

[See the whole picture](#)

Glen Water Wind Farm

Sustainability and design benefits

Designing in the benefits of onshore wind





Opening of Blackwood Estate Community woodland, South Lanarkshire.
The woodland was purchased with support from local wind farm Kype Muir

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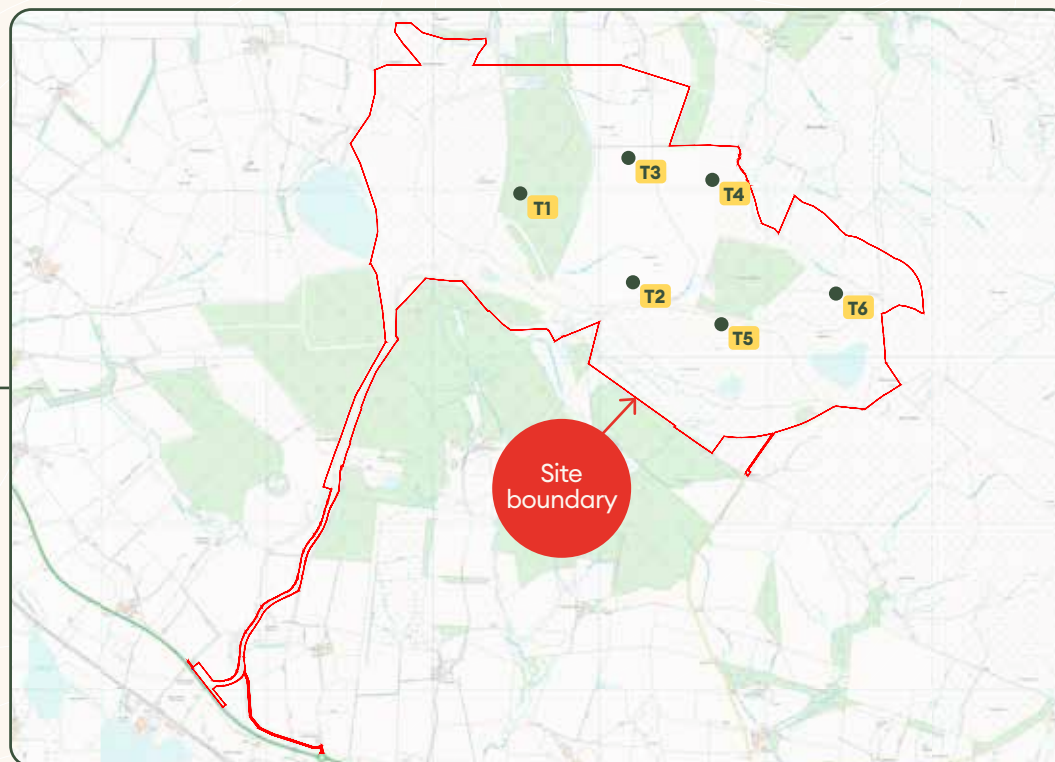
Project summary Glen Water Wind Farm

Key Facts

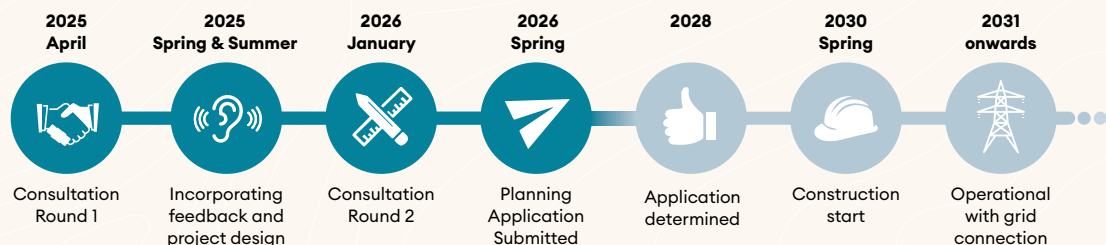
- **Number of turbines:**
6 turbines
- **Turbine height:**
Up to 200m to blade tip
- **Generating capacity:**
Around 43 MW, supplying approx 36,000 homes
- **Project lifespan:** Up to 40 years

Key benefits

- Over £10 million community funding
- 1% gifted community ownership offer, with the option to purchase a further 9%
- A local decarbonisation initiative within 2 Km, with a proposal to extend wider using the community fund
- Supporting East Ayrshire's CORE project
- A projected lifetime spend of £2.2million/MW within 60km of site



Indicative timeline





Our values and who we are

OnPath Energy is a leading renewable energy developer, providing green energy solutions for thousands of UK households, businesses and communities. Our vision is to power a more sustainable future through renewable energy. Formerly Banks Renewables, we've been committed to powering a greener future since 2006.

We are helping to deliver 100% renewable energy for the UK through our growing portfolio of onshore wind, solar and energy storage projects. We address the whole picture of the land-based energy transition, including green energy generation, grid flexibility, storage and heat.

Our team delivers inclusive net-zero projects, combining large-scale renewables with master planning developments that place local communities and nature at the very heart of what we do.

Our policy and design principles

We place people, communities and planet at the heart of everything we do. We believe that better projects come through listening, collaborating and delivering with care and consideration.

Our approach is firmly rooted in sustainability principles and comprises three core elements:

- 1. Working to support a just transition to net zero that is fair and inclusive for all.**
- 2. Developing market-leading, innovative, large-scale renewables projects**
- 3. Creating value for the environment and people through long-term partnerships**



Think People & Planet

We place people and planet at the heart of what we do



Listen and care

We listen and care to understand



Creating a better way together

We believe in creating better projects through collaboration



Seeing the big picture

We consider how things are connected



Building community value

We believe in building value together with communities



Trust and integrity

We know trust and integrity are hard-earned

What is OnPath Together? Our approach to sustainable development

OnPath Together is about doing the right thing for people and planet, and contains our commitments to the environment, communities, our people and everyone we work with. We incorporate this into our business with 16 commitments under four pillars below:

Our core purpose is to help deliver 100% renewable energy for all of the UK, helping to tackle climate change and to provide safe, affordable energy for people living here. OnPath Together aims to deliver this in tandem with leading practises in sustainable development, to help regenerate places by delivering a net-positive effect with our activities.

1

Climate and nature positive

- Embed sustainable design practices into our projects to deliver the highest environmental standards
- Use circular economic principles to design-out waste
- Protect and enhance the environment and its biodiversity
- Help tackle climate change and support the transition to net zero

2

Developing together

- Support an inclusive, diverse workplace where employees are valued, respected and listened to
- Provide you with fairly-paid and sustainable employment in an engaging environment
- Nurture and develop our employees talents and skills
- Create an environment where your health, safety and wellbeing is our priority

3

A just transition

- We deliver reliable, affordable renewable electricity for consumers across the country
- Listen to the needs of the community and deliver open, collaborative consultations with transparency & integrity
- Support your local community with investment, jobs, and skills
- Enable communities to lead change at a local level through sustainability and climate action
- Provide community benefits which reflect the priorities of the local community

4

Responsible business

- Advocate for the delivery of a fair, inclusive energy transition which restores nature and tackles climate change
- Uphold human rights and promote sustainability in our value chain with transparent reporting
- Maintain robust cybersecurity and data protection across our business



UPTO **130HA**
OF HABITAT CREATED AND/
OR PROTECTED



19%
APPROXIMATE
BIODIVERSITY NET-GAIN



OVER **62,000 tCO₂e**
TONNES OF CO₂ SAVED*

* WHEN COMPARED TO EQUIVALENT FOSSIL FUEL MIX GENERATION

ECONOMIC IMPACT



£30M
LIFETIME
SPEND



48 FTE JOB
YEARS



£93M
LIFETIME
SPEND



183 FTE JOB
YEARS



£98M
LIFETIME
SPEND



227 FTE JOB
YEARS

EAST AYRSHIRE

REGION (WITHIN 60KM)

SCOTLAND

COMMUNITY BENEFITS AND OWNERSHIP OFFER



1% EQUITY
1% OWNERSHIP SHARE OFFERED TO
COMMUNITY AT NO COST, WITH
THE OPTION TO BUY UP TO 10%

£10.3M

IN LOCAL COMMUNITY FUNDING



Pilot project to deliver energy bill savings
to homes within 2km, with a view to
applying those learnings in a wider roll out

Policy context & how Glen Water moves the dial

Policy in Ayrshire, Scotland and the UK is driving a change in how economic development is approached. Setting clear goals and objectives, policy is focussing on driving holistic outcomes for people, nature and the economy. At the very highest level, this supports international policy guided by the framework of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which is in turn supported by Scottish policy and in turn supported by regional Ayrshire policy.

In Ayrshire this is steered by a mosaic of strategy aiming to deliver a thriving wellbeing economy, enhanced economic opportunities and improved infrastructure, taking advantage of the regions unique setting & opportunity.

We have designed Glen Water to be more than just a wind farm and align with the goals and objectives of local policy.

When delivered in this way, onshore wind has the potential to be the missing piece of the jigsaw which delivers on these aspirations by bringing different parts of policy and the economy together.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)

The United Nations' SDG's are a shared blueprint for development and progress across a range goals, commitments and indicators. They have been adopted by all UN members and aim to address global challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice. As well as setting global guidance, they also inform the policy of member countries including the UK, meaning that UK & Scottish policy is aligned to this international framework.

National Performance framework (NPF)

This is Scotland's overarching framework for wellbeing and sets the vision for the kind of Scotland we all want to live in. It provides a way of localising global development goals to deliver a more successful Scotland. It focusses on health & wellbeing, sustainable growth, reduced inequalities and environmental & social progress.

All public bodies are expected to have regard for these goals, and they are in the process of being reformed for a new iteration in 2026.

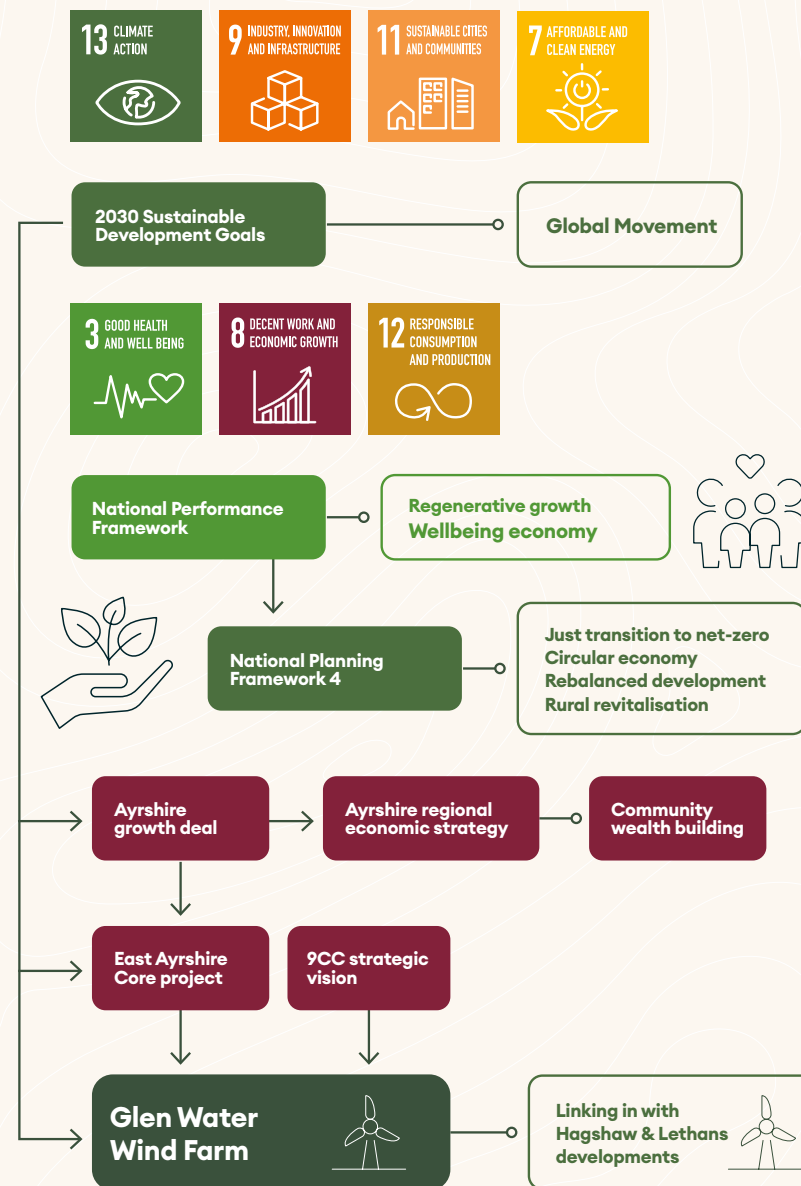
National planning framework 4 (NPF4)

– Is the national spatial strategy for Scotland. It sets out spatial principles, regional priorities and broadly describes how Scotland can meet the ambition of the UN SDG's. Regional policy should ladder up to facilitate the NPF4 and, by supporting Ayrshire policies, Glen Water wind farm will meaningfully support its implementation.

Regional and local plans

National policy is supported at a regional and local level by an ecosystem of plans, strategies and visions. In the following pages, we have honed in on what we think are the most relevant policies for Glen Water, and how this project will support them.

These include the Ayrshire regional economic strategy, Ayrshire community wealth building charter, and 9CC's strategic vision.





Designing in local policy

Ayrshire Regional economic strategy

The Ayrshire region offers a wealth of opportunities, with strengths in sectors of national importance and significant natural resources. The new Regional Economic Strategy captures these strengths and ambitions to make Ayrshire a unique destination in which to live, work, learn, visit and invest.

The leading objectives of Ayrshire's new RES are:

- To set out a vision for a wellbeing economy in Ayrshire that places the wellbeing of people, communities and the environment at its centre;
- To consider how we can maximise the impact of local, regional, national and international investment using CWB principles;
- To provide a steer which is evidence driven as to the strategic economic priorities of the region in order to maximise the energy and resources available.

The regional economic strategy identifies six priorities for delivering a wellbeing economy up to 2033, with these priorities identified after consultation with public, private and third sector organisations, elected members and young people.



Community wealth building charter

Community wealth building is an approach, present both at national and regional level, that seeks to transform economic systems.

In Ayrshire, this plan uses economic levers available to Anchor Institutions to develop resilient, inclusive local economies with more local spend and fair employment, as well as a larger and more diverse business base, ensuring that wealth is more locally owned and benefits local people.

- **Anchor institutions are organisations which are rooted in particular places by their mission, histories, physically fixed land and assets, and established local relationships.**
- **We believe that, with Glen Water as our third wind farm in East Ayrshire, we have a duty to deliver community wealth.**
- **We have voluntarily aligned with the principles of the CWB Anchor charter to help build real community wealth resulting from our investments.**



Designing in local policy

The 9CC group's strategic vision

The 9CC group are one of our most important partners in East Ayrshire and their strategic vision has been instrumental in designing Glen Water wind farm.

The 9CC Group is a legally constituted group which will manage and distribute community benefit funds through a fair and equitable method of allocation and distribution. Funds are from newly consented and future wind farm developments that will be located within the 9CC Group geographical area of Cumnock and Doon Valley.

They surveyed over 1700 people from 9 communities to develop a 10 year strategic plan based on five themes:

- **An Active Community**
- **An entrepreneurial community**
- **A connected community**
- **A net-zero community**
- **Children & young people**

We will continue to partner with the 9CC group as we develop Glen Water wind farm as an ongoing community partner



Core project - The Community Renewable Energy (CoRE) Project

The Community Renewable Energy (CoRE) Project is one of several projects funded by the Ayrshire Growth Deal. CoRE is funded through the Ayrshire Growth Deal with £17 million of funding from the UK Government and £7.5 million from East Ayrshire Council.

CoRE aims to showcase how a green recovery can transform our rural towns and villages and make our communities better connected, healthier and improve the standard of living, through a just transition, whilst supporting the creation of long-term sustainable jobs.

- **Ensure our communities have the skills and qualifications to contribute to the low carbon sector supply chain.**
- **Help communities make affordable choices to heat and power their homes, to tackle fuel poverty.**
- **Make places which benefit our communities' health and wellbeing.**
- **Make homes and buildings more sustainable and comfortable for people to live and work in.**

We recognise the importance of the CoRE project in East Ayrshire and we are proud to be part of the steering group supporting its implementation. Glen Water wind farm is designed to complement these four aims and we have aligned our approach with the goals of this important project.

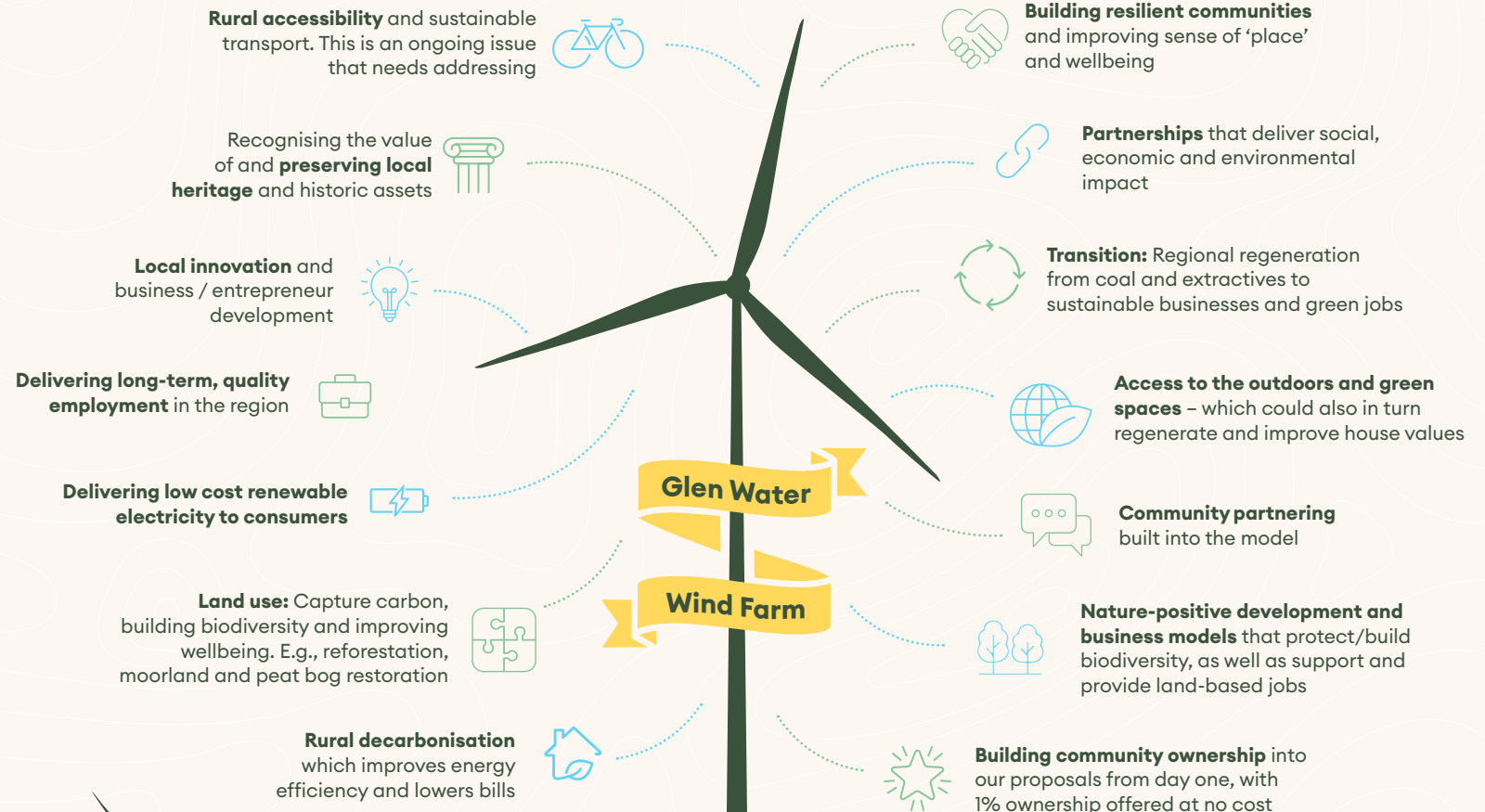
Initial design principles & measuring success

What would success look like?

Success means delivering genuinely sustainable development with clear, lasting benefits for the local area – supporting nature, the economy, climate action, biodiversity, community capacity and local amenities.

A central aim is helping communities transition to a low carbon economy, while creating greater local value than previous projects and generating knock-on benefits over time. It also means communities and key stakeholders feel meaningfully involved and confident the project will benefit them.

Finally, success must be measurable, guided by clear goals and an objective impact framework that makes progress and outcomes easy to understand.



Initial design principles & measuring success

We will measure our success on the objectives of East Ayrshire's own policy, capturing the clear objectives set by the Regional Economic Strategy and CWB charter and assessing how Glen Water wind farm measurably moves the dial on their priorities.

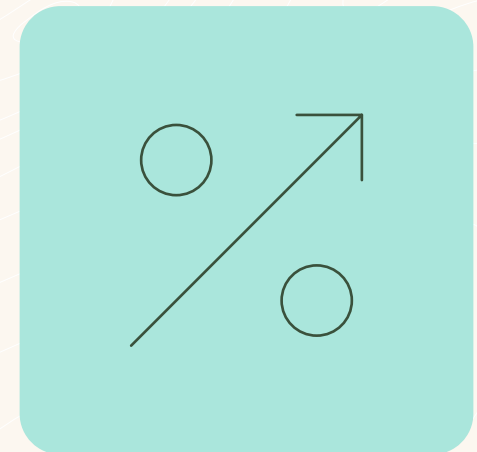
Success must be direct and measurable, and by highlighting these strong linkages we aim to demonstrate why **Glen Water is more than just a wind farm** in East Ayrshire.

Measuring economic impact

We have partnered with leading economists, Biggar economics, to help us estimate the economic impact of Glen Water wind farm. They have analysed the local, regional and national economy alongside our ways of working and historic data to build up a picture of how the economic opportunity of Glen Water is likely to be realised. They have assessed Glen Water against a range of metrics and we have explained two of the most important below:

Total projected investment – This is a measure of the lifetime spend generated by the wind farm, and it includes the secondary impacts of the wind farm within the supply chain, such as the spending and wages of those involved in construction.

Full time equivalent (FTE) job years – This is a measure of the employment supported by the wind farm, expressed in the work that's required to capture a mix of contract and longer term employment. For example, a job that lasts 18 months would support 1.5 years of employment.



The consultation: what we did

We have widened the traditional consultation structure to include a broad spectrum of feedback across different stakeholder groups, each with unique expertise.

Our consultation strategy is designed to include a diverse range of voices, increase the level of engagement amongst less represented groups (like young people) and foster genuine collaboration.

The Glen Water consultation was delivered in three phases, developing the design in an iterative process:

Phase 1: Recognising the need for early engagement, meetings were arranged with community councils to introduce the project and team to some key stakeholders, such as the 9CCG and the local community councils, ahead of full public events. The purpose of this early phase was to take on initial feedback around local priorities for the project and invite collaboration at an early stage to meaningfully shape the proposals and focus future phases.

Phase 2: Phase 2 involved preparing for the full public consultation events which funnelled the issues in a way that would enable the community to provide specific feedback to influence Glen Water in the first round of consultation. As well as full public events, this involved close engagement with local schools, residents and the local authority.

Phase 3: Involved another full public consultation on the proposal following changes to the design, with the key purposes of demonstrating how the design had changed over time, how the wider netpositive proposals had been shaped and had evolved, and inviting final comments on the design prior to the preparation of the planning submission.



Blending digital and physical consultation

To maximise the reach of our consultation, and generate more valuable feedback, we used a wide range of tools across different mediums. This included digital methods alongside the more traditional tactics like doorknocking, meetings, phone calls and public events. Our approach goes above and beyond any statutory requirements, and included the following:



423

423 respondents to our online survey, reaching over 40,000 individuals



2km

Door-knocking all houses within 2Km of the site boundary



4.5k

A social media campaign which reached over 4,500 unique users over 4 weeks



14k

Circulating 14,000 flyers across the two round of public events, distributed within 10km of the site boundary



Delivering an augmented reality experience, allowing consultation attendees immerse themselves in a realistic impression of the wind farm and see the upgraded pathways and biodiversity enhancements.

Engaging young people

Young people are historically underrepresented in local decision making and particularly in public consultations, despite being equally as affected by developments in their area.

Our teams strategy to change this involved direct engagement with young people of various ages throughout the consultation. This included engaging with children from local primary schools in Netherthird, New Cumnock & Logan to name the wind farm itself, with Netherthird pupils suggesting the final name of Glen Water.

In the lead up to construction, the same schools that have worked with OnPath will also collaborate with Heritage Centre Cumnock and Cumnock History group to tell the story of local farming and mining heritage with onsite information boards. Pupils in the local area were also invited to take part in their own mini-consultation, raising issues important to themselves and having the opportunity to meet members of the project team.



The consultation: What we learned, and how the design evolved

Key outcomes from phases 1-3

Our consultation generated feedback from hundreds of individuals across East Ayrshire, which we have distilled into a handful of main themes to apply to Glen Water.

Could Glen Water lower energy prices for local people?

There was a clear desire to see energy costs tackled for local people, especially those who live closest to the wind farm.

Opportunity for community benefit, including tangible facilities that could be used by young people.

Local people want to see community benefit that offers direct impact to children and young people.

Concerns over wind farm developments in the area, and landscape & visual impact

Many people were concerned about visual impact, and had asked us to consider ways to minimise this with our design.

How can we maximise the economic opportunity with local suppliers & employment

We were repeatedly told that the area's economy must benefit significantly from Glen Water.

Concerns over the impact on local ecology

The area's nature and biodiversity must be central to our proposals, with this concern coming up repeatedly.

An iterative process

Following the early phases of consultation and first round of public events informing our design, a number of meaningful changes have been made to the original design.

These include:

- **Reduction of the site from 8 turbines down to 6 in the current design**

- **Reduction in height of the turbines down from 250M to 200M**

- **An updated site layout, placing turbines further away from sensitive locations like local residential properties**

Survey results

We partnered with external consultant Givemyview in order to boost the reach of our online survey, with 423 people responding while it was active between March and May of 2025.

- Of those responses, 59% put access to affordable energy as a benefit they would like to see, closely followed by restored nature and habitat which was suggested as a benefit by 47% of respondents.
- Biodiversity was the most frequently selected as the most important aspect of design

- Pathways and access was the second most selected, and more accessible pathways/cycleways was the number one facility requested by local people. A visitor centre and information boards were also regularly suggested

- 63% of people said they wanted to see East Ayrshire's mining heritage celebrated on the wind farm site.

- Many people told us they felt that too often, the community sees very little real benefit from wind farms, and that local residents saw insufficient improvements to their life despite the high rate of development in the area

With Glen Water's design, we have addressed the regional policy and community feedback under two themes: Supporting a **Just Transition** and **Climate & Nature Positive**, both of which are aligned with our OnPath Together strategy.

Some of that feedback was translated into turbine layout and design changes, such as paring back the site and dropping turbine heights. The next step for us was to turn the remaining feedback into practical interventions which will deliver real movement on the priorities of local people and local policy.

Glen Water Wind Farm climate and nature positive

You said: Glen Water wind farm must protect nature and improve our access to and appreciation of the land

We did: The Glen Water masterplan

We have been collaborating on the Glen Water masterplan throughout our consultation period, incorporating feedback from the public as well as community partners like the 9CC group and other expert bodies like NatureScot.

What policy does this support?



Ayrshire RES

- Theme 4 – Good health & wellbeing
- Theme 5 – Stronger places and communities
- Theme 6 – Natural capital



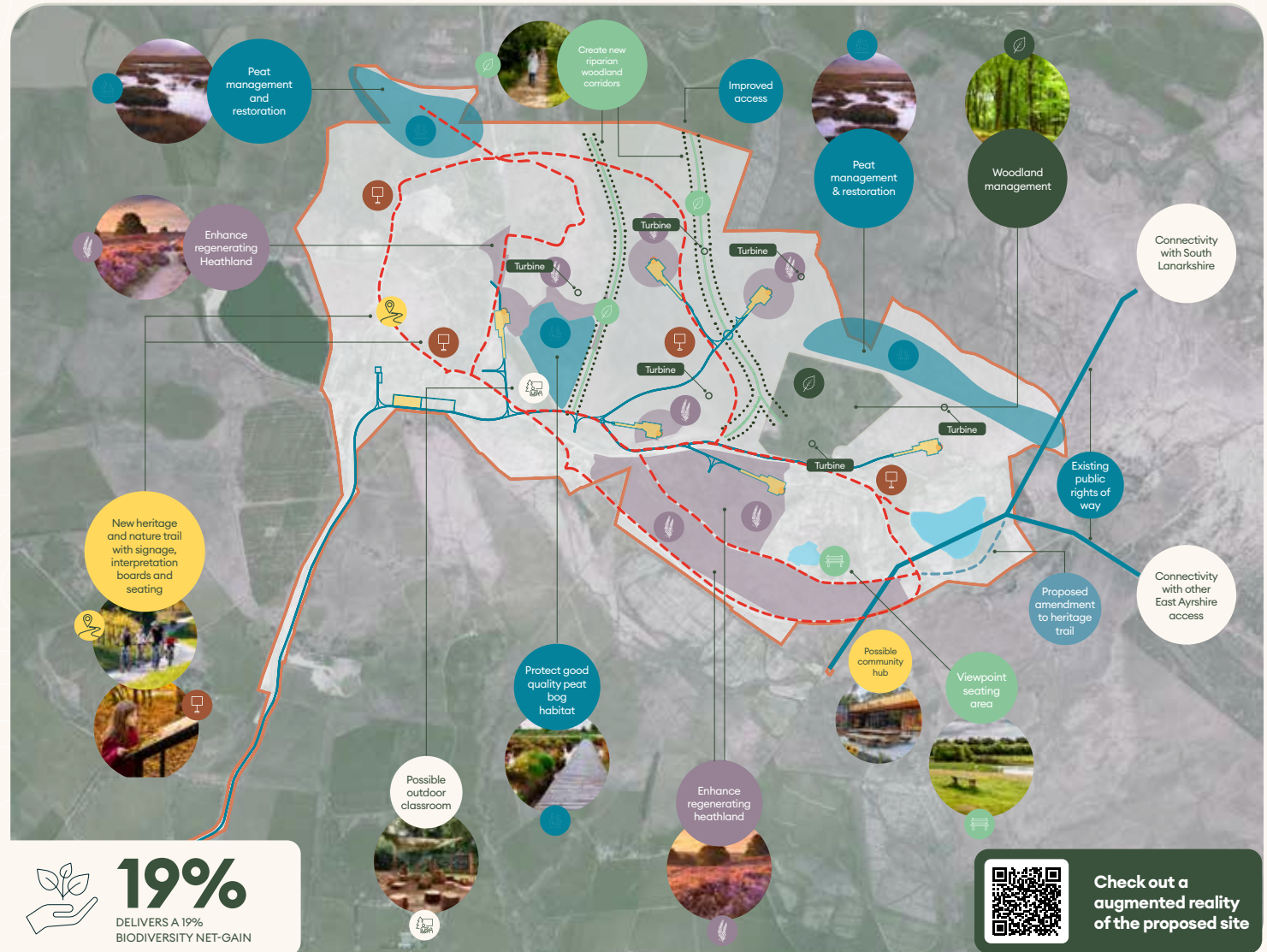
Community wealth building charter

- Pillar 3 – Land & assets
- Pillar 6 – Climate action



9CC strategic vision

- Theme 1 – An active community
- Theme 3 – A connected community
- Theme 5 – Children & young people



19%

DELIVERS A 19%
BIODIVERSITY NET-GAIN



Check out a
augmented reality
of the proposed site

Climate and nature-positive initiatives

Access to the land

We will introduce a multi-use trail, with over 15 KM of paths delivered onsite made up of over 12 km in nature & heritage trail plus a further 3km in woodland corridor. This linking in with existing right of way access across the site, featuring new information boards and seating

This will provide improved local access to the outdoors, making active travel more accessible for local people and enhancing the experience of the natural environment.



Connectivity

Our access tracks will provide connectivity not only with existing paths onsite but also to nearby Lethans projects and further afield into South Lanarkshire.

This will provide new recreational paths for walkers, cyclists and other users on purpose-built tracks, providing a more regional access approach unlocked by Glen Water



Enhanced Heathland

We will enhance existing Heathland habitat, regenerating and protecting 50 ha of this iconic habitat across the site

This will provide support for this vulnerable habitat, helping to protect local animal and insect species which depend on heathland ecosystems for their survival.



Biodiversity net-gain

With all of these initiatives together, our proposal for Glen Water will deliver a biodiversity net-gain of around 19%. This is calculated using the SSER biodiversity toolkit, considered to be most appropriate for use in upland habitats such as this.

This will deliver real benefits for local nature, supporting the recovery of habitats which are increasingly degraded and giving local biodiversity the room to thrive.





Peat management and restoration



We will enhance and protect around 50ha of peatland, bog and wetland habitat onsite, reversing degradation and securing it against future damage.

This will provide a benefit to crucial habitat considered some of the most valuable in the country as well as storing hundreds of tons of carbon, tackling nature loss and climate change together.

Woodland strengthening



We will manage around 31 ha of existing woodland onsite, enhancing native species

This will provide important habitat for local species as well as improving long term biodiversity by protecting this woodland for at least the lifetime of the windfarm



Outdoor classroom and separate community hub

We will designate space for outdoor learning in partnership with local schools and a community hub.

This will provide space and opportunity for children and young people to learn practical skills outdoors, while the hub will function as a new community asset for local people.



Creating a riparian corridor



We will create nearly 3km riparian woodland corridor connecting to the Guelt young wood.

This will provide important connections for local biodiversity, supporting a habitat which has been severely degraded across Scotland and helping maximise the impact of nearby woodland.



Glen Water Wind Farm supporting a just transition

You said: Glen Water should address rising energy costs for local residents, deliver meaningful community benefits and boost the areas economy, as well as celebrating the regions rich mining and farming heritage.

We did: A combined plan to build community wealth, help local people benefit from Glen Water and educate young people on the region's history. This plan is built on four interventions.



1. Celebrating the regions mining and farming heritage

What are we doing?

We have heard time and time again that local mining heritage needs to be celebrated by Glen Water, and we want to make sure we tell the story of a region which has always been at the forefront of energy – whether that's coal mining or wind generation. We are partnering with local schools in Netherthird, New Cumnock and Logan as well as local heritage groups to tell the story of mining and farming in East Ayrshire, and in particular the old opencast which used to exist on the site.

Built on the site of an old opencast coal mine, Glen Water will continue the close relationship with energy that has always existed in this area.

This will provide

A 12km heritage & nature trail onsite, complete with information boards explaining the history of the site, with these being developed in partnership with the Cumnock history group, the heritage centre and local schools. In addition, we will be delivering an outdoor learning and community central facility which will support educational visits from local schools, helping teach young people about the areas heritage in energy generation.



What policy does this support?

Ayrshire RES

- Theme 1 – support for enterprise
- Theme 3 – Innovation

Community wealth building charter

- Pillar 1 – Procurement
- Pillar 4 – Financial power
- Pillar 6 – Climate action

9CC strategic vision

- Theme 4 – A net-zero community



2. Glen Water Wind Farm decarbonisation pilot

What is it?

A first of its kind initiative in East Ayrshire, supporting local properties within 2km of the project to improve their energy efficiency with fully funded measures like insulation, windows, modern heating solutions and solar panels. After demonstrating its feasibility, we will explore ways to support a wider roll out in East Ayrshire with the CoRE project, alongside the local community.

This is all about making energy efficiency more accessible. In the same way that opencasts would supply coal for local employees and their families, we want to ensure that local people feel a real benefit from the wind farm.

This will provide

Permanent reductions in energy costs for local households, fully funded by the wind farm and informed by professional energy surveys, all carried out by trusted local contractors. Once complete, the pilot will stand as a blueprint for a further rollout locally, in support of the CoRE project.

Delivering the pilot project will build specialism in the local economy, helping to upskill local people to carry out insulation, solar and other energy related works.

Not only will the pilot lower energy bills for the local residents, it will add long term value to their property and create demand for local jobs through the funded initiatives.



What policy does this support?

Ayrshire RES

- Theme 5 – Stronger places & communities



Community wealth building charter

- Pillar 3 - Land & Assets



9CC strategic vision

- Theme 2 – An entrepreneurial community

Theme 5 – Children & young people



This directly addresses the aims of the CoRE project, supporting skills development while helping tackle fuel poverty with warmer, cheaper, more energy efficient homes.



Supporting a just transition



3. Investing in the region's economy

What are we doing?

We are committed to investing in the regional economy with Glen Water and will prioritise local businesses to maximise the benefits of our project for local people. As part of our approach, we make local benefits and employment a material part of our tendering process and we require all tenders for major works include a statement of local economic benefit. In addition, we require companies in our supply chain to commit to delivering direct local employment during construction.

To further support the local economy, we have launched the East Ayrshire Developer Forum with East Ayrshire Council and have plans for an annual meet-the-buyer event. This is all aimed at maximising the level of local spend. We will work hand in hand with other developers to make sure the regions economy feels the benefit of Glen Water.

This will provide

A valuable opportunity for local businesses, with the regional economy especially well placed to take advantage of the demand for civils, groundworks, haulage and electrical expertise.

The impact of integrating our commitments into Glen Water has been explored with independent economists, Biggar Economics, who estimate that around £30 million will be spent in East Ayrshire economy over the projects lifetime, with around £90 million being spent in the regional area. This also translates to around 183 regional job years delivered during construction and development.

We have set ambitious targets of delivering £1 million/MW regional spend and 65% of the lifetime spend within the regional economy, and we will continually work with local business groups to ensure that these are met.

What policy does this support?

Ayrshire RES

- Theme 1 – Support for enterprise
- Theme 2 – Fair work
- Theme 4 – Good health & wellbeing

Community wealth building charter

- Pillar 1 – Procurement
- Pillar 2 – Fair employment

9CC strategic vision

- Theme 2 – An entrepreneurial community





What policy does this support?

Ayrshire RES

- Theme 3 - Innovation
- Theme 5 – Stronger places & communities



Community wealth building charter

- Theme 3 - Land & Assets
- Theme 5 – Plural ownership



9CC strategic vision

- Theme 2 – An entrepreneurial community
- Theme 4 – A net-zero community
- Theme 5 – Children & young people



4. Collaborative community benefits

What is it?

We are partnering with the 9CC group to deliver £10.3 million in community benefit funding over Glen Water's lifespan, this funding will be administered by the 9CC to support their 10 year strategic vision. We are proposing to use the funds to support a wider rollout of our decarbonisation pilot to bring down energy costs and deliver warmer homes and this will be explored further in collaboration with the local community.

The community will also be offered a gifted 1% stake in the wind farm, generating income for the community tied to the success of the project. We are also investing in local skills, with ten £500 educational bursaries available as part of the project to support local young people in education or training.

This will provide

Multiple streams of income for the community, with decisions on funding being made by the 9CC group. The direction of 9CC funding is led by their strategic action plan, with five themes decided by over 1,700 local people as part of their community survey. This puts community funding in the hands of the community, and ensures that it's local people making decisions to address the needs of the community.

We will support the CoRE project and local community to explore a wider roll out of the decarbonisation pilot, which we estimate would deliver hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of energy bill savings within 10km.



How Glen Water wind farm supports local policy goals

Ayrshire regional economic strategy

Theme	Definition	Outcomes
Support for enterprise	A region where businesses can grow both domestically and globally, entrepreneurship and creativity can flourish	1) Improved digital infrastructure for our region, encouraging new residents, new business start ups and new investment 2) Enhanced business support services that focus on domestic and global growth, innovation and procurement support to help retain wealth locally 3) Improved quantity and quality of business space provision to meet evidenced demand, particularly for SME's 4) Improved support for the third sector to deliver community wealth, through support, training and capacity building
Fair work	A region which offers all individuals an effective voice, opportunity, security, fulfilment and respect in work	1) Improved access to jobs and fair employment opportunities by addressing barriers faced by different groups. 2) Improved access to training and lifelong learning, with particular emphasis on industries experiencing current and predicted skills gaps, enabling the workforce to adapt to changing requirements. 3) Employers in the region have adopted Fair Work principles, for example paying the living wage, offering secure employment contracts and jobs that are fulfilling and offer progression. 4) Public sector Anchor Institutions spend and employ progressively, setting a benchmark for other Ayrshire businesses to follow.
Innovation	A region where enterprises and the public sector adopt innovative solutions to address economic problems	1) Adoption and utilisation of innovation assets created through successful delivery of Ayrshire Growth Deal projects 2) Development of effective partnerships across public, private and academic sectors with a view to fully enabling the transfer of knowledge and technology, stimulating economic opportunity and leveraging additional investment around innovation activity 3) Increased levels of R&D (encompassing Business, Higher Education, Government and Private Non-Profit) within Ayrshire, maximising specific sectoral opportunities and the development of Innovative Places. 4) Continued use of CWB as a mechanism to embrace new economic development practice and addressing where innovative public sector activity can support wider wellbeing outcomes
Good health and wellbeing	A region where people of all ages have the access to resources to live a healthy, full and purposeful life	1) Strengthened partnership working between agencies including NHS Ayrshire and Arran, to ensure a holistic and person-centred approach to support people to fully contribute to the local economy. 2) Improved access to childcare, transport and local jobs, to improve quality of life and allow for individuals' increased participation in the local economy. 3) More inclusive approach to recruitment by key employers in our region, to support those experiencing health related barriers to employment to enter or re-enter the labour market.
Stronger places and communities	Local economies can sustain thriving communities and deliver good public and private services to residents and visitors	1) Improved infrastructure within our towns and villages, with consideration of 20 minute neighbourhoods. 2) Improved cultural and social infrastructure which boosts existing cultural and heritage assets, helps to improve regional identity and pride in place and contributes to growth in the visitor economy. 3) Empowerment for our residents and communities to have a stake in improving their place. 4) Improved road infrastructure, better connecting the region with areas of opportunity, and improved public transport for rural communities
Enhancing Natural capital	Preserving and enhancing ayrshire's natural capital, meeting scotlands commitments to net-zero and protection of biodiversity	1) Better understanding of the natural capital that exists across our region, with proposals to enhance this for visitor use whilst preserving for future generations. 2) Development of a regional energy masterplan with a focus on meeting Net Zero targets. 3) Supporting a just transition to Net Zero

Impact Glen Water

Qualitative

Measurement

- 4) Pilot project on energy efficiency for houses within 2km to decarbonise their energy and reduce energy bills, with a view to using learnings to expand out on a wider scale, in alignment with East Ayrshire Council's CoRE project

Developing local skills :

Pilot project will help support community wealth building through skills development in the local economy, as well as delivering tangible benefit to the recipients who will see energy bills lowered and carbon footprint reduced at no cost to themselves.

- 4) Local jobs and skills delivered in the local economy delivering meaningful upskilling opportunities on 10 pilot project properties, with £165,000 of funding ring fenced
- 4) OnPath will provide 10 educational bursaries to support local people into further education or training

- 1) The economic impact of Glen Water, as calculated in Biggar economics report, would greatly benefit local businesses and our approach to local contracting means that the majority of this spend would be captured locally, for everyone.
- 3) We are committed to paying the living wage, and extend this commitment to all of our tier one contractors

Productivity & economic growth: onshore wind is a high productivity industry with a high economic output per capital compared to national GDP per capita for FTE worked hours. The project will therefore support the overall productivity of the Scottish economy.

- 1) £29.4 million lifetime spend in East Ayrshire and £93 million in the regional area (over £2 million/ MW) supporting 183 regional FTE job years
- 3) 100% of employees and tier one employees to be paid the living wage

- 2) Partnership with the 9CC in the community benefits to ensure it delivers for local community interests
- 4) Community wealth building through investment in the pilot projects, building skills in local workforce and delivering a tangible benefit for local people

Delivering community value:

Through our collaborative partnership with the 9CC we are delivering community value through an innovative, community-led model which is amongst the most highly regarded of its type in the country. Combined with the decarbonisation pilot project, which is a novel OnPath-developed initiative, we expect this to deliver meaningful community benefits which support the aims of the 9CC strategic plan and the broader regional priorities.

- 2) Community benefits of £10.3 million over the lifetime of the wind farm, delivered in partnership with the 9CC group
- 4) A decarbonisation pilot for 10 local properties, worth £165,000, also in partnership with the 9CC

- 2) The economic opportunity and local investment delivered by Glen Water will improve access to local jobs and participation in local economy

Wellbeing through opportunity:

The economic opportunity of Glen Water wind farm will support high quality jobs throughout the construction and operational lifetime of the project. This directly allowing for individuals increased participation in the local economy, in an industry which is well represented in East Ayrshire

- 2) Estimated lifetime economic impact of £29.4 million in East Ayrshire, with 48 jobs FTE job years during construction. Regionally this rises to £93 million investment and 183 job years.

- 1) Improved infrastructure in towns and villages as a result of community benefits being invested in partnership with the 9CC
- 2) Delivering a heritage trail onsite, open to the public, with information boards to enable a deeper connection with the regions farming and mining heritage. The onsite community hub will also be delivered with local heritage society with a view to continued school involvement.
- 3) Local communities will be empowered with decision making over the community benefit fund, and will further benefit from a gifted 1% ownership of the project.
- 4) Improved active travel connections between Glen Water and other footpaths, with an electric bike initiative to further widen the accesibility of the new connection paths

Building place and community:

Delivering community funds in partnership with the 9CC means that funding will be targetted to local priorities, led by local decision making and the 9CC strategic plan. This plan will address themes like active communities, entrepreneurial opportunities, connected communities, net-zero communities and specific actions to support children and young people. In addition to community benefits Glen Water will deliver place making in regard to natural capital onsite and the local mining heritage, improving accessibility to both with walking trails, information boards and proposed educational partnerships with local schools.

- 1) Community benefit fund of £10.3 million, delivered in partnership with the 9CC
- 2) 15 Km of heritage, nature and woodland trail onsite
- 3) Gifted 1% community ownership, with the option to purchase up to 10%
- 4) Total of 15 km paths delivered onsite

- 1) Delivering Nature trail featuring information boards that showcase on-site ecological features and enhancements
- 2) Delivery of project masterplan featuring woodland, heathland and peat bog management, helping to repair and protect this important carbon sink.
- 3) Generation of renewable electricity and delivery of a housing decarbonisation project.

Nature positive:

Glen Water will materially support access to and appreciation of natural capital with newly multi-user nature trails across the site, which will also link into existing footpaths to maximise connectivity and overall benefit. Enhancements and protection to high value habitat, such as peat bog, riparian woodland and heathland, will also deliver material benefit to the local ecosystem. On a national scale, renewable generation will help support the fight against climate change and contribute towards lowering the country's carbon footprint.

- 1) 15 KM of new heritage, nature and woodland trails delivered
- 2) 130 ha of habitat delivered/protected
- 3) Glen Water wind farm will supply approx 36,000 homes annual electricity needs

Ayrshire Community wealth building anchor charter

Pillar title	Pillar purpose	Pillar objective	Anchor pledges	Impact Glen Water	Qualitative	Measurement
Procurement	We commit to using our spend to support a diverse local business base	Maximise economic, social and environmental benefit for the community through development of dense local supply chains comprising local SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives and other community owned enterprises	1) Commit to undertaking supply chain and spend analysis and work towards increasing local spend where possible 2) Proactively engage with other Anchor Institutions to identify and progress joint procurement opportunities, whilst supporting local businesses to bid and respond to opportunities	4) Pilot project on energy efficiency for houses within 2km to decarbonise their energy and reduce energy bills, with a view to expanding this on a wider scale	Developing local skills : Pilot project will help support community wealth building through skills development in the local economy, as well as delivering tangible benefit to the recipients who will see energy bills lowered and carbon footprint reduced at no cost to themselves.	4) Local jobs and skills delivered in the local economy delivering meaningful upskilling opportunities 4) Providing 10 educational bursaries to support local people into further education or training
Fair Employment	We commit to being a fair employer	Maximise economic, social and environmental benefit for the community through development of dense local supply chains comprising local SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives and other community owned enterprises	1) Commit to undertaking supply chain and spend analysis and work towards increasing local spend where possible	1) The economic impact of Glen Water, as calculated in Biggar economics report, would greatly benefit local businesses and our approach to local contracting means that the majority of this spend would be captured locally, for everyone. 3) We are committed to paying the living wage, and extend this commitment to all of our tier one contractors	Productivity & economic growth: Onshore wind is a high productivity industry with a high economic output per capital compared to national GDP per capita for FTE worked hours. The project will therefore support the overall productivity of the Scottish economy.	1) £29.4 million lifetime spend in East Ayrshire and £93 million in the regional area (over £2 million/MW) supporting 183 regional FTE job years 3) 100% of employees and tier one employees to be paid the living wage
Land & Assets	We commit to the productive use of our land and assets to support communities and enterprises “	Anchors are often major land holders and can support equitable land development and ownership models, including the imaginative use of assets for community and wider social and economic use.	1) Commit to undertaking an asset review to identify opportunities for Community Wealth Building 2) Proactively support communities who wish to use or develop underutilised assets	2) Partnership with the 9CC in the community benefits to ensure it delivers for local community interests 4) Community wealth building through investment in the pilot projects, building skills in local workforce and delivering a tangible benefit for local people	Delivering community value: Through our collaborative partnership with the 9CC we are delivering community value through an innovative, community-led model which is amongst the most highly regarded of its type in the country. Combined with the decarbonisation pilot project, which is a novel OnPath-developed initiative, we expect this to deliver meaningful community benefits which support the aims of the 9CC strategic plan and the broader regional priorities.	2) Community benefits of £8.6 million over the lifetime of the wind farm, delivered in partnership with the 9CC group 3) A further decarbonisation pilot for 10 local properties, worth £165,000, also in partnership with the 9CC
Financial Power	“We commit to harnessing and growing local wealth”	Increase flows of investment within local economies by harnessing wealth that exists locally.	1) Seek to invest in environmentally sustainable, local economic development opportunities 2) Support and promote progressive finance initiatives including local credit unions 3) Encourage staff and service providers to shop locally and ethically, supporting ‘Keep it Local’ campaigns	1) Significant local investment and development of local skills and supply chain, in support of decarbonisation, and in a way which is economically sustainable	Local development: Glen Water will support the local economy to develop specialisms in decarbonisation, with the pilot project helping to build local skills and further establish local trades relevant to decarbonisation of homes like upgrading heat sources, insulation and more.	1) £165,000 spent on local decarbonisation pilot initiative, delivering opportunity for long term upskilling and development of the local supply chain in energy efficiency and building services
Plural Ownership	We commit to supporting plural ownership of the local economy “	Advance inclusive economic ownership models such as local SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives, community enterprises and mutually owned companies and thus enable more wealth generated locally to stay within the community.	1) Proactively engage with communities to co-produce local services and initiatives 2) Commit to involving local SMEs, employee owned businesses, social enterprises, cooperatives and community owned enterprises within local supply chains	1) Extensive collaboration throughout the consultation resulting in material amendments to the design. 2) Glen Water includes commitments to the local economy and supply chain, and targeted formal engagement with businesses. In addition, 1% of Glen Water will be offered at no cost for community ownership	Community input: The design of Glen Water has been built on collaboration with local communities, with feedback from the consultation instrumental in designing the amenity features of the site itself as well the innovative community benefits approach, which is being delivered in partnership with the 9CCG. Local business’ are also being engaged, along with the chamber of commerce, to encourage their involvement in the project. In addition, the community will be gifted a 1% ownership of the project, with the opportunity to purchase up to 10%	1) Delivered 2 rounds of consultation events, with online survey generating 243 responses and social media adverts reaching 4,500 people. 2) 1% of Glen Water offered at no cost to the community
Climate action	We commit to becoming a net-zero organisation	The global climate emergency requires immediate and sustained action to reduce carbon and greenhouse gas emissions and remove them from the atmosphere.	1) Commit to a timescale for achieving net zero carbon and greenhouse gas emissions 2) Support and encourage environmentally sustainable supply chains 3) Consider strategies to embed environmental benefits through, for example, capital investment projects, active travel and sustainable energy generation	1) Glen Water wind farm directly supports net-zero with renewable electricity generation and local decarbonisation 2) Glen Water will support sustainable supply chains due to onpath policy commitments 3) Active travel, renewable energy production and nature-positive design are all features of Glen Water.	Climate & Nature positive: Glen Water supports the fight against climate change by generating renewable electricity and benefits nature on a local scale, with meaningful improvements made to habitat, and improved opportunities for communities to experience nature, on site. Strategies to embed environmental benefits are included in the planning proposals. Sustainability is also baked into our development approach, and we have policy commitments to support sustainability in our supply chain and extend environmental protections to our contractors.	1) Glen Water is expected to supply the annual demands of over 36,000 homes with renewable electricity, saving an estimated 62,123 tCO2e per year in comparison to equivalent fossil fuel generation. 1) Glen Water’s decarbonisation initiative will support local domestic decarbonisation with £165,000 of funding 2) Glen Water will support total regional (60km) economic spend of around £90 million 3) Delivering 15 KM of total new paths and 130 ha of habitat creating, management or protection

9CC Strategic Vision

Strategic framework

Theme	Outcomes	Impact Glen Water	Qualitative	Measurement
An active community	Outdoor activity attractions with opportunities for cycling, walking, adventure play and outdoor education that will attract both local people and visitors from around Scotland	Adding new active travel, heritage and nature trails as part of the project design which connect to existing core paths in the region	Making the outdoors accessible Adding new, accessible paths will make it easier for local people to enjoy the outdoor environment and increase participation in outdoor activities from both local people and new visitors to the area.	Delivering 15 Km of new paths onsite
An entrepreneurial community	1) A Green Jobs Hub with facilities for learning, business development and manufacturing 2) An improving economy generating jobs within our communities, with particular focus on our Young People 3) Modern Centre(s) celebrating local heritage to develop community pride and visitor footfall to the area	2) Supporting the local economy and skills development with investment and opportunity during development, construction and operation. 3) Delivering community space and heritage trail as a visitor attraction onsite	Supporting local supply chain: Glen Water will deliver jobs and economic activity in the area during both construction and on an ongoing basis during operation, as well as providing support to young people to in education or training. In addition, Glen Water will help celebrate local heritage with new trails, a community centre and partnership with local heritage groups	2) Delivering around £30 million investment & 48 jobs in East Ayrshire, £93 million investment & 183 jobs in the 60km region 3) Delivering 15 km of heritage, nature and woodland, plus information boards and a new community space
A connected community	1) A well signposted walking and cycle paths network across the nine communities linked to awareness of heritage and the natural environment 2) This path network will be connected with outdoor mountain bike and cycle hire using different types e.g. scooters, bikes, e-bikes and accessible vehicles 3) Connected broadband communities and improved transport links 4) Lobbying to open up a train line into the community	1) Delivering new tracks onsite specifically for nature & heritage 2) These tracks will be multi-user, including cyclists & e-bikes 3) Improved connections from New Cumnock to South Lanarkshire and other paths in the area	Improving regional connections The Glen Water masterplan will add a new network of multi-use access tracks, with linkages to other onsite rights of way as well as links to offsite tracks. This will improve connections all the way into South Lanarkshire from New Cumnock, as well as linking in with other local tracks (eg in other developments). The onsite tracks will be designed to facilitate better appreciation of local nature and heritage.	1,2,3) Delivering 15 Km of total new paths, connecting in with existing paths all the way to South Lanarkshire, with the possibility of linking into nearby projects
A net-zero community	1) A fund to support all community assets to transfer to renewable energy 2) Plan to have renewables in all homes 3) Develop a community energy scheme	2,3) Decarbonisation project delivered as part of Glen Water	Individual decarbonisation Will be delivered as part of the decarbonisation pilot, first for immediate local residents to build local expertise, with a view to applying these learnings wider in the future.. This initiative will support individuals to permanently improve their own energy efficiency with home improvements and increase the accessibility of low carbon energy like solar panels and heat pumps	2,3) Initial pilot project to support for local residents within 2km, with a proposal to expand the initiative to wider radius using lessons learned from our pilot. We estimate that a wider roll out could deliver hundreds of thousands of pounds in energy bill savings within 10km
Children and young people	1) Youth facilities and services across the area developing outdoor activities, workshops and events for young people 2) Develop projects for young people focusing on traditional arts and heritage craft skills, architecture and design, science, engineering, horticulture, wellbeing and hospitality 3) Implement a social enterprise project providing affordable and accessible activities for children, young people and their families. This will also offer training, education and employment opportunities 4) Set up support projects providing assistance to young people to set up their own businesses	1) Delivering outdoor learning space and facilities 3) Delivering OnPath bursaries for young people	Supporting young people Glen Water will deliver opportunity specifically targetted for young people, providing educational and training bursaries, outdoor learning spaces, and driving partnerships between primary schools and local heritage groups to make sure young people learn about East Ayrshire's mining heritage.	1) Delivering outdoor learning space in partnership with local schools 2) Deliveries 10 OnPath bursaries for local young people to engage in education & training

Thank you.

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