Strategic Infrastructure

North London Reinforcement- Community Fund webinar

September 2026







nationalgrid

The Great Grid Upgrade

Agenda

01

Project overview

- What is the North London Reinforcement project?
- Project timeline

02

Community Fund

- Government guidance and our approach
- NLR Community Fund – Local & Strategic
- Local Funds eligibility
- Funding themes
- Survey and next steps


01
Project overview
nationalgrid

What is North London Reinforcement? Why is it needed?

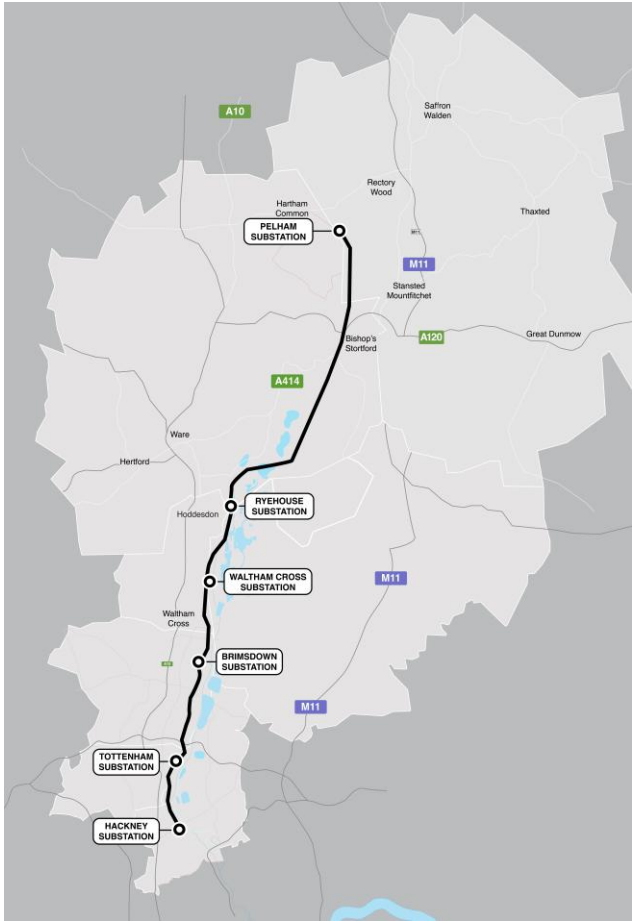
North London Reinforcement (NLR) will see the upgrading of two circuits of existing 275 kilovolt (kV) overhead lines to 400 kV between Pelham and Hackney Substations.

There will be associated works to support the upgrade at our existing substations at Stocking Pelham, Rye House, Waltham Cross, Brimsdown, Tottenham, and Hackney.

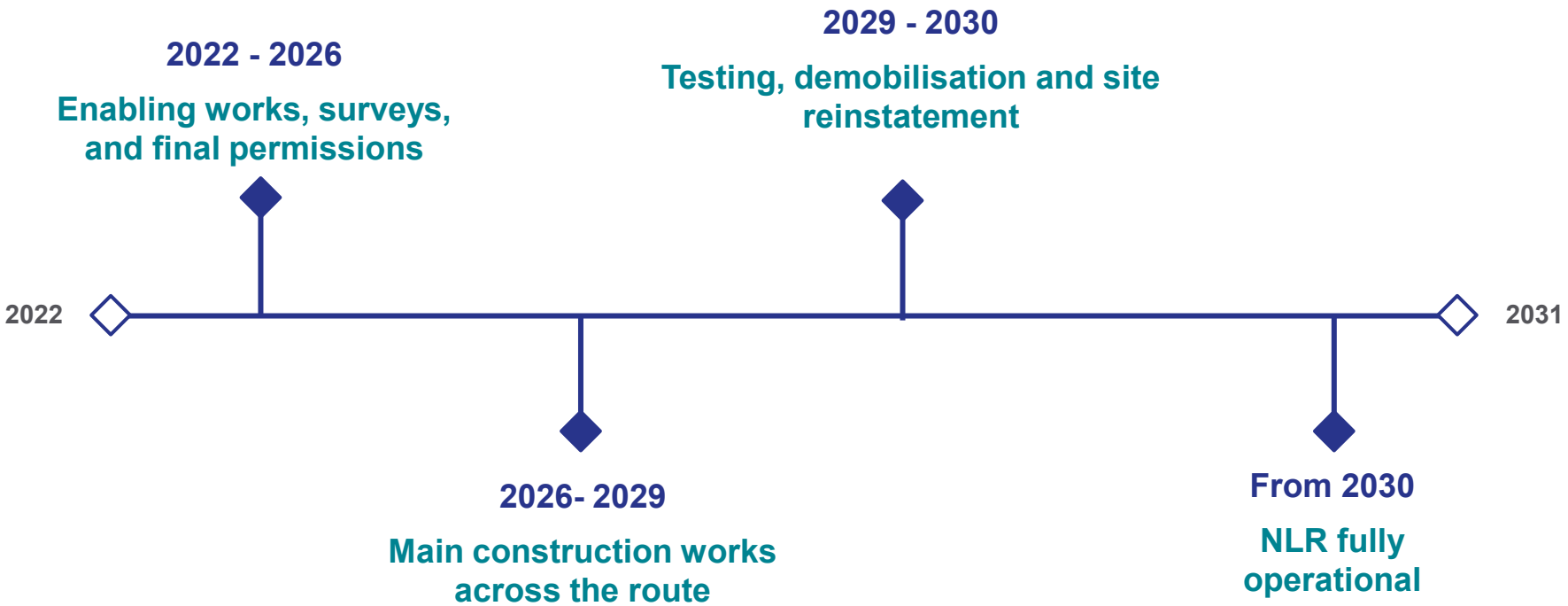
By modernising equipment that has been in place for over 60 years, NLR will create a stronger, more resilient network that can transport greater volumes of cleaner, more affordable energy.

The route

- NLR is part of The Great Grid Upgrade. It will:
  - Enhance electricity transmission capacity and address future energy demands.
  - Ensure London and the surrounding area is connected to new and future renewable energy.
  - Avoid current overhead lines being overloaded in the area, which would impact on the reliability of the network and cost of energy.



Project timeline




02
Community
Fund
nationalgrid

Investing in communities

National Grid has a long-standing commitment to the communities we work alongside. We want to ensure lasting benefits for the people and places that host new energy infrastructure.

Our work on the NLR project means we will deliver a Community Fund of around £3.5million.

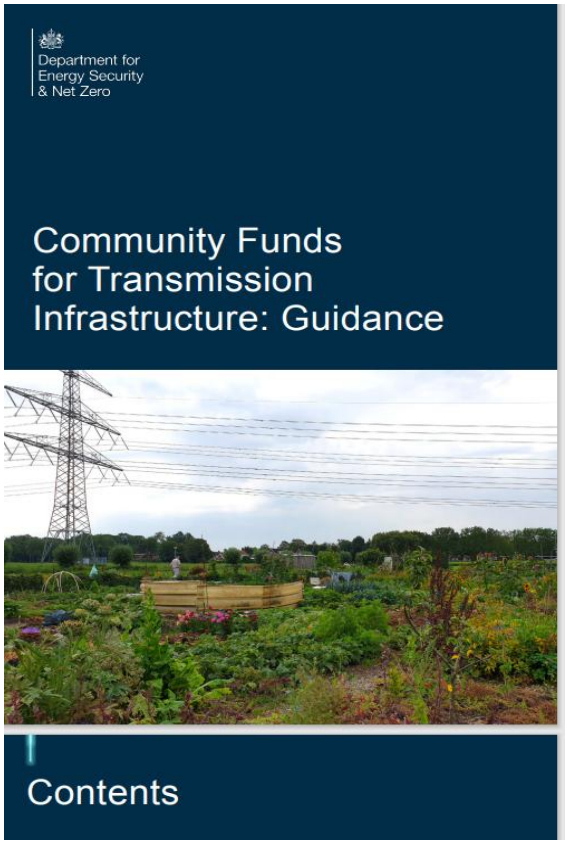
Shaped by the community, this fund is designed to reflect local needs and developed in line with government guidance.



Government guidance

Published in March 2025, the Government guidance sets out a clear framework and sets levels of investment depending on the type of infrastructure.

It means we will be able to work more closely with communities and stakeholders to deliver long lasting social, economic and environmental benefits.



Our approach to delivering Community Benefits

Community Funds: a regulatory funding allowance to deliver community benefits, **in line** with Government guidance

Local Fund	Strategic Fund
• **Local grant funds,** supporting communities closest to infrastructure • Tailored to the needs of the local community • Informed **by local engagement**	• **Strategic partnerships and programmes** supporting long-term regional priorities • Examples include **skills development, energy-efficiency or social mobility** • Informed by regional, expert stakeholders, in addition to community engagement.

In addition to the Community Fund, National Grid and its contractors deliver volunteering and school outreach activities to further support local communities.

What does this mean for the NLR project?

We expect to deliver a Community Fund across the whole NLR project

worth over:

£3.5 million

Two Local Funds will provide direct and immediate support for communities, including:

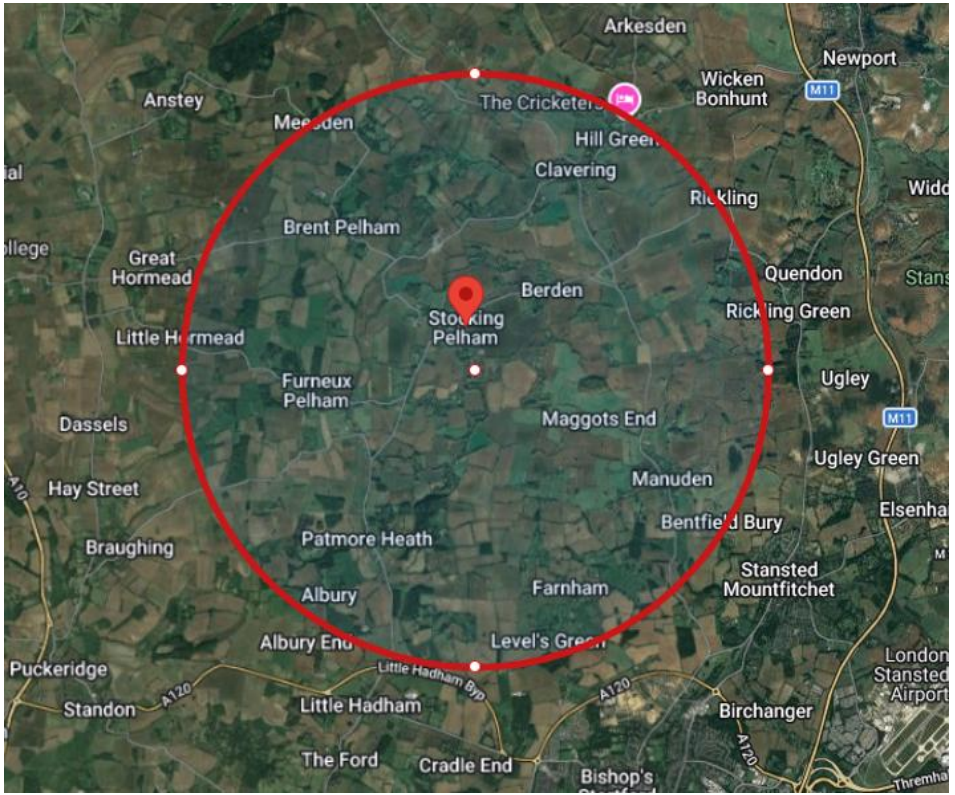
£530,000 near Stocking Pelham

£530,000 near Waltham Cross

The remaining £2.7 million will be delivered through a Strategic Fund, supporting the wider strategic priorities of an area or region

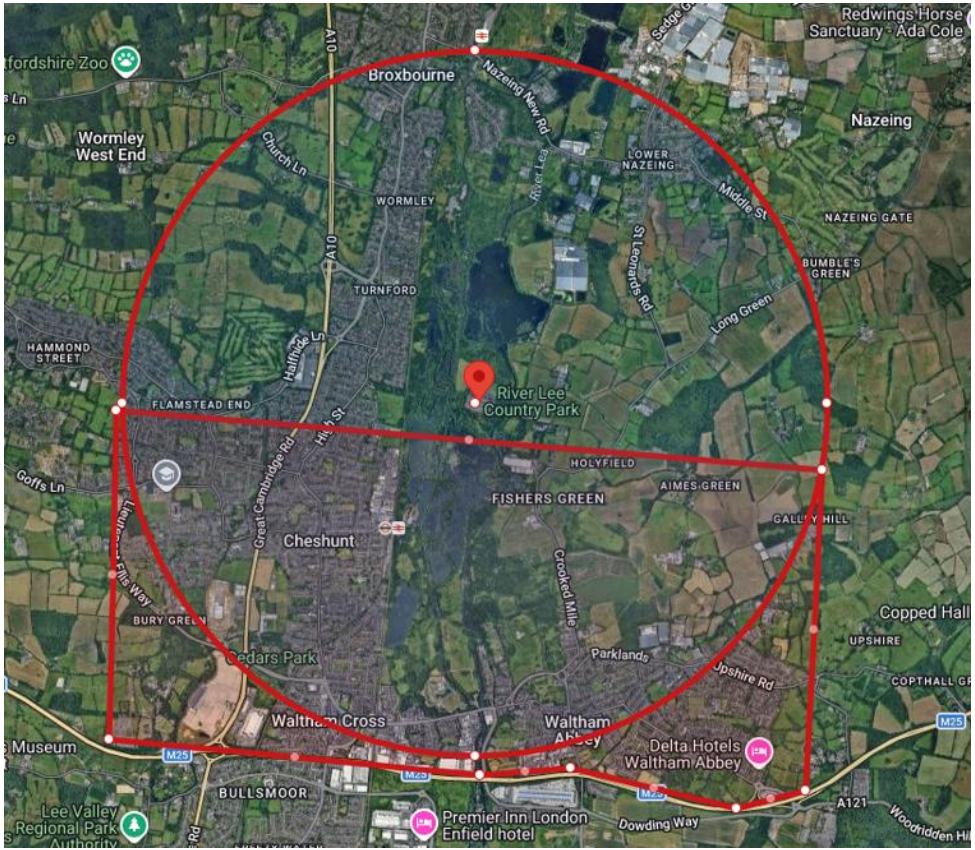
Local Fund: Stocking Pelham eligibility

An eligibility zone of 5km around Pelham substation has been proposed, reflecting the rural setting and the way residents travel and connect between villages



Local Fund: Waltham Cross eligibility

A more focused eligibility zone of approximately 3.5km around Waltham Cross substation has been proposed, reflecting the higher density of residents and community infrastructure in the area.



Defining eligibility for Local Funds

The Local Funds for Pelham and Waltham Cross will be targeted at community-focused organisations delivering work in the areas closest to NLR. This could include:

- registered charities
- registered non-profit companies limited by guarantee
- community benefit / mutual societies that do not operate for profit or habitual payment of dividends
- parish/town councils applying for support with non-statutory projects
- parent teacher associations or “friends of” organisations associated with schools
- other constituted non-profit organisations operating for wider community benefit.

Local funds in action

Eastern Green Link 1 Project

- Burnmoor Cricket Club was awarded with £19,500
- Installed solar panels on a community building with 32k annual footfall and 19 regularly-meeting groups.

“Savings of around £300 a month on energy bills mean more income can be reinvested into our building and the people who rely on it, helping to future-proof our community venue.”





Local funds in action

Yorkshire Green Project

- Wilberfoss, Kexby and Newton Playing Fields Association were awarded £8,000.
- Installed an outdoor gym for ages 12 and over to encourage exercise and use of the green space for 250 existing users and the broader local community.

“The grant has made a real difference, allowing us to invest in an outdoor gym that will expand our facilities and create new opportunities for people who may not typically take part in sport.”





Funding themes

Future detailed guidance will include information on funding themes that the Community Fund will seek to support. These themes could include:



Improve community spaces and save energy



Support physical health, mental wellbeing and social connection



Protect the environment and increase access to green spaces



Create opportunities for young people, education and skills



Help communities respond to cost of living pressures

Shaping the fund

The North London Reinforcement Community Fund survey is open from 1 September to 13 October 2026.

- Scan the QR code to share your priorities and suggest projects that could benefit your community.
- Feedback will be reviewed and used to inform the development of the Community Fund, and an update will follow later this year.

Survey link



Contact the community relations team

Email - northlondonreinforcement@nationalgrid.com

Phone - 0800 538 5398 (Mon – Fri, 9am - 5pm).

nationalgrid