

# LionLink Community Newsletter

Summer 2026



In this edition of our community newsletter, we reflect on our statutory consultation and share what's next for the LionLink project.

National Grid Ventures (NGV) is developing plans to build LionLink, a new subsea electricity cable (known as an interconnector) between the UK and the Netherlands. LionLink will help make the UK's energy supply more secure by increasing the amount of electricity that can be shared between countries.

Energy security is a growing priority, and stronger cooperation with European nations will play a key role for the UK. By connecting to a Dutch offshore wind farm, LionLink would supply up to 2 gigawatts (GW) of electricity – enough to power around 2.5 million homes. This will cut reliance on fossil fuels, help reduce price volatility, and contribute to a **more secure** and **stable** energy system.

## An update from Alex Marsh, LionLink Project Director

Alex leads the delivery of the LionLink project, working closely with local communities to minimise disruption for those living near the project route. He now shares more on the consultation results and what's coming next for LionLink during the months ahead.

“ A major milestone for LionLink was reached earlier this year, with our statutory consultation taking place from **13 January to 10 March 2026**.

We engaged with over 500 community members on our latest proposals, including online webinars and holding information events in **Saxmundham, Walberswick, Darsham, Westleton, and Yoxford**.

During the consultation period, we asked for feedback to help shape our proposals ahead of submitting an application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate.

As with previous consultations where community feedback has directly influenced the project, the comments raised will play an important role in shaping the evolving designs and plans as LionLink progresses. We received almost 900 pieces of feedback in total which are now being carefully reviewed by our teams.

Thank you to everyone who took part.

”

LIONLINK

## Consultation engagement

We saw a high level of interest and engagement during the consultation period, including:

**894**

feedback responses from the local community

**541**

residents attending our in-person community events

**145**

people joining our online webinars

**7,071**

visits to the project website

The feedback received broadly related to the following themes:



Project design including the converter station



Environmental and local impacts



Process and timeline



Cumulative impacts with other projects in the area



Construction methods and impacts

We will explain how consultation feedback has influenced the project through our **Consultation Report**, which will be submitted as part of our application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). Ahead of this, we will be publishing a **Consultation Summary Report** in early summer to provide an overview of feedback received and how it is being considered at this stage of the project.

### The Consultation Report will set out:

- How we consulted
- Who we consulted
- The feedback received
- How that feedback has been considered

## Our commitment to coordination

We acknowledge that there is a great deal of construction taking place across Suffolk and this is why we are working closely with developers in the area to:

- Minimise cumulative impacts
- Reduce disruption for local communities
- Explore opportunities to share infrastructure.

This coordination is maintained through regular engagement at both local and national levels.



Each month, project developers in the local area come together in a forum to share information and address any issues that require immediate action or joint working.



Quarterly meetings are held with Ofgem (the UK's independent energy regulator) and Suffolk based developers, attended by Jenny Riddell-Carpenter MP for Suffolk Coastal. These meetings provide a space to discuss coordination, how projects may interact locally and how impacts can be managed effectively.



The way we approach coordination is informed by ongoing engagement and feedback from local stakeholders, including MPs, county, district, and parish councillors, helping to ensure local views are considered and reflected in how projects in the area are planned and delivered.

## What happens next?

As is typical with infrastructure projects, we will need to carry out a targeted consultation on some limited localised changes to our proposals. Any changes would reflect consultation feedback, alongside the ongoing review and refinement of our plans.

This targeted consultation is planned to start in July and would not repeat the statutory consultation. It will be proportional to the changes proposed and will focus on those most directly affected, who will be notified in advance. More information on any proposed changes will also be published on our website at the time.

We recognise that developing infrastructure projects takes time and we are committed to keeping communities informed at each stage. We will continue to engage with the community through further updates and publish information as the project progresses.

If the project is consented and construction goes ahead, we will work to minimise disruption as much as possible, including careful planning of working hours, traffic management and site restoration.



We recognise the importance of transparency and will clearly set out which elements are being explored collaboratively and which are specific to LionLink. We will do this within our newsletters, the project website and through ongoing engagement with stakeholders and the local community over the coming months.

# Community engagement

We remain committed to working in partnership with the local community and supporting initiatives in the area.

We will continue to build on existing partnerships, including working with local organisations, educational programmes, and community projects. These partnerships help deliver local benefits while ensuring local voices remain central to our plans.

**We are reviewing suggestions for how community benefits could be provided by LionLink and will update on them in our DCO application.**

## Latest school engagement

We recently visited four primary schools across Suffolk during British Science Week, delivering interactive STEM sessions in partnership with Mad Science.

Together, we engaged 355 pupils, aged four to eleven, exploring how clean electricity is generated and transported to homes, as well as the vital role subsea cables play in sharing renewable energy between countries.

The interactive sessions gave pupils insight into the future of electricity, from wind and solar power to subsea cables and interconnectors, as well as how the grid is kept stable and reliable.

Thank you again to everyone who has taken the time to engage with LionLink so far. We appreciate your time, effort, and feedback. Your views remain central to our plans as the project continues to develop.

We will be in touch in the coming weeks to share further information about the Consultation Summary Report and to outline any next steps.

## Contact us

For more information on LionLink please contact:

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