

Troston Loch Wind Farm

Community
consultation event



Thank you for taking the time to attend today's event, which focuses on the proposed variations to the consented Troston Loch Wind Farm. This event is an opportunity for us to share the proposed changes, explain why they are being considered and hear your views.

About Vantage RE

Vantage RE is an experienced owner, developer and operator of renewable energy projects. Our 908MW portfolio includes solar, onshore, and offshore wind projects across the UK and Ireland. In Scotland we currently operate 58.9MW onshore wind projects, with a further 115MW consented.

Comments and questions

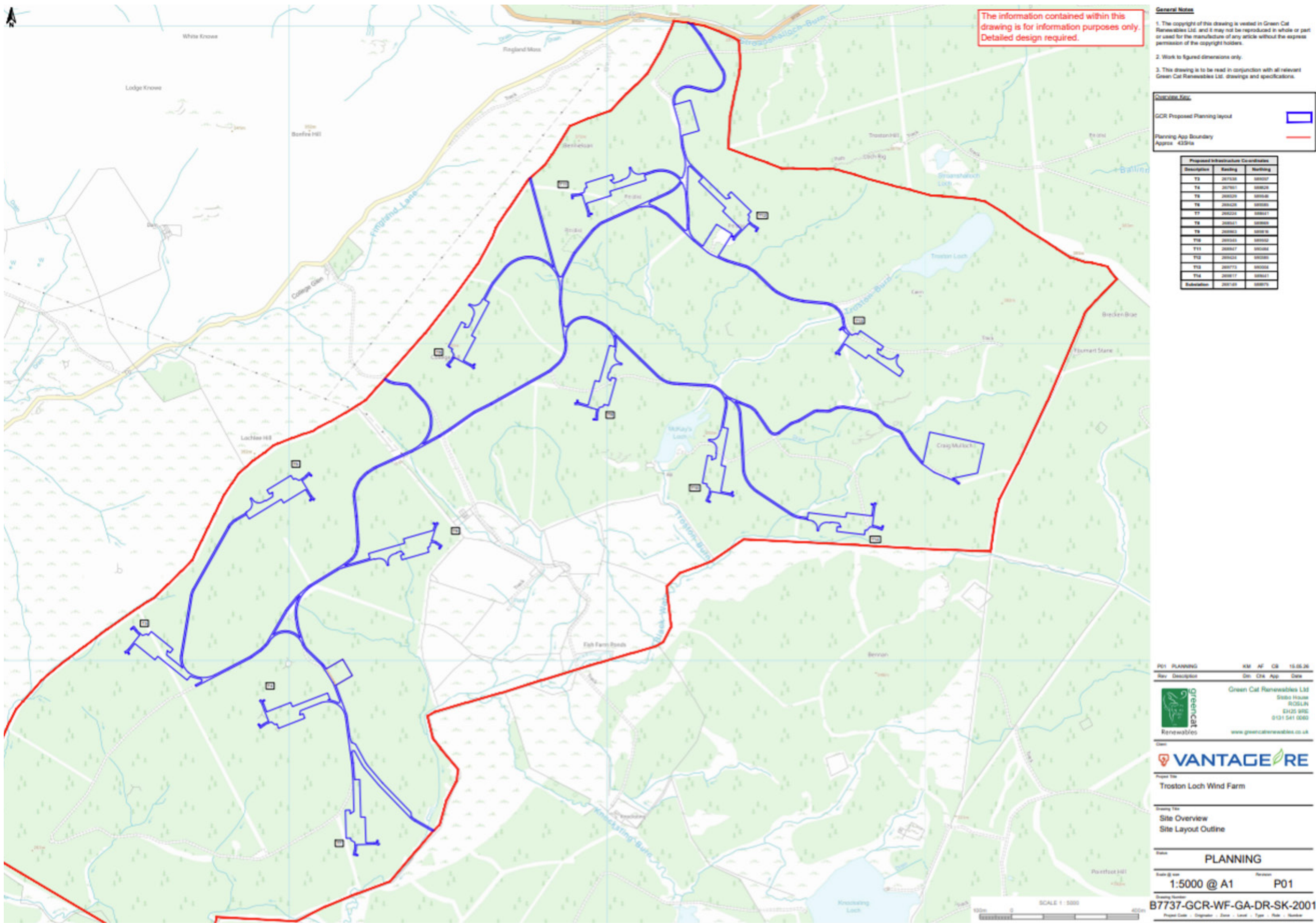
Your feedback is important and will be taken into consideration before any final submission is made. If you have any comments or would like further information, please fill in our feedback form. Members of the Vantage RE team are available to answer any questions you may have.



The site



Troston Loch Wind Farm is located approximately 8km west of Moniaive and 9km northeast of the village of Dalry on an existing commercial forestry plantation.



Key Information			
Capacity	68 MW. This is the equivalent of providing power to approximately 53,000 households annually*	Tip height:	150m consented, variation proposal to increase height up to maximum 220m
Lifespan of Project:	30 years	Number of turbines:	Maximum of 12 (reduced from 14)

*This figure is calculated using an installed capacity of 68MW at a 30% capacity factor and assuming 3,323 as the average UK household electricity consumption in kW hours based on Government statistics (DESNZ 2025)

Troston Loch and Scotland’s energy transition

The Scottish Government has set an ambition for at least 20GW of onshore wind capacity by 2030, recognising the contribution it can make to meeting increasing future electricity needs and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Troston Loch Wind Farm would form part of this wider transition, generating renewable electricity in Scotland and contributing to the country’s growing clean energy capacity.

Reasons for the proposed variation



Improving the project

Turbine technology in the wind industry has moved on considerably since the original consent in 2020. Modern taller turbines generally have larger rotors and more advanced technology, which greatly improves efficiency. This means needing fewer turbines to generate the same amount of electricity and make the same contribution to reducing CO₂ emissions.

Optimising design

With the opportunity to remove two turbines from the project there is potential to improve the design and deliver benefits including:

- Reduced civil works
- Additional land maintained for forestry
- Reduced environmental disturbance
- Less cabling
- Less equipment deliveries and minimising local network disruptions
- Optimising site access to utilise existing infrastructure to the south, and explore potential improvements of local road network



Environmental considerations



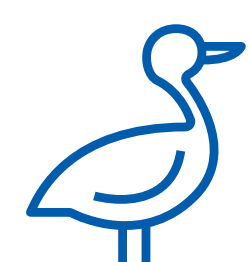
The following environmental considerations will be re-assessed and documented, forming part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report to be submitted with the application.

This approach ensures a thorough examination and report of the environmental implications, and demonstrates how the potential impacts of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Variation Development align with regulatory standards and best practices.



Ecology and biodiversity

Technical specialists have conducted comprehensive field surveys to map protected species, such as birds, mammals, and reptiles, and key habitats across the site and surrounding area. The EIA will thoroughly evaluate potential impacts on these species and propose mitigation and enhancement strategies.



Ornithology

Where necessary, a habitat management plan and breeding bird protection plan will be developed to ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken to protect and enhance conditions for ornithological features of interest within the Development Site during both construction and operation.



Forestry

A forestry baseline will be established using desk research and field surveys to form a Development Forest Plan that integrates wind farm infrastructure and identifies any net woodland loss. Detailed felling and restocking plans will map necessary tree clearing against environmental constraints, as well as outline specific timing, locations, and species for replanting.



Cultural Heritage

This will evaluate how the project may affect nearby heritage assets using desk research, field surveys, and ongoing consultation with statutory bodies. Mitigation measures will be designed to address both direct and indirect impacts to the satisfaction of Dumfries and Galloway Council.



Noise

This assessment evaluates noise levels generated during both the construction and operation of the wind farm based on source volume and receiver distance. Construction noise (including traffic) will be assessed against guideline values for nearby locations, with temporary impacts managed primarily through restricted working hours. Operational turbine noise will be measured against guidance-derived limits, taking into account cumulative sound from other nearby onshore wind developments.



Aviation Lighting

As we seek to optimise the wind farm with an increased blade tip height, maintaining the highest standards of aviation safety remains a priority. Structures reaching or exceeding 150m in height require specialised aviation warning light schemes to ensure they are visible to low-flying aircraft and do not interfere with regional radar systems.

The team at Vantage RE are working closely with the UK Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) to design a tailored radar mitigation and lighting plan. We will look to coordinate our plans with other developers in the area to minimise impact.

Landscape and visual impact



A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will establish the potential effects of Troston Loch Wind Farm on the surrounding landscape and visual amenity.

The Landscape Architect undertaking the LVIA for the Proposed Development will provide design advice on landscape and visual matters, including mitigation measures where appropriate.

The LVIA will include:

- An assessment of landscape and visual amenity impacts within a 20km study area, focusing on key receptors within this area to update the impact assessment on a higher tip height scenario.
- Preparation of a Residential Receptors Plan, assessing effects on the visual aspects of residential amenity for properties within 2km of the Proposed Development.
- Development of a Cumulative Location Plan, assessing impact of cumulative effects on Landscape Character and Landscape Designations within a 45km study area.
- Effect of aviation lighting; and
- Fieldwork will include visits to the site and the wider area more generally, to assess potential effects – on viewpoints, landscape character and designated landscapes.

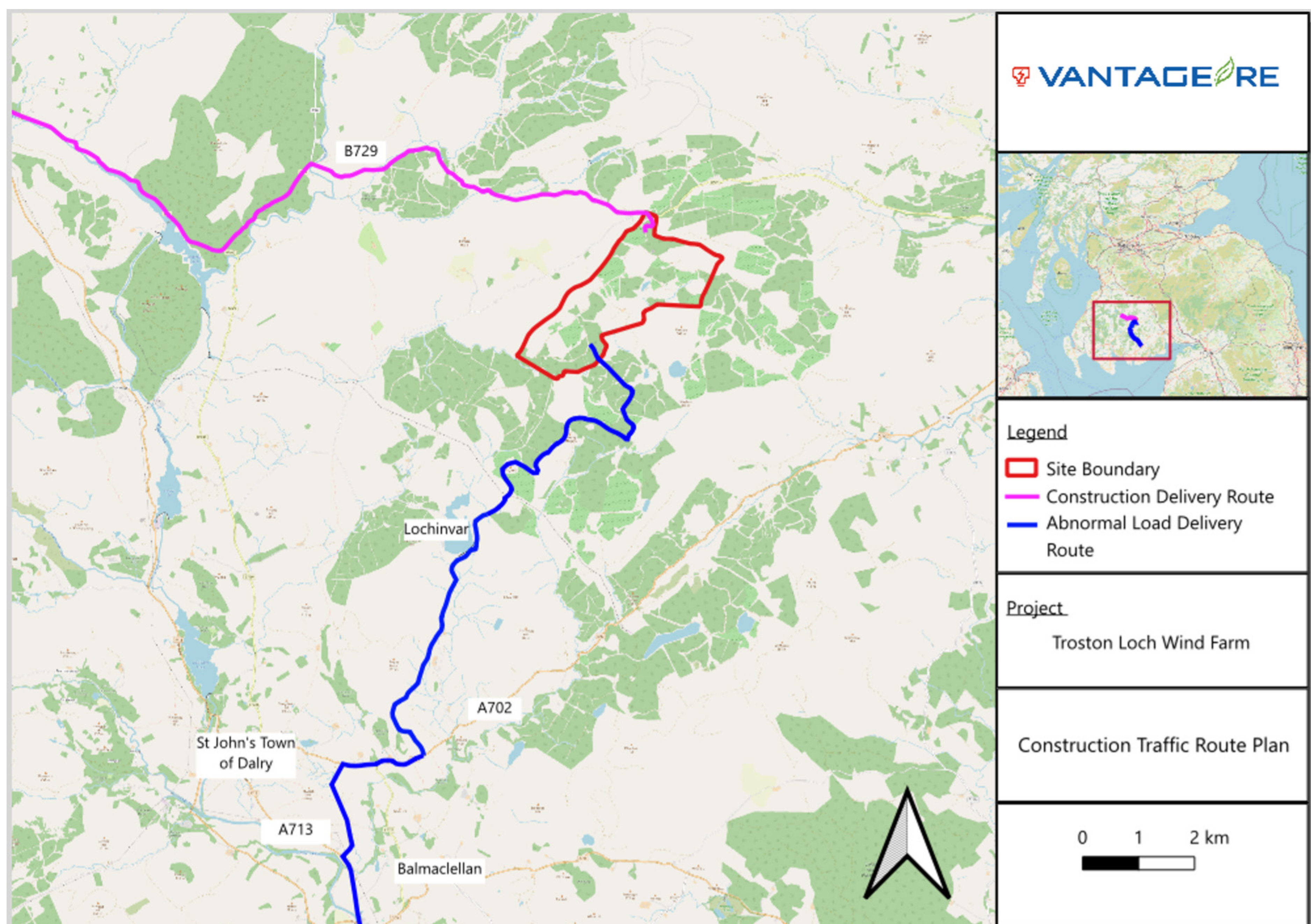


Construction access



Vantage RE is working closely with other wind farm developers with projects in the area to agree on a shared construction access. This will aim to reduce impacts on the local road network by providing a shared access point for wind farm developments, allowing wind turbine components and construction traffic to use the same access route. Coordination between developers is proposed to minimise the effects of the wind farm developments on traffic and transport.

Vantage RE intends to use the route outlined below for the delivery of wind turbine components for the Proposed Development. Whilst the access for construction vehicles, such as heavy plant machinery, is still proposed via the B729 to the north of the site, switching the access for turbine deliveries to the south would considerably reduce the amount of civil works required and, consequently, the environmental effects associated with turbine deliveries for the Proposed Development.



Community involvement



At Vantage RE we recognise our responsibility towards the communities in which we operate.

We would establish a local community benefit fund when the wind farm becomes operational.

The fund value would be in line with the recommended Scottish Government rate which is currently £5,000 per MW installed capacity each year, for the lifetime of the wind farm, index linked in line with inflation.

This could provide up to £340,000 each year to support local organisations, events and community projects.

The fund would be designed to support specific local objectives, and Vantage is engaging with Glenkens Development Trust and the wider community to explore how to ensure that the project delivers long-term benefits for the local area.

If the application is successful, we will look at how work on the construction of the wind farm can be made available to local suppliers and contractors.

Case study

Whiteside Hill Community Benefit Fund

This fund was established in 2018 to benefit the local communities around Whiteside Hill wind farm. Each year an index-linked amount of at least £135,000 per year is paid into the fund for the operating life of the wind farm. The fund is run with administrative support from Foundation Scotland.

Supporting education and training

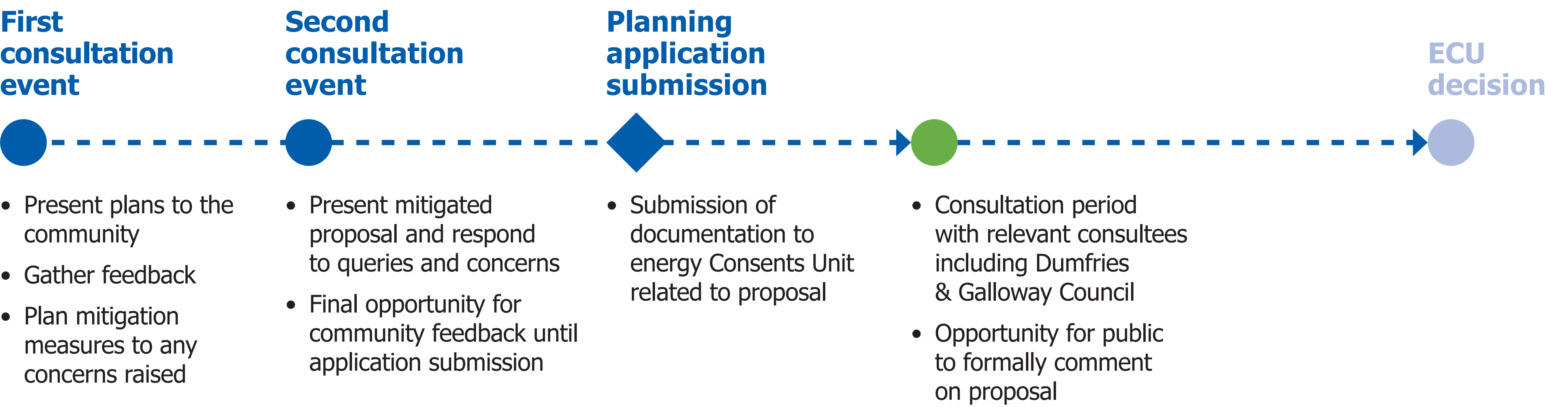
This fund supports the Whiteside Hill Education and Training fund which provides bursaries to residents in the local areas to help them access training and education opportunities. Awards of up to £1,500 are available to cover a range of costs including course fees, travel, specialist equipment or childcare.

Next steps



Troston Loch Wind Farm will have a generating capacity of over 50MW, so the application will be made to the Scottish Government’s Energy Consents Unit (ECU) under the Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989.

This event is our final stage of public consultation for the tip height extension. We welcome your engagement and will incorporate the feedback into developing our proposals ahead of the submission.



Have your say



Thank you for taking the time to view the new Troston Loch Wind Farm proposals. Over the coming weeks, we will be finalising our application with the inclusion of information from our technical assessments and your feedback on the plans.

We want to hear from you

If you would like to provide comments or ask a question, please complete our online feedback form or collect a hard copy version from a member of the project team.

Please note that feedback forms should be returned no later than the 29th of October 2026.

If you have any questions about the proposal or would like to speak with our one our development team, please email:
TrostonLoch@Vantagere.co.uk and we will get in touch with you.

Development updates will be available via our project webpage at **<https://www.vantagere.co.uk/TrostonLoch>**