



Councils set out concerns as public consultation opens for Norwich to Tilbury proposals

National Grid has opened its consultation to anyone wishing to comment on its Norwich to Tilbury proposal, previously known as East Anglia Green. This is an eight-week non-statutory consultation period which closes on 21 August 2023.

The project will see a new 400kV electricity transmission line built between Norwich and Tilbury, running a distance of 111 miles. It will be made up mostly of overhead lines and pylons, along with some underground cables and a new substation.

The new consultation reveals the route for the pylons, passing through Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. It shows the line will run underground through the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty on the Essex-Suffolk border.

The consultation is open to residents, landowners, businesses and any individuals or groups that may be interested in commenting on the revised proposals. Consultees can participate online or via face-to-face events.

Essex County Council, Norfolk County Council and Suffolk County Council are also being consulted on the proposals as statutory consultees. All three councils have already raised concerns to the initial consultation undertaken last year.

You can read more about the Norwich to Tilbury project and view a calendar of consultation events on the <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury>

You can also comment on the proposals by:

- completing National Grid's <https://norwich-tilbury.participatr.io>
- sending a completed paper feedback form to Freepost N TO T (no stamp or further address needed)
- completing a paper feedback form at one of <https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/norwich-to-tilbury/public-consultation>
- emailing your comments to contact@n-t.nationalgrid.com



Norfolk and Suffolk councils given authority and funding to help nature's recovery

Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils have been formally appointed by Government as responsible authorities for preparing a Local Nature Recovery Strategy for their respective counties.

This means that they will be working together to help improve wildlife habitats and reverse the decline of biodiversity across the region, working with local communities to develop a tailored nature recovery strategy for their areas.

They will also work with other local planning authorities, the Broads Authority, Natural England, and a wide range of stakeholders and partners, including farming and landowner groups.

This is all part of Government's ambition to further drive nature recovery, with 48 individual local authorities across the country receiving allocations from a £14 million funding pot. Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils will receive £333,000 and £282,000 respectively over two years to fund this work. With the best ways to support nature recovery depending on local character and geography, Local Nature Recovery Strategies will help communities map out the action needed in their area to restore nature.

The Norfolk and Suffolk councils have already been working closely with each other, jointly hosting the Norfolk and Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership, and a host of other stakeholders and interested parties to prepare for this moment. The two authorities have pooled resources and expertise and to ensure that strategies effectively join up across the two counties to the wider benefit of nature and people.

The Strategies will focus on how to improve habitats and protect the natural environment across the region, with local approaches tailored to the specific circumstances of each area. Norfolk and Suffolk are home to a variety of beautiful and unique landscapes, from the chalk streams of the Norfolk Coast to the Stour estuary at the southeast of Suffolk and across many habitats in between, and specific policies will be drawn up to best protect and nurture each location.



Waste transfer station fire sparks fresh warning over disposing of safe battery disposal

People are being reminded of the importance of disposing of waste batteries properly following a fire at a Suffolk waste transfer station.

Operations were briefly disrupted at Haverhill waste transfer station in Homefield Road after fire broke out amongst 50 tonnes of rubbish on June 16.

Waste batteries should be disposed of properly and never thrown away with household rubbish.

The waste transfer station takes refuse material collected locally and bulks it for onward reprocessing.

The precise cause of the fire has not been determined but FCC Environment, which manages the 11 recycling centres and four transfer stations around the county on behalf of Suffolk County Council, said that when a fire starts in piles of waste it is usually caused by a battery that has managed to spark.

This can happen if there is friction, such as when a waste pile is moved or crushed.

In June 2022 a fire at the Materials Recycling Facility in Great Blakenham, which recycles waste from across Suffolk, is suspected to have been started by a battery dumped with household recycling.

Lithium batteries are a particular problem but standard household batteries are also culprits, as well as vapes and small electricals plus items that do not look like they have a battery such as Christmas jumpers and light toys.

All batteries should be disposed of either at recycling centres or in collection points at most large stores where they are sold.



Happy Birthday Cassius – The digital care partnership

We celebrated the two-year anniversary of Cassius, Suffolk's digital care partnership between Suffolk County Council, technology company Alcove and change management consultants Rethink Partners, and the results so far have been fantastic.

Cassius offers modern, cutting-edge care technology which blends in with mainstream technology and can be used to complement face-to-face care. Since launching in 2021 we have had over 3,800 referrals, provided over 7,600 pieces of digital care technology and things just keep growing with over 100 referrals each week over the last month alone. Aside from the £12.9m of savings made so far, by helping people stay independent for longer in their own homes and avoiding more expensive care options, what we are really seeing is that people, their families, friends, and carers are now at the heart of their own care. They can do more for themselves, and continue to live good, fulfilling lives within their own communities across Suffolk.

What is most impressive about Cassius, is that it's not just about the technology, it goes the extra mile to provide the information and intelligence necessary to ensure people get the right care. It also offers an end-to-end service, talking people through their needs, providing ongoing guidance, advice, and support, as well as installation of the necessary technology.

Cassius was also awarded three prestigious awards earlier this year, At the Health Tech Digital Awards 2023, it was named Best Innovation Project of the Year; it was awarded Best New Assistive Technology Solution of the Year at the Assistive Technology Awards 2023, while Cassius+, a new pilot project in the west of Suffolk, won Best Innovation Project of the Year at the same awards.

Congratulations to the whole team for working so hard and truly revolutionising, and leading, the digital care offer in Suffolk - Happy Birthday!