

National Grid volunteers take time out to help out in Deal and Canterbury

A group of National Grid volunteers took a break from work to help two local charities in Deal and Canterbury.

03 Aug 2018

- **Team of National Grid volunteers spent the day working in local community in Deal and Canterbury**
- **Work was carried out to support local charities Martha Trust and The FAR Academy Trust**
- **Activities included gardening, painting and general maintenance**

A team of dedicated National Grid volunteers took time out from working on the Richborough Connection project to assist with painting and gardening in Kent.

Over twenty members of National Grid's Richborough Connection project team spent the day in Deal and Canterbury working with The Martha Trust and The FAR Academy Trust to support their work in the community.

National Grid volunteers worked on a variety of tasks including painting the existing laundry room and the downstairs of the lobby entrance at Martha's Trust. They also helped with clearing weeds, painting and gardening at the FAR Academy.

A spokesperson for Martha Trust, (a registered charity providing inclusive, lifelong care for people with profound physical and learning disabilities in Kent and East Sussex) said: "We were delighted to welcome National Grid to Martha Trust, where volunteers got stuck into painting a number of our rooms. Their support is invaluable and will help with our ongoing work to provide residential, respite and day care for people with profound physical and learning disabilities."

A spokesperson for The FAR Academy Trust (UK's first and only alternative education provider, helping young people gain essential educational experience through designing and building skateboards) said: "We were very pleased to have volunteers from National Grid's Richborough Connection team lend a hand with

gardening and maintenance work on our Skate Park. Their hard work will prove to be invaluable in supporting our goal to provide an alternative teaching style for young people who have become disengaged with traditional classroom-based education."

Steve Okoye, Engineer on National Grid's Richborough Connection project team said: "It was great to be able to leave the day job and give our time to Martha Trust and The FAR Academy. We like to leave a positive legacy in areas where we need to carry out our essential works and it means a lot that we can give something back to the local community."

National Grid is nearly halfway through building the 60 new pylons for the Richborough Connection project, a new 400kV overhead line between Richborough and Canterbury which will allow electricity to flow between the UK and Europe. The new 20km line will connect Nemo Link®, an electricity link between Herdersbrug near Bruges in Belgium and Richborough, near Sandwich into the high voltage electricity network. The interconnector will play a vital role in the UK's energy mix.

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Notes for editors

Notes to Editors:

National Grid is pivotal to the energy systems in the UK and the north eastern United States. We aim to serve customers well and efficiently, supporting the communities in which we operate and making possible the energy systems of the future.

National Grid in the UK:

- We own and operate the electricity transmission network in England and Wales, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. We also operate, but do not own, the Scottish networks. Our networks comprise approximately 7,200 kilometres (4,474 miles) of overhead line, 1,500 kilometres (932 miles) of underground cable and 342 substations.
- We own and operate the gas National Transmission System in Great Britain, with day-to-day responsibility for balancing supply and demand. Our network comprises approximately 7,660 kilometres (4,760 miles) of high-pressure pipe and 618 above-ground installations.
- As Great Britain's System Operator (SO) we make sure gas and electricity is transported safely and efficiently from where it is produced to where it is consumed. From April 2019, Electricity System Operator (ESO) is a new standalone business within National Grid, legally separate from all other parts of the National Grid Group. This will provide the right environment to deliver a balanced and impartial ESO that can realise real benefits for consumers as we transition to a more decentralised, decarbonised electricity system.
- Other UK activities mainly relate to businesses operating in competitive markets outside of our core regulated businesses; including interconnectors, gas metering activities and a liquefied natural gas (LNG) importation terminal – all of which are now part of National Grid Ventures. National Grid Property is responsible for the management, clean-up and disposal of surplus sites in the UK. Most of these are former gas works.

Find out more about the energy challenge and how National Grid is helping find solutions to some of the challenges we face at <https://www.nationalgrid.com/group/news>

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