

# NOTICE OF MOTION REGARDING NATIONAL GRID'S SEALINK PROJECT

Council:	<b>07 December 2023</b>
Report Author	<b>Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager</b>
Portfolio Holder	<b>Councillor Everitt, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Strategy and Transformation</b>
Status	<b>For Decision</b>
Classification:	<b>Unrestricted</b>
Ward:	<b>All Wards</b>

## **Executive Summary:**

This Council will consider a notice of motion regarding concerns regarding the National Grid's Sealink Project.

## **Recommendation(s):**

With reference to the options in section 2.0 of the report, Council is invited to consider the motion.

## **Corporate Implications:**

### **Financial and Value for Money**

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

### **Legal**

Council Procedure Rule 3.7 states that: "the Member whose name appears first on the notice will move the motion during his or her speech and call for a seconder. If seconded, a Member from the controlling political group will be entitled to a reply, after which the motion shall stand referred without further discussion to the Cabinet or appropriate committee for determination or report unless the Council decides to debate the motion in accordance with Rule 16" (*rules of debate*)

### **Corporate**

Council Procedure Rule 3 provides the opportunity for Councillors to give advance notice of motions to be put to Council.

## **Equality Act 2010 & Public Sector Equality Duty**

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to the aims of the Duty at the time the decision is taken. The aims of the Duty are: (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it, and (iii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Protected characteristics: age, sex, disability, race, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief and pregnancy & maternity. Only aim (i) of the Duty applies to Marriage & civil partnership.

There are no specific equality issues arising from this report.

## **CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -

- Communities

### **1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 The following motion has been received from Councillor Everitt in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 3:

*"Council acknowledges the considerable public concern over the impacts of National Grid's Sealink project, which is currently the subject of a statutory consultation process. We share this concern, and wish to reassure residents that their views are heard and understood.*

*We recognise the need to adapt the electricity transmission network in order to respond to rising demand and the move to sustainable generation methods in new locations.*

*We welcome the extensive engagement by National Grid with both elected members and the communities in Thanet most affected.*

*Council agrees that it does have major concerns regarding the proposed location on Minster Marshes; the scale of the converter building, as well as the effects of the associated infrastructure; the significant impact on protected wildlife and species habitat both during construction and afterwards; and the potential change to the character of the landscape.*

*While this council is not a decision-maker in respect of this development, we commit to making and publishing a formal response to the current consultation that highlights these issues and our concerns about them."*

## **2.0 Options**

- 2.1 To debate the motion,
- 2.2 Not to debate the motion, in which case the motion will fall

## **3.0 Decision Making Process**

- 3.1 If the motion is debated, at the end of the debate a vote will be taken to agree the motion or not. As only Council can agree to this motion, if the motion falls then it will not be referred to any other committee.

Contact Officer: Nick Hughes, Committee Services Manager

Reporting to: Ingrid Brown (Head of Legal and Democracy & Monitoring Officer)

### **Annex List**

There are no annexes with this report.

### **Background Papers**

There are no background papers with this report.

### **Corporate Consultation**

**Finance:** Chris Blundell (Director of Corporate Services - Section 151 )

**Legal:** Ingrid Brown (Head of Legal and Democracy & Monitoring Officer)