

Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project - Hoy

Pre-Application Consultation Report

September 2020



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Abbreviations

CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan
ECU	Energy Consents Unit
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
HIAL	Highlands and Islands Airports Ltd
JRC	Joint Radio Company
km	Kilometre
km ²	Square Kilometre
m	Metre
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MW	Megawatt
NPF	National Planning Framework
NRTF	National Road Traffic Forecast
OIC	Orkney Islands Council
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation (Report)
PAN	Proposal of Application Notice
PMP	Port Management Plan
PID	Public Information Day
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SEPA	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SW	Scottish Water
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document is the Pre-Application Consultation Report for Orkney’s Community Wind Farm Project - Hoy which supports the application by Orkney Islands Council (the Applicant) for the development of a wind farm (the Proposed Development) on the island of Hoy, Orkney.

Overview

- 1.2 The Applicant has submitted an application for the Proposed Development to OIC under The Town and Country Planning Act (Scotland) 1997 (as amended). This application is supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report (this document) prepared in accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.
- 1.3 In accordance with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 a programme of pre-application consultation (PAC) has been undertaken by the Applicant. This Report gives details of the various meetings, correspondence, public exhibitions, online availability of information, and other discussions which have taken place with the community and consultees. The Report also details the findings of that work and illustrates the ways in which the consultation has helped identify potential issues arising from the emerging proposal and, where appropriate, shape the final design which is now the subject of the planning application.
- 1.4 As stated within paragraph 2.8 of the Planning Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures (Scotland), *“With one exception, all applications for planning permission or for planning permission in principle under regulations 9, 10 or 11 for national and for major developments require PAC between developers and communities. Applications for such developments will need to demonstrate compliance with the legislative requirements for PAC. The National Planning Framework (NPF) and the Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 (SSI 2009/51) specify the range of development to be treated as national or major respectively.”*
- 1.5 The Proposed Development is expected to have a total installed capacity of approximately 28.8 megawatts (MW), and is therefore considered a ‘major’ development requiring a PAC.
- 1.6 Paragraph 2.23 of the Planning Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures (Scotland) states *“In responding to a proposal of application notice, and given their powers to require additional consultation, planning authorities should be as clear as they can as to their expectations of matters to be included in the PAC report. In this way, the prospective applicant will be more readily able to show that the required steps have been undertaken.”*
- 1.7 A letter received from OIC on the 24th February 2020 (refer to Appendix 1) outlines the requirements of the PAC Report in accordance paragraph 2.36 of the Planning Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures (Scotland), they are as follows:
- Details of who has been consulted.
 - Details of what step were taken to comply with the statutory requirements and those of the planning authority.
 - Details of how the Applicant has responded to the comments made, including whether and the extent to which the proposals have changed as a result of PAC.
 - Appropriate evidence that the various prescribed steps have been undertaken – for example, copies of notices advertising public events and reference to material made available at such events. You should note that there is a minimum requirement for a notice of the public event to be advertised in the local press at least 7 days before the event. You are also encouraged to arrange for such event to be advertised in at least one of the ‘Around Orkney’ daily programmes on Radio Orkney.

- Demonstration of steps that were taken to explain the nature of PAC, in particular that it does not replace the application process whereby representation can be made to the planning authority.
- 1.8 The COVID-19 emergency meant that it was not possible to hold public meetings without unacceptably posing a significant risk to public health. So that the development management system can continue to function and that planning applications can continue to be submitted, the Scottish Government put in place legislation¹ to temporarily suspend the requirement for a public event in relation to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC).
- 1.9 Accordingly, the Applicant was unable to hold the final public exhibition² on the proposals in person, however considerable effort was put into designing a consultation (in line with the new regulations¹ and guidance³) which would reach as many people as possible and give everyone the opportunity to understand the proposals and make their opinions heard. This included:
- Full information on the project, including downloadable and printable versions of the project information and a video presentation, were available at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC.
 - A feedback form was available online at the web address above or could be requested by post.
 - On 28 May 2020 from 16:00 to 19:00 a live and interactive web-based consultation took place. Details on how to join the live event were posted at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC and during the event attendees were able to view outline proposals for the development, find out more about the development and ask questions to members of the Project Team. The event was advertised via a Press Release on the 14th May and through Public Notices on the 21st and 24th of May.
 - Members of the Applicants project team were available by telephone to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have, with a phone number provided in all advertising of the PAC.
 - Members of the Applicant’s project team were available for virtual one-to-one presentations by Skype on 21st May 2020 and 28th May 2020 between the hours of 12.00 and 15.00 as well as at other times by arrangement, to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have.
 - Members of the Council’s project team were available by email to discuss any questions or concerns with an email address provided in all advertising of the PAC
- 1.10 All of the above requirements described at 1.7 above are addressed below, within the PAC.
- 1.11 Paragraph 2.35 of the Planning Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures (Scotland) states that *“The applicant must prepare a report of what has been done during the pre-application phase to comply with the statutory requirements for PAC and any requirements set out in the planning authority’s response to the proposal of application notice. The report is to be made in writing (which may include being in electronic format).”* The PAC should be read in light of the new regulations¹ and guidance³.
- 1.12 Subsections 35C(1) and (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 as amended states that:
- A person who, before submitting an application for planning permission for a development, is required to comply with section 35B and who proceeds to submit that application is to prepare a report (a “pre-application consultation report”) as to what has been done to effect such compliance; and

¹ The Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020

² Earlier events had been held in 2018 and 2019.

³ Coronavirus (COVID-19): Planning guidance on pre-application consultations for public events

- a pre-application consultation report is to be in such form as may be prescribed.
- 1.13 This report details the consultation undertaken with regards to the Proposed Development and will be submitted both in a hard and electronic copy to OIC.
- 1.14 The Applicant is grateful to the statutory and non-statutory consultees, residents and local representatives for their input into the pre-application community engagement process and for their assistance in facilitating the meetings and consultation events.

2 Consultee Consultation

Introduction

- 2.1 The Applicant has undertaken consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees throughout the EIA process and full details of these, the responses received, and the Applicants actions are provided in the EIA Report and summarised below.

EIA Scoping

- 2.2 The Applicant requested an EIA Scoping Opinion from ECU in April 2018 through the submission of an EIA Scoping Report (refer to Appendix 4.1 of the EIA Report). This EIA Scoping Report contained details of the site baseline and the Proposed Development. It also proposed which environmental impacts would be assessed in the EIA, and the assessment methodologies that would be used.
- 2.3 ECU consulted with a variety of statutory and non-statutory consultees before providing an EIA Scoping Opinion in August 2018(refer to Appendix 4.2 of the EIA Report). Table 1 below summaries the consultees who responded within the Scoping Opinion and the technical information they advised on.

Table 1 - EIA Scoping Opinion Consultation

Consultee	Technical Topic
Aberdeen Airport	Aviation
British Horse Society	Outdoor Access
BT	Telecommunications
Crown Estate	Ecology
Defence Infrastructure Organisation	Aviation
Forestry Commission Scotland	Ecology
Graemsay, Hoy & Walls Community Council	Consultation
Highlands & Islands Airport (HIAL)	Aviation
John Muir Trust	Landscape and Visual and Socio-Economic, Recreation and Tourism
Joint Radio Company (JRC)	Telecommunications

Consultee	Technical Topic
Marine Scotland Science	Ecology
Mountaineering Scotland	Landscape and Visual
NATS Safeguarding	Aviation
Orkney Ferries	Traffic and Transport
Orkney Heritage Society	Heritage
Orkney Islands Council	EIA, Landscape and Visual, Ecology, Noise, Cultural Heritage, Traffic and Transport, Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology, Socio-Economic, Recreation and Tourism, Shadow Flicker and Outdoor Access.
RSPB Scotland	Ornithology
Scotways	Outdoor Access
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology
Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)	Landscape and Visual and Ornithology
The Highland Council	Consultation
Transport Scotland	Traffic and Transport
Visit Scotland	Socio-Economic, Recreation and Tourism

Other Consultees

2.4 In addition to EIA Scoping the following consultation has been undertaken with other consultees as outlined in Table 2.

Table 2 - Consultee Consultation

Date	Consultee	Matters Raised
25/05/20 & 04/06/20	John Muir Trust	Turbine in Wild Land Area.
09/03/20 & 06/05/20	OIC	Requested comment on viewpoint selection. No response received.
19/02/20 & 05/05/20	SNH	LVIA viewpoints.
05/06/20	RSPB	Ornithology

Date	Consultee	Matters Raised
21/08/18, 10/01/19, 05/02/19, 04/03/19, 26/04/19, 30/08/19 & 20/04/20	SNH	Ornithology (methodology, significance thresholds and avoidance rates).
29/04/20	Marine Scotland Science	No further requirement to provide advice as Proposed Development sub-50 MW.
24/04/20	OIC	Bats and fish.
22/05/20	Orkney Trout Fishing Association	Information on fish and suggested mitigation.
14/10/19, 18/05/20, 22/05/20, 03/06/20 & 23/06/20	OIC EHO	Noise (monitoring locations and methodology).
18/12/20	HES	Cultural heritage visualisations.
07/10/19 & 28/04/20	Orkney County Archaeologist	Heritage assets and visualisations.
02/06/20	SEPA	Welcome reduction in number of turbines and Scoping advice still stands.
27/09/19	Orkney Islands Council – Harbours Team	Traffic and Transport
28/04/20 & 06/05/20	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO)	IR lighting and low flying.
26/08/20	HIAL	No objection. Removal of initial concerns over potential impact to future surveillance systems.
27/05/20	NATS	No conflict with safeguarding criteria.
14/05/20	OIC	An email detailing the scope of the shadow flicker assessment was sent to OIC for comment in May 2020. No response was received.

Date	Consultee	Matters Raised
18/11/19	BT	BT stated they would accept a 75 m clearance from the blade tip, providing there is no micro-siting closer to their link path.
09/10/19 & 25/05/20	Marine Services and Harbour Authority: Orkney Islands Council	Marine radar.
12/05/20 & 24/06/20	OIC Rural Planner	Outdoor access.
14/02/20	Road Services, Scottish Water, SEPA, Orkney Heritage Society, SNH, HIAL, Kirkwall Airport – Senior Pilot, HES, Development & Marine Planning, MoD, NATS, Marine Services, Environmental Health, Flotta Community Council and Graemsay, Hoy & Walls Community Council.	PAN

3 Public Consultation

Introduction

- 3.1 With regards to the Planning Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures (Scotland) the following paragraphs address public consultation in relation to the PAC.
- 3.2 Paragraph 2.29: *Prospective applicants should consider additional measures for publicising PAC activities, such as use of their own web sites to host information. Information issued as part of PAC should be factually accurate, easy to understand, jargon free, accessible and relevant. It should be made available in appropriate formats and provided in good time to enable people to take part and discuss their views with others.*
- 3.3 Paragraph 2.32: *Presentations at events should follow the guidance at paragraph 2.29 about information. Staffing of events should include people who are knowledgeable about the proposals and about the planning issues likely to be of concern or interest to the public. PAC should not be treated by prospective applicants as merely a marketing exercise to promote the development.*
- 3.4 Paragraph 2.33: *There is a need to emphasise to communities that the plans presented to them may alter in some way before the final proposal is submitted as a planning application. Ideally, those consulted or who expressed views could be given a chance to comment on any significant changes to proposals being considered as a result of PAC, before the application is finalised.*
- 3.5 The COVID-19 emergency meant that it was not possible to hold public meetings without unacceptably posing a significant risk to public health. So that the development management system can continue to function and that planning applications can continue to be submitted, the Scottish Government put in place legislation to temporarily suspend the requirement for a public event in relation to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC).
- 3.6 Accordingly, the Applicant was unable to hold the final public exhibition on the proposals in person, however considerable effort was put into designing a consultation which would reach as many

people as possible and give everyone the opportunity to understand the proposals and make their opinions heard. The approach as agreed with OIC included:

- (a) Full information on the project, including downloadable and printable versions of the project information and a video presentation, were available at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC from 14th May.
- (b) A feedback form was available online at the web address above or could be requested by post.
- (c) On 28th May 2020 from 16:00 to 19:00 a live and interactive web-based consultation took place. Details on how to join the live event were posted at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC and during the event attendees were able to view outline proposals for the development, find out more about the development and ask questions to members of the Project Team.
- (d) Members of The Applicants project team were available by telephone to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have, with a phone number provided in all advertising of the PAC.
- (e) Members of the Applicant's project team were available for virtual one-to-one presentations by Skype on 21st May 2020 and 28th May 2020 between the hours of 12.00 and 15.00 as well as at other times by arrangement, to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have.
- (f) Members of the Council's project team were available by email to discuss any questions or concerns with an email address provided in all advertising of the PAC.

3.7 The Applicant has engaged with local communities and the general public throughout the development of the Proposed Development. This engagement has been undertaken through a variety of approaches:

- ▶ Launch Event in April 2018.
- ▶ Follow-up public exhibition in January 2019.
- ▶ Public information days May, June and August 2019.
- ▶ Virtual public information day in May 2020.
- ▶ Availability of project team members for one-to-one Skype presentations.
- ▶ Availability of project team members by telephone for question and answer sessions.
- ▶ Availability of project team members by email to answer queries.
- ▶ Website with information on the Proposed Development, including a video presentation of the exhibition material.

3.8 This consultation allowed local residents to provide their opinions on the principle and design of the Proposed Development, while also raising concerns. Full details of the consultation undertaken are provided below.

April 2018 Launch Event

Date and Location

- 3.9 A project launch event, held as a town hall style meeting, took place on 30th April 2018 at 19.00 in the community room and hall of the North Walls Centre.
- 3.10 The event was used to announce the next phase of a project looking at how a large-scale wind farm could generate significant income and community benefit for Orkney.
- 3.11 The meeting heard that after assessing a number of potential sites, the Council planned to undertake a detailed investigation to see if land to the west of Lyness would be suitable for a substantial wind energy development.

3.12 Attendees were told that an initial assessment had indicated that the site could house up to 30 wind turbines each of 3 to 3.5 megawatt (MW) capacity and that these figures were likely to change as the site investigation work is undertaken.

Notification

3.13 A press release was issued on 25th April 2018 to advise of the meeting taking place (refer to Appendix 2)

3.14 A further press release was issued after the event on 1st May 2018 advising of the announcements made at the meeting (refer to Appendix 3)

Launch event materials

3.15 The purpose of the Hoy launch event was to announce the next phase of a large-scale wind farm project and to present initial plans for a 30 wind turbine project. The information was presented as display boards and in a PowerPoint presentation by the Council Leader and Chief Executive. The information presented is available at Appendix 4 and includes:

- The reasons why the Applicant was looking to develop the project, including information on the budget constraints currently faced in providing local services.
- The reasons why Hoy had been selected as a potential site for a project.
- The draft layout for a 30 turbine development at Wee Fea.
- A summary of site findings.
- Three wirelines taken from Lyrawa Hill, Lyness, and Longhope Pier.
- Details on the further work that was due to be carried out on the viability of the site.

Launch event attendance and feedback

3.16 The event was held in a town hall style 'question and answer' information giving style. No formal feedback was gathered. There were approximately 40 people in attendance.

Public Information Day – January 2019

Date and Location

3.17 A follow-up Public Information Day (PID) was held in the Community Room of the North Walls Centre on Tuesday 8th January 2019 from 13.00 to 19.00

3.18 The event was used to update the public on plans for a wind farm project at Wee Fea on Hoy, following the launch event on 30th April 2018.

3.19 This was a drop-in style event where attendees were shown around the exhibition materials by a member of the project team and given the opportunity to ask questions or raise any concerns, with a feedback form provided at the end.

3.20 The location offered disabled access and the times of the event were chosen to allow people to attend outwith working hours, whilst offering an afternoon alternative.

Notification

3.21 A press release was issued on 21st December 2018 (refer to Appendix 5). Additional press coverage was via local radio, and on the Council website.

3.22 This event was also advertised through local posters (refer to Appendix 6), on social media and in the Hoy Blether (Hoy's community newsletter).

PID Materials (January 2019)

3.23 The purpose of the PID event was to update the local communities on the proposed project, to reinforce present the benefits of the project and to show what the new proposal would look like

from a series of viewpoints in wireline form. Information about the project was presented on a series of posters containing the following information. A copy of these boards is available in Appendix 7.

- A timeline of the work that had been carried out since the public event in April 2018.
- A summary of some of the feedback that had been received from the community including concerns that had been raised and opportunities that had been identified.
- A series of maps identifying the constraints that had been identified during earlier studies including the proximity of the site to the National Scenic Area, ornithological sensitivities, proximity to residential properties and the location of communication links.
- Maps showing the previous layout for the project and the new proposed layout, which showed that turbines had been made taller, moved further away from homes and moved further to the north of the site.
- Wirelines showing the previous design and the new design from three viewpoints – Longhope Pier, Lyness Pier and Lyrawa Hill.
- A description of the next steps in the project.

January 2019 PID Attendance and Feedback

- 3.24 A consultation form was issued to attendees and is included for information as Appendix 8.
- 3.25 Twenty feedback sheets were filled in at the event, with some choosing to take them away to fill in at home. An attendance tally was taken on the day and it is estimated that around 45 people attended.
- 3.26 It was noted that all those who attended the event were extremely engaged with the process, asking questions or giving an opinion on the project. All attendees were spoken to by at least one member of the Strategic Projects team and many stayed at the venue for an extended period of time to talk with other community members about the plans.
- 3.27 Post-event the amended plans were emailed out on request to an additional 12 people and downloaded 54 times from the Council website.
- 3.28 The event was covered in the local press, including a five-minute package on BBC Radio Orkney, featuring the Strategic Projects Director, the Leader of the Council and three local people with differing views on the project.
- 3.29 A post-event report was produced and published at www.orkney.gov.uk (refer to Appendix 9).

Public Information Days (PIDs) – May/June/August 2019

Introduction

- 3.30 Following the launch of the wider ‘Orkney’s Community Wind Farm Project’, Public Information Days (PIDs) were undertaken at three separate locations: Kirkwall, Eday, and Rendall on 2nd, 7th and 8th May respectively, between 12:00 and 17:00 hours and again from 19:00 and 21:00 hours.
- 3.31 A fourth event was held at the Hofn Centre in Westray on the 19th June 2019 between 12:00 and 17:00 hours and again from 19:00 and 21:00 hours.
- 3.32 A drop-in session event for Orkney Islands Council staff not directly involved with the project was held on Wednesday 7th August from 12:00 until 15:00.

Notification

- 3.33 The May 2019 PIDs were advertised through a press release in the local newspaper (the Orcadian) and their associated website. The press release is included for information as Appendix 10. Additional press coverage was via local radio, and on the Council website.

- 3.34 The press release led to radio interviews with the Council Leader and with members of the project team. It contains information on the wider Orkney Community Wind Farm Project. Details were also given on how Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project could generate significant income and benefit for Orkney. Finally, details of the energy capacity of each new Proposed Development are provided and linked to the possibility of an improved grid connection for Orkney through discussions with Ofgem.
- 3.35 A second press release, included for information as Appendix 11, was issued regarding the Westray Public Information Day. The press release references the previous three events and includes the date and location of the fourth event. It sets out the benefits of the Proposed Development and a new interconnector cable for the local community and the local economy.
- 3.36 The Orkney Islands Council staff event was advertised by way of a poster within the council buildings, included for information in Appendix 12.

May/June/August 2019 PID and staff information session materials

- 3.37 The purpose of the PIDs was to inform the local communities of the Orkney Community Wind Farm Project and what it entails, to present the benefits of the project and to show what each wind farm would look like from specific viewpoints. Information about the project was presented on a series of posters containing the following information:
- A description of the Orkney Community Wind Farm Project;
 - The benefits of the project for Orkney;
 - The reasons why particular sites were chosen; and
 - The next steps in the EIA process.
- 3.38 A series of wireframe images of each of the three proposed sites were also displayed, allowing the local communities to visualise what the developments would look like from specific and relevant viewpoints. Refer to Appendix 13 for the boards shown at the Launch Events.

May/June/August 2019 PID Event Attendance and Feedback

- 3.39 A consultation form was issued to attendees and is included for information as Appendix 14.
- 3.40 A total of 37 people responded to the consultation form at the PID event in Kirkwall, 21 people in Eday, 22 in Rendall and 13 in Westray. In addition, 30 responses were received from OIC staff.
- 3.41 Responses received have been summarised as a table in Appendix 15 and included as individual responses in Appendix 16.

Proposal of Application Notice

- 3.42 A proposal of Application Notice (PAN) regarding Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project – Hoy was issued on 14th February 2020 and subsequently acknowledged by Orkney Islands Council on 24th February 2020. A copy of the PAN has been included as Appendix 17, with the subsequent acknowledgement presented in Appendix 1.

Public Information Days (PIDs) 2020

Date and Location of intended event

- 3.43 A Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) PID was planned for Thursday 26th March 2020 in the Community Room and Hall at the North Walls Centre, Lyness, KW16 3NX from 14:00 to 17:00 and again from 19:00 to 21:00 to allow members of the public reasonable opportunity to attend outside of working hours. The location had appropriate disabled access. The event was intended to present revised plans for the Proposed Development.

Notification of intended event

- 3.44 The pre-application consultation PID was advertised as both a public advertisement and by a press release, which was published on the Orkney Islands Council website <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/OIC-News/Public-events-for-Hoy-wind-turbines-proposal.htm>. The press release was published on 10th March 2020 and the advert was placed in The Orcadian for 12th March and 19th March 2020.
- 3.45 The public advertisement included the dates, times, and locations of the event and highlighted the importance of the PAC in informing the public about the Proposed Development. It also encouraged the public to follow their interest in the proposal through to the application stage. A copy of the advertisement is included as Appendix 18. The press release for the PID is shown in Appendix 19.

PID Materials

- 3.46 The purpose of the PID was to inform the community of Orkney on the nature of the Proposed Development. The information was to be presented visually by means of a series of large boards, on which the following information was presented:
- ▶ A description of Orkney’s Community Wind Farm Project.
 - ▶ A summary of the benefits of the project for Orkney.
 - ▶ A summary of why the sites were chosen.
 - ▶ A summary of how the original plans have been altered.
 - ▶ A description of the infrastructure that will be included on the site.
 - ▶ A summary of the challenges the site still has, and how they will be addressed.
 - ▶ A diagram showing where the project is currently at within the overall process.
 - ▶ Visualisations showing how the project would look from five different viewpoints namely Lyness Navel Cemetery, North Walls School, Longhope, the Houton to Lyness ferry, and Orphir.
- 3.47 An example of the exhibition boards which were intended to be displayed is shown in Appendix 20.
- 3.48 A feedback form was produced which would have been provided to those attending the event (refer to Appendix 21)

PID - Cancellation

- 3.49 Due to travel and public gathering restrictions imposed due to the Covid19 pandemic the PID was cancelled on Tuesday 24th March 2020.
- 3.50 The public was advised of the cancellation by press release on Tuesday 24th March 2020 (refer to Appendix 22), through social media and via email to the Hoy Island Link Officer. The press release advised that an alternative plan was being worked on and more information would be available in due course.

Online consultation

Introduction

- 3.51 In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government introduced emergency legislation which allows pre-application consultation to take place without a physical public event, recognising the economic need to keep the planning system functioning, and also the uncertainty around when restrictions might be lifted.
- 3.52 Accordingly revised arrangements were put in place, in agreement with OIC, to carry out an online consultation. These were;

- Full information on the project, including downloadable and printable versions of the project information and a video presentation, was made available at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC.
- A feedback form was made available online at the web address above or could be requested by post.
- On 28th May 2020 from 16:00 to 19:00 a live and interactive web-based consultation was held. Details on how to join were posted at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC. During the live event the participants were able to:
 - View outline proposals for the development.
 - Find out more about the development.
 - Ask questions to members of the Project Team.
- Members of the Council's project team were available by telephone to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have.
- Members of the Council's project team were available for virtual one-to-one presentations by Skype on 21st May 2020 and 28th May 2020 between the hours of 12:00 and 15:00 as well as at other times by arrangement, to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have.
- Members of the Council's project team were available by email to discuss any questions or concerns.
- Information on the project could be sent by post on request

Notification of online consultation

- 3.53 A press release was issued on 14th May 2020 (refer to Appendix 23) describing the revised consultation arrangements that were in place. The press release led to coverage in The Orcadian newspaper and an interview on Radio Orkney with a member of the project team. The press release was also signposted to on social media and published on the Orkney Islands Council website <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/OIC-News/Revised-arrangements-for-Hoy-pre-application-consultation.htm>.
- 3.54 A public notice was placed in The Orcadian on 21st May and 24th May. The advert included information on the consultation options available for members of the public including the dates and times of the virtual event and of the one to one Skype sessions. It also highlighted the importance of the PAC in informing the public about the Proposed Development. It also encouraged the public to follow their interest in the proposal through to the application stage. A copy of the advertisement is included as Appendix 24.
- 3.55 The consultation was included in the Daily Diary on Radio Orkney from 25th May to 8th June. This described the consultation options available to members of the public and also provided contact details for the Project Officer (Consultation and Engagement) should members of the public wish to find out more information.

Consultation Materials

- 3.56 The boards that are shown in Appendix 20 were used for the online consultation event. A Guide to the Consultation Boards was also produced (see Appendix 25) as was an accompanying video. All three were published at www.orkney.gov.uk/HoyPAC.

Online Consultation Participation and Feedback

- 3.49 The feedback form referred to at 3.48 above was used to produce an online survey at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/hoypac/>.
- 3.50 A total of 50 people completed the online survey, 34 completely and 16 partially. Online survey responses have been summarised as a table in Appendix 26.
- 3.51 A total of ten email responses were received by the Project Officer (Communication and Engagement). These have been summarised as a table in Appendix 27.
- 3.52 A response was also received from the children of North Walls Community School. This has been presented in Appendix 28.

- 3.53 A total of 6 people attended the virtual session on 28th May. The comments and questions asked at that have been summarised at Appendix 29.
- 3.54 A total of 4 households requested one to one phone sessions.
- 3.55 Three households submitted specific questions on the project by email. These questions and the Applicants subsequent responses are presented in Appendix 30

Engagement with the John Muir Trust

- 3.56 Following the launch of the Pre-Application Consultation, the Project Officer (Communications and Engagement) contacted the John Muir Trust, who had completed the online survey to offer an opportunity for additional engagement on the project.
- 3.57 A video conference was held between the Applicants and senior staff from the John Muir Trust to discuss the project. Following this meeting, additional information for John Muir Trust members was requested. The information provided is presented at Appendix 31,

4 Community Council Consultation

- 4.1 In addition to the public launch events and exhibitions to which the Community Councils were invited, the Applicant also met directly with the Hoy and Walls Community Council on 13th March 2020.
- 4.2 During these meetings the Applicant provided descriptions of the Proposed Development, including photomontages, the aims of the project, the scale of the project, the reasons why Orkney Community Wind Farm Project - Hoy had been chosen as a site and the role of the pre-application consultation process, including highlighting that responses to the pre-application consultation do not form a representation on the application and there would be an opportunity for their representation to be made following submission of the application.
- 4.3 Following this meeting the Community Council advised that their members would respond individually to the Applicant.
- 4.4 A date was set for the Applicant to meet with Flotta Community Council; however, this was cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Another date was not available within the intended consultation period and so they were invited to take part in the online consultation event instead.

5 Analysis of the Consultation Process

- 5.1 Analysis of the consultation process was undertaken against the 10 National Standards for Community Engagement (as set out in PAN 3/2016) and Scottish Planning = Effective Engagement and Delivery (SP=EED) criteria has been completed and is incorporated as Appendix 32.

6 Overview of Our Response to PIDs Feedback

- 6.1 Concerns and questions raised by consultees and members of the public at the PIDs have been responded to where possible through phone calls, emails or amendments to the design and assessment presented within the EIA Report. Where possible the Applicant has sought to adjust or amend the proposals to take into consideration comments received. The below section provides an overview of our response to PIDs Feedback, a detailed overview of wider consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees is provided in Appendix 4.3 and 4.4 of the EIA Report.

Socio-economics

- 6.2 Many of the concerns raised by local residents attending the PIDs events related to the economics of the Proposed Development and the returns for the community of Orkney and the local economy.

The residents also raised concerns about how the OIC will invest the income generated by the Proposed Development. Full details of the socio-economic benefits are described in Chapter 13 of the EIA Report. The Applicant has also agreed to guiding principles for the use of the community benefit fund, as set out in 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project, Community Benefit Guiding Principles' (Orkney Islands Council, 2019).

Traffic and Transport

- 6.3 Responses by local residents include concerns regarding construction traffic and the pressures this could pose on the existing ferry services. To avoid impacts on the scheduled ferries, no abnormal loads will be moved within 30 minutes of a ferry arrival or departure. This will allow unimpeded access to the ferry terminal for other road users. In addition, bulk materials (concrete aggregate, cement, cabling sand, etc.) transported to Hoy will not utilise the existing scheduled ferries. Further details with respect to Traffic and Transport are provided in Chapter 12 of the EIA Report.

Scale of Development

- 6.4 Concerns were raised over the scale of the original design (30 turbines) and the effects this could have on the landscape and the natural environment. Feedback provided when the turbine numbers had been reduced to seven (subsequently reduced further to six), showed that three quarters were happier with the revised proposal.
- 6.5 The application layout has been designed to ensure that it appears as a compact and well-contained feature in surrounding views, with care taken to avoid any turbines appearing as outliers. The full landscape and visual assessment is provided in Chapter 6 of the EIA Report.
- 6.6 Ornithology has had a major influence on the site design. In response to surveys that have been undertaken, the number of turbines has been reduced from 30 to six. In addition, the turbine locations have been optimised as far as possible to minimise potential effects and ensure appropriate separation from any protected nest locations. The full assessment of likely effects on ornithology and ecology are presented in Chapter 7 and Chapter 8 of the EIA Report respectively.

Cultural Heritage

- 6.7 Members of the public raised concerns regarding the potential for impacts on cultural heritage assets.
- 10.1.1 The Proposed Development has been designed so as to avoid impacts upon known heritage assets where possible. The implementation of mitigation measures will record known remains, prevent inadvertent damage to known heritage assets; investigate the potential for previously unknown assets and disseminate the results of archaeological works to the public. In addition, a Heritage Trail will be established within the site as compensatory mitigation to partially offset likely effects of the Proposed Development on the setting of Second World War heritage assets in its vicinity and in particular the Category A Listed Former Naval Headquarters and Communications Centre.
- 10.1.2 The full assessment of likely effects on cultural heritage is provided in Chapter 10 of the EIA Report.

Noise & Shadow Flicker

- 6.8 Residents requested that concerns over noise and shadow flicker are addressed. These are fully assessed in Chapter 9 and Chapter 15 of the EIA Report respectively.

Climate Change

- 6.9 A number of respondents raised the importance of reducing carbon footprints and the importance of climate change. Chapter 16 of the EIA Report provides details on the carbon savings associated with the Proposed Development.

Cable Infrastructure

- 6.10 Residents stated a preference to cables being laid underground, as opposed to overhead lines. The electrical power produced by the individual turbines will be fed to an on-site substation via underground cables. Off-site connection of the Proposed Development to the grid or to a private wire will be subject to a separate consenting process.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 The Applicant has undertaken pre-application consultation with consultees, community council and the general public. Consultation has been undertaken through an online consultation process, press releases and question and answer sessions.
- 7.2 Following the consultation, the Applicant has considered the design of the Proposed Development, the environmental mitigation to be implemented and the assessment of the environmental effects, ensuring that where possible, concerns raised are addressed.

Appendix 1 – Letter from OIC Planning on requirements for PAC report.

Introduction

This appendix is a copy of the letter received from OIC on 24th February 2020 outlining the requirements of the PAC Report in accordance with paragraph 2.36 of the Planning Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures (Scotland).

DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Executive Director: Gavin Barr, BSc Hons, MSc URP, MRTPI
Council Offices, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1NY

Tel: 01856 873535 Website: www.orkney.gov.uk
Email: planning@orkney.gov.uk



24th February 2020

Orkney Islands Council
c/o JLL
C/o Stuart Winter
Director- Planning And Development
7 Exchange Crescent
Conference Square
Edinburgh

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 AS AMENDED: SECTION 35B
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013: REGULATION 6
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE**

Dear JLL

Ref No: PREAPP/001/20
Type: Pre-Application
Location: Wee Fea, Hoy, Orkney
Proposal: Proposal of Application Notice to erect seven wind turbines

Thank you for the above Notice which was received on 14th February 2020. I will be the case officer and would be grateful if you would quote the reference number PREAPP/001/20 in any correspondence.

Under the provisions of the Act and Regulations specified above you cannot submit the proposed planning application until the expiry of 12 weeks from the date of this letter.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 35B(7) of the Act you are hereby required to serve a copy of the Proposal of Application Notice on any party specified below giving them the opportunity to contact you for further details of the proposal:

Roads Services
Scottish Water
Planning Unit (North Region) SEPA
Orkney Heritage Society (East)
Scottish Natural Heritage
Highlands & Islands Airports Ltd
Kirkwall Airport - Senior Pilot
Historic Environment Scotland
Development & Marine Planning
MoD (Ministry Of Defence)
NATS (National Air Traffic Services)
Marine Services
Environmental Health
Flotta Community Council
Graemsay, Hoy & Walls Community Council

If you require contact details for any of the above please contact Development Management on the 01856 873535 or at planning@orkney.gov.uk.

You should make it clear to these consultees that you have accepted that the proposed development will also be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment to comply with the Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Regulations 2011.

It is worth clarifying at this stage that the proposed planning application would have to be accompanied by a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) report. Scottish Government guidance indicates that as a minimum the report should include the following:-

1. Details of who has been consulted.
2. Details of what steps were taken to comply with the statutory requirements and those of the planning authority.
3. Details of how the applicant has responded to the comments made, including whether and the extent to which the proposals have changed as a result of PAC.
4. Appropriate evidence that the various prescribed steps have been undertaken – for example, copies of notices advertising public events and reference to material made available at such events. You should note that there is a minimum requirement for a notice of the public event to be advertised in the local press at least 7 days before the event. You are also encouraged to arrange for such event to be advertised in at least one of the 'Around Orkney' daily programmes on Radio Orkney.
5. Demonstration of steps that were taken to explain the nature of PAC, in particular that it does not replace the application process whereby representations can be made to the planning authority.

Through the PAC consultation process with key agencies, feedback may identify issues that the Council is presently unaware of. If this is the case, you may wish to make us aware of these so that we can establish if any other information would require to be submitted with the proposed planning application.

Yours sincerely

Mr David Barclay
Senior Planner

Appendix 2 – Press release for April 2018 Launch Event

Introduction

This Appendix contains the press release (sent 25th April 2018) informing the public of a public meeting taking place on 30th April 2018 regarding a wind farm development at Wee Fea in Hoy. The press release provides the date and location of the public meeting and some details on the current status of the project. The press release was published on the Council website and provided to BBC Radio Orkney and The Orcadian.

Wind farm project - public meeting announced

An update from the Council will be provided for residents of Hoy and Walls on a project looking at how a large scale wind farm could serve as an important source of income and community benefit for the county.

A public meeting will take place at North Walls school on Monday 30 April, starting at 19:00.

OIC Leader and local councillor James Stockan said: “We have a significant announcement to make about the next phase of the project.

“I look forward to providing further details on the night and hope that as many people as possible from the local community come along to talk with us about this.

“Although this is an important milestone for the project, I would like to stress that a final decision has not been taken about whether to go ahead with a wind farm development – a lot more work needs to be undertaken before we reach that stage.”

It was announced last year that OIC is actively looking at new sources of income – through investment in renewables, for example - to help overcome the considerable financial challenges the Council and wider Orkney community face over the years ahead.

Appendix 3 – Follow up press release on April 2018 Launch Event

Introduction

This Appendix contains the press release (sent 1st May 2018) setting out the detail of the project that had been launched at a public meeting on 30th April 2018 regarding a wind farm development at Wee Fea in Hoy. The press release provides detail on the project including the proposed site and the proposed number of turbines, as well as some of the perceived benefits of the project. The press release was published on the Council website and provided to BBC Radio Orkney and The Orcadian.

Important milestone for wind farm project

The next phase of a project looking at how a large scale wind farm could generate significant income and community benefit for Orkney has been announced at a public meeting in Hoy.

The meeting heard that after assessing a number of potential sites, Orkney Islands Council plans to undertake a detailed investigation to see if land to the west of Lyness would be suitable for a substantial wind energy development.

OIC Leader James Stockan said: “We are taking an enterprising approach to tackling the considerable financial challenges we face. It would be remiss of us if we failed to fully explore a project of this kind, which could be of enormous benefit to Orkney.

“By identifying a potential site, we have now reached a significant milestone. This is why we wanted to give the local community the first opportunity to hear and ask questions about the project and what happens next.”

Last year, the Council invited landowners in Orkney to put forward suitable sites for a large scale wind farm.

The site the Council plans to look at in more detail lies to the south of Wee Fea, the hill behind Lyness which contains underground wartime oil tanks. The landowner has consented to investigation work being carried out.

Councillor Stockan said: “For the seventh year running, we are having to make a range of cuts to Council services. We expect our Government funding to diminish further over the years ahead, while demand for many of our services continues to grow.

“The Council has to live within its means. Further and more severe cuts will be needed over the years ahead unless we find significant new sources of income.

“A large scale wind farm could make a major contribution towards helping the Council to preserve and enhance key services people value and depend upon.

“Importantly, it could also serve as a transformational source of funding for projects of great value to our community.

“The profits generated would remain in Orkney, for the good of Orkney – supporting initiatives that boost the social and economic wellbeing of the county. This would occur during the lifetime of the wind farm.

“It is important to stress, however, that there are many stages to go through before a decision is taken on whether the project goes ahead and in what form.”

The Scottish Government has been provided with initial information about the project.

Bird and ground surveys will be carried out over the months ahead as part of the site investigation work and it is planned that wind measuring equipment will be installed in due course.

In addition, a grid connection has been applied for. As this can be a lengthy process, it is important to do this well ahead of any decision being made on whether to submit a full planning application.

A grid connection for the project would depend on upgrades between Orkney and the Scottish mainland. Latest estimates suggest that these could be in place by 2022. This would represent the earliest date the wind farm could be operational.

An initial assessment indicates that the site could house up to 30 wind turbines each of 3 to 3.5 megawatt (MW) capacity. These figures are likely to change as the site investigation work is undertaken.

As the wind farm, if it went ahead, would have the capacity to generate more than 50 MW of electricity, any planning application would be considered and decided by the Scottish Government.

Councillor Stockan added: “The Council is looking at how best to take forward a major project of this kind, in a way which would generate the maximum community benefit for Orkney.

“We are well aware that wind farm developments attract a range of views – and that we need to consider the full range of impacts such a development could have.

“We will keep the local and wider community closely involved as the project progresses. A comprehensive consultation exercise will be carried out if the next phase of work indicates that it is worth developing a detailed proposal for the project.”

Appendix 4– April 2018 Launch Event Display Boards and Presentation.

Introduction

This Appendix contains the PowerPoint presentation and display boards that were used at the public meeting on 30th April 2018. The PowerPoint presentation was delivered by the Chief Executive and the Council Leader and included information on the size and site of the project, the financial challenges being faced by the Council and the rationale for why a development of this type was being considered. The display boards showed wirelines from three locations – Lyrawa Hill, Lyness and Longhope Pier.

Onshore Wind



Hoy Public Meeting
30th April 2018



- **Introduction – Alistair Buchan**
- **The project – Shona Croy**
- **Conclusion – Councillor Stockan**
- **Q & A**

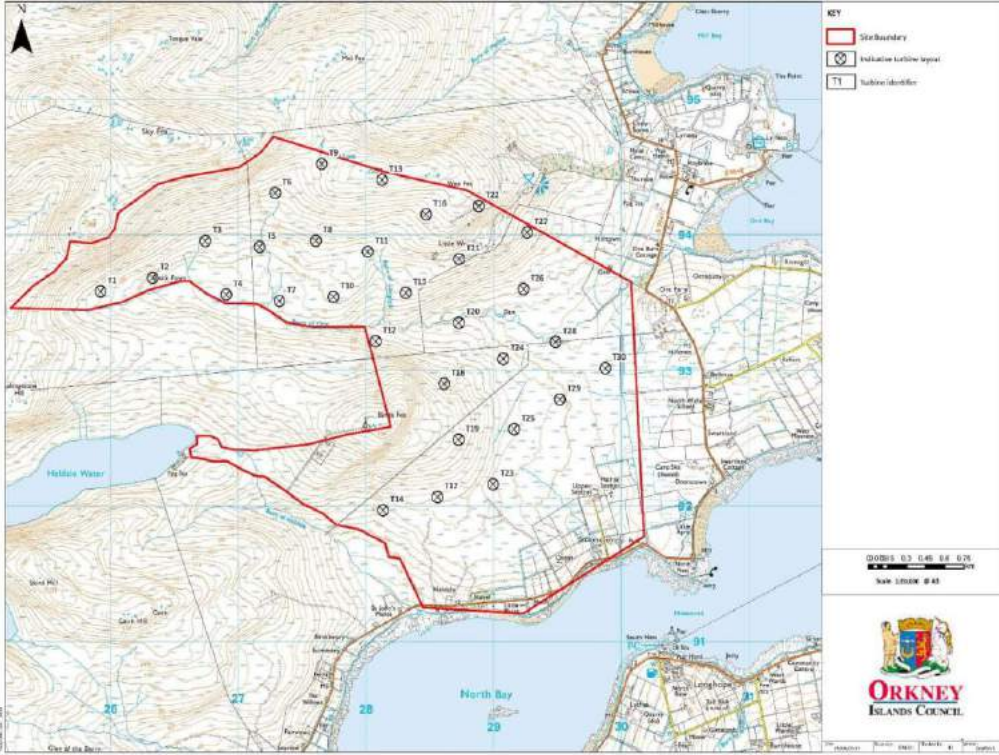
Introduction

1. Year on year decline in Government funding (likely to continue)
2. Cuts of £11 million over past 6 years
3. Further cuts £1.8 million next year
4. Continuing pressure on public services
5. £6m unmet annual service pressures in current year
6. Reserve funds not the solution
7. Future cuts unpalatable to the Community
8. Seeking alternative sources of income to alleviate cuts
9. Sustainability of Islands
10. Commercial activities eg. Windfarms but NOT for their own sake

The Project

- In 2016, the Council agreed the principle of assuming the role of a project developer of onshore wind farm projects in Orkney
- Site study of Council owned land
- Undertake a process to identify land owners in Orkney, with large sites able to accommodate scale wind generation
- Assess each site and consider options
- Design and scope preferred site(s)
- Application for grid connection(s)

Hoy Wind Farm draft layout



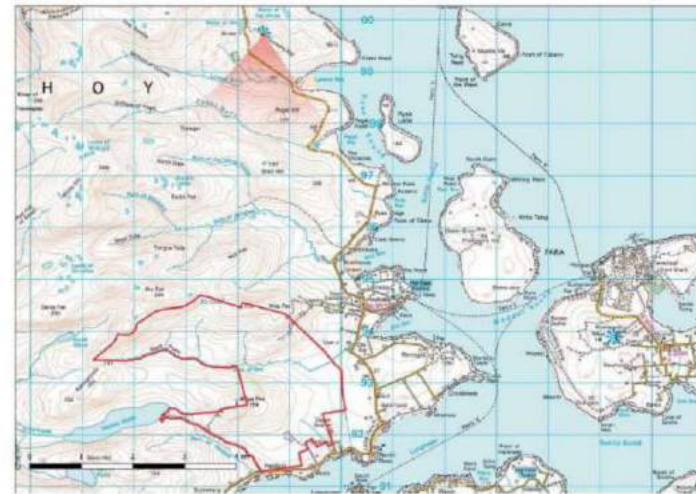
Summary of Site Findings

- Landscape and visual
- Ecology and ornithology
- Watercourses and geology
- Archaeology and cultural heritage
- Transport and access
- Aviation
- Wind resource
- Communications
- Wildland designation
- 108 MW max. potential capacity
- Up to 30 turbines
- 110-125m turbine tip height

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyrawa Hill, Hoy



Turbine Tip Height 125m Turbine Hub Height 75m



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Hoy Wind Farm Feasibility
Wireline from Lyrawa Hill, Hoy



View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyness, Hoy



Turbine Tip Height 125m Turbine Hub Height 75m

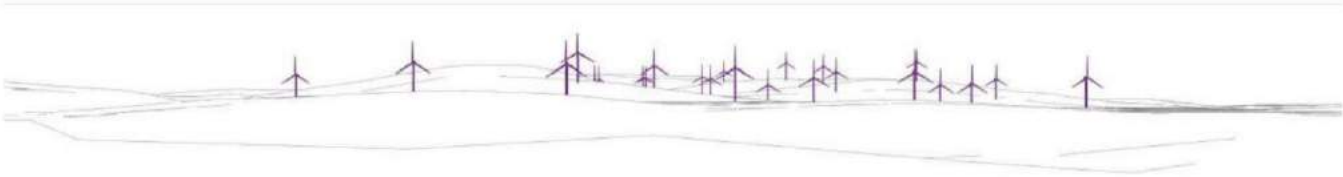


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Hoy Wind Farm Feasibility
Wireline from Lyness, Hoy



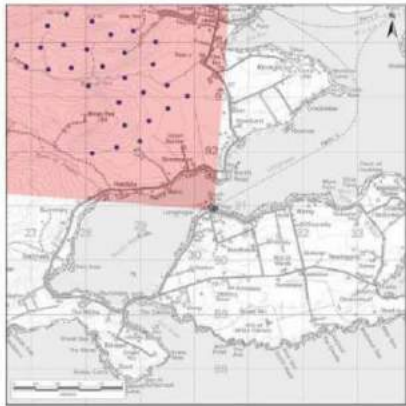
View to Hoy Wind Farm from the pier in Longhope



Wireline drawing

Viewpoint Grid Reference	330266, 990847	Direction of View	219.29°	Turbine Top Height	125m
Distance to Nearest Turbine	1.838m	Viewpoint Height	3.05m AOD	Turbine Hub Height	75m

Wind Farm Feasibility Studies
 Hoy Wind Farm Site - Wireline



Next Steps

- Commence scoping with Scottish Government
- Information gathering phase to support application for planning
- Commence bird studies
- Planning for met mast(s)
- Ongoing discussions with the local community
- Continue to press the UK Government for Remote Island wind support
- Site investigations will take a minimum of 2 years
- Timescale – nothing built before 2022

Conclusion

- A project for the Orkney community
- Every £1 benefits the local economy
- To support the needs case for a transmission connection to Mainland UK
- To promote economic development – the marine renewable sector
- Local benefit for Hoy – empowerment to deliver services/projects of most value to residents on Hoy
- Use of profits NOT determined by Council – benefits may be delivered by an arms length charitable organisation
- Political drive for project that exceeds 50 mega watts to avoid potential conflict of interest between the Council as developer and planning authority
- Significant support from Members to explore the opportunity

Appendix 5 – Press release for January 2019 Public Information Day

Introduction

This Appendix contains the press release (sent 21st December 2018) announcing a Public Information Day in Hoy to update the community on progress with the wind farm project. The press release contained details on the date, location and time of the public event. The press release was published on the Council website and provided to BBC Radio Orkney and The Orcadian.

Press release

Public consultation session on Hoy Wind Farm Proposals in the New Year.

A public consultation drop-in session is due to be held in Hoy early in the new year to update the community on plans for a wind farm on the island.

It was announced in April that the Council planned to undertake a detailed investigation to see if land to the west of Lyness would be suitable for a substantial wind energy development.

Detailed work has been ongoing on this assessment since then, including discussions with Scottish Natural Heritage, bird and ground studies, with updated plans to be unveiled at the session.

The drop-in session takes place in the North Walls Centre community room on Tuesday 8 January between 1pm and 7pm. Staff from the Council's Strategic Projects team and local elected members, will be on hand to discuss the plans in more detail and answer any queries local people may have.

The site the Council has been looking at lies at and to the south of Wee Fea, the hill behind Lyness which contains underground wartime oil tanks.

Council Leader James Stockan is a Councillor for Stromness and the South Isles. He said: "Since April our Strategic Projects team has been looking at how best to take forward a major project of this kind. As we expected, with any wind farm development, our announcement attracted a range of views – and these have been taken into consideration when developing the plans.

"We undertook to keep the local and wider community closely involved as the project progressed and we're looking forward to heading out to Hoy to discuss revised plans with local folk."

Appendix 6 – Poster for January 2019 Public Information Day

Introduction

This Appendix contains the poster advertising the January 2019 public event in Hoy to update the community on progress with the wind farm project. The poster contained details of the purpose, date, time and location of the event and was distributed to various community locations in Hoy.

Poster



OIC Public Consultation Drop in Session on Hoy Wind Farm Proposals

Tuesday 8 January 2019 - 13.00 to 19.00
Community Room, North Walls Centre

An opportunity to see revised plans for proposed wind farm on Hoy.

Staff from the Council's Strategic Projects team and local elected members will be on hand to discuss the plans in more detail and answer any queries you may have.

Please use the car park at the rear of the school and enter by the rear door at the Healthy Living Centre

Appendix 7 – January 2019 Public Information Day display boards

Introduction

This Appendix contains the information boards that were used at the January 2019 Public Information Day in Hoy to update the community on progress with the wind farm project. The information contained details of the updated proposals for a wind farm in Hoy, including wirelines. Attendees at the event were accompanied around the boards by a member of staff.



What has happened since the project was announced?

Month	Work carried out on Hoy Wind Farm project
April	Consultation in Hoy Scoping request submitted to Scottish Government Bird surveys commenced
May	Bird survey underway
June	Bird survey underway
July	Bird survey underway
August	Scoping opinion received from Scottish Government 1 st year breeding bird survey completed 1 st year non-breeding bird survey commenced
September	Review of Scoping opinion Indicative bird collision risk assessment undertaken on data gathered
October	Review of Scoping opinion
November	Additional constraints identified and mapped
December	Redesign of wind farm based on reduced capacity and taller turbines
January	Consultation in Hoy



Your feedback – concerns raised by the community

"The siting of such an enormous farm here would likely reduce one of the island's main sources of income - tourism."

"I'm in favour of renewable energy but, for the time being, it's probably easier to see the positive side of this if you don't live nearby."

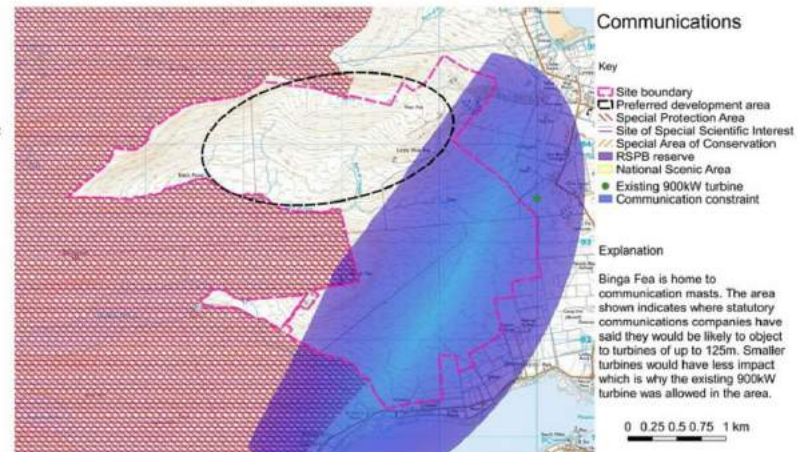
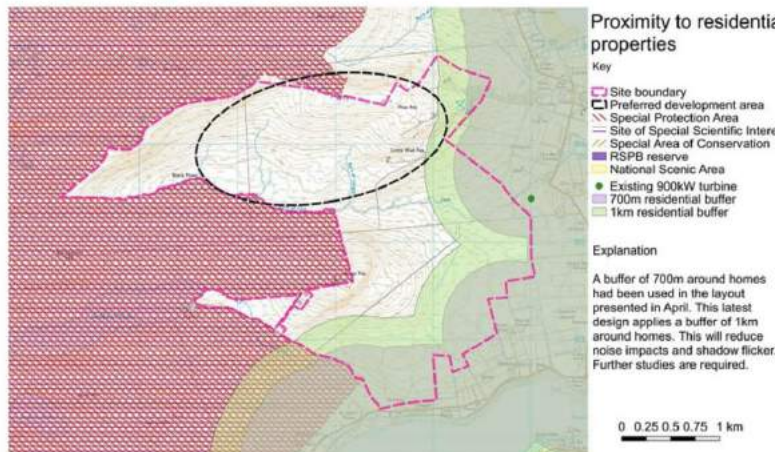
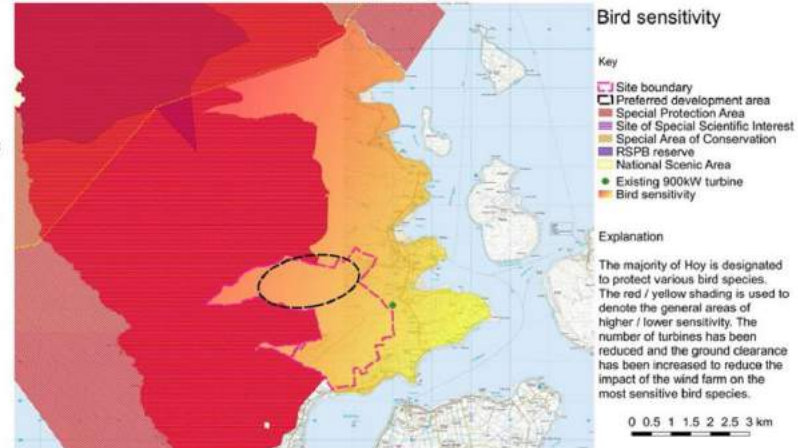
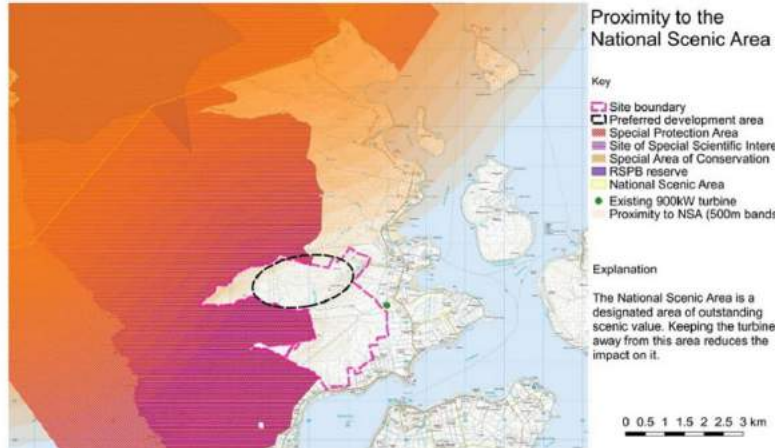
"All that noise to ruin the scenery for ever. I should have added that some of the turbines sound more like the Hogwarts Express coming through the house."

"I fear that some people will simply leave the island rather than live with a windfarm of this size."

"The visual impact will be enormous, particularly for folk living in Longhope."

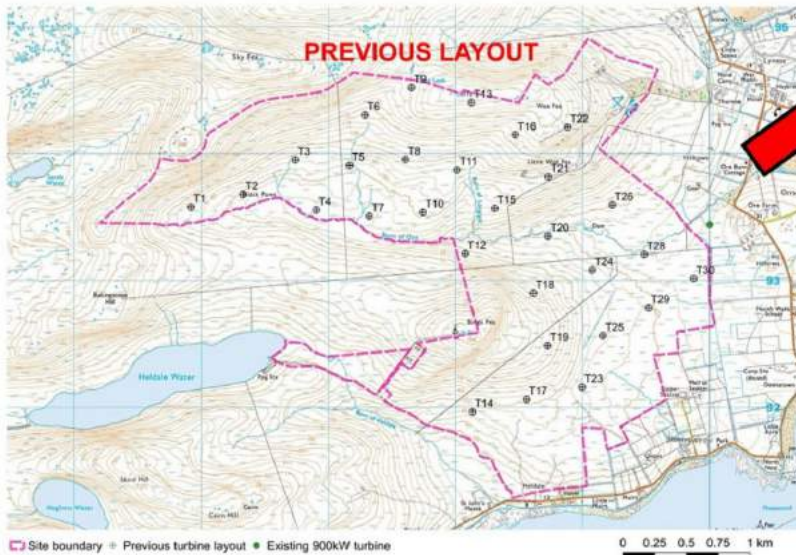
"The proposed Wind Farm would be disastrous for Hoy on many counts, including the hen harriers etc."

What have we found out?



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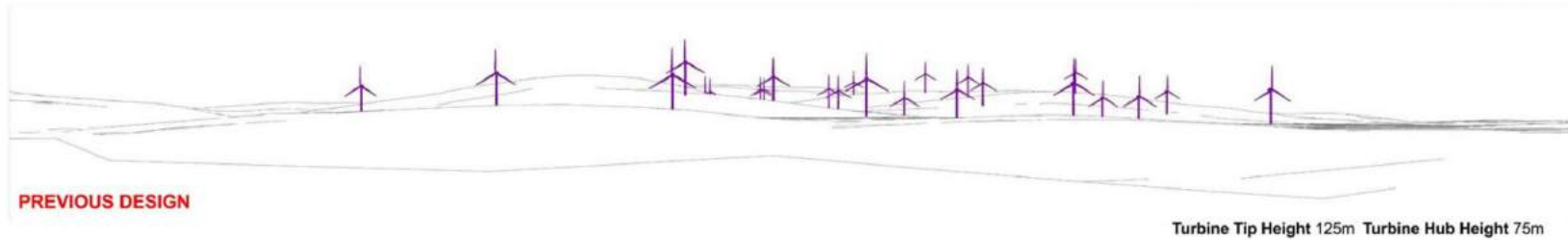
Layout changes



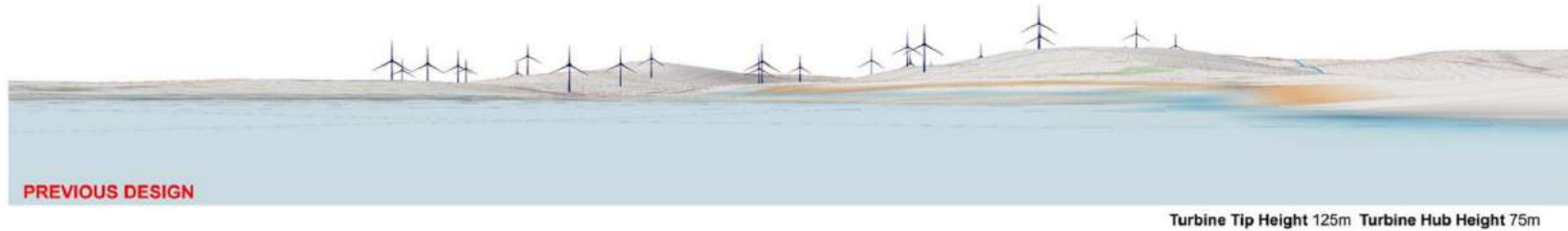
- Turbines have been
 - made taller
 - moved further from homes
 - moved towards the north of the site
- 7 turbines compared to 30 in the previous design
- Each turbine has a higher output

Previous design April 2018

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Longhope pier



View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyness pier



View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyrawa Hill





Latest design December 2018

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Longhope pier



Turbine Tip Height 150m Turbine Hub Height 92m

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyness pier



Turbine Tip Height 150m Turbine Hub Height 92m

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyrawa Hill



Turbine Tip Height 150m Turbine Hub Height 92m

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Your feedback – opportunities identified by the community

"This is not a question of whether we want a wind farm on the island rather what we want our island to be like in 10, 50, 100 years down the line. Do we want it simply to be a nice place for people to retire to and for tourists to enjoy in the summer months or do we want to try to build the most prosperous island we can out of our resources?"

"Well paying jobs that bring families and fill the school, new small businesses, an infrastructure that includes ferries that allows working on mainland even at weekends. The wind turbines will allow all this if it is handled with flair."

"Something which would be good for the community would be to provide an off-road cycling path network. This would attract tourists and could be completed whilst construction of the wind turbine access tracks are made."

"There is a wind turbine in Norfolk with a viewing platform that can be visited. If this project comes to pass and we are going to have 125m high turbines we should be making the most of it and thinking along those lines too. The views across the Flow and in all directions would be spectacular. And maybe jobs for local guides?"

What's happening next?

- Continue bird surveys
- Commence full Environmental Impact Assessment including the following studies:
 - Ecology and cultural heritage
 - Geology and hydrology
 - Noise and shadow flicker
 - Landscape and Visual
 - Traffic and access
 - Socio-economics and recreation
 - Aviation and telecommunication
- Undertake wind resource measurement
- Continue discussions with stakeholders
- Keep you updated on developments
- Re-design layout based on studies and feedback
- Explore options for delivery of community benefit

Appendix 8 – Consultation form from January 2019 Public Information Day

Introduction

This Appendix contains the consultation form from the January 2019 Public Information Day. The questions were clear and concise, and attendees were offered support in filling in the form if they had any literacy issues. The form included a section for contact details, though which a mailing list was created for future project updates.

Hoy Windfarm Consultation Event – 8 January 2019

Thank you for attending today's event. As part of today's session, we're keen to gather your views on the project proposal and get a steer from you on how you'd like to receive updates on the project in future. All responses will be kept confidential and your details will not be used for any purposes other than communicating with you on the wind farm project.



1. What's your opinion on the wind farm development?
2. What do you think of the changes that have been made?
3. What do you see as the positives of windfarm on Hoy?
4. What do you see as the negative aspects of a wind farm on Hoy?
5. We want to keep in touch with the community as the project progresses – what's the best way to do this?
6. Do you have any other comments you wish to make? You can continue on the other side of the paper if you wish.

Name and contact details.

Appendix 9 – Feedback report from January 2019 event

Introduction

This Appendix contains the feedback report that was produced following the January 2019 public event in Hoy. The feedback report was published on the Council website.

Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

Hoy Consultation Event – January 2019

A summary of the event and the feedback gathered from the public.

1. Introduction

This report relates to the feedback received from members of the public on the current proposals for a Council-owned wind farm to be developed on Hoy. It covers some background to the project, explains the format of a public information session that was held on the island in January 2019 and summarises the feedback received at that.

It should be noted that the feedback received at the event is informal and a pre-application consultation will be carried out should the project reach planning application stage. This informal feedback is primarily being used to identify the main areas of concern to the local community, identify potential tasks for the team to carry out and inform future communications on the project.

2. Background

It was announced at a public meeting in April 2018 that, after assessing various potential sites, Orkney Islands Council planned to undertake a detailed investigation to see if land to the west of Lyness would be suitable for a substantial wind energy development.

The potential development forms part of the Council's enterprising approach to tackling its financial challenges –while Government funding diminishes, demand for Council services continues to grow. Severe cuts will be needed unless significant new sources of income are found and a large-scale wind farm could make a major contribution towards helping the Council to preserve and enhance key services that people value and depend upon.

Importantly, such a project could also serve as a transformational source of funding for projects of great value to the local community, supporting initiatives that boost the social and economic wellbeing of the county.

Initial assessments indicated that the site could house up to 30 wind turbines each of 3 to 3.5 megawatt (MW) capacity, generating more than 50 MW of electricity (meaning that any planning application would be considered and decided by the Scottish Government).

Between April and December 2018, a great deal of work was carried out by the Council's Strategic Projects team on the detail of any potential project, including bird and ground surveys, consideration of the site's proximity to the national scenic area and residential properties, and discussions with communications companies around the location of masts in the area.

In addition, a grid connection was applied for. As this can be a lengthy process, it was important to do this well ahead of any decision being made on whether to submit a full planning application. A grid connection for the project depends on upgrades between Orkney and the Scottish mainland.

Following this work, revised plans were drawn up, proposing to erect seven turbines compared to the 30 presented in the original plans. The proposed turbines have also been made taller, moved further away from local homes and have been focused towards the north of the site. The potential output of the new layout would be in the region of 28MW – meaning any planning application will be determined locally.

3. Consultation event structure

A public-drop in session was held in Hoy on Tuesday 8 January 2019 at the North Walls Centre. This was advertised in the local press, through posters, on social media and in the Hoy Blether (the island's community newsletter).

The session allowed local people to view a series of display boards. These showed:

- A timeline of the work that had been carried out by the team since the project was announced.
- Concerns that had been raised by the community following the initial project announcement.
- The data that had been gathered over the course of the site investigations.
- The resulting layout changes.

- Visual mock-ups of how both the previous layout and the new layout would look from three different viewpoints on the island.
- Comments that had been made by the local community about potential opportunities that could arise from the project.
- A list of the work that would be carried out over the coming months on the project proposals.

Those attending the session were, in the main, accompanied around the display by a member of staff from the Strategic Projects team giving them the opportunity to ask any questions they might have about the proposals.

Attendees were then asked to take some time to fill in a feedback sheet. Twenty feedback sheets were filled in at the event, with some choosing to take them away to fill in at home.

An attendance tally was taken on the day and it is estimated that around 45 people attended. It was noted that all those who attended the event were extremely engaged with the process, asking questions or giving an opinion on the project. All attendees were spoken to by at least one member of the Strategic Projects team and many stayed at the venue for an extended period of time to talk with other community members about the plans.

Post-event the amended plans were emailed out on request to an additional 12 people and downloaded 54 times from the Council website. The event was covered in the local press, including a five-minute package on BBC Radio Orkney, featuring the Strategic Projects Director, the Leader of the Council and three local people with differing views on the project.

4. Questions asked of the public

The feedback sheet posed the following questions to members of the public:

- What's your opinion on the wind farm development?
- What do you think of the changes that have been made?
- What do you see as the positives of a windfarm on Hoy?
- What do you see as the negative aspects of a windfarm on Hoy?
- We want to keep in touch with the community as the project progresses – what's the best way to do this?
- Do you have any other comments you wish to make?

5. Feedback received

The written feedback on each of the questions was as follows:

What's your opinion on the wind farm development?

The feedback received on this point was mixed, with some respondents having a favourable opinion of the wind farm project and others being against it or feeling that more information was needed before they could form an opinion. The areas where people felt they needed more information were around the overall impact of the development, the effect on property prices in the area, whether other renewable energy forms had been considered and primarily how the community could benefit from the scheme. This final point was in line with the questions received verbally at the session.

What do you think of the changes that have been made?

Three quarters of those providing feedback said that they were happier with the new proposals than with the previous proposals– comments included that the changes were 'far more realistic', were 'going in the right direction' and were 'better than the original scheme'. Very few of those providing feedback were negative on the changes, but some raised concerns about the turbines being bigger than originally planned. This was in line with the verbal feedback received at the event, with almost

all attendees reacting positively to the changes, particularly when they saw the differences in the visual mock ups that had been provided.

What do you see as the positives of a wind farm on Hoy?

The main positive that was identified by respondents was the potential for income generation and the subsequent benefit to the community. However, just over half of those who responded were either not convinced that the wind farm would bring any real benefit or felt that they needed much more information on potential community benefit schemes. One respondent suggested that an independent body would be better placed to advise on a community benefit scheme.

What do you see as the negative aspects of a windfarm on Hoy?

The main issue that was raised by the respondents was the potential visual impact of the wind turbines on Hoy's landscape. The potential noise of the turbines and the effect on the natural environment followed closely behind. Other key issues that were raised were the potential effect on tourism, extra ferry traffic, changes to the demographic of Hoy and any knock-on effect on property prices in the area.

We want to keep in touch with the community as the project progresses – what's the best way to do this?

Nearly three quarters of those who responded said they would like more public drop in sessions, where they could talk face to face with the project team. The second most popular responses were email and posts on the Hoy and Walls Community Facebook page. Other suggestions were through the Development Trust, through local press, through newsletters, through community meetings, through posters and through the Hoy Blether community newsletter.

Do you have any other comments you wish to make?

The comments on this question were varied and therefore are presented below:

- Management of the project key, from day to day running to how profits would be distributed - specialised role, not something that could be sustainable on a volunteer/community-led basis, especially in a small, busy community where there may not be enough folk with the time, willingness or aptitude to spare.
- I live quite near this proposal. What effect will this have on the value of our property?
- In the 20 years I have been here the island has just drifted along and no cohesive development plan has been put in place. I fear it is too late.
- Useful community engagement - thank you
- Are our concerns being taken seriously?
- Council should stay out of commercial business
- I have concerns re the supply of road materials and the impact that could arise from reopening of existing quarries on Hoy. I would like the Council to take into consideration any impact on local residents who live in close proximity to the quarry and along the road leading from the quarry to the site.
- Does the development promote a long-term input into the island? The tourist pound is on the increase - can this scheme capitalise on this. Is there a possibility of creating a tourist - perhaps adventure type activity on the site - mountain bike tracks - wayfaring - maze - even viewing platform - but bearing in mind comments about biodiversity overleaf - perhaps a yacht marina at Lyness be a further suggestion?
- I would prefer to see investment in other renewable energy ideas e.g. hydro-electric investigated.
- Full depiction of impact is not shown or indeed known, how can it be, roads etc.

A number of verbal questions were also posed to the team during the session. These were noted down and are presented below:

- When will this be built?

- What's the benefit for Hoy?
- What jobs will be created?
- Are we doing economic studies on the potential tourism impact?
- Compensation for reduction in value of a house?
- How does this impact on the cable?
- How long will bird studies go on for?
- Will you be reopening the quarry?
- How can we determine our own planning applications?
- How much infrastructure will be required to support it?
- How will the turbines be managed?
- Have other forms of renewable energy been reviewed or explored?

6. Next steps

Taking into account the information gathered through the written feedback and the verbal questions noted the following key areas of concern and areas where more information is required have been identified:

Key areas of concern

- Potential visual impact
- Potential noise issues
- Effect on the natural environment
- Effect on property prices in the area.

Key areas where people would like more information

- Community benefit scheme
- Associated infrastructure
- Location of any quarrying activity to be undertaken

Appendix 10 – Press release for May 2019 Public Information Days

Introduction

This Appendix contains the press release which was presented to the public in order to raise awareness for Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project and of upcoming PIDs. The press release included the date, time and location of forthcoming consultation events and gives further detail on the three projects being considered – including Hoy. The press release was published on 26th April 2019 on the Council website and provided to The Orcadian and BBC Radio Orkney

Press Release

OIC Announces 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project'

Orkney Islands Council is to investigate an additional two sites for potential community wind farms in the county - to add to the project already under investigation on Hoy.

The new projects under consideration are located at Faray, in the North Isles, and at Quanterness in St Ola.

'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project' could generate significant income and community benefit for Orkney. All profit would stay in the islands, enabling the Council to preserve and enhance key services that local people value and depend upon and providing a foundation for communities to drive transformational projects of their own.

The developments will also allow the Council to join other local developers in making a meaningful contribution to a Needs Case for a new interconnector for Orkney, thereby substantially supporting the vital renewable energy industry in Orkney, including future development of the marine energy sector.

The wider economic development value of a new cable to Orkney could be highly significant, particularly if a substantial proportion of local ownership can be secured - which will help employment and income remain in the county.

Plans for a development of up to around 28MW in Hoy were announced to the local community last year - with sites for a development of up to 32MW on the island of Faray and up to 24MW on shoreside farmland at Quanterness outside Kirkwall now also being investigated.

The proximity of the project at Quanterness to Kirkwall could also enable a separate private wire network project in which the Council could directly supply electricity to its own buildings as a means to reduce costs.

Public engagement events have been organised for Kirkwall, Eday and Rendall over the coming fortnight. Proposed plans for the developments will be on display at these, with Elected Members and Council Officers on hand to discuss the plans with members of the public.

The event details are as follows:

Thursday 2 May – Kirkwall Town Hall and Community Centre – 12.00 to 17.00 and 19.00 to 21.00.

Tuesday 7 May – Eday Heritage Centre – 12.00 to 16.00 and 19.30 to 21.30

Wednesday 8 May – Rendall Community Centre – 12.30 to 17.00 and 19.00 to 21.00.

An event will also be held in Westray, with the date yet to be confirmed.

The proposed Quanterness site has the potential capacity for six 150m blade tip height turbines.

The site on Faray has enough space for up to eight 150m blade tip height turbines.

The current proposal at the third site in Hoy is to erect seven turbines compared to the 30 presented in the original plans.

The proposals for each site are expected to evolve as further site investigation work and consultation is undertaken. Site investigations, including bird and telecommunications studies, will be ongoing at all three sites.

The intention is for the Council to reach planning permission stage by the end of 2020 ensuring all views and issues are fully explored and considered before any final decisions are made. Proposals for how the applications will be determined are currently being considered.

Councillor James Stockan is Leader of Orkney Islands Council. He said: "It is vital that the Council now takes an active 'developer approach' to energy projects in our islands. Not only does this allow us to maximise the resources available to us in the islands to support services and projects for local people, but it also allows us to contribute significantly and in a meaningful way to allow our world-renowned local energy industry to survive and thrive through a new grid connection.

"Our strategy is one that meets uncertainty head-on. The final details of proposals are by no means set in stone whilst investigations are carried out at the three sites, nor are all three sites guaranteed planning permission – and of course we also wish to take into account public opinion on the developments. Widening the net and moving to investigate three separate sites, allows us a degree of flexibility in the make-up of the final outcome."

Notes to editors

Orkney Islands Council took ownership of the islands of Faray, Holm of Faray and Red Holm in January having purchased them for £355,000 after they were offered for sale on the open market.

In order to secure an improved grid connection for Orkney and enable new energy projects in the islands, Scottish and Southern Energy Networks must agree on a 'Needs Case' for the new connection with the electricity market regulator Ofgem. Scottish and Southern Energy Networks proposed to Ofgem that, in order to justify the new cable, 70 megawatts of generation would require to be signed up for a grid connection by the end of 2019. Ofgem disagreed with this and is of the opinion that 135MW of generation is required. Although negotiation is ongoing, with an announcement expected shortly, it is highly likely that whatever the final decision, the Council will need to have projects in development in order to reach the required number of megawatts to trigger a new cable.

Amended plans for a potential Council-owned wind farm in Hoy were presented to the local community in early January. The current proposal is to erect seven turbines compared to the 30 presented in the original plans. The turbines have also been made taller, moved further away from local homes and have been focused towards the north of the site. The plans were amended following consideration of the site's proximity to the national scenic area and residential properties, bird sensitivities and the location of communication masts in the area. The site the Council has been looking at lies at and to the south of Wee Fea, the hill behind Lyness which contains underground wartime oil tanks.

Appendix 11 – Press release for Westray event

Introduction

The press release in this appendix references the previous three events and includes the date and location of the fourth event. It sets out the benefits of the Proposed Development and a new interconnector cable for the local community and the local economy.

Press Release

Scoping Reports Published for Orkney’s Wind Farm Projects – and Westray Date Announced.

Key documents on Orkney Islands Council's Community Wind Farm project are now available through the planning portal on the council website.

The Council announced in April that it was investigating an additional two sites for potential community wind farms in the county - to add to the project already under investigation on Hoy.

The new projects under consideration are located at Faray, in the North Isles, and at Quanterness in St Ola.

Three well-attended public drop-in information sessions were held in Kirkwall, Eday and Rendall over the last fortnight. A fourth event is due to take place in Westray on Wednesday 19 June at the Hofn Centre.

Request for Scoping Opinion Reports, and associated documents, for both these projects are now available, setting out further details of the project.

Request for Scoping Opinion Reports are submitted by project developers in the very early stages of major projects as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. The reports provide details of the planned project and give key stakeholders like SNH and SEPA an opportunity to feedback to the applicant on what they would like to see included in the EIA process.

The Environmental Impact Assessment is a key aspect of many large scale planning applications. It is an information gathering and assessment exercise which helps stakeholders, the public and the planning authority understand the potential environmental impacts of major development proposals.

‘Orkney’s Community Wind Farm Project’ could generate significant income and community benefit for Orkney. All profit would stay in the islands, enabling the Council to preserve and enhance key services that local people value and depend upon and providing a foundation for communities to drive transformational projects of their own.

The developments will also allow the Council to join other local developers in making a meaningful contribution to a Needs Case for a new interconnector for Orkney, thereby substantially supporting the vital renewable energy industry in Orkney, including future development of the marine energy sector, as well as helping helping Orkney contribute towards low carbon objectives.

The wider economic development value of a new cable to Orkney could be highly significant, particularly if a substantial proportion of local ownership can be secured - which will help employment and income remain in the county.

Plans for a development of up to around 28MW in Hoy were announced to the local community last year - with sites for a development of up to 32MW on the island of Faray and up to 24MW on shoreside farmland at Quanterness outside Kirkwall now also being investigated.

The scoping report for Faray is available at <https://planningandwarrant.orkney.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=PQKQPZMD02E00>

The scoping report for Quanterness is available at <https://planningandwarrant.orkney.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=PQKRYSM02E00>

Appendix 12 - Staff event poster

Introduction

This Appendix contains the poster that was distributed throughout Orkney Island's Council's main offices informing staff of an information session on 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project'. The poster provides the date, time, format and location of the information session.

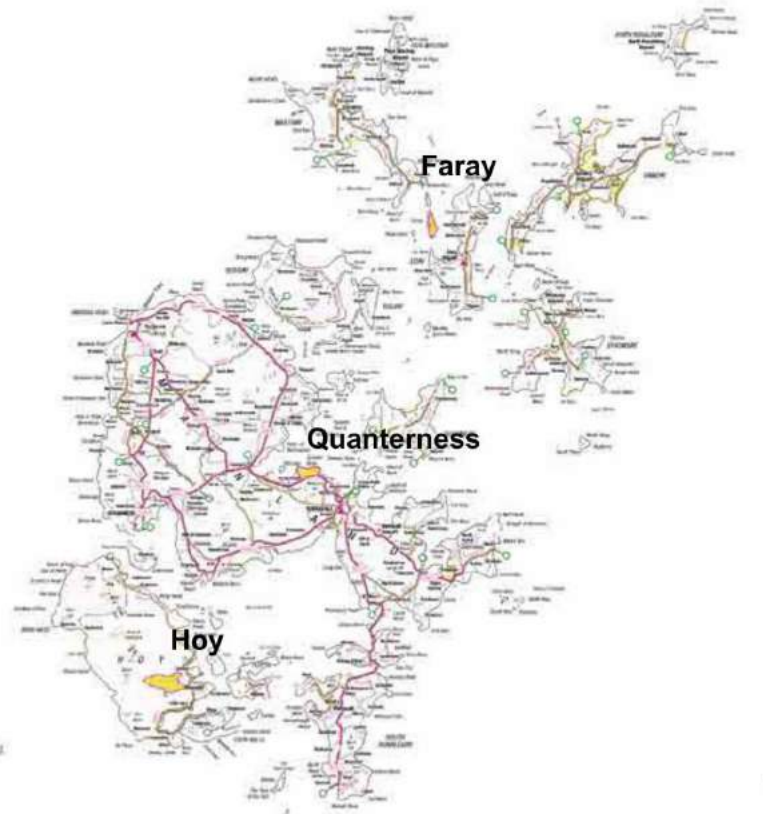
Appendix 13 – Information boards from May/June/August PIDs and staff information session

Introduction

This Appendix contains the information boards used at the public and staff events in Kirkwall, Rendall, Eday and Westray in May/June 2020. The boards contained an overview of the entire 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project, including information on the Hoy project, as well as Faray and Quanterness. The boards described the perceived benefits of the project and wirelines of the sites.



What is the Orkney Community Wind Farm Project?



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Project locations

0 5 10 15 20 km

- The project is seeking to develop wind farms in Orkney with the aim of:
 - ✓ Generating income from publicly owned wind energy projects to support services for local communities.
 - ✓ Supporting a case for a new cable for Orkney to open up wider economic development opportunities for the energy industry, including marine energy.
 - ✓ Ensuring that the local benefits from a new cable are maximised.
 - ✓ Making the most of our resources.
- Early development activity will be funded from the Council's Strategic Reserve Fund.
- Three sites are under consideration.



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

What are the benefits for Orkney?

Income and community benefits



Council-owned wind farms would have the potential to **generate a significant income every year** helping us tackle the twin challenges of reducing budgets and increasing demand for public services for everyone from the young to the elderly.



As well as creating jobs through development, build, operation and decommissioning stages, **all profit would stay with local people here in Orkney.** This money could be spent when it is earned to:

- **preserve and enhance Orkney services** like social care, education, roads and transport.
- fund an **Orkney community benefit scheme** which would provide a foundation for communities to drive transformational projects of their own.
- provide the local communities with a **direct community payment** for hosting the wind farm.

Creating a carbon neutral future



In our Council Plan we have a target outcome for, "A vibrant **carbon neutral** economy which supports local businesses and stimulates investment in all our communities."



National targets are:

- By 2030, the equivalent of 50% of the energy for Scotland's heat, transport and electricity consumption to be supplied from **renewable sources**.
- By 2050, to **reduce emissions** by at least 80% of 1990 levels.



Orkney produced 120% of its electricity needs in 2017/18, but there is still so much more we can do to **decarbonise** our agriculture, heating, and transport."

What are the benefits for Orkney?

Securing a new cable



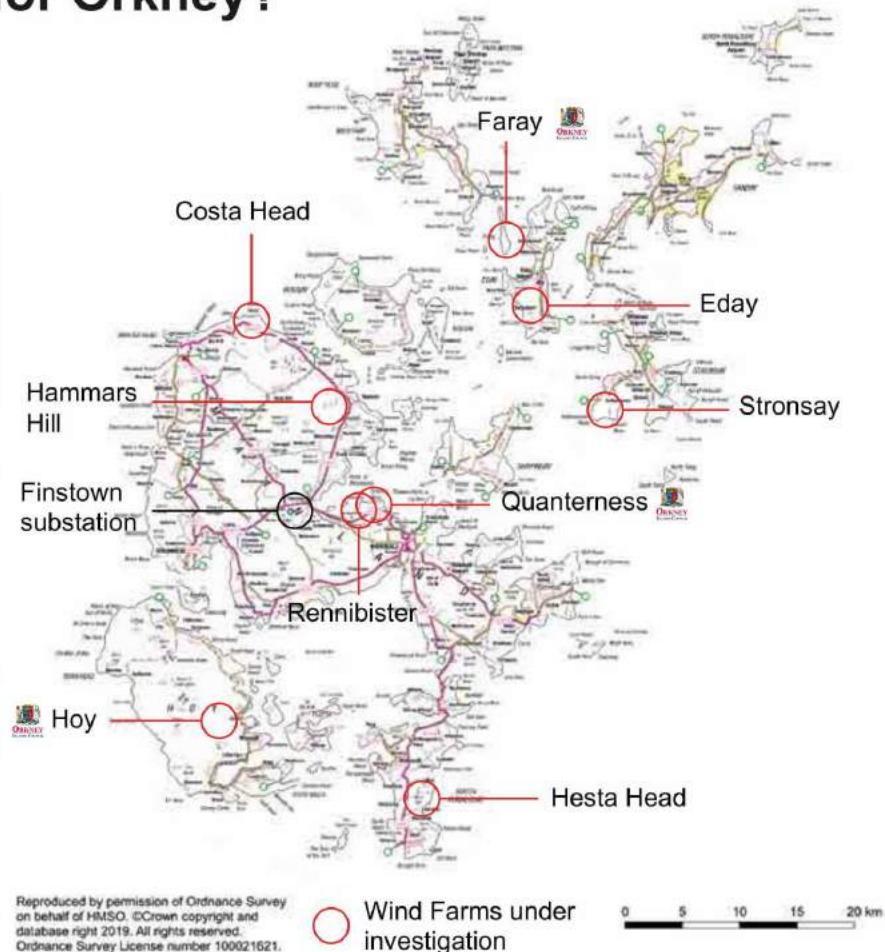
By developing these wind farms we can join other local developers in **making the case to OFGEM for a new interconnector for Orkney**, giving Orkney more chance of getting a new cable and all the benefits it could bring.



A new interconnector could bring hundreds of millions of pounds of economic benefit to Orkney, supporting our existing renewable energy sector and **securing the future development of the marine energy sector** by putting the necessary infrastructure in place.



OFGEM has said that to justify the cable Orkney needs projects adding up to 135MW, but we don't know all the conditions yet. It's likely that **the Council will need to contribute a substantial proportion of this generation.**





Why have we chosen these particular sites?

■ Constraints

- ✓ There are limited options for wind farm development sites in Orkney due to the spread of houses and designated areas for wildlife.
- ✓ Some of the feasible sites are being developed by private companies.

■ Scale

- ✓ We need enough Orkney projects to trigger a new cable.
- ✓ We need wind farms that are big enough to be financially viable in a low subsidy environment.

Hoy

This area was originally chosen as the largest area away from homes and designated sites with the potential for 100MW. Initial scoping and bird surveys have shown that the site could more realistically offer 28MW.

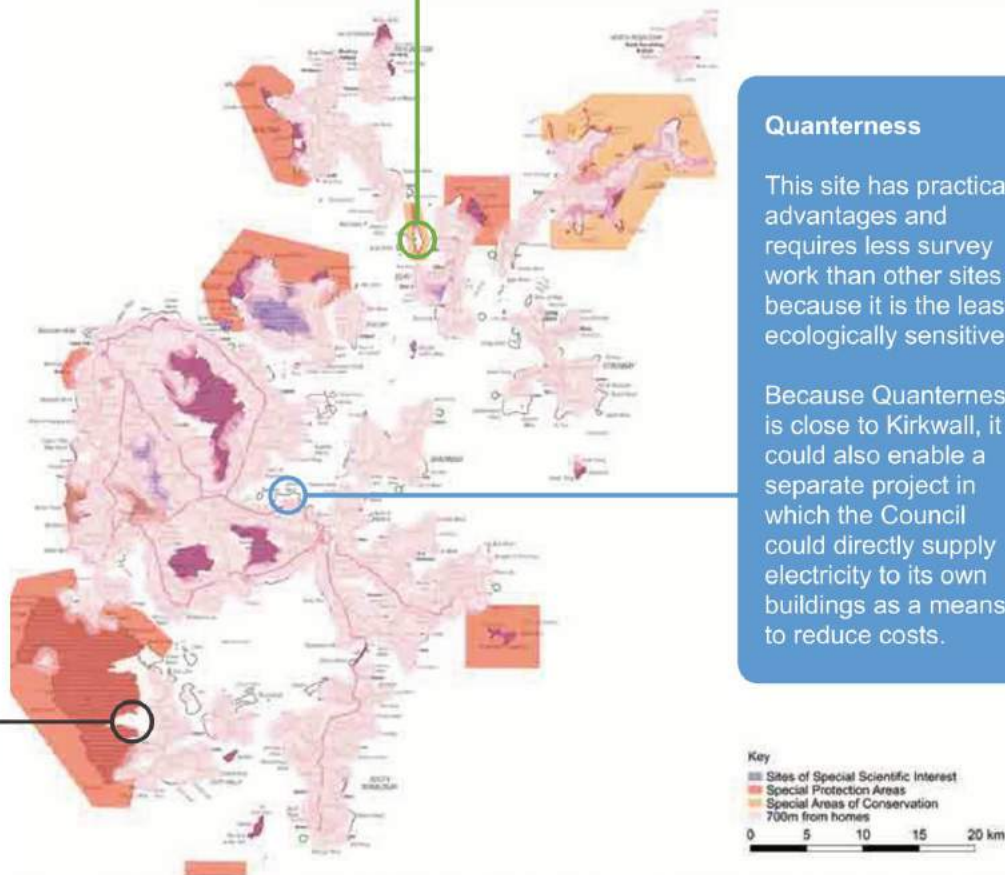
Faray

This uninhabited island was bought by the Council in January 2019 for its strategic development potential. It is probable that only one year of survey work will be required.

Quanterness

This site has practical advantages and requires less survey work than other sites because it is the least ecologically sensitive.

Because Quanterness is close to Kirkwall, it could also enable a separate project in which the Council could directly supply electricity to its own buildings as a means to reduce costs.



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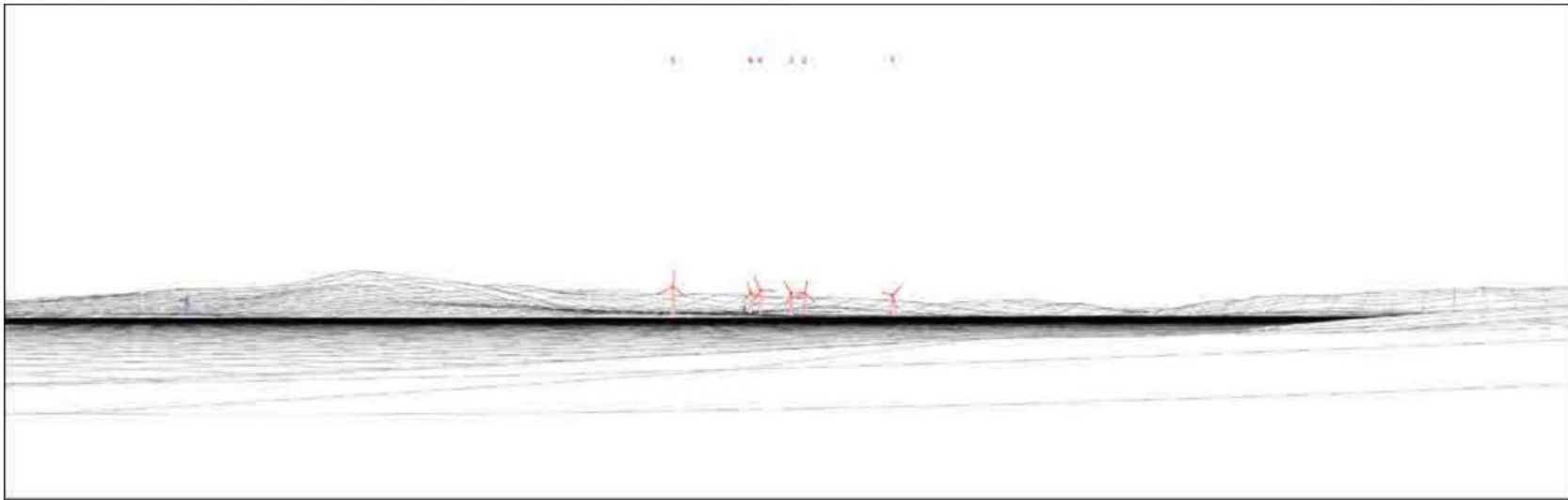


Please note

The next few boards contain wireframe visualisations of how the developments may look along with photos of the site at present.

Wireframe visualisations can only provide an indication of what could be experienced in reality. They are tools in the impact assessment process but are independent from it. They illustrate the likely change in view and, as such, to fully understand the likely changes they need to be used in conjunction with site visits and should be considered in the context of the totality of views experienced from the viewpoint and not just focussed on the proposed turbines.

All wireframes are prepared to be technically correct at a specific viewing distance that recreates the correct perspective geometry of the view available from the viewpoint. To accurately recreate this using the printed page is difficult, particularly as the flat page does not conform easily to the biconvex lens of the human eye. As such they should simply be **viewed at a comfortable arm's length and with the page flat.**



Balfour Castle to Quanterness

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 5,621 m

Turbine Tip Height: 150m

Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

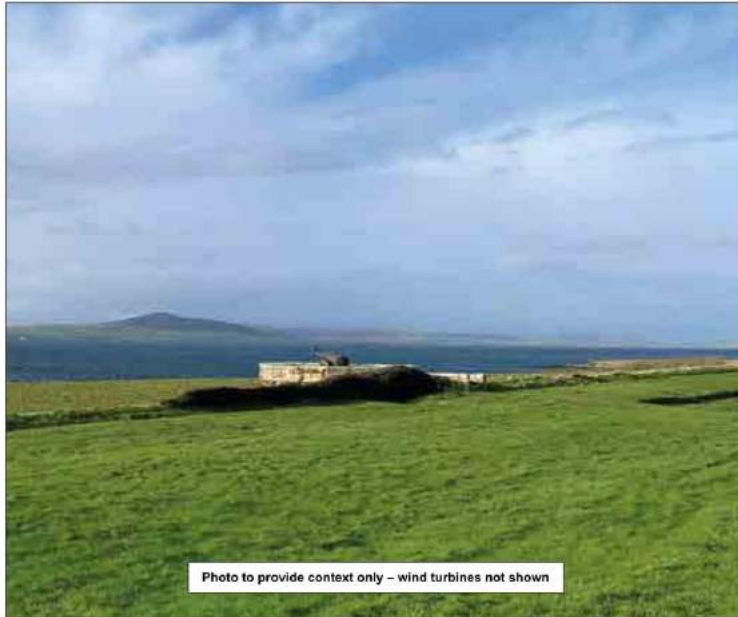
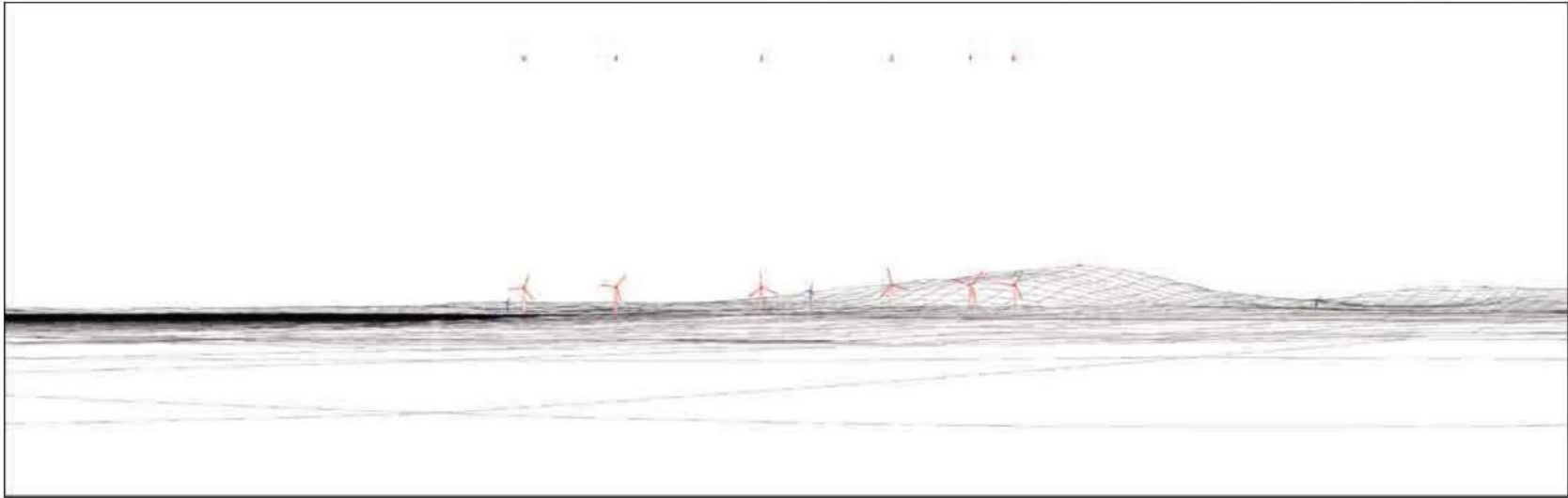


Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown





**A966
to
Quanterness**

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 5,244 m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m

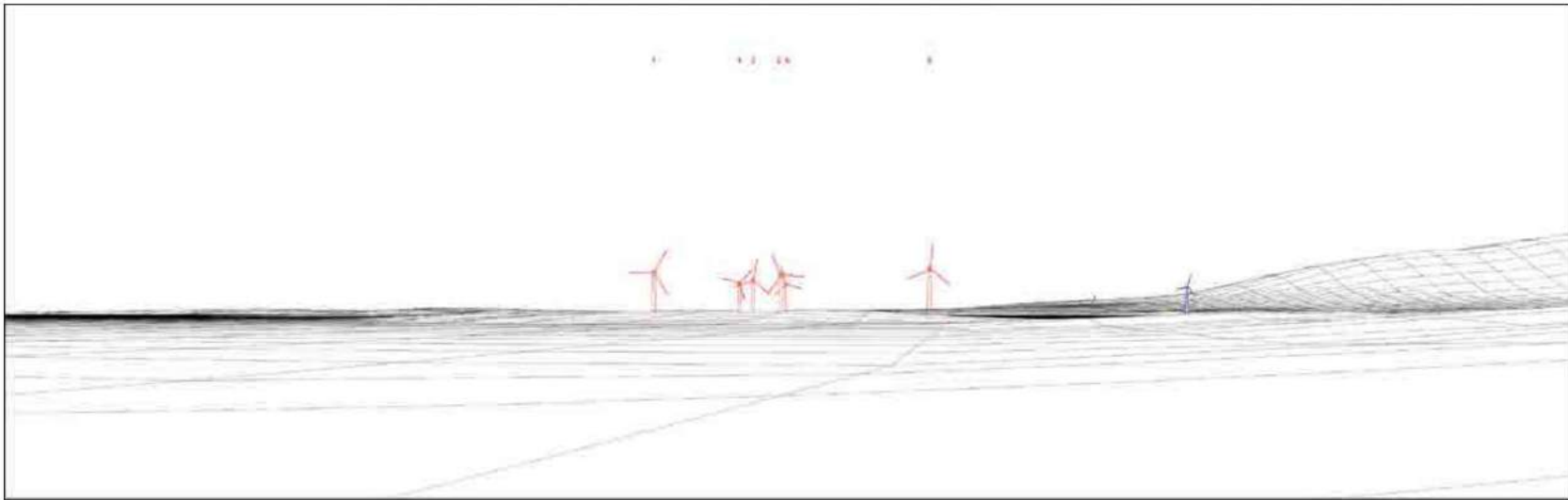


Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project



Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown





A965 to Quanterness

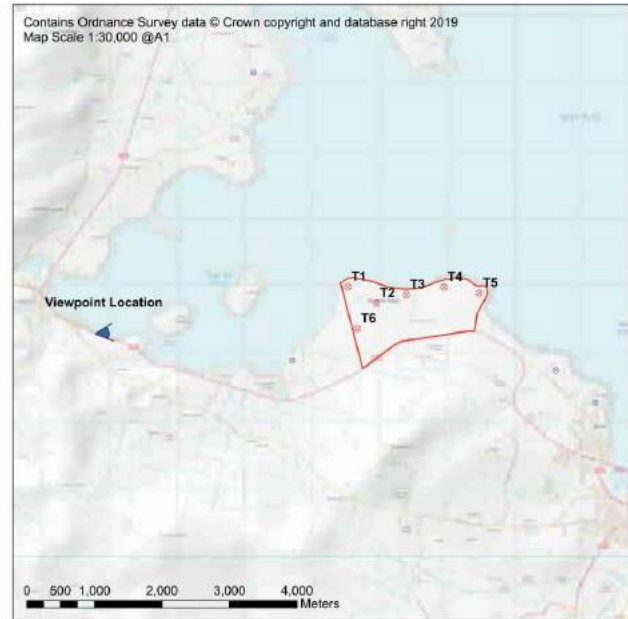
Distance to Nearest Turbine: 3,808 m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m

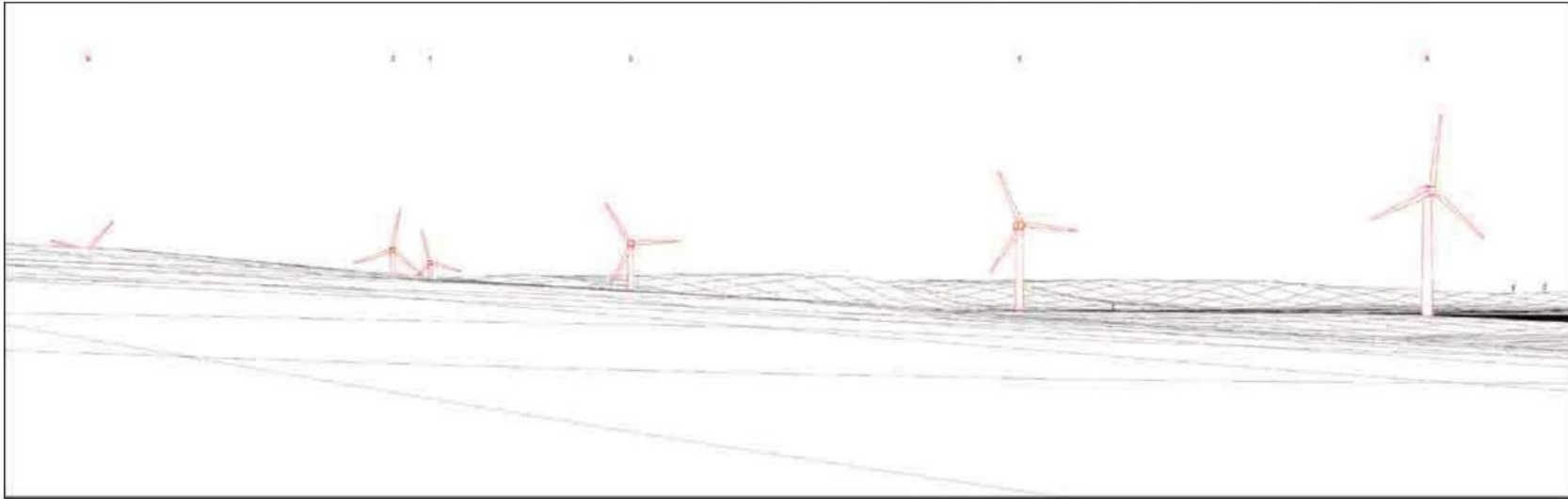


Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project



Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown





Kirkwall West to Quanterness

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 1,246 m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m

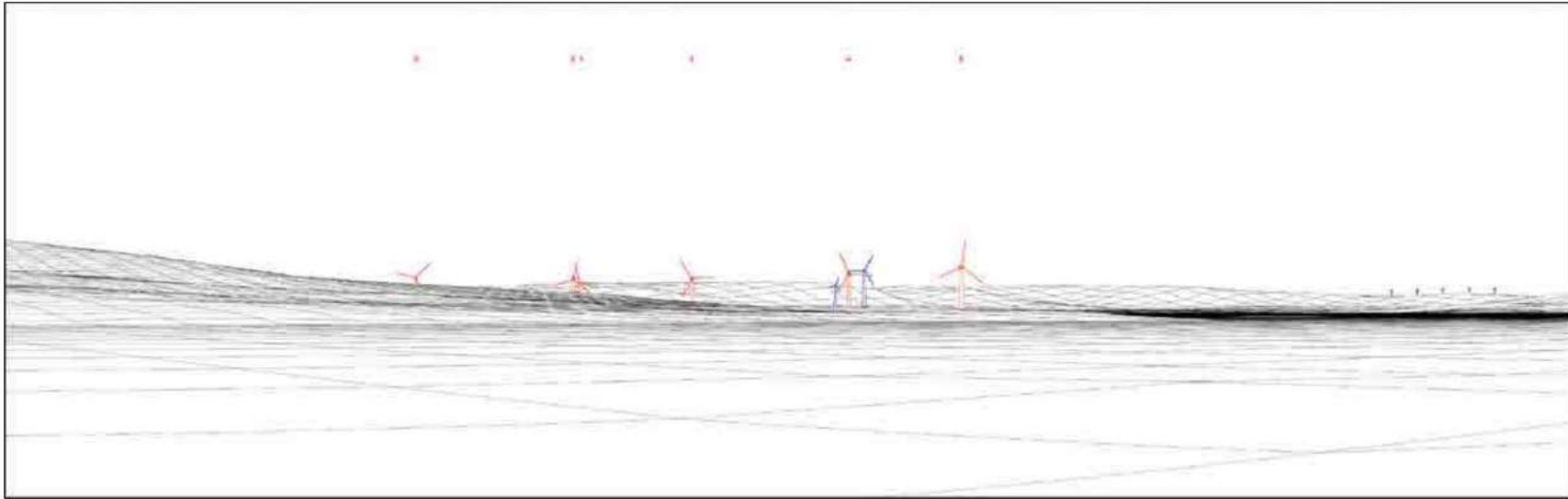


Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project



Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown





Kirkwall Central to Quanterness

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 3,618 m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

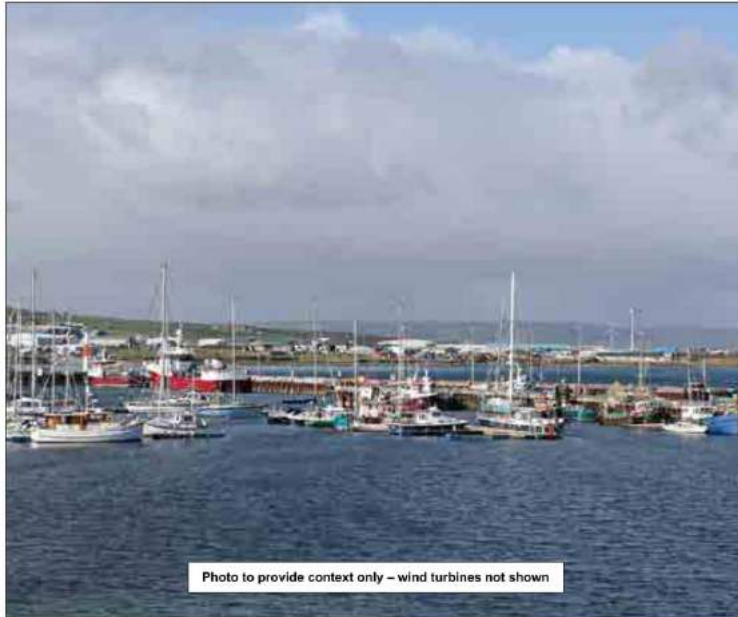


Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown





Noltland Castle to Faray

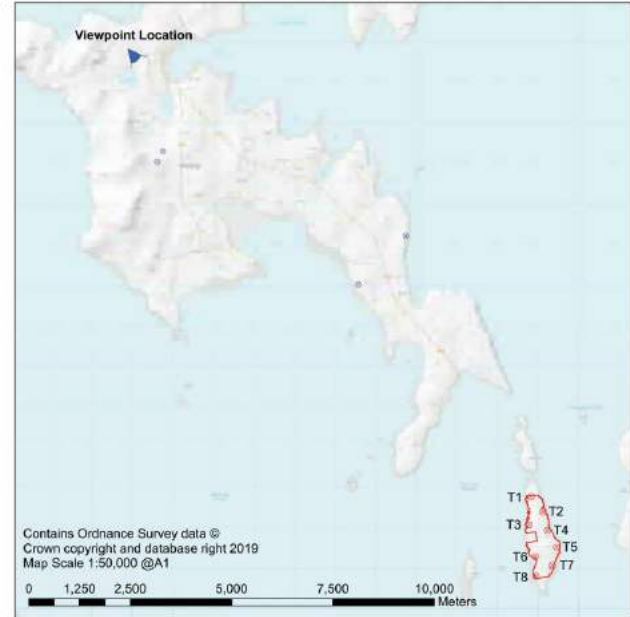
Distance to Nearest Turbine: 14,878m

Turbine Tip Height: 150m

Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project





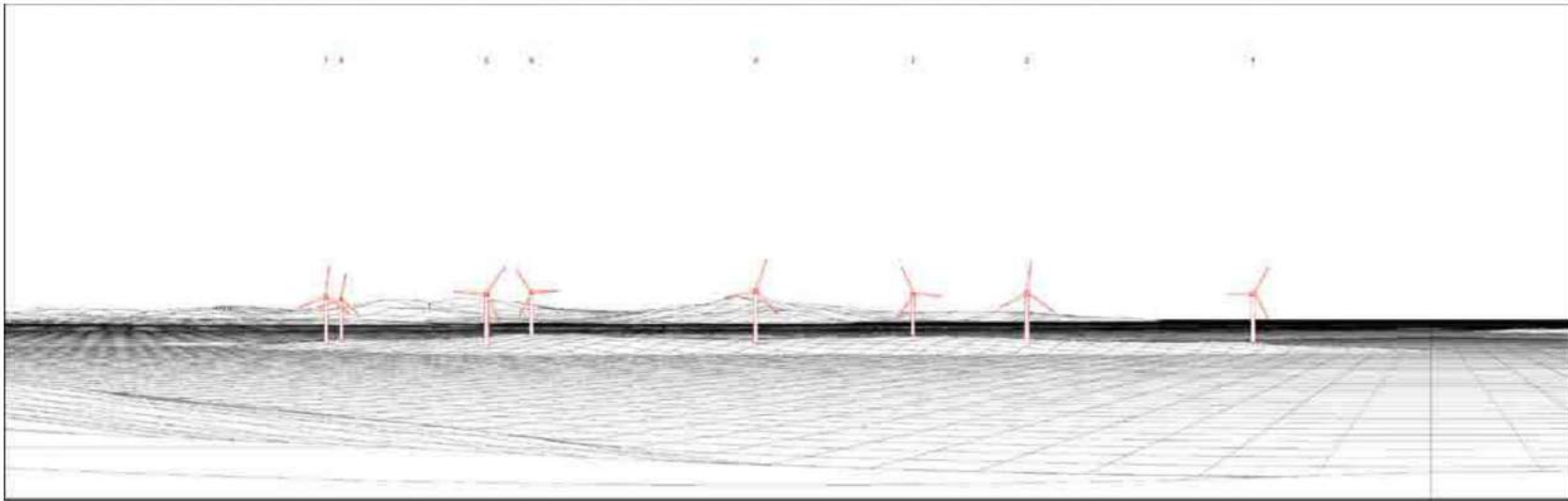
Westray Ferry Terminal to Faray

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 3,406 m
Turbine Tip Height: 150m
Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project





Vinquoy Hill to Faray

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 2,920m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

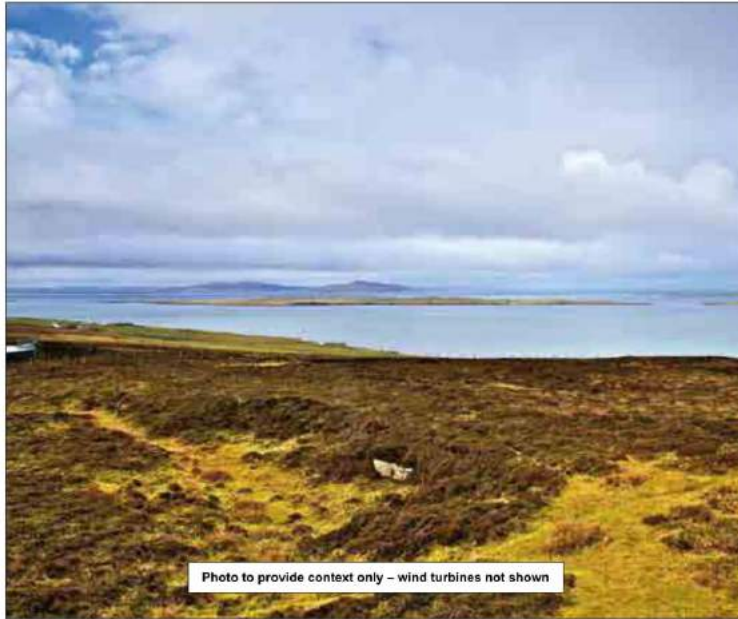
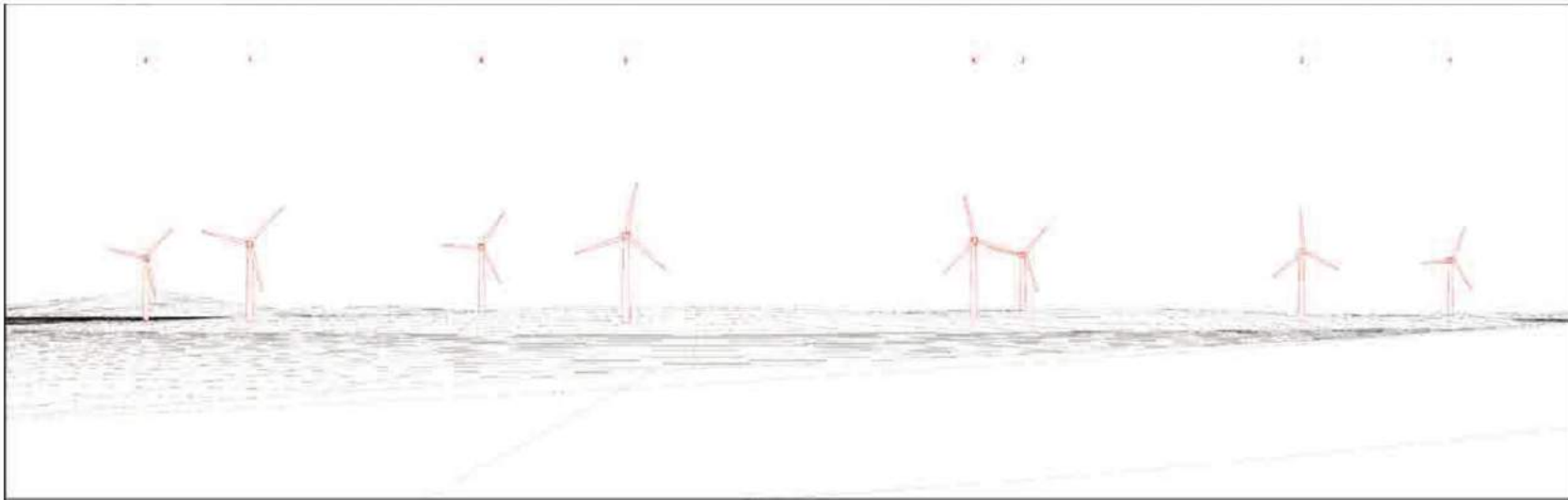


Photo to provide context only - wind turbines not shown





Guith to Faray

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 1,739 m

Turbine Tip Height: 150m

Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m

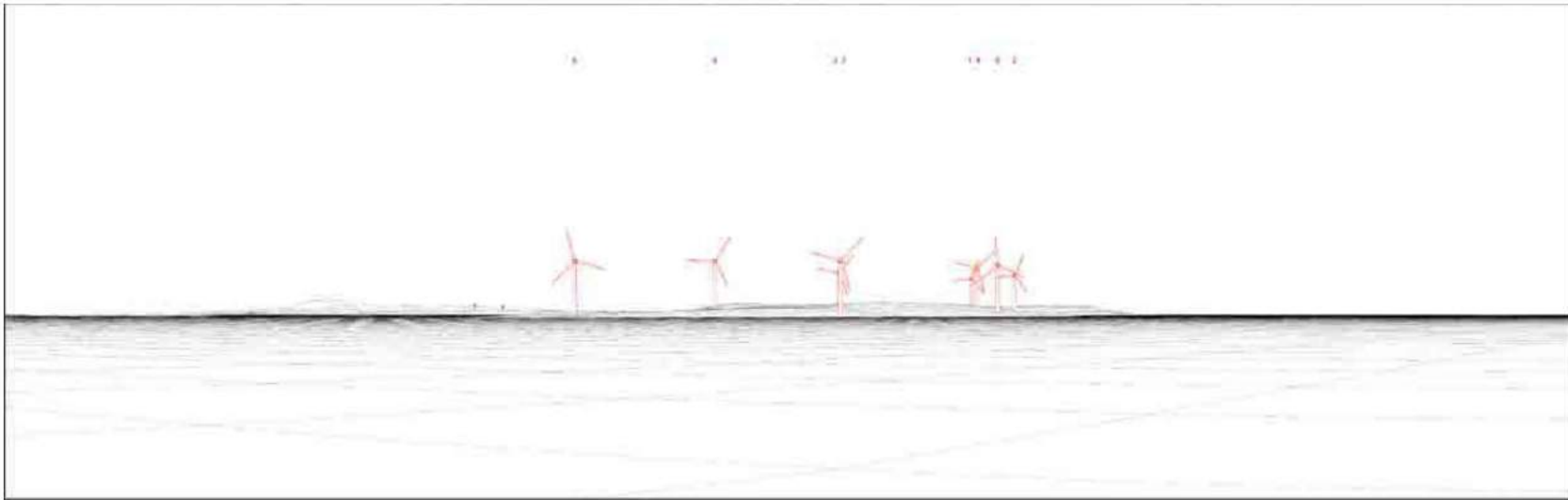


Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project



Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown



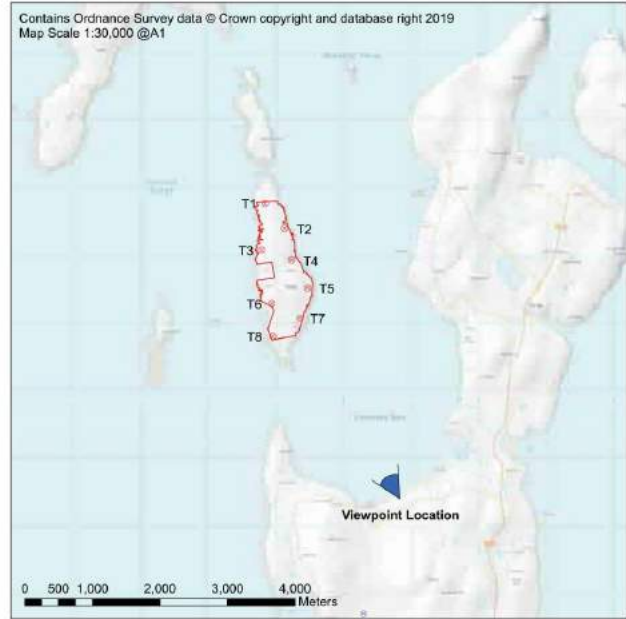
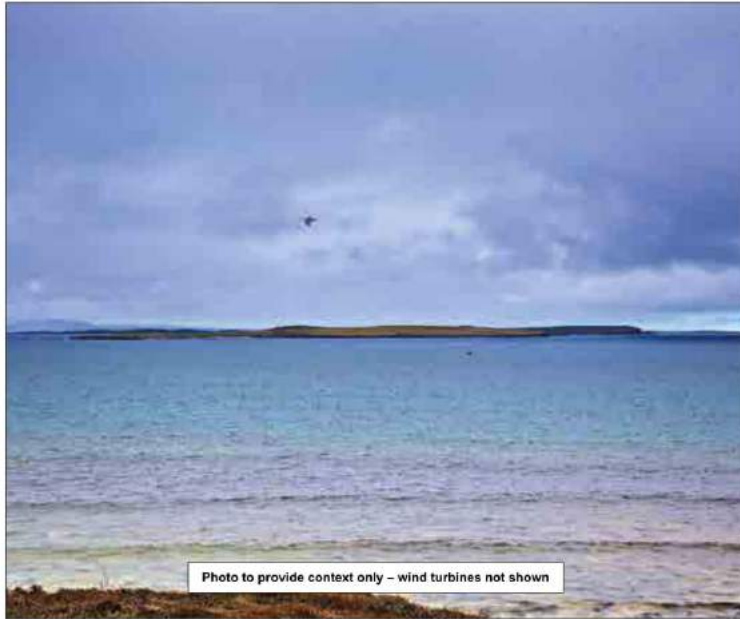


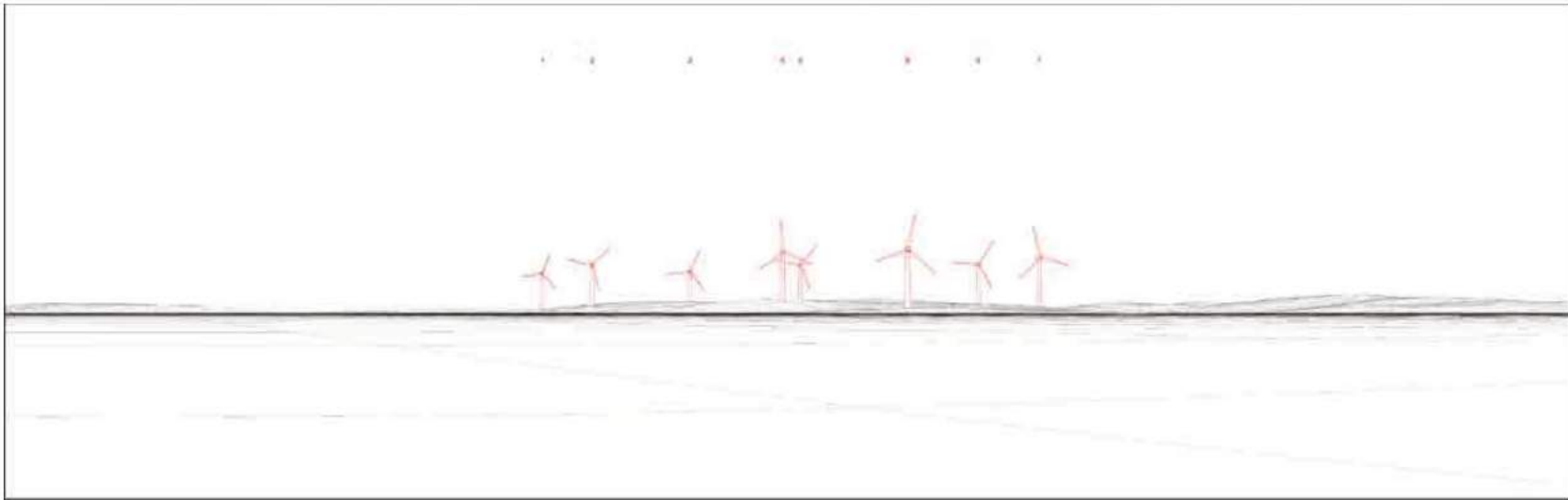
Sands of Mussetter to Faray

Distance to Nearest Turbine: 3,039m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project





A View from the Ferry towards Faray

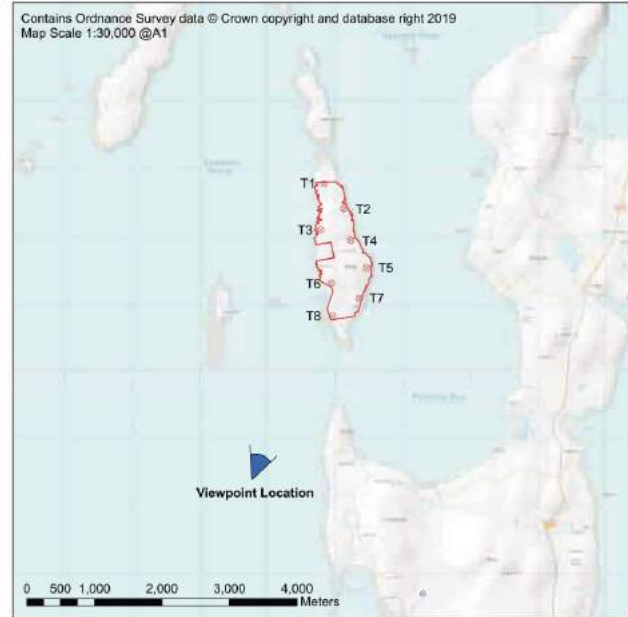
Distance to Nearest Turbine: 2,657m
 Turbine Tip Height: 150m
 Turbine Hub Height: 92.5m



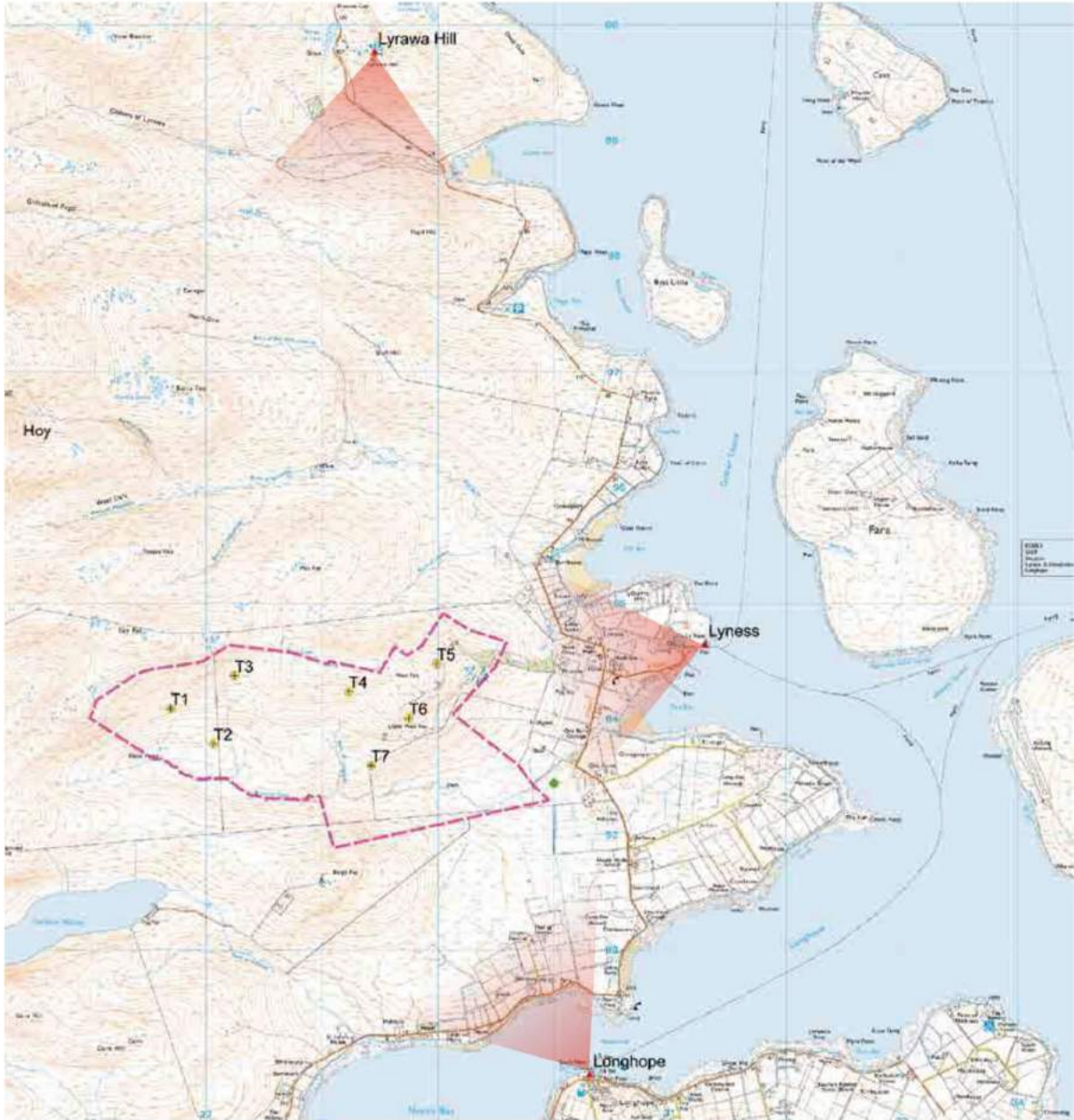
Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project



Photo to provide context only – wind turbines not shown



Hoy Proposed Layout



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- Site boundary
- Proposed turbine layout
- Existing 900kW turbine
- ▲ Viewpoint location

0 0.5 1 1.5 2 km



Hoy - Latest Design December 2018

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Longhope Pier



Turbine Tip Height 150m Turbine Hub Height 92m

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyness Pier



Turbine Tip Height 150m Turbine Hub Height 92m

View to Hoy Wind Farm from Lyrawa Hill



Turbine Tip Height 150m Turbine Hub Height 92m

Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

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What's happening next?



Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project

Appendix 14 – Feedback form from May/June/August Public Information Days and staff information session

Introduction

This Appendix displays the consultation form which was distributed at the above events for the Proposed Development in May, June and August 2019. The questions relate to Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project as a whole, including the Proposed Developments on Quanterness and Faray. Attendees were asked to return the completed forms, with the option of including their names and contact details.

Consultation Form

Orkney's Community Wind Farms Consultation Event – May 2019

Thank you for attending today's event. As part of today's session, we're keen to gather your views on the project proposal and get a steer from you on how you'd like to receive updates on the project in future.



We'll always treat your information with respect. All responses are for data analysis purpose or for future communications on this specific project, will be kept confidential and will not be shared. If you'd rather not hear from us or do not want us to hold this information anymore, then you contact us at communications@orkney.gov.uk

1. Are you in support of the project proposals in Hoy?

Yes	
No	
I am undecided yet.	
Additional comments	

2. Are you in support of the project proposals in Faray?

Yes	
No	
I am undecided yet.	
Additional comments	

3. Are you in support of the project proposals at Quanterness?

Yes	
No	
I am undecided yet.	
Additional comments	

4. Which area of Orkney do you live in?

Kirkwall East or Kirkwall West and Orphir.	
Stromness and the South Isles.	
West Mainland.	
East Mainland, Burray and South Ronaldsay.	
North Isles.	

I don't live in Orkney.	
-------------------------	--

5. **What do you see as the positives of Orkney's Community Wind Farm project?**
6. **What concerns do you have about Orkney's Community Wind Farm project?**
7. **Is there other information you feel you need on the project?**
8. **We want to keep in touch with the community as the project progresses – what's the best way to do this?**
9. **Do you have any other comments you wish to make?**

Name and contact details if you wish to include them:

Appendix 15 – Responses received at May/June/August Public Information Days and staff information session

Introduction

This Appendix contains a table showing the number of responses to a set of questions regarding Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project asked during the above events in May and June 2019, and the later OIC Staff event held in August 2019.

Questions and Response Category	Response Numbers and Percentages											
	Kirkwall	%	Eday	%	Rendall	%	Westray	%	OIC Staff	%	Overall	%
	Question 1 - Are you in support of the project proposals in Hoy.											
Yes	27	72.97	12	57.14	14	63.64	12	92.31	25	83.33	90	72.58
No	2	5.41	1	4.76	2	9.09	0	-	4	3.33	9	7.26
I am undecided yet	9	23.68	8	38.10	6	27.27	1	7.69	1	13.33	28	20.16
Question 2 - Are you in support of the project proposals in Faray?												
Yes	30	78.95	12	57.14	13	59.09	12	92.31	23	76.67	90	72.58
No	2	5.41	3	14.29	4	18.18	0	-	1	3.33	10	8.06
I am undecided yet.	6	16.22	6	28.57	5	22.73	1	7.69	6	20.00	24	19.35
Question 3 - Are you in support of the project proposals at Quanterness?												
Yes	23	60.53	13	61.90	11	50	11	84.62	22	73.33	80	64.52
No	6	15.79	1	4.76	6	27.27	1	7.69	2	6.67	16	12.90
I am undecided yet	9	23.68	7	33.33	5	22.73	1	7.69	6	20.00	28	22.58
Which area of Orkney do you live in?												

Questions and Response Category	Response Numbers and Percentages											
	Kirkwall	%	Eday	%	Rendall	%	Westray	%	OIC Staff	%	Overall	%
	Kirkwall East or Kirkwall West and Orphir	21	55.26	0	-	1	4.55	0	-	9	30.00	31
Stromness and the South Isles	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	3	10.00	3	2.42
West Mainland	5	1316	0	-	19	86.36	0	-	8	26.67	32	25.81
East Mainland, Burray and South Ronaldsay	11	28.95	0	-	0	-	0	-	9	30.00	20	16.13
North Isles	0	-	19	90.48	1	4.55	13	100	1	3.33	34	27.42
I don't live in Orkney.	0	-	2	9.52	1	4.55	0	-	0	-	3	2.42
Not answered.	1	2.63	0	-	0	-	0	-	0	-	1	0.81

Appendix 16 – Qualitative Responses received at May/June/August Public Information Days and staff information session

Introduction

This Appendix displays the public responses to specific questions asked about Orkney’s Community Wind Farm Project, during the Launch Events held in May 2019 and during the OIC Staff drop in sessions in August 2019. Responses are separated and coloured differently between Kirkwall, Eday, Rendall, Westray, and OIC Staff.

Question 1 – Are you in support of the proposals in Hoy?
Kirkwall Responses
<p>In principle support renewable energy including wind energy but think it is important to minimis impact of both wind farms and cables. That is, visual impact, environmental impact and archaeological impact. Tourism is the second largest industry – do visitors want to see the infrastructure. I would welcome the burying of the cables wherever possible.</p> <p>The benefits outweigh the negatives.</p> <p>Engage with the community and encourage partnership investment from local development trust, residents and individuals.</p> <p>Providing it benefits the people of Orkney, charities etc., foodbanks no more.</p> <p>Complete waste of resources.</p> <p>The benefit from this must go to Hoy and not sidelined to other parts of Orkney.</p> <p>Concerns over size, infrastructure, OFGEM response, trident lines, disturbance, environmental issues, awareness of all effects.</p> <p>Hopefully not in Lyness</p>
Eday Responses
<p>If it is successful financially it should provide some cash for OIC</p> <p>Ring fence % of funding for immediate local benefit (e.g. Hoy) - if suffer pain locals get the gain</p> <p>As long as environmental issues are taken into account</p>

Rendall Responses

Close to upland and protected areas (comment based on being undecided)

Difficult site, steep ground, access, maintenance, distance from connection, wildlife disturbance, visual impact.

Would like to know why if they could all be located in one place i.e. Hoy surely this would be more economical cost wise to erect them

Concerned about wildlife and visual impact

Appears to be a good spot

Good area for turbines

WESTRAY RESPONSES

Should have started 15 years ago

Firmly in favour of local area investment (including councils in exploiting a valuable natural resource)

This is not in my local area so I don't feel I can vote

Huge support - definitely - should be 2x size of what's proposed

OIC STAFF RESPONSES

Hoy is quite separate and protected (*had said they weren't in support*).

On the basis that Lyness or Longhope would be foreground for many visitors – both already an industrial or built up landscape/view (*had said they were in support*)

In isolation I've no objection but there are many current and proposed developments and it's important to be aware of them all.

Good site due to distance from communities.

Seems to be a good site and an obvious choice for a wind farm outside the obvious bird/wildlife issues

I don't have a problem with wind turbine farms however undecided yet

I appreciate this may have an impact on wildlife however a smaller scale development may be required

Against the height of the windmills and the visual impact.

Question 2 – Are you in support of the proposals in Faray?

Kirkwall Responses

In principle support renewable energy including wind energy but think it is important to minimise impact of both wind farms and cables. That is, visual impact, environmental impact and archaeological impact. Tourism is the second largest industry – do visitors want to see the infrastructure. I would welcome the burying of the cables wherever possible.

The benefits outweigh the negatives

Should also build causeways between Eday and Westray and install tidal turbines.

Engage with the community and encourage partnership investment from local development trust, groups, residents and individuals.

I was born on the south end of Westray and looked across to Faray every day and visited it when populated.

As long as it doesn't affect wildlife and views

Complete waste of resources.

Concerned about the extra costs of subsea cables from Faray – would this make it economically unviable.

Concerns over size, infrastructure, OFGEM response, trident lines, disturbance, environmental issues, awareness of all effects.

Seal disturbance during construction and maintenance.

Please leave remnants of dwellings in place and respect the graveyard

Eday Responses

If it is successful financially it should provide some cash for OIC - if something goes wrong on Hoy or Quanterness hopefully another site will still be functioning

Ring fence % of funding for immediate local benefit (e.g. Eday) - if suffer pain locals get the gain

As long as environmental issues are taken into account

Conditional on benefits dedicated to Eday

Still too many unknowns

Would lower the value of our property that looks onto Faray and is going to stop us building our dream home.

It would lower the value of our property and is stopping us from building our dream home. We are thinking of selling

Rendall Responses

Need to understand more about the electrical connection, cable routes, substation location etc. to be able to access the project in the round.

Expensive/distance from connection/wildlife disturbance

It will completely ruin our unspoilt views of the Northern Isles – imagine looking at the Northern Isles with the massive turbines in the forefront and very concerned that residents in Eday, Sanday, Stronsay and Westray do not realise the full impact this will have on their everyday lives

Concerned about wildlife impacts

Cost of putting them there will be more

Doesn't cost me personally and with no-one living in Faray – little visual impact

Good use of the island

WESTRAY RESPONSES

In many ways an ideal location to use

Firmly in favour of local area investment (including councils in exploiting a valuable natural resource)

Mystified as to financial viability.

STAFF RESPONSES

Against the height of the windmills and the visual impact

This is an ideal location

I don't have a problem with wind turbine farms however undecided yet

Seems a good site, as benign agricultural land and is sure to offer good wind yield

Need to work with Eday residents on the west side of the islands to support the changes to their visual environment

In isolation I've no objection but there are many current and proposed developments and it's important to be aware of them all

It's an untouched island – just sentimental I suppose. Would like more info about footprint on landscape at tend of life

If financially viable

Question 3 – Are you in support of the proposals at Quanterness?

Kirkwall Responses

In principle support renewable energy including wind energy but think it is important to minimise impact of both wind farms and cables. That is, visual impact, environmental impact and archaeological impact. Tourism is the second largest industry – do visitors want to see the infrastructure. I would welcome the burying of the cables wherever possible.

I would be very much affected by the visual appearance.

Residents' concerns re shadow flicker and low intensity noise must be addressed. Visually more intrusive on landscape?

Invite partnership investment from local groups, residents and individuals to build local support and buy-in.

On the hillside preferably and not on seaside.

Complete waste of resources.

It would be better to have a group than the single one that is there.

Concerned about the view up the Firth.

Concerns over size, infrastructure, OFGEM response, trident lines, disturbance, environmental issues, awareness of all effects.

Too near main road and harbor Kirkwall

Eday Responses

Hopefully a wind farm there would be used for some council property projects.

Ring fence % of funding for immediate local benefit (e.g. Finstown) - if suffer pain locals get the gain

As long as environmental issues are taken into account

Rendall Responses

Visual aspect tolerable but extra visual aspect of power lines – not good – underground cable preferable.

How can the OIC even contemplate spoiling our beautiful Kirkwall bay – oh bonny Kirkwall bay. First impression is a lasting impression. Same as the lack of grass cutting – do you really care about Orkney and its residents.

High visual impact but minimal wildlife or environmental impact

Vast visual impact – unsure if this is the best spot for the project. Recognise the pressure on space

It would spoil the view of Rendall for the tourists driving out from Kirkwall.

WESTRAY RESPONSES

I think there are better places

This is not my local area so don't feel I can vote but I support in principle

Firmly in favour of local area investment (including councils in exploiting a valuable natural resource)

STAFF RESPONSES

Potentially the most likely to have a negative visual impact for most people

Again this is (for majority of people) a built up landscape (Hatston/Finstown). Also seems to be logistically more likely to deliver benefits at less cost/outlay to the council (and ultimately the community).

Again, need to spend time with any local person who has concerns about visual or other impact and listen to them.

Obvious visual impacts to overcome both in terms of satisfying locals but also visitors alike

I don't have a problem with wind turbine farms however undecided yet.

Again, I believe this is an ideal location

Worried about the effect it will have on tourism as it is near where all the cruise ships arrive.

Against the height of the windmills and the visual impact – area is too flat for the height of the windmills

Question 5 – What do you see as the positives of Orkney’s Community Wind Farm project

Kirkwall Responses

OIC will receive funds to go towards community projects etc. OIC may be able to use the electricity directly from the Quanterness project. Orkney will contribute to the reduction in greenhouse gases therefore towards halting climate change (in a small way).

I know what I’ve been told but I have yet to see if the benefits materialize – the proof of a pudding is in the eating.

Financial resourcing of essential services.

As a source of income from outwith the islands.

Better for the community as a whole not just those who own land or have the money.

Wide county benefit – funds to protect services and address fuel poverty.

Renewable energy – the way forward. Income for Orkney to hold/reduce community charge for the future.

Reduction in carbon footprint (less fossil fuel use). Hopefully cheaper electricity and a reduction in fuel poverty. Needed to ensure new cable, more electric vehicles.

Generates money for OIC and green energy.

To benefit all in Orkney, to reduce our rates, to stamp out poverty in Orkney – no more food banks. Reduce our electricity bills, possibly by seeing what our bill is.

Resilience. Monies for local amenities and services. HVD sea link.

Use the significant wind resource for benefit of people of Orkney, rather than generating profit for external investors.

Making use of a plentiful resource and seeing it progress further in the future to benefit all of Orkney would be good to see all of Orkney people get a chance to invest om council run units even if they don't have land to build their own.

Cleaner air

I like to see Orkney contributing to reducing carbon emissions and doing as much as we can on that front. For me the overriding benefits are the renewable energy benefits and reduced reliance on fossil fuels but the monetary gain for local benefit is a bonus.

Economic benefit if local companies involved.

None

Economic in terms of employment and community interests – including possible revenue for the areas.

Local financial benefit to offset the local disadvantages.

Local choice about the best place to build turbines – allows a more strategic approach to siting.

The community must benefit economically. The money must be ploughed back into local projects – I suggest community engagement is used to select those benefitting.

Council run so financial benefit comes to the council and community.

Climate change – if sea level rises as predicted much of Orkney as well as many other places worldwide will be submerged.

Orkney is already at the forefront of renewables – could be used as a tourist attraction.

I am not against renewables and can see benefits for the environment – think more can be done to look at alternative sources than wind farms.

Support financially to local charities.

Financial benefits to be used locally

Reducing carbon footprint and keeping the money generated in the community

Community benefit, people of Orkney feel that at last they are getting something out of the proliferation of turbines in Orkney.

A chance to harness some of our 'spare wind' to help reduce the fuel poverty in Orkney, also keeping ahead in the wind game worldwide.

Orkney producing more renewable energy and helping in the fight against climate change

Give enough baseline (with other projects) to cement Orkney as a renewable energy leader for a generation. Opportunity for people of Orkney to benefit economically.

Local income for the OIC etc.

Positive if it brings some finance into Orkney for the benefit of Orcadians

Potential to promote an income to council to safeguard and extend services.

Eday Responses

More financial security for OIC

Income for the North Isles

Make money for the Council. There are lots of demand on council money and extra cash would be good

Benefit the environment and reduce carbon in air. Help finance OIC. Help to make Orkney self-sufficient in electricity as long as the wind blows

Cash

Enables OIC to become more resistant.

Allocations ring fenced for isles could give guaranteed benefit to local isles (Hoy, Eday, Finstown)

Reducing our carbon footprint.

Revenue for our council for local services

Reduce Orkney's carbon footprint

Revenue for the council for local services

Reducing our carbon footprint, income for council to improve local services

Earning money for Orkney

Will bring in additional revenue that can be spent on EDAY'S infrastructure

Important that some element of community benefit is ringfenced for EDAY

Contribution to reducing carbon footprint

Carbon reduction

Income source

I can see the money generated would benefit Orkney but the Council don't spend it in the right way

None

Generate income for island projects

More money for new projects and services

Producing renewable power. The possibility of providing income for the Council. Possibility of reducing carbon usage

Green agenda, generating income for our community

Rendall Responses

Will keep revenue in Orkney

Job creation for OIC

An element of local input to project planning. An element of local control. Local employment. A revenue stream.

Benefit local community – community fund and jobs using our own ‘home grown power’.

All we have been told is that it will be spent on ‘services’, we need to know which services you are talking about.

Community benefits – protecting services

Community benefit essential - has been lacking so far

Good for the environment

Monies can come back to the wider community for essential services

Benefits financially

Income for Orkney and unlimited renewable energy

Boosts income and reduces overheads for OIC to allow to spend money on services

Enables the interconnector cable which could otherwise be delayed for years, open up possibility of further wind/tidal etc.

Community benefits – protecting services

Oli revenues have greatly benefited Orkney since 1976. Oil and gas supplies are getting less. Green renewable energy, climate change is now being discussed mainstream. Orkney is a windy place, a good place for wind turbines to operate efficiently.

Maintaining Orkney's technical leadership, income generation, reliable technology

Income for local community

Hopefully cheaper power and lower council tax

Money for OIC

None

None

WESTRAY RESPONSES

Positive if Orkney people at large can benefit

Use some of Orkney's past reserves to make money. It's a proven technology which pays even when there is significantly less wind.

Get a new cable. Potential to generate income.

Money being generated will stay in the county

Environmental benefits and carbon reduction. Community income, benefit to council services. Fair use of local wind resources - as opposed to private developers at Orkney's expense.

Making use of a natural resource in wind (and others e.g. wave and tidal)

Financial cushion for OIC - help to protect services

Good council investment with positive outcomes for communities - prevention of council cuts.

Income for Orkney

Income and jobs for Orkney

Increased income and expenditure on Orkney communities: - hopefully leading to services that have been reduced being reinstated.

Increased and sustainable income for OIC, argument for increased grid capacity and new cable, more renewable energy is always good, hopefully expand into fuel, transport and heating.

Money – jobs

STAFF RESPONSES

Obviously the environmental aspect but whether it weighs up against how it will change the landscape in Orkney!

Bring economic benefit to the community

Hopefully open up the new cable

Money for community development projects

Community benefits

Local control

Helping reduce Orkney's carbon footprint

Possibly moving the general opinion of the population towards thinking greener

Future proofing and sustaining income generation for OIC to support and develop services for all in Orkney

Community benefit on hopefully a grand scale. Important boost to the case for a new Orkney – Scottish mainland electricity link. Opportunity to contribute significant amount of renewable energy, reducing need for energy from fossil fuels

Stop using oil

Decarbonisation

Helping bring about a better grid connection

Income generating

Possible tourism attraction especially Faray – seal watching, untouched island.

Economics

Progress to counteract current and future climate issues

Community benefits

Carbon free energy, financial income to OIC

Reduce carbon emissions

Support for council funding – less need for cuts

Clear economic benefit for Orkney and the community here – able to reduce cuts to services.

Environmental benefits – move towards reduction in carbon

Access to interconnector to export our energy, support for Council service costs. Need to do all we can to address the climate crisis (top priority)

Community ownership of wind farm asset, potential to see real direct social benefit and infrastructure that will open up further renewable development

Future of Orkney

Assist towards needs case for new grid connection

If a community benefit pot of funds being set up and distributed for local community benefits. Income being used by OIC to fund recycling

Funding back to the community

Income for the council/community

Funding to maintain council services, the community benefit from private developers is very limited.

The case for the new connector cable

With cutbacks of funding for services in Orkney by the Scottish Government this would be a good way to fund the gap

To generate money for OIC

Job creation/income

The project will allow for the increase in power generation in Orkney. It can only benefit Orkney for the future and the generation to come

Generate money to protect and enhance public services, improve renewable supply

Get the cable over the line

Maximise local benefit

Community benefit, low carbon approach

Income for additional services or projects in our community – cable to enable more benefits

Community benefits

IF the new connection to mainland Scotland is approved it will bring income to the islands and hopefully help address fuel poverty

Question 6 – What concerns do you have about Orkney’s community wind farm project?

Kirkwall Responses

Cables should be underground, visual impact in the flat Orkney landscape is a particular worry, both the wind farms (wind generators) but also the cables linking wind farms to substations etc. The suggested size of the poles to carry the cables across the landscape are large and very high (several double decker buses).

The visual impact outweighs any hoped for benefits.

The third cable is not given permission to go ahead.

It’s not supported by OFGEM etc.

If we (Orkney) does get the estimated millions it is squirrelled away in the Council’s coffers and kept for a rainy day or used in grandiose scheme on strategic projects/

None in the main, slight concerns re Quanterness and effect visually on landscape and Hatston residents (shadow flicker/noise).

Aesthetic

Ensuring community buy-in

None – OIC should have been involved at the start of wind farms.

Spoiling Orkney scenery and wildlife

Public perception, sea colony on Faray.

That the proposals get diluted. That external large developers get the sites, should be for community welfare, adding to or replacing oil fund.

None at this stage

Mostly in relation to the potential impacts on the grey seal SAC on Faray/Holm of Faray. However having spoken to one of the technical experts she allayed some of those concerns or at least gave me a better understanding of the process involved and some of the challenges the development faces.

Environmental damage and financially questionable

The visual impact and negative aspects with regards to tourism.

The developments may be done less efficiently than with a private developer.

That the economic benefits will be siphoned off to council pet projects and not to go the local and smaller community projects.

Doesn't happen. Quanterness – a concern here being on the shore and affecting the view. Would prefer them up the hill.

I am surprised at the speed of this consultation – many folk will be unaware of today's meeting or unable to come.

Visual effects

Increasing number of turbines and infrastructure ruining the Orkney landscape and wildlife

The long timescale to go generating power and income.

Turbines are big obviously those close by will not be happy about them.

That the construction work is handles in a sensitive nature, regarding the seals at Faray. Keep pushing for the HVDC link

The trident type poles are not very pretty.

Eyesores to the landscape

Whilst in favour of renewable energy I'm concerned about the impact of wind farms and transmission lines on the environment of Orkney and the viability of core businesses such as tourism. What effect will income from windfarms have on annual block grant from Scottish Government.

Eday Responses

Need to ensure Eday gets the largest share of community fund. It will have the biggest impact and it's also in the parish

I would like to have some assurance that Eday would benefit from the Faray project

None really

Many people think that it will spoil the view, flickering, cost - try not to borrow too much, Faray is difficult to access

Poor execution

Ringfenced funds would encourage locals to approve the idea in recognition that those in pain are getting the gain.

As long as the environment is taken care of

Impact on the local eco-systems is considered

Visual impact and impact it has on natural environment

How will the money be spent?

It will have considerable visual impact on west side of Eday. The management of community benefit must be done appropriately.

That any income generated will pass Eday by - what is the benefit for THIS island. We seem to have a lot of projects (2 x potential wind farms plus EMEC site) which impact us and we're only a small island

Visual impact - now opportunities for local involvement in design, construction and maintenance

Spoiling the natural beauty of these islands

Where does it end, its spoiling the beauty of Orkney? It will happen anyway as you don't give a **** about the people it will affect

Sight of massive things

No concerns

Pharey is in the parish of Eday and Pharey and should get a good chunk of the money

Visual impact on those nearest - will the economies work out

Effect on wildlife, visual impact

Rendall Responses

How will revenue benefit everyone?

The public are consistently against large turbines.

High risk investment

OIC poor record in running business

Totally at odds with the Landscape Capacity report.

If it serves to enable the SSE 220 mW link it potentially opens the door to a greater volume of non-community and non-local projects, which I believe would be hugely divisive. Orkney needs a new grip link but I do not think the present process of fitting projects to the link, rather than vice-versa is a sensible way forward.

Disturbance to wildlife, spoiling visual landscape.

That their locations are very worrying and will spoil our beautiful islands forever.

Environmental and wildlife impacts – concerned about power lines linking sites

Just objections from others

Keeping it Orcadian and not swallowed up by multi-national companies

Need to balance benefits with visual impacts

Choosing the most suitable places. Balancing bird and wildlife sites with suitable sites for wind turbine requires consideration. Appreciation for and against a site etc.

We need to retain local technicians on RE systems, security of the new substation – enemy and terrorism targets

Visual impact

Quanterness project and visual impact on potential site

None

Orkney as an island is not big enough to absorb such a project

That it is unaffordable to people as an investment

WESTRAY RESPONSES

It seems by information received that at this moment in time we are all needing more information on each site.

A bit late coming to the table. Hope OFGEM does not move the goalposts again

Cost - viability

My main concern will be that the farms will be located in rural areas and the money will be spent maintaining Kirkwall

I'm concerned that there may be opposition to the Quanterness proposal on the grounds of visual impact. I think we have to play our part to reduce global carbon output.

None

None

Risk of dividing communities

None

None

Impact on wildlife

That the capacity in Caithness is also not enough to sustain more energy leaving Orkney. Existing turbines that are curtailed won't benefit - several owned by community development trusts who have direct community benefit.

It'll take too long - I'll be dead before it happens

STAFF RESPONSES

Mainly the height of the windmills plus the pylons going to the sub-station

It may possibly have a detrimental effect on tourism which is also beneficial to the community

The visual impact and potential impacts on tourism

Environmental impact especially on Faray

Obviously you have the usual public who complain/live in the past but as far as I'm concerned up here in Orkney we are a hub of all things renewable and we all must make sacrifices

Visual impact of Quanterness project but this is likely to be outweighed by the positive nature of the project as a whole

Are we entering wind too late – should we be thinking of other renewables

Impact on sensitive environments, I personally don't mind the 'visual impact' aspect – at the end of the day there are temporary structures

Potential for huge negative visual impact

Logistics for delivering blades to Faray

Getting broader buy in from the local community

Resilience to change from the wider community – needs a very sharp and positive campaign on this

Not ambitious enough. It would be great to generate all our energy needs and phase out use of fossil fuels in Orkney

Potential technical risk of install on Faray (pier access), public NIMBY backlash against proposals

How many people will object from a visual reason only?

Nothing in particular but Quanterness will obviously be the one that will require most public buy-in

The uproar it could create to local communities during them being commissioned

Visual impact, possible effect on tourism (Quanterness), infrastructure

The business case, can it be viable against the expansion of off shore wind

Not many – I understand the visual impact argument and view but personally I don't mind how they look and they are only temporary (25 – 30 years). Benefits massively outweigh any negative impacts.

None

None

Don't have any

I have no major concerns. I fully support the introduction of wind farms as a method of generating energy for the future

Minority views/anti-wind lobby swaying opinion

OFGEM regulatory changes

Short term nature of government policy

Overhead infrastructure. Preferable if cables were underground while recognizing increase in cost implications

Visual and environmental impact

The appearance on the landscape

Question 7 – Is there any other information you feel you need on the project?

Kirkwall Responses

Better pictorial representations of the visual impact.

Not at the moment, plenty more will follow no doubt.

Updates as it progresses

Just keep the public updated as the project progresses

I would like to know possible costs and perhaps maximum output and income from the project. A guarantee from OIC that the income generated would be used to benefit the people of Orkney and not as a substitute for existing money.

Can individuals invest in this wind farm?

Information on all sites to be proposed and not just Quanterness and Faray.

Not at this stage, information at this event very comprehensive.

Infrastructure design, turbine maintenance, provision of local jobs.

None at the moment, and as I was told there will be more information as it develops.

Not at this stage.

As Chair of the Kirkwall and St Ola Community Council I hope to have a presentation on the proposed Quanterness project.

Alternative ways for Orkney to reduce its climate impact – such as low methane cattle husbandry or hydrogen ferries – to allow proposals to be compared.

There is scant information provided at the moment. What is needed? Costs of construction and decommissioning. How funds will be dispersed? Timeline.

Yes. I would need a core study of all the benefits (monetary/social etc.) that such windfarms would bring our community and study of all the other effects and impacts including tourism etc.

Interaction with wildlife on Faray

Details of the connectivity of those and other projects

Would be interested in receiving newsletters as project progresses

Just to be kept in touch

Connection arrangements

How will turbines be connected to grid – distribution or transmission connection)

Full financial case – cost of construction, repair, maintenance, loss of interest on current investment, forecast income (high and low), time to recoup capital investment, potential life span, high and low estimate of community benefit

Eday Responses

Can see the pluses and minuses

No

Starting and finishing dates, where are harbour facilities to be situated

No

Yes - per MW installed capacity payable to the Eday community from Faray turbine.

How will the decommissioning affect the Faray

Not at the moment, but when things progress there is a lot more information needed for residents that overlook Faray

On the formation of community benefit/fund management. On cost of project and amount to be requested from the Strategic Fund

How the planning will work given that it's a Council project - how can it be objective

How does this proposal link with the other one on Eday

What benefit will come to Eday?

How much does the council earn

Yes, please keep residents informed as surveys continue

Rendall Responses

That this is not just some fantastical ego trip by the political leadership of the OIC.

For each wind farm I would hope that public consultations cover the grid connection including overhead/underground lines, substation, access roads and all associated infrastructure so that we can assess and understand each project as a whole.

Keep in touch through regular local meetings/ face to face interaction. Give as full as picture as possible.

Cost of erecting turbines, how long they are under warranty, operating cost, insurance costs and how much money will each individual turbine make?

Would be good to have another meeting when more decisions have been made.

No – would like regular updates as to what’s happening

None at this time

Total cost

OIC has outlines their reasons which I agree with on principle. Consultation and public discussions along with environmental assessments will all be required.

Preferred location of transformer stations.

More information on potential costs, figures etc.

Finance, benefits, costs

In the future

WESTRAY RESPONSES

Data on Faray site, access etc.

No, most impressed with the information and the presentation

Yes, but at this stage it's always going to be hard

Very good information - thank you.

How the income will be spent

How curtailed turbines are going to be helped, how will this project impact smaller groups applications for smaller turbine (e.g. one turbine supplying heritage centre)

I have more land if you need it

STAFF RESPONSES

No it was all very informative

More information needed on the power lines that are going to carry power from the turbines to the substation. They may have a bigger impact on the landscape than the turbines

Just general updates on the progression of the projects as significant milestones come up

How areas will be returned/restored at the end of life

How green are the turbines before the blades start to turn. It would be good to know more about the materials used through the manufacturing process, transportation and erection of the turbines. What plans (if any) are in place to help generate jobs locally in relation to these proposals i.e. in terms of maintenance.

Some further financials may have been useful even as estimates at this stage

How will community benefit actually be realized, what mechanism (i.e. direct to councils budget)

If info is frequently updated online should be adequate

Whether there will be more substations/pylons

The business case

Progress updates would be welcome

Estimated financial benefit, timescale, local political backing

More information needed on substation to site cables/infrastructure

Photographs showing location of turbines rather than just wireframes

More info on how the profits will be spent

Question 8 – We want to keep in touch with the community as the project progresses – what’s the best way to do this

Kirkwall Responses

Sessions such as this. Information available online. Public meetings. Meetings with interested groups e.g. RSPB, OAS, OHS, OFC etc. Film.

Email

Email

Every way – web, social media, public events

Local press or events like today's.

Email

Facebook OIC updates, The Orcadian website

Email, Radio Orkney, The Orcadian

Press - Radio Orkney. Personal contact for those who are willing

Orcadian and Radio Orkney online

Local paper, radio and orkney.gov website

On Facebook

Get the OIC website into a useable condition that meets 21st century requirements

Through a range of media outlets obviously The Orcadian and Radio Orkney but also social media.

Press, radio and community events – workshop type – regular updates

Orcadian, meetings and email

Not just social media. Press coverage etc. and in a timely fashion would be appreciated.

Social media

The Orcadian and Radio Orkney

Combination of press releases on progress and consultation events like this for major changes and developments.

Email

Regular information events and dissemination

Local press and radio, mail drop etc.

Eday Responses

Same as this evening. Please keep talking to us. Discuss with Community Council and development trust

Community consultation

Meetings like this one are a very good way of keeping people informed

Visits to Faray so anyone on Eday can see what progress is being made, occasionally send someone over to Eday to keep us informed

Eday Sound

Meetings

Letter

Keep us informed by writing in the local papers and meetings on the islands

The Eday Sound and Eday Scarfs

Face to face public meetings

Visits like this one

Paper, Facebook, public meeting

Through various channels: community council, Eday partnership, notices in local shop, Eday Scarfs and Eday Sound Facebook page.

Regular updates in The Orcadian/OIC website

Regular mail outs with space for response

Update us with news when there is any

Email

By letter

Eday Partnership

Community council

Rendall Responses

Email

Post

Email

Keep in touch through regular local meetings/face to face interaction. Give us as full a picture as possible.
Ask us what we need – i.e. community projects/funding

Face to face meetings

Newspaper, email

Emails or newspaper

Press release

Email

Another meeting in the community

Through OIC Councillors, community councils, local community groups, business community and young people in schools and Orkney College etc.

The Shows, public meetings as at OREF

Local press

Local paper, local radio, social media, regular meetings

Online, local media, more community events

Events like this and interviews on Radio Orkney

Every method, but no small notices pinned in the Kirkwall library

Using every method open to the council

WESTRAY RESPONSES

Give our Westray Development Trust information to hand

Through the Community Council and Development Trust

Community engagement drop in sessions - rather than public meetings.

Email

Local newsletters

Public meetings such as this. Keeping communities informed is appreciated and reduces the risk of objections/

Events like this

Through the Orcadian and Westray Facebook page.

Auk Talk - island monthly newsletter - contact Westray Heritage Trust, Westray Community Council get word out.

STAFF RESPONSES

Events like today are very helpful

Local media, face to face, but ultimately a thankless task

Through these workshops, through social media and the local national press

Local paper, presentations

Community events, going out to the public to keep them informed. Be open and transparent

Online microsite

Email

Via community councils, briefings in local halls etc.

Online, local press and local community venues and groups

Social media, press release etc.

You are doing a great job – drop in sessions are fine. The trick is to ensure people who have concerns are actively listened to – especially those who live near to the proposed sites

Email

Email

Updating OIC website

Drop in/internet/features in the Orcadian

Mini updates on Facebook and public events – really appreciated the staff event and just being able to go in and ask questions that were important to me

Internet

A mixed approach for all – digital and face to face

The present displays are very clear and being taken through the project by an officer has been very useful

Social media, newspapers, drop ins like this will all of course let the public voice opinion

Facebook probably

Email

By public consultations

Email, Facebook, video

Go out to the communities near the sites as well as consultations on line and in the mainland

Email to me personally, or via the Orcadian for the whole community

Question 9 – Do you have any other comments you wish to make?

Kirkwall Responses

I would like if the electricity produced is used to provide low cost power in Orkney homes. Orkney becomes, (I think the phrase is carbon neutral), that. That is Orkney produced its own power from renewables, supplies it to Orkney houses at a lower cost. I want any monetary gains to be directed towards social benefits e.g. facilities for the young, preschoolers, mental health, third sector etc. A fund to provide money to fill the gaps in alleviating fuel poverty e.g. a house needs repaired before insulation goes in and there is no fund for this so it doesn't happen.

Ensure opportunities for community co-investment.

I do not believe that tourists are concerned about wind farms – Westray has many wind turbines and tourism increases every year. Tidal energy is more reliable and should also be supported by Government and OIC.

Be able to buy shares into development, if not distribute income to charities, food banks, not increase in OIC wages, help with all cutbacks that are happening, avoid any more housing, Orkney is best place to come and live but let's not spoil it any more.

Infrastructure transmission cables should be underground as much as possible. Develop local version of Norway's Sovereign Wealth Fund.

I hope it all goes ahead for the good of Orkney.

I wish this project all the success it deserves.

In principle I'm supportive of windfarms but always thought (maybe wrongly) that developing wind farms was simply a revenue generating scheme conveniently located in remote areas. But I hope these schemes are different and can play a part in Orkney doing its bit in fighting climate change. It was encouraging to hear

that the potential impacts on local wildlife are also being taken seriously and that the developments are being treated as a 'given' in terms of planning permission.

Abandon this impending disaster before it's too late.

Not at the present time but, no doubt, will do at future meetings.

The climate is more important than any feasible objections. Agriculture has a huge impact on Orkney landscape and wildlife, but is not seen as a problem, because it's always been there.

SSEN has a 3D animated computer visualization for the Finstown substation – it would be great to have something like that to help 'picture' what it will look like.

Yes to council charging to charge electric cars. Encourage greater use of electric cars – more charging points and reliable charging points.

I feel the windfarms are better placed offshore or on uninhabited islands. Orkney is a beautiful place with views and landscape envied by many. The visual impact of the turbines is upsetting to many Orkney residents. There are various options to site them where the impact is minimal. I hope OIC do not take an easy approach when deciding where to erect the turbines. Be fair and please consider the benefit for the whole community for now and the future. I believe the majority of objectors aren't against the wind farms they're opposed to their location.

Feel that consultations should not just be Kirkwall and island based – this affects all Orkney and consultations should take place in other areas. Thank you for this consultation and the time Councillors and officials have taken

A pity OIC didn't do this years ago before private companies did.

I would like to see all renewables projects community/council owned so that we get some gain from the pain.

I feel that people will wait to see what they are getting out of it. Benefits should be widespread and diverse to appeal to as many as possible within reason, so that everyone feels included.

Please don't get disheartened by negativity

We need this to happen as soon as possible but we also need OIC to support private developers to get the grid connection needed.

Hope for success.

Unless a good financial case can be made I am not convinced that Orkney needs to be a net exporter of energy, particularly with development of more ways of using energy generated in Orkney (e.g. hydrogen plant). The turbines and transmission network are putting at risk out core businesses such as tourism.

How much is the electricity bill per year for OIC, how much is the wages bill per year for OIC workers.

Eday Responses

Please consider a fixed link to Westray - Eday is struggling in every aspect.

I would like to see the projects help to subsidise ferry travel and electricity cost

No

In Devon there's a saying - 'any fool can start a project, it's finishing it that counts'.

Good luck?

Yes. Please consider building graduate/Masters job shadowing into the construction so that the phases of the build can be stored, archived as part of Eday's renewable heritage. We are trying to build an education annex for Eday for all things renewable

Community funding to be shared to those most affected i.e. Pharay is in the Parish of Eday. An effective decommissioning is in place

Overall a good project with good intentions but must be approached with sensitivity

Important to try and utilise local residents/businesses during construction

I agree with the need to produce renewable energy. It just seems a bit unfair that such a small island is the focus - the island must see some significant benefits (infrastructure/better broadband/better air services/new ferries)

Long term plans can come unstuck due to unforeseen outcomes

We are thinking of selling up and moving before they get built - our land is Crowbar, Eday which is where we wanted to build our dream home

Our land is Crowbar which is where we wanted to build our dream home.

A causeway from Eday should be considered

Rendall Responses

Kirkwall Bay o' ugly Kirkwall bay

Wind turbines, dotted all along the shore

And we'll always shed a tear

When the boats are drawing near

For the Council's completely ruined Kirkwall bay (for ever more)

I hope the farms go ahead

I hope this does go ahead. I worry about the future of climate change.

Make consultations as wide as possible, reaching out to potential objectors. Presentation here is very good but limited to a fairly small, self-selecting group. Make sure that income is not deducted from central government support. Given current concerns on climate change, timing is fortunate.

To provide updates on the state of play over the next few years. Planning for projects has to start as it will be a number of years before things are up and running.

Starting this project is 10 – 15 years too late,

Your project is too late, listen to the people, our islands our future.

Make sure that the public's wishes are acted upon. Remember that the council is supposed to be working for us.

WESTRAY RESPONSES

Continue at the moment and if possible feed our islands with the developments coming through.

Hope it all comes to fruition. We are obviously pro-wind. Not everyone is. The community benefit needs to be clear for those sceptics to see.

ASAP

Great initiative - well done!

Incorporate an element of participatory budgeting into funds (councils have to do a % of their budgets this way anyway)

Communities vote on their priorities e.g. housing, improved roads, new school build - empower communities. Need new ferries, new roads (private owned ones aren't maintained)

Folk answering the questions were polite

STAFF RESPONSES

Excellent presentation – good luck

Feel this project would be good for the community

If there is scope to increase projects or find further development sites I think we should investigate to further maximise the benefits

David was very knowledgeable and informative – thank you.

The theory and principal are good but I have concerns about the height on a relatively flat landscape and the number of turbines across all proposals. When/should these go past their life span what plans are in place for responsibility to remove (more in terms of low carbon proposals)

Refreshingly open about the constraints and issues and concerns

Proceed

The presentation was well laid out and informative

I'm delighted the council are progressing this project for the benefit of the people of Orkney

Couldn't be more support of the project, fantastic idea

It is not clear why it is economically viable to do this project in Orkney when we could build the same thing in Caithness and not need the cable

I think other renewable energy should be more fully considered especially tidal power

Appendix 17- Proposal of Application Notice

Introduction

This Appendix contains the Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) regarding Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project issued on 14th February 2020.



PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICE

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Reference No:

Registration Date:

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008

The planning authority will respond within 21 days of receiving the Notice. It will advise whether the proposed pre-application consultation is satisfactory or if additional notification and consultation above the statutory minimum is required. The minimum consultation activity includes consultation with the relevant community council(s), the holding of one public event and its advertisement in a local newspaper.

1. APPLICANT'S DETAILS

NAME	Orkney Islands Council		
ADDRESS	Town House		
	Stromness, Orkney		
POSTCODE	KW16 3AA	TELEPHONE	+44 (0) 1856 852 271
EMAIL	sweyn.johnston@orkney.gov.uk		

2. AGENT'S DETAILS

NAME	Stuart Winter Director- Planning and Development, JLL		
ADDRESS	7 Exchange Crescent Conference Square		
	Edinburgh		
POSTCODE	EH3 8LL	TELEPHONE	T +44 131 301 6768 M +44 7711 042601
EMAIL	Stuart.Winter@eu.jll.com		

3. ADDRESS OR LOCATION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Please state the postal address of the prospective development site. If there is no postal address, describe its location. Please outline the site on an OS base plan and attach it to this completed Notice.

The site lies approximately 900m west of Lyness on Hoy. The site is centred on grid reference (BNG) 327919, 993862 and occupies an approximate area of 488 hectares.

4. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Describe in general terms the development to be carried out. Outline its characteristics and identify its class (national or major).

The Proposed Development is a major development. It would consist of up to seven wind turbines that would have a maximum tip height of up to 149.9m. The total capacity for the site would be around 34MW. The design process of the Proposed Development is ongoing and for this reason, the Applicant cannot be definitive regarding the turbine dimensions and the installed capacity of the Proposed Development. The associated infrastructure will include: access tracks, crane hardstandings, turbine foundations, underground cabling, on-site substation and maintenance building, a temporary construction compound, potential excavations/borrow workings and a permanent meteorological mast.

5. PARTIES NOTIFIED

State which other parties have received a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice and the date the Notice was served.

Orkney Islands Council Roads Services, Scottish Water, Scottish Environment Protection Agency Planning Unit (North Region), Orkney Heritage Society, Scottish Natural Heritage, Historic Environment Scotland, Orkney Islands Council Development & Marine Planning, Orkney Islands Council Marine Services, Orkney Islands Council Environmental Health, Flotta Community Council, Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council, Highlands & Islands Airport Ltd, Kirkwall Airports – Senior Pilot, Ministry of Defence and National Air Traffic Services. Friday 14th February 2020.

6. CONSULTATION

Please give an account of what consultation is being proposed. State when such consultation will take place, with whom it will be and what form it will take.

The Applicant will undertake a minimum of one consultation event within Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council area in order to consult on the Proposed Development with the wider community. It is planned that the consultation event will be undertaken on Thursday the 26th of March between 14.00 and 17.00 and again from 19.00 to 21.00 at the community room and hall of the North Walls Centre*. Information boards will be on display and the project team will be on hand to discuss and answer questions on the Proposed Development. Feedback forms will be available. The Applicant intends to inform the local community of the consultation event through advertisement in The Orcadian, on BBC Radio Orkney, on social media, on Orkney Islands Council's website www.orkney.gov.uk and will include all requirements as set by legislation. The advertisements will be issued at least seven days in advance of the event taking place. Graemsay, Hoy and Walls Community Council and Flotta Community Council will receive a copy of this Proposal of Application Notice and be invited to the consultation event.

*Unknown factors could lead to the timing and venue of the event being amended.

A planning application for a national or major development cannot be submitted less than 12 weeks from the date the Proposal of Application Notice is received and without the statutory requirements having been undertaken. The application must be accompanied by the Pre-Application Consultation report.

Development Management, Orkney Islands Council, School Place, Kirkwall, Orkney, KW15 1NY
Tel: (01856) 873535 Fax: (01856) 886451 Email: planning@orkney.gov.uk Web: www.orkney.gov.uk



Appendix 18 - Advert for intended Hoy PAC PID

Introduction

This Appendix contains the advert for the intended Hoy PAC PID, informing the pre-application consultation events planned for Hoy on Thursday 26th March 2020. The date, time, and location of the event are shown. The advertisement also highlights the importance of the PAC in informing the public about the Proposed Development, and how the public are encouraged to follow their interest in a proposal through to the application stage. The advert was placed in The Orcadian for 12th March and 19th March 2020.

Notice of pre-application consultation public event



ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL

Orkney Islands Council intends to submit a planning application in 2020 for a wind farm development at and around Wee Fea on Hoy. The development will consist of up to seven turbines with a maximum blade-tip height of 149.9m, access tracks, crane hardstanding's, turbine foundations, underground cabling, on-site substation and maintenance building, a temporary construction compound, potential excavations/borrow workings and a permanent meteorological mast.

As the development is classed as a 'major development' there is a requirement to submit a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) to the planning authority and carry out a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC). The objective of the PAC is for communities to be better informed about major and national development proposals and to have an opportunity to contribute their views before a formal planning application is submitted to the planning authority.

A public exhibition will be held on:

- Thursday 26 March 2020 in the Community Room and Hall at the North Walls Centre, Lyness, KW16 3NX from 14.00 to 17.00 and again from 19.00 to 21.00

Members of the Council's project team will be on hand to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or concerns they may have. Feedback sheets will be available to fill in at the event or to take away and fill in before submitting to the project team before the deadline below.

The information shown at the events and feedback forms will then be available on the Council website at <https://www.orkney.gov.uk/Council/C/orkneys-community-wind-farm-project.htm>. Further information about the development may also be obtained by contacting Kirsty Groundwater, Project Officer, Orkney Islands Council. The deadline for submitting comments to the Project Team will be Tuesday 14 April 2020 at 12:00 to:

- Postal address: Kirsty Groundwater, Project Officer, Orkney Islands Council, Town House, 13 Victoria Street, Stromness, KW16 3AA
- Email: kirsty.groundwater@orkney.gov.uk
- Phone: 01856852272

It should be noted that comments made to OIC through this PAC process are not representations to the planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted, normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken, and individuals and communities will have an opportunity to make representations on that application to the planning authority at that time.

Appendix 19– Press release for intended Hoy PID

Introduction

This Appendix contains the press release which was published on March 10th 2020. It informs the local community of the PID events taking place later that month with respect to Orkney’s Community Wind Farm - Hoy. The press release informs the public of revised plans for the Proposed Development and the objective of the PAC. The press release was published on the Council website, on social media and provided to The Orcadian and Radio Orkney.

Press Release

Orkney Islands Council is to present revised plans for a seven-turbine wind farm in Hoy to the public later this month to allow folk to provide input in advance of a planning application being submitted later this year.

Initial plans for the development were presented at an event last year with various studies carried out in the intervening period - which have led to some proposed changes to the layout of the site.

These revised plans, which also include new and upgraded access tracks, a met mast, a substation compound and a temporary construction compound - will now be on show at a public event in the North Walls Centre in Hoy on Thursday 26 March – and available on the Council website shortly after.

Details of the Hoy event are as follows:

- *Thursday 26 March 2020 in the Community Room and Hall at the North Walls Centre, Lyness, KW16 3NX from 14:00 to 17:00 and again from 19:00 to 21:00.*

Members of the Council’s project team will be on hand to talk people through the plans and discuss any questions or comments they may have. Feedback sheets will be available to fill in at the event or to take away and fill in before submitting to the project team.

With the Council intending to submit a planning application for the project within the coming months, the event will give local people the opportunity to comment on the plans in what’s known as ‘Pre-Application Consultation’ - a statutory requirement for major developments like these.

The objective of the PAC is for communities to be better informed about major and national development proposals and to have an opportunity to contribute their views before a formal planning application is submitted to the planning authority.

The PAC does not take away the need for, and right of, individuals and communities to express formal views to the planning authority during the planning application process itself. It is important, therefore, for communities and others to follow their interest in a proposal through to the planning application stage, when views can be made to the planning authority before it before determines the application.

It should be noted that comments made to OIC through this PAC process are not representations to the planning authority. If a planning application is subsequently submitted, normal neighbour notification and publicity will be undertaken, and individuals and communities will have an opportunity to make representations on that application to the planning authority at that time.

The information shown at the events and feedback forms will be available on the [Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project web pages](#) from Friday 27 March 2020.

Further information about the development may also be obtained by contacting Kirsty Groundwater, Project Officer, Orkney Islands Council.

The deadline for submitting comments to the Project Team will be Tuesday 14 April 2020 at 12:00 to;

- *Postal address: Kirsty Groundwater, Project Officer, Orkney Islands Council, Town House, 13 Victoria Street, Stromness, KW16 3AA*
- *Email: kirsty.groundwater@orkney.gov.uk*
- *Phone: 01856852272*

The Hoy project is one of three under development as part of 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project' - alongside Quanterness and Faray.

The current proposal at the site in Hoy is to erect seven turbines, all at a blade tip height of up to 149.9m. The proposed Quanterness site has the potential capacity for six turbines and the site on Faray has enough space for up to seven turbines.

Pre-application consultation for the proposed project at Quanterness took place in November last year, with consultation events for the proposed project in Faray likely to take place in Eday and Westray later this year.

A planning application for Quanterness was lodged with the planning authority in January. The Council has since written to the Scottish Government to ask that they call in the application, on grounds of national significance.

Appendix 20 –Information boards for intended Hoy PID - March 2020

Introduction

This Appendix contains an example of information boards that were to be used at the public events in Hoy. Following the cancellation of the event due to the coronavirus pandemic, these boards as detailed in this Appendix were published online. The boards contain an overview of the entire 'Orkney's Community Wind Farm Project, as well as specific information on the Proposed Development for Hoy, including photomontages of the Proposed Development from five viewpoints.