

NSIP Centre of Excellence Conference
17 June 2026, The Hold, 131 Fore Street, Ipswich

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Agenda

Time	Session
09:00	Registration, refreshments, and networking
09:45	Welcome Address Rob Hancock, Assistant Director, Planning, Housing and Economic Growth, Suffolk County Council
09:50	Influence, Insight, Impact: Opportunities for local authorities in major infrastructure Jan Bessell, RTPI President and Strategic Planning Advisor, Pinsent Masons
10:10	NSIP Reform Implementation and what this means for Local Authorities Anna Payne, Head of DCO Consenting Policy and Aimee Smith, Policy Lead – Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project Team, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
10:25	DESNZ's new Post Consent Unit under the Nuclear Regulatory Review David Wagstaff OBE, Deputy Director of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery, Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ)
10:40	Panel Discussion: Future of NSIP Regime Chaired by Jan Bessell, RTPI President and Strategic Planning Adviser, Pinsent Masons Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie Childs, Planning Solicitor and Partner, Howes Percival • David Wagstaff OBE, Deputy Director, Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery, Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) • Isaac Nunn, NSIP Team Leader, Norfolk County Council • Dave Elvin, Chief Operating Officer, Island Green Power • Anna Payne, Head of DCO Consenting Policy, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)
11:25	Refreshments and networking

11:55	<p>Open Discussion on Cost Recovery and System Improvements</p> <p>Led by National Infrastructure Planning Association (NIPA)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Fox, Legal Director, Pinsent Masons LLP • Joanna Camille-St.Marie, Lawyer, National Grid • Garreth Bruff, Principal Consultant and Martyn Huchings, Planning Advisory Service (PAS)
13:00	Lunch and networking
14:00	<p>Legal Update on NSIPs</p> <p>Emyr Thomas, Partner and Parliamentary Agent, Sharpe Pritchard LLP</p>
14:20	<p>Experience of a Local Authority Engaging with a Reservoir Scheme</p> <p>George Gurney, Principal Strategic Planner (NSIPs), Oxfordshire County Council</p>
14:35	<p>Importance of Quality of Communications and Leadership in Delivering NSIPs</p> <p>Philippa Garden, Senior Associate Director, Jacobs</p>
14:50	<p>Sizewell C: Local Authority lessons from the first two years of construction</p> <p>Michael Moll, Head of Programmes and PMO, Suffolk County Council and Martyn Fulcher, Head of Energy Planning and Costal Management, East Suffolk Council</p>
15:10	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Rob Hancock, Assistant Director, Planning, Housing and Economic Growth, Suffolk County Council</p>
15:15	Close