



Vale of Leven Wind Farm Limited

# Vale of Leven Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation Report

663510



OCTOBER 2023



# RSK GENERAL NOTES

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**Client:** Vale of Leven Wind Farm Limited

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## 1 Introduction

This Pre-Application Consultation Report (PAC Report) summarises the pre-application public activity undertaken by Vale of Leven Wind Ltd (the Applicant) to accompany a Section 36 application under the Electricity Act 1989 for consent to construct and operate Vale of Leven Wind Farm (the Proposed Development).

## 2 The Applicant

Vale of Leven Wind Farm Ltd is a subsidiary company of Coriolis Energy Ltd.

Coriolis Energy Ltd and Electricity Supply Board (ESB) Asset Development are working together to bring forward the Proposed Development. Coriolis Energy Ltd, with offices in Glasgow, is an independent UK-based renewables developer and has been developing renewable energy projects since 2007. ESB, with offices in Glasgow, is Ireland's premier energy company and a leading independent power generator in the UK.

## 3 The Proposed Development

The Site is located within the Kilpatrick Hills, West Dunbartonshire. The nearest settlement to the Site is Bonhill, which lies just over 2 km to the west of the nearest proposed turbine. The larger settlements of Alexandria and Dumbarton are approximately 4 km to the west and south-west of the Site respectively.

It is for up to 10 turbines, up to 250m to tip. The individual turbine generating capacity is anticipated to be approximately 7 MW, with the total installed capacity for the Proposed Development in excess of 50 MW.

Ancillary infrastructure would also comprise the following components:

- hardstanding areas at the base of each turbine, with a permanent area of approximately 7,800 m<sup>2</sup>
- site entrance and access track up to 9.2 km in length from the south-west, via a new road through Murroch Farm, accessed from a new junction on the A813 Stirling Road, roughly opposite the Aggreko Lomondgate facility in Dumbarton;
- sub-station/control building with parking and welfare facilities;
- a network of onsite access tracks and associated watercourse crossings;
- transformers and underground cables to connect the turbines to the onsite substation;
- telecommunications equipment;
- 3 temporary construction compounds and laydown area;
- 3 borrow pit search areas, to provide suitable rock for access tracks, turbine bases and hardstandings; and
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a capacity up to 20 MW.

The Proposed Development also includes plans which seek to deliver habitat improvements, including peatland restoration, bracken control and planting of native woodland.

A full description of the Proposed Development is presented in Chapter 2: Proposed Development Description (EIAR Volume 1)

## **4 Legislative Process**

As the Proposed Development is for a wind farm over 50MW, an application is being made under Section 36 of the Electricity Act (1989) directly to the Scottish Ministers and there is no obligation to consult the public under the terms of the Electricity Act application process.

While not a statutory requirement, the Applicant recognises the benefits of carrying out early consultation during the planning process and considers consultation events and producing a PAC Report as best practice.

## **5 Process for Community Consultation**

The Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010–Community Engagement Planning with People, provides guidelines for Pre-Application Consultation.

PAN 3/2010 stipulates that community engagement should be meaningful and proportionate and take place at an early stage to influence the shape of proposals.

PAN 3/2010 uses National Standards for Community Engagement, developed by Communities Scotland, as its structure.

This provides a useful framework to help plan, monitor and evaluate community engagement and sets out ten standards which are intended as best practice guidance:-

- Standard 1: Involvement; identify and involve people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement.
- Standard 2: Support; identify and overcome barriers to involvement.
- Standard 3: Planning; gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions.
- Standard 4: Methods; agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.
- Standard 5: Working with others; agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together efficiently and effectively.
- Standard 6: Sharing information; ensure necessary information is communicated between participants.
- Standard 7: Working with others; work effectively with others with an interest.
- Standard 8: Improvement; develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants.

- Standard 9: Feedback; feed results back to the wider community and agencies affected.
- Standard 10: Monitoring and evaluation; monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement
- The Applicant has followed the Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 Community Engagement.

Part of the pre-application consultation for the Proposed Development timeline was carried out during some Covid-19 restrictions. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government provided development planning and engagement regulations through The Town and Country Planning (Emergency Period and Extended Period) Regulations 2021, which remained in force until 30 September 2022. The document provided advice on consultation during the Covid-19 restrictions and outlined engagement should focus on digital/online means.

This was taken into account when the Applicant started engagement on the Proposed Development in March 2022. With the easing of restrictions, it was possible to hold in-person events and offer both online and in-person engagement with community representatives.

## **6 Statutory Consultees**

Statutory consultees were consulted as part of the formal scoping process and throughout the EIA process. Summaries of the statutory consultees' responses are provided in EIA Report Volume 1; Chapters 4 – 14 .

## **7 Consultation – Scoping**

The Applicant's approach has been to provide information and consult with local residents and community representatives at an early stage of the process.

A Scoping Report (ECU00003468) was submitted to the Scottish Ministers/Energy Consents Unit on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Statutory and Non-Statutory consultees were then consulted by the Energy Consents Unit as part of the formal scoping process, including local and neighbouring Community Councils to the Proposed Development.

Ahead of the Scoping Request from the Energy Consents Unit, the Applicant directly contacted the following Community Councils on 21 March 2022

- Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council;
- Milton and Bowling Community Council;
- Kilmaronock Community Council;
- Balloch and Haldane Community Council; and
- Silverton and Overtoun Community Council.

The letter (**Appendix 1**) introduced the Proposed Development, the Applicant and offered to attend a Community Councils meeting at an early stage of the consultation process.

At the time of introducing the Proposed Development, Renton Community Council and Dumbarton North Community Council were not active Community Councils. Both community councils are still inactive as outlined by West Dunbartonshire Council in September 2023.

The following meetings took place with Community Councils:

- The Applicant attended Balloch and Haldane Community Council meeting on 6 April 2022 to present the Proposed Development and answer any questions on the plans. A copy of the presentation can be found in **Appendix 2**.
- The Applicant attended Kilmarnock Community Council meeting on 12 September 2022 to present the Proposed Development and answer any questions on the plans. A copy of the presentation can be found in **Appendix 3**.
- The Applicant attended Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council meeting on 13 February 2023 to present the Proposed Development and answer any questions on the plans. A copy of the presentation can be found in **Appendix 4**.

The Applicant liaised with the Community Councils during the scoping and post scoping period, ensuring that they were informed of the Proposed Development at an early stage, including providing letter/email updates to notify and help advertise the upcoming exhibition events.

The Applicant also contacted the following local elected representatives at the start of the Proposed Development's consultation period to introduce the plans and offer a meeting:

- Local ward members for Lomond Ward
- Local ward members for Dumbarton Ward
- Local MSP for Dumbarton
- Local MP for West Dunbartonshire

Several local councillors attended the Community Council meetings during the Applicant presentation and/or the Public Exhibition events. The Applicant met elected representatives to outline the Proposed Development as follows:

- Local MSP Jackie Baillie - 11 July 2022 (virtual meeting).
- Local MP Martin Docherty-Hughes - 3 March 2023 (constituency office meeting).

The meetings allowed the Applicant to outline the Proposed Development and focused on the timeline for the project and community engagement as part of the planning process.

## **8 Public Exhibitions – October 2022**

The Applicant held three in-person consultation events in October 2022. The events took place as follows:

- Kilmarnock Millennium Hall, Gartocharn: Tuesday 11 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm
- Balloch House Hotel, Balloch: Wednesday 12 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm
- Dalmonach Community Centre, Bonhill: Thursday 13 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

The locations were chosen to give communities around the Proposed Development the opportunity to attend exhibition events. Exhibition materials were also made available on the Proposed Development website on 11 October 2022 for those unable to attend the exhibitions.

The events were publicised in various ways, including:

- Half page adverts (**Appendix 5**) in the Dumbarton Reporter on 4 October and 11 October 2022 - giving advance notice of the physical events and to outline that all information will be made available on the website;
- Invitation (**Appendix 6**) sent out by Royal Mail to over 24,000 homes and businesses within approximately 5km of the site;
- Email summary and invitation (**Appendix 7**) to the host and neighbouring Community Councils to highlight the consultation events - sent to: Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council, Kilmarnock Community Council, Balloch and Haldane Community Council, Silverton and Overtoun Community Council, Milton and Bowling Community Council;
- Email summary and invitation to councillors for Lomond Ward and Dumbarton Ward, local MSP and local MP to highlight the consultation events;
- Posters/web posters (**Appendix 8**);
- Details on project website.

The advert, mailout and posters all included an email address and contact details so that residents and community representatives could contact the Applicant, if they had any comments relating to the Proposed Development.

The aim of the public exhibitions was to provide an opportunity for the community and representatives to view the Proposed Development plans, and gain valuable feedback on the project.

On display were a number of information boards (as shown at **Appendix 9**), covering:

- Information on the developer;
- An overview of the Proposed Development, including layout;
- Several key viewpoints - visualisations on the latest design of 10 turbines;
- An overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment studies being undertaken;
- Community Benefit, Construction opportunities and Shared Ownership Information;
- Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV).

The exhibition had 18 information boards (**Appendix 9**) in total and these are still available on the project website<sup>1</sup> for reference.

The exhibition included a fly through video of the proposed site and a number of A1 print outs of the draft photomontages. Attendees to the events could leave comments directly with the exhibition team or via a feedback form, which was also made available online.

A deadline of 1 November 2022 was set to provide feedback and comments on the consultations, allowing residents and organisations time to respond following the exhibition events.

### **Consultation Comments (October 2022)**

Comments on the proposals are derived from the feedback forms, the comments made verbally to the Applicant team during public exhibitions, and various other meetings held and correspondence during the consultation process.

For the physical exhibitions in October 2022, 263 people attended over the three days and a number of issues and questions were raised with the exhibition team - both direct to the exhibitors and via the feedback forms. The project team received positive, neutral and negative comments and feedback on the plans and a summary of the key issues can be found in **Table** .

400 separate users visited the project website from 11th October - 1 November 2022 to view the exhibition material.

The Applicant received 75 feedback forms, 32 initial emails and several direct requests. Of the 75 feedback forms (copy of Feedback Form found in **Appendix 10**), when asked 'Do you support the proposed Vale of Leven Wind Farm?', more than two-thirds outlined support:

- Yes - 52 people (69%)
- No - 12 people (16%)
- Neutral - 11 people (15%)

The Applicant responded to all email/feedback queries to the consultation (in line with GDPR). This included providing further wirelines as requested by some residents and pre-arranged house visits to meet nearby residents to the Proposed Development to follow up on specific concerns/issues, such as concerns regarding potential landscape and visual impact.

The Feedback Form included several open ended questions and the comments can be found in **Table** . Supportive comments focused on the project being good for the local

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<sup>1</sup> <https://valeoflevenwindfarm.com/>

communities/the need for West Dunbartonshire to have a wind farm and in favour of harnessing renewable energy. Negative comments focused on the size of the proposed turbines, noise and proximity to houses.

A copy of the feedback form can be found at **Appendix 10**.

**Table 1: Feedback form questions and answers**

Question	Answer (summary)
<p>Are there any specific issues about our proposals that you would like to highlight?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Landscape and Visual Impacts.</li> <li>● Scale of the turbines.</li> <li>● Residential Amenity concerns - too close to properties</li> <li>● The transport route - important road route and traffic jams are common occurrence.</li> <li>● The need for renewable energy to combat the climate crisis,</li> <li>● The cost of energy and the potential for an energy discount scheme.</li> <li>● Potential noise impact from turbines?</li> <li>● Shared ownership opportunities connected to the wind farm.</li> <li>● Proximity to the National Park</li> </ul>
<p>Do you have any suggestions on how the community investment fund, if consented, could be spent in the local area?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Support local businesses</li> <li>● Needs to stay in the local area</li> <li>● Deprived communities and can help them with energy costs</li> <li>● Energy Discount Scheme for residents</li> <li>● Communities closest to the project should have the greatest say in how the community benefit is used</li> <li>● Use local Trusts and not Community Councils for Community Benefit.</li> </ul>

**Responses to consultation comments (October 2022)**

General comments raised both directly to the project team or on feedback forms during the exhibitions and meetings post-exhibition along with Applicant’s response to these are contained in **Table** .

**Table 2: Consultation responses**

Topic	Comment Received	Response
Landscape & Visual Impact	<p>Concern was raised that turbines too large and should be reduced in number/size.</p> <p>Concern that these were the largest turbines in Scotland.</p> <p>Comments also received that large development will maximise renewable energy output and need to move to net-zero.</p>	<p>Several attendees questioned the height of the proposed turbines compared to other projects in Scotland and why considering turbines at this scale.</p> <p>There are projects in Scotland consented at 250m to tip in height already and there are a number of projects in development/planning at 250m.</p> <p>This scale allows much greater efficiency and output allowing a more meaningful contribution to renewable energy generation targets and greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.</p> <p>During the consultation process, the Scottish Government has set a new target of 8GW - 12GW of new onshore wind, and therefore a number of new projects, such as Vale of Leven, need to come forward if Scotland is to meet these targets for renewable energy.</p> <p>Landscape and Visual impacts will be a key consideration for Vale of Leven and we have already reduced the number of turbines from 19 turbines to 10 turbines to reduce the visual impact of the project.</p>
Residential Amenity	Concerns regarding proximity to households.	Turbines will be 2km from the nearest communities and there are a number of operational wind farms in Scotland that are closer in proximity to communities than proposed for Vale of Leven.
Noise	Will there be a noise impact from the turbines?	<p>The potential impact of noise from the wind turbines was raised by some attendees.</p> <p>A full noise assessment is undertaken as part of the application process and the Applicant installed noise monitoring of nearby households (with their permission). Several attendees at the exhibitions asked about noise monitoring equipment to be installed at their residence and this was followed up with interested attendees.</p>

Topic	Comment Received	Response
		<p>Modelling results suggest that operational noise levels from the turbines will be well within acceptable threshold values as set out in ETSU-R-97 <i>'The Assessment and Rating of Noise from Wind Farms</i> and therefore unlikely to be a nuisance to any surrounding properties.</p> <p>All the data and conclusions will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report.</p>
Transport Route	<p>Road infrastructure unable to cope with project</p> <p>Queries on transport route and going through Murroch Crescent.</p>	<p>Several residents, especially at the Bonhill exhibition, asked about the transport route and whether the turbine parts would be delivered via Murroch Crescent or through the Beechwood area of the settlement. This is not the route and no abnormal loads would go via Murroch Crescent.</p> <p>A new access route is proposed to be constructed via Murroch Farm, with access roughly opposite the Aggreko building.</p> <p>If consented, there would be a Traffic Management Plan put in place and the Applicant would liaise with the community to receive their input, such as abnormal load deliveries at night time to avoid using the road network during busy periods.</p> <p>The Applicant would also organise a construction liaison committee between the construction contractor and the local community to communicate forthcoming activities and ensure information is readily available, such as website updates, email updates to community groups and provide a text message update service so individuals and organisations are aware of the timings of the transport loads.</p>
Local Jobs	<p>Important that local companies are involved in the Proposed Development.</p>	<p>It was made clear that local businesses should benefit from the Vale of Leven project should it be consented and questions about job creation/economic benefits of the wind farm proposal.</p>

Topic	Comment Received	Response
		<p>The Applicant has joined the Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce and is committed to Meet the Developer events to outline opportunities for local businesses and organisations.</p> <p>The Applicant has also commissioned the Chamber of Commerce to carry out a study on local businesses that could work on the project.</p> <p>The Applicant has signed an MOU with the Chamber of Commerce regarding a Local Supply Chain Initiative to encourage local businesses to get involved in the project should it be consented.</p> <p>The Environmental Impact Assessment Report will contain a chapter on the Socio-economic impact of the wind farm which the Applicant will share with interested community organisations to highlight the economic impact the project can have in the local area.</p>
Community Benefit Fund	Interest was raised regarding how the community benefit package would work.	<p>Community benefit is not considered as part of the planning process.</p> <p>The Applicant is committed to £5,000 per MW of installed capacity - this would equate to approximately £350,000 per year (index linked) for 40 years. This would equate to £14 million of community benefit funding over the lifetime of the proposed development,</p> <p>The communities that will be impacted by the construction and operation of the Proposed Development will be invited to help shape a community benefit package that best meets local needs.</p> <p>The Community Benefit Fund is separate to the Shared Ownership opportunity of the project.</p>
Shared Ownership	Interest was raised regarding the	There was interest in the shared ownership element of the Proposed Development.

Topic	Comment Received	Response
	<p>opportunity of Shared Ownership and how it would work and important that it is open to all local people.</p>	<p>The Applicant is committed to offering shared ownership of the wind farm - this would allow the community the opportunity to invest in and have a share of the wind farm.</p> <p>The Applicant has offered to help organise or provide information to Community Councils on shared ownership and work with Local Energy Scotland, an independent organisation that provides advice to communities on community benefit and community shared ownership.</p> <p>The Applicant understands that there are discussions between Community Councils on the shared ownership aspect of the Proposed Development and that Local Energy Scotland are facilitating those discussions.</p>
<p>Recreational Access</p>	<p>A number of attendees asked about access to the site during and after construction.</p>	<p>The Applicant outlined there will be more information on this as part of the application and, if interest in the community, look at how the site can be made more accessible, eg the introduction of a board walk for part of the site to improve habitat management and provide a walk way for part of the site.</p>
<p>Cost of Living Crisis</p>	<p>The cost of living, the cost of gas and electricity and energy security were raised by residents at the exhibition events. A number of residents raised the idea that a community energy discount scheme should be put in place for those that live nearest to the proposals.</p>	<p>Community benefit and/or community shared ownership is for the community to decide, including the setting up of a local electricity discount scheme. Local electricity discount schemes are in place for several operational wind farms in Scotland.</p> <p>The Applicant confirmed in the summary report after the October exhibitions that they will progress ideas around this element of the scheme and provide more information to the community representatives.</p>

## 9 Public Exhibitions – March 2023

The Applicant held a further in-person consultation event on 23 March 2023 at the Loch Lomond Rugby Club following a request from local residents during the Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council meeting in February 2023 as the households were some of the closest properties to the Proposed Development. The events took place as follows:

- Loch Lomond Rugby Club, Beechwood Drive, Bonhill: Thursday 23 March 2023, 2pm – 7pm

Exhibition materials were also made available on the Proposed Development website and updated information on the Transport Route.

The event was publicised via a press release to the local printed media, adverts on Lomond Radio, through social media and contacting residents/elected representatives who had been in touch with the Applicant at the Community Council meeting.

The aim of the public exhibition was to provide a further opportunity for the community and representatives to view the Proposed Development plans and provide further feedback on the project.

### Consultation Comments (March 2023)

50 people attended the event and similar themes, issues and questions were raised with the exhibition team as outlined in October 2022 exhibitions. The project team received positive, neutral and negative comments and feedback on the plans and a summary of the key issues can be found in **Table** .

Of the 19 feedback forms, when asked ‘Do you support the proposed Vale of Leven Wind Farm?’, the responses were as follows::

- Yes - 8 people (42%)
- No - 7 people (37%)
- Neutral - 4 people (21%)

The Applicant responded to all email/feedback queries to the consultation event (in line with GDPR).

The Feedback Forms at the March 2023 event focused on visual impact and noise concerns due to proximity of the turbines to residents.

### Table 3: Feedback form questions and answers

Question	Answer (summary)
<p>Are there any specific issues about our proposals that you would like to highlight?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Noise concerns</li> <li>● Turbines are too big</li> <li>● Environmental impact on local area</li> <li>● Overall impact on area</li> <li>● Too near to houses/house price impact</li> <li>● Traffic impacts</li> <li>● Peat impact</li> <li>● Lack of job creation</li> <li>● Consider access roads/road infrastructure impact</li> <li>● Need for continued public consultation</li> </ul>
<p>Do you have any suggestions on how the community investment fund, if consented, could be spent in the local area?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Community Benefit should focus on children groups</li> <li>● Road Infrastructure investment</li> <li>● Fund the Rugby club for refurbishment</li> <li>● Use the Community Councils to gather proposals</li> <li>● Keep the benefits local</li> </ul>

### Responses to consultation comments (March 2023)

The comments at the March 2023 exhibition focused on the proximity of the turbines to the Beechwood residents and concerns regarding the noise, visual impact and engagement from the Developer. Several of the concerns/positive comments/responses relating to landscape/community benefits are listed in the October 2022 'Response to Consultation Comments' with further comments/response in **Table** .

**Table 4: Consultation responses**

Topic	Comment Received	Response
House prices	Concern was raised that turbines would impact house prices.	<p>There have been independent studies on wind farms and the potential impact of house prices in Scotland that have concluded there is no evidence of a consistent negative effect on house prices.</p> <p>A report commissioned by the Scottish Government and undertaken by Climate X Change (published in October 2016) found 'Most results either show no significant effect on the change in price of properties within 2km or 3km, or find the effect to be positive.'</p>
Engagement	<p>Residents outlined they had not received an invitation to the October 2022.</p> <p>More engagement required for the project due to its scale.</p>	<p>A mailout for the October 2022 Exhibition events was sent to over 24,000 households via Royal Mail.</p> <p>The Applicant will consider further ways to communicate with residents, including using local newsletters and social media.</p> <p>The Applicant has since put an advert to raise the profile of the Proposed Development in the Summer 2023 Newsletter of the Bellsmyre Development Trust. See <b>Appendix 11</b></p> <p>The Applicant will hold Information Day events and advertise them on application submission.</p>

Feedback from consultations at exhibitions and Community Council meetings has helped inform the iterative design process of the Proposed Development. The various iterations of the layout and details of the factors influencing the layout are provided in **Chapter 2: Proposed Development**.

## 10 Online Engagement

A dedicated project website ([www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)) went live in March 2022 at the start of the community engagement and to allow residents easy access to find out about the Proposed Development.

The website includes contact details and an interactive Feedback Form for residents to provide a response via the website and is updated with Exhibition material and a summary from the October 2022 exhibitions so that residents can read the feedback and comments.

60 mails have been submitted and the Applicant has responded to all queries/questions.

## 11 Community groups engagement

Through the Public Exhibitions and raising the Proposed Development's profile during the consultation phase, the Applicant has held meetings with several local groups, including the Bellsmyre Development Trust and Friends of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, to outline the Proposed Development.

The Applicant will continue to keep local groups and residents signed up for information updated on the Proposed Development.

## 12 Key outcomes

Key outcomes from the consultation process include:

- Feedback from early engagement at the scoping stage and during the exhibition events has helped inform the design process of the Proposed Development
- The feedback has helped inform the engagement approach of the Applicant, including the October 2022 exhibition venues and additional exhibition event in March 2023.
- The Applicant will organise information days with the community at time of submission of the S36 application to showcase the submitted application, answer any questions and inform residents and community representatives on how they can make representations

## 13 Community engagement post s36 application submission

The Applicant is committed to engagement with the surrounding communities and residents throughout the planning process.

The Applicant will continue to keep the website [www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com) updated with progress, such as submission of the S36 application, and any future events. Copies of the Application Documents will be available on the Proposed Development project website.

The Applicant will continue to discuss with Community Councils and interested groups on Shared Ownership opportunities.

The Applicant intends to organise Meet the Buyer Events with Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce to ensure local businesses are aware of the opportunities connected to the Proposed Development.

The Applicant will organise Information Day events to showcase the submitted application and how residents and community representatives can make representations

## **14 Meeting best practice guidance (pan 3/2010)**

The Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010: Community Engagement states that: "Effective engagement with the public can lead to better plans, better decisions and more satisfactory outcomes and can help to avoid delays in the planning process. It also improves confidence in the fairness of the planning system".

There are ten standards towards achieving effective community engagement in the guidance. **Table 5** describes how these standards have been met in the pre-application consultation.

**Table 5: Community engagement standards**

PAN 3/2010 Standard	Activities Undertaken
<p>Involvement: Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The host and neighbouring community councils, development trusts and local politicians for the proposed development were identified and contacted with information on the proposed development;</li> <li>● Offer attendance to host and neighbouring Community Councils meetings;</li> <li>● Dedicated website with contact details set up at start of the project;</li> <li>● Mailout to 24,000 households within 5km of the Proposed Development and public exhibitions were undertaken in October 2022 and March 2023;</li> <li>● Further meetings with Community groups interested in the development.</li> </ul>
<p>Support: Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Able to communicate with the project team via email, letter, telephone, or in person;</li> <li>● Public Exhibitions in several accessible locations.</li> <li>● The exhibitions were advertised in the Dumbarton Reporter and a mailout set out by Royal Mail;</li> <li>● The advertisements advised of exhibition locations, dates and times and also gave the opportunity to engage via email and the website details;</li> <li>● Feedback Forms available in exhibitions and online.</li> </ul>
<p>Planning: Gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The scope of the consultation was set out in the Scoping Report;</li> <li>● Contact with community councils and community representatives outlining proposed approach and requesting feedback.</li> </ul>
<p>Methods: Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Methods of engagement outlined in Scoping, issued to Community Councils;</li> <li>● A public exhibition to allow the residents and interested groups to meet and interact with the project team, allowing discussion and feedback;</li> <li>● Information presented on Vale of Leven Wind Farm website, accessible to interested parties;</li> <li>● Adaptable and further Exhibition Event following request from local residents.</li> </ul>
<p>Working Together: Agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together effectively and efficiently</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PAC process enabled the Applicant Wind Farm to listen and take on board comments from interested parties;</li> <li>● Encouraged use of feedback forms and contact details provided at public exhibitions to receive input;</li> <li>● Project contact information provided on all public documentation, including a dedicated website and email.</li> </ul>
<p>Sharing Information: Ensure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interaction at public exhibition and follow up with any questions and provided further information;</li> </ul>

PAN 3/2010 Standard	Activities Undertaken
<p>necessary information is communicated between the participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of feedback/comments from public exhibition was made available on website and issued to Community Councils, interested residents and community representatives;</li> <li>• Information boards made available online after the exhibition;</li> <li>• Follow up with queries after Community Council presentations;</li> <li>• Offer to attend Community Council meetings after exhibitions with summary/feedback and take further comments.</li> </ul>
<p>Working with Others: Work effectively with others with an interest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interaction and comment from residents and community councils - followed up recommendation for additional exhibition event at Loch Lomond Rugby Club;</li> <li>• Feedback provided at the consultation sessions has been considered as the site has been developed.</li> </ul>
<p>Improvement: Develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussions took place with attendees at the public exhibition about how individuals could get involved with the planning process;</li> <li>• Experienced team - project manager, EIA team members, landscape architect attended the public consultation event to provide information requested by visitors to the exhibition;</li> <li>• Project Manager presentation at Community Council meetings.</li> </ul>
<p>Feedback: Feedback results to the wider community and agencies affected</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A summary of exhibitions provided to stakeholders such as community councils and local politicians via letter update;</li> <li>• Dialogue with individuals with specific queries, posed before or during the consultation process, with responses to queries;</li> </ul>
<p>Monitoring and Evaluation: Monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compliance with legislation and follow best practice as set out in PAC Report;</li> <li>• As demonstrated in this table and PAC report, the pre-application consultation process undertaken for the proposed development has been evaluated against the national standards for community engagement.</li> </ul>

## 15 Summary

The pre-application consultation carried out for the proposed development was open, transparent and in line with the Scottish Government's guidelines under PAN 3/2010.

The engagement with the local community has been a constructive consultation process and has helped the Applicant to understand and address concerns.

The Applicant would like to put on record their thanks to the Community Councils, community representatives, community groups and residents for their input and time in the planning process to date.

## Appendix 1



Coriolis Energy  
Suite 2.3  
106 Hope Street  
Glasgow, G2 6PH

*Milton and Bowling Community Council*  
*Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council*  
*Kilmarnock Community Council*  
*Renton Community Council*  
*Balloch and Haldane Community Council*  
*Dumbarton East and Central Community Council*  
*Silverton and Overtoun Community Council*

Community Council



Sent: By Email

XX March 2022

Dear

## **VALE OF LEVEN WIND FARM PROPOSAL**

We are writing to introduce Coriolis Energy and ESB and our plans for a wind farm proposal, called Vale of Leven Wind Farm, located to the east and north east of the Vale of Leven area.

We are at the early stages of the wind farm proposal and have carried out initial assessments of the site. Our next step is to consult on the plans more widely and we plan to submit an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Request to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit in the coming weeks. As one of the community councils local to the proposed wind farm, the Scottish Government will formally provide the community council with the EIA Scoping Request and ask for any comments to incorporate into the EIA Scoping Opinion. We have also recently submitted a planning application for an anemometer mast to West Dunbartonshire Council, which if consented will record wind speed and direction.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet (either virtually or in-person following Covid-19 guidance) to introduce the project. In the meantime, we have recently set up a project website at [www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com), which includes details on the plans and a site location map. We will upload a copy of the EIA Scoping Request document and other material as we progress the project.

At present the proposals would be for up to 19 turbines, up to 200m to tip in height, with an overall capacity of approximately 133MW. As our environmental consultants progress studies on site, it is possible that the number of turbines may reduce in number and/or size. The proposals include plans to co-locate battery storage on site to maximise the use of the grid connection.

The site is on rough grazing moorland, largely within an 'Area with potential for Wind Energy Development' and we believe it has good wind speeds. The project could deliver enough renewable energy to power over 90,000 homes, making an important contribution towards the Scottish

Government and West Dunbartonshire Council's net zero targets. We want to ensure that the project's environmental and economic benefits stay in the local area.

### **Coriolis Energy & ESB**

The wind farm proposals are a partnership between Coriolis Energy and ESB. Coriolis Energy, with offices in Glasgow, is an independent UK renewable energy developer and we have delivered 15 renewable energy projects around the UK and more than 100MW of operational onshore wind farm capacity.

ESB is Ireland's premier energy company and a leading independent power generator in the UK market. ESB has offices in Glasgow and is an energy provider to more than 1.5 million customers, including businesses and householders across Scotland and in the rest of the UK. As well as onshore and offshore wind, ESB is heavily involved in electric vehicle infrastructure and renewable heating systems, such as the low-carbon heating and cooling system it has installed at V&A Dundee.

We have recently joined the Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce and are encouraging local suppliers to register their interest on the project website. We are committed to working with local businesses and we will organise Meet the Developer events to outline opportunities.

In regard to a community benefit process, the Vale of Leven Wind Farm proposal includes a community benefit package of £5,000 per MW of installed capacity (index linked), which could generate over £665,000 per annum for the lifetime of the project. In addition to community benefit, we are committed to offering shared ownership of the project, giving the local community the opportunity to invest in the wind farm.

### **Next Steps**

We would welcome the opportunity to meet, either virtually or in-person in line with Covid-19 guidance, to introduce the project and some of the team. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me by using the contact details below with any questions on the proposals.

We plan to hold our first public consultation events later in the year and we will write again with more details and advertise these events in the local press.

Thank you for the opportunity to outline our proposals, and we look forward to engaging with you throughout the project.

Yours sincerely



## Appendix 2

# VALE of LEVEN WIND FARM

6<sup>th</sup> April 2022



Presentation to Balloch and Haldane Community Council



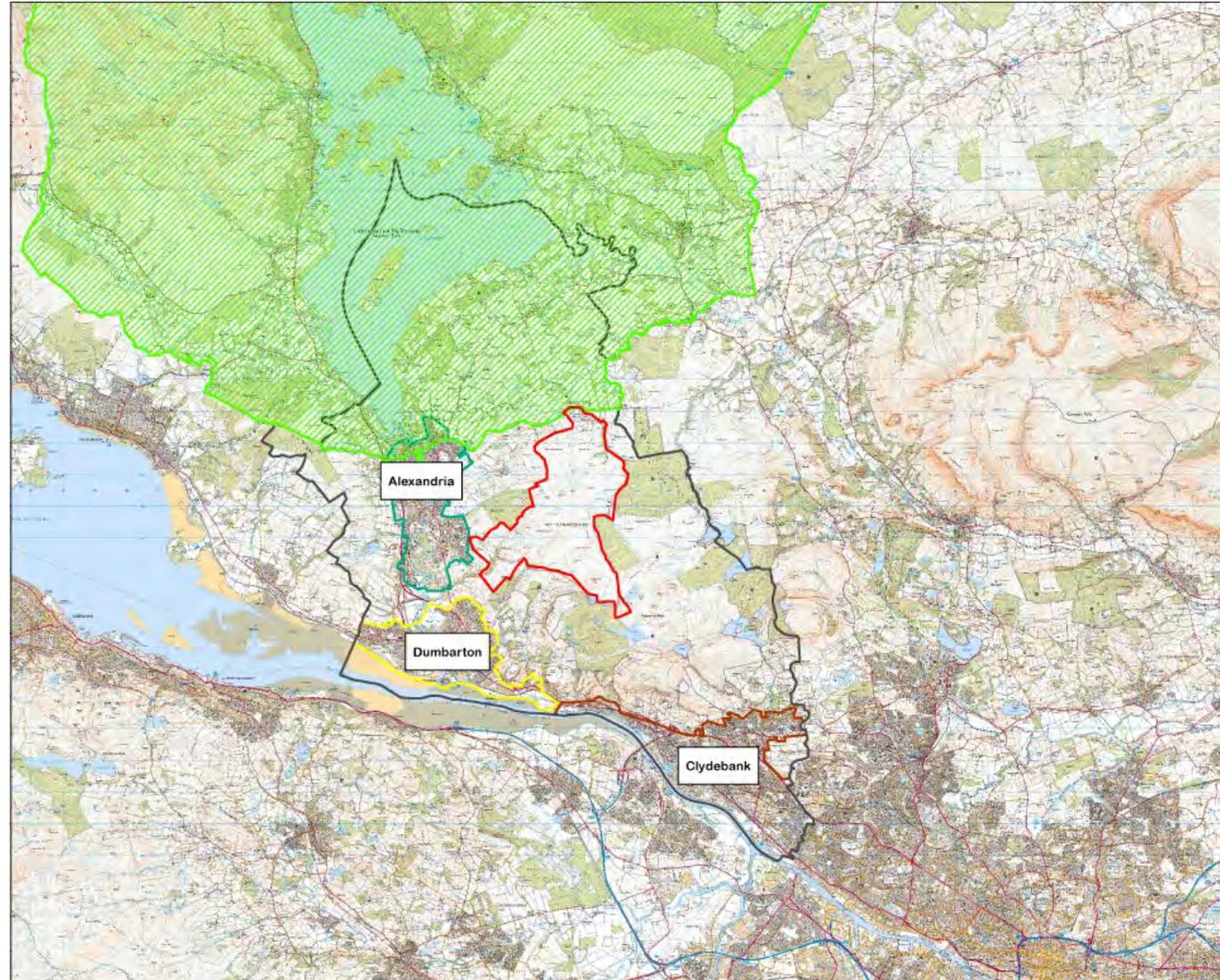
# Coriolis Energy & ESB

- Coriolis
  - Experience of 17 consented wind farms, over 500MW capacity
  - Large presence in Scotland
  - ECU experience
- ESB
  - Ireland's premier energy company
  - 450MW of operating wind farms throughout UK
- Partnership
  - Established 2015
  - Progressing >700MW of schemes

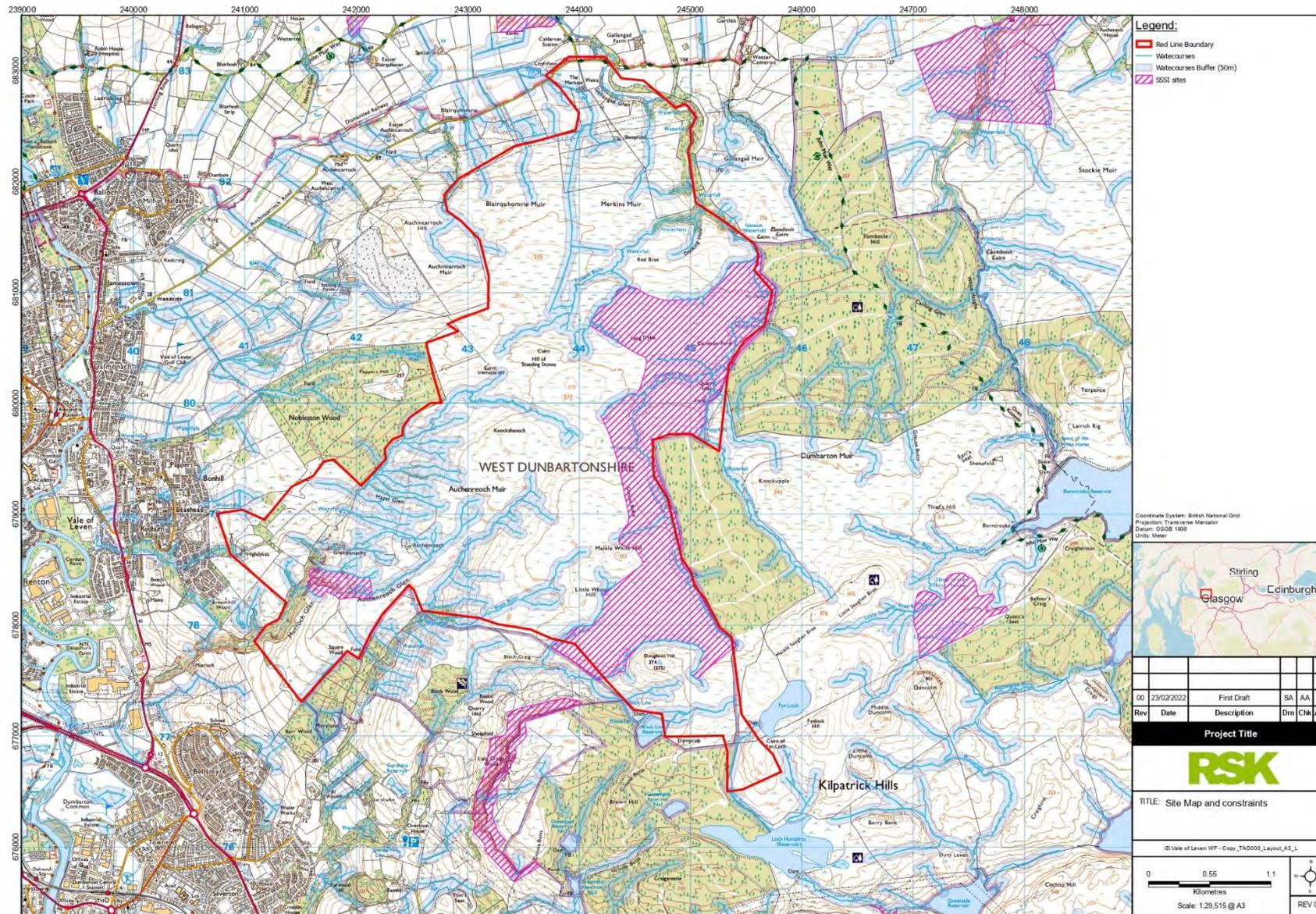


# The Project – Location and surroundings

- Merkins Farm
- 2km northeast of Bonhill
- KGV Docks in Glasgow
- Anticipated A813 via Murroch Farm
- Encompasses part of previous Merkins app – refused 2013



# The Project – Developable Area

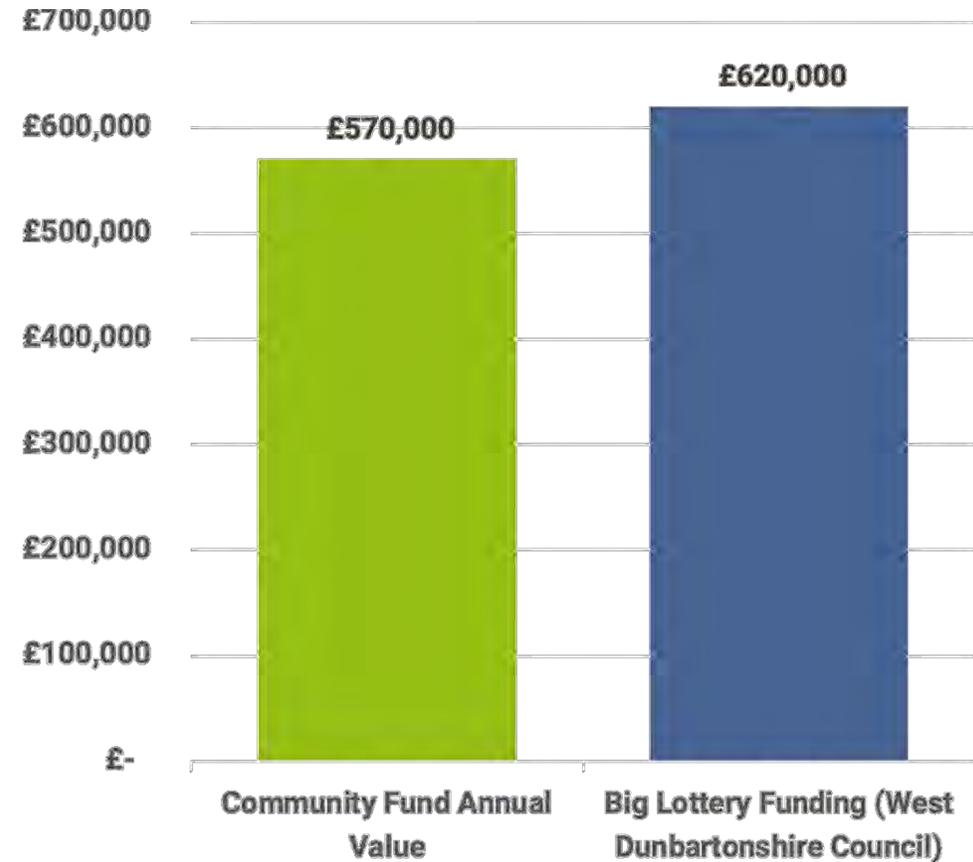


# Programme

- Kick off/pre-app Meetings Q1/Q2 2022
- Scoping April 2022
- Surveys Ongoing
- Public consultation Q3 & Q4 2022
- Submission Q1 2023
- Determination 2025/26\*
- Commence Construction Q4 2027
- Operation Q2 2029

# The Project – Community Benefits

- Local communities
  - In line with Scottish Govt/LES Guidelines of £5,000 per MW/yr
  - Significant funding opportunity for communities, in line with recent allocation from Big Lottery Fund for West Dunbartonshire
  - opportunity to use wind farm funding to leverage larger strategic projects
  - Working with existing trusts/management bodies to identify strategic priorities of communities to maximise impact of funding
- Shared ownership
  - Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for Shared Ownership of Onshore Renewable Energy Developments

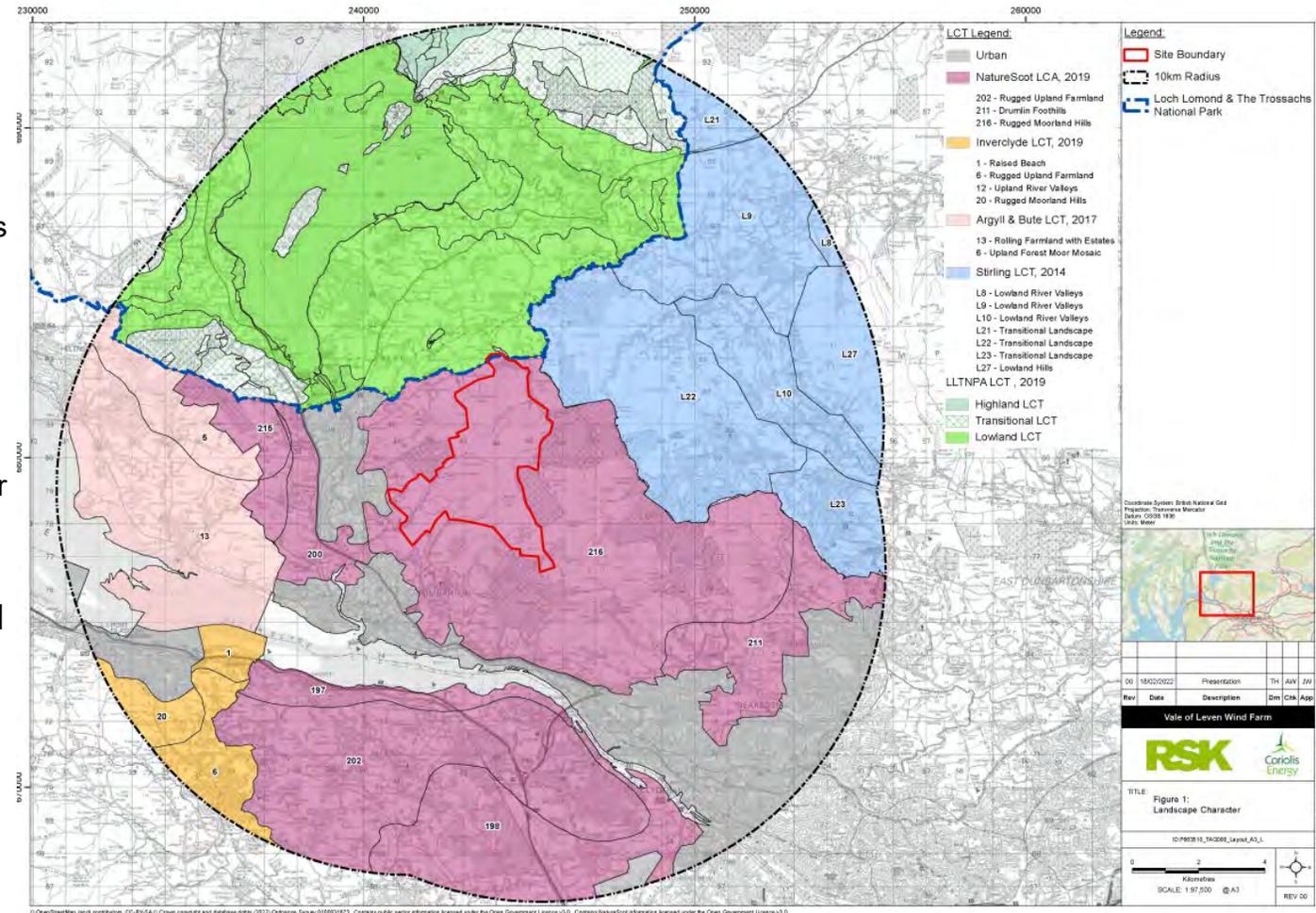


# Key Aspects – Socio-Economics

- An economic opportunity during construction
- Investment of **£20 – 30 million** in civil engineering and construction contracts
- Main opportunities for West Dunbartonshire companies in:
  - Construction trades, sub-contracting;
  - Suppliers to construction trades;
  - Accommodation;
  - Security and site services; and
  - Environmental services.
- Ongoing opportunities during operational lifetime of wind farm.
- Annual spend of **£2.5 – 3.5 million**. Main opportunities in WD
  - Site maintenance;
  - Habitat management
- Coriolis will work with Tier 1 contractors to identify opportunities to maximise local economic content
- Member of Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce
- Opportunities for Power Purchase Agreements to support Net-Zero ambitions of major employers in West Dunbartonshire

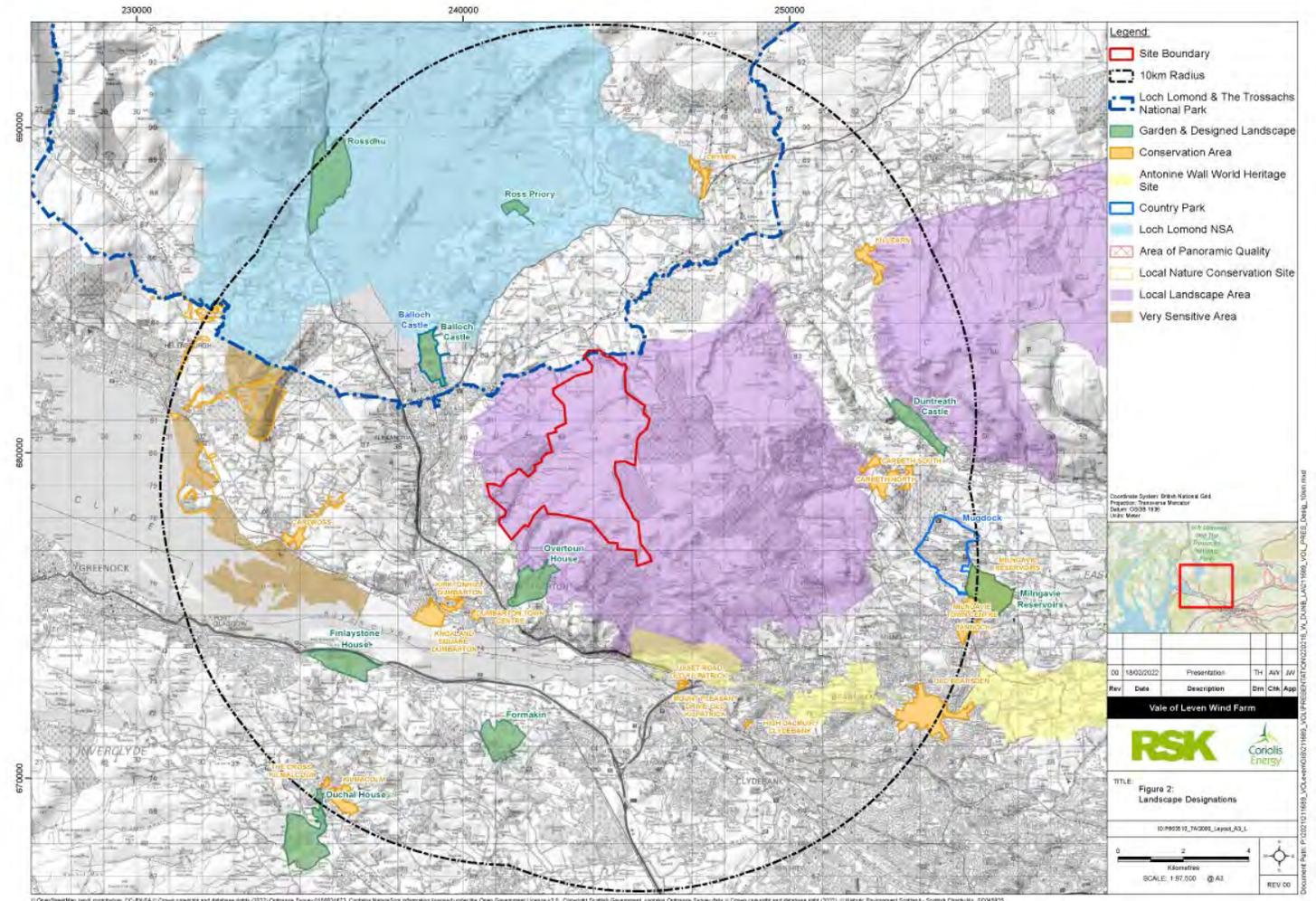
# Key Aspects – Landscape and Visual Considerations

- Site is located within the Rugged Moorland Hills LCT, as identified by NatureScot (2019)
  - Large-scale simple landscape
  - Extensive man-made reservoirs and smaller natural lochs
  - Undeveloped skylines and striking views to the Glasgow conurbation
  - Important backdrop to neighbouring settled landscapes, creating a unique sense of place
  - Skylines are generally simple and uninterrupted, with the skyline of the southern ridge an important feature in wider views
- The design will need to achieve a balance between the role of the LCT as a backdrop to heavily settled areas and interaction with the remotest and 'wildest' parts of the Kilpatrick Hills
- LVIA will include a detailed evaluation of landscape character



# Key Aspects – Landscape and Visual Considerations

- The site is not covered by any national landscape-related planning designations
- There are Nationally important designations within the 10km radius
  - Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park
  - Loch Lomond National Scenic Area
  - Gardens & Designed Landscapes – 8 within a 10km radius
  - Antonine Wall World Heritage Site
- Regionally important designations:
  - WDC Kilpatrick Hills Local Landscape Area – the site is located within the LLA;
  - Conservation Areas in Dumbarton and Cardross



Thank-you!  
Questions?

[james.baird@coriolis-energy.com](mailto:james.baird@coriolis-energy.com)

[sam.mcmillan@mcmillan.scot](mailto:sam.mcmillan@mcmillan.scot)

[www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)



## Appendix 3

# VALE of LEVEN WIND FARM

12<sup>th</sup> September 2022



Presentation to Kilmaronock Community Council



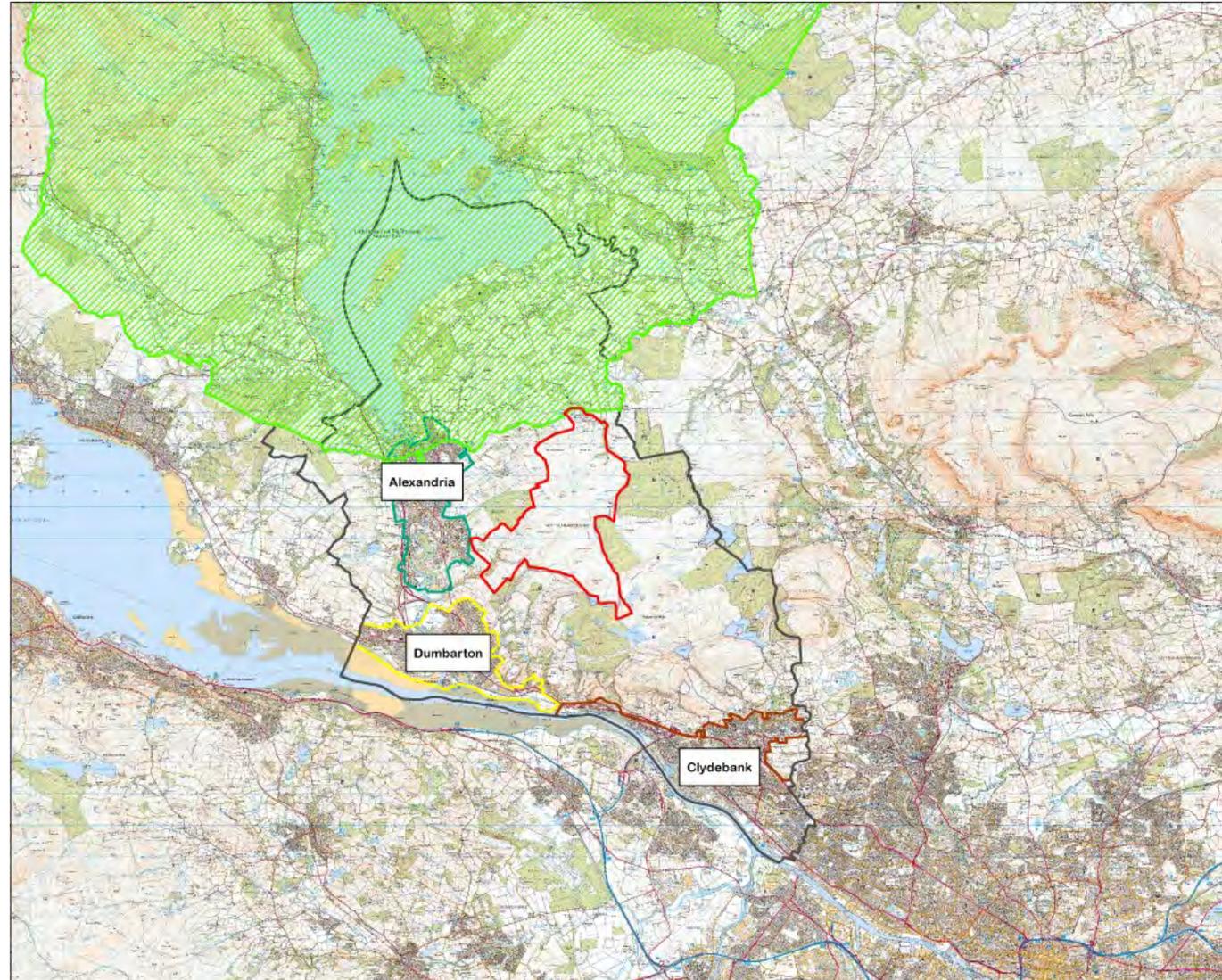
# Coriolis Energy & ESB

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  - ECU experience
- ESB
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  - 450MW of operating wind farms throughout UK
- Partnership
  - Established 2015
  - Progressing approx. 1 GW of schemes

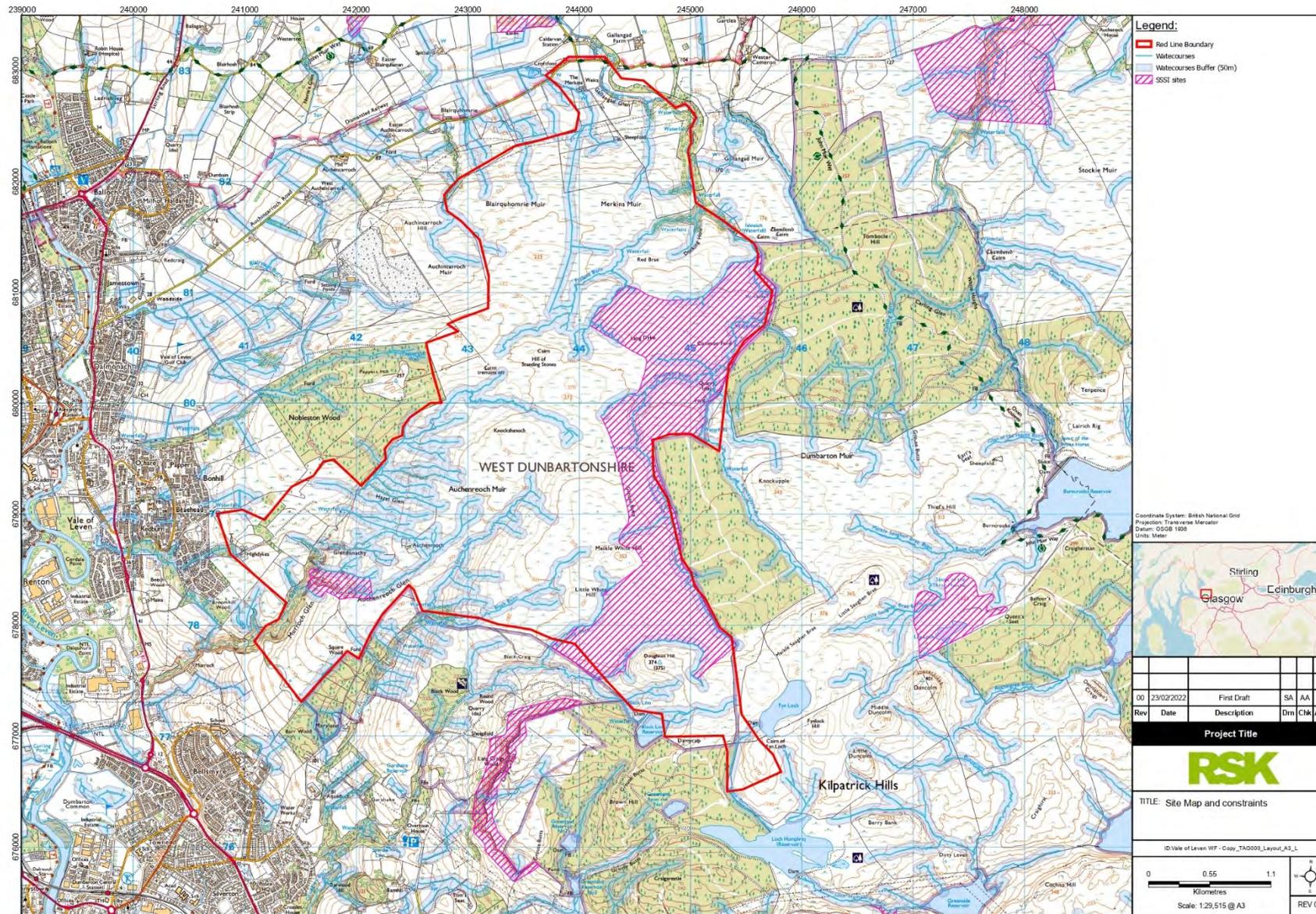


# The Project – Location and surroundings

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- KGV Docks in Glasgow
- Access via A813 via Murroch Farm
- Encompasses part of previous Merkins app – refused 2013



# The Project – Developable Area

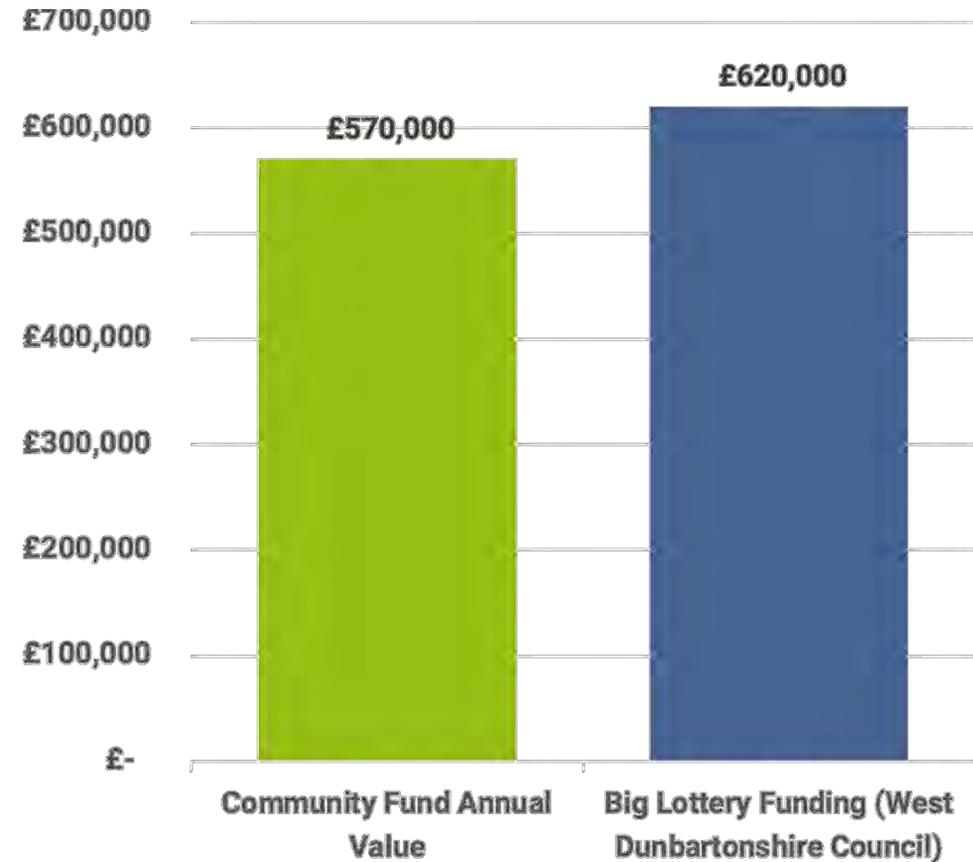


# Programme

- Kick off/pre-app Meetings Q1/Q2 2022
- Scoping April 2022
- Surveys Ongoing
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- Determination 2025/26\*
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- Operation Q2 2029

# The Project – Community Benefits

- Local communities
  - In line with Scottish Govt/LES Guidelines of £5,000 per MW/yr
  - Significant funding opportunity for communities, in line with recent allocation from Big Lottery Fund for West Dunbartonshire
  - opportunity to use wind farm funding to leverage larger strategic projects
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- Shared ownership
  - Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for Shared Ownership of Onshore Renewable Energy Developments

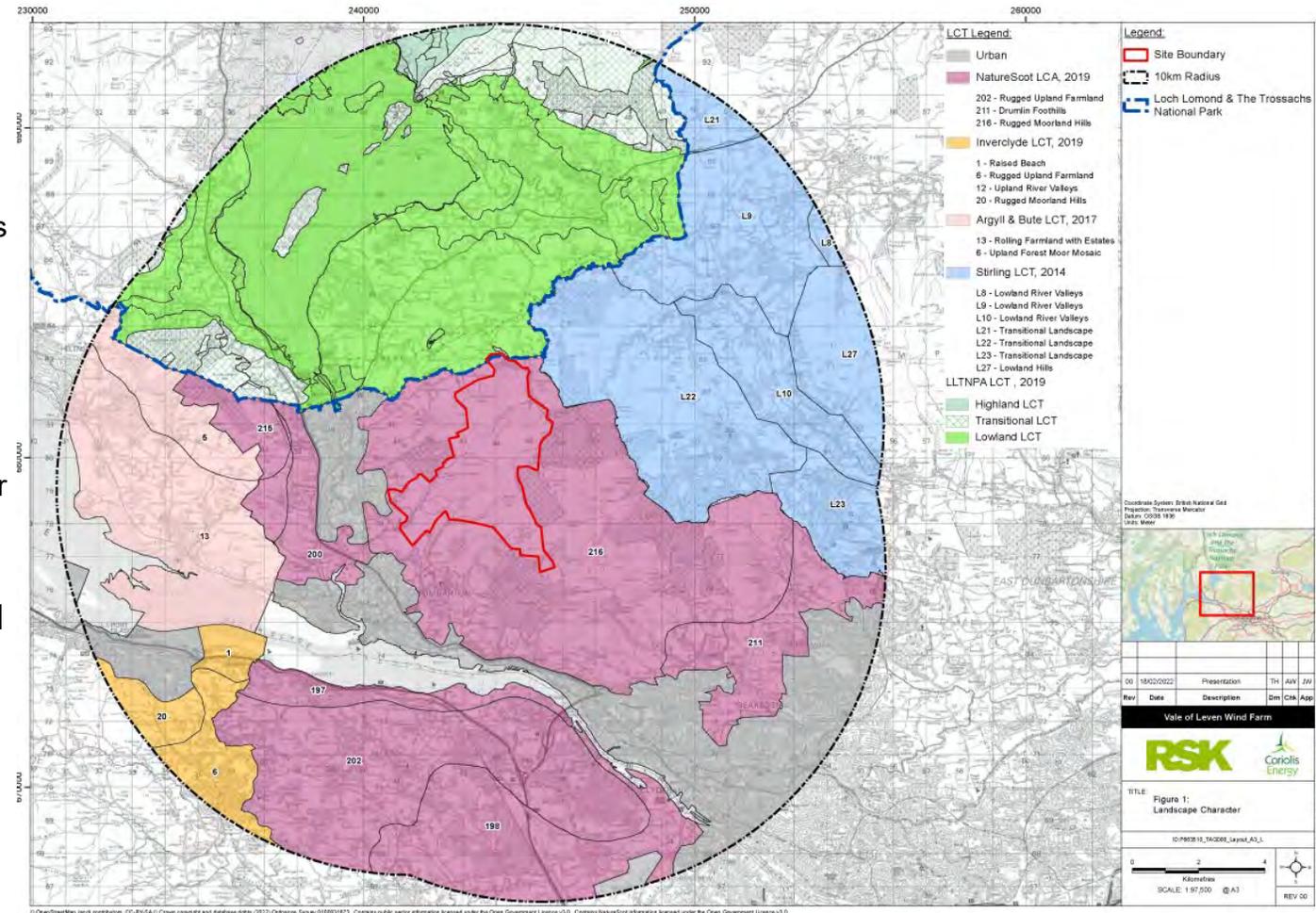


# Key Aspects – Socio-Economics

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- Ongoing opportunities during operational lifetime of wind farm.
- Annual spend of **£2.5 – 3.5 million**. Main opportunities in WD
  - Site maintenance;
  - Habitat management
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- Member of Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce
- Opportunities for Power Purchase Agreements to support Net-Zero ambitions of major employers in West Dunbartonshire

# Key Aspects – Landscape and Visual Considerations

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- LVIA will include a detailed evaluation of landscape character





Thank-you!  
Questions?

[james.baird@coriolis-energy.com](mailto:james.baird@coriolis-energy.com)

[sam.mcmillan@mcmillan.scot](mailto:sam.mcmillan@mcmillan.scot)

[www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)



## Appendix 4

# VALE of LEVEN WIND FARM



Presentation to Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council  
13th February 2023



# Coriolis Energy & ESB



## ❑ Coriolis

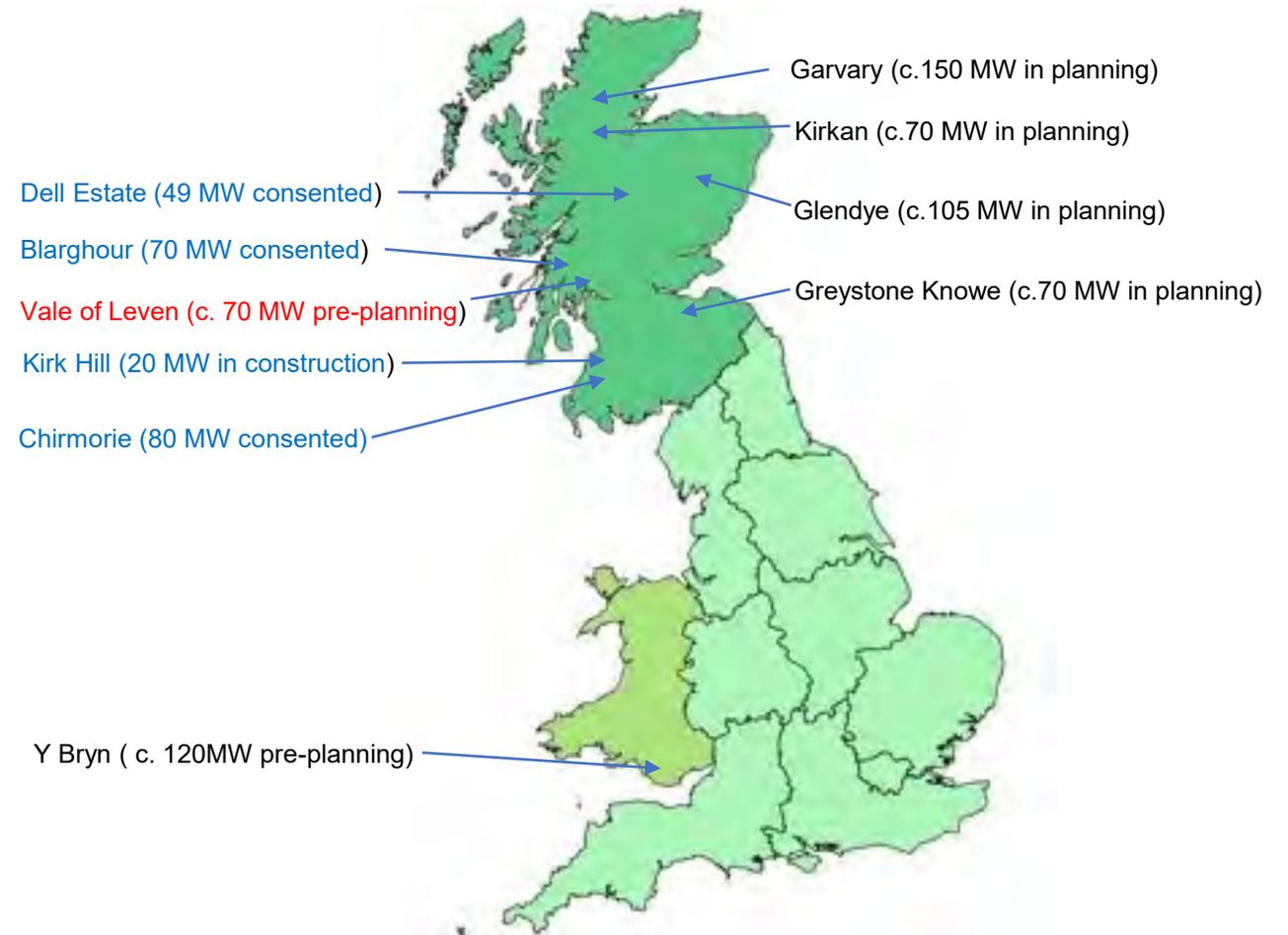
- over 500MW consented or operational
- Large presence in Scotland
- ECU experience

## ❑ ESB

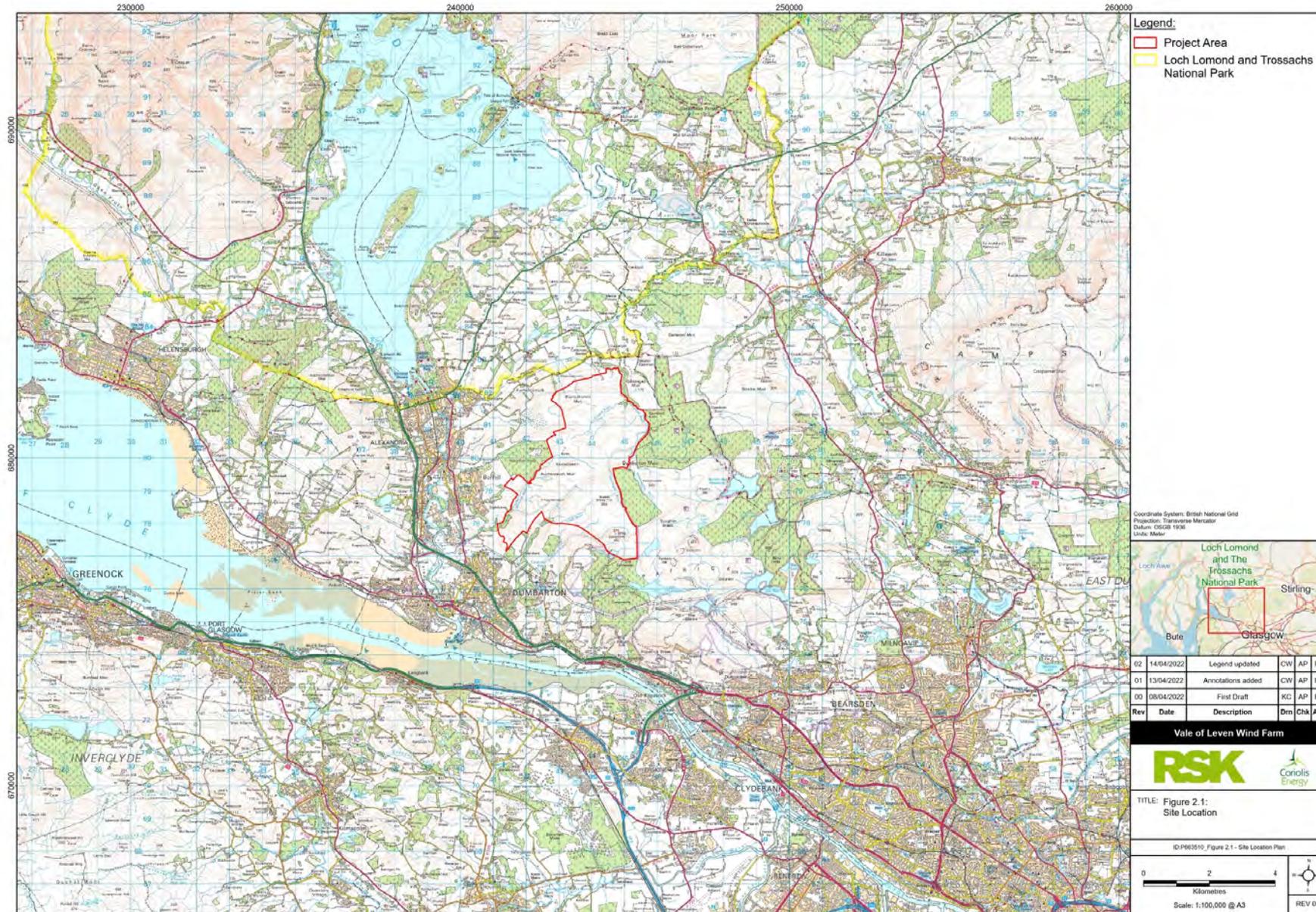
- State owned Irish utility
- 450MW of operating wind farms throughout UK

## ❑ Partnership

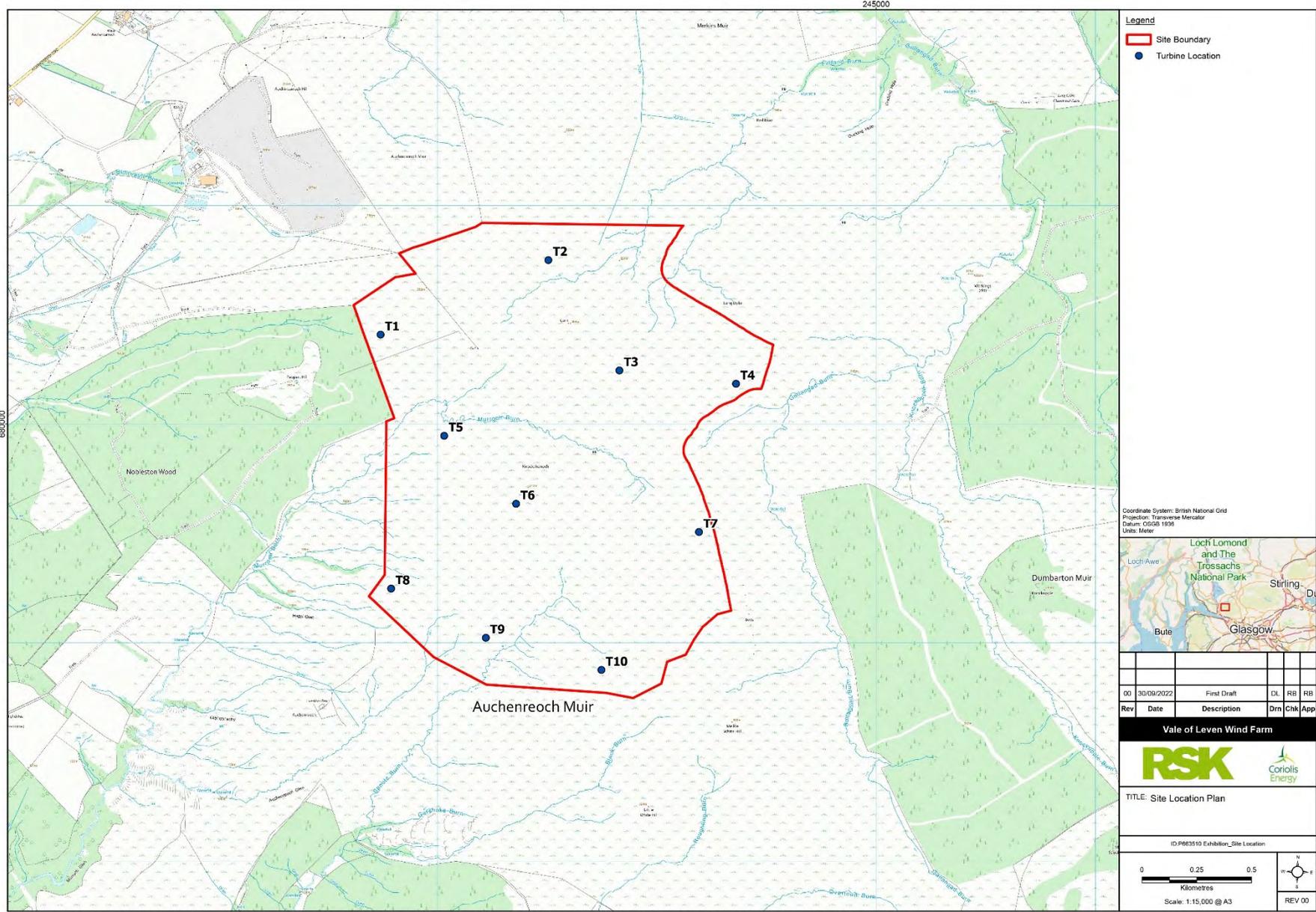
- Established 2015
- Progressing approx. 1.5 GW of schemes



# The Proposed Wind Farm Location



# The Proposed Wind Farm Site



Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, Microsoft, Facebook, Inc. and its affiliates, Esri Community Maps contributors. Map layer by Esri, National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, increment P Corp. © Crown copyright and database rights 2022 Ordnance Survey 0100031673

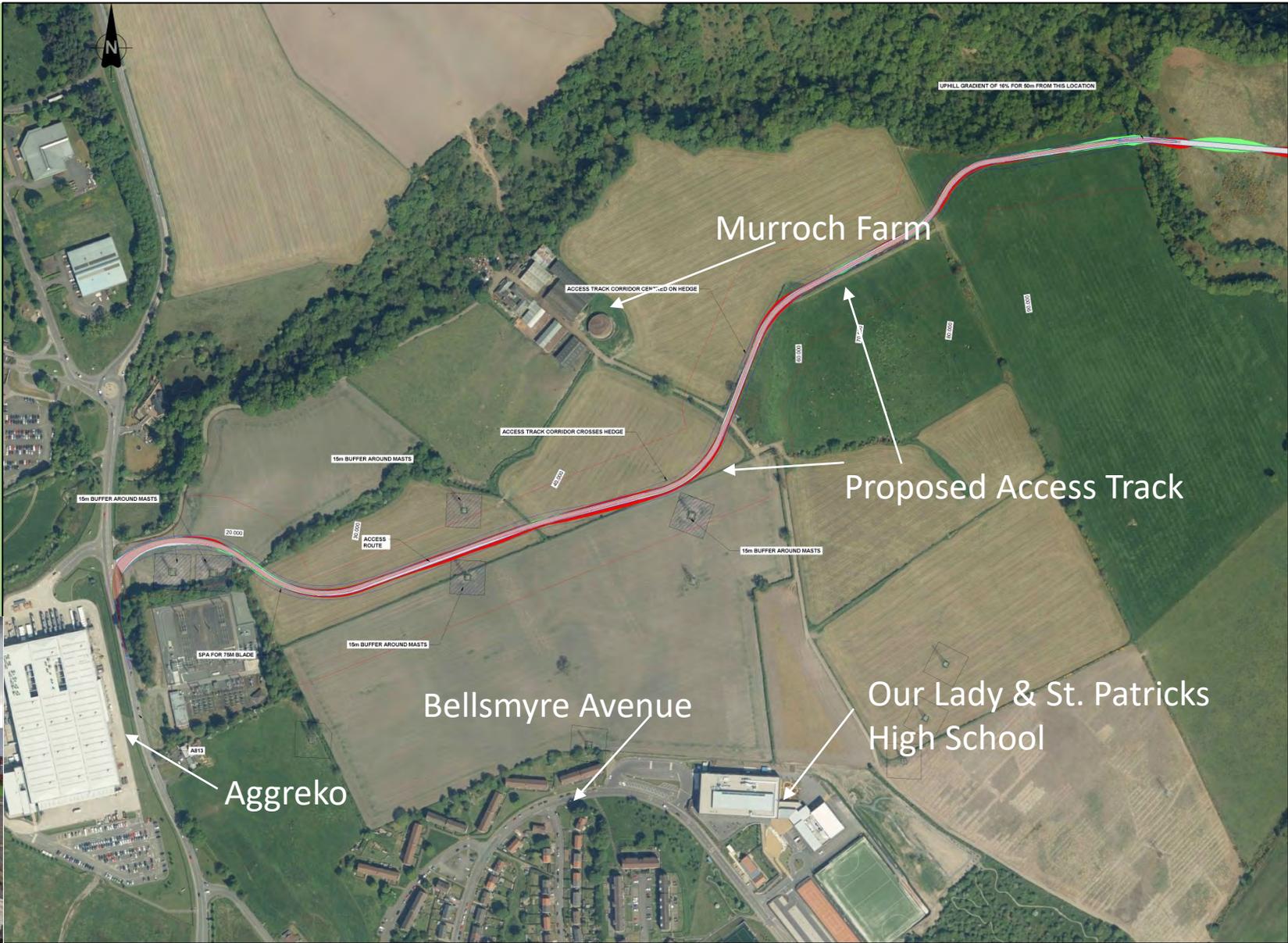
# The Proposed Access

Turbine deliveries are expected to KGV docks in Glasgow. From there it is anticipated that they will be transported by road via the A82, before reaching the Lomondgate roundabout and joining the A813 (Stirling Road).

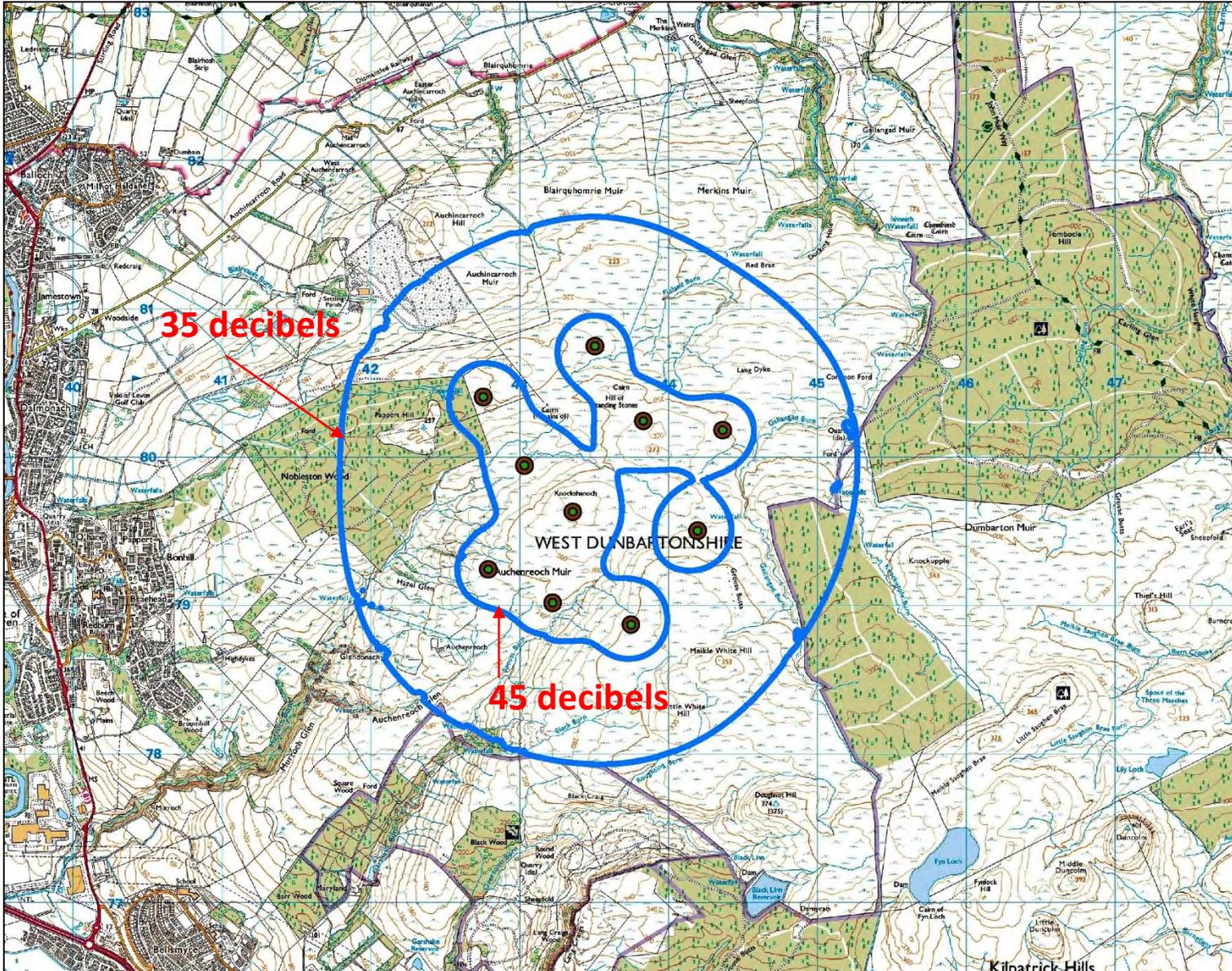
A new junction would be formed opposite Aggreko and a new access road would be constructed towards the wind farm site.

During the 12 – 18 month construction period there will be construction travelling to and from the site entrance, but after that time traffic would be limited to occasional maintenance vehicles.

Abnormal Loads carrying turbine components would be delivered under Police escort and generally during night time hours.



# Predicted Noise Effects



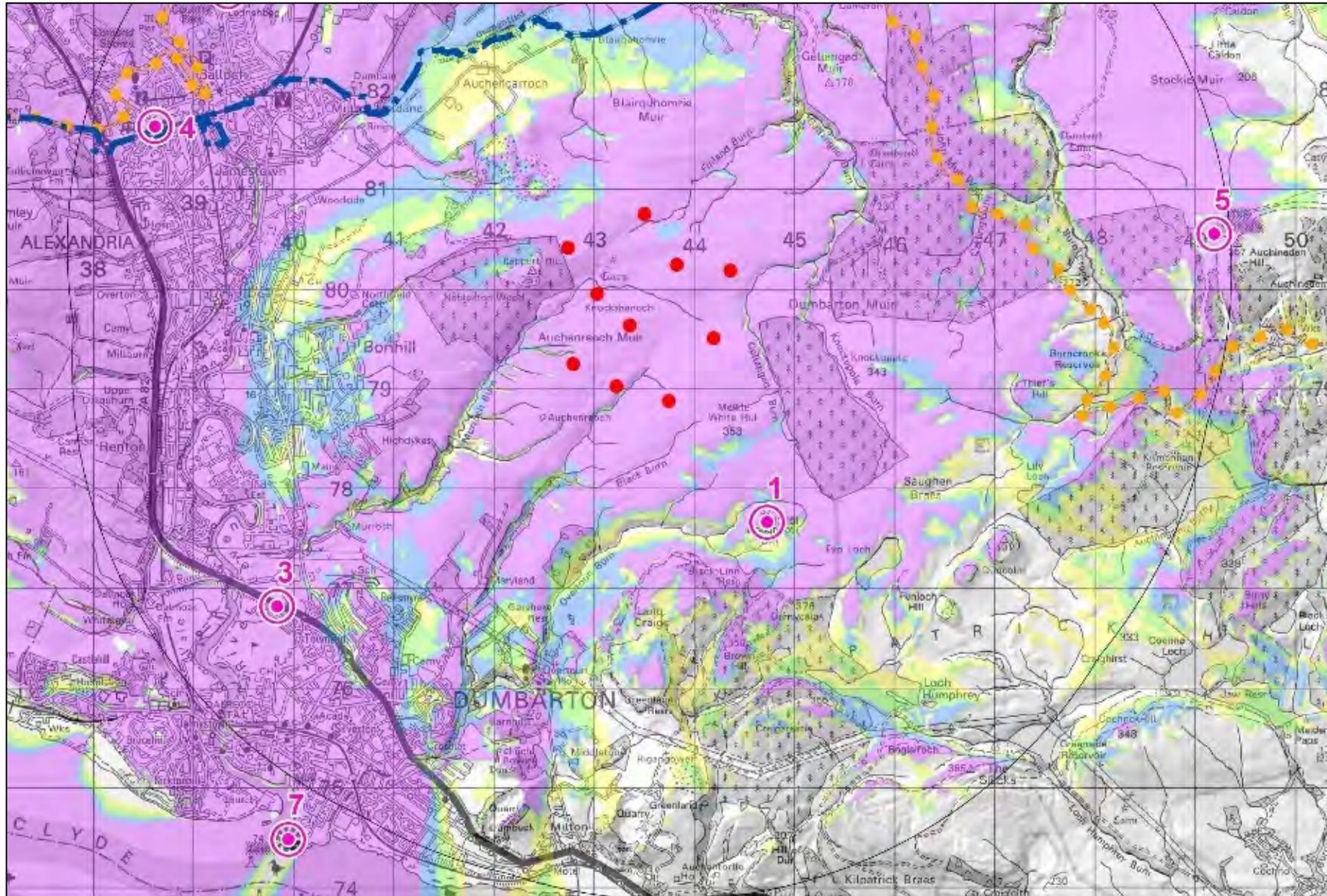
Background noise monitoring is currently being carried out at some of the closest properties to the site.

This was not initially considered necessary given the distances involved (closest property is 1.8km), however we have decided to carry out monitoring so our assessment is as robust as it can be.

Within the immediate wind farm area it is predicted that there will be overall approx 45db at 10m/s wind speed, gradually decreasing to 35db. Institute of Acoustics Guidance (ETSU-R-97) recommends that lower daytime limits should be set at 35 – 40db.



# Predicted Landscape & Visual Effects





Photomontage: Proposed Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

OS reference: 238621 E 681630 N	Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)	Camera: Canon EOS 6D Mk2
Eye level: 19.5 m AOD	Principal distance: 812.5 mm	Lens: Canon EF 50mm f/1.4
Direction of view: 111°	Paper size: 841 x 594 mm (A1)	Camera height: 1.5 m
Nearest turbine: 4.50 km	Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm	Date and time: 27.07.2022 14:51

Viewpoint 4: A811 Near Balloch



Photomontage: Proposed Development

View flat at a comfortable arm's length

OS reference: 243560 E 688627 N	Horizontal field of view: 53.5° (planar projection)	Camera: Canon EOS 6D Mk2
Eye level: 142.6 m AOD	Principal distance: 812.5 mm	Lens: Canon EF 50mm f/1.4
Direction of view: 181°	Paper size: 841 x 594 mm (A1)	Camera height: 1.5 m
Nearest turbine: 5.18 km	Correct printed image size: 820 x 260 mm	Date and time: 29.07.2022 11:04

Viewpoint 6: Duncryne Hill

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# Feedback from October Exhibitions

- ❑ *Physical exhibitions - 263 people attended over the three days*
- ❑ *Project website - 400 separate users visited from 11th October - 1 November 2022*
- ❑ *75 completed feedback forms, 32 emails and several direct requests/comments.*
- ❑ ***‘Do you support the proposed Vale of Leven Wind Farm?’***
  - *Yes - 52 people (69%)*
  - *No - 12 people (16%)*
  - *Neutral - 11 people (15%)*
- ❑ ***Key Areas Raised:***
  - *Landscape & Visual*
  - *Transport Route*
  - *Community Benefit*
  - *Electricity Discount*
  - *Shared Ownership*



# Community Benefits

- ❑ In line with Scottish Govt/Local Energy Scotland Guidelines of £5,000 per MW/yr - current proposal (70MW) would mean £350,000 per annum for local communities every year (index linked).
- ❑ If interest from the community, committed to bringing forward the final 3 years of Community Benefit (eg Community benefit from 2050s) to the start of the wind farm operation to allow for large capital for community projects - roughly £1,000,000.
- ❑ Potential for a Local Electricity Discount Scheme/Energy Efficiency schemes if interest in the community.
- ❑ We can work with existing trusts/management bodies to identify strategic priorities of communities to maximise impact of funding.
- ❑ If interest in the community - we will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that underlines our commitment to Community Benefit with the host/neighbouring community councils.



# Community Benefits



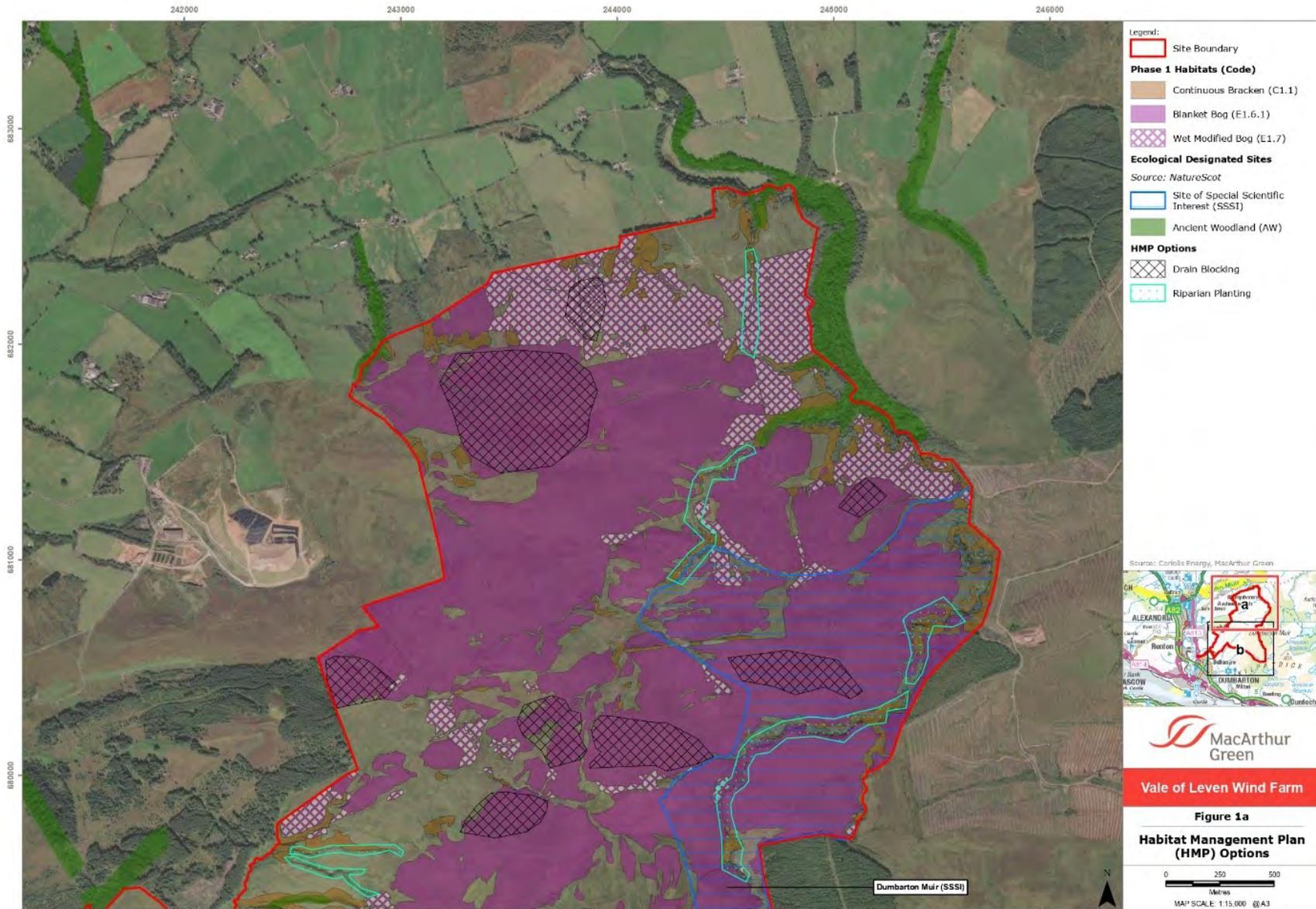
## Local Businesses

- ❑ We will organise Meet the Developer events for local businesses to learn.
- ❑ We are Committed to using local businesses where possible to help deliver the project if consented.

## Shared Ownership

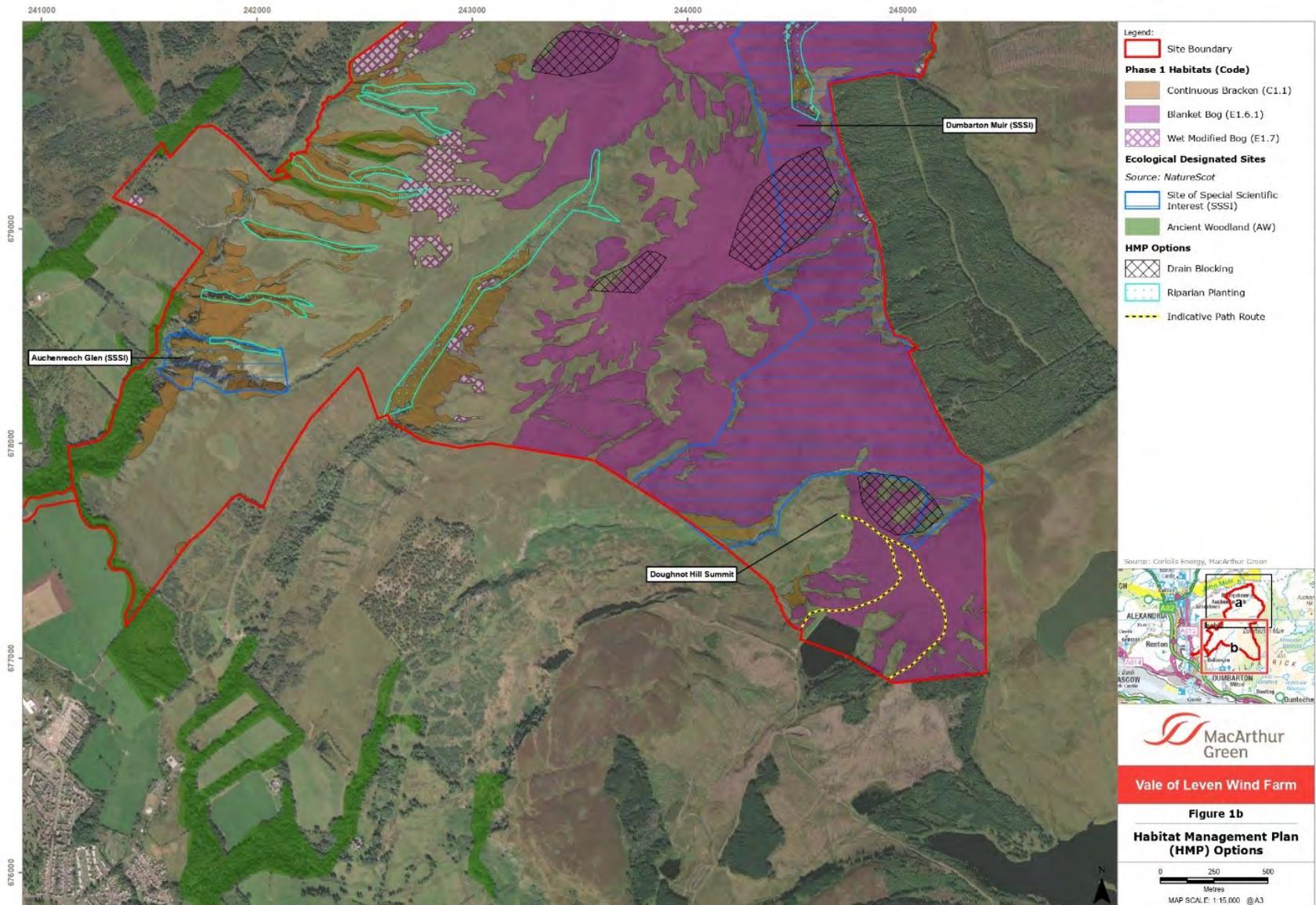
- ❑ Communities are able to have equity in the project, with a local Trust set up to invest in the wind farm.
- ❑ Local Energy Scotland CARES grants to give impartial advice.

# Habitat Enhancement Possibilities



- Peatland Restoration
- Controlled Bracken Removal
- Riparian Planting

# Habitat Enhancement Possibilities



- Peatland Restoration
- Controlled Bracken Removal
- Riparian Planting
- Boardwalk to Doughnot

# Programme

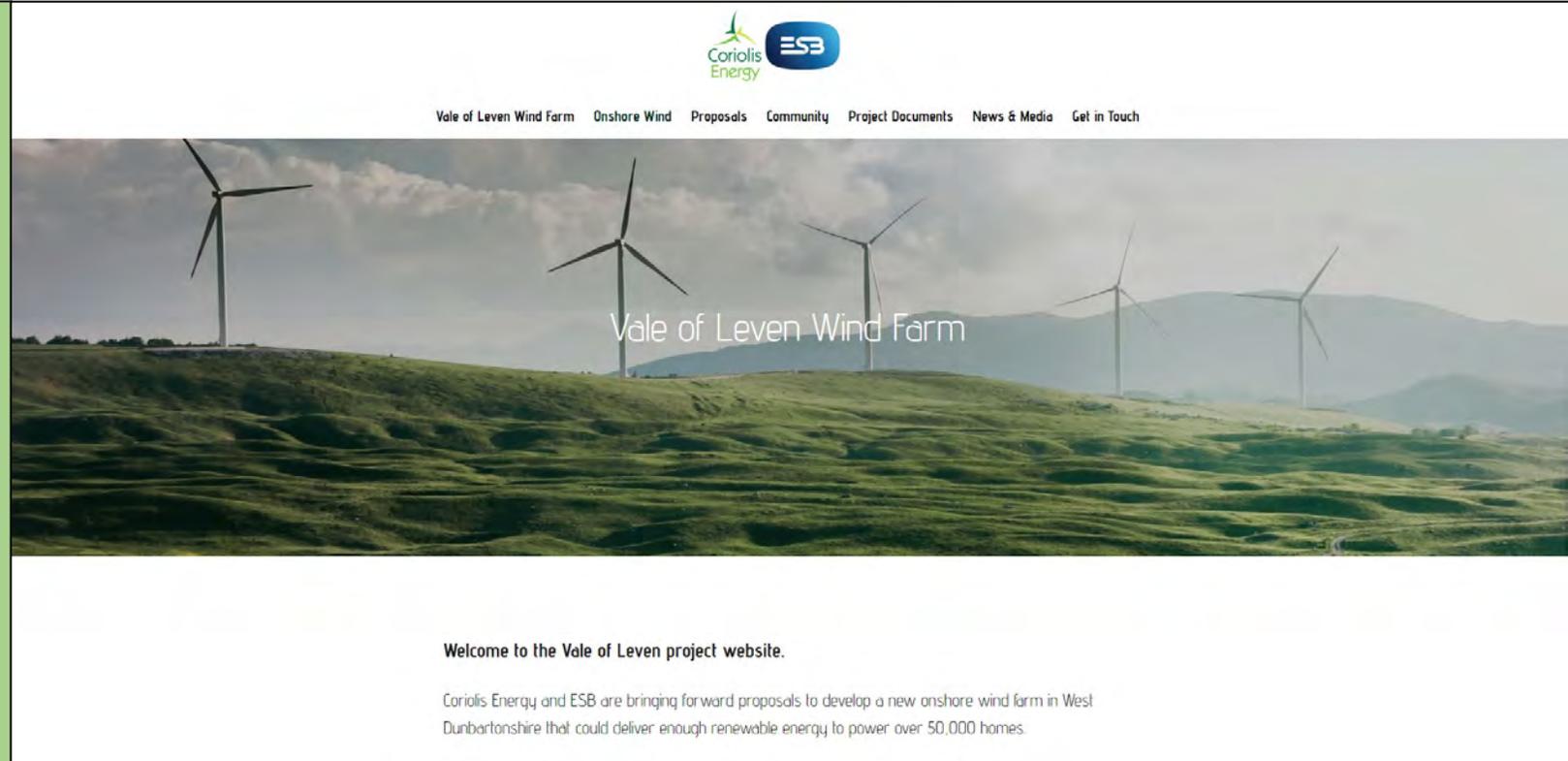
- Kick off/pre-app Meetings Q1/Q2 2022
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Thank-you!

Questions?

[www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)

[info@valeoflevenwindfarm.com](mailto:info@valeoflevenwindfarm.com)



## Appendix 5

# INVITATION TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON VALE OF LEVEN WIND FARM PROPOSAL



## Coriolis Energy and ESB invite you to face-to-face public exhibitions for the planned Vale of Leven Wind Farm

Coriolis Energy and ESB are bringing forward proposals to develop a new onshore wind farm with battery storage in West Dunbartonshire. Vale of Leven Wind Farm will be located on rough grazing moorland east of the Vale of Leven area.

If consented, the project will contribute to West Dunbartonshire and Scotland achieving Scotland's climate change target of net zero emissions by 2045.

### EXHIBITION

**Kilmarnock Millennium Hall**, Gartocharn, G83 8NF · Tuesday 11 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

**Balloch House Hotel**, Balloch, Alexandria, G83 8LQ · Wednesday 12 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

**Dalmonach Community Centre**, Bonhill, Alexandria, G83 9AU · Thursday 13 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

### ONLINE INFORMATION

Comprehensive information about the proposals and a feedback form is also available on the project website.

[www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)

Consultation will run until Tuesday 1 November 2022.

For information please contact James Baird, Coriolis Energy at:

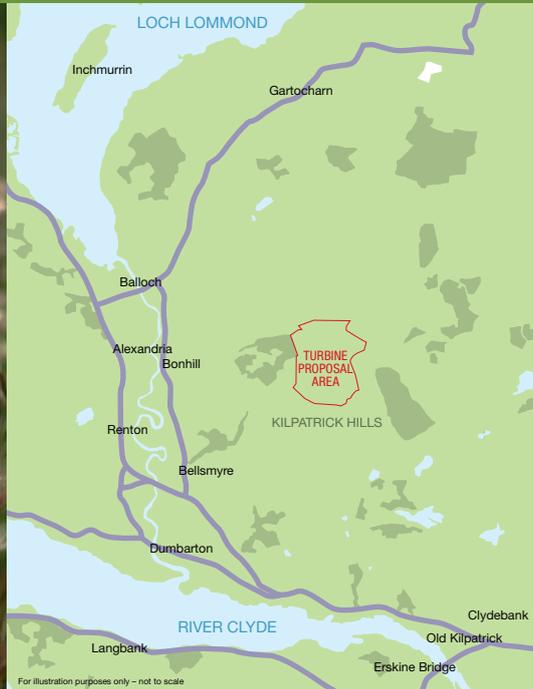
[info@valeoflevenwindfarm.com](mailto:info@valeoflevenwindfarm.com)

Comments should be made to Coriolis and not constitute a formal representation. An opportunity to make a formal representation will exist if a subsequent application is made. Thank you and we hope you can take part in our consultation events.



## Appendix 6

# INVITATION TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON VALE OF LEVEN WIND FARM PROPOSAL



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## Appendix 7

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]  
Date: Tue, 27 Sept 2022 at 16:22  
Subject: Vale of Leven Wind Farm - Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council - Exhibition Invitation/Update  
To: <[bonhill-dalmonachcc@outlook.com](mailto:bonhill-dalmonachcc@outlook.com)>, [REDACTED]

Dear Bonhill and Dalmonach Community Council,  
I hope that this email finds you well. We are writing to provide a short update on activity relating to the Vale of Leven Wind Farm proposal and to invite you to our public exhibition events planned for October 2022.

### **Public Exhibition Events – October 2022**

We will be holding public exhibition events for the Vale of Leven Wind Farm as follows:

**Kilmaronock Millennium Hall**, Gartocharn, G83 8NF  
Tuesday 11 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

**Balloch House Hotel**, Balloch, Alexandria, G83 8LQ  
Wednesday 12 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

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Thursday 13 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

For those unable to attend the exhibitions in-person, the exhibition boards and material will be available from Monday 10 October on our project website at: [www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)

We will place adverts for the events in the Dumbarton Reporter, place posters in the local area and also send out invitations to all households and businesses near the proposed site. We have attached a copy of the poster and, if possible, we would welcome it to be shared online on the Community Council's website/social media to help promote the events.

### **Project Update**

The proposals, located to the east of the Vale of Leven area, are now for 10 turbines up to 250m to tip in height and with a capacity of approximately 70MW. The proposals were originally for 19 turbines and this has been reduced through further studies on site since Scoping was first submitted to the Scottish

Government's Energy Consents Unit in April 2022. The proposal includes plans to co-locate battery storage on site to maximise the use of the grid connection.

The site is on rough grazing moorland, largely within an 'Area with potential for Wind Energy Development' and the project could deliver enough renewable energy to power over 52,000 homes, making an important contribution towards the Scottish Government and West Dunbartonshire Council's net zero targets.

The Vale of Leven Wind Farm proposal includes a proposed community benefit package of £5,000 per MW of installed capacity (index linked), which would generate over £350,000 per annum for the lifetime of the project. In addition to community benefit, the wind farm will be set up as a community/shared ownership wind farm if interest from the community, providing the opportunity to invest in the wind farm.

### Local Supply Chain

Earlier this year we became members of the Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce. We want to work with the local supply chain to deliver the wind farm if consented and will organise Meet the Developer events as the project progresses - if you know of any local businesses interested in getting involved, please highlight the contact details via the project website.

Please do get back in touch with any queries and we hope to see you at one of the exhibition events. We would also be happy to attend a future Community Council meeting to meet community councillors if helpful at all.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

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[Redacted] | Director

t: [Redacted] | e: [Redacted]  
a: [Redacted]

Registered in Scotland No. [Redacted]

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## Appendix 8



# INVITATION TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON VALE OF LEVEN WIND FARM PROPOSAL

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## Coriolis Energy and ESB invite you to face-to-face public exhibitions for the planned Vale of Leven Wind Farm

Coriolis Energy and ESB are bringing forward proposals to develop a new onshore wind farm with battery storage in West Dunbartonshire. Vale of Leven Wind Farm will be located on rough grazing moorland east of the Vale of Leven area.

If consented, the project will contribute to West Dunbartonshire and Scotland achieving Scotland's climate change target of net zero emissions by 2045.

### EXHIBITION

**Kilmarnock Millennium Hall**, Gartocharn, G83 8NF

Tuesday 11 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

**Balloch House Hotel**, Balloch, Alexandria, G83 8LQ

Wednesday 12 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

**Dalmonach Community Centre**, Bonhill, Alexandria, G83 9AU

Thursday 13 October 2022, 2pm – 7pm

### ONLINE INFORMATION

Comprehensive information about the proposals and a feedback form is also available on the project website.

[www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com](http://www.valeoflevenwindfarm.com)

Consultation will run until Tuesday 1 November 2022.

For information please contact James Baird, Coriolis Energy at:

[info@valeoflevenwindfarm.com](mailto:info@valeoflevenwindfarm.com)

Comments should be made to Coriolis and not constitute a formal representation. An opportunity to make a formal representation will exist if a subsequent application is made. Thank you and we hope you can take part in our consultation events.



## Appendix 9

# VALE OF LEVEN WIND FARM PROPOSAL



Energy for generations



STOCK PHOTOGRAPHY

## Welcome to our public consultation event for Vale of Leven Wind Farm

**Welcome to the public consultation event for the proposed Vale of Leven Wind Farm development, located in the Kilpatrick Hills, northeast of Bonhill, West Dunbartonshire.**

Vale of Leven Wind Farm Limited (“the applicant”) is proposing to submit an application for consent for the proposed development of Vale of Leven Wind Farm (the “proposed development”).

### Site description

The proposed development is situated within the Kilpatrick Hills, within the West Dunbartonshire Council Area. A number of settlements including Bonhill, Alexandria, Dumbarton and Gartocharn are located within 5 km of the nearest proposed turbine.

The land use is predominantly agricultural, as the site is dominated by upland moorland used for sheep grazing. Dumbarton Muir Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), designated for bog habitats, is located outwith the turbine proposal area immediately to the east. While the proposed development avoids this SSSI opportunities for biodiversity enhancements that the development could deliver for these habitats will be explored in consultation with specialist interest groups and as part of the EIA process .





## Our public consultation event

### **The Vale of Leven Wind Farm development is a joint venture between Coriolis Energy and ESB.**

Coriolis Energy is a specialist independent wind farm development company operating throughout the UK and has been responsible for the development of 300 MW of wind farm projects. Since its inception, Coriolis Energy has delivered more than 100 MW of operational onshore wind farms, with a further 1,500 MW in development.

ESB, Ireland's part state-owned electricity utility company, is a leading independent power generator in the UK. ESB has offices in Glasgow and is heavily involved in onshore wind, offshore wind, electric vehicle infrastructure and renewable heating systems, such as the low-carbon heating and cooling system it installed in the V&A Dundee.

ESB works in partnership with Coriolis Energy. Coriolis Energy identifies and works on the development of wind farm proposals and ESB constructs and operates those wind farms.

### **Background**

The proposed development is situated at the same location, but with a different access routes and site boundary, to a previous wind farm proposal, Merkins Wind Farm, which was submitted by the developer (Lomond Energy) as a planning application in January 2012. The 10 x 120m to tip Merkins proposal was refused by West Dunbartonshire Council in 2013.

The proposed development is a wholly new project and in deciding whether to progress with the proposed development, Coriolis Energy carefully considered emerging wind turbine and other technologies i.e battery storage , current and emerging planning policies as well as all the consultee responses and representations to this previous proposed development.