Hope Moor Wind Farm

Programme Document

Fred Olsen Renewables Ltd

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Revision Record

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1	17 April 2026	SLR	TLT	FORL
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Basis of Report

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

DCO	Development Consent Order
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
LPA	Local Planning Authority
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
PINS	Planning Inspectorate
PPA	Planning Performance Agreement
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation

1.0 Introduction

1.1.1 Fred Olsen Renewables Ltd (the 'Applicant') intends to prepare and submit an application for development consent for an onshore wind farm, and ancillary infrastructure. The Project is called Hope Moor Wind Farm (hereafter known as the 'Project').

1.1.2 In May 2024, the Government published its 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus'[1]., which introduced a new pre-application service for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) such as the Project. The new pre-application service is supported by updated guidance published on the Government's 2024 National Infrastructure Planning Guidance Portal The guidance states that the pre-application process for NSIPs is applicant-led. To deliver a good pre-application process, including effective engagement and a well-prepared application, applicants should put together a Programme Document at the outset of the pre-application for submission to PINS. The guidance states that the Programme Document will enable all those engaged in the pre-application process, particularly statutory consultees, to understand the timescales and ensure their contribution is programmed into the pre-application stage at the most effective point.

1.1.3 This Programme Document sets out the main steps the Applicant will undertake during the preparation of the application for development consent. It will assist the Applicant in managing the preparation and subsequent submission of the application documents for consideration by PINS at the acceptance stage. This Programme Document will be maintained by the Applicant throughout the pre-application station and updates to it will be made every six months or if there is a material change to the Project. A public pre-application Programme Document will be published on the Applicant's website.

1.1.4 This version of the Programme Document is to inform the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) as part of the Inception Meeting, currently scheduled to take place on 15th May 2026.

1.1.5 The Programme Document is structured as follows:

- Section 2.0 Background to the project – provides an overview of The Project;
- Section 3.0 The Planning Inspectorate's pre-application service – outlines the Applicant's approach to the pre-application process;
- Section 4.0 The pre-application programme – sets out the anticipated programme for the pre-application process;
- Section 5.0 Main issues for resolution – summarises the main issues that have been raised by stakeholders during pre-application thus far;

[1] Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus - GOV.UK

- Section 6.0 Engaging with statutory bodies – outlines planned and engagement to with statutory bodies;
- Section 7.0 Engaging local authorities – outlines planned and engagement to date with local authorities; and
- Section 8.0 Pre-application risks – sets out key pre-application risks identified to date and what the Applicant is doing to track and manage those risks.

2.0 Background to the project

2.1.1 The Applicant is a leading independent developer, owner, and operator of renewable energy assets, across the UK, primarily onshore wind farms. The Applicant has been developing and operating wind farms in the UK since the mid 1990's demonstrating long term commitment to the renewable energy generation market in the UK. Further details on the Applicant can be found at: www.fredolsenrenewables.com

2.1.2 The Project comprises a wind farm array area (which includes the proposed location of the wind turbines, an on-site substation and associated infrastructure). At this stage, it is anticipated that The Project would consist of approximately 23 turbines, although this number could be subject to change following scoping and environmental assessment. Other key features include highways works to the existing road network to facilitate access to the site. It would be located on an area of moorland c.8km to the south of Barnard Castle and 12km north of Richmond across the administrative areas of Durham County Council and North Yorkshire Council.

2.1.3 Figure 2-1 shows the location of the Project, defined by the Project's 'Scoping Boundary', illustrating the wind farm array area and a haul route search area. At this stage, other areas outside of this Scoping Boundary which may be required to be included in the Order Limits but have yet to be confirmed are those areas needed to facilitate transportation of abnormal indivisible loads (AILs) which may require temporary alterations to highways, or land adjacent to the main transport corridor for the Project. These will be identified and included in the Order Limits, and appropriately assessed, as such details become available.

2.1.4 Ahead of The Infrastructure Planning (Onshore Wind and Solar Generation) Order 2025 coming into force, a Section 35 was submitted to the Secretary of State on 25th July 2025 to confirm the Project as a project of national significance. On 21st August 2025, the Secretary of State determined that the Hope Moor Project is to be treated as development for which development consent is required.

2.1.5 With effect from 31st December 2025, the Infrastructure Planning (Onshore Wind and Solar Generation) Order 2025 amended the Planning Act 2008 to include onshore wind generating stations in England with a capacity exceeding 100MW within the NSIP regime. As the Project is expected to exceed this threshold it requires development consent through a DCO.

2.1.6 The pre-application phase of the Project will involve the iterative design and assessment of the wind farm layout, areas for environmental mitigation and enhancement, temporary construction areas (including compounds, haul roads, crossing works) and potential alterations to highways access points serving the Project. This will be carried out through an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), the findings of which will inform the Project design and be reported in an Environmental Statement (ES) submitted as part of the application for development consent.

2.1.7 The Applicant intends to engage with stakeholders (statutory consultees, planning authorities, landowners and the public) on the Project and will take appropriate feedback into account when developing the design.

2.1.8 The application for development consent will be submitted to PINS, who will appoint an inspector/s forming the Examining Authority (ExA) to consider the application and make recommendation to the relevant Secretary of State (SoS). The ExA will examine the application and make a recommendation to the SoS. The SoS will determine the application in accordance with policy requirements set out within the Overarching National Policy Statement (NPS) for Energy (EN-1), NPS for renewable energy infrastructure (EN-3and any other matters the SoS considers important and relevant. NPS EN-1 sets out the policy tests which have effect in relation to an energy NSIP such as the Project. NPS EN-1 states that low carbon energy generating infrastructure, such as onshore wind, is a Critical National Priority (CNP).

2.1.9 Further information regarding the Project can be found at: www.hopemoor.co.uk.

398000 400000 402000 404000 406000 408000 410000 412000

512000 510000 508000 506000 504000

414.063912.00001.0050.0 Site Location

LEGEND

Scoping Boundary

Local Plannning Authority (LPA) Boundary

County Durham LPA
North Yorkshire LPA

County Durham LPA
Yorkshire Dales National Park LPA

North Yorkshire LPA
Yorkshire Dales National Park LPA

DANGER AREA

0 1 2 Kilometres

Fred.Olsen Renewables

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HOPE MOOR WIND FARM
PROGRAMME DOCUMENT

SITE LOCATION & SCOPING BOUNDARY

FIGURE 2-1

Scale 1:50,000 @ A3

Date APRIL 2026

3.0 The Planning Inspectorate's pre-application service

3.1.1 The Project intends to register for the Tier 1 Basic level of service from PINS. This will be reviewed as the Project progresses and if considered appropriate will opt to move onto Tier 2 Standard at a later date.

3.1.2 Although the Project is opting for Tier 1 Basic, the Project will provide several supplementary components listed in the PINS Pre-application Prospectus. At the current time these will include:

- Use of pre-application Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements (PADSS) informed by Issues Trackers shared and agreed with consultees;
- Production of a Policy Compliance Document outlining how the Project complies with policy; and
- Production of a Design Approach Document outlining the good design principles adopted by the Project.

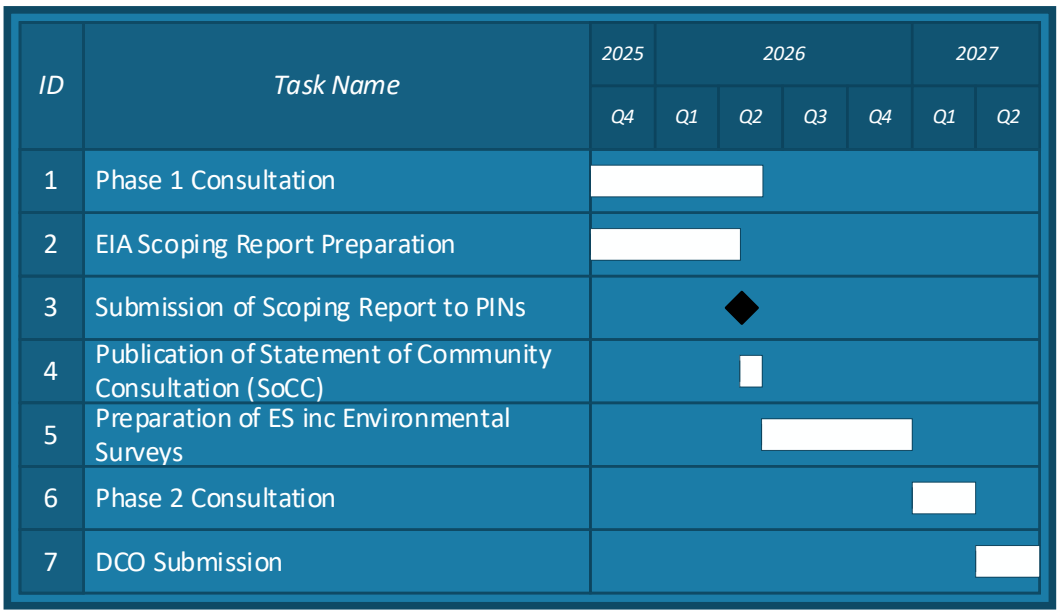
4.0 The pre-application programme

4.1.1 The Project publicly launched in August 2025. The launch comprised the publication of a Project website and meetings with consultees.

4.1.2 The application for development consent is anticipated to be made in Q2 2027.

4.1.3 Table 4-1 sets out the key milestone dates for the pre-application phase as currently planned.

Table 4-1: Pre-application timeline



4.1.4 Further programme information will be provided in updates to this Programme Document.

4.1.5 The Project intends to engage and meet with PINS, as follows:

- Inception meeting on 15th May 2026 to introduce the Project and agree the tier level of service;
- Submit an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report to PINS in Q2 2026 in order to obtain a Scoping Opinion; and
- Project update meetings with PINS three times per year.

4.1.6 The Project is also engaging widely with stakeholders, landowners and members of the communities in the vicinity of The Project. Audiences for engagement include:

- Statutory Consultees:
  - Host and neighbouring local authorities;
  - Prescribed Consultees;
  - Relevant Statutory Undertakers; and
  - Persons with an interest in the land.
- Landowners
- The Community:
- Environmental groups;
- Local residents; Elected representatives; and
- Community Groups.

4.1.7 Each of these will have different interests in The Project and will wish to engage with the Project differently. This section summarises who falls into these broad groups and how the Project will engage with them.

4.1.8 Table 4-2 below outlines a series of completed and proposed engagements with stakeholders, which has been designed to ensure that all such parties are adequately informed and can provide input at the appropriate stages of the application process.

Table 4-2: Approach to Stakeholder Engagement

Key Stakeholders	Methods of Engagement
Prescribed Consultees (Technical)	Direct engagement through relevant technical lead(s) Written briefings Invitation to in-person consultation events The Hope Moor website and virtual exhibition
Prescribed Consultees (Community and non-governmental Organisations)	Direct engagement through relevant technical lead(s) Written briefings Invitation to in-person consultation event The Hope Moor website and virtual exhibition

Key Stakeholders	Methods of Engagement
Host Authorities	Direct engagement and ongoing liaison with relevant technical leads Written briefings Invitation to in-person consultation events Preparation of a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) (where required) The Hope Moor website and virtual exhibition Preparation of SoCG
Neighbouring Authorities	Written briefings Invitation to in-person consultation events The Hope Moor website and virtual exhibition
Community	Direct engagement (including meetings with residents and community organisations/elected representatives on request) Newsletter The Hope Moor website and virtual exhibition Invitation to in-person consultation events Establishment of a Community Liaison Group (CLG)
Landowners	Invitation to in-person consultation events The Hope Moor website and virtual exhibition Long-term direct engagement Close communication in person and via land agents Opportunities for meetings with engineers on specific concerns

4.1.9 The Project will consult with statutory bodies and local authorities during Q4 2025 – Q2 2026, the details of which are set out in Sections 6.0 and 7.0 respectively.

4.1.10 The Project will also publish a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) setting out further details of the Project's approach to consultation in Q2 2026. The Planning Act 2008 process currently requires that host local authorities are consulted on the contents of the SoCC, so that the consultation approach can benefit from their understanding of their residents and the local area. Currently, under section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, the Project is required to consult the relevant host local planning authorities (as defined under section 43) on the draft SoCC for 28 days. However, the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 removes the requirement to carry out statutory consultation for NSIPs. The Applicant nonetheless proposes to consult on a SoCC informally, as the new regime emerges. The Applicant does not anticipate being subject to the requirement to produce a Preliminary Environment Information Report (PEIR), but will ensure that its Phase 1 and Phase 2 consultations include appropriate information.

4.1.11 To inform the Adequacy of Consultation Milestone (AoCM), the Applicant will provide PINS with a written submission setting out the consultation undertaken to date. This submission will confirm how the approaches and

commitments established in the SoCC have been implemented in practice, and it will summarise the responses received through Phase 1 and Phase 2 consultation. The submission will also explain how feedback has influenced and shaped the development of the application. Importantly, the written submission will include the views of host and neighbouring local authorities on the adequacy of the consultation, together with any relevant supporting material provided by them, where available.

4.1.12 As previously set out, an EIA will be undertaken and submitted with the application for development consent. An overview of the studies being carried out, subject to the EIA Scoping Opinion and consultation with local authorities and key consultees is presented in Table 4-3:

Table 4-3: Overview of environmental studies

Topics	Assessment & Survey Details
Landscape and Visual	Including LVIA viewpoint photography taken during suitable weather conditions Tree surveys will be conducted during Q3 of 2026
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	Including detailed desk-based investigations and potentially a programme of archaeological surveys throughout the summer and autumn of 2026.
Ecology and Biodiversity	Including bat, habitat and river condition assessment surveys throughout Q2 and Q3 of 2026. Surveys undertaken to date include: • NVC habitat surveys during Q3 of 2024 and 2025; • UKHab ground truth and condition assessment during Q2 and Q3 of 2025; • Bat surveys between Q2 and Q3 2024; • Protected species survey in June 2025; • Fish survey carried out in June 2024; and • White-clawed crayfish survey in July 2024
Ornithology	The follow surveys have been completed between April 2022 and February 2024, based on a preliminary turbine layout: • Flight activity; • Scarce breeding bird; • Black grouse; • Moorland breeding bird; • Breeding nightjar; and • Winter walkovers. The following surveys are proposed during the 2026 Breeding Season (March to August), to address spatial data gaps following the evolution of the scoping layout: • Flight activity; • Scarce breeding bird; • Black grouse; • Moorland breeding bird; and • Nocturnal surveys.

Topics	Assessment & Survey Details
Geology, Ground Conditions and Peat	A low-resolution peat depth survey was conducted in November 2024. Further surveys and assessments to be undertaken include: • A site walkover to support the preliminary land quality risk assessment; and • A desk-based Peatland Condition Assessment supported by a programme of detailed peat surveys during Q3 of 2026.
Water Environment	Including walkover surveys to review hydrological features and confirm findings of desk studies, to be undertaken in Q3 2026.
Access, Traffic, and Transport	Including a Transport Assessment. Traffic counts (including speed survey) on the local highway network in the form of Automatic Traffic Counters (ATCs) on highway links will be undertaken during Q2 2026. Traffic surveys will avoid key holiday periods such as seasonal holidays. The site includes several public rights of way (PRoW) and areas of common land which will need to be managed during construction, although no changes to PRoW or access rights are anticipated to be necessary. A turbine and tower component delivery route feasibility assessment was undertaken in December 2025 identifying potential feasible routes to the Site.
Noise and Vibration	Including baseline noise surveys at noise sensitive receptors during 2026.
Socio-economics and Tourism	Including a detailed desk-based assessment. No surveys are anticipated at this time.
Human Health	Including a detailed desk-based assessment. No surveys are anticipated at this time.
Air Quality	Including a detailed desk-based assessment. No surveys are anticipated at this time.
Aviation Radar and Telecommunications	Including a detailed desk-based assessment. No surveys are anticipated at this time.
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Assessment	Including a detailed desk-based assessment. No surveys are anticipated at this time.
Shadow Flicker	Including a detailed desk-based assessment. No surveys are anticipated at this time.

4.1.13 At this stage, given the location of the proposed Project, it is considered unlikely that the Project will give rise to likely significant effects on any designated habitats site. However, a number of designated sites, including a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), have been identified within 10 km of the Project site, and there may be potential impact pathways, including hydrological connectivity, that require further consideration.

4.1.14 Accordingly, the need for Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) will be kept under review as environmental studies progress. This is expected to include the following steps:

- An initial review of relevant European and Ramsar sites, and the potential for likely significant effects, to be presented in the EIA Scoping Report;
- Engagement with Natural England during 2026 and 2027 as survey findings are reviewed and the project design is refined;
- Preparation of a draft HRA screening assessment for discussion with Natural England; and
- Submission of a final HRA Screening Report and, if required, information to support Appropriate Assessment as part of the DCO application.

5.0 Main issues for resolution

5.1.1 This section identifies the main issues for resolution identified by the Project during the pre-application stage and the actions to be taken to address them.

Table 5-1: Main Issues Identified by the Project

Potential Main Issue	Summary of Issue	Activity to Reach Resolution
Transport and Access	The Project site is located in a remote upland area with limited highway connectivity. Access is primarily via narrow, winding rural roads, which could present transport and access challenges during the construction phase, particularly for the delivery of large turbine components.	Detailed swept path analyses were undertaken during the feasibility stage from the two most likely ports of entry for turbine equipment. These assessments tested the ability of abnormal loads to negotiate the highway network to the site. The results demonstrate that turbine components can be successfully delivered, with only minimal localised highway adjustment works required.
Landscape	The Project site is located to the east of the Yorkshire Dales National Park and southeast of the North Pennines National Landscape. Both designations are likely to be sensitive landscape receptors.	Turbine siting has been carefully selected to minimise potential impacts on these designations at the early stage in the iterative design process. Appropriate measures to mitigate and compensate adverse landscape effects on these designations will be undertaken and documented in the Landscape and Visual impact assessment submitted as part of the ES for the application.
Peatland	Areas of peat have been identified on the Site with some areas of relativity deep peat.	The majority of the Site is underlain by shallow peat. Turbine locations have therefore been preferentially sited in areas of no peat or shallow peat (generally less than 1 metre in depth) to minimise potential impacts as far as reasonably practicable. During construction, micro-siting will be employed to allow turbines and associated infrastructure to be positioned within locally favourable ground conditions, further reducing disturbance to peat and supporting effective peat management.

Potential Main Issue	Summary of Issue	Activity to Reach Resolution
Cultural Heritage	A number of statutory designated cultural heritage assets (Scheduled Monuments) are located on the moorland to the north of the Site.	Turbine placement has been designed specifically to ensure no works within the designated areas of the scheduled monuments. The project team will also engage with Historic England through the Discretionary Advice Service to better understand potential impacts on local heritage assets.
Unexploded Ordinance	The site is adjacent to a current RAF training range and is known to have been used for training during the Second World War. There is therefore potential for unexploded ordnance on Site.	Detailed desk based research has already been undertaken and future surveys will be carried out in the company of trained experts.
Grid Connection	In line with the precedent of many wind developments, the grid connection infrastructure is not proposed to be included in the scope of the application. The grid connection infrastructure will be delivered subsequently through a separate application for consent.	The Applicant will continue engagement with National Grid and relevant network operators. . Progress on the basis of the grid connection being consented separately . There is currently no meaningful information known about the grid connection to undertake a meaningful assessment at this point.
Geological / Mining Risk	The site is known to contain a number of former mine entrances and topographic anomalies associated with geological dissolution features, which may present geotechnical constraints to the layout, siting and construction of the Project.	Undertake detailed mapping and investigation of ground risk features to inform turbine siting and layout design. Engage specialist geotechnical and engineering geology consultants throughout the design and construction phases. Liaise with the Coal Authority regarding mining legacy constraints and any required assessment or permitting.
Noise	There are a number of residential properties within 1.2km of the turbine array area which could be sensitive to noise.	A full noise assessment, including detailed modelling will be undertaken as part of the EIA. Should significant effects be identified, methods to mitigate those effects will be investigated. These could include modification to the layout of the array, or turbine shutdowns during specific weather conditions.
Ornithology	The site is known to be utilised by a number of red list bird species which have the potential to be impacted by the construction and operation of the Project.	The Project has already undertaken detailed ornithological surveys of the site and will use this in designing the turbine layout to reduce the risk to sensitive species as far as possible. The Project is also engaging with Natural England through their Digressionary Advice Service (DAS) to explore mitigation and enhancement opportunities.
Aviation	Onshore windfarms have the potential to impact upon civilian and military aviation by interfering with radar systems, and forming an obstruction hazard.	The Project will undertake a detailed Aviation, Radar and Telecommunications study as part of the application, including engagement with all potentially affected parties, including; Newcastle Airport, Teesside Airport, and the Ministry of Defence (MoD).

5.1.2 The Project can confirm that it will provide a ‘Potential Main Issues for Examination’ (PMIE) document for submission with the application for development consent.

6.0 Engaging with statutory bodies

6.1.1 The Project intends to consult with a wide range of statutory bodies as outlines in Table 6-1. The Project will keep this list of consultees under review.

Table 6-1: Statutory bodies to be consulted by environmental topic

Topic	Relevant Statutory Bodies
Landscape and Visual	Natural England; Historic England
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	Historic England
Ecology and Biodiversity	Natural England; Environment Agency
Ornithology	Natural England
Geology, Ground Conditions and Peat	Environment Agency; The Coal Authority
Water Environment	Environment Agency; Drainage Boards
Access, Traffic and Transport	National Highways
Noise and Vibration	Public Health England
Socio-economics and Tourism	Sports England
Air Quality	Environment Agency

6.1.2 Issues Trackers will record specific issues for discussion and resolution. These Issues Trackers will be used to form the PADSS that the consultees will submit to the Examining Authority during Examination.

6.1.3 It is expected that the Project will also engage in regular consultation with the following statutory bodies and with whom the Applicant would look to produce pre-application PADSS:

- Historic England;
- National Highways;
- The Coal Authority; and
- NATS (National Air Traffic Services).

6.1.4 The frequency of meetings with these statutory bodies is still to be determined.

6.1.5 The Project will meet the costs of statutory bodies (e.g. the Environment Agency), as appropriate and in accordance with the statutory requirements. The Project is in the process of setting up Discretionary Advice Service agreements with Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic England.

7.0 Engaging with local authorities

7.1.1 The Project straddles the administrative areas of the following local authorities:

- Durham County Council (DCC); and
- North Yorkshire Council (NYC).

7.1.2 Introductory meetings have taken place with both host local authorities; Durham County Council (DCC) and North Yorkshire Council (NYC). These meetings provided an overview of the Project, work to date on its design and an outline of the pre-application programme. Dates of these meetings are presented in Table 7-1 below.

Table 7-1: Details of meetings held with local authorities.

Meetings held to date	Dates of meeting
Durhan County Council	13/10/25, 26/02/26
North Yorkshire Council	02/03/26

7.1.3 To support engagement in the process, the Project is negotiating a Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) with the LPAs hosting the Project. It is intended that quarterly meetings will be held with local authorities. The frequency of these meetings will be reviewed as the project progresses.

7.1.4 As the Project progresses it may be necessary to hold several different meetings, the details of which will be updated in further iterations of the Programme Document. Potential meetings could include:

- Meetings with planning case officers;
- Technical meetings with local authority specialists (see Table 7.1); and
- Multi-authority topic meetings to agree on key issues such as landscape, traffic and heritage.

7.1.5 Consistent with the process outlined for statutory bodies in Section 6.0, the Project will manage Issues Trackers with the local authorities, which will feed into PADSS for the local authorities to submit to the Examining Authority during Examination.

7.1.6 The Project will consult the local authorities on a range of topics, as outlined in Table 7-2. This list will be kept under review as the Project progresses.

Table 7-2: Local authority officers to be consulted

Topic	Relevant Statutory Bodies
Landscape and Visual	LPA Landscape Advisor
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology	County Archaeologist and Conservation Officers
Ecology and Biodiversity	LPA Ecologist

Topic	Relevant Statutory Bodies
Ornithology	LPA Ecologist
Geology, Ground Conditions and Peat	LPA Environmental Pollution Team
Water Environment	Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)
Access, Traffic and Transport	Highways Authority, LPA Transport Planners
Noise and Vibration	Environmental Health Officers

8.0 Summary of Stakeholder Engagement undertaken to date

8.1.1 The table below provides a summary of all stakeholders activities undertaken to date, including dates of the activities and the nature of the activities undertaken.

Date	Details
17-19 November 2025	Representatives from the following organisations were invited to attend our three 'drop in' events following the soft launch of the project. Those listed below were invited. Additional residents, who had not been formally invited, also attended the drop-in sessions and spoke to the team. Host parish councils • Barningham Parish Meeting • Marske and New Forest Parish Council • Newsham Parish Council Neighboring councilors • Upper Teesdale • North Richmondshire • Lower Teesdale • Upper Dales • Lower Teesdale • Richmond • Barnard Castle Other elected representatives • Mayor Kim McGuiness (North East Combined Authority) • Mayor David Skaith (York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority) • Sam Rushworth MP (Bishop Aukland) • Rishi Sunak MP (Richmond and North Allerton) Organisations • Durham Wildlife Trust • Durham Bird Club • Environmental Farmers Group • Friends of the Dales • North Yorks and South Durham Ramblers • Richmondshire Climate Action Partnership • North Yorkshire Moors Association • YDNP Local Management Forum • Durham RSPB • Richmondshire and Hambleton RSPB • British Trust for Ornithology • National Farmers Union North • National Trust North East • Yorkshire Wildlife Trust • Dig Ventures • National Trust Yorkshire • Barningham Local History Group • Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group • CLA North • Sustainable Swaledale

Date	Details
03 February 2026	Sustainable Swaledale invited mambers of the Project Team to speak at their annual meeting, where we shared our experience as renewable energy developers and responded to questions from attendees.
19 February 2026	The Project Team met with Cllr Angus Thompson (North Yorkshire) after the Hope Moor Community Liaison Group launch communications were issued. At this meeting, we addressed initial questions regarding the project process and the mechanisms for community feedback.
19 February 2026	The Project Team met with representatives from Marske and New Forest Parish Council, answering early questions about the project and discussing possible uses of the community benefit fund.
20 February 2026	Meeting with Barningham Parish Meeting representatives to answer early questions.
03 March 2026	Meeting with Cllr Richard Bell (Upper Teesdale) and Jillian Campbell (Lower Teesdale) to answer early questions and discuss project timelines.
03 March 2026	Launch of the Hope Moor Community Liaison Group. The following parishes were invited, those with * attended. • Barningham Parish Meeting* • Hope and Scargill Parish Council • Newsham Parish Council* • Marske and New Forest Parish Council* • Arkengarthdale Parish Council* • Gayles Parish Meeting* • Dalton Parish Council* • Hutton Magna Parish Meeting • Marrick Parish Council* • Rokeby, Brignall & Egglestone Abbey Parish* • Wycliffe with Thorpe Parish Council* • Bowes Parish Council* • Reeth, Fremington, and Healaugh Parish Council*
To be scheduled	We have had ongoing correspondence with the Yorkshire Dales National Park, North Pennines National Landscape and North York Moors and are in the process of setting up meetings with representatives from these organisations.

9.0 Pre-application risks

9.1.1 Project management of the application monitors risks on an ongoing basis, allowing for the early detection and resolution of issues that could impede progress. The Project manager is responsible for monitoring and managing all aspects of the risk management process. This includes the following:

- The development and regular review of a risk register;
- Ensuring there are adequate resources for managing risks;
- The continual monitoring of the project to identify any new or changed risks; and
- Regular reporting on the status of risks to internal senior management.

9.1.2 Table 8.1 below identifies risks and how these are proposed to be managed. This is not an exhaustive list, and it is expected that as the Project progresses, amendments will be made as further risks are identified or eliminated.

Table 9-1: Identified risks and proposed risk management methods

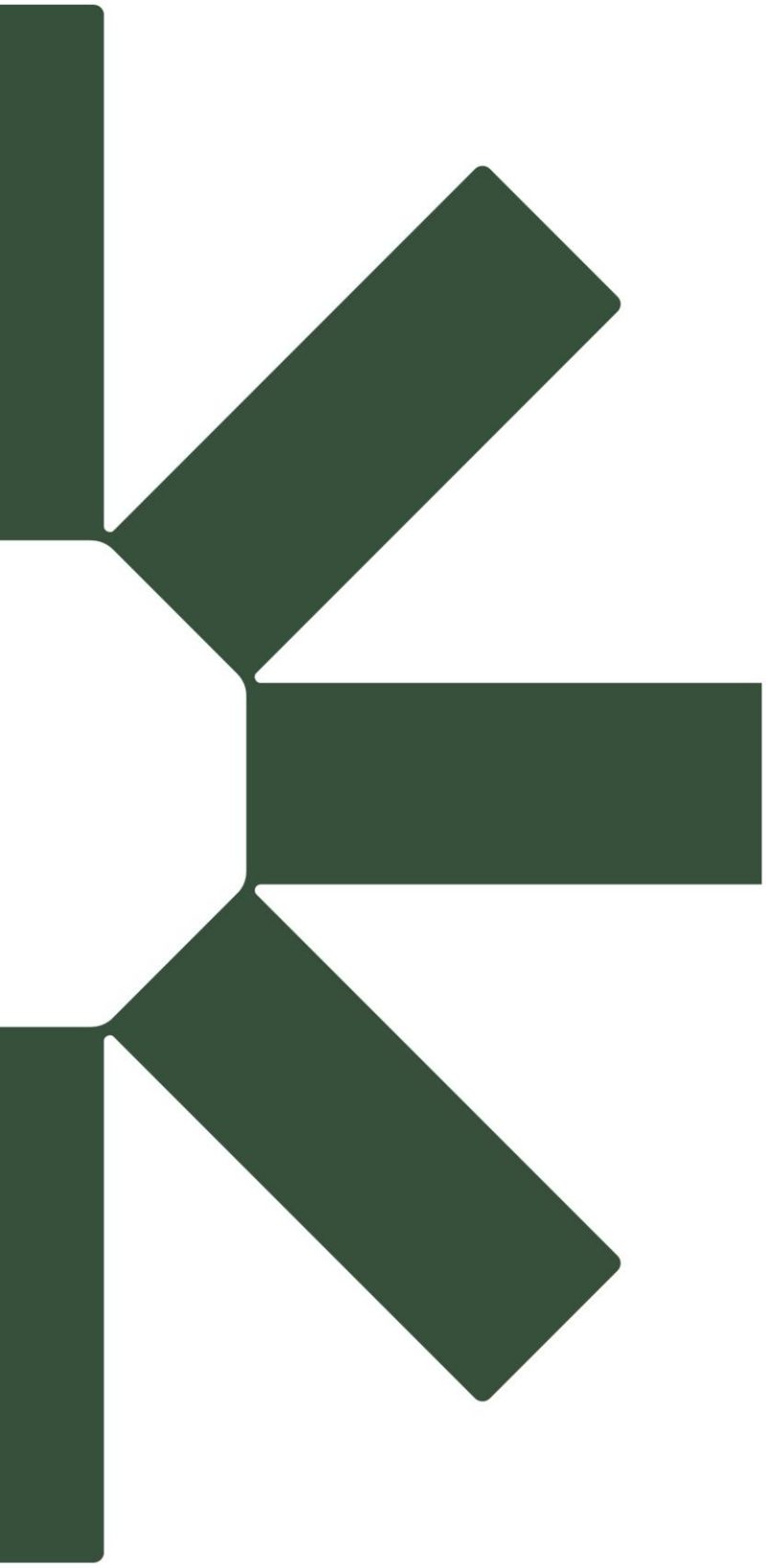
Risk	Summary of Risk	Proposed Mitigation
Community and Stakeholder Opposition	Local community or key stakeholders opposing the project, potentially leading to delays.	• Implement a robust community engagement strategy. • Establish a community Liaison Group (CLG) including host and neighbouring parish council representatives. • Hold further public consultations and provide transparent information about the project.
Technical and Design Issues	Challenges related to the technical design and feasibility of the wind farm, potentially affecting the Project timeline and costs.	• Engage experienced engineering and design firms to progress assessments.
Political and Policy Changes	Changes in local or national policies regarding renewable energy could impact the Project's policy support.	• Stay informed about policy developments and engage with policymakers. • Develop adaptable project plans that can accommodate policy changes. • Participate in industry groups to advocate for supportive policies.

10.0 References

1 Planning Inspectorate, Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: 2024 Pre-application Prospectus, 16 May 2024 (last updated 1 May 2025), Source: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects-2024-pre-application-prospectus

2 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects, 30 April 2024, Source: https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-act-2008-pre-application-stage-for-nationally-significant-infrastructure-project

3 Hope Moor Section 35 Direction, Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (2025). Source: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/68a817373a052c9c504c8d70/hope-moor-wind-farm-s35-direction.pdf



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