

# Stage 1 consultation community newsletter

June 2026

**National Grid Electricity Transmission (National Grid) owns, builds and maintains the high-voltage network in Wales and England. We deliver electricity safely, reliably, and efficiently to the customers and communities that we serve.**

**The demand for electricity is set to double by 2050 as the way we power our homes, businesses, industry and transport changes. We need to upgrade the grid now to ensure we can meet this increase in demand.**

Western Link 2 is part of the Great Grid Upgrade, the largest overhaul of the electricity grid in generations. Our infrastructure projects across Wales and England will enable us to carry more home-grown renewable energy from where it is generated to where it is needed, boosting Britain's energy security.

Western Link 2 would reinforce the transmission network, carrying electricity both to and from Scotland and Wales. With this flexibility we would strengthen the UK's energy security, support home-grown renewable generation and help balance supply and demand as the energy system changes.

This investment will also bring local benefits. Delivering major new energy infrastructure will support local economies, create jobs, provide new skills opportunities and represent long term investment in communities.



**Please read on for more information about our proposals and to find out how to provide feedback.**

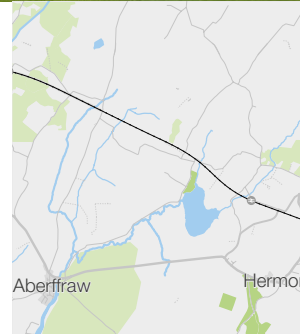
## **Taking part in our consultation**

This Stage 1 consultation is our first consultation on Western Link 2 and will run for four weeks from **12pm Tuesday 23 June until 11:59pm Tuesday 21 July.**



# About the project

## Western Link 2 will transport electricity via a High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) subsea cable from Ayrshire, on the west coast of Scotland, to a landfall location on the Gwynedd coastline.



**From there, underground HVDC cables would route and connect to a proposed converter station near Pentir substation. The new converter station would then be connected to National Grid's existing Pentir substation via a new High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) cable connection.**

The project is being jointly developed by National Grid and Scottish Power Energy Networks (SP Energy Networks), with each company leading on different elements of the project.

For this consultation we are asking for your views on the Welsh elements of the project only. SP Energy Networks is responsible for the Scottish elements of the project and carried out its first consultation in November 2025.

At this stage we are looking for your feedback on the following offshore, nearshore and onshore elements of the project:

- approximately 195 km of new offshore HVDC cable, starting from the southern limit of Scottish territorial seas to the limit of Welsh nearshore area
- approximately 65 km of new HVDC cable within the Welsh nearshore area, to a new

underground transition joint bay at a landfall location on the Gwynedd coastline, at Caernarfon Bay

- a new underground transition joint bay at a location on the Gwynedd coastline, at Caernarfon Bay, where the new offshore HVDC cable will connect to the new onshore HVDC cable
- three options for potential landfall locations on the Gwynedd coastline (with one emerging preferred option identified)
- a new underground HVDC cable route of approximately 25 km from a landfall location on the Gwynedd coastline to a new converter station (presented as a 'graduated swathe' with the darker shaded area showing our preferred emerging cable route)
- two siting zone options for a new converter station in close proximity to the existing Pentir substation (with an emerging preference for Pentir East zone), including a new short length of underground HVAC cable connection from the converter station to the existing Pentir substation
- an extension to the existing Pentir substation, for the purposes of connecting Western Link 2 to the existing transmission network in Wales.

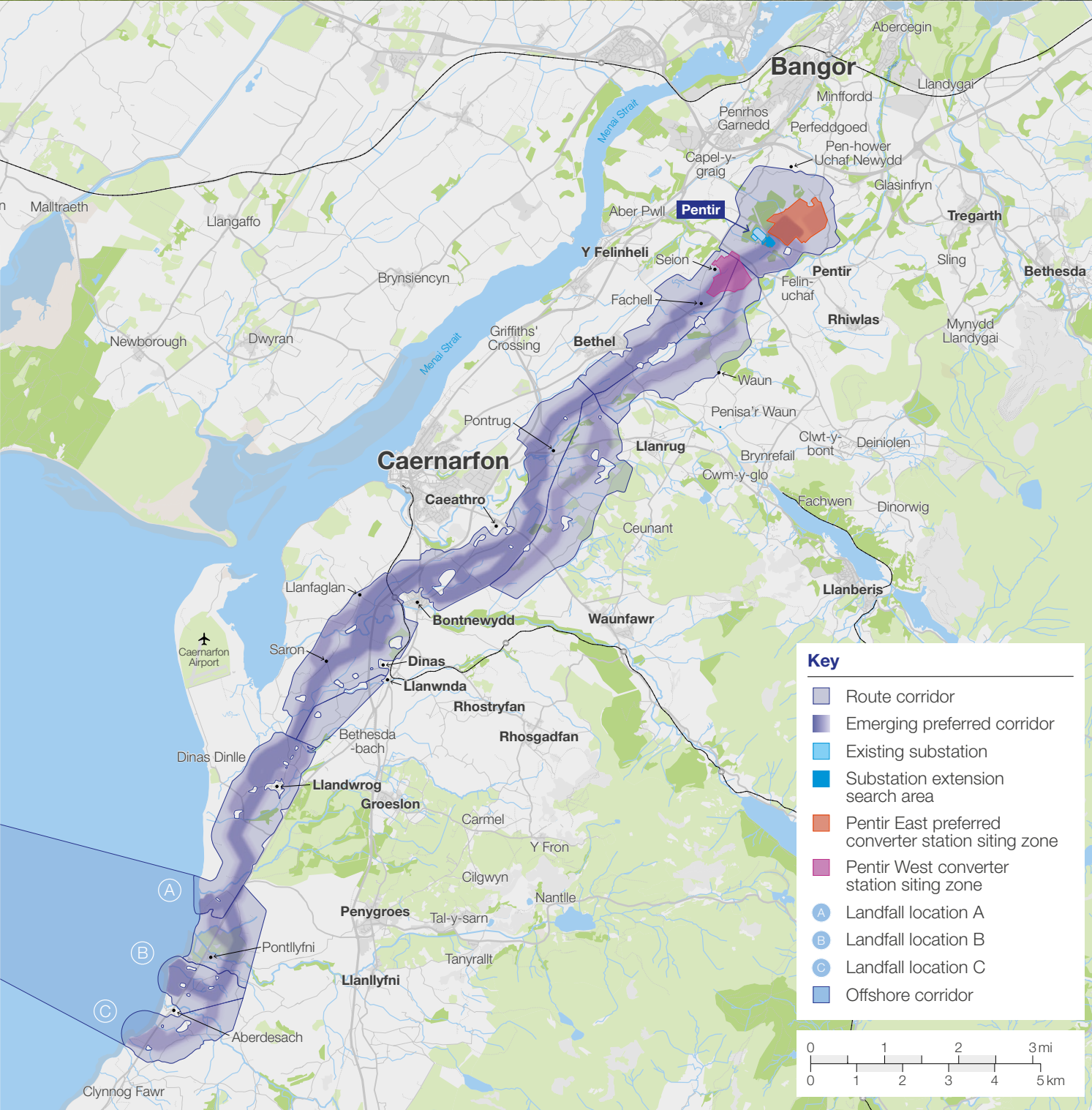
At this stage, we are presenting preferred options for the cable route, landfall location and converter station siting zone. This is presented as a 'graduated swathe' with the darker shaded area showing our preferred emerging options based on the work we have undertaken to date.

**Please note:** the graduated swathe represents an area much larger than required to allow flexibility following consultation feedback and further technical appraisal work. A more detailed map is available at [nationalgrid.com/westernlink2](https://nationalgrid.com/westernlink2)

We are also interested in hearing about:

- local features or areas that are important to you and which could be affected by our proposals
- whether there is anything else we should consider as we develop our proposals further.

Following this consultation, we will carefully consider all the feedback received. This feedback, alongside technical assessments and environmental surveys, will help us refine our proposals.





# Our consultation

**We want to introduce our proposals at an early stage, explain how they have been developed, and invite your feedback. This first stage of consultation is known as our Stage 1 consultation.**

**We are seeking feedback from local communities, their representatives and key stakeholders early in the project development process to ensure that feedback and local knowledge influences our proposals as they continue to be developed.**

We want to work closely with local communities, their representatives and key stakeholders to better understand the area around the project. This will help us to understand the best ways to reduce impacts and maximise benefits for local communities.

Our Stage 1 consultation will run from **12pm Tuesday 23 June until 11:59pm Tuesday 21 July 2026** and is open to anyone with an interest in our proposals.

## You can respond to the consultation in several ways:



### Online

You can fill in an online feedback form to give your feedback, available at [nationalgrid.com/westernlink2](https://nationalgrid.com/westernlink2)



### Email

You can send written feedback via email to [westernlink2@nationalgrid.com](mailto:westernlink2@nationalgrid.com)



### Paper feedback form

You can download and print a copy of our feedback form from our website and post it back to us at **FREEPOST W LINK 2** (no stamp or other address details needed).

You can also pick up a paper feedback form from any of the public information events or local information points listed on page 7.

Alternatively, you can request a copy of the consultation pack (community newsletter, feedback form and freepost envelope) by emailing us at [westernlink2@nationalgrid.com](mailto:westernlink2@nationalgrid.com) or calling us at 0800 156 0706.

Feedback forms and consultation packs are available in Welsh and English.

**You are welcome to provide feedback in Welsh or English.**

**Important: To ensure we accurately record your views, we ask that all formal feedback is provided in writing using the methods above.**

# Find out more

## We encourage you to provide feedback after reviewing our consultation materials.

### More detailed information about the project is available in the Stage 1 consultation document.

From the 23 June it will be available to view on the project website and is also available in hard copy at public information events, local information points, or on request.

More technical information, including details of the routing and siting options we have

assessed and our emerging preferred options, is set out in the *Terrestrial Corridor Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study (TCPRSS)*, *Marine Corridor Preliminary Routeing and Siting Study (M CPRSS)* and the *Summary of Landfall and Terrestrial routeing and siting options document*.

The *Strategic Options Report (SOR)* explains the range of options that were considered to deliver the required network upgrade.



## You can also find out more information by:



### Attending an in-person public information event

Come to one of our in-person public information events to view our options and proposals, speak to members of our project team and read our consultation materials.



### Attending a webinar

Join one of our online webinars by registering on our project website, contacting us over the phone or by emailing us.

These will also be recorded and uploaded to the project website.



### Visiting [nationalgrid.com/westernlink2](https://nationalgrid.com/westernlink2)

Here you will find digital copies of all of our consultation materials, including maps, technical documents, and our feedback form.

Our interactive map will also be available to view on the project website, where you will be able to see our proposals in more detail. These will be available to view once consultation begins and will remain on the website after consultation closes.



### Request copies of printed materials

Printed materials are also available on request (some technical documents may be subject to a printing charge). We will also consider requests for alternative formats of documents, such as translations and large print, on a case-by-case basis to account for individual circumstances.

You can also get in touch with a member of the team by phoning our project hotline on 0800 156 0706 or by emailing us at [westernlink2@nationalgrid.com](mailto:westernlink2@nationalgrid.com)

**Our project website will be updated at midday on the 23 June.**

# Public information events

You are very welcome to visit our public information events. At these events, we will present information about the emerging proposals, including our consultation materials, copies of maps, and technical documents.

Welsh and English-speaking team members will be available to talk you through our proposals and answer your questions.

There is no need to register; you can just turn up on the day.

Venue	Address	Date
<b>Clynnog Fawr Village Hall</b>  <i>What 3 Words location: chicken.arranges.item</i>	Llys Eben, Clynnog Fawr, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 5AQ	Thursday 25 June, 2–7pm
<b>Penygroes Memorial Hall</b>  <i>What 3 Words location: insist.manly.processes</i>	2 Market Place, Penygroes, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 6NN	Friday 26 June, 2–7pm
<b>Menter Cymunedol Bethel (Bedol)</b>  <i>What 3 Words location: elevator.northward.region</i>	Bethel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AX	Thursday 09 July, 12–4.30pm
<b>Rhiwlas Village Hall</b>  <i>What 3 Words location: ditched.countries.cakewalk</i>	Rhiwlas, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 4GA (follow road signs to the village hall)	Friday 10 July, 2–7pm
<b>The Centre Bontnewydd</b>  <i>What 3 Words location: match.uptake.stoppage</i>	Bontnewydd, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 2UF	Saturday 11 July, 10am–1:30pm



# Online webinars

We will be holding online webinars where we will present details of our proposals followed by open question and answer (Q&A) sessions.

Details of how to sign-up for a webinar will be available on the project website when consultation begins. You can also sign up by contacting us on **0800 156 0706** or by emailing [WesternLink2@nationalgrid.com](mailto:WesternLink2@nationalgrid.com)

<b>Welsh speaking webinar</b>	<b>Tuesday 7 July</b>	<b>6–7pm</b>
<b>English speaking webinar</b>	<b>Tuesday 7 July</b>	<b>7–8pm</b>



# Local information points

Paper copies of the community newsletter, Stage 1 consultation document, feedback form, freepost envelopes, and reference copies of the TCPRSS, MCPRSS, summary of Landfall and Terrestrial routeing and siting options document, and SOR documents are available at the locations listed below from Tuesday 23 June.

Please note that the SOR, MCPRSS and TCPRSS are technical documents and they will only be available in English.

These documents are also available to download from our project website: [nationalgrid.com/westernlink2](http://nationalgrid.com/westernlink2)



Venue	Address	Opening times
<b>Bangor Library</b>	Gwynedd Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1DT	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Wednesday & Friday Saturday Sunday 9:30am–6pm 9:30am–5pm 9:30am–1pm Closed
<b>Bethesda Public Library</b>	Dyffryn Ogwen Community Library, Ffordd Coetmor, Bethesda, Gwynedd, LL57 3DP	Monday Tuesday & Saturday Wednesday Thursday Friday Sunday 2–6pm 10am–12pm Closed 10am–12pm 2–5pm 2–5pm Closed
<b>Byw'n Iach Plas Silyn (Leisure Centre in Penygroes)</b>	Plas Silyn, County Road, Penygroes, Gwynedd, LL54 6HJ	Monday & Thursday Tuesday & Wednesday Friday Saturday & Sunday 9am–9pm 9am–10pm 9am–7pm 9am–3pm
<b>Byw'n Iach Plas Ffrancon</b>	Ffordd Newydd, Coetmor, Bethesda, Gwynedd, LL57 3DT	Monday – Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday 7:30am–9pm 7:30am–8pm 9:30am–3pm 10am–4pm
<b>Caernarfon Library</b>	Lôn Pafiliwn, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AS	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday Wednesday & Friday Saturday Sunday 9:30am–6pm 9:30am–5pm 9:30am–1pm Closed
<b>Inigo Jones Slate Works</b>	Tudor Slate Works, Y Groeslon, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 7UE	Monday – Saturday 9am–5pm
<b>Menter Ty'n Llan</b>	Ty'n Llan, Llandwrog, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL54 5SY	Monday – Thursday Friday Saturday & Sunday 12–11pm 10.30am–11pm 12–11pm

\*Please note, local information point opening hours are subject to change. We recommend checking with the relevant venue for the most up to date opening hours.

# Surveys

**You may see us out in your area as we undertake on-site surveys. The purpose of our surveys is to ensure we better understand the local area and gather the information we require to progress our technical and environmental assessments.**

To help us understand the local area and identify any potential impacts, we need to carry out a range of surveys and assessments, using different items of plant and equipment. We are continuing to work with landowners to seek the necessary access agreements to undertake and complete these surveys as quickly as possible.

Where land ownership is unclear, we may place notices on or near land to help identify the relevant landowners. This allows us to contact the right people and discuss access for survey work where required.

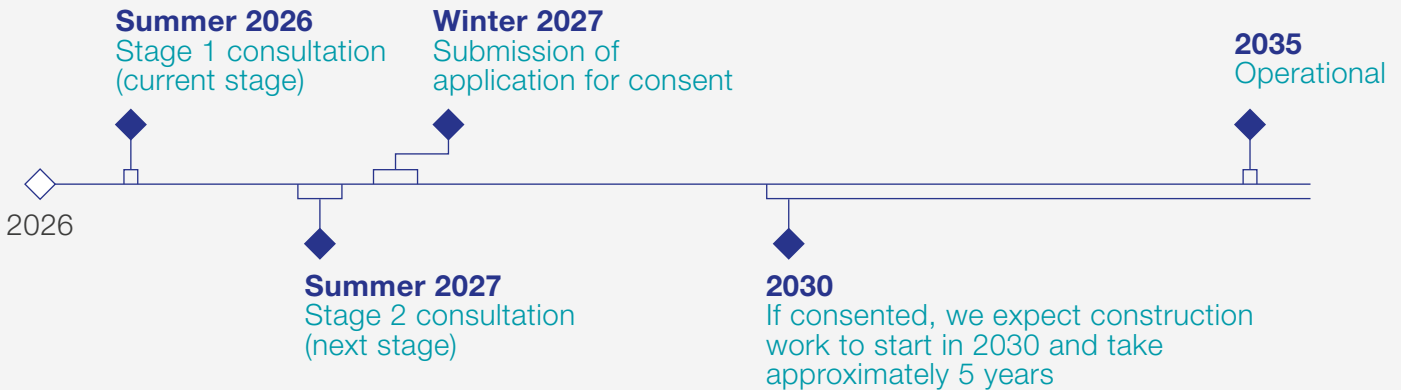
# Next steps

Following this consultation, we will carefully consider all the feedback received. This feedback, alongside technical assessments and environmental surveys, will help us refine our proposals.

We will then hold a second, Stage 2 consultation, where we will present more developed proposals for Western Link 2 before applying for planning permission for the project.

## Western Link 2 timeline

Please note this project timeline is indicative and may be subject to change.



## Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact us:

**0800 156 0706**

**[westernlink2@nationalgrid.com](mailto:westernlink2@nationalgrid.com)**

**FREEPOST W LINK 2**

(no stamp or further address details are required)



## If you are a landowner

More detailed information for landowners, can be found on the landowner page of our project website. If you are a landowner and believe your property may be affected by our proposals, you can contact our Lands team by phone on **0333 038 5710** (Monday to Friday) or by email **[w12@dalcourmaclaren.com](mailto:w12@dalcourmaclaren.com)**