

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

Kirkton Energy Park
Prepared for: Kirkton Wind Farm Limited

SLR Ref: 428.11143.00001
Version No:1
November 2022



BASIS OF REPORT

This document has been prepared by SLR Consulting Ireland with reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the manpower, timescales and resources devoted to it by agreement with Kirkton Wind Farm Ltd (the Client) as part or all of the services it has been appointed by the Client to carry out. It is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment.

SLR shall not be liable for the use of or reliance on any information, advice, recommendations and opinions in this document for any purpose by any person other than the Client. Reliance may be granted to a third party only in the event that SLR and the third party have executed a reliance agreement or collateral warranty.

Information reported herein may be based on the interpretation of public domain data collected by SLR, and/or information supplied by the Client and/or its other advisors and associates. These data have been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

The copyright and intellectual property in all drawings, reports, specifications, bills of quantities, calculations and other information set out in this report remain vested in SLR unless the terms of appointment state otherwise.

This document may contain information of a specialised and/or highly technical nature and the Client is advised to seek clarification on any elements which may be unclear to it.

Information, advice, recommendations and opinions in this document should only be relied upon in the context of the whole document and any documents referenced explicitly herein and should then only be used within the context of the appointment.

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 1.0 INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 1.1 Site Location and Description | 1 |
| 1.2 The Proposed Development | 1 |
| 1.3 The Applicant | 2 |
| 1.4 SLR Consulting Limited | 2 |
| 1.5 Public Consultation Guidance and Legislation | 2 |
| 1.6 Legislation | 3 |
| 1.7 Report Structure | 3 |
| 2.0 CONSULTATION MEASURES | 4 |
| 2.1 Scoping..... | 5 |
| 2.2 Pre-Application Advice Meeting..... | 6 |
| 2.3 Community Council Consultation..... | 7 |
| 2.4 Consultation with Other Organisations..... | 7 |
| 2.5 Public Exhibitions | 7 |
| 2.6 Website..... | 7 |
| 3.0 PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS..... | 8 |
| 3.1 Location | 8 |
| 3.2 Notification | 8 |
| 3.2.1 Newspaper Adverts | 8 |
| 3.2.2 Leaflets | 8 |
| 3.2.3 Social Media..... | 9 |
| 3.3 Exhibition Boards | 9 |
| 3.4 Consultation Feedback..... | 9 |
| 4.0 SHARED OWNERSHIP CONSULTATION..... | 11 |
| 5.0 CONCLUSION..... | 12 |

DOCUMENT REFERENCES

TABLES

| | |
|---|---|
| Table 2-1 Pre-Application Consultation Procedures | 5 |
| Table 3-1 Public Exhibitions | 9 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Table 3-2 Public Exhibition Consultation Feedback..... | 10 |
|--|----|

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Site Layout

APPENDICES

Appendix 01: Press Adverts

Appendix 02: Exhibition Posters

Appendix 03: Exhibition Leaflets

Appendix 04: Community Council Emails

Appendix 05: Councillor Emails

Appendix 06: Exhibition Boards

Appendix 07: Exhibition Feedback Form

1.0 Introduction

1. This report constitutes a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report which describes the consultation requirements for the proposed development, Kirkton Energy Park, the consultation measures undertaken by the developer Kirkton Wind Farm Limited (the applicant), the feedback received and any resultant modifications to the proposed development.
2. The applicant recognises that it is very important to ensure that communities in the vicinity of the development are afforded appropriate and meaningful opportunities to comment on the proposals before they are finalised in accordance with regulations and good practice guidance.

1.1 Site Location and Description

3. The Kirkton Energy Park would be located approximately 2.1km south of the settlement of Melvich, Sutherland. The location of the site is centred on NGR NC 87999 59788, is shown on **Figure 1** and is within the administrative boundary of The Highland Council (THC).
4. The site area, which measures approximately 419.38ha (including the two potential abnormal load turning areas), is currently used mainly as grazing land. Topography ranges from approximately 20m AOD to 160m AOD with the western extent of the proposed site forming the most elevated section.
5. Access to the site is expected to be from the A836, taking the Kirkton Farm road (near Loch Mor) southward to Kirkton Farm and then continuing south to where turbines would be located.
6. For abnormal loads coming from the east (Port of Scrabster) to access the Kirkton Farm road, it will be necessary for the vehicles to continue on the A836 past the Kirkton Farm road entrance, turn, and approach from the north / west. As a result of this, two potential turning areas (only one would be developed) have been designed and are included as part of the Section 36 application (**Figure 1**).
7. The site is characterised by sweeping moorland and flows, with a relatively small amount of coniferous woodland plantation to the north of the site. A number of small tributaries run through the site and join the larger Halladale river to the east.

1.2 The Proposed Development

8. The proposed development would comprise of up to 11 three-bladed horizontal wind turbines, with associated infrastructure. It is proposed that each of the turbines would be rated at a capacity of 4.8MW, giving a total installed capacity in the region of 52.8MW. The proposed development would also include up to 20MW of battery storage. The final layout for the proposed development is shown in **Figure 2**. The key component parts of the proposed development include the following:
 - 11 wind turbines including internal transformers, with blade tip heights of up to 149.9m;
 - 11 turbine foundations (approximately 25m in diameter) and associated crane hardstandings (approximately 35m x 35m and 1m in depth, with an area for additional crane pads that is 85m x 5m);
 - approximately 2.03km of upgraded access tracks, and approximately 5.48km of new access tracks with a typical 5m running width and associated drainage. 446.95m of the new track is anticipated to be floating track, where consistent peat depths of 1-1.5m or greater are identified along with shallow topography in the area (below 5%);

- approximately 7.5km underground cabling along access tracks to connect the turbine locations, and the onsite electrical substation;
- one onsite substation which could accommodate 33kV Switchgear to collect electricity from different parts of the site. The substation compound, which will incorporate up to 20MW of battery storage, would have an area of 75m x 100m and would include a control and metering building (approximately 14m x 23 m and 7m high);
- up to 2 borrow pit search areas (covering approximately 32,000m²);
- a temporary construction compound (125m x 50m);
- clearance of 87.75ha of conifer forest (net area of 70.75ha bearing trees); and
- clearance of 3.58ha of native woodland.

1.3 The Applicant

9. The applicant will be Kirkton Wind Farm Limited, a company which is part of a joint venture between Wind2 and companies managed by Octopus Energy Generation.
10. The founders of Wind2 together with the Wind2 team have a substantial track record in the successful development of onshore wind throughout the UK being responsible for the delivery of approximately 1GW of renewable energy through their involvement with RDC Partners and West Coast Energy, sold to ENGIE in 2014. Wind2 is working on the development of a number of subsidy free renewable energy projects, including the consented 38MW Ben Sca Wind Farm on Skye, is committed to investing the Highlands, has personnel based in the Highlands and has opened an office on the Black Isle in 2020.

1.4 SLR Consulting Limited

11. SLR is one of the UK's fastest growing multi-disciplinary environmental consultancies. Within the energy sector, SLR provides a wide range of planning, environmental and technical services relating to the design and development of wind farms and other renewable energy projects. The company becomes involved in all aspects of facility development, from initial concept design, through planning and permitting to the detailed design, construction management and closure stages.
12. SLR is a registered Environmental Impact Assessor, Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) and holder of the IEMA EIA Quality Mark. The company has significant experience in the preparation of planning applications and undertaking EIA for a wide variety of projects, including renewable energy, minerals, waste and infrastructure developments.
13. Further information on SLR Consulting Limited can be found on its corporate website at www.slrconsulting.com.

1.5 Public Consultation Guidance and Legislation

14. In conducting its public consultation programme for the proposed development, the applicant has complied with the legal requirements set out by the Scottish Government and guidance set out by THC.
15. The applicant believes that a meaningful and far-reaching dialogue with the local community is essential to the sustained success of any development and that legislative requirements provide a minimal framework of what should be expected of a developer in terms of consultation.

16. The consultation programme described in this report demonstrates that policy and guidance requirements have been exceeded and that a thorough and constructive community engagement process, has underpinned the final proposed design being put forward.

1.6 Legislation

17. The Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 apply to developments across Scotland and sets out various criteria that are to be used to differentiate planning applications by development types and to define developments as either National, Major or Local developments. That differentiation is used to ensure that applications are dealt with in an appropriate way to their scale and complexity, allowing decisions to be taken at the most appropriate level.
18. Proposals for wind farms with a potential electrical capacity greater than 50 megawatts (MW) are subject to the consenting procedures set out in Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (the Electricity Act), the Electricity (Applications for Consent) Regulations 1990 and the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017. Applications are made directly to the Scottish Ministers. As the proposed development is for an Energy Park in excess of 50MW, an application is being made under the Section 36 process.
19. There is no statutory obligation to consult the public under the terms of the Electricity Act application process. Nevertheless, Wind2 has applied the principles of the consultation process recommended for 'major' planning applications as set out in The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 and Planning Circular 3/2013 - Development Management Procedures. This enables the local community and all those with an interest in the proposals a clear opportunity to provide comment and feedback on the proposals. Wind2 have also had cognisance of The Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021, when putting together a programme of public consultation.

1.7 Report Structure

20. Following this introductory section, the remainder of this report comprises the following Sections:
 - Section 2.0: Consultation Measures
 - Describes the various types of consultation undertaken for the proposed development;
 - Section 3.0: Public Exhibitions
 - Describes the consultation process undertaken for the Public Exhibitions (in October 2021 and March 2022) and provides results of the feedback received;
 - Section 4.0: Shared Ownership Consultation
 - Describes ongoing dialogue around shared ownership of the proposed development; and
 - Section 5.0: Conclusions
 - Describes how the consultation process has influenced the design of the proposed development.

2.0 Consultation Measures

21. **Table 2-1** provides an overview of the stages of consultation undertaken for the proposed development.

Table 2-1: Pre-Application Consultation Procedures

| Consultation Activity | Details | Steps Undertaken by Applicant |
|---|--|--|
| Pre-application consultation (Regulation 7) | Regulation 7(1) states that: <i>“The prospective applicant must consult every community council any part of whose area is within or adjoins the land on which the proposed development is situated”.</i> | In accordance with Regulation 7 the following Community Councils were consulted during the pre-application stages of the development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caithness West Community Council; • Melvich Community Council; and • Strathly and Armadale Community Council (contacted but Council was in abeyance); |
| Public Event (Regulation 7) | Regulation 7(2)(a) states: <i>“The prospective applicant is required to hold at least one event for members of the public where they can make comments to the prospective applicant on the proposals”.</i> | During the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process, the applicant held two Public Exhibitions, one in October 2021 and one in March 2022 to allow the public to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) View the draft design layouts and make any comments or provide information in relation to the layout and the EIA; and (ii) View the turbine layout as informed by the environmental survey works and provide further comments. |
| Newspaper Advertisement – Public Event (Regulation 7) | Regulation 7(3) states: <i>“Notice of this ‘public event’ must be published at least 7 days in advance in a newspaper circulating in the locality of the proposed development”.</i> | The Public Exhibitions were advertised in the following newspapers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Times; and • John O’Groats Journal. <p>An example of the adverts are provided in Appendix 01.</p> <p>Posters were displayed in the local area (just for the in-person exhibition) and on the Melvich Community Council Facebook page (for both Exhibitions). The Posters are shown in Appendix 02.</p> <p>546 leaflets (for each Public Exhibition, so over 1000 in total) were distributed to residents within a 10km radius of the site and included Melvich, Portskerra and the residents of Strath Halladale. An example of the leaflet is provided in Appendix 03.</p> |

2.1 Scoping

22. In March 2021 an EIA Scoping Report was prepared and submitted to The Energy Consents Unit (ECU) to accompany a formal request for the Scottish Ministers to provide a Scoping Opinion. Shortly prior to receiving the Scoping Opinion from the Scottish Ministers, the Applicant reached agreement on an option area for land immediately to the south of the site boundary presented in the March 2021 Scoping Report. As a result of this, the site boundary was extended southward. A Scoping Addendum was subsequently submitted on 01 July 2021 detailing the inclusion of two additional turbines and a further, approximately, 45.46ha of land to be included in the EIA.
23. The following consultees provided responses to the initial Scoping Report:
- Historic Environment Scotland;
 - NatureScot;
 - Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA);
 - The Highland Council;
 - Atkins;
 - British Telecom;
 - Crown Estate Scotland;
 - Defence Infrastructure Organisation;
 - Highlands and Islands Airports Limited;
 - Joint Radio Company;
 - NATS Safeguarding;
 - Ofcom;
 - British Horse Society;
 - Caithness West Community Council;
 - Fisheries Management Scotland;
 - Flow Country Rivers Trust;
 - Highlands and Islands Enterprise;
 - John Muir Trust;
 - North District Salmon Fisheries Board;
 - Scottish Water;
 - Scotways;
 - RSPB Scotland; and
 - Transport Scotland.
24. The Scottish Ministers issued their scoping opinion on 08 June 2021. Consultation responses received as part of the Scoping process have been considered in the EIA and the issues raised are reported in **Chapter 6** of the EIA Report, as well as in the individual topic Chapters of the EIA Report as relevant.

25. The following consultees provided responses to the Scoping Addendum Report:

- Atkins;
- British Telecom;
- Crown Estate Scotland;
- Historic Environment Scotland;
- Highlands and Islands Airports Limited;
- The Highland Council;
- Joint Radio Company;
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation;
- NATS Safeguarding;
- NatureScot;
- Ofcom;
- RSPB;
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA); and
- Transport Scotland.

26. The ECU formally closed the Scoping Addendum consultation on the 01 of September 2021. The Scottish Ministers did not issue an updated Scoping Opinion from that of 08 June 2021. Consultation responses received as part of the Scoping Addendum process have been considered in the EIA and the issues raised are reported in **Chapter 6** of the EIA Report, as well as in the individual topic Chapters of the EIA Report as relevant.

2.2 Pre-Application Advice Meeting

27. A formal Pre-Application Advice meeting was held with THC on 13 January 2021 to discuss Kirkton Energy Park, key design issues and other important topics relating to the proposed development and its EIA. The ECU and NatureScot were also in attendance at this meeting.

28. Key issues discussed at the meeting included:

- The potential layout and scale of the proposed development;
- East Halladale Flows Wild Land Area;
- Environmental Designations (SSI/SPA);
- Cumulative considerations with nearby proposed and consented wind farms e.g. Ackron and Drum Hollistan (*noise, visibility etc.*);
- Landscape & Visual considerations (including the views from the A836, LCT's, coastal and summit viewpoints); and
- Peat Management.

2.3 Community Council Consultation

29. The applicant has kept three Community Councils and other community bodies, local to the proposed development, informed of the project progress and sent emails to confirm dates of the Public Exhibitions held on the 06 of October 2021 and 16 of March 2022 (see emails to the Community Council's **Appendix 04**). The three Community Councils are:
- Melvich Community Council;
 - Caithness West Community Council; and
 - Strathy and Armadale Community Council (currently in abeyance).
30. Representatives of the applicant attended meetings of the Caithness West Community Council on 24 May 2021 and Melvich Community Council on 27 May 2021 (both meetings were online due to COVID restrictions) to present information on the proposed development. The Chairperson for the Strathy & Armadale Community Council was also contacted but the applicant was advised that the community council was not active at the time.

2.4 Consultation with Other Organisations

31. Emails confirming the dates of the Exhibitions were sent to the following Councillors, MPs and MSPs (the emails are provided in **Appendix 05**):
- Ward Councillors (North, West and Central Sutherland) - Kirsteen Currie, Hugh Morrison, Linda Munro;
 - MP (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross) – Jamie Stone;
 - MSP (Caithness, Sutherland and Easter Ross) – Maree Todd; and
 - Regional MSPs (Highlands and Islands) – Ariane Burgess, Rhoda Grant, Edward Mountain, Douglas Ross, Donald Cameron, Jamie Halcro Johnston, Emma Roddick.

2.5 Public Exhibitions

32. Public Exhibitions were undertaken in October 2021 (in-person) and March 2022 (virtual), to establish dialogue with the local community regarding the proposed development. The first Public Exhibition was held in-person at Strathy Community Hall, approximately 2km west of the proposed Kirkton Energy Park site. The second Public Exhibition was held virtually on 16 of March 2022.
33. Further information on the Public Exhibitions is presented in Section 3 of this report.

2.6 Website

34. The applicant hosts a page dedicated to the proposed development on its website to allow people to view details about the development and contact the project team for further information: <https://kirktonwindfarm.co.uk>.

3.0 Public Exhibitions

3.1 Location

35. The first Public Exhibition was held, in-person, at Strathy Community Hall in October 2021, with a follow up Exhibition held virtually in March 2022 (see **Table 3-1**).
36. Strathy Community Hall was chosen because of its proximity to the proposed development, booking availability, and also its relatively large size (aiding with Covid-19 precautions). The event was open from the afternoon to the evening to try to maximise opportunities for people to attend.
37. The second Public Exhibition was held virtually so that people who could not, or did not want to attend an in-person event (due to either COVID-19 concerns or convenience), could still interact with the project team and see the proposals for Kirkton Energy Park.

Table 3-1: Public Exhibitions

| Exhibition No. | Venue | Day | Date | Time |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1 st Exhibition | Strathy Community Hall, Strathy, | Wednesday | 06 October 2021 | 3pm – 7pm |
| 2 nd Exhibition | Virtual / Online | Wednesday | 16 March 2022 | 3pm – 7pm |

3.2 Notification

38. In keeping with Regulation 7 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, the applicant advertised that a pre-application public event was being arranged to publicise a forthcoming Section 36 application to Scottish Ministers, for a development within the area. The Exhibitions were advertised in several ways to help ensure as many local residents as possible were made aware of the proposed development.

3.2.1 Newspaper Adverts

39. A public notice was placed in the Northern Times and John O’Groats Journal Press for both the in-person event in October 2021 and the virtual event in March 2022. The public notices set out the purpose of the public events and provided details of the events.
40. The public notices were provided more than 7 days prior to the event with the first notice being published in the Northern Times and John O’Groats Journal Press in September 2021 and the second being published in March 2022. A copy of the notices are provided as **Appendix 01**.

3.2.2 Leaflets

41. In advance of the Public Exhibitions, the applicant distributed leaflets to approximately 541 households (for each Exhibition) within approximately a 10km radius of the site, which included Melvich, Strath Halladale, Portskerra, Strathy and Reay. The leaflets set out the purpose of the public events, provided details of the event and contact details for further information from the applicant. A copy of the leaflets are provided in **Appendix 03**.

3.2.3 Social Media

42. Melvich Community Council advertised both Exhibitions on their Facebook page in September 2021 and March 2022

3.3 Exhibition Boards

43. The exhibition boards that were on display at the Public Exhibitions are contained within **Appendix 06**. The information presented included plans for the proposed development, an outline of the planning process including details about an environmental impact assessment and survey work, and information about community and local economic benefits.

3.4 Consultation Feedback

44. Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (paragraph 6) notes that throughout the planning system, opportunities exist for everyone to engage in the development decisions which may affect them. Engagement should be early, meaningful and proportionate. Expressions of support and concern should be taken into account in developing proposals.
45. Attendees to the Public Exhibitions were invited to complete a feedback form (**Appendix 07**) about the proposed development. 15 people attended the in-person exhibition, and three feedback forms were returned (20%). 30 people attended the virtual/online exhibition, and one feedback form was returned (3.3%).
46. Comments suggest that out of the four respondents, three are in support of the proposed development; and one is opposed to it. A summary of comments received is presented in **Table 3-2**.

Table 3-2: Public Exhibition Consultation Feedback

| Topic | Comment |
|----------------------|--|
| Landscape and Visual | <p>Concerns:</p> <p>The presentation falls short in representing the full visual and environmental impact which such a development will have on the local residents and the surrounding countryside.</p> |
| General /Other | <p>Benefits:</p> <p>Production of renewable energy; CO2 Savings; Reduced reliance on imported energy; Community benefit fund; Potential for community ownership; and Creation of local employment.</p> <p>Concerns:</p> <p>Impact on tourism; Noise; Impact on wildlife; Impact on habitats; Impact on the land; Impact on road infrastructure; and Impact on Cultural Heritage.</p> |

| Topic | Comment |
|-------------------|---|
| Community Benefit | <p>Priorities: Skills and Education; Social Amenities; Maintaining Local Services; Support for older people; Support for younger people; and A committee set up to distribute funds where necessary.</p> <p>Concerns: The proposed "up to" £5,000 per megawatt of community benefit could be misleading. Suggestion that wind turbines do not achieve their full output and as such the benefits are reduced accordingly; and The proposed electricity contribution scheme is too limited and does not offer sufficient financial compensation.</p> <p>General: Consideration should also be given to offering free PassivHaus retrofit surveys to all persons in the near neighbour electricity contribution scheme; Other developers in the area are also talking about community benefits and administratively it would be best for locals if there was only one place they had to apply; It would be good if a significant proportion of the community benefit fund stayed within Melvich Community Council area as we do not get anything from other windfarms.</p> |

47. In addition to the written responses, verbal feedback covered many topics, with many attendees asking for more information about:
- the potential for shared ownership; and
 - the proposed community benefit (including the near neighbour energy contribution scheme).
48. All topics and questions raised through the consultation have been addressed in the EIA Report for the proposed development.

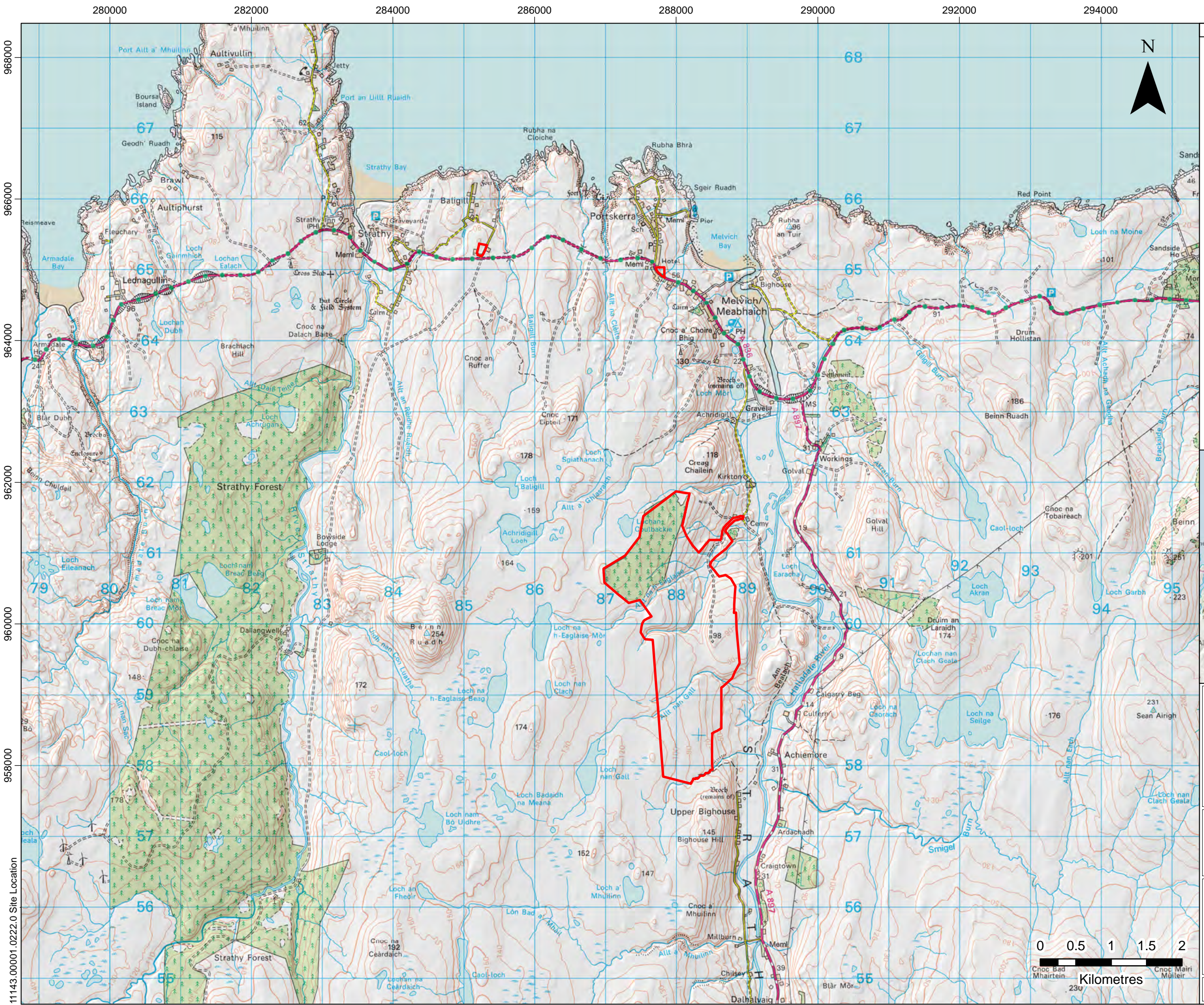
4.0 Shared Ownership Consultation

49. Separate to the consultation on the Section 36 application for Kirkton Energy Park, there is ongoing dialogue between the applicant and the Farr North Community Development Trust regarding the opportunity for shared ownership. Farr North is the Community Development Trust for the Parish of Farr including Forsinard, Melvich, Portskerra, Strathy, Armadale, Bettyhill, Strathnaver and Altnaharra. It was established August 2020 with the objective of improving the lives of the people living in North Sutherland. The Trust would most likely be the vehicle for the community shared ownership investment. At the time of publication of this PAC Report and EIA Report, a draft Memorandum of Understanding (Prepared by Wind2 with the assistance of Local Energy Scotland) is being discussed by representatives of the applicant and the Development Trust.

5.0 Conclusion

50. An extensive programme of pre-application consultation activities has ensured maximum awareness within the community of the project. The applicant also focused on making sure that residents and community groups were able to make comments on the proposed development and receive feedback if requested throughout the process via a number of different channels.
51. The applicant consulted with the general public, local councillors, MP and MSP, and a number of community groups in the consultation area. The consultation programme has included regular meetings, emails, phone calls, and correspondence as well as household and business newsletter distribution, press releases, newspaper advertisements, posters, social media and website updates.
52. The applicant has maintained a flexible and pro-active approach to the public consultation programme and exceeded the minimum statutory consultation requirements. This approach has helped ensure that the community has remained consistently well-informed and been given regular opportunities to provide feedback.
53. The applicant engaged at an early stage with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process which has helped the developer to understand and attempt to address any concerns raised as the project developed. This has resulted in a high-quality development proposal that represents a careful balance between the views of the community, environmental impacts, views of statutory consultees and the economic viability of the project.
54. Consultation on the Community Share Ownership offering has also been undertaken with local community organisations, in conjunction with Local Energy Scotland, as a separate exercise. This consultation process regarding the potential for community shared ownership will continue while the S36 application is being considered.

FIGURES



LEGEND

Application Boundary

KIRKTON WIND FARM LTD

4/5 LOCHSIDE VIEW
EDINBURGH PARK
EDINBURGH
EH12 9DH
T: +44 (0)131 335 6830
www.slrconsulting.com

KIRKTON ENERGY PARK - EIA

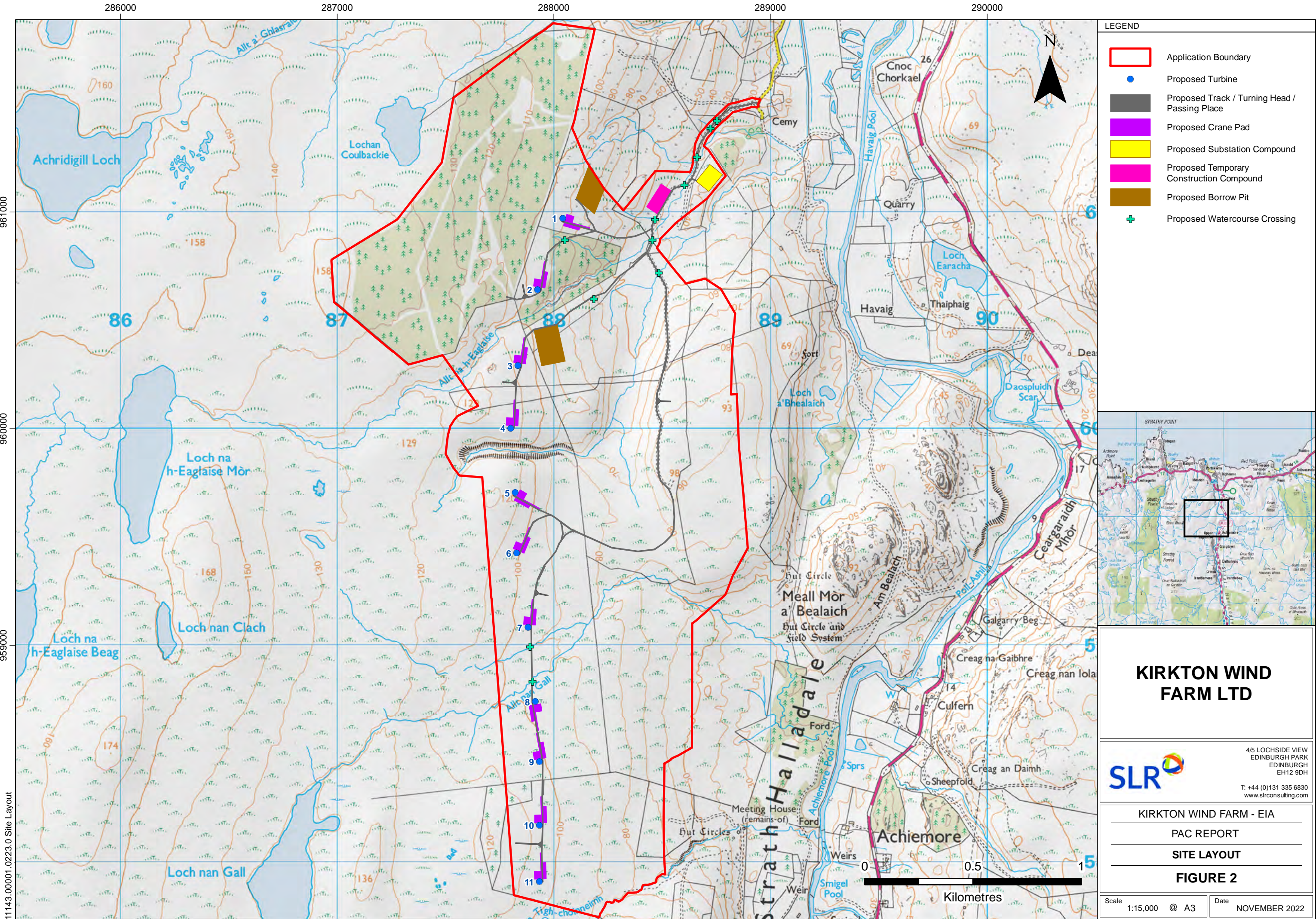
PAC REPORT

SITE LOCATION

FIGURE 1

Scale1:50,000 @ A3

DateNOVEMBER 2022



APPENDIX 01

Press Adverts

publicnotices

www.highland.gov.uk

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (MISCELLANEOUS TEMPORARY MODIFICATIONS) (CORONAVIRUS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2020

STRATH TIRRY WIND FARM - ERECTION AND OPERATION OF A WIND FARM FOR A PERIOD OF 30 YEARS, COMPRISING OF 4 WIND TURBINES WITH A MAXIMUM BLADE TIP HEIGHT OF 135M, ACCESS TRACKS, BORROW PITS, SUBSTATION, CONTROL BUILDING, METEOROLOGICAL MAST AND ANCILLARY INFRASTRUCTURE AT LAND 1450M NE OF DALMICHIE, LAIRG

The Highland Council has received an Addendum to the Environmental Impact Report made by REG Strath Tirry Limited for a proposed wind farm on land at Land 1450M NE of Dalmichie, Lairg (Shinness, 8km north of Lairg and 4km east of Loch Shin). The application is a development falling within the Regulations as Environmental Impact Assessment development and accordingly is supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report. The application reference number is 20/05067/FUL.

A copy of the application, with a plan showing the land to which it relates, together with a copy of the EIA Report and EIA Addendum discussing the proposals in more detail and presenting an analysis of the environmental implications, would normally be available for public inspection in person. In line with the Town and Country Planning (Miscellaneous Temporary Modifications) (Coronavirus) (Scotland) Regulations 2020, the EIA Report is only available to view online.

The EIA Report can be accessed online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk/wam/> (search using application number 20/05067/FUL).

Printed copies of the complete Environmental Statement can be purchased at a cost of £30 (including printing and postage) by contacting Kirsty O'Brien (01412 212 7222) or by e-mailing kirsty.obrien@invictapa.co.uk, quoting "Strath Tirry Wind Farm" in the subject header. All documents are available as a PDF (for screen viewing only) on a USB for £10.00 (including postage).

Any person who wishes to make a representation on the application, can make them online by visiting <http://wam.highland.gov.uk/wam/> or by writing to The Head of Planning and Building Standards, ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX. The deadline for receipt of comments is 30 days from the date of publication of this notice.

The Council will acknowledge receipt of comments but is unable to respond individually to points or questions raised. Please note that your comments will be published online. Please quote the application reference number in your correspondence.

Malcolm Macleod
Executive Chief Officer - Infrastructure and Environment

www.highland.gov.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>; electronically at the **AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, DRUMMUIE, GOLSPIE, KW10 6TA**; or electronically at your nearest Council Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

| Reference Number | Development Address | Proposal Description | Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments |
|------------------|--|--|---|
| 20/05067/FUL | Land 1450M NE of Dalmichie, Lairg | Strath Tirry Wind Farm - Erection and Operation of a Wind Farm for a period of 30 years, comprising of 4 Wind Turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 135m, access tracks, borrow pits, substation, control building, energy storage system, meteorological mast and ancillary infrastructure. | (14 days) |
| 21/03651/FUL | Land 60M NW of I Stoer Bay Chalets, 166 Stoer, Lochinver | Erection of house and installation of drainage | (14 days) |
| 21/03806/FUL | Land 260M SW of Cartref, Migdale, Bonar Bridge | Construction of access track | (14 days) |
| 21/04033/LBC | Land 35M NE of Laundry Cottage, Dunrobin, Golspie | Installation of heritage plaque | (14 days) |
| 21/04126/FUL | Land 45M South of 8 West Shinness, Lairg | Install 3 Camping Cabins, Service Store, Septic Tank And Soakaway | (14 days) |
| 21/04147/PIP | Land 495M SW of Garbad Cottage, Edderton | Erection of house | (14 days) |
| 21/04166/FUL | Creag Riabhach Wind Farm, Lairg, IV27 4AD | Erection of temporary bridge (retrospective) | (14 days) |

ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: eplanning@highland.gov.uk

Proposed Assignment of a Croft

Alistair Hugh Inglis MacLennan is applying to assign the tenancy of the croft at 191 Fleuchary, Dornoch to James Anderson of The Willows, Golspie, Sutherland KW10 6SE. Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) to: Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW, info@crofting.gov.scot by 15 October 2021.



North Sutherland Community Forestry Trust
To all NSCFT members (Due to Covid 19) NSCFT EGM is to be held on Zoom on **Tuesday, 12th October at 7.00pm**

The purpose of this EGM is to make changes to the Constitution (Articles of Association) in line with OSCF. To participate in this meeting or to receive a proxy vote form or more information, please email Alistair Easthope on alistair.easthope@nscft.org or Sandy Murray on sandy.murray2@btinternet.com and you will be sent a Zoom link

wind2 KIRKTON WIND FARM: PUBLIC EXHIBITION 6TH OCTOBER 2021

Wind2 invites you to attend a Public Exhibition event on the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm. The proposed Kirkton Wind Farm is located on land approximately 2.8km to the south of the settlement of Melvich, in Sutherland.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:
Wednesday 6th October 2021 / 3.00pm to 7.00pm
Strathly Village Hall
Strathly, Sutherland, KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. You will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. Members of the Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the exhibition.

Any person wishing to make comments relating to the proposal, or wishing to obtain further information, may do so by emailing: ryan.bissoonaath@wind2.co.uk. Alternatively, you can write to the Kirkton Wind Farm project team at: Wind 2 Limited, 2 Walker Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7LB.

A virtual exhibition will be held online in the weeks following the in-person event to allow those who are unable to attend to view the proposals (date to be confirmed in due course).

This advert and consultation event are being held in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 under Regulation 7.

All comments should be received by 22/10/21. Comments made to Wind2 are not representations made to the Energy Consents Unit or the Highland Council. There will be the opportunity to make direct representations to the Energy Consents Unit, and the Highland Council's Planning Services when the application for consent is submitted.

Up-to-date information about the project can also be found at the dedicated project website: www.kirktonwindfarm.co.uk.

www.highland.gov.uk

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL

THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL (TEMPORARY TRAFFIC PROHIBITIONS ON THE U3385 ELIZABETH CRESENT, DORNOCH) ORDER 2021

NOTICE is hereby given that The Highland Council, by virtue of the powers conferred under Section 14 (1) (a) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended has made the above Order temporarily restricting all vehicular traffic from using U3385 Elizabeth Crescent, Dornoch.

As detailed below

Lengths of road affected by temporary prohibition of use
U3385 Elizabeth Crescent, Dornoch, closed from its junction with U3459 Elizabeth Court to its junction with U3385 Elizabeth Crescent.

Temporary prohibition on use of a road
From 08:00 hours on 27 September 2021 to 18:00 hours on 01 October 2021 no person shall drive, or cause or permit any vehicle to be driven on the lengths of road, or a part or parts of the lengths of road, specified above when a prohibition is identified as applying by means of one or more of the traffic signs of a type generally provided for under Section 64 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended.

The road closure is necessary to allow O'Brien Properties to install new sewer infrastructure.

Exemptions
No prohibition imposed by this Order applies to:
(a) Vehicles employed to carry out the works in respect of which this Order is made, including those vehicles employed to carry out associated traffic management..

Alternative Routes
To avoid the road closure an alternative route will be available via U3385 Elizabeth Crescent.

Joanne Sutherland
Roads Operation Manager (Caithness & Sutherland)
Infrastructure & Environment
The Highland Council
Drummuie
Golspie
KW10 6TA

20/08/2021

Get Your Name Across To Our Readers By Advertising In Our Popular Trades And Services Section

PLEASE NOTE:

Our advertising deadlines are:

Features:
Fridays (prior to issue)
3.30 p.m.
All other adverts:
(except death notices)
Tuesdays - 12 noon

The Northern Times
Telephone (01408) 633993

The Northern Times
Telephone (01408) 633993

public notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

www.highland.gov.uk

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

The applications listed below, along with plans and other documents submitted with them, may be examined online at <http://wam.highland.gov.uk>; electronically at the **AREA PLANNING AND BUILDING STANDARDS OFFICE, DRUMMUIE, GOLSPIE, KW10 6TA**, or electronically at your nearest Council Service Point. You can find your nearest Service Point via the following link https://www.highland.gov.uk/directory/16/a_to_z

Written comments should be made to the EPC at the contact details below within the time period indicated from the date of this notice. Anyone making a representation about this proposal should note that their letter or email will be disclosed to any individual or body who requests sight of representations in respect of this proposal.

| Reference Number | Development Address | Proposal Description | Alternative locations where application may be inspected and time period for comments |
|------------------|---|---|---|
| 22/00769/FUL | Land 90M SW of Birchwood Lodge, Migdale, Bonar Bridge | Erection of house, bike shed and boat house | (14 days) |
| 22/00637/PIP | Land 70M South of Scourie Village Hall, Scourie | Formation of two house plots (renewal of 15/03880/PIP) | (14 days) |
| 22/00764/LBC | Royal Marine Hotel, Golf Road, Brora, KW9 6QS | Creation of additional entrance from former window | (21 days) |
| 22/00635/FUL | Land 110M North of Eddrachillis House, Badcall, Scourie | Erection of 7 holiday lodges, reception/ workshop building and associated works | (14 days) |
| 22/00779/FUL | Land 50M West of Sunnybank, Elphin | Erection of house | (14 days) |

ePlanning Centre, The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, INVERNESS IV3 5NX
Email: epanning@highland.gov.uk



First Registration of a Croft

Mr Ryan Sutherland has registered his croft 197 Doll, Doll, Clyne on the Crofting Register held by the Registers of Scotland. Any person who wishes to challenge the registration may apply to the Scottish Land Court by 6 November 2022. Details of the registration can be found at www.crofts.scot.gov.uk/register/home. The croft registration number is C8191.

PROPOSED ASSIGNATION OF A CROFT

Mrs Elizabeth A. W. Mackay is applying to the Crofting Commission for consent to assign the croft tenancy at 159, Portskerra, Melvich, Thurso, Caithness KW14 7YL to Mrs Rosemary Cameron of Thistle House, Croft 111a, Portskerra, Melvich. Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) can be made to: The Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness, IV3 8NW (info@crofting.gov.scot) by 1st April 2022.

Proposed Let of Part of a Croft
The Doune Mill Trust is applying to let the tenancy of part of the croft at Easter Oape, Kincairdine, to David Spencer-Phillips of The Old Post Office, Northington, Alesford, SO24 9TH. Written comments from those with a relevant interest (which may be made public) to: Crofting Commission, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW, info@crofting.gov.scot within 28 days from the date of the advert.



North Sutherland Community Forestry Trust

A.G.M.
will be held on
Tuesday, 29th
March, 2022
in
The Armadale Hall
at 7.00 pm.
All welcome.

CROFTING COMMISSION NA CROITEARACHD DE CROFTING APPLICATION(S)
I. G.D. Ross, 182 Migdale, 0.197 ha, Existing house site (111853)
Comments from any member of the crofting community within the locality of the croft and any expressions of demand for the croft (which may be made public), may be sent to the Crofting Commission by 24/03/22 at info@crofting.gov.scot / Crofting Commission, Great Glen House, Leachkin Road, Inverness IV3 8NW.

Rhianbreck Tomich and Torroble Common Grazings / Garvary (Achniduich) Common Grazings

Annual General Meeting
of shareholders for the above Common Grazings will be held as follows:
Lairg Community Centre
Thursday, 17th March, 2022 at 19:00

The Northern Times

Telephone
(01408)
633993

motorsnorth

CARS FOR SALE

SPEYSIDE CAR SALES

G. CHRISTIE

17 New Street, Rothes

Tel 01340 831397

motor.co.uk

CARS

18 Fiat 500 Pop 1.2

very LOW MILES

11K.....£8300

16 Vauxhall Astra Energy

1.4 LOW MILES

51K.....£8350

65 Peugeot 108 Active

1.0

.....£4995

15 Peugeot 108 Feline

1.2 LOW MILES

59K.....£5995

15 Peugeot 2008

Allure 1.6 DIESEL

LOW MILES 39K.....£7300

15 Nissan Qashqai Acenta

1.5 DIESEL

.....£8700

63 Hyundai ix35 1.7

DIESEL

.....£5600

4x4

63 Ford Kuga

Zetec 2.0 DIESEL

Automatic LOW MILES

60K.....£9400

WANTED

CARAVANS MOTORHOMES CAMPERS

All makes and models
Old & new

All conditions considered

Tel Alex:
07397823595

CARAVANS AND MOBILE HOMES

WANTED

All Touring Caravans
All makes & models
Damp or damaged considered.
Motorhomes, Campervans & Caravanettes wanted

Will Travel

Tel. 07546 788945

CARS WANTED

WANTED

All 4x4 Vehicles
Land Rover, Mitsubishi, Toyota, Suzuki etc.
Plus all 4x4 double cab pickups.
All considered including: high mileage, non runners, MOT failures etc.

Will Travel

Tel. 07546 788945

COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

PEUGEOT 207 SW HDI ESTATE 2009

Silver
Diesel
Roofbars and Towbar
Mileage 107,000
MOT until July
£530 ono
Tel. 07786882549
(Justin Grant)
INVERGORDON

VAUXHALL ASTRA VAN 2009

1300cc Diesel
Mileage 58,000
MOT until July
SOLD

MOTORCYCLES

SINMIS SHUTTLE

125, 19 plate, 2000 miles
only, in good condition.
£650 ono
01343 545944
ELGIN

TO
ADVERTISE
in the
Northern
Times
ring
01408
633993

Kirkton Wind Farm: Virtual Public Exhibition - 16th March 2022

Wind2 invites you to attend a Virtual Public Exhibition event on the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm. The proposed Kirkton Wind Farm is located on land approximately 2.8km to the south of the settlement of Melvich, in Sutherland.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th March 2022 / 3.00pm to 7.00pm
Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

The Virtual Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed following the previous Public Exhibition, which was held in Strathay Hall on 6th October 2021. Further to this there will be information on the planning application process, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. You will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. Members of the Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the Virtual Public Exhibition.

Any person wishing to make comments relating to the proposal, or wishing to obtain further information, may do so by emailing: ryan.bissoonauth@wind2.co.uk. Alternatively, you can write to the Kirkton Wind Farm project team at: Wind 2 Limited, 2 Walker Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7LB.

All feedback should be received by 30/03/22. Please note that comments made to Wind2 are not representations made to the Energy Consents Unit or the Highland Council. There will be the opportunity to make direct representations to the Energy Consents Unit, and the Highland Council's Planning Services when the application for consent is submitted.

This advert and consultation event are being held in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 under Regulation 7.

Up-to-date information about the project can also be found at the dedicated project website:
www.kirktonwindfarm.co.uk.

Classifieds Sell It ...

PLEASE NOTE:

Our advertising
deadlines are:

Features:

Fridays (prior to issue)
3.30 p.m.

All other adverts:
(except death notices)
Tuesdays - 12 noon

APPENDIX 02

Exhibition Posters

Kirkton Wind Farm - Public Exhibition



Wind2 invites you to attend a Public Exhibition event on the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm, which is located on land approximately 2.8km south of Melvich.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 6th October 2021

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Strathy Village Hall

Strathy

Sutherland

KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed.

The Public Exhibition will have appropriate health and safety measures in place. A virtual exhibition will be held online at a later date to allow those who are unable to attend in person to view the proposals and provide feedback. Details of this virtual exhibition will be advertised in due course.



Kirkton Wind Farm Virtual Public Exhibition



Wind2 invites you to attend a Virtual Public Exhibition event on the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm, which is located on land approximately 2.8km south of Melvich, in Sutherland.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th March 2022 / 3.00pm to 7.00pm

Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

The Virtual Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed following the previous Public Exhibition, which was held in Strathy Hall on 6th October 2021. Further to this there will be information on the planning application process, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed.

You will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. Members of the Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the Virtual Public Exhibition.



APPENDIX 03

Exhibition Leaflets

Kirkton Wind Farm - Public Exhibition



Wind2 invites you to attend a Public Exhibition event on the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm.

The proposed Kirkton Wind Farm is located on land approximately 2.8km to the south of the settlement of Melvich, in Sutherland. Our current proposals for the site are for 14 wind turbines, each with a blade tip height of up to 149.9m. On this basis, the wind farm would have an installed capacity of up to 70 megawatts (MW).

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 6th October 2021

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Strathy Village Hall

Strathy

Sutherland

KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. You will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. Members of the Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the exhibition.

The project team can be contacted at:

Wind2 Limited
2 Walker Street
Edinburgh
EH3 7LB

ryan.bissoonaath@wind2.co.uk

The Public Exhibition will have various health and safety precautions in place, including supplies of hand sanitiser, a requirement for masks to be worn at all times and adherence to social distancing between households.

A second, 'virtual' Public Exhibition, will be held in November 2021 and will provide further updates on the progress of the project. The virtual Public Exhibition will be advertised nearer the time, via the Northern Times and John O'Groats Journal, and through social media.



Kirkton Wind Farm - Virtual Public Exhibition



Wind2 invites you to attend a Virtual Public Exhibition event on the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm.

The proposed Kirkton Wind Farm is located on land approximately 2.8km to the south of the settlement of Melvich, in Sutherland. Our current proposals for the site are for 11 wind turbines, each with a blade tip height of up to 149.9m. On this basis, the wind farm would have an installed capacity of up to 60 megawatts (MW).

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th March 2022

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

The Virtual Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed following the previous Public Exhibition, which was held in Strathy Hall on 6th October 2021. Further to this there will be information on the planning application process, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. You will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. Members of the Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the Virtual Public Exhibition.

Any person wishing to make comments relating to the proposal, or wishing to obtain further information, may do so by emailing: ryan.bissoonauth@wind2.co.uk. Alternatively, you can write to the Kirkton Wind Farm project team at:

Wind 2 Limited,
2 Walker Street,
Edinburgh,
EH3 7LB

All comments regarding the information presented at the Virtual Public Exhibition should be received by 30/03/22. Please note that comments made to Wind2 are not representations made to the Energy Consents Unit or the Highland Council. There will be the opportunity to make direct representations to the Energy Consents Unit, and the Highland Council's Planning Services when the application for consent is submitted.

The Virtual Public Exhibition will remain accessible (at the above link) until submission of the Kirkton Wind Farm application, anticipated to be in mid-2022. Up-to-date information about the project can also be found at the dedicated project website: www.kirktonwindfarm.co.uk.



APPENDIX 04

Community Council Emails

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Further to our conversation last week, Wind2 would like to invite the Melvich Community Council to attend a Public Exhibition where Wind2 will be presenting the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 6th October 2021

3pm – 7pm

Strathy Village Hall, Strathy, Sutherland, KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the exhibition.

The Public Exhibition will have various health and safety precautions in place, including supplies of hand sanitiser, a requirement for masks to be worn at all times and adherence to social distancing between households. A virtual exhibition will be held online at a later date to allow those who are unable to attend in person to view the proposals and provide feedback. Details of this virtual exhibition will be advertised in due course.

A leaflet with details of the Public Exhibition will be posted to the local residents living within 10km of the site, inviting them to attend. It is anticipated that this leaflet will be distributed during the week commencing 27th September.

Wind2 have also prepared a poster to advertise the Exhibition - would the Community Council be happy to post an advert for the Public Exhibition on your social media? If so, please let me know and I will email across the poster.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Wind2 would like to invite the Thurso West Community Council to attend a Public Exhibition where Wind2 will be presenting the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 6th October 2021

3pm – 7pm

Strathy Village Hall, Strathy, Sutherland, KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the exhibition.

The Public Exhibition will have various health and safety precautions in place, including supplies of hand sanitiser, a requirement for masks to be worn at all times and adherence to social distancing between households. A virtual exhibition will be held online at a later date to allow those who are unable to attend in person to view the proposals and provide feedback. Details of this virtual exhibition will be advertised in due course.

A leaflet with details of the Public Exhibition will be posted to the local residents living within 10km of the site, inviting them to attend. It is anticipated that this leaflet will be distributed during the week commencing 27th September.

Wind2 have also prepared a poster to advertise the Exhibition - would the Community Council be happy to post an advert for the Public Exhibition on your social media? If so, please let me know and I will email across the poster.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Wind2 would like to invite the Strathy & Armadale Community Council to attend a Public Exhibition where Wind2 will be presenting the draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 6th October 2021

3pm – 7pm

Strathy Village Hall, Strathy, Sutherland, KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that you may have whilst visiting the exhibition.

The Public Exhibition will have various health and safety precautions in place, including supplies of hand sanitiser, a requirement for masks to be worn at all times and adherence to social distancing between households. A virtual exhibition will be held online at a later date to allow those who are unable to attend in person to view the proposals and provide feedback. Details of this virtual exhibition will be advertised in due course.

A leaflet with details of the Public Exhibition will be posted to the local residents living within 10km of the site, inviting them to attend. It is anticipated that this leaflet will be distributed during the week commencing 27th September.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Following on from the public exhibition which we held in Strathy Hall in October 2021, Wind2 are holding an online virtual public exhibition where we will be presenting information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed since the previous public exhibition. Further to this, information on the planning application process will be provided, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Wind2 would like to invite the Melvich Community Council to attend the exhibition, which will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th March 2022

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that visitors to the website may have. As was the case for the previous exhibition, a leaflet with details of the Virtual Public Exhibition will be posted in the next few days to the local residents living within 10km of the site, inviting them to attend.

Wind2 have also prepared a poster to advertise the exhibition, which I have attached. Would the Community Council be happy to post this advert for the virtual public exhibition on your social media?

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Following on from the public exhibition which we held in Strathy Hall in October 2021, Wind2 are holding an online virtual public exhibition where we will be presenting information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed since the previous public exhibition. Further to this, information on the planning application process will be provided, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Wind2 would like to invite the Strathy & Armadale Community Council to attend the exhibition, which will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th March 2022

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that visitors to the website may have. As was the case for the previous exhibition, a leaflet with details of the Virtual Public Exhibition will be posted in the next few days to the local residents living within 10km of the site, inviting them to attend.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope you are well. Following on from the public exhibition which we held in Strathy Hall in October 2021, Wind2 are holding an online virtual public exhibition where we will be presenting information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed since the previous public exhibition. Further to this, information on the planning application process will be provided, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Wind2 would like to invite the Thurso West Community Council to attend the exhibition, which will be held as follows:

Wednesday 16th March 2022

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that visitors to the website may have. As was the case for the previous exhibition, a leaflet with details of the Virtual Public Exhibition will be posted in the next few days to the local residents living within 10km of the site, inviting them to attend.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

APPENDIX 05

Councillor Emails

Dear Councillor [REDACTED]

I hope this email finds you well. I had contacted you previously in September 2021 to introduce the Kirkton Wind Farm project, which is being developed by Wind2. We held a public exhibition in Strathy Hall in October 2021, where the initial proposals for the project were presented to members of the local community. The exhibition provided the opportunity for members of the public to provide feedback on the draft plans and also comment on the community benefit proposals put forward by Wind2.

Following on from the public exhibition held in October 2021, Wind2 are holding an online 'virtual' public exhibition where we will be presenting information about how the proposals for Kirkton Wind Farm have progressed since the previous public exhibition. Further to this, information on the planning application process will be provided, and also an opportunity to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Wind2 would like to invite you to visit the online exhibition, which can be accessed at the date and time shown below using the link provided:

Wednesday 16th March 2022

3.00pm to 7.00pm

Website Link: <https://openplans.uk/kirktonwindfarm>

Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process. The Wind2 team will be in attendance to field any questions that visitors to the website may have.

As a brief recap of the project -

The Kirkton Wind Farm project is located on two farms, Kirkton Farm and Upper Bighouse, approximately 2.8km to the south of the settlement of Melvich in Sutherland. The latest proposals for the site are for 11 wind turbines, each with a blade tip height of up to 149.9m. On this basis, the wind farm would have an installed capacity of up to 60 megawatts (MW), with the potential to generate enough renewable electricity to meet the needs of around 50,000 homes, offsetting c.84,000 tonnes of CO₂ per annum.

Survey work has been undertaken on the Kirkton site since 2019 to inform the site design and ensure potential impacts are minimised. The series of environmental and technical studies undertaken will inform an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which will form part of the project's planning application. We anticipate that the planning application will be submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consent Unit in mid-2022.

Should the project gain planning consent, Wind2 is committed to providing a community benefit fund equivalent to £5,000 per MW of installed capacity on the site, payable each year of the wind farm's operational lifetime. Based on an installed capacity of 60MW, this would provide an annual community benefit fund of £300,000. In addition to this commitment, we are currently exploring opportunities for the local community to invest in the project whereby the community would receive up to 5% of the project net profit after tax in return for their investment. We are also gauging local interest in a near neighbours electricity contribution scheme for those living in proximity to the project. Details of this scheme and how it might work were presented at the first public exhibition in October 2021, and the general response received from the members of the public was positive. These proposals will be re-iterated at the online exhibition with a view to obtaining further feedback from members of the public who may not have been able to attend the previous exhibition.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition or would like to speak to us directly about the project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Dear Councillor [REDACTED]

I hope this email finds you well. I thought it prudent to contact you to introduce the Kirkton Wind Farm project which is being developed by Wind2, and invite you to attend a Public Exhibition where draft proposals for the Kirkton Wind Farm will be presented.

The Kirkton Wind Farm project is located on two farms, Kirkton Farm and Upper Bighouse, approximately 2.8km to the south of the settlement of Melvich in Sutherland. The current proposals for the site are for 14 wind turbines, each with a blade tip height of up to 149.9m. On this basis, the wind farm would have an installed capacity of up to 70 megawatts (MW), with the potential to generate enough renewable electricity to meet the needs of around 67,000 homes, offsetting c.100,000 tonnes of CO₂ per annum.

Survey work has been undertaken on the Kirkton site since 2019 to inform the site design and ensure potential impacts are minimised. The series of environmental and technical studies undertaken will inform an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which will form part of the project's planning application. We anticipate that the planning application will be submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consent Unit in early 2022.

Should the project gain planning consent, Wind2 is committed to providing a community benefit fund equivalent to £5,000 per MW of installed capacity on the site, payable each year of the wind farm's operational lifetime. Based on an installed capacity of 70MW, this would provide an annual community benefit fund of £350,000. In addition to this commitment, we are currently exploring opportunities for the local community to invest in the project whereby the community would receive up to 5% of the project net profit after tax in return for their investment. We are also exploring local interest in a near neighbours electricity contribution scheme for those living in proximity to the project. Details of this scheme and how it might work will be presented at the Public Exhibition.

The Public Exhibition will provide an opportunity to gain information about the proposals and the pre-application public consultation process, as well as to see visualisations of how the wind farm would look if constructed. Members of the public will be invited to provide comments and feedback on the proposals as part of the consultation process.

The Exhibition will be held as follows:

Wednesday 6th October 2021

3pm – 7pm

Strathy Village Hall, Strathy, Sutherland, KW14 7RZ

The Public Exhibition will have various health and safety precautions in place, including supplies of hand sanitiser, a requirement for masks to be worn at all times and adherence to social distancing between households. A virtual exhibition will also be held online at a later date to allow those who are unable to attend in person to view the proposals and provide feedback. Details of this virtual exhibition will be advertised in due course.

It would be appreciated if you could please indicate whether you plan to attend the exhibition or would like to speak to us directly about the project. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]