



Quantans Hill Windfarm

Community Development Strategy

On behalf of **Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd**

VATTENFALL 

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Registered Office: Buckingham Court Kingsmead Business Park, London Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP11 1JU
Office Address: 5th Floor, Lomond House, 9 George Square, Glasgow G2 1DY
T: +44 (0)141 352 2360 E: info.Glasgow@stantec.com

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	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Prepared by:	Helen Turnbull	Planner	HT	November 21
Reviewed by:	James Welsh	Associate Planner	JW	November 21
Approved by:	Nick Skelton	Director	NS	November 21
For and on behalf of Stantec UK Limited				

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1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

- 1.1.1 Vattenfall plans to develop Quantans Hill Windfarm approximately 2km north-east of Carsphairn and east of the A713. The current layout consists of 14 wind turbines no higher than 200m in height to blade tip and is expected to generate up to 90 MW, enough to power the equivalent of around 80,000 homes every year.
- 1.1.2 Quantans Hill Windfarm has the potential to provide a range of benefits for the local community, including establishment of a community benefit package or local grant scheme. The community benefits package for Quantans Hill will be prepared in-line with the latest Scottish Government guidance. Community benefit packages are not a material consideration in determining a planning application, but they are recognised as a positive and integral part of renewable energy development in Scotland.
- 1.1.3 The Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments (2019) provides guidance for communities and developers considering long-term priorities and action plans to create a lasting legacy from onshore renewable energy projects. In structuring community benefit proposals, this guidance recognises that communities and developers may benefit from a strategic approach. At Quantans Hill there is potential for Vattenfall to help communities realise some of their ambitions and priorities through a bespoke package of community benefits up to the value of £5K per installed MW per annum. This may include appointment of salaried project officers or help with establishing formal working partnerships with housing or other social organisations.
- 1.1.4 The key principles from the Scottish Government guidance inform the Quantans Hill Community Development Strategy (CDS), as shown in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1: Principles of Community Benefits



- 1.1.5 If granted planning permission, Quantans Hill will generate significant benefit for local communities. Vattenfall's values and ethos emphasise working closely with local people to ensure its projects bring lasting, sustainable benefits for the communities which host them. At Quantans Hill, Vattenfall supports a flexible approach, and is keen to explore a strategic community benefits approach: one which has the backing of local communities; which can be combined with or lever funds to maximise local impact; and with the capacity to pursue ideas which require large, upfront investment.

- 1.1.6 Should Quantans Hill be granted planning permission, this CDS will be reviewed by Vattenfall in conjunction with the local community to ensure it continues to meet local needs and priorities.

Community Engagement

- 1.1.7 A programme of community engagement by Stantec has been central in developing the CDS, to involve interested stakeholders and understand key local issues and priorities for community benefit funding (CBF) generated by Quantans Hill windfarm. This has involved discussions with:
- Carsphairn Community Council;
 - Glenkens and District Trust (GDT);
 - Energy Agency; and
 - South of Scotland Community Housing.
- 1.1.8 In parallel, Vattenfall has worked with local community councils to understand the key issues and objectives for those communities close to Quantans Hill, namely Carsphairn Community Council and through Glenkens & District Trust who have co-ordinated responses from trustees on behalf of each community council¹.
- 1.1.9 Preparation of this strategy has also involved:
- A desk-based analysis of issues across the wider area;
 - Analysis of baseline data to establish a socio-economic profile for the local area;
 - A review of the relevant community action plans and community consultation with interested local groups throughout 2020-2021; and
 - A series of webinars and workshops which are discussed further in Section 3.

Purpose of Strategy

- 1.1.10 Stantec was appointed by Vattenfall to develop a Community Development Strategy (CDS) and establish the net economic benefit of delivering to its objectives. The primary purpose of the CDS is to guide how the community benefit finds (and other resources) can be used to meet the needs of the local community now and in the future.
- 1.1.11 The CDS is a tool for the community to highlight how funds can be allocated towards actions which help meet agreed strategic objectives (**as set out in Section 5**). It is also intended to be a flexible document, enabling future review and adjustment by the community to reflect new or changing priorities.
- 1.1.12 The Report is presented under the following headings:
- Section 2: Context;

¹ Glenkens District Trust includes the Community Council Areas and trustees from Balmaghie, Balmaclellan, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Crossmichael, St. Johns Town of Dalry, Dunscore, Glencairn, New Galloway & Kells and Parton. The GDT constitution preserves the fundamental role of member Community Councils in the governance of the Trust. It also has five independent trustees on its board.

- Section 3: Preparation of the Strategy;
- Section 4: Relevant Policy;
- Section 5: Strategic Objectives; and
- Section 6: Net Economic Benefit.

2 Context

2.1 Overview

- 2.1.1 The proposed development is entirely within the Carsphairn Community Council area boundary, and neighboured by the New Cumnock, Royal Burgh, of Sanquhar & District, Penpont, Tynron, Glencairn, Dalry, Royal Burgh of New Galloway and Kells Parish and Dalmellington Community Council areas.

2.2 Socio-economic Profile

- 2.2.1 For the purpose of socioeconomic analysis, the Quantans Hill Impact Area (QHIA) is included in the Glenkens-05 2011 data zone². The proposed development falls entirely within this area. Further socioeconomic information regarding communities in the Glenkens & District Trust is provided in the Community Action Plan (CAP) review in **Section 4**. Data on employment, economic activity and industry sectors are available at local authority and national level only.

Population³

- 2.2.2 The largest settlement in the QHIA is Carsphairn, with an estimated population of 115⁴. Although outside the QHIA, St Johns Town of Dalry is adjacent and is the largest of the villages in the Glenkens area, with c.400 residents. St Johns Town of Dalry is also in the Galloway Hills Regional Scenic area and is around 4.5 miles by car to the Galloway Forest Park.
- 2.2.3 In 2018, the QHIA population was estimated to be some 874 people, a fall of some 3.5% compared with 2008 (906 people). 11% are aged 0-15, 61% are aged 16-64 and 27% are aged 65+ (2018). In comparison to 2008, these figures indicate an ageing and reduced working age QHIA population. In 2008 14% were aged 0-15, 65% aged 16-64 and 22% aged 65+.
- 2.2.4 Across Dumfries & Galloway, 16% of the population are aged 0-15, 59% aged 16-64 and 25% aged 65+ (2018). In 2018, the QHIA has a lower-than-average child population (-5%), higher than average working population (+2%) and higher than average ageing population (+2%).
- 2.2.5 Across Scotland, approximately 17% are aged 0-15, 64% are aged 16-64 and 19% are aged 65+ (2018). The QHIA has a lower-than-average child population (-6%), lower than average working population (-3%) and a higher-than-average ageing population (+8%) when compared with the Scottish average.
- 2.2.6 In 2018, the Dumfries & Galloway population was estimated to be 148,790. This is projected to fall to 139,086 (-6.5%) by 2038.
- 2.2.7 Implications to be considered within the CDS in relation to population are; population decline, coupled to a low a low proportion and children and a higher than average older population.

² The Glenkens -05 2011 data zone borders the south bank of Loch Doon to the north, St Johns Town of Dalry to the West and Corsock to the south east.

³ All figures taken from Scottish Government Statistics (www.statistics.gov.scot)

⁴ Dumfries and Galloway Council (2017) Dee and Glenkens Ward 3 Profile. Available at: https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/media/19878/Ward-3-Profile-Dee-and-Glenkens/pdf/0004-17_De_and_Glenkens_email.pdf?m=636536036087270000#:~:text=Carsphairn%20is%20a%20charming%20village,a%20population%20of%20approximately%20115.

Economic Activity⁵

- 2.2.8 Nearly three quarters (73.6%) of Dumfries & Galloway's working age residents⁶ are economically active, compared with 76.5% across Scotland. 70.5% are in employment, compared with 73.8% average across Scotland. The unemployment rate in Dumfries & Galloway in 2019 was estimated to be 3.2%, slightly lower than across Scotland. Approximately 26.7% of Dumfries & Galloways population is economically inactive, compared to 23.5% across Scotland.
- 2.2.9 Approximately 18.1% of households in Dumfries & Galloway are workless, compared with 17.7% across Scotland.
- 2.2.10 The population within Dumfries and Galloway is less economically active when compared to the Scottish average, which suggests that there is capacity within the labour market and working people or people who could potentially be working (potentially active) have potential increase their participation. For the CDS this might mean supporting more full-time job opportunities, training and upskilling or enhanced childcare or transportation options to improve access to jobs.

Industry⁷

- 2.2.11 The largest employment sectors in Dumfries & Galloway are human health and social work activities (21.4%), wholesale and retail trade inc. repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (16.1%) and accommodation and food service activities (10.7%). This is broadly similar to the Scottish profile, with human health and social work activities (16%), wholesale and retail trade including repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (13.5%), accommodation and food service activities (8.3%) and education (8.3%) the most important sectors.
- 2.2.12 Job density⁸, in Dumfries & Galloway is 0.86, which means there are 0.86 jobs for each resident. This is higher than the Scottish average (0.82).
- 2.2.13 The gross weekly pay for full time workers in Dumfries & Galloway is £509, significantly lower than the average for Scotland (£592.70).
- 2.2.14 The sector profile for Dumfries and Galloway suggests that a larger proportion of the workforce is employed in health and social work activities. The area also has a higher proportion of jobs to residents when compared to the Scotland wide average, but data on local wages suggests that these jobs tend to be lower paid. The CDS will consider issues that may arise from a low wage economy such as access to suitable housing and affordability, skills development and access to work through transport or childcare.

Housing

- 2.2.15 The Dumfries & Galloway Housing Need and Demand Assessment 2016⁹ (HNDA) is the evidence base underpinning Dumfries & Galloway Council planning to meet housing requirements (including availability of land) over the next five years. It identifies a need for

⁵ NOMIS Labour Market Profile- Dumfries & Galloway (2019)

⁶ Aged 16-64.

⁷ NOMIS Labour Market Profile- Dumfries & Galloway (2019)

⁸ Job Density is the number of jobs in the area divided by the resident working age population.

⁹ Dumfries & Galloway Housing Need and Demand Assessment 2016 Available at: https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/media/19891/Housing-Need-and-Demand-Assessment-HNDA-pdf/Housing_Need_and_Demand_Assesment.pdf?m=636553221226470000

between 1,466 and 2,894 additional homes to be built in Dumfries & Galloway from 2016-2029, requiring a completion rate of 105 to 207 homes per annum.

- 2.2.16 Quantans Hill Wind Farm will be in the Stewartry Housing Market Area (HMA). The Dumfries & Galloway Local Housing Strategy 2018-2023¹⁰ identifies the projected housing need for Stewartry HMA as 952 homes between 2017-2029 (275 affordable & 677 market housing) totalling 80 homes per annum. Between 2010-2020, 568 homes were delivered in the Stewartry HMA, averaging 56.8 homes per annum¹¹.
- 2.2.17 Whilst the delivery of housing can go up and down depending on when new development sites come on stream the CDS will consider the local need and choice of housing available and how the community benefit strategy may respond to any housing related issues such as affordability, choice and whether existing stock is attractive to the market.

Social and Community Infrastructure

- 2.2.18 Quantans Hill is within the Dumfries & Galloway Health Board area. The Health Board area serves a population of over 148,000 covering around 2,400 square miles. Dumfries & Galloway Health Board employs some 4,500 staff excluding GPs and Dentists¹².
- 2.2.19 There is one main hospital which provides a wide range of health services for the region, supported by Galloway Community Hospital and eight other cottage hospitals which provide maternity care, minor injuries services and medical/surgical beds. Mental health inpatient facilities are provided at Midpark Hospital.
- 2.2.20 The closest GP services to the QHIA are at the Glenkens Medical Practise in New Galloway while the closest dental services are provided by the Thornhill Dental Practise in Thornhill.

¹⁰ Dumfries & Galloway Local Housing Strategy 2018-2023 Available at: https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/media/19892/Local-Housing-Strategy-2018-2023/pdf/Local_Housing_Strategy.pdf?m=637140063452170000

¹¹ Dumfries & Galloway Housing Land Audit (2020) Available at: https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/media/24746/2020-Housing-Land-Audits-ummary/pdf/Housing_Land_Audit_March_2021_Summary_Final.pdf?m=637642915359030000

¹² NHS Dumfries & Galloway. Available at: <https://www.scot.nhs.uk/organisations/dumfries-galloway/>

3 Preparation of the Strategy

- 3.1.1 Stantec was appointed by Vattenfall to develop an outline Community Development Strategy (CDS) to guide community benefit spending from Quantans Hill windfarm with community priorities. The strategy describes agreed objectives and actions developed in consultation with community councils close to Quantans Hill windfarm¹³. It is intended to be used by communities in the area of benefit to help them to link the opportunities presented by the community benefit package with their own community priorities. Preparation of this strategy has involved several stages, summarised below.

Initial Research

- 3.1.2 Desk-based research was completed, profiling the communities likely to be impacted by Quantans Hill and reviewing any available community development strategies or plans in those areas closest to Quantans Hill. The Carsphairn Community Future Plan (2016) and the Glenkens and District Community Action Plan (2020) were identified and reviewed as part of this process. This provided an initial opportunity to understand key issues in each local area. A summary of the results of this review is provided in **Section 4**.

Community Engagement Programme

- 3.1.3 CDS engagement began in Spring 2021, reaching out to Carsphairn Community Council (Carsphairn CC) and Glenkens & District trust (GDT) to introduce the project team and to establish any changes in local priorities since the publication of their community action plans. This led to a series of virtual meetings with Carsphairn Community Council and GDT throughout the summer of 2021, sharing progress to date and an initial draft list of key issues.
- 3.1.4 In July 2021, an update note was issued to each group, describing CDS progress to date, capturing wider survey work in the local area, and sharing an initial schedule of key issues and draft strategic objectives to be used to guide the fund.
- 3.1.5 Both Carsphairn CC and GDT provided written feedback. This was used to confirm key issues and strategic objectives in developing the finalised CDS.

Webinar

- 3.1.6 A live online webinar was hosted by Vattenfall on 26th July 2021 to provide an update on the progress of Quantans Hill generally and to allow Stantec to share the CDS as it was being developed. This also provided further opportunity for attendees to comment on the key issues and strategic objectives emerging for the CDS.

Interim Report and Survey

- 3.1.7 In September 2021, an Interim Report was prepared by Stantec to set out findings to date and provide an opportunity for further additional feedback to that received during earlier engagement. It also gave the public an opportunity to also comment beyond those community groups already engaged. The Interim Report was sent directly to Carsphairn CC and Glenkens and District Trust for feedback and was also made available on the project website¹⁴ to support the survey work. This feedback was received and used to confirm the final set of

¹³ Community Council's include Carsphairn Community Council with input from other community councils including Balmaghie, Balmaclellan, Carsphairn, Corsock & Kirkpatrick Durham, Crossmichael, St. Johns Town of Dalry, Dunscore, New Galloway & Kells and Parton co-ordinated by Glenkens District Trust.

¹⁴ The Interim Report was published to support the online public survey launched in September 2021 and is available at: <https://group.vattenfall.com/uk/contentassets/fbd8493cb0fd46a29e7235576c445b2a/quantans-hill-interim-report--20210922-a---final.pdf>

key issues and strategic objectives within this CDS. A copy of the Interim Report is provided in **Appendix A**.

- 3.1.8 In parallel to the publication of the Interim Report, an online survey ran for 17 days throughout late September-October 2021 seeking further community feedback on the key issues and proposed strategic objectives for the CDS. It attracted 21 responses from the public. Of these, all respondents reported that they were from Dumfries and Galloway: 9 (47%) from Carsphairn and 10 (53%) selecting 'elsewhere in Dumfries and Galloway'. The majority of respondents (84%) were members of the public, with 2 (11%) representing charity or community groups and 1 (5%) a representative of a local business.
- 3.1.9 With regard to whether the respondents identified with the list of key issues, 18 respondents said they were broadly in agreement (86%), 2 broadly disagreed (10%), 0 said they didn't know (0%) and 1 respondent answered 'other' (5%). Similarly, the survey asked respondents if they agreed with the proposed Strategic Objectives. Of these, 18 said they broadly agreed (86%), 0 said they broadly disagreed (0%) 1 said they didn't know (5%) and 2 answered 'other' (10%).
- 3.1.10 Some of the comments from those in disagreement with the objectives cited community capacity issues, a lack of sharing of previous funds for those outside villages, community sustainability and the need to establish a legacy fund to provide for the community after Quantans Hill is decommissioned.
- 3.1.11 With regard to the proposed balance of funding priority for Carsphairn as host community, (GDT would still benefit from the funding), respondents were mixed in their responses: 8 (38%) were in broad agreement, a similar proportion disagreed , 3 said they didn't know (14%) and 2 responded 'other' (10%).
- 3.1.12 Written feedback highlighted the need to explore ways to balance available funds across all communities in the local area, enabling larger scale transformative projects outside of established community council boundaries. As set out in Section 3, the proposed area of benefit suggests Carsphairn as host community with GDT also receiving some of the funding. Both Carsphairn and GDT have the opportunity to pool this funding and how they choose to meet local needs. Final decisions on the balance of should be agreed jointly between Carsphairn and GDT in consultation with the wider local community.
- 3.1.13 The survey also asked whether there was appetite for using the available community funding to fund strategic projects earlier in the wind farm's life or whether the community preferred a more traditional grant-funded approach of smaller sums over a longer period. 12 (57%) respondents indicated support for the former option and 2 (10%) preferred the latter with 7 (33%) selecting 'don't know'.
- 3.1.14 A copy of the survey questions is provided in **Appendix B**.

4 Relevant Policy

4.1 Overview and Analysis

National

- 4.1.1 **National Planning Framework 3 (2014)** describes the long term-vision for development and investment across Scotland over the next 20 to 30 years. It is the spatial expression of the Scottish Government's Economic Strategy and highlights opportunities for rural development in renewable energies. It aims to reduce social and spatial inequalities for rural communities via shared ownership, with a target of at least 500MW of renewable energy in community and local ownership by 2020. It also recognises the lasting impact of community ownership of renewable energy development, identifying the potential benefits of community energy projects as "*nationally significant*".
- 4.1.2 Following the Planning (Scotland) Bill receiving Royal Assent in July 2019, Scottish Ministers have been developing a new **National Planning Framework 4**. NPF4 will, for the first time, incorporate Scottish Planning Policy and will take on enhanced status as part of the statutory development plan. NPF 4 will have a longer time-horizon, fuller regional coverage and improved alignment with wider programmes and strategies, including on infrastructure and economic investment in Scotland, particularly with regard to aiding in the recovery from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Draft National Planning Framework 4 is expected to be published in November 2021.
- 4.1.3 Climate change and Scotland's commitment to achieving net zero by 2045 is likely to be a key principle within the NPF4 and the Quantans Hill project responds positively to this by increasing renewable energy capacity within Scotland. By working with the local community there is also significant potential to redirect benefits back into the local economy and place control of benefits in the hands of local people, particularly in rural areas.
- 4.1.4 **Scottish Planning Policy (2014)** sets out national planning policies which reflect the Scottish Ministers priorities for the operation of the planning system, and for the development and use of land. The document aims to contribute to the Scottish Governments goal of achieving sustainable economic growth. Of relevance to this strategy, Paragraph 169 identifies criteria to be taken account of when considering the viability of renewable energy proposals:
- Net economic impact, including local and community socio-economic benefits such as employment, associated business and supply chain opportunities;
 - The scale of contribution to renewable energy generation targets;
 - Cumulative impacts;
 - Impacts on communities and individual dwellings, including visual impact, residential amenity, noise and shadow flicker;
 - Effects on the natural heritage, including birds;
 - Public access, including impact on long distance walking and cycling routes and scenic routes identified in the NPF;
 - Impacts on the historic environment, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings and their settings; and
 - Impacts on tourism and recreation.

- 4.1.5 Paragraph 175 states “Where a proposal is acceptable in land use terms, and consent is being granted, local authorities may wish to engage in negotiations to secure community benefit in line with the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments”.
- 4.1.6 Protecting Scotland's Future: The Government's Programme for Scotland 2019-2020 identifies the actions that the Scottish Government will take over the next 12 months. It sets out the next steps to achieve the target of net zero emissions and the economic opportunity which the transition away from a carbon-based energy sector can offer. It includes several commitments to address Scotland's climate emergency:
- Unlock additional resource for emissions-reducing investment through a Green Growth Accelerator – referred to by the Climate Emergency Response Group (CERG) as a ‘Green City Deal’ – combining public and private investment to transform cities and regions;
 - Bring to market a £3 billion portfolio of projects, including renewables, waste and construction, ready for green finance investment; and
 - Ensure that from 2024, all new homes must use renewable or low carbon heat. This will be achieved through a fundamental overhaul in building regulations that will increase energy efficiency and the efficiency of construction from 2021 and will be accompanied by a £30 million investment in renewable heat projects.
- 4.1.7 It recognises the key role that renewable energy sources will play in reducing emissions and meeting the target of net-zero emissions by 2045. The report precedes the next Energy Statement which will set out how renewable and low carbon energy generation in Scotland will achieve national outcomes.
- 4.1.8 Quantans Hill has the potential to provide power for around 80,000 homes in Scotland every year making a meaningful contribution to Scotland's renewable energy targets and responds to the national level policy agenda.
- 4.1.9 **The Scottish Governments Programme for Government (2021-2022)** focuses on protecting and renewing Scotland, addressing the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on health and the wider health and social care sector, the economy and society. It emphasises the importance of the transition to low carbon renewable energy generation to meet the governments net-zero emissions target and how it will assist Scotland's economic recovery from the impacts of Covid-19.
- 4.1.10 **Scotland's Economic Strategy (2015)** provides the approach for achieving sustainable economic growth, increasing competitiveness and tackling inequality. The strategy seeks to strengthen the success and resilience of local communities to ensure they can benefit from economic growth and investment in their local area. It also voices support for informal or formal community partnerships across Scotland. Overall, the strategy sets out a commitment to empower communities to drive change within their local area and deliver growth in the shared interest of Scotland's population. The strategy also recognises the importance of strategic investment in infrastructure, including onshore wind to achieve economic targets.
- 4.1.11 **The Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments (2019)** sets out guidance for communities for the development of action plans and long-term priorities to create a lasting legacy with the income.
- 4.1.12 The Quantans Hill community benefits package responds positively to national level policy and guidance. Sustainable investment in Scotland's rural economies is an important strand of the national economic strategy which seeks to build greater resilience into local communities, which is vital as part of the response to the ongoing challenges of Covid-19. The Quantans Hill community benefits package has the potential to make a significant contribution to the local

community and will help empower local stakeholders in delivering change by providing both financial support and creating additional capacity to develop, match fund and deliver local projects on the ground.

Regional and Local Policy

- 4.1.13 **The South of Scotland Regional Economic Strategy (RES) (2021)** outlines the vision for the South of Scotland region to 2031 to become a region of opportunity and innovation, making use of natural capital to drive green growth, ambition and quality of life which rivals the rest of the UK. It seeks to empower communities and celebrate cultural identity to create sustainable communities to work, live, learn and invest in the south of Scotland region. It sets out ambitions for green growth to help meet net-zero emissions goals by harnessing and enhancing natural capital improving the efficiencies of homes and buildings, seizing the economic opportunity in the transition to net zero and supporting community wealth building and subsequent growth in regional supply chains. Additionally, the Strategy highlights the key role which the community has in shaping places, identifying opportunities to activate and empower communities, the third sector and social enterprise.
- 4.1.14 **The Dumfries and Galloway Regional Economic Strategy 2016-2020** sets out the economic ambitions and vision for prosperity across Dumfries & Galloway. It recognises the opportunity for the region to contribute to national energy ambitions, stating that the region is 'well-placed' for carbon reduction initiatives and the potential for renewable energy generation and storage. The Strategy recognises the opportunities the regions natural resources provide in renewable energy, particularly on and offshore wind energy which can be developed to maximise community benefit.
- 4.1.15 **The Dumfries & Galloway Local Outcomes Improvement Plan** sets out the vision for the region to 2027, identifying a suite of objectives for the plan period:
1. Everyone who needs help to work receives the right support;
 2. Learning opportunities are available to those who need them most;
 3. Health and wellbeing inequalities are reduced;
 4. There is affordable and warm housing for those who need it most;
 5. The money available to people on Benefits and low wages is maximised;
 6. People are safe and feel safe;
 7. People are well connected; and
 8. Individuals and communities are empowered.
- 4.1.16 **The Dumfries & Galloway Council Plan 2017-2022** provides an overview of the strategic direction of the region and outlines the Councils commitment to provide quality services to enable communities to thrive and prosper. It sets out a range of priorities relevant to this strategy:
- Build the local economy;
 - Provide the best start in life for all our children;
 - Protect our most vulnerable people; and
 - Be an inclusive Council.

- 4.1.17 The Quantans Hill project is aligned to local and regional planning and economic policy. The project is a significant development within the local economy, designed to generate renewable energy to support local and regional green growth ambitions. The community benefits package that would accompany the physical investment in green infrastructure has the potential to further directly benefit the local community. This strategy is designed to help guide the use of the community benefits package to ensure it responds to local community needs and priorities and provides a flexible framework for communities to use where priorities may change in the future. The response to Covid-19 is a prime example of how circumstances and demands of local communities may change over time.

Economic Outcomes

- 4.1.18 Achieving the objectives identified in this CDS will contribute to national and local economic policy outcomes in the following ways:
- Provide an opportunity for residents to benefit from economic growth and investment in their local area;
 - Provide financial support for the community vehicle to achieve the aims of the strategy;
 - Provide suitable/affordable accommodation for families to encourage more people to stay in the area;
 - Create learning, employment and training opportunities for all residents, especially children and young people;
 - Contribute towards the creation of a healthy, sustainable community;
 - Enable the transition towards a low carbon sustainable community;
 - Stimulate the economy, with higher spend on local services and products by tourists and residents locally and across the region; and
 - Empower the local community to drive change.
- 4.1.19 This CDS has been developed in line with the Good Practice Principles published by the Scottish Government, with all local community councils and partnerships who have engaged in the process. Further discussions regarding how the funds will be managed and distributed, should take place after a Section 36 and deemed planning permission has been granted for the scheme. Similarly, the actions identified in this strategy may be amended at a later date by the community to meet their needs.

Community Action Plans

- 4.1.20 A desk-based search was undertaken to check the availability of community development documents across the Quantans Hill Impact Area (QHIA). Plans for both Carsphairn and the Glenkens District Trust (GDT) were reviewed:
- 4.1.21 The **Carsphairn Community Future Plan (2016)** sets out the priorities for the community of Carsphairn and how wind farm community benefit funding should be directed to address local priorities. It provides short, medium and long-term actions for projects over the next 25 years.
- 4.1.22 The Plan was written by the Carsphairn Community Trust (CCT) which includes representatives of Carsphairn Community Council, Carsphairn Renewable Energy Fund (CREFL) and other community groups. CREFL was set up to administer community benefit funds generated from Windy Standard 1 and 2 and Wether Hill windfarms and distributes the

funds in the form of grants to finance local community projects and improve access to further education and training opportunities.

4.1.23 CCT conducted an ongoing programme of consultation with the community to understand their priorities for the area, namely:

- **Broadband upgrades** for both businesses and the community;
- Participation in **renewable energy schemes** to both contribute to climate targets and lower the energy costs of local residents, potentially through community ownership of turbines;
- **Tourism development and promotion** which showcases Carsphairn's natural assets and capitalises upon the areas' proximity to the dark sky park and observatory. Mountain biking is also noted as a key attraction with the potential to establish a cycle route similar to 7stanes in Dalbeattie;
- Development of **facilities which are accessible for all of the community**, providing key opportunities for social interactions for residents. Outdoor recreational facilities such as the establishment of core paths and community woodlands are also being considered;
- **Establishment of community transport scheme** to address difficulties of Carsphairn's rural location for non-drivers. This will facilitate better access to facilities and services for residents; and
- **Provision of community housing** to attract and retain new residents. This can be achieved through local purchase of homes on the market or to establish a community building project. Rental income from these properties would provide an additional funding stream beyond the funding periods of these projects. Both DGHP and Loreburn Housing are also being encouraged to consider Carsphairn as a potential location for low scale housing development.

4.1.24 **The Glenkens and District Community Action Plan** was published in July 2020 and sets out the key issues identified through extensive community consultation. These encompass:

- Development of a local forum to encourage collaborative working between organisations to maximise resources and distribute funding fairly across the area and providing opportunities for young people;
- Development of community assets, spaces and local services including dedicated housing for older people, affordable housing of all tenures, community hubs and local energy initiatives. Work is already underway on a local energy plan;
- Improvement of local economic opportunities by upgrading broadband, creating local employment and training opportunities, particularly for young people and affordable housing to encourage people to remain in the area to live and work;
- Transport Improvements to integrate transport schemes in the area, particularly the development of walking and cycling paths and roads. Addressing gaps in community transport; and
- Development of tourism for the Glenkens via the development of tourism strategy and associated website, development of visitor accommodation and greater promotion of local tourism assets e.g., more promotion of Dark Skies Park. Some support for campaign for National Park Status.

4.1.25 These issues were then developed into four themes and associated short, medium and long-term actions:

Theme	Actions
A Connected Community	- Creation of a Collaboration Plan for assets and services across the area with complementary facilities. - Invest and publicise in communication tools for whole community. - Establishment of on and off-line community database for local services and spaces, enhanced by use of journalists and staff at Glenkens Gazette. - A refreshed Programme of community events. - Expand upon community activities with cross-area networking, involving Community Councils, community activists and key stakeholder organisations.
An Asset Rich Community	- Development of Sustainability Plan for existing assets and key stakeholder organisations. - Creation and operation of spaces with activities for younger people. - Development of long-term support and investment plan for the halls and community spaces to ensure they are accessible to all. - Develop a plan to enable people to exercise both indoors and outdoors. - Improvements to signage for buildings and green spaces, improving access for locals and visitors. - Commission a locally focused housing needs analysis. - Establish dedicated living spaces for older people through innovative models eg. co-housing or other approaches. - Affordable housing for young people and young families.
An Economically Flourishing Community	- Feasibility studies into demand and delivery of local childcare to enhance the attractiveness for young families. - Development of tourism strategy and associated brand for the area. - Develop a plan for more self-sustaining local economy managing resources, consumption, work and income flows in as 'circular' a way as possible. - Develop plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce. - Investment in community-based childcare based on results of feasibility study. - Development of targeted work and training strategy to train, retain and develop skilled workers. - Feasibility study into community farm. - Develop 'Eat Local' strategy involving producers and range of outlets. - Creation of a community farm. - Further develop local food distribution network. - Further develop enterprise hub network.
A Carbon Neutral Community	- Energy audit of local residential, commercial and community premises. - Research and develop a Local Energy Plan. - Promote expansion of already available modes of sustainable transport. - Research plan for longer term sustainable transport solutions. - Commission masterplan to bottom out investment required for both sought after and existing cycle tracks and pathways across the area. - Publicise our commitment to carbon neutrality. - Promote new modes of sustainable social transport. - Research and promote plan to move public buildings and households away from fossil fuel use. - Investment in cycle tracks, pathways and signage and information about them which will benefit both the community and tourism alike. - Glenkens to become a carbon neutral area. - Develop an integrated community-controlled transport scheme with a range of vehicles.

Theme	Actions
	- Community energy generation at scale. - Invest in moving public buildings and households away from fossil fuel use.

4.1.26 The CAP review and community engagement highlighted local issues common in all communities in the QHIA, including:

- **Community Capacity:** Importantly, community capacity is the most critical issue across the entire QHIA area. There is a need to protect and enhance existing assets which are used and loved by the community. Members of GDT and Carsphairn CC are acting on a volunteer basis and need guidance on how to spend any community benefit funding;
- **Limited Local Suppliers:** There is a major shortage of local suppliers/tradespeople to meet local needs, including an older demographic of both tradespeople and farmers which is likely to add to current pressures;
- **Limited internet connectivity;** Poor broadband and mobile connections in rural communities. This can reinforce perceptions of community remoteness and impact on those working or studying from home;
- **Restricted economic opportunities for young people;** There is a restricted number of local jobs and training opportunities for young people. Many young people seeking further education must also travel long distances to attend courses;
- **Limited housing available;** There is a lack of affordable housing to attract and keep residents;
- **Poor quality community infrastructure;** There is a need to upgrade existing facilities or create new facilities which are accessible to the entire community. Members of the community without a car are also restricted by poor public transport links between communities to access services and employment opportunities;
- **Lack of tourist information and branding;** the need to publicise local assets to attract visitors and increase length of stay;
- **Inadequate public transport provision;** Issues for access to facilities and services for non-drivers. This can isolate older or more vulnerable members of the local community without this option;
- **Paths and cycle networks in poor condition;** Inadequate and at times, unsafe walking and cycle paths linking communities;
- **Improvement to Biodiversity:** There is a need to improve biodiversity for both ecological and recreational benefits; and
- **Addressing fuel poverty;** the need to ensure access to affordable energy for residents.

Area of Benefit

4.1.27 During discussions with Carsphairn Community Council and the Glenkens and District Trust (GDT), several discussions took place to determine the proposed area of benefit for the community benefit funding generated by the operation of Quantans Hill. The boundaries of the proposed development site are located entirely within the Carsphairn Community Council area, resulting in proportionately higher construction & operational impacts than for other

surrounding communities. However, there will be some operational impact on communities outside of the Carsphairn Community Council area and those other communities form part of GDT who have engaged with the project on their behalf. The host community has therefore been identified as Carsphairn Community Council, with a portion of the funds also to be awarded to Glenkens & District Trust.

- 4.1.28 Feedback from a public survey undertaken during September/October 2021 suggests that there are a range of opinions across the community and further afield regarding how community benefits might be split across the area of benefit. It is recommended that the proportional split of any funds received is point of further discussion and agreement between Carsphairn Community Council & GDT as the planning process progresses.
- 4.1.29 This CDS provides a set of suggested strategic projects which may be achieved by pooling a proportion of these benefits to support project delivery. Due to the size of the proposed area of benefit, this provides an opportunity to identify actions and funding according to need and taking into account timescale for delivery.
- 4.1.30 The Quantans Hill Community Benefit Fund also provides opportunities to pool benefits with other operational windfarms to support larger, longer term strategic projects. For example, Blackcraig Wind Farm opened in 2019 and provides c.£265,000 per annum¹⁵ for communities within Carsphairn, GDT and surrounding areas. Overall, there are a number of community benefit funds in the area which are either consented, operational or under construction:
- Wether Hill (operational);
 - Brockloch Rig (operational);
 - Blackcraig (operational);
 - South Kyle (under construction); and
 - Windy Standard 1 and 2 (operational).
- 4.1.31 The pooling of community benefits from other windfarms consented, operational or under construction can deliver a strategic approach to the use of CBF in the area.
- 4.1.32 A map showing the area of benefit for Quantans Hill has been provided below and was used to facilitate discussions on how the community benefit fund will be distributed to Carsphairn and also across the wider GDT area. As mentioned above, details of how this could be shared between impacted communities will be taken forward with the communities involved as an ongoing discussion throughout the planning process.

¹⁵ The fund provides £264,500 per annum to surrounding communities including the community council areas of: Carsphairn, Dalry, Balmaclellan, Corsock & KPD, Dunscore, Glencairn, Parton, Crossmichael, Balmaghie and New Galloway & Kells. More information available at: <https://www.glenkenstrust.org.uk/funding>

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5 Strategic Objectives

5.1 Overview

- 5.1.1 This section sets out the proposed strategic objectives which will be used to guide the community benefit funding generated by Quantans Hill Windfarm.

5.2 Strategic Objectives

Table 5.1 Strategic Objectives Summary, Justification & Relevance to Community

Objective	Justification	Relevance
Access to local economic opportunities for both the existing workforce and young people	The community has indicated that there is a lack of local employment opportunities for local people, particularly for the younger working population.	All communities within area of benefit
A low carbon sustainable community	There is a requirement to anticipate and address the impacts of climate change across Scotland in line with Scottish Government targets. Local actions are needed to help reduce climate impacts. This includes the development of local solutions to sustainably insulate and heat homes.	All communities within area of benefit
Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination	There is a need to reinforce existing tourism accommodation and facilities in the area which supports local businesses.	All communities within area of benefit
Enhanced community capacity and good quality community infrastructure.	Difficulties in utilising community benefit funding to its full potential. There is a need for strategic use of funds to reinforce existing infrastructure and address future needs.	All communities within area of benefit
Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use.	Patchy/Poor coverage in areas across the plan area. Bespoke solutions required for homes and businesses in different locations.	All communities within area of benefit
Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents.	Many communities have a shortage of affordable or suitable housing, which in turn limits their potential to retain and grow their population.	All communities within area of benefit
Protecting the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to support services	Issues for the vulnerable to access support services via public transport.	All communities within area of benefit
Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce, including supporting local food producers and support "Eat Local/Buy local".	To enable more sustainable communities, there is a need to consume and purchase locally.	All communities within area of benefit

Actions

- 5.2.1 To implement the strategic objectives outlined in **Table 5.1**, a set of accompanying actions have been developed to guide fund expenditure, in addition to a list of partnership organisations relevant to each objective. The actions are colour coded to indicate short term (**red**), medium term (**amber**) and long-term actions (**green**) identifying actions which can be prioritised to achieve longer term goals.

Table 5.2 Strategic Priorities (Actions)

Strategic Objectives	Actions	Key Partners
Access to local economic opportunities for both the existing workforce and young people	Short Term: Provide opportunities for training schemes, work experience and apprenticeships during the construction of the wind farm and other associated works.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Dumfries & Galloway Chamber of Commerce, The Crichton Trust (Dumfries Campus, University of the West of Scotland).
	Identify local businesses willing to provide employment opportunities, upskilling and adult education for all.	
	Medium Term: Identify funding to launch training and learning opportunities digitally for those in more distant areas.	
	Establish local volunteering opportunities and CV workshops for those looking for work.	
	Long Term: Identify funding stream in partnership with Dumfries & Galloway Council to enable funding for digital education opportunities for later life career changes.	
A low carbon sustainable community	Short Term: Conduct an energy audit within the local community identifying homes which require assistance (financial or otherwise) to make homes more sustainable. This may include upgrades to more efficient heating systems, insulation or new windows.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Energy Agency, Dumfries & Galloway Citizens Advice Bureau
	Identify immediate local actions to reduce impacts on the environment (e.g., use of existing materials like waste wood).	

Strategic Objectives	Actions	Key Partners
	Medium Term: Ringfence funding for a social enterprise (e.g. community heating scheme utilising left over materials from Forestry Commission Scotland and private foresters) Review current assistance provided by the Scottish Government for sustainable home upgrades. Identify opportunities to apply for group funding applications or begin discussions regarding match funding for bespoke solutions throughout the community. Creation and Publication of Local Energy Action Plan. Long Term: Implement actions from Local Energy Action Plan. Use the results of the survey to identify upfront costs of paying for a range of home upgrades for residents to heat homes alongside existing energy payments from CREFL.	
Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination	Short Term: Conduct survey to identify areas of improvement for local tourism assets, including capacity of tourism accommodation, variety of accommodation options, heritage, local recreational assets, signage and attractions to identify the level of investment required to improve the tourism offering and increase visitor numbers. Medium Term: Creation of a new tourism website/webpage to highlight the tourism offering within the area using funds for launches in the press, social media advertising and local advertising. Use community benefit funding to provide start up grants for tourism-based businesses not currently in the area and grants to support improvements to existing tourism businesses such as equipment, advertising or improvements to facilities.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Visit Scotland

Strategic Objectives	Actions	Key Partners
	Identify ways to supplement the existing tourism offering including physical or digital heritage or nature trails. This may take the physical or digital form including apps for phones and demonstrate the unique heritage of the local area.	
	Long Term: Create a yearly events programme to provide regular influxes of visitors to the area, providing opportunities for new or repeat visitors to enjoy local tourism assets.	
Enhanced community capacity and good quality community infrastructure.	Short Term: Review and discuss shortfalls in local capacity, specifically by identifying which of the strategic objectives are contained in the CDS are of highest priority and identify how the funds can be used to begin addressing this priority. Commence discussions with Vattenfall regarding the appointment of a salaried project officer using the community benefit funds generated by Quantans Hill. Conduct an audit of community facilities (e.g. Village hall, school buildings & sports facilities) to understand scope of works required and the scale of need for each facility (i.e. structural improvements, kitchen facilities, sports facilities, IT equipment). Identify sites with the greatest requirements and develop a programme of works including consideration of potential planning requirements.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Dumfries & Galloway Citizens Advice Bureau, Dumfries & Galloway Chamber of Commerce
	Medium Term: Appoint salaried project officer and establish working relationships with other local agencies. Identify first priorities for officer. Commence initial programme of works for improvement to facilities most in need. Review and identify the need for potential new facilities to meet local needs.	

Strategic Objectives	Actions	Key Partners
	Long Term: Renew contract for salaried project officer, with the creation of additional posts to support ongoing regeneration activity. Creation of local apprenticeships with project officer for work experience for those out of work or looking for career changes.	
Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use.	Short Term: Review ongoing programme of national/regional broadband upgrades including the Scottish Government Reaching 100% (R100) Programme launched in August 2019. Identify actions in line with the R100 and associated documents to support planned upgrades.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Private Network Developers, Scottish Rural Network
	Medium Term: In areas with requirements for physical line upgrades, review suitability for existing support schemes e.g., Rural Gigabit and the Better Broadband Voucher Schemes. Meet with key partners to discuss the potential opportunities for shared funding to install signal boosting equipment. This will link communities with faster, higher data allowance internet services and can enable supporting features (i.e. voice calling over Wi-Fi) to boost signal in rural areas. Identify actions that might help connect properties to the fibre network such as installation of ducting to individual properties.	
	Long Term: Empower the local community by providing opportunities for upskilling to prepare to undertake private works if necessary (e.g., local cable network). Undertake programme of works to install private network equipment where necessary.	
Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local	Short Term: Identify areas of greatest housing need in collaboration with Dumfries & Galloway Council. Set up meetings with Dumfries & Galloway Council & registered social landlords to discuss proposals in line with local strategies (e.g. Dumfries & Galloway Housing Need and Demand Assessment) to identify areas of greatest need e.g. accessible, affordable, family homes.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, South of Scotland Small Housing Trust

Strategic Objectives	Actions	Key Partners
community to attract and retain residents.	Medium Term: Identify examples of community developed affordable housing initiatives undertaken across Scotland (e.g. South of Scotland Small Communities Housing Trust). Contact them to learn from their strategy. Review and ringfence funds for potential funding of improvements to existing housing where required (e.g. small grants).	
	Long Term: Identify potential for local housing mechanism (trust or similar, working with or as an extension to local Housing Associations/Council): • Working closely with partners across Dumfries & Galloway. • Liaise with landowners to identify potential affordable housing opportunities. • Related funding applications. • Identify mechanisms to make land accessible at low cost. • Address areas of under occupancy. • Support self-build initiatives and empower local communities. • Support use of local skills and local building materials. • Promote employment opportunities for apprenticeships in management, construction etc.	
Protecting the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to support services	Short Term: Work with partners to identify areas with households experiencing isolation from services. Undertake an evaluation of funding requirements to support rural communities i.e dispersed rural settlements. This may include community infrastructure needs. Use funds from QH for relevant funding applications and any match funding requirements.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Dumfries Heath & Social Care Partnership, Dumfries & Galloway Citizens Advice.
	Medium Term: Support existing or new social care enterprise to tackle social isolation with funding to facilitate health visits, transport to appointments or travelling mental health services. The social care enterprise may also supplement additional health care services which are not able to be taken up locally (e.g. difficulties in reaching services due to poor public transport provision). Empower local communities to volunteer and address the contributors to social isolation (e.g. private transport/car sharing to attend appointments).	

Strategic Objectives	Actions	Key Partners
	Long Term: Regular programme of support identified to support the most vulnerable communities (inc. equipment upgrades).	
Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce, including supporting local food producers and support “Eat Local/Buy local”	Short Term: Publicise local food producers in the area both online and in print to encourage residents to shop locally for produce. Create ‘Eat Local/ Buy Local’ campaign online and in local press.	Dumfries & Galloway Council, Dumfries & Galloway Citizens Advice Bureau, local churches, Trussell Trust, local supermarkets.
	Finance a promotional and marketing book of local discount vouchers for producers and distribute to local community.	
	Identify vulnerable residents which may struggle to afford the weekly shop and provide and distribute packages of local produce to help people in need.	
	Medium Term: Distribution of funds to local food producers to allow them to increase their capacity in food production or distribution.	
	Development of cross-community partnerships between local food businesses. Explore potential for local food markets.	
	Long Term: Regular programme of support identified to support the most vulnerable communities (inc. flexibility in support offered e.g., amount of food and clothing for the most vulnerable).	

6 Net Economic Benefit

6.1 Overview

- 6.1.1 The proposed development of Quantans Hill windfarm will have 14 turbines rated at around 6.6MW each, resulting in a total estimated capacity of 92.4MW.
- 6.1.2 This section explores the potential net economic impact generated by the proposed developed through the Community Benefit Funds distributed to local community councils.
- 6.1.3 A Community Benefit Fund linked to the Quantans Hill windfarm is proposed by Vattenfall. Scottish Government recommendations for community benefit funding outlined contributions of up to £5,000/MW per annum for the operational lifetime of the development. The guidance was reviewed in 2019 and the recommendation of £5,000/MW per annum was retained. However, the Government guidance outlines flexibility for renewable energy businesses which allows them to consider a variety of options or community benefits packages they may be able to offer.
- 6.1.4 For the purposes of the assessment of economic benefits, a community benefit package of £5,000/MW per annum has been assumed, and a small sample of scenarios are explored to understand the implications of different levels of energy output. Quantans Hill windfarm is anticipated to generate between 75-95 MW per annum, depending on the outcome of the consenting process and the installed capacity of the model of turbine procured ahead of construction.
- 6.1.5 It is acknowledged that the presence of the Quantans Hill windfarm will support permanent employment opportunities related to the operations and maintenance requirements of the development, and this may draw upon local labour and skills. However, this employment and economic activity is not linked to the distribution of monies through a Community Benefit Fund and is therefore not calculated within the assessment of economic impacts
- 6.1.6 An indication of the related potential community benefit value is provided in the table below.

Table 6.1 Annual Community Benefit value generated per annum index linked for the expected life of the windfarm

MW Estimation	75 MW	80 MW	85 MW	90 MW	95 MW
Annual Community Benefit value	£375,000	£400,000	£425,000	£450,000	£475,000
Lifetime Community Benefit Value*	£11,250,000	£12,000,000	£12,750,000	£13,500,000	£14,250,000

*Lifetime is assumed to be up to 30 years

Summary of Wider Socio-economic Benefits

- 6.1.7 Access to community benefit funding will have several local and wider socio-economic benefits for communities in the Carsphairn area, including but not limited to:
- Funds used to purchase local products or services. This can increase business revenue and facilitate business growth, including the creation of new employment opportunities. This may also result in the create of educational, training, or volunteer opportunities;

- Enable partnerships to be built with key local stakeholders to achieve strategic objectives by enabling communities to access funding for projects;
- Bridge gaps in local or national funding opportunities to meet specific requirements of rural communities in Dumfries and Galloway;
- Generate wider socio-economic benefits across the region for tourism and visitor enterprises and local businesses, including the construction or renovation of facilities;
- Improvements in health and wellbeing by addressing issues such as barriers to accessing healthcare services, social isolation, educational opportunities, or employment; and
- Provide funding to enable proactive pursuit of strategic opportunities for growth to meet local needs over the coming decades.

6.1.8 To calculate Quantans Hill windfarm's indicative wider economic benefit, community benefit funds have been allocated to deliverables which respond to the Strategy Objectives. As set out in **Table 6.1** above,

6.1.9 Expenditure from the Quantans Hill Community Fund will support communities across the area. A capacity-based approach examines the potential deliverables achievable through Community Benefit Fund monies. The deliverables have been informed by the Strategy Objectives and are necessarily indicative in that they illustrate a scenario of what may be achieved. However, the deliverables which are realised will be dictated by the needs of the community, pending development of an agreed programme.

6.1.10 At this early stage, Community Benefit Fund monies have been allocated to the Strategy Objectives proportionally as set out in **Table 6.2** below. These allocations are indicative and may shift subject to community priorities.

Table 6.2 Allocation of Community Benefit Funding to Strategic Objectives.

Actions	Deliverables	Cost per unit	Unit	Proportion of CBF
Access to local economic opportunities	Digital training for upskilling workforce	£2,340	Person	6.3%
	Graduate Apprenticeship programmes	£16,375	Person	6.3%
A low carbon sustainable community	Homes receiving upgraded insulation (wall & loft)	£10,295	Home	4.2%
	Grants for homeowners/business owners to upgrade heating systems	£5,000	Grant	4.2%
	Upgraded windows	£5,900	Home	4.2%
Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination	Upgrading/repairing walking and hiking paths	£100	Meter	5.0%
	Grant to host seasonal festival/event	£7,500	Event	5.0%

Actions	Deliverables	Cost per unit	Unit	Proportion of CBF
Enhanced community capacity and good quality community infrastructure	Repairs to community facilities (schools, community halls, etc)	£1,341	m2	12.5%
	Appointment of salaried project officer	£29,398	Person	Variable - assume 1 appointed on 2–3-year contracts
Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use	Grants to cover cost of connecting premises to broadband/high speed internet	£5,000	Premises	12.5%
Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents	Purchase land for future development of affordable homes	£94,227	Acre	15.0%
Protecting the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to support services	Cover costs for in-home private nursing care	£500	Day	6.3%
	Cover costs for social care visits	£400	Day	6.3%
Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce, including supporting local food producers and support "eat local/buy local"	Grants to local producers to support growth in production and/or distribution capacity	£5,000	Grant	6.3%
	Grants to support vulnerable community members to cover costs of essentials (food, fuel, clothing)	£750	Grant	6.3%

6.1.11 The figures in **Table 6.2** were used to calculate the potential deliverable benefits for the communities in Carsphairn and GDT over five years, as shown in **Table 6.3** below.

Table 6.3 Potential Deliverable Benefits over a 5-Year Period

Contribution for 5-years ¹⁶			75 MW	80 MW	85 MW	90 MW	95 MW
			£1,728,010	£1,853,010	£1,978,010	£2,103,010	£2,228,010
Actions	Deliverables	Units					
Access to local	Digital training for upskilling workforce	Person	46	49	53	56	60

¹⁶ It is important to note that the appointment of a project officer was emphasised as a community priority, so this has been costed and taken off the CBF scenarios before the rest of the investment possibilities were calculated.

Contribution for 5-years ¹⁶			75 MW	80 MW	85 MW	90 MW	95 MW
			£1,728,010	£1,853,010	£1,978,010	£2,103,010	£2,228,010
Actions	Deliverables	Units					
economic opportunities	Graduate Apprenticeship programmes	Person	7	7	8	8	9
A low carbon sustainable community	Homes receiving upgraded insulation (wall & loft)	Home	7	7	8	9	9
	Grants for homeowners/business owners to upgrade heating systems	Grant	14	15	16	18	19
	Upgraded windows	Home	12	13	14	15	16
Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination	Upgrading/repairing walking and hiking paths	Meter	864	927	989	1,052	1,114
	Grant to host seasonal festival/event	Event	12	12	13	14	15
Enhanced community capacity and good quality community infrastructure	Repairs to community facilities (schools, community halls, etc)	m2	161	173	184	196	208
	Appointment of salaried project officer	Person	1	1	1	1	1
Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use	Grants to cover cost of connecting premises to broadband/high speed internet	Premises	43	46	49	53	56
Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents	Purchase land for future development of affordable homes	Acre	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6
Protecting the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to support services	In-home private nursing care	Day	216	232	247	263	279
	Social care visits	Day	270	290	309	329	348

Contribution for 5-years ¹⁶			75 MW	80 MW	85 MW	90 MW	95 MW
			£1,728,010	£1,853,010	£1,978,010	£2,103,010	£2,228,010
Actions	Deliverables	Units					
Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce, including supporting local food producers and support "eat local/buy local"	Grants to local producers to support growth in production and/or distribution capacity	Grant	22	23	25	26	28
	Grants to support vulnerable community members to cover costs of essentials (food, fuel, clothing)	Grant	144	154	165	175	186

6.1.12 Similarly, the potential deliverable benefits for the communities in Carsphairn and GDT over the operational lifetime of the windfarm (estimated to be up to 30 years) is shown in **Table 6.4** below.

Table 6.4 Potential Deliverable Benefits over a 30-Year Period.

Contribution per MW for 30-years ¹⁷			75 MW	80 MW	85 MW	90 MW	95 MW
			£10,368,060	£11,118,060	£11,868,060	£12,618,060	£13,368,060
Actions	Deliverables	Units					
Access to local economic opportunities	Digital training for upskilling workforce	Person	277	297	317	337	357
	Graduate Apprenticeship programmes	Person	40	42	45	48	51
A low carbon sustainable community	Homes receiving upgraded insulation (wall & loft)	Home	42	45	48	51	54
	Grants for homeowners/business owners to upgrade heating systems	Grant	86	93	99	105	111
	Upgraded windows	Home	73	79	84	89	94
Developing a unique and attractive	Upgrading/repairing walking and hiking paths	Meters	5,184	5,559	5,934	6,309	6,684

¹⁷ It is important to note that the appointment of a project officer was emphasised as a community priority, so this has been costed and taken off the CBF scenarios before the rest of the investment possibilities were calculated.

Contribution per MW for 30-years ¹⁷			75 MW	80 MW	85 MW	90 MW	95 MW
			£10,368,060	£11,118,060	£11,868,060	£12,618,060	£13,368,060
Actions	Deliverables	Units					
tourist destination	Grant to host seasonal festival/event	Event	69	74	79	84	89
Enhanced community capacity and good quality community infrastructure	Repairs to community facilities (schools, community halls, etc)	m2	966	1,036	1,106	1,176	1,246
	Appointment of salaried project officer	Person	1	1	1	1	1
Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use	Grants to cover cost of connecting premises to broadband/high speed internet	Premises	259	278	297	315	334
Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents	Purchase land for future development of affordable homes	Acre	16.5	17.7	18.9	20.1	21.3
Protecting the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to support services	In-home private nursing care	Day	1,296	1,390	1,484	1,577	1,671
	Social care visits	Day	1,620	1,737	1,854	1,972	2,089
Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce, including supporting local food producers and support "eat local/buy local"	Grants to local producers to support growth in production and/or distribution capacity	Grant	130	139	148	158	167
	Grants to support vulnerable community members to cover costs of essentials (food, fuel, clothing)	Grant	864	927	989	1,052	1,114

6.2 Summary

6.2.1 The assumptions set out above allow an estimate of the scale of socioeconomic benefits which could be achieved by the Quantans Hill wind farm community benefit fund.

6.2.2 Over the operational lifetime of the windfarm, the scale and nature of impacts across the Quantans Hill area may extend to:

- 10-15 years of employment for a full-time salaried Project Officer;
- 277-357 residents upskilled;
- 40-51 qualified apprentices fully subsidised;
- 996-1246m² of repairs to community facilities;
- 1,620-2,089 days of social care visits provided;
- 130-167 grants given to local food producers (£5,000 per grant); and
- 864-1,114 grants given to vulnerable households to help with local food shopping (£750 per grant).

6.2.3 It is important to reiterate that the deliverables described respond to the Strategy Objectives established through consultation with the community but are necessarily indicative at this stage. These figures provide an indication of the range of agreed key local issues that can be addressed using the funding but remain flexible and can be amended by the community to meet changing needs in the future.

6.3 Measuring Success

6.3.1 The economic benefit of the investments made possible by the operation of Quantans Hill may be measured by the following indicators:

- A reduction in vacancy and physical improvements to the vitality of town centres which meet the needs of the local population;
- A measurable reduction in local poverty and social isolation in rural settlements via community enterprise;
- Enhancement and creation of housing suitable for local needs;
- Higher levels of youth employment within the area and more opportunities for later life career change;
- Reduction in distance/journey times for business or leisure due to the provision of private community transport;
- Economic growth attributable to the provision of better broadband/phone coverage;
- Reduction in local food poverty;
- Enhanced tourism spend, visitor numbers and length of stay;
- Potential cost saving and environmental benefits from the update of climate change mitigation methods; and
- Changes in the demographic profile of the local area with a greater proportion of young and working age residents.

6.3.2 The Quantans Hill Community Development Strategy provides a set of strategic objectives to address current and future priorities for the communities in Carsphairn and GDT and how they

can be tackled by the community benefit funding generated by the operation of Quantans Hill. The Strategy represents an opportunity to help address long-standing local issues and encourage a strategic approach to encourage the sustainable economic and population growth of the communities surrounding Quantans Hill.

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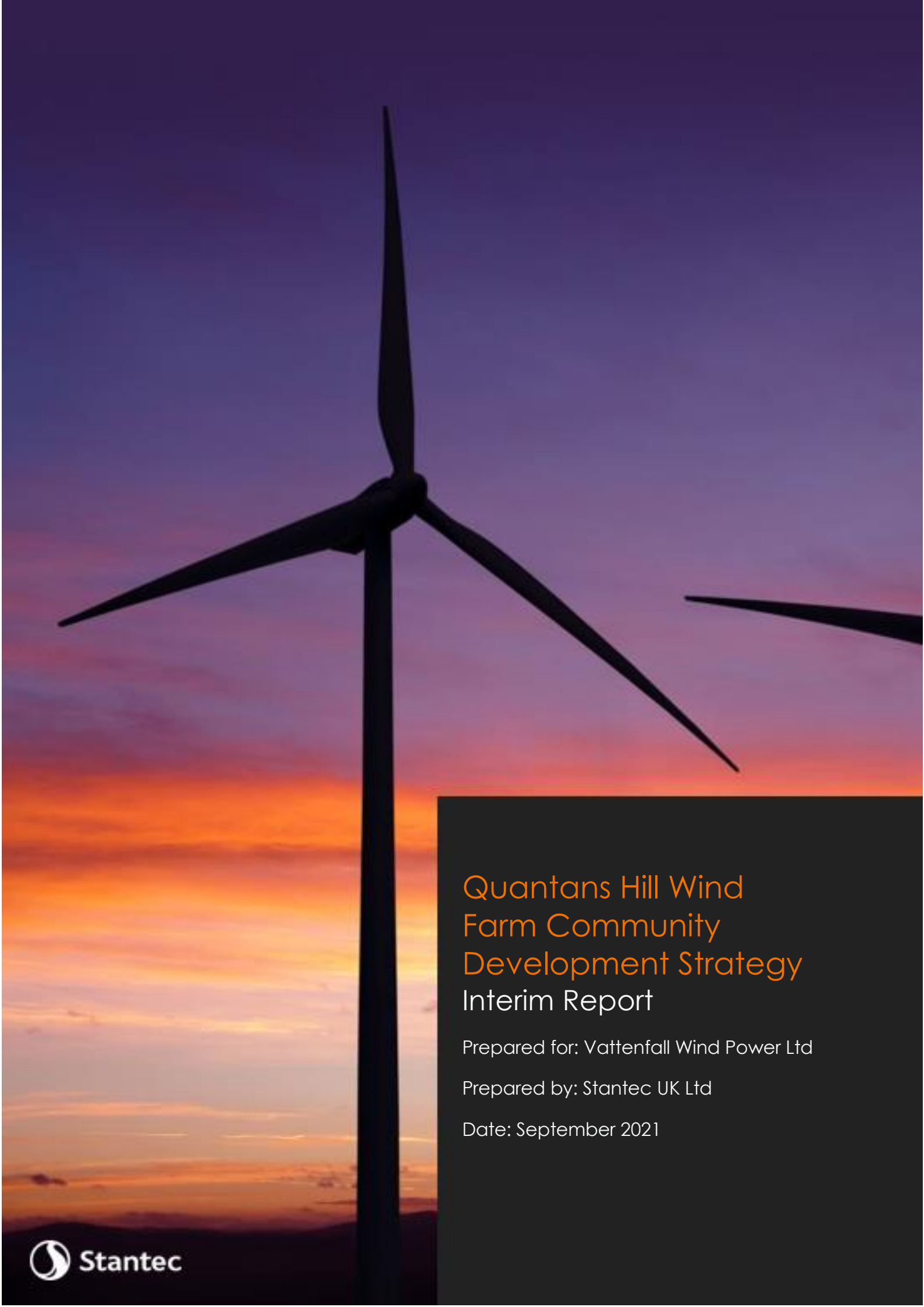
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Appendix A Interim Report

A large wind turbine is silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky. The sky transitions from deep purple at the top to bright orange and yellow near the horizon. The turbine's three blades are spread out, and its tower extends vertically. Another turbine is partially visible in the background to the right.

Quantans Hill Wind Farm Community Development Strategy Interim Report

Prepared for: Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd

Prepared by: Stantec UK Ltd

Date: September 2021

Document Control Sheet

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	Name	Position	Signature	Date
Prepared by:	Helen Turnbull	Planner	HS	Sept 21
Reviewed by:	James Welsh	Associate Planner	JW	Sept 21
Approved by:	Nick Skelton	Director Planning & Economics	NS	Sept 21
For and on behalf of Stantec UK Limited				

Revision	Date	Description	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved
A	20/09/2021	Response to client comments	HT	JW	NS

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1 Overview

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Stantec UK Ltd (Stantec) has been commissioned by Vattenfall to scope and prepare a Community Development Strategy (CDS), associated with the proposed Quantans Hill Wind Farm (located approximately 2km northeast of Carsphairn and east of the A713).
- 1.1.2 If approved, Quantans Hill will generate significant benefits for local communities. Vattenfall's values and ethos emphasise working closely with local people to ensure that their projects bring lasting, sustainable benefits for the communities which host them. At Quantans Hill, Vattenfall is supporting a flexible approach, and are keen to explore strategic community benefits with the capacity to tackle ideas which require big, upfront investment where this has the backing of the communities involved.
- 1.1.3 To guide the CDS, a programme of community engagement has been undertaken by Stantec to identify interested stakeholders and understand the local priorities for community benefit funding (CBF) generated by Quantans Hill windfarm. Stantec has held discussions with Carsphairn Community Council, the Glenkens and District Trust (GDT), the Energy Agency, and South of Scotland Community Housing to understand the key issues across the area closest to Quantans Hill.
- 1.1.4 The Scottish Government's Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments (2019) sets out guidance for communities for the development of action plans and long-term priorities to create a lasting legacy with the income generated by windfarms such as Quantans Hill. The Scottish Government guidance recognises that many communities and developers would like to see a move away from cash benefits to a more flexible system. At Quantans Hill there is potential for Vattenfall to help communities realise some of their ambitions and priorities by providing a bespoke package of community benefits up to the value of £5K per installed MW per annum. This may include appointment of salaried project officers or help with establishing formal working partnerships with housing or other social organisations.
- 1.1.5 The provision of community benefits (including flexible packages) is not considered a material planning consideration by the Scottish Government, meaning that it has no bearing on the decision-making process. However, the Scottish Government recognises the key principles in the establishment of a bespoke community benefits package, as shown in **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1: Principles of Community Benefits



-
- 1.1.6 The purpose of this report therefore is to set out the findings to date, gather additional feedback via the online survey running in parallel and set out the next steps in developing the CDS.

2 Work to Date

2.1 Baseline Research and Key Issues

2.1.1 Both the Carsphairn Community Future Plan (2016) and the Glenkens and District Community Action Plan (2020), along with a range of other policy and socio-economic baseline research were used to structure initial thinking and topics of discussion with community stakeholders.

2.1.2 A set of key issues common to the Carsphairn and the Glenkens and District Trust areas were identified and fed back to Carsphairn CC and GDT:

- **Limited internet connectivity;** Poor broadband and mobile connections in rural communities, impacting those working or studying from home;
- **Restricted economic opportunities;** There is a restricted number of local jobs and training opportunities for local people. The impacts of Covid-19 are likely to exacerbate existing economic issues for those who are self-employed. Many young people seeking further education must also travel long distances to attend courses;
- **Restricted local suppliers;** There is a shortfall in skilled local suppliers/tradesmen in the community and a lack of education and training opportunities to meet this need;
- **Limited housing available;** There is a lack of affordable housing to attract and retain residents. Many homes also require upgrade to make them more energy efficient;
- **Poor quality community infrastructure;** There is a need to upgrade existing facilities or create new facilities accessible to the entire community;
- **Lack of tourist information and branding;** the need to publicise local assets to attract visitors and increase length of stay;
- **Inadequate public transport provision;** Members of the community without car access are restricted by unreliable public transport links in accessing health services, education and employment opportunities. This can also isolate older or more vulnerable members of the local community;
- **Paths and cycle networks in poor condition;** Inadequate and at times, unsafe walking and cycle paths linking communities;
- **Restricted Community Capacity;** there is a need to establish a chain of support for community groups and locals to kick start projects and make changes locally; and
- **Transition to lower carbon communities;** There is a reliance on fossil fuels to heat and power homes and a need to transition towards being a carbon neutral community.

2.1.3 A set of draft objectives for the CDS have been prepared and comments sought. These strategic objectives, once finalised, will flow through to a set of actions set out in the CDS along with delivery partners and organisations. The draft strategic objectives for Quantans Hill are:

- Access to local economic opportunities for both the existing workforce and young people;
- Accountable progress towards a low carbon sustainable community;
- Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination;

- Enhanced community capacity and good quality community infrastructure;
- Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use;
- Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents; and
- Protect the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to health & social care services.

2.1.4 These key issues and objectives were shared with Carsphairn and GDT for further comments and feedback earlier in summer 2021.

2.2 Carsphairn Community Council

2.2.1 The proposed Quantans wind farm lies within the community of Carsphairn approximately 2km north-east of Carsphairn village, which lies on the A713 between Dalmellington and Dalry.

2.2.2 As part of the development of the CDS, Stantec arranged an introductory meeting with Carsphairn Community Council (Carsphairn CC) by Zoom during June 2021 to introduce the team and test research and findings to date. The Chair of Carsphairn Renewable Energy Fund Ltd (CREFL), which administers existing community benefit funds generated by the Windy Standard 1 & 2 and Wetherhill Windfarms, was also present as part of the discussion. CREFL currently distributes community benefit funds in the form of project financing, education grants and vocational training grants.

2.2.3 Carsphairn CC has since provided initial feedback, namely the need to respond to the Dumfries & Galloway Council consultation on the proposed closure of the local primary school. Secondly, Carsphairn CC indicated they would welcome an appointed project officer to explain the proposed closure consultation and also to help facilitate current and future projects in the village. In terms of tourist initiatives, a hostel to complement the two existing B&Bs in the area and contribute to the sustainability of the community was identified as important. Once received, any further feedback will be incorporated into the finalised CDS.

Findings and Feedback

2.2.4 A community survey is being undertaken by Carsphairn Community Trust to inform the update of the Carsphairn Future Plan (March 2016). At the time of writing the survey results were not available, but it is recognised that outcomes from that work may identify community priorities not captured within this report. Where possible, and to allow the CDS to be prepared using the most up to date information available, Stantec will take account of the survey results once available. This will allow the finalised CDS to capture the most up to date set of community issues and identify local opportunities to address these needs utilising community benefit funding generated by Quantans Hill.

2.2.5 With regard to community benefits generated by the operation of Quantans Hill, Carsphairn CC felt that as host community they should be prioritised as they would be impacted by the ongoing operation of the development should planning permission be granted.

2.2.6 A number of key issues were raised and discussed including:

Table 1: Carsphairn Feedback to Date

Discussion points from meeting	Carsphairn CC Feedback	Stantec Response
Community Capacity:	Carsphairn CC is staffed by volunteers and does not have sufficient capacity to implement larger scale projects. One of the key priorities for Carsphairn CC is the appointment of one or more salaried project officers to work with the Carsphairn community to plan, administer and implement projects as well as identify additional external funding opportunities.	Noted. Community capacity building should be a key element in the final CDS.
Carsphairn Primary School:	The school is earmarked for closure due to their being very few school-aged children within the community. There are very few children and young families in Carsphairn, with a lack of affordable/suitable housing to attract new families. The resilience of the local community was therefore noted as a key concern.	Noted. Further discussions have taken place with South of Scotland Community Housing (SOSCH) who provide expert advice and support to community organisations considering community-led housing projects. Actions to address the lack of the right type of housing will be reflected in the finalised CDS.
Local Tourism:	There are several scenic walking, cycling and mountain biking routes in the area. These need to be showcased to attract visitors to the area and increase visitor spend in local businesses.	Noted. Improved accessibility and promotion/marketing of tourism assets are a key theme emerging from discussions.

2.3 Glenkens District Trust

2.3.1 Stantec has also held discussions with Glenkens & District Trust (GDT), a charitable body which resources and enables community development in the Glenkens and surrounding areas. GDT Board is made up of Trustees appointed by local Community Councils and recently has sought to add up to five independent Trustees to the group. A number of community Council areas within the area affected by Quantans Hill are part of GDT including:

- Balmaclellan;
- Balmaghie;
- Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham;

- Crossmichael & District;
 - Dalry;
 - Dunscore;
 - New Galloway & Kells Parish; and
 - Parton.
- 2.3.2 Carsphairn CC is not a member of GDT and has historically managed community benefits independently through CREFL.
- 2.3.3 In discussion with GDT, the geography and area of benefit was considered less of a priority for the Trust, and they would seek to co-ordinate funding across their area, supporting community interests applying to a centrally held fund that could be used more strategically alongside other funding pots.
- 2.3.4 It was also noted that, rather than financial payments being made in the form of energy grants, a more strategic and long-term approach to improving energy efficiency and reducing energy costs for local communities was considered to be more beneficial.
- 2.3.5 GDT have stated that they would welcome the opportunity to have ongoing discussions with Stantec and Vattenfall to further develop the strategic objections and actions. Effective collaboration will be key to the delivery of an effective CDS which meets local needs.
- 2.3.6 GDT have stated that any CDS should be community owned and will not be rigidly associated with GDT or any other organisation.
- 2.3.7 As emphasised by Carsphairn CC, limited volunteer resources add difficulty to getting larger projects off the ground. This can then result in local frustration over lack of progress. To help with this, GDT have recently made an award to Glenkens Community & Arts Trust Ltd (GCAT) to contribute towards the funding of a General Manager and to enable GCAT to take an increased leadership and supporting role on the Community Action Plan. GDT are also reviewing the work of Moniaive Initiative to understand the work they are also doing in their local area.
- 2.3.8 To take account of all of the progress made since the publication of the Community Action Plan in July 2020, GDT intends to publish a new version in late 2021/early 2022.
- 2.3.9 GDT have raised a key point that there are a number of community development strategies in development for other proposed windfarms in the area and they would like to explore how the outcomes of these can be coordinated to ensure they are aligned and mutually supportive of community aims.
- 2.3.10 GDT have suggested co-ordination between wind farm developers might increase efficiency, reduce operational costs, simplify the application processes for community groups, increasing the money available to the community and consequently result in more overall benefit. This point is linked back to the capacity of community groups to respond to the various enquiries that they receive in relation to wind farm development. It is noted that this may be something that can be considered post planning, but it is unlikely that all wind farm proposals will be granted planning permission. A co-ordinated approach would need mechanisms built in to take account of this, especially where areas of benefit may differ.

Findings and Feedback

2.3.11 The table below sets out the feedback received from GDT and the response from Stantec for each point included in the feedback. The **red text** adjacent to the draft Strategic Objectives indicate the alterations suggested by GDT.

Table 2: GDT Feedback to Date

Feedback Type	GDT Feedback	Stantec Response
Level of issues identified	The level of the key issues offered were felt to be too high level and could apply to many rural communities across Scotland.	The list of key issues was identified to capture issues across all communities within the local area. Issues will be refined through the objectives and related actions identified.
Community Sustainability:	The resilience of the community is of the highest priority. Protecting existing facilities from closure is more important than focusing entirely on new projects. GDT wish to develop a sustainability plan to protect crucial assets and core organisations.	Noted. Community sustainability will be embedded in the final version of the CDS.
Biodiversity	Since publishing their CAP, GDT have identified a need to include measures to protect and enhance local biodiversity for both ecological and recreational benefits.	Noted. The final version of the CDS will include proposed measures to enhance biodiversity.
Internet Connectivity:	Some areas have much less coverage than others and will require a targeted approach for improvements. Access to IT equipment and basic skills training to access online information for services is also required.	Internet connectivity comes under the 'digital infrastructure' objective. Related actions will be identified as appropriate.
Limited economic opportunity	Limited economic opportunities to attract new residents to the area in addition to meeting their schooling and housing needs. Not just existing residents who are affected.	Noted. CDS will consider measure to promote new housing provision.
Local suppliers	There is a shortage of local suppliers/tradespeople. Older demographic of existing tradespeople and farmers in the area which is also a concern.	Noted. This will be factored into the CDS.

Feedback Type	GDT Feedback	Stantec Response
Housing	Housing: Important to consider the availability and affordability of existing housing stock and if that is sufficient and also to understand if more housing needs to be built.	The final CDS will include a full consideration of all local housing issues based on the ongoing community consultation.
Key Issues	Community infrastructure: Further exploration required to understand the needs of existing and requirement for new community assets.	The final CDS will recommend an audit and related actions.
Key Issues	Tourism: Considering what facilities there already are for tourists in the area, any tourism promotion would be small in scale and dependent on the viability of any facilities.	Noted. This will be factored into the CDS.
Key issues	Public Transport: Agree that residents without a car are constricted by public transport options but also that there is an overreliance on the car; difficult to change that behaviour.	Noted. Encouragement of greater use of public or active transport will be promoted in individual actions in the CDS.
Key Issues	Paths and Cycle Networks: Agree that safe walking and cycling routes is a difficult issue. However, more use of existing paths needs to be encouraged in addition to new walking infrastructure delivered as part of QH. Whitelee windfarm has been successful in encouraging visitors.	Agreed. This will be factored into the CDS.
Key Issues	Restricted Community Capacity: Since the CAP, GDT have reported the need and role of development trusts within the area and also to support applicants to get the technical, funding and professional support to bring forward well-developed projects that will benefit the community.	Thank you for sharing these developments since the publication of the CAP. These needs will be included in the CDS.

Feedback Type	GDT Feedback	Stantec Response
Key Issues	Transition to Lower Carbon Communities: This needs to go further than moving away from fossil fuels to heat and power houses. GDT are exploring how more support and assistance can be provided to transition away from fossil fuels, but this is at an early stage. This is affected by the lack of tradespeople previously mentioned above.	We welcome all information that can be shared by GDT on this process to inform the CDS.
Strategic Objectives	The list of key issues highlighted above were confirmed with Carsphairn and GDT and used to develop a set of Draft Objectives which are set out below. A set of actions will be developed with delivery partners, which can be further developed, refined and adopted by the local community following any planning decision. Feedback from GDT has been used to update the draft objectives (in red) below.	
	GDT Comment	Stantec comment
Draft Strategic Objectives	Access to local economic opportunities for both the existing workforce and young people. This should also encourage inward migration, particularly if longer term jobs can be created. In addition, should it also address how local businesses/social enterprises could be created and supported to ensure the skills needed for a sustainable community were developed and retained and that any benefits created stay within the community.	Actions to be identified to support working age population growth and skills development/support
Draft Strategic Objectives	Accountable progress towards a low carbon sustainable community.	No further comment
Draft Strategic Objectives	Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination. This needs to be about more than branding!	Related action points to support tourist development to be developed for the CDS
Draft Strategic Objectives	Retain and enhance community capacity and good quality community infrastructure. Does this cover services as well as assets?	Recent feedback from the local community indicates that this should include the reinforcement of local paths and the creation of access for the community into the Quantans Hill windfarm site.

Feedback Type	GDT Feedback	Stantec Response
Draft Strategic Objectives	Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use. This needs to be more than just infrastructure and more about effective utilisation of infrastructure.	Actions to be developed to support maximising infrastructure.
Draft Strategic Objectives	Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents.	No further comment
Draft Strategic Objectives	Protect the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to health & social care services. These last two bullet points are interconnected particularly when we consider the people in our community with increased need for health and social care	CDS to recommend that review of housing and health and social care
Draft Strategic Objectives	Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce	New objective to be incorporated into CDS.
Draft Strategic Objectives	Encourage and support local food producers and support "Eat Local/Buy local"	New objective to be incorporated into CDS

2.4 Area of Benefit

- 2.4.1 At this early stage it is suggested that the area of benefit for Quantans Hill is focused on Carsphairn Community Council and some of the communities covered by GDT, who represent the group of community Councils who are located directly to the south of the proposed development site.
- 2.4.2 As Carsphairn is the host community it is suggested that a significant proportion of community benefits are ring fenced for Carsphairn Community, but also that it is recognised other communities outside of the Carsphairn area may be affected and engagement with GDT suggests that they are best placed to co-ordinate in this regard. The CDS will be prepared taking into account feedback from all groups
- 2.4.3 Carsphairn CC has indicated that they would like to receive a more diverse package of community benefits, including the appointment of a project officer to facilitate current and future projects. This may form part of a more strategic package of community benefits, which pool resources to deliver outcomes across the communities identified within the area of benefit. A map showing the proposed area of development for Quantans Hill has been provided below and is being used to facilitate discussions on how the community benefit fund will be distributed to Carsphairn and also across the wider GDT area.

Legend

- Site boundary
- Council boundary
- Community council boundaries
- Glenkens Trust boundaries
- Property
 - Residential
 - Commercial
 - Other

Quantans Hill Wind Farm
Community Benefit Area

0 1 2 3 km

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Rev	Date	Drawn By	Checked By	Comment	Datum	Projection	Plot	Scale	Confidentiality Class	Layout	Rev	Dwg No
A	08/08/21	RASM	LHOP	Draft issue	OSGB 1936	OSNG	A4	1:275,000	C1 - Public	NA	A	QULL-1AG-700-014

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11

available about the transport routes for the wind farm construction and operation as well as the export routes for connecting the project to the grid.

Table 3: Area of Benefit and Rationale

Community	Main rationale
Carsphairn	Operational Landscape and visual effects Temporary disruption from construction related traffic
GDT Communities	Operational Landscape and visual effects

3 Next Steps

- 3.1.1 The survey findings will inform our next update to the CDS. This will also incorporate feedback from Carsphairn CC and GDT. In addition to this we will:
- Confirm proposed area of benefit/tiered approach;
 - Consult more broadly with the community on the issues identified so far;
 - Refine actions associated with the strategic objectives; and
 - Undertake an economic appraisal of draft actions within the CDS.
- 3.1.2 The intention is to finalise the CDS in the Autumn and include within any future planning application. The CDS will be revisited by Vattenfall at a future date should planning consent be granted. The CDS is not a material consideration in any planning decision.

Appendix B Quantans Hill Survey Questions

B.1 Survey Questions

Discussions with existing community groups around community benefit has identified the following key issues that could be helpful in guiding the community benefit fund towards addressing local priorities:

- Limited internet connectivity;
 - Restricted economic opportunities;
 - Restricted local suppliers;
 - Limited housing availability;
 - Poor quality community infrastructure;
 - Lack of tourist information and branding;
 - Inadequate public transport provision;
 - Paths and cycle networks in poor condition;
 - Restricted community capacity; and
 - Transition to lower carbon communities.
1. Thinking about the key issues identified above, do you broadly agree with these, broadly disagree with these, don't know or other?
 2. If you think there are any missing key issues, or if you think any of those identified above are not important, please use the box below to explain your reasoning behind your answer to question 1.

Emerging from their initial findings Stantec have proposed a number of draft strategic objectives:

- Improved access to local economic opportunities for both the existing workforce and young people
- Accountable progress towards a low-carbon, sustainable community
- Developing a unique and attractive tourist destination
- Retain and enhance community capacity and good quality community infrastructure
- Good quality and reliable digital infrastructure for community and business use
- Suitable and affordable housing to meet the needs of all of the local community to attract and retain residents
- Protect the wellbeing of the local community by increasing access to health and social care services
- Develop a plan for collaborative production and distribution of local produce

- Encourage and support local food producers and support 'Eat Local/Buy Local'
- 3. Thinking about the draft strategic objectives, do you broadly agree with these, broadly disagree with these, don't know or other?
- 4. Please explain the reasons behind your answer to question 3 above in the text box below.
- 5. Based on the feedback so far, we have been told that a significant proportion of the Quantans Hill Wind Farm community benefit fund should be focussed on the Carsphairn community with some funding available for communities covered by Glenkens District Trust. Do you broadly agree with these, broadly disagree with these, don't know or other?
- 6. If you think any other areas/places should be brought into consideration, or you have any other comments about the area of benefit, please use the box below to explain your reasoning.
- 7. Vattenfall has proposed the possibility of providing flexibility in the delivery of community benefits by providing larger amounts of upfront funding in the early stages of a project in order to tackle more strategic issues, or the flexibility of a traditional grant-funded model. Do you have a preferred approach? Either Vattenfall's proposal for funding strategic projects earlier in the wind farm's life, a more traditional grant-funded approach of smaller sums over a long period or don't know?
- 8. Please use this box to explain your reasoning behind the answer to question 7 above.
- 9. How did you learn about the revised proposals? Please tick all the apply:
 - Visited project webpage
 - Visited project virtual exhibition
 - Paper newsletter
 - Newspaper or online article
 - Direct conversations with the project team
 - Word of mouth
 - Other
- 10. Where do you live?
 - Carsphairn area
 - Elsewhere in Dumfries and Galloway
 - Elsewhere in the United Kingdom
 - Outside the United Kingdom
 - Prefer not to say
- 11. In what capacity are you responding to this questionnaire?
 - A member of the public
 - School or university student

- Representative of a charity or community group
- Representative of a local business
- Prefer not to say

12. If you would like us to contact you to discuss any aspect of development of Quantans Hill wind farm, please provide your name and contact details: