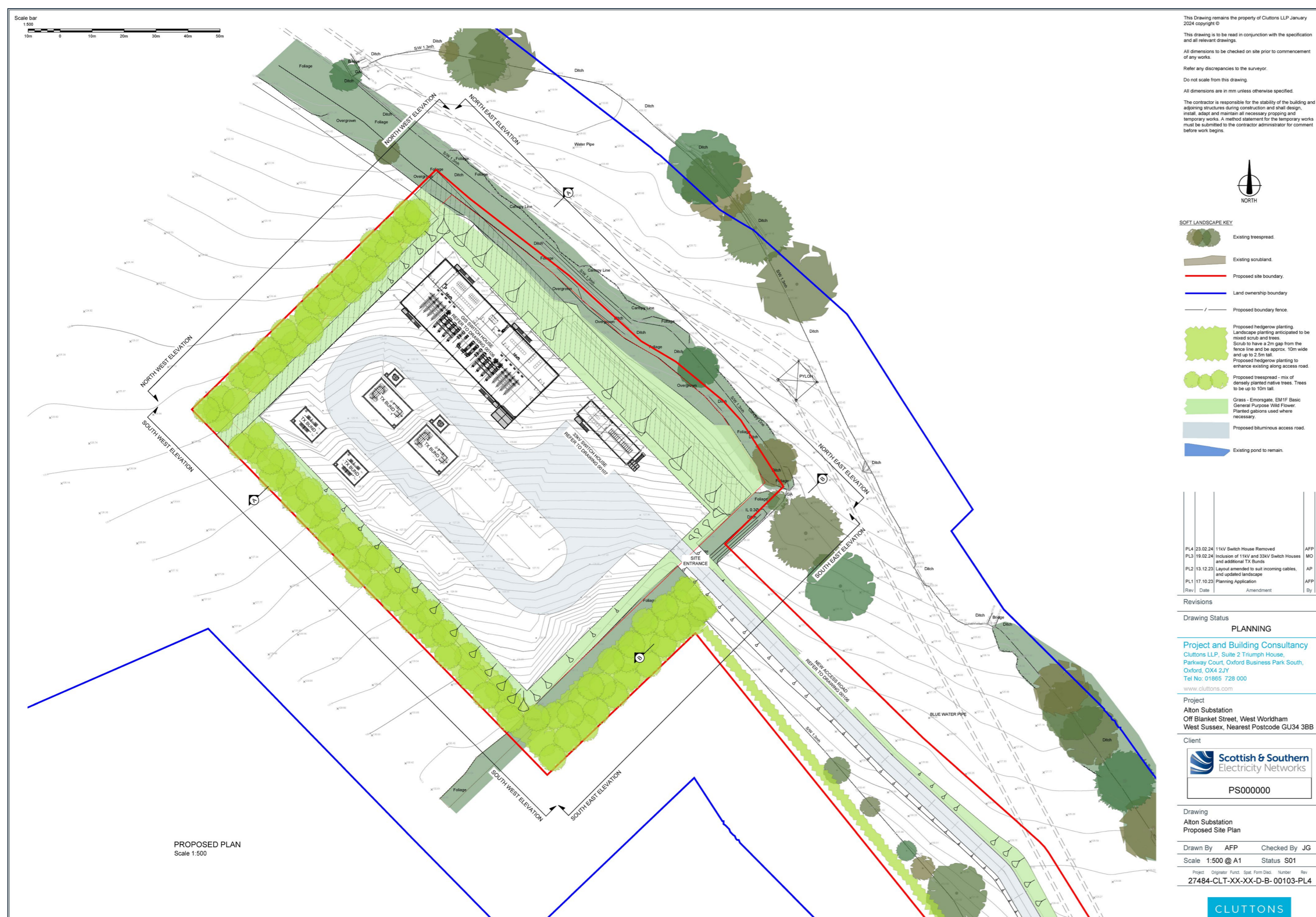


IMPROVING NETWORK RESILIENCE

We are planning to invest £35million to boost the electricity network in the local area.

We've submitted a planning application to build a new substation, which we'll connect 4.6km of new underground cables to. Our proposed substation would be accessed via a new access road which would connect it to Blanket Street in West Worldham. New underground cables would replace some existing overhead lines. The removal of these lines is considered permitted development, which means it is not part of the planning application.

This community-driven project will not only enhance network resilience, ensuring reliable electricity supply for years to come, but also support local economic growth by meeting the energy demands of homes and businesses in the region. The project will also enhance the landscape by removing approximately 4km of overhead lines and 18 pylons from the landscape.



Substation layout plan

A strategic location

The existing local network needs an upgrade to safely meet energy demands. The proposed location of the substation has been chosen for its proximity to connect to the existing network and ensure that local capacity is improved. This will allow the network to meet the future energy demands of the area in a safe and reliable way.

Our project will:

- Provide a more resilient power supply.
- Create additional capacity to help facilitate low carbon technology.
- Reduce access requests to landowners for maintenance.



UNDERGROUND CABLING ROUTE OVERVIEW AND SUBSTATION

Our cable route is split into three sections – Alton to Fleet, Fernhurst Tee and Winchester-Nursling.

Our **Alton to Fleet** cable route will head north for about 1.4km underground from the new substation, ending at existing pylons.

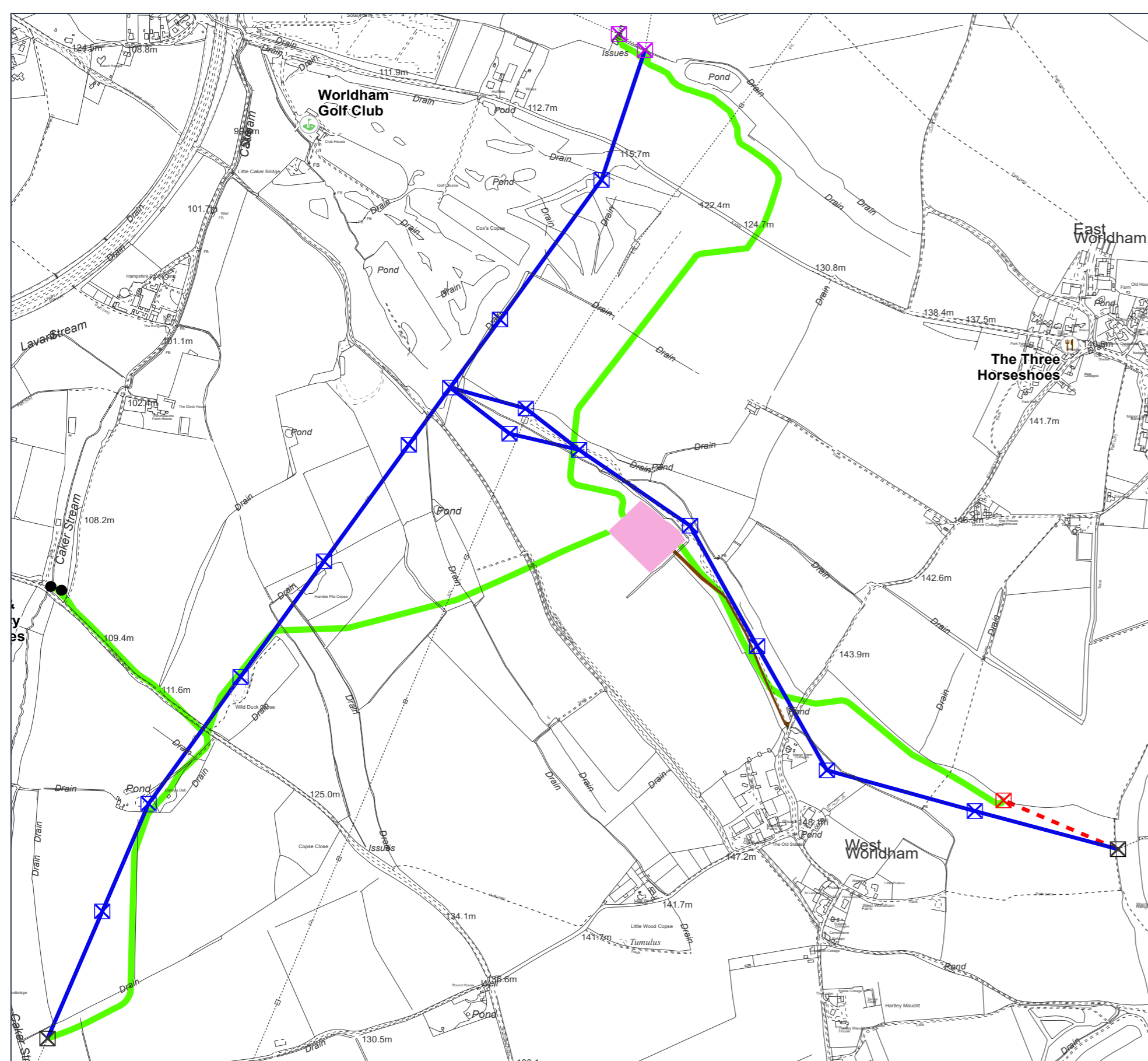
Our **Fernhurst** cable route will head south-easterly for about 1.2km from our new substation, ending at a new tower on the edge of an arable field. Our Winchester to Nursling cable route will head south-westerly for about 1.8 km from our proposed new substation, ending at a new tower in an arable field.

Our substation compound will be surrounded by metal palisade fencing. New steel buildings will house modern, low-noise transformers as well as cabling conductors.

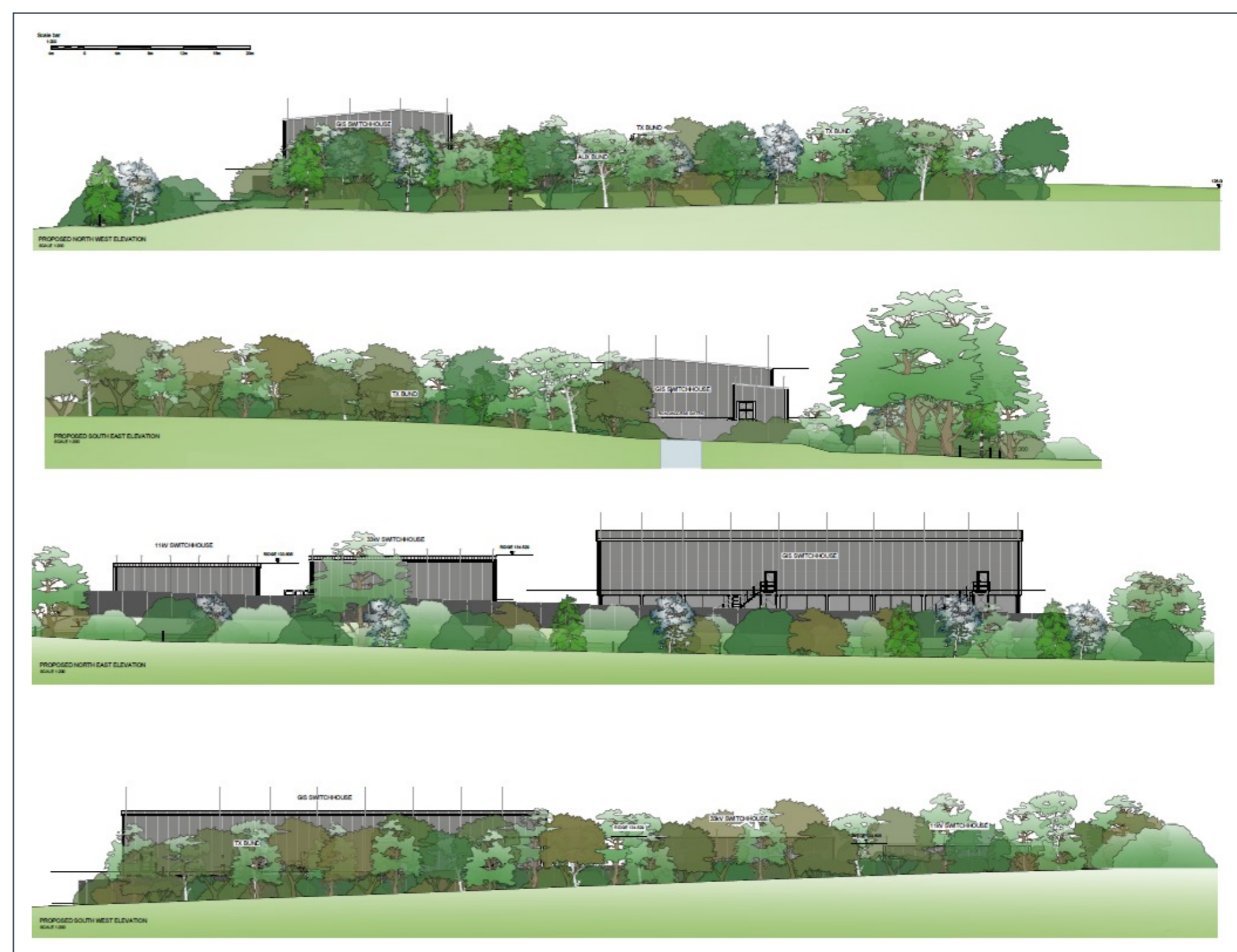
The colour of the building is open to community suggestion, grey was proposed as it is a standard colour for substations.

We will plant new hedgerows around the site to screen the buildings from view and to increase biodiversity. The site will not be manned, so lighting will only be needed when our teams are on site to carry out inspections and maintenance.

The height of the substation will accommodate the size of the electrical equipment and ventilation requirements. To allow a level of accommodation in the construction of the building and the bending of the cables, the maximum height of the development (relative to the existing ground level) is approximately 15m.



Cable route map



Substation elevations



OUR WORLDHAM NETWORK INVESTMENT PROJECT

We are working in and around Worldham to deliver a re-cabling scheme to increase the capacity of our network in a safe and reliable way.

Why do you need to carry out these works?

We need to upgrade our network to meet increased demand in the area. Our new substation will provide an energy “buffer” for Fernhurst – reducing the impact of any outages on the network by safely increasing the power supply. The substation will also allow us to connect new low-carbon energy technologies – like solar panels and battery storage – to our network.

Will there be any night lighting around the substation?

The site will not feature continuous or regular night-time lighting, minimising impacts on night-time landscape character.

Will any damage done to the roads be fixed?

If any unsafe conditions are identified, they will be reported, and the council will take appropriate action. Once the project is completed, SSEN and the council will assess and carry out any necessary works to reinstate the road.

How are we investing in the future?

This investment in the network will improve service for current customers and support future economic growth by providing a reliable power supply that attracts new businesses and infrastructure investment. As we shift to renewable energy and increase reliance on electricity for homes, transport, and technology, it's crucial to expand and modernise the network to meet future demand and support growth in renewables, electric vehicles, and new developments.

We are not planning to turn your power off at any point during our works.

Timing and working hours

Planning permission should be granted February 2025 with earliest overall completion date: October 2028. This includes creating a new access road for the substation, cabling and dismantling of the OHL.

To reduce the duration of our works and minimise our impact on the community our working hours are:

- 7:30am–6:30pm Monday to Friday.
- 8am–4pm Saturday and Sunday.

To safely carry out our work, we may need to close roads or implement traffic management systems, like traffic lights or lane closures, at certain times. We will agree all our traffic management plans with the local authorities and give the community at least two weeks' notice.



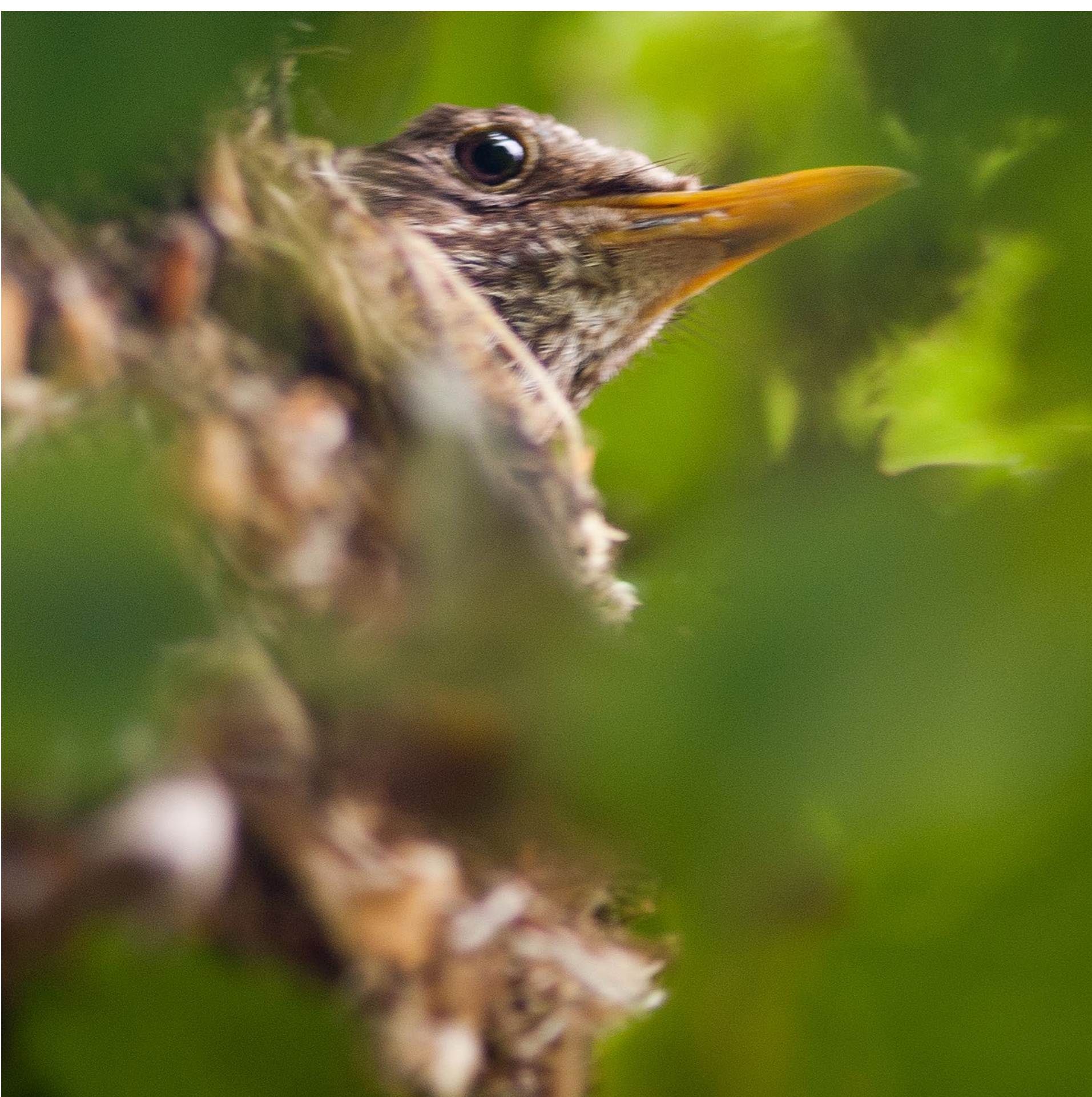


BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGY

We are committed to protecting and improving our natural environment. This includes our commitment to biodiversity net gain, in line with planning requirements, leaving behind more or better quality natural habitat than before our work started.

We have carried out extensive surveys along the cabling route and the substation site to understand the impact of our essential work. We have used these surveys to inform what we need to do to meet our biodiversity net gain commitments.

By laying the cables underground any adverse effects from that element of the project would be temporary and completely reversible.



Vegetated buffers on the north-west and south-west boundaries have been widened to allow for additional planting which will enhance visual screening.

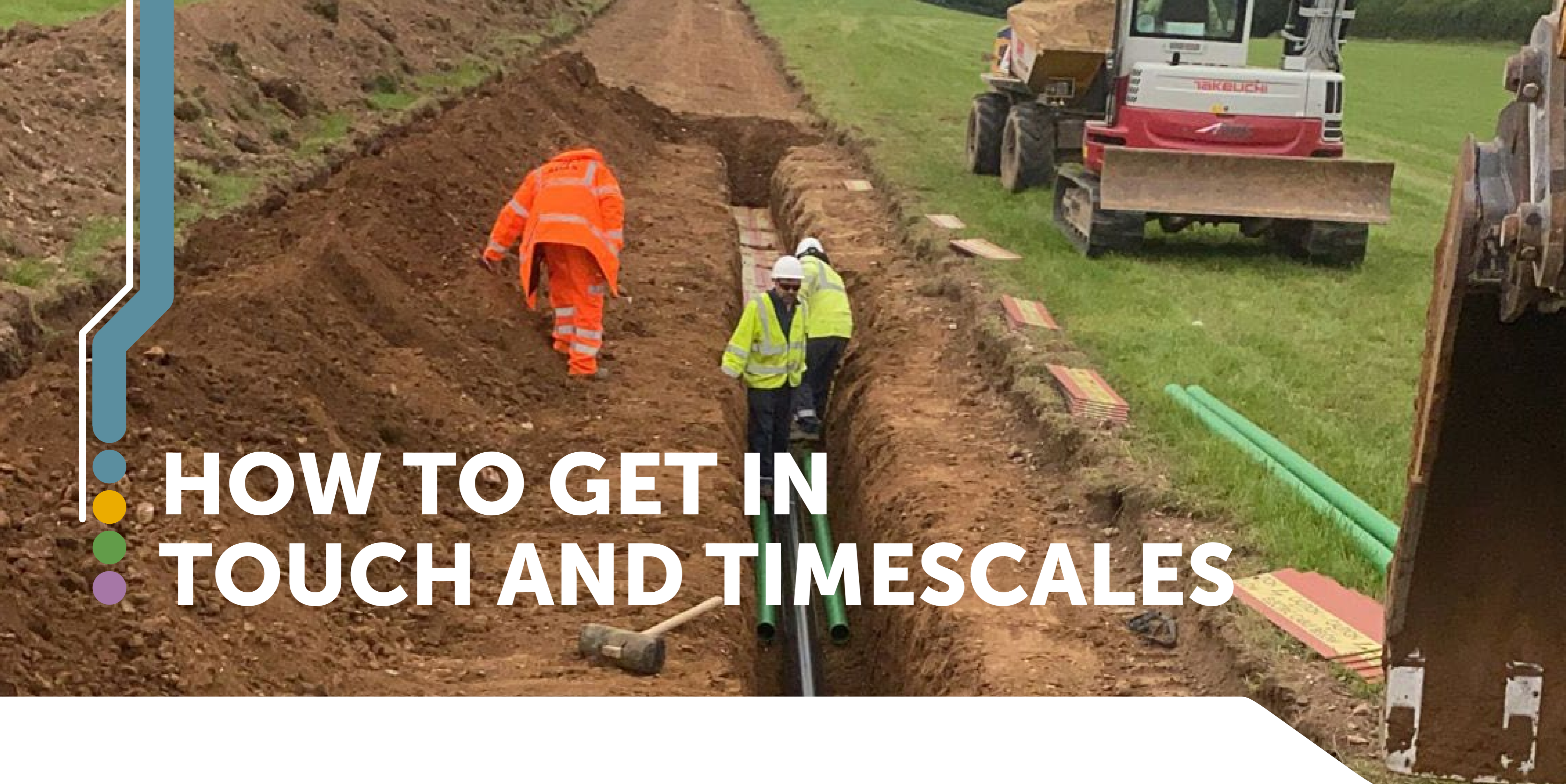
The development's operational phase will not significantly impact the setting or character of the South Downs National Park.

Before work starts, our teams will ensure they are aware of environmental issues, in particular any legal protections the site has and the required mitigation measures.

The area disturbed will be kept to a minimum. We will use hand tools to remove any vegetation and leave stumps and where they are where possible. When we have finished, we will leave affected vegetation to regenerate naturally and so there would be no permanent loss of habitat.

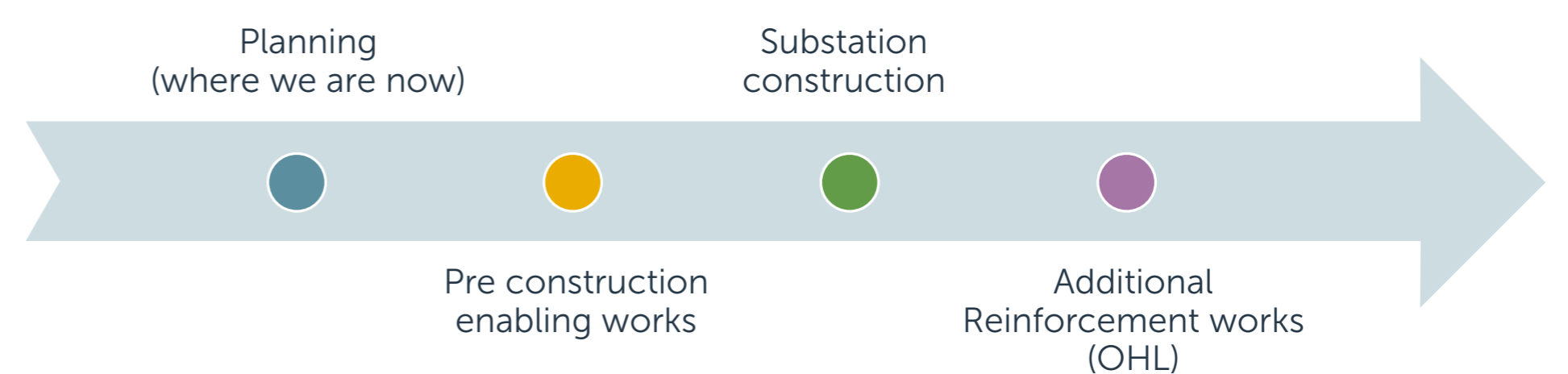
We have identified specific mitigation measures for several species including dormice, badgers, great crested newts and breeding pairs of birds.

Where possible, vegetation birds are likely to use for nesting would not be removed during mating season – from 1 March to 14 August. To protect the local dormouse population fingertip searches will be carried out by a licensed ecologist before any relevant vegetation is cleared, and hand tools will be used wherever possible.



HOW TO GET IN TOUCH AND TIMESCALES

If our application is approved, work could start on the project, Spring 2025 and the overall earliest completion date being October 2028. The substation construction works will take approx 24-36 months to complete.



Giving back to the local community

- Since the start of our project, we have been dedicated to supporting the local community. For example, when Stagecoach discontinued the N13 bus, we stepped in by providing a replacement bus service, ensuring that residents along the route could still get around. This service ran for about four months and made a meaningful difference to many people.
- We are committed to continuing our support for the local community on a long-term basis. If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can get involved further, we would love to hear from you!



Our timeline is subject to change depending on when planning is granted, as well as ground conditions and potential engineering challenges.

We will continue engaging with communities across Worldham, Lindford and Bordon throughout our works. While this programme is not linked to our Alton – Bordon network reinforcement, we know local communities are feeling the impact of our essential investment.

GET IN TOUCH

We want to be a good neighbour to you and help answer any questions you may have.

Have a query?

Email us at: community@ssenworldham.co.uk

Call us on: 0800 377 7346

Learn more: ssen.co.uk/worldham



Scottish & Southern
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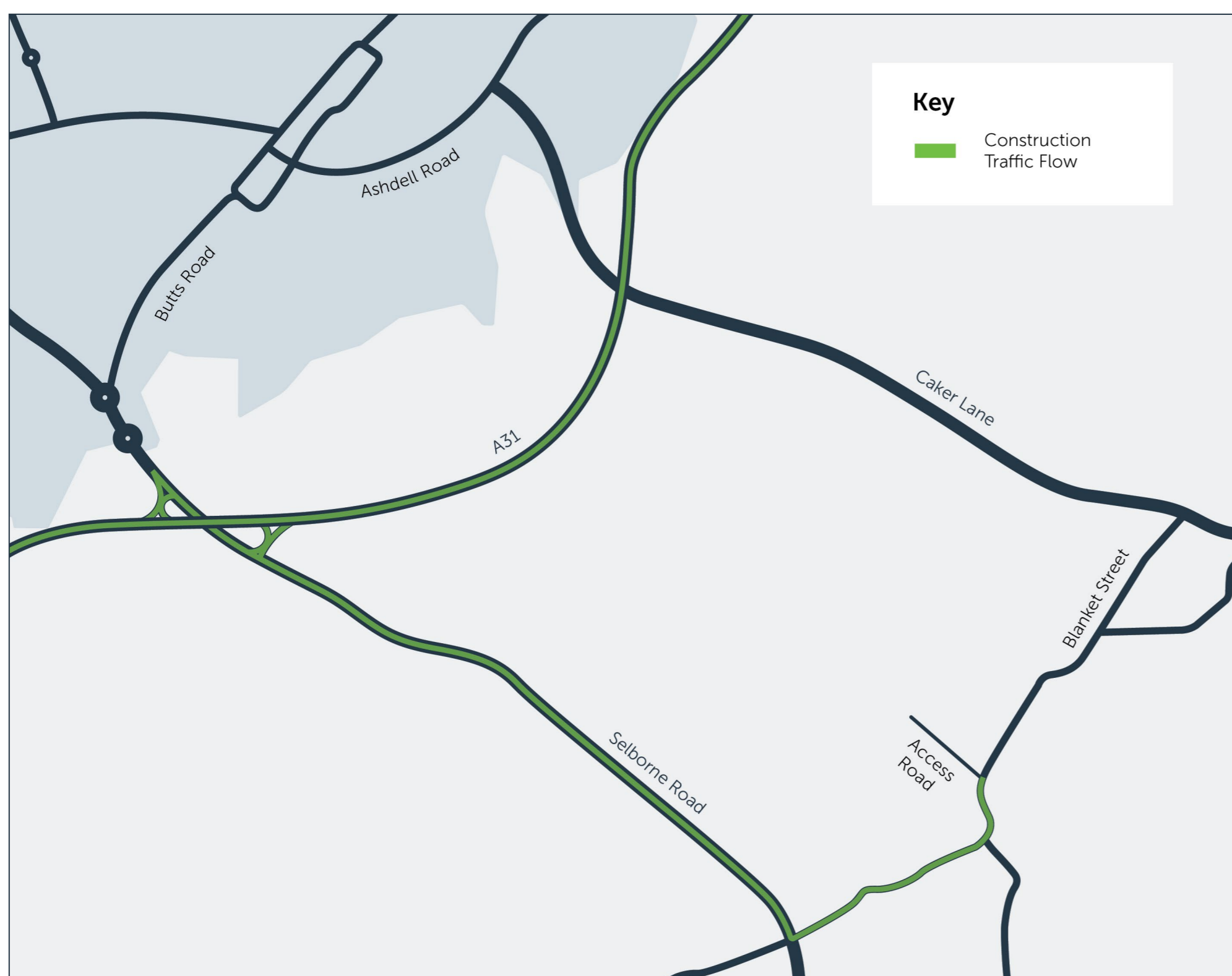


TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

To safely carry out our work, we may need to close roads or implement traffic management systems, like traffic lights or lane closures, at certain times. We will agree all our traffic management plans with the local authorities and give the community at least two weeks' notice.

New Access Road

Our substation would be accessed via a new access road. The proposed access road would connect the proposed substation to Blanket Street (at OS grid reference SU 74133 37226) via a field used for the grazing of livestock.



New Access Road

- Temporary speed reduction to 30mph for a section of highway along Blanket Street for duration of the construction period (from 60mph).
- Traffic light control in vicinity of the site access.
- HGV's delivering apparatus to the site to be held in vehicle stacking area to the north east off the A31. HGVs to be escorted to the site by convoy escort vehicle.
- Traffic lights in use at junction of Blanket Street and Selborne Road to be held on all red when HGV's gaining access and egress to and from Blanket Street.



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

Powering our
community