

# M74 WEST RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK

#### WELCOME TO OUR EXHIBITION

Welcome to the first public consultation event for the M74 West Renewable Energy Park.

The purpose of today's event is to provide you with information about the project and gather feedback. Representatives from Renewco Power, supported by our environmental impact assessment (EIA) team from Ramboll and landscape and visual impact specialists MVGLA, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. In addition, the team can show you how the wind turbines proposed will look from different locations using the interactive Windplanner tool.

#### The information banners provide:

- A summary of the M74 West project
- An explanation of why the site was chosen
- An overview of the project and the current stage in the design process
- Information on community benefits
- Ways of feeding back on the project and shaping the community benefits package
- Next steps and timescales towards a planning submission

Before you leave, please complete a project feedback form and community benefit questionnaire. All feedback collected will be used to shape and refine our proposals, and updated plans will be presented at a second consultation event in the coming months.

Scan QR code to access the project website

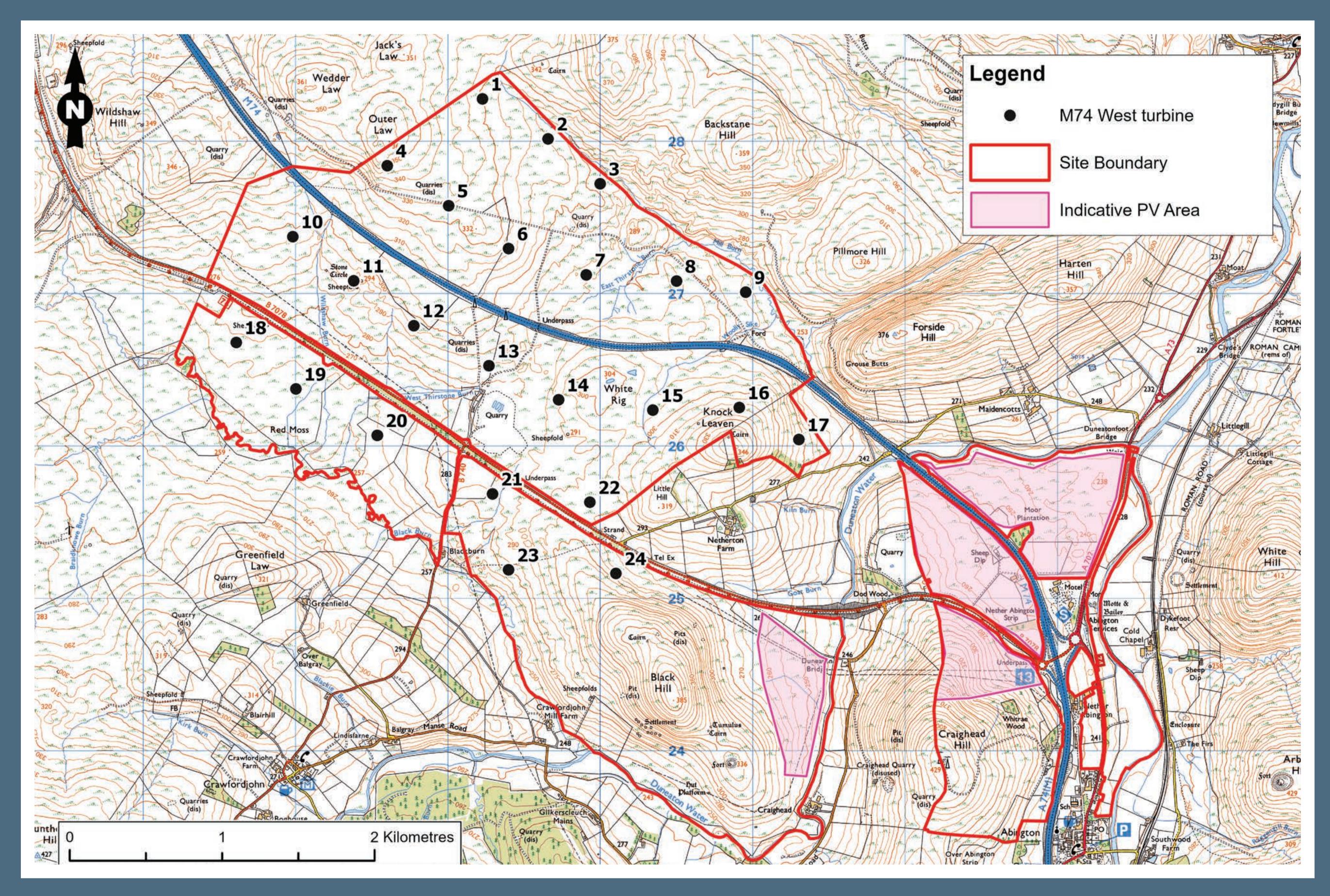






## THE DEVELOPMENT SITE OUR LOCATION

The M74 West site extends over an area of approximately 1,450 ha north and south of the M74, immediately north west of Abington services and approximately 3 km north west of Abington, South Lanarkshire, Scotland. The site is centered around grid reference Easting 289028, Northing 626477.



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#### THE PROJECT

The project is in the early stages of development and the current expectation is that it will comprise up to:

- 24 wind turbines, expected to generate approximately 180 MW of electricity
- Solar PV panels, expected to generate approximately 60 MW AC
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), approximately 50 MW capacity
- Onsite substation
- Meteorological mast
- Internal access tracks
- Access direct to the site from the B7078, using the existing quarry access, and from the B740

 New access for abnormal loads direct to the northmost part of the site from the M74 (southbound) to enable project construction



#### WHY?

The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act

2019, which amends the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009, sets targets to reduce Scotland's emissions of all greenhouse gases to net zero by 2045 at the latest, with interim targets for reductions of at least 56% by 2020, 75% by 2030, and 90% by 2040. Significant additional renewable energy capacity, over and above what is produced today, will be needed to facilitate the decarbonisation of transport and heating as Scotland transitions to net zero.

The wind farm element of the M74 West project alone will be sufficient to power approximately 171,205 homes and will have a significant role in helping the Scottish and UK governments to meet their emissions reduction and net zero commitments. The BESS will also help balance electricity supply and demand on the National Grid.

In addition to its legally binding emissions reduction and net zero carbon targets, the Scottish Government has set a target of delivering a minimum of 20 GW of onshore wind and up to 6 GW of solar development by 2030. The wind and solar components of M74 West, which could have a combined installed capacity of approximately 240 MW, would make a substantial contribution towards reaching these targets.

#### WHY HERE?

This site has been selected for the M74 West Renewable Energy Park because:

- The site is situated amidst a cluster of operational and proposed wind farm developments, including the operational Middle Muir Wind Farm to the west and Clyde Wind Farm to the south east.
- The site can accommodate a renewable energy development whilst avoiding significant direct effects on areas designated for nature conservation.
- The site has suitable access for both standard construction traffic and abnormal indivisible loads.
- The site has high anticipated wind speeds.
- The site has good access to the electricity transmission network.
- The site is located within a concentration of infrastructure along the M74 corridor,

including the motorway, high-voltage overhead lines, transmission gas pipelines, the West Coast Main Line railway and other wind farm development.



### WHO IS M74 WEST LIMITED?

M74 West Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Renewco Power Ltd.

Renewco Power is a specialist renewable energy developer focused on onshore wind, solar PV, battery storage and green hydrogen projects. The Glasgow based company is actively developing over 4 GW of renewable projects in 4 markets: the UK, Spain, Italy and the US and employs 40 people. Development of these high-quality renewable energy projects in a responsible manner will accelerate the deployment of clean energy assets that will enable countries to de-carbonise their power systems and help local communities to thrive. The company was formed by a highly experienced team of entrepreneurs and renewable sector specialists with significant development, technical, project structuring, construction, and financing expertise across all renewable technologies.

While Renewco Power is a relatively new company, our team has a proven track record, delivering renewable energy projects in the UK and beyond. Our experience includes wind, solar, BESS, and emerging technologies such as green hydrogen.

Our aim with all of our projects is to maximise the renewable potential deliverable on a site while minimising impacts to land and the surrounding community. Irrespective of the technology our relationships with the community are critical to ensure we make a lasting positive impact, which is why we would welcome any and all feedback as part of this consultation.

This board is PVC Free & has a recyclable aluminum base

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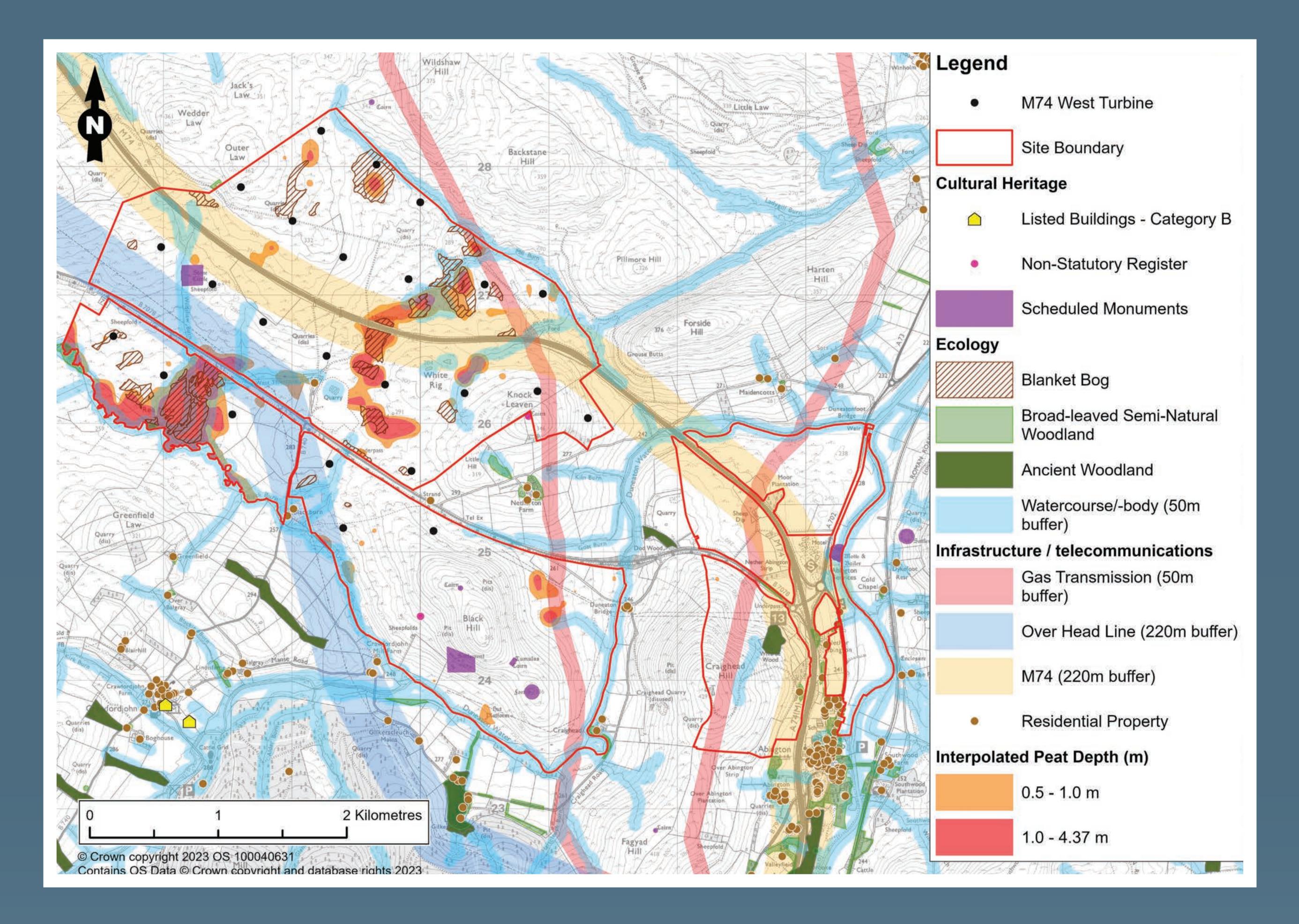
# Renewco power



## PROJECT DESIGN PROCESS & KEY ISSUES

Work has so far focused on environmental considerations which

will guide the development of the project layout. This includes desk-based work and site surveys to gather information on birds, other protected species, habitats, peat, historic features, landscape, noise and private water supplies.



#### The issues identified and design response include:

- •Landscape identified viewpoints used to refine position of turbines to minimise
- effects on key views
- •Visual Amenity development set back from residential properties and other key locations
- •Noise development set back from residential properties
- •Cultural Heritage setbacks from key assets, and consideration of their setting
- Ecology avoidance of areas of important habitat
- Peat avoidance of areas of deep peat
- •Existing infrastructure set backs from gas pipelines, the M74 and overhead power lines
- •Cumulative context design respects development in the surrounding area

# The design is ongoing in response to work onsite and information gathered from consultation.



## THE EIA PROCESS & CONSENTING

The M74 West project will have a generating capacity of

>50 MW and so will require consent under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989. This consenting process is administered by Scottish Ministers through the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) of the Scottish Government.

The project requires an **Environmental Impact Assessment** (EIA), and this process will strongly influence the ongoing design work. The EIA process will result in an EIA Report which will document the findings of the assessments completed, provide environmental information for the project, and form a key element of the Section 36 consent application.

#### TIMELINE DATES:

EIA Scoping Request submission

Public consultation exhibition 2

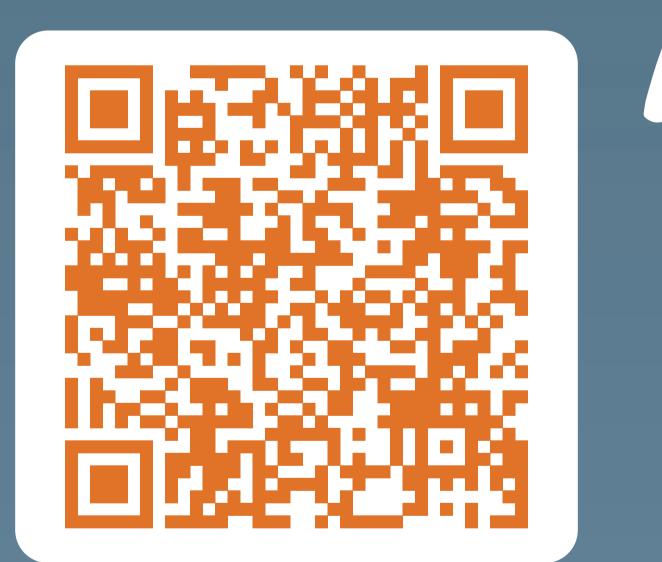
Consent granted

Start of construction

Start of decommissioning



The EIA Scoping report is currently being considered by the ECU and consultees and can be viewed here:







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## WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY

M74 West will provide a range of benefits for the local community,

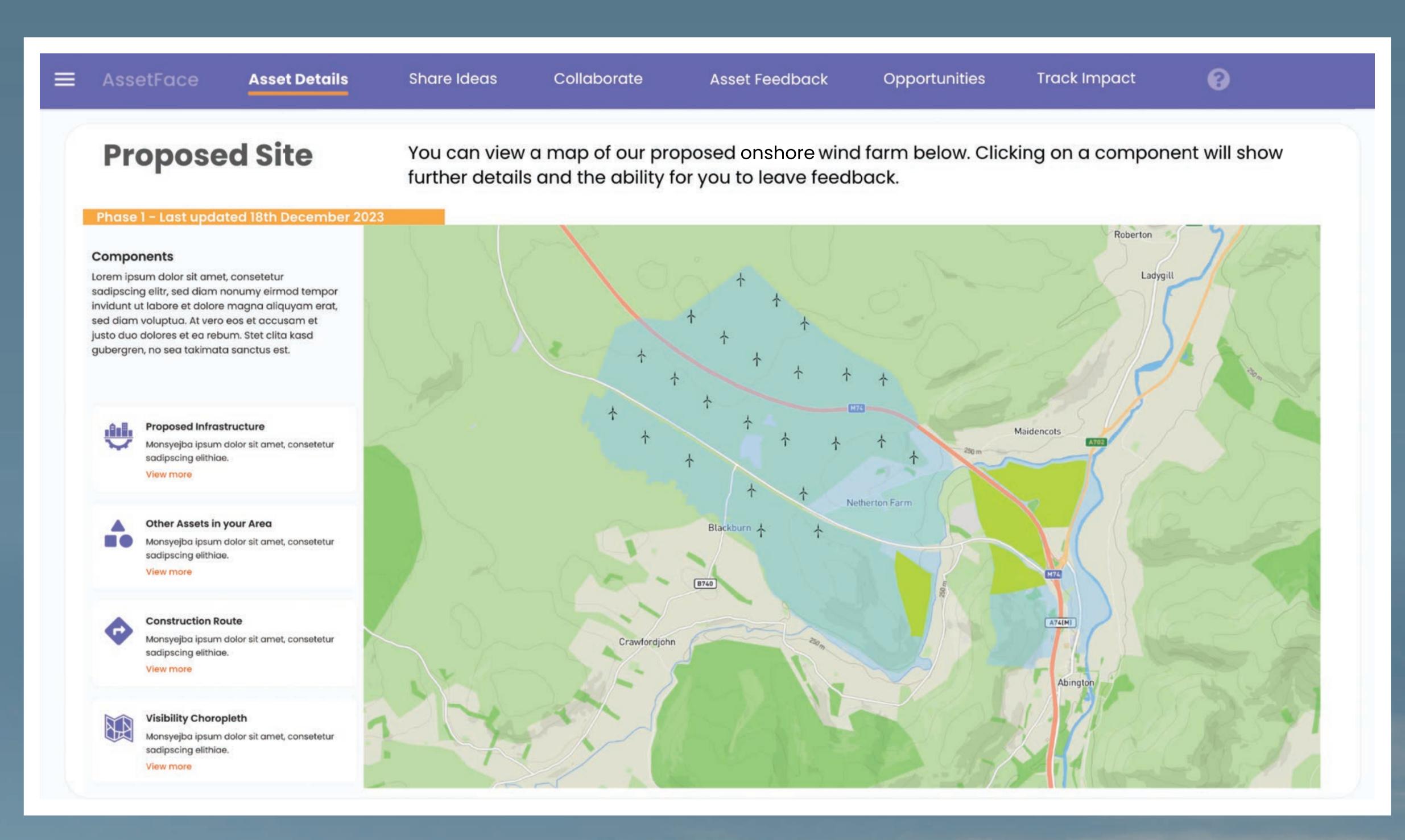
including a fund which will deliver direct investment into community projects and initiatives. The fund will reflect Scottish Government best practice guidance. Based on the wind aspect of the development having an installed capacity of 180MW, the project would provide a minimum of £900,000 annually in community benefits.

To guide this investment to the most appropriate projects and initiatives, five high-level investment priorities have been identified:

- Business development and growth
- Skills and employability
- Transition to net zero
- Built and natural environment
- Sustainable and active travel

In advance of M74 West being delivered, an Early Community Benefit Fund of £5,000 is being launched to help support local initiatives and test a new engagement platform which is being launched by software developers BizGive in the coming months.

Feedback on the investment priorities would be appreciated, as well as your ideas on specific projects and initiatives that would benefit the local community. Renewco Power is also keen to ensure that local supply chain opportunities are capitalised upon and would like more information on businesses that could benefit from expenditure associated with delivering the M74 West project.







### GIVING YOUR FEEDBACK

To help us take your views into account in the development

of the M74 West project, including the community benefit package, we would appreciate if you could complete the feedback form including community benefit questionnaire.

A further community engagement event will take place before the S36 application is submitted, where we will provide further detail on the project and how feedback from this event and input from South Lanarkshire Council, SEPA, NatureScot, Historic Environment Scotland and others has been taken into account. The project team will also engage with community bodies during the intervening period.

In addition to our in-person engagement events, Renewco Power is working with a specialist third party software designer, BizGive, on a new engagement platform. This platform will assist with engagement on the M74 West Renewable Energy Park project and the associated community benefits package.

It is anticipated that this will be launched in the coming months.

You can find out more information about the platform from members of the project team.

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