

Knockcronal Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation Report

NOVEMBER 21



Statkraft



McMILLAN

Pre-Application Consultation Report

Contents

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Consultation Measures	6
3.	Engagement at Scoping Stage	9
4.	First Public Exhibition and Consultation Online	10
5.	Engagement After First Public Exhibition and Consultation Period	12
6.	Response To First Public Exhibition and Consultation Comments	12
7.	Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Period - Online and In-Person	15
8.	Engagement After Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Period	17
9.	Response to Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Comments	18
10.	Conclusions	20
11.	Appendices	20

This page is intentionally blank.

1. Introduction

1.1. Overview

ITPEnergised, McMillan Consultancy Ltd and Statkraft UK Ltd have prepared this Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report for Knockcronal Wind Farm Ltd ('the Applicant'), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Statkraft UK Ltd.

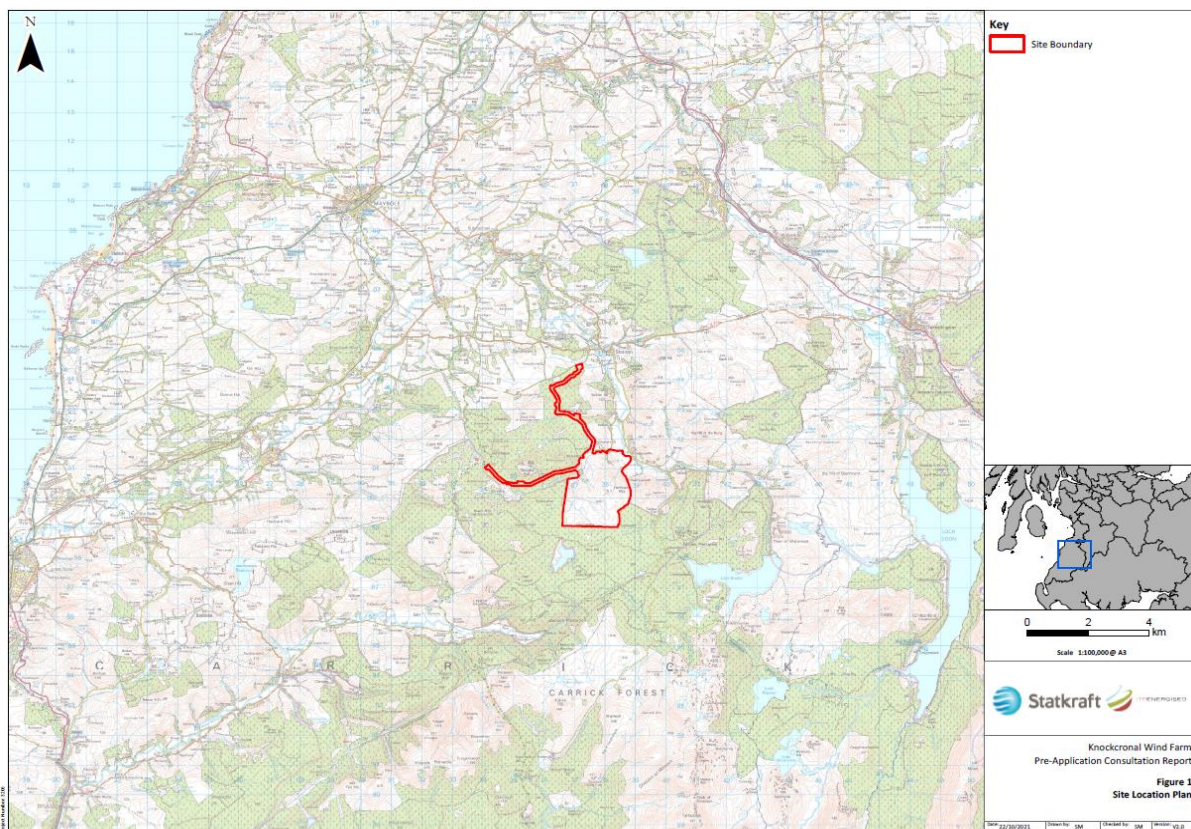
The Applicant is applying to the Scottish Ministers for Section 36 (S36) consent and deemed planning permission, under the terms of the Electricity Act 1989 for permission to construct and operate Knockcronal Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as "the Proposed Development").

The application is supported by this PAC Report which details the consultation measures undertaken by the Applicant, the feedback received and any resultant modifications to the Proposed Development. The Applicant recognises that it is important to ensure that residents and communities close to a development are afforded appropriate and meaningful opportunities to comment on the proposals before they are finalised in accordance with good practice guidance. A timeline of all consultation undertaken is provided in Appendix P.1.

1.2. The Proposed Development

The Proposed Development is located approximately 4.8 km south of Straiton, 11.3 km south-west of Dalmellington and 17.4 km east of Girvan, (distances to the nearest proposed wind turbine) in South Ayrshire. The site is centred on British National Grid (BNG) NS 37746 00094 as shown in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1 Site Location



The Proposed Development will comprise up to nine turbines, six turbines with a maximum tip height of 200 m and three turbines with a maximum tip height of 180 m. The combined generation capacity of the Proposed Development is anticipated to be 59.4 MW, with the exact capacity dependent on the turbine installed, if the Proposed Development is consented.

The main components of the development proposal include:

- Turbines and turbine foundations;
- Crane hardstandings;
- Site access;
- Access tracks (existing, upgraded or new as required);
- Watercourse crossings (existing, upgraded or new as required);
- Substation and energy storage facility;
- Underground cabling;
- Permanent meteorological mast;
- Up to five borrow pit search areas; and
- Temporary gatehouse and construction compound.

Further information is provided in Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) Volume 1: Chapter 3.

1.3. The Applicant

The Applicant ('Knockcronal Wind Farm Ltd') is a wholly owned subsidiary of Statkraft UK Ltd. Statkraft is a global company in energy market operations and is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy. Statkraft has 4,600 employees across 18 countries and its Scottish headquarters are in Glasgow. In Scotland, Statkraft owns and/or operates three onshore wind farms and has two wind farms under construction in Dumfries and Galloway (November 2021). Over the last 10 years, Statkraft has invested over £200 million in renewable energy infrastructure in Scotland and is fully committed to the Scottish and UK renewable energy sector and a net-zero economy.

The Applicant is committed to setting up a Community Benefit Fund for the Proposed Development. Statkraft has distributed over £2 million to date to projects and initiatives located near to their operating wind farms across the UK. Example initiatives include education, energy efficiency, facilities for community halls, and playground equipment.

In accordance with best practice, this Proposed Development, if consented, will contribute £5,000 per MW of installed capacity per annum to a Community Benefit Fund. Based on an installed capacity of up to 59.4 MW capacity, this could result in a value of £297,000 per annum. With a 30 year operational consent, this could provide over £8.9 million in community benefit. If consented, the value of the Community Benefit Fund will be determined by the installed capacity of the wind farm.

In addition to establishing a Community Benefit Fund, the Applicant is committed to offering Shared Ownership of the Knockcronal Wind Farm, and should there be interest within the community, is keen to progress these discussions.

The Applicant recognises the importance of the economic benefits to Scotland and the rest of the UK from investing in onshore wind generation. It is expected that the Proposed Development would further economic opportunities within the region and would contribute significant income to support local services through business rates.

It is estimated that, during the construction phase, the Proposed Development will be worth approximately £16.4 million to the Scottish economy. Of that, approximately £4.4 million is expected to be generated within South Ayrshire (regional). The construction and operation of the Proposed Development are also predicted to support the equivalent of 225 years of employment across Scotland and 62 years within South Ayrshire.

More detail on the socio-economic benefits of the Proposed Development can be found in Chapter 13 of the EIAR.

1.4. Public Consultation Guidance and Legislation

Permission for the Proposed Development is being sought under a Section 36 application which does not carry a statutory requirement for Pre-Application Consultation.

However, the Applicant recognises the benefits of carrying out early consultation during the planning process and considers producing a PAC report as best practice. The Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 – Community Engagement, while not applicable to this development type, has been used as a framework and guide for carrying out the PAC engagement activity for the Proposed Development.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Scottish Government provided development planning and engagement regulations through 'The Town and Country Planning (Emergency Period and Extended Period) Regulations', which is currently in force until 31 March 2022. The document provides advice on consultation and states that engagement should focus on digital means and the consultation engagement should involve information in a user-friendly format on a free, publicly accessible website. In addition, engagement should be enhanced by non-digital communication. This may include placing articles in newspapers circulated locally, expanding contact with community councils, or posting letters to households. It should be made clear whether there are mechanisms for people to obtain copies of the engagement materials offline, as well as the ability for them to submit comments by post.

With the easing of lockdown restrictions in Summer 2021 and the request from the host community council for physical exhibition events, the Applicant followed South Ayrshire Council's Covid-19 guidance when hosting two local events in September 2021.

Engagement activities for the Proposed Development have concentrated on South Ayrshire community councils within an approximately 10 km area of the site. All properties and business within 10 km of the Proposed Development were mailed to seek residents' views on the Proposed Development (See Appendix P.2).

During the pre-application stage of the Proposed Development, the Applicant's aim has been to provide the local community and those with an interest in the proposal with a clear opportunity to deliver comment and feedback prior to submitting the S36 application. This report sets out the background and details of the pre-application engagement and public exhibition activity carried out by the Applicant in the preparation of the Section 36 application, and how the feedback received has resulted in modifications to the Proposed Development.

1.5. Report Structure

This report comprises the following sections:

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 2: Consultation Measures - Describes the various types of consultation undertaken for the Proposed Development
- Section 3: Engagement at Scoping Stage
- Section 4: First Public Exhibition and Consultation Online - Describes the consultation process undertaken for the Online Exhibition in May/June 2021
- Section 5: Engagement After First Public Exhibition and Consultation Period
- Section 6: Response to First Public Exhibition and Consultation Comments
- Section 7: Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Period - Online and In-Person - Describes the consultation process undertaken for the Physical and Online Exhibition in September/October 2021
- Section 8: Engagement After Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Period
- Section 9: Response to Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Comments
- Section 10: Conclusions - Describes how the consultation process has influenced the design of the Proposed Development.

2. Consultation Measures

As noted earlier, the Scottish Government’s Planning Advice Note (PAN) 3/2010 – Community Engagement, which provides guidelines for PAC, has been used as a framework for the engagement activity for this Proposed Development. The guidelines have provided a useful framework to help plan, monitor and evaluate community engagement in relation to this development.

Table 1 - An overview of Community Engagement – Consultation Stages

Standard	PAN 3/2010 Standard	Activities Undertaken
1	Involvement: Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The host and neighbouring community councils as well as local politicians for the Proposed Development were identified and contacted with information about the Proposed Development; ▪ An offer was made to Community Councils to host virtual meetings or a special meeting on the Proposed Development; the Community Council expressed preference for in person events if possible; ▪ A dedicated website with contact details was established; ▪ Online Exhibition held 19 May - 8 June 2021; ▪ Physical Exhibition held 21 September 2021 (Daily) and 22 September 2021 (Straiton) and Online Exhibition from 14 September to 5 October 2021; ▪ Brochures and feedback forms were sent to over 1,300 residents and businesses within approximately 10 km of the Proposed Development during both exhibition periods.
2	Support: Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Able to communicate with the Proposed Development team via the project website, email, letter, telephone, or in person; ▪ Accessible Online Exhibitions and Physical Public Exhibitions in two accessible locations delivered in line with Covid-19 advice; ▪ The exhibitions were advertised in the Ayr Advertiser and Ayrshire Post and adverts provided to Community Councils, Councillors and other key stakeholders to post online; ▪ Invitations were sent to over 1,300 households and businesses within approximately 10 km of the Proposed Development, during both exhibition periods. The invitations included information on the forthcoming consultation and how to get involved, details on the Proposed Development and a freepost feedback reply card.
3	Planning: Gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The commitment to undertaking meaningful consultation with the local community during Covid-19 was set out during the Scoping

Standard	PAN 3/2010 Standard	Activities Undertaken
		<p>Report (this included considering access to technology). Refer to EIAR Volume 4: Appendix 4.1 and 4.3;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contact with community councils and further stakeholders outlining proposed approach.
4	Methods: Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Information presented on the Proposed Development website, accessible to interested parties; ▪ Commitment to meaningful engagement outlined in Scoping Report, issued to Community Councils; ▪ Two Online Exhibitions, providing residents and interested groups an opportunity to meet and interact with the Proposed Development team, allowing discussion and feedback; ▪ Following Community Council feedback and Covid-19 restrictions easing, two physical exhibitions were held in the local area during the second exhibition period (September/October 2021); ▪ Online Chat sessions were held during both exhibition periods.
5	Working Together: Agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together effectively and efficiently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PAC process enabled the Applicant to listen and take on board comments from interested parties and use responses to influence design; ▪ Encouraged use of virtual meetings, feedback forms and contact details provided at public exhibitions to receive input; ▪ Project contact information provided on all public documentation, including a dedicated website; ▪ Held physical exhibitions for the second period of exhibitions.
6	Sharing Information: Ensure necessary information is communicated between the participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interaction at Online and Physical Exhibition and follow up with any questions and provided further information; ▪ Exhibition Brochure made available online; ▪ Follow up with queries after Community Council presentations; ▪ Provide Consultation Report for Community Councils and the public following feedback from community engagement events.
7	Working with Others: Work effectively with others with an interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interaction and comment from residents and Community Councils - followed up recommendations such as path network on site and moving/reducing number and size of turbines.

Standard	PAN 3/2010 Standard	Activities Undertaken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Following feedback at second exhibition, including Straiton Co-operative in project updates as a stakeholder within the local area.
8	Improvement: Develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experienced team - Project Manager and EIA team members attended the public consultation events to provide information requested by visitors to the exhibitions; ▪ Provided visitors at the exhibitions the opportunity to view a representation of the Proposed Development from different local locations. During the physical exhibition visitors had the opportunity to view a representation of the Proposed Development from their property. ▪ Project Manager offered and presented at online Community Council meeting.
9	Feedback: Feedback results to the wider community and agencies affected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A summary of exhibitions provided to stakeholders such as community councils and local politicians via email update; ▪ Responses direct to every feedback form (if GDPR allowed) received during the public consultations; ▪ Dialogue with individuals with specific queries, posed before or during the consultation process, with responses to queries followed up; ▪ Provided a Frequently Asked Questions one page document of the key questions asked during each consultation period. Provided Consultation Reports for Community Councils and the public (published on website) following feedback from each exhibition and consultation period.
10	Monitoring and Evaluation: Monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Followed best practice as set out in PAC Report.

3. Engagement at Scoping Stage

A Scoping Report (ECU00002181) was submitted to the Scottish Ministers on 3 December 2020.

A Scoping Opinion was requested as per Regulation 12 of the Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulation 2017, as amended ('the EIA regulations').

The Scoping Report went live on the Energy Consents Unit website on 14 January 2021 with Statutory and Non-Statutory consultees then consulted as part of the formal scoping process. This PAC report outlines the engagement with the community councils and wider community. Scoping Responses are set out in Appendix 4.2 of the EIA Report.

3.1. Community Councils

The Applicant wrote to Community Councils on 15 January 2021 as the Scoping Report was published on the Energy Consents Unit portal. The Applicant wrote to:

- Crosshill, Straiton & Kirkmichael Community Council (host community council);
- Dailly Community Council (neighbouring Community Council); and
- Barr Community Council (neighbouring Community Council).

The purpose of the letter was to directly introduce the Applicant and the Proposed Development to the Community Councils and offer a virtual meeting or to attend a future virtual Community Council meeting.

A short presentation with maps of the site and the redline boundary were included with the introduction letter. The letter and presentation can be found in Appendix P.3.A.

Dailly Community Council acknowledged receipt of the information. Crosshill, Straiton & Kirkmichael Community Council requested a presentation and the Applicant provided an online presentation and answered questions on the Proposed Development on 17 February 2021. It was during this presentation and within their scoping response that the community initially relayed their concerns on the number of turbines and the potential visual impact of the project.

3.2. Elected Representatives

The local MP, MSP and Ward Councillors for Maybole, North Carrick and Coylton (local Ward to the Proposed Development) and Ward Councillors for Girvan and South Carrick (neighbouring Ward to the Proposed Development) were written to on 15 January 2021 to inform them of the plans. The Applicant also provided a short presentation with the introduction letter with maps of the Proposed Development and the redline boundary and offered a virtual meeting to introduce the plans – Appendix 3.B.

A subsequent meeting took place virtually with Cllr Grant (host ward member) and Cllr Henderson (neighbouring ward member) on 11 February 2021 to outline the Proposed Development.

3.3. Website

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

The Proposed Development website (www.knockcronal.co.uk) was set up and went live at the same time as the Scoping Request was submitted to consultees, earlier than usual in the project development, due to the Project Team being unable to meet local residents and community representatives in person.

The website provided easy access to all information relating to the Proposed Development and provided a way for the Proposed Development project team to be contacted while it was not possible for them to be physically present in the community due to Covid-19 (See Appendix P.4 for example of website content).

The Proposed Development website included an FAQ section, project maps, a timeline of the Proposed Development, short video introductions of some of the team members and their contact details. A presentation

of the Proposed Development was uploaded, providing members of the public and community groups with an interactive presentation of the initial plans. Results of website activity from 15 January 2021 (when the website was first published) to 31 October 2021 include:

- Over 1,600 visits were recorded to the website;
- The Scoping Report document was downloaded 253 times;
- 28 views of the video by the Project Manager, introducing the Proposed Development and 15 views of the Landscape and Visual Presentation; and
- 34 views of the FAQs.

Further information about the Exhibitions is presented below.

4. First Public Exhibition and Consultation Online

4.1. Background

The Public Exhibitions for the Proposed Development were held in line with the prevailing Covid-19 advice and restrictions present within the wider community.

This meant an Online Exhibition was held for the Proposed Development between 19 May 2021 and 8 June 2021 and a combined Physical and Online Exhibition was held for the Proposed Development between 14 September and 5 October 2021. Physical Exhibitions were held in Dailly (21 September 2021) and Straiton (22 September 2021).

The first Public Exhibition was held online via a dedicated consultation website set up for this purpose and could be accessed at www.knockcronal.co.uk.

To maximise the number of local residents that knew about the development and were therefore able to engage in the planning process, should they choose to do so, the event was publicised in the following ways.

4.1.1 Community Council Invite and Notification Letter to Online Public Exhibition

An email was issued to the host and neighbouring Community Councils prior to the consultation to highlight the consultation and invite them to take part. Several follow up emails were also issued (see Appendix P.5.A).

Community Councils also publicised the consultation via their Facebook page, helping to inform local residents about the Proposed Development (see Appendix P.5.B).

4.1.2 Newspapers Adverts

The public notice (see Appendix P.5.C) was published in the Ayr Advertiser newspaper on Tuesday 18 May 2021 and in the Ayrshire Post on 19 May 2021. This notice also provided an email address and contact details so that readers could contact the Applicant if they had any comments relating to the Proposed Development.

4.1.3 Online Exhibition Invitation to Households and Businesses

In advance of the Online Exhibition, invitations (see Appendix P.5.D) were distributed to over 1,300 homes and businesses within approximately 10 km of the site (see Appendix P.2 for the invitation distribution area). The invitation provided details of how to take part in the online consultation.

4.2. Online and Offline Feedback Forms

The invitation to the online exhibition provided residents of the 1,300 homes and businesses the opportunity to provide feedback on the Proposed Development (see Appendix P.5.E). The 'hard copy' of the feedback card was accompanied by a freepost envelope. For respondents who preferred to provide their thoughts via the consultation website, details of the online form were also provided during the consultation period. Feedback regarding the first exhibition was accepted until 25 June 2021.

4.3. Verbal Communication

A project hotline continues to be available for residents to speak to a member of the Project Team. During the exhibition period, the option to request a call back was also provided. When hosting online meetings to discuss the Proposed Development, an option to dial in via a mobile or landline has always been provided to attendees.

4.4. Digital First Approach

A separate website was set up to host the first Online Exhibition (see Appendix P.5.F), which could be accessed at any time over the three week exhibition period via a link from the Proposed Development website. The Online Exhibition sought to replicate the type of information and materials available at a physical exhibition, see Appendix P.5.G for the brochure that was available online. The Online Exhibition included:

- An exhibition Brochure including information you would usually find at an in-person village hall exhibition, covering;
 - Information on the developer
 - An overview of the Proposed Development, including layout and transport route
 - An overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment process
 - A separate document was available on the website which provided visualisations based on an updated layout reflecting the reduction from 12 to 9 turbines
 - Community Benefit, construction opportunities and Shared Ownership Information
- Pre-recorded videos introducing the Proposed Development and some of the Project Team as well as an extended video presenting the Landscape and Visual aspects of the project;
- An extensive FAQ section on the Proposed Development;
- Live Q&A sessions – giving residents the opportunity to have live interactive chat with the Project Team – these took place on:
 - 27 May 2021, 3pm - 5pm;
 - 2 June and 5pm - 7pm; and
 - 8 June, 4pm - 6pm.

This ensured time slots in the afternoon and evening to provide members of the public with the best opportunity to attend;

- A 'ring back' service to allow members of the public to have a dedicated chat with our team at a date/time suitable to them; and
- An opportunity to leave comments through online feedback forms.

The aim of the public exhibition was to provide an opportunity for the community to view the Proposed Development and provide valuable feedback on the project.

5. Engagement After First Public Exhibition and Consultation Period

5.1. Letters/ Emails to Feedback Card Respondents

All individuals who left comments and asked questions via the feedback forms (online or offline) have been responded to directly (where GDPR has allowed). For individuals who ticked the box not to be contacted in their feedback form, the Applicant has included general responses on their website - please see Appendix P.5.H for examples of responses to these communications.

Included with each letter was a response to the Frequently Asked Questions that were raised during the response within the feedback cards. A copy of the FAQ's can be found in Appendix P.5.I.

5.2. Community Councils

Community Councils were kept updated on the Proposed Development a summary of the consultation feedback was provided.

5.3. Feedback Report

The Applicant received over 300 webpage views on the separate and dedicated website set up to host the Online Exhibition website and seven online forms were completed between 19 May 2021 and 8 June 2021. The Applicant also received 79 feedback forms. In total, there were 88 interactions, including call backs, online forms, feedback forms and emails.

The online and postal feedback form contained several questions and a summary of the answers can be found below:

- Of those who provided a response to the question, 74% agreed that the country needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources. The belief of respondents that onshore wind is a good way to achieve this is quite evenly balanced 41% believe yes, 46% believe no, and 13% are unsure.
- Of respondents who answered the question, 'Do you think this is a good location for a wind farm?', nearly three fifths said no (59%), just over a third responded yes (35%) and 6% were unsure. In June 2021 the Applicant wrote to Community Councils to invite them to attend a webinar entitled 'Location, Location – the challenges to siting onshore wind farms in Scotland'. Statkraft UK's Head of Business and Project Development delivered this presentation.

Topics and questions raised through the first exhibition were considered ahead of the second exhibition event and have also been addressed in the EIA Report for the Proposed Development.

A copy of the Feedback Report of the first exhibition event was sent to the Community Councils and elected representatives in September 2021. A copy of the full report can be found in Appendix P.5.J.

6. Response to First Public Exhibition and Consultation Comments

6.1. Key Issues Raised during the First Public Exhibition and Consultation

The first public consultation and engagement programme for the Proposed Development has adapted to cope with the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Members of the local community have been provided with several opportunities to engage with the project and to provide feedback, online or offline.

A summary of comments can be found below, negative comments focused on the potential cumulative impact of the Proposed Development and the landscape and visual impact of the development whilst supportive comments focused on the project being a renewable energy proposal.

Examples of Feedback

‘I think we have enough wind farms in our area. Thank you.’

‘There are already enough wind farms in this area. Another is unnecessary, I am strongly opposed to this proposal.’

‘Several applications have previously been submitted at nearby locations. What makes you think that this will pass planning and have any support in this community? Far too many turbines in SW Scotland!!’

‘100% behind your project and wish every success.’

‘Hope this goes ahead, we have accommodation here.’

Table 2 below outlines the comments received and the Applicant's response to the main queries and issues raised during the First Consultation period.

Table 2 Comments and Responses

Topic	Comment Received	Applicant's Response
Cumulative / Landscape and Visual	<p>There are too many wind farms in this area - several respondents raised concerns about the potential cumulative impact of the Proposed Development in the area.</p> <p>Turbines will be visible in the valley.</p>	<p>As part of our work towards the planning application for the Proposed Development, we undertaken substantial analysis into the landscape and visual sensitivities in the vicinity of the development.</p> <p>We continue to develop the project, with the aim of finding the right balance between maximising electricity output and carefully siting and designing the proposals to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind developments.</p> <p>This has included moving the turbines further west and, to reflect the topography of the site, using different turbine heights on site to produce a better overall design.</p> <p>We will present the finalised scheme at a second public exhibition later in the year when these assessments will be completed and will form part of the future planning application.</p> <p>We invited the Community Councils to find out more about what makes a site suitable for onshore wind by inviting them to watch a live webinar: ‘Location, Location – the challenges to siting onshore wind farms in Scotland’ where our UK Head of Development, Richard Mardon, explored the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise Scotland’s excellent natural wind resources. We also provided a link on the project website to where the video can be viewed online after the webinar.</p>
Previous Application at this Site	Residents highlighted the previous application on the site and questioned why the Applicant had returned with	<p>This is a new project with a new Applicant bringing forward the proposal for Knockcronal Wind Farm.</p> <p>Our analysis shows that the area is suitable for onshore wind</p>

Topic	Comment Received	Applicant's Response
	a proposal.	development.
Local Benefits/ Community Benefit	Comments regarding benefits to the local area and concerns that developments do not bring local jobs.	<p>There are several ways our projects can bring local benefits, and we are always open to discussing how this can be tailored to each area.</p> <p>The construction phase provides a significant opportunity for local businesses to get involved - for example, over 80 businesses completed our local suppliers register for the construction of our Keith Greener Grid project.</p> <p>Community benefit is not a material part of the planning process and this is made clear in all of our discussions with community or other representatives.</p> <p>The operation of the wind farm brings significant local investment. The Applicant is committed to delivering a community benefit with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the installed capacity of the Proposed Development, but as a guide, based on 50 MW, this is around £250,000 per year over the operating period of the wind farm.</p>
Access	Comments received regarding the need to make the area more accessible.	<p>There is a path near the site and we will take into account comments to improve local access and how the wind farm, should it be consented, could make the area more accessible.</p> <p>This will be considered at the second exhibition.</p>
Local Suppliers	Will there be any opportunities for local businesses?	<p>The Applicant is committed to working with the local supply chain.</p> <p>As an existing member of Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce, work will continue with them and other business groups in the area to ensure local suppliers are aware of the opportunities from our projects. Local businesses have been invited to register their details on our Local Supplier Database. Should the Proposed Development gain consent, 'Meet the Developer' events for businesses will be organised.</p>

As outlined in the Applicant's Consultation Summary Report, which was shared with the Community Councils and uploaded to the project website, these issues were considered and, where possible, addressed ahead of the second exhibition event.

7. Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Period - Online and In-Person

7.1. Background

As the Covid-19 restrictions eased the second Public Exhibition was held virtually and in-person.

The second exhibition was held from 14 September to 5 October 2021. The online element of the event was available over the full exhibition period and could be accessed at www.knockcronal.co.uk. The in-person events took place on 21 and 22 September 2021 in Dailly and Straiton. See below for more detail.

This enabled the Applicant to meet the request of Crosshill, Straiton & Kirkmichael Community Council to, if possible, host an in-person exhibition event to give residents different opportunities to engage on the proposals.

In order to hold a physical exhibition, the Applicant carried out risk assessments which were approved by South Ayrshire Council in advance of the exhibition events. The measures taken at the physical exhibitions included:

- An appointment-based system to ensure the number of attendees in the hall stayed within the hall capacity;
- Track and Trace in operation, with contact details of all attendees registered by the Applicant;
- Members of the Applicant team taking Lateral Flow Tests in advance of the exhibitions;
- Face mask covering in operation and hand sanitiser available to attendees;
- A one way system in place for the halls; and
- Spacing out of information material.

The physical and online events were published in various ways to maximise the number of local residents that knew about the second exhibition event and have the opportunity to engage in the consultation process.

7.1.1 Community Council Invite and Notification to Second Public Exhibition

An email was issued to host and neighbouring Community Councils (Appendix P.6.A) to invite them to the exhibition events and, if they wish, to promote them on their social media channels (Appendix P.6.B)

7.1.2 Elected Representatives Invite and Notification to Second Public Exhibition

The local MP and MSP and Ward Councillors for Maybole, North Carrick and Coylton (local ward to the Proposed Development) and Ward Councillors for Girvan and South Carrick (neighbouring Ward to the Proposed Development) were written to with details of the event and, if they wish, to promote them on their social media channels (Appendix P.6.C)

7.1.3 Newspaper Adverts

A newspaper advert with the public notice was published in the Ayr Advertiser newspaper on Tuesday 14 September 2021 and in the Ayrshire Post on 15 September 2021 and 22 September 2021 (the day of the last exhibition) (see Appendix P.6.D). This notice provided information on how to book an appointment at the exhibition events and details of the online exhibition.

7.1.4 Exhibition Invitation to Households and businesses

In advance of the online exhibition going live invitations (see Appendix P.6.E) were distributed to over 1,300 homes and businesses within approximately 10 km of the Site (see Appendix P.2 for invitation distribution area). The invitation provided details of the physical exhibitions, how to book an appointment (either online or by calling the project hotline) and how to take part in the online consultation.

7.2. Online and Offline feedback Forms

The invitation also included a feedback card, which was accompanied by a freepost envelope.

The feedback form was available online and a copies of the feedback forms were available at the drop in sessions for attendees to complete or take away to provide their feedback on the Proposed Development (see Appendix P.6.F). The feedback forms could be returned up until the 22 October 2021.

7.3. Physical Exhibition

Physical Exhibitions took place at the:

- Dailly Community Centre, Dailly - 21 September 2021, 2pm - 7pm; and
- McCandlish Hall, Straiton - 22 September 2021, 2pm - 7pm.

The aim of the public exhibitions was to provide an opportunity for members of the community and stakeholders to view the latest plans for Knockcronal Wind Farm and gain further feedback on the Proposed Development. The timings and venues of the public exhibitions were also intended to provide members of the public with the best opportunity to attend.

On display were a number of information boards (see Appendix P.6.G) covering:

- Information about the developer;
- An overview of the Proposed Development, including layout, transport route and how the Proposed Development has taken on board comments from the first exhibition event;
- Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) of the development;
- Community Benefit, Construction opportunities and Shared Ownership Information;
- Printed information booklets for members of the public to take away; and
- A screen was also set up to run a presentation of several agreed viewpoints for the project.

The Applicant provided software at the exhibition which enabled attendees to view a visualisation of the Proposed Development from a location of their choice.

Feedback forms were available at the event for members of the public to fill out or take away with a freepost envelope.

Dailly had seven visitors and Straiton had 31 visitors attending the events. The majority of attendees had booked an appointment in advance. Several members of the public attended on the day without an appointment - they provided track and trace details and the hall was not at capacity so they were able to attend the exhibition. All members of the public who arrived were able to attend the exhibitions. (see Appendix P.6.H for photos of the physical exhibitions).

7.4. Online Exhibition, 14 September to 5 October 2021.

A separate consultation website was set up to host the second Online Exhibition (see Appendix P.6.I), which could be accessed anytime over a three week period from 14 September - 5 October 2021, via a link from the Proposed Development project website. The Online Exhibition sought to replicate the type of information and materials available at the physical exhibition, see Appendix P.6.J for the brochure that was available online.

The Online Exhibition included:

- Exhibition brochure – including the information that would typically be available at a village hall exhibition. This covered:
 - Information about the developer;
 - An overview of the Proposed Development, including the layout and further details about the transport route;

- Specific information about how the Proposed Development had been progressed since the first exhibition; and
 - Community Benefit, Construction opportunities and Community Ownership Information.
 - A separate predicted views brochure (see Appendix P.6.K for an example of content) was available on the website which provided visualisations of the wind farm from several agreed viewpoint locations.
- A live Q&A session on 5 October 2021, 12pm - 2pm to provide members of the public with a dedicated interactive online event to engage with the Project Team;
 - A 'ring back' service to allow members of the public to have a dedicated chat with the Applicant's team at a date/ time suitable to them;
 - Comprehensive FAQ section; and
 - An opportunity to leave comments through online feedback forms (which could be returned up to and including the 22 October 2021).

The aim of the second public exhibition was to provide an update on the project and provide an opportunity for the community to view the Proposed Development and provide further feedback.

8. Engagement After Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Period

8.1. Letters/ Emails to Feedback Card Respondents

All individuals who left comments and asked questions via the feedback forms (online or offline) have been responded to directly (where GDPR has allowed, see Appendix P.6.L). For individuals who ticked the box not to be contacted in their feedback form, the Applicant has included general responses on their website - please see Appendix P.6.M for examples of responses to these communications.

8.2. Community Councils

Community Councils have been sent a summary of the consultation feedback provided during the Second Exhibition. Please see Appendix P.6.N for a copy of the Consultation Report.

8.3. Feedback Report

The Applicant received over 120 webpage views on the separate and dedicated website set up to host the Online Exhibition website. 38 individuals attended the exhibition days and one online form was completed during the exhibition period. The Applicant also received 41 feedback forms). In total, there were 109 interactions, including call backs, online forms, feedback forms. In addition, confirmation emails were sent to attendees to confirm their drop in slots at the consultation.

The online and postal feedback form contained several questions and a summary of the answers can be found below:

- Of those who provided a response to the question 76% agreed that the country needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources. The belief of respondents that onshore wind is a good way to achieve this is quite evenly balanced 36% believe yes, 40% believe no, and 24% are unsure. The number of unsure respondents rose by 11% relative to the first exhibition.
- Of respondents who answered the question; Do you think this is a good location for a wind farm, the response rates from the first exhibition remained very similar, three fifths (60%) said no, one third responded yes (33%) and 7% were unsure.

A copy of the Feedback Report of the second exhibition event was shared with the Community Councils and elected representatives in November 2021. A copy of the full report can be found in see Appendix P.6.N.

9. Response to Second Public Exhibition and Consultation Comments

9.1. Key Issues Raised during the Consultation

The second public exhibition and consultation programme for the project adapted to the changing restrictions in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the local community have been provided with several opportunities to engage with the project and several ways to provide feedback.

A summary of comments can be found below, comments in support of the project focussed on harnessing renewable energy. Negative comments focused on the cumulative impact of the proposed turbines, neutral comments pointed towards using other renewable technology, and supportive comments pointed towards getting on with the job and good engagement opportunities.

Examples of Feedback

‘Essentially there are now too many onshore wind farms in this part of the world’

‘I think that we have enough WF’s surely these can be placed elsewhere where there are either none or fewer such sites’

‘Do not wish to be surrounded by wind turbines. Should go offshore and/or nuclear.’

‘Consultation opportunities have been very good, and information about the proposal, so thank you for that.’

‘Get on with the job’

Table 3 below outlines the comments received and the Applicant’s response to the main queries and issues raised during the Second Consultation period.

Table 3 Comments and Responses

Topic	Comment Received	Applicant’s Response
Cumulative / Landscape and Visual	Number of applications in the area raised and visual impact of the project/s if all consented.	<p>Since the project was introduced at scoping, we have refined the design of the Proposed Development, incorporating feedback received during the exhibitions and have assessed in detail the landscape and visual impacts on local settlements.</p> <p>The Proposed Development has reduced from 12 to 9 turbines from the original scoping layout and 3 turbines have reduced in size from 200m to 180m to blade tip height.</p> <p>Cumulative assessments are undertaken as part of the application process and considered by the planning authority.</p>
Previous Application at this site	Residents highlighted the previous application on the site and questioned why the	<p>The Proposed Development is partly on the site of a previously proposed project although this is a new scheme.</p> <p>We have taken into account feedback from the first</p>

Topic	Comment Received	Applicant's Response
	Applicant had returned with a proposal.	application when taking forward the Proposed Development, including distance from settlements and we have highlighted changes to the Proposed Development to receive feedback throughout the pre-application stage ahead of submitting a Section 36 Application.
Broadband	Residents highlighted the R100 scheme in the area and were unclear why the Applicant was offering a broadband feasibility study.	<p>High-quality broadband is required to operate wind farms, including Knockcronal Wind Farm, should it be consented.</p> <p>The Applicant carries out a broadband feasibility study to assess the potential for fibre and wireless line-of-sight broadband that can also benefit the local and wider community as well.</p> <p>If there is an opportunity for the Proposed Development to help further improve broadband connections for residents and businesses in the area, then the Applicant would be happy to explore this with the community.</p> <p>R100 is being rolled out to communities near the Proposed Development and the Applicant's feasibility study will outline whether broadband connections could be improved further within the area.</p>
Community Benefit	Residents outlined that operational wind farm Community Benefit Funds have gone to further out communities and are concerned that the local communities to the Proposed Development will not get Community Benefit.	<p>Community benefit is not a material part of the planning process and this is made clear in discussions with community representatives.</p> <p>The Applicant is committed to £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The Applicant follows the Best Practice Principles for Community Benefit and has outlined the community benefit offering to the host and near neighbouring Community Councils.</p>
Access	Comments received regarding the possibility to have cycle tracks and walking paths at the site as well as connect up to other projects to have a path network.	The Applicant is exploring the possibility of signage near the site and improving path access as part of additional community initiatives.
Local Suppliers	<p>Will there be any opportunities for local businesses, such as Straiton Cooperative?</p> <p>Will the Applicant use local businesses for accommodation if the Proposed Development is</p>	<p>The Applicant is committed to working with the local supply chain.</p> <p>The exhibition event was helpful as local residents highlighted local groups and businesses, the Applicant shall encourage these parties to register their details on their Local Supplier Database.</p> <p>The Applicant is a member of Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>Local businesses have the opportunity to register their details</p>

Topic	Comment Received	Applicant's Response
	given the go ahead?	on the Applicant's Local Supplier Database. Should the Proposed Development gain consent, 'Meet the Developer' events for businesses will be organised.

10. Conclusions

10.1. Key Outcomes

Feedback from consultations at the scoping stage and during the exhibitions have helped inform the iterative design process of the Proposed Development, as outlined in EIAR Volume 1 Chapter 2.

The feedback, in tandem with the COVID-19 restrictions easing, also informed the engagement approaches, and The Applicant was pleased to host in-person drop in sessions within the local community during September 2021.

10.2. Summary

The design of the Proposed Development has evolved during the pre-planning process, including in response to the PAC process. The changes arising from this process include reducing the number of turbines and the positioning of turbines, avoiding highest points on site to make them less prominent within the valley.

10.3. Community Engagement Following S36 Application Submission

The Applicant is committed to continuing engagement with the surrounding communities and residents throughout the S36 process and will continue to respond to any feedback or queries received from the community.

The Applicant aims to continue their discussions on pathways, community benefit, shared ownership and broadband with the surrounding community councils in 2022.

The S36 application documents will be published on the Proposed Development's website www.knockcronal.co.uk. The website will also continue to be updated with progress on the application and any events.

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

11. Appendices

Appendix P.1: Consultation Timeline

Appendix P.2: Map of Consultation Area

Appendix P.3: Letter and Presentations

Appendix P.4: Example of the Knockcronal Wind Farm Project Website Content

Appendix P.5: First Public Consultation Material

Appendix P.6: Second Public Consultation Material

This page is intentionally blank.

Appendix P.1: Consultation Timeline

This page is intentionally blank.

Date	Activity
15/01/2021	Wrote to Community Councils of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael, Dailly and Barr following publication of the Scoping Report on the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) website (14/01/2021) including a presentation.
15/01/2021	Wrote to Elected Representatives including local Councillors, MP and MSP's following publication of the Scoping Report on the ECU website (14/01/2021) including a presentation.
15/01/2021	Project website launched. (www.knockcronal.co.uk)
January onwards	Follow up communications with Community Councils and Councillors to set up meetings to introduce the project at virtual meetings.
11/02/2021	Meeting to introduce Project with Councillor Henderson and Councillor Grant as requested.
17/02/2021	Meeting with Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council as requested by them to present the project and answer queries.
18/02/2021 – March 2021	Follow up emails to Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council with to provide a copy of the presentation more detailed responses to some of their queries (i.e. regarding transport route and in person consultations).
05/03/2021	Follow up with Cllr Henderson and Cllr Grant regarding project update and meeting in February.
13-18/05/2021	Email invitation to Community Councils of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael, Dailly and Barr regarding Online Exhibition details, provision of advert and copy of mailing. Community Councils were asked to share the advert on their Facebook pages or social media.
18/05/2021 and 19/05/2021	Public Notice for the Exhibition published in the Ayrshire Advertiser on 18/05/2021 and in the Ayrshire Post on 19/05/2021.
17/05/2021	<p>Invite Mailing sent to over 1,300 homes and businesses within 10km of the site to land ahead of the virtual exhibition going live.</p> <p>Map of the Mailing area please see – Appendix P.2</p> <p>Copy of the Mailing please see – Appendix P.5.D.</p>
19/05/2021	Online virtual exhibition live access via www.knockcronal.co.uk
27/05/2021	Online Exhibition – Live Chat Session 1 – 3pm - 5pm
02/06/2021	Online Exhibition – Live Chat Session 2 – 5pm - 7pm
08/06/2021	Online Exhibition – Live Chat Session 3 – 4pm - 6pm

08/06/2021	Online virtual exhibition closed
25/06/2021	Date to receive feedback cards in response to first exhibition.
28/06/2021	Location, Location webinar delivered by Richard Mardon Statkraft's Head of Development, hosted by NetZero, that members of community councils invited to
03/08/2021	Responses sent to everyone (in line with GDPR) that submitted a feedback form for the project. Responses addressed specific questions and included a copy of our responses to the Frequently Asked Questions received.
13/09/2021	Email invitation to Community Councils of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael, Dailly and Barr regarding Second Exhibition details including drop in physical events and including a copy of the advert for publication on social media. Also included with this email was a copy of the Consultation Report from the first exhibition.
13/09/2021	Wrote to Elected Representatives including local Councillors, MP and MSP's etc regarding Second Exhibition details including drop in physical events including a copy of the advert for publication on social media. Also included with this email was a copy of the Consultation Report from the first exhibition.
14/09/2021, 15/09/2021 and 21/09/2021	Public Notice for the Exhibition published in the Ayrshire Advertiser on 14/09/21 and 21/09/21 and the Ayrshire Post on 15/09/2021.
10/09/2021	Mailing sent to over 1,300 homes and businesses within 10km of the site to land ahead of the virtual exhibition going live.
13/09/2021	Mailing dropped slightly early, therefore online booking system put in place on main project website at www.knockcronal.co.uk to book appointments for those wishing to attend drop in session.
14/09/2021 – 5/10/2021	Online virtual exhibition live including opportunity to book spaces at drop in sessions.
21/09/2021	In-person Physical Exhibition – Dailly Community Centre 2pm – 7pm
22/09/2021	In-person physical exhibition – McCandlish Hall, Straiton 2pm-7pm
05/10/2021	Online Exhibition – Live Chat Session 12 noon – 2pm
05/10/2021	Online virtual exhibition closed
22/09 - 29/10/21	Follow up responses to queries raised during or post public consultation. This included sending plans of the access routes and visualisations of what the wind farm may look like from certain postcodes. Responding to queries regarding the community benefit fund.
22/10/2021	Date to receive feedback cards in response to second exhibition.

15/11/2021	Responses to everyone (in line with GDPR) that submitted a feedback form for the project. Responses addressed specific questions and included a copy of our responses to Frequently Asked Questions received during the Second Exhibition.
17/11/2021	Email to Community Councils and Elected representatives summarising the feedback from the Second Exhibition and providing a copy of the Community Consultation Report.

Appendix P.2: Map of Consultation Area

This page is intentionally blank.

All properties and business within c.10km of the Proposed Development were mailed during the first and second public exhibition periods.



Appendix P.3: Letters and Presentations

This page is intentionally blank.

P.3.A - Letter and Presentation sent to Community Councils when the Scoping Report was published

A copy of this letter and presentation was sent to Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council, Dailly and Barr Community Councils.



██████████
 Chairperson
 Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council

POSTAL ADDRESS:
 Statkraft UK Ltd
 1 West Regent Street
 Glasgow
 G2 1RW

By email: ██████████

--- PHONE:
 0800 772 0668

--- INTERNET:
www.statkraft.co.uk
www.knockcronal.co.uk

YOUR REF./DATE:	OUR REF.:	PLACE/DATE:
	Knockcronal	15 January 2021

E-MAIL:
tom.walker@statkraft.com
john.wallace@statkraft.com

Knockcronal Wind Farm Proposal

Dear Members of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council,

I am writing to introduce Statkraft UK Ltd and our proposals for a wind farm called Knockcronal Wind Farm, located approximately 4km south of Straiton.

About Us

Statkraft is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, with origins going back 125 years in Norwegian hydro power. In the UK we majority own a hydro power plant and four wind farms and are committed to our investment plans for Scotland. We are also involved in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and are proud to have been appointed by the National Grid to assist on grid flexibility, maximising the potential for renewable energy. Our Scottish office is in Glasgow, and we have 4,000 employees across 17 countries.

About Knockcronal

The proposal for Knockcronal Wind Farm is at an early stage of the design process. We think there is potential for up to 12 turbines, up to 200m high to tip with a capacity exceeding 50MW. The proposal may reduce in scale as feedback is received from statutory consultees and the local community and as our environmental consultants progress their studies.

The Knockcronal proposal is located on the site of the previously proposed Linfairm Wind Farm, developed by WillowWind Energy Limited. WillowWind Energy Limited withdrew their application in July 2018 and is not involved in this new scheme being developed by Statkraft.

Consulting Early

Our next step is to seek feedback on our initial plans. In December 2020 we submitted a [Scoping Request](#) to the Scottish Government to help shape our continued investigations and assessment of this proposal. The Scoping Request and project is not considered live until the Energy Consent Unit has processed it and this happened on 14/01/2021. We wanted to make sure you heard from us directly when the project went live to provide you with our contact details. Please feel free to contact us directly or view our project website



to find out more about us, the project and provide any feedback on the proposal. We expect the Scottish Government will contact you for feedback on our Scoping Request too.

We have a history of engaging early with local communities and have confidence that we can still do this despite face-to-face meetings not being possible at this time due to Covid-19. We have set up a dedicated website which I hope will help provide the Community Council with reassurance that we intend to progress the development of this project in an open and engaging manner. The address for the website is knockcronal.co.uk.

If possible, over the next couple of weeks, we would welcome the opportunity to speak with you and your Community Council by phone or video call at a time convenient for you. The purpose of the call would be to outline our proposal in more detail, introduce some of the team and receive any early feedback. We would also greatly appreciate hearing your ideas around how we can best engage with residents of the local community throughout the development and planning stages of the project.

Community Benefits

We often get asked about community benefit funding in relation to our projects. Statkraft is committed to offering £5,000 per MW of installed capacity in community benefit funding for this project. Furthermore, if there is interest shown from within the community, we are keen to bring forward opportunities for shared ownership for the proposal too.

In addition to a community fund and investment, we look for other ways our projects can bring meaningful benefits to the community. We are the only wind farm developer that has pledged to commission feasibility studies to assess the potential for bringing improved access to broadband to the local area of each project. A broadband feasibility study will be undertaken for the local area surrounding Knockcronal Wind Farm.

It is also important to note we are dedicated to working with the local supply chain to deliver our projects. We will provide a 'Local Supplier' registration link on our project website to ensure businesses can register their interest to work with us.

Next Steps

In the first instance, we would welcome the opportunity to chat by phone or video call. In the meantime, we have attached a short summary of the early plans.

Finally, we understand that there are more important matters due to the current health emergency. However, we wanted to provide this information on our proposals and assure you we are following Scottish Government advice throughout all of our work in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce Statkraft and outline our proposals.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Walker

Senior Project Manager, UK Wind and Solar



John Wallace

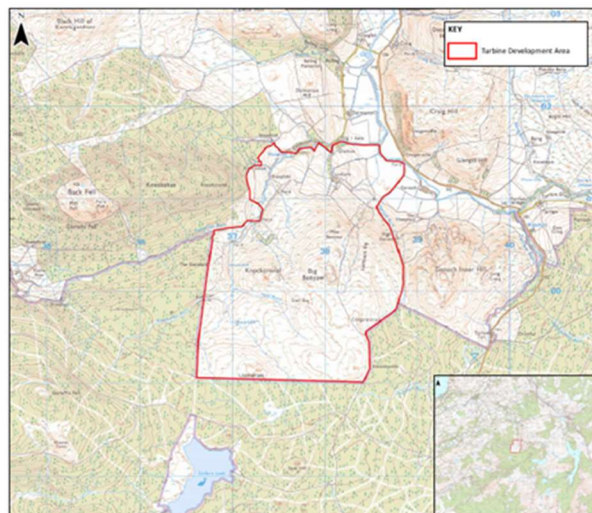
Project Manager, UK Wind and Solar



About the Site

Site Location and Potential

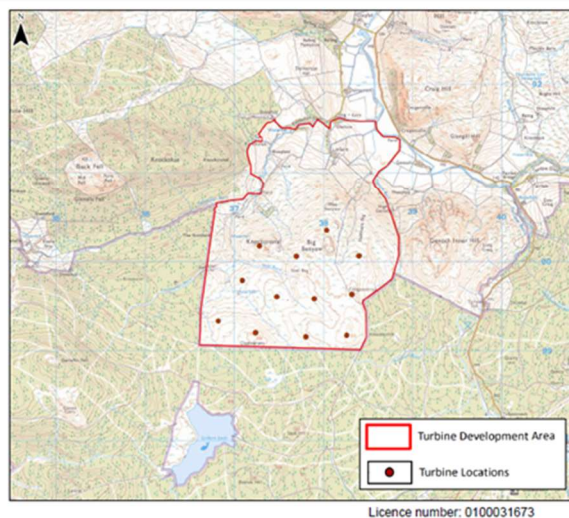
- A maximum of 12 wind turbines
- Considering up to 200 metres tip height
- Project size to be determined as studies are completed and consultation feedback received
- The site was previously developed as part of the Linfain Wind Farm by Willowind Energy
- This is a new and separate application with no involvement from Willowind Energy



About the Site

Layout Design

- The project team are continuing to refine the design of the wind farm based on the findings of ongoing landscape and visual, noise, cultural heritage and other environmental assessments
- The proposed scoping layout for 12 turbines is shown on the right
- Turbine numbers, tip heights and locations are still to be fixed
- The layout will be finalised following community consultations



Next Steps

- Ongoing site studies to arrive at the best layout for the site
- Launch of project website
- Online exhibition and interactive consultation in Q1/2 2021
- Application submission expected Q3 2021
- If consented, both a community benefit fund and investment opportunity will be made available for this project
- Throughout the development of the project we will continue to follow Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19




4



The Knockcronal Team
Tom Walker
 tom.walker@statkraft.com
John Wallace
 john.wallace@statkraft.com

www.knockcronal.co.uk



statkraft.co.uk

P.3.B Letter and Presentation sent to Elected Representatives when the Scoping Report was published



Cllr [REDACTED]

By email: ian.fitzsimmons@south-ayrshire.gov.uk

POSTAL ADDRESS:
Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW

PHONE:
0800 772 0668

INTERNET:
www.statkraft.co.uk
www.knockcronal.co.uk

E-MAIL:
tom.walker@statkraft.com
john.wallace@statkraft.com

YOUR REF./DATE:	OUR REF.:	PLACE/DATE:
	Knockcronal	15 January 2021

Knockcronal Wind Farm Proposal

Dear Cllr [REDACTED]

I am writing to introduce Statkraft UK Ltd and our proposals for a wind farm called Knockcronal Wind Farm, located approximately 4km south of Straiton.

About Us

Statkraft is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, with origins going back 125 years in Norwegian hydro power. In the UK we majority own a hydro power plant and four wind farms and are committed to our investment plans for Scotland. We are also involved in electric vehicle charging infrastructure and are proud to have been appointed by the National Grid to assist on grid flexibility, maximising the potential for renewable energy. Our Scottish office is in Glasgow, and we have 4,000 employees across 17 countries.

About Knockcronal

The proposal for Knockcronal Wind Farm is at an early stage of the design process. We think there is potential for up to 12 turbines, up to 200m high to tip and with a capacity exceeding 50MW. The proposal may reduce in scale as feedback is received from statutory consultees and the local community and as our environmental consultants progress their studies.

The Knockcronal proposal is located on the site of the previously proposed Linfairm Wind Farm, developed by WilloWind Energy Limited. WilloWind Energy Limited withdrew their application in July 2018 and is not involved in this new scheme being developed by Statkraft.

Consulting Early

Our next step is to seek feedback on our initial plans. We have written to members of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmicheal Community Council (as the development area falls within this area) and the Barr and Dailly Community Councils as neighbours to the development area.

In December 2020 we submitted a [Scoping Request](#) to the Scottish Government to help shape our continued investigations and assessment of this proposal. The Scoping Request and project is not considered live until the Energy Consent Unit has processed it and this



happened 14/01/21. We wanted to make sure you and the communities heard from us directly when the project went live to provide you with our contact details.

We have a history of engaging early with local communities and have confidence that we can still do this despite face-to-face meetings not being possible at this time due to Covid-19. We have set up a dedicated website knockcronal.co.uk. We have also offered each Community Council the opportunity to meet with us, to discuss the proposal in more detail and hear their ideas around how we can best engage with residents throughout the project.

If you would like to meet to discuss the project in more detail, please do get in touch.

Community Benefits

We often get asked about community benefit funding in relation to our projects. Statkraft is committed to offering £5,000 per MW of installed capacity in community benefit funding for this project. Furthermore, if there is interest shown from within the community, we are keen to bring forward opportunities for shared ownership for the proposal too.

In addition to a community fund and investment, we look for other ways our projects can bring meaningful benefits to the community. We are the only wind farm developer that has pledged to commission feasibility studies to assess the potential for bringing improved access to broadband to the local area of each project. A broadband feasibility study will be undertaken for the local area surrounding Knockcronal Wind Farm.

It is also important to note we are dedicated to working with the local supply chain to deliver our projects. We will provide a 'Local Supplier' registration link on our project website to ensure businesses can register their interest to work with us.

Next Steps

In the first instance, we will be aiming to set up phone or video calls with local community councils to chat about the project. In the meantime, we have attached a short summary of the early plans we have sent to each community council.

Finally, we understand that there are more important matters due to the current health emergency. However, we wanted to provide this information on our proposals and assure you we are following Scottish Government advice throughout all of our work in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce Statkraft and outline our proposals. We will keep you updated as the project progresses. Please contact us if you would like to meet, require any further information or have any queries at this time.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Walker

Senior Project Manager, UK Wind and Solar



John Wallace

Project Manager, UK Wind and Solar

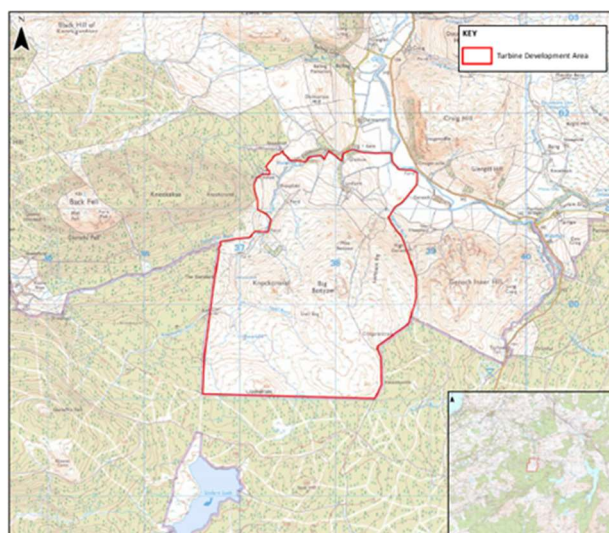


About the Site

Site Location and Potential

- A maximum of 12 wind turbines
- Considering up to 200 metres tip height
- Project size to be determined as studies are completed and consultation feedback received
- The site was previously developed as part of the Linfairn Wind Farm by Willowind Energy
- This is a new and separate application with no involvement from Willowind Energy

2



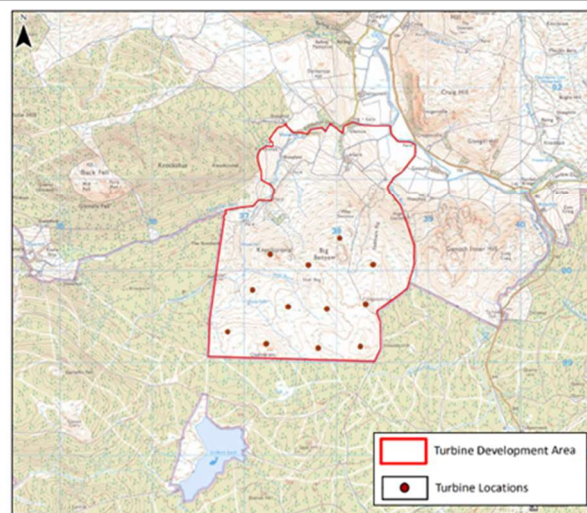
Licence number: 0100031673

About the Site

Layout Design

- The project team are continuing to refine the design of the wind farm based on the findings of ongoing landscape and visual, noise, cultural heritage and other environmental assessments
- The proposed scoping layout for 12 turbines is shown on the right
- Turbine numbers, tip heights and locations are still to be fixed
- The layout will be finalised following community consultations

3



Licence number: 0100031673

Next Steps

- Ongoing site studies to arrive at the best layout for the site
- Launch of project website
- Online exhibition and interactive consultation in Q1/2 2021
- Application submission expected Q3 2021
- If consented, both a community benefit fund and investment opportunity will be made available for this project
- Throughout the development of the project we will continue to follow Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19




The Knockcronal Team

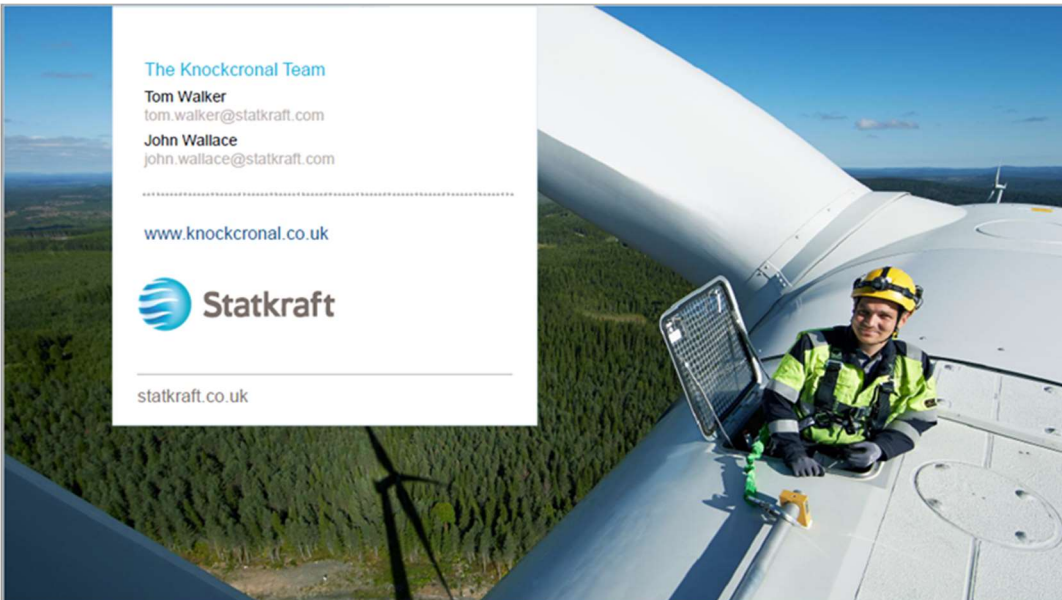
Tom Walker
tom.walker@statkraft.com

John Wallace
john.wallace@statkraft.com

www.knockcronal.co.uk



statkraft.co.uk

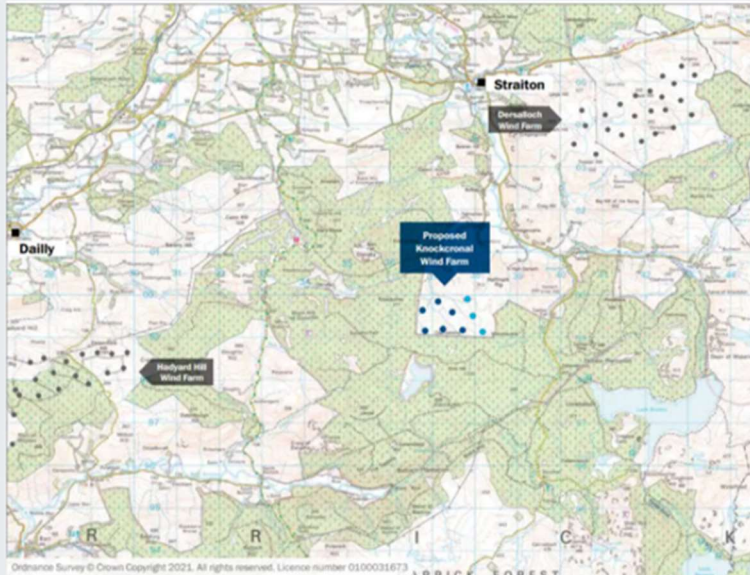


Appendix P.4: Example of Knockcronal Wind Farm Project Website Content

This page is intentionally blank.

[Home](#) » [Knockcronal Wind Farm](#)

Knockcronal Wind Farm



Welcome to our dedicated website for Knockcronal Wind Farm

The website provides a way to easily access information and contact us when we are unable to be present more regularly in the community.

Since we introduced our plans in January 2021, we have reduced the number of turbines from 12 to 9 turbines, with a tip height up to 200m. We presented more detail on the 9 turbine scheme during our May exhibition and at our second exhibition during September and October.

During the second exhibition period we were pleased to be able to host two drop in sessions, on 21 and 22 September, in Dailly and Straiton. Thank you to everyone who made it along to these events to share their views on the development. If you weren't able to make the drop in sessions all of the information was available online.

This website will be kept updated over the development period to keep you informed of how the project may be changing and is progressing. We are keen to hear your views and ideas on the project as it progresses too.

Please complete the [feedback form](#) to share your views, or ask a question.

We are following all Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19 as we progress our plans.

Register for updates

Knockcronal Project Timeline

Stage 2: Pre-Planning (6 - 12 months)

We request the view of the Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council on the level of study required (known as "Scoping") to assess the proposal. Scoping is sent to local and neighbouring Community Councils and consultees such as NatureScot (previously known as SNH), SEPA and Historic Environment Scotland.

At this scoping stage it is expected that our initial proposal will evolve in response to, information from studies and engagement with the public and statutory consultees.

We will continue to follow all Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19 and focus our engagement online.

The Development Team

John Wallace

Project Manager



Harry Handford

Project Manager



Ruth Semple

Community Liaison Manager



[For more detail about Knockcronal Wind Farm click here to view our Frequently Asked Questions.](#)

LATEST NEWS ASK A QUESTION YOUR FEEDBACK REQUEST A CALL BACK

Drop-in Sessions – A Thank You

05 Oct 2021



We wish to thank everyone who took the time on the 21 and 22 September to attend the Daily and Straiton community drop-in sessions and everyone who has provided feedback so far on the Knockcronal Autumn Exhibition.

At the drop-in session, the Knockcronal project team met with local residents and businesses to discuss the project and share project detail such as view points from residents homes and the surrounding area. Nearly 40 people attended over the 2 days which gave an opportunity to hear local views face to face rather than online.

[Continue reading...](#)

Exhibitions Announced for Knockcronal Wind Farm

13 Sep 2021



Following our exhibitions in May and June 2021, we will be hosting another series of events between 14 September and 5 October 2021 to present our plans for Knockcronal Wind Farm. We expect to submit an application to the Scottish Government later this year.

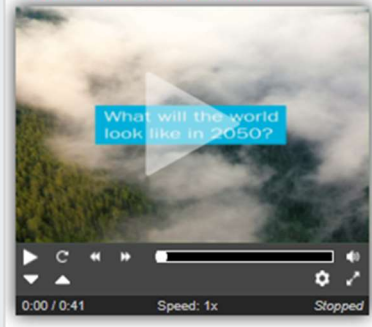
Twelve turbines up to 200m were initially proposed for the site but following site studies and community feedback, the proposal now has nine turbines with six turbines up to 200m and three up to 180 metres. We wish to thank the members of the local community who took the time to provide feedback.

[Continue reading...](#)

You're Invited: Find out more about 'Why here?' Webinar 29th June 2021 at 10am

24 Jun 2021

Statkraft's Low Emission Scenario 2020



Project Documents



Request a call back





One of the most common questions we are asked when developing our projects is "Why here?".

Statkraft's Head of Business and Project Development will help answer this question at a webinar on Tuesday, 29 June at 10am.

During the webinar Richard Mardon will take us behind the scenes of the development process, with a step by step guide on the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise

Scotland's excellent natural wind resource. There will also be the opportunity to ask questions.

[Continue reading...](#)

Related Websites



Local Suppliers Register



Public Consultation - Thank you

22 Jun 2021



Thank you to all residents and interested groups who took the time to visit our online consultation regarding our plans for Knockcronal Wind Farm between 19 May and 8 June. The documents presented during the online consultation can be viewed [here](#).

We are now in the process of assessing and responding to all feedback received. Note that due to GDPR legislation we are unable to respond directly to anyone who returned one of our freepost reply cards but did not tick the "Yes, please respond to my comment and advise when the project is submitted"

[Continue reading...](#)



[more...](#)

Online Consultation goes live for the Proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm

19 May 2021



We are pleased to announce that the online consultation for our proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm has commenced. The exhibition will run from Wednesday 19 May - Tuesday 8 June 2021.

Over 1,300 residences and businesses within c.10km of the site have been invited to attend, and advertisements have been placed in the local papers, Ayr Advertiser and Ayrshire Post.

Since introducing our plans in January 2021, we have carried

[Continue reading...](#)

Tweets by @StatkraftUK

Statkraft UK Retweeted

Statkraft Ireland
@StatkraftIreland

With an extensive portfolio in renewable energy, we are leaders in power purchase agreements (PPA). We can provide companies with clean energy & we can facilitate the financing of sustainable renewable projects. #cop26 #TogetherForOurPlanet #ClimateAction tinyurl.com/bw3wvzwn



Knockcronal Scoping Submission

14 Jan 2021



We are pleased to have submitted a [Scoping Request](#) to the Scottish Government to progress our plans for Knockcronal Wind Farm, approximately 4km south of Straiton in South Ayrshire. The proposals are at an early stage and the Scoping Request to the Scottish Government seeks to continue our investigations and receive early feedback from the local community and consultees.

At this stage we think there is potential for up to 12 turbines up to 200m high to tip and with a capacity exceeding 50MW. The proposal may reduce in scale as feedback is received from

[Continue reading...](#)

Targets Set To Reduce Emissions In Scotland By 75% In Just 10 Years

14 Jan 2021

The power sector continues to lead efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Scotland, according to the [latest report from the Committee on Climate Change \(External link\)](#) (CCC).

In its 2019 report to Parliament, the committee, an independent body set up to advise the UK and devolved governments on emissions targets, said reductions must be made economy-wide to avoid missing those targets. Emissions fell by 3% in 2017, compared to a 10% drop the previous year.

Scotland is committed to becoming a net-zero society by 2045 - five years ahead of the rest of the UK. It has set targets to reduce emissions by 56% by this year and by 75% by 2030. The CCC has warned the targets will be extremely challenging to meet and much more needs to be done to drive reductions.

Statkraft aims to play its part in helping to achieve the aims with plans to invest £600 million on wind and solar projects in Scotland within the next five years.

Working To Net Zero Will See Nearly 50,000 Jobs Created In Scotland

14 Jan 2021

Low-carbon electricity generation, from sources including wind and solar power, must increase by around 50% in the next decade alone to meet net zero targets.

The warning comes from the National Grid which also highlights the need to install low-carbon heating systems in 2.8 million homes and 60,000 charging points for electric vehicles over the next ten years. At the same time, carbon capture usage and storage technology and hydrogen networks will need to be developed.

In its report, [Building the Net Zero Energy Workforce \(External link\)](#), it says properly skilled workers will be required to transform the energy network. In Scotland alone, **48,700 jobs will have to be created** to reach the UK target of net zero by 2050 – although the Scottish target is five years earlier.

Statkraft has an important role to play. Our commitment to invest £600 million in Scotland in the next five years will help reduce emissions and create new jobs.

Page last updated: 13 October 2021, 13:24

Power purchase agreements
With a portfolio of around 15 GW, Statkraft i...
statkraft.ie

2h

Statkraft UK Retweeted

COP26 
@COP26
It's Finance Day at #COP26

Mobilising finance for #ClimateAction is vital to limiting global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees. #TogetherForOurPlanet

Embed

View on Twitter


ayrshirechamber
of commerce and industry

 MEMBER OF
scottish renewables
2020-2021

Statkraft UK Ltd

London
41 Moorgate
London EC2R 6PP
United Kingdom







Glasgow
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow G2 1RW
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7448 8200
Fax: +44 (0) 20 744488241
Email: uk-post@statkraft.com

Links

- > [Contact us](#)
- > [Investor Relations](#)
- > [Job vacancies](#)
- > [Media](#)
- > [Projects](#)
- > [Power plants](#)
- > [Market transparency](#)
- > [Statement on modern slavery](#)
- > [About cookies](#)
- > [Home office](#)
- > [Privacy statement](#)
- > [Statkraft Contractors Academy](#)
- > [Safety electrical regulation](#)
- > [Statkraft](#)

Follow Statkraft

-  [Facebook](#)
-  [Twitter](#)
-  [YouTube](#)
-  [Flickr](#)
-  [Instagram](#)
-  [LinkedIn](#)

Site Information

- > [Privacy Policy](#)
- > [Moderation Policy](#)
- > [Accessibility](#)
- > [Technical Support](#)
- > [Site Map](#)
- > [Powered by EngagementHQ](#)

Appendix P.5: First Public Consultation Material

This page is intentionally blank.

P.5.A - Example of email to Community Councils regarding First Exhibition Dates

Similar correspondence sent to Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council and Barr Community Council.

From: Semple Ruth <Ruth.Semple@statkraft.com>
Sent: 18 May 2021 15:43
To: Redacted
Subject: RE: Knockcronal Wind Farm – Online Public Exhibition – 19 May 2021 – 8 June 2021 - Dailly Community Council

Good afternoon Members of Dailly Community Council,

Please find attached an electronic copy of the Invite that is being sent to homes and business within c. 10km of the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm.

The invites will start to be received by residents and businesses from tomorrow.

Please do get in touch if you have any queries regarding the proposal.

Kind regards,

Ruth

From: Semple Ruth
Sent: 17 May 2021 18.28
To: Redacted
Subject: RE: Knockcronal Wind Farm – Online Public Exhibition – 19 May 2021 – 8 June 2021 - Dailly Community Council

Good evening Members of Dailly Community Council,

Please find attached a notice which I would be grateful if you would consider posting on your Community Councils' social media.

If you have any questions in the meantime please let me know.

Kind regards,

Ruth

From: Semple Ruth
Sent: 13 May 2021 16.48
To: Redacted
Subject: Knockcronal Wind Farm – Online Public Exhibition – 19 May 2021 – 8 June 2021 - Dailly Community Council

Dear Members of Dailly Community Council,

I am writing to let you know that we will be holding our first Public Exhibition for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm online from Wednesday 19 May 2021 to Tuesday 8 June 2021. The online exhibition will be hosted on our website at www.knockcronal.co.uk and will go live on the 19th May 2021.

Due to Scottish Government advice and moving consultations online due to Covid-19 (with current advice to hold exhibitions online until September 2021), the online exhibition looks to replicate the traditional village hall exhibition. On the website you will find more information about the project via an online exhibition brochure rather than exhibition boards. There will also be the opportunity to submit questions to the project team, fill in a feedback form to let us know your views on the project or if someone would prefer to talk to a member of the project team, they can request a call back.

We will look to hold a second exhibition later in the year and we hope that this event can be a physical consultation event. While we are following the latest advice in relation to Covid-19 restrictions and we can't meet in person, we are keen to make as many people aware of and engaged with the project to gather their views on the proposed development. To help achieve this we will be:

- Sending an exhibition invite to all households and businesses within c. 10km of the site. The invite will include details of the project and a feedback form that members of the community can use to let us know their views or ask questions about the project. The feedback form can be returned to us by freepost.
- Advertising the exhibitions in the Ayr Advertiser on Tuesday 18 May and the Ayrshire Post on Wednesday 19 May.
- Hosting online chat sessions where members of the community can ask questions about the development. These sessions will be held on:
 - Thursday 27 May – 3pm -5pm
 - Wednesday 2 June – 5pm -7pm
 - Tuesday 8 June – 4pm – 6pm

We will shortly send you a poster and, if possible, we would be grateful if you would consider posting on the Community Councils' social media to help advertise the consultation.

If you have any questions in the meantime please do get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Ruth

Ruth Semple

Community Liaison Manager

European Wind and Solar

ruth.semple@statkraft.com

Mobile + 44 (0)7436 336 130

Statkraft UK Ltd.

1 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 1RW

19th Floor, 22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

www.statkraft.co.uk

Appendix P.5.B: Examples of First Public Exhibition being published on Community Council Social Media

 Daily CC
18 May

Public Exhibition for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm online from Wednesday 19 May 2021 to Tuesday 8 June 2021. The online exhibition will be hosted on our website at www.knockcronal.co.uk and will go live on the 19th May 2021. Due to Scottish Government advice and moving consultations online due to Covid-19 (with current advice to hold exhibitions online until September 2021), the online exhibition looks to replicate the traditional village hall exhibition. On the websi... See more



Statkraft

KNOCKCRONAL WIND FARM

Virtual Public Exhibition Invitation

We invite you to attend a virtual public exhibition for our Knockcronal Wind Farm proposal, located approximately 5km south of Stralton.

In line with Scottish Government guidance for online consultation due to Covid-19, we will hold a virtual public exhibition for Knockcronal Wind Farm. We are committed to listening to communities as we seek to shape our development.

Our consultation website will be live from **19 May 2021 to 8 June 2021** with exhibition materials, dedicated live Q&A sessions and an opportunity to book one-to-one calls to talk through the proposal - please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for more information, where a link to the online consultation will be available.

We will be accepting consultation feedback from the exhibition material until **25 June 2021**. Please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for further details or by using the contact details below.

Comments should be made to Statkraft UK and do not

1

 Like  Comment  Share

Tuesday May 18, 2021

www.zigadvertiser.com www.ironmimes.com www.crickherald.com
NEWS 7

It's a Licence to Chill as premises get go ahead for outdoor drinking

 BY SARAH HILLEY
 Local Democracy Reporter

VENUES have been opening up additional areas outside their premises to welcome customers for al fresco drinks in South Ayrshire.

And despite the temperamental weather, many people gasping for a sociable pint or cocktail have been keen to meet friends for a drink outside.

South Ayrshire Council has issued more than 20 temporary occasional licences for additional external drinking areas so businesses can serve in the fresh air.

From Monday, May 17, restaurants and pubs can also welcome customers back inside for alcohol.

A council report on the granting of occasional licences is due to be presented to Licensing Board councillors on Thursday, May 20.

The council report said: "Since premises have been permitted to re-open under the coronavirus legislation many have been seeking additional areas for outside drinking because of the need for social distancing leading, in some premises, to reduced capacity inside."

"The board has agreed to accept such applications as a temporary way of assisting the hospitality industry but has made it clear that if premises wish these areas to be a permanent part of their premises then a variation to the licence will be required."

The paper said the following premises "have all been granted occasional licences for outside drinking areas."

Kylestrome, 11 Miller Road, Ayr
 Vics & The Vine, 132 Main Street, Prestwick
 Redstone Inn, 92 Main



There's a boom in beer gardens due to social distancing.

'Many have been seeking additional areas for outside drinking because of the need for social distancing.'

Road, Ayr
 The Brigs, Craig Tara
 The Lighthouse, Craig Tara
 Abbotsford Hotel, 14 Corsehills Road, Ayr
 Glen Park, 5 Racecourse Road, Ayr
 Chestnuts, 52 Racecourse Road, Ayr
 Trysting Thorn Hotel, 40-42 Joppa, Coynton
 The Auchans, 29 Main Street, Dundonald
 Victory Bar, 26 South Park Avenue, Girvan

The Green-side, 5 Green-side, Maybole
 Bell Rock, 144 Ayr Road, Prestwick
 Eagle Tavern, 3/5, The Cross Prestwick
 Red Lion, 9 The Cross, Prestwick
 Blueberrys, 3 South Beach, Troon
 Troon Football Club, Portland Park, Troon
 Black Bull, 21 Main Street, Straiton
 Lonsdale Bar, 15 Portland Street, Troon
 Harbour Bar, 169-173 Templehill, Troon
 Marine Hotel, 8 Crosbie Road, Troon
 Red Lion, 9 The Cross, Prestwick
 Black Bull, 2B Montgomerie Street, Farblotton
 Fox and Willow, 46 Carrick Road, Ayr

Groups invited to apply to help scheme

CHARITIES and groups in Ayr are being encouraged to get involved in Tesco's Community Grants scheme.

From July, three community groups in Ayr will be selected to receive votes from the public to decide which project receives the most funding.

Funding pots of £500, £1000 and £1500 will be available for the shortlisted projects, and Tesco customers will be able to choose which

one receives the most funding by voting in store.

Keith Jackson, Tesco Community Grant Manager at Tesco, said: "We're encouraging groups in Ayr to apply for funding as we hope to see the fantastic community work they provide to continue long into the future."

In recent years, the Tesco scheme, previously named Bags of Help, has worked towards building the glorious World War One memorial

exhibition in Rozelle Park in Ayr.

In 2020, more than 10,000 groups were awarded grants of over £7.9m by Tesco throughout the UK.

The scheme is open to registered charities and not-for-profit organisations.

If you are a Tesco customer or colleague, you can nominate a cause that you'd like to see supported. Get involved by visiting <https://tescocommunitygrants.org.uk/>

Scam email

TRADING Standards are asking people to be aware of a scam email from a "Fliver Vaccine Opinion Panel".

You are asked to take part in a survey in return for a reward. Do not click on any links or enter personal information. Another scam is in relation to being given the vaccination.

The COVID vaccination is free. If you are offered it at a price then it could be fake, stolen or non-existent.

You will be contacted by NHS Scotland by letter or phone to arrange your vaccination appointment.

If you are concerned that you might have been the victim of a scam or provided personal or financial information via a link in a scam email you can seek advice from Police Scotland on 101 or Advice Direct Scotland on 0800 800 9060 or <https://www.consumeradvice.scot/>



KNOCKCRONAL WIND FARM Virtual Public Exhibition Invitation

We invite you to attend a virtual public exhibition for our Knockcronal Wind Farm proposal, located approximately 5km south of Straiton.

In line with Scottish Government guidance for online consultation due to Covid-19, we will hold a virtual public exhibition for Knockcronal Wind Farm. We are committed to listening to communities as we seek to shape our development.

Our consultation website will be live from **19 May 2021 to 8 June 2021** with exhibition materials, dedicated live Q&A sessions and an opportunity to book one-to-one calls to talk through the proposal - please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for more information, where a link to the online consultation will be available.

We will be accepting consultation feedback from the exhibition material until 25 June 2021. Please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for further details or by using the contact details below.

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

Website: www.knockcronal.co.uk
 Project Hotline: 0800 772 0668
 Write to: Freepost Statkraft (no stamp required)

Public Notices

Public Notices

Karen Zindwood
Acting Head of Road - Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Opera House, 8 John Farrow Street, Kilmarnock KA1 1DD
Email: kzindwood@ayrshireroadsalliance.org
For more information visit: www.ayrshireroadsalliance.co.uk


EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (Holehouse Road, Kilmarnock) (Temporary Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2021

On 13/05/21 the Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (East Ayrshire Council) Designation Order 2012, and the Road Traffic Act 1991, as amended, and of all other enabling powers, made the above named Order which will make it unlawful for any vehicle to wait at any time on Holehouse Rd (south side), Kilmarnock, from a point 100m east of Wilson Ave eastwards for 53m, by reason of SFI Energy Networks works to be executed on or near the road.

The Order shall come into force at 08:00 hrs on 31/05/21 until 18:00 hrs on 09/06/21 or until the works are completed whichever is earlier and the Order will be implemented only when appropriate signs are displayed.

The Order will make it unlawful for any person to drive, cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on the C102 from its junction with the A719, south eastwards for a distance of 900 metres.

The Order is in force from 08:00 hours on Wednesday 26th May 2021 until anticipated completion of the works by 18:00 hours on Tuesday 8th June 2021. The days and times of the works may be dependent upon the weather conditions but the Order will be implemented only when the appropriate signs are displayed.

Emergency Services vehicles will not be affected and access for any residents and pedestrians out with the working zone will be maintained. An alternative route suitable for all through traffic will be signed via the A719, Blawearie Road and the A77(1) in both directions.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (C74 Macraistrain Road, Ayr - Coylton) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2021

On 13/05/21 the Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, and of all other enabling powers, made the above named Order, by reason of works to be undertaken on or near the road for cartway resurfacing.

The Order will make it unlawful for any person to drive, cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on the C74 from a point just west of the entrance to Macraistrain Farm, south westwards to the B742, a distance of approximately 1415 metres.

The Order is in force from 08:00 hours on Monday 24th May 2021. To minimise inconvenience, the road is expected to only be closed between 08:00 and 17:00 hours each day with the road open out with these times until anticipated completion by 17:00 hours on Wednesday 2nd June 2021. The days and times of the works may be dependent upon the weather conditions but the Order will be implemented only when the appropriate signs are displayed.

Emergency Services vehicles will not be affected and access for any residents and pedestrians out with the working zone will be maintained. An alternative route suitable for all through traffic will be signed via the B742 to Hole Road Coylton, thence A70 Coylton to the junction of C74 Macraistrain Road in both directions.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (Kilmarnock Road, Dundonald) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2021

On 13/05/21 the Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, and of all other enabling powers, made the above named Order, by reason of works to be undertaken on or near the road for Scottish Power works.

The Order will make it unlawful for any person to drive, cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on Kilmarnock Road, between its junctions with Bruce Avenue and Fullarton Avenue, a distance of approximately 80 metres.

The Order is in force from 08:00 hours on Thursday 20th May 2021 until anticipated completion of the works by 17:00 hours on Saturday 29th May 2021. The days and times of the works may be dependent upon the weather conditions but the Order will be implemented only when the appropriate signs are displayed.

Emergency Services vehicles will not be affected and access for any residents and pedestrians out with the working zone will be maintained. Local access for residents and for deliveries will be maintained with an alternative route suitable for all through traffic will be signed via the B730 and A759 Drybridge Road and the B750 Dundonald / Blyth Road to Kilmarnock Road in both directions.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (Fullarton Road, Prestwick) (Temporary Prohibition of Waiting) Order 2021

On 13/05/21 the Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, the Road Traffic (Permitted Parking Area and Special Parking Area) (South Ayrshire Council) Designation Order 2012 and the Road Traffic Act 1991, and of all other enabling powers, made the above named Order which will make it unlawful for any vehicle to wait at any time in Fullarton Road - Both Sides: From between Nos.27/29 Fullarton Road, south westwards to the junction of Costa Avenue, a distance of approximately 80 metres.

The restrictions are necessary to allow Scottish Power contractors to carry out essential repairs to their network installations.

This Order is in force from 08:00hrs on Monday 24th May and the waiting restriction is expected to remain in place until Wednesday 2nd June 2021 or on completion of the works, whichever is sooner and the waiting restriction will be implemented only when the appropriate signs are displayed.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (C102 Balnald Road, Montrose, Maidens) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2021

On 13/05/21 the Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, and of all other enabling powers, made the above named Order, by reason of works to be undertaken on or near the road for an upgrade to the BT Network.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (C29 North Water of Girvan - Maybole road) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2021

On 13/05/21 the Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on it under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, and of all other enabling powers, made the above named Order, by reason of works to be undertaken on or near the road for cartway resurfacing.

The Order will make it unlawful for any person to drive, cause or permit to be driven any vehicle on the C29 North Water of Girvan - Maybole road, from Dally Road, Maybole, southwards for a distance of approximately 1300 metres.

The Order is in force from Monday 24th May. To minimise inconvenience, the road is expected to only be closed between 08:00 and 17:00 hours each day with the road open out with these times until anticipated completion by 17:00 hours on Friday 4th June 2021. The days and times of the works may be dependent upon the weather conditions but the Order will be implemented only when the appropriate signs are displayed.

Emergency Services vehicles will not be affected and access for residents and pedestrians out with the working zone will be maintained. An alternative route suitable for all through traffic will be signed via Dally Road - Ladywell Road - Aboor's Street - B7023 Crosshill Road - B7023 King Street - B7023 Dally Road - B741 Stairton/Dally and the C29 Ruglen to North Water of Girvan / Kibronie in both directions.



A partnership between East Ayrshire Council and South Ayrshire Council



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (C270 MIDDLETON ROAD, STABCASTLE BOUNDAROUND TO BOWHOUSE ROAD JUNCTION, Irvine) (TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE) ORDER 2021

Orders made under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit any motor vehicle (with the exception of wheelchairs) on Cartway Improvement Works on the B700 Middleton Road (Glasgow Road) Boundarounds to Bowhouse Road Junction) in phases daily from 09:00hrs Monday 11th May until 17:00 hours Friday 28th May 2021 (No weekend working) or until the works are completed whichever is the earlier, by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near these roads.

Graig Harbin
Chief Executive
Glasgowshire House
Irvine KA12 8LL



Please Note

No responsibility can be accepted for errors in adverts received by telephone.

your Public Notices



Place your advertising by calling our Public Notices team on **0141 309 4340** or email csu@trinitymirror.com

1 of 1 www.ayrshirepost.co.uk


KNOCKCRONAL WIND FARM Virtual Public Exhibition Invitation

We invite you to attend a virtual public exhibition for our Knockcronal Wind Farm proposal, located approximately 5km south of Strathol.

In line with Scottish Government guidance for online consultation due to Covid-19, we will hold a virtual public exhibition for Knockcronal Wind Farm. We are committed to listening to communities as we seek to shape our development.

Our consultation website will be live from 19 May 2021 to 8 June 2021 with exhibition materials, dedicated live Q&A sessions and an opportunity to book one-to-one calls to talk through the proposal - please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for more information, where a link to the online consultation will be available.

We will be accepting consultation feedback from the exhibition material until 25 June 2021. Please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for further details or by using the contact details below.

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

Website: www.knockcronal.co.uk
Project Hotline: 0800 772 0068
Write to: Freepost Statkraft (no stamp required)

BIG RESULTS



SMALL COST

Leaflets and brochures inserted into newspapers are a powerful and cost-effective way to help your business grow.

Together, our local newspaper titles reach a weekly average issue readership of **303,991 adults***

For more information contact **Neil McKenzie** on **0141 3094985** or email: neil.mckenzie01@reachplc.com

Reach

Appendix P.5.D – Copy of Invitation for the First Public Exhibition Sent to Over 1,300 Homes



We're innovative and community focused

Statkraft is dedicated to engaging with communities and finding different ways to bring positive benefits.

We want to talk to you about how our project can bring new investment to your community. We are open to your ideas.

Community Benefit Fund
We are committed to a Community Benefit Fund that delivers, £5,000 per MW installed per year as per Scottish Government recommendations. If consented, the project will generate £250,000* per year for local groups and initiatives.

*Based on 50MW of installed capacity. If consented, value of fund determined by actual installed capacity.

Shared Ownership
We are open to offering Shared Ownership on our projects, if there is local interest. We would like to hear your views on enabling the community to have a financial share in the project.



Improved Broadband
Join our online exhibition to tell us more about the broadband service in your area and to hear about what our broadband feasibility study will investigate.

Local supply chain
We want to work with local businesses to deliver our projects. Visit our project website for information on how local businesses can register their interest.

Please return the freepost reply card provided. 

www.knockcronal.co.uk 

Phone the project hotline: 0800 772 0668 

1 West Regent Street, Glasgow, G2 1RW 

Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW
+44 (0)141 483 1986





**Invitation to Virtual Exhibition:
19 May – 8 June 2021**

Knockcronal Wind Farm Proposal

We would like to tell you more about ourselves and our proposal for a sustainable energy project, including community investment and investigating improved broadband potential in your area.



We are bringing forward a proposal for Knockcronal Wind Farm, located approximately 5km south of Straiton in South Ayrshire.

We continue to follow Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19 and are holding a series of online consultation events, where you can find out more about our plans and help shape the project.

About Us

Statkraft is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, with origins going back 125 years in Norwegian hydro power. Our Scottish headquarters are in Glasgow and we have 4,500 employees across 17 countries.

www.statkraft.co.uk

Knockcronal Wind Farm Proposal



Project Summary

Community engagement is very important to us.

Online Exhibition:

www.knockcronal.co.uk

We would like to invite you to our public exhibition. We are committed to listening to communities as we seek to shape our development during this phase.

9 Up to 9 wind turbines proposed (reduced from 12)

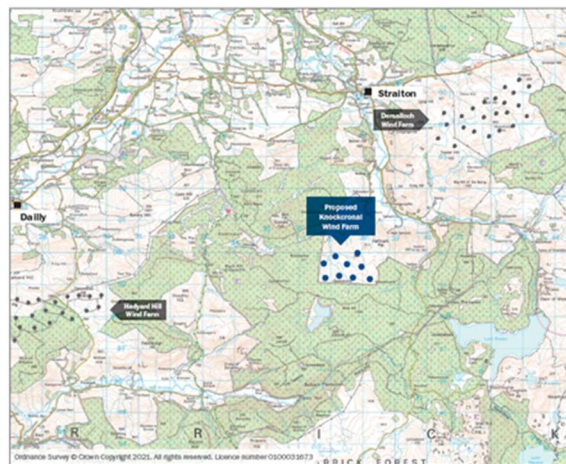
£250k £250k per year for a Community Fund*

200m Maximum blade tip height

Exciting new opportunity to talk about shared ownership and local suppliers

Explore the potential for improved broadband provision

* Based on 50MW of installed capacity. If consented, value of fund determined by actual installed capacity.



Our exhibition is being held online due to Covid-19 restrictions in place.

This exhibition will be available to visit between 19 May and 8 June.

Ask questions, chat online or book a phone call.

Visit our live chat sessions with the Project Team on:
27 May – 3pm - 5pm
2 June – 5pm - 7pm
8 June – 4pm - 6pm

Visit the exhibition and live chat sessions at:
www.knockcronal.co.uk

Since introducing our plans in January 2021, we have carried out more studies and listened to local communities and reduced the number of turbines from 12 to 9. Please visit our online exhibition to find out more.

You can find out more about our projects and the way we work at www.statkraft.co.uk

Appendix P.5.F – Example of First Public Exhibition Website Content

Home » Welcome to Knockcronal Wind Farm Online Exhibition

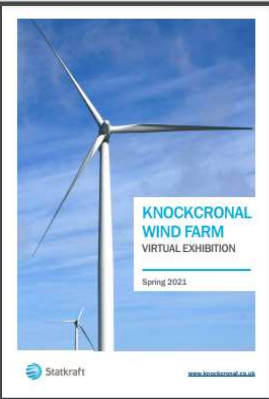
Welcome to Knockcronal Wind Farm Online Exhibition

Consultation has concluded


We are exploring the potential to develop a wind farm of up to 9 turbines (reduced from 12) and other ancillary development on land 5km south of Straiton, in South Ayrshire. Due to ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, you will appreciate that we are unable to carry out face to face public exhibitions. The exhibition is running from Wednesday 19th May until Tuesday 8th June 2021.

We have therefore created this Online Exhibition that contains information on our proposal and a comment form so that you can provide [feedback](#) directly to us or [ask us a question](#).

Please view the brochure below and take some time to watch our [video presentations](#).



John Wallace, Ruth Semple & Sam McMillan introduce Knockcronal Wind Farm (10 minutes 10 Secs).



YOUR FEEDBACK/QUESTIONS REQUEST A CALL FORUM DAILY DROP IN SESSION: 21 SEPT

STRAITON DROP IN SESSION: 22 SEPT

All unpublished surveys are shown as "Draft". Only admins will be able to see it in the preview mode. Please note that you can take the survey in draft mode to test it, but submissions will **NOT** be saved.

Your Feedback on Knockcronal

Thank you for your interest in the proposal and visiting the online consultation. We hope you found what you were looking for. Please take a few minutes to provide some feedback. This will enable us to gather views which can help shape our plans.


Consultation has concluded

REGISTER for project updates


Chat to us here about Knockcronal online

27 May 3pm - 5pm
2 June 5pm - 7pm
8 June 4pm - 6pm

Download Exhibition Documents




View Our Presentations




FAQ


Call me!

Local Suppliers Register

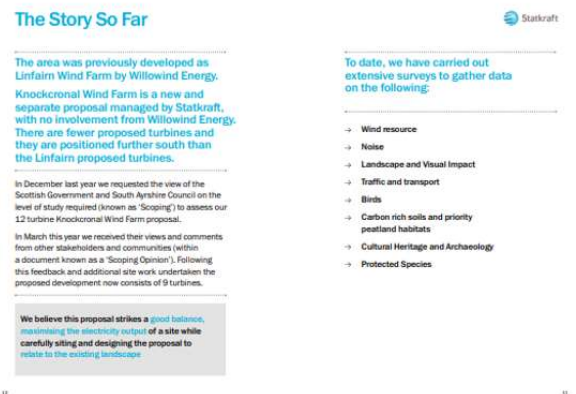
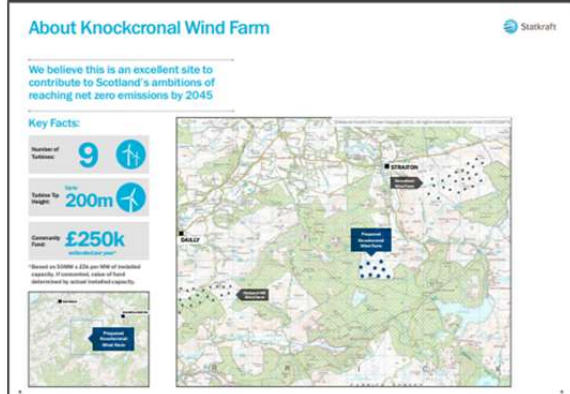
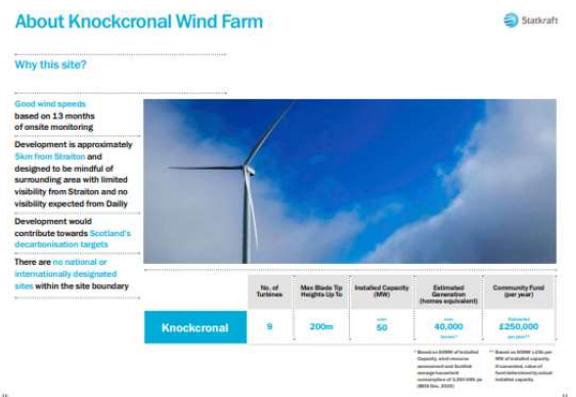
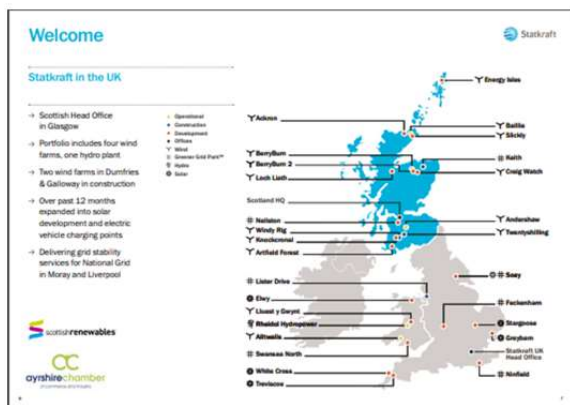
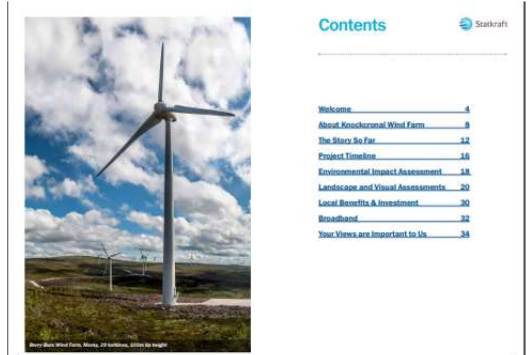




MEMBER OF **scottish renewables** 2020-2021

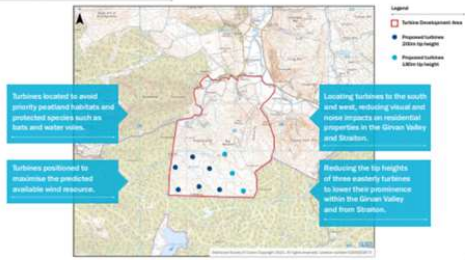


Appendix P.5.G – Example of First Public Exhibition Brochure



The Story So Far

How our studies and feedback has influenced this layout



Project Timeline

Throughout the process Statkraft continuously engages with the local community and stakeholders about the emerging proposal.

1. SITE SELECTION	2. PRE-PLANNING	3. SUBMIT APPLICATION & WAIT DECISION	4. CONSTRUCTION	5. OPERATION	6. DECOMMISSION
<p>02 months</p> <p>Options are used to identify suitable sites and to identify suitable sites for wind energy and other renewable energy and other infrastructure.</p> <p>Site visits are conducted to assess the suitability of the sites for wind energy and other infrastructure.</p>	<p>06 to 12 months</p> <p>An application is submitted to the Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council for a Planning Permission and a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the proposed development.</p> <p>DCO applications are submitted to the Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council for a Planning Permission and a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the proposed development.</p>	<p>02 months</p> <p>An application is submitted to the Scottish Government, supported by a Development Consent Order (DCO) for the proposed development.</p> <p>Construction typically takes 12 to 18 months and planning conditions are used to manage the construction process.</p>	<p>030 years</p> <p>Turbines are designed to a regulatory standard to ensure safety and operation are managed in accordance with industry best practice.</p> <p>Regular monitoring and maintenance is carried out to ensure the safety and operation of the turbines.</p>	<p>02 months</p> <p>At the end of the operating period, turbines are removed and the site is returned to its original state.</p> <p>Regular monitoring and maintenance is carried out to ensure the safety and operation of the turbines.</p>	<p>02 months</p> <p>At the end of the operating period, turbines are removed and the site is returned to its original state.</p> <p>Regular monitoring and maintenance is carried out to ensure the safety and operation of the turbines.</p>

Environmental Impact Assessment

The process of gathering good environmental data on a site is vital to designing a good wind farm, including turbine locations, access roads and other infrastructure. This is carried out by specialist environmental and technical consultants.

This information is incorporated into an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA) and will be available on the project website.

As part of designing this wind farm, advice and guidance has been sought from a range of regulatory and voluntary bodies including, but not limited to, South Ayrshire Council, Naturalist, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Transport Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland.



The results and findings will be detailed in the EIA which is made public when we submit our planning application.

This report covers a range of areas including:

- Landscape and Visual Amenity
- Ecology
- Ornithology
- Noise and Vibration
- Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology (including peat)
- Cultural Heritage
- Traffic, Transport and Access
- Socioeconomics
- Aviation and Telecommunications
- Shadow Flicker
- Climate

Landscape and Visual Assessments

What will the project look like?

As part of our studies, we have created images showing how the wind turbines could look from several locations for the purpose of this exhibition.

There will be more available to view through the planning process and when an application is submitted to planning.

As developers, our challenge is to find the right balance between maximising the electricity output of a site and carefully siting and designing the proposal to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind developments.

One of our key design objectives will be creating a wind farm which is appropriate for and takes into account the existing landscape character and visual features of the surrounding area.

Our studies will include a detailed assessment of the proposed development within a 5km study area, to include the proposed development on its own, as well as in the context of existing, consented and proposed wind farm developments.



These studies will pay particular regard to:

- Effects on the landscape character of the immediate area, as well as the character of the wider area.
- Effects on the general qualities of landscape designations such as the Glen Water Valley Local Landscape Area, and the Menick Wild Land Area.
- The amenity of residential properties near to the proposed development in the Glen Valley.
- The design in relation to Denashill and other proposed wind farms in the area.
- Effects associated with possible turbine lighting.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Cultural Heritage

The historic 'Kneecrover' farmstead, falls within the development area of the proposed wind farm and with the exception of two linear features is predominantly avoided by the development.

The linear features overlap with the handstanding for turbine 1. This is expected to cause an impact of minor significance to the character of the farmstead as a whole.

These linear features, which were old field banks, will be subject to an archaeological investigation and a watching brief during construction to document and record the features accordingly.

Consideration is also being given to providing signage or information boards about 'Kneecrover' farmstead to be sited at an appropriate location of the 'Old Road through Strathon' Heritage Path.

The setting of heritage assets within the wider landscape will also be assessed as part of the EIA. Particular attention will be given to Strathon Conservation Area, Blairquhan and Kilkerran Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes and scheduled monuments.



Environmental Impact Assessment

Ecology & Ornithology

Extensive surveys have been completed, including for habitats, birds, protected mammals and fisheries to inform the ongoing wind farm design process.

The project is carefully designed to minimise the potential for impacts on protected species and habitats.

For instance, the design of the project will seek to minimise the risk of bat collisions, by including buffers around woodland and watercourses.

The turbine development area comprises a mosaic of habitats including grasslands, wet heath and blanket bog. To minimise habitat loss the project will be designed to minimise land take wherever possible and the final design will seek to avoid sensitive habitats as far as possible.



Environmental Impact Assessment

Transport

Our transport assessment will consider the impacts on local roads during construction using existing road use as a base level.

Existing traffic flows will be compared to the traffic flows expected to occur during the peak of construction activity to assess construction traffic impacts.

Where the assessment shows that improvement and mitigation measures are required, these will be set out in the EIA. Likely measures could include the provision of a Construction Traffic Management Plan, local road improvements and a Wear and Tear Agreement to protect local roads from surface deterioration.

A detailed review and plan showing how the largest and largest turbine components will be transported to the site will also be included in the EIA. The report will outline all road works and measures required to ensure the safe and efficient access for the turbine deliveries.

Noise

A noise assessment will be undertaken for the site in line with Government guidance.

Background noise monitoring has been carried out at a number of representative properties surrounding the site to capture the existing noise levels. These survey locations were agreed with South Ayrshire Council. The background noise levels will be used to determine noise limits that the Proposed Development would have to operate within. These limits are also informed by South Ayrshire Council and government guidance (ESU-R-97).

The noise assessment will also take into account other wind farm schemes in the area, including the operating Denashill.

The noise assessments and resulting noise limits will be used to ensure that, if consented, the future operational site would operate within levels considered acceptable under the ESU-R-97 assessment method (Government Guidance).

Environmental Impact Assessment

Climate Change

The Scottish Government has set a legally-binding target to achieve net zero emissions by 2045. Developments such as Knockcronal Wind Farm are key to meeting this target.

Whilst Scotland has continued to make good progress in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, the need for low carbon energy supplies is paramount if Scotland is to achieve this net zero target.

By 2030, the Scottish Energy Strategy calls for 50% of 'all energy' to come from renewables. It emphasises that onshore wind is now one of the cheapest forms of electricity and will therefore continue to play an important role in this.

To quantify the emissions savings of Knockcronal Wind Farm, a 'carbon balance' assessment will be undertaken for the wind farm using Scottish Government guidance.

What is 'Net Zero'?

Net zero means achieving a balance between the greenhouse gases put into the atmosphere and those taken out.

Thinking of it like a bank - you put in the money and you take out the money. If you put in more than you take out, you have a surplus. If you take out more than you put in, you have a deficit. Net zero is when you put in exactly the same amount as you take out.

HOW IS SCOTLAND DOING?

It's great that Scotland now generates the equivalent of over 100% of its electricity from renewable energy. This means that Scotland is now a net exporter of electricity. This is a significant achievement and a testament to the hard work of the Scottish people and the Scottish Government.



Local Benefits & Investment

We would like our wind farms to be considered a local asset and want to talk with you about how we can bring new investment to your community.



Wind Farm Construction
 Wind Farm construction site, showing a yellow loader on a dirt road. The image is part of a presentation slide titled 'Wind Farm Construction'.

Wind Farm construction site, showing a yellow loader on a dirt road. The image is part of a presentation slide titled 'Wind Farm Construction'.

Community Benefit Fund

We are committed to setting up a Community Benefit Fund in each of our project locations. Over £2 million has been generated from our UK projects to support local causes and innovative schemes.

Local Investment

Work with local business groups such as the Chamber of Commerce to increase awareness of the opportunities in construction and operations.

Shared Ownership

Progress the opportunity, if there is local interest for local groups to have a financial interest in our project, with the support of organisations such as www.localenergy.co.uk/.

Education & Enterprise

We welcome ideas on how our project can support local education and employment opportunities, and boost local businesses.

Work with local business

We invest in feasibility studies to identify potential for improved connection, and supporting communities developing their own broadband initiatives.

Broadband

We are always exploring ways in which we can provide positive benefits to local communities near our projects. We are often asked by people if we can help deliver faster broadband, or even get them connected in the first place.

With this in mind, we will commission a feasibility study to investigate the potential at Knockcronan.



Broadband Feasibility Study
 A person's hands are shown typing on a laptop keyboard. A smartphone is placed next to the laptop. The image is part of a presentation slide titled 'Broadband Feasibility Study'.

Our study will find out:

FEASIBILITY

We require a reliable broadband service to operate our wind turbines, and the study explores the potential for improving local infrastructure as the wind farm is connected.

FIBRE & FIXED WIRELESS

Fibre is the optimal connection, but fixed wireless broadband also offers opportunities to connect some locations that can be difficult or costly to reach.

A BENEFIT

Potential to provide improved internet speeds for commercial and residential properties. This could be partially or fully funded by the community benefit fund associated with our project.

NEXT STEPS

We would like to hear your views on the Broadband Feasibility Study and would like to continue a consultation with you as the project progresses. If you would like to be kept up to date on the Broadband Feasibility Study please contact us, and register on the website for updates.

Your Views are Important to Us

We are aiming to submit an application in late 2021. Before then, we will hold another public exhibition to share details of the final proposal.

We welcome your comments and feedback. Please register your comments by completing a feedback form. In order for us to take your view into account as we progress the project, please comment by 23 June 2021.

When the project is submitted there will be an opportunity for you to submit a formal response to the Scottish Government at that time.

Thank you for attending the Knockcronan Wind Farm Exhibition.

We would like to keep you updated as our plans progress:

-  [Click here to complete the online feedback.](#)
-  [Register for updates: www.knockcronan.co.uk](http://www.knockcronan.co.uk)
-  0800 772 0668 (local call rate applies)
-  Freepost Statkraft (no stamp or further address details required)
-  UKProjects@statkraft.com



Statkraft
 Broadband Feasibility Study
 11 West Regent Street
 Dundee
 DD1 1PR
www.knockcronan.co.uk
 For more information about Broadband Feasibility Study please contact us, and register on the website for updates.
 Broadband Feasibility Study, 23 June 2021 to 23 July
www.knockcronan.co.uk Phone: 0800 772 0668

Appendix P.5.H – Examples of Letters in Response to the Feedback Forms from First Exhibition

Example of response were issues raised covered by FAQ inserted with the letter or attached to the email.



Example of letter with tailored response to queries raised not covered by the FAQ.



POSTAL ADDRESS:
Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW

PHONE:
0800 772 0668

INTERNET:
www.statkraft.co.uk
www.knockcronal.co.uk

E-MAIL:
UKProjects@statkraft.com

YOUR REF./DATE:	OUR REF.:	PLACE/DATE:
Spring Exhibition	Knockcronal	3 August 2021

Knockcronal Wind Farm

Dear 

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return the feedback form during our online consultation for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm.

As part of the consultation we wrote to over 1,300 households and businesses located within c.10km of the proposal to inform local residents about the project and to invite them to provide feedback via the freepost reply card or the project website. We will be responding to everyone who requested to receive project updates and where feedback was submitted we will be considering these comments as we continue to develop the project.

There were some common themes to the feedback received, and our responses to these are attached for your information.

In response to your feedback on water supplies, as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) surveys of the water supplies of properties close of the proposal have been documented, should the project be consented they will be monitored and protected accordingly. Properties of interest were visited in June by our hydrologist and Connie Lobban of South Ayrshire Council. Details of their findings and any mitigation required will be provided in the EIA report that is submitted as part of the planning application. This will be available to view via our project website.

Thank you for indicating that you would like to be kept updated with project news, we will be pleased to keep you informed of project progress.

Later this year, and before we submit a planning application for the project, we will be holding another consultation. We will write again then once details of the consultation have been confirmed.

Thank you again for taking the time to reply.

Kind regards,



John Wallace
Project Manager, UK
European Wind and Solar



POSTAL ADDRESS:
Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW

PHONE:
0800 772 0668

INTERNET:
www.statkraft.co.uk
www.knockcronal.co.uk

E-MAIL:
Ukprojects@statkraft.com

YOUR REF./DATE:	OUR REF.:	PLACE/DATE:
Spring Exhibition	Knockcronal	6 August 2021

Knockcronal Wind Farm

Dear 

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return the feedback form during our online consultation for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm.

As part of the consultation we wrote to over 1,300 households and businesses located within c.10km of the proposal to inform local residents about the project and to invite them to provide feedback via the freepost reply card or the project website. We will be responding to everyone who requested to receive project updates and where feedback was submitted we will be considering these comments as we continue to develop the project.

There were some common themes to the feedback received, and our responses to these are attached for your information.

We are pleased to know that you are in support of this project. As a local business owner I would encourage you to register your details on our Suppliers list which you can do at [here](#).

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of the project in the meantime, please feel free to contact us. We value local feedback and use it to help shape a project.

Thank you for indicating that you would like to be kept updated with project news, we will be pleased to keep you informed of project progress.

Later this year, and before we submit a planning application for the project, we will be holding another consultation. We will write again then once details of the consultation have been confirmed.

Thank you again for taking the time to reply.

Kind regards,



John Wallace
Project Manager, UK
European Wind and Solar

Appendix P.5.1 – First Exhibition Frequently Asked Questions included in individual responses to letters

An online and offline version of this document was produced.

Knockcronal Wind Farm

During the consultation held during May and June 2021, some questions and comments were frequently raised. Below are our responses to these.

(August 2021)

There are too many wind farms in this area; similar proposals have previously been refused

As part of our work towards the planning application for the project, we have undertaken substantial analysis into the landscape and visual sensitivities in the vicinity of the development. We continue to develop the project, with the aim of finding the right balance between maximising electricity output and carefully siting and designing the proposals to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind developments. This has included moving the turbines further west and, to reflect the topography of the site, using different turbine heights on site to produce a better overall design. We will present the finalised scheme at a second public exhibition later in the year when these assessments will be completed and will form part of the future planning application. In the meantime, a video description of how we have considered the landscape and surrounding area as we have developed the project is available at our project website.

The Scottish Government has a target to achieve net zero by 2045. Onshore wind is expected to play a role in achieving this aim. Our analysis shows that the area suitable for onshore wind development in Scotland is limited due to a range of factors. To find out more about what makes a site suitable for onshore wind you are invited to watch this webinar: 'Location, Location – the challenges to siting onshore wind farms in Scotland' where our Head of Development, Richard Mardon, explores the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise Scotland's excellent natural wind resources. You can view the webinar here: <https://www.futurenetzero.com/2021/06/28/webinar-location-location-the-challenges-to-siting-onshore-wind-farms-in-scotland/>

I don't like the look of onshore wind farms

We appreciate not all people like the look of wind turbines, but they are very much part of the answer to increasing our carbon-free electricity generation and decreasing the need for fossil fuels. The UK Government has surveyed attitudes towards different types of electricity generation since 2012 and the results consistently show around 75% support for onshore wind ([BEIS Attitudes Tracker](#)).

If there is concern about a specific view please let us know and we'll try to provide suitable illustrations at our next consultation event later this year. In the meantime, a video description of how we have considered the landscape and surrounding area as we have developed the project is available at our project website.

Wind turbines should be offshore

We need a mix of all types of renewable energy generation. New-build onshore wind is presently the most cost-effective way to generate new electricity, out of all forms of electricity.

What are the benefits to locals?

There are several ways our projects can bring local benefits, and we are always open to discussing how this can be tailored to each area. The construction phase provides a significant opportunity for local businesses to get involved - over 80 businesses completed our local suppliers register for the construction of our Keith Greener Grid project. Local suppliers can register at the project website.

The operation of the wind farm brings significant local investment. Statkraft is committed to delivering a community benefit with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the installed capacity of the project, but as a guide, based on 50MW, this is around £250,000 per year over the operating period of the wind farm.

For more FAQs go to www.knockcronal.co.uk



Knockcronal Wind Farm

Online Consultation Feedback Report

September 2021

About Knockcronal Wind Farm

Knockcronal is a proposal for a 9-turbine wind farm. The site is approximately 5km south of Straiton in South Ayrshire. The graphic below highlights some key information about the proposal.

	No. of Turbines	Max Blade Tip Heights Up To	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Generation (homes equivalent)	Community Fund (per year)
Knockcronal	9	200m	over 50	over 40,000 homes*	Estimated £250,000 per year**
				<small>* Based on 50MW of installed Capacity, wind resource assessment and Scottish average household consumption of 3,363 kWh pa (BEIS Dec. 2020)</small>	<small>** Based on 50MW x £5k per MW of installed capacity. If consented, value of fund determined by actual installed capacity.</small>

The project was introduced to community representatives in January 2021 and an online consultation event, adhering to Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19, was held in May and June 2021.

Initial Consultation Period

It was important from the outset of the project to provide communities with every opportunity to view and comment on the proposals. We set up a dedicated project website (<http://www.knockcronal.co.uk/>) and launched it when the scoping request was first validated by the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit in January 2021.

The host and neighbouring Community Councils* to the project were directly contacted and offered an opportunity to virtually meet with the development team, to find out more about the proposal and provide feedback on the consultation approach and the proposals.

Through early feedback and further studies, we reduced the number of turbines from 12 (original number in the scoping document) to 9 turbines.

Main Consultation Period

This overview presents the findings of the feedback received during the first round of consultation. This was held between 19 May - 8 June 2021 and included an online consultation website and non-digital sources of feedback such as by phone and postal feedback forms. Responses submitted after this date will continue to be evaluated and responded to, if required, and help to shape and inform the proposals.

The consultation was publicised in various ways, including:

- Advertisements in the Ayrshire Post and Ayr Advertiser at the start of the live consultation;
- Mailing to all households (1345 households) and businesses (49 businesses) within c.10km of the site with an invitation and details to take part in the online consultation as well as providing feedback cards and freepost envelopes for those who preferred to write back rather than go online;
- Writing to host and neighbouring Community Councils at the start of the consultation;
- Details of the consultation on the Knockcronal project website; and

*Community Councils of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael, Barr and Dailly have been directly contacted.

- Community Councils publicising via their Facebook and webpages.

As part of the online consultation, we provided:

- Exhibition brochure - information you would usually find on boards at a village hall exhibition;
- Pre-recorded videos introducing the project and some of the project team as well videos presenting key aspects of the project, including the landscape and visual impacts;
- Extensive FAQ section on the project to help inform residents when they arrive on the consultation website;
- Multiple photomontages from key viewpoints;
- Live Q&A sessions with the project team on 27 May, 2 June and 8 June - giving residents the opportunity to have live interactive chat with the project team;
- A 'ring back' service to allow members of the public to have a dedicated chat with our team at a date/time suitable to them; and
- An opportunity to leave comments through online feedback forms.

It is intended to submit a Section 36 application for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm to the Scottish Government later this year.

Summary of Consultation Responses

Of the 1,394 households and business contacted with the invitation and freepost feedback form we received 79 (5.7%) back. In addition, we received over 300 website views and 7 online forms were completed between 19 May to 8 June. In total, there were 88 interactions, including call backs, online forms, feedback forms and emails.

The results of the returned offline and online forms is provided below:

Of those who provided a response to the question, 74% agreed that the country needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources. The belief of respondents that onshore wind is a good way to achieve this is quite evenly balanced 41% believe yes, 46% believe no, and 13% are unsure.

Of respondents who answered the question; Do you think this is a good location for a wind farm, nearly three fifths (59%) said no, just over a third responded yes (35%) and 6% were unsure. We explore the chosen locations for wind farms in more detail below.

In terms of local benefits there is appetite for Statkraft to continue to explore the potential to assist in bringing improved broadband to the area (38% responding that this is of interest). A quarter of respondents were interested in shared ownership with a further one fifth of respondents (18%) unsure. We will be happy to provide more information on shared ownership as the project progresses, such as arranging an information session with Local Energy Scotland.

65% of all respondents wish to be kept up to date on the project and we look forward to engaging with the community over the coming months.

Key Topics from Consultation

During the consultation period, some questions and comments were frequently raised. When responding to feedback, a summary of these questions and our responses to those were included. This is appended to this report and included on the project website. Some further information on those and other topics are also provided below.

We welcome further discussion with the community on these topics throughout the development process.

Cumulative Impact

A number of comments and questions about the location and 'too many' wind farms in the area were received as part of the feedback. With less than 10% of the land area in Scotland suitable for onshore wind farms, substantial analysis of potential suitable locations is undertaken including landscape and visual sensitivities. We believe this proposal strikes the right balance between maximising electricity output and relating to the existing landscape including other developments. Our Head of Development recently outlined more information on this topic during a webinar 'Location, Location' which is available to watch on demand at www.FutureNetZero.com.

Community Benefits: Community Benefit Funding and Broadband

Community benefit fund

Statkraft is dedicated to engaging with communities and finding different ways projects can bring positive benefits to the local area. The provision of community benefits, such as the fund and the broadband feasibility study are not considered material in planning, meaning they are not taken into consideration when a planning decision is made on the project.

If the project is approved, Statkraft are committed to offering a Community Benefit Fund that delivers, £5,000 per MW installed per year as per Scottish Government Guidance. Statkraft aims to offer maximum flexibility regarding how community funds are used, as local communities best understand how funds could be utilised to meet local needs and ambitions.

Broadband

High-quality broadband is required to operate wind farms, including Knockcronal Wind Farm, should it be consented.

Statkraft is the only developer to commit to funding a broadband feasibility study for each of its onshore wind farm development projects. This will assess the potential for fibre and wireless line-of-sight broadband that can also benefit the local and wider community as well. If there is an opportunity for our wind farms to help improve broadband connections for residents and businesses in the area, then we would be happy to explore this with the community.

Statkraft has commissioned a feasibility study that can be used to start discussions with local residents and their elected representatives. The consultation feedback has shown that there is interest from local respondents in improving broadband in the area and we look forward to following this up.

Next Steps

As the application (this will be a Section 36 application) is finalised for submission later this year, the next steps for local engagement are:

- Send a copy of this summary report to the host and neighbouring community councils and elected representatives and welcome further discussion on the key areas and any other considerations for the project.
- We will hold a further public exhibition event in Autumn 2021 which will include information on how feedback has been incorporated into the design. The exhibition will run from 14 September – 5 October and include local in person drop in sessions on 21 September in Dailly and 22 September in Straiton, both will run from 2pm – 7pm.
- Continue to receive feedback and respond to queries.
- Progress setting up a shared ownership (virtual) roundtable with Local Energy Scotland to provide more information to those interested in shared ownership opportunities.
- Follow up with community stakeholders regarding the potential for enhanced access to broadband by sharing the findings of the feasibility study.
- Continue to engage with elected representatives, community councils and local residents to keep them updated on progress.
- Record and store all comments made regarding suggestions for community benefit funding.
- Continue to update the project website.

Appendix 1: Consultation FAQ's

Knockcronal Wind Farm

During the consultation held during May and June 2021, some questions and comments were frequently raised. Below are our responses to these.

(August 2021)

There are too many wind farms in this area; similar proposals have previously been refused

As part of our work towards the planning application for the project, we have undertaken substantial analysis into the landscape and visual sensitivities in the vicinity of the development. We continue to develop the project, with the aim of finding the right balance between maximising electricity output and carefully siting and designing the proposals to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind developments. This has included moving the turbines further west and, to reflect the topography of the site, using different turbine heights on site to produce a better overall design. We will present the finalised scheme at a second public exhibition later in the year when these assessments will be completed and will form part of the future planning application. In the meantime, a video description of how we have considered the landscape and surrounding area as we have developed the project is available at this [link](#).

The Scottish Government has a target to achieve net zero by 2045. Onshore wind is expected to play a role in achieving this aim. Our analysis shows that the area suitable for onshore wind development in Scotland is limited due to a range of factors. To find out more about what makes a site suitable for onshore wind you are invited to watch this webinar: ['Location, Location – the challenges to siting onshore wind farms in Scotland'](#) where our Head of Development, Richard Mardon, explores the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise Scotland's excellent natural wind resources.

I don't like the look of onshore wind farms

We appreciate not all people like the look of wind turbines, but they are very much part of the answer to increasing our carbon-free electricity generation and decreasing the need for fossil fuels. The UK Government has surveyed attitudes towards different types of electricity generation since 2012 and the results consistently show around 75% support for onshore wind ([BEIS Attitudes Tracker](#)).

If there is concern about a specific view please let us know and we'll try to provide suitable illustrations at our next consultation event later this year. In the meantime, a video description of how we have considered the landscape and surrounding area as we have developed the project is available at this [link](#).

Wind turbines should be offshore

We need a mix of all types of renewable energy generation. New-build onshore wind is presently the most cost-effective way to generate new electricity, out of all forms of electricity.

What are the benefits to locals?

There are several ways our projects can bring local benefits, and we are always open to discussing how this can be tailored to each area. The construction phase provides a significant opportunity for local businesses to get involved - over 80 businesses completed our local suppliers register for the construction of our Keith Greener Grid project. Local suppliers can register [here](#).

The operation of the wind farm brings significant local investment. Statkraft is committed to delivering a community benefit with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the installed capacity of the project, but as a guide, based on 50MW, this is around £250,000 per year over the operating period of the wind farm.

For more FAQs go to www.knockcronal.co.uk

Appendix P.6: Second Public Consultation Material

This page is intentionally blank.

Appendix P.6.A – Second Exhibition - Example of Correspondence to Community Councils Regarding Exhibition Dates

From: Semple Ruth

Sent: 13 September 2021 13.24

To: Redacted

Cc: Redacted

Subject: Knockcronal Wind Farm - Second Public Exhibition (including drop in sessions) - 14 September to 5 October 2021 - Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council

Dear Members of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to let you know that we will be holding our second Public Exhibition for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm between 14 September and 5 October 2021. As Covid-19 restrictions have eased we are pleased to be holding two in person local drop-in sessions on Tuesday 21 September and Wednesday 22 September.

I also attach a copy of the consultation report following our first exhibition for your information. We want to extend our thanks to members of the community who took the time to complete and return a feedback form.

For the second exhibition there are a number of ways that local members of the community can find out more about the development over the exhibition period:

- The online exhibition will be available for 3 weeks from 14 September to 5 October at www.knockcronal.co.uk
- We are hosting two in person drop in session events:
 - Dailly Community Hall, Dailly: 21 September 2021 2pm – 7pm
 - McCandlish Hall, Straiton: 22 September 2021 2pm – 7pm

To manage Covid-19 risks at the exhibitions we are operating an appointment system. Please book your appointment via the online exhibition which you will be able to do at www.knockcronal.co.uk from 14 September, or by booking an appointment at 0800 772 0668

- One online chat session: 5 October 2021 12 noon – 2pm

On the exhibition website, you will find more information about the project via an online exhibition brochure. In addition, you will also be able to see photomontages illustrating what the proposed development may look like from viewpoints agreed with South Ayrshire Council and NatureScot (formerly SNH) and a viewpoint requested by Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council, in the predicted views brochure online. Finally, you will also have the opportunity to submit questions to the project team, fill in a feedback form to let us know your views on the project or if someone would prefer to talk to a member of the project team, they can request a call back.

The exhibition sessions will be similar to Public Exhibitions held before Covid-19 Restrictions. There will be exhibition boards with project information and the opportunity for you to ask the team questions. In addition, there will be photomontages from a selection of local viewpoints and there will be an opportunity to view what the proposed development may look like from your home or other location of choice in the area. To manage Covid-19 risks we are operating an appointment system, bookings can be made via our website (www.knockcronal.co.uk) or via telephone on 0800 772 0668. We have carried out a full risk assessment for the events, as requested by South Ayrshire Council, and these have been accepted for both exhibition events.

We are keen to make as many people aware of and engaged with the project and gather views on the proposed development. To achieve this, as with the first exhibition held over May and June 2021, we will be:

- sending an exhibition invite to all households and businesses within c. 10km of the site. The invite will include details of the project and a feedback form that members of the community can use to let us know their views or ask questions about the project. The feedback form can be returned to us by freepost. A copy of the invite is attached.
- Advertising the exhibitions in the Ayr Advertiser on Tuesday 14 September and the Ayrshire Post on Wednesday 15 September.

I've attached a copy of the newspaper advert the email too and if possible we would be grateful if you would consider posting on the Community Councils' social media to help advertise the consultation.

If you have any questions in the meantime please do get in touch.

Yours faithfully,

Ruth

[Ruth Semple](#)

Community Liaison Manager

European Wind and Solar

__ ruth.semples@statkraft.com

__ Mobile + 44 (0)7436 336 130

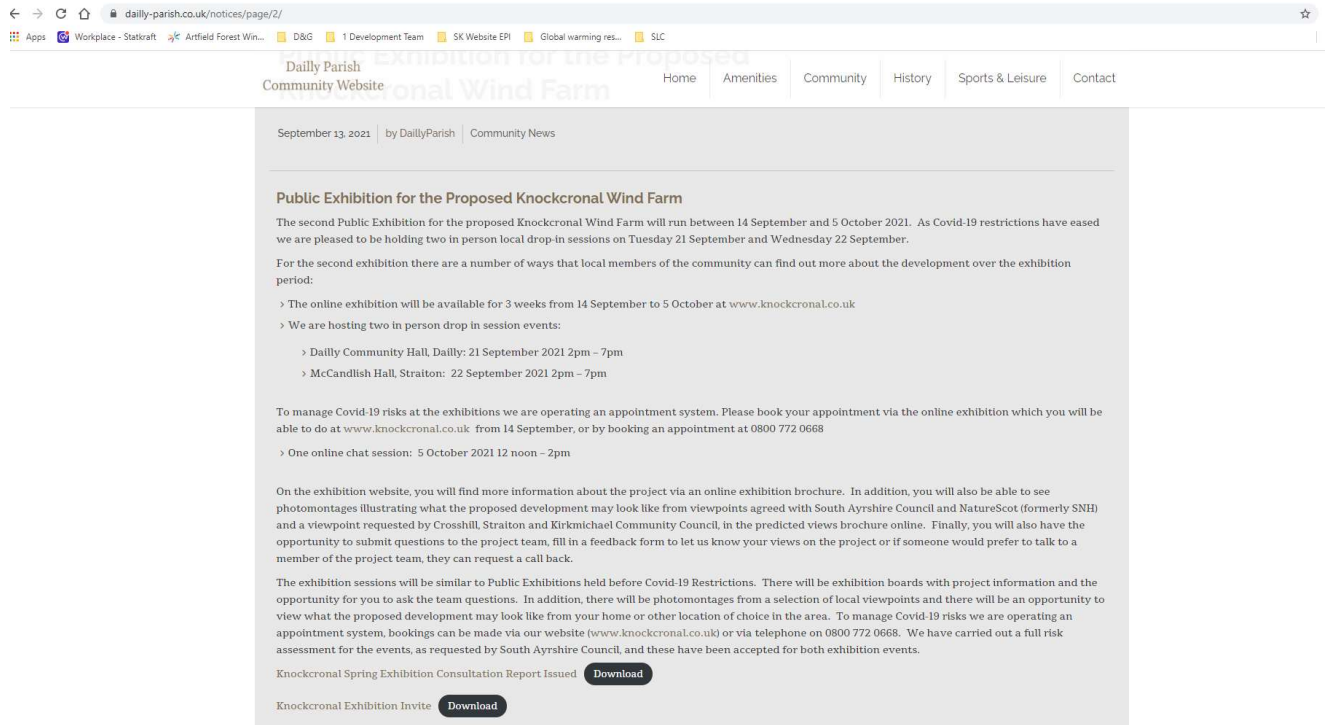
Statkraft UK Ltd.

1 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 1RW

19th Floor, 22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

www.statkraft.co.uk

Appendix P.6.B – Second Exhibition – Example of Community Council Community Social Media



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying "dailly-parish.co.uk/notices/page/2/". The browser's address bar also shows several tabs: "Apps", "Workplace - Statkraft", "Artfield Forest Win...", "D&G", "1 Development Team", "SK Website EPI", "Global warming res...", and "SLC". The website header includes the text "Dailly Parish Community Website" and a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Amenities", "Community", "History", "Sports & Leisure", and "Contact".

The main content area of the page is titled "Public Exhibition for the Proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm" and is dated "September 13, 2021" by "DaillyParish" under the "Community News" category. The text of the notice reads:

Public Exhibition for the Proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm

The second Public Exhibition for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm will run between 14 September and 5 October 2021. As Covid-19 restrictions have eased we are pleased to be holding two in person local drop-in sessions on Tuesday 21 September and Wednesday 22 September.

For the second exhibition there are a number of ways that local members of the community can find out more about the development over the exhibition period:

- > The online exhibition will be available for 3 weeks from 14 September to 5 October at www.knockcronal.co.uk
- > We are hosting two in person drop in session events:
 - > Dailly Community Hall, Dailly: 21 September 2021 2pm – 7pm
 - > McCandlish Hall, Straiton: 22 September 2021 2pm – 7pm

To manage Covid-19 risks at the exhibitions we are operating an appointment system. Please book your appointment via the online exhibition which you will be able to do at www.knockcronal.co.uk from 14 September, or by booking an appointment at 0800 772 0668

- > One online chat session: 5 October 2021 12 noon – 2pm

On the exhibition website, you will find more information about the project via an online exhibition brochure. In addition, you will also be able to see photomontages illustrating what the proposed development may look like from viewpoints agreed with South Ayrshire Council and NatureScot (formerly SNH) and a viewpoint requested by Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council, in the predicted views brochure online. Finally, you will also have the opportunity to submit questions to the project team, fill in a feedback form to let us know your views on the project or if someone would prefer to talk to a member of the project team, they can request a call back.

The exhibition sessions will be similar to Public Exhibitions held before Covid-19 Restrictions. There will be exhibition boards with project information and the opportunity for you to ask the team questions. In addition, there will be photomontages from a selection of local viewpoints and there will be an opportunity to view what the proposed development may look like from your home or other location of choice in the area. To manage Covid-19 risks we are operating an appointment system, bookings can be made via our website (www.knockcronal.co.uk) or via telephone on 0800 772 0668. We have carried out a full risk assessment for the events, as requested by South Ayrshire Council, and these have been accepted for both exhibition events.

Knockcronal Spring Exhibition Consultation Report Issued [Download](#)

Knockcronal Exhibition Invite [Download](#)

Appendix P.6.C – Second Exhibition - Example of Correspondence with Elected Representatives regarding Exhibition Dates

From: Semple Ruth

Sent: 13 September 2021 14.05

To: Redacted

Cc: Wallace John <John.Wallace@statkraft.com>

Subject: Knockcronal Wind Farm - Second Public Exhibition (including drop in sessions) - 14 September to 5 October 2021 - Councillor Clark

Dear Councillor Redacted,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to let you know that we will be holding our second Public Exhibition for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm between 14 September and 5 October 2021. As Covid-19 restrictions have eased we are pleased to be holding two in person local drop-in sessions on Tuesday 21 September and Wednesday 22 September.

I also attach a copy of the consultation report following our first exhibition for your information. We want to extend our thanks to members of the community who took the time to complete and return a feedback form.

For the second exhibition there are a number of ways that local members of the community can find out more about the development over the exhibition period:

- The online exhibition will be available for 3 weeks from 14 September to 5 October at www.knockcronal.co.uk
- We are hosting two in person drop in session events:
 - Dailly Community Hall, Dailly: 21 September 2021 2pm – 7pm
 - McCandlish Hall, Straiton: 22 September 2021 2pm – 7pm

To manage Covid-19 risks at the exhibitions we are operating an appointment system. Please book your appointment via the online exhibition which you will be able to do at www.knockcronal.co.uk from 14 September, or by booking an appointment at 0800 772 0668

- One online chat session: 5 October 2021 12 noon – 2pm

On the exhibition website, you will find more information about the project via an online exhibition brochure. In addition, you will also be able to see photomontages illustrating what the proposed development may look like from viewpoints agreed with South Ayrshire Council and NatureScot (formerly SNH) and a viewpoint requested by Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council, in the predicted views brochure online. Finally, you will also have the opportunity to submit questions to the project team, fill in a feedback form to let us know your views on the project or if someone would prefer to talk to a member of the project team, they can request a call back.

The exhibition sessions will be similar to Public Exhibitions held before Covid-19 Restrictions. There will be exhibition boards with project information and the opportunity for you to ask the team questions. In addition, there will be photomontages from a selection of local viewpoints and there will be an opportunity to view what the proposed development may look like from your home or other location of choice in the area. To manage Covid-19 risks we are operating an appointment system, bookings can be made via our website (www.knockcronal.co.uk) or via telephone on 0800 772 0668. We have carried out a full risk assessment for the events, as requested by South Ayrshire Council, and these have been accepted for both exhibition events.

We are keen to make as many people aware of and engaged with the project and gather views on the proposed development. To achieve this, as with the first exhibition held over May and June 2021, we will be:

- sending an exhibition invite to all households and businesses within c. 10km of the site. The invite will include details of the project and a feedback form that members of the community can use to let us know their views or ask questions about the project. The feedback form can be returned to us by freepost. A copy of the invite is attached.

- Advertising the exhibitions in the Ayr Advertiser on Tuesday 14 September and the Ayrshire Post on Wednesday 15 September.

I've attached a copy of the newspaper advert the email too and if possible we would be grateful if you would consider posting on your social media to help advertise the consultation.

If you have any questions in the meantime please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Ruth

[Ruth Semple](#)

Community Liaison Manager

European Wind and Solar

-- ruth.semple@statkraft.com

-- Mobile + 44 (0)7436 336 130

Statkraft UK Ltd.

1 West Regent Street, Glasgow G2 1RW

19th Floor, 22 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BQ

www.statkraft.co.uk

Elective surgery suspended as health board grapples with Covid

BY CALAM PENGILLY

Reporter

calam.pengilly@nhs.uk
ELECTIVE surgery patients will find that their operation date has been pushed back as the health board has decided to suspend them until the end of this month.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran bosses cite increasing numbers of Covid patients as the reason behind the move, which will leave many expectant patients frustrated at having to wait another month to get treated.

As well as that, the health board have also suspended hospital visits to help stem the spread of the virus.

They have also "temporarily paused some outpatient services", so that they "can maintain urgent appointments and assessments related to potential cancer diagnoses."

Professor Hazel Borland, interim chief executive at NHS Ayrshire and Arran, explained: "The increase in cases of COVID-19 in our communities has had a direct impact on how we provide health and care services in Ayrshire and Arran."

"Increased COVID-19 admissions, staff absence and rising emergency attendances, has resulted in significant pressures across the whole health and care system."

"As a consequence of the pandemic, we remain under emergency planning conditions. We have, therefore, taken the very difficult decision again to temporarily suspend some planned services in order to redeploy staff to cover emergency care."

"We have temporarily paused elective surgery until the end of September. This is so that we can maintain cancer surgery and cancer



Ayr hospital

"The increase in cases of COVID-19 in our communities has had a direct impact."

diagnostic procedures."

Health bosses say people will still be able to arrange a 'virtual visit' (video call) with a friend or family member in one of the affected hospitals.

It comes as Ayrshire's health board has crept up the table of Europe's top Covid hotspots.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran ranked seventh on the list of the 20 worst-hit regions in Europe last week, according to World Health Organisation figures.

A seven per cent rise in the rate of cases per 100,000 saw the area rise one place in the Euro table of doom from last week's count.

Data shows it took the board area to seventh worst affected area in Europe – table-toppers were NHS Lanarkshire and second-placed NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde.

The seven day case incidence in the board area stood at 722 per 100,000 people on September 4, with 2,625 cases in the previous week.

Rankings for the WHO's European Covid-19 table in the 'Subnational regions', are based on Covid infections per 100,000 people.

The figure in NHS Ayrshire and Arran stood at 668 on August 29, making it Europe's eighth hardest-hit area at that point.

Tarbolton show makes a return for 2021

THE Tarbolton Farmers' Show will return on Saturday, September 25.

It will be held at the Burns Trout Fishery in Tarbolton, by kind permission of Tommy Alexander.

The show's classes are only open to residents of Ayrshire and events will run from 9am to around 1pm.

Classes include cattle, hunters, ponies, bantams, pigeons and roots and seeds.

There will also be plenty of

fun and games for all as well as a display of vintage tractors and machinery.

Entries to the classes will close on Thursday, September 23, apart from pigeons and all equestrian events, which will be taken on the showfield.

All cattle exhibitors must bring cattle passports to the show.

There will be no admission charge to this year's event, but please give generously to

the donation buckets found at various points on the showfield.

The cups will be presented at a supper and social evening at the Black Bull Tarbolton on Saturday, November 6.

The Burns Trout Fishery can be found near Tarbolton village on the B730.

The Tarbolton Farmers' Society committee would like to thank all their sponsors for their continued valued support.

Childhood Cancer Awareness

SEPTEMBER is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

South Ayrshire Council's employee charity partner, Whiteleys Retreat, offers free therapeutic respite breaks and extended support for children, young people and their families with cancer or a life altering illness.

Residents can find out more by visiting their website via www.whiteleysretreat.com

Welfare Grant

THOSE on low income, who are working or on benefits could be eligible for help from the Scottish Welfare Fund.

The fund is a discretionary scheme that provides two types of grant: Community Care Grants and Crisis Grants. You can find out more and apply by visiting www.southayrshire.gov.uk



KNOCKCRONAL WIND FARM Public Exhibition Invitation

We invite you to attend our public exhibition for the Knockcronal Wind Farm proposal, located approximately 5km south of Straiton. We are committed to listening to communities as we seek to shape our development.

PHYSICAL EXHIBITION

Daily Community Centre, Daily
Tuesday 21 September,
2pm - 7pm

McCandlish Hall, Straiton
Wednesday 22 September,
2pm - 7pm

To manage Covid-19 risks we are operating an appointment system, please book a space to attend at www.knockcronal.co.uk or call us on 0800 772 0668.

VIRTUAL EXHIBITION

Our consultation website will be live from 14 September 2021 to 5 October 2021 with all exhibition material available and opportunities to discuss the project with the team. Please visit www.knockcronal.co.uk for more information, where a link to the online consultation and details of live Q&A sessions will be available.

Comments should be made to Statkraft UK and do not constitute a formal representation. An opportunity to make a formal representation will exist when a subsequent planning application is made. Thank you and we hope you can take part in the consultation events.

Appendix P.6.E – Second Exhibition – Copy of Invitation for the Second Exhibition Sent to Over 1,300 Homes



We're innovative and community focused

Statkraft is dedicated to engaging with communities and finding different ways to bring positive benefits.

We want to talk to you about how our project can bring new investment to your community. We are open to your ideas.

Community Benefit Fund
We are committed to a Community Benefit Fund that delivers, £5,000 per MW installed per year as per Scottish Government recommendations. If consented, the project will generate £297,000* per year for local groups and initiatives.

*Based on 59.4MW of installed capacity. If consented, value of fund determined by actual installed capacity.

Shared Ownership
We are open to offering Shared Ownership on our projects, if there is local interest. We are keen to hear your views on enabling the community to have a financial share in the project.

Improved Broadband
Join our online exhibition to tell us more about the broadband service in your area and to hear about our broadband feasibility study.

Local supply chain
We want to work with local businesses to deliver our projects. Visit our project website to find out how local businesses can register their interest.



Statkraft's Knockcronal Project Team (L-R):
John Wallace, Project Manager
Ruth Semple, Community Liaison Manager
Harry Handford, Project Developer

 Please return the freepost reply card provided.	 www.knockcronal.co.uk
 Come and meet us at the Dailly or Straiton drop in sessions.	 Phone the project hotline: 0800 772 0668

Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW
+44 (0)141 483 1986





Invitation to Public Exhibition: 14 September – 5 October 2021

Knockcronal Wind Farm Proposal

Our first exhibition was held in May and June 2021 to introduce ourselves and the Knockcronal Wind Farm proposal. Since then we have refined the design. We invite you to review our plans, online or in person, before we submit them to the Scottish Government later this year.



Anderstow Wind Farm, South Lanarkshire, 11 turbines, 440m tip height.

A VARIETY OF WAYS TO FIND OUT MORE:

-  **3 week** ONLINE EXHIBITION
-  **2 local** DROP IN SESSIONS
-  **1 online** CHAT SESSION

Covid-19 restrictions have eased and we look forward to hosting local in person drop in sessions. To help manage Covid-19 risks, we are operating an appointment system. Find out more inside.

About Us

Statkraft is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, with origins going back 125 years in Norwegian hydro power. Our Scottish headquarters are in Glasgow and we have 4,600 employees across 18 countries.

www.statkraft.co.uk

Knockcronal Wind Farm Proposal



Project Summary

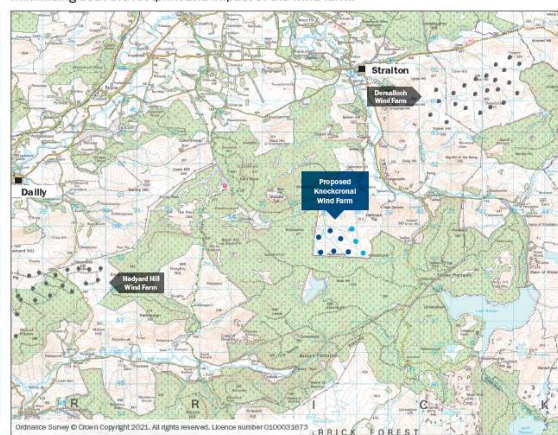
Community engagement is very important to us.

www.knockcronal.co.uk

Since introducing our plans in January 2021 we have listened to feedback to shape the development. The number of turbines has reduced from 12 to 9, and layout revised minimising both the footprint and impact of the wind farm.

Find out more and let us know your views. Visit our:

-  Up to 9 wind turbines proposed (reduced from 12)
-  £297k per year for a Community Fund*
-  Maximum blade tip height: **200m**
-  Exciting opportunity to talk about shared ownership and local suppliers
-  Explore the potential for improved broadband provision



Book an appointment at a drop in session. You will be able to speak with members of the Project Team and to see how the proposal may look from your property or local view point. We look forward to meeting you.

3 week ONLINE EXHIBITION
14 September - 5 October

2 local DROP IN SESSIONS
21 September: 2pm – 7pm
Dailly Community Hall, Dailly
22 September: 2pm – 7pm
McCandlish Hall, Straiton

To manage Covid-19 please book your drop in appointment at:
www.knockcronal.co.uk
or call 0800 772 0668

1 online CHAT SESSION
5 October: 12 noon – 2pm

www.statkraft.co.uk



**SECOND PUBLIC EXHIBITION
AUTUMN 2021**

KNOCKCRONAL WIND FARM

**You can use this form to let
us know your views or ask any
questions, we will respond to all
queries as quickly as possible.**

PRIVACY STATEMENT

Respect for privacy and personal data protection is part of Statkraft's corporate culture. This enables us to maintain an environment where our customers, vendors and other stakeholders can trust Statkraft to process their personal data.

Our online privacy statement explains how, why and for how long Statkraft processes your personal data. Go to <http://bit.ly/SKUKp2>

Comments made to Statkraft are not representations to the consenting authority. An application is expected to be submitted in December 2021, there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the consenting authority. Please note all comments should be received no later than 22 October 2021.

Please tell us what you think – complete and return in the envelope provided

Do you think that the country needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources?

YES NO UNSURE

Do you agree that onshore wind power is a good way to help achieve this?

YES NO UNSURE

Do you think that this site is an acceptable location for a wind farm?

YES NO UNSURE

We will explore the potential to assist in bringing improved broadband to the area. Is this of interest to you?

YES NO UNSURE

We are open to offering Shared Ownership on our projects. If this project went ahead, would this be of interest?

YES NO UNSURE

Yes please, I would like to receive project updates (mainly by email)

No thank you, I do not want project updates

Your questions and comments:

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

continue overleaf...

Yes, please respond to my comment and advise when the project is submitted

Title: Mr / Mrs / Miss / Ms

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Tel:

Appendix P.6.G – Second Exhibition - Physical Exhibition Boards



Welcome

Our team are here to discuss our plans, listen to your views and outline the next steps of the Proposed Development.



About Statkraft

- The largest generator of renewable energy in Europe
- A state owned utility with origins in Norwegian hydropower over 125 years ago
- Operating in the UK since 2006
- Scottish Head Office in Glasgow
- Development pipeline includes wind, solar and grid stability services
- Distributed over £2 million to communities near operating wind farms



About Knockcronal Wind Farm: The Story So Far

The proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm is approximately 5km from Straiton. Since introducing our plans we have listened to feedback and expect to submit the proposal to the Scottish Government later this year.



	No. of Turbines	Max Blade Tip Height (m)	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Generation (GWh/year)	Community Fund (per year)
Knockcronal	8	205m	58.4 ¹	ca. 48,000	Maximum £207,000 per year ²

We believe that this proposal strikes a good balance, maximising the electricity output of the site while carefully siting and designing the proposal to relate to the existing landscape.

The site benefits from good wind speeds based on 13 months of onsite monitoring and we believe this is an excellent site to contribute to Scotland's ambitions of reaching net zero emissions by 2045.

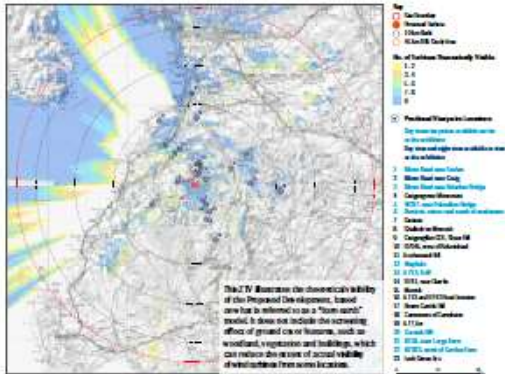
Project website: www.knockcronal.co.uk



What will the Knockcronal Wind Farm look like?

We understand that people in the community will want to know how our proposal will look.

Today you can find out what the proposed development may look like from your home or other local area of interest to you.



Detailed landscape and visual assessments have been undertaken for the proposed development within a 45km study area. The assessments form part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report expected to be submitted with our Section 36 Application later this year.

Viewpoints included in the assessments are agreed with statutory consultees. As the proposed turbines are over 150m high night time viewpoints are also included for this proposal.

Today we have 11 day time views and 1 night time viewpoints available.

Illustrations of all of the viewpoints will be available when an application is submitted.



Community Benefits

We like our wind farms to be considered a local asset. We look forward to engaging with the communities to find out different ways we can bring positive benefits to the local area.



We are often asked by residents near our projects if we can help deliver improved broadband. We need good broadband to operate our wind farm sites and it makes sense that we can try to share that benefit where possible.

Community Benefit Fund

We are committed to setting up a Community Benefit Fund that delivers £5,000 per MW installed per year in line with Scottish Government recommendations.

Shared Ownership

We are open to offering shared ownership on our projects, if there is local interest. We are keen to hear your views on enabling the community to have a financial share in the project.

Improved Broadband

We commission a broadband feasibility study for all our projects. We require a reliable broadband service to operate our wind turbines and the study explores the potential for improving the local infrastructure as the wind farm is connected. The community may wish to explore this further and partially fund works through the Community Benefit Fund.

Local Supply Chain

We want to work with local business groups to increase awareness of the opportunities during construction and operation of our projects. Visit our project website to find out how local businesses can register their interest to help deliver our project.



Next Steps

You comments and feedback are important to us.



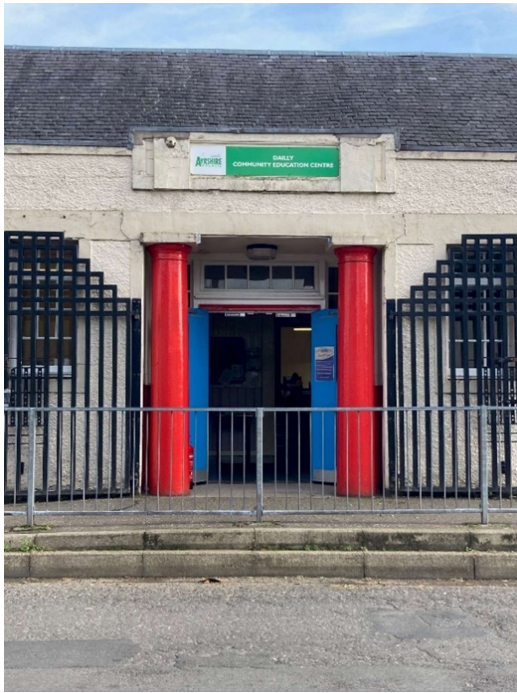
We are continuing work on our comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) to be submitted with our application. You can find out more about what is included within the EIAR on our project website.

When the proposal is submitted interested parties and statutory consultees will have the opportunity to formally comment on the application. All of the information will be available to view on the consenting authority's and our project website at the time of submission.

 <p>Please return the freepost reply card provided.</p>	 <p>Visit the project website.</p>
 <p>UKProjects@statkraft.com</p>	 <p>Phone the project hotline: 0800 772 0668</p>

Appendix P.6.H – Second Exhibition - Photographs of Public Exhibitions

Dailly Community Centre – 21 September 2021





McCandlish Hall, Straiton – 22 September 2021





Public Exhibition P.6.1 – Second Exhibition – Example of Second Exhibition Online Website Content

Market transparency ▶ Our websites ▶
HOME ABOUT US LOCAL BENEFITS LOCAL SUPPLIERS RUTH SEMPLE ▶

Home » Autumn Exhibition - Knockcronal Wind Farm

Autumn Exhibition - Knockcronal Wind Farm

We are exploring the potential to develop a wind farm of up to 9 turbines (reduced from 12) and other ancillary development on land 5km south of Straiton, in South Ayrshire.

This is our second Public Exhibition and we are sharing further information about the project before submitting our plans, a Section 36 Application, later this year. Thank you to those who provided feedback during our first exhibition earlier this year in May and June 2021. The online exhibition is running from Tuesday 14 September until Tuesday 5 October 2021 and you can find all the information you would normally find at a traditional village hall exhibition here.

We are pleased to be hosting two local drop in sessions for local residents and businesses to attend during this exhibition period and you can find out how to attend, as well as other opportunities to speak with the project team below.

The local drop in sessions are being held on:

- Tuesday 21 September, Dailly Community Hall, Dailly, 2pm - 7pm. [Please register your attendance.](#)
- Wednesday 22 September, McCandlish Hall, Straiton, 2pm - 7pm. [Please register your attendance.](#)

To manage the risks around Covid-19 we are asking those wishing to attend to register in advance.


If you can't make it along to one of the events there will be an opportunity to talk to or ask the project team questions at our online chat session here on:

- Tuesday 5 October 12 noon - 2pm

You can also contact the team at any time by asking us a [question](#) or requesting a [call back](#).


Please take the time to view the exhibition brochure and predicted views booklet below. We are keen to hear your views on our proposal and you can do this by completing the [feedback form](#).

Exhibition Brochure



10-11 / 36

Predicted Views Booklet



6 / 39

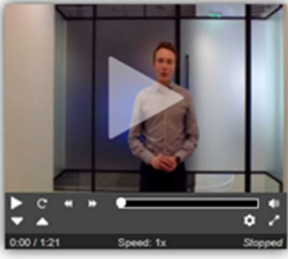
YOUR FEEDBACK
DAILY DROP IN SESSION: TUESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2021

STRAITON DROP IN SESSION: WEDNESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2021
ASK A QUESTION/REQUEST A CALL

Your Feedback on Knockcronal

Thank you for your interest in the proposal and visiting the online exhibition. We hope you found what you were looking for. Please take a few minutes to provide some feedback. This will enable us to gather views which can help shape our plans.

Welcome to the Exhibition from John Wallace, Project Manager



0:00 / 1:21 Speed: 1x Stopped

REGISTER for project updates

Chat to us here about Knockcronal online

5th October 12pm - 2pm


Download Exhibition Documents

KNOCKCRONAL WIND FARM


PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Autumn 2021


FAQ




Call me!




Local Suppliers Register





ayrshirechamber
of commerce and industry



MEMBER OF
scottish
renewables
2020-2021

Appendix P.6.J – Second Exhibition – Example of Second Exhibition Brochure



www.knockcronal.co.uk



2

Contents



Welcome	4
About Knockcronal Wind Farm	8
The Story so Far	12
Project Timeline	16
Environmental Impact Assessment	18
Landscape and Visual Assessments	20
Local Benefits & Investment	30
Broadband	32
Your Views are Important to Us	34

3

Welcome

This exhibition is designed to share our plans for Knockcronal Wind Farm before we make an application to the Scottish Government later this year. We want to thank stakeholders and the community for sharing your views with us since we introduced the project and during the first consultation in Spring 2021.

About Statkraft

- The largest generator of renewable energy in Europe
- A state owned utility, with origins in Norwegian hydropower 125 years ago
- 4,600 employees in 18 countries, all working towards our low carbon future
- Operating in the UK since 2006
- Distributed over £2 million to communities near operating wind farms

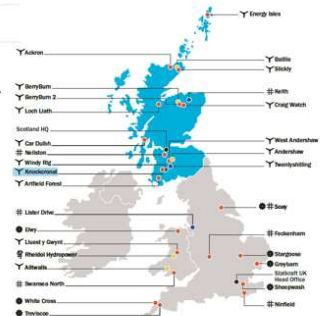


4

Welcome

Statkraft in the UK

- Scottish Head Office in Glasgow
- Portfolio includes four wind farms, one hydro plant
- Two wind farms in Dumfries & Galloway in construction
- Recent expansion into solar development and electric vehicle charging points
- Over 700MW in development
- Delivering grid stability services for National Grid in Moray and Liverpool



5

About Knockcronal Wind Farm



We believe this is an excellent site to contribute to Scotland's ambitions of reaching net zero emissions by 2045

Key Facts:

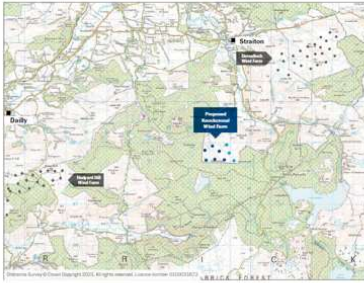
Number of Turbines: **9**

Turbine Tip Height: **200m**

Community Fund: **£297k**

Based on 16,400kWh of installed capacity, we estimate a potential annual electricity output of 18,000 MWh per year.

Based on 16,400kWh of installed capacity, we estimate a potential annual electricity output of 18,000 MWh per year.



About Knockcronal Wind Farm



Why this site?

Good wind speeds based on 13 months of onsite monitoring

Development is approximately 5km from Strathclyde and designed to be mindful of surrounding area with limited visibility from Strathclyde and no visibility expected from Daily

Development would contribute towards Scotland's decarbonisation targets

There are no national or internationally designated sites within the site boundary



	No. of Turbines	Max Blade Tip Heights Up To	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Generation (household equivalent)	Community Fund (per year)
Knockcronal	9	200m	59.4 ¹	18,000 ²	£297,000 ³

The Story So Far



We have sought feedback and continued our studies over the past 9 months to present the optimal design for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm.

DECEMBER 2020	JANUARY 2021 - MAY 2021	MAY 2021 - AUGUST 2021	SEPTEMBER 2021 - DECEMBER 2021	DECEMBER 2021
In December last year we requested the view of the Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council on the level of study required to assess the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm proposal.	Consultation with stakeholders and communities receiving their formal views and comments before a document known as a 'Stippling Opinion' in March 2021.	1st Public Exhibition held May - June	2nd Public Exhibition September - October	Section 36 Application expected to be submitted.
→ 12 turbines → 200m tip height	→ 12 turbines x 200m tip height → 6 turbines x 200m tip height → 3 turbines x 180m tip height	→ 3 turbines locations revised → 2 turbines locations revised → 3 turbines locations revised → 2 turbines locations revised → 1 turbine location revised	→ 3 turbines locations revised → 2 turbines locations revised → 1 turbine location revised	→ 3 turbines locations revised → 2 turbines locations revised → 1 turbine location revised

We believe the proposal takes into account stakeholder and community feedback and strikes a good balance between maximising the electricity output of the site while carefully designing the proposal to relate to the existing landscape.

The Story So Far



This is the wind farm design expected to be submitted after considering studies and feedback.



Project Timeline



Throughout the process Statkraft continuously engages with the local community and stakeholders about the emerging proposal.

1. SITE SELECTION (12 months)	2. PRE-PLANNING (6 to 12 months)	3. SUBMIT APPLICATION & AWAIT DECISION (12 months)	4. CONSTRUCTION (12 to 18 months)	5. OPERATION (30+ years)	6. DECOMMISSION (12 months)
Extensive research to identify suitable sites. Positive indicators include good wind speed and natural environmental and technical conditions. No public engagement is carried out during this time because the site may not pass the criteria required for being suitable for development.	We request the view of the Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council on the level of study required (known as 'Stippling'), being a letter to the Scottish Government, Scottish Environment Scotland, and Natural Resources Scotland. Our first consultation event was held between 19 May and 8 June 2021. In the Autumn of 2021 we are holding our second and last consultation event before we submit our planning application for Knockcronal Wind Farm.	An application is submitted to the Scottish Government, accompanied by a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment. This is publicly available information and will be available on the project website. Interested parties and statutory consultancies such as South Ayrshire Council can formally comment on the application.	If Knockcronal is approved, construction begins at least one year after consent. Construction typically takes 12-18 months and planning conditions are used to manage elements of construction.	The turbines are managed by a regularly based maintenance team, and operations are managed in accordance with detailed planning conditions. We are committed to community benefit and shared ownership opportunities. A community fund is active throughout the lifetime of the project for worthwhile community initiatives.	At the end of the planning period, turbines are removed. A licensed and permit company guarantee that it plans before construction starts to cover this cost.

Environmental Impact Assessment



The process of gathering good environmental data on a site is vital to designing a good wind farm, including turbine locations, access roads and other infrastructure. This is carried out by specialist environmental and technical consultants.

This information is incorporated into an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EiAR) and will be available on the project website.



As part of designing this wind farm, advice and guidance has been sought from a range of regulatory and voluntary bodies including, but not limited to, South Ayrshire Council, NatureScot, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Transport Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland.

The results and findings will be detailed in the EiAR which is made public when we submit our planning application.

- This report covers a range of areas including:
- Landscape and Visual Amenity
 - Ecology
 - Ornithology
 - Noise and Vibration
 - Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology (including peat)
 - Cultural Heritage
 - Traffic, Transport and Access
 - Socioeconomics
 - Aviation and Telecommunications
 - Forestry
 - Shadow Flicker
 - Climate

Landscape and Visual Assessments



What will the project look like?

As part of our studies, we have created images showing how the wind turbines could look from several locations.

As developers, our challenge is to find the right balance between maximising the electricity output of a site and carefully siting and designing the proposal to relate to the existing landscape.

Our studies will include a detailed assessment of the proposed development within a 45km study area.

As the proposed turbines are over 150m a night time assessment is also included. The viewpoint locations are agreed with Consultees. Illustrations of all the viewpoints will be available when an application is submitted to the Scottish Government.

These studies will pay particular regard to:

- Effects on the landscape character of the context of the immediate area, as well as the character of the wider area.
- The amenity of residential properties near to the proposed development in the Givran valley.
- Effects on the special qualities of landscape designations such as the Givran Water Valley Local Landscape Area, and the Merrick Wild Land Area.
- The design in relation to Dersalloch and other proposed wind farms in the area.
- Effects associated with possible turbine lighting.



Please visit our Predicted Views booklet to see all the agreed viewpoint locations and the predicted views from several locations, including a night time view.

Viewpoint 2: Moor Road near Craig

Environmental Impact Assessment



Cultural Heritage



There are no designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Monuments within the site boundary. 34 non-designated heritage assets have been identified during the cultural heritage assessment. The Proposed Development Layout has been designed to avoid impacting these as far as possible.

There is the potential for up to four heritage assets to be directly affected by construction works within the Proposed Development area. Three features are located around the access routes. One remaining feature, two linear features which are old field banks and part of 'Knockonner' farmstead, overlap with the hardstanding of turbine 1.

Consideration continues to be given to providing signage or information boards about 'Knockonner' farmstead to be sited at an appropriate location on the 'Old Road through Straiton' Heritage Path. Statkraft will provide the funding for these boards should the relevant permissions be obtained.

All assets will be subject to an archaeological investigation and a watching brief during construction to document and record the features accordingly.



Remains of field banks at proposed turbine 1 location.

The setting of heritage assets within the wider landscape will also be assessed as part of the EIA. Particular attention will be given to Straiton Conservation Area, Blairquhah and Kilkerran Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes and Scheduled Monuments.

Landscape and Visual Assessments



What will the project look like?

As part of our studies, we have created images showing how the wind turbines could look from several locations.

As developers, our challenge is to find the right balance between maximising the electricity output of a site and carefully siting and designing the proposal to relate to the existing landscape.

Our studies will include a detailed assessment of the proposed development within a 45km study area.

As the proposed turbines are over 150m a night time assessment is also included. The viewpoint locations are agreed with Consultees. Illustrations of all the viewpoints will be available when an application is submitted to the Scottish Government.

These studies will pay particular regard to:

- Effects on the landscape character of the context of the immediate area, as well as the character of the wider area.
- The amenity of residential properties near to the proposed development in the Givran valley.
- Effects on the special qualities of landscape designations such as the Givran Water Valley Local Landscape Area, and the Merrick Wild Land Area.
- The design in relation to Dersalloch and other proposed wind farms in the area.
- Effects associated with possible turbine lighting.



Please visit our Predicted Views booklet to see all the agreed viewpoint locations and the predicted views from several locations, including a night time view.

Viewpoint 2: Moor Road near Craig

Environmental Impact Assessment



Cultural Heritage



There are no designated heritage assets such as Scheduled Monuments within the site boundary. 34 non-designated heritage assets have been identified during the cultural heritage assessment. The Proposed Development Layout has been designed to avoid impacting these as far as possible.

There is the potential for up to four heritage assets to be directly affected by construction works within the Proposed Development area. Three features are located around the access routes. One remaining feature, two linear features which are old field banks and part of 'Knockonner' farmstead, overlap with the hardstanding of turbine 1.

Consideration continues to be given to providing signage or information boards about 'Knockonner' farmstead to be sited at an appropriate location on the 'Old Road through Straiton' Heritage Path. Statkraft will provide the funding for these boards should the relevant permissions be obtained.

All assets will be subject to an archaeological investigation and a watching brief during construction to document and record the features accordingly.



Remains of field banks at proposed turbine 1 location.

The setting of heritage assets within the wider landscape will also be assessed as part of the EIA. Particular attention will be given to Straiton Conservation Area, Blairquhah and Kilkerran Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes and Scheduled Monuments.

Environmental Impact Assessment



Ecology & Ornithology



Extensive surveys have been completed, including for habitats and vegetation, birds, protected mammals and fisheries with results compiled and assessed.

Consultation feedback has also been received from Ayrshire River Trust, Fisheries Management Scotland, Galloway & Southern Ayrshire Biosphere, Galloway Fisheries Trust, NatureScot, and RSPB.

The surveys revealed that the habitat within the site is considered to be of low habitat risk for many protected species, with known presence of bats, badgers and water vole. The coniferous forestry area has the potential to provide a habitat for other protected species. As such, the design has ensured turbines have been located away from the forestry area and buffers have been placed around all watercourses.

The final design of the Proposed Development, with a smaller infrastructure footprint, has carefully considered the results of the surveys and consultee feedback, adjusting and refining the layout in order to minimise impact on sensitive habitats and protected species.

Noise



A noise assessment is being undertaken for the site in line with Government guidance. The full assessment will be submitted as part of the Section 36 Application.

Background noise monitoring has been carried out at a number of representative properties surrounding the site to capture the existing noise levels. These survey locations were agreed with South Ayrshire Council. The background noise levels will be used to determine noise limits that the Proposed Development would have to operate within. These limits are also informed by South Ayrshire Council and government guidance (ETSU-R-97).

The noise assessment will also take into account other wind farms schemes in the area, including the operating Dersalloch.

The noise assessments and resulting noise limits will be used to ensure that, if consented, the future operational site would operate within levels considered acceptable under the ETSU-R-97 assessment method (Government Guidance).

Environmental Impact Assessment



Transport

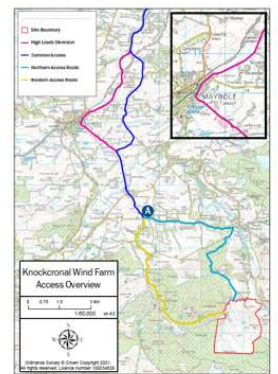


The access routes to site are shown opposite.

All transport to site will follow the blue route with the exception of high loads such as towers and nacelles. These loads will be diverted along the route drawn in pink to avoid a low bridge.

From point A we are considering two access routes to site to at this stage.

Within the EIA you will be able to view the transport assessment. This considers impacts of construction on local traffic and details all mitigation measures relating to traffic management. The transport chapter will also include a detailed review of the turbine component route to site and an outline of any road works required to facilitate the deliveries.



Environmental Impact Assessment



Climate Change

The Scottish Government has set a legally-binding target to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045. Developments such as Knockcronal Wind Farm are key to meeting this target. Whilst Scotland has continued to make good progress in reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, the need for low carbon energy supplies is paramount if Scotland is to achieve this net zero target.

By 2030, The Scottish Energy Strategy calls for 50% of 'all energy' to come from renewables. It emphasises that onshore wind is now one of the cheapest forms of electricity and will therefore continue to play an important role in this.

To quantify the emissions savings of Knockcronal Wind Farm, a 'carbon balance' assessment will be undertaken for the wind farm using Scottish Government guidance.

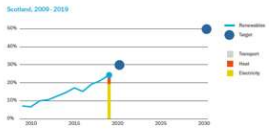
"We need more renewable energy, but why here?"

This is one of the most common questions we are asked when we propose a wind farm. This is a very understandable question, and the answer goes beyond the fact that Scotland has one of the strongest wind resources in Europe. Earlier this year, we were pleased to be able to answer this question with the detail of a research study we have funded by the name of the Broadband Feasibility Study. You may be surprised to know that our analysis shows less than 1% of land in Scotland is suitable for development of onshore wind. You can watch the full video here.



HOW IS SCOTLAND DOING?
It's great that Scotland now generates the equivalent of over 90% of its total electricity consumption by renewable energy. Reducing local fuel sources from heating and transport is essential to Scotland meeting our own emissions by 2045, this project could contribute to that goal.
Read more here: www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-51088989

Scotland's share of renewable energy (gross final consumption)



Source: Scottish Energy Statistics Hub

Local Benefits & Investment



We would like our wind farms to be considered a local asset and want to talk with you about how we can bring new investment to your community.



Broadband planting area at Knockcronal Wind Farm. Photo credit: Jason Mackay at MacArthur Green.
"Since 2016, MacArthur Green's experienced team of specialists have been carrying out ecological, ornithological and hydrological monitoring works for Knockcronal Wind Farm's Forestry and Habitat Management Plan (FHMP). The FHMP aims to reinstata and enhance blanket bog habitat, and provide a diverse woodland mix including broadleaved woodland to enhance floral and faunal species diversity. Through ongoing monitoring, we have found that these habitats are now developing well, and are helping to increase biodiversity of the site."
Nicola Goodship PhD MCEER, Senior Ornithologist, MacArthur Green

Community Benefit Fund

We are committed to setting up a Community Benefit Fund in each of our project locations. Over £2 million has been generated from our UK projects to support local causes and innovative schemes.

Local Investment

Work with local business groups such as the Chamber of Commerce to increase awareness of the opportunities in construction and operations.

Wireless Broadband

We are progressing a feasibility study to identify the potential for improved broadband connection to support communities developing their own broadband initiatives.

Shared Ownership

Progress the opportunity, if there is local interest for local groups to have a financial interest in our project, with the support of organisations such as www.localenergyscot.com.

Education & Enterprise

We welcome ideas on how our project can support local education and employment opportunities, and boost local businesses.

Broadband



We are always exploring ways in which we can provide positive benefits to local communities near our projects.

We are often asked by people if we can help deliver faster broadband, or even get them connected in the first place.

With this in mind, we have commissioned a feasibility study to investigate the potential at Knockcronal.



The Broadband Feasibility Study explores the potential for using the infrastructure of our project to deliver faster broadband.

Our study will find out:

FEASIBILITY

We require a reliable broadband service to operate our wind turbines, and the study explores the potential for improving local infrastructure as the wind farm is connected.

FIBRE & FIXED WIRELESS

Fibre is the optimal connection, but fixed wireless broadband also offers opportunities to connect some locations that can be difficult or costly to reach.

A BENEFIT

Potential to provide improved internet speeds for commercial and residential properties. This could be partially or fully funded by the community benefit fund associated with our project.

NEXT STEPS

We would like to hear your views on the Broadband Feasibility Study and would like to continue a conversation with you as the project progresses. If you would like to be kept up to date on the Broadband Feasibility Study please contact us, and register on the website for updates.

Your Views are Important to Us

We are aiming to submit an application later this year, when all application documents will be publicly available.

We welcome your comments and feedback. Please register your comments by completing a feedback form. In order for us to take your view into account before we submit an application, please comment by 22 October 2021.

Comments made will be taken into consideration but are not representations to the Planning Authority. There will be an opportunity for you to submit a formal response to the Scottish Government after the application has been submitted.

Thank you for attending the Knockcronal Wind Farm Exhibition.

We would like to keep you updated as our plans progress:

	Click here to complete the online feedback.
	Register for updates: www.knockcronal.co.uk
	0800 772 0668 (local call rate applies)
	FreePost Statkraft (no stamp or further address details required)
	UKProjects@statkraft.com



www.knockcronal.co.uk

Phone: 0800 772 0668

Appendix P.6.K – Second Public Exhibition – Predicted Views Brochure – Example of Content



Predicted Views

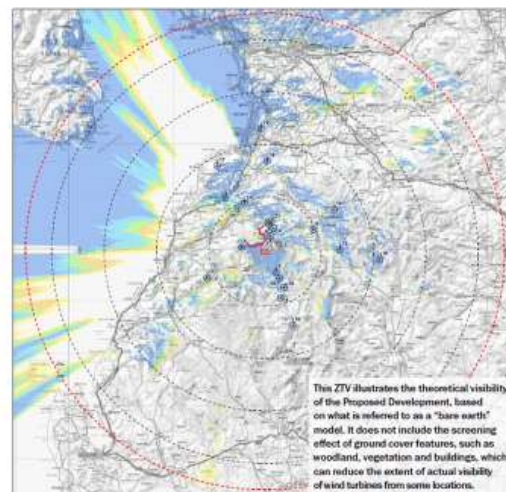
The viewpoint locations for Knockcronal Wind Farm have been agreed following consultation with South Ayrshire Council, NatureScot and community councils.

The viewpoints ensure the most suitable locations are selected to illustrate the effects of the wind farm.

In this brochure we have 10 day time photomontages available from viewpoints that will be assessed in the planning application. In addition, at the request of Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council, we have included an illustration from a location along the Crosshill to Kirkmichael Road. You will find this viewpoint at that the start of the brochure.

Illustrations for all locations will be submitted as part of our application and be available to view at this time, expected to be in December 2021.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) Day Time



Predicted Views

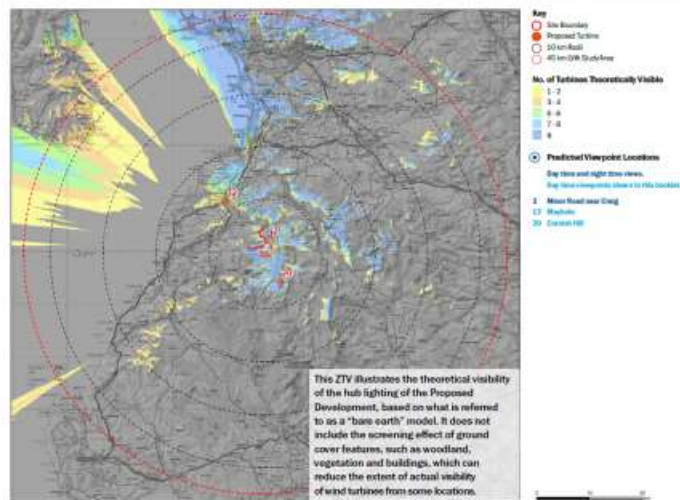
The viewpoint locations for Knockcronal Wind Farm have been agreed following consultation with South Ayrshire Council and NatureScot and community councils.

The viewpoints ensure the most suitable locations are selected to illustrate the effects of the wind farm.

Night time viewpoints are required to be produced at some locations for developments with turbines above 150m. We have included one night time predicted viewpoint within this brochure.

Three night time photomontages will be included in the planning application which will be available to view on our project website following the submission of the planning application.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) Night time



Community requested viewpoint: Crosshill to Kirkmichael Road

Requested by Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council

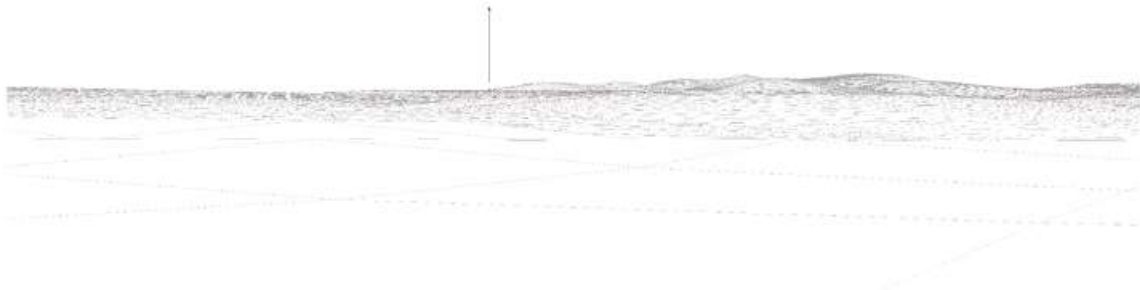


BASELINE VIEW



Community requested viewpoint: Crosshill to Kirkmichael Road

Requested by Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council


WIREFRAME


Wireframe showing submission layout
 6 turbines, 6 @ 200m to blade tip height
 and 3 @ 180m to blade tip height.
 All turbines shown with a 155m rotor diameter

Community requested viewpoint: Crosshill to Kirkmichael Road

Requested by Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael Community Council


**PREDICTED VIEW
 (WITH TURBINE LOCATION MARKER)**


Photomontage showing submission layout
 6 turbines, 6 @ 200m to blade tip height
 and 3 @ 180m to blade tip height.
 All turbines shown with a 155m rotor diameter



POSTAL ADDRESS
Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW

PHONE
+44 (0)141 483 1986

INTERNET
www.statkraft.co.uk

E-MAIL
ukprojects@statkraft.com

15 November 2021



Knockcronal Wind Farm - Second Consultation Period

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return the feedback form during our second consultation for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm. As part of the second consultation period, we wrote to over 1,300 households and businesses located within c.10km of the proposal to inform local residents about the project and to invite them to provide feedback via the freepost reply card, the project website or at our community drop-in sessions.

Since we introduced our plans in January 2021, we have reduced the number of turbines from 12 to 9 turbines, with a tip height up to 200m (3 turbines are up to 180m). We presented more detail on the 9 turbine scheme during our May and June exhibition and at our second exhibition during September and October. You can view the information presented at the exhibition at www.knockcronal.co.uk

For the second exhibition period we were pleased to be able to host two in person drop-in sessions, on 21 and 22 September, in Dailly and Straiton which were well attended.

Community consultation is important to us and we have considered the comments received and are responding to everyone who provided comments and requested to receive project updates. Details of the most frequently asked questions during this consultation period and our responses are attached for information.

Thank you for your comment regarding onshore and offshore wind farms. We need a mix of all types of renewable energy generation to meet our climate targets. New-build onshore wind is presently the most cost effective way to generate new electricity, out of all forms of electricity. You may be interested in [Statkraft's Low Emissions Scenario](#). It is our analysis on how the energy world could look towards 2050 and considers the role of different renewable technologies.

You indicated you would like to be kept updated with project news, and we will be pleased to keep you informed of project progress. You can also [register for updates](#) on the project website, www.knockcronal.co.uk. We follow GDPR guidelines in relation to personal data and you can opt out at any time.

It is expected that a planning application will be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit in late 2021. Also, just a note to advise that when an application for consent is submitted to the Scottish Government, there is an opportunity to make your views known directly to them as part of the statutory consultation process.

Thank you again for taking the time to reply.

Yours sincerely,



John Wallace
Project Manager, UK Wind & Solar

[REDACTED]

POSTAL ADDRESS:
Statkraft UK Ltd
1 West Regent Street
Glasgow
G2 1RW

15 November 2021

PHONE:
+44 (0)141 483 1866

INTERNET:
www.statkraft.co.uk

E-MAIL:
ukprojects@statkraft.com

[REDACTED]

Knockcronal Wind Farm - Second Consultation Period

Thank you for taking the time to complete and return the feedback form during our second consultation for the proposed Knockcronal Wind Farm. As part of the second consultation period, we wrote to over 1,300 households and businesses located within c.10km of the proposal to inform local residents about the project and to invite them to provide feedback via the freepost reply card, the project website or at our community drop-in sessions.

Since we introduced our plans in January 2021, we have reduced the number of turbines from 12 to 9 turbines, with a tip height up to 200m (3 turbines are up to 180m). We presented more detail on the 9 turbine scheme during our May and June exhibition and at our second exhibition during September and October. You can view the information presented at the exhibition at www.knockcronal.co.uk

For the second exhibition period we were pleased to be able to host two in person drop-in sessions, on 21 and 22 September, in Dailly and Straiton which were well attended.

Community consultation is important to us and we have considered the comments received and are responding to everyone who provided comments and requested to receive project updates. Details of the most frequently asked questions during this consultation period and our responses are attached for information.

You indicated you would like to be kept updated with project news, and we will be pleased to keep you informed of project progress. You can also [register for updates](#) on the project website, www.knockcronal.co.uk. We follow GDPR guidelines in relation to personal data and you can opt out at any time.

It is expected that a planning application will be submitted to the Energy Consents Unit in late 2021.

Also, just a note to advise that when an application for consent is submitted to the Scottish Government, there is an opportunity to make your views known directly to them as part of the statutory consultation process.

Thank you again for taking the time to reply.

Yours sincerely,



John Wallace

Project Manager, UK Wind & Solar



Knockcronal Wind Farm

The second public exhibition for Knockcronal Wind Farm was held during September and October 2021. During the consultation, which included hosting two local drop-in sessions (in Dailly and Straiton), some questions and comments were frequently raised. Below are our responses to these.

(November 2021)

There are too many wind farms in this area; similar proposals have previously been refused

As part of our work towards the planning application for the project, we undertook substantial analysis into the landscape and visual sensitivities in the vicinity of the development. These studies are now complete and will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report of the wind farm application expected to be submitted in late 2021.

We used these studies to develop a project, with the aim of finding the right balance between maximising electricity output while carefully siting and designing the project to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind farm developments. This has included moving the turbines further west and, to reflect the topography of the site, using differing turbine heights to produce a better overall design.

- We presented the finalised proposal at the second public exhibition, a 9 turbine scheme with 6 turbines up to 200m to tip height and 3 turbines up to 180m to tip height. You can see how it may look like at several local viewpoints on our website at www.knockcronal.co.uk.

The Scottish Government has a target to achieve net zero by 2045. Onshore wind is expected to play a role in achieving this aim. Our analysis shows that the area suitable for onshore wind development in Scotland is limited due to a range of factors. To find out more about what makes a site suitable for onshore wind you are invited to watch the webinar: 'Location, Location – the challenges to siting onshore wind farms in Scotland' where our Head of Development, Richard Mardon, explores the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise Scotland's excellent natural wind resources. You can view the webinar [here](#).

What are the benefits to locals?

There are several ways our projects can bring local benefits, and we are always open to discussing how this can be tailored to each area.

Broadband

The broadband feasibility study we undertake investigates how communities within the local area could benefit from improved broadband and the next steps required to deliver any improvements.

We are aware, through community feedback and the study, that part of the area will benefit from improved broadband through the R100 Programme. Our study has taken this into account and investigates whether service improvements could be achieved for properties not covered by this scheme. Initial investigations show service improvements could be possible. We will share the findings of the report with community councils once it is completed.

Community Benefit Fund

Statkraft is committed to delivering a community benefit fund with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the installed capacity of the project, but as a guide, based on 59.4MW, this is around £297,000 per year over the operating period of the wind farm. It is important to note the provision of the community benefit fund is not material in planning, i.e. it is not taken into account when deciding (or determining) the application.

No decisions have been made regarding the fund. We follow best practice in relation to this and we have outlined the community benefit offering to the host and near neighbouring community councils, Crosshill Straiton and Kirkmichael, Dailly and Barr Community Councils.

We are not prescriptive in terms of how the fund can be used. It is possible, should the community wish, that it could be used for a local energy discount scheme. Examples of Local Energy Discount schemes run by other groups are included here for information: [Carsphaim Local Energy Discount scheme](#) and [RES or Enerqia's Local energy schemes](#).

Should the wind farm gain consent we look forward to working with the community to deliver a fund that meets local needs.

For more FAQs go to www.knockcronal.co.uk



Knockcronal Wind Farm

Online and In-Person Consultation Feedback Report September/October 2021

About Knockcronal Wind Farm

Knockcronal is a proposal for a 9-turbine wind farm. The site is approximately 5km south of Straiton in South Ayrshire. The graphic below highlights some key information about the proposal.

	No. of Turbines	Max Blade Tip Heights Up To	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Generation (homes equivalent)	Community Fund (per year)
Knockcronal	9	200m	59.4 [†]	Over 48,000*	Estimated £297,000 per year**
			<small>† Based on 9 x 6.6MW</small>	<small>* Based on 59.4MW of installed capacity, wind resource assessment and Scottish average household consumption of 3,393 kWh pa (BEIS Dec. 2020)</small>	<small>** Based on 50-MW x £5k per MW of installed capacity, if connected, value of fund determined by actual installed capacity.</small>

The project was introduced to community representatives in January 2021 and an online consultation event, adhering to Scottish Government advice in relation to Covid-19, was held in May and June 2021. A Feedback Report for this event was circulated to Community Councils and uploaded to the project website.

A second consultation, both online and in-person, was held in September and October 2021. This Feedback Report focuses on the second exhibition period.

Background

In a virtual meeting in February 2021, Crosshill, Straiton & Kirkmichael Community Council requested, if possible, and in line with Covid-19 guidance, an in-person exhibition event for Knockcronal Wind Farm. We committed to holding a physical exhibition event alongside a virtual exhibition when possible in order to give residents different opportunities to engage on the proposals. As the Covid-19 restrictions eased it was possible to hold in person events, as requested, with suitable Covid-19 risk measures in place.

We carried out risk assessments, which were approved by South Ayrshire Council, in advance of the physical exhibition events. The measures taken at the physical exhibitions included:

- An appointment-based system to ensure the number of attendees in the hall stayed within the hall capacity;
- Track and Trace in operation, with contact details of all attendees provided to Statkraft;
- Members of the Statkraft team taking Lateral Flow Tests in advance of the exhibitions;
- Mask covering in operation and hand sanitiser available to attendees;
- A one-way system in place for the halls; and
- Spacing out of information material.

Second Exhibition Period

This overview presents the findings of the feedback received during and after the second round of consultation. This was held from 14 September – 5 October 2021 and included in-person and online consultation opportunities. Feedback could also be provided by phone and postal feedback forms.

The consultation was publicised in various ways to ensure that as many local residents knew about the second exhibition event as possible, including:

- Advertisements in the Ayr Advertiser newspaper on Tuesday 14 September 2021 and in the Ayrshire Post on 15 September 2021 and 22 September. This notice provided information on how to book an appointment at the exhibition events and details of the online exhibition.
- Mailing to all households and businesses (over 1,300) within 10km of the site with an invitation and details to take part in the online consultation as well as providing feedback cards (which could be returned up to 22 October 2021) and freepost envelopes for those who preferred to write back rather than go online or attend an exhibition.
- Writing to host and neighbouring Community Councils and local ward members at the start of the consultation, with copies of adverts should they wish to highlight the events on social media.
- Providing details of the consultation on the Knockcronal project website.

In-Person Exhibition 21 and 22 September 2021

The In-Person Physical Exhibitions were held at:

- Dailly Community Centre, Dailly - 21 September 2021, 2pm - 7pm
- McCandlish Hall, Straiton - 22 September 2021, 2pm - 7pm

On display were a number of information boards, covering:

- Information about the developer;
- An overview of the proposed development, including layout, transport route and how the project has taken on board comments from the first exhibition event;
- A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) of the development; and
- Community benefit, construction opportunities and shared ownership.

Copies of the online exhibition brochure were available for members of the public to take away, and a screen was set up to run a presentation of several agreed viewpoints for the project.

We provided software which enabled visitors to view a visualisation of the project from a location of their choosing on a screen. Visitors were also able to select the locations by either providing a postcode or pointing to a position on a map.

If requested, we took details and sent hardcopies of the visuals from particular postcodes/areas.

Feedback forms were available at the event for members of the public to fill out or take away with a freepost envelope.

Dailly had 7 visitors and Straiton had 31 visitors attend the events. The majority of attendees had booked an appointment in advance. Several members of the public attended on the day without an appointment - they provided track and trace details and the hall was not at capacity so they were able to attend the exhibition. All members of the public who arrived were able to attend the exhibitions.

Representatives of Crosshill, Straiton & Kirkmichael Community Council, Dailly Community Council, Barr Community Council and Save Straiton for Scotland attended the exhibition events.

Online Exhibition, 14 September - 5 October 2021

The virtual exhibition, accessed via a link from the main project website, sought to replicate the type of information and materials available at the physical exhibition. This included:

- An Exhibition Brochure – to replace and expand on the information you would normally expect on Exhibition Boards, this included the layout and further details about the transport route;
- Specific information about how the proposed development had been progressed since the first exhibition;
- A separate predicted views brochure, which provided visualisations of the wind farm from several agreed viewpoint locations (agreed with South Ayrshire Council and NatureScot);
- Community benefit, construction and community ownership information;
- A live Q&A session on 5 October 2021, 12pm - 2pm, to provide members of the public with a dedicated interactive online event to engage with the project team;
- A 'ring back' service to allow members of the public to have a dedicated chat with our team at a date/ time suitable to them; and
- An opportunity to leave comments through online feedback forms.

Summary of Consultation Responses

Of the 1,394 households and businesses contacted with the invitation and freepost feedback form we received a response from 41 (2.94%). In addition, we received over 120 webpage views on the separate and dedicated website set up to host the online public exhibition website and one online form was completed between 14 September to 5 October.

In total, there were 109 interactions, including 38 attendees to the events, call backs, online forms, feedback forms, letters and emails sent (not including confirmation of attending the event).

The results of the returned offline and online forms are provided below:

Of those who provided a response to the question, 76% agreed that the country needs to generate more electricity from renewable sources. The belief of respondents that onshore wind is a good way to achieve this is quite evenly balanced 36% believe yes, 40% believe no, and 24% are unsure. The number of unsure respondents rose by 11% relative to the first exhibition.

Of respondents who answered the question: 'Do you think this is a good location for a wind farm', the response rates from the first exhibition remained very similar, three fifths (60%) said no, one third responded yes (33%) and 7% were unsure.

64% of all respondents wish to be kept up to date on the project and we look forward to engaging with the community over the coming months.

Although the exhibition has now closed, the exhibition material is still available on the project website at www.knockcronal.co.uk

Key Topics from Consultation

Similar to the first exhibition, we received positive, negative and neutral comments and questions regarding the wind farm proposals. We will directly respond to all feedback/letters (in line with GDPR rules).

Below is a summary of the main themes raised with us and we would welcome further discussion with the community on these topics.

Cumulative impact and landscape impact of the project

The project has reduced from 12 to 9 turbines from the original scoping layout. In addition, 3 of the 9 turbines have reduced in tip height. We have also moved turbines further to the west to better reflect the landscape and the topography of the site.

Cumulative assessments have been undertaken as part of the planning application. These studies are now complete and will be considered by the planning authority and the Energy Consents Unit as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report when the application is submitted to the Energy Consents Unit.

Broadband

There was continued interest in the broadband proposals. Some attendees highlighted the R100 programme in the area and that some communities are well served already by good broadband connections. Our study has taken this into account and investigates whether service improvements could be achieved for properties not covered by this scheme. Initial investigations show service improvements could be possible.

We will share the findings of the feasibility study with the Community Councils once it is complete.

Community Benefit Fund

Statkraft is committed to delivering a community benefit fund with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the installed capacity of the project, but as a guide, based on 59.4MW, this would equate to around £297,000 per year over the operating period of the wind farm. It is important to note the provision of the community benefit fund is not material in planning, i.e. it is not taken into account when deciding (or determining) the application.

No decisions have been made regarding the fund. We follow best practice in relation to this and we have outlined the community benefit offering to the host and near neighbouring community councils, Crosshill Straiton and Kirkmichael, Dailly and Barr Community Councils.

We are not prescriptive in terms of how the fund can be used. It is possible, should the community wish, it could be used for a local energy discount scheme.

Should the wind farm gain consent, we look forward to working with the community to deliver a fund that meets local needs.

Next Steps

As noted at our exhibition, the application is to be submitted before the end of 2021. The next steps for local engagement are:

- Send a copy of this summary report to the local and neighbouring community councils and elected representatives, and look forward to keeping interested parties updated on the project.
- We would welcome the opportunity to underline our commitment on community benefit and shared ownership with the community councils (whether they are supportive, opposed or neutral to the plans) to ensure that the community understand that the Community Benefit Fund will be for the local communities.
- Continue to update the project website.

We would like to put on record our thanks to the Community Councils, community groups and residents for their input and time in engaging with us and the planning process to date.

Appendix 1

Knockcronal Wind Farm

The second public exhibition for Knockcronal Wind Farm was held during September and October 2021. During the consultation, which included hosting two local drop-in sessions (in Dailly and Straiton), some questions and comments were frequently raised. Below are our responses to these.

(November 2021)

There are too many wind farms in this area; similar proposals have previously been refused

As part of our work towards the planning application for the project, we undertook substantial analysis into the landscape and visual sensitivities in the vicinity of the development. These studies are now complete and will be included in the Environmental Impact Assessment Report of the wind farm application expected to be submitted in late 2021.

We used these studies to develop a project, with the aim of finding the right balance between maximising electricity output while carefully siting and designing the project to relate to the existing landscape, including other wind farm developments. This has included moving the turbines further west and, to reflect the topography of the site, using differing turbine heights to produce a better overall design.

We presented the finalised proposal at the second public exhibition, a 9 turbine scheme with 6 turbines up to 200m to tip height and 3 turbines up to 180m to tip height. You can see how it may look like at several local viewpoints on our website at www.knockcronal.co.uk.

The Scottish Government has a target to achieve net zero by 2045. Onshore wind is expected to play a role in achieving this aim. Our analysis shows that the area suitable for onshore wind development in Scotland is limited due to a range of factors. To find out more about what makes a site suitable for onshore wind you are invited to watch the webinar: 'Location, Location – the challenges to siting onshore wind farms in Scotland' where our Head of Development, Richard Mardon, explores the challenges faced in finding the best sites to maximise Scotland's excellent natural wind resources. You can view the webinar [here](#).

What are the benefits to locals?

There are several ways our projects can bring local benefits, and we are always open to discussing how this can be tailored to each area.

Broadband

The broadband feasibility study we undertake investigates how communities within the local area could benefit from improved broadband and the next steps required to deliver any improvements.

We are aware, through community feedback and the study, that part of the area will benefit from improved broadband through the R100 Programme. Our study has taken this into account and investigates whether service improvements could be achieved for properties not covered by this scheme. Initial investigations show service improvements could be possible. We will share the findings of the report with community councils once it is completed.

Community Benefit Fund

Statkraft is committed to delivering a community benefit fund with all new wind farms at £5,000 per MW installed per year, as per Scottish Government guidance. The exact amount will depend on the installed capacity of the project, but as a guide, based on 59.4MW, this is around £297,000 per year over the operating period of the wind farm. It is important to note the provision of the community benefit fund is not material in planning, i.e. it is not taken into account when deciding (or determining) the application.