Court & Social

Court Circular

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 3rd
The King, Royal Founding Patron, The King's Trust, this morning held a Youth Opportunity Summit at Buckingham Palace.

The Hon Louise Arbour was received in audience by His Majesty this afternoon upon her appointment as Governor-General of Canada.

Mr Paul Brummell was received in audience by The King upon his appointment as British High Commissioner to the Republic of Mauritius.

Dr Adriana Brummell was also received by His Majesty.

The following were received in audience by The King and kissed hands upon their appointment as His Majesty's Ambassadors: Mr Mark Bryson-Richardson (the Arab Republic of Egypt), Ms Sarah Hulton (the Republic of the Philippines and non-resident Ambassador to the Republic of Palau), Mr Charles King (the Federal Republic of Somalia) and Ms Joanne Lomas (the Republic of Estonia).

Ms Nima Elbagir, Mr Anthony Hulton, Ms Anna Grove and Mr Christopher Finucane were also received by His Majesty.

The President of the Republic of Ghana visited The King.

The King held a Council at 4.30pm.

There were present: the Rt Hon Sir Alan Campbell MP (Lord President), the Rt Hon David Lammy MP (Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice), the Baroness Smith of Basildon (Leader of the House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal) and the Baroness Smith of Malvern (Minister for Skills and Minister for Women and Equalities).

The Lord Arthurson was sworn in as a member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Richard Tilbrook was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Rt Hon Sir Clive Alderton (Principal Private Secretary to Their Majesties) was in attendance.

The Rt Hon Sir Alan Campbell MP had an audience of His Majesty before the Council.

The Queen, Patron, the National Literacy Trust, and Patron, the Big Lunch, having been received by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London (Sir Kenneth Olisa), today visited the British Library, Euston Road, London NW1, to mark the National Year of Reading, and subsequently joined a Big Lunch taking place in the British Library Piazza.

Her Majesty this afternoon held a Tea Party at Clarence House for children supported by the Dreams and Wishes charity.

The King and Queen were represented by the Marquess of Salisbury KG at the Service of Celebration for Lady Hobson (philanthropist) which was held at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2, today.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 3rd
The Prince of Wales this morning visited Pecan, 121A Peckham High Street, London SE15.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the Prince of Peckham public house, 1 Clayton Road, London SE15.

The Prince of Wales later visited Bara Café, 44-46 Choumert Road, London SE15.

His Royal Highness afterwards met participants of the Diana Award at the Truman Brewery, Ely's Yard, 15 Hanbury Street, London E1.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 3rd
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, accompanied by His Majesty's Ambassador to the Portuguese Republic (Her Excellency Ms Lisa Bandari), today undertook engagements in Porto, Portugal.

Their Royal Highnesses this morning received the Keys to the City of Porto from Mr. Pedro Duarte (Mayor of Porto) at Porto City Hall, Avenida dos Aliados.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chairman of Trustees, The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award, later visited Oporto British School, Rua da Cerca.

Their Royal Highnesses this afternoon attended a Luncheon at the British Factory House, Rua do Infante Dom Henrique.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh later visited Porto Cathedral.

Their Royal Highnesses subsequently attended a Performance and Reception at Casa da Música, Avenida da Boavista.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh afterwards visited Graham's Port Lodge, Rua do Agro.

Their Royal Highnesses this evening arrived at Gatwick Airport, London, from Portugal.

Brigadier Alexander Potts and Mrs. Angus Galletley were in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 3rd
The Princess Royal, Patron, Sense, this morning received the Winners of the 2026 Inspirational Women of the Year Awards.

Her Royal Highness, Master, the Corporation of Trinity House, later attended the Trinitytide Anniversary Annual Court Meeting, Church Service and Luncheon at Trinity House, Tower Hill, London EC3.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 3rd
The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, this afternoon opened the Bradbury Den at Chailey Heritage Foundation, Haywards Heath Road, North Chailey, Lewes, and was received by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex (Mr. Andrew Blackman).

Her Royal Highness afterwards visited Drusillas Zoo Park, Alfriston, to mark its Centenary and was received by Mrs. Kathleen Sambrook (Vice Lord-Lieutenant of East Sussex).

The Duchess of Gloucester later officially opened the Sussex Surgical Centre at Eastbourne District General Hospital, Kings Drive, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

Today's birthdays

Prof Dame Sandra Dawson, Master of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, 1999-2009, is 80; **Ms Jan Etherington**, comedy writer, 80; **Mr Bob Champion**, former National Hunt jockey and racehorse trainer, 78; **Ms Val McDermid**, author, 71; **Sir Martin Donnelly**, former senior civil servant, 68; **Mrs Joanie Whiteford**, Lord-Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty, 67; **Ms Andrea Jaeger**, American former tennis player, 61; **Miss Cecilia Bartoli**, mezzo-soprano, 60; **Dr Alex Peterken**, Head, Charterhouse, 52; **Miss Angelina Jolie**, actress, 51; **Mr Chris Robshaw**, former England rugby union captain, 40; **Mr Ben Stokes**, cricketer; captain, England Test team, 35; and **Ms Eilidh McIntyre**, sailor; Olympic gold medallist, women's 470 sailing class, Tokyo 2020, 32.

Today is the anniversary of the suffragette Emily Davison running in front of the King's horse, Anmer, at the running of the Derby in 1913. It is also the anniversary of the the Second World War's Liberation of Rome in 1944.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.R.G. Campbell and Miss L.A. Charteris
The engagement is announced between Angus, second son of Mr and Mrs Roy Campbell, of Gibraltar, and Lily, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Charteris, of Kingsclere, Hampshire.
Online ref: W0049519

Mr H. Brounger and Miss E.M. Dadourian
The engagement is announced between Henry, son of David and Marina Brounger, of Bloxham, Oxfordshire, and Elise Michelle, daughter of Daniel Dadourian and Anne de Papp, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
Online ref: W0049522

Clergy news

Resignations and retirements
Revv Nicole Gladstone ceased as ac, York All Saints, Pavement with St Crux and St Michael Spurriergate, York St Denys, York St Helen Stonegate with St Martin Coney Street, and York St Olave with St Giles (York) on January 11 2026, but remains Angl chapl, HMP Deerbolt and HMP Millsike (same dio); Peter Kelley, p-in-c, Raynes Park St Saviour (Southwark), retired on January 25 2026

Bridge news

The Corwen Trophy and newer Corwen Nine-High Trophy have taken place online on RealBridge, **writes Julian Pottage, Bridge Correspondent**. Both events are competitions for pairs representing their county. The Corwen was a two-day event while the Nine-High Corwen was a one-day event. The winners are as follows:

Corwen
1st Lloyd Eagling and Stan Zygadlo (Nottinghamshire) 61.42%.
2nd Steve Eginton and Ed Scerri (Berkshire and Buckinghamshire) 58.75%.
3rd Neil Rosen and Anne Rosen (Middlesex) 58.11%.
4th Nick Woolven and Geoff Kenyon (Yorkshire) 57.84%.
5th Peter Foster and Royce Alexander (Manchester) 57.33%.

Nine-High Corwen
1st Henry Gompertz and Neil Harris (Cornwall) 60.75%.
2nd Edward Hulme and Nigel Smith (Merseyside and Cheshire) 59.66%.
3rd Peter Ellinger and Patricia Berry (Hampshire and Isle of Wight) 59.17%.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

The Daily Telegraph

LONDON, FRIDAY JUNE 4, 1926

MANY PETROL PUMPS ARE FAULTY.

DRIVERS RECEIVE SHORT MEASURE.

CRITICISM OF "PISTON TYPE".

Stringent criticisms regarding the accuracy of road-side petrol pumps worked on the piston principle were passed by Mr. F. P. Bolshaw, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Liverpool, at the annual general meeting of the Incorporated Society of Inspectors of Weights and Measures, which was held yesterday morning in the County Hall, under the presidency of Sir George Hume, M.P., chairman of the London County Council. In reply to an inquiry Mr. Bolshaw stated that the great majority of pumps in use were of the "piston type".

"Petrol pumps are how widespread, and some of the types, in my opinion, should never have been allowed to be used for sale purposes," declared Mr. Bolshaw, in the course of an address. Concerning the law relating to these pumps there was "chaos and confusion," because the law officers had decided that a pump on the piston principle was a "measuring instrument" and not a "measure," and consequently did not require to be stamped under the Weights and Measures Act. Nevertheless, many of these instruments were stamped. "Personally, I do not," he added, "place any faith in the continued accuracy of a petrol pump of the 'piston type' which has been stamped, because it may be right to-day and wrong to-morrow. The stamping of the same does not make it right; it is only a guarantee that it was correct at the time of stamping, and the stamp does not ensure that it will remain correct." Owing to the low specific gravity, or thinness, of petrol, it was difficult to prevent it leaking back by way of the sides and the piston leather, or by way of the valves in the pipe line.

LEAK BACK OF FUEL CAUSES PROBLEMS.

Mr. Bolshaw continued: "In many cases if these pumps are allowed to remain unused for any length of time petrol does percolate back, and consequently causes the delivery of short measure to take place. The squirt, or leak back, of petrol may be brought about by various causes, such as by a defective piston leather, or the lodging of a particle of grit on the valve seating, or by an excess pressure exerted in the pump chamber by a too speedy operation of the rotary handle. In the case of excess pressure the petrol cannot pass through the hosepipe into the tank of the motor vehicle quickly enough, and it is so restricted sometimes as to burst the pump chamber, or the petrol takes the line of least resistance and squirts past the piston leather into the chamber below, thus causing short measure.

IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE ACCURACY.

"To obtain any degree of accuracy in a piston pump it is absolutely necessary that the piston leather shall be pliable, but unfortunately the action of petrol makes the piston leather so hard that it will not adhere to the sides of the cylinder, notwithstanding the pressure of a spring for this purpose. If there is the slightest inward turn in the lip of the piston leather, petrol can easily escape between the piston leather and the side of the cylinder from the upper chamber, thus causing short measure. I have yet to meet anyone who will undertake the construction of a pump of the 'piston type' which can always be guaranteed to deliver the correct quantity of petrol. It is practically an impossibility.

"I have recently had 39 piston pumps tested; 59 per cent. delivered short measure on the first pull; 10 per cent. over measure, and 31 per cent. were correct. The deficiencies ranged from a ¼ gill to 9 gills, or 1 quart 1 gill per gallon. One pump was 1 quart 1 gill short, another was 1¾ pints short, and three were a pint each short in one gallon, or equal to shortages of 28 per cent., 22 per cent. and 12½ per cent. respectively. Altogether I have had 124 pumps tested; 65 per cent. were short measure on the first pull, 12 per cent. were over-measure, and 23 per cent, were correct.

Continuing, Mr, Bolshaw mentioned other types of pumps which are on the market and which could be relied upon to give accurate measure. Alluding to the disfigurement of the countryside by having several pumps to deliver different brands of petrol, he mentioned that there was a French pump which could supply six different kinds of spirit without danger of mixing them.

After the meeting the members lunched at the Hotel Victoria, and Mr. A. H. RUTHERFORD, chairman of the society, replying to the toast of the organisation, said it was expected that the Weights and Measures Amendment Bill would be passed shortly and would enable inspectors to deal with petrol pumps.

Bridge Hand

An extra chance

By **Brian Senior**

THERE was an extra chance available to declarer on this deal, but he didn't spot it. Can you?

Dealer South **Love All**

♠ A J 10
♥ A 7 5
♦ K 9 4
♣ A K J 3

♠ K Q 9 6 5
♥ K 9
♦ A Q 10 6 3
♣ 9

♠ 3 2
♥ Q 10 2
♦ J 8 7 2
♣ 10 7 6 5

♠ 8 7 4
♥ J 8 6 4 3
♦ 5
♣ Q 8 4 2

West	North	East	South
			1♠
pass	2♣	pass	2♦
pass	2♥	pass	3♦
pass	3♠	pass	4♣
pass	4♦	pass	4NT
pass	5♣	pass	7♠
pass	pass	pass	

When North could show spade support, then cuebid in diamonds, South assumed that the cuebid would be the King, not a shortage – it is generally a bad idea for a first cuebid to be in partner's known side-suit. Accordingly, he took control, asking for key-cards, then bidding the excellent grand slam.

West led the two of spades and East followed with the seven. Declarer won the 10 of spades and immediately drew the remaining trumps, finding that East had begun with three and West two.

Declarer tried the diamonds now, cashing the ace, then leading low to the King – disaster! The diamonds were four-one and it was West who held Jack to four.

There was an unavoidable loser if declarer played on diamonds, and declarer could not see a squeeze ending. Accordingly, he took what looked to be his best chance of finding the necessary winners to take care of his six and 10 of diamonds – he took the club finesse. Alas, the Jack of clubs lost to the Queen, and that meant one down.

Many players get hooked on the path of dealing with potential losers in their own hand, when the alternative of attempting to cater to potential losers in dummy might prove to be more effective. On this deal, a dummy reversal would have brought home the contract.

Having won the ♠10, declarer should play the ace of clubs, then ruff a club at tricks two and three. He can only afford to continue with the dummy reversal if trumps are three-two, so trick four must be a trump to dummy.

When trumps do indeed prove to be three-two, the contract is almost home. Declarer takes another club ruff, then plays three rounds of hearts, ruffing with his last trump.

Just one tiny bit of luck is needed now, namely that diamonds not be five-nil. Declarer leads a diamond to the King, cashes the ace of spades, and has the King of clubs and ace and Queen of diamonds for the last three tricks.

A four-one split will occur over a quarter of the time, so not an insignificant danger.

If trumps prove to be four-one, the dummy reversal cannot be continued and declarer has to just draw trumps and hope for the best in diamonds.

Chess

All to play for

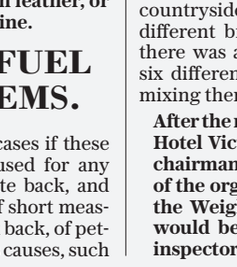
By **Malcolm Pein**

THERE was no need for Armageddon in the sixth round of the 14th Norway Chess, as all three games ended decisively. Magnus Carlsen got the better of Alireza Firouzja, avenging his defeat in round one, Wesley So outlasted Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa, and Vincent Keymer's London System gave him an edge over Dommaraju Gukesh.

The three points for a win scoring system ensures that the scoreboard is volatile. So took the lead, while Pragg dropped to last, and Carlsen could still dream of another victory on home soil, with four games to play. Scores: 1 So 11.5/18; 2 Firouzja 10; 3 Keymer 8; 4 Carlsen 7.5; 5 Gukesh 6.5; 6 Pragg 6.

Norway Chess also has a women's tournament with the same prize money. 2026 Candidate Bibisara Assaubayeva led after six rounds. A missed opportunity:

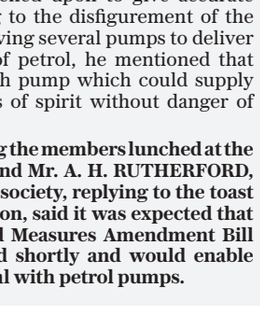
H Koneru – A Muzychuk. White to play and win:



In the game, White lost after **33.Qf3? Nxc4 34.bxc4 Qg6 35.Ne7 Qf6 36.Nd5 Qg6 37.Ne7 Qf6 38.Re1 Re8 39.Nd5 Qg6 40.Rxe8+ Bxe8 41.Ne7 Qf6 42.Qe2 hxg5 43.b6 gxf4+ 44.Kg2 f3+ 45.Kxf3 Bh5+ 0–1**

After the smoke has cleared in the opening, White has the safer king.

A Muzychuk – Ju Wenjun
Four Knights 10' vs 7'
1.e4 e5 2.Nc3 Nf6 3.Nf3 Nc6 4.Bb5 Nd4 5.Nxe5 Qe7 6.f4 Nxb5 7.Nxb5 d6 8.Nf3 Qxe4+ 9.Kf2 Ng4+ 10.Kg3 Kd8 11.h3 Nf6 12.d3 Qg6+ 13.Kh2 h5 14.Nh4 Qh7 15.Re1 Bd7 16.a4 a6 17.Nd4 Be7 18.Kg1 Re8 19.Qf3 c6 20.Bd2 Nd5 21.Qf2 c5 22.Ndf3 Bc6 23.Ng5 Qg8 24.Nf5 Bf8 25.c4 Nc7 26.b4 g6 27.Nxd6 (Unnecessary, but very strong nonetheless) **27...Bxd6 28.bxc5 Be7 29.d4?** (29.Ba5! keeps total control because if 29...f6? 30.Ne6+ or 29...Kc8 30.d4 f6 31.Bxc7 fxg5 32.Bd6 or 31...Kxc7 32.Ne6+ Kc8 33.d5 Bd7 34.c6 bxc6 35.Rab1 and Qf2-b2/b6) **29...f6! 30.d5 fxg5 31.dxc6 bxc6 32.fxg5 Qxc4 33.Rac1 Qxa4** (33...Qa2 34.Qf1 Kc8 defends) **34.Bf4 Nd5 35.Bd6 Kd7??** (35...Bxd6 36.Rxe8+ Kxe8 37.cxd6 Qf4 wins) White to play and win:



Answer 1:
33.Rxh6+! Bxh6 34.Qh2+! Bg7
34.Qh2+ Qe5 35.fxe5 or 33.Rxh6+!! Bxh6 35.Qh2+! mates; if 33.Rxh6+!! Bxh6 34.Ne7#.
Kg8

Answer 2:
1–0 37.Qe6# (36...Rd8 37.Bxe7+ Re7 (37...Nxe7 38.Rcd1+) 38.Qf8+ Re8 39.Rxe8+) **36.Qf7! Rad8**

Email: announcements.ads@telegraph.co.uk **Book online:** announcements.telegraph.co.uk

Deaths

ATKINSON.—Rodney Eric Bainbridge Atkinson died suddenly on 30th May 2026. Beloved husband of Lynn. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Funeral details to follow.
Online Ref: W0049570

CURRAN.—Timothy John aged 78 died after a long illness on Saturday 23rd May. Beloved husband of Jane and brother of Stephen. Private funeral.
Online Ref: W0049554

HIGGINS.—Anne (née Macmurray), passed away on 21st May at home, aged 85. Beloved wife to Jeremy, mother to Christopher, David and Elizabeth and grandmother to Zoe, Charlie and Georgie. Family cremation. No flowers please but donations to Garden House Hospice Letchworth c/o JJ Burgess Funeral Directors. Tel: 01438 815656.
Online Ref: W0049575

HOLLINS.—John Anthony. Born in Birkenhead on 28th April 1940; died suddenly at home in Audlem on 16th May 2026 at 86 years of age. Beloved husband of Anne and a dear father to James and the late Elizabeth. Due to family wishes, a private service will be held.
Online Ref: W0049553

LYNN.—John, of St Boswells. Died peacefully in Borders General Hospital on 15th May 2026. Much loved husband of Fiona, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Service at Borders Crematorium, Melrose on Friday 19th June at 2.30 p.m., all welcome.
Online Ref: W0049469

MILLER.—Jonathan Gordon died gently on 23rd April in hospital after a short illness. Beloved brother to Ann (dec'd), Teresa, James, Bob, twin of Fiona. Greatly missed. Funeral Service to be held at St Matthew's Church, 29 St Petersburg Place, W2 4LA on Monday 29th June at 11.30 a.m. All are welcome. Please no black. Enquiries to J.H. Kenyon. Tel: 0207 229 3810.
Online Ref: W0049573

PAVIOUR.—Brigadier Andrew James, peacefully on 23rd May 2026, aged 91. Beloved husband of the late Marion, father and grandfather. Funeral Service at St Peter's Catholic Church, Winchester SO23 8RY on Tuesday 30th June at 1.30 p.m. followed by a private family committal. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Winchester Hospice Fundraising Charity can be made at www.steelsfunerals.co.uk
Online Ref: W0049502

ROBINS.—Sir Ralph died peacefully on 27th May aged 93. Beloved husband of Tricia, father of Joanna and Jenny and grandfather of William, Falconer and Hector. A private family funeral will take place. A memorial service will be held in September; details will be announced in due course.
Online Ref: W0049559

STIRLING.—Angus Duncan Æneas died peacefully on 1st June, aged 92. Beloved husband of Morar, father of Emma, Duncan and Kitty, dear grandfather and great grandfather. Family funeral. Memorial service to be announced later.
Online Ref: W0049569

WALCOT.—Col Tom Walcot EX RTR. Passed away peacefully on 21st May 2026. He was much loved and will be dearly missed by all of his family and friends. Funeral Service at The Kent & Sussex Crematorium on Tuesday 16th June at 11.30 a.m. Family flowers only please. All funeral enquiries c/o J. Perigoe & Son Funeral Directors. Tel: 01580 713636.
Online Ref: W0049552

Personal

Text for the day

AND HE took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.
Luke 22.19 (AV)

Birthdays

HAPPY BIRTHDAY VICTORIA GRIFFITHS! We hope you have a great day. From all your friends and colleagues at The Telegraph xx
Online Ref: W0049344

General personal

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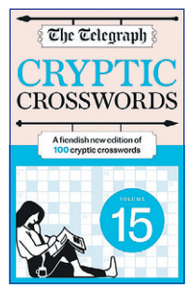

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Public notices

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE

THE OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION, PRODUCTION, UNLOADING AND STORAGE (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2020

Montrose Infill Project

NEO NEXT+ Energy Resources UK Limited has made an application for consent to the Oil and Gas Authority ("the OGA") for the above project. The OGA now operates under the business name of the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA).

Summary of Project

Location of Project: The Developer and Operator, NEO NEXT+ Energy Resources UK Limited (hereafter referred to as NEO NEXT+), propose developing the Montrose field located within Quadrant 22, Blocks 22/17N and 22/18n, in the Central North Sea. It is located approximately 190 kilometres North-East of the Scottish coastline, Peterhead, and approximately 46 kilometres from the UK/Norway median line. The water depth at the proposed drill centre is approximately 91 metres LAT. Drilling is proposed at 5 locations all in close proximity to 57°27'30.053" N, 01°23'15.503" E. This is approximately 0.7 km north-west of the Montrose Bridge Linked Platform (BLP).

Project Activities: NEO NEXT+ propose the drilling of up to five production wells from a single subsea drill centre, and installation of subsea infrastructure to support tie-back of the wells to the existing Montrose Bridge Linked Platform (BLP), including: an 8" production flowline, 3" gas lift flowline, and an Electro-Chemical-Hydraulic Control umbilical for well control between the BLP and the manifold. Further, installation of a manifold, drilling template, if used, Xmas trees and wellhead protection structures and associated spools and umbilical jumpers between each production well and the manifold. The project also requires modification to the facilities at Montrose BLP: one individual modular structure to receive the development production.

The Montrose Alpha Platform comprises two component platforms processing hydrocarbons from the following: The Montrose BLP: Cayley and Shaw fields, and Montrose Platform: Montrose and Wood fields. The Montrose platform also processes hydrocarbons from the Arbroath Platform: Arbroath, Arkwright, Brechin, Carnoustie and Godwin fields. Processed oil and gas from both platforms export via the Forties Pipeline System (FPS) and Central Area Transmission Systems (CATS) routes respectively.

Aspects of this development were previously consented (within the NSTA Field Development Plan Addendum (FDPA) 2012 – Talisman Energy and the associated Environmental Statement, D/4124/2011) however the Montrose Infill development was not progressed at that time. A new Environmental Impact Assessment and revised FDPA have been developed to reflect the current NEO NEXT+ Montrose Infill proposal.

Production of the infill development at the Montrose BLP platform will be via the existing topside process comprising crude separation and stabilisation, gas compression and gas lift facility, produced water discharge and export of hydrocarbons infrastructure.

Montrose BLP topside modification is expected to commence ahead of drilling completion. Drilling is anticipated commencing Q3 2027 for approximately 1 year. Following this, installation of the subsea infrastructure is anticipated Q4 2028. Well tie-in and commissioning are also anticipated Q4 2028. First oil will occur following completion of the above anticipated Q4 2028.

Environmental Impact Assessment and Consent Process

In accordance with the above-mentioned Regulations, the project is subject to an environmental impact assessment procedure and regulation 13 applies as the project could have a significant effect on the environment of Norway, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany and Sweden.

The OGA is responsible for deciding whether or not to grant consent for the project, but agreement to the grant of consent must be obtained from the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ("the Secretary of State") prior to consent being granted. The Secretary of State's decision on whether to agree to the grant of consent is based on the environmental impact assessment for the project.

The range of possible decisions in response to the application of consent is:

(a) the Secretary of State agrees to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, and the OGA grants consent, so the project may proceed;
(b) the Secretary of State refuses to agree to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, so the project may not proceed; or
(c) the Secretary of State agrees to the OGA's grant of consent following the Secretary of State's conclusion regarding the environmental effects of the project, but the OGA does not grant consent, so the project may not proceed.

Where the Secretary of State agrees to the grant of consent, conditions that NEO NEXT+ Energy Resources UK Limited must comply with may be attached to the agreement, including environmental conditions to avoid, prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects on the environment, and measures to monitor such conditions.

Notice of the decisions of the Secretary of State and OGA decisions for the project will be published at: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia where information on the Secretary of State's decision to agree to or refuse to agree to the grant of consent will also be made available.

Access to Further Information

Copies of this notice, the summary of the project and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded at: www.neonextplus.com/infrastructure and at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-2020-eia-regulations#environmental-impact-assessments-eia Access shall remain at least three months after the date on which the Secretary of State publishes the notice under Regulation 16(1) (publication of consent decisions).

A copy of the Environmental Statement and summary of the project may also be obtained by post or email. Requests should be made by 05/07/2026 to: NEO NEXT+, 163 Holburn Street, Aberdeen, AB10 6BZ or by email to environmentmgr@neonextplus.com, or by telephone +44 (0)1224 352500.

Public Consultation

Representations, comments or questions relating to the project may be made to the Secretary of State by 05/07/2026. All representations should quote reference number **ES/2023/006** and may be made by letter or by email to:

Business Support Team
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment & Decommissioning
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
AB1 Building
Crimon Place
Aberdeen
AB10 1BJ
OPRED@Energysecurity.gov.uk

Representations may be published on gov.uk. Any responses published will be redacted to remove individuals' names and personal information. Personal data of respondents is processed as for consultation responses. For further information please see the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero privacy notice DESNZ privacy notices - GOV.UK.

Judicial Review

A person aggrieved by the grant of consent for a project may apply to the Court for leave/permission to apply for judicial review of the relevant decision or decisions. The United Kingdom has three separate legal systems; one each for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The rules for any application for leave / permission to apply for judicial review may vary depending on where that application is made, but it is important to note that there are time limits for making any application and judicial review may only be available if the applicant has standing / a sufficient interest in the subject matter of the application. Further information about the process for seeking judicial review can be obtained from the Administrative Court (for England and Wales), the Court of Session (for Scotland) or the Judicial Review Office (Northern Ireland).