

# Meeting Note



## Community Forum – (9 October 2024)

<b>Meeting Type:</b> Community Forum	<b>Meeting held on:</b> Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2024
<b>Sizewell C Attendees:</b>	<b>External Attendees:</b>
<p><b>Panel:</b>                  Julia Pyke, Managing Director                  Damian Leydon, Site Delivery Director                  Richard Bull, DCO Lead                  Marjorie Barnes, Head of READ                  Chris Young, Head of the Employment Affairs Unit</p> <p><b>Advisers:</b>                  Richard Knight, Senior Community Relations Manager                  Zoe Botten, Community Relations Manager                  Rick Walter, Site Delivery Lead                  Tim Newton, Site Security Manager                  Spencer Bowdler, Site Operations                  Jez Porter, SPM Associated Development, Highways                  Rebecca Calder, Community Environment Manager</p>	<p>Simon Neville – Project Manager, Environment Agency                  Dr Samaneh Nouraei – Sizewell Site Inspector, Office for Nuclear Regulation                  Caroline Botwood, DESNZ Director                  Representatives from Scottish Power / National Grid                  Simon Neville, Project Manager, Environment Agency                  Dr Samaneh Nouraei, Sizewell Site Inspector, Office for Nuclear Regulation                  Louise Smith, Office for Nuclear Regulation, Policy Lead                  Reecia Cullen, Community Liaison Officer for Scottish Power                  Nikki Berry, Representing the Five Estuaries Project                  Miranda Cochrane, External Affairs Manager for National Grid ventures (Lion Link)                  Tom McGarry, Strategic Infrastructure Transmission for National Grid</p> <p><b>Council Representatives:</b>                  Cllr Richard Smith, Suffolk County Council                  Cllr TJ Haworth-Culf, Suffolk County Council                  Cllr Katie Graham, East Suffolk Council                  Cllr Tom Daley, East Suffolk Council                  Cllr Sarah Whitelock, East Suffolk Council                  East Suffolk Town and Parish Councils</p>

1. Welcome and Introduction of the Chair and Panel
2. Sizewell C Managing Director’s Update
3. Project Update and Doing the Power of Good for Suffolk
4. DCO Governance, Implementation and Funding / Approach to Employment Opportunities
5. Project Look Ahead for 2025 & Key Milestones
6. Q&A via Town and Parish Council Representative
7. Dates of Future Meetings

### Meeting Minutes – 09/10/2024

Item Ref	Actions / Comments	Who	By when
1	Welcome and Introductions – (Chair)		
1.01	Christine Abraham, ‘The Chair’, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.  The Chair welcomed the Sizewell C team presenting at the Forum before introducing the additional Sizewell C stakeholders and observers at the meeting.		



Item Ref	Actions / Comments	Who	By when
1.02	<p>The Chair said this is the second East Suffolk wide community meeting for 2024. Following the Spring meeting it was agreed that this forum should meet twice a year and there will now be a Spring and Autumn meeting throughout the duration of the construction of SZC. The Community Forum will rotate venues in the East Suffolk region throughout the construction period.</p> <p>The Chair gave an update on actions following the last meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SZC have updated community letters with branded envelopes.</li> <li>• The Communities team met with Stop Sizewell C representatives Alison Downes and Paul Collins to discuss how the Works Tracker could be improved. The project continues to listen to feedback on the Works Tracker and are working to update the site in the New Year.</li> <li>• Follow up with schools in Halesworth and Bungay to offer education/ Sizewell Creative outreach. The Chair said this will be covered at this meeting.</li> <li>• There is a skills update being discussed tonight with Chris Young from the Employment Affair Unit.</li> <li>• The READ team will meet Leiston Town Council to identify a venue in the Leiston for the next Community Day when planning for 2025 event begins.</li> <li>• Transport Working Group held 30 April with Marlesford and Little Glemham to progress scheme (item 6.22). The next round of transport working groups are also being set up. A regular rhythm of the WG is also being designed for 2025.</li> <li>• An action was raised at the Transport Review Group 25 April to reach out to Cllr Tim Beech (Snape Parish Council) (item 6.01) and other relevant Parishes to discuss monitoring of transport impacts on the local road network to address concerns. SZC has met with Cllr Beech and other town and parish councils to understand the monitoring requirements. The project has now agreed key sites and monitoring starts this month.</li> </ul>		
1.03	<p><b>Forum Feedback</b></p> <p>Sizewell C have now run ten forums throughout 2024. The Main Development Site Forums, Southern and Northern Transport Forums run on a quarterly basis. These forums cover more detail of the construction of the power station and the associated developments, alongside a number of working groups.</p> <p>The purpose of the SZC Community Forum shall be for SZC Co to present updates on project progress during the Construction Period and to provide an opportunity for representatives from communities located in East Suffolk to ask questions, raise issues of concern and receive relevant project information.</p>		
2	<p><b>Sizewell C Managing Director's Update – (Julia Pyke)</b></p>		
2.01	<p>Julia Pyke (JP) gave an update on project progress over the past year.</p>		
2.02	<p>JP began by noting that there has been a change in government since the last forum and that the new ministers in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero are very enthusiastic about Sizewell C. JP informed the Forum that Lord Hunt, the new Minister for Energy Security and Net Zero, was welcomed to SZC in August to see progress on the main construction site, including the new project offices. He also met industrial placement students and a group of students from Alde Valley Academy in Leiston.</p>		



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	<p>JP said SZC recently discussed nuclear new build with the Swedish Government, saying this is important because climate change is a global issue and energy security is an issue for Western Europe.</p> <p>In May, SZC was awarded the nuclear site licence which marked the first time the ONR has awarded one since Hinkley Point C in 2012. On the financial investment decision, JP said SZC was recently awarded another £5.5bn from the UK Government to continue to build to schedule. She said the project continues to engage with its investors and is working closely with the government to achieve the decision as soon as possible.</p> <p>JP said SZC are moving ahead with local projects to deliver lasting benefit to the area and highlighted £25m in funding for a coastal project in Benacre.</p> <p>JP said SZC are investing in the delivery of new skills and employment opportunities and are looking at building a college on the coast in Leiston. She highlighted close working with organisations such as Project 21, Inspire and Access and said it is important to make positive efforts to get people into the workforce. She said SZC is continuing to work with local schools to encourage aspiration and inspire confidence.</p> <p>JP welcomed that local businesses are securing large contracts and that SZC have a commitment to source 80% of workforce food from the local area.</p> <p>SZC is continuing its work on new low carbon technologies which the region can champion, highlighting the Direct Air Capture plans in Lowestoft as an example.</p> <p>JP highlighted SZC's commitment to have clean buses taking the workforce to site and confirmed that its first new hydrogen buses will be arriving soon. SZC has also formed a partnership with Wild East to encourage its suppliers to increase efforts to support biodiversity.</p> <p>JP encouraged people to visit the Sizewell C Information Office in Leiston which is open for the public on weekdays to talk to the project team on issues they want to raise.</p>		
3	<b>Project Update and Doing the Power of Good for Suffolk – (Marjorie Barnes)</b>		
3.01	<p><b>Communities</b> Marjorie Barnes (MB) gave an update on community engagement, outlining Sizewell C's community commitments in relation to building the new power station.</p> <p><b>Enhancing Communications</b> MB ran through actions and improvements made to enhance communications since the last Community Forum meeting. She said the team have gathered feedback and have improved the frequency and volume of opportunities to engage, stressing that the team recognise the importance of getting this right.</p> <p>MB announced that SZC will introduce a more detailed monthly bulletin to be shared with parishes, will update its interactive maps in the office, and will further improve the online works tracker. In the coming weeks and months SZC will look to increase opportunities to engage through SMS and email alert systems so people can subscribe to the issues that matter to them.</p>		



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3.02	<p><b>Minimising the impacts and maximising the benefits</b></p> <p>MB outlined work to manage the social impacts of the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting improvements in local education, raising awareness and increasing engagement.</li> <li>Working with hard-to-reach groups to support next steps in education, training and employment.</li> <li>SZC are working with the Department for Work and Pensions on the delivery of a careers fair taking place on 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Further information on this event was available at the meeting.</li> </ul>		
3.03	<p>MB said the project is aware of its responsibility to manage and mitigate workforce impacts and has made significant investment in both local services and its own services. She also highlighted that SZC has supported several events across the county this summer.</p>		
3.04	<p>MB gave an update on the Sizewell C Community Fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Awards Panel met to determine the first grant applications in September.</li> <li>15 applications were assessed / scored and discussed by the panel.</li> <li>£309,843 was awarded in Round 1.</li> <li>Round 2 closed on 6th October with applicants contacted in January with decisions.</li> <li>Round 3 will close 19th January with applicants contacted in April with decisions.</li> <li>The team will be working with small organisations in the Leiston area over the next few months to ensure these are supported to apply for a grant.</li> </ul>		
4	<p><b>DCO Governance, Implementation and Funding – (Richard Bull)</b></p>		
4.01	<p><b>Governance Group Oversight</b></p> <p>Richard Bull (RB) said work commenced under the DCO in January and at the last Community Forum he had explained the governance groups in place to provide oversight for the project to ensure SZC deliver on what they said it would do in the DOO and DCO.</p> <p>A slide showed the activity that has taken place to date (63 meetings) and a graphic to show the meetings in place going forward. RB gave assurance that SZC want to listen to the outputs of the group and take any challenges back into the business.</p> <p><b>Governance Group – Outputs</b></p> <p>RB summarised the key outputs that have been approved and validated by the Governance Groups to date, including: approved private housing market supply plan; approved annual skills implementation plan; approval of Orwell Logistics Park; approved tourism fund implementation plan; approval of request to move LEEIE caravan park.</p> <p><b>Publication of Meeting Minutes</b></p> <p>RB explained that once finalised, meeting minutes are published onto ESC's online portal. Each Governance Group has a designated section where meeting minutes are chronologically listed and meeting minutes are available for download.</p>		
4.02	<p>RB offered information on the £12m <b>Housing Fund</b> managed by East Suffolk Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase supply of bedspaces in private housing / tourism</li> <li>Support housing advice service / housing and homelessness services resilience measures</li> <li>Support for tourist accommodation outreach, licencing, enforcement and pre-application advice for ESC</li> </ul>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approach to spending set out in a plans to be approved by the Accommodation Working Group</li> <li>The first private housing market supply plan was signed off in July 2024: funding for minor works (£3k) and funding for renovation grants (£7k)</li> <li>Accommodation Management System: currently seeking rentals with a price range of under £50 per night.</li> </ul>		
4.03	RB outlined details on the £12m <b>Tourism Fund</b> managed by East Suffolk Council Tourism Programme Manager: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To support the maintenance, development, and enhancement of a sustainable visitor economy</li> <li>Approach to spend set out in Annual Tourism Fund Implementation Plan to be approved by the Tourism Working Group.</li> </ul>		
4.04	RB offered information on the <b>Annual Tourism Implementation Plan</b> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of Tourism Strategies and Action Plans</li> <li>Marketing and promotion activities for East Suffolk and specific attractions and events within it</li> <li>Supporting initiatives that enhance, complement, or promote rights of way and cycleways</li> <li>Developing monitoring and market research, including monitoring the visitor economy and visitor behaviour, undertaking future visitor surveys, and market research.</li> </ul>		
4.05	RB said the <b>Natural Environment Improvement Fund</b> is a £12m fund to mitigate the residual landscape and visual impacts of the project. It aims to enhance ecology, biodiversity, and wildlife, and improve habitat connectivity and resilience. <p>Applicants must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registered charity</li> <li>Landowner or group of landowners in the vicinity of the Project</li> <li>Community group, voluntary organisation, social enterprise, or public body</li> <li>An individual(s) or business(es) where the project shows a clear benefit to the wider community</li> </ul> <p>Applications will be encouraged to demonstrate how the project may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise pollution of the land, air, and water</li> <li>Encourage community engagement, ownership or empowerment</li> <li>Conserve and support cultural heritage</li> <li>Promote local community action</li> <li>Make use of local suppliers, products, and services</li> <li>Will be able to access other funding either in cash or in kind.</li> </ul>		
5	<b>Approach to Employment Opportunities – (Chris Young)</b>		
5.01	Chris Young (CY) outlined the Sizewell C people and skills commitments. <p>Sizewell C are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Playing an active and influential role in regional skills development.</li> <li>Delivering a Sizewell C Jobs Service in partnership with the region – ensuring that local employment is maximised.</li> </ul>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing a substantial fund for skills enhancement of facilities and resources in local colleges, Higher Education and training providers.</li> <li>• Funding a regionally-based skills manager, to coordinate the region's response to skills requirements at Sizewell C and other Energy projects.</li> <li>• Delivering a 'conveyor' of opportunity for people from East Anglia to gain work at HPC, returning to Sizewell C in progressive and high-level roles.</li> <li>• Working with local schools and colleges and create a 'Young Sizewell C' initiative to help raise young people's aspirations, and help them gain important opportunities on the Sizewell C project and its supply chain.</li> <li>• Creating a bursary scheme to help young people find an alternative pathway to work.</li> <li>• Creating 1,500 Sizewell C apprenticeships, with at least 540 from Suffolk.</li> <li>• Maximising opportunities for diverse and hard-to-reach groups to gain life-enhancing career opportunities at Sizewell C.</li> <li>• Funding a pre-employment training and outreach initiative, working in close partnership with the LEP, Councils, DWP and the third sector.</li> </ul>		
5.02	<p><b>DCO Investments to Support Activities</b></p> <p><b>Asset Skills Enhancement and Capability Fund (ASEC)</b> Key learning from Hinkley Point C is to align ASEC Funds to each Project phase and approved Annual Skills Implementation Plans (ASIP).</p> <p>Sizewell C Deed of Obligation allocates the ASEC fund on the following basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15% to 25% on adoption of Site Operations, Support Services and Enabling Works (Phase 1)</li> <li>• 35% to 45% on adoption of the Main Civil Construction (Phase 2)</li> <li>• 35% to 45% on adoption of the MEH (Mechanical, Electrical, Heating) Workforce (Phase 3)</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Outreach and Bursary Funds</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £1.6m Employment Outreach Fund</li> <li>• £0.75 Sizewell C Bursary Fund</li> <li>• £1.3m Regional Skills Coordination</li> <li>• £1m Education Fund</li> <li>• £4.75m Jobs Service &amp; Young Sizewell C</li> </ul>		
5.03	<p>CY outlined work that has taken place to date.</p> <p><b>Early Workforce Information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Workforce Information published in March 2023.</li> <li>• Shared with local partners through extensive engagement.</li> <li>• April 2024 Updated Early Workforce Information and shared with local partners.</li> <li>• Role-based forecasts focussed on first three years to 2027.</li> <li>• Updating and sharing Early Workforce Information is an annual commitment and aligned with ASIP development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment and Training Prospectus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Showcase for employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Based on Early Workforce forecasts.</li> <li>• Sets out opportunities by construction phase by job roles.</li> </ul>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contains case studies and links to local college partners.</li> <li>Updated regularly, and will be made available as an interactive web-based resource.</li> </ul> <p><b>Working with Local Education Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MOUs signed with all Suffolk Education and Academic Partners.</li> <li>Regular meetings of all CEOs, Principals, and Vice-Chancellors to plan for delivery, implementation, and supply chain collaboration.</li> <li>Currently engaging Norfolk and Essex Education partners to support wider regional network.</li> <li>Supply Chain being engaged to directly support education, employment and skills delivery.</li> <li>MOU also signed with Suffolk Voluntary Sector Partners, supporting employment outreach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Education &amp; Outreach</b> Young Sizewell C Registrations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1333 registrants in total</li> <li>585 in the last month</li> </ul> <p><b>Constructionarium</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In July 2024, Sizewell C funded a group of 13 students (16/17-year-olds)</li> <li>First time supporting College students (typically University-focused)</li> <li>Week residential at Bircham Newton, Norfolk facility</li> <li>CVs received already enquiring about placements and apprenticeships.</li> </ul>		
5.04	<p>CY gave an update on work that is currently taking place.</p> <p><b>Apprenticeships</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34 Sizewell C Project Apprentices to date.</li> <li>20 Sizewell C Co. Apprentices started last month</li> <li>Apprenticeship recruitment has been 50% female since the programme began in 2021.</li> <li>Project Controls and Project Management Degree Apprenticeship curriculum currently being developed with the University of Suffolk.</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>108 new roles posted on the Sizewell C Jobs Service in the month of August</li> <li>179 new candidate registrations on the Sizewell C Jobs Service in August – bringing the total to date to 1,440.</li> </ul> <p><b>Annual Skills Implementation Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SZC have approved the first Annual Skills Implementation Plan (ASIP) for the period September 2024 to August 2025. This now allows Suffolk County Council to begin the process of launching significant new funds for applications:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asset Skills Enhancement Capability Fund – £12.8m. Aimed primarily at FE Colleges and training providers</li> <li>Employment Outreach Fund - £1.6m. Aimed at Social Partners and wider VCSE sector, inc. FE providers</li> <li>Bursary Fund - £750k. Aimed at directly supporting learners that need additional support to access education and training.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		



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	- Sizewell C Jobs Service – Fully funded and free to all.		
5.05	<p>CY outlined future plans. In the coming months, SZC will continue everything it is already doing, and more, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment Outreach – working with the social partners to support people into work; building on work with Project 21, Inspire, and Access; and piloting new employment programmes with the DWP.</li> <li>• Young People &amp; Apprenticeships – ramping up activity for young people, access to information and experiences that enable them to make informed decisions on their future.</li> <li>• Launching a new Adult Education centre in Lowestoft with East Coast College.</li> <li>• Mobilising the Regional Skills Coordination Function, funded by Sizewell C, delivered through Suffolk County Council and supported by East Suffolk Council.</li> <li>• Working with other regional energy and infrastructure projects on skills development including offshore wind, national grid, solar and transport.</li> </ul> <p>CY summarised that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community engagement and collaboration is crucial to enable Sizewell C to deliver its ambitions on skills, education, and employment.</li> <li>• SZC’s regional skills legacy is the long-term ambition that you/we will all benefit from – a rich and diverse highly skilled regional talent pool.</li> <li>• SZC are fully committed to the people, skills and local employment agenda.</li> <li>• The Sizewell C Job Service, Young Sizewell C and Power Up programmes are all operational and available.</li> </ul>		
5.06	<p>The Chair welcomed questions on the presentations so far.</p> <p>Cllr Sarah Whitelock asked whether the hydrogen buses will use blue or green hydrogen. JP said SZC have committed to it being green hydrogen and have done a lot of work with the government to ensure that electricity generated from nuclear is eligible to be counted as green hydrogen.</p>		
5.07	<p>Cllr Michael Mahony said there were two occasions in the presentation when the term ‘region’ was used, arguing that this can often be imprecise. He called for clarity on the meaning of this and consistent use of this term going forward.</p> <p>CY said the project is referring to the counties of Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex from a jobs opportunities perspective when using the term ‘region’.</p> <p>JP said it is the same definition for food but said what the project really wants to do is reduce food miles.</p>		
5.08	<p>Cllr Stephen Brett said he was concerned regarding discussion on the financial investment decision, asking whether it is a company or government decision.</p> <p>JP explained that SZC is owned by shareholders, the UK Government and EDF, and the final investment decision is a decision for the UK Government as a majority shareholder.</p>		
5.09	<p>Cllr Tom Daley was interested in SZC’s work with Wild East on landscape centred food sourcing and wanted to find out more about this.</p> <p>JP said the project is keen to join up with others to achieve landscape scale recovery.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> JP said SZC would be happy to arrange a meeting with Cllr Daly and the Wild East team to talk about how they can work together.</p> <p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Cllr Daly confirmed that a meeting has taken place with SZC and looked forward to meeting with Wild East.</p>	SZC team	





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5.10	<p>Cllr Daly said he was pleased to see that SZC are looking at the offshore wind projects when considering skill sets, questioning how they are working with these projects.</p> <p>CY said SZC understands that it is part of a wider skills landscape in the region and that it needs to understand the skills requirements of the other projects to work in a complementary way rather than in competition. He said that understanding forecasts is key for SZC and the other projects, offering assurance that SZC will continue to work with projects to understand each of their requirements.</p>		
5.11	<p>Cllr Mike Wells said that Southwold and Reydon had been promised a slice of the Community Fund but are no longer eligible. He questioned how a pledge previously made was suddenly withdrawn.</p> <p>MB stressed the need to be clear on what the Sizewell C Community Fund is there to do, saying it has been designed to mitigate the impact of the project and there is a fine detail within the DOO as to how impact is measured. She explained that it is a mechanism to work with communities most impacted and to fund projects that improve the lifestyles of these communities whilst SZC is carrying out this work.</p> <p>MB recognised that the project could do more to improve its communication on the fund. She apologised to the town council and recognised their disappointment for not receiving the funding but offered assurance that there are other funding pots and grants available. She added that the project can give more information on how the grants criteria is applied and how SZC can work with the Community Foundation to communicate this more clearly.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> She suggested that SZC could do something on this with Southwold in particular.</p> <p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Suffolk Community Foundation has been in contact with Southwold Town Council to provide guidance on funding criteria.</p>	MB	
5.12	<p>Cllr Marianne Fellowes said it can be hard to follow all the information and made a plea for speaker notes and PowerPoints to be available to members, preferably whilst the meeting is taking place or in advance of the meeting.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> The SZC team are considering the request for presentation content to be distributed in advance of the meeting.</p> <p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b> SZC team working towards having the presentations available ahead of the forums.</p>	SZC	
5.13	<p>Cllr Fellowes asked what percentage of workers will come from HPC. She noted the recent uplift in the numbers at HPC and said that part of SZC's messaging to keep the cost down is that people will join the project from Hinkley Point C.</p> <p>CY said SZC knows it needs to bring skills from HPC to SZC and they estimate that to be around 50%. However, he added that SZC also want to ensure around 30% are from the local area and 20% new to industry to retain skills and pass them on.</p>		
5.14	<p>Cllr Fellowes said SZC have described taking food from local provisioners as a good thing but warned that local producers are not able to just step up provision for a short time. She said they need a lot of investment and questioned what happens to investment into an enhanced supply chain when SZC no longer have need of it. She added that there is not a glut in this area within local food miles, meaning prices will go up for the community to get that short supply of locally needed food. She said there are often unforeseen consequences and the SZC panel tend to focus on the positive aspect of decisions, calling for more balanced language in announcements and to consider the wider consequences they have.</p> <p>JP said that once the power station has been constructed there will be a permanent workforce of 900 and whenever there is an outage, there will be an additional 1,000 people managing outages, so there is a large permanent increase in the number of people buying food in the region as a result of the construction of SZC. She said that if farmers do not want</p>		



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	to sell produce, then that is their choice. She said SZC is aiming to maximise its purchase from the local area which is a good thing but if the food is not available then they will buy it from elsewhere.		
5.15	<p>Cllr Klaus Fortmann asked about SZC’s workforce, noting that Hinkley recently saw a huge increase in the workforce up to 11,000 from 8,000. He asked whether SZC’s forecast on the workforce is definite or whether there are grey areas.</p> <p>CY said there are no grey areas and that SZC, to its benefit, is learning from HPC. He said SZC’s peak workforce number is 7,500. The way it is currently approaching its forecasting is to make sure it is staying within this number and to apply the learning from Hinkley in the way it constructs the power station.</p>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Project Look Ahead for 2025 &amp; Key Milestones – (Damian Leydon)</b>		
6.01	A film was shown which highlighted the latest site developments. Damian Leydon (DL) offered a high-level view of the programme. He stated that there is a lot of ecology and archaeology works to go through, which must be respected, making it hard to put finite dates on early parts of the project.		
6.02	<p>DL outlined work with other infrastructure projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throughout the project, SZC meet with other infrastructure projects on a variety of topics, including communications and community engagement and logistics to understand planning and timelines.</li> <li>Each project is at different stages of their DCOs.</li> <li>SZC is in regular contact with Scottish Power Renewables and joined up with Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council.</li> <li>They are working to ensure that each other’s DCO do not overlap, and works complement and do not duplicate.</li> <li>Scottish Power attends the Transport Review Group.</li> <li>Working groups on logistics and communications are up and running.</li> </ul>		
<b>7</b>	<b>Q&amp;A via Town and Parish Council Representative – (Chair)</b>		
7.01	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Aldeburgh Town Council “Aldeburgh Town Council is keen to understand and support the opportunities provided by the project especially to local residents and businesses. We are already seeing examples of the negative impact of workers migrating for higher pay, and providers leaving the local housing or holiday accommodation market.</p> <p>Will you commit to provide detailed and regularly updated information about these in order to monitor and mitigate including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>anonymous information of the postcode/town of residence of workers (those that resided in the area at least 6 months prior to commencing work)</li> <li>the supply chain/direct benefits into Aldeburgh businesses/community</li> <li>the number of accommodation places within our town on your register of providers. (If an initial data set could be provided at the meeting this would be appreciated).” <p><b>Answer</b> Richard Bull (RB) said this is not a straightforward ‘yes’ answer. He said the Deed of Obligation sets out SZC’s commitments to reporting on the workforce. The afternote below sets out further detail.</p> </li></ul>		



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	<p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b></p> <p><b>Accommodation</b></p> <p>SZC have committed to undertake 6 monthly workforce survey in the Deed of Obligation and the results will be reported into the accommodation working group. This will include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• estimated number / location of non-home-based workers (people whose permanent address is elsewhere) and home-based workers (people commuting from home) and split of accommodation types</li> <li>• it will also check whether people have permanently located to Suffolk as a result of the project</li> <li>• number of workers bringing families by location and age breakdown e.g. pre-school / primary / secondary age children or adults</li> </ul> <p>This will be reported at ward or postcode level, so IP15 for Aldeburgh.</p> <p>In terms of the accommodation management system, SZC will be reporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• amount of stock registered</li> <li>• number of NHB Workers registered</li> <li>• utilisation of Project Accommodation (when built)</li> </ul> <p>SZC will not be breaking stock down into postcode level location although if the accommodation working group requested it because they felt there may be pressures in some areas, we could look at this. Generally the workforce survey data should be more helpful though because accommodation on the AMS may not be taken up by workers e.g. if too expensive. The first workforce survey was completed in August 24 and the results are currently being compiled for presentation at the next group (end of October).</p> <p><b>Supply Chain</b></p> <p>In terms of supply chain, SZC will be reporting the following to the supply chain working group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• total value of contracts awarded to businesses based in East of England, by District;</li> <li>• value of contracts awarded to businesses based in East of England by work package / sector, by District</li> <li>• total number and sector of businesses registered on the 'Supply Chain Portal' website by completeness of profile (Not Ready, Almost Ready, Ready), by District</li> <li>• number of transitions from Not Ready to Almost Ready and the number of transitions from Almost Ready to Ready</li> <li>• number of pre-qualification questionnaires and contracts applied for by businesses based in East of England by District</li> <li>• activities/events undertaken in accordance with the Supply Chain Principles and set out by the Supply Chain Work Plan by District.</li> </ul>		
7.02	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b></p> <p>Submitted by Cllr Maureen Jones, Aldringham-cum-Thorpe Parish Council "Sizewell C are hoping to have their own Medical Centre etc., on site. Would these co-ordinate and help out with the Local Dr's surgeries if they were needed.</p> <p>Obviously a lot of our Parishioners are elderly and all of the work going on could have an effect on their mental health and wellbeing."</p>		



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	<p><b>Answer</b> RB said the medical centre and medical clinicians are for the workforce of SZC and will be working all their hours on site. However, RB said SZC will need to keep this under review going forward and make sure other funding available is directed in the right way.</p> <p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b> The Community Fund has been provided to promote the economic, social, or environmental well-being of communities in East Suffolk and enhance their quality of life. As part of this, the Community Foundation must liaise with the East Suffolk Community Partnerships to assist those with Protected Characteristics (of which age is one) or projects supporting those with Protected Characteristics in identifying projects suitable for the receipt of Grants and making applications for Grants. There is also provision within the Public Services Resilience Fund for initiatives to support people experiencing differential or disproportionate effects due to their Protected Characteristics and to support the commissioning and delivery of in-home care services to residents.</p>		
7.03	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council “Fly parking in lay-bys (lorries and individual contractors) is increasing, as is traffic on the non-designated routes in and around Leiston. How is SZC trying to address this - especially during the current (and future) SZB outages? It will be several years before mitigation measures like P&amp;R and the link road are ready for the peak period.”</p> <p><b>Answer</b> Damian Leydon (DL) said SZC have listened and have been acting on this through the intelligence they receive from Marjorie Barnes. He said SZC have been going back to the source in the supply chain to have a conversation on the need to follow the routes set out. He also said SZC are forming an interim FMF to avoid causing tailbacks and have also agreed with Suffolk County Council to put signage in the lay-bys stating ‘no Sizewell traffic’.</p>		
7.04	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council “How is SZC currently contributing to educational attainment and aspiration locally? Not just in STEM but in other subjects that will progress to employment across the range of skills required for SZC. In addition, an upskilled workforce is required to backfill employees transferring to the project and to ensure the area continues to prosper economically after the build is completed.”</p> <p><b>Answer</b> CY said this is linked to SZC’s work and activities in local schools, including the Power Up Program and Young SZC. He said SZC’s key work in this area is in the bridge between education and employment – the Bursary and Outreach funding (collectively 3.5 million) are aimed at raising aspiration and reaching/supporting people who would otherwise not be working at SZC. Backfill and displacement is one of the key reasons for the DCO ‘Skills Mitigation Fund’. This puts £24 million into making sure the region invests in the skills that the region needs – not just SZC – including a Jobs Service that is free to all and £12.5 million investments in colleges to support ‘regional need’.</p>		
7.05	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council “Whilst you have provided a timeline for the start and finish of various Associated Development projects (SLR etc) which was helpful as an overview, could this now be made</p>		



Item Ref	Actions / Comments	Who	By when
	<p>more granular, with the various phases of construction broken down - such as archaeological investigations etc by date, as these projects are now beginning?"</p> <p><b>Answer</b> DL reiterated that it is difficult putting bookends on the ecology and archaeology works. He said the project has listened to people about wanting to know more, hence the more regular monthly updates with forecasts on what they are doing. He said the forums and the monthly pamphlet will be opportunities to share more detail with people on the works.</p>		
7.06	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council "Where does SZC intend to access the compound (A12/Town Farm Road) that will be used for the SLR?"</p> <p><b>Answer</b> DL said the team could go into more detail at next week's Main Development Site Forum. He said that at the last quarterly meeting, SZC offered the council – if accepted by the other infrastructure projects – to pull a plan together to see if they can sequence works to lessen the impact on the community.</p>		
7.08	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Michael Mahony, Chairman, Friston Parish Council "There are proposals to develop six other nationally significant energy infrastructure projects in East Suffolk, East Anglia One North, East Anglia Two, the National Grid connection hub at Friston, Sealink, Lionlink and Nautilus. There may be more. All of these projects will use the same infrastructure as Sizewell C. It is likely that work on East Anglia Two and the National Grid connection hub will start next year. This community is under siege from multiple major construction activities. How is Sizewell C currently coordinating with these projects now and what does it plan to do in the future?"</p> <p><b>Answer</b> Julia Pyke reiterated that there is discussion between SZC and some of the other projects in the region. The council holds meetings with the projects and SZC are keen to engage and coordinate, as demonstrated by the presence of representatives from other infrastructure projects at the Community Forum.</p>		
7.09	<p>Cllr Mahony welcomed that a slide was included in the presentation on the issue but said there are representatives from Scottish Power and National Grid at the meeting and he was keen to hear confirmation from them that they will work closely with SZC. He noted that they attend the TRG and asked whether they would commit to attend all the SZC Transport Forums as Network Rail do.</p> <p>Tom McGarry, speaking on behalf of National Grid Electricity Transmission responsible for the Sea Link project, said National Grid have been in discussions with SZC and Scottish Power. He said it is important to note that National Grid have just been through three stages of public consultation and there is a lot of work to do now in terms of the change control process to finalise the proposals, and in doing so they will have a better understanding of what the actual traffic impacts will be. He said once this is submitted it goes into examination and subject to the outcome, there will be further engagement with local authorities, Suffolk County Council as the highways authority to discuss conditions around the number of movements. He therefore said it is a question of timing of when National Grid join something</p>		



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	like the Transport Forum. He said, the answer is yes in principle, and they will continue to engage with SZC.		
7.10	Cllr Mahony said one National Grid project has already been consented and is likely starting in a year from now, so reiterated the importance of information sharing. He argued it is vital that both National Grid and Scottish Power attend all forums.		
7.11	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Michael Mahony, Chairman, Friston Parish Council "The agenda has an item on employment opportunities. This area has a skills shortage and I am aware of one local contractor where a newly qualified member of its team was poached by Sizewell C at a 50% greater salary. The local contractor could not compete with this. Given the skills shortage it is considering closing down its business. What is Sizewell C doing now to address the skills shortage and will it undertake not to undermine the viability of local businesses and the services they provide to the local community by employing their staff?"</p> <p><b>Answer</b> CY said there is a national skills shortage and said people tend to not be poached – they will apply themselves to roles. However, he said SZC do accept this is a problem that we all need to address. A lot of work has gone in, with the support of the Unions, to ensure that SZC pays a fair wage and is in-line with various national agreements to ensure that there are not differential rates of pay on SZC itself or in the regional/national economy. However, SZC do recognise that its agreements, signed in April this year, do, and will make SZC an attractive place to work and that backfill, and displacement may occur as a result. SZC's agreements outline clearly that fair and transparent recruitment is a must and that will be overseen across its supply chain by the Employment Affairs Unit. Prior to its agreements being fully enacted, SZC have in place something called Transitional Arrangements and Minimum Standards that will be overseen by a clear and effective governance structure to ensure what is outlined is being applied.</p> <p>CY added that SZC also recognise that skills shortages impact on all employers and all projects and if it is difficult to recruit high demand roles in the local economy it is therefore SZC's problem also. To address the skills shortage SZC has funded a Regional Skills Coordination Function. The role of this function is to identify areas of skills shortage in the region and to channel our collective employment and skills funding into investments and interventions that fill the gap. SZC will do this in partnership with key stakeholders, such as DWP, Colleges, Social Partners – who will join us in Thematic Groups.</p> <p>Each group will work to an Annual Skills Implementation Plan – the first of which was signed off last month. SZC look forward to working with its regional partners, to address skills shortages, mitigate the negative skills impacts of SZC and to create as many opportunities for local people as possible – both on SZC and in local businesses.</p>		
7.12	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Cllr Tim Beach, Snape Parish Council "As SZC is aware there has been ongoing work by many town and parish councils to create a formal representative body that can engage efficiently and effectively with central government, local government and the energy project companies. Does SCZ support the principle of such a representative group and engagement with that body?"</p> <p><b>Answer</b></p>		



Item Ref	Actions / Comments	Who	By when
	<b>ACTION:</b> JP said SZC support the principle and would be happy to have a meeting after the forum on this, along with Cllr Michael Mahony.	<b>ACTION</b>	
7.13	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Cllr Stephen Brett, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council "You have previously informed us that all employees of SZC have to sign a code of conduct. Could you please publish this so we can understand what this entails."</p> <p><b>Answer</b> CY said it will be made available via the website and gave assurance that every single member of the workforce must undertake a site induction and sign the code of conduct before getting a site access pass. <b>ACTION:</b> This is due to be published on the SZC website. <b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Complete</p>	SZC team	
7.14	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> <b>Submitted by Cllr Stephen Brett, Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council</b> "The environmental impact of Sizewell C was justified by the timely creation of replacement and mitigation habitat but we have concerns with delays to some of these projects as in the with the mitigation at Benhall. Can you please give a brief update on the replacement habitats you are creating."</p> <p><b>Answer</b> DL said Wild Aldhurst started its journey nearly 10 years ago and welcomed the success of the project. He said SZC is on target to get Wild Aldhurst redesignated as tripe SI in the coming months. In terms of Benhall, he said the right thing to do was to stop the works and wait for the area to drain, adding that the works will complete by the end of the year.</p>		
7.15	<p><b>Pre-submitted Question</b> Submitted by Campsea Ashe Parish Council "Campsea Ashe is concerned about the current signage advising Construction Traffic, as the only sign not mentioning 'no turn-off for SZWC Construction Traffic' is at the last junction(Wickham Market/Campsea Ashe) prior the A12 northbound being reduced to one lane and at the point where the B1078 would offer a seemingly logical alternative route (via Snape/Tunstall) for that traffic.</p> <p>We also feel that the current signage, together with the other advisory signs for the other projects have become confusing and feel rather temporary, as well as being likely to get blown over during high winds.</p> <p>CA PC would like to ask for a general improvement of signage in the southern area as well as a clear no SZWC construction sign at the B1078/A12 junction."</p> <p><b>Answer</b> RB confirmed that there will be a sign as requested by Campsea Ashe Parish Council. <b>ACTION:</b> He said SZC can undertake a review of the quality of signage more generally in the southern area to ensure it is fit for purpose and there is process ongoing which will increase the permanency of those signs. <b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Ongoing process to increase permanency of signage.</p>	RB	
7.16	Cllr TJ Haworth Culf raised an instance of a tanker on the main road pumping water away, seeking assurance that SZC are looking into this and there will be a proper policy in place. She then reported that a lot of people in the area are being pushed out of privately rented		



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	<p>accommodation. She also raised concerns about villages being used as rat runs, calling for a proper policy which ensures people go via a correct route.  <b>ACTION:</b> Damian Leydon and David Peacop would speak with Cllr Haworth Culf at the end of the meeting. DL stressed that going off the routes isn't acceptable and SZC do not put up with this.  <b>AFTERNOTE:</b> - COMPLETE Details provided of routes and process for investigation if breached.</p>	DL and DP	
7.17	<p>Cllr Haworth Culf argued that the grants available for people to do up their houses is a low figure. She said people are finding it difficult to register their interest because of the two-layered factor they have to get through, and asked when it will open.                      MB said the accommodation management system is running. On the grant, she said the office has not received many enquiries to date but encouraged representatives to share any enquiries they have received with the SZC team.  <b>ACTION:</b> MB suggested picking up the discussion on the grant process after the meeting with Rebecca Calder who sits on the housing fund panel.  <b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Ongoing discussions should this be required.</p>	RC	
7.18	<p>Cllr Nicky Corbett asked whether there are other ways that information can be provided, for example via apps, noting that some representatives feel there is a burden on their shoulders to put the wealth of information they receive out into the community.                      MB said SZC are aware of the quantity of information coming out of the project. The monthly bulletin is designed to have the information in one place, in addition to having an office on the high street, the forums, and SZC attending town council meetings. She said SZC are making every effort to make information accessible and are always looking at ways to improve this. On advertising opportunities for skills and jobs, MB said there are ample opportunities in this field, and said the project will be interested to see the uptake for the upcoming jobs fair in Leiston.                      The Chair said the team would find it useful to have feedback on the way information is presented and shared.</p>		
7.19	<p>Cllr Geraldine Barker asked whether the Lowestoft adult education centre is advisory or whether people are actually receiving skills training.                      CY said it will be advisory but will be about directing those that go to receive guidance to the right skills and training to upskill them. He said JP had already mentioned that SZC also want to invest in a skills facility in Leiston to make it accessible.                      JP said Leiston will principally be a training centre. CY added that the training will cover many of the skills areas needed on the project, from catering to construction.</p>		
7.20	<p>Charlotte Fox made an observation that on the slide regarding SZC's coordination with other infrastructure projects, noting that there was mention of National Grid converter projects, Sea Link and LionLink, and asked for these to be added to the slide.  <b>ACTION:</b> The slides will be updated as requested.  <b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Complete</p>	SZC team	
7.21	<p>A representative from Kelsale Parish Council asked about the project's strategy for bats. She had received a letter from an individual who reported that a lot of surveys had been carried out on her house and there are plans to cut the branches down on the trees and net them so bats don't get in. She asked whether this is normal practice.</p>		





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	<p>RB said the project is working with Natural England and has the protected species licences required. He said a bat barn has been built and there are also restrictions in the DCO on the bat corridor.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> RB agreed to come back with more details as to why the tree was netted in this area.</p> <p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Details shared with Kelsale-cum-Carlton Parish Council when SZC attended the parish council meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</p>	RB	
7.22	<p>Cllr Mauren Jones said HPC has gone overbudget and asked whether SZC will provide costings for the project throughout its construction.</p> <p>JP said the project is currently running to budget and the reason the government has created the Regulated Asset Base model and found that SZC should be eligible is because it is a copy of HPC. She said a lot of the overruns at HPC come from lack of designed certainty in the detail, as well as Covid. SZC are copying the exact design and therefore there is a lot of confidence in the cost estimate.</p> <p>JP said she is not sure it is in the public interest to have a continuous run of project costs. She said what is of interest to the public is the impact of SZC on electricity bills and said the project will publish details in this regard. She gave assurance that SZC are transparent with the government on project spend.</p>		
7.23	<p>Cllr Klaus Fortmann said the community fund is limited in what you can apply for, yet the project's impacts are wide, calling for clarification on this.</p> <p>MB explained that the areas impacted have been decided and determined in the DCO so it is quite clear but agreed that SZC need to disseminate this better to local communities.</p> <p><b>ACTION:</b> The Chair said the fund was not live at the last meeting and suggested that it would be a good idea to provide an update on the fund at the next Community Forum.</p> <p><b>AFTERNOTE:</b> Complete</p>	SZC team	
8	<p><b>Dates of Future Meetings – (Chair)</b></p>		
8.01	<p>The dates of future Forum meetings were provided.</p> <p><b>Main Development Site Forum</b> Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2024</p> <p><b>Northern Transport Forum</b> Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024</p> <p><b>Southern Transport Forum</b> Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024</p>		
8.02	<p>The Chair said that the next community forum would be held in the spring and dates for the 2025 fora will be shared soon.</p> <p>The meeting closed.</p>		