

Approach to stage one consultation

May 2026

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Introduction

This document outlines how Fred. Olsen Renewables proposes to carry out the first stage of public consultation in Spring 2026. Our first round of consultation will focus on the early stage proposals for Hope Moor Wind Farm.

About Fred. Olsen Renewables

Fred. Olsen Renewables is one of the longest standing renewable energy developers and operators in the UK.

We have been developing and operating onshore wind, offshore wind, and solar projects since the mid-1990s. With a capacity of over 850MW across our portfolio in the UK, Norway and Sweden, we are currently generating enough clean electricity to power over 701,000 homes. Strong community relationships are at the heart of how we work and are crucial to the success of our renewable energy projects. Partnering with local communities and businesses helps us ensure the local area truly benefits from our projects.

Onshore wind is a critical part of the UK Government's clean energy ambitions. Projects like Hope Moor will play a crucial role in strengthening the UK's energy security by delivering reliable, home-grown power, allowing us to be less affected by global issues. Hope Moor will also support the UK's net zero goals and help reduce consumer bills.

Our vision for Hope Moor

We're progressing plans for Hope Moor, a new onshore wind farm between Barnard Castle and Richmond. The project could include up to 23 turbines, with a tip height up to 200m, generating over 150MW of clean energy – enough to power over 135,000 homes. These numbers are an early estimate of what is possible at Hope Moor, and the final project we submit will be refined as environmental surveys and consultation progresses.

As with our other projects, we take a sensitive, environmentally-led approach that ensures renewable energy works hand in hand with a thriving and diverse ecosystem. This enables us to generate clean power while supporting conservation, restoring habitats, and nurturing the land well into the future.

Building on this approach, a key part of our vision is the long-term management and stewardship of the moorland. Alongside our renewable energy proposals, we plan to support the existing efforts of the landowners to restore and enhance the landscape through peatland rewetting, improving blanket bog habitats, creating wildlife corridors, and supporting endangered species. We also aim to enhance access to existing walking routes and Public Rights of Way (PRoW).

We want Hope Moor to deliver meaningful benefits for local people. Investment from the project will support community initiatives that matter to residents, with decisions made locally through a dedicated Community Benefit Fund. We'll also work closely with local people to support skills training, including heritage and land-based skills that are important to the region.

Fred. Olsen Renewables will continue to engage closely with communities throughout and after the development of Hope Moor.

Stage one consultation

We are holding our first stage of community consultation for Hope Moor. Through this process, we want to introduce our proposals to local communities and ensure all stakeholders have the opportunity to share their views at an early stage.

What we're consulting on

At this point in the project, we are presenting our emerging proposals to show our initial plans for the site.

This includes information on:

- Where we think the turbines might go
- How we might access the site and transport the turbines to the site
- The initial land surveys, what we have found so far, the environmental and technical constraints identified, and any early ideas for mitigation measures

- Early indications of potential visual and noise impact, and how we might mitigate or reduce that impact
- Initial ideas for local jobs, training opportunities and skills development
- Early thinking on community benefits and how these could be shaped with local input

Feedback from our stage one consultation will be used to help refine our proposals, along with feedback from expert bodies. We will consult again, later in the development process, on further, more detailed version of the plans, which we will again share with stakeholders for feedback.

Consultation area

We have identified a primary consultation zone for Hope Moor. This includes the communities closest to the proposed development. Residents in this area will receive a direct mailout as part of the consultation.

We have also defined a secondary consultation zone that extends further into both County Durham and North Yorkshire, encompassing both Richmond and Barnard Castle. This recognises that people beyond the immediate consultation zone may still have an interest in the project -

for example, those who use the moor for recreation or work, travel through the area, or have links to nearby communities. Engagement in this zone will be supported through digital advertising, ensuring that anyone who may be interested has the opportunity to stay informed and take part.

A map of both the primary and secondary consultation zones can be found in Appendix A at the end of this document.

Consultation timing

Stage one consultation will run for 8 weeks from 06 May 2026 until 30 June 2026.

Stakeholder engagement and public consultation

Our public consultation has been designed to be accessible to a wide range of audiences, ensuring that everyone has clear opportunities to learn about our proposals, understand the potential benefits and impacts, and share their views.

Stakeholder briefings

At the start of consultation, we will offer briefings and/or meetings with the following key stakeholders.

- MPs, where all or part of their constituencies lie within the consultation zone
- Councillors, where all or part of their ward or division lie within the consultation zone
- Parish Councils, where all or part of their boundaries lies within the consultation zone, through our established Community Liaison Group
- Local authorities, where all or part of their boundaries lie within the consultation zone

We may engage with other organisations on request.

Public consultation

This consultation is open to anyone with an interest in the project.

While our mailing zone and wider consultation zone help ensure local communities are directly informed, we welcome all feedback. Community consultation is an important part of our development process, and feedback from residents, visitors and local groups will help shape the evolving design of Hope Moor.

Hard to reach groups

We are committed to delivering an inclusive and accessible consultation, ensuring that individuals and communities who may not typically engage through traditional methods are able to participate fully.

To support this, we have identified a range of groups who are often harder to reach, and developed a comprehensive accessibility approach tailored to their needs.

We are aiming to reach a range of seldom-heard groups, including older people, disabled individuals, digitally isolated residents, carers, young people, minority ethnic communities, and those who are geographically or economically isolated.

To ensure everyone has a meaningful opportunity to take part, we will use a mix of in-person, digital and postal engagement, provide accessible materials and formats, partner with organisations who support under-represented groups, and deliver targeted activity that reduces barriers to participation.

Materials and advertising

To support a clear, accessible and well publicised consultation, we will produce a range of materials and use multiple channels to ensure residents, stakeholders and local organisations are aware of the proposals and know how to get involved.

Materials

The following materials will be produced to share information about the proposals during consultation. All materials will be made available in print and on the website.

Project brochure

Central reference document outlining the proposals, consultation purpose, benefits and impacts, regulatory context, and next steps. Available online and at events.

Project map(s)

Maps showing the proposed project area and turbine locations, as well as environmental constraint maps, will be made available for use at public information events and will also be available on the website.

Project banners

Banners showing project information for use at public information events.

Feedback questionnaire

A printed feedback questionnaire will also be available at events. A digital version will also be available on the website.

Consultation advertisement

Direct mail

Project leaflets will be mailed to all properties within the consultation mailing zone, providing information on the proposals, consultation events, and feedback methods.

Social media ads

Geo-targeted paid ads will be served to residents within the wider consultation area, the Secondary Consultation Zone (SCZ), informing them of the consultation and how to get involved.

Project posters

Issued to parish councils and other local authorities and displayed on local noticeboards and community venues to raise awareness. Parish councils and local authorities will be encouraged to share consultation information via their websites and social media channels.

Project website

All consultation materials will be hosted on the project website, as well as event details and methods the public can use to provide feedback.

Press release/media engagement

Press briefings will be issued ahead of the consultation to local radio, online news outlets and print media to generate awareness.

Newspaper advertisements

Newspaper advertisements will be placed in local and regional titles, in both print and digital formats, to reach a wider local audience.

Public information events and webinar

We are providing a range of opportunities for people to learn about the project, ask questions, and share feedback, including in-person events and an online webinar throughout the consultation period.

In-person events

We are committed to making our public information events easy for everyone to access.

To support this, we will space events across the consultation period.

Held at suitable, publicly accessible venues close to the project site, these events will give communities the chance to learn about the project, understand the consultation process, and speak directly with technical specialists and project representatives.

Webinar

We will also host an online webinar during the consultation period to ensure people who cannot attend in person still have an opportunity to take part.

The session will provide an overview of the project, explain how the consultation works, and include a live Q&A with members of the project team. Participants will be able to join from any location, submit questions in real time, and access supporting materials shared during the event. Details on how to register and join the webinar will be published on our website ahead of the session.

Information about our public information events and webinar is available in Appendix B.



Providing feedback

We want to make providing feedback on our proposals as straightforward as possible for all stakeholders. Paper copies of the feedback form will be available at our public information events (Appendix B). A digital feedback form will also be available on our website for people to complete and submit online. Alternatively, a copy of the feedback form can be downloaded, printed and returned via our freepost address. Local people can also request a paper copy by calling our freephone number 0800 138 9192, allowing them to share their views with the project team free of charge.

Reporting on the consultation

At the end of the consultation period, we will prepare a short update summarising all feedback received through the various channels. This will provide stakeholders with an early overview of the key themes emerging from the consultation.

Following this, at the launch of our second stage of consultation, we will publish a summary of issues, themes, and suggestions raised by stakeholders at stage one and outline how this has influenced the development of the project, as detailed in the stage two materials.

It will also set out our responses to key points and describe any changes made as a result of the consultation.

This will be published on our project website, ensuring transparency in how stakeholder input has been considered.





Appendix

Appendix A

Consultation zones 10

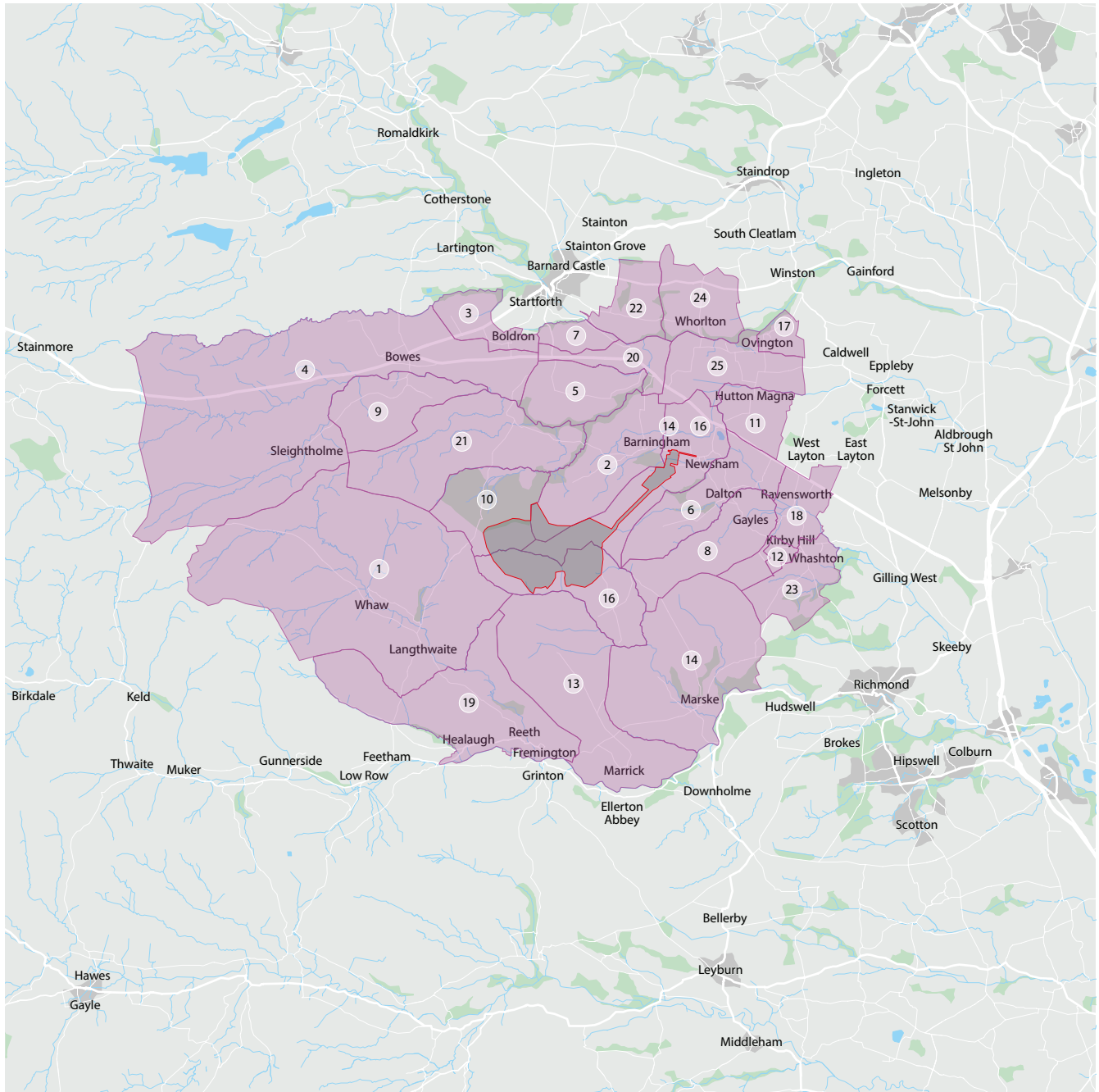
Appendix B

Public information events 12

Appendix A

Consultation zones

Primary consultation zone



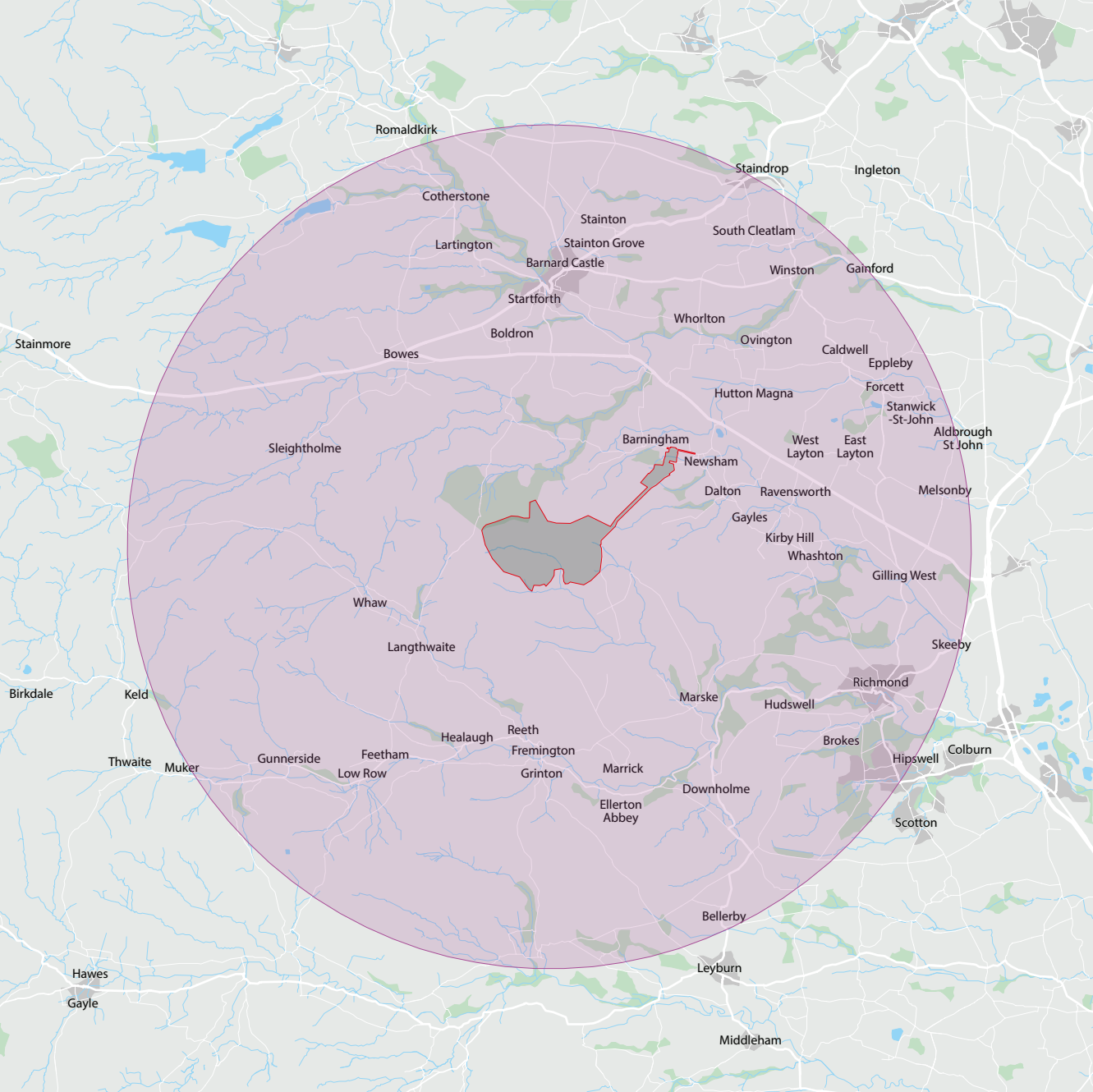
Key

- Parish Boundaries
- Scoping Boundary

Parishes

1 Arkengarthdale	6 Dalton	11 Hutton Magna	16 New Forest	21 Scargill
2 Barningham	7 Egglestone Abbey	12 Kirby Hill	17 Ovington	22 Westwick
3 Boldron	8 Gayles	13 Marrick	18 Ravensworth	23 Whashton
4 Bowes	9 Gilmonby	14 Marske	19 Reeth, Fremington and Healaugh	24 Whorlton
5 Brignall	10 Hope	15 Newsham	20 Rokeby	25 Wycliffe with Thorpe

Secondary consultation zone



Key

- 16 km Boundary
- Scoping Boundary

Appendix B

Public information events

Public information events

DATE	TIME	VENUE	WHAT3WORDS
Saturday 16 May	10am-3pm	Newsham Village Hall Smithy Green, Newsham, Richmond, DL11 7RD	flipper.laces.bibs
Tuesday 19 May	3-8pm	Bowes and Gilmonby Parish Hall Bowes, Barnard Castle, DL12 9HU	districts.graced.caressing
Wednesday 20 May	9am-12pm	Witham Room - The Witham 3 Horse Market, Barnard Castle, DL12 8LY	blasted.eventful.duos
Wednesday 20 May	3-8pm	Barningham Village Hall Barningham, Richmond, DL11 7DW	stirs.rocker.mobile
Thursday 21 May	3-8pm	Reeth Memorial Hall Arkengarthdale Road, Reeth, Richmond, DL11 6QT	perch.tint.crowned
Friday 22 May	9am-12pm	The Townsend Suite - The Station Station Yard, Richmond, DL10 4LD	appear.reference.beaten
Thursday 4 June	3-8pm	Newsham Village Hall Smithy Green, Newsham, Richmond, DL11 7RD	flipper.laces.bibs
Saturday 6 June	10am-3pm	Reeth Memorial Hall Arkengarthdale Road, Reeth, Richmond, DL11 6QT	perch.tint.crowned

Webinar

DATE	TIME	
Wednesday 10 June	6pm	Online webinar: sign up online at hopemoor.co.uk



hopemoor.co.uk



0800 138 9192
(Open Monday to
Friday 9am – 5:30pm)



info@hopemoor.co.uk