

	Document reference	July 2025 CLG
	Revision	
	Function	CLG

Meeting	Netherton Hub Community Liaison Group
Date	8 July 2026

Attendees:

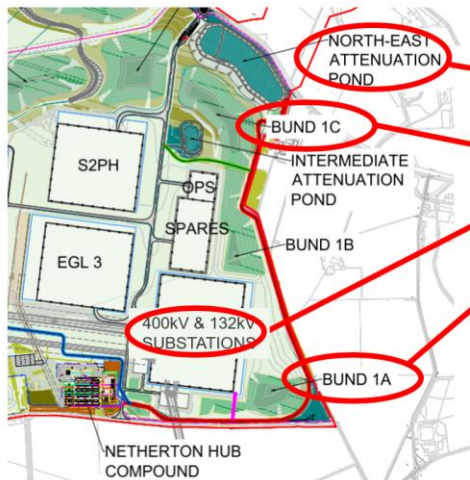
Attendees	Position
G Doig (GD)	SSEN Transmission Community Liaison Manager
J Irvine (JI)	SSEN Transmission Deputy Project Director
B Mackay (BM)	Balfour Beatty Community Liaison Officer
K Lawrence (KL)	Balfour Beatty Senior Project Manager
J Nicholas (JN)	Balfour Beatty Project Manager
C Paul (CP)	Balfour Beatty Project Manager
HM	Longside Community Council
SS	Resident
GB	Resident
JG	Resident
SR	Resident
JC	Resident
IS	Resident
Apologies	Position
No apologies	

Minutes

1.0	Introductions, apologies and agenda
1.1	Introductions, agenda and safety briefing were shared. There were no apologies.
2.0	Approval of previous minutes and matters arising
2.1	n/a
3.0	Open actions
3.1	n/a
4.0	About the CLG
4.1	GD introduced the aims of the community liaison group (CLG) which are to keep the community updated during the construction phase about construction progress and upcoming works, and to provide a forum to address concerns and consider feedback and the opinions of the local community. This helps to ensure that SSEN Transmission can respond quickly to issues, discuss solutions, share local knowledge and collaborate on community initiatives. The formation of a CLG is a voluntary action undertaken by SSEN Transmission and has been established now that the project is in construction. It will have a construction focus, and representation from SSEN Transmission and its contractors may change over time as the project develops. It was noted that Terms of Reference for the CLG were distributed to and agreed by all members ahead of the meeting.
4.2	Resident questions:

	Can Cllr Beagrie attend future meetings to represent Toddlehills residents' interests. GD confirmed that SSEN Transmission's local government team was already in communication with the council's coordinator to determine representation by a Ward Councillor. On the membership of the CLG, GD explained that the CLG is just one method that SSEN Transmission uses to engage with the local community, and that there are several methods available to all members of the community to ask questions and stay informed about the project, such as via the mailbox, attending community information events, and by signing up for project updates via the project webpage. GD reassured the CLG members that they could also contact her outwith the CLG forum and did not need to wait until the CLG meetings to raise questions or concerns.
5.0	Project overview and programme update
5.1	JI and JN provided an overview of the project and progress to date, including indicative forecast dates. Dates are subject to changes in scheduling and unforeseen events.
5.2	Netherton Hub Overview The diagram is a detailed site plan of the Netherton Hub. It shows several ponds: North-West Attenuation Pond, West Attenuation Pond, North-East Attenuation Pond, and an Intermediate Attenuation Pond. There are five bunds labeled BUND 1A, BUND 1B, BUND 1C, BUND 2, and BUND 3. Other features include a New Watercourse, EGL 3, EGL 5, S2PH, OPS, SPARES, and 400kV & 132kV SUBSTATIONS. The Netherton Hub Compound is also indicated. A red line outlines the main site boundary. A small box in the bottom left corner contains the text 'HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION'. 6 Document title  Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION
5.3	Progress to date – Works in North Earthworks (North) • Bund 3: activity will follow completion of ponds and realignment of existing watercourse • Bund 2: 105,000m³ placed to date – 30% of total • Spittal – Peterhead Platform: 84,000m³ cut to date – 25% of total Civils (North) • Temporary Access being formed into <u>North East</u>, for drainage outfall • Spine road (within site) to commence, from A950 junction into site from mid-July. This diagram is a site plan of the Netherton Hub, similar to the one in slide 5.2, but with specific areas highlighted in red circles. The highlighted areas are BUND 3, BUND 2, and S2PH. Red lines also point from the text in the 'Earthworks (North)' section to these highlighted areas. The diagram also shows parts of the North-East Attenuation Pond, Bund 1C, and the Intermediate Attenuation Pond. 7 Document title  Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION

Progress to date – Other areas



Earthworks (Other)

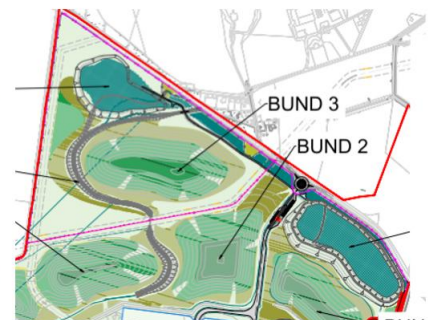
- North East Attenuation Basin: 130k m3 cut to date, 99k m3 remaining
- Bund 1c: 166k m3 placed to date, >200k m3 remaining
- Substations: 187k m3 cut to date – 55% of phase 1 completion (60% of total platform)
- Bund 1a: 172k m3 placed to date, 65k m3 remaining to place

Enabling Works

- Earthworks for main compound progressing in South of site, first cabins due onto site in July.

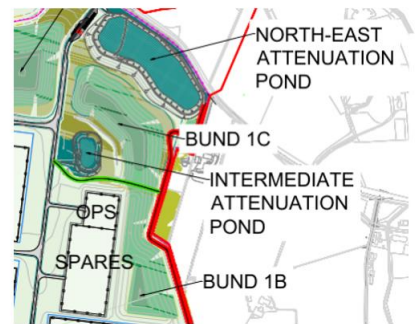
Programme – Earthworks North

- Bund 3
 - Works commenced June 2026
 - Material will continue to be placed until October 2027
 - Topsoiling and Seeding during Autumn 2027
- Bund 2
 - Commenced June 2026
 - Material will continue to be placed until January 2027
 - Topsoiling and seeding during Spring 2027



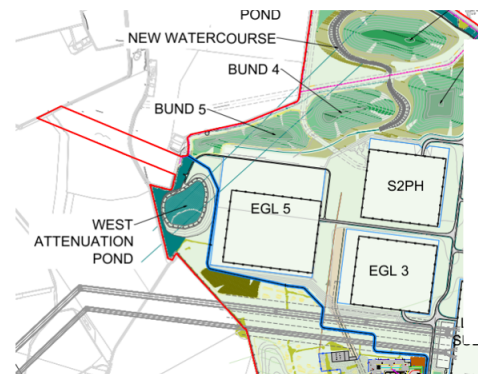
Programme – East

- North East Attenuation Pond & Outfall
 - Earthworks ongoing, to complete by end of 2026
 - Civils works to pond January 2027 – Spring 2027
 - Outfall to be installed this year
- Bund 1b
 - Commence earthworks in August 2026
 - Topsoiling and seeding during Spring 2027
- Ops and Spares Platform
 - Commence earthworks in Spring 2027, to complete by Summer 2027
 - Handover in Summer 2027



Programme – West

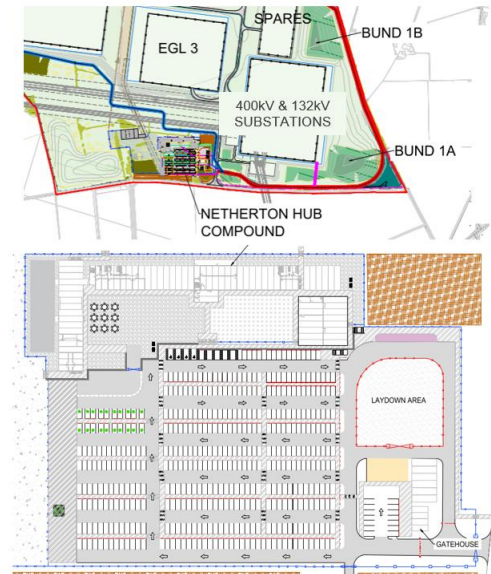
- Bund 5 & West Attenuation Pond
 - Bund fill commenced June 2026, through to Spring 2027
 - Material cut from West Attenuation Pond initially, then from EGL5 in late 2026
 - Topsoiling and Seeding during Spring 2027
- EGL5
 - Commence Earthworks in August 2026
 - Main Earthworks expected to complete in Summer 2027
 - Handover to next project (above ground installations) in late 2027



5.8

Programme – South

- 400kV/132kV Substation platform
 - Commenced in June 2026, 60% earthworks to complete by October 2026
 - Remaining 40% to complete by February 2027
 - Substation Contractor will mobilise from October 2026 as part of staged handover
- Hub Main Compound
 - Commenced Earthworks in June 2026
 - First Cabins in July 2026
 - Fully Operational from December 2026

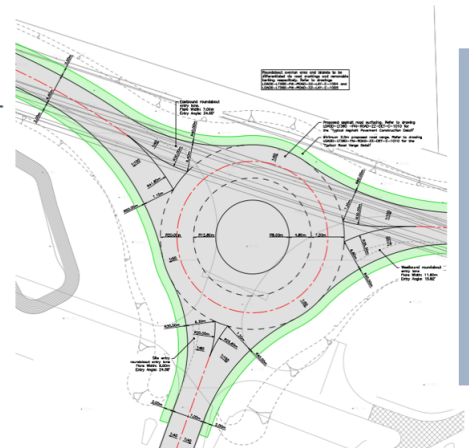


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5.9

Programme – Civils North

- Temporary A950 Roundabout
 - Consent Application submission during July 2026
 - Target to commence construction during September 2026
 - Target opening by November 2026
 - Traffic Management to be minimised through construction of offline roundabout first.
- Internal Site Roads
 - Commence July 2026, 1.6km of main spine road
 - Completion due in Spring 2027
 - Staged completion over 7 months will allow for access to move once roundabout completed



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Note: Subject to statutory consents being secured

5.10

Questions:

JN confirmed that there would be no traffic lights on the temporary roundabout.
JN explained that impacts on the A950 during construction of the roundabout would be minimised by constructing the south section within the site boundary first and then diverting traffic flow onto the south section while the carriageway section was completed.

5.11	Air Quality Monitoring & Dust Control • Dust is primarily managed through the site wide Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and Dust Management Plan (DMP). • These management plans place strict limits on our emissions from site • To ensure compliance there are dust monitors set up at strategic points onsite – an alert is raised if there is an exceedance. • To ensure site compliance the following measures have/will be deployed onsite; for example: • Dust suppression ‘curtain’ along northern perimeter • Use of water bowser to dampen site • Vegetation of stockpiles/ bunds (as earthworks progress) • Speed limits onsite (10mph). • If there are exceedances these are treated as an incident which are investigated, root causes identified and remedial measures actioned. 14 Document title  Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION
5.12	Questions: JN confirmed that there will be planting on the bunds, and that the vegetation, planting plans and species would be appropriate to the local environment. GD confirmed that there were comprehensive planting plans being developed that would meet or exceed SSEN Transmission’s 10% ‘biodiversity net gain’ target for our construction projects. GD offered to provide additional detail on the planting plans at the next meeting. A resident complained that trucks on site didn’t appear to be adhering to the 10mph limit. KL agreed to reinforce this message to all contractors. <i>Update: We have speed indicator signs throughout the site on haul roads which indicate to the driver.</i>
5.13	Noise Management • Noise and vibration are primarily managed through the site wide Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) and Noise/ Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) and Construction Noise Impact Assessment (CNIA). • These management plans identify sensitive receptors near to site and advise on appropriate mitigation like: • Noise barriers; and • Limitation of types and amount of plant within sensitive areas; • Noise and vibration monitors set up at the closest point within the site boundary to sensitive – an alert is raised if there is an exceedance. 15 Document title  Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION
5.14	Questions: A resident complained about noise from trucks starting before 7am, which was a breach of the approved working hours. The resident shared video evidence. KL apologised and agreed that there should be no construction work prior to 7am that isn’t in line with the planning conditions, and he would reinforce this.

Surface Water Management

- Water discharge from site is governed by a SEPA Car License for surface water run off;
- This sets the limits for water quality standards that we can discharge into the local water network;
- Across the site are a series of V-ditches which collect site run off and direct the water towards settlement ponds.
- Once in the settlement ponds the water is treated with Flocculants to aid silt settlement;
- Only once the water reaches the limit within the permit can water be allowed offsite.



Questions:

What is the capacity of the attenuation ponds? *Update: The permanent attenuation ponds will have a capacity of 116 million litres, equivalent to 46 Olympic swimming pools. The size of the current temporary construction phase ponds are based on CIRIA best practice guidance which take into account the surface area of the earthworks and the local topography.*

JN confirmed that we are planning to discharge to the west outfall later this year, pending planning.

Why are we excavating an open drain on land outside our site boundary to the east? *Update: This work is related to a private water supply.*

JN confirmed that HGVs were no longer using the south site entrance, and all HGVs were entering from A950 using the entrance near Compound 5 (adjacent to the Triangle House).

What is the 'charm value' of the flocculants in use to aid siltation in the SUDs ponds? *Update: We appreciate the resident sharing his experience of previously working in an organisation that used flocculants and his interest in how silt settlement is being managed on site. The use of flocculants forms part of the project's wider surface water management approach and is overseen by the project's environmental and construction specialists. The selection, dosing and monitoring arrangements are based on the site conditions, manufacturer guidance, relevant best practice and regulatory requirements. The regulator has carried out a site visit and has confirmed that they are satisfied with the management and flocculants on site. It wouldn't be appropriate or useful to provide a single technical value in isolation, as it would not give a meaningful or complete picture of suitability without the wider technical context. We would like to reassure the community that the system is being managed and monitored by appropriately qualified personnel and according to recommended regulatory guidelines.*

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- Logistics Overview - Main Works Phase
April 2026 - October 2026

5.18	Longside CC reported that an HGV vehicle approaching the entrance to Compound 5 from the A950 missed the turnoff and then attempted to reverse backwards, which caused concern about road safety and lack of adequate signage at the site entrance. KL confirmed that there were several yellow directional signs leading up to the site entrance and that there is adequate signage. He also noted that it was a third-party delivery driver and not a regular contractor/sub-contractor. KL committed to reviewing the directions that drivers who may be unfamiliar with the site are provided with, to prevent a recurrence. Longside CC raised that some construction traffic was not adhering to the approved A90/A950 traffic route and were instead turning off at Toll of Birness towards Longside. More 'no construction traffic' signage was requested. JN confirmed he has contacted AMEY to request erecting more signage along the route. JN was asked why the original construction traffic management plan (CTMP) did not disclose a route through Toddlehills, which is currently being used by David Smith Contractors. The Toddlehills residents felt that the original CTMP was not 'fit for purpose' as the road was narrow and vehicles were using driveways as passing places, and that while David Smith Contractors' vehicles had historically used that route to the quarry, it wasn't at the volumes now seen. JN, BM and GD acknowledged the residents' concerns and outlined the measures that had been implemented to reduce traffic volumes and improve flow, including diverting all HGV traffic other than David Smith Contractors, the implementation of a one-way 'loop' through part of Toddlehills, thus reducing the risk of lorries meeting each other. The Toddlehills residents acknowledged that there had been some improvement in traffic volumes but that their concerns still remained. The residents said they were still waiting for a response to their latest concerns from BM, who committed to reply. Resident asked when verges would be repaired in Toddlehills. KL committed to reviewing the impact of the measures outlined.
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5.19

Landscape & Visual Impact

- The visual impact will be largely mitigated by the construction of grass seeded bunds around the site
- Further improvement will be provided in the longer term, through the planting of hedgerows along the site boundary.



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5.20

SSEN Transmission communications and engagement

Peterhead Scottish Week sponsorship 2026 – Drone Firework Display
Peterhead Academy partnership - ongoing
Netherton Hub community information event in Longside on 10 June

Recent communications issued:

Bellmouth works
Tree removal

Upcoming:

Peterhead-area newsletter
Roundabout installation



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Note: images of community members and school pupils that were shared on this slide have been masked.

Social value/legacy



255 new local jobs at SSEN Transmission by 2030



£1bn of GVA generated by 2030



Spending up to **£1.6bn** in the region



300+ new legacy homes across Aberdeenshire

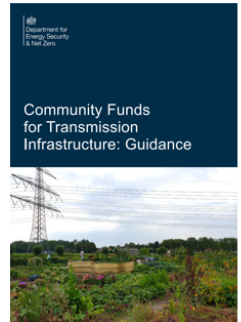
SSEN Transmission EGL2 Peterhead Local Fund

- Total fund £2m+ over five years
- Open to communities in Peterhead, Boddam, Cruden, Buchan East and Longside & District
- Local decision-making panel
- Round 1 Large projects Fund - £420K awarded to 12 local projects in 2025
- Microgrants – Over £15K already distributed to 32 community groups
- **Round 2 of large projects fund open until 22 July – awards made in October/November**



North Aberdeenshire Local Fund

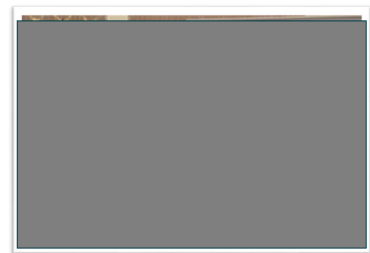
- This new fund is being developed in partnership with local communities, with Community Investment Manager, Alice Masson, now in post and leading initial engagement with local stakeholders to help shape the fund's development
- This fund follows UK Government guidance launched in March 2026.
- Initial details on the fund:
 - The current total lifetime value of this local fund is expected to be **£8,845,000 subject to planning consents**.
 - The fund is made up of community benefit associated with the infrastructure of the following projects:
 - Beaully to Peterhead 400kV Overhead Line – North Aberdeenshire section only
 - Greens (New Deer 2) Substation
 - Netherton Hub Substations
 - Peterhead Super Grid Transformer Replacement
- [Register for updates](#) on the fund e.g. consultation, proposal and launch.
- For more information Alice can be contacted via email: community.benefit@sse.com



Balfour Beatty – social impact initiatives

- Creating local opportunities with 120 jobs at Netherton
- 100+ Easter egg donations in Longside
- Helping local families via foodbank collections across all sites
- Backing major community events, including Peterhead Scottish Week's Live at the Links

Balfour Beatty

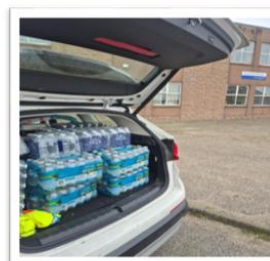


Balfour Beatty – social impact initiatives

- Investing in the community through paving improvements at Longside Bowling Club
- Supporting pupils from Peterhead Academy with 400 bottles of water for their sponsored walk from Peterhead to Longside and back



Balfour Beatty



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Balfour Beatty

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- 5.27 Questions from residents:
- Large stones have been reported on the roads near the site. KL said he would increase wheel inspections. What is the duration of the proposed community benefit fund? *Update: Communities have flexibility in determining how the funding is distributed over time, and can influence the proposed distribution period through the consultation process. However, UK Government guidance stipulates that the funding should be fully delivered within 15 years of the start of construction.*
- When will the next round of microgrant funding from the existing EGL2 community benefit fund become available? *Update: The micro grants are administered through Buchan Development Partnership. BDP recently received the microgrant payment from SSEN Transmission and emailed all five community councils on 20/07/26 informing them that the year 2 money is available. Community Councils should get in touch with BDP for more information.*
- How many local jobs will or have been created? *Update: While we can't currently accurately estimate jobs that will be available during operational phase, we have forecasted local employment requirements up to 2030. In 2025, 183 staff were recruited by SSEN Transmission in Aberdeenshire, with another 150 to be recruited by 2030. In 2026 in Aberdeenshire specifically, we expect to offer: 12 graduate roles, 1 apprenticeship, 8 summer placements, 1 trainee engineer role.*

Actions.

Number	Action	Owner	Open/Closed
1.	Action: Respond to Longside Community Council's query about water quality monitoring as they are still waiting for a response. <i>Update: Email response now provided.</i>	GD	Closed
2.	Action: Signage not clear on A950 at entrance to Compound 5. <i>Update: Review of signage undertaken. Toolbox talk and instructions issued to drivers.</i>	BM	Closed
3.	Action: Provide additional detail on the planting plans at the next meeting.	GD	Open
4.	Action: Ensure all drivers are aware of and adhere to the 10mph speed limit on site to reduce dust. <i>Update: KL reinforced this message at toolbox talks and site inductions. All visitors and workers have been rebriefed re driving on the site, and visual deterrents are in place on the site.</i>	KL	Closed

5.	Action: What progress has been made on request for more signage to prevent vehicles turning off from Toll of Birness? Suggestion to contact Transport Scotland instead of AMEY. <i>Action: Update CLG on outcome of request for more signage.</i>	JN	Open
6.	Action: Respond to Toddlehills residents' latest CTMP query. <i>Update: Response now provided.</i>	BM/KL	Closed
7.	Action: When will verges be fixed in Toddlehills? <i>Update: Under review and will update the residents once survey is completed.</i>	BM	Open
8.	Action: Prevent machinery from operating before 7am. <i>Update: Balfour Beatty have implemented the following measures:</i> <i>No plant operations will commence until operators have received a briefing from their supervisor.</i> <i>Clear, prominent signage will be displayed throughout the site and in all site offices and welfare facilities to reinforce the site's operating requirements and expectations.</i> <i>While lorries may arrive on site before 7am, they will be required to park up and remain stationary until the permitted working hours begin.</i>	KL/BM	Closed
9.	Action: Ensure thorough wheel inspections are taking place to prevent rocks on road. <i>Update: This has been implemented along with a wheel wash.</i>	KL	Closed