

Cultural Heritage

Relevant Policy and Guidance

Relevant legislation and policy documents include:

- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979;
- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997;
- The Historic Environment (Amendment) (Scotland) Act 2011 (this includes amendments to the above);
- Statutory Instrument No 101 The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017;
- Planning Advice Note Planning and Archaeology PAN 2/2011;
- Scottish Planning Policy (2014);
- Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (2019);
- Historic Environment Circular 1, Historic Environment Scotland (HES) 2016; and
- Dumfries and Galloway Council Local Development Plan 2 (2019).

The following guidance documents will be used to inform the cultural heritage impact assessment:

- HES (2016). Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) (2014a). Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment.
- CIfA (2014b). Code of Conduct.

Due cognisance will also be given to the Scottish National Heritage (SNH) and HES's (2018) *Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook: Guidance for competent authorities, consultation bodies, and others involved in the Environmental Impact Assessment Process in Scotland*.

The desk study will identify any cultural heritage issues within the study area and will include the following tasks:

- consultation with the Historic Environment Record (HER) of the Dumfries and Galloway Archaeological Service (DGAS) and West of Scotland Archaeological Services (WoSAS);
- the desk-based assessment of the Site produced by Arcus Archaeological Services in 2013 will be drawn upon for the baseline of the Historic Environment Record (HER) within the GIS and chronological order for the baseline assessment.
- consultation with HES as appropriate for designated assets;
- consultation of web-based facilities for other information;
- map regression using historic mapping sources to identify changes and development of the historic landscape;
- review of available Historic Landscape Characterisation;
- review of aerial photographs (National Collection of Aerial Photography, Edinburgh);
- review of any appropriate geotechnical data including peat probing and sampling data;
- relevant assessments for nearby developments;

- synthesis of published sources to establish historic landscape and archaeological context and any cultural heritage associations, including data from Canmore (the HES database);
- online data on designated assets including Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Gardens and Designed landscapes; and
- place-name analysis and assessment of the intangible cultural heritage of the study area.

A walkover survey will be carried out targeting all areas of potential ground disturbance within the Site (Inner Study Area). It is proposed that the walkover survey will be undertaken once the layout of the proposed Development has progressed and likely infrastructure locations have been identified. The aims of the site walkover would be to assess the potential of direct and indirect effects upon known heritage assets, and to check for evidence of any further unknown heritage assets within the Site. The findings of the walkover will be taken into account during the final design of the proposed Development to prevent or reduce effects as far as is reasonably practicable.

Visits to designated assets within the outer study area, and undesignated heritage assets within 5 km of the proposed turbines that are demonstrable of regional or national importance, where a visit is beneficial to the assessment of impacts upon setting. This would evaluate their setting where theoretical visibility of the turbines is likely. This information would also feed into the design of the proposed Development.

The following study areas are proposed for the cultural heritage impact assessment:

- Inner Study Area

The Inner Study Area is all land within the application boundary. All known heritage assets would be assessed for their significance and potential to be affected by direct impacts from construction. The recorded historic environment of the Inner Study Area and land up to 2 km from it would be analysed to inform a predictive model of the probability for unknown potential buried archaeological remains. All regionally and nationally important heritage assets within the Inner Study Area will be considered for operational impacts upon their setting.

- Outer Study Area

The Outer Study Area is defined as land outwith the Inner Study Area and within 10 km from the proposed turbines. The cultural heritage team would map and assess designated assets on this basis:

- Up to 5 km from the proposed turbines: assess all assets of nationally and regionally important heritage;
- Up to 10 km from the proposed turbines: assess all assets of national importance where long distance views from or towards the assets (such as designed views, prospect towers or hill-top sites) are thought to be particularly sensitive.

The assessment will detail whether effects upon heritage assets are considered temporary, short term, long term or permanent. A cumulative effect is considered to occur when there is a combination of:

- an above negligible effect on an asset or group of assets due to changes which would be caused by the main development under assessment; and
- an effect on the same asset or groups of assets which would be caused by another development or developments.

Baseline

The baseline condition presented below is drawn from publicly available information on designated cultural heritage assets available from HES and for undesignated sites from a search on Past Map.

- Assets within the Site:

Within the application boundary there are no designated cultural heritage assets including Scheduled Monuments; Conservation Areas; Inventoried Garden and Designed Landscape's (GDLs); Inventoried Battlefields; World Heritage Sites; or Listed Buildings. A search of Past Map indicates that the HES Canmore database and Dumfries and Galloways Historic Environment Record, between them, record 16 undesignated sites within the application boundary. These comprise records of sheepfolds or cairns. Sheepfolds are traditionally for storing sheep for sheering or simply enclosing a flock. They are typically post medieval or medieval in date but can predate this.

Cairns within the Site range from commemorative cairns such as Allan's Cairn to hilltop cairns which can date to the Neolithic.

- Assets out with the Site:

There are five Scheduled Monuments; three Category A Listed Buildings and one Conservation Area within a 10 km Outer Study Area of the Turbine Locations. There are no Inventoried GDL's; Inventoried Battlefields or World Heritage Sites within a 10 km of the proposed turbine locations.

Potentially Significant Effects

During construction, there is potential for direct effects on heritage assets, through partial or total removal during ground breaking operations, on known or currently undiscovered buried remains of archaeological interest. If necessary, a mitigation strategy will be established as part of the cultural heritage impact assessment, including input into the design process and/or a suggested programme of archaeological work.

Operational effects are likely to derive principally from visual impact upon the setting of heritage assets. The cultural heritage impact assessment will establish the heritage significance of the assets likely to be affected by the operation of the proposed Development, and the contribution of setting to the understanding and appreciation of the asset. It would assess the impact upon settings of statutorily designated historic assets and / or other features that fulfil criteria for regional or national importance within the Inner Study Area. Criteria such as period, topographic location, function, design, conceptual frameworks, and group and community value would be employed to understand the heritage significance of the assets, and this would then be applied to identify the key contributions of settings to that heritage significance.

Matters to be Scoped Out

It is proposed to scope out:

- Setting effects associated specifically with the construction and decommissioning phases as these will be relatively short-lived and transitory.
- Indirect effects – assets out of zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) that also have no viewpoint significant to understanding or interpretation of the asset that includes both the asset and the proposed Development.
- Operational effects upon Category C Listed buildings outside the Site as these are highly unlikely to be significant.

Consultee Questions

- Do consultees agree with the proposed methodology and scope of the cultural heritage assessment?
- Please confirm any additional requirements that you consider should be included in this element of the EIA, that have not been covered in this fact sheet.

