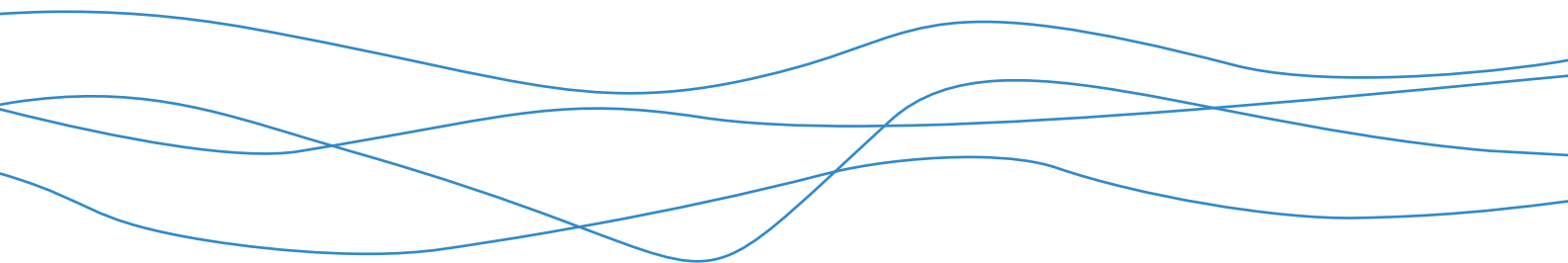




# **Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm, Offshore EIA Report**

Volume 3, Technical Appendix 5.2:  
Pre-Application Consultation Report

TWP-BOW-RPS-OFE-RPT-00002 | April 2026



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## Glossary

Defined Term	Definition
<b>Applicant (the)</b>	Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (BOWFL).
<b>Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (BOWFL)</b>	A Special-Purpose Vehicle (SPV) (legal entity) for the purpose of developing the Project. BOWFL are the Applicant for the Offshore Application.
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	Assessment of the potential likely significant effects of the Proposed Development on the physical, biological, and human environment during construction, Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and decommissioning.
<b>Export Cable</b>	The cables which will bring electricity from the Offshore Substation Platform (OSP) to the Landfall, and then to the Onshore Substation.
<b>Export Cable Corridor</b>	The area seaward of MHWS which connects the Array Area with the Landfall within which the Offshore Export Cables will be installed.
<b>Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)</b>	An assessment carried out under the Habitats Regulations to determine if a plan or project could adversely affect the integrity of a European site.
<b>Impact</b>	A change caused by an action that occurs during a project's lifetime.
<b>Inter-Array Cables (IAC)</b>	Cables which link the Wind Turbines to each other and with the OSPs.
<b>Landfall</b>	The area in which the Offshore Export Cables make landfall and is also the transitional area between the Offshore Transmission Assets and the Onshore Transmission Assets. Located in the Intertidal Area at Benholm.
<b>Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)</b>	The average tidal height throughout the year of two successive high waters during those periods of 24 hours when the range of the tide is at its greatest.
<b>Mitigation</b>	Measures to avoid, prevent, reduce or control effects on the environment. See also definitions for Embedded Mitigation and Additional Mitigation.
<b>Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report (hereafter, 'Offshore EIA Report')</b>	Document prepared to report the findings of the EIA for the Proposed Development and produced in accordance with the EIA Regulations. The Offshore EIA Report is submitted to support the Offshore Application for the Proposed Development, and to comply with EIA Regulations.
<b>Offshore Generation Assets</b>	The infrastructure of the Proposed Development required to generate electricity comprising of the Wind Turbines, Wind Turbine foundations and associated infrastructure (e.g. IACs).
<b>Offshore Infrastructure</b>	All of the Offshore Infrastructure associated with the Proposed Development that is located seaward of MHWS, comprising the Offshore Generation Assets and the Offshore Transmission Assets.
<b>Offshore Scoping Report</b>	The report that presents the findings of the EIA scoping process undertaken for the Proposed Development with the purpose of obtaining a Scoping Opinion. The Offshore Scoping Report defines what is intended to be assessed and reported as part of the EIA.

<b>Defined Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Offshore Substation Platform(s) (OSPs)</b>	OSPs comprise the support structure, topside and electrical components used for collecting and/or converting electricity generated by the Wind Turbines for transmission by the Offshore Export Cables.
<b>Offshore Transmission Assets</b>	The infrastructure of the Proposed Development required to transmit the generated electricity comprising of the OSPs, Offshore Export Cables and associated infrastructure up to MHWS.
<b>Pre-application Consultation (PAC)</b>	Pre-Application Consultation with communities and stakeholders with regard to the consent applications for the Project that meets the requirements of Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.
<b>Project (the)</b>	An overarching term for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm (Bowdun OWF) comprising the offshore and onshore infrastructure required to generate and transmit electricity from the Array Area to the onshore GCP. The Project includes the Offshore Generation Assets, the Offshore Transmission Assets and the Onshore Transmission Assets.
<b>Project Design Envelope</b>	A description of the range of possible elements that make up the design options for the Proposed Development under consideration when the exact engineering parameters are not yet known.
<b>Proposed Development</b>	Term used to define the Offshore Infrastructure associated with the Project seaward of MHWS for which consent is being sought. Further details of the parameters are included in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description.
<b>Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA)</b>	The RIAA provides detailed information to support the process of AA (undertaken by the competent authority) as part of the HRA, which evaluates the potential impacts of a project or plan on European Sites.
<b>Scoping Opinion</b>	A document produced by MD-LOT which is issued in response to submission and review of the Offshore Scoping Report. The Scoping Opinion is supported with feedback and advice from consultees, which details what is expected to be included in the Offshore EIA Report and what can be scoped out of the EIA process.
<b>Scoping Workshop</b>	A series of sessions preceding the finalisation of the Offshore Scoping Report to provide an opportunity for the Applicant to consult on the draft scope and for stakeholders to request additional information on key issues.
<b>Scottish Offshore Waters</b>	The area of sea beyond 12 nm but within the Scottish Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) up to 200 nautical miles from the coast.
<b>Scottish Territorial Seas</b>	The territorial waters of Scotland that extend out from MHWS to 12 nm.
<b>Section 36 Consent</b>	Scottish Ministers' consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 required to permit the generation and operation of an energy generation station.
<b>Thistle Wind Partners (TWP)</b>	Company established for the development of the Project.

## Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
<b>BOWFL</b>	Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>EMF</b>	Electromagnetic Field
<b>FLO</b>	Fisheries Liaison Officer
<b>GCP</b>	Grid Connection Point
<b>HDD</b>	Horizontal Directional Drilling
<b>HRA</b>	Habitat Regulations Appraisal
<b>HVAC</b>	High Voltage Alternating Current
<b>IAC</b>	Inter-Array Cable
<b>MCA</b>	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
<b>MCAA</b>	Marine and Coastal Access Act
<b>MD-LOT</b>	Marine Directorate-Licensing Operations Team
<b>MHWS</b>	Mean High Water Springs
<b>NEEOG</b>	North-East and Eastern Ornithology Group
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NLB</b>	Northern Lighthouse Board
<b>OSP</b>	Offshore Substation Platform
<b>OWF</b>	Offshore Wind Farm
<b>PAC</b>	Pre-Application Consultation
<b>RIAA</b>	Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
<b>SEPA</b>	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
<b>SPV</b>	Special Purpose Vehicle
<b>STEM</b>	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
<b>TWP</b>	Thistle Wind Partners Limited
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom

## Table of Units

Units	Definition
<b>GW</b>	GigaWatt
<b>km</b>	Kilometre
<b>km<sup>2</sup></b>	Square kilometre
<b>m</b>	Metre
<b>MW</b>	MegaWatt
<b>nm</b>	Nautical mile

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) was formed by Thistle Wind Partners (TWP), under the name Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (BOWFL; hereafter referred to as the ‘Applicant’) for the purpose of developing the offshore and onshore elements of Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm (OWF), collectively known as ‘the Project’. The subject of this Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report is the Offshore Infrastructure of the Project seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS), hereafter referred to as the ‘Proposed Development’.
- 1.1.2 This PAC Report accompanies the offshore consent application, including the Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report and associated documents submitted to Scottish Ministers in accordance with the requirements for a Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989, and Marine Licences under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) 2009 and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the Offshore Generation and Offshore Transmission assets of the Proposed Development, located beyond the 12 nm limit within the Scottish Marine Area and Scottish Territorial Waters, and within the 12 nm limit, respectively.
- 1.1.3 This PAC Report summarises the stakeholder engagement and consultation work carried out by the Applicant to date in support of this offshore consent application.
- 1.1.4 The Onshore Transmission Assets are subject to a separate planning application (submitted on 27 November 2025 (BOWFL, 2025a) (Planning reference: APP/2025/1952) which includes a separate PAC Report (BOWFL, 2025b).

## 1.2 Project Overview

### The Proposed Development

- 1.2.1 The Array Area of the Proposed Development is located approximately 38 km off the Aberdeenshire coast, with a total lease area of 187 km<sup>2</sup>. Minimum and maximum water depths of the Array Area are 55 m and 75 m respectively, with an average water depth of 65 m. The Export Cable Corridor will include a maximum of three High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) Offshore Export Cables, each with a length of up to 70 km and will make Landfall at Benholm, Aberdeenshire. The Offshore Export Cables will be brought onshore via three cable ducts constructed using trenchless techniques, such as Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) or pipe jacking.
- 1.2.2 Key components of Proposed Development include:
- Up to 67 Wind Turbines on fixed foundations, which will be located within the Array Area;
  - Static Inter-Array Cables (IACs);
  - Up to three Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs) located within the Array Area;
  - Interconnector Cables between the OSPs;

- Electricity from the OWF will be transported to the Onshore Infrastructure via the Offshore Export Cables; and
- Scour Protection will also be used around the foundations.

1.2.3 The Site Boundary (Figure 1.1) has been informed by a review of the environmental and engineering constraint analysis, together with outputs from site surveys and subsequent design.

1.2.4 Further details of the site selection process and design evolution of the Proposed Development are provided within Volume 1, Chapter 6: Site Selection and Consideration of Reasonable Alternatives. A detailed project description for the Proposed Development is included in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description.

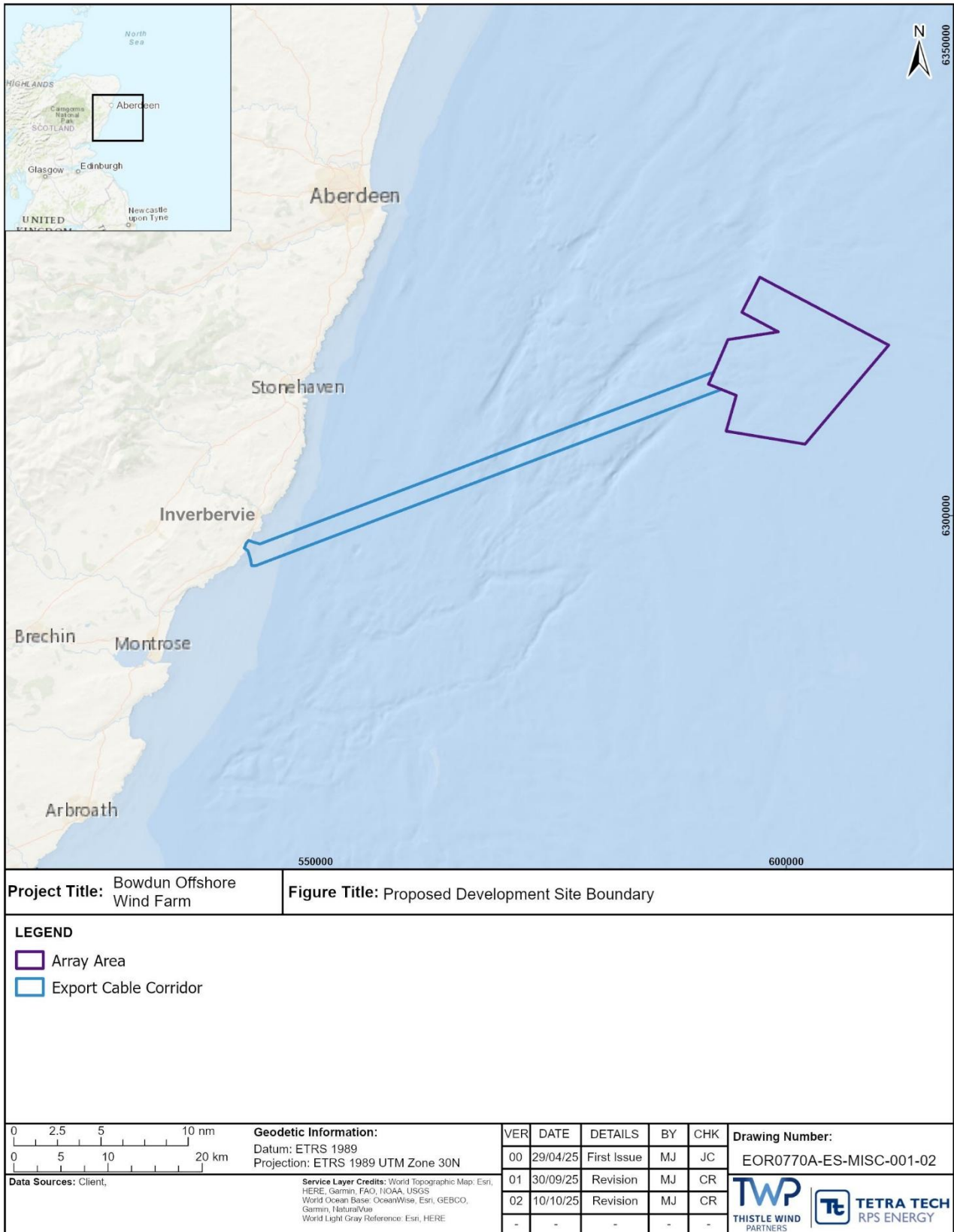


Figure 1.1: Proposed Development Site Boundary

- 1.2.5 Once electricity reaches the Onshore Export Cables it will connect to the Grid Connection Point (GCP) which forms part of the National Electricity Transmission System. The GCP however, does not form part of this consent submission and is, therefore, subject to a separate Planning Application, the details of which are found in the Onshore EIA Report (BOWFL, 2025a (Planning reference: APP/2025/1952)).
- 1.2.6 The overall capacity for the Project is expected to be around 1 GW, but is dependent on the number and capacity of the Wind Turbines installed within the parameters of the Project Design Envelope defined for this assessment. The most appropriate locations for the Wind Turbines will be determined through detailed site investigation works and this will further improve understanding of the extent of the area for development. This will allow for the refinement and confirmation of the Proposed Development generating capacity before construction.
- 1.2.7 Construction activities associated with the Proposed Development are anticipated to last for a period of five years and are expected to commence in 2031. Pre-construction surveys, such as geophysical and geotechnical investigations, would be undertaken in advance of construction activities. The Applicant is seeking consent for a 30 year operational period. The decommissioning process will follow a similar programme to construction, although in a reverse manner. Further details on the Proposed Development are provided in Volume 1, Chapter 3: Project Description.

## **1.3 Application For Consent**

### **Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (BOWFL) (The Applicant)**

- 1.3.1 Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited is the Applicant for the Project and is owned by DEME and Aspiravi. DEME is a Belgium based global solutions provider and a world leader in the highly specialised fields of offshore energy, dredging, marine infrastructure, and environmental works with almost 150 years of experience. DEME have a wealth of experience in fixed foundation installation having installed over 2,700 offshore Wind Turbines to date, having a strong global portfolio, being involved in over 70 offshore wind projects globally. Capabilities of DEME cover everything from Site Investigation to the full Engineering, Procurement, Construction, and Installation (EPCI) scope. Local examples include the Moray East 950 MW offshore wind project (foundations EPCI and IACs installation, completed 2021), and Neart na Gaoithe (450 MW EPCI cable installation, completed 2024).
- 1.3.2 Aspiravi International, a subsect of the Aspiravi Group, develops, implements and operates renewable energy projects with a total installed capacity of over 1.7 GW. The Aspiravi projects primarily consist of wind energy (both onshore and offshore), however the Aspiravi Group also own and operate biomass installations, biogas engines and hydro-electric installations (Aspiravi, 2024)

### **The Developer**

- 1.3.3 TWP is an offshore wind developer founded in 2020 by a Joint Venture (JV) between of three companies - DEME Concessions<sup>1</sup>, Qair Marine<sup>2</sup> and Aspiravi International<sup>3</sup>. Together, the founding companies and the TWP partners team have a strong background in offshore renewable energy development and delivery, and associated port developments. TWP is the development company for the Project on behalf of the Applicant.

## **1.4 Purpose of Pre-Application Consultation Report**

- 1.4.1 The purpose of this PAC Report is to provide an overview of public consultation and stakeholder engagement activities undertaken by TWP as the Developer, on behalf of the Applicant in relation to the Proposed Development. The PAC Report provides a brief outline of the legislation and regulatory framework, a description of the approach used and a summary of feedback received from interested parties. Copies of material used throughout the consultation process are also included as Annexes.

## **2 Legislation and Regulatory Framework**

### **2.1 Licences and Consents**

2.1.1 The Proposed Development is a generating station with a capacity of greater than 50 MW located in Scottish Offshore Waters (between 12 nm to 200 nm), as well as partially located within Scottish Territorial Waters (between MHWS and 12 nm), and therefore is seeking the following consent and Licences:

- a Section 36 Consent under the Electricity Act 1989 for an offshore generating station in the Scottish Offshore Marine Region (12 nm to 200 nm);
- a Marine Licence for the Offshore Generation Assets under the MCAA 2009; and
- a Marine Licence for the Offshore Transmission Assets under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and MCAA 2009;

2.1.2 Volume 1, Chapter 2: Policy and Legislation describes the overarching policy and legislative background to the Proposed Development, including required consents and Licences.

### **2.2 Pre-Application Consultation Requirements**

2.2.1 The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 applies to activities within the 12 nm limit, and as such applies to the Marine Licence application for the Offshore Transmission Assets for the Proposed Development (i.e. within the Scottish Territorial Seas). Therefore, the Applicant was required to carry out PAC in accordance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 for elements of the Proposed Development. PAC is not a requirement of the MCAA 2009.

2.2.2 Although the PAC process formally applies to the works within 12 nm, stakeholders were also invited to comment on all offshore aspects of the Proposed Development during the PAC process.

2.2.3 Sections 22 to 24 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 requires PAC to be undertaken for developments in Scottish Territorial Waters that are of a certain scale or involve works, in accordance with the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. Regulation 7 of the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 requires that at least one PAC event is undertaken to allow statutory stakeholders and members of the public to provide comments to the prospective developer on the proposed licensable marine activity.

2.2.4 Prospective developers must publish in a local newspaper a notice (PAC Notice) containing a description of the activity within six weeks of the event, details of where further information may be obtained, the date and place of the PAC event and how and when comments should be submitted to the prospective developer. Regulation 5(1) and Regulation 6(2) of the Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013 state that (Marine Directorate – Licensing and Operations Team (MD-LOT), and other stakeholders

must be notified of the upcoming PAC events at least six weeks in advance. These regulations are outlined further in Table 2.1.

2.2.5 The principles of the PAC Regulations have been considered throughout the development of this Offshore EIA Report due to the portion of the Export Cable Corridor being within the Scottish Territorial Waters, connecting to the Landfall. Particularly, the principles that are outlined within the PAC Regulations (stated within Table 2.1) have been followed by the Applicant for the Proposed Development.

2.2.6 Although PAC is not considered to be a direct representation to the Scottish Ministers, it provides a mechanism for the public to provide feedback that can be addressed in the Licence application and supporting Offshore EIA Report.

**Table 2.1: Compliance with the PAC Regulations**

Reference	Requirement	Compliance
<b>Marine (Scotland) Act 2010</b>		
<b>Section 23 (1)</b>	A prospective applicant must give notice that an application for a Marine Licence is to be submitted.	<p><b>PAC Event 1 – 02/10/2025 (see Annex A)</b>                      PAC Event 1 notice was published in the Press and Journal.</p> <p>PAC Event 1 notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Applicant were sent to the required parties on the 22 August 2025.</p> <p><b>PAC Event 2 – 21/01/2026 (see Annex B)</b>                      PAC Event 2 notices were published in the Press and Journal.</p> <p>PAC Event 2 notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Applicant were sent to the required parties on the 20 November 2025.</p>
<b>Section 23 (2)</b>	A period of at least 12 weeks must elapse between giving the notice and the submission of the application.	<p><b>PAC Event 1 – 02/10/2025 (see Annex A)</b>                      PAC Event 1 notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Applicant were sent on the 22 August 2025.</p> <p><b>PAC Event 2 – 21/01/2026 (see Annex B)</b>                      PAC Event 1 notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Applicant were sent on the 20 November.</p> <p>Therefore, more than 12 weeks have elapsed since these notifications were sent and the submission of the application for the Proposed Development (April 2026).</p>
<b>Section 23 (3) (a) – (d)</b>	The notice must contain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a description in general terms of the activity to be carried out;</li> <li>• a plan or chart showing the outline of the location</li> </ul>	The notices for PAC Event 1 and PAC Event 2 contained the information required by the PAC Regulations (as shown in Annex A and Annex B)

Reference	Requirement	Compliance
	<p>at which the activity is to be carried out, which is sufficient to identify the location;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• details as to how the prospective applicant is to be contacted; and</li> <li>• such other information as may be prescribed by Scottish Ministers.</li> </ul>	
<b>Section 24 (1) and (2)</b>	A Pre-Application Consultation report must be prepared prior to submitting the application and be in the prescribed format.	This document constitutes the PAC Report.
<b>Marine Licensing (Pre-Application Consultation) Scotland Regulations 2013</b>		
<b>Regulation 5 (1)</b>	A prospective applicant for a Marine Licence may notify the Scottish Ministers requiring a Pre-Application Consultation statement from them.	The Applicant chose not to request a PAC statement from Scottish Ministers.
<b>Regulation 6 (2)</b>	<p>The prospective application for a Marine Licence must give notification that an application for a Marine Licence is to be submitted to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses;</li> <li>• The Maritime &amp; Coastguard Agency;</li> <li>• The Scottish Environment Protection Agency;</li> <li>• Scottish Natural Heritage; and</li> <li>• Any delegate for a marine region where the application for a Marine Licence is for an activity which is to be carried out wholly or partly in that region.</li> </ul>	<p>The notifications that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Applicant were sent on the 22/08/2025 (PAC Event 1) and 20 November 2025 (PAC Event 2) to the Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB), Maritime &amp; Coastguard Agency (MCA), the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and NatureScot (formerly Scottish Natural Heritage) (as shown in Annex A and Annex B).</p> <p>In addition, the PAC notices were sent to the stakeholders listed in Annex D.</p>
<b>Regulation 7 (1) (a)</b>	The prospective applicant for a Marine Licence must hold at least one Pre-Application Consultation event at which persons identified in Regulation 6(2) and members of the public may provide comments to the prospective applicant as regards the licensable marine activity.	<p>The Applicant held two formal PAC events, one on the 02/10/2025 (PAC Event 1) and another on the 21/01/2026 (PAC Event 2). All parties listed in Regulation 6(2) were invited to both PAC events via email notification.</p> <p>Please see Annex A and Annex B.</p>

Reference	Requirement	Compliance
<p><b>Regulation 7 (1) (b)</b></p>	<p>The prospective applicant for a Marine Licence must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• publish in a local newspaper a notice containing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) a description, including the location of the licensable marine activity for which the Marine Licence is to be sought;</li> <li>(ii) details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed licensable marine activity;</li> <li>(iii) the date and place of the Pre-Application Consultation event;</li> <li>(iv) a statement explaining how persons wishing to provide comments to the prospective applicant relating to the proposed licensable marine activity may do so, and the date by which this must be done; and</li> <li>(v) a statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that if the prospective applicant makes an application for a Marine Licence that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>The PAC Event 1 notice was published in the Press and Journal on the 04/08/2025.</p> <p>PAC Event 2 notice was published in the Press and Journal on the 17/11/2025.</p> <p>The PAC notices contained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a general description of the works associated with the marine licensable activity;</li> <li>• information on the location of the works including grid references; and</li> <li>• details of the consultation events and how and by when comments could be provided on the Proposed Development.</li> </ul> <p>The PAC notices also included a statement noting that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.</p> <p>Detailed as shown in Annex A and Annex B.</p>
<p><b>Regulation 7 (2)</b></p>	<p>A Pre-Application Consultation event must be held no earlier than six weeks after the later of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The date on which notification of such event is given;</li> <li>• The date of notification that an application for a Marine Licence is to be submitted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>PAC Event 1 – 02/10/2025</b></p> <p>The PAC Event 1 notice was published in the Press and Journal on the 04/08/2025, more than six weeks prior to the event taking place.</p> <p>PAC Event 1 notification that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Application was sent on the 22 August 2025.</p> <p><b>PAC Event 2 – 21/01/2026</b></p> <p>The PAC Event 2 notice was published in Press and Journal on the 17 November 2025,</p>

Reference	Requirement	Compliance
		<p>more than six weeks prior to the event taking place.</p> <p>PAC Event 2 notification that an application for a Marine Licence would be submitted by the Application were sent on the 20/11/2025, eight weeks prior to the event taking place.</p>
<b>Regulation 8</b>	A PAC Report must be in the form prescribed as in Schedule 1.	This document constitutes the PAC Report. The form prescribed in Schedule 1 has been completed and is included in Annex E.

## **3 Pre-Application Consultation**

### **3.1 Consultation and Engagement Approach**

- 3.1.1 Throughout the pre-application stage of the Proposed Development, a significant volume of stakeholder and public engagement has taken place, including formal, informal, statutory and non-statutory platforms and mechanisms facilitating this engagement. Details of this engagement are set out in the following sections, however these serve to demonstrate that the Applicant have gone above and beyond the statutory minimum in terms of consultation.
- 3.1.2 Consultation on the Project has been through a wide variety of traditional and innovative approaches, including an online virtual exhibition hall, fixed venue events, keynote addresses, informational sessions at festivals, and business breakfasts for supply chain engagement.
- 3.1.3 Feedback from stakeholder engagement events was gathered through a combination of physical and digital channels, including questionnaires completed at in person events and responses submitted via an online feedback form. All responses were collated into a single database to ensure consistency and ease of analysis. The data was then systematically reviewed and categorised into key themes, enabling a clear understanding of the most frequently raised issues and priorities identified by the community. This thematic analysis also allowed for the identification of emerging concerns as the consultation progressed, helping to ensure that evolving stakeholder perspectives were captured and addressed throughout the engagement process. Importantly, this also facilitated ongoing feedback or the ability to revisit issues with stakeholders at future events, demonstrating how areas of interest had been taken into account.
- 3.1.4 An overview of the consultation to date is provided in Volume 1, Chapter 5: Consultation and Engagement.

### **3.2 Virtual Exhibition Hall**

- 3.2.1 A multi-layer approach was taken whereby information was provided in person and could be accessed online in our virtual exhibition hall via the TWP website. This exhibition hall was available from the October 2024 and was updated with the formal PAC event information for the events on the 02 October 2025 and 21 January 2026 (Figure 3.1). This platform had the same information available as displayed at the physical events, so that people who were unable to or did not want to attend could access the same content. This was accessible in its various forms (content was updated for every set of events) at: [Virtual Exhibition Hall](#).

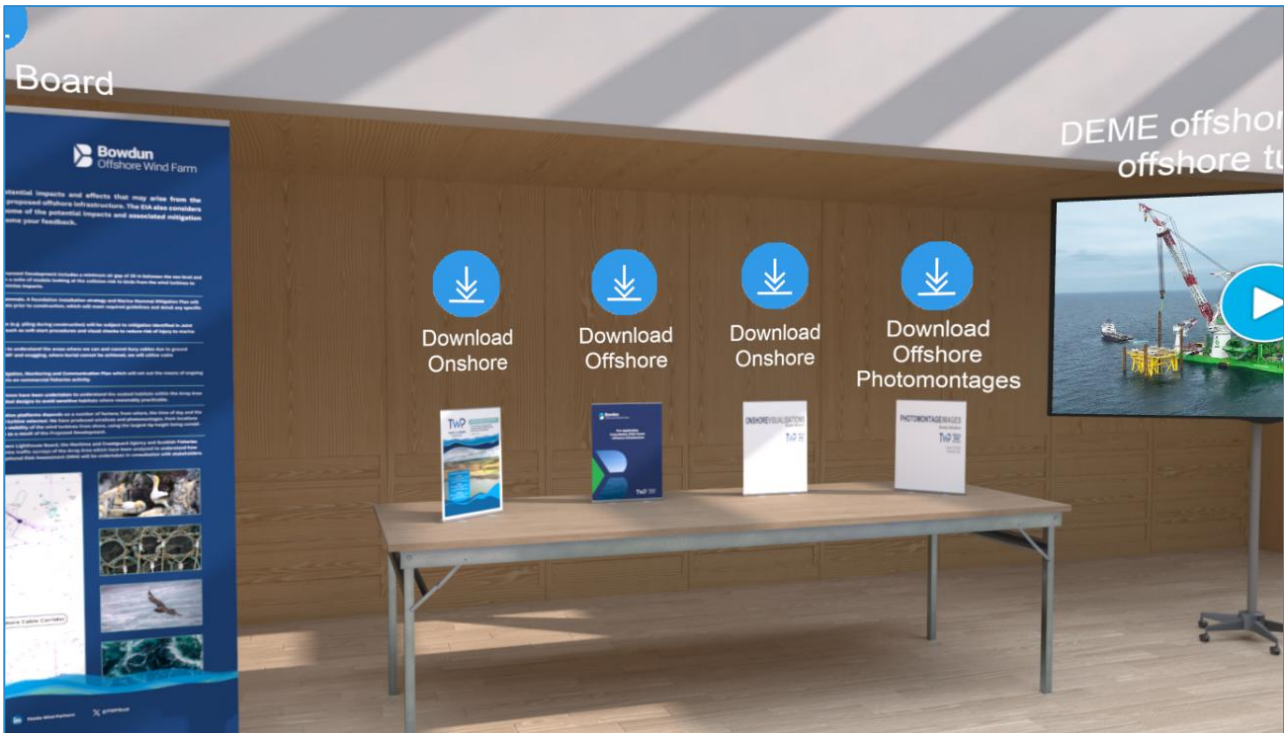


Figure 3.1: Virtual Exhibition Hall

### 3.3 Pre-scoping

- 3.3.1 On 25 April 2024, a Scoping Workshop was held to discuss a range of technical topics (see Table 5.6 in Volume 1, Chapter 5: Consultation and Engagement). The purpose of this Scoping Workshop was to allow the Applicant to consult with Statutory Consultees and key technical stakeholders on the approach to the Scoping process and any early assessment completed to date, such as gathering baseline data, prior to the submission of the Scoping Report.
- 3.3.2 Before the Scoping Workshop, the Applicant provided relevant data and scoping details to Statutory Consultees and relevant stakeholders. This included the presentation slides used during the Scoping Workshop and any relevant technical reports. This enabled Statutory Consultees and relevant stakeholders to provide informed feedback and encouraged questions to be raised. Minutes and updated slides were provided post-Scoping Workshop.
- 3.3.3 The discussions and feedback informed the Offshore Scoping Report (BOWFL, 2024) and the EIA process.

### 3.4 Post-scoping

- 3.4.1 Since submission of the Offshore Scoping Report (BOWFL, 2024) on 09 September 2024, and receipt of the Scoping Opinion on 25 November 2024 (MD-LOT, 2024), the Applicant has undertaken further consultation to ensure any queries from stakeholders were appropriately actioned. Points raised by the stakeholders as part of the Scoping Opinion can be found in the consultation table within each topic chapter.

- 3.4.2 The Applicant has continued consultation with any stakeholders where further evidence was required in order to agree/discuss the approach taken in the Offshore Scoping Report (BOWFL, 2024). These consultations entailed the issuing of technical notes, email exchanges and/or holding either in person or virtual workshops. All consultations that have taken place can be found in Volume 1, Chapter 5: Consultation and Engagement and Volume 3, Technical Appendix 5.1: Consultation Log.

### **3.5 Other Stakeholder Engagement**

- 3.5.1 The Applicant has engaged with other developers in the ScotWind East and North-East leasing regions to collaborate on issues of shared concern and to identify opportunities for addressing evidence gaps and identifying mitigation and management solutions at a regional and strategic level to address potential cumulative impacts. Collaboration has taken place across topics including Offshore Ornithology, Shipping and Navigation, and Aviation and Radar

- 3.5.2 The Applicant will continue to engage and contribute to collaborative initiatives throughout all stages of project development and delivery, where appropriate to do so.

#### **North-Eastern and Eastern Ornithological Group**

- 3.5.3 The Applicant has taken a lead role in managing the programme of seabird surveys for the East and North Caithness Cliffs between 2023 and 2025, on behalf of the North-East and Eastern Ornithology Group (NEEOG) developer group. Results from these surveys have been used by developers in their EIAs and Habitats Regulations Appraisals (HRAs) and have been uploaded to the Seabird Monitoring Programme database. Results from these surveys have been used in the offshore ornithology impact assessment of this Offshore EIA Report (Volume 2: Chapter 11: Offshore Ornithology) and the Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA), Part 3: Special Protection Areas and Ramsar Sites (TWP-BOW-RPS-ENV-RPT-00027).

#### **Eastern Developers Group**

- 3.5.1 The Applicant is part of a group with other ScotWind Eastern Region projects, the principal objective of this group is to provide a platform for the exchange of information and a forum for collaborative discussion and action in relation to the Scotwind Eastern Region projects, particular topics include shipping and navigation, aviation and cumulative baseline work. From this group there has been the proactive establishment of the Eastern Region Commercial Fisheries Working Group (CFWG). The early establishment of the CFWG links with regional and national discussions on commercial fisheries and complements project level engagement. The Eastern Region CFWG won Best Engagement Award at the Scottish Renewables 2025 Scottish Green Energy Awards.

### Stakeholder Engagement Manager

- 3.5.2 A Stakeholder Engagement Manager) has been in place since 2023 to facilitate and support engagement with the community. As part of their role, they have carried out engagement with public, businesses and organisations in the form of virtual and in person meetings. The Stakeholder Engagement Manager is available 9 am to 5 pm three days a week, however, appointments can be made outside of these hours. Contact details for the Stakeholder Engagement Manager can be found on the Project website as well as public exhibitions and online events.
- 3.5.3 The Stakeholder Engagement Manager also manages a mailing list which has been created for the Project and will be expanded to allow members of the public to opt-in for updates on the Project, such as notifications of upcoming public consultation sessions.
- 3.5.4 The Stakeholder Engagement Manager has led on the informal engagement activities, the main focus being the public information days held in October 2024 to formally introduce the Project to stakeholders and the community. Across the summers of 2023, 2024 and 2025 engagement was focussed on community spaces, going to locations where people naturally gather. The purpose of this engagement was to continue to raise awareness of the Project within the local community and gain an understanding of local feeling and sentiment across Aberdeenshire.

**Table 3.1: 2023, 2024 and 2025 Event Schedule**

Date	Venue
03/06/2023	Feein Market
07-09/07/2023	Stonehaven Folk Festival
09-15/07/2023	Aberdeen Tennis Tournament
01/06/2024	Feein Market
25/08/2024	Stonehaven Harbour festival
28-30/10/2024	Project Information Days (Drumlithie, Gourdon and Stonehaven)
28/02/2025	Career Fair Mearns Academy
20-22/05/2025	Aberdeenshire Stemovators
26-30/05/2025	Techfest, Aberdeen Science Festival
31/05/2025	Gourdon in the Park
07/06/2025	Feein Market
31/08/2025	Stonehaven Harbour festival

## **3.6 Information Provision and Awareness Raising**

### **Fisheries Liaison Officer**

- 3.6.1 The Applicant appointed Blackhall & Powis to act as the Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) for the Proposed Development, who have been involved with since January 2023 to act as an intermediary between the fishing industry and the Applicant.
- 3.6.2 The FLO represents the Applicant on many fisheries related issues and has been involved in communications with fishers at various points throughout the pre-application phase and was available at the PAC events discussed in Section 3.6.11. The FLO has also worked closely with the team responsible for Volume 2, Chapter 13: Commercial Fisheries (NiMa), with any consultation carried out collaboratively discussed in Volume 2, Chapter 13: Commercial Fisheries as well as being covered briefly in both Volume 1, Chapter 5: Consultation and Engagement and Volume 3, Technical Appendix 5.1: Consultation Log.

### **Project Website and Digital Information**

- 3.6.3 The opportunity for stakeholders to contact the Applicant through email and the Project website has been available for the duration of the pre-application phase. The Stakeholder Engagement Manager has made themselves available for virtual, phone or in person meetings whenever requested by stakeholders.
- 3.6.4 A dedicated email address has been administered throughout the pre-application phase at: [contact@twp.scot](mailto:contact@twp.scot).
- 3.6.5 A dedicated website was hosted by the Applicant and can be found here: <https://www.thistlewindpartners.scot>.
- 3.6.6 The Bowdun Project website has been kept up to date with relevant information including information on aspects of the wider project, ways to contact the project team and a document repository for stakeholders to access as required.
- 3.6.7 A digital version of the Offshore Scoping Report (BOWFL, 2024) has been made available by the Applicant on the TWP website to allow for easy access. The Applicant will also make digital versions of both the Offshore EIA Report and the Offshore RIAA available following submission of the application.

### **Wider Engagement**

- 3.6.8 The Applicant is committed to maximising the benefit of the Project through supply chain development, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and supporting local initiatives.
- 3.6.9 To date, support has included collaboration with Aberdeen Science Centre to produce a tailored 'Gust to Grid' workshop which was delivered to 300 children from schools in the Aberdeenshire region and to local community groups. The purpose of the workshop was to teach children about how wind turbines generate electricity whilst also allowing them practically to explore what makes a suitable landfall site and onshore substation location. TWP has also participated in Stemovators and Developing The Young workforce events in Aberdeenshire.

- 3.6.10 The Applicant has also backed community initiatives in Aberdeenshire and groups local to the Project have had the opportunity to apply for small donations to benefit the community, recipients have included the Platinum Jubilee Coastal Pathways, RNLI Stonehaven, Benholm and Johnshaven Heritage Society and Homestart Kincardine.
- 3.6.11 Provision of a community benefit fund and/or shared ownership linked to operational performance of the Project are actively being considered by the Applicant. However, policy and requirements for community benefit have been updated as part of guidance published in November 2025 by Scottish Government (Scottish Government, 2025). Community benefit is also under review at the UK Department for Energy Security & Net Zero, who are considering introduction of mandatory community benefit and how best to facilitate shared ownership. Given this policy uncertainty, as well as provision of community benefit not being a material planning consideration, further details on community benefit and shared ownership would be agreed post consent. The Project will meet the legislative requirements and consider updates to any guidance that emerges post consent. The Applicant looks to support community empowerment and have a beneficial impact on the local communities our projects are within.

## **4 Formal Pre-Application Consultation**

- 4.1.1 The Applicant organised and held two PAC events with interested parties, including regulators, Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), and local communities, whereby they could comment upon the prospective Offshore Application for a ‘prescribed class’ of activity as defined in the PAC Regulations and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010. The Applicant notified any relevant delegate appointed under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 that an application for a Marine Licence is to be submitted to MD-LOT.
- 4.1.2 A full list of the people, groups and organisations the Applicant invited to these events is provided in Annex D. A copy of the invites sent to them are provided in Annex A (PAC Event 1) and Annex B (PAC Event 2).
- 4.1.3 Notifications included information relating to the application and the time and location of the PAC event. The Applicant published a notice in at least one local newspaper(s) prior to any public consultation event, which included the following information:
- a description, including location of the marine licensable activity;
  - details as to where further details concerning the activity may be obtained;
  - the date and place of the PAC event;
  - a statement explaining how persons wishing to provide comments may do so and the date by which this must be done; and
  - a statement clarifying that comments are made to the Applicant and not to MD-LOT and that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to MD-LOT on the application.
- 4.1.4 The Applicant followed the principles of the PAC Regulations for all Offshore Infrastructure of the Proposed Development, including both the Array Area and Export Cable Corridor (Table 2.1). PAC Event 1 (02 and 03 October 2025) was spread across two locations and two dates,. This setup was chosen in order to ensure that public engagement could take place in both Johnshaven (covering both Onshore and Offshore Infrastructure) and Drumlithie (Onshore Infrastructure only). PAC Event 2 (21 January 2026) covered the Offshore Infrastructure only.
- 4.1.5 Through the adoption of afternoon/evening sessions, this maximised the opportunity for attendance around work and family commitments for all stakeholders. An accessibility review was also carried out at all venues, to ensure all those who wished to attend the event could readily access and participate. The consultation events were also available virtually, in order to ensure that the PAC could reach and be available to as many interested parties as possible.

## 4.2 Material and Resources

- 4.2.1 Copies of the boards, maps and brochures can be found in Annex F. These were available in print and virtually. The online consultation room was available for access throughout the PAC period, with public comments accepted until 17 October 2025 for PAC Event 1 and 29 January 2026 for PAC Event 2.
- 4.2.2 Paper and online copies of feedback questionnaires were provided for attendees to provide feedback on the Proposed Development. All attendees were offered the opportunity to leave their emails in order to receive updates on the progress of the Project and be made aware of future events.

## 4.3 Provision and Availability of Information

### Local Newspapers

- 4.3.1 Adverts were placed in local newspapers formally notifying the public of the two PAC events (Table 4.1).

Table 4.1: PAC Events Newspaper Notices

Newspaper Advert	Newspaper	Advert Date
Proposed Public Event 1 (02 October 2025)	Press and Journal	04 August 2025
Proposed Public Event 2 (21 January 2026)	Press and Journal	17 November 2025

### Email Campaign, Social Media and Community Notices

- 4.3.2 Physical notices publicising the events were placed on community halls, shops and notice boards in the vicinity.
- 4.3.3 The Applicant has also sent out emails to the stakeholders and councillors listed in Annex D.

## 4.4 PAC Event 1

### Overview

- 4.4.1 This PAC event took place between 2.00pm – 7.00pm on 02 October 2025 at Johnshaven Village Hall, Johnshaven, 59 people attended the event. Representatives from TWP in attendance covered consents, EIA, land, communications and engineering covering both onshore and offshore parts of the Project.

### Materials and Resources

- 4.4.2 The event was publicised in the Press and Journal and local news organisation The Bellman, as well as through social media channels (LinkedIn and Facebook). Those on the Project update email list were alerted to the event as well as elected officials.

4.4.3 A total of ten information boards were made available (Figure 4.1) and included information such as:

- An overview of TWP;
- How an EIA is prepared;
- Information regarding the onshore components of the Project;
- Initial Offshore EIA outputs;
- Description and diagrams of the Offshore Infrastructure;
- Maps illustrating the location of the Project.



Figure 4.1: PAC Event 1, Johnshaven.

## Responses

4.4.4 The majority of attendees sought information and particularly changes from the first onshore PAC Event, the majority were discussed verbally and notes were taken by the TWP team members present rather than being submitted in writing, in total three feedback forms were received (a combination of paper and online). The following matters were raised in relation to offshore:

- Cumulative impacts;
- Impacts upon fishing;
- Community benefit; and
- Electromagnetic Fields (EMF).

## Summary

4.4.5 The areas of offshore interest most frequently raised through PAC related to cumulative, community benefit and fishing impacts as well as questions on ecological responses to EMF. These topics raised during PAC were anticipated by the Project team based on early engagement and as part of the preparation for the PAC events significant work had already been undertaken to address these concerns in the project design principles and mitigation measures included in the EIA. For example, through targeted engagement with Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) additional confidential plotter data has been included to ensure a robust data baseline on which the impact assessment is based.

## 4.5 PAC Event 2

### Overview

4.5.1 The format of the event was largely the same as PAC Event 1, this PAC event took place between 2.00pm – 7.00pm on 21 January 2026 at Stonehaven Community Education Centre, Stonehaven, eight people attended the event. Representatives from TWP in attendance covered consents, EIA, communications, engineering and FLO.

4.5.2 Five boards in total were available. Offshore visualisations were also displayed, the full set of visualisations can be found in Volume 3, Chapter 20: Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impacts.

### Materials and Resources

4.5.3 All events were publicised in Press and Journal as well as through social media channels (LinkedIn and Facebook). Those on our Project update email list were alerted to the events as well as elected officials.

4.5.4 Display materials included information such as:

- An overview of TWP;
- How an EIA is prepared;
- Initial Offshore EIA outputs;
- Wirelines and visualisations;

- Description and diagrams of the Offshore Infrastructure
- Maps illustrating the location of the Project.

4.5.5 In addition to the boards, brochures were available for people to take away with them.

#### **Responses**

4.5.6 Attendees at the event sought information and clarification on a number of points of interest from TWP representatives. Feedback was received verbally rather than being submitted in writing, with notes collated each day. The following matters were raised:

- community benefit;
- supply chain;
- ornithology and ecology impacts;
- EMF; and
- Decommissioning.

4.5.7 Representatives of the SFF and Scottish White Fish Producers Association and local fishers who are known to fish with the Site Boundary had been invited to learn more about the Project and to facilitate discussions with the Project team and the FLO.

## 5 How the Applicant Took Account of the Views Raised

- 5.1.1 All feedback received throughout the pre-application phase was recorded and collated by the Applicant, including any feedback that was received by non-written means. The feedback has been reviewed and considered by the Applicant and where relevant has been used to inform key decisions on the development of the Proposed Development and the assessment of the Proposed Development through both the Offshore EIA Report and the Offshore RIAA.
- 5.1.2 Any feedback received relating to the offshore technical chapters has been addressed within these topic chapters (Volume 2, Chapter 7 to 23) and their respective appendices found in Volume 3 and an overview can be found in Volume 3, Technical Appendix 5.1: Consultation Log.
- 5.1.3 A range of issues and areas of interest were raised across the PAC Events. The outputs of which and relevant responses are included in Table 5.1. The below table also reflects how issues raised have been addressed by the Project, as well as take into account stakeholder interests in terms of the design of the Proposed Development and associated mitigation.

**Table 5.1 PAC Events - Issues Raised and Responses**

Issue Raised	Response
<b>Fishing</b>	Queries were raised regarding the dissemination of information on project timelines for fishers local to the Proposed Development who may be unaffiliated with any fisheries associations. A Company Fisheries Liaison Officer is in place and details of communication are detailed within the Fisheries Mitigation, Monitoring and Communication Plan. Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is a member of the Eastern Developers Commercial Fisheries Working Group, where we work with other projects to engage with commercial fisheries stakeholders. As a member of this group, we will work with other projects to identify and improve wider communication and the dissemination of information to fishers.
<b>Cumulative</b>	Queries were raised around the number of projects off the coast of Aberdeenshire; the team were able to explain that a robust cumulative impact assessment is included with the EIA. A long list was compiled using datasets from MD-LOT, Crown Estate Scotland and the Crown Estate (amongst others), to identify projects in the vicinity of the Project. This list of projects assessed was submitted to MD-LOT ahead of submission for review and agreement.
<b>EMF</b>	The team explained EMFs naturally occur due to the Earth's geomagnetic field and that EMF levels from subsea cables decrease rapidly with distance. Where feasible the cables will be buried and if burial is not possible then cable protection will be used, further reducing the EMF levels. EMF have been considered within relevant chapters of the Offshore EIA Report.
<b>Landfall</b>	The Landfall will be constructed using a trenchless technique. We are currently exploring suitable options for this work. The full length of the work would begin in the offshore portion of the cable corridor and 'pop out' in the adjacent field to the Landfall- construction will be planned to avoid closures of the beach and coastal path. Once installed there will be no visible infrastructure on the beach.

Issue Raised	Response
<b>Community benefit</b>	<p>TWP are committed to working with the local community, community groups and Community Councils in order to establish and deliver community benefits to the locality. These measures are voluntary and will not be secured through planning, however there is a commitment to continue reviewing guidance requirements. Through the PAC events, stakeholders were actively encouraged to suggest options and mechanisms to deliver community benefits to the area. All suggestions will be considered and relevant options discussed with the community as the project progresses and the community benefit aspects develop.</p>
<b>Supply chain</b>	<p>TWP has a dedicated Supply Chain Manager who has spearheaded our Supply Chain Pathways Programme and undertaken extensive engagement and analysis within Aberdeenshire and North-Eastern Scotland to understand the supply chain. By mapping out our future requirements for the supply chain in detail, we can see clearly where local capability already exists, as well as where investment and targeted support would make the biggest difference. This initiative is looking to assist Scottish oil and gas supply chain companies to diversify into renewables.</p> <p>TWP engages extensively with a range of Scottish supply chain businesses with a view to creating routes into qualifying their products and services with our marine contractor, DEME Offshore (Tier 1 contractor) and also supplying directly into TWP work scopes. Our award-winning Supply Chain Pathways Programme directly addresses an institutional barrier to Scottish supply chain participation in offshore wind by creating unprecedented access to a major Tier 1 contractor and providing early insight, benchmarking, advice, guidance and mentoring. This engagement and exposure is three years ahead of a standard programme and creates a sufficiently large window to inform required investments in business process and automation, and for supply chain businesses to act on that advice.</p> <p>Programme Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise Scottish Content: Use early EPCI engagement to give Scottish suppliers access to Tier 1 contractor.</li> <li>• Expand Supplier Base: Pre-qualify Scottish/UK firms.</li> <li>• Enable Investment: Channel EPCI insights via Scottish Government agencies to unlock supplier funding.</li> <li>• Local Sourcing Focus: Target products/services Scotland can realistically supply today.</li> <li>• Align with Demand: Prioritize and match Scottish capabilities with TWP/DEME Offshore needs.</li> <li>• Accelerate Engagement: Begin supply chain work early to guide Scottish investment needs and reduce risk.</li> </ul>
<b>Ornithology and ecology impacts</b>	<p>Details of the environmental surveys undertaken to date have been detailed in the PAC materials and on the TWP website. Explanation of the desk based studies and impact assessment process was provided, indicating the impacts considered within the EIA and which will be reported in the application submission.</p>
<b>Decommissioning</b>	<p>While the exact approach to decommissioning is yet to be determined, under the Energy Act 2004 a Decommissioning Programme will be prepared and approved prior to construction. This will set out the decommissioning process and method. As the final design of the Project is not yet known the exact methods of decommissioning cannot be known. For the EIA a reverse of construction approach has been used to provide a worst-case scenario for assessing decommissioning impacts.</p>

## 6 Summary

- 6.1.1 The Applicant has delivered an extensive, transparent and accessible stakeholder engagement and consultation process.
- 6.1.2 The steps undertaken were in excess of the minimum requirements and ultimately led to a successful and beneficial process, which allowed for both information to be given to stakeholders but also for feedback to assist in shaping the Proposed Development and design.
- 6.1.3 The report has followed the correct procedures to provide MD-LOT with the necessary information to assess the PAC that has been undertaken prior to the submission of this planning application.
- 6.1.4 There remains further opportunity to comment on the proposals and the proposed flexibility of design will aid in facilitating a responsive design in line with the requirements of consultees.



Letters and emails to stakeholders inviting them to events and keeping them updated on progress



Information banners and brochures, updated at each set of events



Visualisations and view points



Project team in attendance to answer questions



Supply chain portal and business breakfasts



Project website and virtual exhibition hall



Adverts and press releases to publicise events and project milestones



Feedback form (online and written)



Utilising social media channels to promote events



Contact details and dedicated Community Stakeholder Manager

## References

- BOWFL (2024). *Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report*. Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited. Available at: <https://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/resources/bowdun-offshore-wind-farm-offshore-scoping-report/>. Accessed on: 07 April 2026.
- BOWFL (2025a). *Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Onshore EIA Report*. Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited. Available at: [https://thistlewindpartners.scot/assets/uploads/Bowdun-Onshore-Scoping-Report\\_04.09.2024.pdf](https://thistlewindpartners.scot/assets/uploads/Bowdun-Onshore-Scoping-Report_04.09.2024.pdf). Accessed on: 07 April 2026.
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- Scottish Government (2025). *Public Procurement and Property - Updated guidance on Community Benefits in procurement*. Available at: <https://blogs.gov.scot/public-procurement/2025/11/13/updated-guidance-on-community-benefits-in-procurement/>. Accessed on: 23 March 2026.

# ANNEX A. NOTIFICATIONS OF PAC EVENT 1 – 02 OCTOBER 2025

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL  
Monday, August 4, 2025

CLASSIFIED 41

## Notice Board

**Public Notices**



**THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 (As Amended) Regulation 7 Notice of Pre-Application Consultation**

The Thistle Wind Partners (the Prospective Applicant) hereby submits notification of pre-application consultation for a proposed development at Land at Benholm to the south of Gourdon connecting to Fodderosa Forest, Stonehaven.

The proposed development is for: Onshore infrastructure associated with the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm including: formation of onshore landing point; laying of underground cables; erection of substation; and associated works (National Development). Thistle Wind Partners intends to apply to Aberdeenshire Council for Planning Permission in Principle for the above proposal.

A proposal of application notice in respect of this proposed development was submitted to Aberdeenshire Council on 16 July 2025.

Members of the local community and interested members of the public are invited to attend the following consultation events (Public Event 1) relating to the proposal described above to be held on:

Date	Location	Time	Address
Thurs, 21 Aug 2025	Johnshaven Village Hall	2pm-7pm	15 Mid St, Johnshaven, DD10 0HB
Fri 22 Aug 2025	Drumthie Bowling Club	2pm-7pm	Station Rd, Drumthie, Stonehaven AB39 3YT

Details of further consultations (Public Event 2) will be published in due course. This event is an opportunity to view the proposal and to meet Thistle Wind Partners project teams who will be able to answer any questions.

Further information including a virtual exhibition which will be accessible from 21 August 2025 can be found at [www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk](http://www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk). Further information can also be obtained by emailing [k.mccaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.mccaulay@twp.scot).

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal can do so before 12th September 2025 by:

- Emailing [k.mccaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.mccaulay@twp.scot) or posting feedback to: Thistle Wind Partners, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AF, or;
- Filling out the feedback form on the virtual exhibition website: [www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk](http://www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk);
- Completing a feedback form at an exhibition event.

Please note that any comments made to the Prospective Applicant are not representations to Aberdeenshire Council. There will be an opportunity to make representations to Aberdeenshire Council following the submission of the application to Aberdeenshire Council.

## Retail Shop

**Public Notices**

**ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL**

**NOTICE OF ORDERS TO EXEMPT LAND FROM ACCESS RIGHTS GRAMPIAN FORREST RALLY**

Notice is hereby given under Section 11(9) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 ("the Act") that on 31 July 2025 Aberdeenshire Council made the following order:

"The Access Rights Exemption Order 08/25 (Whitehag and Clatters Kat (Correen Hill), North Drumochty, Fetteresso, Durnis Forests)" ("the Order") under Section 11(1) of the Act.

The effect of the above Order will be to exempt parts of the Forestry and Land Scotland forests of Whitehag and Clatters Kat (Correen Hill), North Drumochty, Fetteresso, Durnis, from the access rights which would otherwise be exercisable in respect of that land by virtue of Part 1 of the Act. The Order shall come into operation at 00:00 hours on Friday 8 August 2025 and will expire at 12:00 hours on Sunday 10 August 2025. Rights of way are not affected by this order.

Copies of the finalised Order and accompanying maps can be viewed during normal office hours at Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB14 5GB.

The purpose for which the Order is being proposed is for the Grampian Forest Rally 2025.

Head of Legal and People  
Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB14 5GB

**ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL**

**NOTICE OF ORDERS TO EXEMPT LAND FROM ACCESS RIGHTS GRAMPIAN FORREST RALLY**

Notice is hereby given under Section 11(9) of the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 ("the Act") that on 31 July 2025 Aberdeenshire Council made the following order:

"The Access Rights Exemption Order 08/25 (Fetteresso Forest)" ("the Order") under Section 11(1) of the Act.

The effect of the above Order will be to exempt parts of the Forestry and Land Scotland forest of Fetteresso from the access rights which would otherwise be exercisable in respect of that land by virtue of Part 1 of the Act. The Order shall come into operation at 00:00 hours on Thursday 7 August 2025 and will expire at 18:00 hours. Rights of way are not affected by this order.

Copies of the finalised Order and accompanying map can be viewed during normal office hours at Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB14 5GB.

The purpose for which the Order is being proposed is for the Grampian Forest Rally 2025.

Head of Legal and People  
Woodhill House, Westburn Road, Aberdeen, AB14 5GB

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We may contact you by mail, email, telephone or fax to let you know about our products, services or promotions which may be of interest to you.

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Aberdeen Journals Ltd, YouAde, P.O. Box 43,  
1 Marischal Square, Broad Street, Aberdeen AB10 1BL

**The Press and Journal Classified**

To book your advert call

**01224 691212**

**The Press and Journal Classified**

**Marine (Scotland) Act 2010**

**THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013**

Notice under Regulation 7(b) – Pre-application consultation by the prospective applicant

The licensable activity consists of:

Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations); Up to two offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables; Up to three interconnector cables; Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.

The Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm will be located 38km from the Aberdeenshire coast.

Public exhibitions will be held to discuss the project location and associated works at:

Date	Location	Time	Address
Thurs 2 Oct 2025	Johnshaven Village Hall	3pm-7pm	15 Mid St, Johnshaven, DD10 0HB

A virtual exhibition is available at [www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk](http://www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk) and will be accessible by 21 August 2025.

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal can do so before 17 October by:

- Emailing [k.mccaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.mccaulay@twp.scot) or by post to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH2 2AF, or;
- Filling out the feedback form on the virtual exhibition website at [www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk](http://www.thistlewindpartners.co.uk);
- Completing a feedback form at the exhibition event.

Comments should not be submitted to Scottish Ministers at this stage. Comments submitted at this stage are not formal representations submitted to Scottish Ministers. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers when the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Project submits its application.

Rise and shine with the P&J



To get your P&J home delivered or sent to your workplace, contact

ABERDEEN 0800 0275040  
INVERNESS 0808 2022092

**The Press and Journal Classified**

A1: Newspaper Advert in the Press and Journal 04 August 2025

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 August 2025 09:39  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm: Offshore Pre-application Consultation Notification

Dear all,

I am writing to inform you that Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited plans to hold a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event regarding the proposed marine licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters.

The proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 38 kilometres (km) east of Aberdeenshire and supported by an export cable landfall located at Benholm.

The licensable activity consists of:

- ? Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations)
- ? Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables
- ? Up to three Interconnector cables
- ? Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.

A copy of the statutory notice is attached which includes details of the proposed development, information regarding the PAC event and contact details for Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited should you wish to provide any feedback in advance on the consent application.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm then please do not hesitate in contacting me.

This notice has also been sent to NLB, MCA, NatureScot and SEPA.

Kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

## A2. Notification to MD-LOT

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 22 August 2025 09:37  
**To:** Enquiries <enquiries@nlb.org.uk>; Info Line <infoline@mcga.gov.uk>; 'planning.north@sepa.org.uk' <planning.north@sepa.org.uk>; 'planningrenewables@nature.scot' <planningrenewables@nature.scot>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm: Offshore Pre-application Consultation Notification

Dear all,

I am writing to inform you that Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited plans to hold a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event regarding the proposed marine licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters.

The proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 38 kilometres (km) east of Aberdeenshire and supported by an export cable landfall located at Benholm.

The licensable activity consists of:

- Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations)
- Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables
- Up to three Interconnector cables
- Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.

A copy of the statutory notice is attached which includes details of the proposed development, information regarding the PAC event and contact details for Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited should you wish to provide any feedback in advance on the consent application.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm then please do not hesitate in contacting me.

This notice has also been sent to MD-LOT.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Offshore Consents Manager

**TWP** THISTLE  
WIND  
PARTNERS

## A3. Notification to NLB, MCA, SEPA and NatureScot

Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm



**BOWDUN OFFSHORE WIND FARM LIMITED**  
**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

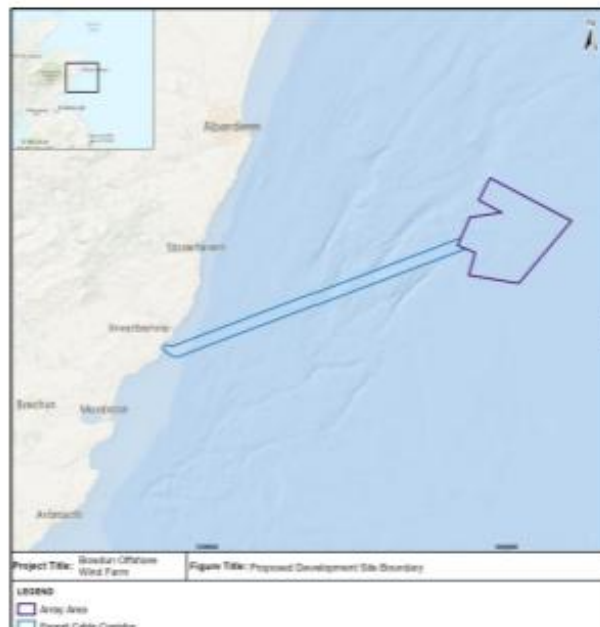
**THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013**

Notice is hereby given that Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (company number 13847868, Ibx House, Baker Street, Weybridge, Surrey, United Kingdom, KT13 8AH) plans to hold a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event regarding the proposed marine licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters.

The proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 38 kilometres (km) east of Aberdeenshire and supported by an export cable landfall located at Benholm, please see figure below.

The licensable activity consists of:

- Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations)
- Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables
- Up to three Interconnector cables
- Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.



The following PAC will be held at the times and locations below, with an additional PAC event to be held in early 2026 (locations and details to be confirmed and published) prior to the submission of the offshore application. The PAC will provide further opportunity for the public and stakeholders to consider and comment on the prospective application.

Event	Date and Time	Location
Offshore PAC	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2025 2-7 pm	15 Mid Street, Johnshaven, DD10 0HB

Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm development can do so by:

- Writing to the prospective applicant by emailing [k.macaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.macaulay@twp.scot) or by post to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH2 2AF. Comments should be dated and clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making the comment.
- Using the feedback function in the virtual consultation room - <https://thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/>

All comments should be made by **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2025**.

Please note that comments made to the project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers when the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm project submits its application and accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

**A4. Information sent with notification to MD-LOT, NLB, MCA, SEPA and NatureScot**

**Feedback Form**

We welcome your comments on our proposals at this stage. You can send us your comments by:

Filling out this form and

- i) handing it to a member of the project team (if attending one of our local events)
- ii) posting it to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AF
- iii) emailing it to our Community Engagement Manager Kirsty MacAulay, [k.macaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.macaulay@twp.scot); or

Fill out the online feedback form in the virtual exhibition room which is located <https://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/>;

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposals can do so before the 17th October 2025.

At this stage comments on the development are representations to the developer, not Aberdeenshire Council. There will be the opportunity to make representations to the planning authority once an application is submitted.

**Q1.** What are the key things you are concerned about with our development (please circle).

- |                  |            |                   |                      |
|------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Noise            | Flooding   | Heritage          | Fisheries            |
| Landscape/Visual | Traffic    | Water Environment | Other (detail below) |
| Ecology          | Mitigation | Tourism           |                      |

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**Q2.** What types of mitigation would you like us to consider to reduce the impact of the onshore components of the project? For example, this could include things like: landscaping, planting woodland or parkland, design suggestions for the substation buildings, wildlife and habitat conservation or enhancement, access routes, and road improvements, etc.

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**Q3.** Do you have any specific comments or questions about the proposed Onshore Infrastructure for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm?

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**Q4.** How would you describe your reaction to the following (please circle)

- |   |     |    |         |
|---|-----|----|---------|
| Are you in favour of renewables?          | Yes | No | Neutral |
| Are you in favour of this development?    | Yes | No | Neutral |
| Are you in favour of offshore wind farms? | Yes | No | Neutral |

**About You**

Please tell us a bit about yourself so we can capture views from across the community. This will help us to ensure we are reaching a wide audience with our engagement.

**Q5.** Which category best describes you (please circle)

- |                      |           |             |
|----------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Member of the public | Landowner | Marine User |
| Stakeholder          | Tourist   | Other       |

**Q6.** What is your postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**Q7.** Have you been to previous events or exhibitions run by TWP? (please circle)

- Yes      No

**Q8.** How old are you? (please circle)

- |                |                   |             |             |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Under 16 years | 26 - 29 years     | 30-44 years | 45-59 years |
| 60-74 years    | 75 years and over |             |             |

**Q9.** If you would like to receive project updates, please provide an email or postal address.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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# ANNEX B. NOTIFICATIONS OF PAC EVENT 2 – 21 JANUARY 2026

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL  
 Monday, November 17, 2025

CLASS

## Notice Board

### Notices

- Anniversaries
- Birthdays
- Charities
- Church Notices
- Congratulations
- Contracts and Tenders
- Engagements
- Father's Day
- Graduation
- Mother's Day

### Public Notices

- Off To School
- Pets In Memory
- Personal Seasons
- Greetings
- Public Notices
- Retirement
- Special Messages
- Thank You
- Wedding Notices

## Retail Shop

### Public Notices

**GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE**  
**W & W MACKIE LTD.**  
**WHITE SIDE, TULLYNESTLE, ALFORD, AB33 8DE.**

As applying to change an existing licence as follows: to keep on extra 3 Goods Vehicles and 20 Trailers at the operating centre at Whiteside, Tullynestle, Alford, AB33 8DE.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Quarry House, Quarry Hill, Leek, LS2 7UE, within 21 days of this notice. Representations must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available at [www.gov.uk/object-top-operator-licence](http://www.gov.uk/object-top-operator-licence).

### Antiques and Collectables



**WANTED ANY GOLD JEWELLERY** (rings, bracelets, brooches, earrings, watches) purchased for top prices.

**ALL SILVER** (flatware/cutlery/scrap) **SILVER PRICES INCREASED LATELY - BEST PRICES PAID!**

**ANY COIN COLLECTIONS** (Gold, Silver, Royal Mint)

**MEDALS** British campaign medals, badges and Militaria.

**URGENTLY REQUIRED COINS.** Gold sovereigns, gold and silver Britannias and silver Bullions. Best prices paid locally. Experienced knowledgeable buyer.

Appraisals given, cash paid.  
 Antiques/collections purchased.  
 Tel: 07795 556654  
 Email: [grayser1974@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:grayser1974@yahoo.co.uk)

### Public Notices



**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**  
**THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013**  
**Notice under Regulation 7(b) – Pre-application consultation by the prospective applicant**

The licensable activity consists of:  
 Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations);  
 Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables; Up to three interconnector cables;  
 Up to three export cables to the landfill location of Benholm.  
 The Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm will be located 38km from the Aberdeenshire coast.

Public exhibitions will be held to discuss the project location and associated works at:

Date	Location	Time	Address
Wed 21 Jan 2026	Stonehaven Community Centre, The Lounge	2pm-7pm	Bath St, Stonehaven AB39 2DH

A virtual exhibition will be available at [www.twp.scot/scot/bowdun](http://www.twp.scot/scot/bowdun) and will be accessible by 9 January 2026.

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposal can do so before 29 January 2026 by:

- Emailing [taylor@twp.scot](mailto:taylor@twp.scot) or by post to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH2 2AF, or;
- Filing out the feedback form on the virtual exhibition website at [www.twp.scot/bowdun](http://www.twp.scot/bowdun) or;
- Completing a feedback form at the exhibition event.

Comments should not be submitted to Scottish Ministers at this stage.  
 Comments submitted at this stage are not formal representations submitted to Scottish Ministers. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers when the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Project submits its application.

### Retail Shop

Articles Wanted  
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 Computers and Gaming  
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 Education and Tutoring  
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 Health and Beauty  
 Heating  
 Home Furniture and Furnishings  
 Home Business  
 Home Interiors  
 Jumble, Car Boot, Garage Sale  
 Kitchens and Bathrooms  
 Mail Order  
 Miscellaneous  
 Mobility  
 Musical Instruments  
 Personal  
 Pets and Accessories  
 Personal Services  
 Retail General  
 Sports and Leisure  
 Sound, Vision and Communication  
 Ticket Sales and Wants  
 Weddings  
 Christmas Trees and Decorations

To book your advert call  
 01224 691212

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The Publishers reserve the right to alter, modify, suspend or cancel an advertisement at any time without notice.

The Advertiser must obtain and maintain all necessary licences, permissions and consents which may be required before the date on which an advertisement is set to be inserted.

The Advertiser confirms that any information supplied with the advertisement is accurate, complete, true and not misleading. Furthermore, the Advertiser guarantees that the Advertisement is legal, decent, honest and truthful, and complies with all relevant law and regulation including codes and industry guidance in regards to an advertisement and its products or services.

The Advertiser's personal data will be processed in accordance with our privacy policy which can be found at: <https://www.dickinson.co.uk/privacy-policy/>

The placing of an order shall be considered as an acceptance of these conditions.

Aberdeen Journals Ltd,  
 YouAde, P.O. Box 43,  
 1 Marischal Square, Broad Street,  
 Aberdeen AB10 1BL

### Public Notices

**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given that the Highland Council has made  
**THE HIGHLAND COUNCIL (INNES STREET, STATION ROAD, PLOCKTON) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2025**  
 in terms of s14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 entitled as above.

The Order has been made by reason that the Council, as Roads Authority is satisfied that traffic on the road should be restricted due to the likelihood of danger to the public.

**The effect of the Order is:**  
 To create a prohibition on waiting at any time on sections of Innes Street and Station Road, Plockton in the vicinity of Plockton High School for a total combined approx. length of 42m. The purpose of this Order is to ensure safe passage of vehicles and pedestrians by preventing the obstruction of traffic by parked vehicles.

This Order shall come into effect at 0001 hrs on 13 November 2025 and remain in effect for a maximum period of 18 months.

Parking Services Team, The Highland Council, Farnale Park, Inverness, IV1 1NH



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 70s 80s

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 TO  
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### Public Notices

To book your advert call  
 01224 691212

The Press and Journal  
 Classified

### Public Notices

To book your advert call  
 01224 691212

The Press and Journal  
 Classified

B1: Newspaper Advert in Press and Journal on 17 November 2025

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 November 2025 11:30  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm: Offshore Pre-application Consultation Notification

Dear all,

I am writing to inform you that Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited plans to hold a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event regarding the proposed marine licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters.

The proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 38 kilometres (km) east of Aberdeenshire and supported by an export cable landfall located at Benholm.

The licensable activity consists of:

- Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations)
- Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables
- Up to three Interconnector cables
- Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.

A copy of the statutory notice is attached which includes details of the proposed development, information regarding the PAC event and contact details for Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited should you wish to provide any feedback in advance on the consent application.

An advert has been placed in a local newspaper, the Press and Journal (published 17<sup>th</sup> November), and has been attached here.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm then please do not hesitate in contacting me.

This notice has also been sent to NLB, MCA, NatureScot and SEPA.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Offshore Consents Manager

**TWP** THISTLE  
WIND  
PARTNERS

## B2. Notification to MD-LOT

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 20 November 2025 11:28  
**To:** Enquiries <enquiries@nlb.org.uk>; Info Line <infoline@mca.gov.uk>; Planning.North <planning.north@sepa.org.uk>; PLANNINGRENEWABLES <planningrenewables@nature.scot>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm: Offshore Pre-application Consultation Notification

Dear all,

I am writing to inform you that Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited plans to hold a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event regarding the proposed marine licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters.

The proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 38 kilometres (km) east of Aberdeenshire and supported by an export cable landfall located at Benholm.

The licensable activity consists of:

- ? Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations)
- ? Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables
- ? Up to three Interconnector cables
- ? Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.

A copy of the statutory notice is attached which includes details of the proposed development, information regarding the PAC event and contact details for Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited should you wish to provide any feedback in advance on the consent application.

Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm then please do not hesitate in contacting me.

This notice has also been sent to MD-LOT.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Offshore Consents Manager

**TWP** THISTLE  
WIND  
PARTNERS

## B3. Notification to NLB, MCA, SEPA and NatureScot

Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm

**BOWDUN OFFSHORE WIND FARM LIMITED**

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

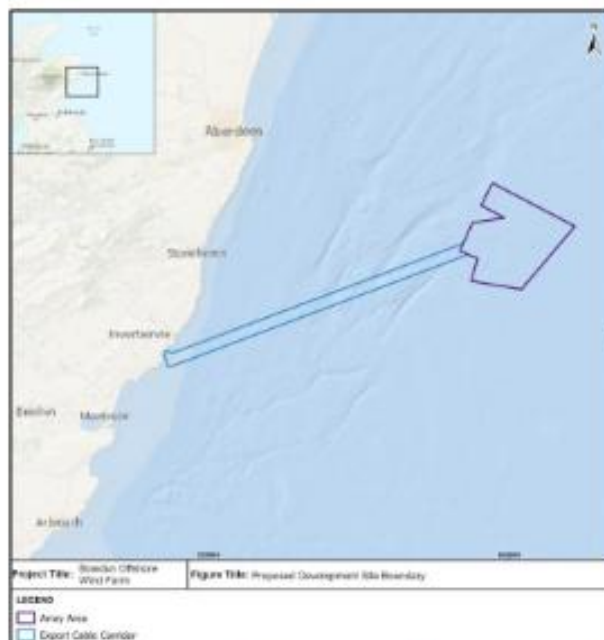
**THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013**

Notice is hereby given that Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (company number 13847868, Ibex House, Baker Street, Weybridge, Surrey, United Kingdom, KT13 8AH) plans to hold a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event regarding the proposed marine licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters.

The proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 38 kilometres (km) east of Aberdeenshire and supported by an export cable landfall located at Benholm, please see figure below.

The licensable activity consists of:

- Up to 67 wind turbines (fixed foundations)
- Up to three offshore substations, connected to the turbines via inter-array cables
- Up to three interconnector cables
- Up to three export cables to the landfall location of Benholm.



The PAC will be held at the time and location below. The consultation will provide further opportunity for the public and stakeholders to consider and comment on the prospective application.

Event	Date and Time	Location
Offshore PAC	Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2026 2-7 pm	Stonehaven Community Centre, The Lounge, Bath St, Stonehaven, AB39 2DH

Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm development can do so by:

- Writing to the prospective applicant by emailing [j.taylor@twp.scot](mailto:j.taylor@twp.scot) or by post to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, Scotland, EH2 2AF. Comments should be dated and clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making the comment.
- Using the feedback function in the virtual consultation room - <https://thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/>

All comments should be made by **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

Please note that comments made to the project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers when the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm project submits its application and accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment Report.

**B4. Information sent with notification to MD-LOT, NLB, MCA, SEPA and NatureScot**



Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm

Thistle Wind Partners



## Feedback Form

We welcome your comments on our proposals at this stage. You can send us your comments by filling out this form and:

- i. Handing it to a member of the project team (if attending one of our local events)
- ii. Posting it to Thistle Wind Partners, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AF
- iii. Emailing it to our Stakeholder Engagement Advisor Jazz Taylor, [j.taylor@twp.scot](mailto:j.taylor@twp.scot); or

Fill out the online feedback form available in our virtual exhibition room which is located at [www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/](http://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/)

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposals can do so before the 13th February 2026.

At this stage comments on the development are representations to the developers, not Aberdeenshire Council or Scottish Ministers. There will be the opportunity to make representations to the planning authority once an application is submitted.

1. What are the key issues you are interested in with regard to the project e.g. ecology, landscape/ visual etc.

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2. Do you have any specific comments or questions about the proposed infrastructure for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm?

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3. How would you describe your reaction to the following (please check box)

Are you in favour of renewables?

Yes  No  Neutral

Are you in favour of this development? (offshore wind with underground cables onshore)

Yes  No  Neutral

### About You

Please tell us a bit about yourself so we can capture views from across the community. This will help us to ensure we are reaching a wide audience with our engagement. (This information will only be used for reporting purposes to indicate the reach of this engagement and will not be used to identify you; any information will be processed in line with GDPR regulations)

4. Which category best describes you (please check box)

- Member of the public  
 Affected Landowner  
 Marine User  
 Stakeholder  
 Tourist  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your postcode or nearest town \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you been to previous events or exhibitions run by TWP? (please check box) Yes  No

7. How did you hear about this consultation event? (please check box)

- Word of mouth  
 Social media  
 Newspaper  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

8. How old are you? (please check box)

- Under 25 years  
 26-40 years  
 41-70 years  
 71 years and over

9. Would you like to receive project updates? If so, please provide an email or postal address.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## ANNEX C. ADDITIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONTACT

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 12 August 2025 13:29  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm

Good afternoon,

I am writing to you from Thistle Wind Partner's Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm, with a short update on our project and some information regarding upcoming events that you may be interested in, as per the attached leaflet.

As we continue to develop the project, together with our land, engineers and consents teams on the onshore cable route, landfall and substation, we are coming back to the community for our formal Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) events, and we would like to invite you along.

Our first set of events will be on:  
**Thursday 21 August, 2pm-7pm at the Johnshaven Village Hall**  
**Friday 22 August, 2pm-7pm at Drumlithie Bowling Club**

Our second set of events will be on:  
**Thursday 2 October, 2pm-7pm at the Johnshaven Village Hall**  
**Friday 3 October 2pm-7pm at Drumlithie Bowling Club**

Additionally, on Thursday 2 October, we will be hosting a joint onshore and offshore PAC event.

Our virtual exhibition will also go live next week at the same time as our events, which will include all the event materials and be available to view at [www.twp.scot/bowdun/virtual-room](http://www.twp.scot/bowdun/virtual-room). Here you will also be able to submit feedback you have on our project. Alternatively, please do let me know if you have any comments or would require any additional information.

Many thanks for your continued engagement on our project.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]  
Stakeholder Engagement Manager



### C1. Email notification to stakeholders for PAC Event 1

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: 19 November 2025 15:37  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Offshore PAC Event

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Thistle Wind Partners and the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm project team, I'd like to thank everyone who joined us at our previous onshore infrastructure Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) events held in August and October 2025. We were delighted to see such strong community participation, and your feedback has been invaluable in shaping the ongoing development of the project.

We are pleased to announce that we will be returning to the community in **January 2026** for our **Offshore PAC event in Stonehaven**.

#### Event Details

**Venue:** Stonehaven Community Education Centre (Lounge), Bath St, AB39 2DH  
**Date:** Wednesday 21 January 2026  
**Time:** 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

The purpose of this session is to provide the latest information on the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm offshore elements and to provide an opportunity for members of the public and interested parties to learn more about the project, ask questions, and share feedback. We'll bring information boards related to the offshore elements of the project and visualisation of the wind turbines from various viewpoints.

While a virtual exhibition is currently available for our onshore infrastructure, additional information with offshore elements will be available at <https://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/> in the New Year.

We would greatly appreciate your support in sharing details of the event with your local community.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with my colleague Jazz Taylor at [j.taylor@twp.scot](mailto:j.taylor@twp.scot).

Kind regards,  
Kirsty MacAulay

[REDACTED]  
Stakeholder Engagement Manager



### C2. Email notification to stakeholders for PAC Event 2

## **ANNEX D. STAKEHOLDERS INVITED TO PAC EVENTS**

### **D1.1 Aberdeenshire Councilors**

- Cllr Wendy Agnew;
- Cllr Dawn Black;
- Cllr Sarah Dickinson;
- Cllr Tracey Smith;
- Cllr Alison Evison;
- Cllr George Carr; and
- Cllr Laurie Carnie.

### **D1.2 Community Councils**

- Benholm and Johnshaven Community Council;
- Gourdon Community Council;
- Arbuthnott Community Council;
- Mearns Community Council;
- Stonehaven and District Community Council;
- Royal Burgh of Inverbervie Community Council;
- Catterline, Kinneff and Dunnottar Community Council;
- Crathes, Drumoak & Durris Community Council;
- St Cyrus Community Council;
- North Kincardine Community Council; and
- Feughside Community Council.

### **D1.3 Member of Scottish Parliament and Members of Parliament**

- Mairi Gougeon MSP; and
- Andrew Bowie MP.

### **D1.4 Stakeholders**

- Scottish White Fish Producers Association; and
- Scottish Fishing Federation.

## **ANNEX E. PAC CONSULTATION REPORT FORM (SCHEDULE 1)**

SCHEDULE

Regulation 8

*Form*

**PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT**

**Marine (Scotland) Act 2010: Section 24**

**1. Proposed Licensable Marine Activity**

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the proposed licensable marine activity, including its location

Please see Section 1.2 of this PAC Report.

**2. Applicant Details**

Title                      Initials                      Surname

Ms	H	Page
----	---	------

Trading Title  
(if appropriate)

Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Limited (BOWFL)

Address

Capital Building
12-13 St Andrew Square
Edinburgh
EH2 2AF

Name of contact  
(if different)

--

Position within Company  
(if appropriate)

Environment & Consents Lead

Telephone No.  
(inc. dialing code)

07596566823

Fax No.  
(inc. dialing code)

N/A

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

Company Registration No.

13847868

Email

h.page@twp.scot

Is this prospective applicant the proposed licensee?

YES  NO

If NO, please complete Section 3 below.

3. Proposed Licensee Details

Title	Initials	Surname

Trading Title (if appropriate)

Address

Name of contact (if different)

Position within Company (if appropriate)

Telephone No. (inc. dialing code)

Fax No. (inc. dialing code)

Company Registration No.

Email

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

**4. Pre-application Consultation Event**

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the pre-application consultation event

Please see Section 4 of this PAC Report

**5. Information provided by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event**

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any information provided by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event

Please see details of information provided at PAC events in Annex F.

**6. Information received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event**

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any comments and objections received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event

Please see summary of responses provided at PAC events in Sections 4.4, 4.5 and Section 5 of this PAC Report.

**7. Amendments made, or to be made, to the Application for a Marine Licence by the Prospective Applicant following their Consideration of Comments and/or Objections received at the Pre-application Consultation Event**

Where any amendments are made, or are to be made, by the prospective applicant for a marine licence to the marine licence application as a direct result of their consideration of comments and/or objections received at the pre-application consultation event, please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of such amendments

Please see Section 5 of this PAC Report which describes how feedback/comments from PAC events have been considered in the marine licence application.

Whilst no further amendments to the Proposed Development were considered to be required as a result of comments received during the PAC events.

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.

**8. Explanation of Approach taken by the Prospective Applicant where, following Relevant Comments and/or Objections being received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event, no Relevant Amendment is made to the Application for a Marine Licence**

Where, following comments and/or objections having been received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event, no relevant amendment is made to the application for a marine licence by the prospective applicant, then please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form an explanation for the approach taken

No further amendments to the Proposed Development were considered to be required as a result of comments received during the PAC events that were not already being implemented as part of the EIA process. Please see Section 5 which details consideration of comments from the PAC events and any amendments to the Project Description and Marine Licence application.

CERTIFICATION	
<b>Insert name</b>	Ms Hannah Page
<b>Insert Address</b>	Capital Building
	12-13 St Andrew Square
<b>Town</b>	Edinburgh
<b>County</b>	Midlothian
<b>Postcode</b>	EH2 2AF
I certify that I have complied with the legislative requirements relating to pre-application consultation and that the pre-application consultation has been undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements.	
Signature	 _____
Date	15/04/2026 _____

## **ANNEX F.    ADDITIONAL PAC MATERIALS**



**THISTLE WIND  
PARTNERS**

***Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm:  
Onshore and Offshore Infrastructure***

**Formal Pre-Application-Consultation (PAC) Events**

**PAC Events 1**

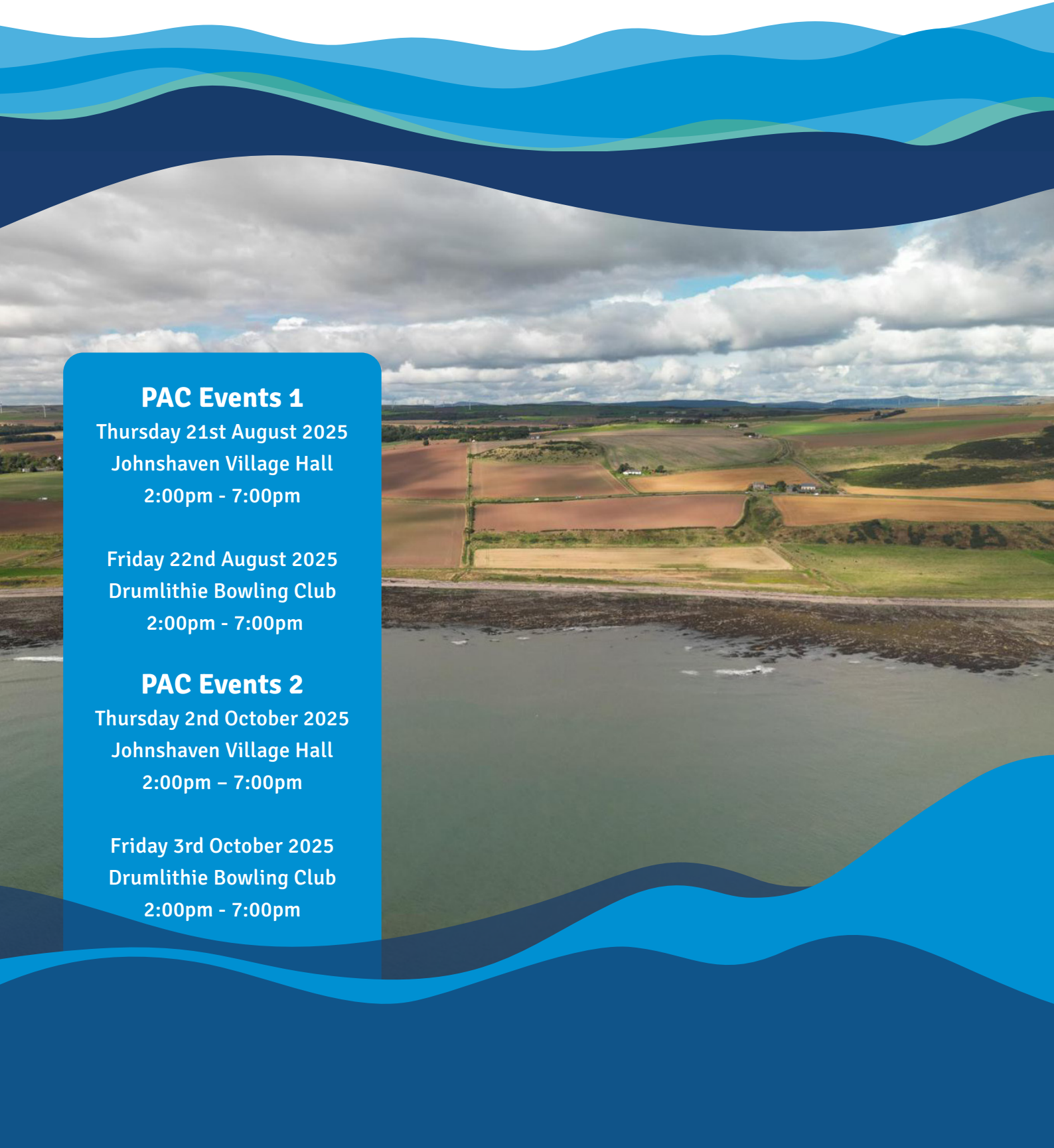
Thursday 21st August 2025  
Johnshaven Village Hall  
2:00pm - 7:00pm

Friday 22nd August 2025  
Drumlithie Bowling Club  
2:00pm - 7:00pm

**PAC Events 2**

Thursday 2nd October 2025  
Johnshaven Village Hall  
2:00pm - 7:00pm

Friday 3rd October 2025  
Drumlithie Bowling Club  
2:00pm - 7:00pm



## Contents

1. Using This Document
2. Project Background
4. The Development Process
6. Onshore Infrastructure Refinement
7. Onshore Substation
8. Map
10. Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment Output
12. Feedback form

**Back Cover.** TWP Contacts

## Using this Document

TWP are holding a series of formal Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) events to share our proposals regarding the Onshore Infrastructure for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm. This includes underground cables and a new Bowdun Onshore Substation near SSEN-Transmission's proposed Hurlie Substation, our grid connection point.

In this brochure, you will find information about our company, the proposed plans for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm as well as the initial outputs from our Environmental Impact Assessment.

## How to Provide Feedback

There are four ways that you can provide feedback and comments to us:

- 1) Online via the feedback form in the virtual exhibition room which is located at: <https://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/>;
- 2) Pick up a paper form to fill out and hand it to a member of the project team (if attending one of our local events);
- 3) By filling in form at the end of our brochure and posting it to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AF; and
- 4) By emailing your feedback to our Stakeholder Engagement Manager Kirsty MacAulay, [k.macaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.macaulay@twp.scot)

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposals can do so before the **17th October 2025**.

At this stage any comments are representations to the Developer, not Aberdeenshire Council. There will be the opportunity to make representations to Aberdeenshire Council once an application is submitted.

# Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm

## Project Background

Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm will be located 38 km (c.24 miles) off the coast of Aberdeenshire, and comprises infrastructure both onshore and offshore. The wind farm array area is located within our ScotWind lease option area. This area is where the offshore infrastructure required to generate electricity will be constructed (including wind turbines, offshore substation platform(s) and inter-array cables). Export cables will connect the offshore infrastructure to our proposed onshore substation (the Bowdun Substation) in Fetteresso forest. The export cables will come ashore or 'landfall' near Benholm, Aberdeenshire and run underground for approximately 22 km to the Bowdun Substation. At the substation the electricity voltage will be converted from 220/275 kV to 400 kV as required by the National Grid. Underground cables will connect the Bowdun Substation to the planned Hurlie Substation for onwards transmission of the electricity into the National Grid.

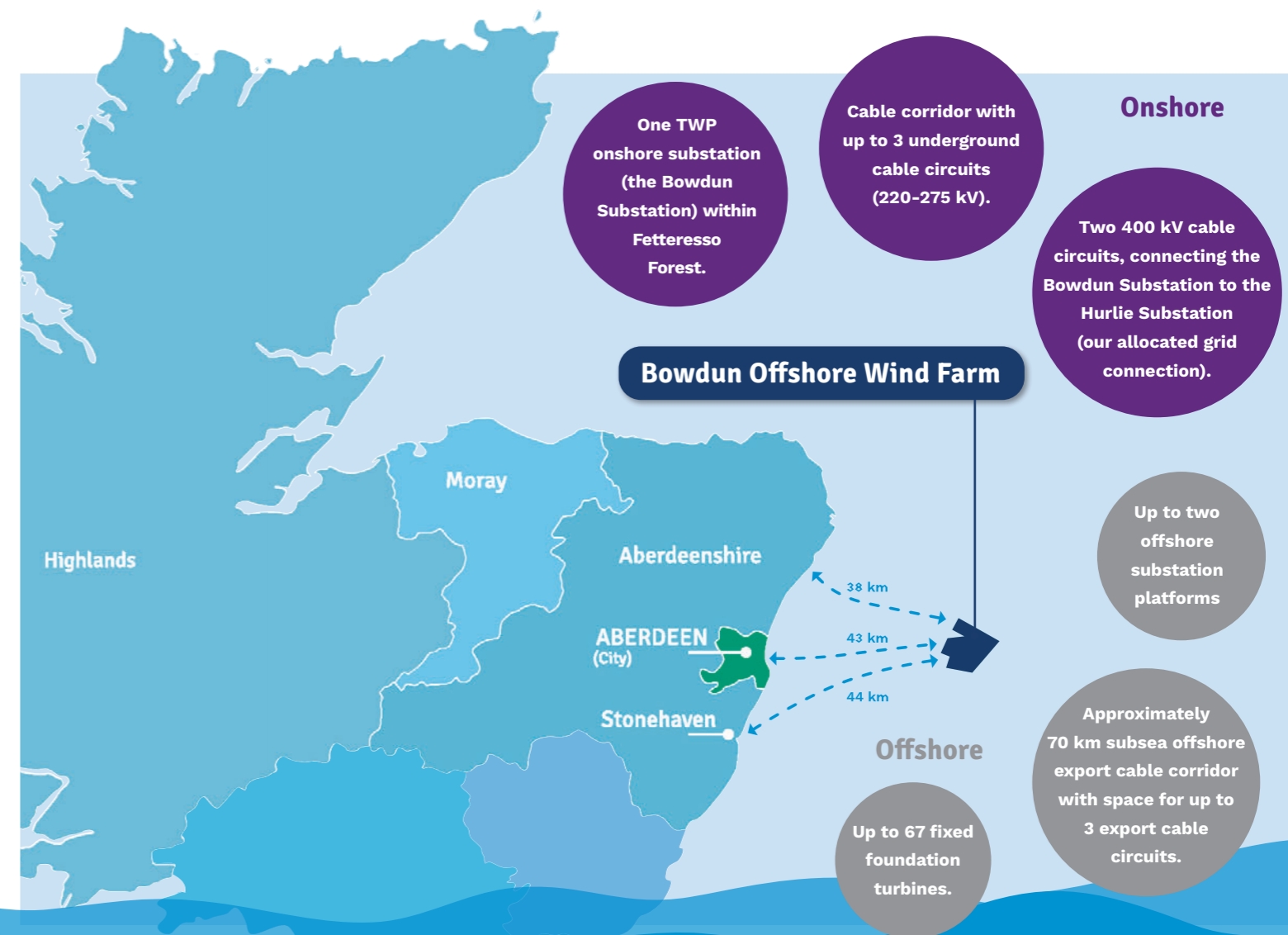
## Who We Are

TWP is an offshore wind developer founded in 2020 to deliver our two ScotWind Projects – Ayre and Bowdun, for which we were awarded leases in Crown Estate Scotland's ScotWind process. We were founded by a consortium of three companies – DEME Concessions, Qair and Aspiravi. Our founder companies work on a wide variety of renewable energy, environmental remediation and marine infrastructure projects around the world, and bring a strong track record in offshore wind development. The TWP team brings a wealth of Scottish experience and capability in the fields of engineering and consenting focused on delivering our projects.



## Need for the Project

Offshore wind plays a central role in Scotland's net-zero journey and is key to realising the economic opportunity of the global energy transition in Scotland. The Scottish Government has set out ambitious targets in relation to offshore wind, because offshore wind is established and a proven part of the mix of technologies that power our energy systems. Offshore wind is key to decarbonise the National Grid by 2035 and support the UK goal to achieve net-zero by 2050. Bowdun will play a significant role in meeting these energy targets through the supply of 1 GW of renewable power, sufficient to power 1.2 million homes. Scotland already excels in innovation in offshore renewable energy, being home to the world's first floating offshore wind farm, Hywind Scotland, off the coast of Peterhead, and the EMEC Wave and Tidal Energy test sites in Orkney. There is a real opportunity for Scotland to grasp a first-mover advantage in developing the goods, services and innovative Intellectual Property for a fast-growing global offshore renewable energy market, placing Scotland on the global stage. By harnessing our rich resource of renewable energy, we can ensure better energy security for people in Scotland and beyond, reducing dependence on fluctuating international markets and related price increases.



## The Development Process

The onshore and offshore elements of the project are subject to different consents but follow the same steps in the development process set out below.

### 1. Site Selection

Our offshore site was awarded in the ScotWind leasing round in 2022 and is leased from Crown Estate Scotland. The ScotWind sites were identified in the Scottish Government's Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy, based on number of factors including wind resource, minimising of environmental impact, proximity to other infrastructure and cognisance of other marine users. The location of our onshore infrastructure is driven by our allocated grid connection point, which is determined by the National Energy System Operator (NESO). We have undertaken a rigorous site selection process, informed by environmental and engineering assessments to identify a suitable landfall, cable corridor and substation location to reach our grid connection point allocated by NESO at SSEN-Transmission's proposed Hurlie substation.

### 2. Scoping

Due to the nature and scale of our project there is a legislative requirement for us to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for both the onshore and offshore aspects. To support the EIA process, Scoping Reports (separate onshore and offshore) were produced outlining the proposed approach to the project development and the EIAs to be undertaken. These Scoping Reports were submitted to Aberdeenshire Council and the Scottish Government's Marine Directorate – Licensing and Operations Team (MD-LOT) respectively, to obtain scoping opinions detailing the scope of the EIAs. The EIAs are then produced in line with the Scoping Opinions issued by MD-LOT and the Council.

### 3. Environmental Data Collection

Since 2022 we have had specialists conducting desk-based assessments and on site surveys to support site selection and identification of corridors and infrastructure locations onshore and offshore, as well as to support understanding of the environmental baseline. This has included extensive ground investigations, geophysical surveys, LiDAR, ecological and ornithological surveys.

### 4. Preparation of EIA

An EIA of the Onshore Infrastructure is required under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (as amended). The purpose of the EIA is to identify the likely significant effects on the physical, biological, and human environment during construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning.

The EIA process provides a valuable opportunity to avoid or reduce potential environmental impacts through design refinement. Environmental constraints and issues are identified through consultation, extensive environmental surveys and technical assessments. The information gathered is then used to inform decision-making throughout the design process, providing opportunities to address potentially significant impacts where practicable, for example by refinement of route alignment or by the incorporation of measures to avoid or reduce potential adverse impacts.

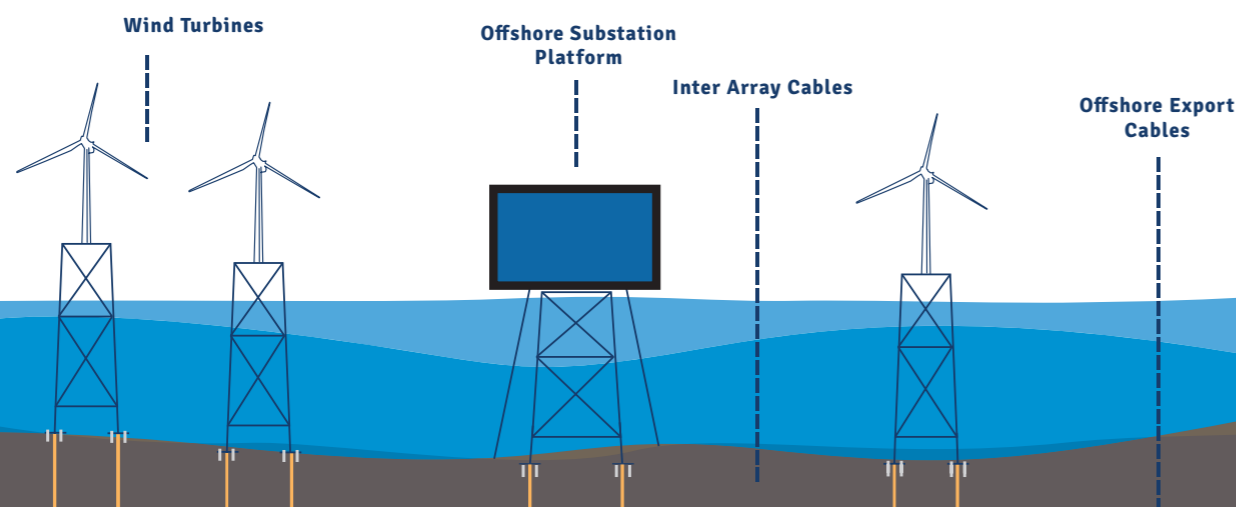
### 5. Submission of Consent Applications

For the offshore infrastructure we will apply to MD-LOT for a Marine Licence and consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989. For the onshore infrastructure we will apply to Aberdeenshire Council for planning permission in principle under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

### 6. Consideration & Determination of the Applications

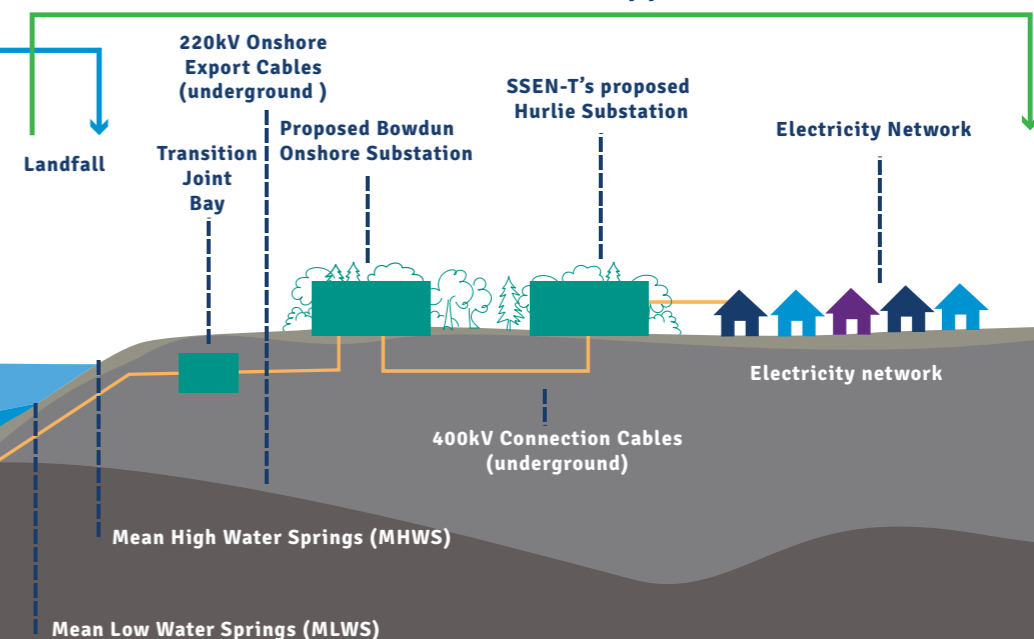
Aberdeenshire Council will consider and determine the application for Planning Permission in Principle for the onshore infrastructure. The Marine Directorate will consider and determine our offshore Marine Licence and Section 36 application on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

#### Offshore Consent Application Area



#### Intertidal Area (between MHWS and MLWS)

#### Onshore Consent Application Area

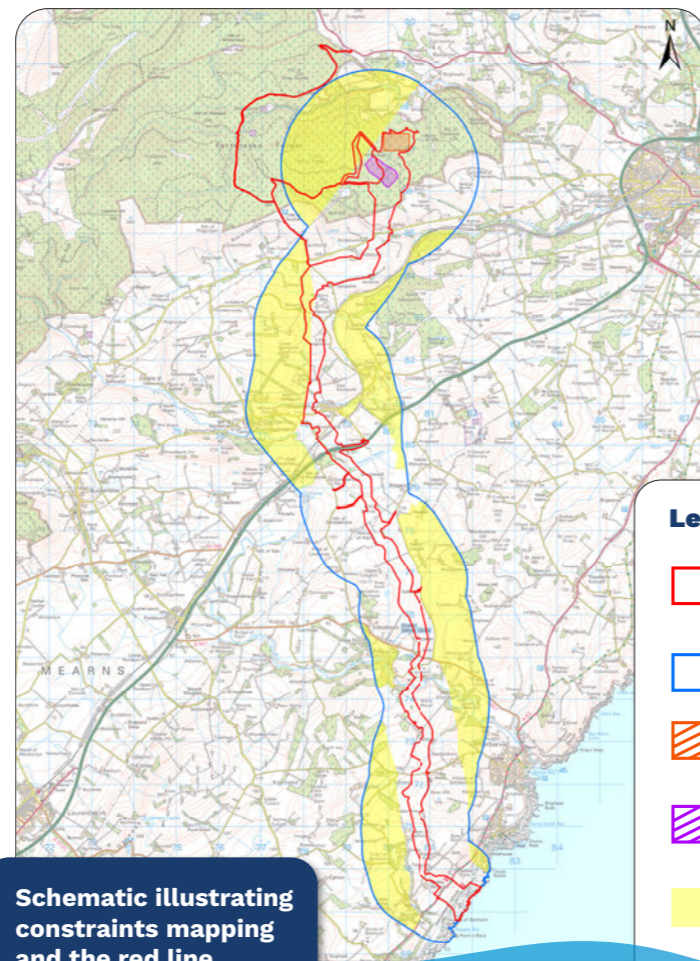


## Onshore Infrastructure Refinement

Since 2022 we have been working to identify potential landfall sites along the Aberdeenshire Coast to reach to a grid connection point determined by NESO. Our objectives were to identify a landfall site, cable corridor and a substation site which are technically and economically viable, and limit the disturbance to the environment and local people, whilst meeting technical requirements for our infrastructure.

A number of options were identified, and we undertook a constraints analysis to refine the options. We mapped environmental and technical constraints (such as Special Protection Areas, Designated Heritage Assets, Local Nature Conservation Sites, challenging topography and local infrastructure including underground gas pipelines, the Forties Oil Pipeline and existing overhead lines) within a Scoping Boundary (blue). This allowed us to identify early areas that should ideally be avoided as well as potential suitable substation and landfall sites. This was presented to the public in October 2024 at a series of public information days at venues in Mearns and Stonehaven, specifically Gourdon, Drumlithie and Stonehaven. The aim of these events was to receive feedback on our Scoping Boundary and Substation Area of Search (orange) as well as gain local knowledge to inform site refinement. This information was fed into the design process and further constraint analysis work undertaken to narrow the cable corridor and select a preferred substation location.

Since our public information days, we have completed technical assessment work and taken account feedback received from local people and stakeholders including Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Historic Environment Scotland and NatureScot. We have also attended a number of local community events to engage members of the public including Stonehaven's Fein' Market in 2023, 2024 and 2025, and the Gourdon Party in the Park 2025, of which TWP were headline sponsors. The proposed Application Boundary (red) presents the narrower refined corridor in which our onshore infrastructure will be located. The boundary constrains the project in the first of a multi-stage consent process. The constructed development footprint will be smaller, following further design refinement and subject to more detailed assessments and agreement with the Council should planning permission in principle be granted.



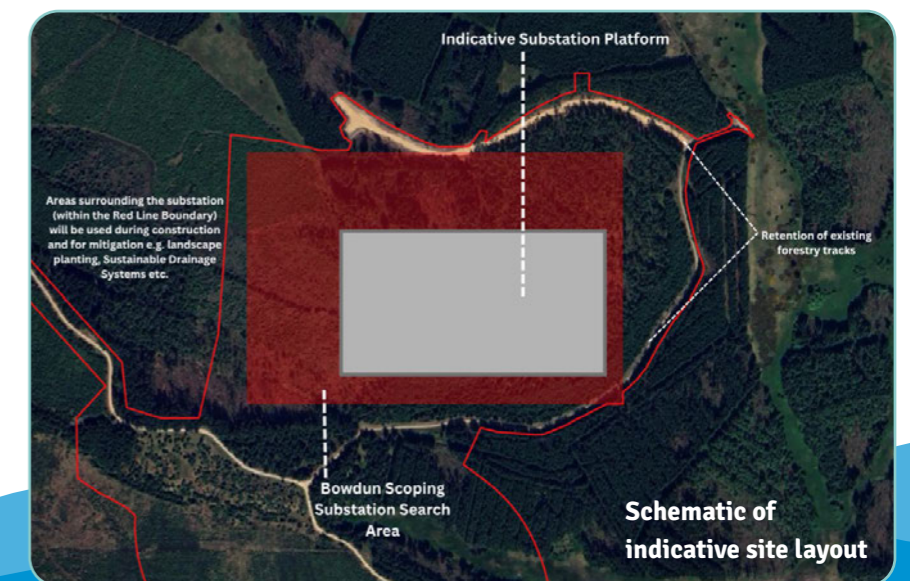
**Schematic illustrating constraints mapping and the red line boundary**

## Onshore substation

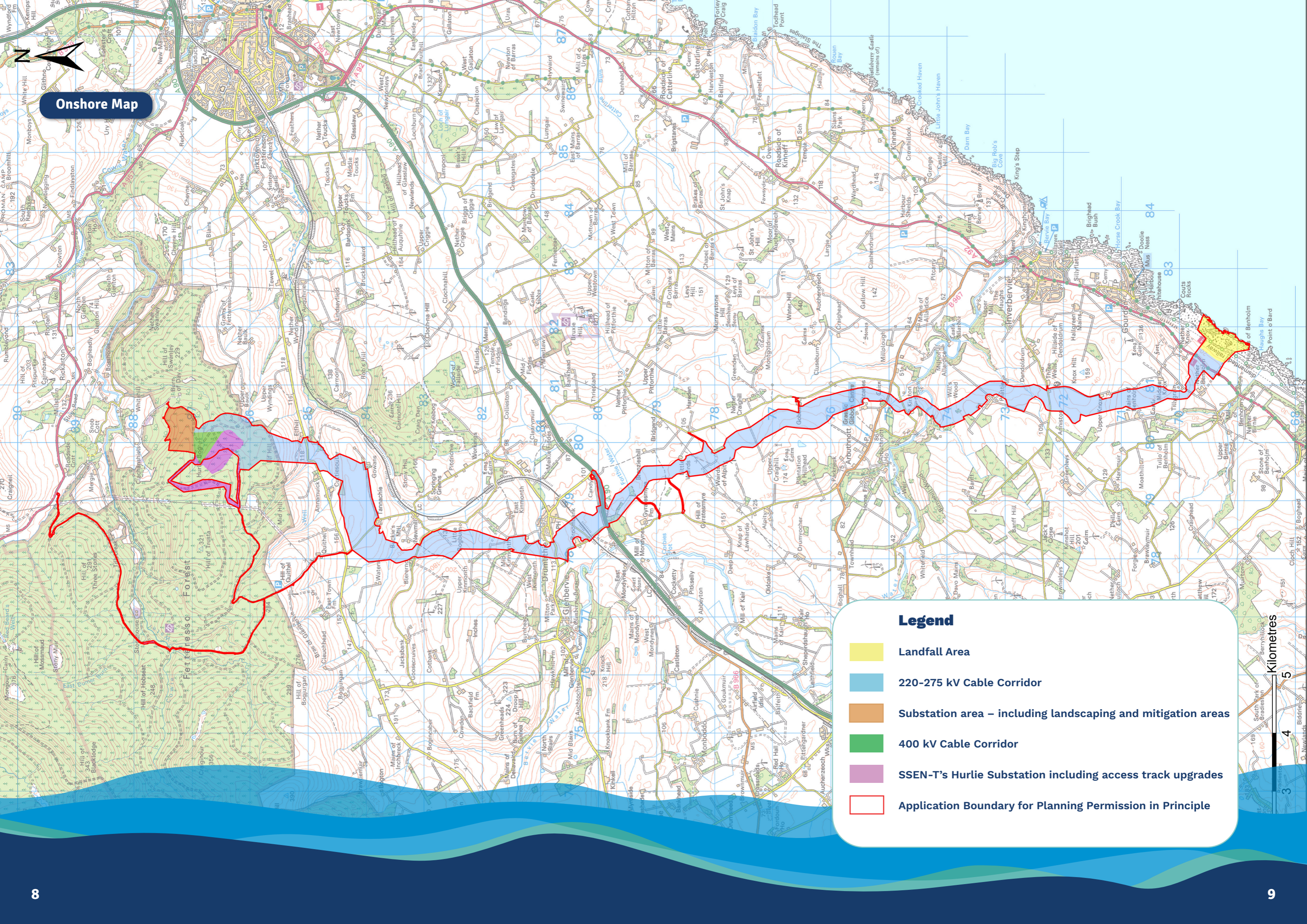
TWP has been allocated a grid connection by NESO at SSEN-Transmission's proposed Hurlie Substation. The onshore cables that will transmit power from the offshore wind farm and run north from the landfall point near Benholm to the Bowdun Substation location within Fetteresso Forest, all onshore cables will be underground. The onshore substation will house transformers converting the voltage from our offshore wind farm to 400 kV, as required for transmission into the National Grid. From our onshore substation, 400 kV underground cables will run a short distance to the Hurlie Substation, here the energy will then feed into the National Grid. One of the key criteria for the Bowdun onshore substation location is the proximity to the grid connection point. Ofgem as regulator of the energy market demands that we keep the build and maintenance costs of cables down in order to avoid passing on costs to the consumer, so proximity to the grid connection point is a key consideration.

Our onshore substation will consist of either Gas Insulated Switchgear (GIS) or Hybrid Insulated Switchgear (HIS). The substation platform will have a maximum footprint of 500 m x 300 m and maximum building heights of 15 m. The exact number, configuration and sizes of buildings will be determined in detailed design, an indicative location is presented here. Landscape and visual impacts will be taken into account as we refine the design and mitigation, such as screening, will be considered to avoid or reduce visual impacts. Screening may include the creation of landscape features (mounds), alongside woodland planting. Noise modelling and assessment will inform the equipment selection and configuration to ensure it meets strict operational noise limits required by Aberdeenshire Council. The substation design will include the use of noise barriers and enclosers within the substation. The wider area around the substation will also include drainage e.g. Sustainable Drainage Systems designed to avoid flood risk.

Following completion of the works, the substation will be unmanned and will be visited intermittently for monitoring, maintenance and health and safety checks. Maintenance works will be required during the lifetime of the substation. The underground cables will be routinely checked to ensure operational and safety requirements are maintained.



**Schematic of indicative site layout**



**Onshore Map**

**Legend**

- Landfall Area
- 220-275 kV Cable Corridor
- Substation area – including landscaping and mitigation areas
- 400 kV Cable Corridor
- SSEN-T's Hurlie Substation including access track upgrades
- Application Boundary for Planning Permission in Principle

## Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment Output

Our consultants have undertaken several surveys collecting data on heritage assets, ecology, noise and traffic within the application boundary and adjoining areas. These data have fed into our EIA to provide a baseline on which to assess potential impacts that may arise from the proposed development. The EIA identifies potential significant impacts that may arise and then considers mitigation measures to avoid, reduce or offset significant effects. Here are some of the measures we are considering incorporating into the proposed development design and construction methodology. We welcome your feedback on these measures to inform the design and development process.

### Potential Impact

Visual impact of the substation building(s) on the landscape and visual amenity

### Mitigation

Reinstatement of existing vegetation removed during construction.  
Provision of new planting and earth bunding to provide visual screening.  
Embedded mitigation in the design e.g. limiting building heights to a maximum of 15m and underground cables for 220/275 kV and 400 kV circuits.

Noise and vibration impacts during construction and operation

Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to include how noise and vibration will be managed during construction e.g. limiting working hours and management of construction plant.  
Operational noise limits for the substation to meet with British Standards and Aberdeenshire Council's Environmental Health Officer requirements.  
Noise barriers and enclosures within the substation.

Damage to local road network and disruption during construction.

Construction Traffic Management Plan.  
Specified transport routes for construction. Trenchless crossing construction techniques such as HDD under main roads.  
Dedicated haul roads within the project boundary to avoid using public roads where possible.

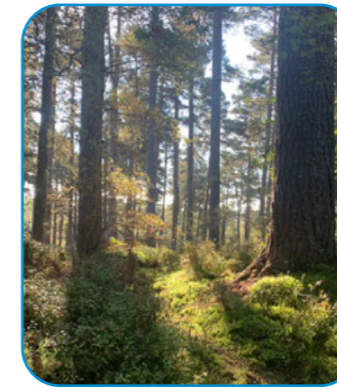


Impacts on watercourses

Flood Risk and Drainage Assessment to include implementation of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS).

CEMP and Control Plan.

Use of trenchless crossing construction techniques such as HDD under major river crossings.



Impacts on forestry

Avoidance of sensitive areas including ancient woodland and ancient and veteran trees.

Revised Woodland Management Plans post construction.

Arboricultural Method Statements to protect trees during construction.

Impacts on birds, wildlife, and other habitats during construction and operation

Restricted working hours at particular sensitive periods e.g. breeding bird season.

Species and Habitat Protection Plans.

Ecological Clerk of Works monitoring during construction.

Habitat creation and biodiversity enhancement.

Restoration Replanting and compensatory planting.

Impacts on Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

Avoidance of known heritage assets where possible.

Non-invasive and invasive archaeological investigations.

Archaeological Clerk of Works monitoring during construction.

Damage to agricultural land

CEMP to include soil resource management during construction.

Restoration of agricultural land following construction of underground cables.

Biosecurity measures.

Engagement with landowners at all stages.

## Feedback Form

We welcome your comments on our proposals at this stage. You can send us your comments by:

Filling out this form and

- i) handing it to a member of the project team (if attending one of our local events)
- ii) posting it to Thistle Wind Partners, Capital Building, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AF
- iii) emailing it to our Community Engagement Manager Kirsty MacAulay, [k.macaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.macaulay@twp.scot); or

Fill out the online feedback form in the virtual exhibition room which is located

<https://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/>;

**Persons wishing to make comments on the proposals can do so before the 17th October 2025.**

At this stage comments on the development are representations to the developer, not Aberdeenshire Council. There will be the opportunity to make representations to the planning authority once an application is submitted.

**Q1.** What are the key things you are concerned about with our development (please circle).

Noise	Flooding	Heritage	Fisheries
Landscape/Visual	Traffic	Water Environment	Other (detail below)
Ecology	Mitigation	Tourism	

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**Q2.** What types of mitigation would you like us to consider to reduce the impact of the onshore components of the project? For example, this could include things like: landscaping, planting woodland or parkland, design suggestions for the substation buildings, wildlife and habitat conservation or enhancement, access routes, and road improvements, etc.

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**Q3.** Do you have any specific comments or questions about the proposed Onshore Infrastructure for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm?

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**Q4.** How would you describe your reaction to the following (please circle)

Are you in favour of renewables?	Yes	No	Neutral
Are you in favour of this development?	Yes	No	Neutral
Are you in favour of offshore wind farms?	Yes	No	Neutral

## About You

Please tell us a bit about yourself so we can capture views from across the community. This will help us to ensure we are reaching a wide audience with our engagement.

**Q5.** Which category best describes you (please circle)

Member of the public	Landowner	Marine User
Stakeholder	Tourist	Other

**Q6.** What is your postcode \_\_\_\_\_

**Q7.** Have you been to previous events or exhibitions run by TWP? (please circle)

Yes      No

**Q8.** How old are you? (please circle)

Under 16 years	26 - 29 years	30-44 years	45-59 years
60-74 years	75 years and over		

**Q9.** If you would like to receive project updates, please provide an email or postal address.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## **TWP Contacts**

**Community Engagement Manager**  
**Allan Tait,**  
[a.tait@twp.scot](mailto:a.tait@twp.scot)



**Stakeholder Engagement Manager**  
**Kirsty MacAulay**  
[k.macaulay@twp.scot](mailto:k.macaulay@twp.scot)

You can also visit our website at [www.twp.scot](http://www.twp.scot) to view our information portal and FAQs on the onshore infrastructure in Aberdeenshire.

**[www.twp.scot](http://www.twp.scot)**



**You can also follow us on:**

 **Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm**

 **Thistle Wind Partners**

 **@TWPScot**



# Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Event - Offshore Infrastructure





## Contents

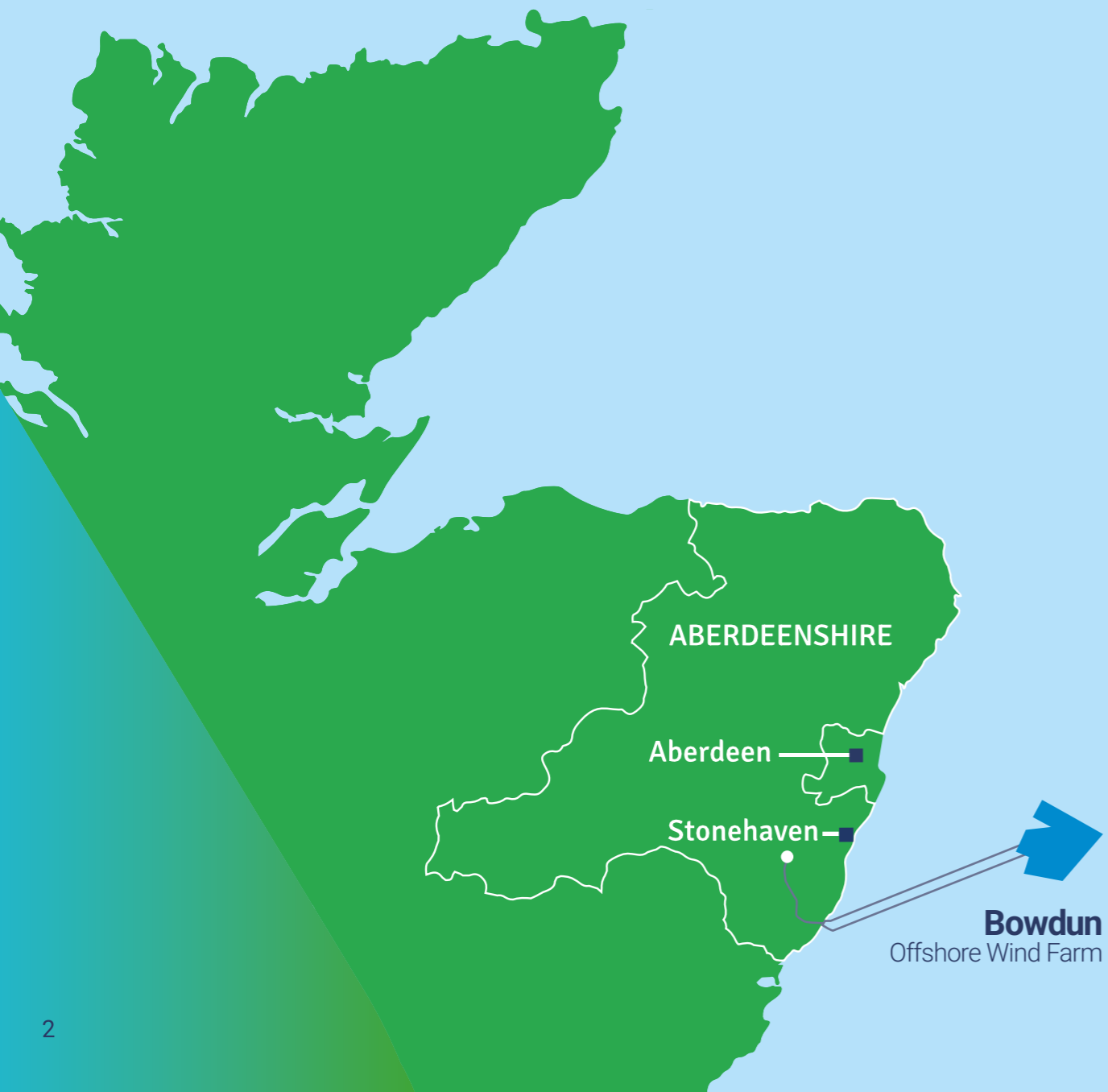
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Project Background	3
Who We Are	4
Need for the Project	5
ScotWind Leasing	6
The Environmental Impact Assessment	8
Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment Output	10
Feedback Form	12

# Bowdun

## Offshore Wind Farm

### Overview

- Up to 67 Turbines (fixed foundation design)
- 38km from turbines to closest point on land
- 1GW Capacity, power for 1.2m homes
- Grid Connection at Hurlie
- Landfall near Benholm
- £1bn supply chain ambition for Scotland
- £360m O&M spend, creating 60 long-term high value jobs at North East base
- 200+ onshore construction jobs, delivering £29m Scottish Spend
- Industry-leading pathways programme



## Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm Project Background

Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm will be located 38 km (c.24 miles) off the coast of Aberdeenshire, and comprises infrastructure both onshore and offshore. The wind farm array area is located within our ScotWind lease option area. This area will be where the offshore infrastructure required to generate electricity will be constructed (including wind turbines, offshore substation platform(s) and inter-array cables). Export cables will connect the offshore infrastructure to our proposed onshore substation (the Bowdun Substation) in Fetteresso forest. The export cables will come ashore or 'landfall' near Benholm, Aberdeenshire and run underground for approximately 22 km to the Bowdun Substation. At the substation the electricity voltage will be converted from 220/275 kV to 400 kV as required by the National Grid. Underground cables will connect the Bowdun Substation to the planned Hurlie Substation for onwards transmission of the electricity into the National Grid.





## Who We Are

TWP is an offshore wind developer founded in 2020 by a Joint Venture of three companies DEME Concessions, Qair and Aspiravi. Together the shareholders and TWP team have a strong background in offshore renewable energy development and delivery in Scotland, the UK and internationally. TWP is the development company for Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm, of which DEME Concessions and Aspiravi are the shareholders.

TWP brings a wealth of Scottish experience and capability in the fields of engineering and consenting, focused on delivering the Bowdun project.

## Need for the Project

Offshore wind plays a central role in Scotland's net-zero journey and is key to realising the economic opportunity of the global energy transition in Scotland. The Scottish Government has set out ambitious targets in relation to offshore wind, because offshore wind is established and a proven part of the mix of technologies that power our energy systems. Offshore wind is key to decarbonise the National Grid by 2035 and support the UK goal to achieve net-zero by 2050.

Bowdun will play a significant role in meeting these energy targets through the supply of 1 GW of renewable power, sufficient to power 1.2 million homes. Scotland already excels in innovation in offshore renewable energy, being home to the world's first floating offshore wind farm, Hywind Scotland, off the coast of Peterhead, and the EMEC Wave and Tidal Energy test sites in Orkney.

There is a real opportunity for Scotland to grasp a first-mover advantage in developing the goods, services and innovative Intellectual Property for a fast-growing global offshore renewable energy market, placing Scotland on the global stage. By harnessing our rich resource of renewable energy, we can ensure better energy security for people in Scotland and beyond, reducing dependence on fluctuating international markets and related price increases.

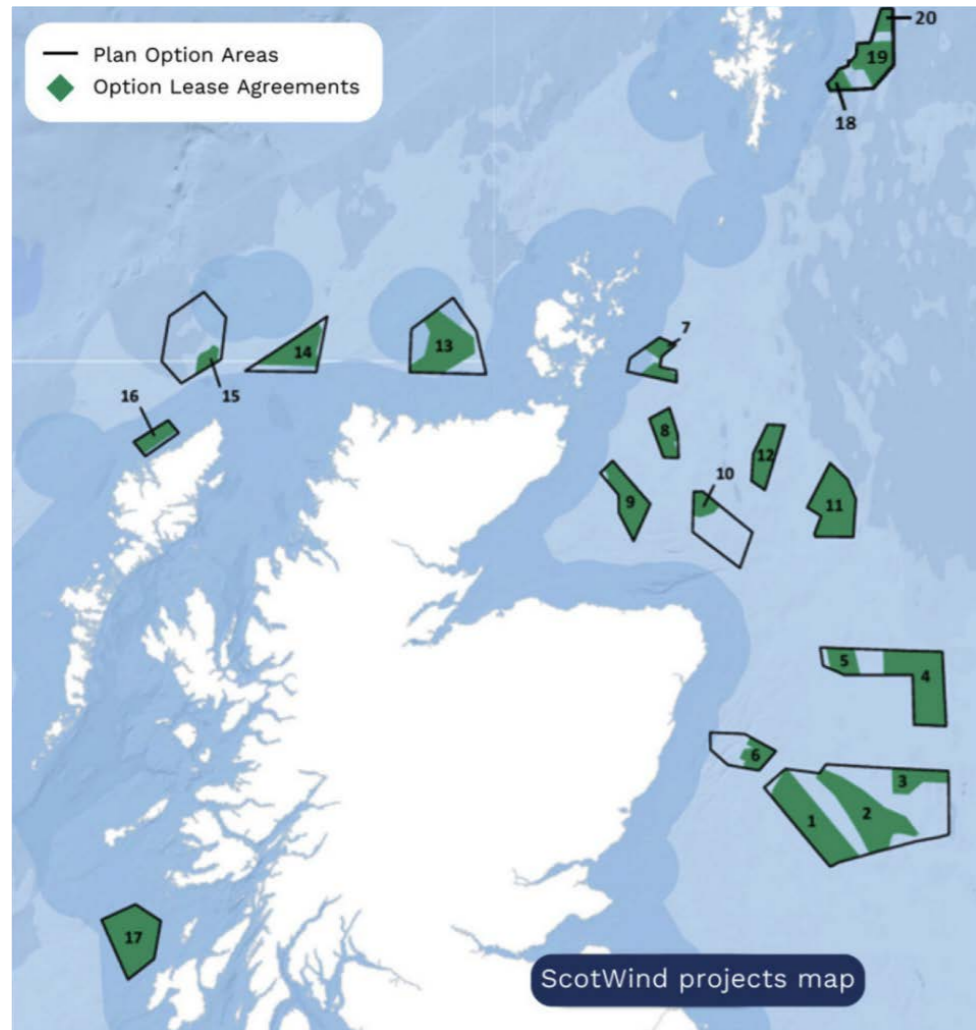




# ScotWind Leasing

In November 2017, Crown Estate Scotland (CES) announced plans for a leasing round for commercial-scale offshore wind projects in Scottish waters. The Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy (hereafter referred to as the 'SMP') provided the spatial framework for this leasing round through identification of areas of seabed available for leasing by CES. Draft Plan Options (DPOs) published in 2019, were informed by a number of factors including wind resource, minimising of environmental impact, proximity to other infrastructure and cognisance of other marine users.

In June 2020, CES launched the first ScotWind Leasing round, allowing developers to apply for rights to develop offshore wind farms within designated lease areas based on the DPOs. Final Plan Option Areas (POAs) were issued in October 2020. Applications opened January 2021 and closed July 2021, with Option to Lease Agreements (OLAs) awarded in January 2022. Overall twenty sites, a mix of fixed and floating wind, totalling 27.6 GW, were awarded.



## Selection of Preferred POA

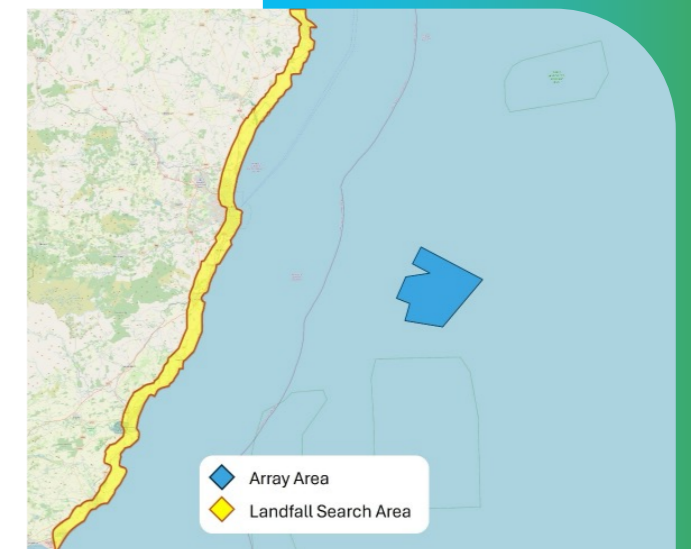
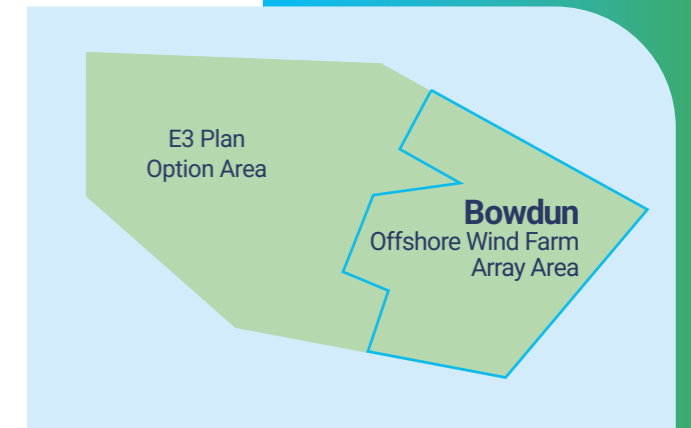
A detailed analysis assessed constraints, risks, and opportunities, covering environmental impacts, other marine users, metocean conditions, water depths, seabed characteristics, foundation feasibility, grid connection, energy yield, Levelised Cost of Energy, footprint optimisation, and construction workability. E3 POA was selected.

## Refinement of Boundary

Further assessment considered water depth, wind, geotechnical conditions, environmental designations, ornithology, habitats, fisheries, marine mammals, navigation, landscape and visual, heritage, aviation, infrastructure, energy, Search and Rescue operations, and existing cables/pipelines. The eastern part of the E3 POA was identified to be least constrained; and forms the OLA.

## Identification of the Offshore Export Cable Corridor

A landfall search area, which extended from Peterhead to Tealing was defined based on the location of the Array Area and the proposed grid connection point. A detailed desktop geotechnical, environmental constraints mapping, optioneering and assessment exercise was undertaken to narrow down the landfall search area, the extent of proposed Offshore Export Cable Corridor is shown on pages 8-9.



# The Environmental Impact Assessment

Due to the nature and scale of our project there is a legislative requirement for us to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for both the onshore and offshore aspects of the project. Key steps of the EIA process are outlined below:



## 1. Scoping

To support the EIA process, Scoping Reports (separate onshore and offshore) were produced outlining the proposed approach to the project development and the EIAs to be undertaken. These Scoping Reports were submitted to the Aberdeenshire Council and the Scottish Government's Marine Directorate – Licensing and Operations Team (MD-LOT) respectively, to obtain scoping opinions detailing the EIA requirements.

## 2. Environmental Data Collection

Since 2022 we have had specialists conducting desk-based assessments and surveys to support identification of cable corridors and infrastructure locations offshore, as well as to support understanding of the environmental baseline. This has included geophysical surveys, Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), vessel traffic, ecological and ornithological surveys.

## 3. Preparation of EIA

The EIA process requires us to assess the potential significant impacts of the proposed offshore infrastructure. A maximum design scenario approach has been adopted, this is a defined set of project parameters that represent

the "worst-case" scenario for environmental impacts. Possible significant effects are identified and solutions found to avoid, minimise or compensate significant environmental effects. The Offshore EIA will be published and will support our consent application. The Offshore EIA Report supports decision making by the consenting authorities by summarising any significant environmental effects and suggesting mitigation measures to be implemented. We also have to consider and assess inter-related and cumulative impacts.

## 4. Submission of Consent Application

For the offshore infrastructure we will apply to MD-LOT for Section 36 consent under the Electricity Act 1989 and Marine Licences under Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for activities within 12 nautical miles and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 for activities between 12 and 200 nautical miles.

## 5. Consideration & Determination of the Application

The Marine Directorate will consider and determine our Section 36 and Marine Licence application on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

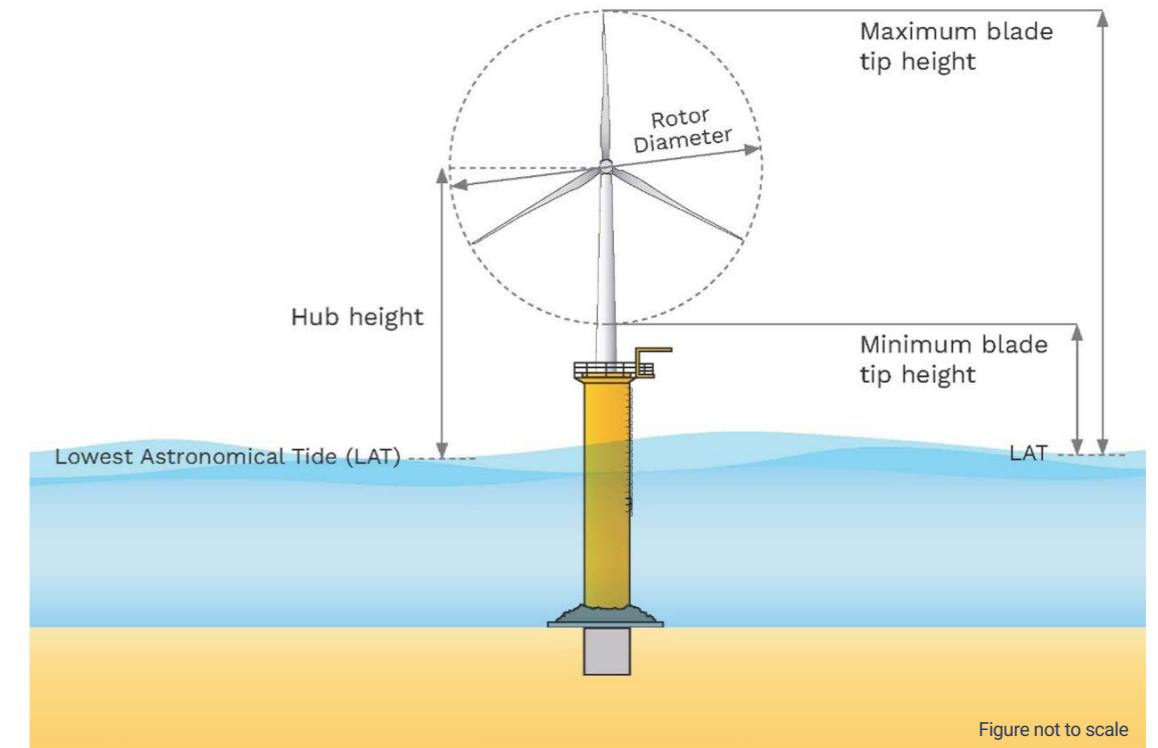
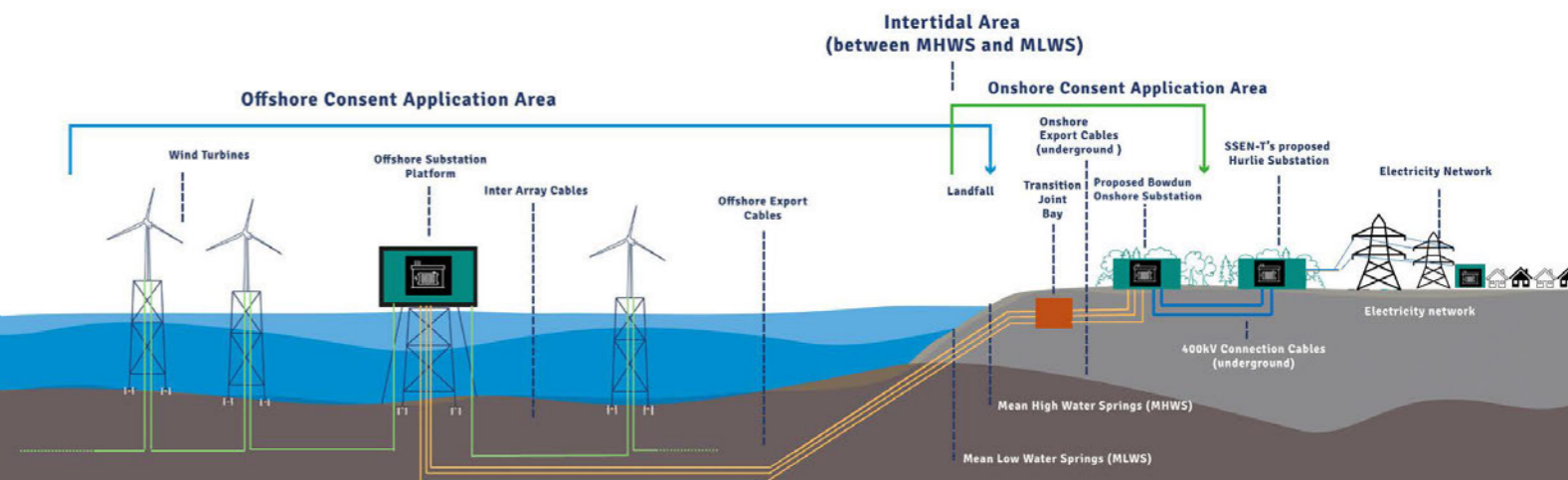


Figure not to scale

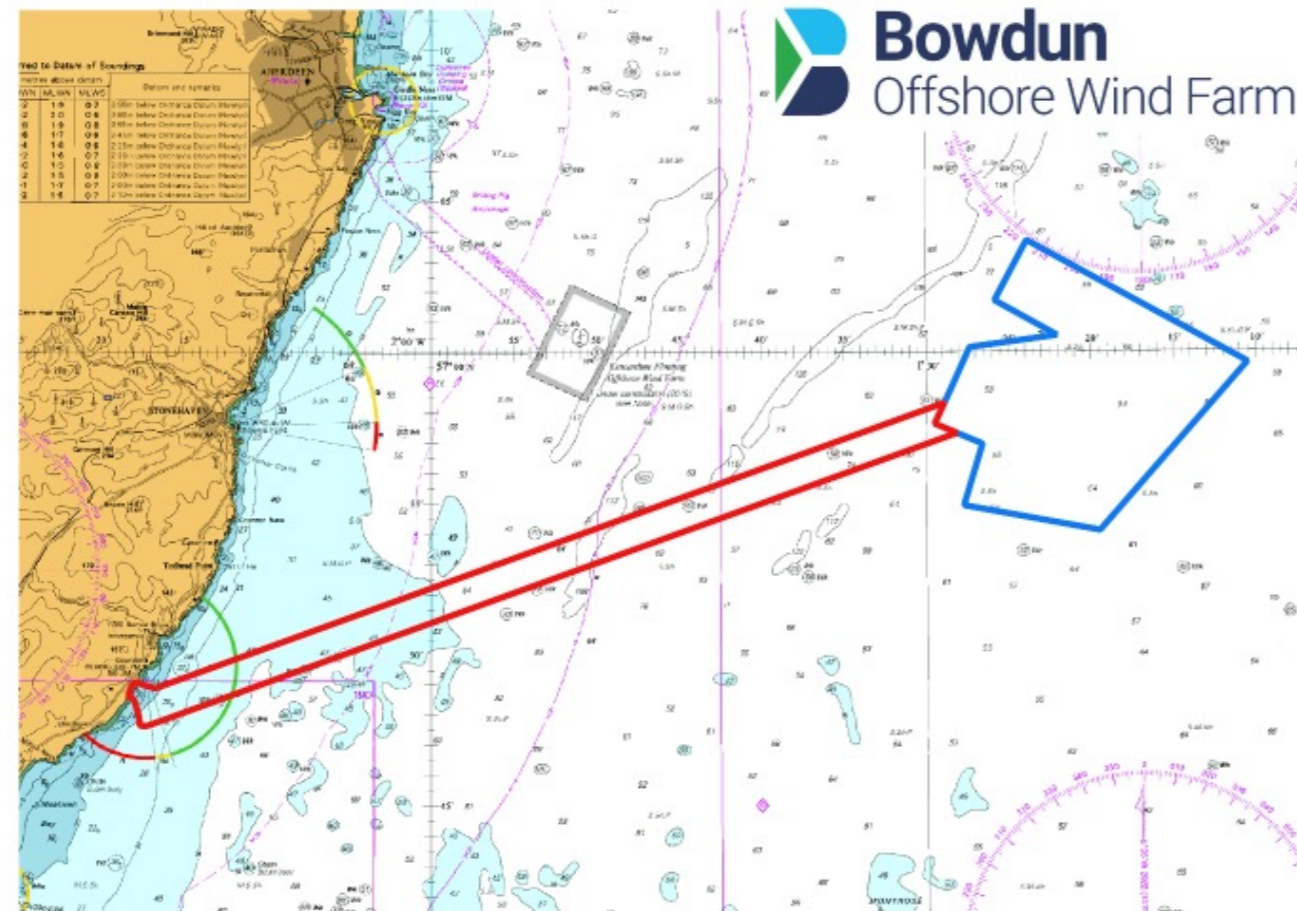
### Maximum Design Scenario – Parameters







Wind Turbine	Min. Option	Max. Option
Number of wind turbines	67	40
Maximum blade tip height above LAT (m)	269.12	359.12
Rotor diameter (m)	236	326
Hub height (m)	151	196
Minimum blade clearance above LAT (m)	29.28	29.28



# Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment Output

The Offshore EIA identifies potential impacts and effects that may arise from the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the proposed offshore infrastructure. The EIA also considers mitigation measures to avoid or reduce significant effects. Here are some of the potential impacts and associated mitigation measures we are considering for the design and application. We welcome your feedback.



Potential Impact	Mitigation
<p>Risk to sea birds (e.g. collision risk with wind turbines)</p> 	<p>We have undertaken 24 months of Digital Aerial Surveys (DAS) to understand how birds are using our site; this includes the use of LiDAR equipment which has allowed us to record bird flight height data which is accurate to within 5 cm. We have run a suite of models looking at the collision risk to birds from the wind turbines to determine the appropriate size of air gap to minimise impacts. To reduce the risk of collisions we have included a minimum air gap of 30 m between the sea level and the lower sweep of the turbine blades.</p>
<p>Impacts to marine mammals from underwater noise during construction</p> 	<p>The DAS also recorded marine mammals, which together with our desk-based assessment will underpin the EIA. A foundation installation strategy and Marine Mammal Mitigation Plan will be developed and agreed with the Marine Directorate prior to construction, which will meet required guidelines and detail any specific mitigations required.</p> <p>All activities which will result in high levels of noise (e.g. piling during construction) will be subject to mitigation identified in Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) guidance, such as soft start procedures and visual checks to reduce risk of</p>
<p>Impact to livelihood of local fishers through snagging, Electromagnetic Field (EMF) and loss of fishing ground</p> 	<p>We have been engaging with fishers in the vicinity of the project through our Fisheries Liaison Officer. We will continue with engagement as we develop and adhere to a Fisheries Mitigation, Monitoring and Communication Plan which will set out the means of ongoing fisheries liaison and detail mitigation to limit effects on commercial fisheries activity.</p> <p>Additionally, a cable burial risk assessment is being carried out to understand the areas where we can and cannot bury cables due to ground conditions. Cable burial reduces the potential of EMF and snagging, where burial cannot be achieved, we will utilise cable protection measures.</p>
<p>Damage or disturbance to seabed habitats</p> 	<p>Site specific seabed sediment samples and video tows have been undertaken to understand the seabed habitats within the Array Area and Export Cable Corridor. We will refine our detailed designs to avoid sensitive habitats where reasonably practicable.</p>
<p>Visual impacts</p> 	<p>Visibility of the wind turbines and offshore substation platforms depends on a number of factors; such as, the time of day and weather conditions. We have produced wirelines and photomontages, from locations agreed with statutory consultees, to illustrate the visibility of the wind turbines from shore, the EIA will assess and report visual impacts as a result of the proposed development.</p>
<p>Other marine users</p> 	<p>We have consulted with groups such as Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB), Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), Chamber of Shipping, and the Royal Yachting Association Scotland, as well as conducting site specific marine traffic surveys of the Array Area which have been analysed to understand how marine users are currently using the area. A Navigational Risk Assessment (NRA) has been undertaken in consultation with stakeholders. The final NRA will be submitted with the EIA.</p>



# Feedback Form

We welcome your comments on our proposals at this stage. You can send us your comments by filling out this form and:

- i. Handing it to a member of the project team (if attending one of our local events)
- ii. Posting it to Thistle Wind Partners, 12-13 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh, EH2 2AF
- iii. Emailing it to our Stakeholder Engagement Advisor Jazz Taylor, [j.taylor@twp.scot](mailto:j.taylor@twp.scot); or

Fill out the online feedback form available in our virtual exhibition room which is located at [www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/](http://www.thistlewindpartners.scot/bowdun/virtual-room/)

Persons wishing to make comments on the proposals can do so before the 13th February 2026.

At this stage comments on the development are representations to the developers, not Aberdeenshire Council or Scottish Ministers. There will be the opportunity to make representations to the planning authority once an application is submitted.

1. What are the key issues you are interested in with regard to the project e.g. ecology, landscape/ visual etc.

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2. Do you have any specific comments or questions about the proposed infrastructure for the Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm?

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3. How would you describe your reaction to the following (please check box)

Are you in favour of renewables?

Yes  No  Neutral

Are you in favour of this development? (offshore wind with underground cables onshore)

Yes  No  Neutral



## About You

Please tell us a bit about yourself so we can capture views from across the community. This will help us to ensure we are reaching a wide audience with our engagement. (This information will only be used for reporting purposes to indicate the reach of this engagement and will not be used to identify you; any information will be processed in line with GDPR regulations)

4. Which category best describes you (please check box)

- Member of the public
- Affected Landowner
- Marine User
- Stakeholder
- Tourist
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

5. What is your postcode or nearest town \_\_\_\_\_

6. Have you been to previous events or exhibitions run by TWP? (please check box) Yes  No

7. How did you hear about this consultation event? (please check box)

- Word of mouth
- Social media
- Newspaper
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

8. How old are you? (please check box)

- Under 25 years
- 26-40 years
- 41-70 years
- 71 years and over

9. Would you like to receive project updates? If so, please provide an email or postal address.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Bowdun**  
Offshore Wind Farm

Capital Building  
12-13 St Andrew Square  
Edinburgh  
EH2 2AF

E: [contact@twp.scot](mailto:contact@twp.scot)

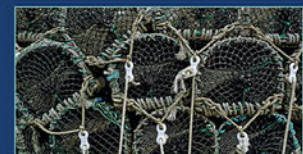
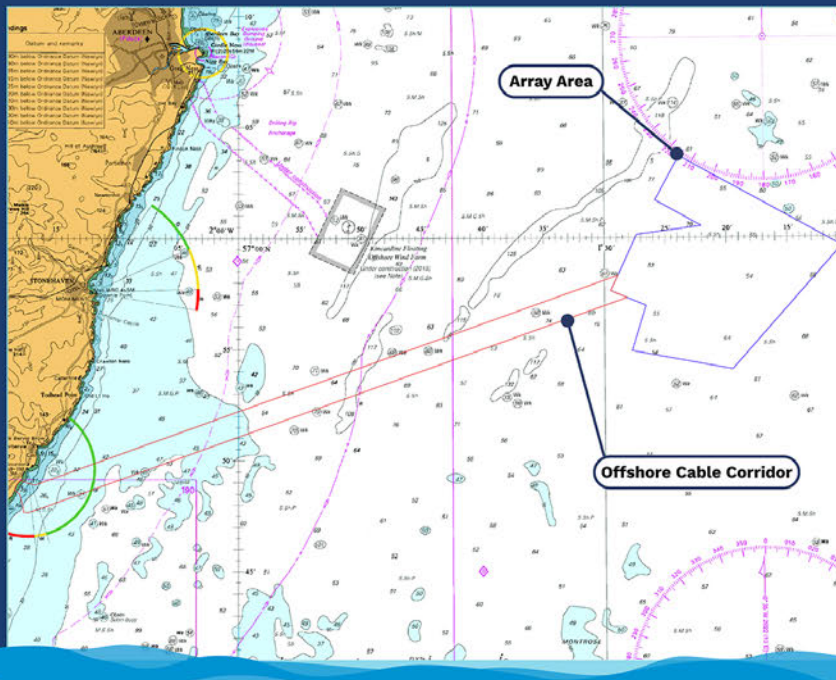
# Offshore EIA Aspect

The Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) identifies potential impacts and effects that may arise from the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the proposed offshore infrastructure. The EIA also considers mitigation measures to avoid or reduce significant effects. Here are some of the potential impacts and associated mitigation measures we are considering for the design and application. We welcome your feedback.

## Offshore EIA Aspect

## Approach/Mitigation

<p>Risk to sea birds (e.g. collision risk with wind turbines)</p>	<p>To reduce the risk of collisions the design of the Proposed Development includes a minimum air gap of 30 m between the sea level and the lower sweep of the turbine blades. We have run a suite of models looking at the collision risk to birds from the wind turbines to determine the appropriate size of the air gap to minimise impacts.</p>
<p>Impacts to marine mammals from underwater noise during construction</p>	<p>The EIA will assess potential impacts on marine mammals. A foundation installation strategy and Marine Mammal Mitigation Plan will be developed and agreed with the Marine Directorate prior to construction, which will meet required guidelines and detail any specific mitigations required.</p> <p>All activities which will result in high levels of noise (e.g. piling during construction) will be subject to mitigation identified in Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) guidance, such as soft start procedures and visual checks to reduce risk of injury to marine mammals.</p>
<p>Impact to livelihood of local fishers through snagging, Electromagnetic Field (EMF) and loss of fishing ground</p>	<p>A cable burial risk assessment is being carried out to understand the areas where we can and cannot bury cables due to ground conditions. Cable burial reduces the potential of EMF and snagging, where burial cannot be achieved, we will utilise cable protection measures.</p> <p>We will also develop and adhere to a Fisheries Mitigation, Monitoring and Communication Plan which will set out the means of ongoing fisheries liaison and detail mitigation to limit effects on commercial fisheries activity.</p>
<p>Damage or disturbance to seabed habitats</p>	<p>Site specific seabed sediment samples and video tows have been undertaken to understand the seabed habitats within the Array Area and Export Cable Corridor. We will refine our detailed designs to avoid sensitive habitats where reasonably practicable.</p>
<p>Visual impacts</p>	<p>Visibility of the wind turbines and offshore substation platforms depends on a number of factors; from where, the time of day and the weather conditions as well as the size of the final turbine selected. We have produced wirelines and photomontages, from locations agreed with statutory consultees, to illustrate the visibility of the wind turbines from shore, using the largest tip height being considered the EIA will assess and report visual impacts as a result of the Proposed Development.</p>
<p>Other marine users</p>	<p>We have consulted with groups such as the Northern Lighthouse Board, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency and Scottish Fisheries Federation as well as conducting site specific marine traffic surveys of the Array Area which have been analysed to understand how marine users are currently using the area. A Navigational Risk Assessment (NRA) will be undertaken in consultation with stakeholders. The final NRA will be submitted with the EIA.</p>



### Wind Turbines

The Bowdun Offshore Wind Farm will have a maximum of 67 turbines, we are reviewing turbines options available on the market. The maximum tip height of our turbines will be 359m above lowest astronomical tide and the maximum rotor diameter will be 326m.

### Foundations

The wind turbines will be on fixed foundations. These are large structures such as jackets which are secured to the seabed using piles. We are currently reviewing data collected from our geophysical surveys to allow us to choose the fixed foundation option most appropriate to the seabed conditions and geology within our site.

### Moorings and Foundation

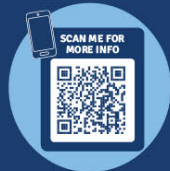
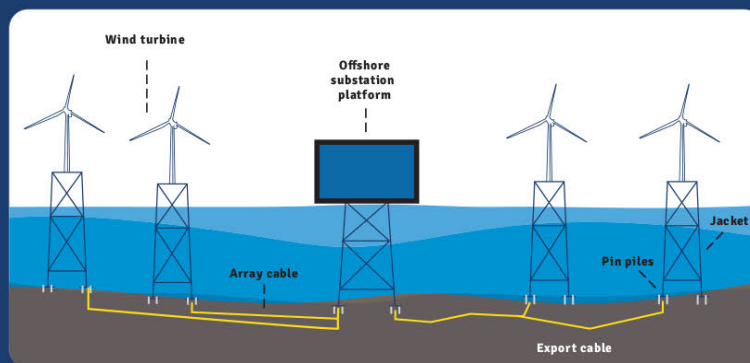
Fixed foundations utilise large structures such as jackets which are secured to the seabed using piles. We are currently reviewing data collected from our geophysical surveys in 2023 to allow us to choose the option most appropriate to the seabed conditions and geology within our site.

### Inter-array Cables

Each turbine has its own cable that allows the power generated to be collected at a central point before being transported onshore to the final grid connection point, these are called inter-array cables. We plan to bury these cables where possible.

### Offshore Substation Platforms and Export Cables

There will be up to three offshore substation platforms within the site and up to three (in total) export cables connecting the Offshore Wind Farm to landfall. Where possible we will bury these cables.



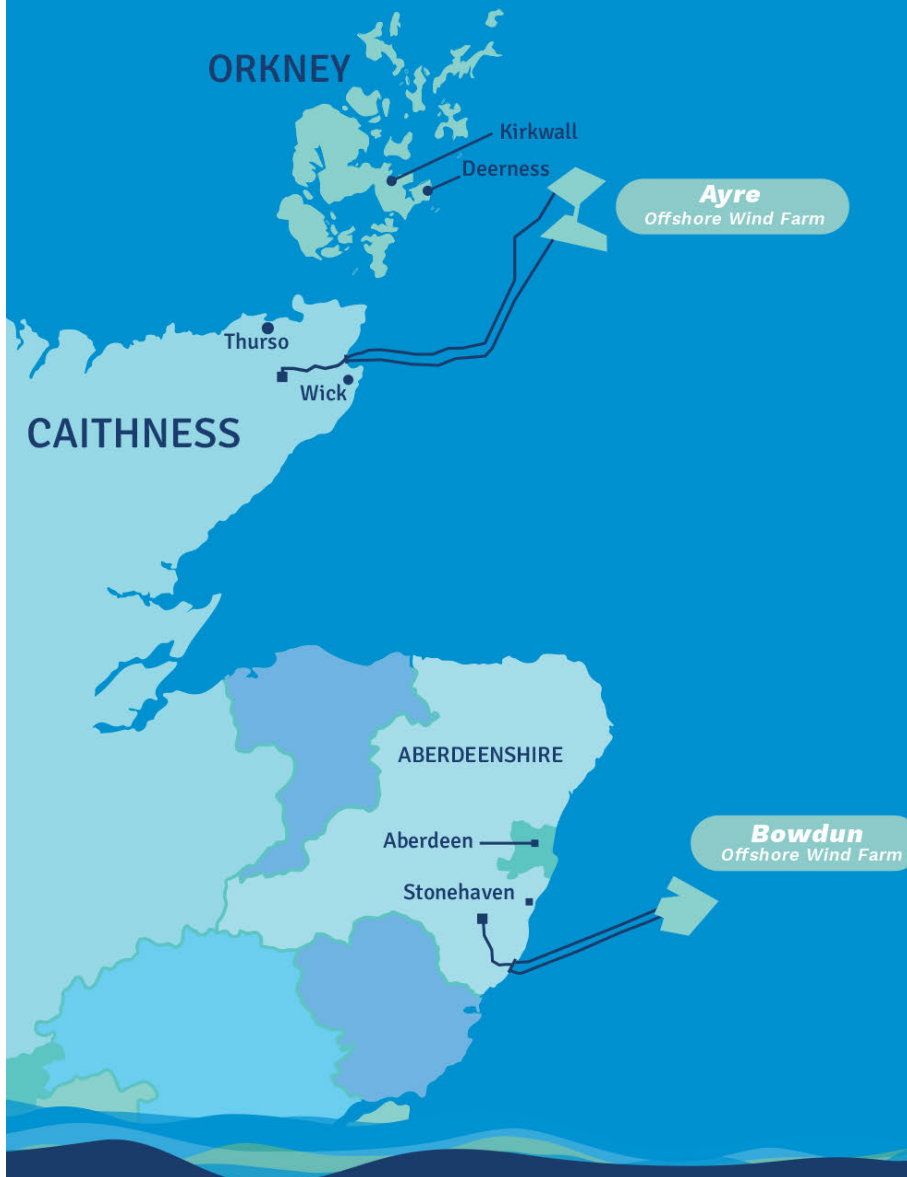
**TWP** THISTLE  
WIND  
PARTNERS



## Who are we?



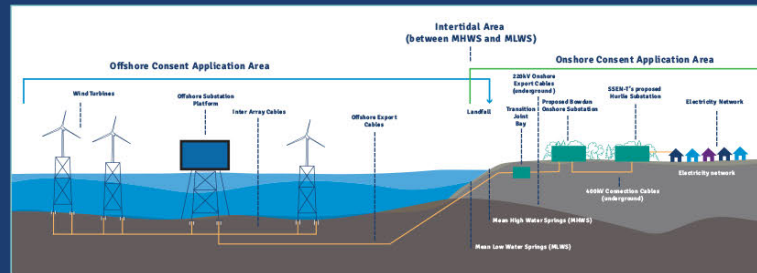
TWP is an offshore wind developer founded in 2020 to deliver our two ScotWind Projects – Ayre and Bowdun, for which we were awarded leases in the Crown Estate Scotland's ScotWind process. We were founded by a consortium of three companies – DEME Concessions, Qair and Aspiravi. Our founder companies work on a wide variety of renewable energy, environmental remediation and marine infrastructure projects around the world and bring a strong track record in offshore wind development. The TWP team brings a wealth of Scottish experience and capability in the fields of engineering and consenting focused on delivering our ScotWind projects.



## Preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process which identifies and assesses the potential significant effects of a project, informs the design from an environmental perspective, and sets out standard and additional measures (mitigation) to avoid or reduce the project's effect on the environment.

The onshore and offshore elements of the project are subject to different consents. The delineation between offshore and onshore consenting regimes and their relationship are illustrated below, with the key EIA disciplines relevant to each shown in the table below:



OFFSHORE EIA REPORT

Physical Environment	Physical Processes Subsea Noise Offshore Water Quality	Geology and Ground Conditions Water Quality and Flood Risk
Biological Environment	Benthic Subtidal Ecology Marine Mammals Offshore Ornithology Fish and Shellfish	Biodiversity and Terrestrial Ecology Ornithology
Human Environment	Other Sea Users and Marine Infrastructure Socio-Economics Shipping and Navigation Aviation and Radar Climate Change Commercial Fisheries Major Accidents and Disasters Marine Archaeology Seascape and Visual Impacts Cultural Heritage	Landscape and Visual Impacts Land Use, Agriculture and Forestry Cultural Heritage Noise and Vibration Air Quality Traffic and Transport Climate Change Socio-Economics

ONSHORE EIA REPORT

## Key Stages of Consent Applications

