



Pre-Application Consultation Report

Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm

Ben Sca Wind Farm Limited

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Basis of Report

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

EDPR	EDP Renewables
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
HES	Historic Environment Scotland
HIAL	Highlands and Islands Airports Limited
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
NPF4	National Planning Framework 4
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation
PAN	Proposal of Application Notice
THC	The Highland Council
SEI	Supplementary Environmental Information
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency



1.0 Introduction

This report constitutes a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report as required by Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, as amended, and Section 35C of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended. It describes the consultation requirements for the Proposed Development, Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm, the consultation measures undertaken by the Applicant, the feedback received and any resultant modifications to the Proposed Development.

The Applicant recognises that it is very important to ensure that communities in the vicinity of the Proposed Development are afforded appropriate and meaningful opportunities to comment on the proposals before they are finalised in accordance with regulations and good practice guidance.

1.1 Site Location and Description

The site for the Proposed Development is moorland approximately 2.5km to the southwest of the settlement of Edinbane and approximately 7km to the east of the settlement of Dunvegan. The nearest Postcode to the site is IV51 9PW.

The application boundary is shown on **Figure 1** and wholly includes the previous red line application boundaries for the consented Ben Sca Wind Farm and Ben Sca Wind Farm Extension. No additional land is included in the red application boundary.

1.2 The Proposed Development

1.2.1 Proposed Development

The layout of the Proposed Development is shown on **Figure 2**. The key components of the Proposed Development, which would be constructed in accordance to detailed design and relevant Health and Safety requirements, include the following:

- nine variable pitch (three bladed) wind turbines, each with a maximum blade tip height of up to 149.9m and rotor diameter of up to 138m;
- turbine foundations and a crane hardstanding area which includes areas for blade, tower and nacelle storage at each wind turbine;
- up to 4.5km of new onsite access track and associated drainage with a typical 5m running width (wider on bends) and two turning heads;
- underground cabling along access tracks to connect the turbine locations, and the onsite electrical substation;
- one onsite substation which would accommodate 33KV equipment to collect electricity from the site. The substation compound would include a control and metering building;
- up to three borrow pits;
- two construction compounds (one permanent, one temporary); and
- clearance of up to 64.73ha of conifer forest for Habitat Management purposes as described in **Technical Appendix 5.3: Outline Habitat Management Plan (HMP)**.

It is proposed that the total installed capacity would be up to 40.8MW.



1.2.2 Changes from Consented Development

The Proposed Development is an amendment to the consented development, which comprises the consented Ben Sca Wind Farm (20/00013/FUL) and consented Ben Sca Wind Farm Extension (21/05767/FUL). The changes to the consented development are as follows:

- increase blade tip height for seven turbines by up to 14.9m (from 135m to 149.9m);
- increase the rotor size for all nine turbines by up to 23m (from 115m to 138m);
- increase spacing to improve yield and efficiency, minor adjustment to turbine locations, maximum up to 132m movement from consented positions (Ben Sca Extension turbines remain in same locations as consented) with associated adjustments to the access tracks and crane hardstanding to accommodate the new locations;
- re-location of the onsite substation to the southern area of the site;
- addition of second temporary construction compound adjacent to Ben Aketil Wind Farm track;
- increase of net generation capacity from consented 37.8MW to up to 40.8MW to maximise use of the available grid connection (MWh); and
- increase operational life from 30 years to 40 years.

The rationale for the amendment to the consented development is to:

- maximise the renewable energy yield, to reach an annual output of 145,000MWh, (approximately additional 20,000MWh generated each year). This represents a 16% increase in output over the consented development. This increased output will provide enough carbon-free electricity to meet the needs of around 45,000 UK homes and offset approximately 2.38 million tonnes of CO₂ over its lifetime. For reference this is approximately 6,500 more UK homes powered and 0.62 million tonnes of CO₂ offset over its lifetime more than the consented development.
- maximise the use of the secured grid capacity contributing further to Scottish Government net-zero emission targets¹;
- ensure that the candidate turbine can be sourced and installed; and
- to reduce distance to the connection point to the national electricity grid network, following change dictated by Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks (connection point changed from Dunvegan Grid Supply Point (GSP) to Edinbane GSP).

1.3 The Applicant

The Applicant is Ben Sca Wind Farm Limited, a subsidiary of EDP Renewables (EDPR). Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm is being developed by Wind2 on behalf of EDPR.

Wind2 is a specialist onshore wind farm developer founded in 2016. The company has staff based in the Scottish Highlands, Perth, Edinburgh and Wales, with significant expertise in renewable energy and a track record of successfully developing onshore wind farms throughout the UK. Wind2 is working on the development of a number of renewable energy projects and is committed to investing in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland.

¹ Net zero emissions of all greenhouse gases by 2045 ('Securing a green recovery on a path to net zero: climate change plan 2018–2032 – update')



EDPR is a global leader in the renewable energy sector and the world's fourth-largest renewable energy producer. EDPR is currently present in the UK and internationally in another 27 markets. EDPR has personnel based in Edinburgh and through its joint venture with ENGIE (Ocean Winds), recently completed construction on the 950MW Moray East Offshore Wind Farm, supplying 40% of Scottish electricity.

1.4 SLR Consulting Limited

The consultation which has informed the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Proposed Development has been led by SLR Consulting Limited (SLR). SLR is one of the UK's fastest growing multi-disciplinary environmental consultancies. Within the energy sector, SLR provides a wide range of planning, environmental and technical services relating to the design and development of wind farms and other renewable energy projects. The company becomes involved in all aspects of facility development, from initial concept design, through planning and permitting to the detailed design, construction management and closure stages.

SLR is a registered Environmental Impact Assessor, Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) and holder of the IEMA EIA Quality Mark. The company has significant experience in the preparation of planning applications and undertaking EIA for a wide variety of projects, including renewable energy, minerals, waste and infrastructure developments.

1.5 Public Consultation Guidance and Legislation

In conducting its public consultation programme for the Proposed Development, the Applicant has complied with the legal requirements set out by the Scottish Government and guidance set out by The Highland Council (THC). As a major planning application, the appropriate level of pre application phase consultation was considered with due cognisance to Planning Circular 3/2022: Development Management Procedures.

NPF4 (2023) notes that throughout the planning system, opportunities should be available for communities and individuals to engage in development planning and decisions about future development. Such engagement, undertaken in line with statutory requirements, should be early, collaborative, meaningful and proportionate. Support or concern expressed on matters material to planning must be given careful consideration in the determination of development proposals.

The Applicant believes that a meaningful and far-reaching dialogue with the local community is essential to the sustained success of any development and that legislative requirements provide a minimal framework of what should be expected of a developer in terms of consultation.

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

1.6 PAC Screening

The Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 apply to all developments across Scotland and sets out various criteria that are to be used to differentiate planning applications by development types and to define developments as either National, Major or Local developments. That differentiation is used to ensure that applications are dealt with in an appropriate way to their scale and complexity, allowing decisions to be taken at the most appropriate level.

The requirement for pre-application consultation relevant to this application are set out in Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland)



Regulations 2013 (as amended), and sections 35A & B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning Etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

The 2013 Regulations referred to above were updated in the form of The Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021, which came into force on 01 October 2022.

A request was made on the 06 September 2023 for a screening opinion on whether the Proposed Development would be classed as 'Major' or 'Local' development. A confirmation from THC was received on 25 September 2023 that it is classed as a 'Major' development for the purposes of the above Regulations. Therefore, formal PAC procedures set out within the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (as amended) require to be followed. This decision was based on THC's opinion that "*the amended turbine tip heights materially alters the description of the earlier application*" such that it does not fall under the exemption criteria under The Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Consultation) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2021 and therefore does not satisfy Section 35A(1A)(b) (a) parts i. and ii section 35A(1A)(b) of The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. A copy of this screening decision from THC is provided in **Appendix A**.

The PAN was submitted to THC on 20 September 2023 and is provided in **Appendix B**.

Regulation 7B of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 requires that PAC Reports contain:

(a) the dates on which, and places where, public events were held as required in accordance with regulation 7(2),

(b) a description of—

(i) any additional consultation or notification required by the planning authority in relation to the proposed application under section 35B(7) of the Act,

(ii) any additional steps taken by the prospective applicant to consult with members of the public as regards the Proposed Development,

(c) a list of bodies, groups and organisations who were consulted by the prospective applicant

(d) evidence as to how the prospective applicant carried out the activities described under sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c)

(e) copies of—

(i) any materials sent to consultees,

(ii) any materials provided to those attending a public event, and

(iii) any visual presentation shown or displayed at a public event

(f) photographs of any display boards or models at public events

(g) confirmation as to whether consultees and attendees at public events were informed that pre-application consultation does not remove the right or the potential need to comment on the final application once it is made to the planning authority

(i) a summary of—



(i) the written responses to consultations, and

(ii) views raised at public events, including an indication of the number of written responses received and the number of persons who attended the public events

(j) an explanation of how the prospective applicant took account of views raised during the pre-application consultation process, and

(k) an explanation of how members of the public were given feedback on the prospective applicant's consideration of the views raised during the pre-application consultation process.

1.7 Report Structure

This report comprises the following Sections:

- Section 2.0: Consultation Measures
Describes the various types of consultation undertaken for the Proposed Development, including a list of bodies, groups and organisations who were consulted by the Applicant;
- Section 3.0: Public Information Events
Describes the consultation process undertaken for the Public Information Events and provides results of the feedback received and how these comments have been addressed;
- Section 4.0: Community Benefit and Investment
Describes how the Applicant is committed to investing in the local community through various benefit schemes;
- Section 5.0: Conclusions
Describes how the consultation process has influenced the design of the Proposed Development; and
- Appendices
Providing copies of materials which support the PAC Report requirements including newsletters sent to consultees; and information displayed at public information events.



2.0 Consultation Measures

Table A provides an overview of the stages of consultation undertaken for the Proposed Development in accordance with Part 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (as amended).

Table A: Pre-Application Consultation Procedures

Consultation Activity	Details	Steps undertaken by the Applicant
Pre-Application Consultation (Regulation 7)	Regulation 7 (1) states that: “The prospective applicant is to consult as respects a proposed application every community council any part of whose area is within or adjoins the land on which the Proposed Development is situated”.	In accordance with Regulation 7, the following Community Councils and Community Groups were consulted during the pre-application stages of the development: Community Councils: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunvegan Community Council • Glendale Community Council • Skeabost & District Community Council • Struan Community Council Community Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dunvegan Community Trust • Edinbane Community Company • Struan Community Development Group • Struan Community Trust • Waternish Community Hall Committee
Public Event (Regulation 7)	Regulation 7 (2)(a) states: “The prospective applicant is to hold at least two public events where members of the public may make comments to the prospective applicant as regards the Proposed Development”.	During the EIA process, the Applicant held two rounds of Public Information Events; both of these were in-person exhibitions and held in November 2023 (in Edinbane and Dunvegan) to allow the public to view the draft design layout as informed by the environmental survey works and make any comments or provide information or comment in relation to the layout and the EIA.
Newspaper Advertisement – Public Event (Regulation 7)	Regulation 7 (3) states: “A public event held by the prospective applicant in accordance with paragraph (2)(a) is not to be held earlier than 7 days after notification of the date and place of the public event is given under paragraph (2)(b)(i) or (ii), as the case may be, and the final public event must be held at least 14 days after the first public event.”	The Public Information Events in November 2023 were advertised in the West Highland Free Press. Examples of these adverts are provided in Appendix C . The dates of publication were 27 October and 03 November 2023. Posters were displayed in the local area advertising the exhibitions. The posters are provided in Appendix D . Copies of these posters were also circulated to the Community Councils listed above for display on their respective Community Council noticeboards, social media account or website. Leaflets advertising the exhibitions were distributed to 1175 addresses which included residents in the area approximately 10km from the centre of site. These leaflets can be seen in Appendix E . The Public Information Events were held on 07 November 2023 and 22 November 2023 (15 days apart).



Consultation Activity	Details	Steps undertaken by the Applicant
Feedback (Regulation 7)	Regulation 7 (4) states: <i>“The prospective applicant must at the final public event provide feedback to members of the public in respect of comments received by the prospective applicant as regards the Proposed Development.”</i>	At the final public event held on 22 November 2023 the Applicant presented additional information to the members of the public in attendance as a result of feedback and questions raised during the first event on 07 November 2023. This included updates to the flythrough model; and additional information and wirelines on views of the potential cumulative wind farm sites, particularly from Edinbane.

2.1 Scoping

In September 2023 an EIA Scoping Report was prepared by SLR and submitted to THC. The following consultees provided responses to the EIA Scoping Report:

- The Highland Council (including Development Plans and Transport Planning);
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation (MoD);
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES);
- Highlands and Islands Airports Limited (HIAL);
- NATS Safeguarding;
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA);
- Scottish Water;
- Scottish Forestry; and
- Transport Scotland.

THC issued its Scoping opinion (Ref: 23/04694/SCOP) on 17 November 2023. At this time NatureScot had been consulted on the scope of works but had not responded to the consultation.

Consultation responses received as part of the Scoping process have been considered in the EIA and the issues raised are reported in **Chapter 1: Introduction and Project Description** of the EIA Report, as well as in the individual topic Chapters of the EIA Report as relevant.

2.2 Consultation with The Highland Council

A meeting was held via Microsoft Teams with THC on 09 November 2023 to discuss Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm, reasons for the amendment, to provide an update on the cumulative assessment situation and to discuss likely consultation and determination timescales.

2.2.1 THC Environmental Health Officer (EHO)

A letter was sent to the THC EHO on 28 September 2023 setting out the proposed approach and method for the noise assessment for the application. A response was received from the EHO on 09 October 2023. A copy of this correspondence is provided in **Appendix I**.



2.3 Pre-Application Consultation with NatureScot

A letter was sent to NatureScot on 20 September 2023, requesting advice on the scope of ecological and ornithological survey work required in order to inform a planning application to THC. A holding response was received from NatureScot on 08 October 2023. This was further followed up on 29 November 2023 and NatureScot agreed to the scope of works during a call held on 23 January 2024. A copy of the correspondence is provided in **Appendix I**.

2.4 Community Council Consultation

Community Councils were contacted by email on 23 October 2023 to confirm the dates of the Public Information Events (see example email in **Appendix F**). The community councils contacted were:

- Dunvegan Community Council
- Glendale Community Council
- Skeabost & District Community Council
- Struan Community Council

2.5 Consultation with Other Organisations

Similar emails were also sent to the following local community groups:

- Dunvegan Community Trust
- Edinbane Community Company
- Struan Community Development Group
- Struan Community Trust
- Waternish Community Hall Committee

Consultation by way of invitation to progress meetings has taken place throughout 2023 and 2024 with Kate Forbes MSP and in early 2024 with THC councillors of Ward 10 Eilean a' Cheò.

2.6 Public Information Events

Two in-person Public Information Events were undertaken in November 2023 to establish dialogue with the local community regarding the Proposed Development.

Further information on the Public Information Events is presented in Section 3.0 of this report.

2.7 Website

The Applicant hosts a website dedicated to the Proposed Development to allow people to view details about the Proposed Development and includes contact details for the project team: <https://benscawindfarm.co.uk/public-consultation>



3.0 Public Information Events

3.1 Location

Details of the Public Information Events held are set out in **Table B**. The first Public Information Event was held on 07 November 2023 in Edinbane Village Hall. The second was held in Dunvegan Community Hall on 22 November 2023.

Dunvegan and Edinbane Community Halls were chosen because of their proximity to the Proposed Development, booking availability, and suitable capacity. The choice of locations, dates and varied opening times were arranged in order to maximise opportunities for people to attend.

Table B: Public Information Events

Venue	Day	Date	Time
Edinbane Village Hall	Tuesday	07 November 2023	16:30 to 19:00 hrs
Dunvegan Community Hall	Wednesday	22 November 2023	16:00 to 18:30 hrs

3.2 Notification

In keeping with Regulation 7 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 (as amended), the Applicant advertised that pre-application public consultation events were being arranged. The Public Consultation Events were advertised in several ways to help ensure as many local residents as possible were made aware of the Proposed Development.

3.2.1 Newspaper Adverts

A public notice was placed in the West Highland Free Press for the November 2023 exhibitions. The public notices set out the purpose of the public events and provided details of the events.

The public notices were provided more than seven days prior to the event with the first notice being published in the West Highland Free Press on Friday 27 October 2023, the second appearing on Friday 03 November 2023. Copies of the notices are provided in **Appendix C**.

3.2.2 Leaflets

In advance of the November 2023 Public Information Events, the Applicant distributed leaflets to approximately 1175 households within approximately a 10km radius of the centre of the site. The leaflets set out the purpose of the public events, provided details of the event and contact details of the Applicant. Copies of the leaflets are provided in **Appendix E**.

3.2.3 Posters / Social Media

All the community groups were sent a poster to advertise the Public Information Events at least 14 days prior to the events. Posters were displayed in community halls. A number of the community groups also advertised the Public Information Events on their Facebook pages including the Edinbane Hall on 26 October 2023.

3.3 Public Information Event Material

The information boards that were on display are contained within **Appendix G**. The information presented showed how the consented development was being amended to



maximise the use of the site. Comparative wireline and photomontage images were presented to show the minimal difference between key views of the consented and Proposed Development. Details were also presented about the environmental survey and assessment work being undertaken and status of the cumulative wind farm sites in proximity to the Proposed Development.

The exhibition boards can still be viewed at: <https://benscawindfarm.co.uk/public-consultation>

A flythrough model of the site and Proposed Development was presented showing the current baseline environment and proposed cumulative situation if all wind developments came to fruition.

3.4 Consultation Feedback

For the first public event held on 07 November 2023 in Edinbane Village Hall, 15 people attended during the specified running time plus one individual from the press who took notes and photos.

For the second public event held on 22 November 2023 in Dunvegan Community Hall, only four people attended. The event was well advertised so the low attendance numbers could possibly have been due to the weather conditions (wet and windy) and the lower likelihood of ad hoc visit.

In total, there were 20 attendees to the in person Public Information Events:

- Edinbane – 16 people; and
- Dunvegan – 4 people.

Attendees at each of the Public Information Events were invited to complete a feedback form (**Appendix H**) about the Proposed Development. A total of six feedback forms were returned, which represents approximately 30% of all attendees (across two events).

All of those who completed feedback forms identified themselves as local residents living within approximately 10km/6 miles of the proposed wind farm site, though one of the six respondents also identified themselves as a local business owner operating within approximately 10km/6 miles of the proposed wind farm site.

The question on the view of respondents on the proposals for the Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm was answered by all of the 6 respondents. Three respondents are 'strongly opposed', two respondents are 'somewhat opposed', one respondent is 'strongly supportive' and one respondent is 'undecided'.

In addition to the written responses noted above, verbal discussions and feedback between project team members and members of the local community took place at each of the Public Information Event.

A summary of comments received from the feedback forms and directly from discussion with attendees at the events, and how these have been addressed, are presented in **Table C**.

Table C: Public Information Event Feedback

Topic	How / where comment was made	Comment	Response / how comments have been addressed
Cumulative effects	During Public Information Event	'Feelings of encirclement' due to other nearby developments	Further photography and wirelines for cumulative LVIA assessment will be considered with 360 degree views for a number of the



Topic	How / where comment was made	Comment	Response / how comments have been addressed
			cumulative viewpoints such as Upper Edinbane and the A850.
User friendliness of the two flythrough videos available at the events (one illustrating the operational / consented, the other illustrating the known total cumulative arising from all projects in development).	During Public Information Event	The flythroughs were well received but it was thought that they could be improved to be more interactive.	The Applicant will ensure that an interactive mode for flythroughs will be available at future public information events to allow visitors to virtually stand at their house or specific viewpoint and to visualise the impact, particularly the cumulative visual impact. The flythrough video is available on the project website.
Information on environmental impacts	Feedback form	Insufficient level of information available at the event on environmental impact.	The information panel included the key environmental topics which would be addressed in the application. The team were on hand to explain further how environmental effects would be addressed through the EIA. The full extent of impacts are not known until the EIA is complete. Attendees were pointed in the direction of how to access the EIA once complete. The EIA Report addresses all environmental topics of interest in line with the Scoping Opinion from THC.
Renewable energy, CO ₂ savings and local employment	Feedback form and during Public Information Event	Importance of achieving net zero as soon as possible and onshore wind seen as the fastest way of helping to achieve this.	The amendments being made to the consented development would ensure that the available grid capacity at this location is maximised, helping to achieve net zero.
Transmission grid upgrade works	During Public Information Event	A number of people highlighted that THC would be considering the transmission upgrade project on 08 November 2023 and are aware that this hasn't been consented yet so considered that its delivery is not guaranteed. Some feel that this means it is a real possibility that none of the developments	It has been confirmed that the GB energy regulator, Ofgem, has recognised the clear need for the project, paving the way to progress to the Final Needs Case stage of the regulatory approvals process. It is acknowledged that THC committee did vote against the transmission project on



Topic	How / where comment was made	Comment	Response / how comments have been addressed
		will go ahead, regardless of a current or future consent.	08 November 2023 and the project may be considered at a Public Local Inquiry in 2024.
Joint public exhibitions	During first Public Information Event through discussion with developer	A number of people stated that the local population was fed up with the number of public consultation events, and that streamlining content between developers would be beneficial to present a more coordinated approach.	The Applicant is considering the possibility of a series of conjoined public exhibitions with other developers following submission of all the forthcoming applications in this area of Skye (and any Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI) required for existing applications). The Applicant will raise this at the next Skye Developers Forum (a collaborative group of developers on Skye formed in 2023 which meets regularly to discuss the progress of the Skye wind farm projects and challenges faced in order to best support the communities and other stakeholders through the development process).



4.0 Community Benefit and Investment

The Public Information Events also provided the opportunity for the Applicant to discuss the offer of community benefit, potential part community shared ownership and options for Near Neighbour Energy Contribution Scheme.

In relation to the consented development, the Applicant held initial consultation meetings in August 2022 with eight community groups, including four Community Councils², local to the Proposed Development. An 'Agreement of Intent' has been developed with three local Community Trusts³ to formalise the intention to work together towards implementing a shared ownership scheme for the consented development and this will also apply to the Proposed Development. The intention is for the Proposed Development and the proposed adjacent Balmeanach Wind Farm, if consented, to provide a package of community shared ownership opportunities to the local area.

Local Energy Scotland has been providing independent advice and support to communities interested in the shared ownership opportunity.

Feedback received on these topics is set out in **Table D**. These ideas are being further explored by the Applicant and liaison with the community will continue throughout project development and beyond planning submission.

Table D: Feedback received on Community Benefit, Shared Ownership and Near Neighbour Energy Contribution Scheme

Topic	Comment	How comments have been addressed
During Public Information Event and feedback forms	While there is concern that financial benefit will not be sufficient to offset environmental or social impacts, other feedback suggested that assistance with school funding and electrical bills for the community should be considered.	The Applicant will be further developing the shared ownership offering in 2024 to promote the local benefit which will be available to this area of Skye. All ideas of where the money could be spent is welcome and will be considered.
During Public Information Event	Information on community benefit and shared ownership was requested by a few members of the public at the first consultation event.	The Applicant provides information on the benefit on the project website and will be developing the offering further during 2024 with the Community Trusts.

² Dunvegan Community Council, Dunvegan Community Trust, Edinbane Community Company, Glendale Community Council, Skeabost and District Community Council, Struan Community Council, Struan Community Development Group and Struan Community Trust.

³ Dunvegan Community Trust; Edinbane Community Company; and Struan Community Trust



5.0 Conclusion

The pre-application consultation activities have ensured maximum awareness within the community of the Proposed Development. The Applicant has also focused on making sure that residents and community groups were able to make comments on the Proposed Development and receive feedback if requested throughout the process via a number of different channels.

The Applicant consulted with the general public, local councillors, MPs and MSPs, and a number of community groups within the local area. The consultation programme has included regular meetings, emails, phone calls, and correspondence as well as household and business newsletter distribution, press releases, newspaper advertisements, posters, social media and website updates. The website will continue to be maintained providing up to date news on the project as it develops: <https://benscawindfarm.co.uk/public-consultation>

The Applicant engaged with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process which has helped the developer to understand and attempt to address any concerns raised as the project developed. This has resulted in a high-quality development proposal that represents a careful balance between the views of the community, environmental impacts, views of statutory consultees and the economic viability of the project.

Consultation on the Community Shared Ownership offering has also been undertaken with local community organisations, in conjunction with Local Energy Scotland, as a separate exercise. This consultation process regarding the potential for community shared ownership will continue while the Application is being considered.





Appendix A THC Screening Decision on Pre- Application Consultation

Pre-Application Consultation Report

Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm

Ben Sca Wind Farm Limited

SLR Project No.: 405.064982.00001



Appendix B Pre-Application Notice

Pre-Application Consultation Report

Ben Sca Redesign Wind Farm

Ben Sca Wind Farm Limited

SLR Project No.: 405.064982.00001



Appendix C Press Adverts

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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Appendix D Exhibition Posters

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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Appendix E Exhibition Leaflets

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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Appendix F Community Council Emails

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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Appendix G Exhibition Boards

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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Appendix H Exhibition Feedback Form

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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Appendix I Consultation Letters

Pre-Application Consultation Report

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