

Statement of Common Ground

Between: Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and UK Power Networks (UKPN).

Relating to: The provision of electricity distribution infrastructure to support the Sevenoaks District Local Plan and supporting Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

1. Purpose of this Statement

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground records the shared understanding between Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and UK Power Networks (UKPN) regarding electricity distribution infrastructure in supporting the level and distribution of growth proposed in the Sevenoaks District Local Plan. It provides evidence of ongoing engagement and collaboration and supports the Local Plan by confirming areas of agreement and identifying any matters where further work may be required.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

- 2.1 SDC is responsible for preparing the Local Plan and Infrastructure Delivery Plan, identifying infrastructure needs arising from growth, and securing delivery through planning policy and developer contributions.
- 2.2 UKPN is the Distribution Network Operator (DNO) responsible for operating, maintaining and developing the electricity distribution network across the Sevenoaks District area. UKPN works with developers and other stakeholders to facilitate connections to the electricity network and undertakes reinforcement works where required to accommodate additional demand arising from development.

3. Evidence Considered

- 3.1 Both parties have considered the following evidence in forming this Statement:
- The scale and distribution of growth set out in the Sevenoaks District Local Plan;
 - The Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2026;
 - UKPN Long Term Development Statement (LTDS) and Network Development Plan – South Eastern Power Networks 2025
 - UKPN RIIO-ED2 (2023–2028) Business Plan; and
 - National and local policy and guidance, including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

4. Areas of Agreement

- 4.1 SDC and UKPN agree that:

1. Proportionate engagement has taken place between SDC and UKPN in the preparation of the Sevenoaks District Local Plan, including consideration of electricity infrastructure requirements arising from planned growth.
2. Both parties acknowledge and support the objectives of Local Plan Policy UD1 and agree that the provision of appropriate utility infrastructure is necessary to support the sustainable delivery of planned growth across the District.
3. UKPN is confident that the electricity distribution network will be capable of supporting the level of growth proposed in the Sevenoaks District Local Plan. Any upgrade works required to accommodate future development can be addressed through established network planning, connection and investment processes.
4. UKPN's assessment is based on current network conditions and available information. Further assessment may be required as development proposals come forward and detailed connection requirements are established.
5. Both parties are committed to ongoing engagement throughout the plan period and to sharing relevant information to inform future reviews of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and other supporting evidence.

5. Areas of Ongoing Work / Matters Not Yet Agreed

- 5.1 The following matters will continue to be monitored through ongoing engagement:
1. The outcome of future connection applications and detailed network assessments associated with development proposals.
 2. Any network reinforcement requirements identified through future development proposals and connection assessments.
 3. Changes in electricity demand, network conditions and infrastructure requirements arising during the plan period.
- 5.2 Both parties are committed to ongoing engagement on these matters throughout the plan period.

6. Delivery and Phasing

- 6.1 SDC and UKPN acknowledge that any upgrades to the electricity distribution network will depend on:

- The timing and phasing of development;
- The location, scale and specific connection requirements identified through future connection applications; and
- The findings of any future network assessments undertaken by UKPN.

6.2 Indicative delivery timescales are set out in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and will be refined as further information becomes available in due course.

7. Signatures

Signed on behalf of Sevenoaks District Council	
Name:	
Role:	
Date:	

Signed on behalf of UK Power Networks	
Name:	
Role:	
Date:	