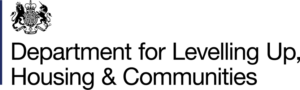
****

**East of England NSIPs Centre of Excellence Conference**

8 May 2024, The Apex, Bury St Edmunds

**Agenda**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Session** |
| 09:30 | Registration and Refreshments |
| 10:00 | **Welcome Address and Centre of Excellence Overview**   * Cllr Richard Rout, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Environment, Suffolk County Council * Andrew Cook, Executive Director for Growth, Highways and Infrastructure, Suffolk County Council |
| 10:10 | **Great Grid Upgrade** Tom McGarry, Deputy Director of External Affairs, National Grid Infrastructure |
| 10:30 | **Future Electricity System Operator** Hannah Small, Public Affairs and Policy Manager, National Grid Electricity System Operator (ESO) |
| 10:50 | **Question and answer session with morning speakers** |
| 11:00 | **Emerging NSIP Reform** Josh Wainman/Anna Payne, National Infrastructure Planning, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) |
| 11:20 | Refreshments and Networking |
| 11:40 | **Panel Discussion: NSIP Reform**  Chaired by Andrew Cook, Executive Director for Growth, Highways and Infrastructure, Suffolk County Council  Panellists:   * Alicia Ford, Deputy Director – Planning Infrastructure, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) * Philip Ridley, Head of National Infrastructure Planning, East Suffolk Council * Jan Bessell, Strategic Planning Advisor, Pinsent Masons LLP and Board Chair, National Infrastructure Planning Association (NIPA) * Neil McBride, Head of Planning, Lincolnshire County Council * Cllr Richard Rout, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Environment, Suffolk County Council |
| 12:25 | **Introduction to Table Discussions**  Andrew Cook, Executive Director for Growth, Highways and Infrastructure, Suffolk County Council |
| 12:30 | Lunch and Networking |
| 13:15 | **Table Discussions: Dealing with NSIPs – The Good and the Bad**  Facilitated by Frances Fernandes, Managing Director, Infrastructure Matters |
| 13:55 | **Assessing the effectiveness of NSIP EIA Predictions in Practice**  Professor John Glasson, Oxford Brookes University |
| 14:15 | **Critical Infrastructure Priorities: What Will the New Policy Presumption Mean in Practice**  Sarah Clark, Partner, BDB Pitmans |
| 14:35 | **Gull Wing Lowestoft: The Third Crossing of Lake Lothing**  Simon Bretherton, Project Director, Suffolk County Council |
| 14:55 | **Closing Remarks**  Chair Andrew Cook, Executive Director for Growth, Highways and Infrastructure, Suffolk County Council |
| 15:00 | Close |