

Community Matters



Working together for clean, secure, and affordable energy

Welcome to the second edition of the Viking Link newsletter, 'Community Matters'.

This newsletter aims to provide an update on recent project progress and Community Engagement activities, introduce our appointed contractors and inform you of the upcoming project milestones.

And it would not be right if I did not mention COVID-19. I hope that you and your families are keeping well and coping through these very difficult times. I would like to take the opportunity to update you on the actions Viking Link have taken to continue construction works and to protect our team, contractors and communities.

The construction of Viking Link is a key part of the development of national infrastructure for the UK and Denmark. We have carefully assessed the COVID-19 impacts on the manufacturing and construction works. In line with current government guidelines in Great Britain and the countries involved in the manufacturing of equipment, essential work on the project continues.

Some of the activities are works to ensure the running of the network in the future.

The welfare of our employees, contractors and local community remains our priority. All the people who need to continue working on site are doing so under stringent health and safety measures to protect not just themselves but also the communities in which they operate.

We are very grateful to our people who are going out to work every day to continue the construction of the energy networks of tomorrow at such a critical time.



I hope that you find this newsletter helpful. For further information please visit the Viking Link website, but if you have any questions, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Mike Elmer
Project Director, Viking Link

Contact us:

If you have any questions, please contact our team at:

Freephone: 0800 731 0561

Post: FREEPOST VIKING LINK

Email: vikinglink@communityfeedback.co.uk

Website: www.viking-link.com



Viking Link is co-financed by the European Union's Connecting Europe Facility.

Our Contractors

We would like to introduce the main contractors that have been appointed for the construction of the Viking Link interconnector.

- **SIEMENS** will be supplying and installing equipment for the two converter station sites in the UK and Denmark
- **Balfour Beatty** will deliver the Civil works and install the UK land cables
- **Prysmian and NKT** will be supplying and installing offshore cable and testing the cable

Project Progress

Since summer 2019, the Viking Link project has commenced some works in preparation for the interconnector construction that begins in summer 2020:

Completed works:

- Key construction contracts awarded
- Geophysical surveys
- Ecology surveys
- Paleo-environmental surveys
- Converter site ground investigations
- Converter site surveys

Works in progress:

- Archaeological surveys
- Cable route ground investigation works
- Cable manufacturing
- Construction of a new cable laying vessel
- Offshore UXO surveys and inspections in UK sector

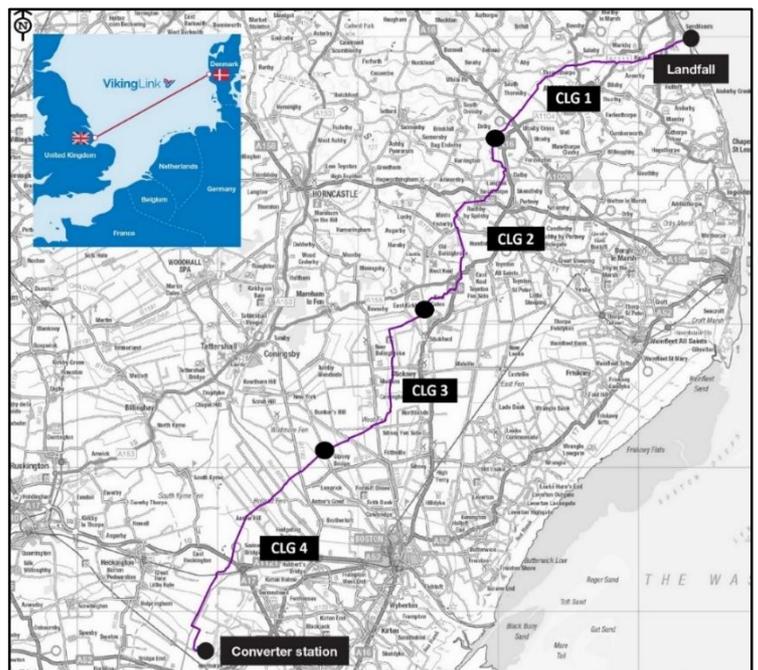
Community Engagement

Community Liaison Groups

Viking Link is keen to be part of the community and to establish forums for information exchange. We are currently in the process of planning Community Liaison Groups (CLGs) to provide local community representatives with a forum for discussion, information exchange, updates and feedback relating to the progress of the project, and to provide advance notice of key milestones and events.

The CLGs will be split into four groups along the cable route, landfall and converter station sites as indicated on the map. The meetings will be held in the evening at local venues.

We will shortly be writing to community representatives (i.e. parish council, local authority members) to invite them to nominate a member of their group to join the CLG within their area.



Parish Council Forums

We are also in the process of planning Parish Council Forums. The forums will be hosted on the following day of the inaugural CLG meetings. These forums are designed to provide project progress information to parish council members and to introduce members of the Viking Link project team. Invitations will shortly be sent out to parish councils along the cable route, landfall and converter station sites.

The Community Liaison Groups and Parish Council Forums were planned for May 2020; but are now subject to change due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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Community Engagement

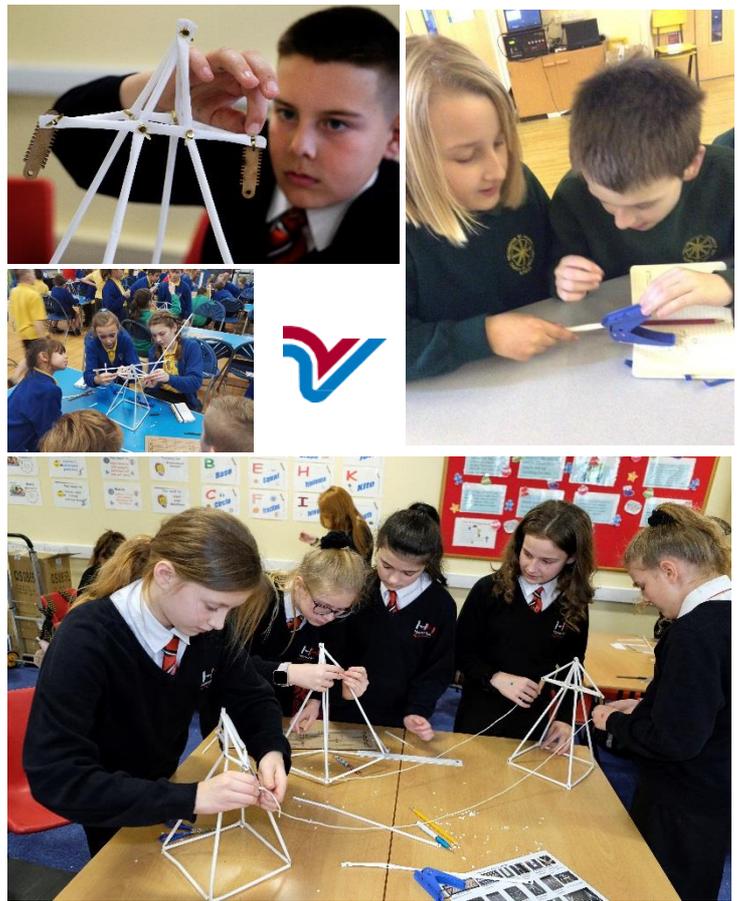
Education Programme

In January 2020, Viking Link launched an education programme delivering STEM subject based workshops to pupils in 10 schools along the cable route in Lincolnshire. The workshops are directly linked to the National Curriculum and feature hands-on practical activities relevant to the construction timeline of the project.

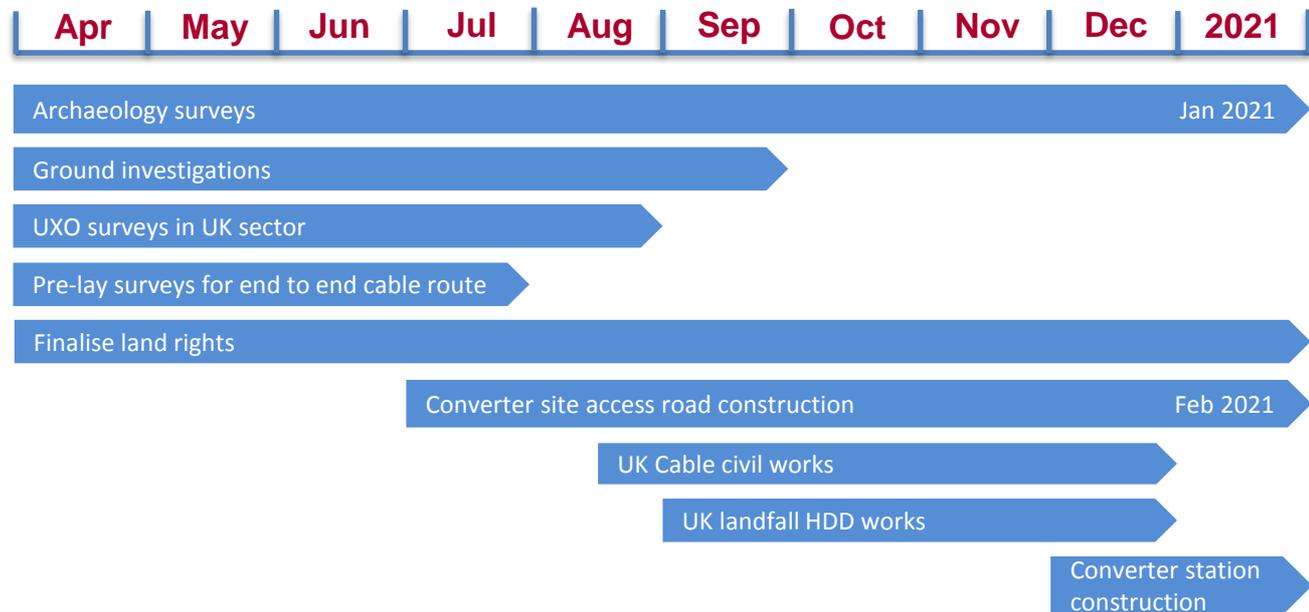
The 3-year programme, delivered twice a year, follows the same set of pupils and involves workshops that support learning and development and aim to spark interest in STEM subjects and careers to encourage and inspire pupils to become the 'next generation of engineers'.

Over the course of the programme, pupils will learn about the role of National Grid, the benefits of electricity interconnectors and will be challenged with route planning simulations, structure construction and renewable energy activities. The first workshops went down a storm with the pupils, teachers and the Viking Link team and generated a fair amount of local media coverage!

The next school visit was planned for June 2020; but is now subject to change due to COVID-19 restrictions and school closures.



Upcoming project milestones in 2020



All project milestone dates planned for 2020 are subject to change due to COVID-19.

How can you keep updated?

Further information about the Viking Link project is available on our website, but if you or someone you know does not have access to the internet, please contact the team using the postal address or telephone number below.

We will be very happy to answer your questions and send printed copies of information when requested.

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