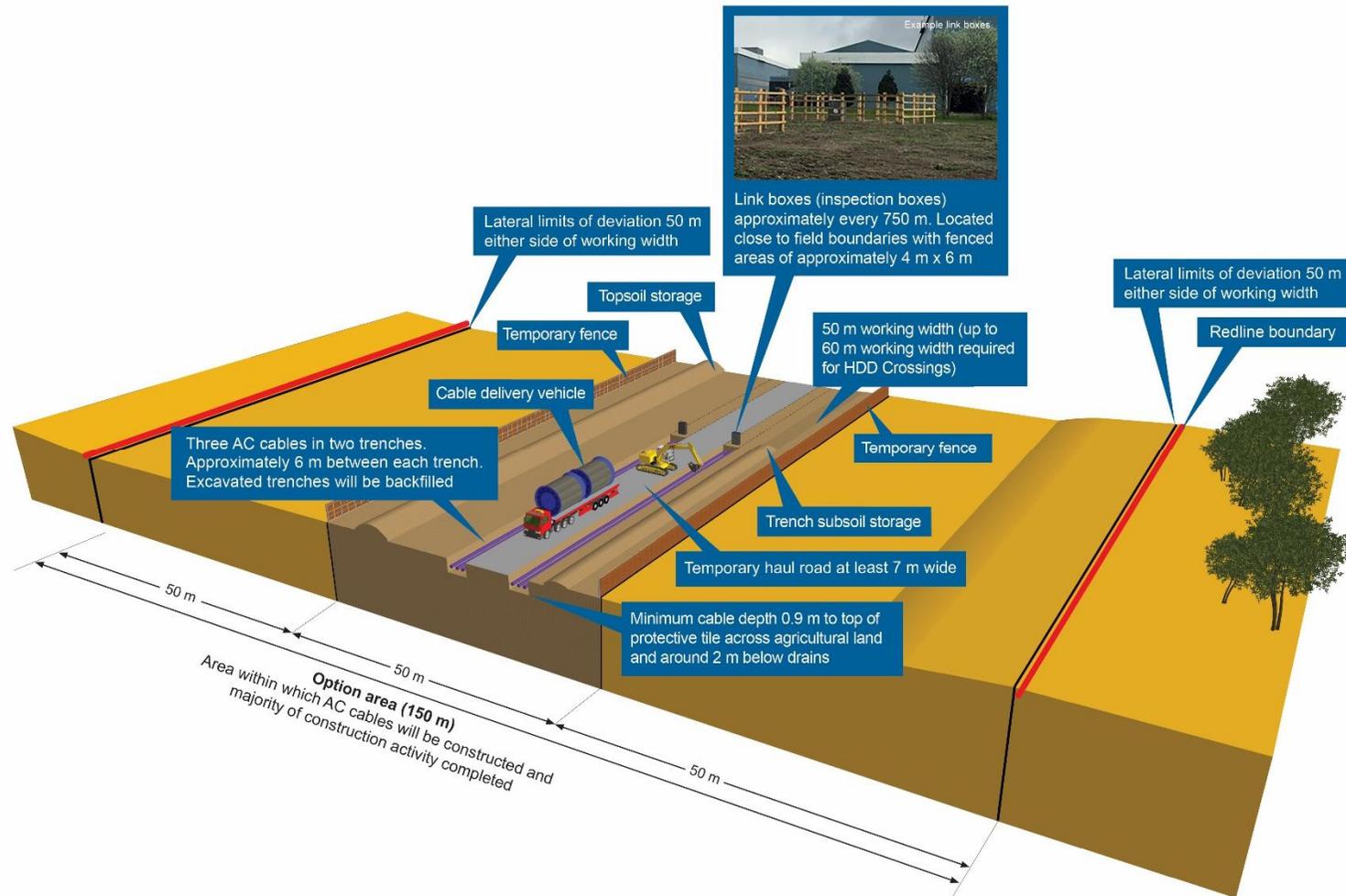


## AC cable route corridor



- Six AC cables required between the converter station and the substation
- Two trenches with three cables in each
- Approximately 6 m between each trench (widening at crossing points)
- Approximate minimum cable depth will be 0.9 m to the top of the protective tile to allow agricultural activity to resume after reinstatement
- Joint bays approximately every 750 m to join sections of cable
- Link boxes will be required at joint positions, i.e. above ground inspection boxes required for maintenance
- Temporary construction working width approximately 50 m (widening at crossing points)
- Approximately 25 m permanent easement (widening at crossing points)

## AC cable temporary construction area



## Converter station design styles

- No clear preference expressed during Phase 2 consultation
- Ongoing discussions with local authority



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## Public information events

- Four public information events will be held along preferred cable route corridor in June 2017
- Purpose of events is to:
  - Allow residents and stakeholders to view the final proposals for the project prior to planning application submission
  - Deliver long-standing commitment by Viking Link to hold a final round of public information events, as discussed with stakeholders, parish councils and members of local communities during previous consultation and public participation events and briefings
- Residents along the preferred route corridor will be sent written invitations to attend the events
- All information will also be displayed on the project website

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## Submitting planning applications and next steps

- Surveys (ongoing)
- Public information events (June 2017)
- Submit four planning applications (July 2017)
  - East Lindsey District Council
  - Boston Borough Council
  - North Kesteven District Council
  - South Holland District Council
- Construction (2019)
- Operational (2022)

## Questions and discussion

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### CONTACT US

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You can find out more information by:



calling our freephone number:  
**0800 731 0561**



Sending an email to:  
**vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk**



Writing to our freepost address at:  
**FREEPOST VIKING LINK**



Visiting our website at:  
**www.viking-link.com**

If you, or someone you know, would like information in Braille, audio, large print or another language, please call us on the freephone number above.



## Appendix 4: Landowner invitation to Public Information Events

XXXXX  
XXXXX  
XXXXX  
XXXXX

26 May 2017

Dear xxxxxx,

### Viking Link Interconnector Project

I am writing to update you on the progress of our proposals for the Viking Link project, an electricity interconnector between Bicker Fen in Lincolnshire, UK and Revsing in southern Jutland, Denmark.

The UK Onshore Scheme comprises the installation of underground DC cables from the landfall at Boygrift, East Lindsey to a converter station at North Ing Drove, South Holland (to be constructed along with a permanent access road), as well as the installation of underground alternating current (AC) cables from the converter station to the existing substation at Bicker Fen.

Our Phase 1 and Phase 2 consultations for the UK Onshore Scheme took place last year. Local opinion, feedback from residents and stakeholders along with environmental and technical information played an important part in selecting the proposed landfall and converter station sites as well as the proposed cable route corridor for the pair of direct current (DC) underground cables between the landfall and the converter station sites (known as the purple route corridor). We have also confirmed route options at the north and south ends of the purple route corridor as well as a reduction in the width of the proposed corridor of interest. We thank everyone who participated in our consultations and provided comments.

### Planning applications and Public Information Events

Planning applications for the UK Onshore Scheme will be submitted during summer 2017. The following affected Local Planning Authorities will be involved in determining the submissions:

- East Lindsey District Council
- Boston Borough Council
- North Kesteven District Council
- South Holland District Council

Before submitting these applications, we will be holding four Public Information Events and would like to invite you to come along and find out more; meet with representatives of Dalcour Maclaren and members of the Viking Link project team, who will be available to discuss the updated draft proposals in general and answer any questions you might have.

The events will take place as follows:

Venue	Post code	Date	Time
The Ruby Hunt Centre, Donington	PE11 4UA	Tuesday, 6 June	10:00 am – 12:00 pm*
			12:00 pm – 8.00 pm
Grange & Links Hotel, Sandilands	LN12 2RJ	Wednesday, 7 June	10:00 am – 12:00 pm*
			12:00 pm – 8.00 pm
Raithby Village Hall, Raithby**	PE23 4DS	Thursday, 15 June	10:00 am – 12:00 pm*
			12:00 pm – 8.00pm
Stickney Village Hall, Stickney	PE22 8BA	Friday, 16 June	10:00 am – 12:00 pm*
			12:00 pm – 8.00pm

10.00 am – 12.00 pm\*: Landowners, land occupiers and land agents only

Raithby Village Hall, Raithby\*\*: This hall has limited parking space

While you are welcome to attend any of the events within the stated time, we have allocated a 2 hour slot from 10 am – 12 pm at each of the venues for land-related discussions.

#### Red Line Boundary

At the Public Information Events, a draft version of the route plans for the DC cables will be available showing the proposed planning application area, known as the 'Red Line Boundary'. These plans provide details of land expected to form part of our planning application submissions, an indicative cable alignment, siting of temporary construction compounds, drainage outfalls and temporary access points from the main highway network to facilitate construction activities. The final cable alignment will require less land-take during construction and final easement as we continue the process of refinement of the project.

Please be aware that land which you have an interest is included within the Red Line Boundary.

Over the coming months, we will continue our discussions with landowners and occupiers as we progress the cable route alignment and provide updates, when necessary.

#### Drainage consultation

Thank you for providing your comments and feedback on the drainage consultation over the last few months. The information is aimed at helping to understand any landowner's concerns and how these might be mitigated during and post construction.

The land drainage design and drainage outfalls which will be shown within the Red Line Boundary are still being developed and hence, may be subject to change, prior to the planning application being submitted.

Throughout the consultation periods, the project has been engaging and will continue to engage with the National Farmers Union (NFU) and the Lincolnshire Agricultural Association of Valuers (LAAV). We will be inviting these groups and land agents who have been representing landowners on project matters to attend the Public Information Events in June.

### Legal agreements

Before we can install any cables or equipment on private land we will be seeking agreements by negotiation with the affected parties, where possible. Dalcour Maclaren will be approaching affected parties to discuss the rights we wish to seek which will involve legal agreements. Please let us know if you wish to have professional land agent representation at these discussions and provide relevant contact details using the enclosed form. We will endeavour to ensure they are well-informed about the project.

### Lincolnshire Show

The National Grid Land Officers and representatives of Dalcour Maclaren will be at the National Grid stand at the forthcoming Lincolnshire Show on 21 and 22 June 2017. There are a limited number of tickets available and the project is offering 2 free tickets per land-holding on a first come, first serve basis. If you would like these sent to you, please complete the form below and send it via post or via email to the address provided by Friday, 9 June.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Oswood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large 'O' and a long tail on the 'd'.

Oliver Wood

Project Director

**NATIONAL GRID VIKING LINK INTERCONNECTOR PROJECT**

Name (Letter recipient) .....

Address:.....

.....

Tel no:.....

I, (letter addressee) would like to accept the offer of 2 free tickets for the Lincolnshire Show on the following date:

21 June                       22 June                       [Please tick one box]

I would be grateful if you could inform the land agent ..... of  
.....(company/firm)

regarding the National Grid Viking Link project updates.

I confirm the above land agent is already instructed to act on my behalf regarding the project:

Yes                       Not yet                       [Please tick one box]

Signed .....

Dated.....

**Please return completed form by Friday, 9 June by post to:**

Dalcour Maclaren  
Keystone Innovation Centre  
Croxtan Road  
Thetford  
Norfolk  
IP24 1JD

**Or by email to:** [Viking.Link@Dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:Viking.Link@Dalcourmaclaren.com)

## Appendix 5: Resident Invite to Public Information Event

26 May 2017

Dear Resident,

**Viking Link Interconnector Project – Public Information Events**

I am writing to update you on the progress of our proposals for Viking Link, an electricity interconnector between Bicker Fen in Lincolnshire, UK and Revsing in southern Jutland, Denmark.

Our Phase 1 and Phase 2 consultations for the UK Onshore Scheme took place last year. Local opinion, feedback from residents and stakeholders along with environmental and technical information played an important part in selecting the proposed landfall and converter station sites as well as the proposed cable route corridor for the pair of direct current (DC) underground cables between the landfall and the converter station sites (known as the purple route corridor). We have also confirmed route options at the north and south ends of the purple route corridor as well as a reduction in the width of the proposed corridor of interest. We thank everyone who participated in our consultations and provided comments.

The UK Onshore Scheme comprises of the installation of underground DC cables from the landfall in East Lindsey to a converter station in South Holland (to be constructed along with a permanent access road), as well as the installation of underground alternating current (AC) cables from the converter station to the existing substation at Bicker Fen.

Planning applications for the Viking Link UK Onshore Scheme will be submitted in summer 2017. The following affected Local Planning Authorities will be involved in determining the submissions:

- East Lindsey District Council
- Boston Borough Council
- North Kesteven District Council
- South Holland District Council

Before submitting these applications, we will be holding four Public Information Events and we would like to invite you to come along to find out more about our updated draft proposals which include information about the proposed DC cable route and the underground AC cables.

The events will take place as follows:

Venue	Post code	Date	Time
The Ruby Hunt Centre, Donington	PE11 4UA	Tuesday, 6 June	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Grange & Links Hotel, Sandilands	LN12 2RA	Wednesday, 7 June	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Raithby Village Hall, Raithby	PE23 4DS	Thursday, 15 June	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Stickney Village Hall, Stickney	PE22 8BA	Friday, 16 June	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm

We hope you will be able to attend as members of the project team will be available to answer any questions you might have.

P.T.O.

If you would like to be kept informed about the project, please register your interest by emailing the team at [vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk](mailto:vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk) or by calling on Freephone 0800 731 0561 between 9.00 am and 5.30 pm, Mondays to Fridays (excluding bank holidays). An answer phone is available outside of these times to leave a message. Any messages left will be picked up on the next available working day.

For more information, please visit [www.viking-link.com](http://www.viking-link.com).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Oswood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'O' at the beginning.

Oliver Wood  
Project Director



## CONTACT US

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You can find out more information by:



calling our freephone number:  
**0800 731 0561**



Sending an email to:  
**vikinglink@communityrelations.co.uk**



Writing to our freepost address at:  
**FREEPOST VIKING LINK**



Visiting our website at:  
**www.viking-link.com**

If you, or someone you know, would like information in Braille, audio, large print or another language, please call us on the freephone number above.