

Hornsea 4

Welcome to your local information event

Please come in and view our updated proposals for Hornsea Four offshore wind farm.

Our project team look forward to meeting you and are on hand to answer any questions.



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How to respond to this consultation

Today's consultation is your opportunity to have your say and we do hope that you will submit feedback and comments to us.

We are inviting comments on our updated proposals until **Monday 23 September 2019**.

You can provide your feedback in the following ways:



View our proposals today and online, and comment using our digital engagement tool: **hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is**



Fill in one of our feedback forms today or online: **hornsea4feedback.commonplace.is**



By email: **contact@hornseaprojectfour.co.uk**



By post: **Freepost: Hornsea Four**

Please note that your feedback, including any comments submitted online, may be made public.

Next Steps

After this consultation closes, we will review all the feedback we have received. Your comments will be considered and incorporated where possible into the final design, which we intend to submit to the Planning Inspectorate in 2020.

A Consultation Report will be produced and submitted as part of our application. This report will provide a summary of the responses received and will explain how we have taken your feedback into account in developing our final proposal.

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Project timeline



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Protecting local heritage and minimising visual impact

East Riding of Yorkshire has a rich historical and archaeological heritage and landscape.

We have carried out detailed surveys to assess the potential impacts of Hornsea Four on all sensitive and protected natural and historical landscape and structures.

Observational studies have been undertaken from roads, historic buildings and Public Rights of Way to inform our appraisal of potential landscape and visual effects.

To minimise the visual impact of our work and to avoid or reduce impacts on local heritage and landscape, we have brought forward commitments to:



Bury the onshore export cables underground **(Co25)**.



Replace any hedgerow or trees which need to be removed for construction and reinstate land as far as practical **(Co26, Co10)**.



Avoid listed buildings, scheduled monuments, conservation areas and ancient woodland **(Co2)**.



Avoid sensitive landscape and visual features including woodlands, wetlands and natural vegetation **(Co2)**.



Employ mitigation measures to minimise the visual impact of the onshore substation on the landscape **(Co30)**.



Avoid obstructing views of Beverley Minster from St Mary's Church Cottingham and the A1079 **(Co145)**.

A design vision document has been produced to highlight how landscaping and visual mitigation will help to blend the substation into the landscape.

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Onshore ecology and nature conservation

Surveys for habitats of badgers, birds, bats, water voles, otters and great crested newts are currently being undertaken to develop an understanding of ecology in the area. These will continue until October 2019.

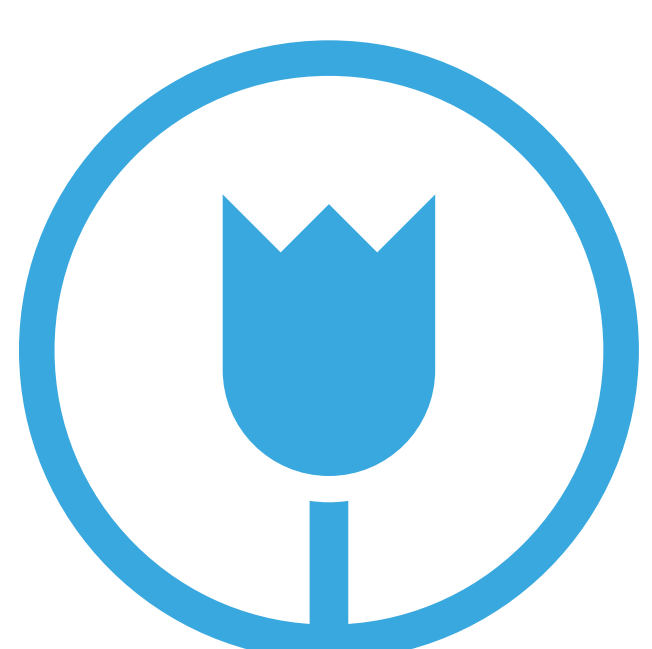
Once completed, potential impacts of Hornsea Four on local ecology and the requirement for mitigation and enhancement will be fully assessed this will be reported within the final Environmental Statement, which will accompany our Development Consent Order application.

In addition to undertaking in depth surveys, we have made a number of commitments to reduce the potential impacts of Hornsea Four on local ecology.

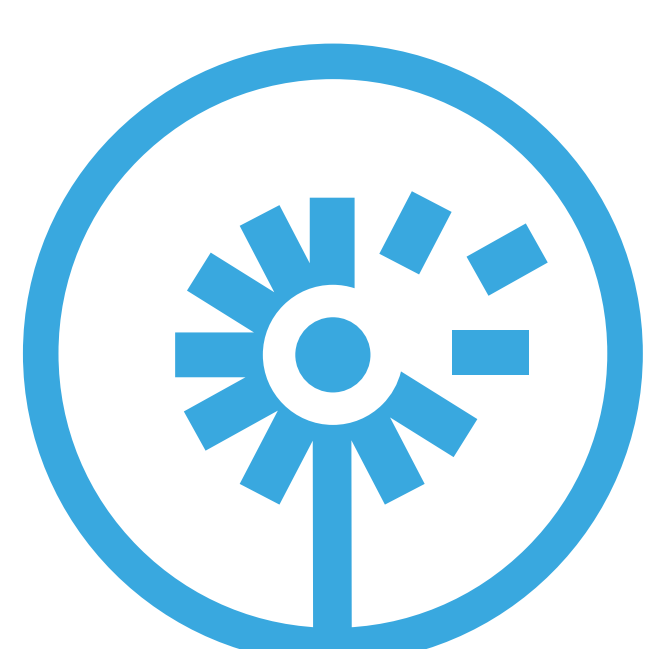
A selection of these are listed below:



Avoiding registered parks, gardens and 19 conservation area sites by the permanent project footprint **(Co2)**.



Retaining hedgerows and vegetation where possible, or replacing with locally appropriate native species if required **(Co26)**.



Undertaking habitat manipulation outside of bird breeding seasons, where possible, via a suitably qualified ecologist **(Co33)**.



Developing an Outline Ecological Management Plan, which sets out plans to ensure protection of habitats and specific species along with long-term mitigation **(Co168)**.



Water Vole

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Traffic and transport

Construction of Hornsea Four could take place as early as 2023.

An assessment of potential impacts associated with an increase in construction traffic has been undertaken in close consultation with the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to ensure that all road users are considered.

Our assessment work has been informed by site visits, a desk study and collection of existing traffic flow and collision data.

During the height of construction there may be up to 1,097 vehicle movements per day. Onshore construction is expected to last for approximately 36 months with peaks and troughs of activity throughout.

A range of mitigation measures have been committed to by Hornsea Four to manage the impact of construction traffic.

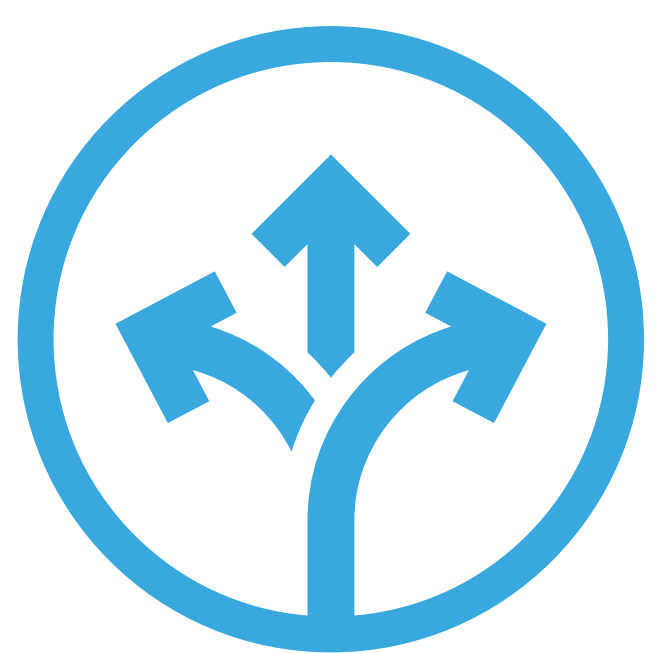
We propose to:



Cross all main roads and railways by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or other trenchless technology to minimise impacts on road users **(Co1)**.



Propose mitigation measures such as road improvement and travel planning where significant traffic impacts could be experienced **(Co144)**.



Create a Construction Traffic Management Plan which will manage and detail traffic movements during the construction phase **(Co144)**.



Keep core working hours for onshore construction of Hornsea Four to 7am – 6pm Monday-Friday and 7am – 1pm on Saturdays **(Co36)**.



Create a new access from the A1079 to route construction traffic away from Cottingham and Dunswell **(Co150)**.



Avoid HGV construction traffic through Foston on the Wolds **(Co171)**.

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Hydrology and Flood Risk

Consultation with the community has highlighted that flood risk is an important issue for the people of East Riding of Yorkshire.

We have continued our assessments and surveys to estimate the potential impact that Hornsea Four will have on hydrology and flood risk during the lifetime of the project.

Our flood risk assessment concludes that the landfall and the majority of the onshore cable corridor and onshore substation is at low risk of flooding.

To limit flood risk in locations where flood risk may be higher, so far we have made commitments to:



Cross main rivers and Internal Drainage Board maintained drains by Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or other trenchless technology where technically feasible, to limit flood risk **(Co1)**.



Select a landfall site that avoids the Barmston Main Drain **(Co143)**.



Reinstate working areas to their pre-existing condition post-construction wherever possible to ensure no increased flood risk **(Co157)**.



Bury cables a minimum of 1.2 metres below the bed of watercourses **(Co18)**.

Both a construction drainage scheme and operational drainage strategy will be developed in consultation with landowners, the Lead Local Flood Authority, the Environment Agency and the Internal Drainage Board, as necessary.

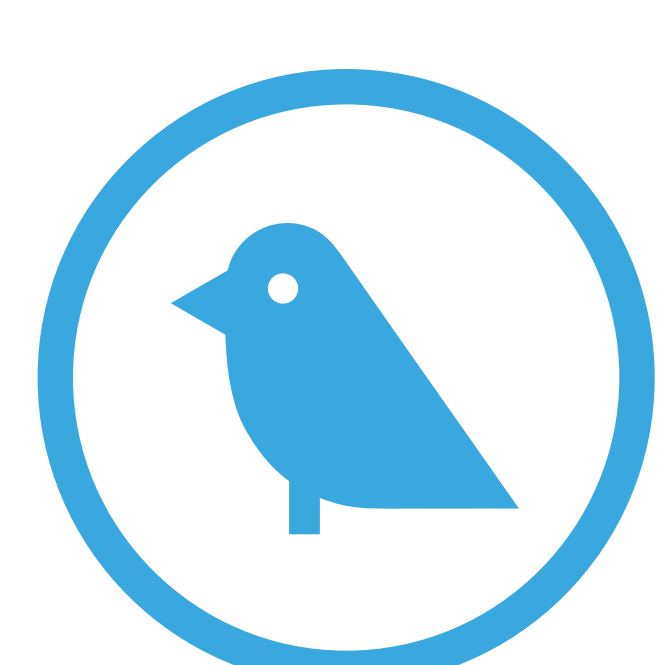
Once operational, there will be no flood risk to the onshore cables from surface water or groundwater flooding.

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Offshore Development: Environmental Considerations

Our site-specific surveys, conducted over a two-year period, highlighted the highest density of seabird species, including kittiwakes, gannets and guillemots, in the southern part of the offshore developable area.

To minimise the risk to these species, we have made commitments to:



Remove the southern portion of our offshore developable area to avoid areas with the highest concentrations of birds **(Co87)**.



Ensure that the offshore export cable corridor and landfall avoids special areas of conservation (SACs) and protected areas (SPAs) such as Flamborough Head and Filey Coast **(Co86)**.

We have also undertaken site specific surveys to assess the potential impact of underwater noise, increased vessel activity and disturbance and reduction of prey on marine mammals such as the harbour porpoise, minke whale, white-beaked dolphin, harbour seal and grey seal.

Although no significant impacts have been identified, to minimise any potential impacts on these species we have made commitments to implement:



A vessel management plan **(Co108)**.



A piling marine mammal mitigation protocol **(Co110)**.



A marine pollution contingency plan **(Co111)**.