

## Welcome



### Welcome to our virtual public consultation exhibition about the proposed repower of Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm, located 9km North East of Carsphairn and 10km south of New Cumnock.

We would like to start a conversation with the local community and key stakeholders about how we can work together to develop a project that will help to support:

- The local community
- The local economy
- Scotland and the UK's net zero aspirations

The current Covid-19 pandemic is making face-to-face engagement challenging. In normal circumstances we would talk through these proposals with you in person. However, we hope that these materials provide you with useful information and allows us to start a conversation about the project.

Consultation is an important part of the development process. We welcome your feedback and opinions. Please complete a feedback form, or contact the team to discuss the plans further.

**e** [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)  
**t** 07435763900  
**w** [www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk](http://www.windystandardwindfarm.co.uk)

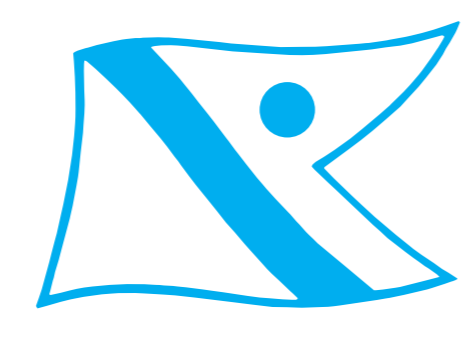
### About Fred. Olsen Renewables

Fred. Olsen Renewables (FORL) is one of the leading independent renewable power producers in the UK. Our operational UK wind farm portfolio comprises a total generating capacity of 529.7 MW and we have an extensive pipeline of projects coming forward.

We have been involved in the operation of Windy Standard Wind Farm since the 1990's. With over twenty-five years' experience in consenting, developing and operating wind farms, we are one of the very few developers that take a project all the way from initiation and development, through to operation and ultimately decommissioning.

By being involved in every aspect of a wind farm's lifecycle, we are not only experts in developing successful projects, we are good neighbours.

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



## Our proposals

### About the site

Windy Standard Wind Farm currently consists of three developments.

- Windy Standard 1 has been operating for over 25 years. The project consists of 36 turbines with a tip height of 53.5m and provides 21.6 MW of electricity.
- Windy Standard 2 was consented in 2007 and has been operational since 2017. This consists of 30 turbines with tip heights up to 120m and provides 61.5 MW of electricity.
- Windy Standard 3 which was consented in 2021. This consists of 20 turbines and is expected to be constructed in 2024.

### Windy Standard 1 Repower

We are exploring opportunities to replace the existing Windy Standard 1 turbines with new, modern turbines that utilise the latest technology.

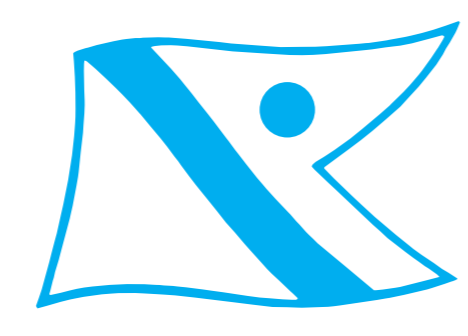
### Our repowering proposals would:

- Reduce the number of turbines
- Increase the generating capacity
- Share existing infrastructure – including tracks and grid connection

### The main components of the proposed development are:

- Up to nine wind turbines with a height of up to 200m to tip
- Energy Storage Facility
- Turbine foundations and hardstandings
- External transformer housing
- Onsite substation and control building
- Underground electricity cables between the turbines
- Upgrade access tracks
- Crane pads





## Layout and Design Process

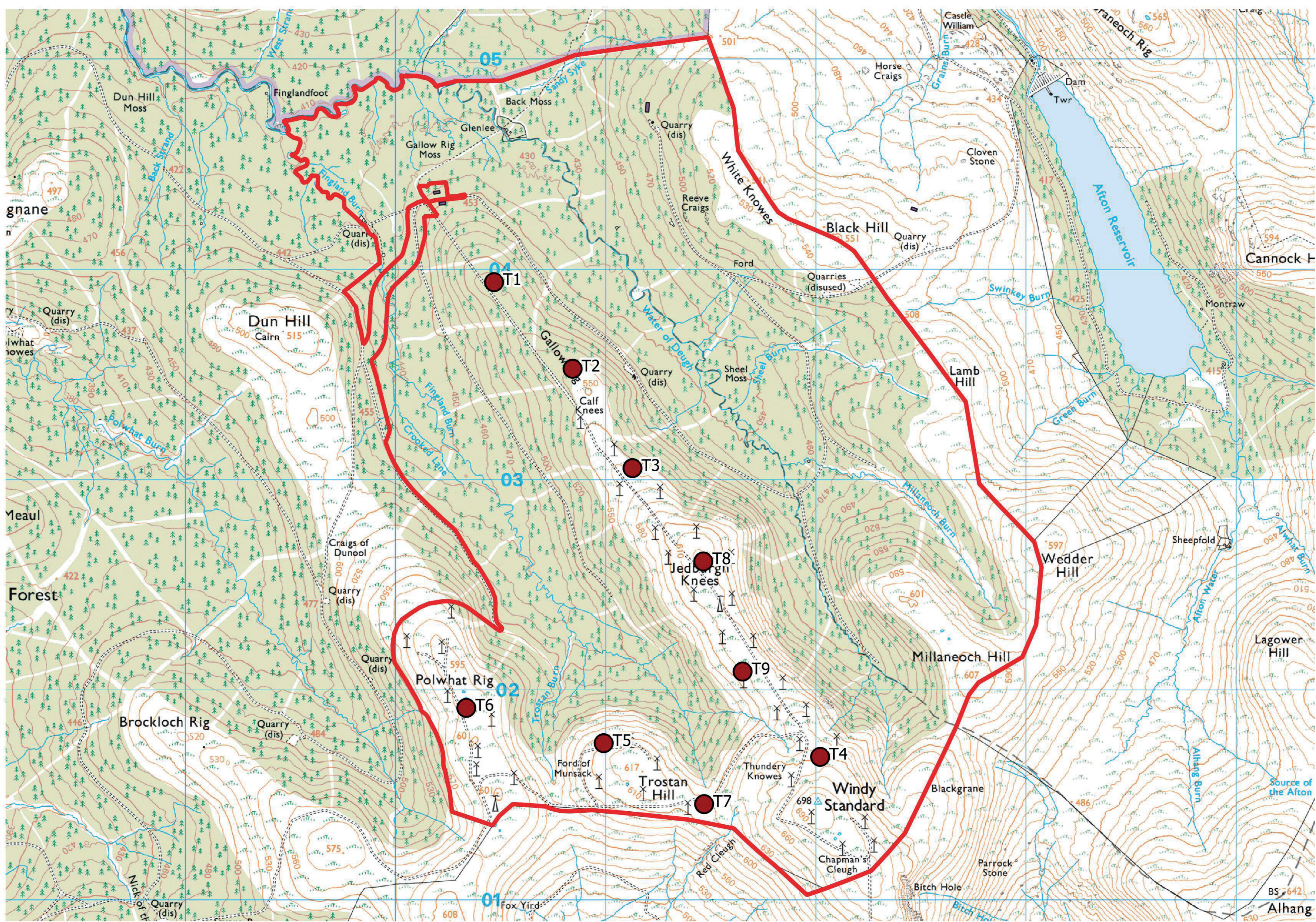
### Many factors will determine the final location of the wind turbines, including:

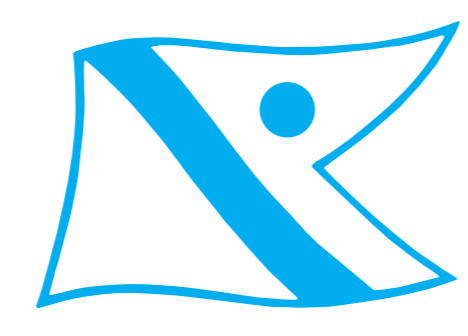
- Visual impact
- Impact on sensitive habitats
- Proximity to areas of ecological interest
- Wind resource
- Engineering constraints
- Community comments

Some of these issues will not be fully identified until the technical assessments are finished. This means that the layout you see today may be different from the layout submitted with the application for consent.

We will ensure that the local community and key stakeholders are consulted on the final layout.

Below is our initial layout.





## Environmental Impact Assessment

**We are currently continuing the scoping and consultation phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed development.**

We are submitting a scoping report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in June 2021. This will describe our draft proposal and seek the views of consultees on the scope of the EIA. The stakeholders include:

- Dumfries and Galloway Council
- NatureScot
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
- Community Councils

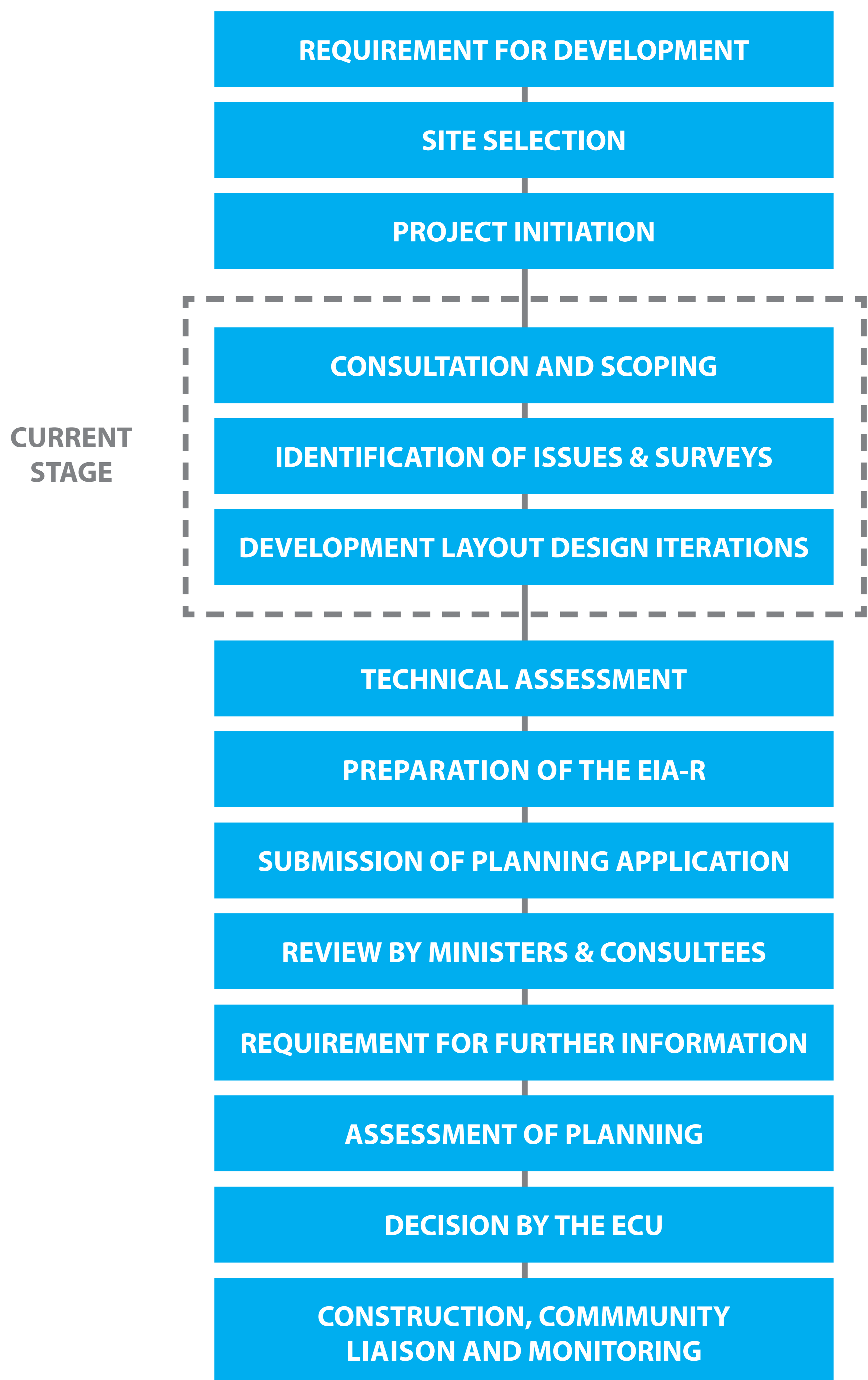
The feedback that we receive will determine the scope of the EIA.

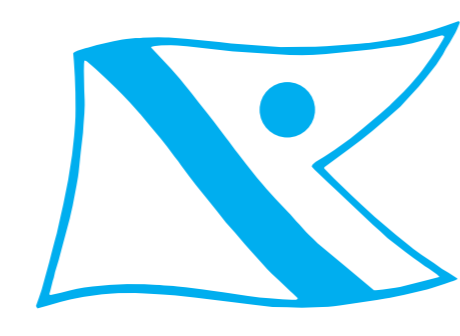
Baseline surveys are ongoing for the proposed development. These surveys will inform the final layout of the site ensuring that it minimises effects on the local environment. We then evaluate and present the effects of the project in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R). The EIA-R will accompany the planning application to the ECU.

The EIA-R will consider:

- Ornithology
- Ecology
- Landscape and visual matters
- Noise
- Geology, hydrology and hydrogeology
- Cultural heritage and archaeology
- Access and traffic
- Socio-economics, tourism and recreation
- Telecommunications
- Aviation

### FORL Development Process





# Environmental Impact Assessment

## Environmental Considerations

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken to identify and assess the potential significant environmental effects of the proposal. The information gathered through the EIA process will help to shape the design and layout of the proposed development and required mitigation measures.

## Ornithology

This assessment considers any potential effect on local bird assemblages. Extensive ornithology surveys have been completed.

## Ecology

This assessment considers the local flora and fauna, with the exception of birds which are assessed separately. Habitat and protected species surveys have been undertaken within the site which include bats, water vole, otter, badger, red squirrel and pine marten. There are no statutory designations on the site.

## Cultural Heritage

This assessment considers the cultural heritage assets in close proximity to the site and helps to inform appropriate mitigation proposals.

## Hydrology, Geology and Hydrogeology

This assessment considers the hydrological, geological and hydrogeological characteristics of the proposed development site, and helps to inform appropriate mitigation proposals.

## Aviation and Existing Infrastructure

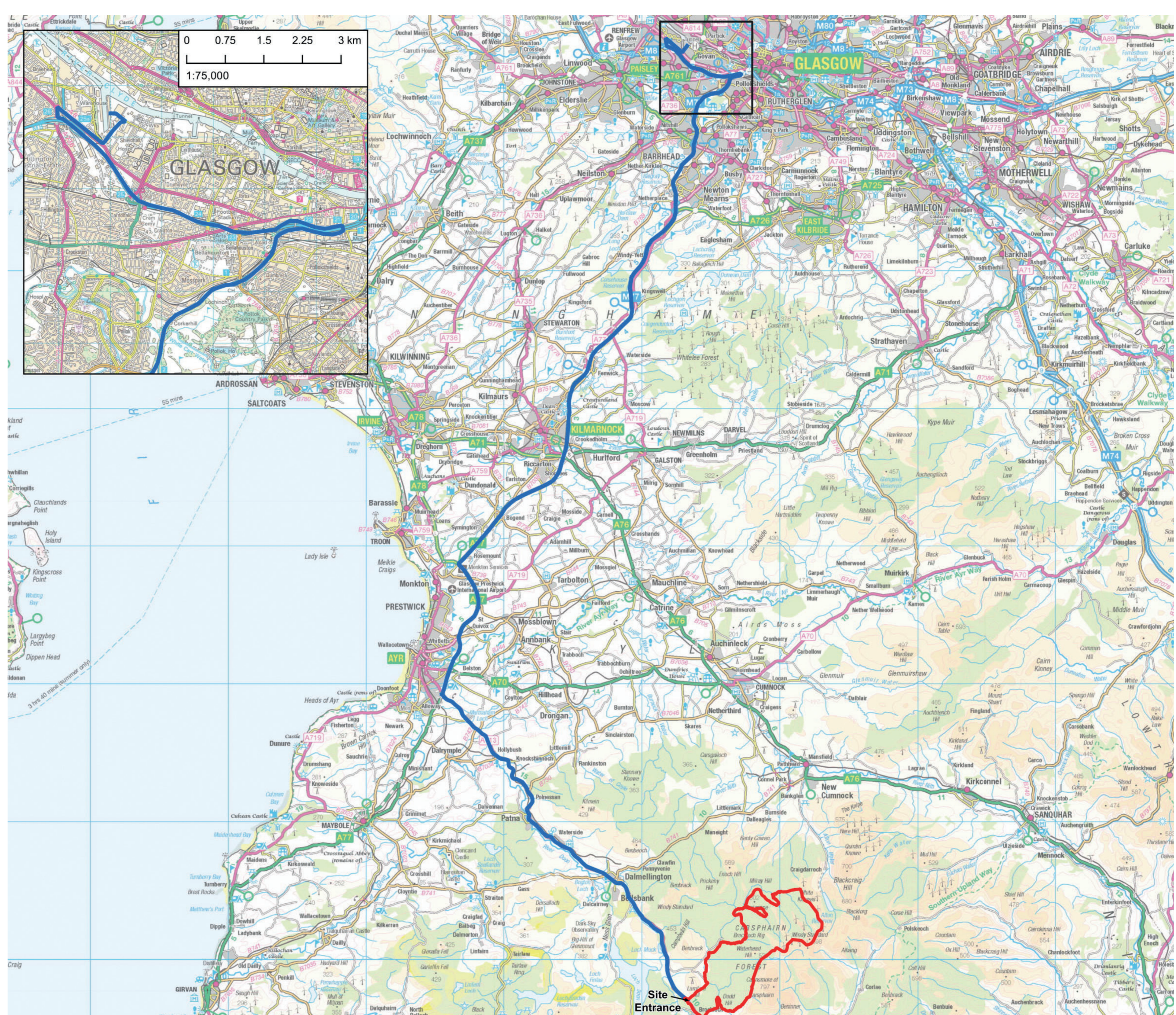
This assessment considers the potential impact of the proposed development upon civil and military aviation interests, communication operations, core paths and existing site infrastructure, and it details proposed mitigation measures, if required.

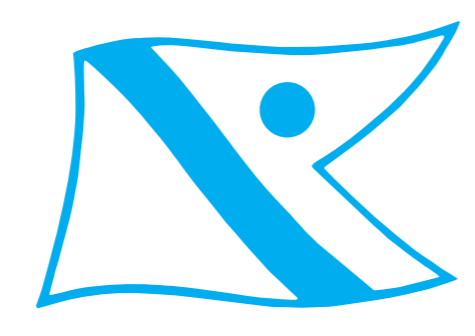
## Socioeconomics

Predicted socioeconomic benefits of the proposed development will be outlined within the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R). This includes benefits on local, regional and national levels during the construction and operational periods of the proposed development.

## Traffic and Transport

This assessment considers the impact on traffic volumes and the transport network during the construction period, operational phase and decommissioning phase of the proposed development. The initial route review and the site visit has identified that turbines can be transported from King George V Dock Glasgow, via the M8/M77 and A77, to the site access off the A713.





## Environmental Impact Assessment

### Landscape and Visual Impact

Once the design layout has been finalised, a full Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) of the proposed development will be carried out to consider effects on:

- Landscape fabric - changes to the physical form of the landscape and its elements
- Landscape character - changes in the key characteristics and qualities of the landscape as a result of the development
- Visual amenity - changes in the appearance of the landscape as a result of development

The proposed development will be analysed to identify elements with the potential to cause an effect on the landscape within a 45km study area.

### Photomontages and ZTV

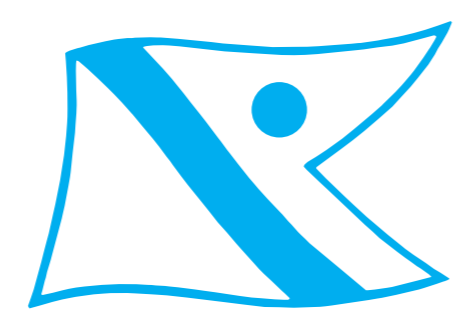
The images presented at this exhibition have been prepared to illustrate the visual impact of the proposed draft layout from four viewpoint locations. Photographs from each of these viewpoints have had wind turbines added using computer generated software.

A preliminary Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) diagram has been generated for the proposed development that indicates the number of turbines theoretically visible from any location within the study area. This means that from those areas that are coloured you may be able to see the proposed development. The different colours let you know how many wind turbines you may be able to see.

The ZTV does not take into account trees and buildings. These can often screen views so that fewer or no turbines are actually visible. The ZTV gives an initial idea of those areas from which you may be able to see the wind farm. This is checked by landscape architects during site visits.

Should you wish to receive the ZTV and photomontages in hard copy please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk).





## Repurposing the Turbines

**The repowering of Windy Standard 1 will result in the removal of 36 turbines from site. This provides the opportunity to consider how we re-use and recycle the materials that we are removing as part of the decommissioning process.**

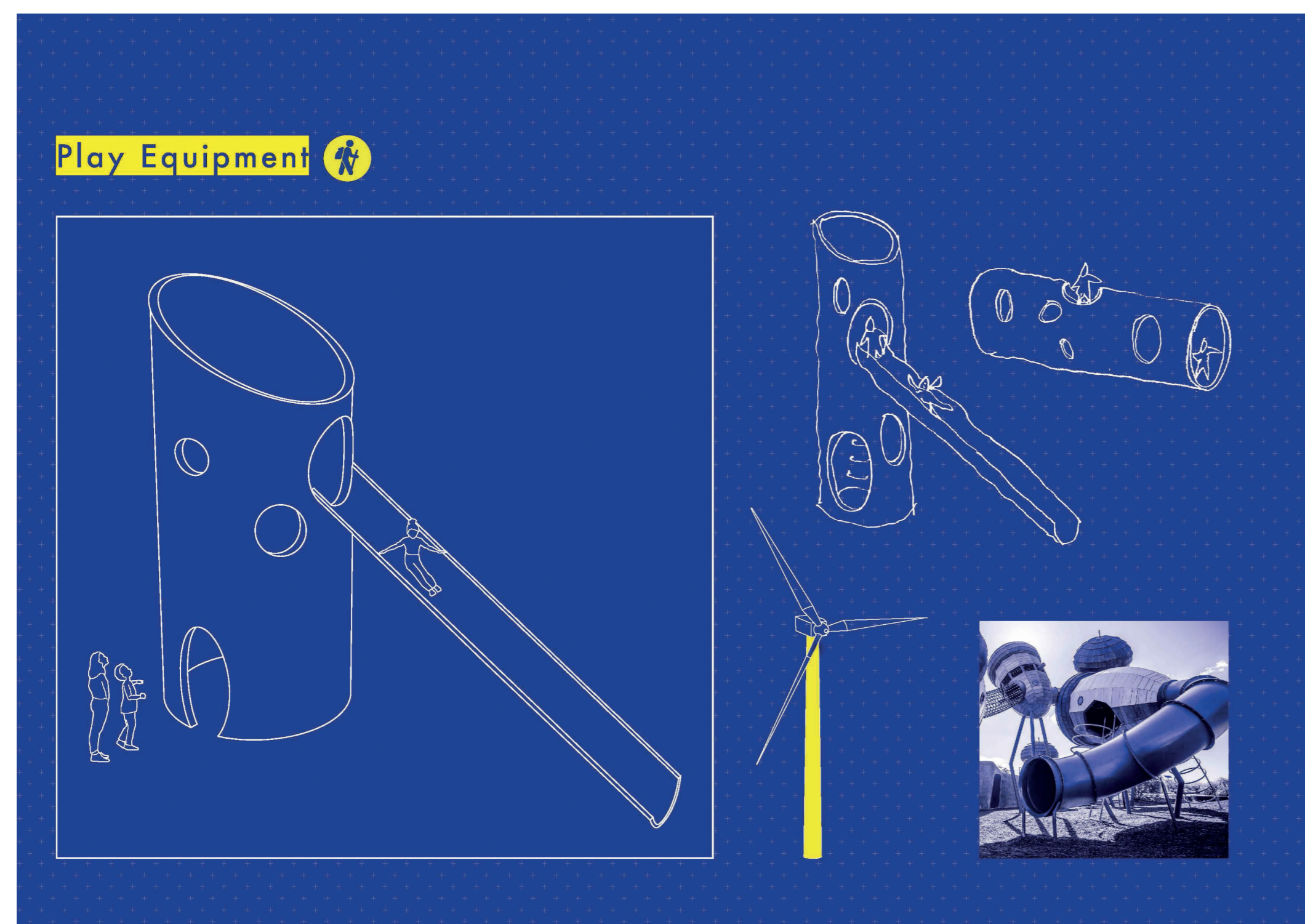
We want to work with the local community and key stakeholders to explore how we can repurpose Windy Standard 1 and bring forward a unique concept for the area – focussing on sustainability and creativity.

We have some very early stage conceptual ideas for repurposing the decommissioned turbines which we hope to discuss in further detail.

Whilst these are at the very early conceptual stage, ideas for repurposing the decommissioned turbines can be seen here.

We want to hear your views and ideas on how we can repurpose Windy Standard 1 and truly support a circular economy. Get in touch [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)

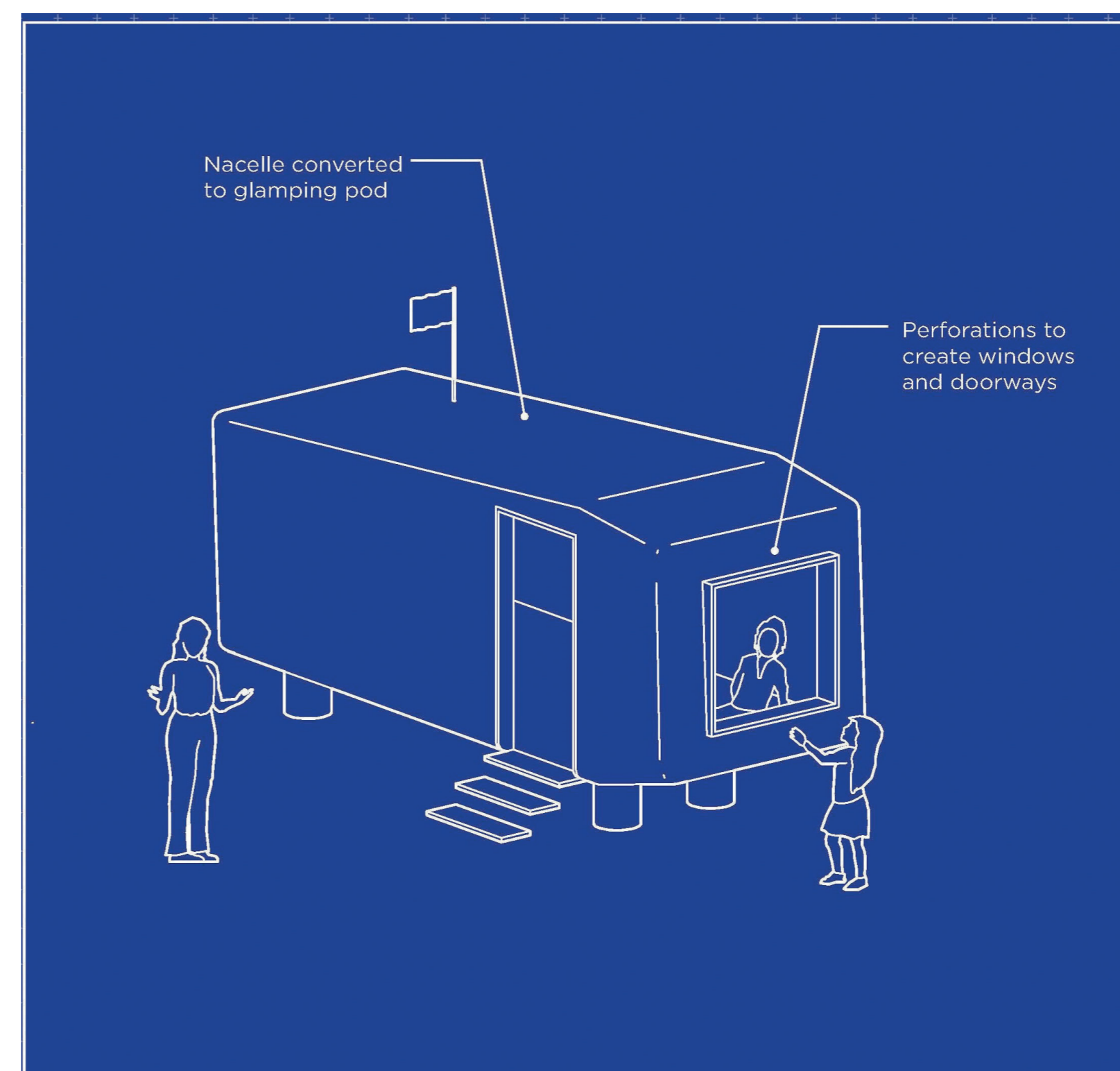
### Playparks



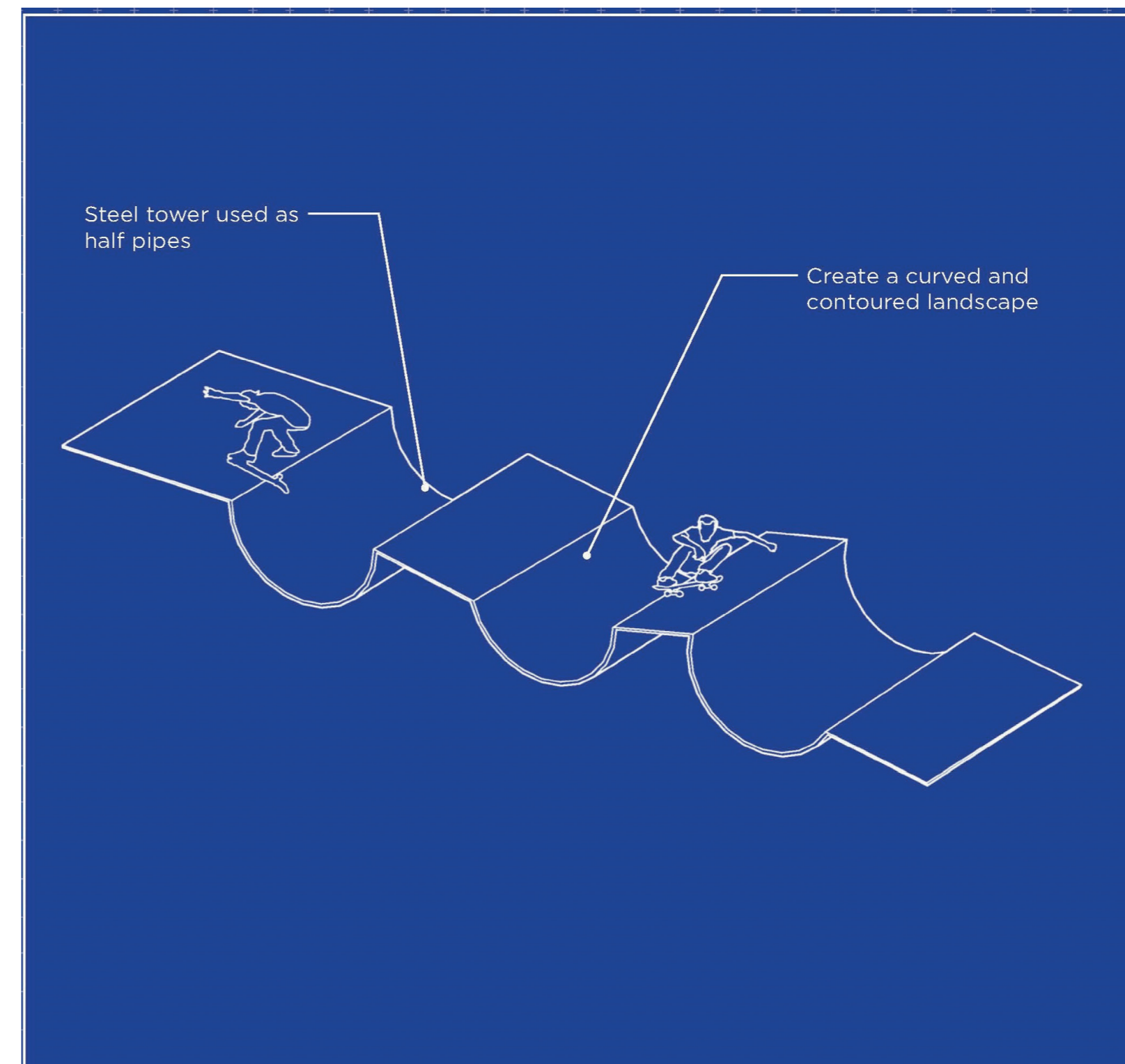
### Wildlife hides



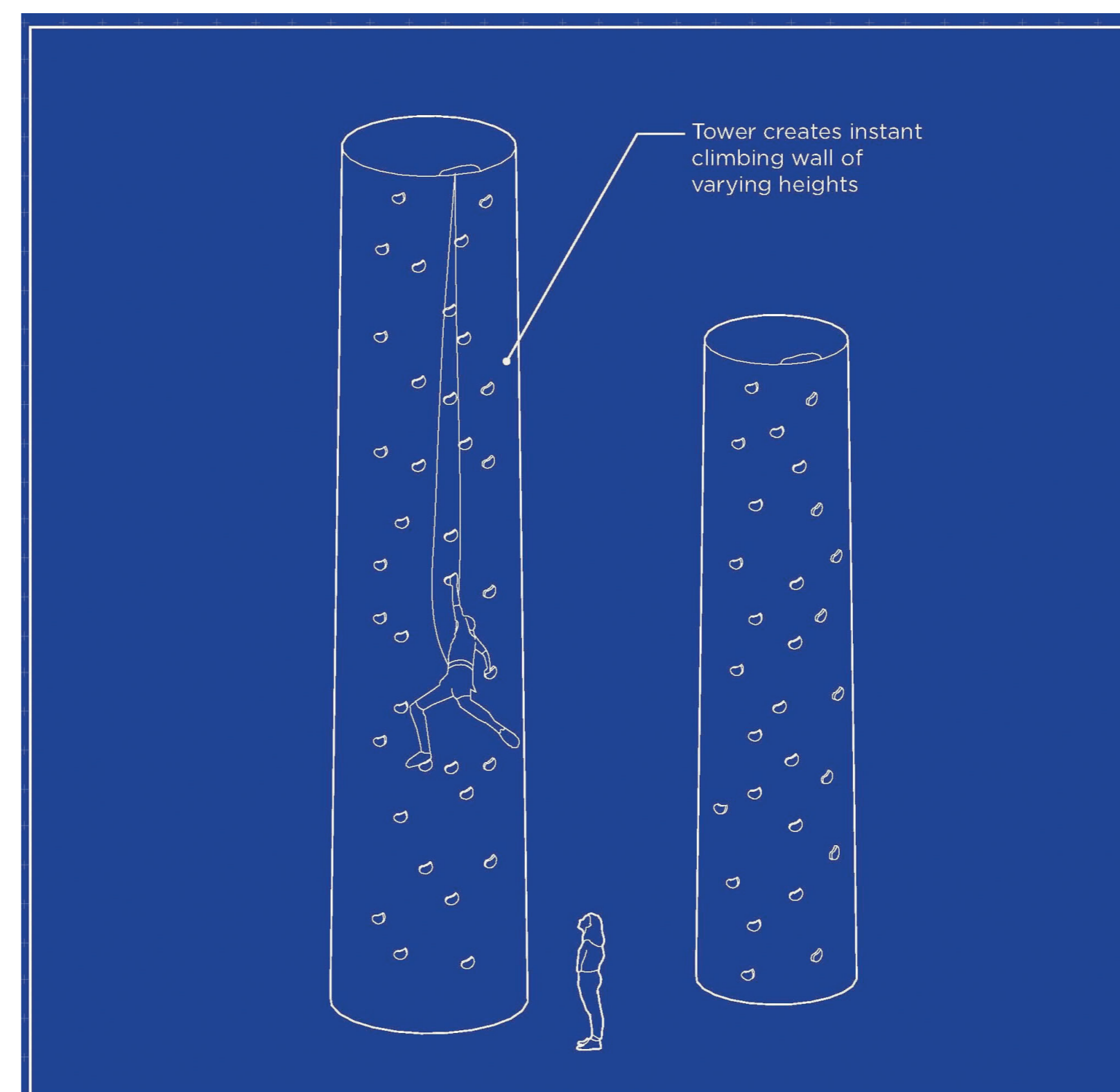
### Glamping pods

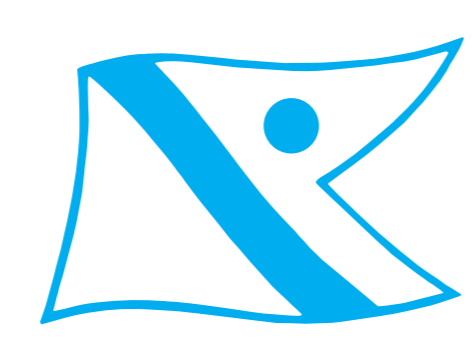


### Skate park



### Climbing wall





## Community Benefit

**To date, Windy Standard Wind Farm has provided over £500,000 to communities surrounding the wind farm through their community benefit funds.**

**If consented, the repower of Windy Standard 1 will provide over £7.5m throughout the lifespan of the project.**

We believe that the repower of Windy Standard 1 can continue to support the local economy and help to meet local aspirations.

We want to work closely with the communities surrounding the wind farm to ensure that the community benefit can address identified local challenges such as housing stock and energy consumption, in addition to recreation, tourism and ecology.

To date, the Windy Standard community benefit fund has supported a range of projects. This includes:

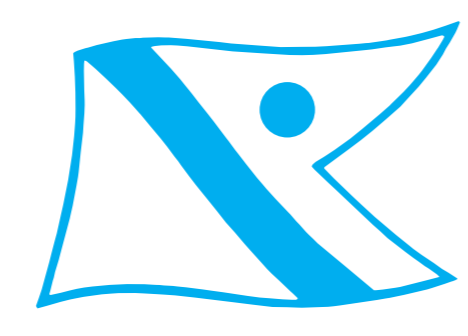
- Further educational grants
- Vocational support
- Hall refurbishment
- Property investment

The community benefit commitments for the repower of Windy Standard 1 are in line with the 2017 Scottish Energy Strategy, which strongly supports the provision of community benefits for renewable energy projects.

We want to hear your views on how the wind farm can continue to support your community and meet local aspirations. Get in touch [communities@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:communities@fredolsen.co.uk)







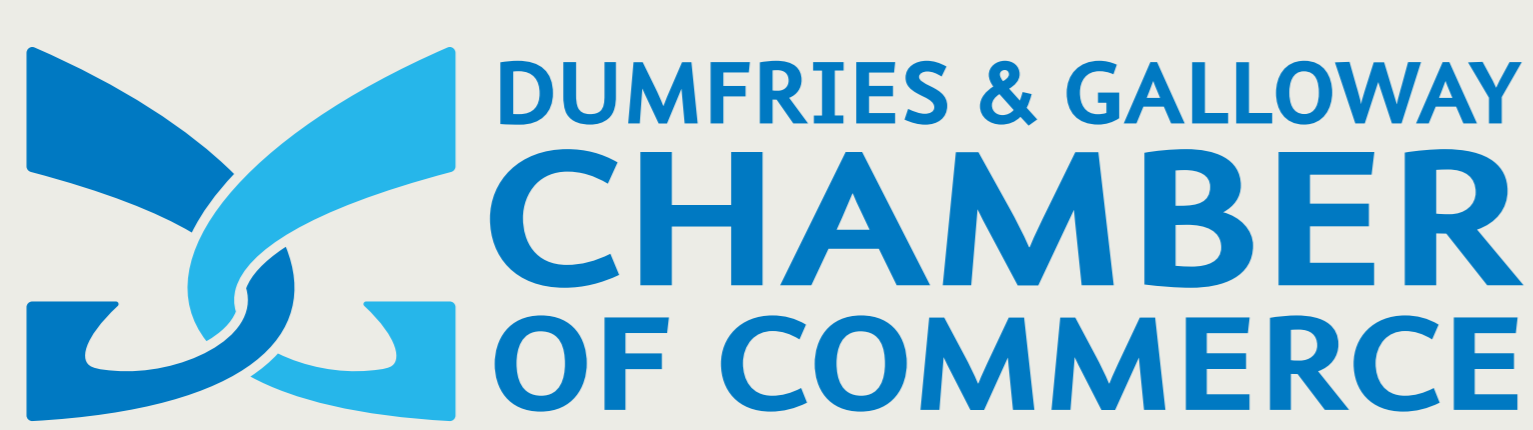
## Supply Chain

**We are pleased that Windy Standard Wind Farm has employed local services so far – helping to maximise the local economic opportunities.**

Services that we have employed include:

- Local accommodation
- Plant hire
- Caterers
- Groundworks
- Fencers
- Concrete and aggregate

If you, or your company, are able to provide any of these services, and more, please get in touch by emailing [suppliers@fredolsen.co.uk](mailto:suppliers@fredolsen.co.uk)



### Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of Commerce

In order to support our efforts in engaging local businesses throughout the development, construction, operation and decommissioning of our projects, we recently joined Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of Commerce. We hope that this partnership will help to bolster our efforts to employ local skills.

**DGChamber President, Kenny Bowie:**

*"I'm delighted to have Fred. Olsen Renewables as our latest Gold Partner and look forward to working closely with them over coming years as they continue to work here in Dumfries & Galloway.*

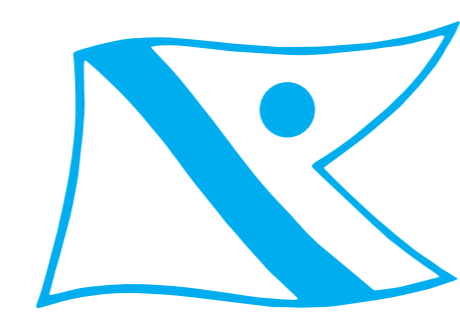
*"Their commitment to Dumfries & Galloway sends out an important message in these uncertain times. It is also great to see them recognise the value of engaging at this level with DGChamber - the region's leading business organisation."*



### Natural Power

Natural Power began working with Fred. Olsen Renewables to deliver Windy Standard Wind Farm over 25 years ago and has played a pivotal role in many of our operational projects in Scotland. Since beginning work on Windy Standard, the economic benefits Natural Power has contributed to the region has been many, including:

- Natural Power's construction department has worked on **46%** of the region's wind farms. On average, construction investment equates to £1.1m per MW with c35% of that investment remaining in the local economy. Natural Power has therefore worked on projects bringing **£375.7m** to the local region (of a total of £824m).
- Natural Power employs 120 people within the South of Scotland. As it attracts a high number of professionals and technical specialists, the average salary equates to £40,000, contributing more than £4,800,000 per annum to the region.
- Natural Power has 104 South of Scotland based suppliers on its approved list, ensuring that as much money made in the region stays in the region as possible.



## Proposed Timeline

### Site selection

**Spring 2021**

Windy Standard 1 Wind Farm has been operational for over 25 years. Having extended the lifespan of the original consent to December 2027 we are exploring the potential to repower the site.

### Planning

**Winter 2021**

We want to submit an application to the Scottish Government by Q4 2021. The application will be supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA-R) that will show the results of all studies undertaken. The EIA-R report will be publicly available. Interested parties can formally comment on the application.

### Decommissioning of current site

If approved, decommissioning of the existing turbines is expected to begin one year after consent. Decommissioning and repowering works can take between 18 and 25 months, and planning conditions will be used to manage certain elements of construction.

### Construction

**12-18months**

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.

### Operation

**35 years**

The community fund will be active throughout the lifetime of the wind farm to support local projects.

### Decommissioning

**12 months**

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 hope to continue our consultation prior to submitting an application in late 2021. The full suite of application documents will be made publicly available at this time.

We would welcome your comments on our proposals. Please take a moment to complete a feedback form or get in touch.

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