The Great Grid Upgrade

Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire

nationalgrid



In your area:

Weston, Surfleet, Pinchbeck and surrounding areas

This leaflet focuses on the section of our proposals in the Weston, Surfleet and Pinchbeck area. It explains how the project has developed since our Stage 1 Consultation last year, and why.

2 What we are proposing and why

4 Our proposals in your area

6 Understanding the local area

8 How to find out more

Photograph: River Glen, Surfleet

What we are proposing and why

With electricity demand set to more than double by 2050, our proposals for Weston Marsh to East Leicestershire would help deliver secure, cleaner and more affordable home-grown energy from where it is generated to where it is needed.

This would create a stronger, more reliable network for homes, schools, hospitals and businesses in the region.

Our proposals include:

New overhead line

Approximately 60 km of new overhead line from Weston Marsh in Lincolnshire to near Wartnaby in Leicestershire.

Two new substations

- **WMEL-A** near Corby Glen, Lincolnshire
- **WMEL-B** near Wartnaby, Leicestershire

Upgrading the existing line

Upgrading approximately 66 km of the existing overhead line from WMEL-B substation down to the existing Grendon substation in Northamptonshire.

You can find out more about our proposals across the full route in our Stage 2 Consultation Document, on our website, or by visiting one of our public information events.

The Weston, Surfleet and Pinchbeck area is within Route Section 1: South Holland

Please scan the QR code to visit our project website

We would like your views on

Our Stage 2 Consultation runs from midday on Tuesday 8 September to Tuesday 3 November. You can send us your feedback until 11:59pm on 3 November 2026.

1. **the proposed new route and existing line upgrade**
2. **our construction proposals**
3. **any other information that would be useful in developing our proposals.**

You can share your views by completing a feedback form on our website, emailing us, writing to us, or completing a printed feedback form and returning it by post.

If you need any information in an alternative format, please contact us.

What happens when you share your feedback:

01 You provide us with **your feedback**

02 We **process and organise** all feedback

03 Each piece of **feedback is carefully analysed**

04 Feedback which identifies potential changes to **improve the project or reduce impacts on people, communities and the environment**, will be considered as the design develops

05 **Specialist teams including** ecology, ornithology, engineering, hydrology, landscape, historical and land experts review your feedback

06 Changes that are feasible, and do not compromise the project's technical, safety or regulatory requirements, will be **incorporated into the final design**

Our proposals in your area

Last summer, at our Stage 1 Consultation, we showed a **preferred corridor**. This was the wider area we were considering for the route. This is shown in **grey** on the map below.

Since then, we have carefully reviewed the feedback we received and carried out further environmental and technical studies. This has helped us refine our proposals.

The map below shows the draft Order Limits overlaid against the Stage 1 proposals. Black dots show proposed pylon locations, and the **blue outline** shows the draft Order Limits.

Draft Order Limits

Draft Order Limits show the area within which the project could be built, operated and maintained. This includes land needed for permanent infrastructure, temporary construction works, access routes and other associated works.

Please note draft Order Limits are not final, we will continue to refine our proposals before submitting the final design for DCO approval.

How our proposals have developed since Stage 1

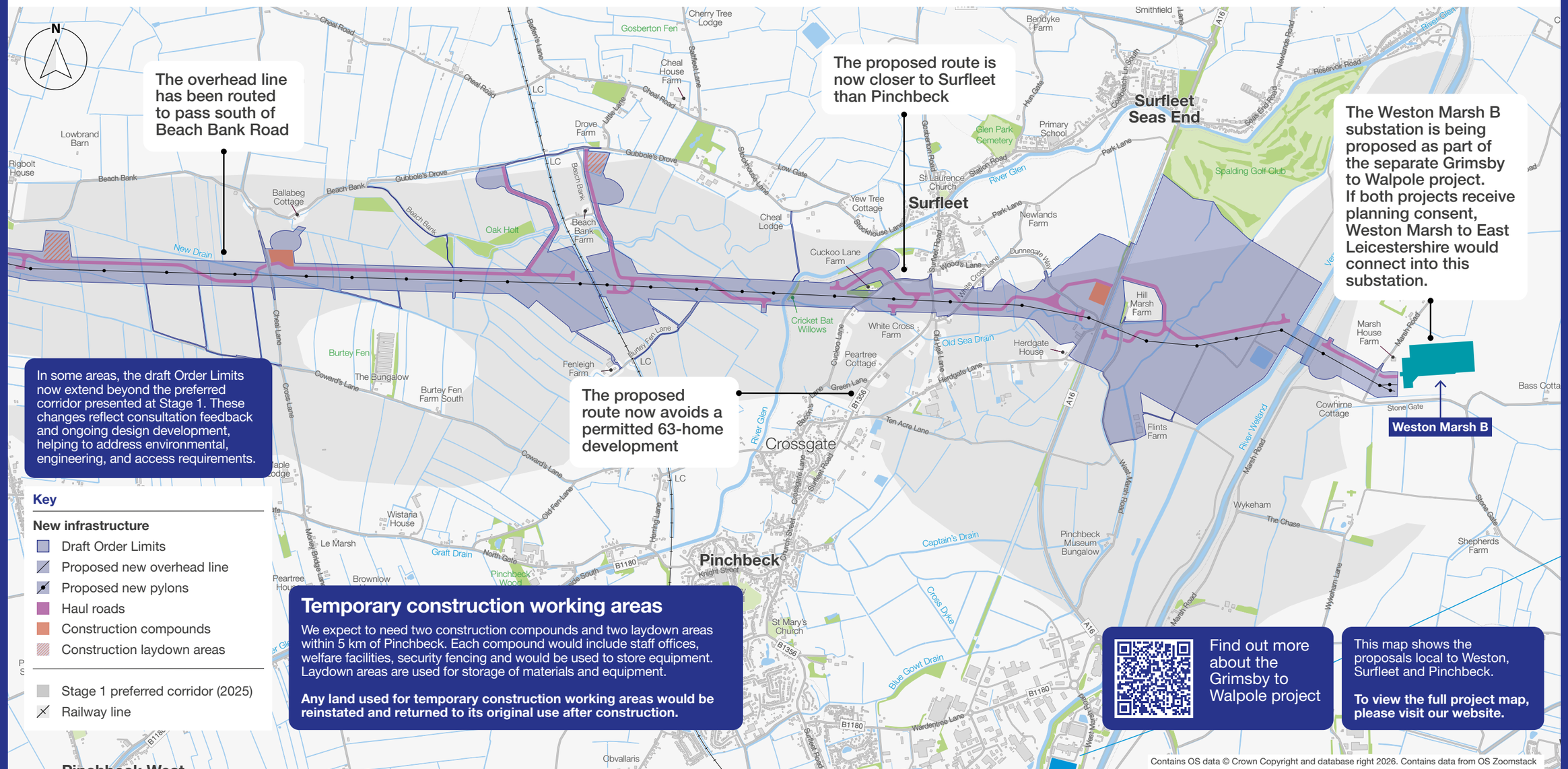
At Stage 1, the preferred corridor showed several possible locations for the route between Surfleet and Pinchbeck. We are now proposing a single route in the northern part of the corridor.

This reflects feedback we received at Stage 1 – to align the route closer to Surfleet than Pinchbeck. Following careful assessment, we were able to incorporate this into the project design.

This option is expected to have fewer visual effects on nearby homes and makes use of screening provided by existing woodland.

The route has also been adjusted to pass south of Beach Bank Road, creating a more central alignment between North Gate Road and Clough Road.

We have also made other changes to reduce effects on homes, views and local features. The proposed route now avoids a permitted 63-home development.



Key

New infrastructure

- Draft Order Limits
- Proposed new overhead line
- Proposed new pylons
- Haul roads
- Construction compounds
- Construction laydown areas

- Stage 1 preferred corridor (2025)
- Railway line

Temporary construction working areas

We expect to need two construction compounds and two laydown areas within 5 km of Pinchbeck. Each compound would include staff offices, welfare facilities, security fencing and would be used to store equipment. Laydown areas are used for storage of materials and equipment.

Any land used for temporary construction working areas would be reinstated and returned to its original use after construction.

Find out more about the Grimsby to Walpole project

This map shows the proposals local to Weston, Surfleet and Pinchbeck.

To view the full project map, please visit our website.

Contains OS data © Crown Copyright and database right 2026. Contains data from OS Zoomstack

Understanding the local area

Understanding the local area and what matters most to people who live and work here is a vital part of developing our proposals.

Local knowledge helps us understand the places, landscapes and communities that people value. By combining this insight with detailed environmental evidence, we can make more informed decisions as we refine our proposals.

A full assessment of the project's potential environmental effects, and how we propose to address them, will be included in the Environmental Statement in our Development Consent Order (DCO) application. This will include an assessment of cumulative effects with other developments.

Where impacts cannot be avoided, we will work to reduce them as much as possible. This could include creating and improving habitats for wildlife, planting trees and other landscaping, and carefully managing construction activities to minimise disruption.

Potential impacts in this area include:

Drainage and flood risk

The River Welland, River Glen and Vernatt's Drain, along with many smaller watercourses and ditches, play an important role in local drainage.

We are assessing how construction could affect drainage and flood risk so that suitable measures can be put in place.

Before work begins, specialist contractors would map existing drainage systems to ensure they continue to function both during and after construction.

We will continue to work closely with the Environment Agency and seek input from the Internal Drainage Board and Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) as the project design is refined.

Landscape and views

We understand that people value the open character of the local landscape and that the proposed overhead line may be visible from some homes, roads and public rights of way. This includes Cuckoo Lane, Herdgate Lane, Parson Drove and the Macmillan Way footpath.

Reducing potential visual impacts has been a key consideration throughout the design process. Where possible, we have positioned pylons and the overhead line away from homes.

We will continue refining the design to minimise its visibility and make use of existing landscape features where possible.

Ecology and biodiversity

We are continuing surveys to understand local wildlife and habitats, including rivers, streams, ditches, woodland and field boundaries.

We are looking at wildlife such as bats, birds, great crested newts, reptiles, otters, water voles, badgers, fish and insects.

This helps us understand what is present locally, how it could be affected, and what we may need to do to protect habitats and wildlife.

We will also deliver at least 10% Biodiversity Net Gain, leaving the environment in a better state than before construction.

Noise and vibration

Some nearby homes may experience temporary increases in noise during construction.

We are continuing to assess potential noise from construction activities and traffic as well as possible vibration. We are working with specialists to identify ways to reduce impacts.

We will carefully plan construction activities and keep communities informed while the work is carried out.

Agriculture and soils

Protecting farmland has been a priority throughout the design process, recognising the vital role it plays in supporting local farming businesses and communities.

Some agricultural land would be needed for the project, including small areas for pylon foundations, which are typically around 15 m x 15 m. Additional land would be required temporarily during construction for access routes and working areas.

We are assessing how this could affect soil quality, soil function, farm holdings and long-term farming use.

After construction, most land required for the new overhead line, including the areas underneath pylons, would be returned to landowners and its previous use.

Most farming activities will be able to continue beneath the overhead line, and compensation will be available where impacts cannot be avoided.

We will continue working closely with farmers and landowners to minimise disruption.

If you have seen a site notice, received a landowner questionnaire, or think you should have received one, please contact us.

Cultural heritage

There are several historic buildings and places in this area, including Newhall Grange in Northgate, St Laurence Church and medieval salt works in Surfleet and St Mary's Church in Pinchbeck.

We are assessing how the project could affect these important historic places and their surroundings.

We will continue working with heritage specialists, local councils and Historic England amongst others, to help reduce impacts and safeguard the area's historic character.

How to find out more

We encourage you to provide feedback after reviewing our consultation materials, including our Stage 2 Consultation Document, which explains our proposals in more detail.

Meet the team
Come along to one of our public information events where you can learn more about the proposals, meet the team and ask questions.

If you are unable to attend our events and would like further information, please contact our team using the details below.

Request or pick up printed materials
Many materials are available for free. Some technical documents may be subject to a printing charge.

We will also have printed consultation materials available at several community locations. Please find details of the information points in your area below.

Visit our website
All the consultation materials can be found on the project website. Scan the QR code to visit.

Public information events in your area

Location	Date and time	Address
Weston Village Hall	Thursday 1 October 2pm–7pm	Small Drove, Weston, PE12 6HU
Surfleet Village Hall	Thursday 15 October 10am–4.30pm	Station Road, Surfleet, Spalding, PE11 4DB

Local information points

Location	Opening times	Address
Pinchbeck Library and Hub	Monday: Closed Tuesday: 10am–1pm Wednesday: 10am–1pm, 2pm–4pm Thursday: 10am–1pm Friday–Sunday: Closed	48 Knight Street, Spalding, PE11 3RU
Spalding Library	Monday–Wednesday: 9am–5pm Thursday: 9am–6pm Friday: 9am–5pm Saturday: 9am–1pm Sunday: Closed	Victoria Street, Spalding, PE11 1EA

For the full list of our public information events and information points, please visit our website.

Get in touch

Phone: **0800 138 9191**
(Lines are open Monday to Friday, 9am–5:30pm)

Email: **ContactWMEL@nationalgrid.com**

Write to us at: **FREEPOST WM TO EL**
(No stamp or further address details are required)

You may notice some changes to the way our consultation materials look and are presented. These updates reflect changes introduced through the Government's Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025.

For more information, please visit our website or contact the project team.