

# Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

## Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals

Proposals for wind energy and other renewable energy developments must give consideration to the matters listed in the following categories, as indicated by the three columns to the right. Some of the categories also include criteria that are normally expected to be met. Proposals for renewable energy developments must also accord with any other relevant policies in LDP2 and must take into account supporting planning guidance.

**Y - proposals must give consideration to the matters in this category**

**? - proposals may have to give consideration to the matters in this category - discuss with Council.**

Single/small  
Wind Turbine  
Applications Up  
to 3 turbines of  
any height

Wind Energy  
developments 4  
turbines or  
more

Other  
renewable  
energy  
developments

YES: LDES

### 1. Impact on international and national designations identified as significant areas of protection in spatial framework\*

See SPG paragraphs 3.7 - 3.10

The impact of all renewable energy developments on international and national heritage designations must accord with South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan2 (LDP2), Policy 14 Natural and Historic Environment and the relevant policies in SLLDP2 Volume 2. For the avoidance of doubt, relevant policies in SLLDP2 Volume 2 do not include policies GBRA 1 and 2.

- New Lanark World Heritage Site and its buffer zone and setting (NHE1)
- Natura 2000 Sites and Ramsar sites (Special Protection Areas and Areas of Conservation including sites outwith the South Lanarkshire boundary (NHE7)
- National Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (NHE8)
- Sites identified in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes (NHE4)
- Sites identified in the Inventory of Historic Battlefields (NHE5)

Y

Y

Please refer to  
R005 EcIA  
R010 LVIA  
R002 Planning  
Statement  
(section 7.3)

### 2. Impact on carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat (CPP)\*

See SPG paragraphs 3.12 - 3.15

(see also criterion 11) Proposals must demonstrate how all significant impacts on land identified in Classes 1 and 2 of the national Scottish Natural Heritage carbon and peatland map are substantially overcome through siting, design or other mitigation.

Y

Y

The majority of  
the site is  
brownfield in  
nature and as  
such no peat  
reserves are  
anticipated to  
be effected.

### 3. Community separation for consideration of visual impact\*

See SPG paragraphs 3.16 - 3.21

A 2km buffer zone around settlements is an indicative area in which potential developers will be required to demonstrate that any significant effects on the qualities of these areas can be substantially overcome by siting, design or other mitigation.

Y

Y

The LVIA  
(R010) has  
assessed the  
visual impact  
of the Proposed  
Development.

## Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals			
<b>4. Economic benefits</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.2 - 5.3  Proposals for renewable energy should provide a statement, proportionate to the scale of the development, of the socio-economic benefits that will arise from the project.	?	Y	Please refer to Socio-economic Report R013.
<b>5. Scale of contribution to renewable energy targets</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.4 - 5.5  Proposals should contain a statement setting out how the proposal contributes to national renewable energy targets.	Y	Y	Please refer to Chapters 6 and 7 of the Planning Statement R002.
<b>6. Effects on greenhouse gas emissions</b>  See SPG paragraph 5.6  Applications should contain a statement setting out how the proposal contributes to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	Y	Y	Please refer to Chapters 6 and 7 of the Planning Statement R002.
<b>7. Effects on the natural heritage, including birds</b>  <b>a) South Lanarkshire Local Biodiversity Strategy, local nature conservation designations, bird sensitivity, protected species and bats (see criterion 1 for national and international designations)</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.7 - 5.25  The impacts from renewable energy developments on South Lanarkshire's natural heritage require to be fully assessed and if appropriate, mitigation measures require to be identified. Proposals must accord with the relevant natural environment policies in LDP2 Volume 2.	Y	Y	Please refer to R006 BNG
<b>7. Effects on the natural heritage, including birds</b>  <b>b) Habitat management plans</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.12 - 5.15	?	?	Please refer to Map 2 of report R005 EcIA.

# Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

## Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals

For larger wind energy schemes, and for other schemes where sensitive species/habitats are affected, developers will be required to submit a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) setting out the means of land management that will secure biodiversity objectives.

### 8. Landscape and visual impacts

#### a) Landscape designations; landscape character; visual impacts

See SPG paragraphs 5.26 - 5.44

Renewable energy proposals must contain an appropriate landscape and visual impact assessment as set out in SPG paragraph 5.43 and demonstrate that there would be no unacceptable adverse effects on landscape designations, landscape character and visual amenity.

Y

Y

Please refer to R010 LVIA

### 8. Landscape and visual impacts

#### b) Landscape capacity study

See SPG paragraphs 5.26 - 5.28

Wind energy proposals greater than 15m in height shall be assessed against the guidance for specific landscape character types contained in Table 6.1 of the Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Energy (February 2016), as amended by the Tall Wind Turbines: Landscape Capacity, Siting and Design Guidance 2019.

Y

Y

N/A

### 9. Cumulative impacts

#### a) Landscape and visual

See SPG paragraphs 5.45 - 5.58

The cumulative landscape and visual impact of wind energy and, where relevant, other renewable energy developments must be fully assessed and shown to be acceptable.

Y

Y

Cumulative effects are considered within chapter 6 of R010 LVIA

### 9. Cumulative impacts

#### b) Areas where cumulative impact limits capacity for further development

See SPG paragraphs 5.47 - 5.56

Y

Y

N/A  
The Site is not located within an area identified for significant cumulative development.

# Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

## Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals

Applications require to address the criteria set out in Table 5.2 of SPG regarding the areas where cumulative impact limits capacity for further development.

### 9. Cumulative impacts

#### c) Natural heritage

See SPG paragraphs 5.22 - 5.23

Proposals must demonstrate that there will be no unacceptable significant adverse cumulative impacts on ecological or ornithological interests. This should include the preparation of a cumulative impact assessment.

Y

Y

R005 EcIA has considered the impacts of the proposed scheme in isolation and cumulatively.

### 10. Impact on communities and individual dwellings

#### a) Residential visual amenity

See SPG paragraphs 5.59 - 5.66

For all wind turbine proposals of more than 15 metres the Council will expect an assessment to identify the likely significant effects of the proposals on residential visual amenity or to demonstrate that an assessment is not required. Residential visual amenity surveys may also be required for other renewable energy developments.

Y

Y

The impact on residential visual amenity is considered within the LVIA R010.

### 10. Impact on communities and individual dwellings

#### b) Noise

See SPG paragraphs 5.67 - 5.75

All applications for wind turbine developments should be accompanied by a site specific noise assessment. Noise assessments may also be required for other renewable energy developments.

Y

Y

Please refer to Noise Assessment R007.

### 10. Impact on communities and individual dwellings

#### c) Shadow flicker

See SPG paragraph 5.76

Y

Y

N/A

# Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

## Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals

Where turbines are within 10 rotor diameters of a residential property an assessment should be undertaken by the applicant to assess potential effects due to shadow flicker.			
<p><b>11. Impact on carbon rich soils and peat</b> that are not identified as Classes 1 and 2 on the national Scottish Natural Heritage carbon and peatland map (<b>see also criterion 2</b>)</p> <p>See SPG paragraph 5.77 - 5.82</p> <p>Where proposals affect carbon rich soils and peat, that are not identified as Classes 1 and 2 on the national Scottish Natural Heritage carbon and peatland map, developments must be designed to minimise soil disturbance when building and maintaining roads and tracks, turbine bases and other infrastructure to ensure that the carbon balance savings of the scheme are maximised and appropriate mitigation measures must be set out.</p>	Y	Y	N/A
<p><b>12. Impact on public access</b></p> <p>See SPG paragraphs 5.84 - 5.86</p> <p>The impact from renewable energy developments on core paths, wider access network routes and recreational uses across South Lanarkshire should be fully assessed and if appropriate, mitigation measures require to be identified</p>	?	Y	The impact of the Proposed Development on Public Access is assessed within the LVIA R010.
<p><b>13. Impact on the historic environment (see also criterion 1)</b></p> <p>See SPG paragraphs 5.87 - 5.91</p> <p>The impact from renewable energy developments on the historic environment of South Lanarkshire should be fully assessed and if appropriate, mitigation measures require to be identified. Proposals must accord with the relevant historic environment policies in LDP2 Volume 2.</p>	Y	Y	The impact of the Development on the Historic Environment is considered in R002 PS (section 7.3) & LVIA R010.
<p><b>14. Impact on tourism and recreation</b></p> <p>See SPG paragraphs 5.92 - 5.94</p> <p>The impact from renewable energy developments on tourism and recreation should be fully assessed and if appropriate, mitigation measures require to be identified.</p>	?	Y	The Development is located in an employment/ industrial allocated area. It will not impact on tourism or recreation.
<b>15. Impact on aviation and defence</b>	Y	Y	N/A

## Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals			
See SPG paragraphs 5.95 - 5.106			
The impacts of the proposals on radar performance , defence interests and other air safety and seismological recording considerations must be satisfactorily addressed and demonstrated to the satisfaction of the relevant technical authority.			
<b>16. Impact on transmitting or receiving systems</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.107 - 5.110  It must be demonstrated no electromagnetic disturbance is likely to be caused by the proposal to any existing transmitting or receiving system or, where such disturbances may be caused, that measures will be taken to remedy or minimise any such disturbances.	Y	Y	The Proposed Development will not cause electromagnetic disturbance as set out in R003 DAS.
<b>17. Impact on road traffic and trunk roads</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.111 - 5.115  The impact from renewable energy developments on road traffic and trunk roads should be fully assessed and if appropriate, mitigation measures require to be identified and agreed with Transport Scotland and/or SLC Roads and Transportation.	Y	Y	Please refer to R009 Transport Statement and Construction Traffic Management Plan
<b>18. Impact on hydrology, water environment and flood risk</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.116 - 5.125  The impact from renewable energy developments on hydrology, the water environment and flood risk should be fully assessed and if appropriate, mitigation measures require to be identified. Proposals must accord with LDP2 policies on Water Environment and Flooding.	Y	Y	Please refer to R008 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy
<b>19. Decommissioning and restoration</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.126 - 5.128  Renewable energy applications must acknowledge the need for decommissioning, restoration and aftercare at the end of permission or the life of the turbines, if earlier. Developers are required to satisfy the Council that the plan for decommissioning and restoration of the proposed development is robust.	?	Y	The Development will be operational for 40 years. A Decommissioning Strategy which secures site restoration can be agreed via condition.
<b>20. Energy storage</b>	?	?	The Proposed Development is a Long Duration Battery Storage Scheme (LDES)

# Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals			
See SPG paragraphs 5.129 - 5.130  The Council will consider proposals for energy storage on a case by case basis.			
<b>21. Site decommissioning and restoration bond</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.131 - 5.132  The Council requires a financial bond or guarantee to be put in place to meet all the expected costs of the proposed decommissioning and restoration phase.	?	Y	A Decommissioning and Restoration bond can be secured via condition
<b>22. Forestry and woodland removal</b>  See SPG paragraph 5.133 - 5.139  The effects a proposed development will have on woodlands and the consequences that woodland removal will have on the ecology and landscape of the area and environs requires to be fully assessed, and appropriate mitigation measures identified. Proposals must accord with LDP2 Policy NHE13.	Y	Y	The Impact of the Proposed Development on Woodland is considered within the EcIA R005.
<b>23. Impact on prime agricultural land</b>  See SPG paragraph 5.83  Renewable energy development on Prime Agricultural Land (James Hutton Institute classes, 1, 2 and 3.1) shall only be acceptable where restoration proposals will return the land to its former status.	Y	Y	The Proposed Development is not located on prime agricultural land
<b>24. Borrow pits</b>  See SPG paragraphs 5.39 - 5.41  Borrow pits associated with wind farm and other renewable energy developments shall only be permitted if they comply with the requirements in paragraph 243 of SPP 2014.	?	Y	N/A
<b>25. Environmental protection</b>	Y	Y	N/A

# Renewable Energy Assessment Checklist

Assessment checklist and criteria for renewable energy proposals			
See SPG paragraph 5.140  Developers must obtain all required authorisations or licenses under current environmental protection regimes and ensure there is no impact on waste water and/or water assets which are above and/or underground in the area that may be affected by the proposed development.			
<b>26. Notifiable installations and exclusion zones.</b>  See SPG paragraph 5.142  When locating wind turbines and other renewable energy infrastructure attention must be paid to their proximity to notifiable installations and exclusion zones.	Y	Y	N/A
<b>27. Mitigation</b>  Where proposals are shown to have a significant adverse impact in respect of any of the above criteria, the developer will require to demonstrate that appropriate mitigating measures will be applied.	Y	Y	Required mitigation measures are set out within the technical assessments
<b>28. Legal agreement</b>  Where appropriate, the Council will normally require an applicant to enter into a legal agreement (Section 75 Agreement/Section 96 Agreement) to address community benefit payments, planning monitoring officer, roads and bridge structures and other matters.	?	Y	N/A
<b>29. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>  The Council will require all applications for renewable energy developments which fall within the scope of the Environmental Assessment legislation to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Report), and encourage these to be preceded by a pre-application scoping report. Developments that do not clearly fall within the EIA regulations should undergo screening.	?	Y	The application has been screened as non EIA. Please refer to Appendix 3 of the PS R002.
*Criteria 1-3 relate to the spatial framework for wind energy but are also applicable to all renewable energy developments			