

Cllr Tanya Ferguson Stour Valley Ward

Report September 2026

Tarchon project-an update (thanks to Cllr Zoe Fairley) .

These Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) are brought forward by huge developers and decided by the government. National Grid (via the Electricity System Operator) officially issued and finalised the grid connection offers (at the proposed East Anglia Connection Node substation at Ardleigh/Little Bromley) for Five Estuaries, North Falls, and Tarchon between 2021 and 2022. These projects are all entirely reliant on the planning decision for National Grid's Norwich to Tilbury project which has been ongoing since 2022. For the projects which have already gone through the lengthy planning process, there have been extensive public consultation events and Planning Inspectorate hearings. Public consultations and hearings have been open to any member of the public who has engaged in the process. The final decisions for these NSIP projects rest with the Secretary of State for Energy.

1. Five Estuaries & North Falls Offshore Wind Farms (Came First)

Public Consultations: Extensive pre-application windows ran throughout 2023 (including Five Estuaries statutory phase from March to May 2023). Public drop-ins were fully open to all at venues including Lawford Venture Centre, Tendring, Ardleigh and Great Bromley Village Halls.

Planning Hearings: Formal Planning Inspectorate hearings took place across late 2024 and 2025 in hybrid formats online and in person in Colchester. North Falls concluded its final hearings on 28 April 2026.

Status & Outcome: Both are fully approved. Five Estuaries was granted its Development Consent Order (DCO) in December 2025, and North Falls was approved on 14 May 2026. Both have moved into detailed design and implementation planning.

2. National Grid's Norwich to Tilbury Project (N2T) (Followed Next)

Public Consultations: Developer-led consultation windows ran in 2022, 2023, and 2024 (statutory phase closed 26 July 2024). Open public drop-in events were held at venues including Lawford Venture Centre, Tendring, Ardleigh and Great Bromley Village Halls.

Planning Hearings: The formal 6-month Examination panel held in-person open hearings at regional hubs: 10 Feb 2026 at Ipswich Town Football Club, late Feb 2026 at Orsett Hall Hotel, and 28 Apr–1 May 2026 at JobServe Community Stadium (Colchester United FC).

Status & Outcome: The formal examination phase officially closed on 10 August 2026. It is now in the Recommendation Stage. The Planning Inspectorate is expected to report to the Secretary of State by 10 November 2026, with a final decision due by February 2027.

3. Tarchon Interconnector Project (Came Later)

Public Consultations (So Far): The initial, non-statutory summer consultation ran for six weeks and closed on 13 August 2026. Five open public drop-in events were held in July 2026 for any resident to attend at The Waterfront (Dovercourt), Great Bromley Village Hall, Ardleigh Village Hall, Venture Centre 2000 (Lawford), and Wix Village Hall.

Planning Hearings: None. Because the formal application has not yet been submitted, no Planning Inspectorate hearings have taken place.

Status & Outcome: Pre-Application stage. The next public phase will be the official, legally binding Statutory Consultation window scheduled for January–March 2027. The final application is not expected to be submitted until January 2028, with a final decision expected in late 2028 or early 2029 (subject to their progress remaining on track)

Residents can see from the timelines above that there will be further opportunity for any member of the public to feed into the Tarchon project as it progresses. Any residents with concerns are encouraged to engage with the consultation process (as was the case for all projects above) - it is not just the Parish Council. Many communities affected by these projects set up Community Groups to follow project progress and submit consultation responses. This, in addition to residents and Parish Councils making their own, individual responses and representations. Ultimately, if people wanted to get involved (for National Grid's, Five Estuaries and North Falls) they could. And for Tarchon, which is at a far earlier stage, they still can.

Planning -Local Plan update

- At the meeting tonight, Tuesday 1st September, the Council will be asked to vote on formally agreeing that the current version of the Local Plan be put out for 6 weeks of public consultation and thereafter be submitted to the Minister.

Please be aware that after the vote is held on 1st September, no further changes can be made, but any suggestions from the Public Consultation can be submitted to the Secretary Of State.

Other news

A decision by Assets & Community Safety Portfolio Holder, Partnerships Portfolio Holder has been published: Tendring's Women Safety Charter.

To formally approve that Tendring District Council signs-up to the Women's Safety Charter.

You can view this decision using the link: [Decision details on intranet web site](#)

To see the publicly available information, follow the link: [Decision details on public web site](#)

Additional recycling boxes being delivered to households across Tendring as part of expanded collection scheme

Each household across Tendring is being delivered an extra recycling box as part of the roll-out of expanded collections in the district.

From October residents will be able to recycle glass at the kerb-side, using the additional green box provided, along with more plastics including pots, tubs and trays, juice cartons and other materials.

The change has been introduced as part of a new contract between Tendring District Council (TDC) and waste contractors Veolia, to improve the service offered and comply with new legislation.

Deliveries began this week (17 August), and alongside the extra container households will also receive leaflets explaining how to use the box, along with their new recycling calendar from October.

The vast majority of homes will see no change to their collections – other than being able to recycle glass on their green collection week – though a small number of properties will see their red/green collection weeks' change around. In one area, Point Clear, residents will also have a change to their collection day; more information is being provided to these households directly, and there are no changes until October.

I will see you at the meeting in October.

Kind Regards and Best Wishes

Tanya Ferguson.