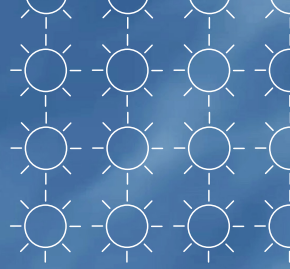




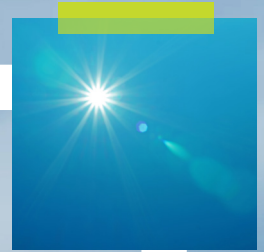
Scottish & Southern  
Electricity Networks

TRANSMISSION



# East Coast Future Transmission Projects

May 2026



# Introduction to the East Coast future transmission projects

This booklet gives information about future electricity transmission projects planned for the East Coast of Scotland. Many of these projects are still at an early stage, so some details may change as plans develop.

Following previous consultations, we have listened carefully to feedback from communities and stakeholders who told us they want to understand the wider picture and context of what we are working on. Our aim is to keep communities and stakeholders informed, explain why future projects are needed, and engage communities as the projects move forward.

## Why these projects are needed

Investment in the East Coast electricity network is essential to make sure it remains **safe, reliable, and fit for the future**. The main reasons for our upgrades are:

- Replace ageing equipment reaching the end of its operational capabilities.
- Ensure a safe and reliable electricity supply for local communities.
- Providing new connections to the network

As a licensed electricity transmission operator, we are required to invest in our assets and provide enough transmission capacity for customers in our area. We are also required to support the UK and Scottish Governments commitments to achieve net zero, and these additional projects will enable us to connect infrastructure to support these national priorities.

## Our Business plan

In December 2024, we submitted our Business Plan for the RIIO-T3 (Revenue Incentives Innovation Outputs – Transmission price control period 3) period which runs from 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031. This period is a critical time for the UK’s energy transition when, as a country, we will make transformative steps towards homegrown, secure and clean power. This plan is a crucial milestone in our journey towards delivering a network for net zero as well as UK and Scottish Government energy targets.

Our Business Plan sets out our goals for reliable energy, cleaner power, and lasting benefits. To find out more, please read the plan on our [website](#).

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/globalassets/documents/riio-t3-documents/ssent-riio-t3-business-plan.pdf>



# The East Coast network - future requirements

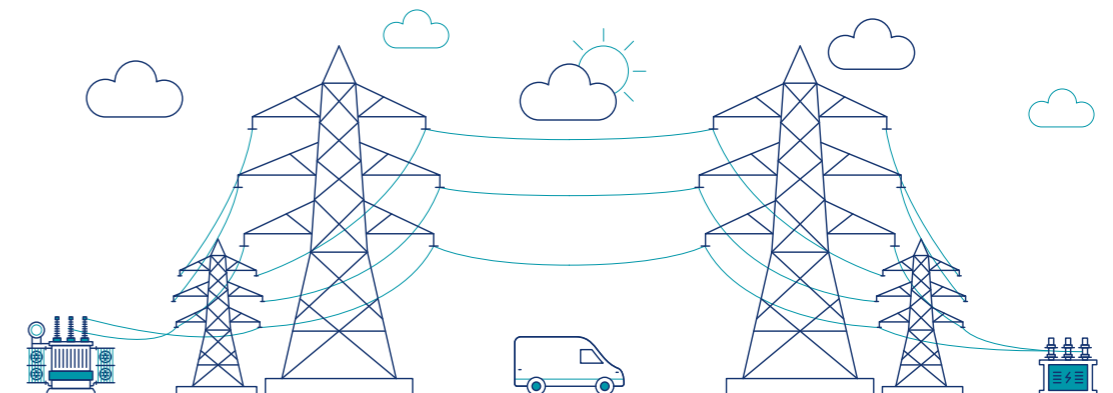
The East Coast network supplies electricity to homes and businesses across Aberdeenshire and Angus. It spans both SSEN Transmission and Scottish Power Energy Network’s (SPEN) licence areas. The network is critical to both local and national energy security providing an extensive transmission system between both licence areas, supplying residential demand centres, connecting electricity generation and playing a vital role in delivering clean, secure energy. The East Coast network is key to supporting future growth to the local area and wider GB system security, as well as powering local homes and businesses.

The principal need for network investment is being driven by asset condition, due to ageing network infrastructure. We need to replace assets, increase capacity and facilitate the electricity transmission network in the East of Scotland particularly Aberdeenshire and Angus.

Homes and businesses need to have a safe, reliable supply of power as our energy system changes. This investment will connect new low-carbon projects and support changes on local distribution electricity networks as more people and industry switch to cleaner technologies. As part of these future transmission projects, we will replace parts of the transmission network that are reaching the end of their operational capacity and reliability.

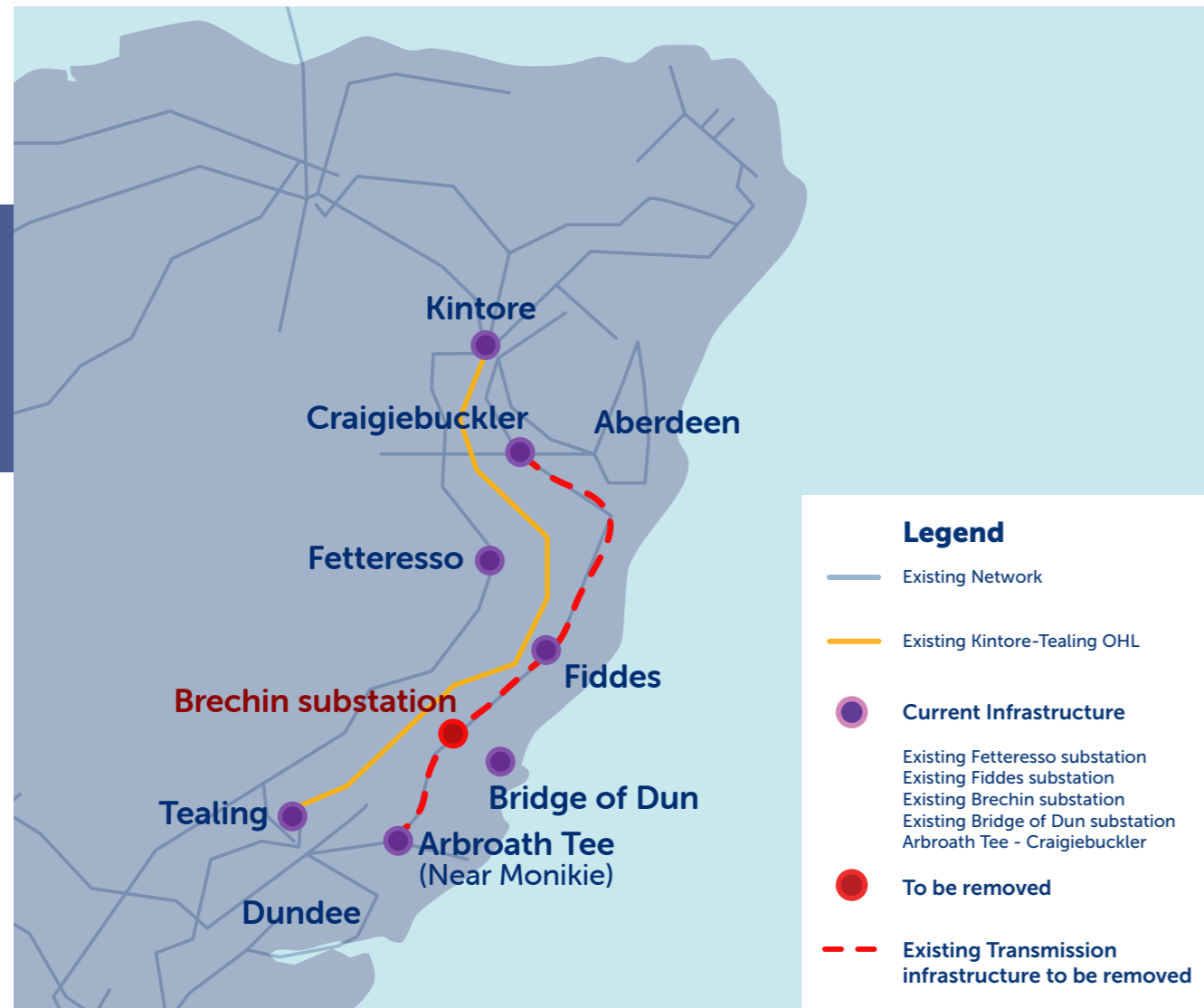
The East Coast investment seeks to address both the asset condition and the need to increase capacity in the local network. By creating new infrastructure, we can disconnect and remove some older infrastructure. When developing the new infrastructure, we will ensure it meets the requirements for future need and demand on the network.

The capacity increase is being driven by contracted renewable generation/demand developers, emerging new Grid Supply Points GSPs - (the interface between the transmission network that the distribution network which supplies homes and businesses), and potentially the need to provide opportunities for medium to longer term wider network strategy developments.



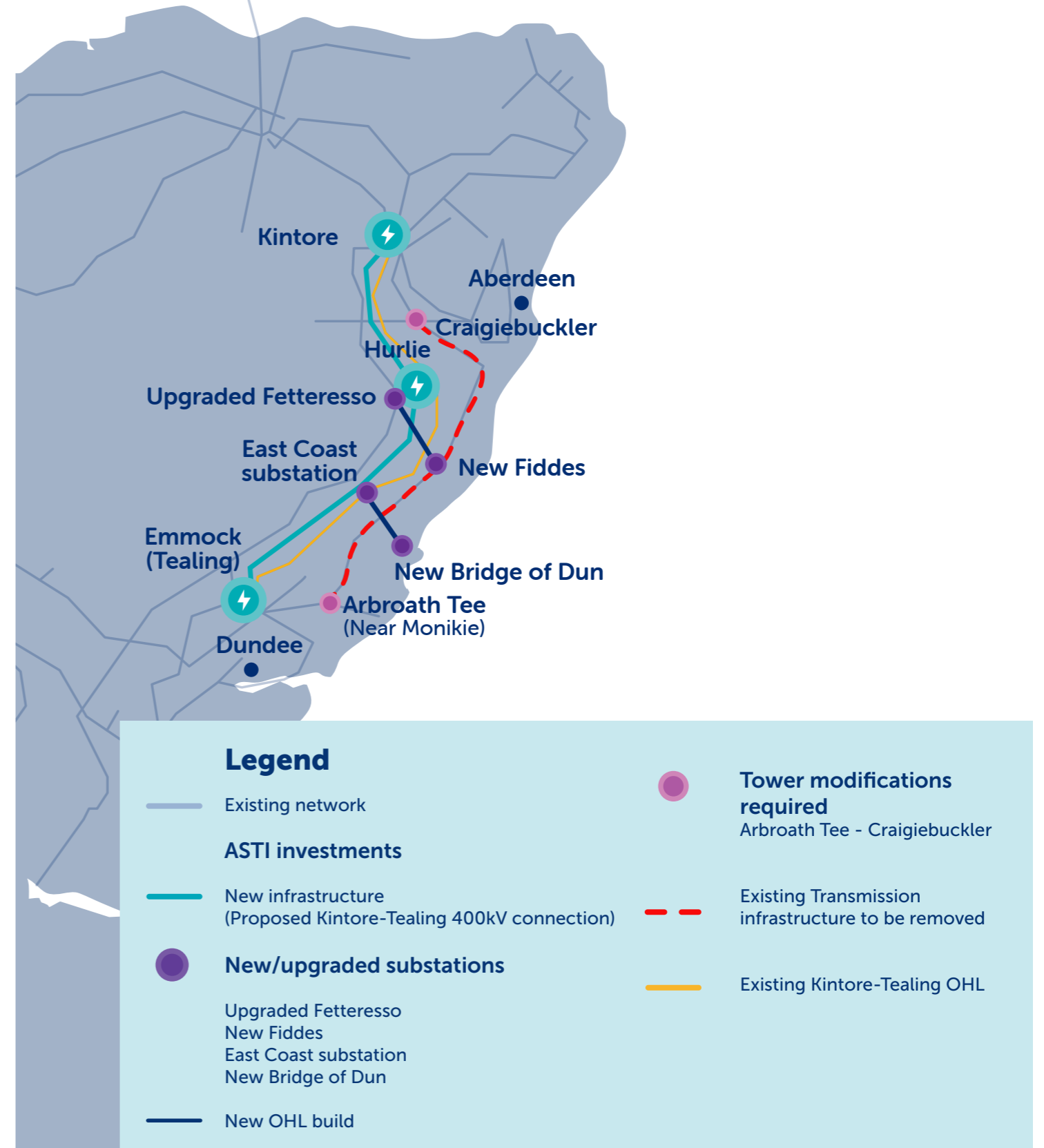
# Future East Coast projects at a glance

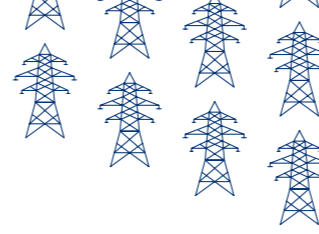
## Current East Coast Network



The existing 132kV single-circuit Overhead Line (OHL) spanning from Craigiebuckler to Arbroath (red dashed line) is reaching the end of its operational lifespan. To allow it to be removed from the network, Fiddes and Bridge of Dun substations need to be reconnected to other parts of network. New 132kV circuits and substation infrastructure is required to allow these changes to happen, as well as increasing capacity on the network. The existing 132kV overhead line between Craigiebuckler and Arbroath Tee must remain in service while all the new infrastructure is developed, as it is critical to current electricity supply in the East Coast area. Once all the works are complete, it can then be removed.

## Proposed East Coast Network





## Overview of planned projects

Our East Coast projects will be delivered in phases, with construction taking place between **Summer 2027 and until the end of 2033**.

To address the growth in load and demand requirements, in tandem with the above asset condition requirements, the following proposals on the East Coast have been included in our Business plan:

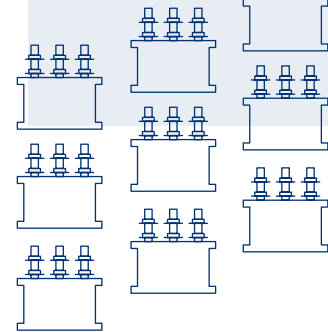
- Upgrade the existing Fetteresso substation** – The existing Fetteresso 132kV substation is to be upgraded to connect a number of connections, including Network Rail as part of their plans to electrify the East Coast railway, the reconnection of Fiddes GSP and other developers. The upgrades will increase capacity and ensure network resilience and security for local demand and Network Rail.
- Upgrade or replace Fiddes GSP** – Replacement of the transformers is required at Fiddes GSP. Early optioneering has confirmed that the transformers cannot be replaced within the existing boundary without interruption to supply and a new site will need to be established. A new 132kV double circuit connection will be required between the upgraded or new site by Fiddes and Fetteresso substation.
- Establish a new East Coast substation** - A new 275kV substation is required which would connect to the existing 275kV Kintore – Tealing OHL. Sections of new 275kV double circuit will need to be constructed to connect the new substation to the existing OHL infrastructure. The new substation will provide a new connection location for the new, or upgraded, Bridge of Dun substation.
- Upgrade or replace Bridge of Dunn GSP** – Replacement of the transformers is required at Bridge of Dun GSP. The project will explore whether this can be achieved within the existing substation boundary without interruption to supply or whether a new site will need to be established. The project is also investigating whether the replacement site could be located at the new East Coast substation and the sites combined. A new 132kV double circuit connection will be required between the two new substations. It may be possible to reuse parts the existing 132kV OHL between Bridge of Dun and Brechin substation it will need to be refurbished, and the conductors will be replaced with higher capacity. The voltage will remain at 132kV.
- Craigiebuckler – Brechin – Arbroath decommissioning and removal** – Removal of over 80km of OHL including over 500 OHL structures between Craigiebuckler, Brechin and Arbroath Tee. In addition, the decommissioning and demolition of existing Fiddes, and Brechin substations when the works above are complete.
- Upgrade of Tealing - Arbroath OHL** – We are currently progressing upgrade works at Arbroath substation. The existing Tealing – Arbroath 132kV OHL will require upgrade too. This will include refurbishment of towers and the replacement of higher capacity conductors. The OHL voltage will remain at 132kV.



Project name	Target engagement dates	Key dates
<b>Fetteresso 132kV Substation Upgrade</b>  Project webpage: <a href="https://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk/fetteresso-upgrade">ssen-transmission.co.uk/fetteresso-upgrade</a>	Pre-application consultations completed ( <b>Spring/Summer 2025</b> )  Town and Country Planning Application – <b>Spring 2026</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planned start on site from Autumn 2027</li> <li>Completion by Autumn 2030</li> </ul>
<b>Fiddes GSP Replacement<sup>1</sup></b>	Pre-application consultations ( <b>Autumn 2026 and Winter 26/27</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planned start on site Spring 2029</li> <li>Completion by Autumn 2031</li> </ul>
<b>East Coast Substation<sup>1</sup></b>	Pre-application consultations ( <b>Spring/Winter 2026</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planned start on site from Spring 2029</li> <li>Completion by Winter 2032</li> </ul>
<b>Bridge of Dun GSP Replacement<sup>1</sup></b>	Pre-application consultations ( <b>Winter 2026</b> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planned start on site from Spring 2029</li> <li>Completion by Winter 2032</li> </ul>
<b>Craigiebuckler – Brechin – Arbroath Decommissioning and removal<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commencement upon completion of new East Coast substation</li> <li>Completion by 2033.</li> </ul>
<b>Tealing–Arbroath OHL Upgrade<sup>1</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBC</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup>Dedicated website to be created when further information is available





# Other projects in the local area

Information on other nearby transmission projects is available through dedicated project websites linked below.

- **Kintore to Tealing 400kV Connection:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/TKUP](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/TKUP)
- **Hurlie 400kV Substation:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/hurlie](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/hurlie)
- **Glendye Windfarm Connection:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/glendye](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/glendye)
- **East Coast 400kV Upgrade:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/ec400-upgrade](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/ec400-upgrade)
- **Lunanhead Grid Transformer Replacement:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/lunanhead](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/lunanhead)
- **Arbroath GSP Upgrade:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/arbroath](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/arbroath)
- **Emmock 400kV Substation:**  
[ssen-transmission.co.uk/emmock](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/emmock)



## Keeping in touch

If you have questions or want to find out more, you can visit the dedicated project webpages listed in this booklet. Each webpage includes the Community Liaison Manager contact for the specific project. If a project does not yet have a webpage, enquiries can be made via [community.relations@sse.com](mailto:community.relations@sse.com)

Or write to us at  
**SSEN Transmission Communities Team**  
200 Dunkeld Road,  
Perth,  
PH1 3GH

## Our Community Liaison team

Each project has a dedicated Community Liaison Manager who works closely with community members to make sure they are well informed of our proposals and that their views, concerns, questions or suggestions are put to our project teams.

Throughout the life of our projects, you will hear from us regularly. We aim to establish strong working relationships by being accessible to key local stakeholders such as community councils, residents' associations and development trusts, and regularly engage with interested individuals.

The best way to keep up to date is to sign up for updates via our webpage: [ssen-transmission.co.uk/register](https://ssen-transmission.co.uk/register)

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