Preliminary Environmental Information Report Volume 2

Appendix 11.1 Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment

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LIONLINK

Contents

1 Introduction

1.1 Project description

1.1.1 LionLink is a proposed electricity interconnector between Great Britain and the Netherlands that will supply up to 2 gigawatts (GW) of electricity and will connect to Dutch offshore wind via an offshore converter platform in Dutch waters (hereafter 'the Project').

1.1.2 The Proposed Scheme (defined as the part of the Project within the British jurisdiction) would involve the construction of a Converter Station and the installation of offshore and onshore Underground High Voltage Direct Current Cables (HVDC) to the onshore Converter Station and Underground High Voltage Alternating Current Cables (HVAC) between the Converter Station and the Kiln Lane Substation.

1.2 Purpose of the report

1.2.1 This appendix accompanies **Chapter 11 Historic Environment** of this PEIR and provides a baseline for the assessment contained in that chapter.

1.2.2 The aim of this document is to describe the existing baseline for the historic environment, including built heritage, archaeological remains and historic landscape character.

1.3 Report structure

1.3.1 The historic environment desk-based assessment includes:

a. an overview of the historic environment through which the Proposed Onshore Scheme passes;
b. a more detailed summary of the historic environment of each Section (**Figure 2.1 Zoning Plan**);
c. an appended gazetteer of all identified heritage assets (including those designated and non-designated by local and national heritage bodies) and a gazetteer which details their cultural significance (formed from their heritage interest) and their importance (**Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**); and
d. a discussion of archaeological potential.

2 Methodology

2.1.1 This section describes the method for establishing the historic environment baseline conditions, discussing Historic Landscape Character (HLC) and archaeological potential, and appraising the cultural significance and importance of heritage assets.

2.2 Study area

2.2.1 The study area includes all land within the Draft Order Limits for the Proposed Onshore Scheme (**Figure 1.2**).

2.2.2 For certain receptors the study area also includes land beyond the Draft Order Limits within an additional buffer. Buffer distances are based upon the characteristics and sensitivity of the receptor, informed by professional judgment to determine an appropriate Zone of Influence.

2.2.3 The study area for baseline data collection includes a buffer that extends 1km from the Draft Order Limits of the Proposed Onshore Scheme for designated heritage assets. For non-designated heritage assets, the study area comprises a 500m buffer which extends from the Draft Order Limits of the Proposed Onshore Scheme. This is due to the fact that, based on professional judgement, non-designated assets beyond this distance are highly unlikely to experience significant effects as a result of changes to their settings.

2.3 Time periods

2.3.1 The time periods used throughout this report align with the archaeological periods and cultural periods of the 'Periods List', designed by Historic England and communicated by the Forum for Information Standards in Heritage in their Chronology (Ref 1). The periods list is provided below.

Table 2.1: Archaeological and cultural periods

Period	Name	Date range	Sub-periods	Date range
Archaeological	Prehistoric	1,000,000 Before Common Era (BCE)-43 Common Era (CE)	Early Prehistoric Later Prehistoric	1,000,000 BCE-4,000 CE 4,000 BCE-43 CE
	Palaeolithic	1,000,000 BCE-10,000 BCE	Lower Palaeolithic Middle Palaeolithic Upper Palaeolithic	1,000,000 BCE-150,000 BCE 150,000 BCE-40,000 BCE 40,000 BCE-10,000 BCE

Period	Name	Date range	Sub-periods	Date range
Cultural	Mesolithic	10,000 BCE-4,000- BCE	Early Mesolithic Late Mesolithic	10,000 BCE-7,000 BCE 7,000 BCE-4,000 BCE
	Neolithic	4,000 BCE-2,200 BCE	Early Neolithic Middle Neolithic Late Neolithic	4,000 BCE-3,300 BCE 3,300 BCE-2,900 BCE 2,900 BCE-2,200 BCE
	Bronze Age	2,600 BCE-700 BCE	Early Bronze Age Middle Bronze Age Late Bronze Age	2,600 BCE-1,600 BCE 1,600 BCE-1,200 BCE 1,200 BCE-700 BCE
	Iron Age	800 BCE-43 CE	Early Iron Age Middle Iron Age Late Iron Age	800 BCE-300 BCE 300 BCE-100 BCE 100 BCE-43 CE
	Roman	43 CE-410 CE	-	-
	Early Medieval	410 CE-1066 CE	-	-
	Medieval	1066 CE-1540 CE	Tudor	1485 CE-1603 CE
	Post Medieval	1540 CE-1901 CE	Elizabethan Stuart Jacobean Georgian Hanoverian Victorian	1558CE-1603 CE 1603CE-1714 CE 1603CE-1625 CE 1714CE-1830 CE 1714CE-1837 CE 1836CE-1901 CE
	20th Century	1901 CE-2000 CE	Early 20th Century Edwardian First World War Mid-20th Century Second World War Cold War Late 20th Century	1901-1932 CE 1902-1910 CE 1914-1918 CE 1933-1966 CE 1939-1945 CE 1946-1991 CE 1967-2000 CE
	21st Century	2001 CE-2100 CE	-	-

2.4 Professional judgement and experience

2.4.1 Professional judgement and experience, which is informed, reasonable and balanced with respect to outcomes, will be applied throughout this report. Examples of instances when it may be applied are when identifying unrecorded

built heritage and possible archaeology and when appraising the cultural significance and importance of heritage assets.

2.5 Data and information sources

Data processing

2.5.1 The geospatial data discussed in the following sub-sections has been processed using ESRI ArcGIS Pro 3.2.0.

2.5.2 Data provided remotely by, for example, a Web Map Service (WMS) was accessed through ESRI ArcGIS Pro 3.2.0 and used as presented and for reference or as the primary dataset from which new data was created.

2.5.3 ESRI ArcGIS Pro 3.2.0 has also been used to manually georeference non-spatially defined information, for example, digitised but not geolocated historic maps or plans.

Data sources

2.5.4 The following data and information sources and repositories have been used to provide general context for the historic environment of the study area, to enable the identification of unrecorded built heritage assets and possible unrecorded archaeological features, and to inform discussion regarding HLC and archaeological potential.

a. Archaeology Data Service – for the georeferenced administrative boundaries of the Domesday shires and hundreds and for other grey literature.
b. British Geological Survey's 1:50,000 WMS and GeoIndex of Borehole data – for geological data for the UK comprising bedrock geology, superficial geology, artificial ground and linear features data, and for historical borehole records.
c. British Library – for historical maps.
d. Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography – for oblique and vertical historical aerial photography
e. The Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeological Network (CITiZAN) records
f. Defence of Britain Project Anti-Invasion Database (2002 CE) – Google Earth enabled dataset of field and documentary work to record the 20th Century CE militarised landscape of the United Kingdom.
g. East Anglian Archaeology – archaeological reports from the region published as a series since 1975 CE.
h. East Suffolk Council – for Locally Listed Parks and Gardens.
i. Environment Agency LiDAR at 1m resolution.
j. Historic Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping, Groundsure – all 1:2500, 1:10560 and 1:10000 editions of historical Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping, all available years and scales, including first edition mapping.
k. Historic England Archive – for historical aerial photographs.

l. Historic England National Mapping Programme reports and National Mapping Project data – for archaeological features identified, mapped, and recorded using aerial sources.
m. Historic Landscape Character (HLC) – including mapping provided by the Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment and the East of England Typology.
n. The Milestone Society databases of pre-1939 CE milestones, guideposts, boundary markers, commemorative way markers, fingerposts, signs and tollhouses.
o. National Archives – for tithe maps.
p. Natural England's Ancient Woodland Index (England) - for recorded areas of ancient woodland.
q. Natural England's National Character Area profiles – Suffolk Coast and Heaths (NE491) and South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands (NE544).
r. Open Domesday– for Domesday records.
s. Regional Research Frameworks Network – for research framework for the East of England sub-region.
t. Suffolk Archives – for historical estate, sales, plan and enclosure maps as well as other documentary material such as historical photographs, drawings and texts.

2.5.5 General and specialist texts, online sources, unpublished reports and research, and other media and resources have been used as appropriate throughout this report and are provided as in-text citations and presented in full in the references list.

Designated heritage assets

2.5.6 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE) is managed by Historic England and comprises georeferenced datasets for statutorily protected, designated, heritage assets. The NHLE was accessed, and the following data and information were used in this report:

a. Scheduled Monuments;
b. Listed Buildings;
c. Conservation Areas; and
d. Heritage at Risk (HAR) register.

2.5.7 All designated heritage assets are presented in the gazetteer provided in **Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**.

Non-designated heritage assets

2.5.8 Local Authority Historic Environment Records (HERs) comprise georeferenced datasets for non-designated heritage assets and related information. Ownership and management of HERs is not centralised and is usually held by local authorities on a county scale. The HER data used in this report comprises data and information on archaeological and built heritage assets, historic settlement cores, conservation areas. It was obtained from Suffolk HER.

2.5.9 All non-designated heritage assets are presented in the gazetteer provided in **Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**.

2.5.10 Findspots and artefact scatters, while recorded within the HER, are not considered to be heritage assets, as they are not in situ and have been removed from their find sites. Findspots and artefact scatters are presented in a separate gazetteer provided in **Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**.

2.5.11 A small number of records in the HER which duplicate designated heritage assets (listed buildings and scheduled monuments) and ancient woodland, have been removed from the HER dataset.

Historic maps

2.5.12 A review of the first available edition of the OS map and the earliest available tithe map for each Section has been conducted, as well as of historical maps available at Suffolk Archives and from other sources. The purpose of this review was to inform the historical and archaeological background.

LiDAR and Aerial Photography

2.5.13 A preliminary review of a 1m Digital Terrain Model (DTM) for each Section has been conducted. The purpose of this review is to inform the historical and archaeological background.

2.5.14 A full review of a 1m DTM and publicly accessible aerial photographs of the Proposed Onshore Scheme will be undertaken as part of the baseline for the Environmental Statement (ES).

Site visit and walkover survey

2.5.15 Land within the Sections and study area was walked-over in 2024 CE. The purpose of the survey was to:

a. identify current land use;
b. ground truth previously recorded heritage assets;
c. identify any potential unrecorded built heritage or archaeology;
d. inform the setting assessment;
e. assist in the identification of areas of archaeological potential; and
f. support the initial identification of areas for geophysical survey and subsequent targeted archaeological evaluation (trial trenching).

Geophysical Survey

2.5.16 Geophysical survey of land within the Proposed Onshore Scheme and study area was undertaken over 2024 CE and 2025 CE, and has identified a number of potential archaeological features across the Draft Order Limits and study area (Ref 2), (Ref 3), (Ref 4), (Ref 5), (Ref 6), (Ref 7), (Ref 8), (Ref 9), (Ref 10), (Ref 11), (Ref 12).

2.5.17 Where appropriate these are discussed in detail in this baseline. Potential archaeological features will be incorporated into the gazetteer for the full ES.

Archaeological monitoring of Ground Investigation works

2.5.18 Archaeological monitoring was undertaken for selected Ground Investigation (GI) works carried out for the Proposed Onshore Scheme, and in interim report prepared (Ref 13). Where appropriate the results are discussed in this baseline.

Archaeological trial trenching

2.5.19 Archaeological trial trenching has undertaken within the proposed Converter Station Site for the Proposed Onshore Scheme, and an interim report prepared (Ref 14). Where appropriate the results are discussed in this baseline.

Excluded data sources

2.5.20 The following data sources were consulted during initial data and information gathering but have not been used in this report:

a. Portable Antiquities Scheme data. The data is not available for commercial purposes and, while the public open-source data can be used to inform understanding of the historic environment, the limitations in how these data are presented for public use and the size of the Proposed Onshore Scheme means that it is unlikely to make a meaningful contribution to understanding.

2.6 Historic landscape character

2.6.1 Characterisation of the historic landscape of the study area has been informed by the Suffolk Historic Landscape Characterisation Assessment and supplemented with data and information obtained from the Suffolk Landscape Character Assessment (Ref 15) the East of England Typology (Ref 16), the HER, Natural England, Historic England's National Mapping Programme (NMP), and other sources as appropriate.

2.6.2 This report will not re-characterise the landscape but will provide a context within which the identified heritage assets and evidence of human activity, settlement, and changes in land use and resource exploitation over time can be set and understood. It will also contribute to the discussion of archaeological potential.

2.7 Archaeological potential

2.7.1 Discussions regarding the archaeological potential will consider all the data and information sources and survey findings presented within this report to determine a professional judgement of likelihood. It will not provide a definitive statement regarding the presence or absence of unrecorded in situ archaeological features, remains, and/or deposits.

2.8 Cultural significance and importance appraisal

2.8.1 This sub-section presents the methodology for appraising the cultural significance and importance of all heritage assets located within the study area.

Cultural significance

2.8.2 Cultural significance can be defined as the sum of the values that society places upon a heritage asset, and it is not, therefore, appropriate to refer to an asset having a 'low' or 'high' cultural significance/value (Ref 17). In the UK, different vocabularies are applied to defining what constitutes a heritage asset's cultural significance. For example, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ref 17) and the Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (Ref 18) refer to 'heritage interests' when discussing cultural significance whereas Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of The Historic Environment (Ref 20) uses 'heritage values'. At the root of these nuances in vocabulary and meaning, however, is an emphasis on the need to understand exactly what it is that makes a building or archaeological remains culturally significant.

2.8.3 As both Historic England and the National Policy Statements for Energy use 'heritage interests', it is this approach, alongside the application of professional judgement and experience, that has been used to determine and describe the cultural significance of heritage assets in the gazetteer provided in **Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**.

Importance

2.8.4 Because of the values society places upon heritage assets, they carry an importance which is realised through their preservation and protection in law and policy. Unlike cultural significance importance can be scaled, as based on characteristics such as rarity or the quality or condition of a particular example, one heritage asset can feasibly be more important than another that holds the same or very similar cultural significance.

2.8.5 The importance of the designated and non-designated heritage assets identified throughout the study area has been determined using the criteria presented in **Table 2.2**. These criteria are derived from the heritage interests used in the NPPF and Historic England's heritage values, alongside the application of professional judgement. The importance of all identified heritage assets is presented in the gazetteer provided in **Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**.

Table 2.2: Criteria for determining the importance of heritage assets

Importance	Definition
Very high	Very high importance and rarity international scale and very limited potential for substitution. Includes some World Heritage Sites and nominated sites

Importance	Definition
	where their Outstanding Universal Value is derived from cultural heritage significance.
High	High importance and rarity, national scale, and limited potential for substitution. Includes scheduled monuments, listed buildings (all grades), grade I and grade II* registered parks and gardens, conservation areas containing very important buildings, undesignated structures of clear national importance, and non-designated assets of schedulable quality and importance.
Medium	Medium or high importance and rarity, regional scale, limited potential for substitution. Includes conservation areas containing buildings that contribute to historic character, grade II registered parks and gardens and non-designated archaeological features and remains.
Low	Low or medium importance and rarity, local scale.
Negligible	Very low importance and rarity, local scale.

2.9 Assumptions and limitations

Data and information sources and open-source data and research material

2.9.1 It is assumed that the data, information, and primary and secondary sources obtained from all organisations, institutions, bodies, or individuals is accurate at the time of its acquisition and/or consultation. Furthermore, the assumption is made that all citations within primary and secondary sources are correct and have been applied by the original author/creator as applicable, and all citations and copyright requirements are correct and clearly communicated.

Data accuracy and reliability

2.9.2 There is an underlying assumption that publicly held archaeological data is reliable, however, this data may have limitations. For example, data held by the HER may be limited by an absence of fieldwork in the locality, or a lack of certainty about the reporting of the data (such as inaccurate grid references), and the dating of sites (especially when considering records from the 18th Century CE through to the early part of the 20th Century CE). Documentary sources are rare before the Medieval period, and many historic documents are inherently biased. Older primary sources often fail to accurately locate sites, and their interpretation can be subjective. Therefore, professional judgement is used in the interpretation of older primary sources and how the information presented relates to the historic environment.

Archaeological potential

2.9.3 It is assumed and accepted that the data sources and research materials identified and consulted within this assessment and its appendices will not provide an exhaustive record of all surviving historic assets within the study area.

As such, this material does not preclude the existence of further assets which are unknown at present. This assessment, therefore, represents a professional judgement of likelihood rather than a definitive statement of the presence or absence of archaeological features, remains, and/or deposits within an options area.

3 Historic environment baseline

3.1 Project wide

Overview

3.1.1 This section provides a high-level summary of the Project wide baseline conditions, including a high-level summary of geology and topography, and a general archaeological and historic background. The full gazetteer of identified heritage assets and their assessed heritage importance is presented in **Appendix 11.2 Historic Environment Gazetteers**.

3.1.2 Archaeological potential is variable across the study area and is determined by factors such as underlying geology, proximity to known heritage assets, and subsequent development activity, among others.

Proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station, and Kiln Lane Substation

3.1.3 There are no designated heritage assets within the Draft Order Limits of the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station, and Kiln Lane Substation.

3.1.4 There are 86 designated heritage assets within the 1km study area of the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station, and Kiln Lane Substation. Of these, 85 are listed buildings, five of which are listed at Grade II* and 80 of which are listed at Grade II. The listed buildings are all of high value. There is one conservation area with the 1km study area, Saxmundham Conservation Area. This is of Medium value.

3.1.5 There are no World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, or Historic Battlefields within the Draft Order Limits of the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station, and Kiln Lane Substation or the 1km study area.

3.1.6 At this time, no designated assets beyond the 1km study area have been identified for further consideration in relation to impacts arising from the Proposed Onshore Scheme from changes to their setting.

3.1.7 There are six non-designated heritage assets within the Draft Order Limits of the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station, and Kiln Lane Substation. These assets are of Low value.

3.1.8 There are 35 non-designated heritage assets within the 500m study area. Two of these are of Medium value. These are the indicative area of the historic settlement core of Sternfield (HER ID: SNF 014) and the indicative area of Medieval town of Saxmundham (HER ID: SXM 020). The remaining 33 non-designated heritage assets are of Low value.

Proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor and proposed Landfall Site

3.1.9 There is one designated heritage asset within the Draft Order Limits of the proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor and the proposed Landfall Site. This is Walberswick Conservation Area. This asset is of Medium value.

3.1.10 There are 118 designated heritage assets within the 1km study area of the proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor and the proposed Landfall Site. Of these, 108 are listed buildings, of which four are listed at Grade I, seven are listed at Grade II*, and 97 are listed at Grade II. All listed buildings are of high value. Of the remaining designated assets, five are scheduled monuments, which are of High value, and four are conservation areas, which are of Medium value. There is one Military Aircraft Crash Site, which could potentially be of High value, should remains be present.

3.1.11 There are no World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, or Historic Battlefields within the Draft Order Limits of the proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor and the proposed Landfall Site or the 1km study area.

3.1.12 At this time, no designated assets beyond the 1km study area have been identified for further consideration in relation to impacts arising from the Proposed Onshore Scheme from changes to their setting.

3.1.13 There are 36 non-designated heritage assets within the Draft Order Limits of the proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor and the proposed Landfall Site. Seven of these assets are of Medium value. These are two ring ditches (HER ID: BLB 010 and BLB 106) , the possible original site of Walberswick church and settlement (HER ID: WLB 010), an enclosure which may represent part of Walberswick's Early Medieval and Medieval settlement (HER ID: WLB 012), an area of high archaeological potential defining the area of Walberswick's probable settlement from the Early Medieval to Medieval periods (HER ID: WLB 080), and two extant pillboxes (HER ID: WLB 044 and WLB 083). The remaining 29 non-designated heritage assets are of Low value.

3.1.14 There are 134 non-designated heritage assets within the 500m study area of the proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor and the proposed Landfall Site. 18 of these assets are of Medium value. These are five extant pillboxes (HER ID: BLB 086, BLB 087, WLB 083, WLB 084, WLB 088), five ring ditches (HER ID: BLB 039, BLB 065, BLB 096, MDD 004 and WLB 023) three enclosures (HER ID: WLB 019, WLB 070, WLN 024), a probable barrow mound (HER ID: BLB 066), a probable Roman villa site (HER ID: DAR 003), a deserted Medieval village (HER ID: KND 006), a Post Medieval deer park (HER ID: THB 014), and the historic settlement core of Westleton (HER ID: WLN 052). The remaining 116 non-designated heritage assets are of Low value.

Overhead Lines Section

3.1.15 There are five designated heritage assets within the 1km study area of the Overhead Lines Section, all of which are listed buildings. Of these, one is listed at Grade II* and four are listed at Grade II. All listed buildings are of high value.

3.1.16 There are no World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens, or Historic Battlefields within the Draft Order Limits of the Overhead Lines Section or the 1km study area.

3.1.17 There are four non-designated heritage assets within the Draft Order Limits of the Overhead Lines Section. One of these, the possible site of a church or chapel (HER ID: KND 009) is of Medium value. The remaining three assets are of Low value.

3.1.18 There are 18 non-designated heritage assets within the 500m study area of the Overhead Lines Section. Seven of these assets are of Medium value. These are three pillboxes (HER ID: FRS 060, FRS 061, and FRS 063), subcircular and circular geophysical anomalies (HER ID: FRS 064), a prehistoric barrow cemetery (HER ID: KND 003), a ring ditch or enclosure (HER ID: KND 007), and the indicative area of the historic settlement of Knodishall (HER ID: KND 018). The remaining 11 non-designated heritage assets are of Low value.

Geology and topography

3.1.19 The bedrock geology is chalk and clays overlain by ‘crag’ formations –deposits of mud and sand, rich in shells, which were deposited in a marine environment between two and four million years ago (Ref 21).

3.1.20 Successive glacial (‘ice age’) and interglacial periods followed, the ice depositing a thick swathe of gravel, sands and clays across the area, known as the Lowestoft Formation (Ref 21). The Lowestoft Formation is part of an extensive sheet of chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays, which runs across Suffolk. The till is characterised by its chalk and flint content, with about 30% of the till being chalk. The Lowestoft formation between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. The Anglian Stage was a cold (glacial) interval, contemporaneous with Marine Isotope Stage 12, when most of Suffolk was under glacial ice.

3.1.21 The main north south axis of the Proposed Onshore Scheme traces the eastern edge of a plateau of slightly higher ground formed by an expanse of boulder clay (Ref 22). The lower lying coastal plain, which the Proposed Onshore Scheme follows to the shoreline, is also covered with deposits of the Lowestoft Formation, but these more typically include sands and gravels formed by material being washed out from the ice sheet (Ref 22). This is cut through by several rivers and their estuaries, including the Blythe, Dunwich, and Fromus. Within these river valleys and estuaries, deposits of peat and estuarine and alluvial clays, silts, and sands, also form part of the superficial geology. These deposits formed in

the Holocene, the period from the end of the last ice age to the present and may preserve within them archaeological and paleoenvironmental remains.

3.1.22 The geology is reflected in the soil types which formed from them. On the heavier boulder clay, found towards the west of the Preferred Alignment Section, particularly around Saxmundham, the soils are typically loamy peaty soils with impeded drainage (Ref 23). Along the river valleys, there are lighter, free-draining soils (Ref 22).

Historic landscape character

3.1.23 The historic landscape character of the area closely maps onto the geology and topography of the area. Natural England divide the modern landscape within the study area into two: the coast and heathland which extends a few kilometres inland from the shoreline (Ref 21), and the higher clayland plateau along the edge of which most of the central north south axis of the Proposed Onshore Scheme runs (Ref 22). The historic landscape character reflects this, with the earliest field systems legible on the richer clay soils with later enclosure of the sandier ground on former heathlands.

3.1.24 Unlike many other parts of the country, where a system of open fields was cultivated from the beginning of the Medieval period to sometimes as late as the 19th Century CE, in Est Anglia a system of enclosed fields was in use before the Medieval period. Irregularly shaped ‘random fields’ likely reflect the earliest fields still legible today and are thought to be of Medieval or earlier date (Ref 24). Long ‘coaxial’ fields, typically appearing as slightly sinuous parallel strips at right angles to watercourses, may also be Early Medieval in date, particularly where they are found along rivers (Ref 24). There are several of these within the study area. Other pre-1850s CE enclosures within the study area are predominantly irregular co-axial fields. These are less regular than the long coaxial fields and more likely represent piecemeal enclosure of former common fields, either in the later Medieval or Post-Medieval periods (Ref 24).

Within the study area all post-1850s CE field types were enclosed from former parkland or common lands, including heathland, pasture, and coastal marsh. These are predominantly found along the eastern side of the study area on the sandier and less fertile soils. These fields are almost entirely identified as being former common arable or heathland within the study area, with a few small areas of former common pasture (Ref 24).

Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

3.1.25 The Palaeolithic is characterised by long periods of fluctuating temperatures and environmental conditions, with the landscape varying from arctic and sub-arctic through to temperate forested and steppe. Large and prolonged changes in sea-levels meant that Britain was intermittently an island and a peninsula of northern

Europe during this period, meaning that the landscape of modern Suffolk was alternately coastal, inland, and glacial and, because of its proximity to northern Europe, a routeway for the movement of people.

3.1.26 For the Lower Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 150,000 BCE) evidence for human activity is predominantly artefactual and defined by tool technology type. While Lower Palaeolithic artefacts have been recorded throughout the county, there is a general bias in distribution toward the north west. There is one Lower Palaeolithic find recorded with the study area for the Proposed Onshore Scheme, which is an Acheulean hand-axe (HER ID: SNF 003) found within the study area for the Overhead Lines Section.

3.1.27 The Middle Palaeolithic (150,000 BCE-40,000 BCE) can be subdivided into two distinct periods of extensive human occupation either side of what was probably a harsh cold climate (Ref 25). The tool technology associated with this sub-period is the Levallois flak-core technology. Within Suffolk there is a general bias in distribution toward the north west of the county, as well as an intense presence to the south west and a dispersal pattern along the course major rivers. No artefacts dating to the Middle Palaeolithic are recorded within the study area of the Proposed Onshore Scheme, nor are any artefacts recorded from the Upper Palaeolithic (40,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE).

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

3.1.28 While the climactic conditions of the Mesolithic were more stable than those of the Palaeolithic period, Suffolk's natural environment was still subject to considerable change because of rising sea levels which made Britain into an island.

3.1.29 The change in climate and natural environment brought about a change in hunting methods which is evidenced through the development of more flexible toolkits and other technologies that characterise the Mesolithic period. Findspots of Mesolithic artefacts are spread throughout Suffolk (Ref 26) with areas of higher density in the north west, far north east (beyond the study area), and along principal river valleys.

3.1.30 Evidence for activity and the paleoenvironment within the study area that can be confidently dated to the Mesolithic period is limited, comprising a pebble macehead form land near Theberton (HER ID: LDS 245) and rafts of peat at Walberswick beach (HER ID: WLB 130).

Neolithic (4,000 BCE – 2,200 BCE)

3.1.31 In the Neolithic period, society changed from a semi-nomadic hunter-gatherer lifestyle to an agriculturally based society with permanent settlement sites where plants and animals were increasingly domesticated, and pottery was used. Although flake-based tool technology remained in use throughout this period, ground or polished stone tools, particularly axes, were also used. In this period, a

range of monument types were introduced, including causewayed enclosures, cursus monuments, henges, megalithic tombs and stone circles.

3.1.32 Archaeological evidence for Neolithic settlement and activity varies in intensity throughout Suffolk, with Megalithic structures rare within the county (Ref 27).

3.1.33 The finds of seven Neolithic stone axes are recorded across the study area of the Proposed Onshore Scheme, four of which are polished, three chipped, and one unfinished (HER IDs: BLB 009, BLB 007, BNL 043, DAR 002, DUN 148, KND 005, LCS 254), as well as a flint chisel (HER ID: DAR 004).

3.1.34 A possible Neolithic settlement, evidenced by the find of flint tools, pottery and bone and antler fragments near Walberswick near the northern end of the Proposed Onshore Scheme (HER ID: SWD 005).

3.1.35 At the southern end of the Proposed Onshore Scheme, on land within the study area to the east of Saxmundham, possible late Neolithic occupation was recorded by an archaeological evaluation (HER ID: SXM 036).

Bronze Age (2,600 BCE – 700 BCE)

3.1.36 In the Bronze Age, there was increased clearance of woodland, and increased intensity of farming and settlement. Funerary practice also changed in the Bronze Age with the construction of circular earthen mounds (barrows) for burial.

3.1.37 Within the study area three bowl barrows which survive upstanding along the valley of the River Blyth are scheduled (NHLE IDs: 1011381, 1011382, 1011385), with the HER recording a possible additional upstanding barrow in this area (HER ID: BLB 066). Ring ditches recorded by the HER as cropmarks within this area may represent further, ploughed out, barrows (HER IDs: BLB 065, BLB 096, WLB 023). The location of these barrows near to the River Blyth and to the sea, within the northern part of the study area, conforms to the general regional pattern for recorded sites, which are typically located in river valleys, near inter-tidal areas, and in proximity to the prehistoric coastline and the sea (Ref 28). This is somewhat different to other Bronze Age communities elsewhere in Britain, who typically placed barrows along high or raised topographical features.

3.1.38 The HER also records finds of Bronze Age artefacts across the study area, including a sherd of Bealer pottery and a bronze sheet (HER IDs: BLB 093, DUN 151).

3.1.39 Archaeological investigations at Church Hill, Saxmundham (HER IDs: SXM 022, SXM 036) recorded Early Bronze Age pits which, amongst other objects, included examples of Beaker pottery (Ref 29).

Iron Age (800 BCE – 43 CE)

3.1.40 In the Iron Age Suffolk was divided between the two major Iron Age tribes of Eastern England: the Iceni and the Trinovantes (Ref 30). The territory of the Iceni

is known to have included the area of modern Norfolk and the north of Suffolk while that of the Trinovantes extended through southern Suffolk and Essex.

3.1.41 Suffolk's Iron Age communities comprised a mixture of large and small-scale settlements, many of these located on areas of higher, level ground making use of the free-draining sandy soils of the Sandlings (Ref 28), with evidence of settlement on heavier, clay soils from the Middle Iron Age (300 BCE – 100 BCE) onwards. Generally, Early (800 BCE – 300 BCE), Middle, and Late (100 BCE – 43 CE) Iron Age settlements appear to have been open, and it was not uncommon for settlements and their associated fields systems to be in proximity. Small and larger trackways – which comprises ditch-edge routes, holloways and even metalled trackways – were probably mostly used for the movement, sorting, and general management of livestock (Ref 28). Like the wider East of England region, there is a sparseness of large hillforts and major defended settlements throughout Suffolk (Ref 30).

3.1.42 The study area contains very few HER entries for archaeological sites or finds of an Iron Age date. The entries are all located in the southern part of the study area, mainly on land east of Saxmundham, and include sites identified through archaeological evaluation, including two Middle Iron Age roundhouses and associated pitting activity (HER ID: SXM 043), pits and ditches thought to be Iron Age in date, with struck flint, pottery, fired clay, and a loomweight recovered from these features (HER ID: SXM 049), and pits, and postholes dating from the Middle Iron Age period (HER ID: SXM 051), as well as three sherds of Iron Age pottery found within the garden of Park House (HER ID: SXM 005). This evidence shows that there was Iron Age settlement and activity within the study area for the southern part of the Proposed Onshore Scheme. It is likely, however, that elsewhere along the Proposed Onshore Scheme Iron Age settlement sites, field systems, and trackways typical of those present throughout the wider county have been recorded as cropmarks of an 'uncertain' date, with further Iron Age archaeology to be discovered.

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

3.1.43 The Roman conquest of Britain in 43 CE was preceded by trade, exchange, and alliances. There are very few 1st Century CE Roman fortifications recorded in Suffolk (Ref 28), likely because the allied Icenian territory of northern Suffolk required only a minimal military presence. Although there appears to have been a reduced need for military structures during the 1st Century CE, the need for communications routes remained, and it is likely that most of Suffolk's Roman road network was constructed during this time (Ref 28). Major roads are rare in the eastern reaches of Suffolk, probably because the existing large rivers and estuaries provided connection routes (Ref 31), with the Roman road network of eastern Suffolk likely to have comprised a local network of secondary more irregular roads, of a probable less durable construction (Ref 28), that incorporated earlier Iron Age trackways.

3.1.44 In the absence of a planned Roman administrative centre the county's eight 'small towns' (Wixoe, Icklingham, Long Melford, Pakenham or Ixworth, Coddenham, Felixstowe, Hacheston and Wenhaston) would have provided the economic and administrative roles (Ref 32). Away from these centres, rural settlement appears to have been located in river valleys, with some expansion into the clay lands (Ref 32). Villa complexes in these areas vary in form and size.

3.1.45 Evidence of Roman industrial activity can be found throughout Suffolk and typically comprises sites producing building materials such as tile and brick, pottery, and metal objects, as well as salt production.

3.1.46 While coastal erosion has removed much of what would have been the Roman coastline and settlement, Roman sites and remains survive within the study area. Most of the recorded evidence for Roman activity comprises findspots and artifact scatters of coins, pottery, and other domestic and industrial waste. Several Roman settlement sites, including a possible villa site, have been recorded.

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

3.1.47 Germanic influence and settlement of Suffolk can be traced back to the turn of the 5th Century, likely due to the county's proximity to continental Europe and its long-established trade connections. Regionally, there appears to be a preference for settlement in the lighter soils of the Sandlings and the heads of major river valleys (Ref 28) and Suffolk is no exception to this pattern. This distribution could, however, be the result of bias brought about by the comparative ease of cropmark identification in these areas and the 20th Century CE increase in archaeological excavation ahead of gravel quarrying (Ref 28).

3.1.48 By the 6th Century CE, the modern county of Suffolk was part of the Kingdom of the East Angles. The 7th Century CE saw the spread of Christianity throughout Britain and the so-called 'Middle Saxon Shuffle' (Ref 33); a term coined to describe the apparent desertion of early settlements in favour of new locations for reasons that are still not fully understood (Ref 33). The later centuries of the Early Medieval period are characterised by the nucleation of rural settlements and increasing urbanisation, some of which was brought about in a response to Danish incursion in the form of the Viking Raids (Ref 34) and followed by permanent occupation and settlement from the 9th Century CE.

3.1.49 Many of Suffolk's modern towns, villages and hamlets can trace their origins to mid- and late- Early Medieval period. Placename analysis shows numerous Old English language elements surviving as suffixes to places throughout the county. Examples include *-wic* or *-wich*, denoting a place or settlement*; -ton* or *-tun*, denoting an enclosure, estate, or homestead, and *-ham*, denoting a farm or homestead settlement.

3.1.50 Much of the evidence for Early Medieval activity recorded within the study area takes the form of pottery sherds and other objects either as individual findspots

or as part of a larger scatter of similar artefacts. There is a concentration of Early Medieval settlement activity to the south village of Walberswick, and within the village of Blythburgh, both of which were settlements in this period.

Medieval (1066CE – 1540CE)

3.1.51 The Medieval period began with the Norman invasion of England in 1066CE under William of Normandy, later William I of England. The 1086CE Domesday Book comprises a record of the places, households (the head of a household is recorded, each of these would likely represents five occupants), and natural resources of much of the country during the Early Medieval to Medieval transition.

3.1.52 The Domesday Book records nearly 20,000 landholders throughout Suffolk which, according to Baily, suggests a population of around 100,000 people (Ref 35). The smaller land-holding population held a disproportionate amount of Suffolk's available land throughout Medieval period and beyond. Like much of early Medieval England, the population of Suffolk boomed from the 11th Century CE through to the early 14th Century CE (Ref 35). The Domesday Book shows that a large proportion of Suffolk's settlements consisted of more than 25 households (Ref 36).

3.1.53 Unlike other regions of Medieval England, Suffolk was a county of 'weak manorialism' with typically small manors owned by modestly wealthy lords (Ref 35). It was common for a single village to the split between the ownership of several manors and it is estimated that at least 80% of all tenants and tenancies were free – one of the highest proportions recorded in England (Ref 35).

3.1.54 The Domesday survey also suggests that large parts of Suffolk were wooded during the Medieval period. The rural economy of Medieval Suffolk would have included the use of woodlands for activities such as the grazing of pigs and for timber, with most of the available agricultural land was turned over to arable farming and grazing. Grain crops would have been processed locally and settlements with mills were common throughout the county along its rivers. There is an absence of 'high' (with permanent ridges) ridge-and-furrow throughout most of the region, expect its far west, with most ridge-and-furrow remains being 'low' in form (Ref 37).

3.1.55 There is also evidence for specifically managed grazing-marshes along the coast (Ref 38), with livestock moved from settlements and farmsteads typically located on slightly high, drier land to the wetter marsh-land pastures to graze. Other coastal industries recorded during the Domesday survey include salt production.

3.1.56 Towns in Suffolk flourished under the patronage of the Norman elite and grew rapidly (Ref 35). Many of Suffolk's Medieval towns still retain their historic original street patterns at their core and larger villages and hamlets also retain their Medieval layout, often in close association with a church. Church architecture in Suffolk has several distinct regional characteristics when compared to other

surviving Medieval churches in England., with elaborate external decoration and ornamentation using flint.

3.1.57 The trend of population growth and prosperity in Medieval Suffolk was brought into decline with the arrival of the Black Death to southern England in August 1348 CE (Ref 35). However, it appears that Suffolk fared better than many other parts of the region, and England as a whole.

3.1.58 Evidence of this period survives throughout the study area, including findspots and artefact scatters, and farmstead and settlement evidence, included deserted settlements and moated sites. Buildings with Medieval origins and surviving Medieval fabric, typically churches, also survive.

Post Medieval (1540CE – 1901CE)

3.1.59 The Post Medieval period is one of great social and political change and technical, scientific, artistic, and economic innovation. In Suffolk, changes to the rural landscape were brought about through the re-organisation of the earlier Medieval landscape, by enclosure, and through an increase in land reclamation.

3.1.60 The process of enclosing the open landscape of Britain is usually associated with the Midlands region where a series of Enclosure Acts were issued by Parliament during the 18th and 19th Centuries CE (Ref 28) and, while some parts of north-western Suffolk were enclosed during this period, much of the county had been enclosed long before this time (Ref 28).

3.1.61 While draining of marshes did occur in eastern Suffolk, land reclamation during the Post Medieval period was typically associated with defence from flooding. Upstanding earthwork banks are present along the courses of all the main rivers (Ref 28) and along parts of the coastline.

3.1.62 The advances in agricultural technology and subsequent changes in agricultural practice brought with it multiple developments and innovations in the architecture and layout of Suffolk's farmsteads (Ref 39). Typically, the oldest structures to survive on Suffolk's historic farmsteads are barns which can date to the Medieval period (Ref 40). Buildings such as the farmhouse, and the arrangement of the ancillary buildings and yard(s) are often Post Medieval in date, constructed and designed to facilitate the presence of working animals, a greater variety of livestock and, over time, new machinery and spaces for the processing and storage of different crops and produce and higher yields.

3.1.63 The urban and domestic buildings of Suffolk also changed considerably throughout the Post Medieval period. This architectural shift was brought about by the development of the chimney which, through the resurgence in brick production, also allowed for the construction of upper floors in a wider number of vernacular buildings (Ref 40). The historic built environment of both small semi-rural villages and larger semi-urban towns commonly contains a built environment characterised by pink-washed external walls, known colloquially as 'Suffolk Pink'.

Settlements of all types tend to include multiple listed buildings while scattered farmsteads and former estate houses are also commonly designated.

3.1.64 As well as brick manufacture, Post Medieval Suffolk was also a key producer of linen. Suffolk's linen industry grew during the 17th and 18th Centuries CE and became a crucial element of the county, and regional, economy. The linen industry fell into decline during the latter half of the 18th Century CE (Ref 41). Other minor rural industries include flint mining and limestone and chalk quarrying. Both flint and chalk were used as building materials while limestone was quarried for use in agriculture.

3.1.65 Many Suffolks public parks and gardens, which can be broadly defined as open spaces laid out, planted, and maintained to be aesthetically pleasing and to provide a space for leisure and recreation (Ref 42), were defined during the Post Medieval period. While some later examples were established as public spaces, typically within the expanding urban areas of the county, most were private spaces for social and economic elites and were an important part of the county's landed estates.

20th Century (1901CE – 2000CE) and 21st Century (2001CE – present)

3.1.66 The modern history and archaeology of Suffolk is strongly connected to the 20th Century CE's major conflicts: the First (1914CE-1918CE) and Second (1939CE-1945CE) World Wars, and the Cold War (1947CE-1991CE). Military use of, and activity throughout Suffolk, during the 20th Century CE can be divided into five broad categories: coastal anti-invasion defences, anti-aircraft defences, temporary training sites and camps, established military bases, and civil defence sites (Ref 28).

3.1.67 At the commencement of the Second World War, much of the Suffolk coast was unprotected. Over the course of the war, military defences were installed along Suffolk's coast, and these changed frequently in line with wider changes in strategy.

3.1.68 From the start of the war until May 1940 CE, troops kept watch and trained, but there was little investment in defence. This changed in May 1940 CE when Germany invaded the Low Countries and France, and Britain was threatened with invasion. In May 1940 CE, coastal artillery batteries were built along the Suffolk coast, including at Aldeburgh, to defend against enemy fleets.

3.1.69 From June 1940 CE, the Home Forces came under new a commander, General Ironside. General Ironside rapidly constructed a series of inland stop-lines with nodal points and a 'coastal crust' of anti-invasion defences along Britian's coast. This crust was composed of obstructions including anti-tank ditches and cubes, anti-glider ditches, and minefields, and was supported by manned pillboxes. It was intended to slow enemy forces, particularly tanks, and to provide time for a mobile reserve force to retaliate. Many of Suffolk's surviving wartime coastal defences originate from General Ironside's scheme. Nearly all the pillboxes are of

a particular type, found only in Suffolk, known as the 'Suffolk Square', which were all built by or under the supervision of 558 Field Company, Royal Engineers, who were based at Theberton Hall.

3.1.70 From July 1940 CE, defence strategy changed under the command of General Brooke, who was in favour of a more active defence than Ironside's static lines. Ironside's beach defences were completed but the construction of new pillboxes ceased and stop-line strategies were discarded in favour of a system of 'forward defended localities', self-contained islands which could hold out until mobile relief forces arrived.

3.1.71 The HER records a number of features within the study area for the Proposed Onshore Scheme, which date to the Second World War, and relate to General Ironside's and General Brooke's anti-invasion Proposed Onshore Schemes. These are largely recorded from Second World War aerial imagery and are concentrated near to the coast. These include anti-glider ditches (WLB 011, 022, 030 and 035), antitank scaffolding (DUN 029), slit trenches (032, 048, 049 and 055), anti-tank cubes (WLB 041) and pillboxes (WLB 027, 040, 082, 083, 084, 085 and 088), as well as sections of barbed wire (WLB 042, 043, 044, 051 and 052).

3.1.72 By the end of 1943 CE the greatest danger to Home Forces and to Allied invasion preparations was Germany's development of long-distance weapons, including the V1 Flying Bomb. From September 1944 CE anti-air Diver batteries, comprising guns mounted on temporary platforms, were moved to the east coast, creating the Diver Strip, a line of anti-air batteries along the coast. Aerial photographs from 1945 CE show anti-aircraft batteries and heavy anti-aircraft (Diver) batteries (WLB 033 and 034) within the study area.

3.1.73 A single military aircraft crash site (HER ID: BLB 090) has been recorded within the study area in the vicinity of Blythburgh. There is no precise location for the crash which occurred in 1944 CE (Suffolk Historic Environment Record, n.d.). This is because of the nature of the incident which resulted in the explosion of the aircraft and the death of two aircrew who were testing a weapon system (Suffolk Historic Environment Record, n.d.)

3.1.74 At the end of the Second World War much of Britain's military defence system was downgraded or abandoned. To combat post-war food shortages as much land as possible was returned to cultivation. By the 1950s CE government subsidies encouraged agriculture on previously uncultivated areas, and increasing areas of coastal heath and reclaimed salt marsh were put to arable use.

3.1.75 Many of the beach and coastal defences were removed after the end of the war in 1945 CE but elements still survive in the landscape. One of the most easily recognisable structures is the concrete pillbox, many of which survive in situ throughout the county and along the coastline.

3.1.76 During the Cold War, Royal Observer Corps monitoring posts were built across the country. These underground structures were built as a result of the Royal Observer Corps' nuclear reporting role and operated by volunteers during the Cold War. The HER records the site of a Royal Observer Corps monitoring post within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site (HER ID: SXM 080), which was opened in 1960 CE and closed in October 1968 CE.

3.1.77 In the second half of the 20th Century CE, some fields within the study area were amalgamated to create larger fields, and hedgerows removed. This took place against a background of the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy benefiting holders of larger land parcels, and the development of agricultural machinery which made farming larger land parcels more efficient. This land is recorded as 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' HLC.

3.2 Overhead Lines Section

Geology and topography

3.2.1 The British Geological Survey records that bedrock geology across the Overhead Lines Section and its study area is sand of the Crag Group. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 5.333 million and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Neogene and Quaternary periods.

3.2.2 The British Geological Survey (BGS) records that superficial geology across the majority of the Overhead Lines Section and its study area is diamicton, a poorly sorted sediment with a wide clast size range, of the Lowestoft Formation, and deposits of sand and gravel and of clay and silt, also of the Lowestoft Formation. These formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. The Anglian Stage was a cold (glacial) interval, contemporaneous with Marine Isotope Stage 12, when most of Suffolk was under glacial ice.

3.2.3 Along the courses of the River Fromus and the Hundred River, the BGS records alluvium, which formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present, during the Holocene. Along the course of the River Fromus, the BGS also records clay, silt, sand, and gravel head deposits that formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present.

3.2.4 The BGS does not hold information on the superficial geology of some areas near to the River Fromus and the Hundred River.

3.2.5 The Overhead Lines Section is located on land to the north, east, and west of the village of Friston, and to the west of the village of Coldfair Green. The Section is sited on land between the River Fromus, which flows north south 1km to the west, and the Hundred River, which flows north south through the eastern edge of the DOL.

Historic landscape character

3.2.6 The majority of the HLC across the Overhead Lines Section is 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape', with some areas of 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure' and small areas of 'Woodland' and 'Built up Areas'. Within the study area, the majority of the HLC is '18th Century CE and later enclosure', with smaller areas of 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape', 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure', 'Meadow or managed wetland', 'Woodland', 'Common pasture', 'and 'Built up Areas'.

Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

3.2.7 The HER records the find of a Lower Palaeolithic ovate handaxe within the study area (HER ID: SNF 003).

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

3.2.8 The HER does not contain any records for Mesolithic sites or finds within the Overhead Lines section or within its study area.

Neolithic (4,000 BCE – 2,200 BCE)

3.2.9 The HER records the finds of a Neolithic polished flint axe (HER ID: DUN 148) and am unfinished flint axe (HER ID: KND 005) within the study area.

Bronze Age (2,600 BCE – 700 BCE)

3.2.10 The HER records the finds of a Bronze Age flint axe (HER ID: KND 002) within the study area.

Iron Age (800 BCE – 43 CE)

3.2.11 The HER does not contain any records for Iron Age sites or finds within the Overhead Lines section or within its study area.

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

3.2.12 The HER records the find of ditches related to Roman agricultural activity (HER ID: FRS 056) within the study area. The HER also records the finds of Roman coins (HER ID: KND 023) and a Roman bronze head-stud brooch (HER ID: KND 027) within the study area.

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

3.2.13 The village of Knodishall, which is within the study area for the Overhead Lines section, has an Early Medieval placename, and was likely a small settlements or farmstead in this period. The placename Knodishall may derive from the Middle English 'knot' (a hard mass or a hillock) and the Anglian 'halh' (meaning a nook of land or small dry valley).

3.2.14 The HER records the tentative identification of sunken featured buildings from a geophysical survey within the study area (HER ID: FRS 064).

Medieval (1066 CE – 1540 CE)

3.2.15 Knodishall was recorded in Domesday in 1086 CE as a settlement of approximately 12 households, with a church.

3.2.16 Knodishall's existing parish church, the Church of St Lawrence (Grade II* listed building, NHLE ID: 1215745), retains fabric from the 12th Century CE, but mainly dates to the 14th and 15th centuries, indicating periods of expansion and rebuilding across the Medieval period.

3.2.17 In this period another settlement was located within the present village of Coldfair Green, with the HER recording its indicative extent (HER ID: KND 018).

3.2.18 On Bowen's 1753 CE map of Suffolk, a symbol for `church or chapel in ruins' was used for a site within the Overhead Lines Section (HER ID: KND 009). A faint cross was shown at the same location on Hodskinson's 1783 CE map of Suffolk, and this the site may represent a lost Medieval church or chapel, and possibly a Medieval deserted village site.

3.2.19 The HER records a ring ditch which may represent a Medieval post mill within the study area (HER ID: KND 017).

Post Medieval (1540 CE – 1901 CE)

3.2.20 Several listed buildings within the study area were built in this period. The HER also records the site of a Post Medieval brick kiln (HER ID: ARG 092).

3.2.21 It is likely that land within the study area was enclosed in this period, with both 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure' and '18th Century CE and later enclosure' HLC recorded. Tithe maps and historical OS mapping show the field boundaries within the study area in the 19th Century CE.

3.2.22 Farmsteads with farmhouses, barns, and outbuildings, were established across the Section and its study area in this period, with many recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.

20th Century (1901 CE – 2000 CE) and 21st Century (2001 CE – present)

3.2.23 Following the end of the First World War, a war memorial was built in Knodishall (NHLE ID: 1458635, Grade II listed building).

3.2.24 The HER records three pillboxes within the study area (HER IDs: FRS 060, FRS 061, FRS 063), dating from the Second World War.

3.2.25 In the second half of the 20th Century CE, some fields within the study area were amalgamated to create larger fields, and hedgerows removed. This took place against a background of the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy benefiting holders of larger land parcels, and the development of agricultural

machinery which made farming larger land parcels more efficient. This land is recorded as 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' HLC.

Undated

3.2.26 The HER records one undated cropmark within the study area for the Overhead Lines section. This is a ring ditch or circular enclosure, visible as a cropmark (HER ID: KND 007).

3.3 Proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station Site, and Kiln Lane Substation

Geology and topography

3.3.1 The British Geological Survey records that bedrock geology across the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station Site, and Kiln Lane Substation and its study area is sand of the Crag Group. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 5.333 million and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Neogene and Quaternary periods.

3.3.2 The British Geological Survey records that superficial geology across the majority of the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, proposed Converter Station Site, and Kiln Lane Substation and its study area is diamicton, a poorly sorted sediment with a wide clast size range, of the Lowestoft Formation, and less extensive deposits of sand and gravel and of clay and silt, also of the Lowestoft Formation. These formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. The Anglian Stage was a cold (glacial) interval, contemporaneous with Marine Isotope Stage 12, when most of Suffolk was under glacial ice.

3.3.3 Along the courses of the River Fromus, which runs north to south within the western part of the proposed Converter Station Site, the BGS records alluvium, which formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present, during the Holocene. Along the course of the River Fromus, the BGS also records clay, silt, sand, and gravel head deposits that formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present.

3.3.4 The BGS does not hold information on the superficial geology of some areas near to the River Fromus.

3.3.5 The proposed Converter Station Site encompasses land to the east and south of the town of Saxmundham. It is on a slight incline sloping from 26m AOD at the northern edge to 9m AOD at the southern edge. The soils underlying the site consist of slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils across most of the site, with freely draining slightly acid sandy soils in the south east of the site. The River Fromus flows north south through the western part of the DOL.

3.3.6 The proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor crosses undulating topography ranging from 10m AOD to 24m AOD. The soils underlying the route are likely to consist of freely draining slightly acid sandy soils in the west, an area of freely draining slightly acid but base-rich soils in the south, and slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils elsewhere.

Historic landscape character

3.3.7 The majority of the HLC across the proposed Underground HVAC Cable Corridor, the proposed Converter Station Site, Kiln Lane Substation and study area is 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape', with smaller areas of 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure' and '18th Century CE and later enclosure', and small areas of 'Woodland', 'Meadow or managed wetland' and 'Built up Areas'.

Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

3.3.8 The HER does not contain any records for Palaeolithic sites or finds within Section A or within its study area, or within the proposed Converter Station Site and Kiln Lane Substation and their study areas.

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

3.3.9 The HER does not contain any records for Mesolithic sites or finds within Section A or within its study area, or within the proposed Converter Station Site and Kiln Lane Substation and their study areas.

Neolithic (4,000 BCE – 2,200 BCE)

3.3.10 Within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site the HER records that an evaluation identified possible occupation layers of Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date, on land at Church Hill, Saxmundham (HER ID: SXM 036).

3.3.11 The HER also records the findspots of a partly polished flint axe (HER ID: BNL 007), and a polished basalt axe (HER ID: BNL 043) within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site.

3.3.12 Archaeological evaluation undertaken within the proposed Converter Station Site for the Proposed Onshore Scheme identified a small area of prehistoric activity in the north eastern corner of the site, comprising pits containing several worked flints and prehistoric pottery sherds, including a flint arrowhead. These finds are provisionally dated to the Neolithic or Bronze Age periods (Ref 14).

Bronze Age (2,600 BCE – 700 BCE)

3.3.13 Within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site the HER records that Bronze Age pits and ditches were identified during evaluation trenching at Church Hill, Saxmundham (HER ID: SXM 022), and further Bronze Age features

identified during evaluation trenching on land north east of Beech Road (HER ID: SXM 051).

Iron Age (800 BCE – 43 CE)

3.3.14 The HER records that evidence of Iron Age settlement and activity has been identified within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site, on land at the eastern edge of Saxmundham. On land east of Warren Hill, Saxmundham, excavation in 2015-2016 CE revealed two Middle Iron Age roundhouses and associated pitting activity (HER ID: SXM 043). On land north east of Street Farm, Saxmundham, evaluation uncovered pits and ditches thought to be Iron Age in date, with struck flint, pottery, fired clay, and a loomweight recovered from these features (HER ID: SXM 049). Further evidence of Iron Age activity was identified during evaluation trenching undertaken in 2018 CE on land north east of Beech Road, which found pits, postholes, and dating from the Middle Iron Age through to the Roman period (HER ID: SXM 051). Three sherds of Iron Age pottery have also been found within the garden of Park House (HER ID: SXM 005).

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

3.3.15 Within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site the HER records that Roman pits and ditches were identified during evaluation trenching at Church Hill, Saxmundham (HER ID: SXM 022) and on land north-east of Beech Road (HER ID: SXM 051).

3.3.16 The HER also records that a Roman lamp (HER ID: SXM 001) and shreds of Roman pottery (HER ID: SXM 005), including Samian ware, have been found within this study area.

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

3.3.17 Three settlements within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site, Saxmundham, Sternfield, and Benhall, as well as the settlement of Friston within the study area for Section A1, have Early Medieval placenames, and were likely variously settlements, farmsteads, or cultivated land in this period.

3.3.18 The placename Saxmundham may derive from the Old English ‘Seaxmund's (a man’s name) and ‘ham’ (meaning a village, manor, estate, or a homestead), and it is likely that Saxmundham originated as a village in this period.

3.3.19 Excavations to the east of Saxmundham’s historic core have uncovered evidence of Early Medieval settlement. Excavations undertaken in 2015-2016 CE revealed evidence of a significant Early Saxon settlement on land east of Warren Hill, Saxmundham (HER ID: SXM 043). This included a large rectangular post-built structure, possibly representing a hall, with evidence for a further two post-built structures, as well as nine sunken-feature buildings. These structures contained pottery dated to the early 6th Century CE, as well as finds indicating cloth weaving, crop processing, horn-working and antler-working activities, as a cruciform brooch and fragments of metal work. In 2017 CE, on land north east of

Street Farm, Saxmundham, evaluation uncovered two sides of a rectangular post-built structure tentatively interpreted as a Saxon hall (HER ID: SXM 049).

3.3.20 As well as the site of an Early Saxon settlement, it is likely that Saxmundham continued to be occupied into the late Early Medieval period, with Saxmundham being recorded in Domesday.

3.3.21 The placename Friston may derive from the Old English ‘Frīsa (meaning a Frisian) and ‘tūn’, (meaning an enclosure, farmstead, village, or estate) and it is possible that Friston originated as a village in this period. The Church of St Mary (Grade II* listed building, NHLE ID: 1287864) in Friston, while largely of Medieval construction, features an 11th Century CE door which may date to the early Medieval period. While there is no entry in Domesday for Friston, it is possible that was included under another landholding entry, possibly that for Snape, where there two entries, one with a church.

3.3.22 The placename Sternfield may derive from the Old English ‘Sterne's (a man’s name) and ‘fled’ (meaning open, level ground, or, from the late 10th Century CE, arable land)”. Sternfield was recorded as a large village in Domesday, and it is likely that in the Early Medieval period there was already a farmstead or village at Sternfield.

3.3.23 The placename Benhall may derive from the Old English ‘bēanen (Of, or growing with, beans) and the Anglian ‘halh’ (meaning a nook of land). Benhall was recorded as a village in Domesday, and it is likely that in the Early Medieval period there was already a farmstead or village at Benhall.

Medieval (1066 CE – 1540 CE)

3.3.24 Saxmundham was recorded in Domesday and in 1086 CE was recorded as a settlement of approximately 12 households with nine acres of meadow and a church. In 1271 CE a grant of market and fair was made and in 1327 CE there were 42 taxpayers. The existing Church of St John Baptist (Grade II* listed building, NHLE ID: 1268184) retains fabric from the 14th Century, CE including a tower and chapel. The HER records the location of Sternfeld’s Medieval settlement core (HER ID: SNF 014).

3.3.25 Sternfield was recorded in Domesday as having a population of 39.5 households in 1086, putting it in the largest 20% of settlements recorded in Domesday. The Church of St Mary Magdalene (Grade II* listed building, NHLE ID: 1278252) in Sternfield retains 14th Century CE fabric and an early 15th Century CE tower. The HER records the location of Sternfeld’s Medieval settlement core (HER ID: SXM 020).

3.3.26 Friston’s Church of St Mary (Grade II* listed building, NHLE ID: 1287864), which retains 11th Century CE fabric, was rebuilt in the Medieval period, and retains evidence of 12th Century CE, 14th Century CE, and 15th Century CE work.

3.3.27 Benhall had a recorded population of 29 households in 1086CE, putting it in the largest 40% of settlements recorded in Domesday.

3.3.28 Two moated sites are recorded within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site (HER ID: SNF 001) and (HER ID: SNF 012).

3.3.29 The HER records the find of a Medieval circular lead seal matrix within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site (SXM 060).

3.3.30 Archaeological evaluation undertaken within the proposed Converter Station Site for the Proposed Onshore Scheme identified a probable ditched trackway aligned north south, linking two enclosures of probable Medieval date (Ref 14). These features were first recorded by geophysical survey, before being subject to archaeological evaluation (Ref 2). At the southern end of the trackway was a small enclosure with internal features, including two pits containing dark charcoal-rich fill and a large shallow feature containing possible midden material and a concentration of large flint nodules. The northern enclosure was larger, and contained numerous internal features, mostly ditches that probably represent previous iterations of the enclosure, or sub-divisions and enclosures within the greater enclosure. Another possible ditched trackway ran to the west from this enclosure, toward the location of Saxmundham Great Wood (SXM 009), a woodland that is recorded on historical OS maps, but which is no longer extant. The enclosures produced Medieval pottery, and are likely Medieval in date, perhaps representing scale-scale settlement and agricultural activity, such as farmsteads on the edge of the wood.

Post Medieval (1540 CE – 1901 CE)

3.3.31 In the Post Medieval Period, several large country houses were built within the study area, including Friston Hall (NHLE ID: 1215909, Grade II listed building) and Hurts Hall (NHLE ID 1268178, Grade II listed building).

3.3.32 It is likely that land within the study area was enclosed in this period, with both ‘Pre-18th Century CE enclosure’ and ‘18th Century CE and later enclosure’ HLC recorded. Tithe maps and historical OS mapping show the field boundaries within the study area in the 19th Century CE. Archaeological evaluation undertaken within the proposed Converter Station Site for the Proposed Onshore Scheme identified Post Medieval field boundaries shown on the historical OS maps (Ref 14).

3.3.33 Farmsteads with farmhouses, barns, and outbuildings, were established across the Section and its study area in this period, with many recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. While some of these have been demolished, a number of farm buildings survive, many of which are listed.

3.3.34 Wood Farmhouse (Project ID: UID01) is a farmhouse located approximately 20m to the west of the proposed Converter Station Site. It was built in the 17th Century CE as a timber framed and plastered, building, and was listed at Grade II

until being delisted in 2025 following a fire. The remaining structure no longer holds special architectural or historic interest.

3.3.35 In 1812 CE, Friston Post Mill (Grade II* listed building, NHLE ID: 1215741) was built. This was raised by the addition of a brick roundhouse and altered in approximately 1872 CE and still stands.

3.3.36 The town of Saxmundham, as well as other settlements within the study area, grew and prospered during this period, with many residential and commercial buildings form this period surviving within these settlements, many of which are listed. At the core of Saxmundham is the historic Market Place, where surviving historic buildings tend to be of 16th, 17th, and 18th Century CE date. To the west of this is High Street, which runs approximately north south, and is lined with the most high-status historic buildings in the town.

20th Century (1901 CE – 2000 CE) and 21st Century (2001 CE – present)

3.3.37 Following the end of the First World War, war memorials were built in Sternfeld (NHLE ID: 1469928, Grade II listed building) and Friston (NHLE ID: 1435814, Grade II listed building). A war memorial was not built in Saxmundham until 2004 CE, when a granite obelisk was erected to commemorate the fallen from both world wars.

3.3.38 Saxmundham was a 'nodal point' in Suffolk's Second World War defences, and was defended by 65 home guard, with a further 65 on call in neighbouring villages. Little in the way of defensive structures or obstacles were built in the town, with only one pillbox and part of a roadblock surviving.

3.3.39 The HER records the site of a Royal Observer Corps monitoring post within the study area for the proposed Converter Station Site (HER ID: SXM 080). These underground structures were built as a result of the Royal Observer Corps' nuclear reporting role and operated by volunteers during the Cold War. The site was opened in 1960 and closed in October 1968.

3.3.40 In the second half of the 20th Century CE, some fields within the study area were amalgamated to create larger fields, and hedgerows removed. This took place against a background of the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy benefiting holders of larger land parcels, and the development of agricultural machinery which made farming larger land parcels more efficient. This land is recorded as 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' HLC.

Undated

3.3.41 The HER records an undated rectangular enclosure within the study area for Section A1 (HER ID: SNF 013).

3.3.42 Geophysical survey of land within Section A has detected a range of anomalies of probable archaeological origin, including two series of enclosures and associated settlement activity which may date from the Late Prehistoric to Medieval periods (Ref 3). Also identified were three ring features, likely pertaining to funerary

activity in the form of burial mounds, as well as former field boundaries noted on late 19th – early 20th Century CE OS mapping.

3.4 Proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor Section B: Saxmundham to Middleton

Geology and topography

3.4.1 The British Geological Survey records that bedrock geology across Section B and its study area is sand of the Crag Group. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 5.333 million and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Neogene and Quaternary periods.

3.4.2 The British Geological Survey records that superficial geology across the majority of Section B and its study area is diamicton, a poorly sorted sediment with a wide clast size range, of the Lowestoft Formation, with less extensive deposits of sand and gravel and of clay and silt, also of the Lowestoft Formation. These formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. The Anglian Stage was a cold (glacial) interval, contemporaneous with Marine Isotope Stage 12, when most of Suffolk was under glacial ice.

3.4.3 Along the courses of the tributaries of the Minsmere River, the BGS records alluvium, which formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present, during the Holocene, as well as clay, silt, sand, and gravel head deposits that formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present. Within the study area, the BGS records peat along the course of the Minsmere River and its tributaries.

3.4.4 Archaeological monitoring of GI works in Section B4 identified alluvium in two trial pits to the west of Middleton, and in one trial it in B2 (Ref 13). The monitoring also identified organic material in two boreholes in B2.

3.4.5 Section B runs from land to the east of the town of Saxmundham in the south, to land to the west of the villages of Theberton and Middleton in the north, crossing tributaries of the Hundred River and the Minsmere River.

3.4.6 Section B1 is on a slight incline sloping from 30m AOD at the northern end to 15m AOD at the southern end, while Section B2 undulates from 26m AOD at the northern end to 24m AOD at the southern end. Section B3 is on an incline sloping from 9m above AOD at the northern end to 21m AOD at the southern end, while Section B4 is on a slight south facing slope from 1m AOD at the northern end to 14m AOD at the southern end.

3.4.7 The soils underlying the Section are likely to consist of largely lowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils.

Historic landscape character

3.4.8 The majority of the HLC across Section B and its study area is 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure', with large areas of 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' and relatively small areas of 'Woodland', 'Meadow or managed wetland' and 'Built up Areas'.

Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

3.4.9 The HER does not contain any records for Palaeolithic sites or finds within Section B or within its study area.

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

3.4.10 Within the study area for Section B2 the HER records the find of a Mesolithic pebble macehead (HER ID: LCS 254).

Neolithic (4,000 BCE – 2,200 BCE)

3.4.11 Within the study area for Section B2 the HER records the find of a Neolithic polished flint axe (HER ID: LCS 254).

3.4.12 At the northern end of Section B3, to the south of Middleton, archaeological monitoring of GI works identified a small quantity of residual worked flint, suggestive of low-level activity late Neolithic or Bronze Age (Ref 13)

Bronze Age (2,600 BCE – 700 BCE)

3.4.13 Within the study area for Section B3 the HER records that sherds of an Early Bronze Age cinerary urn were found 'in a mound', likely a Bronze Age round barrow, in the garden of Theberton Old Rectory before 1962 (HER ID: THB 003).

3.4.14 Within the study area for Section B4 the HER records a ring ditch which likely represents a ploughed-out Bronze Age round barrow (HER ID: MDD 004).

Iron Age (800 BCE – 43 CE)

3.4.15 The HER does not contain any records for Iron Age sites or finds within Section B or within its study area.

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

3.4.16 The HER does not contain any records for Roman sites or finds within Section B or within its study area.

3.4.17 In Section B4, to the south of Middleton, archaeological monitoring of GI works identified a ditch with Roman pottery and Ceramic Building Material within the fill (Ref 13). There were thirty-two sherds of pottery, including a single sherd of fineware, possibly a Gaulish import, and sherds of local coarsewares, as well as eight fragments of Roman Ceramic Building Material, at least one from a tegula

roof tile. This deposit has a likely deposition date during or after the late 2nd century and likely represents domestic waste from nearby settlement (Ref 13).

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

3.4.18 The name Theberton may have derived from the Old English 'Theodbeorht's (a man's name) and 'ton' (meaning an enclosure, farmstead, or village). In this period, it is possible that there was a farmstead or small hamlet at Theberton, in the study area for B3.

3.4.19 The HER does not contain any records for Early Medieval sites or finds within Section B or within its study area.

Medieval (1066 CE – 1540 CE)

3.4.20 The Domesday Book records 2 acres of meadow at Theberton, but no population, suggesting that any earlier settlement there may have been abandoned by this time. The Church of St Peter (NHLE ID: 1227756, Grade I listed building) in Theberton retains fabric from the 12th century, and there was likely a settlement at Theberton by this time. This church was altered and expanded in the early 14th and 15th centuries.

3.4.21 Another Medieval settlement existed at Knodishall Green, in the study area for B2, but this was deserted in the Post Medieval period. It survives archaeologically as various linear earthwork shadow marks, which appear to indicate tofts (HER ID: KND 006) and as well as two upstanding stone walls of a church. Dressed stonework, a Medieval bronze figurine, Medieval courseware pottery, and possible human bone fragments have been noted in the area.

3.4.22 The HER also records two moated sites within the study area for Section B. These are Moat Farm (HER ID: THB 001) in the study area for B3, and Kelsale Trist Farm (HER ID: MDD 013) in the study area for B4.

3.4.23 The HER records a Medieval findspot and a Medieval artefact scatter within the study area for Section B3. These are a bronze cauldron spout (HER ID: THB 002), and a spread of metalwork, including a jetton, coin, and coin weight (HER ID: THB 006).

3.4.24 In 1522CE, a deer park was recorded at Theberton, with its approximate extent mapped by the HER based on Hodskinson's 1783 CE Map and the 1st edition OS map (HER ID: THB 014).

Post Medieval (1540 CE – 1901 CE)

3.4.25 In the Post Medieval Period, several large country houses were built within the study area for Section B, including Buxlow Manor (NHLE ID: 1215749, Grade II*), Theberton House (NHLE ID 1228378, Grade II* listed building), and Theberton Hall (NHLE ID: 1287529, Grade II listed building).

3.4.26 Buxlow Manor (NHLE ID: 1215749, Grade II*), was built in 1678CE in red brick, and it sits within a designed garden with trees and ponds.

3.4.27 Theberton House (NHLE ID 1228378, Grade II* listed building), within the study area for Section B3, was built in the late 18th Century CE, likely by Major Thomas Gibson, who had made a fortune through sugar plantations in the West Indies. The house sits within a designed park and garden, defined by shelterbelts of trees along its edges. The house was extensively altered in 1830 CE, and additional buildings were constructed including a stable block in 1836 CE (NHLE ID: 1228268, Grade II listed building), and a gateway to the stable yard (NHLE ID: 1228269, Grade II listed building), gateways to the estate (NHLE ID: 1287260, Grade II listed building and NHLE ID: 1287303, Grade II listed building) and a walled garden (NHLE ID: 1287235, Grade II listed building) in the mid-19th Century CE.

3.4.28 Theberton Hall (NHLE ID: 1287529, Grade II listed building) was built in 1792 CE, for George Doughty, with extensive alterations and additions 1852 CE in Italian Renaissance style. The House was set within designed parkland, which is shown on 1890s CE OS mapping as surrounding the house on all sides, with shelterbelts at the northeastern and southwestern edges of the park. This parkland is likely a reduced form of the late Medieval Theberton deer park, which was first recorded in 1522 CE ((HER ID: THB 014).

3.4.29 It is likely that land within the study area was enclosed in this period, with 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure' HLC recorded. Tithe maps and historical OS mapping show the field boundaries within the study area in the 19th Century CE.

3.4.30 Farmsteads with farmhouses, barns, and outbuildings, were established across the Section and its study area in this period, with many recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. While some of these have been demolished, a number of farm buildings survive, many of which are listed.

3.4.31 In 1850 CE a branch railway line opened between Leiston and Saxmundham (HER ID: ADB 226), and this was extended by four miles to Aldeburgh in 1860 CE. The line served passenger trains until 1966 CE, after which freight trains continued to run on the line and today part of the line remains in use for trains servicing Sizewell nuclear power station.

20th Century (1901 CE – 2000 CE) and 21st Century (2001 CE – present)

3.4.32 Following the end of the First World War, a war memorial was built in Theberton (NHLE ID: 1469928, Grade II listed building).

3.4.33 In 1934 two 16 acre fields were joined to create a grass airstrip for use by enthusiasts and Royal Air Force pilots. In 1943CE, a fighter airbase was built at the site for use by the United States Army Air Forces 8th Air Force 358th and 357th Fighter Groups. Their main duties were escorting bomber aircraft. The airfield was known variously as Theberton airfield, Leiston airfield, and Saxmundham airfield, although it was officially designated as Station 373 (THB 015).

3.4.34 Three runways were built which formed a standard A-shaped pattern and there were two F2 hangers and a number of canvas covered blister hangers. The dispersed camp, mess halls and domestic quarters were located a mile to the west. After the war, the airfield remined in use by the Royal Air Force as a recruitment centre for technical training command, until it was closed to flying in 1946CE. In 1955CE part of the airfield was sold, with the remainder in 1965CE. Most of the runways and concrete surfaces were removed and the land was returned to agricultural use.

3.4.35 In the second half of the 20th Century CE, some fields within the study area were amalgamated to create larger fields, and hedgerows removed. This took place against a background of the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy benefiting holders of larger land parcels, and the development of agricultural machinery which made farming larger land parcels more efficient. This land is recorded as 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' HLC.

Undated

3.4.36 The HER records two undated cropmarks within the study area for Section B. These are a sub-square enclosure (HER ID: THB 018) and a possible fishpond (HER ID: THB 022), both with Section B3.

3.4.37 Geophysical survey of land within Section B and its study area has detected a range of anomalies of probable archaeological origin.

3.4.38 In Section B1 geophysical survey identified potential examples of settlement activity and a possible roundhouse, as well as unmapped field boundaries (Ref 6). The field boundaries likely date from the Medieval period.

3.4.39 In Section B2, geophysical survey identified possible settlement activity likely dating from between the Roman to Medieval periods, as well as a possible partial field division related to the deserted Medieval village at Buxlow (Ref 7). Other partial field divisions detected along the rest of the Section may relate to Roman to Medieval field systems or be unmapped Post Medieval field boundaries.

3.4.40 In Section B3, geophysical survey identified settlement activity in the form of a large complex enclosure with adjoining double-ditched trackways, surrounding former field divisions and defensive boundaries (Ref 8). Smaller enclosures were also identified in the north. They all honour extant or former field boundaries in the area and are expected to be Medieval/Post Medieval in origin.

3.4.41 At the former RAF Leiston site, as a series of square enclosures were identified that are all associated with known former field boundaries. These probably represent a Post Medieval field system. Remains of infrastructure related to the former RAF Leiston and evidence of the former Theberton Park and Hall grounds was also identified.

3.4.42 In Section B4, geophysical survey identified well-defined ring ditch, likely representing a round barrow, in addition to several instances of smaller, in some

cases concentric or interlocking ring ditches expected to also be prehistoric in date (Ref 9).

3.4.43 Five distinct, complex enclosures were also identified which are likely to be Roman or Medieval in origin, as well as a former field system of likely Medieval origin and isolated ditch-like features expected to be related to unmapped former field boundaries or former animal pens.

3.4.44 The remains of known former field boundaries and further historical landscape features have been identified throughout. The remains of a former structure associated with the former field boundaries has been identified in the south, whilst a former extraction pit has been recorded in the north. Now infilled with modern, ferrous debris as outlined in communications with the landowner.

3.4.45 Across the whole Section, features visible on historical OS mapping were identified, including field divisions, ponds and extraction pits.

3.5 Proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor Section C: Middleton to Blythburgh

Geology and topography

3.5.1 The British Geological Survey records that bedrock geology across Section C and its study area is sand of the Crag Group. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 5.333 million and 11.8 thousand years ago

3.5.2 The British Geological Survey records that superficial geology across the majority of Section C and its study area is diamicton, a poorly sorted sediment with a wide clast size range, of the Lowestoft Formation, with less extensive deposits of sand and gravel and of clay and silt, also of the Lowestoft Formation. These formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. The Anglian Stage was a cold (glacial) interval, contemporaneous with Marine Isotope Stage 12, when most of Suffolk was under glacial ice.

3.5.3 Section C runs from land to the west of the village Middleton in the south, and crosses over the Minsmere River, before passing between the villages of Darsham and Westleton and crossing over the Dunwich River and running to land south of the village of Blythburgh.

3.5.4 Along the course of the Minsmere River, the BGS records alluvium, which formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present, during the Holocene, as well as peat, and clay, silt, sand, and gravel head deposits.

3.5.5 Archaeological monitoring of GI works in Section C identified alluvium in five trial pits near to the Dunwich River (Ref 13).

Historic landscape character

3.5.6 The HLC across Section C1 and its study area is largely 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure', with '18th Century CE and later enclosure' to the north, and an area of 'Meadow or Managed wetland' along the river valley. Within this Section, there is a small area of 'Woodland' to the north and a small area of 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' to the south.

3.5.7 The HLC across Section C2 and its study area is generally split between 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure' to the west and '18th Century CE and later enclosure' to the east, with some small areas of 'Woodland', 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape', 'Meadow or Managed Wetland' and 'Built-up areas' within the study area.

3.5.8 The HLC across Section C3 is '18th Century CE and later enclosure'. Within the study area, there is also 'Unimproved land' to the east and small areas of 'Woodland', 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure', Meadow or Managed wetland', and 'Built-up areas'.

Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

3.5.9 The HER does not contain any records for Palaeolithic sites or finds within Section C or within its study area.

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

3.5.10 The HER does not contain any records for Mesolithic sites or finds within Section C or within its study area.

Neolithic (4,000 BCE – 2,200 BCE)

3.5.11 The HER records the findspots of two Neolithic chipped flint axes (HER IDs: BLB 009 and DAR 002) within the study area for Section C, as well as a flint chisel (HER ID: DAR 004).

Bronze Age (2,600 BCE – 700 BCE)

3.5.12 A scheduled Bronze Age bowl barrow (NHLE ID: 1011381) survives as an earthwork within the study area for Section C3. The bowl barrow is situated on low-lying heathland to the west of Westwood Marshes and is visible as an earthen mound standing to a height of c.1m.

3.5.13 Within the study area for Section C3 the HER records a ring ditch which likely represents a ploughed-out Bronze Age round barrow (HER ID: BLB 065) and an undated earthwork mound, which may represent a Bronze Age round barrow, or an Early Medieval barrow (HER ID: BLB 066). Also, within the study area for Section C3, the HER records a cropmark of a large Bronze-Age ring ditch or

circular enclosure, with a diameter of 100m and an opening to the north-east (HER ID: BLB 039).

3.5.14 Within the study area for Section C1, the HER records the findspot of a Bronze-Age bronze sheet engraved with chevron line repeat (HER ID: DUN 151).

Iron Age (800 BCE – 43C E)

3.5.15 The HER does not contain any records for Iron Age sites or finds within Section C or within its study area.

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

3.5.16 Within the study area for Section C2, the HER records a probable Roman villa site, evidenced by finds of tessellated flooring, tile stacks, and dark or burnt layers, as well as fragments of Samian ware and lava quern (HER ID: DAR 003). The villa site is within the village of Darsham, adjacent to All Saints Church.

3.5.17 Within the study area for Section C3, the HER records the find of two Roman coins and a brooch (HER ID: BLB018), while within the study area for Section C1, the HER records several findspots and artefact scatters from the Roman period, including finds of oysters and sherds of pottery (HER ID WLN 108), a kiln waster (MDD 001), and tegulae (DAR016).

3.5.18 Relatively large amounts of Roman ceramic brick and tile were recovered from excavations at Blythburgh Priory in the study area for C3 from the Medieval deposits, but very little pottery or other domestic refuse, implying that these building materials were brought in from elsewhere for re-use in the Medieval priory building (Ref 43).

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

3.5.19 The first settlement at Blythburgh was founded in the Early Medieval period, with a church likely present there from at least 654CE when King Anna, the nephew of King Raedwald of the East Angles (who is thought to buried at Sutton Hoo) was reportedly buried in Blythburgh, following his death in battle with his son against King Penda of Mercia (Ref 43). A shrine to King Anna housed in a church reportedly became the focus of pilgrimage, with his tomb was still being venerated by pilgrims into the 12th Century CE. It has been suggested that the church at Blythburgh was a royal minster of the 8th Century CE King Ælfwald, and part of a larger monastic complex (Ref 43).

3.5.20 An evaluation undertaken in 2008 CE at the site of the later Medieval , priory at Blythburgh found two Early Medieval graves which had been disturbed by the construction of the later priory, which were radiocarbon dated to 670-780 CE and to 890-1020 CE, as well as a ditch which may represent the *vallum monasteria*, the boundary of the Early Medieval monastic complex (Ref 43). Sherds of Middle Anglo-Saxon Ipswich Ware and Late Anglo-Saxon Thetford Ware have also been found at the priory site and to its north, as well as a single

sherd of possible Early Anglo-Saxon pottery. Also found at the site of the Medieval priory was a decorated writing tablet made from whale bone, thought to date from the late 8th Century CE. These finds indicate that the Early Medieval church and monastic complex at Blythburgh was likely located at the same site as the later 12th Century CE priory.

3.5.21 By the end of the Early Medieval period, Blythburgh was a royal estate, the administrative centre of the hundred of Blything, which was the largest hundred in Suffolk, and had grown to become one of only twelve towns in Suffolk (Ref 43). Blythburgh's church was particularly wealthy and was worth ten times the average for Suffolk. It is likely that Early Medieval village was located near to the priory site and to its north, close to the River Blyth, which was port and important river crossing in the Medieval period and likely also in the Early Medieval Period, with Early Medieval artefacts found close to the river crossing (Ref 44).

3.5.22 Darsham, Middleton, and Westleton are all recorded in the Domesday book, and all three settlements may have also originated in the Early Medieval period. The placename Darsham means 'Deor's (an Old English name) homestead/village (in Old English)', the placename Middleton means 'Middle farm/settlement (in Old English), and the placename Westleton means 'Vestlithi's (an Old Norse name) farm/settlement (in Old English)'. In this period, it is probable that there were farmsteads or small hamlets at Darsham, Middleton and Westleton, although these were likely much smaller scale than the town at Blythburgh.

3.5.23 The HER records the Westleton historic settlement core (HER ID: WLN 025) as dating from the Early Medieval period. The HER does not contain any other records for Early Medieval sites or finds within Section C or its study area.

Medieval (1066 CE – 1540 CE)

3.5.24 Blythburgh was recorded in Domesday in 1086 CE as a large settlement, with 42 households, a church, a market and two mills. There would have been a port at Blythburgh during the Medieval period, and the town was also an important river crossing. Both roles which likely began in the Early Medieval Period.

3.5.25 In Domesday, in 1086 CE, Darsham was recorded with 37 households, Middleton with 30 households, and Westleton with 34 households and a church.

3.5.26 In around 1120 CE Henry I granted the church at Blythburgh to the Augustinian canons of St. Osyth's Priory in Essex and were there were canons at Blythburgh by 1147 CE. A priory was founded in Blythburgh in the 12th Century CE and, although never large, by the end of the 13th Century CE its income came from property in 40 Suffolk parishes. Remains of the priory are scheduled (NHLE ID: 1005962) and listed (NHLE ID: 1198255, Grade II).

3.5.27 Blythburgh prospered in the Medieval period, and Holy Trinity Church (NHLE ID: 1030710, Grade I), an exceptionally large parish church, was built in the village in the 15th Century CE. This church retained an existing 14th Century CE tower and

is likely located on the site of an Early Medieval church, one of three referred to in the Domesday book associated with the Blythburgh estate.

3.5.28 Darsham, Middleton, and Westleton also grew during the Medieval period, and all three settlements retain Medieval churches, which were expanded and altered throughout the Medieval period. Darsham's Church of All Saints (NHLE ID: 1198791, Grade I) retains fabric from the 12th and 13th Centuries CE, with its tower dating to the 15th Century CE. Middleton's Holy Trinity Church (NHLE ID: 1030647, Grade II*) retains fabric from the 12th Century CE, with its tower dating to the 15th Century CE. Westleton's St Peter's Church (NHLE ID: 1283793, Grade II*) was built in the early 14th Century CE. The church's Medieval tower collapsed in 1770 CE and a later rebuild as demolished in the mid-20th Century CE;these have been replaced by a brick bellcote.

3.5.29 In the Medieval period, land was held under the manorial system, a key feature of which was a large, sometimes fortified manor house in which the lord of the manor and his dependants lived and administered a rural estate. Some manor houses occupied moated sites, with the provision of a moat intended as a status symbol rather than a practical military defence. The peak period during which moated sites were built was between about 1250 CE and 1350 CE and by far the greatest concentration lies in central and eastern parts of England. Within the study area for C2, to north of a minor road in the parish of Westleton, is a scheduled moated manorial site, Moated site at Lymball's Farm (NHLE ID: 1007682). Lymball's Farm has been identified as the site of the manor variously known as Lenwales, Lembalde's or Lymbold's of which there are records in the 13th and 14th centuries. The monument includes a moated site, with a moat ditch, approximately 3m deep and 5m to 11m in width, enclosing a subrectangular island with maximum internal dimensions of 61m north south by 38m east west. The interior is now unoccupied but there is evidence that a house once stood within the north western quarter.

3.5.30 By the late 1440s CE, partly due to the broader socioeconomic upheavals of the 14th Century CE, including the Black Death, Blythburgh declined, and income from its market was reduced. In 1537 Blythburgh Priory was dissolved and its buildings were raided for building material.

3.5.31 The HER records that Hinton Green, a green recorded on Hodskinson's Map of 1783 CE, falls within Section C3.Within Section C3, the HER also records linear cropmarks of a rectilinear field system (HER ID: BLB 007), which is likely Medieval or Post Medieval in date, as well as the cropmarks of undated possible trackway, which may be Medieval or Post Medieval in date (BLB 105). Within Section C1, the HER records a scatter of Medieval pottery (HER ID: WLN 002).

3.5.32 With the study area for Section C1, the HER records the probable location of a watermill (HER ID: MDD 021) while in the study area for C3 it records earthworks of trackways of possible Medieval or Post Medieval date (HER ID: WLM 065).

3.5.33 The HER also records several Medieval finds and artefact scatters across the study area for Section C1, including a scatter of pottery and silver coins (HER ID: DAR 016), two seals (DUN 161), and further scatters of pottery (DUN 158). Within the study area for Section C3, the HER records a lead pilgrim's ampulla, likely associated with the priority at Blythburgh (BLB 018).

Post Medieval (1540 CE – 1901 CE)

3.5.34 After the dissolution, property and lands of Blythburgh Priory were granted to Walter Wadelond of Needham Market and in 1548 they reverted to the Hopton family, being combined with the Blythburgh manor which they already owned (Ref 44). In 1592 the Hopton family sold Blythburgh manor to Alderman Robert Brooke, a London grocer (Ref 44). In the 17th Century CE, the estate passed to the Blois family in whose family the estate remains today.

3.5.35 Economic decline in Blythburgh during the 17th Century CE resulted in Holy Trinity Church (NHLE ID: 1030710, Grade I), falling into disrepair. A fire in the village in 1676 saw the population fall to 21 households by 1754 CE (Ref 44).

3.5.36 In 1759-61 CE the Blyth Navigation Scheme was constructed, which improved drainage of the marshes and the navigability of the River Blyth. In 1785 CE a turnpike road was established through the Blythburgh. With these improved transportation links in the 18th Century CE, Blythburgh again prospered. A number of buildings from this period also survive in Darsham, Middleton, and Westleton.

3.5.37 Use of the Blyth Navigation Scheme began to decline in the mid-19th Century CE, and the village also suffered, with Holy Trinity Church (NHLE ID: 1030710, Grade I) closing in 1881 CE. A national campaign in the 1880s CE enabled the repair and reopening of the church, with involvement from Members of the Royal Academy Ernest Croft and Sir John Seymour Lucas, who had homes in the village. The population rose rapidly in the 19th Century CE peaking in 1851 CE at 1118, and in 1879 CE the opening of the Southwold Railway saw the opening of a station at Blythburgh.

3.5.38 It is likely that land within the study area was enclosed in this period, with both 'Pre-18th Century CE enclosure' and '18th Century CE and later enclosure' HLC recorded. Tithe maps and historical OS mapping show the fields within the study area in the 19th Century CE.

3.5.39 Farmsteads with farmhouses, barns, and outbuildings, were established across the Section and its study area in this period, with many recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. While some of these have been demolished, a number of farm buildings survive, many of which are listed.

20th Century (1901 CE – 2000 CE) and 21st Century (2001 CE – present)

3.5.40 Following the end of the First World War, war memorials were built in Blythburgh, Darsham (NHLE ID: 1452682, Grade II), Middleton (NHLE ID: 1458635, Grade II), and Westleton (NHLE ID: 1468649, Grade II).

3.5.41 A number of features dating from the Second World War remain in the study areas for Section C, including a pillbox, anti-glider ditches and possible weapons pits or training trenches (HER ID: BLB 090) in the study area for C3, and the site of a reserve radar station in the study area for C2. The HER also records the notional centre point of the fatal aerial explosion of an American Liberator aircraft, which exploded over the woods of Newdelight Covert in 1944, while undertaking a secret mission using an experimental system to attack a German V-weapon site in occupied France (BLB 090). Included in three crew on board the flight was United States Navy Lieutenant Joseph Patrick Kennedy Jr., the elder brother of the future American President J.F. Kennedy. The explosion scattered wreckage over a large area, estimated at three by two miles across. The remains of the crew were never found. Contemporary aerial photographs of the immediate area do not show any major damage relating to the crash.

3.5.42 In the second half of the 20th Century CE, some fields within the study area were amalgamated to create larger fields, and hedgerows removed. This took place against a background of the European Union's Common Agricultural Policy benefiting holders of larger land parcels, and the development of agricultural machinery which made farming larger land parcels more efficient. This land is recorded as 'Post-1950 CE agricultural landscape' HLC.

Undated

3.5.43 The HER records an undated ring ditch and linear cropmarks (HER ID: BLB 010) within Section C3, and several further undated fragmentary undated linear cropmarks within the study area for C3 (HER ID: BLB 110 and WLN 069), as well as a very large circular enclosure (circa 220m maximum diameter) with concentric rings (HER ID: BLB 057). The HER records further linear cropmarks in the study area for C1 (HER ID: DAR 009) and the cropmarks of square and rectangular enclosures within the study area for C2 (HER ID: BLB 059, BLB 020 and WLN 024).

3.5.44 Geophysical survey of land within Section C and parts of its study area has detected a range of anomalies of probable archaeological origin.

3.5.45 Within C1 and its study area, the survey identified the spine of a possible Iron Age to Medieval co-axial field system or ladder settlement following the course of the Minsmere River, and related possible trackways and an enclosing embankment surrounding the topographical low of the floodplain (Ref 10). The survey also identified a possible Romano-British farmstead and related agricultural and domestic activity, which appears to have accreted around the site of a possible

prehistoric roundhouse. Medieval land use was also identified in the form of ridge and furrow cultivation, as well as evidence of larger field systems.

3.5.46 Within C2 and its study area, the survey identified possible enclosures, the majority of which likely to relate to livestock enclosures, or field systems (Ref 11). The survey also identified possible ring ditches.

3.5.47 Within C3 and its study area, the survey identified a series of enclosures, likely Medieval or Post Medieval in date, and a wider field system have also been identified in the north of the site (Ref 12). Although varying in orientation, these anomalies do extend from one another, possibly illustrating multi-phased activity in the area.

3.5.48 Across the whole of Section C, the survey identified anomalies associated with features visible on historical OS maps, including Post Medieval field divisions, ponds, extraction pits and quarries and, in the case of C2, former buildings.

Key previous archaeological investigations

3.5.49 Several archaeological investigations have taken place in Blythburgh, including an excavation at Blythburgh Priory by Wessex Archaeology and Time Team in 2008 CE which found two Early Medieval burials (Ref 43). Further work was undertaken at the priory site by English Heritage in 2010-11 CE to establish the layout of buildings, and by SCCAS in 2012 CE to confirm the location of the northern cloister.

3.5.50 Archaeological monitoring of several small-scale extensions within the village of Blythburgh has also identified archaeological remains from a range of periods, including Medieval remains (Ref 44). From 2017 CE to 2019 CE a test-pitting programme by Access Cambridge Archaeology excavated 36 test pits in village gardens and within the village, finding remains from a range of periods, from later prehistory through to the modern day (Ref 44). A relatively large number of prehistoric lithics were found, suggesting activity in this period. No Iron Age or Roman pottery was excavated from any of the test pits, but further evidence for the Early Medieval settlement was found in an area close to the crossing of the river, as well as further evidence from the Medieval period.

3.6 Proposed Underground HVDC Cable Corridor Section D: Blythburgh to Walberswick and the proposed Landfall Site

Geology and topography

3.6.1 The British Geological Survey records that bedrock geology across Section D and its study area is sand of the Crag Group. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 5.333 million and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Neogene and Quaternary periods.

3.6.2 The British Geological Survey records that superficial geology across the majority of Section D and its study area is sand and gravel of the Lowestoft

Formation. Within part of the western part of Section D, and the southwestern part of the study area, the superficial geology is diamicton, a poorly sorted sediment with a wide clast size range, also of the Lowestoft Formation.

3.6.3 While the British Geological Survey does not hold information on the superficial geology for the majority of the proposed Landfall Site and for parts of the study area, it records the northwestern part of the proposed Landfall Site as sand and gravel of the Lowestoft Formation.

3.6.4 The Lowestoft formation between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. The Anglian Stage was a cold (glacial) interval, contemporaneous with Marine Isotope Stage 12, when most of Suffolk was under glacial ice.

3.6.5 Along the valleys of the River Blyth and River Dunwich and along the coast, the superficial geology is Tidal Flat Deposits. These deposits of clay and silt formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present during the Holocene.

3.6.6 Along the coast the superficial geology is sand and gravel Marine Beach Deposits, which formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present. In the northern part of the study area, there is blown sand, which formed over the same time period.

3.6.7 Archaeological monitoring of GI works in Section D identified alluvium in two trial pits at the western end of the Section, one of which also contained an organic alluvium deposit with possible humic laminate (Ref 13).

3.6.8 Section D runs along a spur of higher ground in between the valleys of the River Blyth to the north and the Dunwich River to the south and east, entering the North Sea to the southeast of the settlement of Walberswick, which is at the western end of the spur, overlooking the mouth of the Blyth estuary. The meandering River Blyth flows from west to east through the study area to the North Sea, at a distance varying between approximately 500m to 1.5km from the Section. To the south of the Section lie marshlands characterised by flat and open wet grazing marsh and reed beds. The majority of the Section sits within arable fields at 5m to 15m above Ordnance Datum, with the highest ground along the spur, and lower ground at the proposed Landfall Site. The eastern part of the proposed Landfall Site is formed by the North Sea coast, beach, and the North Sea.

Historic landscape character

3.6.9 The HLC across the majority of Section D and the proposed Landfall Site is ‘18th Century CE and later enclosure’, while Walberswick beach is ‘Unimproved land’, and there is also relatively small area of ‘Woodland’. Within the study area, the majority of the HLC is ‘18th Century CE and later enclosure’, with ‘Unimproved land’ at the marshes to the south and north, and an additional area of ‘Woodland’ to the north. Walberswick and Blythburgh are ‘Built up areas’, with ‘Common pasture’ to the north of Walberswick.

Archaeological and historical background

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

3.6.10 The HER does not contain any records for Palaeolithic sites or finds within Section D or within its study area.

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

3.6.11 The HER contains a record for subrectangular rafts of well-humidified peat found on the high tide mark at Walberswick beach in 1999, which may date from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age (WLB 130).

Neolithic (4,000 BCE – 2,200 BCE)

3.6.12 The HER records an artefact scatter (HER ID: SWD 005) uncovered by rough seas, comprising many flint flake tools, several fragments of pottery and bone/antler artefacts, including an antler pick being a pick. These finds may attest to the presence of a Neolithic settlement in the area.

Bronze Age (2,600 BCE – 700 BCE)

3.6.13 Two scheduled Bronze Age bowl barrows (NHLE IDs: 1011385 and 1011382) survive as earthworks within the study area for Section D.

3.6.14 The Bowl barrow on Tinker's Walks, 740m west of Eastwoodlodge Farm (NHLE ID: 1011385) is sited above a north facing slope overlooking the estuary of the River Blyth. The barrow is visible as an earthen mound covering a circular area c.22m in diameter and standing to a maximum height of 1.1m.

3.6.15 The Bowl barrow on Tinker's Walks, 950m WSW of Eastwoodlodge Farm (NHLE ID: 1011382) is located 225m to the southwest of the other scheduled bowl barrow. It is situated on heathland, beside a road, the B1387, which clips it on the north-west side. It is visible as an earthen mound standing to a height of 0.65m and covering a sub-circular area with a maximum diameter of 38m on a north east to south west axis.

3.6.16 While scheduled as Bronze Age bowl barrows, the HER notes that it is possible that the barrows are Early Medieval in date and may represent Anglo-Saxon burial mounds, due to their location overlooking the river estuary.

3.6.17 The HER records three ring ditches within the study area; two of these likely represent the remains of ploughed out Bronze Age round barrows (HER ID: BLB 096; WLB-23), while the third is likely a ploughed out Post Medieval windmill mound (HER ID: BLB 106).

3.6.18 A past evaluation within the study area identified a single unstratified sherd of Bronze Age Beaker pottery (HER ID: BLB 093).

Iron Age (800 BCE – 43 CE)

3.6.19 The HER does not contain any records for Iron Age sites or finds with Section D or within its study area.

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

3.6.20 The HER records several Roman finds from the study area, including a scatter of metal work (HER ID: BLB 023), a corroded bronze coin tentatively dated to the 3rd Century CE (HER ID: WLB 015), and sherds of pottery (HER ID: WLB 007).

3.6.21 Archaeological monitoring of GI works at the western end of Section D recovered a small assemblage of twenty-two sherds of Roman pottery from three deposits, all local coarsewares, as well as three fragments of ceramic building material, with at least two of these fragments likely to be from tiles (Ref 13). These finds likely represent refuse from nearby settlement. The monitoring also recovered a single fragment of britquetage (salt-making ceramic material), likely of Roman date and found in the same deposit as Roman pottery. These finds suggest local salt production in the Roman period, with the site is suitably close to the coast for such activity to occur nearby (Ref 13).

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

3.6.22 The name Walberswick may have derived from the Old German 'Waldberht's' (a man's name) and 'wic' (meaning a dwelling place, hamlet or farm). In this period, it is possible that there was a farmstead or small hamlet at Walberswick, although the paucity of evidence from this period from test pit excavations within the present village suggests that the land there was probably mainly utilised for agriculture in this period, as part of the Royal Estate at Blythburgh, rather than for settlement.

Medieval (1066 CE – 1540 CE)

3.6.23 Walberswick was not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 CE. At this time, it was not considered to be a parish, but was a chapelry associated with the church at of Blythburgh. Walberswick had a church at this date, likely one of the two churches mentioned in the Doomsday Book in association with Blythburgh: the other being in Blythburgh itself. It was a thatched building, and it was in use until it was taken down in c.1473 CE when the population outgrew it, and the last visible remains removed in 1728 CE to clear the area for cultivation.

3.6.24 In the Medieval period Walberswick, situated on a natural, sheltered bend in the River Dunwich for boats continuing inland from Dunwich, grew from a hamlet into a settlement likely the size of a small town with a port which traded primarily in fish but also in butter, cheese, bacon, corn, timber, coal, and salt to not only the European mainland but also to Iceland and the Faroe Islands. Growth was encouraged by several charters, signed in 1262 CE, 1483 CE, 1485 CE, 1553 CE, 1558 CE and 1625 CE which excused tradesmen from tolls and taxes. 71 taxpayers were recorded in in 1327 CE, while in 1451 CE there is a record of 13

barks trading from the port, and 22 fishing boats. The growth of Walberswick was assisted by the silting of the mouth of the River Dunwich in the Medieval period, and the loss of Dunwich's harbour.

3.6.25 In the Medieval period a second church was built at Walberswick, which still stands. This is St Andrew's Church (NHLE ID: 1283823, Grade I). St Andrew's Church was built away from the marshes on slightly higher ground and was constructed period of between 1426-1493 CE. It is thought to have replaced an earlier building on the same site, a probable chapel of ease. This church would have stood at the same time as the earlier church to the south for around half a Century prior to the latter's demolition.

3.6.26 Joshua Kirby's 1753 CE copy of Ralph Agas' lost 1587 CE map of Dunwich, produced for Thomas Gardner's An Historical Account of Dunwich (Ref 45), shows both churches. At an area labelled as 'Walberswick Old Church' are three buildings, one of which appears to be a ruin and likely represents the site of the old church. The other two structures may represent village buildings and likely indicate the historical core of the Medieval settlement, on a site just to north of the Dunwich River, beyond the limits of the marshes, which are shown as a solid line. On the river directly to the southwest of the old church is a site labelled as 'Walberswick Old Quay', which was likely the location of the Medieval port. St Andrew's Church is also shown on the map to the north of the old church site, in a location equidistant from the Dunwich River and the River Blyth. A new quay, labelled as 'Walberswick Quay', is shown on the River Blyth. This reflects the change in focus of the location of the settlement in the later Medieval period, from the River Dunwich, which became silted, to the River Blyth to the north. By the end of the Medieval period, a Royal Charter was granted to Southwold that transferred the status of Haven Port to the harbour there, as the one at Dunwich was becoming unusable.

3.6.27 The most likely location for the site of the old church, and the core of the Medieval settlement, is a site (HER ID: WLB 012) at the border of the marshes, to the south of the current village and at the end of Stocks Lane. This site is at the approximate location marked on Joshua Kirby's 1753 CE map, and the HER records a relatively dense scatter of Medieval pottery in this area, containing smaller area of flint rubble, which may represent remains of the church. An undated cropmark of a rectangular or subrectangular enclosure (HER ID: WLB 012) is also recorded in this location and may be associated with the church site. To the immediate southeast of this area, in a location on the bank of the Dunwich River, the HER records a Medieval and Post Medieval pottery scatter (HER ID: WLB 009) and states that timbers reportedly survive and can be seen at low tide. The HER notes that these timbers likely represent the remains of the old quay.

3.6.28 This area is within a larger area (HER ID: WLB 080) recorded in the HER as the probable area of the settlement of Walberswick from the Early Medieval to Medieval periods. Within this area are several areas which have produced dense concentrations of Medieval pottery including WLB 015 and WB016. WLB 10, also

within this area, has produced a dense concentration of finds predominantly of a very late Medieval and Tudor and early Post Medieval date, including metalwork, plus assorted 18th Century CE and 19th Century CE objects. The HER suggests WLB 010 (HER ID) as an alternative site for the old church but notes that this area may instead represent market/fair activity on the edge of the village.

3.6.29 These interpretations accord well with the results of geophysical (magnetometer) survey of Section D, the proposed Landfall Site, and surrounds. In the location of (HER ID: WLB 012), the survey identified a dense array of ditched and pitted areas that likely represent the site of the old church and core of the Medieval settlement. The survey also identified a trackway running east west, from which stem three suspected enclosures, expected to relate to roadside settlement or activity, as well as an abundance of interconnected linears, likely the remains of field plots. Some of the field plots appear to extend back from the existing building and garden plots along The Street and may relate to the later Medieval and Post Medieval shift northwards in settlement location. A large square area, without internal cut features, may represent a fair/market site, to which animals may have been driven to along the trackway. In this area the archaeological monitoring of GI works identified several late Medieval and Post Medieval small finds with commercial associations, which accords well with the suggestion of WLB 010 (HER ID) as a fair/market, rather than the old church site (Ref 13). Given the recorded late Medieval and early Post Medieval finds in this area, it is likely that the market site was established at the time of the northward shift in settlement focus.

3.6.30 Walberswick Common (HER ID: WLB 025), recorded on Hodgkinson's 1785 CE map to the northwest of the village, would likely have been common land from the Medieval period, forming a village green once the village shifted northwards, before being enclosed in the Post Medieval period.

Post Medieval (1540 CE – 1901 CE)

3.6.31 A series of fires and floods in Walberswick from the 1530s CE to the to mid-1700s CE, as well as an epidemic in the 1650s CE, led to the decline of Walberswick and the gradual reduction of the population of the settlement (Ref 1). This decline was likely was hastened by the loss of the settlement's common land, which was appropriated by Sir Robert Brooke after he purchased manor of Blythburgh from the Hopton family in 1612 (Ref 1). As well as seizing the common land. Brooke also appropriated the fens and quay, reducing the grazing land available to villagers. The Hearth Tax Returns for 1674 CE recorded 15 empty houses and only 18 taxpayers within Walberswick. Activity within the market appears to have continued into this period, within early Post Medieval finds in WLB 10, but it likely reduced as the settlement declined.

3.6.32 When the prosperity of the village suffered, there were insufficient funds to maintain St Andrew's Church (NHLE ID: 1283823, Grade I), and in the 1690s, the parish obtained permission to partially demolish the old church and to build a

smaller one on the same footprint, with elements of the Medieval church retained, and new walling added in the early 18th Century CE. Disused Medieval remains left standing outside the new, reduced, building footprint.

3.6.33 At the start of the 19th Century CE the population of Walberswick was recorded at 229 and increased so that by the mid-19th Century CE it was at a peak of 357. Several Post Medieval buildings survive in Walberswick, including the Bell hotel (NHLE ID: 1030683, Grade II), a 17th Century CE public house, and Bell cottage (NHLE ID: 1198477, Grade II), an 18th Century CE house.

3.6.34 Flood defences dated to the Post Medieval period have been recorded around Walberswick, including banks to the east of the village running along the edge of a creek (WLB 038) and to the south of Walberswick (WLB 046 and 047) as sea banks. Another length of sea bank has been recorded between Westwood and Corporation Marshes (WLB 054).

3.6.35 Land within the study area was enclosed in this period, with '18th Century CE and later enclosure' HLC recorded. Tithe maps and historical OS mapping shows the fields within the study area in the 19th Century CE.

3.6.36 In 1879 CE, a narrow-gauge railway (SWD041) opened between Halesworth and Southwold that included a station at Walberswick. This line connected to the East Suffolk Railway and served as a link to the coast for tourists and the fishing industry. With the opening of the railway to Southwold and the continual silting up of the River Blyth, use of the Blyth Navigation steadily declined through the latter half of the 19th Century CE. It ceased to be officially maintained by the mid-1880s CE and remained virtually impassable until it was officially closed in 1934 CE.

20th Century (1901 CE – 2000 CE) and 21st Century (2001 CE – present)

3.6.37 Walberswick's fishing industry general declined after the First World War, as did the railway (SWD041) itself, which closed in 1929 CE.

3.6.38 In 1938 CE, Box Bush, a house in the Suffolk vernacular style, was built in Walberswick to around 1938 CE to designs by Frank Jennings (NHLE ID: 1487185, Grade II).

3.6.39 The HER records several features within Section D, the landfall, and the study area, which date to the Second World War, and relate to General Ironside's and General Brooke's anti-invasion scheme. These are largely recorded from Second World War aerial imagery. These include anti-glider ditches (WLB 011, 022, 030 and 035), antitank scaffolding (DUN 029), slit trenches (032, 048, 049 and 055), anti-tank cubes (WLB 041) and pillboxes (WLB 027, 040, 082, 083, 084, 085 and 088). Sections of barbed wire are also still visible (WLB 042, 043, 044, 051 and 052) as well as a small cluster of structures (WLB 045), and a strong point to the south of Walberswick Common (WLB 036). Craters from Second World War bombs are visible to the west of the Old Vicarage (WLB 039) and on the beach east of Walberswick (WLB 050).

3.6.40 The River Blyth forms a tidal creek between Southwold and Walberswick that opens out into a large area of saltings. This has been banked until 1940 CE when the sluices were broken, and the marshes were flooded as an invasion defence. The disused railway's (SWD041) swing bridge was retained as a crossing until 1940 CE when it was blown up by the military. In 1947 CE East Suffolk County Council provided a Bailey bridge as a footbridge to cross the river, at the site of the railway bridge, and this is still in use today.

3.6.41 From September 1944 CE anti-air Diver batteries, comprising guns mounted on temporary platforms, were moved to the east coast, creating the Diver Strip, a line of batteries along the coast. Aerial photographs from 1945 CE show anti-aircraft batteries and heavy anti-aircraft (Diver) batteries (WLB 033 and 034) within the study area.

Undated

3.6.42 The HER records several undated cropmarks within the Draft Order Limits and study area for Section D and the proposed Landfall Site, including field boundaries ditches and a trackway (HER ID: BLB 059, BLB 111, WLB 024), and enclosures (HER ID: BLB 015, WLB 070). It is likely that some of the these, such as the cropmark of adjoining rectangular or subrectangular enclosure/s (HER ID: WLB 012) and a trackway and field system (HER ID: WLB 024), by their form and location, may relate to the Medieval town of Walberswick.

3.6.43 Geophysical survey of land within Section D (Ref 4) and the proposed Landfall Site (Ref 5), and parts of the study area has detected a range of anomalies of probable archaeological origin, including several possible settlements, which may date from the from the late Iron Age to the Early Medieval period, as well as a large oval enclosure, several possible field systems, which may from the Bronze Age to the Late Medieval period, and Second World War defences.

Key previous archaeological investigations

3.6.44 In 2003 CE, archaeological monitoring at Lilliput along Lodge Road found Medieval pottery, including a cache of four near-complete 15th Century CE vessels, identified as a Dutch Redware cauldron, a jug from the southwest of France, a German Stoneware bottle and a Whiteware jug from Surrey (WLB 061).

3.6.45 42 archaeological test pits excavated within the village of Walberswick over 2013-2016 CE revealed a range of activity dating from the later prehistoric period through to the modern period (Ref 1).

3.6.46 Over 2017-2019 CE, archaeological investigations were carried out in advance of construction of an irrigation reservoir 250m south of Section D, and north of Lodge Road, Walberswick, in the form of a magnetometer survey, archaeological trenching, and excavation (Ref 46). The excavation found archaeological features, primarily ditches forming enclosures or fields, some of which produced

a small number of artefacts. Most of these artefacts were dated to the Medieval period although limited Roman material was also present.

4 Archaeological potential

4.1.1 This section provides an assessment of the potential for archaeological remains across the Proposed Onshore Scheme. This is informed by current archival sources, site walkover and geophysical survey. Potential is variable across the Proposed Onshore Scheme is determined by factors such as underlying geology, proximity to known heritage assets, and subsequent development activity, among others.

Palaeolithic (1,000,000 BCE – 10,000 BCE)

4.1.2 The superficial geology across much of the Proposed Onshore Scheme is deposits of the Lowestoft Formation, which formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago, during the Anglian Stage of the Mid Pleistocene. These deposits are unlikely to be conducive to the survival of Palaeolithic artefacts in situ, although some isolated artefacts may be present, redeposited by glacial action.

4.1.3 There are head deposits (valley side-slope deposits displaced by solifluction in periglacial climates) recorded with the study area. While head deposits are highly variable, displacement does not necessarily result in complete disruption of the displaced sediment and traces of primary structure. Slope deposits can spread downslope onto valleys floor cand can interface with fluvial deposits. Both paleoenvironmental and Palaeolithic remains may be among the material displaced downslope, and slope deposits may also bury landscapes that include paleoenvironmental or Palaeolithic remains.

4.1.4 The potential for isolated Palaeolithc artefacts is underlined by the recorded find of an Acheulean hand-axe (HER ID: SNF 003) within the southern part of the study area.

Mesolithic (10,000 BCE – 4,000 BCE)

4.1.5 Evidence for activity and the paleoenvironment within the study area that can be confidently dated to the Mesolithic period is limited, comprising a pebble macehead form land near Theberton (HER ID: LDS 245) and rafts of peat at Walberswick beach (HER ID: WLB 130).

4.1.6 It is possible that there may be evidence of Mesolithic activity within the study area, particularly in association with Holocene alluvium and peat near to watercourses, which were attractive locations for fishing and fowling in this period, and used for fresh water, landscape navigation, and transportation. Peat across the Draft Order Limits a very important potential source of paleoenvironmental remains and may also preserve organic artefacts from this period.

Later prehistoric (Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Iron Age) (4,000 BCE – 24 CE)

4.1.7 Later prehistoric finds and recorded archaeological sites suggest that there was activity in the landscape in later prehistory, including Bronze Age mortuary activity and Iron Age settlement, and it is likely that further archaeology from these periods may be found within this scheme, with many of the undated archaeological features detected by the geophysical survey, such as ring ditches and some enclosures, likely dating to these periods. Peat across the Draft Order Limits may also preserve paleoenvironmental and organic artefacts from this period.

Roman (43 CE – 410 CE)

4.1.8 Roman finds and recorded archaeological sites within the study area suggest that there is potential for archaeological remains relating to Roman rural settlement, such as farmsteads, field systems, and industrial activities, such as salt making, to be present within the Draft Order Limits.

Early Medieval (410 CE – 1066 CE)

4.1.9 The Early Medieval period saw the establishment of villages and farmsteads, with documentary and archaeological sources suggesting that settlement patterns within the landscape surrounding the Draft Order Limits were generally well defined by the end of the Early Medieval period. Evidence of Early Medieval settlement and activity has been found across the study area, particularly near to existing settlement centres, such as Saxmundham and Blythburgh, and it is likely that further remains of small-scale settlement may exist within the Draft Order Limits.

Medieval (1066 CE – 1540 CE)

4.1.10 In the Medieval period, land within the study area was occupied and in areas intensively farmed and grazed. There is potential for evidence of Medieval settlement and agriculture across the Draft Order Limits, with features detected by the geophysical survey likely associated with Medieval field boundaries.

4.1.11 At the proposed Landfall Site, there is high potential for evidence of agriculture and market activity associated with the Medieval settlement of Walberswick to be present within the proposed Landfall Site.

4.1.12 In the Overhead Lines Section, there is potential for the remains of a Medieval church or chapel and possible deserted settlement are likely to be present. Evidence of Medieval agriculture may be found near to this site as well as elsewhere within this section

4.1.13 Moated sites are present within the study area. There is the potential for conditions conducive to the preservation of organic archaeological and paleoenvironmental remains to be present within the moated parts of these sites.

Post Medieval (1540 CE – 1901 CE)

4.1.14 Archaeological remains from the Post Medieval period are likely to include evidence of extraction of clay, sand and gravel, and evidence associated with farming and agricultural improvement, such as field boundaries and farm buildings, as well as remains relating to Theberton Deer Park. Features detected by the geophysical survey are likely associated with Post Medieval field boundaries and extraction, as well as Theberton Deer Park.

20th Century (1901 CE – 2000 CE) and 21st Century (2001 CE – present)

4.1.15 Archaeological remains relating to large-scale defensive schemes undertaken during the Second World War are likely to be present within the Draft Order Limits, particularly in proximity to the coast, where defences were concentrated, and at the former RAF Leiston site.

Topic Glossary

Acronym/ Phrase/ Abbreviation	Definition
AOD	above Ordnance Datum
ASNW	Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland
BCE	Before Common Era
BGS	British Geological Survey
CE	Common Era
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CITiZAN	Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeological Network
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FISH	Forum on Information Standards in Heritage
GIS	Geographic Information System
HAR	Heritage At Risk
HER	Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Character
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
ID	Identifier
ISEP	Institute of Sustainable and Environmental Professionals
km	Kilometre
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
m	Metre
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
NMP	National Mapping Programme
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OS	Ordnance Survey
PAWS	Plantation on Ancient Woodland Sites
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Impact Report
UID	Unique Identifier
WMS	Web Map Service

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