The Great Grid Upgrade

Grimsby to Walpole

nationalgrid

Targeted consultation approach document

3 November to 8 December 2026



National Grid is committed to engaging communities and stakeholders, giving people the opportunity to provide feedback and insight that will help shape the design of Grimsby to Walpole.

Since our consultations in 2025, we have continued to refine our proposals. We've been considering your feedback and the findings from technical assessments, environmental surveys and ongoing discussions with stakeholders and landowners. As a result of this process, a number of changes have been made to our plans.

Adjusting proposals is a normal part of developing a project of this scale. Many of these changes are small and do not significantly alter the effects we have previously identified. Some changes may require additional or different land and could result in different environmental impacts, but they do not fundamentally change the nature of the scheme.

We understand the importance of local input in the design process and have reviewed where additional consultation would be appropriate to help inform the development of our proposals.

The Great Grid Upgrade

- carry more home-grown renewable energy
- strengthen Britain's energy security
- meet rising electricity demand



These upgrades will help support local economies, jobs and skills, while strengthening the infrastructure that communities and businesses rely on every day.

The Planning and Infrastructure Act

The Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 changed some of the procedural requirements for the pre-application stage for nationally significant infrastructure projects, such as Grimsby to Walpole. Developers no longer need to carry out certain prescribed consultation activities, focussing instead on proportionate engagement that helps improve project design.

We have applied these principles to this targeted consultation, focusing engagement on the proposed changes where further feedback could meaningfully inform the project, rather than consulting on every design refinement.



This document outlines our approach to consulting affected local communities where it is considered proportionate to do so.

The consultation journey

01
Jan-Mar 2024
Stage 1 Consultation
7,694 responses received on our early proposals

02
Jun-Aug 2025
Stage 2 Consultation
1,203 responses received on our updated, more detailed proposals

03
Nov-Dec 2025
Weston Marsh Targeted consultation
262 responses received on our detailed proposals for Weston Marsh

We are here
04
Nov-Dec 2026
Targeted consultation
We are now seeking feedback on specific changes to our proposals near Walpole

05
Summer 2027
Submission of DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate for Grimsby to Walpole

How have changes been identified as requiring further community consultation?

We have reviewed design changes to assess where further feedback could meaningfully inform the project, beyond the feedback already received across previous stages.

This involved consideration of changes to route alignment, infrastructure siting and land use, to consider if any meaningful change would result in:

- new or materially different impacts on local communities
- new or significantly different environmental impacts
- new or materially different cumulative impacts of design changes both on a scheme-wide and local level
- altered levels of stakeholder or community interest in the project.

Through this process, we have identified two changes where further community input would particularly benefit the ongoing design process.

These specific changes are:

New power connection
A proposed UK Power Networks (UKPN) power supply connection between the existing Walsoken substation and the proposed new Walpole B substation

New highways works
Proposed use of School Road and Salts Road for construction access and future maintenance associated with the proposed Walpole B substation







Our approach to consultation with communities

We are consulting on two proposed design changes so that people who may be affected can give us their feedback before we finalise our plans and submit our DCO application.

The consultation on these two specific changes will run from **12 noon on 3 November 2026 until 11:59pm on 8 December 2026.** All feedback received will be carefully considered as we develop our proposals.

Please read on for more information about the targeted consultation.

Consulting locally

The Primary Consultation Zone (PCZ) includes all residential properties, businesses and community organisations within 1 km of the two proposed changes where further community consultation was identified as proportionate. A copy of the PCZ can be found in **Appendix A**.

The Secondary Consultation Zone (SCZ) extends 5 km around the two proposed changes, within which wider publicity of the Project will take place. A copy of the SCZ can be found in **Appendix A**.

Timing of the targeted consultation

The consultation on these proposed changes will be open for 35 days. This duration will provide people with an appropriate amount of time to review the information presented and to respond to the consultation.



[1] National Grid's commitments when undertaking works in the UK: Our stakeholder, community and amenity policy (National Grid, December 2016) – Available at **http://www.nationalgrid.com/document/346741/download**

Targeted consultation activities

Consultation materials

To help people understand the proposed changes and how feedback can be provided, we have developed the following consultation materials:

- plans illustrating the proposed change
- Community newsletter
- Feedback form
- Targeted consultation approach document
- Environmental Implications of Change Report
- an online survey, seeking feedback on the two proposed changes.

The methods to make consultation documents available are set out in **Table 1**.

Table 1

Method	Approach to be undertaken
Project website	The documents library on the project website will be updated to include: • Plans of the identified changes • Community newsletter • Feedback form, including an online form • Targeted consultation approach document • Environmental Implications of Change Report • Interactive map.
Webinar	A short, pre-recorded webinar-style video will be published, covering each change undertaking community consultation. Questions will be directed to the community contact channels.
Document requests	Following the launch of the targeted consultation, consultees will be able to request paper copies of consultation documents. The documents that will be made available on request, free of charge, will be: • plans illustrating the proposed change • community newsletter • feedback form • targeted consultation approach document • environmental implications of change report. Requests can be made by contacting the Community Relations Team, who will also consider requests for alternative formats of documents, such as braille, speaking text and alternative languages, on a case-by-case basis.

Promoting the consultation

All residential properties, businesses and community organisations within the Primary Consultation Zone (PCZ) will be notified of the start of the consultation in a variety of ways, including through a community newsletter.

A map showing the PCZ (approximately 4,000 addresses) can be found in **Appendix A**.

A range of other methods will be used to promote the consultation to local communities, set out in **Table 2**.

Table 2

Method	Approach to be undertaken
Newsletter	Direct newsletter mailing issued to all properties within 1 km of the proposed changes identified as requiring further community consultation.
Emails and letters	We will send, via email and by post, letters about the consultation and how to get involved, to the following: • Relevant consultees, including local authorities, Parish Councils, Persons with an Interest in Land and any other statutory or technical body identified as relevant to the location or type of change being consulted on • Non-prescribed consultees, including but not limited to, elected councillors within the PCZ, community organisations, underrepresented groups and others.
Press release	A press release publicising the consultation and how the community can get involved will be issued ahead of the consultation. The distribution list will include press outlets with a readership relevant to the proposed changes identified as requiring further community consultation. The distribution list is likely to include the following media: • Wisbech Standard • Lynn News • Local BBC news outlets • Local radio stations.
Information posters	We will produce posters that include details of the proposed changes identified as requiring further community consultation, the consultation, how to access Project information, and how to get involved. These will be available online and a digital copy shared with stakeholders, including parish councils, to help them raise awareness of the consultation.
Social media	National Grid will publicise the consultation via social media to an audience within 5 km of each change being publicly consulted on. This may include National Grid UK's X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook accounts, @NationalGridUK.

Targeted consultation activities

Stakeholder briefings and meetings

We will offer briefings and/or meetings with the following stakeholders in the run-up to, or during the consultation:

- MPs, where all or part of their constituencies lie within the PCZ of a change identified as requiring further community consultation
- elected representatives of district and county councils within the PCZ of a change identified as requiring further community consultation
- landowners
- parish councils, where all or part of the parish falls within the boundary of a change identified as requiring further community consultation, and neighbouring parish councils.
- local authorities, including neighbouring authorities
- key technical bodies, such as Natural England.

Underrepresented and local interest groups

We want to ensure that all our engagement and consultation is inclusive, and we want to reach those who otherwise may not engage with us.

Identified underrepresented and local interest groups within the vicinity of the two changes will be contacted by letter at the launch of the consultation.

They will be advised of alternative formats of consultation materials, where appropriate.

Where applicable, we will seek to engage and encourage feedback from:

- Older people
- People with visual impairments
- People with limited mobility / disability
- Youth groups
- Carers and families with young children
- Economically inactive individuals
- Geographically isolated individuals or communities
- Locally underrepresented minority groups, such as Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities
- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Travellers
- Digitally isolated people.

Methods of responding to the consultation

People will be able to provide feedback on the proposed changes in the following ways:

- Completing the feedback form online via the Project website **nationalgrid.com/g-w**.
- Providing feedback by email at **contact@g-w.nationalgrid.com**.
- Completing a paper feedback form available in the mail by request or by downloading and printing a copy from our website. Paper feedback forms can be returned free of charge using the Freepost address **FREEPOST G TO W** (no stamp required).

Comments received via any other method than those listed above may not be formally recorded as part of the consultation.

Comments given orally, such as via telephone on **0808 258 4395** will only be considered in exceptional circumstances on a case-by-case basis where someone may not otherwise be able to respond to the consultation.

All responses must be submitted by **11:59pm on Tuesday 8 December 2026**. Feedback submissions sent via post will be accepted for up to five working days after this date

All feedback will be handled in accordance with all applicable laws concerning the protection of personal data, including the UK General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

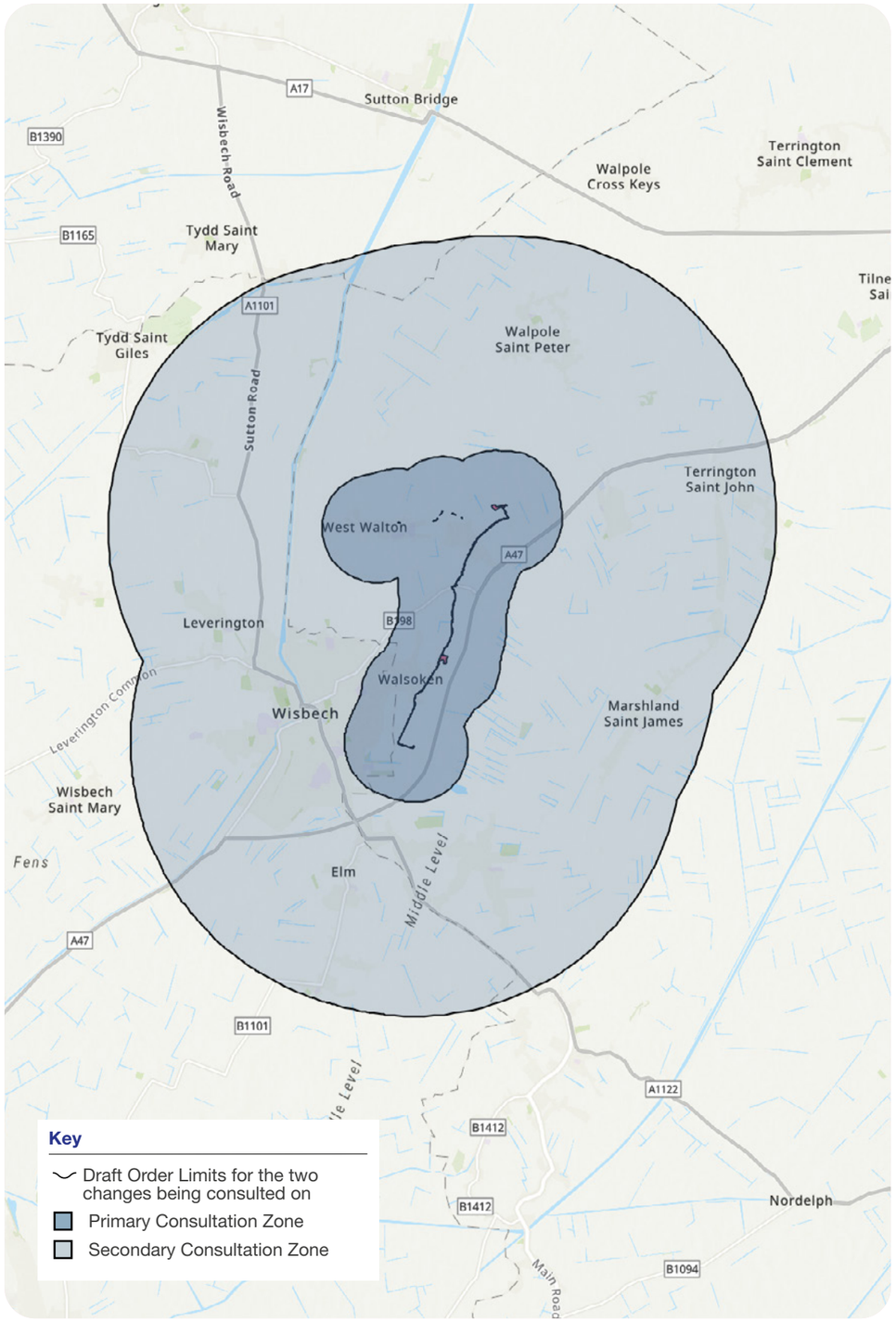
Responses may be made public within the Engagement Summary Report submitted as part of our DCO application.

More information on how National Grid will use the information collected about respondents will be made available in the consultation feedback form and on the Project's website during the consultation period.



Appendices

Appendix A





National Grid plc
National Grid House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
Warwick CV34 6DA
United Kingdom

nationalgrid.com