



United Kingdom | December 2021

*Lethen Wind Farm*

# *Lethen Wind Farm*

**Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited**

**Statement of Consultation**

December 2021

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# 1 Introduction

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## 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Fred. Olsen Renewables (hereafter referred to as ‘the Applicant’) intends to apply to the Scottish Ministers for Section 36 (S36) consent and deemed planning permission, under the terms of the Electricity Act 1989 (‘the Act’), for permission to construct, operate and decommission Lethen Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as the ‘Proposed Development’), at site centre British National Grid (BNG) NS 9322 3567 (refer to **Figure 1.1**).
- 1.1.2 This application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report) as required by The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. The EIA Report has been prepared to assess the potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Development and will accompany the S36 Application submitted to Scottish Ministers.
- 1.1.3 This Statement of Consultation has been prepared by JLL on behalf of the Applicant and demonstrates how consultation undertaken through the design process has informed the finalised form and layout of the Proposed Development as well as supporting community aspirations.

## 1.2 The Applicant

- 1.2.1 The Applicant is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy assets, primarily onshore wind farms. The Applicant has been developing and operating wind farms in the UK since the mid 1990’s demonstrating long term commitment to the renewable energy generation market in the UK, Scotland and the north-east of Scotland in particular.
- 1.2.2 In the UK alone, the Applicant’s operational portfolio comprises over 500 MW across ten wind farms. Internationally the Applicant operates over 1 GW of renewable energy projects.
- 1.2.3 The Applicant was the first developer to bring forward community benefit in Scotland. To date, the Applicant has made available over £6 m to eligible communities surrounding its wind farms and is substantially increasing this investment as new projects come online.
- 1.2.4 The Applicant has committed to maximising opportunities for the local supply chain. This includes committing to ensuring that all main contractors will spend at least 30% of the contract value locally and incentivising all contractors to use local content.
- 1.2.5 In addition, two of the Applicant’s projects, Rothes I and Rothes II, contributed over £60 m to the Highlands & Islands economy, and £103 m to the Scottish economy alone to date.
- 1.2.6 Engagement with key stakeholders and the local communities surrounding its sites is at the heart of how the Applicant operates. By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm’s lifecycle, from site selection to planning, construction and operation, the Applicant is not only expert in developing successful projects, it is also a good neighbour.

## 1.3 Site Description

- 1.3.1 The site is located approximately 10 km north-west of Grantown-on-Spey and 14 km east of Tomatin (refer to **Figure 1.1**) in the Highland Council (THC).

- 1.3.2 The site comprises an area of approximately 1,458 hectares (ha) of land and varies in topography from 290 m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the northern section of the site to 460 m AOD in the southern section of the site.
- 1.3.3 The site is located in an area of open moorland, bounded to the east by the B9007 and to the west by the Leonach Burn. A number of tributaries to the Tomlachlan Burn intersect the site, with the Tomlachlan Burn running south to north through the centre of the site.

## 1.4 Overview of the Proposed Development

- 1.4.1 A full description of the Development is detailed in **Chapter 3: Project Description** of the EIA Report which has been submitted as part of the S36 application. In summary however, the development will comprise the following key components:
- 17 wind turbines up to 185 m blade tip height when vertical, each being around 6 megawatts (MW) in power rating;
  - An additional energy storage provision with an output capacity of around 10 MW; and,
  - Associated infrastructure including site access, access tracks, crane hardstandings, underground cabling, on-site substation and maintenance building, energy storage facility, temporary construction compounds, laydown area, potential excavations/borrow workings, and a permanent meteorological mast.
- 1.4.2 The Proposed Development will re-use and share the existing infrastructure from the operational Tomnan Clach Wind Farm where possible, this includes the site entrance and access track from the B9007 across the northern boundary of the site.
- 1.4.3 **Figure 1.2** demonstrates the layout of the Proposed Development.

## 1.5 Purpose of Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)

- 1.5.1 This Statement of Consultation explains how consultation undertaken by the Applicant throughout the design process has informed the finalised layout of the Proposed Development.
- 1.5.2 This Report supplements the Gatecheck Report submitted to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in June 2021.
- 1.5.3 PAC is not a legal requirement for applications made to the Scottish Ministers under S36 of the Act but has been undertaken and reported by the Applicant in the interest of good practice. This Statement of Consultation has therefore been prepared and submitted to reflect the processes established for 'Major' planning applications as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. By following this framework of consultation, the local community and all those with an interest in a proposed development have an opportunity to provide comment and feedback on proposals as they develop.
- 1.5.4 Public consultation has been supplemented by formal pre-application consultation with THC, with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders through the EIA process and with the ECU and associated statutory authorities through the S36 Gatecheck process. The approach to consultation and a record of how feedback has informed the design process is reported in this Statement of Consultation as follows:

- **Chapter 2 Key Stakeholder Engagement:** Details the formal consultation undertaken by the Applicant with respect to statutory and non-statutory regulatory authorities or interest groups.
- **Chapter 3 Community Consultation:** Details the consultation undertaken by the Applicant with the public, community councils and local councillors, and reports on the main themes of the responses received.
- **Chapter 4 Design Iterations:** Details the evolutionary design process through which the layout of the Proposed Development has evolved through the consideration of consultation feedback.
- **Chapter 5 Summary:** Provides overall conclusions.

## 2 Key Stakeholder Engagement

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### 2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This Chapter sets out the form and extent of PAC undertaken by the Applicant with respect to statutory and non-statutory regulatory authorities and interest groups.

### 2.2 Pre-Design Engagement

2.2.1 The Applicant met with THC, NatureScot (NS) and the Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) in November 2019, prior to the initial design process commencing, to understand any key landscape and visual constraints and inform the early design concepts for the Proposed Development. This consultation also informed the viewpoint locations selected for the purposes of the Pre-Application Briefing Note submitted to THC in March 2020.

### 2.3 The Highland Council – Pre-Application Process

2.3.1 In order to advance the design process in full consultation with key decision-makers, the Applicant used THC's pre-application advice service. A Pre-Application Briefing Note was submitted to THC on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020. This comprehensive document provided an initial overview of:

- The Applicant and proposed works;
- Site selection and site design;
- Planning conditions;
- Grid connection;
- Operational period;
- Decommissioning;
- Community consultation and benefits;
- Stakeholder consultation;
- EIA pre-scoping and scoping processes; and,
- Approach to EIA.

2.3.2 It should be noted that at this stage in the project, the proposed development consisted of up to 23 wind turbines.

2.3.3 A pre-application response was issued by THC on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020 (ref:20/00923/PREMAJ) and the advice contained therein informed the subsequent design development and approach to the EIA. The Planning Statement which has been submitted in support of this S36 Application provides further detail on how THC's pre-application policy advice has been considered as part of the finalised form and layout of the Proposed Development.

2.3.4 A virtual PAC meeting was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 with THC, where an introduction to the Proposed Development was provided, along with an update on survey efforts to that point. The proposed scope of the forthcoming EIA Report was also discussed in detail.

## 2.4 EIA Scoping

- 2.4.1 As detailed in the Scottish Government’s Energy Consents Good Practice Guidance “*The scoping process is designed to identify which issues will or will not need to be addressed in the forthcoming Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). At this stage, an applicant has an initial plan including key details of the site and the proposed development.*” (pg. 13). The purpose of EIA Scoping is therefore to provide information on the likely environmental implications of a proposed development and determine the scope and extent of issues to be addressed.
- 2.4.2 Following initial discussions in May 2020 (see 2.3.4 above), the Applicant wrote again to key stakeholders in December 2020 including the Energy Consents Unit (ECU), THC, NatureScot (NS), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Historic Environment Scotland (HES) to advise them of the emerging plans for the proposed development and the forthcoming submission of the EIA Scoping Report. The EIA Scoping Report (ITPEnergised, January 2021) was subsequently submitted along with a request for an EIA Scoping Opinion to the ECU on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2021 and registered under reference ECU00002216.
- 2.4.3 It should be noted that at this stage in the project, due to the feedback received in the initial engagement phases, the proposed development consisted of up to 20 wind turbines, 3 fewer than at the initial pre-application stage.
- 2.4.4 A Scoping Opinion was issued by the ECU on 7th April 2021 and included responses from the organisations outlined in Table 2-1 below.

**Table 2-1 - EIA Scoping Respondents**

Consultee	
British Horse Society	Marine Science Scotland (MSS)
BT	Moray Council
Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA)	NatureScot (NS)
Crown Estate Scotland	River Dee Trust
Defence Infrastructure Organisation (MoD)	RSPB Scotland
Dulnain Bridge Community Council	Scottish Forestry
East Nairnshire Community Council	Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays)
Findhorn District Salmon Fisheries Board	Scottish Water
Fisheries Management Scotland	Scottish Wild Land Group (SWLG)
Highland and Islands Airports	Spey Foundation
Historic Environment Scotland	The Highland Council (THC)
Joint Radio Company	Transport Scotland

- 2.4.5 The measures taken to address the advice received through the EIA scoping process was detailed in the Gatecheck Report submitted by the Applicant to the ECU on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 (ITPEnergised, Gatecheck 1 Report). **Chapter 4: Approach to EIA** of the EIA Report submitted as part of the S36 application also provides specific details on where the EIA has responded to the advice received throughout the scoping process.
- 2.4.6 One of the primary themes of the feedback received from East Nairnshire Community Council during the scoping process was with respect to the high number of older homes in the area which are poorly insulated and reliant on coal, wood and oil as an alternative to gas. This feedback led to further communications with the Community Liaison Group discussed in chapter 3 and directly informed the

Lethen Wind Farm Energy Efficiency Programme which is being proposed by the Applicant as a Community Benefit. This is discussed further in section 3.5.18 below and provides a clear illustration of the way in which community engagement has informed the overall approach to development.

## 2.5 Overview of Continued Design Engagement

2.5.1 As previously discussed, the Applicant was actively engaged with key consultees prior to THC's pre-application process and through the EIA scoping process. Beyond these formal engagement platforms, the Applicant continued to liaise directly with key stakeholders in order to refine the approach to the EIA Report and develop a design solution for the site which reflects the feedback received.

2.5.2 A summary of this consultation is provided in Table 2-2 below.

**Table 2-2: Record of Engagement**

Consultee	Date	Persons	Description of Correspondence
THC	December 2020	Applicant to THC	Notice of application.
	January 2021	EHO and Applicant's Noise Consultant	Request for consented noise limits for local wind energy developments.
	February 2021	EHO and Applicant's Noise Consultant	Consultation and agreement on the noise monitoring locations proposed.
	March 2021	EHO and Applicant's Noise Consultant	Confirmation of the noise monitoring locations.
	March 2021	EHO and Applicant's Geology Consultant	Request for and receipt of Private Water supply information.
	May 2021	Applicant's Landscape Consultant to THC Landscape Officer	Consultation request on the proposed final viewpoint list.
	May 2021	Applicant's Planning Consultant and THC Planning Officer	Offer and agreement to meet for a project update and policy context review. Call set up for June 2021.
	June 2021	Applicant's Planning Consultant and THC Planning Officer	Proposed agenda for meeting issued.
	July 2021	EHO and Applicant's Noise Consultant	Agreement of noise limits and cumulative evaluation.
	September 2021	EHO and Applicant's Noise Consultant	Agreement to scope out detailed assessment of construction traffic noise.
	October 2012	Applicant, Applicant's Consultants	Meeting with THC to review project proposals and programme to submission.
	October 2021	Applicant's EIA Consultant and THC Planning Officer	Agreement of cumulative assessment.
	Moray Council	February 2021	Applicant and Council Planning Officer
23 February		Applicant and Council Planning Officers	Introductory Teams Call.
May 2021		Applicant's Landscape Consultant and Council Planning Officer	Consultation on the proposed final viewpoint list and the Council's response.

Consultee	Date	Persons	Description of Correspondence
Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) HES	May 2021	Applicant's Noise Consultant to Council Planning Officer	Consultation on noise scope and methodology.
	June 2021	Applicant's Landscape Consultant to Council Planning Officer	Response to consultation response on the proposed final viewpoint list
	September 2021	Applicants EIA Consultant and Council Planning Officer	Proposed cumulative site list and the Council's response.
	February 2021	Applicant and CNPA Officer	Project introduction and offer to meet. CNPA responded to advise that NS would be leading the consultation process on behalf of the CNPA.
	May 2021	Applicant's Planning Consultant and CNPA Officer	Offer to join in THC meeting in June. CNPA deferred to NS and declined offer.
	December 2020	The Applicant to HES	Notice of application.
	January 2021	Applicant's Heritage Consultant to HES	Consultation on proposed visualisations for heritage assessment.
	March 2021	Applicant's Heritage Consultant and HES	Offer and agree to meet/call to discuss design.
	April 2021	Applicant's Heritage Consultant to HES	Issue initial visualisations to inform design call.
	May 2021	Applicant, Applicant's Heritage Consultant and HES	Design workshop Teams Call.
SEPA	May 2021	Applicant's Heritage Consultant to HES	Issue updated visualisations and initial position on assessment.
	July 2021	Applicant's Heritage Consultant and HES	Arrangement for site meeting and meeting at Lochindorb viewpoint with HES.
	September 2021	Applicant's Heritage Consultant and HES	Confirmation of additional viewpoint from Lochindorb
	December 2020	Applicant and SEPA	Notice of application and offer from SEPA to meet in January 2021. ( <i>Cyber-attack prevented this meeting from going ahead</i> )
	May 2021	ECU Officer and the Applicant	ECU advised of SEPA's participation in the Gatecheck 1 process. The Applicant has provided additional information.
	September 2021	Applicant's Hydrology Consultant and SEPA	Agreement on Phase 2 Peat Probing approach.
NS	November 2018	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant and NS (SNH)	Confirmation of baseline survey approach.
	July 2019	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant and NS (SNH)	Confirmation of 18 months bird survey effort.
	December 2020	Applicant to NS	Notice of application. Response from NS stating happy to engage further.
	March 2021	Applicant's Landscape Consultant and NS Officer	Request and receipt of NS guidance documents.
	April 2021	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant to NS.	Response and clarifications on NS scoping response.

Consultee	Date	Persons	Description of Correspondence
	May 2021	Applicant's Landscape Consultant to NS Officer	Consultation request on the proposed final viewpoint list. Response from NS in September 2021.
	May 2021	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant to NS.	Call and follow up email on scoping response and survey scope.
	September 2021	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant to NS.	Consultation on final layout.
	October 2021	Applicant's Landscape Consultant to NS Officer	Scope of night-time visualisations ( <i>Response awaited</i> ).
RSPB	June 2021	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant to the RPSB.	Response and clarifications on NS scoping response.
	September 2021	Applicant's Ecology/Ornithology Consultant to the RPSB.	Consultation on final layout. RSPB response that they will comment once the EIA is submitted.
Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL)	May 2021	Applicant's Aviation consultant to HIAL	Response on comments made at scoping and request consultation on proposed lighting strategy.
	October 2021	Applicant's Aviation consultant and HIAL	Consultation on revised lighting scheme. Response from HIAL stating that they are content.

- 2.5.3 It should be noted that as a result of the feedback received during this consultation process and as the EIA Report and associated site surveys have informed the design, the Applicant is now seeking consent under S36 for 17 turbines, a significant reduction from the original proposal first presented to key stakeholders in March 2020.
- 2.5.4 The rationale behind this design evolution is summarised in Section 4 of this Statement of Consultation and is discussed further in **Chapter 2: Site Selection and Design** of the EIA Report.

## 3 Community Consultation

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### 3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This Chapter sets out the PAC activities which were undertaken to engage with the local community, stakeholders and community councils to inform the design process.
- 3.1.2 In accordance with good practice, a programme of pre-application community engagement has been undertaken by the Applicant. The consultation strategy was tailored to the local circumstances of the Proposed Development and reflected the requirements of the following legislation and guidance governing public consultation on development projects during the COVID-19 pandemic:
- *The Electricity Works (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020; and*
  - *Coronavirus (COVID-19): planning guidance on Pre-application consultations for public events (April 2020).*
- 3.1.3 From project inception through to submission, the Applicant has been openly available to discuss the project with the local community and associated stakeholders, proactively building local relationships and seeking to understand views and address questions about the proposals.
- 3.1.4 The project website ([www.letenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letenwindfarm.co.uk)) has provided a constant point of contact and useful source of information containing information about the Proposed Development such as site location, proposed infrastructure, contact information (phone or email) and details of consultation events.
- 3.1.5 The website has been updated throughout the consultation process and will continue to keep interested parties up-to-date with the progression of the plans throughout the determination process and beyond.

### 3.2 Community Council Liaison

- 3.2.1 Throughout the consultation process the Applicant has sought to engage with local Community Councils. Prior to the submission of the Scoping Report to the ECU, the Applicant engaged representatives of the following Community Councils to inform them of the proposals and request the opportunity to engage with members:
- East Nairnshire Community Council;
  - Dulnain Bridge Community Council;
  - Carrbridge Community Council;
  - Cawdor and West Nairnshire Community Council;
  - Grantown On Spey Community Council;
  - Strathdearn Community Council;
  - Cromdale and Avie Community Council; and,
  - Finderne Community Council.

- 3.2.2 As a result of this initial correspondence virtual meetings were held with:
- Cawdor Community Council: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021;
  - Dulnain Bridge Community Council: 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021;
  - Cromdale and Advie Community Council: 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021; and,
  - Carrbridge Community Council: 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021.
- 3.2.3 The Applicant, in collaboration with the Community Councils, also formed a Community Liaison Group (CLG). The CLG acted as a conduit for consistent information sharing across the communities, a forum within which queries or concerns could be addressed and feedback on the project could be provided as it is developed through the EIA stages, prior to and leading up to planning submission.
- 3.2.4 Two representatives from each of the key community groups were invited to attend meetings, to be informed of project progress and development milestones. All meetings were attended by at least one representative from the Applicant.
- 3.2.5 In response to feedback received during conversations locally, the CLG also included local residents' group – Dava Moor Residents Association.
- 3.2.6 The first meeting of the CLG coincided with the initial round of public virtual exhibitions. The meeting was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021, one day after the first exhibition, to allow the CLG members an opportunity to consider the publicly available materials and discuss any key issues in further detail. This initial CLG engagement was held at an optimum stage in the design process where the Applicant was able to share tangible suggestions of expected development on the site, while also allowing sufficient scope for design amendments and updates based on the feedback received.
- 3.2.7 Representatives from the following community groups were in attendance at this initial meeting:
- Strathdearn Community Council;
  - Dulnain Community Council;
  - Carrbridge Community Council;
  - Cawdor and West Nairnshire Community Council;
  - East Nairnshire Community Council;
  - Finderne Community Council;
  - Grantown-on-Spey Community Council;
  - Cromdale and Advie Community Council;
  - Dulnain Bridge Community Development Trust; and,
  - Dava Moor Residents Association.
- 3.2.8 The Applicant presented to the CLG and invited feedback. A summary of comments and responses is given in Table 3-1 below.

**Table 3-1: Summary of CLG Meeting 27th April 2021**

Comment	Response
<p>Concern around delivery of turbines. Request that delivery avoided school times. Highlighting of the issue that safety on the roads is a priority locally, pupils were cycling to school, and that any construction traffic needed to be cognisant of that.</p>	<p>The traffic management plan can be designed to respond to such concerns, such feedback is vital to ensure that the deliveries are appropriate and mitigate any local concerns.</p>
<p>With note to environmental impact boards detailing ornithology – highlighting there were protected species nesting on Lochindorb and that there were also red throated divers. Request that the Applicant take note and ensure that the ornithological team were aware.</p>	<p>Acknowledgement that there were nests on site. Explanation of monitoring on the site for 18 months between March 2018 and August 2019 comprising vantage point surveys, breeding bird surveys, non-breeding surveys and dedicated raptor surveys and hen harrier surveys. Explanation that consultation was undertaken with NS on this approach, and it was agreed that 18 months was sufficient.</p>
<p>Note given to the fact that the infrastructure was not part of the exhibition. Concern that there had previously been issues regarding the noise generated from a substation locally and the Applicant should explore where this is located carefully, ensuring that it is concealed and on lower ground.</p>	<p>Explanation that the infrastructure would be detailed prior to planning, but that these were fair considerations and would be fed back.</p>
<p>Highlighting the fact that there were birds of prey on the site, and that there were nests that they returned to at specific times of year / alternative years. Golden Eagles have a huge range of flight and this should be specifically investigated.</p>	<p>Acknowledgement of nests on site. Unable to specify where but that the studies had identified them and that they also revealed that they had not been used for a number of years. Provided reassurances that this was a priority and would feature as part of the environmental studies being undertaken.</p>
<p>Question around the realistic likelihood of opportunity to change the visual impact of the plans.</p>	<p>Explanation that proposals are at an early stage and it was hoped the consultation would provide feedback that would then be considered and if able, reflected in the final proposals.</p>
<p>Concerns raised regarding wildlife and protected species as well as noise. Questions around what the impact on the estate would be and its existing grouse shooting activities.</p>	<p>Acknowledgement and appreciation of points regarding wildlife and protected species. Surveys had been ongoing on the site for a number of years and would be included in the EIAR.</p>
<p>What would the Applicant do when it came to decommissioning the wind farm? Concern around ensuring there was zero waste, and nothing left behind.</p>	<p>The Applicant provided assurances that it was committed to zero waste and an explanation that it was always likely that the foundations would be left behind, however, a decommissioning bond would be put in place to ensure that even if the Applicant no longer existed, the council had funds in place to remove the infrastructure. The Applicant outlined that it is currently exploring exciting opportunities to reuse turbine blades and towers for other projects to ensure zero waste.</p>
<p>Request for clarification of how the Applicant defined local (i.e. local jobs and employment) and more understanding of</p>	<p>Regarding the definition of local, the community needed to help influence this also and that this can be shaped to ensure that priority is given to businesses, for example, in the first instance, within 40/50</p>

Comment	Response
the likely impact on Lochindorb. Request for explanation of how the community benefit worked.	<p>miles from the site, that this can then be opened up to 100m from the site, the Highland region and then Scotland. The Applicant is already actively seeking to speak to local suppliers in the area, that in addition the Applicant had joined the Inverness Chamber of Commerce with a view to holding a local supply chain event after the summer, ensuring that suppliers were aware of the opportunities, were ready to tender and that the Applicant had a comprehensive understanding of the suppliers on the ground. Opportunity was presented for the community to share details of suppliers so that the team could get in touch.</p> <p>Explanation that community benefit would be available at £5,000 per MW and that the Applicant would work with the community regarding how this was best distributed, that it was likely that the Community Councils and community groups present would be a part of these discussions and that it was hoped that the CLG would discuss this in further detail as the plans progress.</p>
Request for photomontages to outline the cumulative impact of the wind farms proposed and existing in the area.	Explanation that there would be a range of photomontages in the application.
Clarification sought on whether the layout would be determined by the community.	Explanation that feedback from the community would help to inform the final layout.
Concern around the height of turbines. Questions relating to how the landscape would cope with turbines of 185m to tip.	Explained that onshore wind turbine technology was moving forward rapidly. Only a few years ago developers were bringing forward proposals for 125m to tip turbines and that these are now no longer available on the market. Explanation that the turbines are bought from Europe, and that looking to Europe you see that they are bringing forward wind farms with turbines over 200m to tip and therefore it was expected that the availability of the smaller turbines around 145 – 150 would soon become limited, and that should developers receive consent for projects with such turbine heights, there may be the instance in which they will have to go back for permission to increase the tip heights to ensure that they can use available technology. Explanation that the Applicant was seeking to future proof the wind farm and be transparent in doing so.
View highlighted that most developers were proposing smaller turbines because when they are taller than 150m they need to include aviation lighting on every tower.	Explanation that aviation lighting did not necessarily have to be included on every turbine if they exceeded 150m. Explanation that there were opportunities to put lights on specific agreed turbines in order to outline the wind farm. Explanation that guidance currently stated that turbines at 150m and over had to be lit, but in reality, the CAA are, able to agree to reduced lighting schemes as seen at Rothes III and Clash Gour.
In the past, communities had negotiated with the developer for a one-off payment instead of annual payment over the lifetime of the wind farm. Would the Applicant consider this?	Explanation that there would certainly be the opportunity to receive a number of years as an upfront payment but uncertain regarding the full lifetime of the project. This will be investigated further.

Comment	Response
Would there be opportunity to put up signage in Carrbridge?	Explanation that this would be possible and there might be the opportunity to investigate a live sign.
Request for the Applicant to investigate a construction app.	Explanation that it could be easily done, however, would require user to download the app and therefore would be used alongside other methods.
The Applicant raised key points that had been highlighted in conversations outwith CLG meetings including employment, lack of jobs in the area in general and fuel poverty.	<p>The Applicant highlighted they are always seeking to utilise local skills and that the company had done so in neighbouring Moray for other wind farm developments.</p> <p>Explanation that discussions were underway with the Applicant's grid expert relating to an opportunity for a private wire to help address fuel poverty. It was advised that this could potentially be done but more understanding and investigation was required. If appropriate, the grid expert could attend a CLG meeting to explain the detail required.</p> <p>Based on the issues regarding fuel poverty which were raised by East Nairnshire Community Council at scoping stage, discussions were held with Energy Action Scotland about opportunities to identify those living in fuel poverty in an area, and undertake an analysis of everyone's housing stock, actions and work out how what methods could be brought forward, using community benefit funding, to help bring them out of that situation and ultimately save everyone money on their fuel bills.</p>

3.2.9 Following the first CLG meeting, the Applicant maintained contact with the CLG members. Minutes were circulated for approval and there was continued ad-hoc contact, as required, in order to answer any questions and provide further detail.

3.2.10 Ahead of the second round of public exhibitions a further CLG meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021. The full CLG membership were invited to participate and representatives from the following were in attendance:

- East Nairnshire Community Council;
- Cawdor and West Nairnshire Community Council;
- Finderne Community Council; and,
- Dava Moor Residents Association.

3.2.11 A summary of the meeting is provided below in Table 3-2.

**Table 3-2: Summary of CLG Meeting 12th July 2021**

Comment	Response
It would be useful to explore the opportunity to hold an event in Fornightly Village Hall for the host community.	Project team confirmed this would be progressed.
Concerns raised regarding the number of turbines in the area and the spread of development stretching from Nairn to the south. Preference for materials to consider the cumulative impact of the proposals in the area and that the wirelines consider the cumulative impact locally.	Exhibitions had displayed the proposals for a 20-turbine layout. Subsequently, scoping responses have been received and revealed that statutory consultees: would like more viewpoints to be included; have concerns regarding cumulative

Comment	Response
	<p>impact; want the impact on peat to be explored; are concerned regarding the impact on local access and the impact on Lochindorb.</p> <p>Explanation that the project team have been working to address these comments. This had resulted in the turbine layout being revisited and the number of turbines reducing from 20 to 19. Confirmation that prior to the submission of an application in late September, further surveys would take place on site regarding access, tracks, and layout. Confirmation revised plans would be on display in August at the public exhibition.</p>
<p>Project team advised that following the feedback received at the previous CLG meeting, the team had been exploring opportunities to support energy efficiency and address fuel poverty locally. The Applicant is proposing to create the Lethen Wind Farm Energy Efficiency Programme intended to help residents to reduce their energy bills, save money, improve energy consumption and awareness and play an important role in the country's route to net zero. The Applicant is working with REAP and Logogen to develop an overview of the energy efficiency programme. At this stage, it was anticipated that it would involve utilising a proportion of the community benefit fund to employ an energy efficiency officer locally to provide advice and information, help to address energy efficiency in local households and provide advice and support on the ground.</p> <p>It was highlighted that there was a fuel discount scheme in place in Dava, courtesy of Tom nan Clach Wind Farm Community Fund which provided an annual sum to all households regardless of the fuel they were using. Opinion stated that it shouldn't be a programme focused solely on fuel poverty and that it had to reach all households. A discussion also ensued regarding the qualification for the scheme and the classification of fuel poverty.</p>	<p>Project team advised that this helped to address some of the points that had been raised previously.</p>
<p>Question regarding whether there would be agreement with the individual communities regarding participation in the scheme and how the benefit would be implemented.</p>	<p>This would certainly be subject to further discussion.</p>
<p>Comment made that this scheme largely constituted community benefit and that Furness Community Council had agreed to not discuss community benefit prior to the consenting of a wind farm, the community benefit was not a planning consideration. Previous wind farm developments in the area had avoided direct discussion of community benefit until after permission had been granted, presumably, to avoid the possibility of community benefit being perceived as having influenced individual and community opinion during the consultation stages.</p>	<p>It is accepted that community benefit is not a material planning consideration in this context.</p>
<p>Discussion of upcoming exhibitions and advertising. It was highlighted that should the company wish to explore what projects it could support locally; it should speak to Grantown-on-Spey Community Council regarding the challenges it is having with the public toilets.</p>	<p>Project team agreed to get in touch and this was subsequently undertaken.</p>

- 3.2.12 Those that did not attend the second CLG meeting were approached for one-to-one telephone/video calls to discuss any queries. This resulted in a call with Strathdearn Community Council representatives on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021.
- 3.2.13 Further meetings communicating project updates were also held throughout the process. This included with a Dava Moor Residents Association on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021, Dulnain Bridge Community Development Trust (13<sup>th</sup> October 2021), Dava Moor Residents Association (9<sup>th</sup> November 2021) and Cawdor Community Council (9<sup>th</sup> November 2021).
- 3.2.14 Overall, significant efforts have been made by the Applicant to proactively engage with local Community Councils and the wider community throughout the project design life-cycle, including communications on the scoping submission, exhibition notifications and responding to information requests. This has provided a platform for comments, concerns, and ideas to be openly discussed and appropriately addressed.
- 3.2.15 The Applicant intends to continue this engagement beyond the pre-application phase, maintaining an open discourse with the CLG and associated Community Councils on the project development.

### 3.3 Engagement with Local Councillors

- 3.4 Throughout the consultation process, the Applicant has always sought to ensure that local politicians, and wider interest groups, are aware of the proposals and the consultation that was being undertaken.
- 3.5 Throughout the process the Applicant has sought to inform, amongst others:
- Nairn and Cawdor Ward Councillors (site ward);
  - Badenoch and Strathspey Ward Councillors (neighbouring ward);
  - Forres Ward Councillors (neighbouring ward, Moray Council);
  - Mr Drew Hendry MP;
  - Mr Fergus Ewing MSP; and,
  - Highland region MSPs.
- 3.6 This engagement involved providing written updates on the proposals, communicating key consultation events and information and offering telephone calls / meetings throughout the process.
- 3.7 As part of this engagement the Applicant attended a Nairn Ward Business Meeting, 6th August 2021 and provided a short presentation on the proposals. This highlighted:
- An introduction to the Applicant;
  - Lethen Wind Farm – an overview;
  - Current layout;
  - Transport route;
  - Community consultation;
  - Community benefit;

- Energy efficiency scheme; and,
- Recreational access.

### 3.8 Supply Chain Engagement

- 3.8.1 The Applicant has been actively pursuing engagement with the local supply chain surrounding Lethen Wind Farm. This includes working with the Inverness Chamber of Commerce to engage local business throughout the development, construction, operation and decommissioning of the project.
- 3.8.2 The collaboration is intended to supplement existing direct engagement with the supply chain and demonstrate the opportunities for local businesses.
- 3.8.3 On 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021 a virtual event was held in partnership with Inverness Chamber of Commerce. This attracted an audience of over 100 participants and has resulted in substantial engagement following the event.
- 3.8.4 The Applicant has committed to ensuring that Lethen Wind Farm benefits the local supply chain by:
- Ensuring that main contractors will spend at least 30% of the contract value locally; and,
  - Incentivising all contractors to use local content.
- 3.8.5 The event itself involved:
- An introduction to the Applicant and other successful projects;
  - Procurement principles;
  - Supply chain intention;
  - Construction contract strategy and typical structure;
  - Local contract possibilities during construction including locally sourced elements as part of the turbine contract, civil and electrical works possibilities and other minor contracts for example environmental specialists, site management assistance etc.;
  - Subcontracted activities during the operational phase; and,
  - Events to be held including training events and capacity building sessions.
- 3.8.6 The Applicant is committed to continuing this engagement in order to maximise the opportunity to utilise the local supply chain as part of construction, operation and decommissioning the Proposed Development.
- 3.8.7 As part of this work the Applicant has been engaging local suppliers to explore the opportunities that the project will present them, this includes for example, McGowan Environmental Engineering in Aviemore.

### 3.9 Public Consultation Events

- 3.9.1 As previously discussed, despite the ongoing difficulties surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Applicant has made considerable effort to engage with the local community through a variety of different communication platforms.

3.9.2 A variety of communication methods have been used throughout the process. This includes:

- Newsletter distribution;
- Email updates;
- Telephone calls;
- Video calls;
- Written updates;
- Virtual platforms;
- Websites;
- Newspaper promotion;
- Press releases; and,
- Encouraging social media interaction.

3.9.3 In addition to the project website discussed in paragraph 3.1.4 above, interactive web-based consultation was carried out using a virtual exhibition at key milestones in the project programme. This was supplemented by face-to-face consultation events as social distancing rules were relaxed. These engagement events are discussed further below.

#### Web-Based Consultation 1

3.9.4 The first virtual exhibition launched on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021. This featured a virtual village hall set up which was accessible on the [www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk) website. This could be accessed at any point by members of the public and it was supported by two live chat sessions.

3.9.5 The two live chat sessions took place on:

- 26th April 2021: 5pm - 7pm; and,
- 29th April 2021: 5pm- 7pm.

3.9.6 The live chat sessions were attended by members of the Applicant's project team and allowed members of the public to enter into a chat platform and ask questions about the proposals that were presented.

3.9.7 The launch of the exhibition 26<sup>th</sup> April the exhibition attracted 79 visitors and two visitors participated in the live chat events.

3.9.8 The consultation was framed around Layout C, see **Figure 2.3** of the EIA Report.

3.9.9 Adverts were placed in the local press (see Appendix 2) and an information leaflet (see Appendix 1) was sent to every property within 10km of the site with details of the virtual exhibition. Community Councils and key stakeholders, including ward councillors, the MP and MSP were contacted directly and invited to attend the event.

3.9.10 The purpose of the virtual exhibition was to outline draft proposals for the site and gain initial feedback. Exhibition boards displayed are included in Appendix 4. The presentation included:

- An overview of the Applicant;
- A breakdown of the main components of the proposal (with an acknowledgement that these are subject to change following further investigation and consultation);
- Discussion of EIA Scoping Report, EIAR consultation, surveys and technical elements, process, and remit;
- At this stage, community benefits were broadly discussed as being in line with the 2017 Scottish Energy Strategy. No specifics were given at this time;
- Acknowledgement of the desire to establish local supply chain opportunities. No further detail was available at this point; and,
- Next steps were given as continuation of consultation and engagement and progression of the EIAR.

3.9.11 Feedback from the initial live chat events was minimal and no feedback forms (see Appendix 3) were completed. One participant expressed concerns over the delivery of materials to site and a second requested a wireline from a certain location which was provided.

3.9.12 Two further comments were submitted to the project team separately to the exhibition events. The first (received 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021) outlined a support for the Proposed Development in principle subject to the production of a comprehensive, correctly evaluated EIA Report and appropriate mitigation to address any biodiversity impacts. The second (received 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021) raised concerns about health impacts on individuals in the vicinity of the windfarm and potential effects on wildlife. Specifically, concerns were raised on what mitigatory measures would be implemented. Both of these comments have been addressed through the EIA Report submitted as part of the application package.

3.9.13 Following the relaxation of guidance around face-to-face meetings, a second round of public consultation was arranged to demonstrate how the proposals for the site had evolved and communicate next steps in the application process. This involved two in-person events and a virtual exhibition supplemented with a live chat.

#### Web-Based Consultation 2

3.9.14 The second consultation launched on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021. As with the first consultation, this featured a virtual village hall set up which was accessible on the [www.letenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letenwindfarm.co.uk) website. This could be accessed at any point by members of the public and it was supported by one live chat session.

3.9.15 The live chat session took place on:

- 30th August 2021: 5pm-7pm.

3.9.16 The consultation was framed around Layout E, see **Figure 2.4** of the EIA Report.

3.9.17 As with the first consultation event, adverts were placed in the local press (See Appendix 5) and Community Councils and key stakeholders, including ward councillors, the MP and MSP were notified. There was also press coverage and social media promotion (See Appendices 8 and 9).

3.9.18 The consultation provided an opportunity for the Applicant to engage with the community on the following (See Appendix 7 for exhibition boards):

- How feedback from previous engagement had been considered and addressed: a summary of the revised proposal was given following the first exhibition event in April 2021;
- The opportunities that the plans present: elaboration on community benefit and supply chain opportunities;
- Discussion of consultation with key stakeholders and the considerations which will be covered in the EIA Report;
- Indicative maps and photomontages;
- An outline of next steps; and,
- The opportunity to provide feedback.

3.9.19 Following feedback from previous consultation, more detail was provided as part of this exhibition regarding community benefit. As part of the community benefit package and in direct response to comments received from the community during the EIA scoping process, the Applicant proposes to create the Lethen Wind Farm Energy Efficiency Programme supporting residents and helping them to:

- Reduce energy bills and save money;
- Improve energy consumption;
- Increase energy awareness;
- Play an active part in Scotland's drive towards net zero;
- Employ an energy efficiency officer locally to provide advice and information;
- Address fuel poverty and energy efficiency in local households;
- Identify and support those living in fuel poor households;
- Provide additional support over and above existing financing mechanisms;
- Help bring forward energy efficiency measures for individual households; and,
- Support a community wide energy conservation strategy.

3.9.20 In recognition of comments received and the local and regional importance of Lochindorb, the Applicant presented proposals to create an outline outdoor access plan to accompany the application. This would include a commitment to further consultation with the community, outdoor recreation, and access groups to develop details proposals on how to:

- Improve access in and around Lochindorb;
- Upgrade existing paths;
- Install waymarkers and interpretation panels; and,
- Upgrade areas of peat.

3.9.21 There was also further elaboration on involving the local supply chain. Exhibition information explained that if the application gains approval, local business would be sought to provide services including:

- Local accommodation;
- Plant hire;
- Caterers;
- Groundworks;
- Fencers; and,
- Concrete and aggregate.

3.9.22 No further feedback relative to the design and layout of the Proposed Development was received at the second live consultation event.

#### Live In-Person Events

3.9.23 The live consultation events were reinforced with ‘in-person’ public exhibitions which were held as follows:

- 31st August 2021: 12pm-7pm at Carrbridge Village Hall, Carrbridge; and,
- 1st September 2021: 12 pm-7pm at Fornightly Hall, Lethen.

3.9.24 Events were advertised alongside the virtual consultation in the local press and on social media. Community Councils and key stakeholders, including ward councillors, the MP and MSP were contacted directly and invited to attend the event.

3.9.25 In order to provide assurances in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, attendees were encouraged to book an appointment in advance. However, the Applicant also sought to accommodate those who attended without an appointment slot. Information presented was the same as that provided at the virtual exhibition (outlined above). See Appendix 10 for photographs of the in-person exhibition.

3.9.26 Approximately 15 individuals attended over the two days of consultation. Feedback forms were completed by 7 members of the public and a summary is given in Table 3-3 below.

**Table 3-3: Summary of Feedback from Second Consultation Event**

Feedback Question	Public Comment		
	Yes	No	Unsure
Do you agree that there is a need to generate more renewable energy?	7	0	0
Do you support onshore wind farms as a source of renewable energy?	6	0	1
Do you support our proposals?	6	0	1
Do you have any initial comments or questions on the proposal presented	5	2	0
Comments/Questions	Important that Ferness Village road (B9007 south) is not used at all by wind farm traffic. Village road width is compromised and already has significant problems with speeding traffic, careless driving etc. This assurance has already been given by other proposed wind farms.		
	Discount on electricity bills		
	Discount on our fuel bills		

Feedback Question	Public Comment
	I would like to see some views of how the project looks with Lochindorb Castle in shot Good discussion around fuel poverty and the proposed energy efficiency programme Good exhibition and info. Comprehensive booklet I question the siting of a lot of inland wind farms. They are far from the centres of population necessitating long cable lines. They are visually intrusive and create a lot of greenhouses gases from their construction. There is also environmental degradation where materials are mined.
Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?	Feedback received by Community Council is the need to provide discounted electricity on a postcode allocation within centre limits.
	Electric car charge points, scheme for making renewable energy in homes more affordable for all - i.e., air source heat pumps; fund for local community halls
	I would like to be kept informed as the energy efficiency programme develops
	Continue to engage with local communities and groups to identify projects and initiatives in need of support
Any further comments	Exhibition much appreciated and good to meet the staff involved Very good Thanks for sharing the information Some alternatives to coal and oil are needed but I think tide/water could be a possible solution

### 3.10 Conclusion of Community Consultation

- 3.10.1 In summary, the Applicant has ensured that the local community has had adequate opportunity to inform the finalised design solution at the site through a variety of different consultation platforms. Consultation has been held both virtually and ‘in-person’ at appropriate times in the delivery programme in order to consider and facilitate design refinement and provide a continual communication of progress made and next steps.
- 3.10.2 The Applicant has endeavoured to facilitate two-way communication and has been contactable to discuss any key issues throughout the design process.
- 3.10.3 The CLG and project website have also been utilised to provide updates on the Proposed Development and invite further feedback.
- 3.10.4 The consultation events have also been utilised to explore opportunities for supply chain management and local community benefits.
- 3.10.5 The Applicant has sent additional information to all households within a 10km radius of the site advising on the final layout, amendments that have been made, and indicating the submission programme prior to the S36 application being submitted.
- 3.10.6 Overall, feedback from the local community on design approach has been minimal, however the Applicant is committed to ongoing engagement and consultation with key stakeholders throughout all phases of the development process.

## 4 Design Iteration

### 4.1 Review of Design Iteration

- 4.1.1 The Applicant has considered a number of alternative turbine layouts for the Proposed Development, the finalised layout being the seventh iteration of design amendment. The layout of the Proposed Development has been an iterative process which started early in 2020 and has been fully informed by the EIA process and feedback from key stakeholders and the local community.
- 4.1.2 Table 4-1 provides a summary of the key design amendments which have been directly informed by stakeholder feedback received during the engagement process. The most significant alteration to the Proposed Development is the reduction in turbines from the originally proposed 23 at the feasibility stage to 17 at the finalised design stage. This has been influenced by the identification of on-site design constraints, as well as feedback from key stakeholders.
- 4.1.3 Furthermore, the proposed community benefit package has been directly informed by feedback received during the consultation process and seeks to directly address energy efficient and fuel poverty in the local area.
- 4.1.4 We would re-iterate that **Chapter 4: Approach to EIA** of the EIAR submitted as part of the S36 application also provides specific details on where the EIA has responded to the advice received throughout the EIA scoping process. Furthermore, the overall rationale behind the design evolution is discussed further in **Chapter 2: Site Selection and Design** of the EIAR.

**Table 4-1: Response to Feedback Responses**

Consultee	Response
SEPA – Peat and watercourse related concerns	Comments were taken into consideration during the design of proposed new tracks and the layout amended to incorporate SEPA’s suggested changes. The construction compounds and substation and energy storage facility have been sited to avoid watercourses, areas of deep peat and to minimise impacts on sensitive habitats.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES) - Note that two monuments are likely to be affected by the proposed development; Lochindorb Castle and Alltlaigh, Farmstead.	Redesign saw turbines along the eastern site boundary removed to minimise views from the Cairngorms National Park (CNP) and Lochindorb Castle. Micrositing of several turbines to further minimise landscape and visual effects, including in the CNP. A number of turbines were relocated north to make improvements to the view from Alltlaigh Farmstead cultural heritage asset. Further turbines were microsited to reduce the spread of turbines visible from cultural heritage receptors to the north (Dunearn Fort and Ardclach Bell Tower). Layout redesign to make additional improvements to views from the CNP by moving the southernmost turbines within the array northwards. Number of turbines removed to reduce the width of the array from the CNP, and to minimise views from the B9007. There was further refinement to the layout through the removal of a turbine in order to minimise effects on ecological, geological features and to provide a visually balanced composition of turbines from key landscape and heritage viewpoints.
Public Consultation	Feedback from community consultation has been minimal. However, it should be recognised that the Proposed Development would provide community benefit funding for the local area of up to £510,000 annually. Some of this fund

Consultee	Response
	<p>would be used to address fuel poverty, which affects around a third of households, with a fifth in extreme fuel poverty. Local households would be given grants directly to make improvements to their home, increasing energy efficiency and reducing their fuel bills, delivering a substantial benefit for the local area.</p> <p>Measures to maximise the supply chain opportunities for local businesses and proposals for community benefit funding that can optimise local economic and community development are also proposed.</p>
Telecommunications – Remove turbines interfering with radio links	A detailed design review was undertaken following the receipt of a wind farm interference analysis report which detailed the presence of two Airwave MW Radio links within the site. In consultation with Airwave Solutions, a layout was produced that did not interfere with the links. The constraints necessitated the removal of a further turbine.

## 4.2 Summary and Conclusion

- 4.2.1 The Applicant has carried out meaningful engagement and appropriate times with key stakeholders regarding the Proposed Development. Successful community consultation and information events were held where feedback on the proposals was gathered, analysed, and taken into consideration.
- 4.2.2 The final layout has been directly informed by this consultation and a robust design iteration process, exemplified by the overall reduction in turbines across the site and the alternative layout.
- 4.2.3 As with any development, a balance needs to be struck in terms of the ability to incorporate suggested comments received during PAC, whilst being able to bring forward a viable and deliverable proposal. The potential effects on the surrounding area were identified as a fundamental design consideration during consultation and the Applicant is committed to addressing any impacts via the implementation of mitigation measures as set out in the EIA Report.
- 4.2.4 From the outset, the Applicant has undertaken comprehensive consultation, despite the limitations presented by the COVID 19 pandemic. The approach to the preparation of the S36 application for the Proposed Development has sought to ensure that all those with an interest in the proposals have had an opportunity to review and comment through appropriate channels. The Applicant is committed to ongoing engagement and consultation with key stakeholders throughout all phases of the development process.

# Appendix 1 : Promotional Leaflet

## Community Benefit and Local Employment

Community benefit	Local investment	
A commitment to £5,000 per MW installed, as per Scottish Government best practice.	As demonstrated at our operational sites, we look to increase awareness of the opportunities in construction and operations, and we employ local contractors whenever possible.	£560,000 per year for community funding*
	We would welcome your views on how the wind farm could support local businesses.	

\*Based on 112MW installed for wind energy and 10MW for an energy storage facility.

We believe that Lethen Wind Farm can be an asset to the local area, supporting the local economy and helping to meet local aspirations.

We are experienced at working with local communities and helping them to explore local needs and develop community action plans to address challenges like reducing energy consumption locally and addressing fuel poverty.

Our existing wind farms have funded a variety of projects in the north east, such as:

- Rothies Community Council (Rothies Wind Farm):**
  - Supporting local sporting initiatives
  - Facilitating green travel
  - Providing tourism investment

- Heldon Community Council (Rothies Wind Farm):**
  - Supporting community owned renewable initiatives

**Inveraron and Glenlivet Community Association (Paul's Hill Wind Farm):**

- Facilitating vital defibrillators locally
- Providing play equipment for local children

We hope to have detailed conversations with local residents, community groups and stakeholders, identifying initiatives that the wind farm can support and how we can establish a trust that will help to meet local aspirations.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with your ideas and suggestions.

[communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)

### Supply Chain Opportunities

If the application is successful, our contracting strategy is to look to local businesses that can benefit from the development including construction sub-contractors, local suppliers and local facilities, such as hotels, restaurants and cafes.

Thank you for taking the time to read about Lethen Wind Farm. If you have any questions please contact [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)



## Lethen Wind Farm

Hello,

We wanted to contact you to let you know more about the proposed Lethen Wind Farm ahead of a virtual exhibition in April.

We are at the very early stages of the proposed project's development and we will be holding a virtual exhibition which outlines our draft proposals for the site.

We would like to start a conversation with the local community and key stakeholders about how we can develop a project that will help to support the local economy and actively contribute towards Scotland, and the UK's, renewable energy aspirations.

We appreciate that the current Covid-19 pandemic is making face-to-face engagement very challenging. Under normal circumstances we would talk through these proposals with you in person. However, as this is not currently possible we hope that our virtual exhibition will provide you with useful information and allow us to start a conversation about the project.

### Virtual Exhibition

We will be holding a virtual and interactive web-based consultation launching on **Monday 26th April**.

Live and interactive chat events will take place on:

**26th April – 5pm – 7pm**

**29th April – 5pm – 7pm**

If you are unable to attend the virtual chat, we would very much welcome the opportunity to:

- Set up a discussion. Text/call 07435 763 900 to set up a discussion. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Answer your questions via [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)
- Provide additional information on memory stick. Send your request to [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435 763 900.

All of the details will be available on our website [fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/lethen](https://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/lethen)

Your feedback is very important to us and will help us shape our proposals. We appreciate this is not the usual format that you may be used to and we wanted to thank you for your cooperation.

## Proposed Timeline and Next Steps

Site selection	Planning
Lethen was selected after a constraints mapping exercise was carried out in the north east of Scotland. Research has been ongoing and shows good wind speeds and minimal constraints.	<b>12-18 months</b> We will look to submit a planning application by Q4 2021. The application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report that will show the results of all studies undertaken. The EIA report will be publicly available. Interested parties can formally comment on the application.

Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
<b>12-18 months</b> If approved, construction usually begins one year after consent. Construction can take between 12 and 18 months, and planning conditions will be used to manage certain elements of construction.	<b>35 years</b> The community fund will be active throughout the lifetime of the wind farm to support local projects.	<b>12 months</b> At the end of the operational period, turbines are removed and the site restored. A financial bond will be put in place to cover this cost.

**Next steps**

We will be holding a public exhibition launching on the 26th April 2021.

From there we intend to submit the planning application in Autumn 2021. The full suite of application documents will be made publicly available at this time.

## About us

Fred. Olsen Renewables Ltd has been developing and operating wind farms in the UK since the mid-1990s. Our operational wind farm portfolio, which is all in Scotland, comprises a total generating capacity of 529.7 MW and we have an extensive pipeline of projects.

We are currently the leading independent renewable power producer in the UK and engagement with key stakeholders and the local communities surrounding our sites is at the heart of all we do.

By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, from site selection to planning, construction and operation, we are not only experts in developing successful projects - we are good neighbours.

## About the Proposal

Number of turbines	20	
Turbine tip height	185m	
Energy Storage Facility	10 MW	
Lifespan of wind farm	35 years	
Total installed capacity	112 MW	
Energy generation	79,500 tonnes per annum	
Community fund	£560,000 per year. In excess of £15 million over the lifespan of the wind farm.	

## The Story So Far

Our plans are at a very early stage. The proposed wind farm is located approximately 10km north-west of Granton on Spey and 14km east of Tomatin in the Scottish Highlands.

The feedback we receive throughout the consultation process, alongside the results of the technical assessments, will inform the design and allow us to develop a design and further detail on turbine size, number and layout. This will then be subject to further community consultation.

# Appendix 2 : First Consultation Event Newspaper Adverts

Friday, April 23 to Monday, April 26, 2021 [www.inverness-courier.co.uk](http://www.inverness-courier.co.uk) The Inverness Courier 33

**Fred. Olsen Renewables**

## Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation Virtual Exhibition

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to develop Lethen Wind Farm, 50km north-west of Caenazzoan-Spy. As part of our ongoing community consultation, we are inviting local residents and interested parties to attend our virtual public exhibition.

In normal circumstances we would engage with communities face-to-face. However, given the current social distancing restrictions we hope that you will be able to attend our virtual village hall event.

The exhibition will be online from Monday 26th April at:

<http://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/lethen/>

There will be two live chat events:

**Monday 26th April - 5pm - 7pm**  
**Thursday 29th April - 5pm - 7pm**

We hope you will be able to take part.



If you are unable to access the digital documents and virtual exhibition, please email [community@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:community@fredolsen.co.uk) or call 07435 763 900. We can post printed materials to you, a memory stick or help you to access the materials online.

The exhibition will be online from Monday 26th April

Visit <http://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/lethen/>

Call 07435 763 900

Email [community@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:community@fredolsen.co.uk)

[fredolsenrenewables.com](http://fredolsenrenewables.com)

**whatson**

**Seaview HOTEL** John o' Groats

Tel: 01955 611220  
 Email: [seaviewhotel@btinternet.com](mailto:seaviewhotel@btinternet.com)  
 Web: [www.seaviewjohnogroats.co.uk](http://www.seaviewjohnogroats.co.uk)

## WEEKEND TAKEAWAY

from Friday night to Sunday night,  
 4.30pm to 7.45pm

Check out our menus on Facebook!  
 \*PIZZAS also available on Fridays



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 Tel (01479) 810531 • Fax (01479) 810863

E-mail: [info@caledoniaestateagency.co.uk](mailto:info@caledoniaestateagency.co.uk)  
 website: [www.caledoniaestateagency.co.uk](http://www.caledoniaestateagency.co.uk)

**32 GRAMPAN VIEW, AVIEMORE**



- Three Bedroom Detached Villa in Select Residential Development
- Electric Economy Storage Heating & Double Glazing
- Attached Garage and Garden to Front & Rear
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OFFERS OVER £250,000

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- EPC Rating C

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**HEATING / FUEL**

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GAZEBO, with side panels, new, cost £300, will sell for £100. Tel: 07502 270052 (Inverness).

THREE WHEELED WALKER, with bag, height adjustable handles, brakes, new condition, £35. Buyer to collect, Tel: 07536 052923 (Inverness).

MAKE THE RIGHT MOVE WITH The Inverness Courier



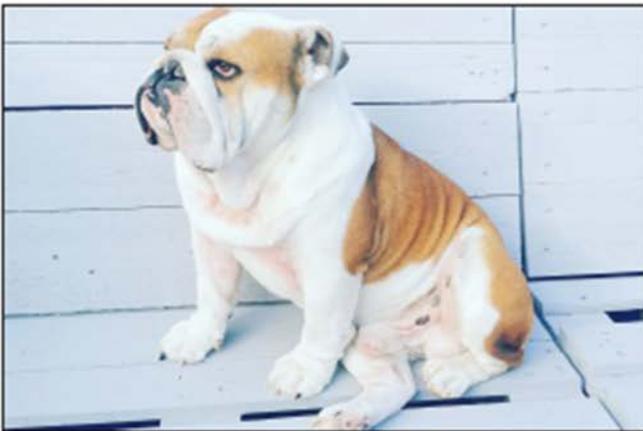
Best pals Rocky and Bella, owned by Lindsay Blackhall.



Trisha Courser's Hammy explores the stairs.



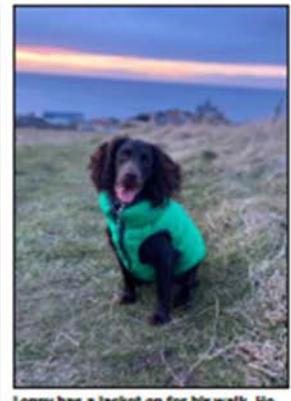
Throo's company on this occasion for Ziggy, Lola and Xona, owned by Sandi Le Huquet.



Moatball the three-year-old bulldog is the pride and joy of Tracy Fraser.



Yvonne Millor's Archie the bassot chilling.



Lonny has a jacket on for his walk. He is owned by Shannon Stewart.

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### Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation Virtual Exhibition

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to develop Lethen Wind Farm, 10km north-east of Grantown-on-Spey. As part of our ongoing community consultation, we are inviting local residents and interested parties to attend our virtual public exhibition.

In normal circumstances we would engage with communities face-to-face. However, given the current social distancing restrictions we hope that you will be able to attend our virtual village hall event.

The exhibition will be online from Monday 26th April at: <https://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/lethen/>

There will be two live chat events:  
**Monday 26th April - 5pm - 7pm**  
**Thursday 29th April - 5pm - 7pm**

We hope you will be able to take part.

If you are unable to access the digital documents and virtual exhibition, please email [community@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:community@fredolsen.co.uk) or call 01425 763 900. We can post printed materials to you, a memory stick or help you to access the material online.

The exhibition will be online from **Monday 26th April**

Visit: <https://fredolsenrenewables.com/windfarms/lethen/>

Call: 01425 763 900

Email: [community@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:community@fredolsen.co.uk)

[fredolsenrenewables.com](http://fredolsenrenewables.com)

# Appendix 3 : First Consultation Feedback Form



### Lethen Wind Farm Feedback Form

Thank you for visiting the Lethen Wind Farm virtual public exhibition. We hope that you will take a moment to provide your feedback on the form below. Please return the completed form by post to: Fred. Olsen Renewables, Ochil House, Springkerse Business Park, Stirling, FK7 7XE. Alternatively, you can send it via email to: [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk).

Name	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	

1. Do you agree that there is a need to generate more renewable energy?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsure	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Do you support onshore wind farms as a source of renewable energy?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsure	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. Do you support the proposal for Lethen Wind Farm?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unsure	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Do you have any initial comments or questions on the proposal presented?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments/Questions...	
-----------------------	--



5. Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?

Ideas/Suggestions...
----------------------

6. Any further comments?

Further comments...
---------------------

**Thank you!**

Fred. Olsen Renewables Limited (registered office at Ochil House, Springkerse, Stirling, FK7 7XE) is a trading company, owner and operator of renewable energy assets, primarily onshore wind farms. We are committed to safeguarding the privacy of individuals with whom we interact.

We process your personal data in data controller in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 (UK GDPR).

We collect, store and use the following kinds of personal data when you complete our feedback form:

Identity & Contact: This includes your title, name, email address, postal address, and telephone number.

Marketing & Usage: Information about your marketing and communication preferences, and information you provide for the purpose of subscribing to email notifications and/or newsletters.

Using your personal information: We will use your information to send you email notifications which you have requested and/or our newsletters and other marketing communications and for legal and compliance purposes.

Disclosure of your personal data: We do not share your personal data with any other party.

Data transfer outside the EEA: We will not transfer your data outside the EEA.

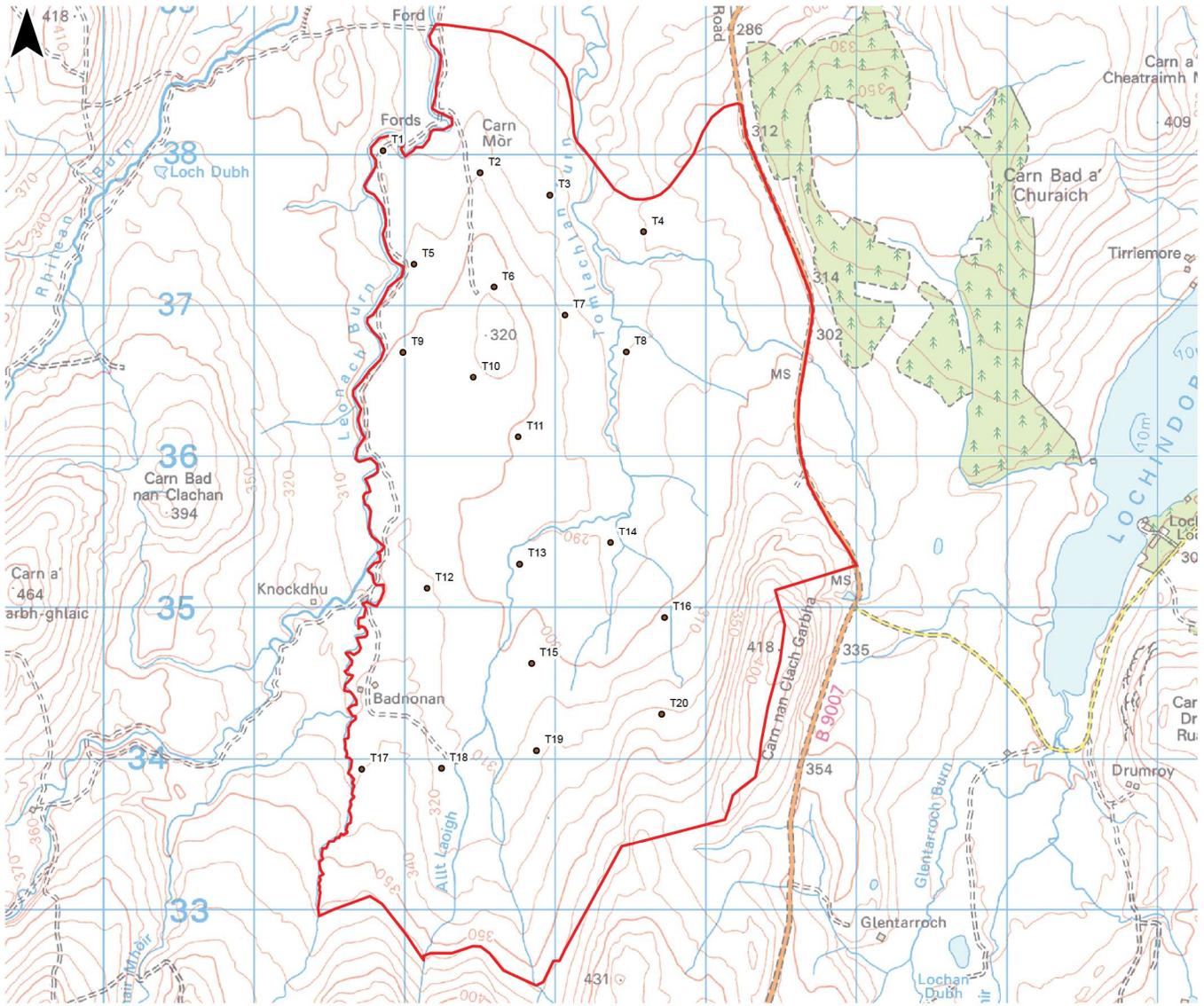
Your rights: You have rights under UK GDPR. Please visit [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk) for full details.

You may, at any time, exercise any of the above rights by contacting our Data Protection Officer by post to the registered office, or by email at [dataprotection@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:dataprotection@fredolsen.co.uk).

How long we keep your personal data: We will keep your data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for satisfying any legal and compliance requirements.

## Appendix 4 : First Consultation Event Exhibition Boards

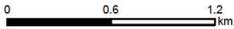
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**KEY**

- Indicative Site Boundary
- Indicative Turbine Locations
- T Turbine Identifier

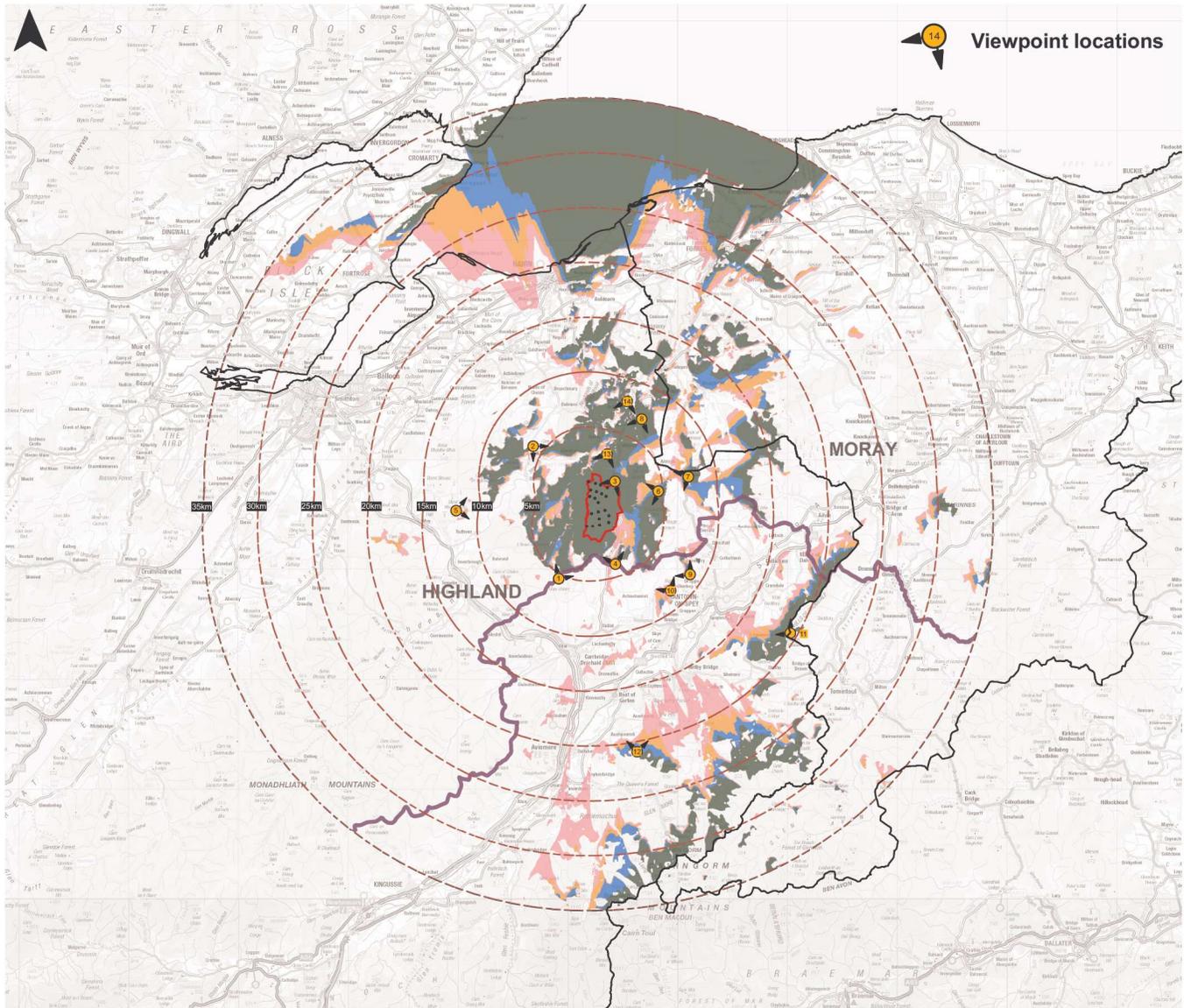
Note: Proposed Development will comprise of around 20 turbines, each up to 185m blade tip height.



Turbine	X Coordinate	Y Coordinate
T01	291856	838024
T02	292499	837877
T03	292963	837730
T04	293585	837485
T05	292060	837270
T06	292591	837119
T07	293063	836934
T08	293470	836691
T09	291987	836688
T10	292454	836523
T11	292753	836128
T12	292147	835122
T13	292761	835281
T14	293366	835423
T15	292841	834628
T16	293724	834930
T17	291714	833928
T18	292242	833934
T19	292873	834052
T20	293705	834293

**INDICATIVE SITE LAYOUT**

**LETHEN WIND FARM**



**KEY**

- Indicative Site Boundary and Turbine Locations
- Study Area Radius
- Local Authority Boundaries
- Cairngorms National Park Boundary

**Viewpoint locations**

1. Carn Glas-choire
2. Minor Road north of Drynachan
3. B9007 near Lochindorb
4. Creag Ealraich
5. Meall a' Bhreacraibh
6. Shore Road Lochindorb
7. Dava Way
8. A939 at Milestone
9. Gorton Hill
10. Beinn Mhor
11. Creagan a Chaise
12. Craiggowrie
13. Minor Road, near Duneam Fort
14. Ardcloch Bell Tower

**Number of Turbines Visible**

- 1 to 5 Turbines Visible
- 6 to 10 Turbines Visible
- 11 to 15 Turbines Visible
- 16 to 20 Turbines Visible

This ZTV image illustrates the theoretical extent from where all or part of the development would be visible from a view height of 2m. The image is produced using terrain data assuming 100% visibility. It does not take account of screening that vegetation or the built environment may provide. It therefore represents a 'worst-case' ZTV and the actual extent of visibility is likely to be much less extensive.

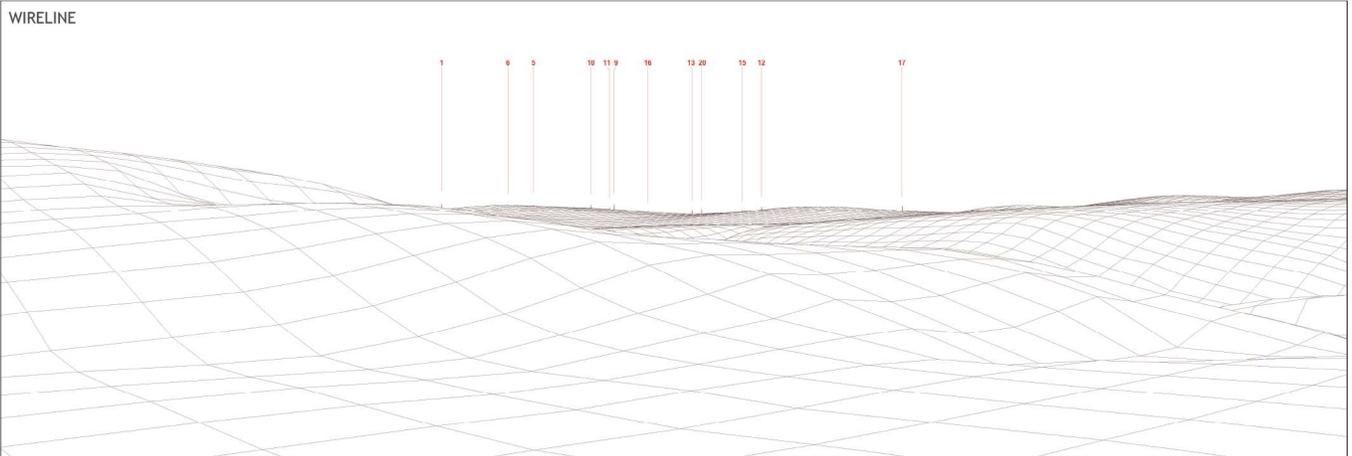
© Crown Copyright [MAY 2021]. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence 0100031673

**ZTV WITH PROPOSED VIEWPOINTS**

EXISTING VIEW



WIRELINE



PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 286582,840960  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T1 6,036m

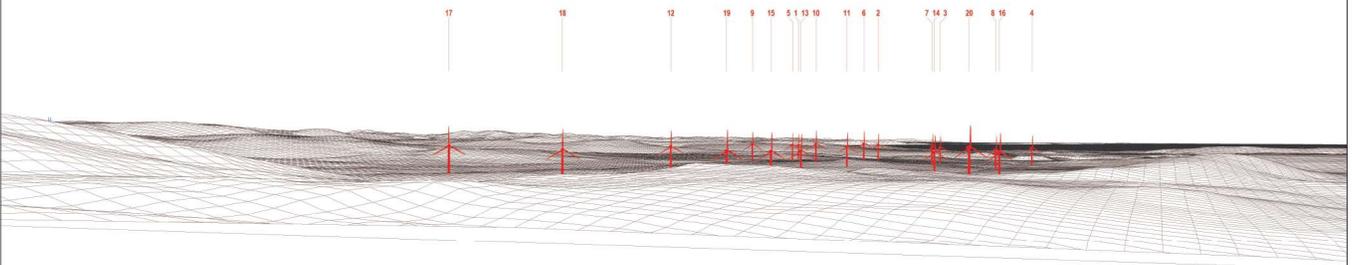
BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 131.6  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

EXISTING VIEW



CUMULATIVE WIRELINE

Tom nan Clach



Operational / under construction schemes in blue

PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

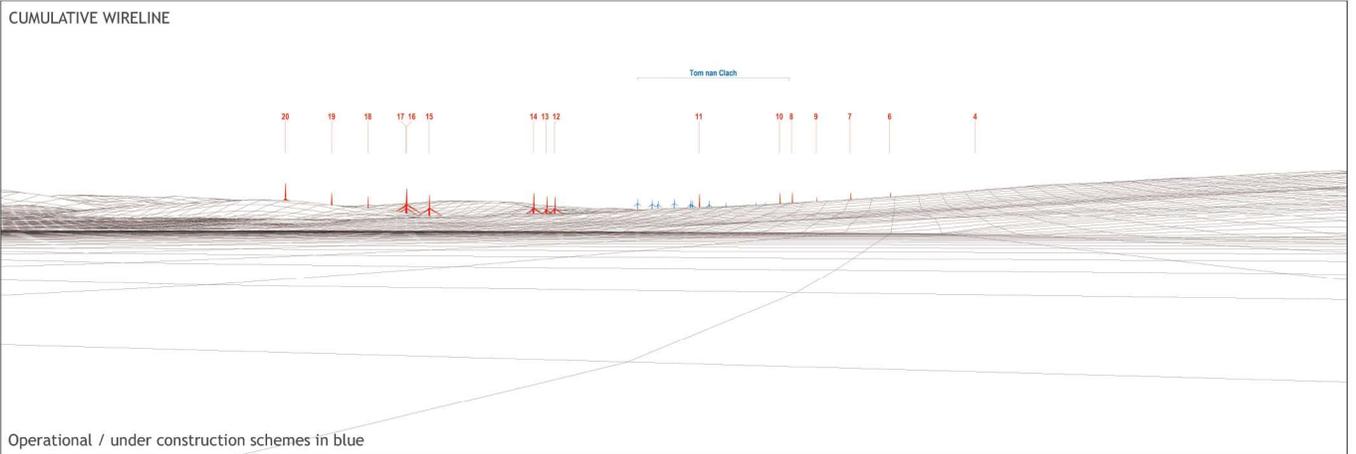
VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 294315,830467  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T19 3,864m

BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 335.2  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

EXISTING VIEW



CUMULATIVE WIRELINE



PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



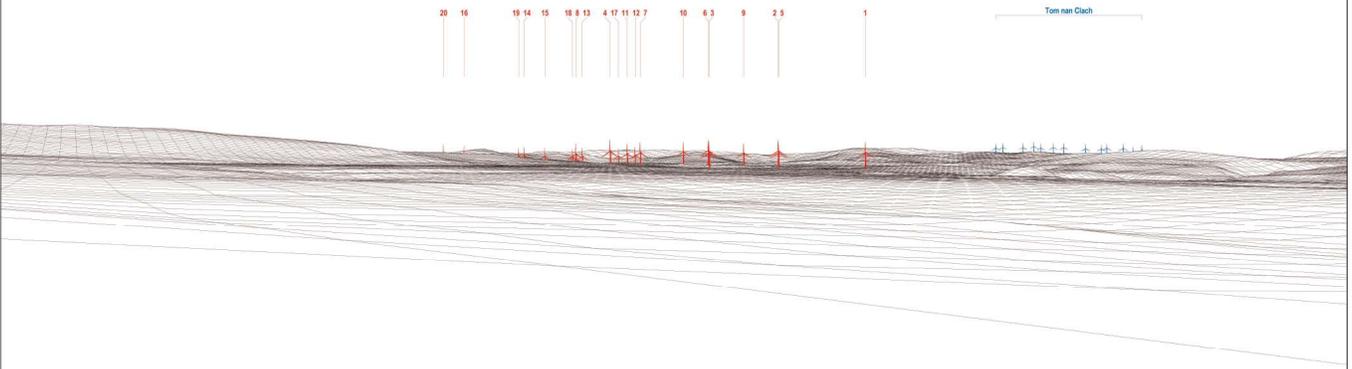
VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 298223,837166  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T4 4,648m

BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 257.9  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

EXISTING VIEW



CUMULATIVE WIRELINE



Operational / under construction schemes in blue

PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 296698,843721  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T4 6,969m

BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 210  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

# Appendix 5 : Second Consultation Event Newspaper Adverts

Friday, August 20 to Thursday, August 26, 2021

www.northernscot.co.uk

Northern Scot 5

## Eyesome thing of the past

A NOTORIOUS eyesore in Lossiemouth has been demolished after sitting derelict for more than 20 years.

Diggers dismantled the fire-damaged Brae Lossie House with it set to be replaced by a modern-looking home.

The house, located on Prospect Terrace with a view over Lossie's East Beach, was abandoned by its previous owner, before becoming rundown and eventually burned out in a 2015 fire.

The council completed compulsory purchase of the property in 2019 and placed it on the open market last year.

Plans for a replacement house were submitted to Moray Council by Tulloch of Cummingston in March, and accepted by council officers on June 22.

The new house is set to be two storeys and will be built using sandstone features.

The property is located in one of the most-sought after addresses in the seaside town, with panoramic views over the Moray Firth and east beach.

# 'Very proud' to give back to community

By Chris Sanderson  
01753 540000 or news@nscot.co.uk

A COMMUNITY project to provide a top-class sports facility for groups in Elgin and Moray was officially opened last weekend.

The Gleaner Arena boasts a full-size astro pitch and two mini pitches at lesser Borough Briggs - available for any sport that can be played on grass.

Stephen Scott, of headline sponsor Gleaner Oils, said he was "very proud" to be associated with the project.

"It is a fantastic facility for Elgin and the whole of Moray. I can remember playing football here back in the 1970s.

"Dave (Allen) really took the bull by the horns and what has been created here is fantastic. I wish my father was here to see it. The element of giving back to the community is very important to us as a business."

Gleaner have made a 10-year investment to the project - with an option to renew - backed up by a range of other supporters and sponsors.

Dave Allen has been the driving force, pulling together a group of trustees and sponsors to deliver the facility.



Jane Scott, granddaughter of the founder of Gleaner Oils and current owner with husband Stephen, Tiger Porter of Elgin City and local youth football (cutting ribbon) and Dave Allen, chairman of the Elgin Sports Community Trust with other guests and sponsors at the official opening of the facility on Saturday.  
Picture: Eochy Sanderson

Dave said: "What we have here is a community coming together and showing what we are all about as Moray, this really is about community helping community."

"We want to go from strength to strength, and we want to encourage other people to get involved. We will always raise funds for this and other projects."

The project was first conceived at the end of 2016 and it took a year to become a registered charity.

"Then we spent years trying to get the community asset transfer in place. It really started coming together when Volker Fitzpatrick came on board and it really started generating the momentum."

"We also couldn't have done this

without Councillor John Cowe, he was the voice who got us enough support within the council to get the community asset transfer through.

"The important thing is demonstrating that it is not just football, any sport you play on grass you can play here. We have girls netball, tennis, walking rugby and football."



Buckle Classic Car Show is due to come roaring back to Linzee Gordon Park.

## Revved up and ready to go

BUCKLE Classic Car Show is set to make a welcome return after an enforced break last year due to Covid restrictions.

On Sunday, August 29, a total of 450 exhibitors will converge on Linzee Gordon Park from 11am to 4pm.

Show chairman Jon Clark said: "It's been a long time, but we're delighted to finally be back."

"The support we've had over the last 18 months has been excellent, we've all been taken aback by it and are very grateful."

"We're full up with 450 exhibitors. We've our usual mix of people from the local area and further afield and there'll be a warm

welcome for them all. Moray Council have waived all the charges for the hire of the park and we're passing this saving onto the stallholders. We'll also be delighted to welcome council chief executive Roddy Burns to officially open the event at noon.

"The show is something we're all thoroughly looking forward to."

Mr Clark added: "We want a safe family event where people can feel secure."

There promises to be another extravaganza of motors at the park, ranging from motorbikes and Minis through to sports cars and hot hatches."

Fred. Olsen Renewables

## Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation

A live and interactive chat event will take place on:

Monday 30th August, 5pm - 7pm at [www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk)

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to develop Lethen Wind Farm, located approximately 10km north-west of Grantown-on-Spey.

As part of our ongoing community engagement, we are inviting local residents and interested parties to take part in our consultation where they can learn more about our plans and have their questions answered.

Our consultation will launch online on Monday 30th August at [www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk)

We will then hold three events. One online and two in person events.

Public exhibitions with pre-booked timeslots will take place on:

Tuesday 31st August, 12noon - 7pm at Carbridge Village Hall, Main Street, Carbridge, FK23 3AA

Wednesday 1st September, 12noon - 7pm at Forsighy Hall, Lethen, Nairn, IV12 5JB

To book your slot email [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435 763900

If you are unable to attend either of the events we would very much welcome the opportunity to:

- Set up a discussion. Text/call 07435 763 900. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Answer your questions via [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)
- Provide additional hard copy information or on memory stick. Send your request to [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435 763 900.

[www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.lethenwindfarm.co.uk)

## Aviemore to unveil its green

AVIEMORE'S new-look village green will be officially unveiled at the end of this month.

The event on Saturday August 28 is being jointly hosted by Aviemore Community Council and Aviemore Community Enterprise Ltd (ACE).

The open day will run from noon to 4pm with stalls from local organisations and charities, and a dance display on the stage.

Peter Long, Aviemore Community Council chairman, said: "We hope that this will be an occasion for the community to come together to celebrate our village green, and to mark the relaxation of the Covid restrictions."

ACE chairwoman Judith Bell said: "There has been so much work done to upgrade our village green and we think it's looking great. We hope that everyone else thinks so too."

Highland Council convener and local member Councillor Bill Lobban will conduct the opening at 2pm. Many of those who contributed to the works to upgrade the green in recent years have been invited too.

# Epic cycling efforts net a £20k windfall

By Tom Ramage  
tom.ramage@hmeda.co.uk

ALWAYS inspirational, Strathspey's most famous beauty spot has now driven a cycling team on to raise nearly £20,000 for the fight against the cancer which claimed their friend at just 45.

"The fund is now at an incredible £19,500 - our target was half that!" celebrated Darren Murray as the team arrived at Loch Morlich after cycling all day from Cumbernauld on Saturday.

His brother-in-law and best friend Mikey Gillespie died two years ago after fighting mouth cancer. The Glenmore beauty spot had always inspired him to fight on, said Mr Murray.

"He and his family had long been in love with this place and we decided the pilgrimage would be a fitting way to raise awareness of the disease along with some cash to fund the fight against it."

The trip went well, he told the Strathy, with the journey's end achieved after 11 hours "albeit beset with a few mechanical issues along the way". All 14 weary riders made it to Loch Morlich together after the 138-mile slog.



HOME! Fellow Loch Morlich lovers gathered to cheer the 14-strong team home on Saturday before adjourning to the British Legion bar in Aviemore.

"Bu arto Drumochter was tough," said Darren. "And it was made even more troublesome by a block headwind. But then we had the beautiful section from Crieff to Dunkeld and the winding roads from Ruthven Barracks to Inverdrue, where the team managed to catch a third wind and revelled in the swooping and rolling bends."

"The support was incredible, with a healthy crew behind us and finally at Loch Morlich there were banners, horns, whistles and dancing.

We received multiple online donations from drivers and pedestrians we passed along the way.

"Mikey would have loved it. For years he, Suzy and the kids, Holly and Josh, loved coming here while holidaying in the strath. The family still come."

"The fundraising is incredible, but more importantly in a period of limited visits to dentists for the populace, we have raised awareness of head, neck and mouth cancers' symptoms."



SUCCESS! Aviemore's Craig Little (left) joins organiser Darren Murray for the victory celebration.



SLAINTE! Rotarian and whisky ambassador Martin O'Reilly hands over the cheque for £2500.

## Rotarians 'sup' to challenge!

HOW do you organise a whisky tasting during lockdown? Ask the Rotary Club of Spey Valley.

They went where everyone goes - to Zoom.

Then they solved the next problem: how do you get the whisky down the broadband cable?

Again, they solved this like everyone else with a parcel through the post.

In this one - which nine UK Rotary clubs received - there were several individual tasting kits containing four whiskies and a map.

Strath Rotarian Martyn O'Reilly, a whisky

ambassador, took the members through the country by way of four distilleries, ranging from Lowland (Auchentoshan) to the Orkney Isles and others in between.

The evenings were enjoyed by all the 181 folk who took part, by both those who had taken "na" tours and knew their whiskies and by those less sure.

A survey had been completed by those taking part and 89 per cent agreed it had been good value for money.

A total of £2500 was raised and was handed over to Marie Curie, pictured above. The club told the Strathy they plan to offer some more tours come the autumn.

Fred. Olsen Renewables

### Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to develop Lethen Wind Farm, located approximately 10km north-west of Grantown-on-Spey.

As part of our ongoing community engagement, we are inviting local residents and interested parties to take part in our consultation where they can learn more about our plans and have their questions answered.

**Our consultation will launch online on Monday 30th August at [www.letthenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letthenwindfarm.co.uk)**

We will then hold three events. One online and two in person events.

**If you are unable to attend either of the events we would very much welcome the opportunity to:**

- Set up a discussion. Text/call 07435 763 900. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Answer your questions via [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)
- Provide additional hard copy information or on memory stick. Send your request to [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435 763 900.

[www.letthenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letthenwindfarm.co.uk)

**Live and interactive chat event will take place on:**

**Monday 30th August, 5pm - 7pm at [www.letthenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letthenwindfarm.co.uk)**

**Public exhibitions with pre-booked time slots will take place on:**

**Tuesday 31st August, 12noon - 7pm at Carrbridge Village Hall, Main Street, Carrbridge, PH23 3AA**

**Wednesday 1st September, 12noon - 7pm at Fornightly Hall, Lethen, Nairn, IV12 5JB**

To book your slot email [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435 763 900

# Appendix 6 : Second Consultation Feedback Form



## Feedback Form

Thank you for considering our wind farm proposals. We hope you will take a moment to provide your feedback on the form below.

This can be returned by post to **Fred. Olsen Renewables, Ochil House, Springkerse Business Park, Stirling, FK7 7XE.** Alternatively, you can send it via email to: [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk).

**Name**

**Address**

**Telephone**

**Email**

**Wind Farm Name**

**Do you agree that there is a need to generate more renewable energy?**

Yes  No  Unsure

**Do you support onshore wind farms as a source of renewable energy?**

Yes  No  Unsure

**Do you support our proposals?**

Yes  No  Unsure

**Do you have any initial comments or questions on the proposal presented?**

Yes  No  Unsure

>>>

### Comments/Questions...

**Do you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can shape the community benefit offering to make it more appropriate to the local area?**

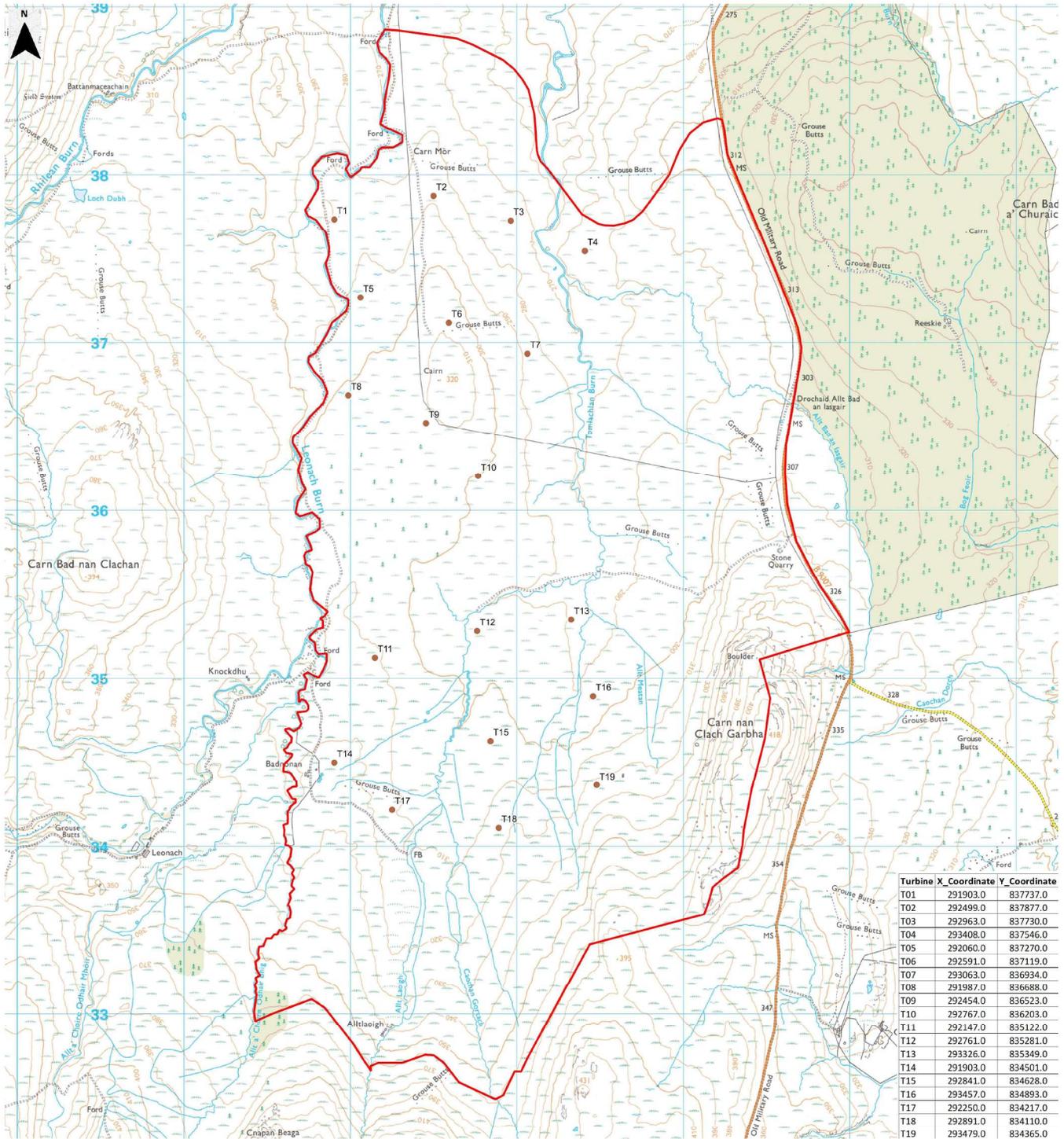
**Any further comments?**

**Thank you!**

Fred Olsen Renewables Limited (registered office is at 2nd Floor, 36 Broadway, London, SW1H 0BH - number 02672436) is a leading developer, owner and operator of renewable energy assets, primarily onshore wind farms. We are committed to safeguarding the privacy of individuals with whom we interact. We process your personal data as a data controller in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018 (UK GDPR). We collect, store and use the following kinds of personal data when you complete our feedback form: **Identity & Contact:** This includes your title, name, email address, postal address, and telephone number. **Marketing & Usage:** Information about your marketing and communication preferences, and information you provide for the purpose of subscribing to email notifications and/or newsletters. **Using your personal information:** We will use your information to send you email notifications which you have requested and/or our newsletter and other marketing communications and for legal and compliance purposes. **Disclosure of your personal data:** We do not share your personal data with any other party. **Data transfer outside the EEA:** We will not transfer your data outside the UK. **Your Rights:** You have rights under UK GDPR. Please visit [wwwico.org.uk](http://wwwico.org.uk) for full details. You may, at any time, exercise any of the above rights by contacting our Data Protection Officer (by post to the registered office, or by email at [dataprotection@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:dataprotection@fredolsen.co.uk)). **How long we keep your personal data:** We will keep your data for as long as necessary to fulfil the purposes we collected it for, including for satisfying any legal and compliance requirements.

## Appendix 7 : Second Consultation Event Exhibition Boards

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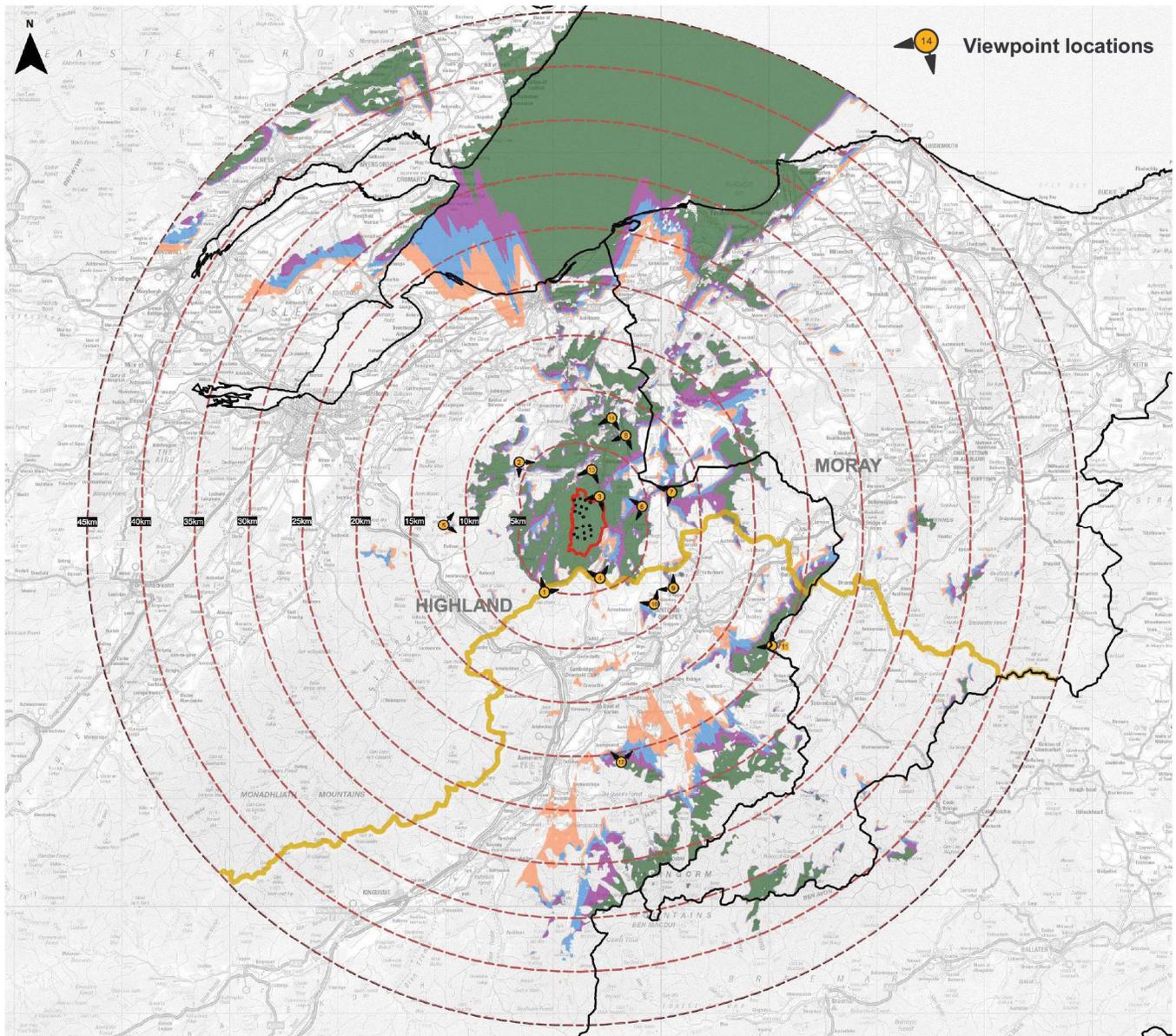
Turbine	X_Coordinate	Y_Coordinate
T01	291903.0	837737.0
T02	292499.0	837877.0
T03	292963.0	837730.0
T04	293408.0	837546.0
T05	292060.0	837270.0
T06	292591.0	837119.0
T07	293063.0	836934.0
T08	291987.0	836688.0
T09	292454.0	836523.0
T10	292767.0	836203.0
T11	292147.0	835122.0
T12	292761.0	835281.0
T13	293326.0	835349.0
T14	291903.0	834501.0
T15	292841.0	834628.0
T16	293457.0	834893.0
T17	292250.0	834217.0
T18	292891.0	834110.0
T19	293479.0	834365.0

**KEY**

-  Indicative Site Boundary
-  Indicative Turbine Locations

**INDICATIVE SITE LAYOUT**

**LETHEN WIND FARM**



**KEY**

Indicative Site Boundary and Turbine Locations

Study Area Radius

Local Authority Boundaries

Cairngorms National Park Boundary

Viewpoint locations

Viewpoint locations

1. Carn Glas-choire
2. Minor Road north of Drynachan
3. B9007 near Lochindorb
4. Creag Ealraich
5. Meall a' Bhreacraibh
6. Shore Road Lochindorb
7. Dava Way
8. A939 at Milestone
9. Gorton Hill
10. Beinn Mhor
11. Creagan a Chaise
12. Craiggowrie
13. Minor Road, near Duneam Fort
14. Ardclach Bell Tower

- 1 to 4 Turbines Visible
- 5 to 9 Turbines Visible
- 10 to 14 Turbines Visible
- 15 to 19 Turbines Visible

This ZTV image illustrates the theoretical extent from where all or part of the development would be visible from a view height of 2m. The image is produced using terrain data assuming 100% visibility. It does not take account of screening that vegetation or the built environment may provide. It therefore represents a 'worst-case' ZTV and the actual extent of visibility is likely to be much less extensive.

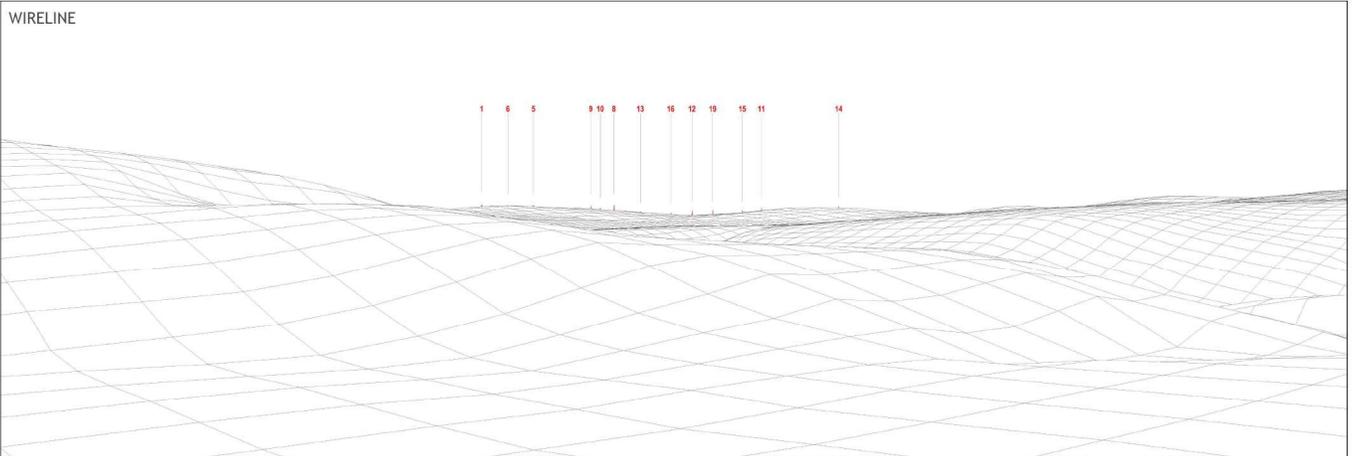
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ZTV WITH PROPOSED VIEWPOINTS

EXISTING VIEW



WIRELINE



PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 286582,840960  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T1 6,220m

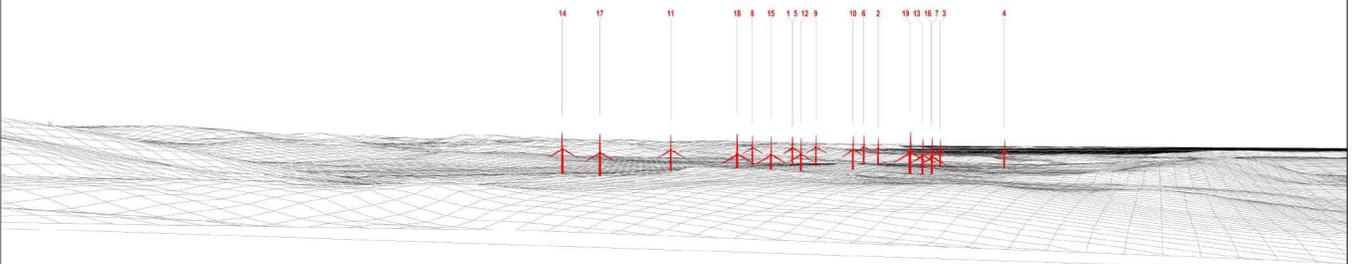
BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 131.6  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

EXISTING VIEW



CUMULATIVE WIRELINE

Tom nan Clach



Operational / under construction schemes in blue

PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

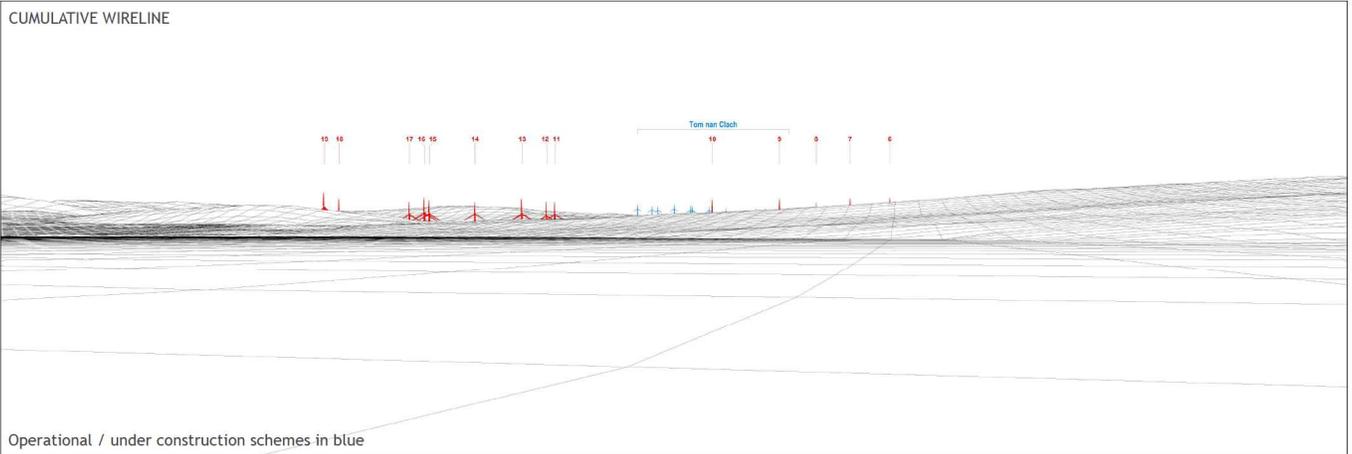
VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 294315,830467  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T18 3,911m

BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 335.2  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

EXISTING VIEW



CUMULATIVE WIRELINE



PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

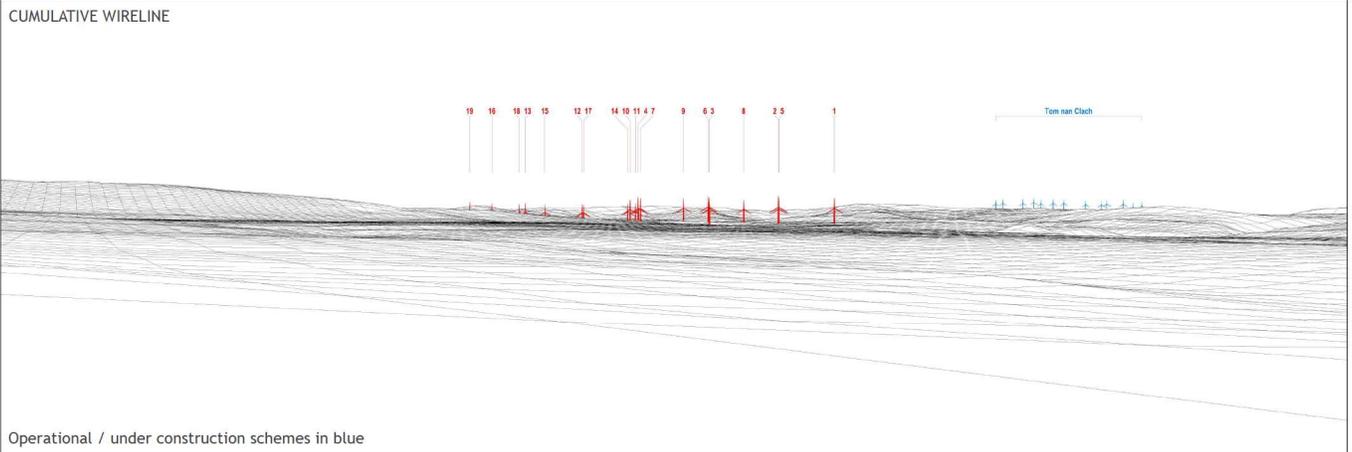
VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 298223,837166  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T4 4,829m

BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 257.9  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

EXISTING VIEW



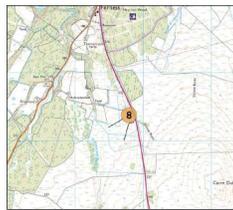
CUMULATIVE WIRELINE



PHOTOMONTAGE OF PROPOSAL



VIEWPOINT INFORMATION



VIEWPOINT LOCATION AND DIRECTION

VIEWPOINT LOCATION: 296698,843721  
DISTANCE TO NEAREST TURBINE: T4 6,996m

BEARING TO CENTRE OF PHOTOGRAPH: 210  
HORIZONTAL FIELD OF VIEW: 65.5 DEGREES

# Appendix 8 : Press Coverage

6 Strathspey and Badenoch Herald

www.strathspey-herald.co.uk

Thursday, August 26 to Wednesday, September 1, 2021

## So many put in so much to sculpture Villagers sit pretty after a 30-year wait

THE project was led by a partnership comprising the village's business association, community council, community woodland and development trust and the Cairngorms National Park Authority. Funding came from the Badenoch Great Place Project, CNPA, Cairngorms Trust, Highland Council, Isobel Parker Fund, Millennium Fund, the community council and Sustrans Scotland's ArtRoots Fund.

Writer Merry Glover held workshops to collate ideas for the boards decorating the installation.

Effusive thanks were given on Saturday to the primary school pupils, head teacher and staff; community residents who spoke out at the artists consultation and voted on the designs submitted.

Ms Frazer also paid tribute to local people and organisations who researched, resourced and created the text and photos for each panel. She said local tradesmen had provided invaluable advice.

NEWTONMORE has been commended for its spirit in completing its remarkable art installation - especially over the last of those 30 years in the making.

Badenoch MSP Kate Forbes told villagers and supporters gathered at the showpiece at the village square on Saturday that the coronavirus pandemic had 'stripped everything in our society back to community' since the outbreak and the work they were celebrating had completely captured that spirit.

No more could the rain dampen that enthusiasm. Newtonmore had shown for a work of art to satisfy a long-held need for a showpiece at the heart of the village.

As she verbally cut a virtual ribbon, the MSP for Skye, Lochaber and Badenoch commended the piece for encapsulating Newtonmore.

She said: "The landscape, mountains, the strath, the river, the Gaelic medallion being preserved by the local primary school, the local industries and sporting expertise, the culture that will never change - it's all represented here in this installation which will still be here in a hundred years."

Local outdoors broadcaster and author Cameron McNeish



AND REST: Author and walker Cameron McNeish (left) could take the weight off his feet at last with Kate Forbes (centre) and Amanda Frazer, thanks to sculptor Stuart Murdoch (standing to take his well-earned applause).

welcomed the crowd to the 'summit cairn' of their cultural climb.

He introduced the project's spokeswoman Amanda Frazer, who praised the way the whole community had taken a share in the creation of a "very unique" sculpture, with their unanimous selection of

Ballindalloch sculptor Stuart Murdoch's design from the eight submitted.

Mr Murdoch told the Strath he had been thrilled to be chosen to complete the piece, which had been a labour of love - especially gathering the largest stones from his local fields.

He commented: "I'd never been involved in so much trench digging. But it's so good to see everyone so

happy with the final outcome.

"In 32 years I had never done anything quite like this and it was a joy to do."

Highland Council convener Bill Lobban applauded the work.

"It's a really impressive installation," he said. "It suits Newtonmore perfectly and well done to the organisers."



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## Planned Dava Moor turbines could be 185 metres in height

MORE details for plans for a new wind farm with towering 185m high on the Dava Moor are to be unveiled next week.

Fred Olsen Renewables is behind the proposals first announced in February to develop Lethen Wind Farm around 10 kilometres north-east of Grantown.

The proposed new wind farm on Lethen Estate would generate up to 112MW of electricity from its 19 turbines.

If approved, the development could lead to a whopping £19 million being given to surrounding local community projects over the course of the wind farm's lifetime.

A live and interactive chat event will take place next Monday (August 30) from 5pm to 7pm at [www.lethe-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.lethe-windfarm.co.uk) and two public exhibitions with pre-booked timeslots are to be held.

The renewables energy giant has said that its proposals to develop Lethen Wind Farm will include a commitment to supporting local residents to reduce their energy bills.

Fred Olsen Renewables has said the energy efficiency programme has been devised after consultations with the local community and will be the first of its kind in Scotland and an integral part of their proposals.

A spokesperson said: "Fred Olsen Renewables has developed the programme with the intention of making it easier for people to consider how they heat their homes, switch to a green tariff or explore installing insulation in their own home."

The programme will focus on providing hands-on advice locally and include employing a local energy efficiency officer;

identifying and supporting those living in fuel poor households and helping to bring forward energy efficiency measures for individual households.

Julie Aitken, project manager at Fred Olsen Renewables, commented: "We are really pleased to be coming forward with this innovative energy efficiency programme."

"It is very apparent that there is a significant appetite across local communities to address the challenge of energy efficiency and rising energy bills."

"We are confident that Lethen Wind Farm can help to join the dots, and that the project will help communities to play their part in Scotland's net zero transition."

The site for the proposed development is close to the existing Tomnan Clach wind farm which sits between the communities of Glenfemess, Grantown and Tomatin.

But the cash windfall promised by developers was described a short time after the announcement as 'bribery' by seasoned anti-wind farm campaigner Pat Wells.

The annual community benefits from any wind farm built at Lethen would be shared between community council areas within a 10km radius of the site including Grantown, Dulnain Bridge, Cromdale, Stathdeam and Dava Residents Association.

The local public exhibitions will take place at Carrbridge Village Hall on Tuesday, August 31, from noon to 7pm with the other one in Nairn the next day. Slots can be booked by emailing [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or contacting 07435 763900.

## Time to improve the grid

COMPANY representatives said they shared wider public concerns over the bugbear of 'constraint payments'.

Millions of pounds find their way onto electricity bills every year after landowners have been compensated for their turbines being turned off. Ms Aitken: "Onshore wind farms present a range of opportunities, including helping to meet Scotland, and the UK's net zero targets but one of the most significant barriers to development is transmission charging and grid capacity."

"We are engaging a range of stakeholders on this issue - helping to ensure that our projects can be swiftly delivered and efficient."

She continued: "We want to be able to make the most of our power and that means exporting it."

"That can only be done best when the National Grid has finally been upgraded."

Ms Aitken said the wind farm would be designed to minimise the need for those constraint payments since it would come complete with 'batteries for storing the power created.'

# Turbines could turn £18m in payments

PLANS for a wind farm north of Grantown with turbines 185 metres high could generate over £18 million in community benefit during the lifetime of the project with a good share going to the strath.

Fred Olsen Renewables unveiled its proposals for 19 turbines at Lethen some 10km north-west of the Strathspey capital earlier this week.

Slots had to be booked for the exhibition on Tuesday at Carbridge Village Hall because of the Covid pandemic and as a result there were few other members of the public there for the Strathy to gather their thoughts.

Kirsty Leiper, the company's community liaison manager, told the Strathy afterwards: "We received a number of visitors at Carbridge which was great."

"Some really good discussions we had."

The annual community benefits from the development - should it get the green light - would be shared between community council areas within a 10km radius of the site including Grantown, Dulnain Bridge, Cromdale, Strathdearn and Dava Residents Association.

It has been described as a bribe



From left, Kirsty Leiper, Anna Hudson on energy consultant, Stuart Baungaly, land manager and Julie Aitken.

by anti-wind farm campaigns. The developer said it is also planning to employ a local energy efficiency officer to provide advice and information on cutting bills if the site get approved.

Julie Aitken, senior project manager, told the Strathy: "Our consultation for the proposals is ongoing and there are many opportunities

for further and wider engagement with community councils, key stakeholders and local residents close to the development."

"If consented, Lethen Wind Farm could provide over £18 million in community benefit throughout the lifespan of the project."

"From speaking to the local community, and exploring their

priorities, we understand that fuel poverty and energy efficiency is a priority locally."

"We want to make it easy for people to consider how they heat their homes, switch to a green tariff or explore insulation."

"We are proposing that, as part of our community benefit package, we will create the Lethen Wind Farm Energy Efficiency Programme."

"It will support local residents and help them to reduce energy bills, improve energy consumption and increase energy awareness while playing an active part in the country's drive towards net zero."

The Fred Olsen Renewables team pointed out that great pains had been taken to make the most of a mitigating 'dip' in the landscape which would reduce the impact of the proposed wind farm.

They also said there would be no noise pollution for neighbours as the nearest properties are some three to four kilometres from the turbines.

Ms Aitken said they had listened to community feedback too: "Following our first exhibition in April we have revised our proposals with the removal of one turbine and associated infrastructure."

## 'Village pupils will not be turned away from primary'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

consultation document was a reassurance no Newtonmore resident would be affected if they wished to send their child to their local school.

He added: "I find it strange that while this is a significant point, it has not actually been included in the document."

Education chiefs said the projection of three English and three Gaelic medium classes eventually at the school was based on current trends.

But they stressed this remained a matter of parental choice and this would dictate the breakdown of class numbers.

There was no intention of just cutting English classes.

Mr Jackson said on the omission: "We did not put it in the proposal paper as we did not think it was an issue and saw no prospect of it arising."

Brian Porter, the council's head of resources, emphasised the public consultation was to formalise an existing catchment area not create new GME provision.

He said: "The majority of pupils accessing GME are from within Newtonmore itself and if that arrangement was to in any way alter then what would be the consequences be for these young people."

"It would have a displacement impact potentially upon them and the opportunities they have. The reality is we do have this established provision within Newtonmore."

Mr Porter said similar discussions were ongoing in 20 other GME localities across the region on formalising catchment areas.

"What we are seeing from the evidence is that this does not lead to a sudden change on the ground. We have not seen at other locations a significant influx in GME pupils into schools as a result of the change."

"From our own modelling we are not expecting there to be a problem in Newtonmore."

"Were that to be the case - as unlikely as that might be - the challenge for the council is one that we would have to step up and address."

That would likely involve having to create extra GME provision at the Kingussie school.

GME was introduced around 30 years ago in Newtonmore following parental demand.

The council is required to set up GME catchment areas as part of a statutory consultation being led by Bàr na Gàidhlig on behalf of the Scottish Government.

During the meeting, council officers said that bilingualism offered a number of benefits both to pupils and the wider community including more of tolerance of other cultures.

The deadline for responses to the public consultation closes tomorrow.

More details can be found at www.highland.gov.uk

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# Appendix 9 : Social Media Promotion



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**Fornightly Hall Nairn added an event.**  
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**Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation**

A live and interactive chat event will take place on:

**Monday 30th August, 5pm - 7pm** at [www.letenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letenwindfarm.co.uk)

Public exhibitions with pre-booked timeslots will take place on:

**Tuesday 31st August, 12noon - 7pm** at Carrbridge Village Hall, Main Street, Carrbridge, PH23 3AA

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to develop Lethen Wind Farm, located approximately 10km north-west of Grantown-on-Spey.

As part of our ongoing community engagement, we are inviting local residents and interested parties to take part in our consultation where they can learn more about our plans and have their questions answered.

WED, 1 SEP

**Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation**

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**Carrbridge News**  
20 August at 16:47 · 🌐

Places can be booked by email [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435763900.

Should someone want to drop in to the exhibition we will seek to accommodate them – ensuring that everyone is comfortable and safe at the same time.

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**Lethen Wind Farm - Public Consultation**

A live and interactive chat event will take place on:

**Monday 30th August, 5pm - 7pm** at [www.letenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letenwindfarm.co.uk)

Public exhibitions with pre-booked timeslots will take place on:

**Tuesday 31st August, 12noon - 7pm** at Carrbridge Village Hall, Main Street, Carrbridge, PH23 3AA

**Wednesday 1st September, 12noon - 7pm** at Fornightly Hall, Lethen, Nairn, IV12 5JB

Fred. Olsen Renewables is proposing to develop Lethen Wind Farm, located approximately 10km north-west of Grantown-on-Spey.

As part of our ongoing community engagement, we are inviting local residents and interested parties to take part in our consultation where they can learn more about our plans and have their questions answered.

**Our consultation will launch online on Monday 30th August at [www.letenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letenwindfarm.co.uk)**

**We will then hold three events. One online and two in person events.**

To book your slot email [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435763900

**If you are unable to attend either of the events we would very much welcome the opportunity to:**

- Set up a discussion. Text/call 07435 763 900. The team can be on hand to discuss the plans with you, and this includes after 5pm.
- Answer your questions via [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)
- Provide additional hard copy information or on memory stick. Send your request to [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk) or text/call 07435 763 900.

[www.letenwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.letenwindfarm.co.uk)

# Appendix 10 : 'In-Person' Exhibition Photos

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