

The Great Grid Upgrade

Sea Link

Archaeology survey update

nationalgrid

National Grid will shortly be undertaking archaeology surveys in Suffolk and Kent, due to start in the week commencing 8 July 2024.

Summary of works

To inform the development of our plans for Sea Link, there are a number of archaeological surveys that need to take place in Suffolk and Kent.

As part of our preliminary work to inform the Environmental Statement, geophysical surveys have been conducted in the proposed project area in Suffolk and Kent to understand what is buried below ground. The next step is to gain more information from specific areas, and we will be undertaking further surveys over the coming weeks.

Survey dates and working hours

Surveys will begin from the week commencing **8 July 2024**. Our working hours will be **Monday to Friday, 8am - 4:30pm**. At this stage we do not know how long the works will take, as the length of surveying is dependent on the quantity and significance of any archaeological finds. We will keep local communities updated on progress via the surveys page of our project website.

Survey locations and methods

Surveys will be taking place within the onshore project area in Suffolk and Kent. The work will involve using a digger to remove the topsoil, usually around 30-60 centimetres deep, in trenches between 30 and 50 metres long.

Once the machines have removed the topsoil, expert archaeologists working for us will photograph and take note of any archaeological features in the trench.

If we find anything of significance, we will work with the county archaeologist to ensure that archaeological features have been suitably investigated and recorded. Upon completion, the trench will then be backfilled using soil that was originally excavated.

Most of the trenches are located on private land. Where Public Rights of Way pass close to our worksites, we will conduct a risk assessment and additional safety measures, such as fencing and signage.

In addition to trenches, we will need a small number of temporary works areas to be used for staff welfare and machinery storage for the duration of this work.

Contact us

Throughout these works we will aim to keep disruption to a minimum. If you have any further questions or queries about our upcoming surveys, you can contact our Community Engagement team in the following ways:

Email us – Send an email to contact@sealink.nationalgrid.com

Call us – You can contact the team on 0808 134 9569 (Mon - Fri, 9am-5:30pm)

Write to us - Letters can be posted free of charge to Freepost SEA LINK (no further postage required)

To find out more about Sea Link, please visit our project website at nationagrid.com/sealink.