

# Appendix 2.2 Gatecheck Report

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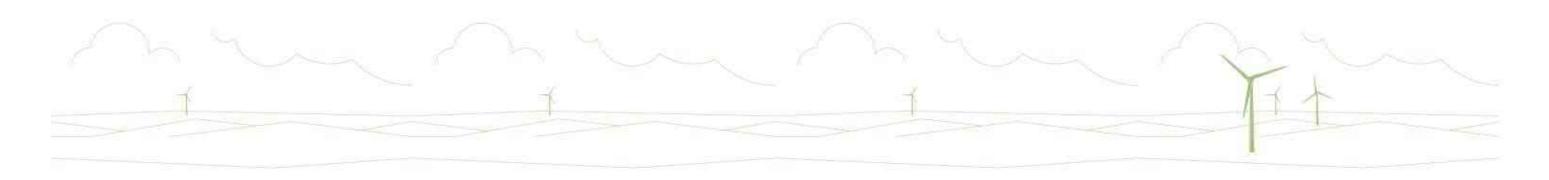


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# **1** Introduction

### 1.1 Background

- 1. ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Ltd, trading as ScottishPower Renewables (hereinafter referred to as 'the Applicant') is applying to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for consent and deemed planning permission to construct and operate Carrick Windfarm located in South Ayrshire (hereinafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'). The location of the Proposed Development is shown on Figure 1.1 Site Location.
- The Applicant submitted an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report for the Proposed 2. Development in May 2020 to the ECU, to accompany a request to Scottish Ministers to adopt a Scoping Opinion under Regulation 15 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the 'EIA Regulations'). The Applicant received a Scoping Opinion in October 2020.
- 3. This section 36 Gatecheck Report provides the ECU with an update on the status of the Proposed Development including its design, consultation undertaken to date and how the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) is progressing. The design iteration process and consultation undertaken by the Applicant to date is summarised in Section 3 and 4 respectively. The timeline for the application submission is set out in Section 5 and how the Applicant intends to respond to the points raised within the EIA Scoping Opinion is summarised within Section 6.

# **2** Consultees

4. **Table 2.1**: Scoping Responses Received below lists the consultees who provided a Scoping Response.

Consultee	
Ayrshire Rivers Trust (responding on behalf of the River Stinchar and River Girvan District Salmon Fishery Boards too)	Marine Scotland
British Telecoms (BT)	Met Office
Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council (CSK CC)	Mountaineering Scotland
Dailly Community Council (DCC)	NatureScot
Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) / Ministry of Defence (MOD)	NATS Safeguarding
Dumfries and Galloway Council	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland
East Ayrshire Council	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
Galloway Fisheries Trust	Scottish Forestry

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Galloway Fisheries Trust	Scottish Forestry
Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere (GSAB)	Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society
Glasgow Airport	South Ayrshire Council (included West of Scotland Archaeology Service response)
Glasgow Prestwick Airport	The Coal Authority
Historic Environment Scotland	Transport Scotland

Table 2.1: Scoping Responses Received

Joint Radio Company

5. Table 2.2: Scoping Responses Not Received below lists the consultees who did not provide a Scoping Response.

Consultee	
Consultee	
Barr Community Council	Ramblers Association (Scotland)
British Horse Society	Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels
Civil Aviation Authority – Airspace	Scottish Badgers
Crown Estate Scotland	Scottish Outdoor Access Network
Doon District Salmon Fisheries Board	Scottish Raptor Study Group
Fisheries Management Scotland	Scottish Water
Game and Wildlife Conservation Trust	Scottish Wild Land Group
Health and Safety Executive	Scottish Wildlife Trust
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	South West Scotland Environmental Information Centre
John Muir Trust	Sustrans Scotland
National Farmers Union of Scotland	The Woodland Trust
National Trust for Scotland Regional Office	Visit Scotland
OFCOM	

Table 2.2: Scoping Responses Not Received

# **3 Design Iterations**

### 3.1 Scoping Design

6. The EIA Scoping Report submitted in May 2020 used an indicative wind turbine layout for the purposes of compiling an indicative Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) of the Proposed Development and identifying proposed landscape and visual viewpoint locations. This layout comprised of up to 17 wind turbines with a maximum blade tip height of up to 200 metres (m).

### 3.2 EIA Scoping Opinion Comments on Design

7. Table 3.1: EIA Scoping Opinion – Design below provides a summary of comments received from the ECU and other consultees on the design of the Proposed Development presented within the EIA Scoping Report.

Consultee	Scoping Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	Response
ECU	It is acknowledged that the environmental impact assessment process is iterative and should inform the final layout and design of proposed developments. Scottish Ministers note further engagement between relevant parties in relation to the refinement of the design of this proposed development will be required and would request that they are kept informed of on-going discussions in relation to this. Applicants are encouraged to engage with officials at the Scottish Governments Energy Consents Unit at the pre-application stage and before proposals reach the design freeze.	Section 5.4 and 5.5	An initial meeting was held with the ECU on 20 February 2020 to dis constraints and opportunities for the Site. This included discussions visual sensitivities, the Dark Sky Park, ornithology and nearby Wild undertaken to date. A second virtual meeting was held on 29 September 2020 with the E NatureScot, SEPA, and Historic Environment Scotland (HES). The to the Proposed Development since the submission of the Scoping I into consideration and to clarify scope of assessments.
East Ayrshire Council	Mitigation of any significant effects upon ecological receptors is intended to be undertaken through the design process. It is intended that those effects that cannot be mitigated will reduced and prevented; information on how this might take place will be detailed in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.	A14	This information will be presented within Chapter 7: Ecology and E
Historic Environment Scotland	We consider that it may be possible to accommodate a wind farm at this location but, based on the information provided so far, note that there is the potential for significant adverse impacts on heritage assets and their settings located in the vicinity of the proposals. In order to address these issues mitigation by design, including alterations to the development layout and turbine heights, may be required.	A34	The scoping was based on the full development area and Scoping L has reduced significantly, so initial concerns have been designed ou wind turbine compliment from 17 to 13 wind turbines. The Study Area has been reduced to avoid potential direct impacts Bencallen Hill Chambered Cairn (SM3890).
NatureScot	The proposal will need to demonstrate that any significant effects on the qualities of the 'Class 1' SNH's Carbon and Peatland area can be substantially overcome by siting, design or other mitigation.	A85	Only a small area within the Site is classified as Class 1. A small per track. This effect will be covered within <b>Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeo</b> mitigation, if required.
NatureScot	We recommend that peat survey results should be used to inform the design and layout process, so that the development avoids, where possible, fragile and priority habitats and other sensitive areas e.g. blanket bog and peat.	A85	Peat survey results informed the design process, and deeper peat a possible.
SEPA	Site design may be affected by pollution prevention requirements and hence we strongly encourage the applicant to engage in pre-CAR application discussions with a member of the regulatory services team in your local SEPA office.	A70	A meeting was held between WSP and SEPA on 20 October 2020 v discussed; this followed discussion on the Statutory Consultees Mee submit an updated Scoping Response to reflect the agreed changes Management. The methodology for peat probing surveys, peat stabil Ecosystems (GWDTE) assessment were discussed and SEPA were
SEPA	The layout should be designed to minimise the extent of new works on previously undisturbed ground.	A71	The design has sought where possible to use existing infrastructure
SEPA	The site layout must be designed to avoid impacts upon the water environment.	A71	A 50m buffer zone has been applied around all watercourses which ensure that proposed wind turbines and infrastructure, other than tra hydrological features in accordance with windfarm construction best pollution into existing watercourses. In some cases, the use of existing tracks, which are already less that best option for design, minimising the need for new tracks. Watercourse crossings have been minimised as far as possible; and
SEPA	GWDTE are protected under the Water Framework Directive and therefore the layout and design of the development must avoid impact on such areas.	A73	A National Vegetation Classification (NVC) survey was completed b to assess the potential for GWDTE within the Site. These issues are covered within the GWDTE Assessment which wil

Table 3.1: EIA Scoping Opinion – Design

discuss the proposal, its programme and key ns on key Site constraints including landscape and ld Land Area , as well as consultation and survey work

e ECU, South Ayrshire Council, East Ayrshire Council, ne purpose of this meeting was to discuss the changes g Report, how input from consultees had been taken

Biodiversity of the EIAR.

g Layout wind turbines. The Proposed Development out through the iterative process with the decrease in

s on the Knockinculloch Enclosures (SM3357) and the

percentage of the area falls within a proposed new

eology, Geology and Soils of the EIAR, including any

t and peatland habitats have been avoided, where

20 where the Scoping Response requirements were Meeting on 29 September 2020. SEPA agreed to ges, including the level of detail for the Surface Water ability and Groundwater Dependant Terrestrial rere content with the methodologies proposed.

re such as the existing forestry tracks.

ch traverse the Site. These buffers have been used to tracks, are not located, where possible, in proximity to est practice. This reduces the risk of run off and water

than 50m to a watercourse, have been identified as the

and where possible, existing crossings would be used.

by the Ecology Team. These results have been used

will be included in the EIAR within **Appendix 6.3**.

### 3.3 Design Iterations

- 8. Following the submission of the EIA Scoping Report, the design was informed by direct consultation with those consultees necessary given the extended timescales of some responses due to COVID 19 and the receipt of the EIA Scoping Opinion. The Applicant has undertaken a design process to optimise the Proposed Development while minimising environmental impacts.
- 9. Design iterations have taken into consideration existing on-site environmental and engineering constraints such as watercourses, slope gradients, areas of deep peat, cultural heritage assets and protected species.
- 10. Environmental baseline information has been gathered for the Site by the Applicant and EIA project team to identify a design layout that considers the environmental constraints identified and the consultee responses received to date. Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design of the EIAR will outline the design iterations which have occurred prior to the finalised design of the Proposed Development. The key layout iterations are summarised in Table 3.2 and illustrated in Figure 1.2 Design Evolution.

Layout	Description	Design Rationale
A	Scoping (17 wind turbines)	A Developable Area (the envelope which constrained the location of the wind turbine locations) was initially defined based on hard constraints such as setbacks from roads, watercourses and residential dwellings. Within the Developable Area, wind turbines were sited taking in to consideration a number of factors including; wind speed, reducing landscape and visual effects from a number of sensitive locations and appropriately buffered cultural heritage and ornithological constraints. This layout was used for the EIA Scoping consultation stage.
В	Refined wind turbine layout following first design workshop (13 wind turbines)	Following a design workshop in July 2020, wind turbines 1 and 2 were removed from the western section of the Site as these were identified as the most visually prominent and as having a particular impact on the Galloway Dark Sky Park and Merrick Wild Land Area. The Proposed Development was then refined by repositioning the wind turbines into the centre of the Site, thereby reducing the impact to the Galloway Dark Sky Park and Merrick Wild Land Area and reduce visibility from properties, settlements and valleys. Wind Turbine 12 was removed from the design due to its proximity to Linfern Loch Wind Turbine 17 was also removed because due to visibility from residential areas in the northeast. This was reduced by removing wind turbine 17 and moving wind turbine 16 closer to the centre of the Site. Wind Turbines 3, 5, 10 and 13 were moved out of the deeper peat areas following the findings of the phase one peat probing survey.
С	Infrastructure design	Following design workshops cut and fill was reduced at hardstandings associated with the wind turbines. The temporary construction compound was refined to move closer to wind turbine 15 (instead of wind turbine 16).

Layout	Description	<b>Design Ration</b>
		The substation
		The infrastruct away from the
		A small bypass allow access fo
		The location fo the hill and aw
D	Final layout (13 wind turbines)	Following a fur which included locations and a
		Access to wind

Table 3.2: Wind Turbine Layout Evolution

# **4 Community Consultation**

- 11. Community consultation has formed a key component of the iterative EIA process. Two rounds of public consultation have taken place to date in addition to meetings with statutory consultees.
- 12. The relevant community councils; Barr, Dailly and Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael (CSK), have been consulted on the scope of the EIA and have been issued consultation materials directly by the Applicant. Barr Community Council have not engaged to date. Materials have been emailed and posted to be displayed locally to ensure that those who do not have access to email or the internet are able to remain informed about the Proposed Development. While not consulted directly on the scope of the EIA, Maybole Community Council have been consulted with during both rounds of Public Consultation.

## 4.1 First Round of Public Consultation

13. Leaflets introducing the Applicant, the Proposed Development and the need for an EIA were distributed in June 2020 to 4784 residents and businesses local to the Proposed Development (within 10km of the Site). In advance of the postal distribution, the leaflets were emailed directly to the Community Councils and further discussion was encouraged. Members of Dailly, CSK and Maybole Community Councils assisted in displaying a copy of the leaflet and a larger scale map of the Site Boundary at points, such as local noticeboards, throughout the local communities. These leaflets provided an opportunity for individuals to provide feedback via email or post, and a total of 24 individual responses were received.

### 4.2 Second Round of Public Consultation

- 14. A second leaflet was distributed in September 2020 presenting the iterations and updated design of the Proposed Development, and details of the online public information event (due to COVID-19 restrictions) which went live from 14 October 2020. This leaflet was distributed to the same 4784 residents and businesses as the first leaflet. The leaflet was also emailed directly to the Community Councils as part of ongoing consultation and welcomed further discussions. At the time of submission of this report a total of 6 responses had been received.
- 15. The online public information event is currently live on the Applicant's website until 4 November 2020. This event had also been advertised in the newspapers local to the Proposed Development (Ayrshire Post and Ayr Advertiser/Carrick Herald) and on their websites from 14 October -18 October 2020 for Ayr Advertiser and Carrick

#### onale

- on was shifted away from the overhead line.
- cture at wind turbine 7 and 10 was realigned further e watercourse buffer.
- ss road was included to the south of wind turbine 12 to for Foresty Land Scotland (FLS) vehicles and wagons.
- for wind turbine 4 was realigned further up the slope of way from the watercourse and steeper contours.
- urther design workshop, a final layout was developed ed confirmation of the final borrow pits search area I additional spurs were also added to the design.
- nd turbine 5 from wind turbine 6 was amended.

Herald and 14 - 20 October 2020 for the Ayrshire Post. A feedback form was also provided on the project webpage, to encourage interested members of the public to provide comment, ask questions or request further information from the Project Team.

- 16. The format of these consultations was heavily influenced by the COVID-19 lockdown, and are in compliance with the guidelines as provided by the Scottish Government on Public Consultation during this period; Coronavirus (COVID-19): planning guidance on pre-application consultations for public events.
- 17. Further information on the two rounds of public consultation is presented in the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report, which will be submitted with the application for consent for the Proposed Development.

# **5** Application Submission

### 5.1 Programme

18. The application for section 36 consent for the Proposed Development will be submitted to Scottish Ministers in December 2020. The anticipated programme for submission of the application is outlined in **Table 5.1**: Proposed Submission Programme below.

Month	Activity
October 2020	Submission of Stage 1 Gatecheck Report to the ECU
November 2020	Receipt of feedback from the ECU and key consultees on the Stage 1 Gatecheck Report
December 2020	Stage 2 Gatecheck
December 2020	Submission of the section 36 consent application to the ECU

Table 5.1: Proposed Submission Programme

### 5.2 Advertisement

- 19. The application will be advertised in the Ayrshire Post and Ayr Advertiser for two successive weeks and in both the Edinburgh Gazette and a national newspaper (either The Herald or The Scotsman) for one week.
- 20. The advert will be produced in accordance with the template provided by the ECU and a draft version of the advert will be provided to the ECU for comment and approval.
- 21. To reflect the ECU template, the advert will describe the application, state where the EIAR can be viewed, state a date by which any persons can make representations to Scottish Ministers in relation to the application, and the address to where representations are to be sent.

#### 5.3 Public Viewing of the EIAR

- 22. Due to COVID-19, the EIA Regulations have been temporarily modified and adjustments made as detailed in The Electricity Works (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020. The requirement for the EIAR to be physically available for inspection by the public at a named place has been removed as part of these temporary modifications. Therefore, public viewing of the EIAR will take place online, with an electronic copy of the EIAR and other application documents being made available at the Carrick Windfarm project website page.
- 23. It is also anticipated that electronic copies of the EIAR will be made available online on the ECU website, and the South Ayrshire Council's planning portal.

#### 5.4 EIAR Copies for Consultees

24. The list of consultees to be sent a copy of the EIAR will be agreed with the ECU, as well as the format of the EIAR (i.e. hard copy, electronic copy or both). It is anticipated that those consultees who received the request for EIA Scoping and pre-application advice will be consulted via the ECU.

# **6 EIA Scoping Responses**

25. Table 6.1: EIA Scoping Opinion Responsesbelow provides a summary of the EIA Scoping Responses received and the actions taken by the Applicant in response.



Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
ECU				
ECU	Scottish Ministers expect the EIAR, which will accompany the application for the Proposed Development to consider in full all consultation responses attached in Annex A.	Section 3.4	Chapters 1 to 14	Response noted. All individual consultation responses attached in Annex A are listed below in the 'Scoping Comment' column along with their location within the ECU Scoping Opinion and how they will be addressed within <b>Chapters 1-4</b> of the EIAR.
ECU	Scottish Ministers are satisfied with the scope of the EIA set out in the Table of Contents/Executive Summary of the Scoping Report.	Section 3.5	N/A	Response noted.
ECU	In addition to the consultation responses, Ministers wish to provide comments with regards to the scope of the EIAR. The Company should note and address each matter.	Section 3.6	Chapters 1 to 14	Response noted. Each matter will be addressed in the EIAR and an adjustment made to the scope or justification as to why no change is required.
ECU	<ul> <li>Any application submitted under the Electricity Act 1989 requires to clearly set out the generation station(s) that consent is being sought for. For each generating station details of the proposal require to include but not limited to:</li> <li>the scale of the development (dimensions of the wind turbines, solar panels, battery storage);</li> <li>components required for each generating station; and</li> <li>minimum and maximum export capacity of megawatts and megawatt hours of electricity for battery storage.</li> </ul>	Section 3.7	Chapter 4: Development Description	A detailed description of the Proposed Development, its scale, required components and its export capacity will be presented within <b>Chapter 4:</b> <b>Development Description</b> of the EIAR. Solar panels are not applicable to the Proposed Development, and information on this type of infrastructure will not be included in the EIAR.
ECU	Scottish Ministers request that the Company contacts Scottish Water and makes further enquires and includes details in the EIAR of any relevant mitigation measures provided.	Section 3.8	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Information on public water supplies was requested from Scottish Water on 8 July, 4 August, 27 August, 16 September and 13 October 2020. A response was received on 20 October 2020. This information will be reviewed and incorporated into <b>Chapter 6: Hydrology,</b> <b>Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils</b> of the EIAR
ECU	Scottish Ministers request that the Company investigate private water supplies within close proximity to the proposed development, which may be impacted by the development. The Company should also take account of the advice provided by South Ayrshire Council and please see the points raised in the response on Annex A1-A12 The EIAR should include details of these supplies identified by this investigation, the Company should provide an assessment of the potential impact, risks, and any mitigation which would be provided.	Section 3.9	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Consultation with South Ayrshire Council was undertaken to identify private water supplies (PWS) and the Council supplied PWS information within a 10km area surrounding the Site centre point. This consultation was followed by field surveys between August and September 2020 to confirm the PWS data supplied. An assessment of the potential impacts and risks on the PWS identified has been undertaken and will be

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				presented within <b>Chapter 6:</b> <b>Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology</b> <b>and Soils</b> of the EIAR including any mitigation required.
ECU	Scottish Ministers consider that where there is a demonstrable requirement for peat landslide hazard risk assessment, the assessment should be clear understanding of whether the risks are acceptable and capable of being controlled by mitigation measures. The Peat Landslide Hazard and Risk Assessments: Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Generation Developments (Second Edition), published at <a href="http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/04/8868">http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2017/04/8868</a> should be followed in the preparation of the EIAR, which should contain such assessment and details of mitigation measures.	Section 3.10	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Due to the presence of areas of peat on the Site, a peat landslide hazard and risk assessment is being undertaken and a soil and peat management plan prepared which will form an appendix within <b>Chapter 6:</b> <b>Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology</b> <b>and Soils</b> of the EIAR
				The peat landslide hazard and risk assessment applies a combined qualitative (contributory factor) and quantitative (factor of safety) approach to determine the likelihood of peat landslides and then compares areas with the highest likelihoods with receptors to identify risks and determine appropriate mitigation measures. Further details on the methodology, interpretation and results will be provided within <b>Appendix 6.1</b> of the EIAR.
				The Best Practice Guide for Proposed Electricity Generation Developments is being used for this assessment and will be referenced within <b>Chapter 6:</b> <b>Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology</b> <b>and Soils</b> of the EIAR where specific guidance has been taken from this guide.
ECU	The proposed viewpoints are given at Table 5.2. NaturesScot advise that the Scoping Report seems to provide a reasonable spread of viewpoints. However, they also suggest that a further viewpoint is investigated and that there should be nighttime viewpoint in the WLA. East Ayrshire Council agree with proposed viewpoints. At this stage we would advise that the additional viewpoints as requested by South Ayrshire Council are included. It is recommended by the Scottish Ministers that the final list of viewpoints and visualisations should be agreed following discussion between the Company, the South Ayrshire Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, East Ayrshire Council, Historic Environment Scotland and NatureScot.	Section 3.11	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	An updated list of viewpoints was provided to NatureScot and South Ayrshire Council on 21 September 2020 based on the final design freeze which incorporated their viewpoint suggestions from the Scoping Opinion where the changes to the layout did not preclude visibility. Following recent consultation, discussions are ongoing with NatureScot on additional viewpoints within the wild land and with East Ayrshire Council regarding gardens and designed landscapes.
ECU	Scottish Ministers request the Company takes account of the advice provided by Marine Scotland Science and please see the points raised in the response on Annex A42-A43 and contacts Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board and Girvan District Salmon Fishery Board for information on local fish stocks.	Section 3.12	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	Ayrshire Rivers Trust with whom the River Stinchar and River Girvan District Salmon Fishery Boards are

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				affiliated, were consulted and responses are provided to their comments within this table (detailed below).
ECU	Aviation Lighting may be required due to the proposed scale and location of wind turbines. Further advice on aviation lighting is available from NatureScot. Consequently, the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) in the EIAR should include a robust Night Time Assessment. Scottish Ministers request the Company takes account of the advice provided.	Section 3.13	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	An assessment on the impact of lighting on landscape and visual receptors will be undertaken and presented as an appendix to <b>Chapter</b> <b>5: Landscape and Visual</b> of the EIAR.
ECU	Scottish Ministers request the Company takes account of the advice provided by South Ayrshire Council and please see the points raised in the response on Annex A1-A12. The noise assessment should be carried out in line with relevant legislation and standards as detailed in Chapter 10 of the Scoping Report. The noise assessment report should be formatted as per Table 6.1 of the IOA "A Good Practice Guide to the Application of ETSU-R-97 for the Assessment and Rating of Wind Turbine Noise".	Section 3.14	Chapter 9: Noise	<ul> <li>The noise assessment is being undertaken in accordance with national and local planning policy and following current best practice guidance including the Institute of Acoustics: A Good Practice Guide to the Application of ETSU-R-97 for the Assessment and Rating of Wind Turbine Noise (IoA GPG), which is informing the assessment of operational noise that would be generated by the Proposed Development. The referenced 'Table 6.1' of the IoA GPG (Table 1 in section 6) will be presented within Chapter 9: Noise of the EIAR and details the key points which good practice suggests should be included in windfarm noise assessments; these points will be fully reported within the completed assessment.</li> <li>The individual noise and/or vibration related points raised by South Ayrshire Council referenced within Annex A1 to A12 are summarised and addressed within the South Ayrshire Council section of this table – see below.</li> </ul>
ECU	Scottish Ministers are aware that further engagement is required between parties regarding the refinement of the design of the proposed development regarding, among other things, surveys, management plans, peat, finalisation of viewpoints, transport routes, cultural heritage, designated sites and cumulative assessments and they request that they are kept informed of relevant discussions.	Section 3.15	Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design	Further engagement with statutory and non-statutory consultees will continue at the detailed design stage and during construction. Response noted that Scottish Ministers would like to be kept informed of any relevant discussions.
ECU	The mitigation measures suggested for any significant environmental impacts identified should be presented as a conclusion to each chapter.	Section 4.1	Chapters 5 to 14	Response noted. Proposed mitigation measures will be detailed within each assessment chapter and summarised in a Schedule of Mitigation table within

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	Applicants are also asked to provide a consolidated schedule, in tabular form, of all mitigation measures proposed in the environmental assessment, where that mitigation is relied upon in relation to reported conclusions of likelihood or significant of impacts.			Appendix 14.1 associated with Chapter 14: Summary of Residual Effects of the EIAR.
ECU	When finalising the EIAR, applicants are asked to provide a summary in tabular form of where within the EIAR each of the specific matters raised in this Scoping Opinion has been addressed.	Section 5.7	Chapter 2: EIA Process and Methodology	Response noted. Each of the technical chapters will provide a section on their consultation and how this will be addressed. In addition, this Gatecheck Report will form an appendix to the EIAR as <b>Appendix</b> <b>2.3 of the EIAR</b> and will serve this purpose.
ECU	It should be noted that to facilitate uploading to the Energy Consents portal, the EIAR and its associated documentation should be divided into appropriately named separate files of size no more than 10 megabytes (MB). In addition, a separate disc containing the EIAR and its associated documentation in electronic format will be required.	Section 5.8	N / A	The EIAR and its associated documentation will be uploaded to the Energy Consents portal as separate files of no more than 10MB file size. A CD/DVD copy will also be provided of the EIAR and its associated documentation at the submission stage.
Statutory Consultees		·		
South Ayrshire Council – Landscape Consultant	We would request that the assessment within the LVIA chapter of the EIAR addresses and references the relevant findings of the 2018 South Ayrshire Landscape Wind Capacity Study amongst the sources it draws from, and that any mitigation/design response to the same is clearly articulated.	A1	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	As stated in the Scoping Report, the 2018 South Ayrshire Landscape Wind Capacity Study is a key document used within the assessment and is referenced throughout. It has also informed mitigation and design development.
South Ayrshire Council – Landscape Consultant	I am in agreement with the methodology to be adopted for the LVIA; the Study Area for the LVIA being set at 30km; the stated scope of the LVIA in respect of assessing effects on landscape character, Local Landscape Area designations and the Merrick Wild Land Area (WLA); the settlements, roads and recreational routes identified for detailed assessment and the landscape and visual receptors scoped out of the LVIA.	A2	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Response noted and no further action is required.
South Ayrshire Council – Landscape Consultant	Detailed consideration should be given to the landscape and visual effects of felling and restocking proposals (both adverse and beneficial) in the LVIA and mitigation and landscape enhancement should be optimised in the design of the Wind Farm Forest Plan. Proposed forest felling areas should be shown in the visualisations from nearby viewpoints, for example from VPs 1, 2, 3 and 5.	A2	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The Applicant's forestry consultants will input to the EIA in respect of key areas of felling and restocking and landscape and visual impacts. Visualisations at nearby viewpoints will model planned forestry felling where relevant.
South Ayrshire Council – Landscape Consultant	<ul> <li>The representative viewpoints listed in Table 5.2 of the Scoping Report should be supplemented with additional viewpoints on the minor road between Straiton and Tairlaw within the Upper Girvan Valley (to assess potential effects on the Girvan Valley Local Landscape Area (LLA) and from the B741 west of the Ladyburn junction in the Girvan Valley (to assess potential effects on the setting of Kilkerran House and Inventory listed Garden and Designed Landscape – there may be some overlap here with the Cultural Heritage section of the EIAR).</li> <li>Additional viewpoints should also be defined within the upper Stinchar Valley in the vicinity of Barr and between Barr and South Balloch in order to confirm the extent of visibility and potential effects from the road and settlement, on the Stinchar Valley LLA and any cumulative effects with operational and proposed wind farms.</li> </ul>	A2	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Following Scoping, a review of all responses has been taken into account, viewpoints were added and a final list was circulated to South Ayrshire Council and NatureScot on 21 September 2020.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				Viewpoint 23 at Craigencallie, Straiton was added and covers the Water of Girvan Valley LLA.
				No suitable viewpoint could be found for Kilkerran. This is shown in the ZTV as a gap in visibility. Desk study was carried out to find a suitable location followed by Study Area site visit. No viewpoint could be located at this time. Further review around west of the Ladyburn junction was carried out, at this location the topography prevents views towards the Site from this location. Review of the B741 showed limited visibility. It is not considered that there would be any significant effects from Kilkerran. WSP are currently liaising with South Ayrshire Council on this point.
				Viewpoint 3 West of South Balloch, Nether Barr covers the Stinchar Valley LLA.
South Ayrshire Council – Landscape Consultant	Lighting effects should be assessed from each of the representative viewpoints and not just from the viewpoints selected to illustrate night-time effects. While I agree that the character of the landscape is not readily discernible during hours of darkness, lighting can affect perceptual qualities associated with landscape character and it is recommended that the effect on the sense of seclusion and naturalness (due to existing low lighting levels) are considered in the LVIA. These qualities should be addressed even if the viewpoint does not lie within the Dark Sky Park Core Area. The cumulative effects of lighting should be considered in relation to the nearby Clauchrie proposal.	A2	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	An assessment on the impact of lighting on landscape and visual receptors including consideration of cumulative effects will be undertaken and will be presented as an appendix to <b>Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual</b> of the EIAR.
South Ayrshire Council – Landscape Consultant	I note that the list of other proposed wind farm developments to be considered in the cumulative assessment will be confirmed with the Council.	A2	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The cumulative windfarm proposals to be included within the assessment have been updated since Scoping to include the recent adjacent Craiginmoddie windfarm proposal. This list of cumulative proposals was circulated to South Ayrshire Council for agreement and approval on 23 October 2020 as part of ongoing discussion on additional requests post the ECU meeting.
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	Prior to the commencement of works on the site, a water management plan covering water control and the means of drainage from all hard surfaces and structures within the site shall be submitted for approval of the planning authority and following approval shall be implemented by the company. For the purposes of this condition "hard surfaces" includes internal access tracks, construction and lay-down areas, turbine pads and crane pads. The details to be submitted shall include the means of protecting surface water and ground water and controlling surface water run-off. The management plan as approved shall then be implemented in full to minimise impacts on groundwater quality and hydrology.	A2	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. The Applicant does not intend to produce a separate Surface Water Management Plan. SEPA agreed that a high level strategy of the Surface Water management is adequate for the EIAR. The protection of surface and ground water will be assessed within <b>Chapter 6: Hydrology,</b>

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils of the EIAR.
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	The applicant shall submit to the planning authority a site specific hydrogeological report (not desk top study), which contains a review of the risks to all private water sources, their catchment areas, and the supplies, that have the potential to be affected by the development. Work shall not commence on site prior to the written approval of the Planning Authority being obtained. The report should include a field assessment of all private water sources and supplies and their catchment areas, and focus on the effects of the development on the quality and quantity of water supplied to all private water users both within and out-with the boundary of the proposed site that have the potential to be affected by the development. A conceptual site model should be included as this is key to developing a robust assessment of all risks to all potentially affected private water supplies. Attention should also be given to possible leachate generation at any Borrow Pit excavations.	A3	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Consultation with South Ayrshire Council was undertaken to identify PWS and the Council supplied PWS information within a 10km area surrounding the Site centre point. This consultation was followed by field surveys between August and September 2020 to confirm the PWS data supplied. An assessment of the potential impacts and risks on the PWS identified has been undertaken and will be presented within <b>Appendix 6.4</b> of the EIAR, including any mitigation required.
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	All Private Water Supply user properties, their Private Water Supply source uptakes and catchment areas to be identified and shown as marked on maps, to scale, on minimum of 1:25000, in order to assess risk to catchment areas of the sources drawn from. This is to give realistic comparison to the siting's of the proposed construction, wind turbines, structures, over ground/underground, access tracks etc.	A3	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Consultation with South Ayrshire Council was undertaken to identify PWS. The Council supplied PWS information within a 10km area surrounding the Site centre point. This consultation was followed by field surveys between August and September 2020 to confirm the PWS data supplied. An assessment of the potential impacts and risks on the PWS identified has been undertaken and will be presented within the <b>Appendix 6.4</b> of the EIAR, including any mitigation required.
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	An Emergency Action Plan (EAP) should be submitted stating clearly who would be responsible, when they would be required to take action, where this would be implemented and what action and mitigation will be implemented for any emergencies arising. The EAP should detail who the emergency contacts would be 24/7, with contact telephone numbers and email addresses, to be provided to PWS users and South Ayrshire Council planning department in order to maintain a secure and adequate quality water supply to all properties with private water supplies that may be affected by the development to minimise impacts on groundwater quality and hydrology.	A3	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	An EAP will be submitted with the following details post-consent, for any PWS identified as at risk.
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	<ul> <li>Construction works require to be carried out in accordance the approved Code of Practice BS 5228-1 and 2:2009 Noise and Vibration Control on Construction and Open Sites or any subsequent code amending consolidating or replacing it as approved by the Secretary of State pursuant to Sections 71(2) and 104 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974.</li> <li>As the development is in an area of existing low ambient noise levels and the construction activities continue for more than 1 month the following minimum criteria are applicable: -</li> <li>Assessment category and threshold value period (LAeq) Threshold value in decibels (dB), Category A</li> <li>Night time (23.00-07.00) 45</li> </ul>	A3 to A4 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise	It was agreed during subsequent consultation with the Environmental Health Department of South Ayrshire Council and the Council's technical advisors for noise and vibration (ACCON UK) that assessments of construction noise and vibration could be scoped-out on the basis of works being undertaken at a distance of greater than 300m from any sensitive receptors, beyond which significant effects are not anticipated to arise.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference
	Evenings and Weekends* 55		
	<ul> <li>Daytime (07.00-19.00) and Saturdays (07.00-13.00) 65</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>*19.00-2300 weekdays, 1300-23.00 Saturdays and 07.00-23.00 Sundays. 5228-1 Annex E.</li> </ul>		
	Prior to any works being undertaken a detailed method statement for the construction project will require to be undertaken for approval by South Ayrshire Council Planning Department. This shall include an assessment of potentially noisy operations and outline the noise mitigation measures proposed. This will also include a programme and phases for each stage of work.		
	The site contractors shall conduct all site operations in accordance with accredited documented procedures. This shall include a site complaint investigation procedure.		
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	No Blasting shall take place until a monitoring scheme to address borrow pit blasting has been submitted to South Ayrshire Council and received the written approval of, the planning authority. The scheme shall be implemented as approved in writing by the planning authority. The scheme shall make provision for:	A4 Additional Consultation	Chapter 9: Noise
	<ul> <li>Blasting monitoring locations (Nearest noise/vibration sensitive properties)</li> <li>Type of monitoring equipment to be used;</li> <li>Frequency of monitoring.</li> </ul>	19 August 2020	
	<ul> <li>The methods to be employed to minimise the effects of overpressure arising from blasting, having regard to blast design, methods of initiation and the weather conditions prevailing at the time;</li> <li>Limits of overpressure levels at specified properties; and</li> <li>Submission of blasting records to the planning authority.</li> </ul>		
	No blasting shall take place except between the following times:		
	<ul> <li>10:00 – 12:00 and 14:00 – 16:00 Mondays to Fridays</li> <li>10:00 – 12:00 Saturdays</li> </ul>		
	Ground vibration from the blasting shall not exceed a peak particle velocity of 6mm /second at the blasting monitoring locations identified for condition 6 above. The measurement to be the maximum of three mutually perpendicular directions taken at the ground surface.		
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	Prior to the commencement of works on site, the company shall submit to the planning authority a management plan for minimising the emission of dust from the construction and operation of the development hereby authorised. The dust management plan shall specify the following matters and, after its approval shall be implemented in full by the Company:	A3	Chapter 4: Development Descrip
	• The water spraying of all internal roads and stockpiles of materials to suppress dust in periods of prolonged dry weather;		
	<ul> <li>The means to ensure that an adequate water supply is available at all times for dust suppression purposes; and</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>The operation of the site so as to ensure that adequate steps are taken at all times to minimise dust propagation from un-surfaced access tracks within the site.</li> </ul>		

	Response
	See corresponding row below for A8/ACCON UK.
	Notwithstanding this, construction works will be undertaken in compliance with a project specific CEMP which will require the contractor to work in compliance with Best Practicable Means (BPM) for the control of noise and vibration. This is an embedded mitigation measure which will be confirmed within <b>Chapter 9: Noise</b> of the EIAR. This will also detail how a planning condition could be used to specify appropriate construction noise levels limits, akin to those detailed here, for subsequent compliance with.
	It was agreed that where blasting works may be required, an assessment of blast induced noise, vibration and air overpressures would be scoped-in. This assessment is to be undertaken with reference to BS5228-2, PAN 50 (including Annex D: The control of blasting at surface mineral workings), and it will consider the likelihood of impacts arising with reference to the location of proposed on-site borrow pits, and the mitigation measures that would be available for incorporation into the working methods.
cription	Response noted. Measures to manage emissions to air will be included within Appendix 4.1 Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) of the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	Operational noise is to be assessed by a third party consultant and their findings suitably implemented.	A4 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – Environmental Health	Text provided detailing an operational noise complaints procedure and associated guidance notes.	A5 to A8	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	I have reviewed the Noise Chapter and Figure 10.1 from the Scoping Report. The proposed methodology generally accords with the relevant guidance i.e. ETSU-R-97 and the IOA Good Practice Guide for operational noise and BS 5228 for construction noise.	A8	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	It is agreed that construction noise is scoped-out of the assessment.	A8 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise

Response
It was agreed that an assessment of operational wind turbine noise would be scoped in, and that this would be undertaken in accordance with the guidance contained within ETSU R 97 and the Institute of Acoustics (IOA) Good Practice Guide (GDP), but also cognisant of the guidance contained within the South Ayrshire Council Local Development Plan (LDP) Supplementary Guidance: Wind Energy, and the South Ayrshire Council Environmental Health, Wind Turbines Development: Submission Guidance Note.
It was agreed that an assessment of operational phase road traffic noise could be scoped-out on the basis that development generated road traffic travelling to and from the Site would be extremely low, and that significant effects would not arise.
This text is an example of planning condition wording. The noise assessment will include due consideration to how planning conditions could be used as a means to ensure that appropriate noise level limits would be complied with should the development be approved.
Response noted. No further action is required.
It was agreed that on the basis that there are no receptors within 1km of the wind turbine Developable Area, assessment of construction noise and vibration could be scoped-out because significant effects would not arise.
However whilst it remains that there are no receptors within 1km of the wind turbine 'Developable Area' these assessments have been scoped back in on the basis that site access track upgrade works would be required within 300m of a noise- sensitive receptor.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	The proposed measurement locations appear to provide suitable coverage for the nearest noise sensitive properties surrounding the proposed development. The monitoring locations generally seem to have been selected such that they will provide suitable proxies for nearby properties. However, there would seem to be potential difficulties in relation to proposed location E. Two alternative monitoring sites are proposed. Either White Row or Black Row would be utilised, and this location is indicated to also be representative of Aldinna. I note that each of these properties are close to the River Stinchar or, in the case of White Row, a burn that flows into this river. To serve as a proxy location for the other two locations, noise should be monitored at the location least affected by noise from a watercourse. From satellite imagery, White Row might be expected to be the preferable location. I would suggest that a site visit may be necessary to select monitoring location E. If a position at either of these properties cannot be found where water course noise has, at most, a minimal effect on the measured noise levels, it may be appropriate to install a noise monitor at both properties.	A8 to A9 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	Given the proximity of the operational Hadyard Hill wind farm, consideration will need to be given to directional filtering of the measured noise data to exclude the influence of this wind farm. This will apply to monitoring location F (Doughty) and potentially locations E and B. Similarly, directional filtering will need to be considered for monitoring locations to the east of the site with respect to noise from the operational Dersalloch wind farm.	A9	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	I consider that the only way to confirm whether or not operational wind farm noise has influenced the measurements is to carry out directional filtering on the results. Therefore, I request that the results of such analysis is reported in the EIAR, even if it is just to confirm that operational noise did not influence the background noise results at the locations discussed.	A9 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	The Scoping Report does not provide any information on the ETSU-R-97 based noise limits that would be applied in the operational noise assessment. I note that the fixed lower daytime noise limit for the operational Hadyard Hill wind farm is 38 dB LA90. The corresponding limit for Dersalloch wind farm is 37.5 dB LA90. ACCON would recommend the daytime fixed lower limit of 38 dB LA90 is applied in the cumulative noise assessment for the proposed assessment. This would recognise the aim of the 'Wind Turbine Development: Submission Guidance Note' (SGN issued by South Ayrshire Council Environmental Health) that new wind farms operating in isolation have a lower limit of 35 dB LA90, while also taking account of the noise limits set for the nearby consented wind farms.	A9 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	The assessment of cumulative operational noise is a complex process and the IOA Good Practice Guide provides various recommendations in this respect which guide the noise emissions utilised in the assessment for existing wind farms. In some circumstances, it is recommended by both documents that a cumulative assessment is carried out initially assuming noise levels corresponding the consented noise limits for the existing wind farms; and any proposed alternative approaches should be discussed with the local planning authority.	A9 Additional Consultation 13 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise

Response
A detailed baseline noise survey has been undertaken following the agreed method, with change made for Location E as suggested. For Location E, the baseline measurement location was changed from Black Row/Aldinna, to White Row in line with the consultation response received. In addition, observations were made during the Site visits to support the selection of White Row as a proxy for the receptors of Black Row and Aldinna.
Response noted. Please see response in the row below.
The obtained baseline noise survey data will be subject to directional filtering to demonstrate that it has not been contaminated with noise from existing wind turbines. Alternatively, where such contamination is found, the direction filtering will be used to remove the contaminated data points in the analysis process.
The operational noise assessment is being undertaken in accordance with the guidance contained within ETSU- R-97 and the IoA GPG, but also cognisant of the guidance contained within the South Ayrshire Council LDP Supplementary Guidance: Wind Energy, and the South Ayrshire Council Environmental Health, Wind Turbines Development: Submission Guidance Note. The assessment will include due regard to the noise level limits that are imposed on the existing windfarm developments Dersalloch and Hadyard Hill.
It is agreed that the assessment of cumulative operational noise is a complex process. As such, it will follow the IoA GPG, ETSU-R-97 whilst also being cognisant of the guidance contained within the South Ayrshire

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	Paragraph 234 of the Scoping Report indicates that corrections for wind direction will be applied where necessary to the noise predictions used for the cumulative assessment, and this indicates that the noise levels for the existing wind turbines are unlikely to be based on the consented limits. ACCON recommend that the applicant's acoustic consultants should provide further information to the Council on the assumptions that will be applied regarding the noise emissions from Hadyard Hill and Dersalloch wind farms.			Council LDP Supplementary Guidance: Wind Energy, and the South Ayrshire Council Environmental Health, Wind Turbines Development: Submission Guidance Note. Additional consultation agreement will be sought as the assessment work is undertaken.
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	The intention to provide further detail in the EIA on the approach that will be used to address the complexities of the cumulative noise assessment is noted. It is agreed that there is no requirement to consider the Glenmount and Hadyard Hill Extension windfarm proposals as these have been withdrawn.	A9 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise	As agreed, the Hadyard Hill Extension and Glenmount Windfarm developments have been scoped out of the cumulative noise assessment. Subsequent to completed consultation, a Scoping Report for the Craiginmoddie Windfarm has been submitted to South Ayrshire Council. The site of that proposal is to the immediate west of the Proposed Development. The Craiginmoddie Windfarm proposal has therefore also been scoped-in to the cumulative assessment.
South Ayrshire Council – ACCON UK Ltd Noise Consultants	It is agreed that operational noise from energy storage units or other significant plant should be scoped out of the assessment. It is also agreed that construction traffic noise is also scoped out of the assessment. Depending upon the location of the borrow pits and the ground conditions blasting may be required. If blasting is necessary, the EA Noise chapter should include an assessment of the blast induced noise, vibration and air overpressures.	A9 to A10 Additional Consultation 28 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise	Assessments of construction traffic noise and noise from fixed plant items have been scoped out of the appraisal, but an assessment of potential blast induced groundborne vibration and air overpressures has been retained.
South Ayrshire Council – Ayrshire Roads Alliance (Traffic and Transportation)	From a traffic and transportation perspective I am satisfied that the approach which the applicant intends to follow are appropriate and reflect the generally accepted methodology. We look forward to seeing more detail with respect to the route options for abnormal traffic movements, along with greater detail with respect to the site access onto the public road.	A10	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	Response noted. No further action is required.
South Ayrshire Council – Ayrshire Roads Alliance (Structures)	The proposed route to the site for the large wind turbine components would be from the south using the A75, A714 and C1 (Referred to as the C46w in the Scoping Report) to the site access south of Tallaminnoch. I would say that this is the only feasible route to the site for these components, the three bridges along this section of the C1 that the loads have to cross are capable of carrying the likely axle and gross vehicle weights but some localised road widenings may be required. It is not feasible to bring the wind turbine components to site from the north via Straiton due to horizontal alignment issue at Tairlaw Bridge approximately 3km north of the site access, this may also prove an issue for any large items of plant required for the site.	A10	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	Response noted. Comments in relation to structural suitability and restrictions on sections of the local road network have been noted and any sections unsuitable for use either by general construction traffic or abnormal load traffic will be omitted from the study.
	Straiton, it should be highlighted that this section of the B741 is not suitable for any construction traffic as there is a bridge with a 13 Tonne weight limit and a hump back profile near the Dalmellington end. In terms of flooding I don't believe that the proposed development will increase the flood risk in any properties around the site.			A review of the access routes for both general construction traffic and abnormal load traffic will be undertaken, which will provide further commentary on the proposed access routes, including potential mitigation

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				measures required to accommodate the loads.
				A Route Survey Report has previously been undertaken by the Applicant in relation to the proposed access route for abnormal load vehicles and this has been used to inform further assessment of the proposed access route.
South Ayrshire Council – West of Scotland Archaeological Service (WoSAS)	I am able to state that based on the information provided so far, I am of the opinion that there is a likelihood of significant adverse impacts on historic environment assets within the proposed development area, and also on the settings of such assets located within and outwith the boundary of the proposals. While it is possible that many potential impacts could be mitigated or avoided by changes to the design such as alterations to the development layout and the installed wind turbine heights, it may be that depending on the details, the remaining adverse impacts would be such that I would recommend that the Council object to the final submitted proposals on historic environment policy grounds. In order for the Council to determine its position with regard to the relevant policies, I would expect the developer to support any arguments regarding the potential impacts on historic environment assets with an appropriate level of assessment, including visualisations of the appropriate settings of an agreed list of assets.	A11	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul> <li>WoSAS comments have been welcomed and their concerns noted.</li> <li>We will seek to refine the red line boundary to remove any potential direct impacts on any designated assets.</li> <li>The Proposed Development has reduced significantly, so our consultants have worked with the LVIA team and sought to design out any significant adverse visual impacts through the iterative design process. This has resulted in the decrease in wind turbine layout from 17 to 13 wind turbines.</li> </ul>
South Ayrshire Council – WoSAS	Should the development proceed, it is likely that archaeological remains within the application boundary would be vulnerable to damage or destruction during the construction phase. I would expect the developer to bring forward more detailed proposals for appropriate measures to mitigate unavoidable impacts and to avoid unnecessary destruction, and that these measures would be agreed in advance and secured by appropriate condition if required.		Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Agreed, <b>Chapter 10: Archaeology</b> <b>and Cultural Heritage</b> of the EIAR will consider potential impacts and propose mitigation.
South Ayrshire Council – WoSAS	<ul> <li>I would expect to see further information on the ZTV and the views relevant to important historic environment assets in the final EIAR.</li> <li>I would expect any EIA undertaken for the proposals to include a detailed assessment of impacts on the historic environment, both within the application boundary and within the viewshed beyond.</li> <li>I would also expect that the spatial limits of such assessment would be flexible, and to expand to include historic environment assets at greater distance, where these assets have greater sensitivity to landscape change or visual impacts.</li> </ul>	A11	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Agreed – this assessment approach will be included within <b>Chapter 10:</b> <b>Archaeology and Cultural Heritage</b> of the EIAR.
South Ayrshire Council – WoSAS	<ul> <li>The Scoping Report proposes a Study Area extending up to 5km from the application boundary. I do not believe that this is adequate for a full assessment of potential impacts on the historic environment. Many important historic environment assets enjoy prominent locations with distant views, or have specific sightlines which can extend over long distances, and with structures of the scale proposed, the visual effects will be apparent at greater distances.</li> <li>I would recommend that the Study Area be extended to include all historic environment assets within the ZTV up to 10km beyond the application boundary, and that other important assets, whether currently designated or not, with sensitive settings and which are located in the ZTV at greater distances should also be considered.</li> </ul>	A11	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul> <li>Agreed, Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR will use three distinct Study Areas:</li> <li>an inner Study Area (Red Line Boundary (RLB));</li> <li>an outer Study Area (RLB to 5km); and</li> <li>an outer Study Area (5km to 10km).</li> </ul>

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	The Council's archaeology service would be available to liaise with the archaeological consultants for the developer for consultation on an agreed list of assets beyond the Study Area that should also be considered in the assessment.			<ul> <li>The assessment will consider nationally important assets up to 10km. WoSAS has requested all assets up to 10km are assessed. The Applicant has reservations on assessing all assets out to 10km as this introduces an exponential amount of data and does not reflect a proportionate response. Further consultation with WoSAS has been requested with a view to agreeing a proportionate baseline, and to agree any sites outside the Study Area that should be included.</li> <li>We have attempted to engage WoSAS in further consultation and are currently instigating contact via the South Ayrshire Council as agreed.</li> </ul>
South Ayrshire Council – WoSAS	It will also be important that the potential for cumulative impacts on the setting of historic environment assets caused by the addition of the proposed development would have is assessed We would therefore recommend that the visualisations that are produced in support of the application include cumulative impacts.	A11	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Agreed – this approach will be included within Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR.
South Ayrshire Council – WoSAS	The recorded presence of two Scheduled Monuments and a number of other, currently non-designated assets, and a range of other already known archaeological sites in the vicinity indicate that there may additional archaeological sites in the area that have yet to be discovered and which may be vulnerable to direct damage or destruction as a result of the proposed development. I would expect the EIA process to assess the likelihood of the presence of such previously unrecorded archaeological resources, and to bring forward proposals for appropriate measures to mitigate impacts or to avoid unnecessary or unrecorded losses should consent for the development be granted.	A12	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	An assessment of the archaeological potential of the Proposed Development will be undertaken within <b>Chapter 10: Archaeology and</b> <b>Cultural Heritage</b> of the EIAR. Potential impacts will be assessed, and mitigation proposed as necessary.
Dumfries and Galloway Council	I write regarding the above noted consultation in respect of a Scoping Opinion for the proposed Carrick wind farm. As the proposed development is located outwith the administrative area of Dumfries and Galloway Council no formal response will be issued in this instance.	A16	N / A	Response noted. No further action is required.
East Ayrshire Council	The Council is broadly content with the proposed approach to landscape and visual impact assessment, wind turbine lighting assessment, ecology and ornithology (subject to the assessment of NatureScot).	A13 to A14	Chapters 5 to 13	Response noted. No further action is required.
East Ayrshire Council	It is noted that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment will include a cumulative LVIA which will assess the cumulative impacts of other wind farms within 20km from the proposed development. An onshore wind visual register is available on our website and will be a useful tool in determining that all relevant wind applications in the planning system have been taken into account.	A13	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Response noted. Cumulative windfarms within the East Ayrshire Council are included within the landscape and visual assessment and are shown on <b>Figure 5.8</b> of the EIAR. A 30km Study Area will be included.
East Ayrshire Council	East Ayrshire Council would suggest that consideration be given to the use of aviation activated lighting, as a means of minimising the impact of wind turbine lighting on the night sky. This should be addressed through the night time lighting assessment as potential mitigation effects.	A14	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Response noted. This will be included within <b>Appendix 5.5 LVIA of Wind</b> <b>Turbine Lighting</b> of the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
East Ayrshire Council	The Scoping Report indicates that access will be gained from the M74, A75 and A714, each of which is located outwith East Ayrshire. The Council advise that Ayrshire Roads Alliance, which is jointly administered by East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council, be consulted on the transportation impacts of the Proposed Development.	A15	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	Ayrshire Roads Alliance has been consulted on the traffic and transportation impacts of the Proposed Development. Their response is above.
East Ayrshire Council	During the virtual pre-application meeting to discuss the proposed Carrick windfarm (29/09/2020) the ZTV was displayed, alongside some viewpoints selected to be included as the application process progresses. The ZTV revealed that wind turbines would be visible from a proportion of the Craigengillan Garden and Designed Landscape in East Ayrshire, a site considered by Historic Environment Scotland to be of an 'outstanding' level of interest. A single viewpoint within the Site is proposed, at the Scottish Dark Sky Observatory. Would it be possible for an additional viewpoint to be provided within the Craigengillan estate, so that an understanding can be gained of the visual impact proposed wind turbines might have? The position of this viewpoint would be determined from selecting a location that would be affected to the greatest degree, as per the ZTV.	Additional Consultation 5 October 2020	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Information relating to the view from Craigengillan was submitted to consultees on 22 October 2020. At this time it is not considered that there will be a significant effect to the Craigengillan garden and designed landscape.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	We consider that it may be possible to accommodate a wind farm at this location but, based on the information provided so far, note that there is the potential for significant adverse impacts on heritage assets and their settings located in the vicinity of the proposals. In order to address these issues mitigation by design, including alterations to the development layout and wind turbine heights, may be required. We would therefore be keen to engage further as the development progresses, and are happy to offer more detailed comments as further ZTV information and wireframe views become available.	A34	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	The scoping was based on the full development area and Scoping Layout wind turbines. The Proposed Development has reduced significantly, so initial concerns have been designed out through the iterative process with the decrease in wind turbine compliment from 17 to 13 wind turbines.
				We will seek to refine the red line boundary to remove any potential direct impacts on any designated assets.
				The Proposed Development has reduced significantly and we have worked with the LVIA team and sought to design out significant adverse visual impacts through the iterative design process. This has resulted in the decrease in wind turbine layout to 13 wind turbines.
				ZTV data has been issued to HES on 9 October 2020 to enable further engagement.
HES	We note that two scheduled monuments are located inside the site boundary for the development. These are Knockinculloch, enclosures on E slope of, 600m NW of Glenalla (Scheduled Monument, Index no. 3357) and Bencallen Hill, Chambered Cairn (Scheduled Monument, Index no. 3890). We therefore consider that any assessment should pay particular attention to the potential for impacts on these heritage assets and their settings during the construction and operational phases of the development. In line with this, we would expect that mitigation is embedded into the design of the development to reduce and avoid adverse impacts where appropriate.	A35	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	HES comments have been welcomed and their concerns noted. We will seek to refine the red line boundary to remove any potential direct impacts on any designated assets.
				The archaeological assessment has been integrated with the LVIA to design out any significant adverse visual impacts through the iterative design process.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
HES	We also recommend that ZTV analysis should be used to identify potential impacts on the setting of heritage assets caused during the operational phase of the development.	A35	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	This will be included within <b>Chapter</b> <b>10: Archaeology and Cultural</b> <b>Heritage</b> of the EIAR.
HES	We would recommend that ZTV analysis is applied to the proposal to provide a basis for selecting sites in the wider area which should be assessed as part of an EIA. We do not consider that the 5km Study Area suggested at Section 8.3 of the Scoping Report is suitable in this instance. We therefore recommend that all nationally important assets located up to 10km from the proposals are appraised and included for detailed assessment where there is a potential for impacts on their settings. Individual heritage assets located at a greater distance than 10km of the should also be considered where they are acknowledged to have potentially sensitive settings. As above, we would expect that mitigation is embedded into the design of the development to reduce and avoid adverse setting impacts where appropriate.	A35	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul> <li>The Study Area for the baseline has also been increased to include all heritage assets under HES remit out to 10km from the wind turbine locations.</li> <li>Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR will use three distinct Study Areas: <ul> <li>an inner Study Area (RLB);</li> <li>an outer Study Area (RLB to 5km); and</li> <li>an outer Study Area (5km to 10km).</li> </ul> </li> <li>The assessment will consider nationally important assets up to 10km. Further assessment of particularly sensitive heritage assets beyond 10km will be undertaken where appropriate.</li> <li>The archaeological assessment has been integrated with the LVIA to design out significant adverse visual impacts through the iterative design process.</li> </ul>
HES	<ul> <li>We consider that significant impacts may occur on the setting of the below heritage assets:</li> <li>Knockinculloch, enclosures on E slope of, 600m NW of Glenalla (Scheduled Monument, Index no. 3357)</li> <li>Bencallen Hill, Chambered Cairn (Scheduled Monument, Index no. 3890)</li> <li>Maxwellston Hill, fort (Scheduled Monument, Index no. 2201)</li> <li>Mote Knowe, motte, Kilkerran (Scheduled Monument, Index no. 2863)</li> <li>Kilkerran House (Category A listed building LB1114 and Inventory Designed Landscape GDL238)</li> <li>Blairquhan (Category A listed building LB19094 and Inventory Designed Landscape GDL63)</li> <li>This list is not exhaustive. We would welcome further discussion on this as your assessment is progressed and more detailed ZTV information becomes available.</li> <li>Further detailed information for each heritage asset listed above is available within the Annex of the HES Scoping Opinion.</li> </ul>	A35	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul> <li>Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR will consider impacts on the identified assets, which from initial ZTV appear to have visibility and therefore potential to impact on the Setting of these assets.</li> <li>It should be noted that Motte Knowe (SM2863) has been identified as having no visibility, so will not experience any significant adverse impacts.</li> <li>Kilkerran House (LB1114) and Blairquhan House (LB19094) have also been identified as having no visibility from the individual assets, however further assessment will identify any potential adverse impacts on Setting from within each respective</li> </ul>

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				GDL and views to each from within its own policies.
				Further discussions are underway as a more detailed ZTV was sent to HES on 9 October 2020.
HES	We recommend that impacts on the setting of heritage assets should be assessed using photomontage and wireframe visualisations where impacts are likely to be highest.	A36	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Agree, and will be included within Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR
HES	While some visualisation viewpoints are included at Figure 5.3 of the Scoping Report, we would highlight the requirement for visualisation viewpoints to be selected with the aim of informing an assessment of cultural heritage impacts. We have suggested some visualisation viewpoints in the Annex below, however would	A36	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Agree, and will be included within Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR.
	welcome further discussion (further details within the Annex of the HES Scoping Opinion).			Further discussions are underway as a more detailed ZTV was sent to HES on 9 October 2020.
HES	We would recommend that cumulative impacts are assessed and examined through the use of cumulative visualisations.	A36	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Agree, and will be included within Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage of the EIAR
NatureScot	General advice is provided by NatureScot on issues to include within the EIA including reference to their 'general pre-application/scoping advice to developers of onshore wind farms' and advice on collecting and presenting information within the EIA.	A76 to A89	Chapters 1 to 13	Response noted. Advice will be followed in the production of the EIAR.
NatureScot	We advise that the assessment should take into account both day and night time impacts on the WLA. Both the Wild Land assessment and the lighting assessment should take this into account. There should be night time viewpoint(s) located within the WLA and the Wild Land assessment should examine how the lighting would affect the wild land qualities at dusk and after dark.	A77	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Wild Land assessment will be included within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR. A Lighting assessment will be included within <b>Appendix 5.5</b> of the EIAR.
NatureScot	We advise that there should be an assessment of the impact of the development proposal on the WLA, and that this should be informed by an assessment of the effects of its wind turbine lighting.	A78	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Wild Land assessment will be included within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR.
	We advise that the applicant assesses the potential for adverse impacts of aviation lighting on the wild land qualities of the Merrick WLA. The assessment should follow our draft guidance.			A Lighting assessment will be
	The wind turbine lighting assessment should consider the cumulative effects of lights from other consented or application stage schemes – e.g. Clauchrie and Arecleoch extension wind farms. The proposed lighting of the cumulative schemes should be illustrated on the night time photomontage from Shalloch on Minnoch (or suitable agreed viewpoint) and any other night time photomontages.			included within <b>Appendix 5.5 Wild</b> <b>Land Assessment</b> of the EIAR. The draft guidance was followed in the early stages, then updated following the issue of updated guidance. Night-
	If directional lighting is to be employed as a form of mitigation, then it would also be useful to include a lighting intensity ZTV within the assessment (this ZTV should also show the boundaries for the Galloway Dark Sky Park and the Merrick WLA).			time photomontages and a ZTV for nacelle and tower lights will be included.
NatureScot	Given the separation distance between the proposed development site and the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) we agree with the conclusions in the scoping report that the upland and freshwater habitat features of the SAC are not hydrologically linked to the proposed development and can be scoped out of the EIA.	A79	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	Comments noted with regards to the scoping-out of the mentioned designations.
	However, otter are a mobile species and Section 6.3 Sensitive Receptors of the scoping report states that "the wide ranging nature of otter territories means that individuals associated with the SAC could potentially forage and/or commute along watercourses within the site". This suggests to us that there is a connection between the application area and the SAC.			Otter as a qualifying feature of Merrick Kells SAC have been scoped-out of this assessment based on absence of habitat connectivity, however otter are still considered as an Important

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	In our view, at present there is insufficient information to determine whether the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on the otter qualifying interest of Merrick Kells SAC. Therefore we reserve full judgement on any impacts on otter until we have considered the full otter survey findings. Following the survey the applicant should consider whether the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on the otter qualifying interest, provide sufficient information to inform an appropriate assessment in view of the site's conservation objectives for its otter qualifying interest.			Ecological Feature (IEF) and will be presented within <b>Chapter 7: Ecology</b> <b>and Biodiversity</b> of the EIAR.
NatureScot	<ul> <li>A number of protected species may be present and impacted by the development proposals. We advise that species surveys should have been completed no more than 18 months prior to submission of the application. The following protected species/protected species surveys should be considered, in line with relevant good practice guidelines:</li> <li>Otter (including any potential association with Merrick Kells SAC);</li> <li>Bats (roost surveys and activity surveys);</li> <li>Great Crested Newt (GCN);</li> <li>Water vole;</li> <li>Badger;</li> <li>Red Squirrel;</li> <li>Pine Marten;</li> <li>Fish and freshwater pearl mussel and</li> <li>Deer.</li> <li>In line with our guidance note for great crested newts, we recommend that this survey work should extend to 500m from any proposed infrastructure.</li> <li>Where there is suitable habitat for freshwater pearl mussel, and particularly where salmonids are present, we would expect a freshwater pearl mussel survey to be carried out following our guidance.</li> <li>If survey work finds that a species could be affected by the proposal, a protection plan for that species should be prepared. If mitigation measures proposed in the plan are not sufficient enough to avoid offences under protected species legislation, a licence from NatureScot will be required before works proceed. Refer to specific planning advice for individual species.</li> </ul>		Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	All protected species highlighted by NatureScot have been surveyed for and assessed, where applicable, in line with relevant good practice guidelines. Additional discussions were held with NatureScot regarding GCN and survey work agreed. Where appropriate, species specific protection plans will be incorporated within the CEMP and licensing will be obtained from NatureScot where necessary.
NatureScot	We recommend that if deer are present on or will use the development site, an assessment of the potential impacts on deer welfare, habitats, neighbouring and other interests (e.g. access and recreation, road safety, etc.) should be presented. If the development would, or could, result in significant impacts, a draft deer management statement should be provided, setting out how the impacts will be addressed. There's advice on this in Scottish Natural Heritage's (SNH) Guidance "What to consider and include in deer assessments and management at development sites".	A84	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	FLS have confirmed that both red and roe deer are present within the Site at medium density. However, the limited footprint of the Proposed Development, keyhole felling for wind turbine locations and the absence of large scale clear-felling and associated deer displacement means that potential construction and operational impacts are not anticipated to be significant and as such, deer are not considered as an IEF. Notwithstanding this, embedded mitigation will safeguard animal welfare on Site throughout all stages of development.

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NatureScot	If any suitable bat roosting sites are identified then further survey work to identify presence or absence, species, numbers, roost function and flightlines should be undertaken prior to the submission and determination of any planning application for this proposal. If bat roosts are present, a bat protection plan should be prepared. If mitigation measures proposed in the plan are not sufficient enough to avoid offences under protected species	/ s , in	Appendix 7.3	No built structures are present on site, the closest being a disused cottage at NS 33374 98049, over 700m from a proposed wind turbine location.
	legislation, a licence from NatureScot will be required before works proceed. We recommend that if there are any met masts available on site they should be used for at-height monitoring, in line with the SNH guidance. We appreciate that Covid-19 restrictions may have affected the proposed spring/summer 2020 bat surveys and			Roost potential in trees by tracks and wind turbines was reviewed by WSP and this will be presented within <b>Appendix 7.3</b> of the EIAR.
	we may make specific comment on the survey work once full details are available to us. Any deviations from published guidance during the course of survey work should be fully explained and justified in the EIAR.		met mast, this is n limitation as high recorded at eight spread across the that detectors we flying species. Th within <b>Figure 7.3</b> .	Although no detector was sited on the met mast, this is not considered a limitation as high flying Leisler's were recorded at eight different detectors spread across the Site, confirming that detectors were picking up high flying species. This will be presented within <b>Figure 7.3.4</b> of the EIAR.
NatureScot	As a minimum, we would expect wind turbines to be located where no part of their structure or blades should fall within 50m of the nearest building, tree or hedgerow in line with Natural England's Bats and onshore wind turbines Interim guidance Technical Information note TIN059. We may recommend further mitigation measures once we have considered the full survey results.	A82 /	Appendix 7.3	No wind turbines are within 50m of a building – the closest being over 700m from a building (as noted above).
				Some tree clearance may be required (subject to pre-felling check by an ecologist) to ensure no wind turbines are within 50m of a tree.
NatureScot	Where the proposed development site has permanent watercourses or water bodies in it or connected to it, you should seek advice from SEPA regarding water crossings and the adequacy of any hydrological work undertaken as part of the EIA.	A84	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	SEPA and WSP discussed these matters during a call on 20 October 2020. SEPA confirmed they were content of the level of detail to be provided within the assessment
NatureScot	We appreciate that the Covid-19 restrictions will have affected the Year 2 ornithology surveys and we may make specific comment on the ornithology survey work once full details are available to us. Any deviations from published guidance during the course of survey work should be fully explained and justified in the EIAR.	A84	Chapter 8: Ornithology	<b>Chapter 8: Ornithology</b> of the EIAR will include details on any survey limitation related to COVID-19 or otherwise.
NatureScot	Ground or vegetation clearance works should be undertaken outwith the main bird nesting season (March-August inclusive). If this is not possible, a suitably experienced ecologist should check the development site before work commences to determine the presence of any nesting birds. If nesting birds are found, a suitably sized buffer zone should be set up around the nest and no work within this zone should commence until the young have fledged or the nest is no longer in use.		Chapter 8: Ornithology	Details of these measures will be included within the Embedded Mitigation measures and good practice recommendations outlined within <b>Chapter 8: Ornithology</b> of the EIAR.
NatureScot	We recommend that the ES should include a map of the NVC survey results with the wind farm boundary, proposed wind turbines, tracks and infrastructure layout overlapping. Records of any rare or scarce plant species recorded within the site should also be included within the EIAR.	A85	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity of the EIAR will include information on NVC and makes note of any notable plant species, if applicable.

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NatureScot	As felling will be required for this development, we recommend continued consultation with FLS regarding requirements for compensatory planting according to the Scottish Government's policy on the control of woodland removal.	A85	Chapter 13: Other Issues	The Applicant has consulted with FLS on the felling and restocking plan. An initial meeting was held on 25 August and 29 September 2020 with a follow- up to take place in the near future to finalise the plans.
NatureScot	We advise that detailed peat surveys of the site, measuring the peat deposit to full depth, should be undertaken in accordance with Scottish Government guidance. The probing results should be used to inform the proposed Peat Stability Risk Assessment.	A85	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. Detailed peat surveys have been undertaken in accordance with Scottish Government Guidance, and with agreement by SEPA. The results will inform the Peat Stability Assessment within <b>Appendix</b> <b>6.1</b> of the EIAR.
NatureScot	Peat survey results should be used to inform the design and layout process, so that the development avoids, where possible, fragile and priority habitats and other sensitive areas e.g. blanket bog and peat. Where this is not possible, suitable restoration and/or compensation measures should be presented in the EIAR in the form of a draft Habitat Management Plan (HMP). HMPs should follow our guidance on "What to consider and include in Habitat Management Plans". We recommend that the HMP for this site should tie in with any relevant bog (and other) habitat restoration proposals for nearby sites in the area. We welcome the proposed Soil and Peat Management Plan (SPMP) and recommend that the applicant should consult with SEPA regarding excavated peat reuse and disposal.	A85	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	<ul> <li>Response noted.</li> <li>Peat survey results informed the design and layout process, and deeper peat and peatland habitats were avoided, where possible.</li> <li>A Soil and Peat Management Plan will be produced using the peat survey results and will be included as an appendix within Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils of the EIAR.</li> </ul>
NatureScot	We suggest that a further viewpoint location is investigated on Arran from where the wind turbines might be seen in the foreground of views to the high tops of the Merrick WLA. We also suggest that a photomontage is produced for the Merrick viewpoint (VP) 15, as a photograph will more clearly show the wild land context of this important viewpoint when looking along the ridge towards the proposed wind turbines.		Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	<ul> <li>Arran was investigated following scoping, due to the distance, it is not anticipated that there would be significant effects from this location. The 30km Study Area was then subsequently agreed to be appropriate. Arran sits approximately 45km away.</li> <li>A photomontage will be produced from the Merrick viewpoint.</li> </ul>
NatureScot	We would welcome clear numbering of all wind turbines on at least one visualisation for each viewpoint. We suggest that forestry felling is shown in the visualisation for Shalloch on Minnoch as this high level viewpoint looks down into the site.	A87	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Response noted and numbering will be included on 53.5 degree wirelines and forestry felling will be shown on Shalloch on Minnoch photomontage. Where only 90 degree wirelines are shown for a viewpoint and the distance allows it, numbering of wind turbines will be provided.
NatureScot	The three proposed night time lighting viewpoints are reasonable for lower level assessment. However there should also be at least one viewpoint within the WLA from which a lighting assessment is carried out. We advise that Shalloch on Minnoch would be a key viewpoint for a night time lighting assessment as all the wind turbines	A87	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Lighting assessment will be undertaken as an Appendix to the LVIA.

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	would be visible from here to their (almost) full extent. The Merrick, Macaterick and/or Mullwharchar should also be considered. However we are happy to discuss alternative viewpoints which could clearly represent the likely impact on the northern and north eastern parts of the WLA.			A night-time photomontage has been produced for Viewpoint 5: Shalloch on Minnoch. There is ongoing discussion on additional viewpoints in the WLA from recent meeting of consultees on 29 September 2020. Additional information was issued to NatureScot on 13 and 23 October 2020.
NatureScot	The night time lighting photomontages should also clearly show lighting at relevant existing and proposed wind farms in the cumulative baseline including Clauchrie and Arecleoch Extension wind farms. Where co-located technologies have a requirement for lighting we request that this is clearly indicated on the night time lighting images where relevant.	A87	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A request has been issued to NatureScot on 13 and 23 October 2020 to discuss the approach to night- time visualisations with regard to modelling in other proposed windfarms.
NatureScot	We do not agree that night time effects on landscape character should be scoped out (scoping report para 90).	A88	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Response noted. Our lighting assessment will include landscape character.
NatureScot	We agree that the wild land assessment is likely to focus on the northern part of the WLA but advise that this should be presented in the context of the WLA overall, with all qualities considered at the outset. We welcome the proposal to follow SNH's 2017 Draft 'Assessing Impacts on Wild Land Technical Guidance'. The wild land assessment should include an assessment of lighting on the wild land qualities.	A88	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	We note the recent update to WLA guidance and will be using this, considering the WLA as a whole. A Wild Land assessment will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> . Lighting will also be a consideration and a Lighting assessment will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.5</b> of the EIAR.
SEPA	<ul> <li>The information outlined below and in the attached appendix must be submitted in support of the application:</li> <li>a) Map and assessment of all engineering activities in or impacting on the water environment including proposed buffers, details of any flood risk assessment and details of any related CAR applications.</li> <li>b) Map and assessment of impacts upon Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems and buffers.</li> <li>c) Map and assessment of impacts upon groundwater abstractions and buffers.</li> <li>d) Peat depth survey and table detailing re-use proposals.</li> <li>e) Map and table detailing forest removal.</li> <li>f) Map and site layout of borrow pits and Borrow Pit Site Management Plan.</li> <li>g) Schedule of mitigation including pollution prevention measures.</li> <li>h) Map of proposed waste water drainage layout.</li> <li>i) Map of proposed surface water drainage layout.</li> <li>j) Map of proposed water abstractions including details of the proposed operating regime.</li> <li>k) Decommissioning statement.</li> </ul>	A67 to A68	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. This information will be incorporated into the relevant appendices within Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils of the EIAR.

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	Detailed information requirements provided in an attached appendix which sets out scoping information requirements. Evidence must be provided in the submission to support why an issue is not relevant for this site in order to avoid delay and potential objection.			
SEPA	All of the site appears to be within the boundary of existing commercial coniferous forestry plantation, which will have limited habitat diversity, with Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE) confined to rides and margins. However, a NVC survey will highlight these.	A68	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	An NVC survey was completed and potential GWDTEs are identified within this survey. This will be provided within <b>Appendix 7.2</b> of the EIAR.
SEPA	We expect the application to be supported by a comprehensive site specific Peat Management Plan. Peat depth surveys and management plan should highlight any issues with waste peat or re-use.	A68	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	A site specific Peat Management Plan will be included as part of the submitted application within <b>Appendix 6.2</b> of the EIAR.
SEPA	Information on all groundwater abstractions must be obtained by a site walkover with additional information from SEPA, Local Authority Environmental Health, the Drinking Water Quality Regulator and local residents.	A68	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. This information has been collated and used in the PWS Appendix. This will be provided within <b>Appendix 6.4</b> of the EIAR.
SEPA	It is noted that some felling may be required to facilitate the development. The applicant should be reminded that such felling activities may fall within the scope of the waste management regime and any felling plans should be drawn up with reference to SEPA's current guidance on forestry waste.	A68	Chapter 13: Other Issues	The issue of forestry waste generated by the felling operations required for the development will be addressed in the Forestry Technical Appendix within <b>Chapter 13: Other Issues</b> of the EIAR.
SEPA	<ul> <li>We have identified a number of small watercourses within the site boundary for which we do not hold flood risk information and we therefore advise that contact is made with your Flood Risk Management Authority who may have local knowledge and/or possess flood records.</li> <li>Any opportunities to provide a benefit to any existing flooding problems at a watercourse crossing point should also be investigated.</li> <li>Careful consideration should be given to the extent of deforestation and proposed flood risk mitigation measures.</li> </ul>	A68	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. WSP contacted the Ayrshire Roads Alliance on 7 October 2020 for further information on flooding in the area.
SEPA	We would welcome the opportunity to comment on the draft submission. As we can process files of a maximum size of only 25MB the submission must be divided into appropriately named sections of less than 25MB each.	A71	N / A	Response noted. A draft EIAR will not be submitted for comment ahead of the final submission. WSP have consulted on issues regarding surface water management, peat stability and GWDTE, as outlined in Table 3.1, and this consultation will be considered within the EIAR.
SEPA	Key holing must be used wherever possible as large scale felling can result in large amounts of waste material and in a peak release of nutrients which can affect local water quality. The supporting information should refer to the current Forest Plan if one exists and measures should comply with the Plan where possible.	A73	Chapter 13: Other Issues	A keyholing design approach has been taken. The current Forest Design Plan is being used in the preparation of the Proposed Development felling and restocking plans.
SEPA	Scottish Planning Policy states (Paragraph 243) that "Borrow pits should only be permitted if there are significant environmental or economic benefits compared to obtaining material from local quarries, they are time-limited; tied		Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. These issues will be considered in the Borrow Pit

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	to a particular project and appropriate reclamation measures are in place." The submission must provide sufficient information to address this policy statement.			Assessment as provided within <b>Appendix 4.2</b> of the EIAR.
Internal Scottish Govern	ment Advisors			
Marine Scotland (MS)	MS recommends that the developer consults our generic scoping and monitoring programme guidelines in relation to water quality and fish populations associated with wind farm developments.	A43 to A44	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	MS's fish monitoring guidelines and other listed items are considered
	We further recommend that the developer considers the following when carrying out the Environmental Impact Assessment:			within <b>Chapter 7: Ecology and</b> <b>Biodiversity</b> of the EIAR or other relevant chapters within the EIAR and
	<ul> <li>the River Stinchar and Water of Girvan support important salmon and trout populations;</li> </ul>			consultation was undertaken with
	<ul> <li>acidification is a known problem in the area;</li> </ul>			Ayrshire Rivers Trust and the affiliated associated District Salmon Fishery
	• the potential impact on the water quality and aquatic biota associated with forestry operations; and			Boards.
	• the potential cumulative impact on the water quality and aquatic biota as a result of the present proposal and developments which have hydrological connectivity with the proposed wind farm.	and		
	MSS notes that the developer intends to contact Ayrshire Rivers Trust to seek information on local fish populations which is good practice. We suggest that the developer also contacts, if not already done so, the Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board and Girvan District Salmon Fishery Board.			
Scottish Forestry	All felling and restocking proposals must be compliant with the UK Forestry Standard.	A61	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Felling and restocking plans are compliant with the UK Forestry Standard.
	Annex 1 of Scottish Government's policy on control of woodland removal: implementation guidance February			
	2019 provides guidance on the level of information Scottish Forestry expects within an EIAR, to help us reach an informed decision. Annex 5 of this guidance provides information on calculating the area of compensatory planting, which will be required as the result of the proposed development.			Compensatory planting calculations have been undertaken following
	The applicant should note that any compensatory planning which might be required as a result of the proposed development, may need to be considered under The Forestry (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.			Annex 5 of the Scottish Governmen policy on the control of woodland removal.
				Response relating to the Forestry EIA Regs noted.
Transport Scotland (TS)	Recommends the Traffic Scotland's National Traffic Data System as a potential source of traffic data.	A93	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	Response Noted. Independent traffic surveys have been undertaken on the proposed study network and will be supplemented by traffic data from the Traffic Scotland National Traffic Data System if required.
TS	The SR states that environmental impacts associated with increased traffic such as driver delay, pedestrian amenity, severance, safety etc will be considered and assessed where appropriate (i.e. where Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment Guidelines for further assessment are breached). These specify that road links should be taken forward for assessment if:	A93	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	Response noted. This approach will be included within <b>Chapter 11:</b> <b>Access, Traffic and Transport</b> of the EIAR as appropriate.
	• Traffic flows will increase by more than 30%, or			
	• The number of HGVs will increase by more than 30%, or			
	Traffic flows will increase by 10% or more in sensitive areas.			
	Transport Scotland is satisfied with this approach, but would add that potential trunk road related environmental impacts should be considered and mitigated where appropriate.			

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TS	There are limitations on the size of components that Cairnryan can accommodate and, as such, consideration would be given to this during the route assessment works and as part of the Traffic and Transport chapter within the EIAR.	A93	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	Response noted. <b>Chapter 11:</b> <b>Access, Traffic and Transport</b> of the EIAR and associated access study will cover abnormal load access from the Port of Entry to the Site location in detail. It is currently proposed that wind turbine components are delivered to the King George V Dock in Glasgow. The port of Cairnryan may be considered a secondary option however it has some restrictions including limited water depth and port handling facilities/component storage.
TS	We would add that Transport Scotland will require to be satisfied that the size of wind turbines proposed can negotiate the selected route and that transportation will not have any detrimental effect on structures within the trunk road route path. A full Abnormal Loads Assessment report should, therefore, be provided with the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) that identifies key pinch points on the trunk road network. Swept path analysis should be undertaken and details provided with regard to any required changes to street furniture or structures along the route.	A94	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport	A Route Survey Report has previously been undertaken by the applicant in relation to the proposed access route for abnormal load vehicles and this will be used to inform further assessment of the proposed access route, including a review of the suitability of all structures on the routes. These studies will be used to inform <b>Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport</b> of the EIAR and will be undertaken in consultation with the relevant stakeholders.
Non-Statutory Consultees				
Ayrshire Rivers Trust (ART) / River Stinchar District Salmon Fishery Board (RSDSFB) / River Girvan District Salmon Fishery Board (RGDSFB)	Fish surveys should be established before construction commences; this data would provide baseline information. The fish surveys should continue during construction and once the development is complete. This would allow for a full dataset to be collated and any impact of the wind farm would be closely monitored. Aquatic macroinvertebrate monitoring should also be undertaken before, during and after construction to supplement water quality monitoring. The Water of Girvan does inhabit a population of Freshwater Pearl Mussels and this should be considered during planning and construction. Monitoring of the population may be required.	A17	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	Appropriate fish and freshwater pearl mussel surveys have been undertaken by ART on behalf of WSP and will be reported within <b>Appendix</b> <b>7.5</b> of the EIAR.
ART / RSDSFB / RGDSFB	<ul> <li>Construction and operation of the Carrick Wind Farm proposal has the potential to effect fish populations and fisheries within the River Stinchar and Water of Girvan catchments. We therefore request the updated Environmental Impact Assessment should assess (if they have not done so already) the following potential effects from the site preparation and construction and operational activities:</li> <li>1. Forest Felling and subsequent effects of this activity e.g. acidification of watercourses, rates of Surface Drainage Run-off, sediment-laden surface drainage water, input of hydrocarbons</li> <li>2. Construction activities – impediment to fish movement. Construction activities should not impede movement of all migratory and resident fish populations. New water crossings (temporary or permanent) should only be installed using SEPA design and best practice guidelines. The River Stinchar DSFB, River Girvan DSFB and Ayrshire Rivers Trust should be consulted beforehand to assist with the design and necessary mitigation measures. There is an opportunity for the development to have a positive impact on the water environment by upgrading old crossings within the development that may prevent or hinder fish migration.</li> </ul>	A17 to A18	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	The listed potential effects will be considered within <b>Chapter 7</b> : <b>Ecology and Biodiversity</b> or other relevant Chapters within the EIAR. Mitigation and monitoring proposals in relation to fisheries will be presented within <b>Chapter 7</b> : <b>Ecology and</b> <b>Biodiversity</b> of the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	3. Construction/operation activities - increased silt loading to watercourses. Potential impacts from soil stripping, track construction and vehicle/plant movements, dewatering on receptor watercourses and abstraction of water from watercourses.			
	A comprehensive mitigation and monitoring plan using the most up to date best practice guidelines should be included that will address the above potential negative impacts on watercourses.			
ВТ	We have studied this Windfarm proposal with respect to EMC and related problems to BT point-to-point microwave radio links. The conclusion is that, the Project indicated should not cause interference to BT's current and presently planned radio network using the Preliminary Turbine Locations attached.	A19	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Response noted. BT was consulted on the final wind turbine layout in relation to the Telecommunications assessment and raised no concerns. This will be presented within <b>Chapter</b> <b>13: Other Issues</b> of the EIAR.
NATS Safeguarding	<ul> <li>The proposed development has been examined by our technical safeguarding teams and conflicts with our safeguarding criteria.</li> <li>Accordingly, NATS (En Route) plc objects to the proposal. The reasons for NATS's objection are outlined in the attached report Technical and Operational Assessment SG09361 Issue 3.</li> <li>The proposed development has been examined by technical and operational safeguarding teams. A technical impact is anticipated, this has been deemed to be unacceptable.</li> </ul>	A48 to A55	Chapter 13: Other Issues	An aviation assessment will be included within <b>Chapter 13: Other</b> <b>Issues</b> of the EIAR which considers the response from NATS including the Technical and Operational Assessment received in July 2020.
NATS Safeguarding	No impact is anticipated on NATS' navigation aids or radio communications infrastructure.	A55	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Response noted.
CSKCC	Question 1: Do you agree with the Landscape and Visual proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?         5.3.2. (Scoping Report paragraph reference) – As well as the four listed landscape designations, the Southern Ayrshire & Galloway Biosphere should be included. The Proposed Development would be in the Buffer Zone of the Biosphere. More emphasis should be placed on importance of UNESCO Biosphere status and the criteria for Biosphere should be included in Scoping.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity Planning Statement	<ul> <li>Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual of the EIAR will consider the effects on landscape character, landscape designations and visual amenity. These aspects are just one part of the GSAB.</li> <li>Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity of the EIAR will assess the GSAB,</li> <li>The Proposed Development will be assessed against the Local Development Plan (LDP) policy: GSAB. Effects on the GSAB will be explained as a collective response to these policies.</li> </ul>
CSKCC	5.3.3. Forestry/trees should not be used as screening visibility as they are not fixed features of the landscape. Do not agree with the Study Area being reduced from 45km to 30km radius, particularly given the height of the wind turbines.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The 30km radius has been agreed with South Ayrshire Council. NatureScot were also consulted on 22 October 2020 with regard to the Stud Area. The reason for this distance is that the EIA process is to identify and reduce significant effects and not to capture all possible effects. The assessment needs to be proportionat and report only on anticipated significant effects. It is not considered that there would be significant effects

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				beyond 30km and it is for this reason that the 30km Study Area has been selected.
CSKCC	5.5.2 Preliminary work shows that the indicative layout would not be visible from Culzean Castle or its surroundings. If the layout alters and it is visible from any part of Culzean Castle and Park then Culzean Castle Garden and Designated Landscape should not be scoped out. Other designated landscapes in the vicinity have been omitted and should be included.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul> <li>Where designated landscapes have not been included this is because visibility remains none or limited and so these are appropriate to be scoped out.</li> <li>Culzean Castle GDL will have no visibility from within its polices within the updated ZTV. As a result, this will be scoped out.</li> </ul>
CSKCC	5.7.1 Surveys are being conducted at Keirs Hill. The Scoping Report is now available for Craiginmoddie which is on the former Hadyard Hill Extension. This would adjoin the proposed Carrick Forest development.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Generally, sites at the scoping stage are not included due to lack of available information. However, given the proximity of Craigenmodddie to the Site, SPR and EnergieKontor have been able to work together to share information. As a result, Craiginmoddie will be included in the cumulative assessment. This response also covers Question 4 of the CSKCC Scoping Response regarding any other scoping or in planning windfarm sites to be considered as part of the cumulative assessment.
CSKCC	5.7.2 Residential Visual Amenity should include the gardens and surrounding land (curtilage) not just the view from inside the house. This is recommended by Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) 2019 (1.1 'the overall quality, experience and nature of views and outlook available to occupants of residential properties, including views from gardens and domestic curtilage'.) Given the height of the proposed wind turbines all residential receptors within 5km should have detailed assessment of potential visual effects. If this includes a village then a selection of houses should be assessed.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The RVAA will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.4</b> of the EIAR and has taken into consideration properties within 2km of the Proposed Development, following an initial review of a wider area. The approach to this assessment is in accordance with the recent Landscape Institute's publication: Technical Guidance Note 2/19: <i>Residential Visual Amenity</i> <i>Assessment (RVAA)</i> (March 2019) which identifies that beyond a 2km distance it would be very unlikely for a wind turbine to create overbearing effects on residents. Beyond this distance, visual receptors including settlements are covered by the main assessment.
СЅКСС	5.7.3. The Merrick Area of Wild Land should not be scoped out. It is very close to the Proposal and would have significant impacts.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Wild Land assessment will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				This response also covers Question 8 of the CSKCC Scoping Response regarding comments on Wild Land assessment.
CSKCC	5.7.4. Night-time Assessment: Any lighting on wind turbines is going to interfere with people's enjoyment of the night skies. Particularly important out in the country where there are no street lights to impair the experience. In addition lighting on the wind turbines could affect the Gold Tier Dark Sky Status of the Galloway Dark Sky Park therefore the criteria for the Dark Sky status should be in Scoping.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Lighting assessment will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.5</b> of the EIAR.
CSKCC	Question 2: Any comments on overall methodology proposed to assess effects on landscape and visual receptors, including cumulative effects?         5.7.1. Best practice is to include windfarms within 60km radius for cumulative effects but the Applicant is only proposing to consider those within 20km at this stage. We strongly recommend the 60km radius be used.	A95	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A 60km radius was initially used to understand the potential for cumulative effects. Following review of ZTVs, a 30km Study Area was then agreed to be appropriate for assessing significant effects. This has been agreed with South Ayrshire Council. NatureScot were also consulted on 23 October 2020 with regard to the Study Area.
CSKCC	Question 3: Are the proposed viewpoints acceptable, including for night-time assessment?	A96	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Viewpoints are a tool to aid the
	Examining the selection of viewpoints it is clear further refinement is necessary. Many are in unrealistic or positions which do not give a proper impression of the wind farm in the experience of people passing through and living in the landscape.	l.		landscape and visual assessment and are chosen to be representative of the theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development from certain areas and
	For example (a sample to illustrate, all have issues):			receptors. They are selected following
	<ul> <li>View point 1: this position has Black Hill occluding the view of the wind farm. A more realistic view would be found a short distance down the road at 24003 598241. Furthermore, producing an animation of passing between Viewpoint 1 and 3km down this route at 239804 597931 is well within the capabilities of wind farm planning software and would provide a better impression that a photomontage.</li> </ul>			a thorough process in which a desk top study is carried out, this includes a ZTV and review using google earth, as well as a 3d model. The viewpoints are then visited on-site and refined.
	<ul> <li>Viewpoint 2: viewpoint is deep in an unrepresentative deep-sided valley which is a tiny portion of NCR7.</li> <li>Higher on the flat area around 233143 599703 to 233674 601106 would be more informative.</li> </ul>			This process happens several times as the design changes. The viewpoint locations suggested were reviewed as
	• Viewpoint 6: the westerly point of Straiton Cemetery is unrepresentative of the residencies and school on the easterly section of this road, which have a greater exposure to the visual impacts of the proposed wind farm.			part of this process.
	<ul> <li>Viewpoint 9: Crosshill impacts are not well represented by a view from the Bowling Club car park. Viewpoints along Dalhowan Street or as you approach Crosshill from Maybole would be more informative.</li> </ul>			With regard to viewpoint 6, to find visibility of the latest Proposed Development layout, this is now
	Viewpoints should be considered further afield. For example, due to its placement and scale the proposed wind farm can be seen from the junction between the A77 and the road into Alloway, as well as along the A713 from Ayr to Dumfries.			located further away from the main Straiton settlement than previously located. This is due to lack of visibility
	Suggestion: re-evaluate all the viewpoints and find more representative positions in conversation with the community. The scale of these wind turbines has much greater effect, at longer distances. At 2-3x the height of previous generations of wind turbines, they will be as visible 4-9x further away. Certain locations have been ruled out in the scoping document, but there is no supporting reasoning or information as to why. It is suggested depictions are created to illustrate why they are excluded.			available within the settlement from a publicly accessible location, noting screening by vegetation and the intervening forestry.
CSKCC	Further viewpoints need to be included e.g. from venues for weddings. Viewpoints from Balbeg Country Holidays and Tairlaw should also be included. Balbeg Country Holidays is a major tourist accommodation business with over 1,000 guests each year. Tairlaw has a popular picnic area and 2 properties. The viewpoint from the summit	A96	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Viewpoint 23 Craigencallie, Straiton has been added and is located within 1km of Balbeg and 1.5km from Tairlaw. Balbeg Country Holidays

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	of Kirriereoch should be included as it is popular with hill walkers. Turnberry Golf Course should be included as it is a world-class course and has hosted the British Open.			benefits from being heavily screened by dense planting within its grounds and so views towards the Site are unlikely. As shown in the ZTV there are gaps in visibility around Tairlaw. There are no anticipated significant effects from Turnberry Golf Course, due to no or limited visibility. Kirriereoch is located just north of Merrick and would have a similar view of the Proposed Development to that from Merrick given the location of the Proposed Development to the north. It would be represented by the viewpoint from Merrick.
CSKCC	Night time assessments should also include the western end of the Carrick Forest Drive as this is used by star gazers.	A96	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The assessment of lighting on landscape and visual receptors will consider this area.
CSKCC	Question 5: Has the consultee identified any further landscape or visual receptors to be considered within the assessment (e.g. where potential significant effects may occur)?The Applicant should consider Overbearing (a term used by Reporters when the impacts are unacceptable). Using the algorithm derived from 53 determinations from 14 Decision Notices involving 13 Reporters in Scotland between 2009 and 2017, it was possible to quantify which properties would suffer from the proposed wind farm being overbearing and result in unacceptable impacts to the quality of life at the property.It was found that five residences (Tairlaw Toll (two properties), Tallaminnoch, Glenalla and Garleffin) would all categorically fall within this unacceptable finding. Further afield there was a possibility that 13 properties in the valley between Straiton and the proposed wind farm might be considered to have negative impacts due to the overbearing nature of the wind turbines, and south west of the site 8 properties between Balloch and Barr might also be similarly affected. A diagram illustrating this is included within the CSKCC Scoping Response.Additionally, it should be noted that the two roads which pass through the red overbearing zone include a National Cycle Route (7) which is effected for a distance of 3.5km and a tourist route through the Galloway Forest Park which is effected for 4.6km. Core paths and the Carrick Forest Drive also pass through the red zone.There is a number of designated landscapes within the area as well as listed buildings of historical value and hotels and other businesses which depend on wedding parties. There are also camp sites, road and rail routes which have been omitted.	A96	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The purpose of the Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) is to understand where effects would be considered overbearing. The RVAA will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.4</b> of the EIAR. The approach to this assessment is in accordance with the recent Landscape Institute's publication: Technical Guidance Note 2/19: <i>Residential Visual Amenity</i> <i>Assessment (RVAA)</i> (March 2019) which sets out a 2km distance. Beyond this, visual receptors including settlements are covered by the main assessment.
CSKCC	Question 6: Do you agree with the landscape and visual receptors proposed to be scoped out? We agree that Dumfries House can be scoped out. Culzean Castle Garden and Designated Landscape should not be scoped out if the layout of the wind turbines alter and views of the Proposal can be seen from any part of the grounds. It is one of the most visited sites in Scotland and although, at present, views might not be seen from the building or immediate surroundings visitors will see the Proposed Development coming to and from this receptor. The re-routing of the A77 around Maybole should be considered. The Merrick Wild Land Area should not be scoped out. The Proposal is located very close to this designation – the only such one in the south west of Scotland.	A97	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	<ul> <li>Where designated landscapes have not been included, this is because visibility remains none or limited and so these are appropriate to be scoped out. This has been reviewed throughout the design process.</li> <li>A Wild Land assessment of the Merrick Wild Land Area will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR.</li> </ul>
CSKCC	Question 7: Are there any other relevant consultees who should be consulted with respect to the LVIA?	A97 to A98	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	The GSAB was consulted and their response is detailed within this table.

### Carrick Windfarm Gatecheck Report

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	<ul> <li>We believe the following organisations would be useful consultees and provide valuable local information:</li> <li>The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere</li> </ul>			John Muir Trust was consulted but no response was received.
	<ul> <li>Save Straiton for Scotland</li> <li>The Galloway National Park Association</li> <li>John Muir Trust (should be consulted regarding the impacts to the Merrick Area of Wild Land)</li> </ul>			Save Straiton for Scotland and Galloway National Park Association were not consulted as part of Scoping directly, however some members of Save Straiton for Scotland have engaged with SPR. The online public information event is ongoing and the general public are able to provide feedback on the Proposed Development at any time via the project email address carrickwindfarm@scottishpower.com
CSKCC	Question 9: Do you agree with the Ecology proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?	A98	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	The GSAB has been considered below in the GSAB response.
	6.3. We have concerns about the adverse effects on general wildlife and biodiversity interests of the Biosphere Reserve. We also have concerns about the possible impairment of quality of Linfern Loch, River Stinchar and Water of Girvan catchments and about the possible impairment of quality of the water going by aqueducts to Loch Bradan.			Consideration of terrestrial invertebrates will be included within Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity of the EIAR.
	We believe strongly that terrestrial invertebrates should not be ignored/dismissed. 6.6. We feel it is not acceptable that degradation of Linfern Loch could be permanent. The consultation with relevant bodies and field surveys need to be robust and not just walkovers. People who work in these forests know a lot about the life in them and should also be consulted.			<ul> <li>Potential adverse effects on Linfern Loch in the Scoping Report were identified on a precautionary basis prior to the establishment of a finalised development design and predicted in the absence mitigation. The final development design is sufficiently set back from Linfern Loch and the implementation of standard pollution prevention measures are predicted to avoid any significant adverse effects on this receptor.</li> <li>Ecology surveys have been undertaken by qualified ecologists following prescribed methodologies set out by NatureScot.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Question 10: Do you agree with the Ornithology proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?</li> <li>7.3. It is noted that a peregrine eyrie was recorded but signs that breeding did not take place or was unsuccessful. This does not mean that breeding will not take place and be successful in the future. The same applies to merlin and goshawk.</li> <li>7.6. We do not agree with scoping out species not listed in Section 7.3 of the Scoping Report. There are at least two other species of goose, possibly resident, at Linfern Loch, as well as ducks. There are also summer migratory birds present on site.</li> </ul>		Chapter 8: Ornithology	<ul> <li>Updated data of local Schedule 1 raptors species (including the aforementioned peregrine eyrie and breeding goshawk) has been provided by the South Scotland Raptor Study Group. This data, as well as data related to other potentially sensitive species, will be included with Chapter 8: Ornithology of the EIAR, and/or associated Appendices, as necessary.</li> <li>Section 7.4 of the Scoping Report states that species not listed in Section 7.3 will be scoped-out of the</li> </ul>

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				EIAR unless otherwise informed by ongoing surveys. As such, all species recorded via survey or desk study/data requests, will be appropriately considered within the EIAR in accordance with Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment, as well relevant statutory guidance and advice.
CSKCC	Question 11: Do you agree with the Cultural Heritage proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?         8.3. Does not agree with the Cultural Heritage proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment. Assessments should be made on all assets up to 20km from the site boundary. This would ensure Turnberry Castle, Culzean Castle, Dunaskin and other important cultural assets are included in assessments.         8.6. From past experience with floodlighting of windfarms under construction the lighting impacts on a much wider area, especially where no other source of lighting exists.	A99	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	WSP is in discussion with HES and WoSAS with regard to proportionality of assessment. The refreshed ZTV does identify that there will be no visibility towards the Proposed Development from Culzean Castle. Although there are limited views (single blade tip) from elements of Turnberry Castle, due to the distances involved and the intermediate screening from dispersed settlement and infrastructure, it is proposed to scope this element out of further assessment. WSP are in discussion with HES with regard to assets beyond the initial 10km assessment. It is also proposed to assess Dunaskin, however at this stage it is unlikely that the Proposed Development will affect the ability to appreciate and understand the asset.
CSKCC	Question 12: Do you agree with the Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?           Very concerned the disturbance of land, building of roads etc. will lead to compromising the quality of water on the site. These include public water supplies (the aqueduct bringing water to Loch Bradan), private water supplies (only two properties are included), watercourses leading into Linfern Loch, River Stinchar and Girvan Water.	A99	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	These issues will be addressed within Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils of the EIAR and the PWS Appendix will be provided within Appendix 6.4, including any required mitigation.
CSKCC	<ul> <li>Question 13: Do you agree with the Noise proposed approach for baseline collection, measurement locations, prediction of effects and significance assessment?</li> <li>10.2.1. Considering the proposed height of the wind turbines 5km would not be sufficient as a Study Area.</li> <li>10.2.4. Additional to Dersalloch and Hadyard Hill wind farms there are two other proposed sites, one already in application, that are proposing wind turbines of a similar height within 5km of this site which should be included in the Study Area.</li> <li>10.5.1. Do not agree with scoping out construction traffic noise. These are quiet, rural roads and any additional traffic is always significant. PAN 1/2011 insists noise from traffic sources should be assessed. Regarding 1km</li> </ul>	A99 Additional Consultation 19 August 2020 & 28 August 2020	Chapter 9: Noise	The search area of 5km for cumulative developments is in accordance with the South Ayrshire Council Environmental Health Guidance: Wind turbine development: Submission Guidance note as prepared by the noise and vibration technical advisors to South Ayrshire Council. The assessment of operational wind turbine noise will be undertaken in

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference
	proximity to the proposal 2 homes (receptors) are within 1km of the proposal so noise and vibration issues should be revisited.		
	10.5.2. Energy Storage Facility – since this is an unknown in terms of potential noise generated it should not be scoped out.		
	Low frequency noise and infra-sound. The document referred to was published in 2014. More recent documents point out the effects on health, both physical and mental, of low frequency noise and infra-sound. Court judgements in other countries have recognised these as injurious to health.		
	10.7.1.1. Blasting – when ScottishPower Renewables built Dersalloch some blasting occurred outwith agreed blasting schedules so control was inadequate.		
	10.7.2.2. Knockskae has not been included, yet already is affected by noise from the Dersalloch wind farm, therefore cumulative effect very likely.		
CSKCC	Question 14: Do you agree with the Traffic and Transport proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?	A100	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and

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	accordance with ETSU-R-97 and the loA GPG. The cumulative assessment will also be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the South Ayrshire Council LDP Supplementary Guidance: Wind Energy, and so will include consideration to wind turbines within the search area that are operational/consented, or have a live planning application.
	Subsequent to completed consultation, a Scoping Report for the Craigenmoddie Windfarm has been submitted to South Ayrshire Council giving rise to an associated live planning application. The site of that proposal is to the immediate west of the Proposed Development. The Craigenmoddie Windfarm proposal has therefore also been scoped-in to the cumulative assessment.
	In scoping-out an assessment of construction traffic noise, consideration has been given to both the flows that would arise, those that current prevail, and the routes that are proposed to be used by construction traffic as well as the proximity of any receptors to those routes. South Ayrshire Council agreed that construction traffic noise could be scoped out of the Noise assessment.
	Where receptors are identified within 1km of the developable area, the need for construction noise and vibration assessments will be revisited.
	It has been agreed with the technical advisors to South Ayrshire Council for noise and vibration that an assessment of fixed plant noise can be scoped-out of the assessment.
	An assessment of blast induced groundborne vibration and air overpressure will be undertaken in accordance with BS5228, PAN 50 and PAN 50 Annex D.
ic and Transport	Response noted. Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport of the

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	11.2. Missing from the road network is the section from the B7045 at Straiton to the access road. This passes: residential properties, church, local amenities, local primary school, cemetery, stand-alone properties and farms. This is normally a quiet road with local, agricultural, forestry, visitor and tourist traffic. Any increase in traffic is noticeable and significant.			EIAR will be undertaken in line with the relevant guidance and all appropriate routes and sensitive receptors potentially affected by
	From the B7023 – B741 the route also passes a cemetery and the entrance to Blairquhan Castle.			construction traffic will be assessed accordingly.
	If traffic is travelling to the site from Ayr, Prestwick and from the north the quickest route is southbound along the A77 to Minishant, turning into the B7045, through Kirkmichael and Straiton and along the Newton Stewart Hill Road (C46W) to the site entrance. If the Applicant anticipates vehicles using this route then it should also be assessed.			
	11.7. Assessment Methodology. The Applicant has listed a various categories of receptors. This list should also include wedding venues and cemeteries (in sensitive locations), people with disabilities and people with pets. The local roads are also used for cycle races.			
CSKCC	Question 15: Do you agree with the Socio-Economics, Recreation, Tourism proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?	A100	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	A 5km and 15km Study Area has been used for recreation and tourisr
	Does not agree with the Socio-Economics, Recreation, Tourism proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment for the following reasons:			assessment respectively. The Study Areas have been defined based on professional judgement and are
	12.2.1. The recreation and tourism assessment focus on a 5km and 15km Study Area respectively. Due to the height of the wind turbines this should be enlarged to 20km. Turnberry Golf Course and Glen App Castle are worldclass assets and should be included in assessments along with others.			deemed appropriate to capture the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development. The
	12.2.2. The list of small-scale settlements and communities is incomplete and random and the list of recreation facilities is incomplete. The list of tourist facilities and attractions is incomplete. The list of tourist accommodation is also incomplete.			assessment has also considered receptors such as the Galloway Forest.
	12.4.1. Socio-Economics. Community benefit and/or shared ownership should not be included in the Scoping report. It is not a planning consideration and it is not guaranteed. As an example; SSE agreed to community ownership of a wind turbine when it developed Blackcraig wind farm near Balmaclellan, Dumfries-shire. After receiving planning consent they promptly sold the site and community ownership was not honoured. Community benefit is not a legal requirement.			Trump Turnberry Golf Course has been considered as a local tourist attraction. Due to the approximate 30 km distance and intervening vegetation between the Proposed Development and the Glen App
and Tourism are t 12.7.3. Tourism. T the Applicant know attract, and where the wind farm prop 12.7.4. Socio-Eco stated before. 12.7.6. Given the businesses are ac	12.6. We welcome the statement made by the Applicant that no issues concerning Socio-Eonomics, Recreation and Tourism are to be scoped out of the EIAR.			Castle, it is not anticipated that ther would be a significant effect on the
	12.7.3. Tourism. The Scoping report should include an independent tourism impact study. Only by doing this will the Applicant know what the local tourism business are, their turnover, the type and number of visitors they attract, and where they come from, the 'tourist spend' which the visitors bring to the area, and the likely effect of the wind farm proposals on their business.			access or amenity of this receptor. The assessment has considered receptors within the Study Areas. A variety of websites have been used
	12.7.4. Socio-Economics. Again community benefit and shared ownership should be scoped out for the reasons stated before.			identify these receptors. Chapter 12: Socio-economics,
	12.7.6. Given the height of the proposed wind turbines the Study Area should be 20km. Not all tourism businesses are advertised on VisitScotland's website, particularly smaller businesses more common in this area.			<b>Tourism and Recreation</b> of the El/ will detail the potential community benefit and/or shared ownership
	With regard visitors' decisions to holiday in the area, the report by Mountaineering Scotland 2017 should also be referenced			opportunities for the Proposed Development but will not consider them within the main assessment.
				Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the El/ will present an assessment on the impacts of the Proposed Developm on tourism which includes potential

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				effects on tourism receptors such as tourist assets and tourism accommodation.
				The Mountaineering Scotland 2017 study will be considered within the assessment.
				Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR will provide further details on the assessment methodology.
CSKCC	Question 16: Are there any other receptors that should be included within the assessment?	A101	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and	A 5km and 15km Study Area will be
	<ul> <li>Yes. The Study Area needs to be increased to 20km and these would then be covered. If Glen App Castle and Gardens are outwith this area but have views of the Proposal they should be included.</li> </ul>		Recreation	used for recreation and tourism assessment respectively. The Study Areas will be defined based on
	<ul> <li>It is obvious that this has been a desktop exercise so far as recognised walks around various villages as well as other attractions have been omitted. One important omission is Stinchar Falls which lies within the site.</li> </ul>			professional judgement and are deemed appropriate to capture the
	• Loch Bradan is not only used for fishing but is popular for walking and there is also a cycle path. The area is also used for wild camping.			likely significant effects of the Proposed Development.
	<ul> <li>There are also several establishments which specialise as wedding venues.</li> </ul>			Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR
	The South West Coastal 300 route.			will also consider receptors such as the Galloway Forest. The assessment will consider walking routes within the Study Areas. In addition, the Access Officer at South Ayrshire Council was consulted on 2 September 2020 to discuss access on Site.
				Due to the approximate 30km distance and intervening vegetation between the Proposed Development and the Glen App Castle and Gardens, it is not anticipated that there would be a significant effect on the access or amenity of this receptor.
				Stinchar Falls and walkers, cyclists, wild campers and anglers using Loch Bradan will be included in the assessment.
				The South West Coastal 300 route is outside the Study Areas for the assessment. Due to the approximate distance between the Proposed Development and South West Coastal 300 route, it is not anticipated that there would be a significant effect on the access or amenity of this receptor.
				Wedding venues as a receptor will be considered as part of <b>Chapter 12:</b>

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR.
				Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR will provide further details on the assessment methodology.
CSKCC	Question 17: Do you agree with the proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment for the following topics:	A101 to A102	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Wind turbine shutdown is considered as a suitable mitigation measure.
	Shadow Flicker Calculating Shadow Flicker effects for the proposed wind farm illustrates that four properties would suffer unacceptable flicker effects (Tairlaw Toll, Tallaminnoch, Glenalla and Garleffin). There is also quantifiable effects to the North East along the valley towards Straiton and the valley to the South West between Balloch and Barr. Whilst the scoping document does recognise this needs to be properly investigated, it is noted that they do refer to vegetation as a possible means of mitigation which is not only explicitly ruled out in planning advice but has also been found to intensify the flicker effect. The overall supply capability of the proposed development should be questioned if the alternate mitigation of switching off wind turbines when they potentially produce flicker: the severity is high enough to require 10-15% reduction in output. Suggestion: when calculating Shadow Flicker the calculations should be extended beyond the problematic "10x wind turbine blade diameter" limit. We note that the Applicant has suggested they will extend this to 2.5km. Due to the topography of the landscape this should be extended to at least 6km (most wind farm modelling software is capable of this and, if not, it is not an expensive investment).			Regarding Study Area; 2.5km has been chosen as the Study Area and is considered sufficient. The further away from wind turbines the less intense the shadow of the wind turbine will be. The modelling undertaken shows that at 2.5km, no shadow flicker is predicted as the shadows from the wind turbine blades would not be intense enough to cause shadow flicker. Therefore, if the Study Area was extended this would have no impact on the results of the assessment. For wind turbines with an increased hub height, the same shadow is spread over a larger area, so in the vicinity of the wind turbine the number of minutes per year when shadows are experienced will actually decrease. Shadows cast further away from a wind turbine are of less significance, due to the influence of the increased separation distance, while shadows cast close to a wind turbine will be more intense and therefore more likely to be of a concern.
CSKCC	<ul> <li>Question 18: Do you agree with the list of issues to be scoped out and the rationale behind the decision?</li> <li>We do not agree with scoping out Culzean Castle Garden and Designated Landscape if the layout changes and the ZTV shows the Proposal would be seen.</li> <li>We do not agree with scoping out terrestrial invertebrates. They are an important part of the ecosystem and as</li> </ul>	A102 to A103	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	Where designated landscapes have not been included, this is because visibility remains none or limited and so these are appropriate to be scoped out. This has been reviewed
	such should be included. We do not agree with the decision to scope out noise caused by vehicular access to the site. Tallaminnoch is within 250m of the access road and will certainly be subjected to significant noise levels. We do not agree with scoping out low frequency noise and infrasound. The document referred to is from 2014 and more recent publications are of the opinion that they are potentially harmful, both physically and mentally.			throughout the design process. WSP is in discussion with HES and WoSAS with regards to proportionality of assessment. The refreshed ZTV does identify that there will be no visibility towards the Proposed Development from Culzean Castle.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
CSKCC	Question 19: Are there any key issues or possible effects which have been omitted? Any forest plan would be looking at enhancement of habitat/environment. For example Linfern Loch would be studied as an important habitat. Because of the time that loch has been in existence the habitat surrounding it is	A103	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	Details of the felling and restocking plans will be included within <b>Chapter</b> <b>13: Other Issues</b> of the EIAR.
	natural and supports a wealth of different forms which make up its ecosystem. There are many forms of invertebrates dependent on such a habitat and these invertebrates are the attraction for the bird life and bats which feed on them. Harming this habitat in any way or form will not only affect the ground and flora but will have a major knock on effect on a whole range of creatures. Therefore it is important to carry out a proper study of this area and also a proper study of terrestrial invertebrates. We note that the Applicant will explore the potential for an energy storage facility and more details about the size, location, infrastructure and risk assessment would be helpful to determine whether or not it is a key issue or could have potential impacts.		Chapter 4: Development Description	Although it is located within the centre of the Site, the ecological field surveys have not included Linfern Loch specifically as it is located sufficiently far away from the Development Footprint (wind turbines, access tracks and ancillary infrastructure) such that there are not predicted to be any significant adverse effects on it or its associated flora and fauna.
				Details of the Energy Storage Facility will be included within <b>Chapter 4:</b> <b>Development Description</b> of the EIAR. The Energy Storage Facility will be located within the footprint of the substation.
DCC	Question 1: Do you agree with the Landscape and Visual proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?	A104	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Wild Land assessment will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR. A Lighting assessment will be
	Merrick Wild Land Area should not be scoped out.			
	Galloway Dark Sky Park and the UNESCO Southern Ayrshire & Galloway Biosphere should also both be scoped- in regarding night light – because of height of wind turbines and the rotation of the blades, they will be clearly visible from a very far distance, 10 times rotor blade is not sufficient for the height. The wind turbines will be considerably higher than those wind turbines already existing in the Hadyard Hill windfarm.			presented within <b>Appendix 5.5</b> of the EIAR. A 30km Study Area has been agreed with South Ayrshire Council.
	Transmission lines, their construction and direction should also be taken into consideration in this scoping. Where will the interconnector be and how much construction will have to be done for this and the transmission lines? Is there capacity in this area?			All landscape designations and policy will be detailed within <b>Chapter 5:</b> <b>Landscape and Visual</b> of the EIAR. Where designated landscapes have
	The destruction of roads and the creation of wider tracks should also form part of this scoping.			not been included, this is because
	Should the developable area at the Pilot come into consideration, the whole parameter changes.			visibility would be none or limited and so these are appropriate to be scoped
	5.3. Agree - Landmark Hills should be scoped-in as there will be a cumulative effect from other potential windfarms, namely Craiginmoddie, and others either operational, under construction or in scoping.			out. This has been reviewed throughout the design process.
	UNESCO Biosphere should be scoped-in - Merrick WLA; Galloway Forest Dark Skies Park Core Area; Galloway Forest Park; and Galloway Hills - Dumfries and Galloway Regional Scenic Area – are all within the Biosphere.			Chapter 4: Development Description of the EIAR will describe
	Water of Girvan Valley; High Carrick Hills; and Stinchar Valley should be scoped-in.			the Proposed Development and its geographical context and will
	Forestry should have no part in any assessment as forestry is constantly changing – felling, planting, fallow.			demonstrate that the area known as
	5.3.3 "A preliminary Study Area of 45km radius from the outermost wind turbines is proposed for the LVIA, as recommended in SNH guidance for wind turbines over 150m to blade tip" – having the blade tips at 200m is		'the Pilot' is not included as part of the Proposed Development.	
	considerably more that over 150m. Thought should be given to any reduction in the radius – this is unchartered ground.			The creation of new roads and upgrade of existing roads will be considered as part of the Proposed
	5.5.2 Landscape Designations - Culzean Castle and Country Park; Culzean Castle Garden and Designed Landscape; and Dumfries House Garden and Designed Landscape, as well as other more local ones Bargany, Kilkerran and Dalquharran – as the actual siting of wind turbines has not been decided, these should not be scoped-out.			considered as part of the Proposed Development and will be shown on <b>Figure 4.1 Site Layout</b> of the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	<ul> <li>5.5.3 Not entirely convinced that all those listed will have limited sight of the wind turbines. Due to the height have other settlements also been considered – Pinmore and Pinwherry, Bargrennan.</li> <li>5.7 Forestry should have no part – viewpoints should be without forestry – should be bare land.</li> </ul>			The substation has been sited near the existing OHL in consultation with ScottishPower Energy Networks (SPEN) so that existing transmission line (the interconnector) from the Proposed Development will be utilised.
				The ZTV is based on bare ground in accordance with NatureScot guidance. Forestry is not included within the ZTVs and it will be acknowledged in the assessment where screening by forestry may not be permanent.
DCC	Question 2: Are there any comments on the overall methodology proposed to assess effects on landscape and visual receptors, including cumulative effects? Cumulative information/data and noise generated by windfarms must be considered – Hadyard Hill, Craiginmoddie, Clauchrie, Dersalloch, Keirs Hill and others, even those further afield – for example Mark Hill, Killgallioch.	A105	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 9: Noise	A 60km Study Area was initially reviewed; following this review, a 30km Study Area was deemed appropriate due to visibility and the likeliness of receptors experiencing significant effects.
	5.7.1 (84) 20km is not sufficient for cumulative effect analysis – 60km is best practice.			An assessment of cumulative noise will be undertaken in accordance with ETSU-R-97, the IoA GPG and in accordance with the requirements of the South Ayrshire Council LDP Supplementary Guidance: Wind Energy, which requires consideration to all wind turbines within the search area that are operational/consented, or have a live planning application.
DCC	Question 3: Are the proposed viewpoint locations acceptable, including for night-time assessment?	A105	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Photomontages and wirelines have
	Wireline and photomontages are not easy to read and are very subjective. It would be far better to have a proper scale model which would show positions, heights and angles.			been produced for the EIAR following specific visualisation guidance. A 3D model is available to use for local
	Increased size / height and elevation of wind turbines will result in their scale within the landscape being completely different.			viewpoints during the online public information event.
	There does not appear to be any consideration to views from the Clyde and from the air.			It is not standard practice to take viewpoints from the air as this would
	There does not appear to be anything taken from U62 road from Dailly over the hills to Turnberry, or the Wallacetown to Maybole road.			not be representative of the views experienced by the majority of people.
	Viewpoint 9 at Crosshill appears to be in the valley, not from the actual road coming over the hill from Maybole which would give a more accurate view of what travellers through the area would experience.			It is not anticipated that there would be significant effects from the Clyde
	Viewpoint 4 depending on exactly where that is, it could be in the valley surrounded by forestry.			due to distance.
	There does not appear to be anything from Barony Hill area, which is used by walkers, as well has having residents – for example Knockrochar, Dobbingstone.			Dailly is represented by Viewpoint 7: B741, Dailly.
	Due to the height of these wind turbines, consideration should be given to views further away, for example the new bypass at Maybole on A77, all along the corridor towards Ayr. Further, consideration should also be given to other entrances to this area including on the North Eastern side along the A713 from Ayr to Dumfries.			Viewpoint 9 has been re-located to Dalhowan Street.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response	
				Viewpoint 4 has been re-located to ensure views of the Proposed Development.	
				Viewpoint 2 has been re-located and is in proximity to Barony Hill. Core Paths have been prioritised and there are no Core Paths directly on Barony Hill. As shown on the ZTV, there is a gap in visibility around the Barony Hill area.	
				Maybole and the A77 are represented by Viewpoint 13: A77 near Maybole.	
DCC	Question 4: Are there any other scoping or in planning windfarm sites, in addition to those illustrated, to consider as part of the cumulative assessment?	A106	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Clauchrie, Kirk Hill and Craiginmoddie will be included within the cumulative	
	Cumulative assessment:			assessment within Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual of the EIAR.	
	Clauchrie is in Consultation.				
	Craiginmoddie is in Scoping.				
	Kirk Hill is under appeal which will affect the Girvan Valley.				
	A development in the Stinchar Valley at/near Knochodhar.				
DCC	Question 5: Has the consultee identified any further landscape or visual receptors to be considered within the assessment (e.g. where potential significant effects may occur)?	A106	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural	The purpose of the RVAA is to understand where effects would be	
	There are various individual residences in the area – Glenalla for one. They would find the massive nature of these new 200m wind turbines excessive. As will those in the Stinchar Valley for example Dalwyne, North and South Balloch.	Heritage			considered overbearing. The RVAA will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.</b> of the EIAR. The approach to this assessment is in accordance with the
	Has enough consideration been given to Historic or Listed Buildings – Dalquharran Castle and any future development at Dalquharran, businesses that depend on venues for weddings and tourists – Turnberry, local craft shops, Brunston Holiday Chalets.			recent Landscape Institute's publication: Technical Guidance Note 2/19: <i>Residential Visual Amenity</i>	
	There is limited acknowledgement of the National Cycle route 7, the Core Path network or the actual roads that run through or close to the Site. Others further afield such as the Rail links or Core Paths on the Northern side of the Girvan Valley would also be visually impacted. People will always be aware of the massive industrial structures as they travel through the area.			Assessment (RVAA) (March 2019) which sets out a 2km distance. Beyond this, visual receptors includin settlements are covered by the main assessment.	
				The ZTV shows gaps in visibility and this includes Turnberry. Viewpoint 7: B741, Dailly in proximity to Dalquharran Castle and Brunston Holiday Chalets. The settlement of Dailly has been assessed.	
				Dalquharran Castle, Turnberry and Brunston holiday chalets have been included as a receptor within the assessment.	
				NCN7 and Core Paths will be included within the assessment and have viewpoints. The full list is presented in	

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				a table in Section 5.5. In addition to visual receptor assessment which will be presented within the main chapter, the assessment will also be supported by <b>Appendix 5.2 Viewpoint Analysis</b> of the EIAR.
DCC	Culzean Castle and Country Park, Culzean Castle Garden and Designed Landscape should be scoped-in. Merrick WLA should be scoped-in.	A106	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	A Wild Land assessment including Merrick Wild Land Area will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR.
				All landscape designations and policy will be discussed within <b>Chapter 5</b> : <b>Landscape and Visual</b> of the EIAR. Where designated landscapes have not been included, this is because visibility remains none or limited and so these are appropriate to be scoped out. This has been reviewed throughout the design process.
DCC	Galloway National Park Association should be consulted with respect to the LVIA.	A107	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Direct consultation has been undertaken with NatureScot and local authorities which ensures the LVIA considers all landscape and visual aspects relevant to the Proposed Development. Galloway National Park Association have not been contacted directly.
DCC	Full consultation required on Wild Land assessment with appropriate bodies such as John Muir Trust, Merrick WLA is the only one in the area and needs a rigorous assessment.	A107	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Consultation with NatureScot, as the body responsible for WLAs, has been undertaken. John Muir Trust were consulted and to date have not provided a response to Scoping.
DCC	There has to be rigorous field surveys as well as desk study for both Ecology and Ornithology.	A107	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity Chapter 8: Ornithology	A thorough programme of consultation with relevant statutory and non- statutory nature conservation organisations and ecological field surveys have been undertaken to inform the Ecological Impact Assessment.
				An ongoing and extensive programme of consultation with relevant statutory and non-statutory nature conservation organisations has bene undertaken to inform the scope of ornithology field surveys, development design and the Ornithological Impact Assessment.
				All ornithology field surveys were carried out in accordance with

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				published statutory guidelines and advice.
DCC	Does not agree with Cultural Heritage proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment. As the height (200m) is so much greater than what is already in place in the area, consideration must be given to Cultural Heritage further afield – Culzean and Turnberry should be included in this zone, therefore at least 20km from site boundary.	A107	Chapter 10: Archaeology and Cultural Heritage	<ul> <li>WSP is in discussion with HES and WoSAS with regard to proportionality of assessment. The refreshed ZTV does identify that there will be no visibility towards the Proposed Development from Culzean Castle.</li> <li>Although there are limited views (single blade tip) from elements of Turnberry Castle, due to the distances involved and the intermediate screening from dispersed settlement and infrastructure, we will seek to scope this element out of any further assessment.</li> </ul>
DCC	There is concern about the private water supplies off the Water of Girvan and Stinchar Valley catchment areas, and other catchments related to the Site – for example Dobbingstone, and Glenalla. From past experience not enough consideration has been given to those on private supply relating to contamination and maintenance of supply. Public water is also of concern at Loch Bradon. Full hydrogeological assessments should be conducted for all water supplies whether private or public. Anything relating to Peat and disturbance or removal should remain scoped-in. As with all construction of this magnitude, there is disturbance of land and water. Considering the height of the wind turbines and the base to anchor such a wind turbine, there must be very robust consultation, not just desk study. There will be considerable disturbance.	A108	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Consultation with South Ayrshire Council was undertaken to identify PWS and the Council supplied PWS information within a 10km area surrounding the Site centre point. This consultation was followed by field surveys (including questionnaires completed by residents) between August and September 2020 to confirm the PWS data supplied. An assessment of the potential impacts and risks on the PWS identified has been undertaken and will be presented within the PWS Appendix provided within <b>Appendix 6.4 of the</b> <b>EIAR</b> including any mitigation required.
DCC	Question 13: Do you agree with the Noise proposed approach for baseline collection, measurement locations, prediction of effects and significance assessment?         10.2.1 No. Considering the height of the wind turbines 5km is not enough. Through experience, noise travels, and depending on the wind direction the noise is substantial. 'This is considered sufficient to ensure that all potentially significant cumulative noise effects will be addressed – i.e. the combined effect of noise from the Proposed Development when operated simultaneously with any other identified windfarm developments.' How would this be addressed?         Noise experienced from windfarms is not only dependent on wind direction. Local experience shows that it can be heavily influenced by topography. Mitigation is already in place for one property due to noise levels generated by the operational Hadyard Hill windfarm. This surely suggests that further mitigation would be required for this development. What impact would this have on overall output and how will cumulative impact be assessed?         10.2.4 Besides Dersalloch and Hadyard Hill windfarms, there is the Consulting Clauchrie, and the Scoping Craiginmoddie, both have been mentioned before. There is also the possibility of another in the Stinchar Valley area at Knockodhar.	19 August 2020 & 28 August 2020		<ul> <li>The Study Area of 5km for cumulative developments is in accordance with the South Ayrshire Council</li> <li>Environmental Health Guidance: Wind turbine development: Submission</li> <li>Guidance note as prepared by the noise and vibration technical advisors to South Ayrshire Council.</li> <li>The assessment of operational wind turbine noise will be undertaken in accordance with ETSU-R-97 and the IoA GPG. The cumulative assessment will also be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the South Ayrshire Council LDP Supplementary Guidance: Wind Energy, and so will</li> </ul>

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference
	10.5.1 Construction traffic noise – this should not be scoped-out. Noise travels, and this is a rural quiet area. Additional traffic will make a significant difference.		
	From experience, 'Such works would be small scale, local, temporary and short-term only, and would be akin to temporary work associated with utilities servicing etc. An assessment of construction noise and vibration from off- site road and junction improvement works is therefore scoped-out of the assessment.' – is not necessarily the case and should not be scoped-out.		
	The villages in the area, Dailly for example, have narrow roads that are not designed for large volumes of heavy traffic.		
	10.5.2 Operational Phase – Energy Storage Facility – this is an unknown noise feature – this should not be scoped-out.		
	10.5.2. (218) Low frequency and infra-sound – there is new international evidence relating to the effects on health – physical and mental. This should not be scoped-out – this must be thoroughly assessed based on up-to-date information.		
	10.7.2 Cumulative affect from all those windfarms in the potential area should be included, as indicated previously.		
	(228) Baseline noise survey – is three weeks long enough to take into account differing weather conditions during different seasons?		
DCC	Question 14: Do you agree with the Traffic and Transport proposed approach for baseline collection,	A109	Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and
	prediction of effects and significance assessment? There is lack of clarity regarding proposed routes. Many locals are inconvenienced, having to reverse significant distances on narrow country roads. There is more traffic and travelling at much greater speeds. The increase in litter due to windfarm traffic is significant.		
	No real comment as it is not clear whether Dailly will be part of the route or not. If it is, then more assessment will have to take place.		
	11.5 (250) Do not agree that operational traffic flow should be scoped-out. We have had experience of increased traffic flow as a result of operational issues.		
	As stated the assessment has only been desk-study. More information has to be made available to consultees on the actual route. Depending on the amount of material/assets that must be moved, any assessment will be flawed.		

	Response
	include consideration to wind turbines within the search area that are operational/consented, or have a live planning application.
	The effects of topography will be accounted for in accordance with the requirements of the IoA GPG.
	In scoping-out an assessment of construction traffic noise, consideration has been given to both the flows that would arise, those that current prevail, and the routes that are proposed to be used by construction traffic as well as the proximity of any receptors to those routes.
	Where receptors are identified within 1km of the developable area, the need for construction noise and vibration assessments will be revisited.
	It has been agreed with the technical advisors to South Ayrshire Council for noise and vibration that an assessment of fixed plant noise can be scoped-out of the assessment.
	The baseline noise survey has been undertaken in accordance with the IoA GPG and has obtained a representative data set in accordance with that guidance.
nd Transport	The proposed routes will be clearly identified within <b>Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport</b> of the EIAR.
	The assessment will be undertaken in line with the relevant guidance and all appropriate routes and sensitive receptors potentially affected by construction traffic will be assessed accordingly. All works will be undertaken as per the agreed scope with the Local Authority.
	The impact of construction traffic is temporary and will be appropriately mitigated to minimise the impact on existing road users. Increases in litter is not a matter for consideration within the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				A framework Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be prepared at this time and it would be proposed to undertake a full TMP prior to any works commencing on site. This will include matters such as route restrictions, contractor compliance and general traffic and transport matters.
				Operational traffic associated with a development of this type are generally scoped out of the assessment. It is considered that no significant residual effects are anticipated in respect of traffic and transport with the operational phase of the Proposed Development. Vehicle movements will be very low with one or two small service vehicles regularly accessing the Site to carry out routine maintenance.
				Chapter 11: Access, Traffic and Transport of the EIAR will include data collected from Site to inform assessment and associated access works for both general construction traffic and abnormal load traffic. While this will mostly be a desk based assessment; a site visit has been undertaken to inform assessment and associated access works for both general construction traffic and abnormal load traffic. Materials and components used to construct the Proposed Development will be included within the assessment and where required, mitigation measures proposed to minimise the potential impact on existing road users/residents etc.
DCC	<ul> <li>Question 15: Do you agree with the Socio-Economics, Recreation, Tourism proposed approach for baseline collection, prediction of effects and significance assessment?</li> <li>No. As previously stated due to the height of the turbines the assessment area should be larger – 20km, to include such tourist attractions as Turnberry Golf Course and the walks around Maybole, as well as further to the West in the wilder moorland areas of Carrick Forest and beyond. To include traffic coming from Cairnryan up the coastal A77 through Ballantrae and tourist attraction/hotel Glen App. The view also from the Firth of Clyde by boat for tourists as well as locals. Travel by air should also be considered.</li> <li>12.2.2 Small scale settlements – there are others.</li> <li>12.2.3 Recreation – there are more facilities and activities.</li> </ul>	A109	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	A 5km and 15km Study Area will be used for recreation and tourism assessment respectively. The Study Areas have been defined based on professional judgement and are deemed appropriate to capture the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development. The assessment will also consider

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference
	12.2.4 Tourism – again, the list is incomplete. There are local activities and accommodation facilities that are not necessarily on Visit Scotland or similar database.		
	12.3 Sensitive receptors – there are other Trails / Paths that should be included – Dailly Trails, Carrick Way, Girvan Paths, Straiton Paths, Maybole Paths for example.		
	12.4.1 Mitigation – Socio-economics – local employment during construction – this has to be properly monitored. We have experienced very limited fulfilment of this mitigation in the past.		
	12.4.1 (284) This should not be part of the mitigation and should not be included in the Scoping Report at all.		
	12.7 (287) Agree with the statement. Who will be providing the independent assessment, especially for Recreation/Tourism Impact?		
	As previously mentioned the Study Area should be widened to 20 km due to the height of the wind turbines, which are considerably taller than those already existing in the area.		

Response
receptors such as the Galloway Forest.
Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR will consider receptors within the Study Areas. A variety of websites will be used to identify these receptors.
Trump Turnberry Golf Course will be considered as a local tourist attraction within <b>Chapter 12: Socio-</b> economics, Tourism and <b>Recreation</b> of the EIAR.
Walking routes will be considered within the Study Area. The Carrick Way will be included within <b>Chapter</b> <b>12: Socio-economics, Tourism and</b> <b>Recreation</b> of the EIAR, in particular with reference to potential enhancement measures for this route.
It is anticipated that there would not be a significant effect on access and amenity of air travel. This is because air travel would be fast paced, and the Proposed Development would only be visible for a small section of the flight.
The CEMP will include measures for the principal contractor to work proactively with contractors and suppliers to provide employment opportunities in the local area. It is anticipated that the principal contractor would hold a local 'meet- the-buyer' open day. This would provide an opportunity for local contractors and suppliers to present their business to the principal contractor (this will be presented within Chapter 12: Socio- economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR).
Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR will detail the potential community benefit and/or shared ownership opportunities for the Proposed Development but has not considered them within the main assessment.
Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				will present an assessment on the impacts of the Proposed Development on tourism and recreation. The assessment will consider the potential effects on recreation receptors (e.g. walking trails) and tourism receptors such as tourist assets and tourism accommodation. <b>Chapter 12: Socio-economics,</b> <b>Tourism and Recreation</b> of the EIAR will detail on the assessment methodology.
DCC	Question 16: Are there any other receptors that should be included within the assessment? Yes, more effort should be made to identify small businesses, attractions (e.g. smaller wedding venues), activities (e.g. wild camping, fishing, horse riding, off-road biking), recreational areas (fishing lochs such as Loch Bradon/Linfern Loch, walks/trails around Lochs and villages, etc) which are not necessarily on a Visit Scotland websile or database. Too much emphasis has been made of desk-top information. To include Glen App Castle, Turnberry, SW Coast 300 (has been on TV and is growing in popularity as the WC500), perhaps even Girvan and Maybole Golf Courses.	A110	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	A 5km and 15km Study Area will be used for recreation and tourism assessment respectively. The Study Areas have been defined based on professional judgement and are deemed appropriate to capture the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development. The assessment will consider receptors such as the Galloway Forest. Further effort has been made to capture the assets within the Study Areas. The South West Coastal 300 route is outside the Study Areas for the assessment. Due to the approximate distance between the Proposed Development and South West Coastal 300 route, it is not anticipated that there would be a significant effect on the access or amenity of this receptor. Trump Turnberry Golf Course will be considered as a local tourist attraction. Due to the approximate 30 km distance and intervening vegetation between the Proposed Development and the Glen App Castle, it is not anticipated that there would be a significant effect on the access or amenity of this receptor. <b>Chapter 12: Socio-economics,</b> <b>Tourism and Recreation</b> of the EIAR will provide further details on the assessment methodology.
DCC	Shadow Flicker – due to the height of the wind turbines is 10 x rotor diameter sufficient, the stated reports are from 2014 and 2010 before 200m wind turbines were considered. Even South Ayrshire's report is from 2015 – this has to be revisited, a proposal would be a distance greater than 3km.	A111	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Wind turbine shutdown is considered as a suitable mitigation measure which would prevent shadow flicker issues.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
	We have had experience of properties having intolerable shadow flicker issues, which in turn have created health issues. Mitigation by hedge creation is simplifying the problem.			Regarding Study Area; 2.5km has been chosen as the Study Area and is considered sufficient. For wind turbines with an increased hub height, the same shadow is spread over a larger area, so in the vicinity of the wind turbines the number of minutes per year when shadows are experienced will actually decrease. Shadows cast further away from a wind turbine are of less significance, due to the influence of the increased separation distance meaning shadows are less intense while shadows cast close to a wind turbine will be more intense and therefore more likely to be of a concern. Using a combination of the wind turbine rotor diameter, hub height, width of rotor blades and the astronomical location of the sun throughout the year; the shadow flicker modelling undertaken shows no impact of shadow flicker at distances of 2.5km therefore extending the Study Area would not add to the assessment.
DCC	Population and Human Health – this should not be scoped-out. The effects on health relating to shadow flicker, noise and ultra-sound frequencies is well documented. The Proposed Development may be 'non-emitting' in the sense of air pollution, these are other health issues.	A111	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 9: Noise Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation Appendix 4.1: Outline CEMP	<ul> <li>Population and Human Health is not included as a standalone chapter but issues relating to human health will be addressed throughout the technical chapters and documents listed below:</li> <li>Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual – residential amenity;</li> <li>Chapter 9: Noise – construction and operational noise levels Chapter 12:</li> </ul>
				Socio-economics and tourism – amenity relating to recreation and tourism assets; and - Appendix 4.1 Outline CEMP – air emissions.
				The combination of best practice construction health and safety methods, the distance of residential receptors from the Proposed Development as well as no significant effects on recreational receptors (core paths and the national cycle route which cross the Site) means there is minimal potential for direct effects on

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				human health and this topic was therefore scoped out of further assessment within this assessment.
				Shadow Flicker will be dealt within <b>Chapter 13: Other Issues</b> of the EIAR and any impacts are to be mitigated.
DCC	Material Assets – there are concerns about borrow pits and the amount of material that will be required for building the Proposed Development. This aspect should be scoped-in.	A111	Chapter 6: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Soils	Response noted. These issues will be considered in the Borrow Pit Assessment which is provided within <b>Appendix 4.2</b> of the EIAR.
DCC	Question 19: Are there any key issues or possible effects which have been omitted?	at all. A number of local properties have been made Chapter 13: Other Issues		It is not proposed that property value specifically will be included within the
	The reduction in property value has not been addressed at all. A number of local properties have been made uninhabitable and are now derelict due to windfarm noise and shadow flicker.		Chapter 13: Other Issues	specifically will be included within the scope of the EIAR. However, the potential impact to nearby properties from noise and shadow flicker as a result of the windfarm will be assessed within Chapter 9: Noise and Chapter 13: Other Issues of the EIAR.
DIO/MOD	In the interests of air safety, the MOD will request that the 17 wind turbines should be fitted with MOD accredited aviation safety lighting in accordance with the Civil Aviation Authority, Air Navigation Order 2016.	A21	Chapter 13: Other Issues	The Development Description section will set out the aviation lighting requirement and the effects of the lighting will be assessed within the landscape and visual assessment of aviation lighting which will be presented within <b>Appendix 5.5</b> of the EIAR
DIO/MOD	Due to the development sites position within the military low flying area, the two permanent anemometry masts should be fitted with infrared lighting with an optimised flash pattern of 60 flashes per minute of 200ms to 500ms duration at the highest practicable point.	A21	Chapter 13: Other Issues	There will be no permanent met masts included as part of the Proposed Development.
DIO/MOD	DIO Safeguarding wishes to be consulted and notified of the progression of planning applications and submissions relating to this proposal to verify that it will not adversely affect defence interests.	A21	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Response noted.
	If the application is altered in any way we must be consulted again as even the slightest change could unacceptably affect us.			
GSAB	It is the view of Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere Partnership that any large scale wind farm developments within the Core and Buffer zone of the Biosphere would not be suitable or supported due to their adverse impact on the region's natural environment, sense of place and rural economy.	A31 Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	The LVIA will assess effects on the landscape character, landscape designations and visual amenity that will fall within the GSAB.	
	However, it is the view of the Partnership that wind farm developments within the Biosphere could be acceptable in the transition zone, where substantial community engagement has demonstrated that the majority of communities are supportive of the proposed development and it can be shown that the environmental impact of the development is minimal and effective mitigation can be achieved.			The GSAB will be considered within the recreation and tourism assessment. This will be presented within Chapter 12: Socio- economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response		
GSAB	The Natural Heritage Management Plan specifically highlights Black Grouse, Water Vole, Red Squirrel, Golden Eagle and Brown Trout as priority species all of which should be considered as part of an EIA. Also of key relevance it highlights blanket and raised bog as priority habitats not least for their role in mitigating against climate change and fresh water habitats associated with key priority species.	A32	A32	A32	Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity Chapter 8: Ornithology	<b>Chapter 7: Ecology and</b> <b>Biodiversity</b> of the EIAR will consider those species and habitats listed within the Natural Heritage Management Plan.
				Neither golden eagle breeding/lekking black grouse were recorded during baseline surveys, however these species will be appropriately considered within the EIAR chapter.		
GSAB	We'd encourage that in considering the tourism impact of the proposal the EIA take due notice of the growing interest in promoting the UNESCO Biosphere as a tourism destination. That consideration is given to the proposals proximity to the Galloway Hills and Wild Land Area at the core of the Biosphere, their use by hill walkers and landscape impacts. There are also several driving/recreational routes and a network of walking and cycling routes popular with visitors and tourists to the area. These include the Carrick Forest Drive and National Cycle Route 7, a long- distance route which forms part of the Ayrshire Alps Cycle park and our own Loch Doon and Carrick Forest Drive promoted Biosphere route that concludes with a walk up Cornish Hill.	A32	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	The GSAB will be considered within Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR. The Galloway Hills and Wild Land Area, Carrick Forest Drive, National Cycle Network 7, Aryshire Road Cycle Park Alps (Glenalla) and Loch Doon and Carrick Forest Drive promoted route will be considered within the tourism and recreation assessment. For further details see Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR.		
GSAB	With the Civil Aviation Authority requiring obstacles over 150m in height having lighting we are concerned about how this will impact on the night skies both for astronomy and wilderness experiences in the Wild Land Area at the core of the UNESCO Biosphere and would like more understanding as to how this will be dealt with.	A32	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Section 12.6 of Chapter 12: Socio- economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR will provide detail on the potential effects on the Dark Sky Park and astronomy experiences in the Merrick Wild Land Area. The assessment will draw on Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual of the EIAR.		
GSAB	<ul> <li>We are particularly concerned that the proposal for 200m high wind turbines goes against the recommendations in the 2018 South Ayrshire Landscape Wind Capacity Study for landscape type;</li> <li>17c Foothills with Forest and Wind farm which encompasses the majority of the proposed development area, and states "There is no scope for very large wind turbines (&gt;130m high) to be accommodated in this landscape." We support this statement and have concerns that the scale of the proposed wind turbines will dominate both the existing forestry and wider hills.</li> </ul>	A33	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	<b>Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual</b> of the EIAR. will consider the guidance within the South Ayrshire Wind Capacity Study and how the site specifics of the Proposed Development will respond to the sensitivities it sets out, noting its guidance considers the wider landscape character area.		
GSAB	We would like to see the Biosphere considered as part of the landscape study particularly in relation to "Sense of Place", the UNESCO requirement that Biospheres "should encompass a mosaic of ecological systems representative of major biogeographic regions, including a gradation of human interventions" and the South Ayrshire Council Local Development Plan recognition of its significance as a "world class-environment."		Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity Planning Statement	<b>Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual</b> of the EIAR will assess the effects on the landscape character, landscape designations and visual amenity that will fall within the GSAB.		

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity of the EIAR will assess the GSAB.
				The Proposed Development will be assessed against the LDP policy: GSAB within the Planning Statement. The impacts on the GSAB will be explained as a collective response to these policies.
Galloway Fisheries Trust (GFT)	This proposed development lies to the north of the River Cree catchment and the red line boundary only touches the extremities of the Water of Minnoch (the main tributary of the River Cree). The red line boundary also lies immediately adjacent to the Pilnyark Burn, a tributary of the Water of Minnoch. From appraisal of the accompanying figures we see that the current layout sites all infrastructure in an area marked as the "developable area" in the north sector of the footprint of the development, well away from the Cree catchment. If at any point the developable area is altered to encompass areas near the Cree catchment, or any infrastructure relating to the wind farm moves to the south, closer to the Cree catchment, we would appreciate it if ourselves, along with the River Cree District Salmon Fishery Board, could be contacted.		Chapter 7: Ecology and Biodiversity	The Proposed Development has been confined to the Developable Area which does not encompass watercourses associated with the River Cree catchment. Consequently, there are no predicted impacts on watercourses within this catchment, or requirement to consult with GFT or River Cree District Salmon Fishery Board further in relation to this project.
Glasgow Airport (GA)	This proposal is located outwith our consultation zone. As such we have no comment to make and need not be consulted further.	A24	N / A	Response noted. No further action is required.
Glasgow Prestwick Airport (GPA)	GPA consider the proposed Study Areas as appropriate. However the proposed windfarm lies within the range of its primary radars – and if any of the wind turbines are visible to the radar – and consequently generate unacceptable radar display clutter - then GPA would require to object on aviation safety grounds.	A25	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Assessment is currently being undertaken and will be presented within <b>Chapter 13: Other Issues</b> of the EIAR and its associated technical appendix. Further consultation with GPA will be undertaken in due course.
GPA	<ul><li>GPA considers the proposed viewpoints acceptable. At 200m tip height we assume some form of aviation obstacle lighting will be required in line with Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) regulatory requirements for obstacle over 149.9 (AGL)?</li><li>GPA consider aviation lighting to be an important area that should be considered.</li></ul>	A25	Chapter 4: Development Description	Appropriate aviation lighting will be fitted in accordance with CAA and MOD requirements. The Applicant is exploring lighting minimisation options to mitigate night-time LVIA concerns while ensuring the maintenance of aviation safety. This will be presented as an appendix within <b>Chapter 4:</b> <b>Development Description</b> of the EIAR. This will be discussed with relevant aviation stakeholders in due course.
GPA	The close proximity to operational Desrsalloch, Hadyard Hill windfarms and proposed nearby Clauchrie windfarm is something that GPA need to consider in relation to mitigation capacity in relation to cumulative impact of numerous windfarms.	A25	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Assessment is currently being undertaken and will be presented within <b>Chapter 13: Other Issues</b> of the EIAR and its associated technical appendix. Further consultation with GPA will be undertaken in due course.
GPA	GPA's focus is principally Aviation Safety and Radar – and are assured that this is scoped IN from review of the scoping document. GPA makes no comment on other areas that are scoped out.	A27	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Aviation, Safety and Radar is scoped in and is provided within <b>Chapter 13</b> :

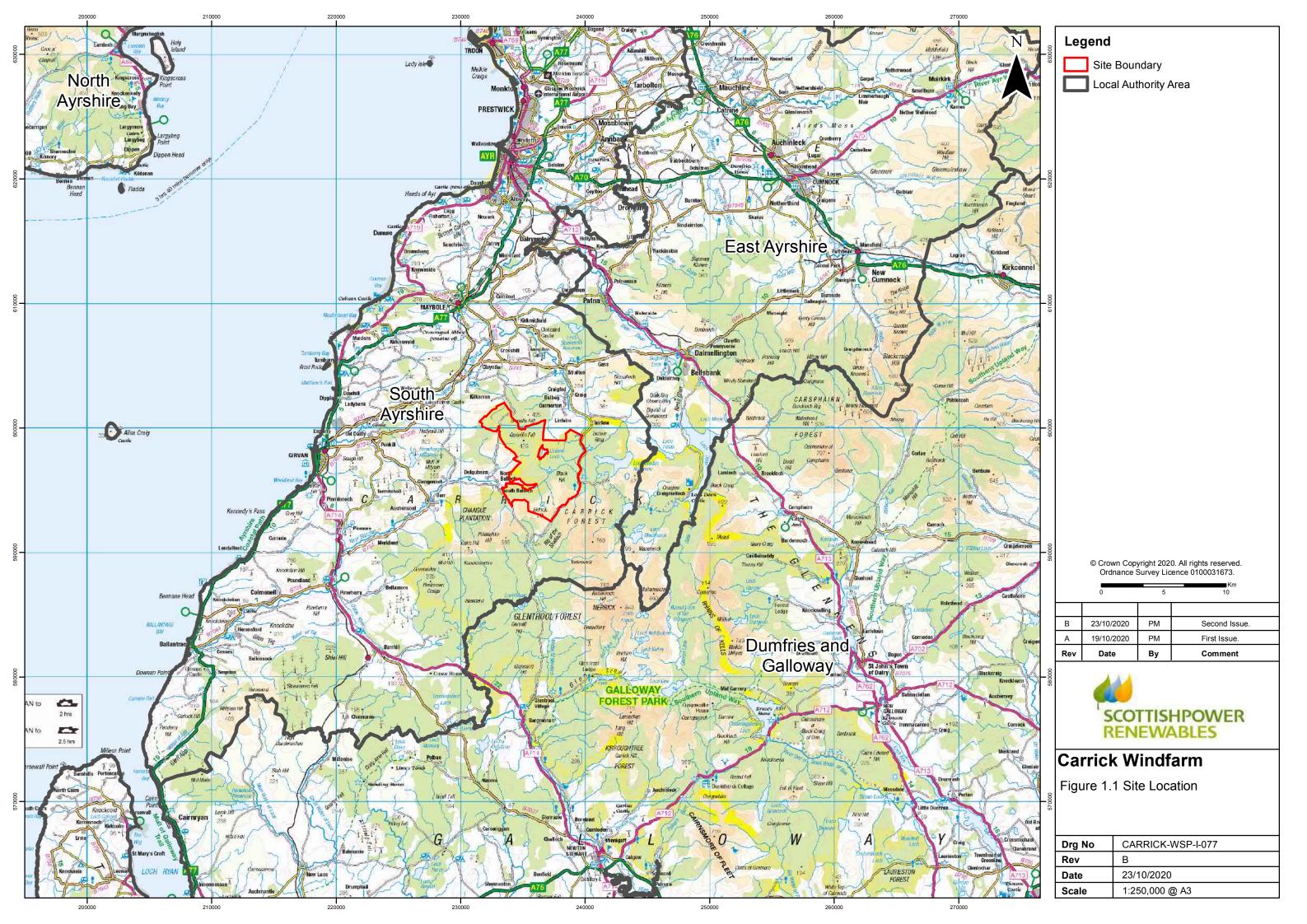
Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				<b>Other Issues</b> of the EIAR and its associated technical appendix.
GPA	We would like the EIA to consider any impact the proposed Carrick Windfarm would have on the airport's published Instrument Flight Procedures (IFP's) – both our conventional and RNAV procedures as published in the UK AIP for EGPK.	A28	Chapter 13: Other Issues	Impact on IFPs will be considered as part of the aviation assessment and presented within <b>Chapter 13: Other</b> <b>Issues</b> of the EIAR and its associated technical appendix.
Joint Radio Company (JRC)	<ul> <li>This proposal cleared with respect to radio link infrastructure operated by Scottish Power and Scotia Gas Networks.</li> <li>In the case of this proposed wind energy development, JRC does not foresee any potential problems based on known interference scenarios and the data you have provided. However, if any details of the wind farm change, particularly the disposition or scale of any wind turbine(s), it will be necessary to re-evaluate the proposal.</li> <li>It should be noted that this clearance pertains only to the date of its issue. As the use of the spectrum is dynamic, the use of the band is changing on an ongoing basis and consequently, developers are advised to seek recoordination prior to considering any design changes.</li> </ul>	A41	Chapter 13: Other Issues	At the time of drafting this report, JRC had not provided a response to the final layout.
Met Office (MO)	The proposed windfarm is not in any of the Met Office consultation zones, so we have no comments to make for the Scoping Opinion. Indeed we don't need to be consulted further regarding the application.	A45	N / A	Response noted. No further action is required.
Mountaineering Scotland	<ul> <li>Mountaineering Scotland has reviewed the Scoping Report from the perspective of its members' interests and has the following observations.</li> <li>The site lies within the Galloway Forest Park, within the Galloway Dark Skies Park and partly within its core area, less than 1km from Wild Land Area 01 Merrick, and 5km from the Galloway Hills Regional Scenic area. From the nearest proposed wind turbine, Shalloch on Minnoch is 7km and The Merrick 12km. Both are Corbetts and popular hillwalking destinations.</li> <li>The site is within 4km of: Clauchrie, the proposed application site to the south west, the operational Hadyard Hill to the west and the operational Dersalloch to the north east.</li> </ul>	A46	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	The assessment will consider the Galloway Forest including the Galloway Corbetts and Donalds. The assessment also considers the Dark Sky Park and Merrick Wild Land Area Further details will be provided within <b>Chapter 12: Socio-economics,</b> <b>Tourism and Recreation</b> of the EIAR. The potential impacts of the Proposed Development on Galloway Hills Regional Scenic area will be assessed within <b>Chapter 5:</b>
Mountaineering Scotland	Three mountain viewpoints are proposed. Other lower hill viewpoints are also proposed, of more local significance, and these seem appropriate. The mountain viewpoints are:	A47	Chapter 5: Landscape and Visual	Landscape and Visual of the EIAR. Viewpoint 5 and 15 are included and are photomontages.
	Viewpoint 5: Shalloch-on-Minnoch – agree with its inclusion as a photomontage viewpoint.			Viewpoint 22: Blackcraig Hill remains
	Viewpoint 15: The Merrick – agree with its inclusion. It should also have a photomontage as well as being a key cumulative viewpoint.			a viewpoint. Viewpoint 24: Cairnsmore of
	Viewpoint 22: Blackcraig Hill. While this may have some attraction as a key cumulative viewpoint, it much less popular for hill-walking than Cairnsmore of Carsphairn, which is 7km nearer to the proposed site, and with extensive forward visibility of the proposed development from the standard descent route. We suggest that Cairnsmore of Carsphairn as a viewpoint would be much more useful to assessors and the decision-maker than Blackcraig Hill.			Carspharin has been added. A Wild Land assessment will be produced as <b>Appendix 5.3</b> of the EIAR.
	There is no viewpoint proposed for the Rhinns of Kells, despite extensive visibility along its ridge, continuously from its northern half. At the least, a wireline should be provided for one of the summits on the northern half of the ridge, for example Coran of Portmark.			The changes to the Proposed Development layout since Scoping has reduced the visibility along the Rhinns of Kells but it is noted there is still some visibility. A wireline from this

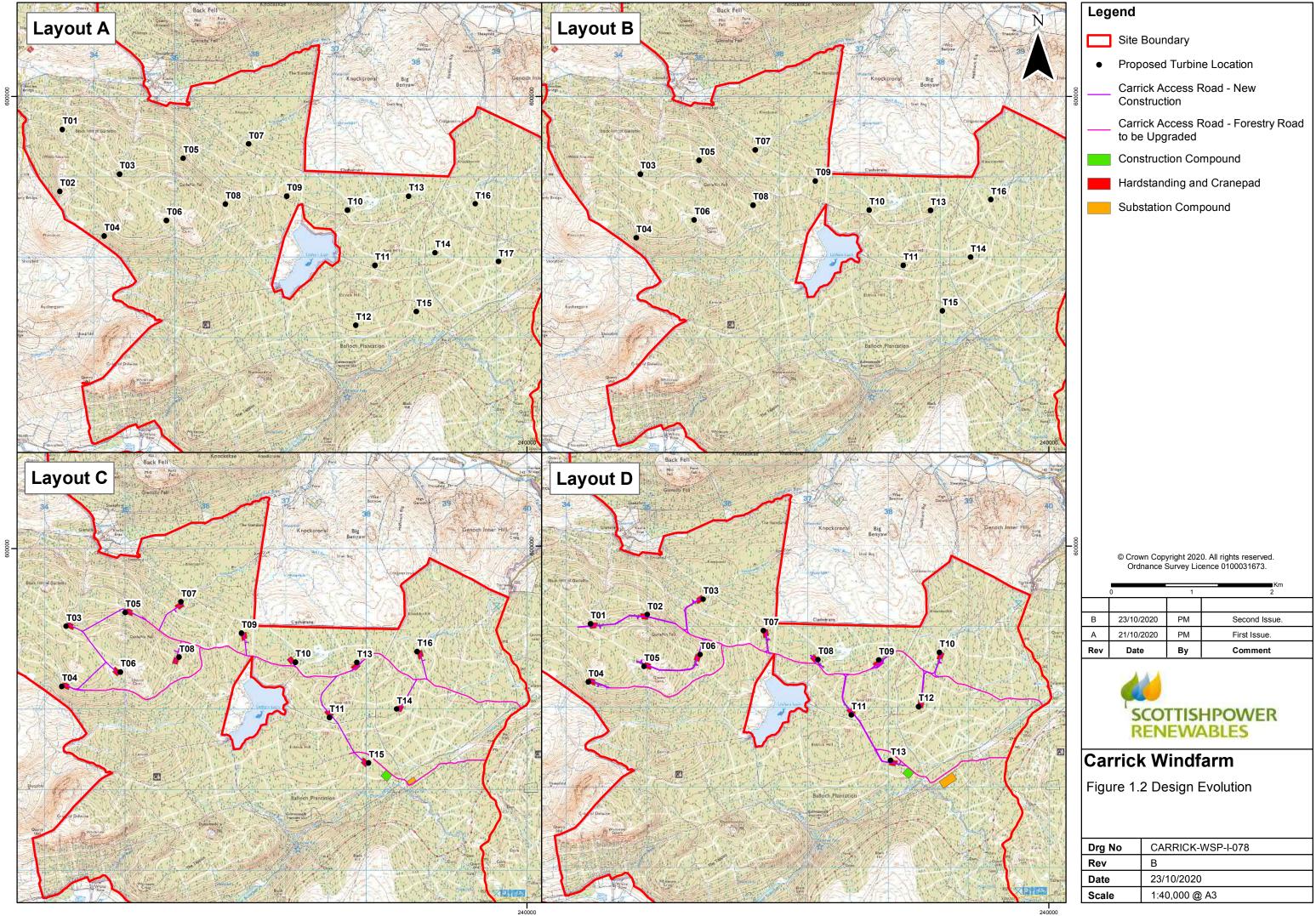
Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response	
	The nearest scoping layout wind turbine is 3km from the Merrick Wild Land Area. There is potentially widespread visibility of the proposed development across western summits and slopes of the WLA and scattered visibility			area will be produced to support the landscape and visual assessment.	
	from summits in the interior of the WLA. A full Wild Land assessment is required to assess the impact of this.			A wireline will be produced for the Rhinns of Kells as part of <b>Chapter 5:</b> Landscape and Visual of the EIAR.	
Mountaineering Scotland	The tourism and recreation assessment proposes to draw upon a limited range of 'visitor attractions' without taking account of the recreational resource of the open hills, with all the Galloway Corbetts (four out of only seven in the whole of Southern Scotland) and something like 15 Donalds being within 20km of and having visibility of the proposed development. Only one of these – The Merrick – is mentioned in relation to the proposed recreation and tourism assessment. While some others are included as proposed viewpoints, it should be acknowledged that visual impact is not simply an impact in itself but depending on context can have behavioural consequences in terms of tourism and recreation.	A47	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	The assessment considers the Galloway Forest including the Galloway Corbetts and Donalds. Further details will be provided within Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR.	
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Scotland	Regarding the scope of surveys already undertaken and ongoing we agree with the scope of assessment, survey methodology and target species (Q10). We note the FLS are listed as contacts for data requests to inform baseline species status (7.3.1 Desk study). Since our records confirm lekking black grouse within the development footprint we advise that this species is included in data search request to FLS and that RSPB Scotland is also contacted for data as part of the desk study with particular reference to black grouse and nightjar.	A59	Chapter 8: Ornithology	Neither black grouse or nightjar has been recorded during baseline surveys, however the data collection exercise includes FLS, RSPB and raptor study group data and will ensure data for both species is sough so that the species may be appropriately considered within <b>Chapter 8: Ornithology</b> of the EIAR.	
RSPB Scotland	This development is proposed within the Galloway Forest Park which is designated an Important Bird Area (IBA) and which includes black grouse under category B2 of the European IBA criteria. The IBA has also identified renewable energy development as potential threat to the site (threat level 2). Therefore, impact from this development to this site and related designated species needs to be included in assessment as part of the EIA.	A59	Chapter 8: Ornithology	As stated above, black grouse have not been recorded during baseline surveys, however the data collection exercise and an assessment of the habitat suitably for the species present within the Site will ensure the species as well as the IBA are appropriately considered within <b>Chapter 8: Ornithology</b> of the EIAR.	
Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays)	The National Catalogue of Rights of Way (CROW) shows that right of way SKC7 is affected by the area shown on Figure 1.1 Site Location Plan. A rights of way map showing this route is enclosed. As there is no definitive record of rights of way in Scotland, there may be other routes that meet the criteria to be rights of way but have not been recorded as they have not yet come to our notice.	A62 to A63	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	The Scottish Hill Tracks, CROW, Core Paths and Heritage Path have been considered in the assessment.	
	Our Heritage Paths project promotes the Old Road through Straiton for its historic interest. This old route which uses right of way SKC7 is shown on enclosed HP map.				It is anticipated that Core Path (SA47); CROW (SKC/SKC7/1), Scottish Hill Track (SKC/HT385/3,
	Further routes across the application site are described in our popular book Scottish Hill Tracks and are shown on the enclosed SHT map. SHT routes 78, 80, 81 and 82 cross the site and/or lie along the boundary. It should be noted that Route 82 (Barr to Straiton and Patna) labelled SKC/HT385/ on our map, follows the line of the above noted right of way. The remaining Routes 80 (Barr to Carsphairn), 81 (Barr to Dalmellington) and 78 (Glen				SKC/HT385/2, SKC/HT82/6, SKC/HT82/7); and Old Road through Straiton Heritage Path would be directly affected during construction.
	Trool Village to Dalmellington by Tunskeen) form the network of routes shown further south. The application documentation refers to core paths but not to rights of way, or Scottish Hill Track routes when detailing the recreational routes in the Baseline Conditions. The recreational baseline has not, as yet, been fully considered. We would have anticipated that rights of way be given consideration by this stage in the application process, however in 12.2.3 the applicant states that they expect to consult with ScotWays to gain an understanding of the rights of way within the recreational Study Area. The applicant is welcome to get in touch			An Access Management Plan (AMP) would be prepared as part of the CEMP in order to ensure continued public recreational access throughout the construction period for users of these routes.	
	with the Society directly.			Further details will be provided within <b>Chapter 12: Socio-economics</b> ,	

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
				<b>Tourism and Recreation</b> of the EIAR.
ScotWays	The documentation Figure 2.4 Indicative Layout indicates the proposed wind turbine locations but we can find no details or indication of the siting of internal access track routes; if we have inadvertently overlooked this we would welcome it being brought to our attention. It may be that the applicant intends to use some of the public recreational routes noted above. In order to ensure continued public recreational access, and to protect the recreational routes across the site, we would anticipate that an Access Management Plan be drawn up. We would strongly recommend that this is done in consultation with the access team at South Ayrshire Council.		Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	The proposed access tracks have been designed as part of the Proposed Development and they will be presented in a figure in the EIAR. An AMP would be prepared as part of the CEMP in order to ensure continued public recreational access throughout the construction period for users of Core Path (SA47); CROW (SKC/SKC7/1); Scottish Hill Track (SKC/HT385/3, SKC/HT385/2, SKC/HT82/6, SKC/HT82/7); and Old Road through Straiton Heritage Path. However, temporary diversions would be required to be implemented to facilitate the construction as described in <b>Chapter 12: Socio-economics,</b> <b>Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR</b> . The AMP would be developed in consultation with South Ayrshire Council. The CEMP will be based on the Outline CEMP presented within <b>Appendix 4.1 of the EIAR</b> . <b>Chapter 12: Socio-economics,</b> <b>Tourism and Recreation</b> of the EIAR will provide further detail on the potential effects on these receptors and presents the proposed mitigation measures.
ScotWays	Looking at Figure 2.4 Indicative Layout it appears that the proposal is to site wind turbines T07 and T08 in close proximity to right of way SKC7. Additionally wind turbines T12 and T15 appear close to the route used by Scottish Hill tracks 80 and 81. The Society requests confirmation of minimum separation distances.	A63	Chapter 12: Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation	Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design of the EIAR will detail the layout of the wind turbines in relation to the public access routes which has been considered through design development. Chapter 12: Socio- economics, Tourism and Recreation of the EIAR will consider the location and type of wind turbines. In identifying the Developable Area, the core path has been buffered by 220m to take account of this within the design and ensure wind turbines are located a safe distance from such routes.

Consultee	Scoping Opinion Comment	Scoping Opinion Reference	EIAR Reference	Response
ScotWays	The Society is concerned that, at this scoping stage, there is no proposal to limit the lifetime of the proposed development.	A63	Chapter 2: EIA Process and Methodology	Response noted. The Applicant is seeking consent in perpetuity. This will be detailed within <b>Chapter 2: EIA</b> <b>Process and Methodology</b> of the EIAR,
The Coal Authority	I have checked the application boundary (Figure 1.1 provided in the Scoping Report) against our coal mining information and can confirm that the proposed development site is located outside of the defined coalfield. Accordingly, the Coal Authority has no comments or observations to make on this proposal.	A90	N / A	Response noted. No further action is required.
	In the spirit of efficiency of resources and proportionality, it will not be necessary for you to consult the Coal Authority at any future stages of the Project. This letter can be used as evidence for the legal and procedural consultation requirements.			

Table 6.1: EIA Scoping Opinion Responses





## Carrick Windfarm Project Team

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