

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) NEWSLETTER

Issue 9, November 2025

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Introduction

What is an NSIP?

An NSIP is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. They are a certain type of project, over a certain size, and considered by the Government to be so big and nationally important that permission to build them needs to be given at a national level, by the responsible Secretary of State. The thresholds for NSIPs are set out in sections 15 to 30A of the Planning Act 2008. Instead of applying to the local authority for planning permission, the developer must apply to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) for a different kind of permission called a

Development Consent Order (DCO). The PA2008 process was introduced to streamline the decision-making process for major infrastructure projects. Since then, over 110 NSIPs have been consented in the UK. PINS is responsible for undertaking DCO examinations and writing a report with recommendations to the Secretary of State to aid their decision-making.

Parish and town councils are key stakeholders and consultees in the NSIP process. Suffolk has to deal with a very large number of NSIPs, particularly related to energy developments, so raising awareness of the current status of all of Suffolk's NSIPs with parish and town councils is important to allow for their fullest engagement in the process of NSIPs affecting their area.

Suffolk County Council's (SCC's) Scrutiny Committee discussed on 30 June 2023 the impact of NSIPs on Suffolk's communities and how the Council works with communities to encourage consultation responses that are reflective of the views of local people. The CEO of SALC, Sally Longmate, highlighted the pressures and issues parish councils face in relation to NSIPs. The documents related to that meeting are available on the SCC website, and a recording of the meeting is available on YouTube.



1 - Video of Scrutiny Committee 30th June 2023

SCC Scrutiny Committee documents:

[https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=\(30-06-2023\),%20Scrutiny%20Committee](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(30-06-2023),%20Scrutiny%20Committee)

Recommendation f) from the Scrutiny Committee states that parish councils should be updated about the status of Suffolk's current and potential NSIPs. This newsletter will be provided every couple of months, prepared by SCC officers, and circulated through SALC.

Local authority roles in the NSIP process

During the NSIP process, the role of the county and district council is that of a statutory consultee who can try to persuade/advise, but local authorities cannot force changes upon the developer, as they are not the decision-makers. Neither the county nor the district council are responsible for designing or delivering any scheme. However, they are important stakeholders who can often shape the design and mitigation of projects.

Parish and town councils hosting, or being adjacent to, proposed NSIPs are also statutory consultees. It is important for these councils to provide the local community perspective in the process, aiming to influence design, mitigation, and community benefit proposals.

Glossary

- **BESS** = Battery Energy Storage System
- **DCO** = Development Consent Order
- **DoR** = Discharge of Requirement
- **EIA** = Environmental Impact Assessment
- **NGET** = National Grid Electricity Transmission
- **NGV** = National Grid Ventures
- **NSIP** = Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
- **PINS** = Planning Inspectorate
- **SALC** = Suffolk Association of Local Councils
- **SCC** = Suffolk County Council

Proposed NSIP Projects in Suffolk - Updates

(Projects in Alphabetical order)

East Anglia ONE North and TWO Offshore Wind Farms (Scottish Power Renewables (SPR))

Location: East Suffolk

East Anglia ONE North and TWO are proposals to create connections to a new substation at Friston via High Voltage Alternating Current undersea and underground cables.

Update (November 2025):

Officers from Suffolk County Council continue to discharge requirements attached to the Development Consent Order. Construction works on the substation haul road begun over the summer, triggering the official commencement of the project construction. Scottish Power Renewables have been running workshops on the substation design for stakeholders over the summer, and will continue to hold Public Information Days next year as work progresses.

More information:

- Link to East Anglia ONE North's webpage:
https://www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/east_anglia_one_north.aspx
- Link to East Anglia TWO's webpage:
https://www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/east_anglia_two.aspx
- Link to the Suffolk County Council webpage on East Anglia ONE North:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/east-anglia-one-north>
- Link to the Suffolk County Council webpage on East Anglia TWO:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/east-anglia-two>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to East Anglia ONE North can be found here: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010077>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to East Anglia TWO can be found here: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010078>

EcoPower Suffolk

Location: Mid Suffolk

An energy farm with solar PV and a co-located Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure which also includes a grid connection to the Yaxley National Grid substation. The project will consist of 600 hectares of solar panels spread across several sites, and a battery storage site to the south of Thrandeston.

Update (November 2025)

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping is anticipated to take place in Q1 2026.

Towns and Parishes are statutory consultees in this process.

For the full news release see <https://ecopowersuffolk.com/news>

For more information on the statutory consultation see
<https://ecopowersuffolk.com/consultation-process/>

More information:

- Link to EcoPower Suffolk's website: <https://ecopowersuffolk.com>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to EcoPower Suffolk can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110019>

Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm

Location: Off East Suffolk coast / Essex

A wind farm proposed off the East Suffolk coast, with the landing point and onshore infrastructure proposed to be in Essex.

Update (November 2025):

The examination into the Five Estuaries Offshore Wind Farm concluded in March 2025. The Secretary of State has received the Examining Authority's recommendation and was originally expected to decide the application by September 2025.

The deadline for deciding the application was extended by the Secretary of State until 17th December 2025 to provide more time for responses to post-examination consultations. The Council sent a letter to the SoS emphasising the need to address the updated duty to seek to further the purposes of affected designated landscapes given the lack of consultation on the matter by the SoS.

More information:

- Link to Five Estuaries' website: <https://fiveestuaries.co.uk>

- Link to Suffolk County Council's webpage on Five Estuaries: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/five-estuaries-offshore-windfarm>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to Five Estuaries can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010115>

Helios Energy Park

Location: East Suffolk

Helios is a proposed energy farm consisting of ground mounted solar PV and battery energy storage system (BESS) in the locality of the consented but as yet unbuilt substation at Friston

(No update this issue)

Update from last issue (August 2025)

Deloitte, acting for the applicant of the proposed Helios Energy Farm, submitted a relevant representation in response to the Sea Link proposals, which brought the scheme into the public domain.

More Information:

- Link to Helios Energy Park relevant representation to Sea Link: nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN020026-000593-Helios%20%20SEAL%20Link%20Relevant%20Representation%20230625_Redacted.pdf
- Link to Suffolk County Council's press release regarding the Helios proposals: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/sea-link-paperwork-reveals-plans-for-large-solar-farm-near-friston>

LionLink

Location: East Suffolk

LionLink is the proposal by National Grid Ventures (NGV) for a subsea electricity link between Suffolk and the Netherlands, which will also connect with Dutch windfarms.

Update (November 2025)

The statutory consultation for the LionLink proposals is anticipated to take place over an eight-week window, commencing in January 2026. The statutory consultation will be open to the public and statutory consultees.

NGV are currently preparing their Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which will be informed by surveys and technical work undertaken by the applicant, alongside feedback which has been received to date regarding the proposals. The PEIR be published for comment during the statutory consultation.

More information:

- Link to LionLink's National Grid website page:
<https://www.nationalgrid.com/national-grid-ventures/lionlink/about>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's webpage on LionLink:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/lionlink>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the non-statutory consultation:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/eurolink-non-statutory-consultation-scc-response1.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the supplementary non-statutory consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/LionLink-Supplementary-Non-Statutory-Consultation-SCC-response.pdf>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to LionLink can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020033>

North Falls Offshore Wind Farm

Location: Off East Suffolk coast / Essex

A wind farm proposed off the East Suffolk coast, with the landing point and onshore infrastructure proposed to be in Essex.

Update (November 2025):

The examination for the North Falls Offshore Wind Farm concluded on 29th July 2025. The Examining Authority sent its recommendation to the Secretary of State on 28 October 2025 with a decision expected by 28 January 2026.

During the examination, officers from Suffolk County Council have attended hearings and participated in the written process, raising issues relating to landscape impact, the duty to

seek to further the purposes of designated landscapes, traffic and transport, and skills and employment.

More information:

- North Falls Website: <https://www.northfallsoffshore.com>
- Link to the Suffolk County Council webpage on North Falls:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/north-falls-offshore-windfarm-scottish-and-southern-electricityrwe>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to North Falls can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010119>

Norwich to Tilbury

Location: Babergh and Mid Suffolk

A proposal by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) is to construct a new 400 kV electricity transmission line between Norwich Main Substation, Bramford Substation, the East Anglian Connection Node (near Lawford) and Tilbury Substation.

Update (November 2025):

On 29 August 2025, National Grid submitted the application to the Planning Inspectorate. The proposals were accepted for examination on 26 September 2025.

The Planning Inspectorate has invited Interested Parties to submit Relevant Representations between 16 October and 27 November 2025. Suffolk County Council, amongst the other Host Local Authorities, has reviewed the application documentation and prepared a response.

Currently, the expectation is that the Examination will commence in January or February 2026 for a period of 6 months with an Examining Authority panel of 5 inspectors.

Cllr Richard Rout has written to the relevant parish councils setting out the support that is available to them see: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/norwich-to-tilbury-scc-letter-to-parishes-from-cllr-richard-rout-redacted.pdf>

More information:

- Link to Norwich to Tilbury's National Grid webpage:
<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury>
- Link to the Suffolk County Council webpage on Norwich to Tilbury:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/norwich-to-tilbury>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Norwich to Tilbury non-statutory consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/imported/scc-response-to-eag-informal-consultation-16-june.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Norwich to Tilbury supplementary non-statutory consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/scc-response-to-norwich-to-tilbury-non-stat-con-2.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Norwich to Tilbury statutory consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/scc-response-to-norwich-to-tilbury-statutory-consultation.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Norwich to Tilbury targeted consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/scc-n2t-targeted-con-2025-response-with-appendix.pdf>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to Norwich to Tilbury can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020027>

Suffolk Water Recycling, Transfer and Storage (SWRTS) Project

Location: East Suffolk and Mid Suffolk

Suffolk Water Recycling, Transfer and Storage is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) developed by Essex and Suffolk Water (part of Northumbrian Water), to construct an Advanced Water Recycling Plant and strategic network enhancements.

Update (November 2025)

A consultation opened on 27th October and closes on 10th December, and details can be found on the applicant's website <https://suffolkwaternet.co.uk/ourconsultation.html>

More Information:

- Essex and Suffolk Water Project website: <https://suffolkwaternet.co.uk/>

- Suffolk County Council: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/suffolk-water-recycling>

Sea Link

Location: East Suffolk

Sea Link is a proposal for a subsea, grid reinforcement link between Suffolk and Kent. Currently there is a proposed converter station near Saxmundham, connected by underground cables from a landing point between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness. If the substation at Friston is not built under its existing consent as part of ScottishPower Renewables' East Anglia ONE North/TWO project, the substation will form part of the Sea Link proposals.

Update (November 2025):

The Sea Link Examination commenced on Wednesday November 5th.

The Council attended the Preliminary Meeting and Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) represented by Michael Bedford KC and relevant officers, and Open Floor Hearing 1 represented by Cllr Richard Rout who delivered a speech which outlined the Council's objection to the Sea Link proposals.

The Council stressed the need for hearings to be held locally and not in a London centred model as proposed by the Planning Inspectorate

The applicant was asked to provide local locations to allow access to hearings held in London.

At the Open Floor Hearing, held at Snape Maltings, Cllr Richard Rout delivered a speech which set out the Council's continued objection to the Sea Link proposals.

This can be seen in full at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/suffolk-county-council-objects-to-sea-link-as-examination-begins-1>

More information:

- Link to Sea Link's National Grid website page: <https://www.nationalgrid.com/the-great-grid-upgrade/sea-link>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's Sea Link webpage: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/sea-link>

- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Sea Link non-statutory consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/sea-link-scc-response-non-statutory-consultation.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Sea Link statutory consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/scc-sea-link-statutory-consultation-response.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Sea Link targeted consultation: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/Sea-Link-Targeted-Consultation-Response.pdf>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's response to the Sea Link Grid pre-submission engagement: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/sea-link-pre-submission-engagement-response.pdf>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to Sea Link can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020026>

White Elm Solar Farm

Location: Mid Suffolk

White Elm Solar Farm is a proposed 675-acre solar farm, including battery storage, with a design capacity exceeding 50MW and located within the three parishes of Mendlesham, Wickham Skeith and Thwaite, approximately 7.5km north of Stowmarket.

(No update this issue)

Update from last issue (August 2025)

On 23 May 2025, Suffolk County Council received notification from the applicant of White Elm Solar Farm, Elmya Energy, that the development of the project had been paused indefinitely and the planned non-statutory consultation and associated public consultation events which were planned for 31 May and 4 June had been cancelled.

More information:

- Link to White Elm Solar Farm's Website: <https://www.whiteelmsolarfarm.com>

- Link to Suffolk County Council's statement on the pausing of White Elm Solar Farm: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/statement-on-the-pausing-of-the-white-elm-solar-farm>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's webpage on White Elm: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/white-elm-solar-farm>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to White Elm Solar Farm can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110003>

Consented NSIP Projects in Suffolk - Updates

(Projects in Alphabetical order)

Bramford to Twinstead

Location: Babergh

This project proposal by National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) is to construct a new 400 kV power line between Bramford and Twinstead to reinforce the electricity transmission network.

Update (November 2025)

Construction of the scheme commenced on 12th August 2025 following the completion of necessary discharge of requirements for Stage 1. Commencement activities are currently focused on the Main Construction Compound adjacent to the A134 at Leavenheath, where the main access is being built to replace the current temporary access. The developer obtained a Minor Works Licence to use the temporary access to construct the main bell mouth access to minimise impacts on the A134.

The developer (National Grid Electricity Transmission) has also notified the local authorities of their plan to undertake programme-critical vegetation removal during September & October 2025 for stages 2,3, and 4 due to Dormice license restrictions. Discharge of requirements for Stage 2, which refers to works entirely within Essex, has been completed. Draft and formal submissions for Stages 3 and 4 are beginning to be received. Stage 3 covers the construction of sections of the new 400kV overhead line, whilst Stage 4 concerns the underground cabling at Stour Valley and Dedham Vale AOB. The removal of the existing 132kV line is also included in these stages.

The Council raised concerns over the use of certain access routes for Stages 3 and 4 which reflect the concerns raised by the Council during the Examination regarding the extensive damage/removal of vegetation required by their use. The developer is currently reviewing their works programme to refrain from using these routes where possible. Concerns from parishes over traffic impacts have been relayed to the developer who will seek to minimise such effects.

The has engaged with the developer over community benefits. The developer is currently undertaking a community consultation to seek views on what the fund should be used for, with a panel set to make decisions on initiatives from April 2026.

More information:

- Link to Bramford to Twinstead's National Grid webpage:
<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/bramford-twinstead>
- Link to the Suffolk County Council webpage on Bramford to Twinstead:
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/bramford-to-twinstead>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to Bramford to Twinstead can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020002>

Sizewell C

Location: East Suffolk

Sizewell C is a 3.2-gigawatt EPR nuclear power station.

Sizewell C announced formal commencement on 15 January 2024.

Update (November 2025):

On 22 July 2025 the Government announced the final investment decision, which confirmed approval for the construction of the new nuclear power plant.

The Council continues to receive discharge of requirement applications. Notably the Council have recently discharged requirements in relation to the Two Village Bypass Road and Southern Park & Ride scheme. Progress is also being made towards approval of the Sizewell Link Road.

All the Sizewell C associated development sites have begun construction, with the exception of the two AD3 major roads – Sizewell Link Road and the Two Village Bypass. Contractors are on site on all the Offsite Infrastructure schemes, in various stages of progress: The widening Layby Scheme on the A12 so the police can escort Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL) has begun. The two Park and Ride schemes are managing the earthworks and preparing tarmac for limited parking in October for the Darsham (Northern) and December for the Wickham Market (Southern) Park and Ride. Earthwork movements are taking place at the Yoxford and Friday St roundabouts, both being developed off the A12. Regarding the two new major roads – the Sizewell Link Road and the Two Village Bypass, site establishment works, haul road and mobilisation is ongoing, with full start expected in October 2025.

The caps on the number of HGVs on the highway – agreed in the DCO – continue to be monitored through the Construction Traffic Management Plan at the Transport Review Group. Traffic non-compliance monitoring from January to June 2025 showed that the most type of breach by HGVs is ‘off-routing’, where vehicles deviate from the approved routes, and pass through town centres or use unsuitable rural roads.

More information:

- Link to the Sizewell C website: <https://www.sizewellc.com>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's webpage on Sizewell C: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/sizewell-c-nuclear-power-plant>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to Sizewell C can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010012>
- Link to Government announcement of final investment decision: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/sizewell-c-gets-green-light-with-final-investment-decision>

Sunnica Energy Farm

Location: West Suffolk

A proposed 630MW solar farm including battery energy storage systems across approximately 1,041 hectares (2,573 acres) of West Suffolk and East Cambridgeshire.

Update (November 2025)

The Council is regularly convening with the other Host Local Authorities and the Promoter, when appropriate, to keep appraised of progress towards Discharge of Requirements.

SCC does not anticipate any discharge documents to be submitted in this calendar year.

More information:

- Link to Sunnica's website: <https://sunnica.co.uk>
- Link to Suffolk County Council's webpage on Sunnica: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects-including-nsips/nsips-in-suffolk/sunnica-energy-farm>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to Sunnica can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010106>

Kingsway Solar Farm

Location: East Cambridgeshire

A proposed 500MW solar farm including battery energy storage systems across approximately 1,246 hectares (3,079 acres) of East Cambridgeshire.

In a related matter, between 17 September and 29 October 2025, Kingsway Solar Farm undertook a Statutory Consultation on their scheme (proposed to be located near Balsham, Cambridgeshire). The scheme is proposed to connect to Burwell Substation and therefore will interact with Sunnica Energy Farm.

As such, Suffolk County Council responded to the Statutory Consultation with respect to cumulative impact: [SCC Kingsway Solar Farm - Statutory Consultation Response \(Oct 2025\)](#)

Update (November 2025)

This proposed solar farm has recently hosted a Statutory Consultation, between 17 September and 29 October 2025, and would be located across three land parcels (near Balsham, Cambridgeshire).

Whilst the development is proposed to be wholly in Cambridgeshire, the proposals for overhead lines to connect into the 400kv Burwell Substation tightly align with the Suffolk border near Newmarket. The proposals will also interact with the Sunnica Energy Farm order limits at the Burwell Substation. The concerns regarding Suffolk therefore will focus on cumulative impacts, and landscape and visual matters.

Further information, including an interactive map of the proposed development can be found on the Applicant's website - <https://kingswaysolarfarm.co.uk/the-scheme/>.

Other Consented NSIPs

The following NSIPs in Suffolk have currently no significant updates to report:

- Drax (formerly Progress Power) at Eye Airfield: Consented. Construction is ongoing.
- Gull Wing Bridge: Thousands of Lowestoft residents made history on 7 September 2024 as they walked, wheeled and drove for the first time across the town's new, world-leading and unique Gull Wing bridge. The civic opening ceremony took place on Tuesday 19 November 2024.
- SPR - East Anglia ONE and THREE: Both are consented. East Anglia ONE (EA1) is complete; East Anglia THREE (EA3) is under construction. The EA3 converter station is currently being constructed at Bramford and works along the cable ducting route are being undertaken.

In addition, there is the possibility in the medium term of additional NSIPs, in relation to hydrogen infrastructure, water reservoirs, data centres, energy generation and potentially, in the longer term, further National Grid infrastructure. Future newsletters will update on further developments.

Neighbouring NSIP Project Updates

Parish and town councils located near county borders should stay informed about any proposed Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs).

East Pye Solar

Location: South Norfolk

The East Pye Solar proposals include the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of ground-mounted solar PV arrays and associated development, including a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), in the area of Long Stratton, South Norfolk

(No update this issue)

Update from previous issue (May 2025):

The Planning Inspectorate held a consultation in January and February 2025 in respect of East Pye Solar Ltd's East Pye Solar Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report. The proposed development comprises the construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of ground-mounted solar PV arrays and associated development, in the area of Long Stratton, South Norfolk.

As neighbouring authorities, Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council provided a joint response to the scoping consultation, considering technical matters of the EIA and

not the principle of the development itself. The Councils raised concerns about the promoter's proposal to scope socio-economic impacts out of the EIA, the cumulative impacts of several NSIPs being delivered adjacent to the A140 concurrently, and the need for more detail regarding proposed routing of abnormal indivisible loads (AILs).

More information:

- Link to East Pye Solar's webpage: <https://www.eastpyesolar.co.uk/>
- Link to the PINS webpage where all public documents relating to East Pye Solar can be found: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN0110014>

Tarchon Interconnector

Location: Tendering District / Essex

The proposals consist of an interconnector between Essex and Germany with a capacity of 1.4 GW. A converter station will be located nearby the proposed East Anglia Connection Node in Lawford which serves as the project's connection point to the Grid. Underground cabling will make landfall south of Harwich.

(No update this issue)

Update from last issue (August 2025):

The promoter expects to submit the application to the Planning Inspectorate in Q3 of 2026 followed by examination in 2027. SCC has submitted its response to the non-statutory consultation in May 2025. Whilst the project is in its early stages, SCC has conveyed key concerns, including the impact of the proposed converter station on the Dedham Vale National Landscape, compliance with the new duty to seek to further the purposes of National Landscapes and the cumulative effects of the project in combination with other projects connecting to the EACN and Norwich to Tilbury.

More Information:

- Link to the Tarchon Interconnector's webpage: <https://www.tarchonenergy.net>

Tasway Energy Park

Location: South Norfolk

The Tasway Energy Park proposals consist of large-scale solar PV with battery energy storage system (BESS) along with associated infrastructure including cabling and an onsite substation.

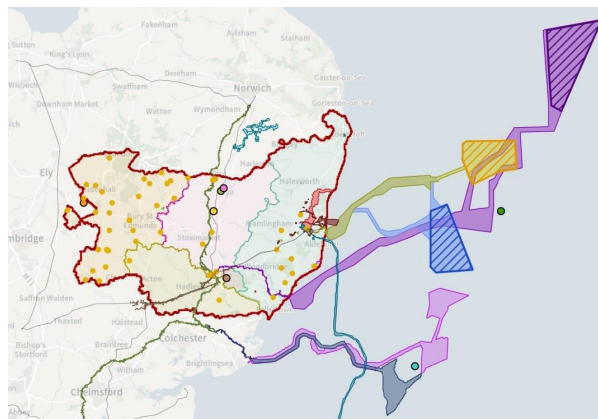
The proposals are at an early stage of development with a public consultation expected Autumn/Winter 2025.

More Information:

- Link to the Tasway Energy Park website: <https://www.taswayenergypark.co.uk>

News

NSIP Mapping



Suffolk County Council have produced a web-based public-facing interactive map to display NSIPs in the county of Suffolk and neighbouring districts. Where Suffolk County Council have received written permission, the Council has published the Order Limits of each proposal. Where Suffolk County Council has been unsuccessful in obtaining written permission, point data at the centre of the NSIP has been provided. Small-scale (non-NSIP) ground-mounted solar farms are also shown as yellow dots.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) throughout their lifecycle are displayed. This includes those in Pre-Application, Examination, Granted Consent, Construction, and Operational.

You can access the map via the [SCC Website](#) or via this link:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/b8e2edd5fbc4c75b74aa38da7e710ed>

The mapping tool includes several utility functions, including ability to tap or click on each NSIP to understand its infrastructure further, and a bookmark selector which allows you to scroll through a carousel to re-focus the map on each NSIP (with a brief description).

Disclaimer: Please note that the map is designed to provide members of the public with access to illustrative and indicative location-based data for information purposes only. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information displayed is accurate and regularly updated. The database is currently in development and datasets may be added or removed during this process.

County Association of the Year Award- Suffolk Association of Local Councils



COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR

The SALC team were thrilled to accept the award for County Association of the Year 2024 at the House of Lords on 25th February. These awards provide an opportunity for councils, councillors, clerks and county associations to showcase their work to support the sector and the communities they serve.

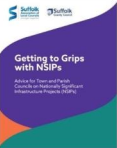
The event included a speech by local government minister Baroness Taylor of Stevenage who expressed gratitude for the work of town, parish councils and parish meetings nationwide. The reception celebrated achievements and allowed the sector to network, collaborate and inspire one another.

The SALC entry was for our work on helping councils navigate the challenges associated with Nationally Strategic Infrastructure Projects. On accepting the award recognition and thanks was given to councillors and clerks in Suffolk who had contributed to the development of the guide through focus groups and workshops alongside Suffolk County Council who utilised government funding that had enabled delivery of this piece of work.

SALC also praised finalists in this category from Kent, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes and Essex highlighting the role county associations play across the UK on the "front line".

CLERK OF THE YEAR FINALIST
ODILEWLADON

We were not the only finalist from Suffolk - Odile Wladon from Stradbroke Parish Council made it to the final standing out as an exceptional clerk exemplifying integrity and commitment to transparency in her work. Amongst a range of notable achievements, Odile's leadership has been her ability to foster collaboration within her local community on a wide variety of projects.

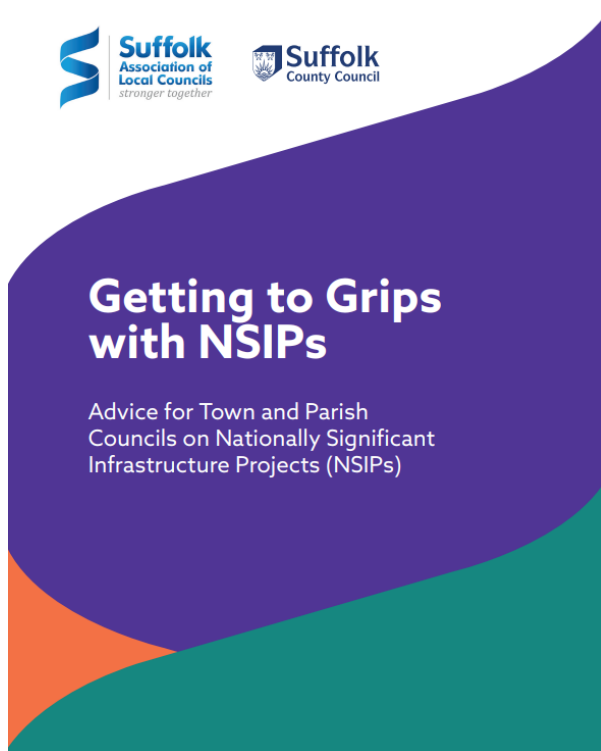


2 - SALC receiving Star Council Award 2014 as County Association of the Year

Jamie Charters, CCLA, Baroness Ros Scott of Needham Market (President of NALC) and Sally Longmate, CEO of SALC

Guidance Documents

Guidance for Town and Parish Councils



The Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) and Suffolk County Council (SCC) have produced a guidance document on how town and parish councils can engage more effectively with the NSIP process. The guidance includes explanations of key documents, stages, and procedures within the NSIP process. In drafting the guidance, SALC's experience in the governance and procedures of town and parish councils has been complemented by SCC's significant knowledge and expertise in the NSIP process to inform potential roles that town and parish councils can play in NSIPs.

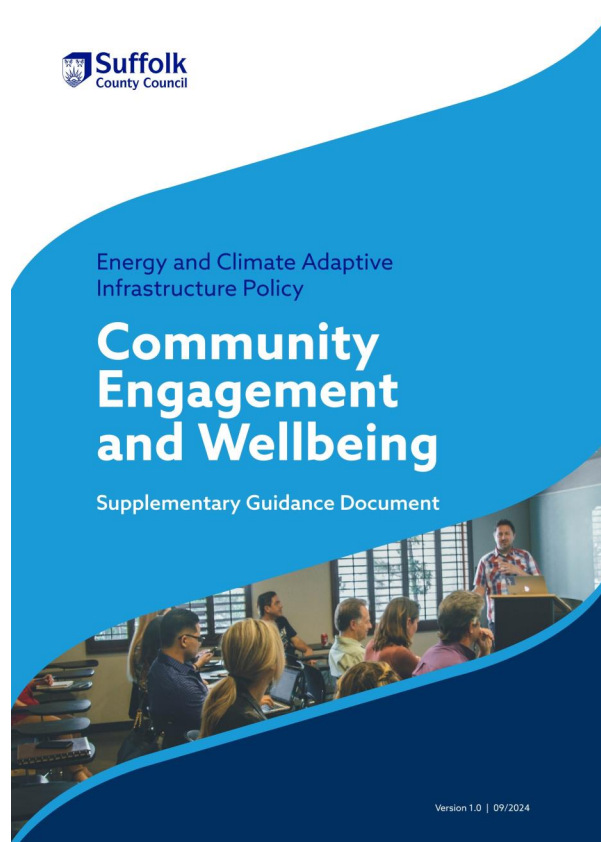
The guidance document can be found at the following link:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/getting-to-grips-with-nsips.pdf>

Link to the Suffolk Association of Local Council's dedicated page for local councils on NSIPs:

<https://www.salc.org.uk/national-strategic-infrastructure-projects-nsips>

SCC Guidance for NSIP Developers: Community Engagement and Wellbeing



This guidance document was written by Suffolk County Council, for NSIP Developers to take account of.

How the document came to be:

Following a public question to the meeting of the County Council on 21 March 2024 regarding the wellbeing of communities and the mental health impacts of nationally significant infrastructure consenting from the chairman of Friston Parish Council Mr Michael Mahoney, officers have been working with Cllr Richard Rout, Cabinet Member for Devolution, Local Government Reform and NSIPs, to consider how to address this very important issue. The Council's Head of Public Mental Health has engaged further with Friston Parish Council and worked with the Council's NSIPs team to explore solutions. Officers sought advice from leading UK experts on health impact assessments and community engagement to inform the discussion.

What the document aims to do:

As responsibilities for community engagement lie with developers, the Council's greatest lever is to influence developers. Hence, the Council has developed guidance for project promoters about community engagement and safeguarding the wellbeing of communities, which was published in September 2024. This guidance appears to be first of its kind in the United Kingdom, and its publication has been shared widely with Government officials, the Planning Inspectorate, and local authorities across England.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/asset-library/community-engagement-and-wellbeing-policy.pdf>

Suffolk County Council has published other guidance on NSIPs. The most recent guidance documents are aimed at developers/ promoters of NSIP schemes. These can be found on Suffolk County Council's website here: [NSIP information for developers and project promoters - Suffolk County Council](#)

Suffolk Association of Local Councils and Suffolk County Council