

Interpretation, Design & Display

Easter Tulloch Wind Farm, Aberdeenshire **Cultural Heritage Assessment**



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Easter Tulloch Wind Farm, Aberdeenshire

Cultural Heritage Assessment

CHAPTER 11. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

INTRODUCTION

- 11.1 This chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) evaluates the effects of the proposed development on cultural heritage interests. The assessment was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA), taking into account comments and information provided by Historic Scotland and the Aberdeenshire Council.
- The assessment was conducted in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologist Code of Conduct (IfA 2010), and Standard and Guidance for Archaeologist Desk-based Assessment (IfA 2009).
- 11.3 The specific objectives of the cultural heritage study were to:
 - Identify the cultural heritage baseline through desk-based assessment and walk-over reconnaissance field survey:
 - Consider the development in terms of its archaeological and historic environment potential; and,
 - Assess the potential and predicted effects of the development on the baseline cultural heritage resource, within the context of relevant legislation and planning policy guidelines.
- 11.4 The assessment evaluates the effects of the proposed development on Scheduled Monuments and other archaeological features, Listed Buildings and other buildings of historic or architectural importance, Conservation Areas, and Gardens and Designed Landscapes.
- 11.5 **Figure 11.1** depicts the proposed development area and the locations of cultural heritage sites and features identified by the assessment within the proposed development area.
- 11.6 **Figure 11.2** shows the development in its wider landscape setting with the zones of theoretical visibility (ZTV) and the locations of key cultural heritage receptors within 10 km of the development that have theoretical views of the turbines, based on the ZTV, and **Appendices 11.1 and 11.2** provides a summary of the predicted indirect effects, on a site by site basis.
- 11.7 **Figure 11.3** shows the development in its wider landscape setting together with the locations of other operational, consented and application stage wind farms, along with the locations of key cultural heritage receptors within 10 km which are predicted to have views of the proposed development.

LEGISLATION AND PLANNING CONTEXT

11.7 The assessment was conducted with reference to the relevant statutory and planning framework for cultural heritage. Legislation includes the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 and the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2008. The primary planning guidance comprises the Scottish Historic Environment Policy document (SHEP), Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (February 2010) and PAN 42 at national level, and at the regional and local level the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan August 2009 and the Aberdeenshire Local Plan adopted 2006.

National Legislation and Policy

11.8 Scotland's historic environment contributes to the Scottish Government's strategic objectives and to the target of improving the state of Scotland's historic buildings, monuments and environment, and is identified as a national indicator and target under the National Performance Framework. The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) sets out Scottish Minister's policies for the historic environment, and provides policy direction for Historic Scotland and a framework that informs the day-to-day work of a range of organisations that have a role and interest in managing Scotland's historic environment.

Through the implementation of the SHEP, Scottish Ministers wish to achieve three outcomes for Scotland's historic environment.

- That the historic environment is cared for, protected and enhanced for the benefit of our own and future generations;
- To secure greater economic benefits from the historic environment; and
- That the people of Scotland and visitors to our country value, understand and enjoy the historic environment.
- 11.9 Cultural heritage resources include sites with statutory and non-statutory designations as defined in SPP.
- 11.10 Sites with statutory designations include:
 - Scheduled Monuments;
 - Listed Buildings;
 - Conservation Areas; and
 - Designated Wrecks.
- 11.11 Sites with non-statutory designations include:
 - World Heritage Sites;
 - Gardens and Designed Landscapes;
 - Historic Battlefields: and
 - Other Historic Environment Interests.
- 11.12 Those relevant to this assessment are Scheduled Monuments and other archaeological features, Listed Buildings and other buildings of historic or architectural importance, Conservation Areas, and Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

Sites with Statutory Designations

Scheduled Monuments

11.13 Under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (1979 Act), the Scottish Ministers are required to compile and maintain a schedule of monuments considered to be of importance. The consent of the Scottish Ministers is required before any works are carried out which would have the effect of demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding or covering up a Scheduled Monument. In addition, impacts of proposed development works upon the setting of a Scheduled Monument form an important consideration in the granting or refusal of planning consent to conduct development works. Further information on development control procedures relating to Scheduled Monuments is provided in the SHEP, SPP and in Planning Advice Note (PAN 42): Archaeology.

Listed Buildings

11,14 Under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 (1997 Act), the Scottish Ministers are required to compile a list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. Such buildings are classified into Categories A, B and C(s), in decreasing order of importance. Planning authorities and the Scottish Ministers are required to have special regard for the desirability of preserving Listed Buildings and their settings and any features of special architectural or historic importance they possess. Scottish Government policy and guidance is also provided in SHEP and SPP.

Conservation Areas

11.15 Under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Scotland Act (1997 Act), areas of special architectural or historic interest can be designated by local authorities as Conservation Areas, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Planning authorities are required to consider planning applications affecting the appearance, character or setting of Conservation Areas. Scottish Government policy and guidance is also provided in SHEP and SPP.

Sites with Non-Statutory Designations

Gardens and Designed Landscapes

11.16 The impact of a development on a designated Garden or Designed Landscape listed in 'An Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland or its Supplements' (Inventory; published by Historic Scotland) is a material consideration in the determination of a planning application, although the designation is non-statutory in effect. Under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) (Scotland) Order 1992 (1992 Order), planning authorities must consult Historic Scotland on any development that may affect a site contained in the Inventory. Scottish Government policy and guidance is also provided in SHEP and SPP.

Other Historic Environment Interests

11.17 There is a range of other non-designated archaeological sites, monuments and areas of historic interest, including battlefields, historic landscapes, other gardens and designed landscapes, woodlands and routes such as drove roads that do not have statutory protection. Sites without statutory protection are curated by the local planning authority and SPP and PAN 42 provide national planning policy guidance and advice on the treatment of such resources.

Regional and Local Planning Policy Guidance

11.18 The following sections set out the relevant planning policies covering the Local Authority area. Current Regional and Local planning guidance is provided in *Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan (Adopted 2009), North East Scotland together: Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire Structure Plan 2001-2016 (Adopted 2009),* and the *Aberdeenshire Local Plan (Adopted 2006).*

Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan

- 11.19 The structure plan provides a vision that aims to develop the economy, maintain and improve the quality of the regions environment, and to provide a high quality of life.
- 11.20 One of the main aims of the structure plan is to protect and improve the regions valued assets and resources, including the built and natural environment and cultural heritage. The objective is to make sure new development maintains and improves the region's important built, natural and cultural assets to make sure that development improves and does not lead to the loss of, or damage to, built, natural or cultural heritage assets.

North East Scotland together: Aberdeenshire & Aberdeenshire Structure Plan 2010-2016

- 11.21 The structure plan seeks to promote, protect and enhance the rich and varied environment of the North East, giving special protection to international, national and locally designated sites of environmental importance and to foster the natural and built heritage as a whole.
- 11.22 Policy 20 states that the built heritage of the North East will be conserved and promoted as a valuable non-renewable resource, and that enhancement, active use, conservation and access to our built heritage should be encouraged wherever possible. The local plans should include policies which:
 - Protect the integrity and setting of listed buildings and Scheduled Monuments

- Protect other archaeological sites and archaeologically sensitvite areas. Where this is not feasible, proper recording and analysis shall take place; and
- Protect and enhance conservation areas, historic gardens, designed landscapes, town centres and other historic features of value.
- 11.23 Policy 26 states that proposals for wind farms must conform to a sequential exploration of tiered planning designations(these are outlined in Table 5 of the Structure Plan):
 - Tier 2 (National Designations): Development will only be permitted in national designations where it can
 be demonstrated that the underlying objective and overall integrity of the designated area will remain
 largely unaffected; or any adverse effects on the qualities for which the site has been designated are
 outweighed significantly by the national benefits that could accrue from development. In addition, it
 should be demonstrated that no suitable alternatives exist in lower tier areas by means of a sequential
 approach.
 - Tier 3 (Local Designations): Development will only be permitted following careful consideration of their
 effects on local designations and subject to individual site and local circumstances identified in local
 plans. Where harmful effects are likely, it should be demonstrated that no suitable alternatives exist in
 Tier 4 areas.
 - Tier 4 (Other Preferred Areas): Development may be permitted subject to individual site and local circumstances identified in Local Plans.

Aberdeenshire Local Plan (Adopted 2006)

- 11.24 The local plan sets out detailed guidance for new development in Aberdeenshire. It conforms to the North East Scotland together: Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire Structure Plan which sets out broader guidance in both Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, together they form the Development Plan for the region.
- 11.25 Policy ENV\17 states that all designated Conservation Areas shall be protected against any development that would have a detrimental effect on their special character or setting by the refusal of planning permission or conservation area consent.
- 11.26 Policy ENV\18 states that all Listed Buildings or structures contained in the statutory list of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest for Aberdeenshire shall be protected against any works which would have a detrimental effect on their listed character, integrity or setting by the refusal of listed building consent and/or planning permission.
- 11.27 Policy ENV\19 states that development which would have an adverse effect on an ancient monument or other archaeological site of either national or local importance or on their settings, will be refused unless:
 - There are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social, environmental or economic nature.
 - There is no alternative site for the development.
- 11.28 When development is approved, satisfactory steps must be taken to mitigate adverse development impacts, at the developer's expense. Similarly, when development is approved and the preservation of the site in its original location is not possible, the excavation and recording of the site will be required in advance of development, at the developer's expense. Where there is doubt, the developer may be required to provide further information on the nature and location of the archaeological feature(s) involved prior to determination of the planning application.
- 11.29 Policy ENV\20 states that development that would have an adverse effect on the character or setting of a garden or designed landscape will be refused unless:

- The objectives of designation and the overall integrity and character of the designated area will not be compromised; or
- Any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by social, economic and strategic benefits of national importance; and in either case,
- Mitigation and appropriate measures are taken to conserve and enhance the essential characteristics, aesthetics, archaeological, historical value and setting of the garden or designed landscape.

Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2010 (Consultation Draft) and supplementary guidance

- 11.30 The proposed local development plan sets out the ground rules for the development of land under the land use planning acts. Its main purpose is to set out statements of the policies the Aberdeenshire Council will use for assessing planning applications. In its proposals it also confirms the principle of development on sites across Aberdeenshire.
- 11.31 Policy 13 (Protecting, improving and conserving the historic environment) states that the Council will support the protection, improvement and conservation of the historic environment. There will be a presumption against development that would have a negative effect on the quality of these historic assets. Different parts of the historic environment require to be subject to specific guidance and controls to make sure that we maintain and improve their value and these are published separately in the supplementary guidance (SG):
 - SG Historic Environment 1 (Listed Buildings): states that the council will protect all "listed buildings" contained in the statutory list of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest for Aberdeenshire, and will encourage their protection, maintenance, enhancement, active use and conservation. The council will refuse planning permission and/or listed building consent for any works which would have a determinatl effect on their character, integrity or setting.
 - SG Historic Environment 2 (Conservation areas): states that the council will refuse planning permission and/or conservation area consent for any development which would have a detrimental effect on the special character or setting of a conservation area.
 - SG Historic Environment 3 (Historic gardens and designed landscapes): states that the council will only
 approve development that would have an adverse effect on the character, structure or setting of a
 designated historic garden or designed landscape, if;
 - The objectives of designations and the overall integrity and character of the designated area will not be compromised; or
 - Any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by long term strategic social or economic benefits of over-riding public importance, for which no other alternative site is available.

In each case, mitigation and appropriate measures must be taken to conserve and enhance the essential characteristics, aesthetics, archaeological, historical value and setting of the garden or the designed landscape.

- SG Historic Environment 4 (Archaeological sites and monuments): states that the council will only
 approve development that would have an adverse effect on a scheduled monument or on any other
 archaeological site, including battlefields, of either national or local importance, or on their setting,
 subject to other policies, if:
 - There are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature; and
 - There is no alternative site for the development; and
 - Where there is doubt, the applicant has provided further information, at their expense, on the nature and location of the archaeological feature(s) involved, prior to determination of the planning application.
 - In such cases, the applicant must at their own expenses:
 - o Take satisfactory steps to mitigate adverse development impacts; and
 - When the preservation of the site in its original location is not possible, arrange for the full excavation and recording of the site in advance of development.

METHODOLOGY

Study Area Description

- 11.32 The cultural heritage study area consists of two parts:
 - The proposed development area which covers approximately 300 ha for which a full desk-based assessment and field reconnaissance survey was undertaken. The proposed development area consists of flat improved pasture fields to the north of Tulloch Farm (Figure 11.1).
 - A wider study area, extending to 10km centered on the proposed turbines providing the study area for the identification of sites with statutory protection (and those with national and regional non-statutory designations) whose settings (indirect effects) may be affected by the proposed development (Figure 11.2).

Consultation

- 11.33 A scoping response, raising cultural heritage issues, was received from Historic Scotland. A summary is provided in **Table11.1** below.
- 11.34 CFA sent a consultation letter (6 October 2010) to the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist requesting information and inviting comment on the proposed development. A response, raising cultural heritage issues, was received from the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist and a summary is provided in **Table 11.1** below.
- 11.35 At the suggestion of the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist, CFA sent a consultation letter to the Howe of the Mearns Heritage Club and Bervie Parish Church Heritage Society inviting any comments they may have on the proposed development in terms of its potential to affect any local history or archaeological interest in the area and asked to be provided with information on any unreported archaeological sites or work that the group may have carried out within or in the vicinity of the proposed development area. No response was received from either historical group.

| CONSULTEE | ISSUES RAISED | RESPONSE |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| Historic Scotland (15 September 2010) | Confirmed that there are no Scheduled Monuments, Category A Listed Buildings, or Garden and Designed Landscapes within the proposed development area. | No further action required |
| | Indicated that they had concerns about the potential significant effect of the proposed development on the Scheduled Monument, Cairn of Shiels, cairn (5315). While they accept that the consented Tullo Wind Farm may compromise the setting of the cairn, they have concerns that the proposed development would create an additional adverse effect on the cairns setting. Requested that the ES assessment should include visulisations such as photomontages and wireframe views of the proposed development in relation to | The indirect effect of the proposed development on the site is assessed in Paragraphs 11.194 & 11.95. Photomontage/wireframes are provided as requested, see Table 11.10 for details. The cumulative effect of the proposed development on the site is assessed in Paragraphs 11.120-11.126. |
| | the site and its setting. | The indirect effect of the |
| | Requested that the potential effects of the proposed development on the following | proposed development on |

| | five additional cultural heritage sites should be assessed in the ES. Scheduled Monuments Cairn of Arthurhouse (3339) Erskine's Knap, burial mound (5168) Tower of Johnston, cairn and Tower (6435). Category A Listed Building Arbuthnott House (2880) Gardens and Designed Landscape Arbuthnott House GDL Requested that the ES assessment should include visulisations such as photomontages and wireframe views of the proposed development in relation to these sites and their settings. Requested that the ES should consider | these sites is assessed in: Erskine Knap, burial mound – Paragraph 11.96. Tower of Johnston, cairn and tower - Paragraphs 11.97- 98. Cairn of Arthurhouse – Paragraphs 11.99. Arbuthnott House and GDL – Paragraphs 11.111-11.115. Photomontages and wireframes are provided as requested, see Table 11.10 for details. |
|---|--|---|
| | the cumulative effects of the proposed development in combination with other proposed and consented wind farms in the vicinity. | proposed development on the site is assessed in Paragraphs 11.120-11.126. |
| Historic Scotland (25 October 2010) | Reiterated their concerns regarding the effect of the proposed development on the Scheduled Monument, Cairn of Shiels, cairn (5315) and an addition five cultural heritage sites as noted in their 15th September 2010 scoping opinion (see above). | The indirect effect of the proposed development on these sites is assessed in: Cairn of Shiel, cairn - Paragraphs 11.104 & 11.105. Erskine Knap, burial mound – Paragraph 11.106. Tower of Johnston, cairn and tower - Paragraphs 11.107- 11.108. Cairn of Arthurhouse – Paragraphs 11.109. Arbuthnott House and GDL – Paragraphs 11.111-11.115 Photomontages and wireframes are provided as requested, see Table 11.10 for details. |
| Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist (7 October 2010) | Noted that one site of regional importance (HER Ref no NO77SE0029), consisting of several hut-circles and at least one burial cairn, lies on the east facing slope of a hill above Treehead Farm and just outside the northern boundary of the proposed development. | The indirect effect of the proposed development on the site is assessed in Paragraphs 11.86-11.115. |
| | Noted that the surrounding area contains a number of burial cairns, some of which | The indirect effects of the proposed development on the |

| | are also concerned to be of regional significance. | sites are assessed in Paragraphs 11.86-11.115. |
|---|---|---|
| | Noted that there are a number of operational wind farms in the area surrounding the proposed development that have had an effect on the settings of a considerable number of upstanding archaeological monuments and a gradual erosion of their environment. Indicated that she has particular concerns about the potential cumulative effects of the proposed development on the Historic Environment. | The cumulative effects of the Development are assessed in Paragraphs 11.120-11.126. |
| Aberdeenshire Council (11 October 2011) | Set out the ES process and reiterated Historic Scotlands Scoping Opinion (15 September 2010 – see above). | No further response required |
| | Noted that the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service should be contacted in order to gain the SMR records. | SMR Data was provided by Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist on 7 October 2010 |

Table 11.1 Summary of Consultation Responses

Baseline Characterisation

- 11.36 Up-to-date information was obtained from appropriate sources on the locations of cultural heritage sites with statutory protection and non-statutory designations either within or in the vicinity of the proposed development area.
- 11.37 Details of the locations and extents of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Garden and Designed Landscapes in GIS were downloaded from the Historic Scotland Spatial Data Warehouse ((http://hsewsf.sedsh.gov.uk/gisdl.html). Additional information was provided on known archaeological sites and features within the proposed development area from the Aberdeenshire Scottish Monuments Record (SMR). The data was provided in digital format.
- 11.38 Information on the character and condition of known archaeological sites and features within the proposed development area was obtained from the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) resource maintained by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS) and Historic Scotland, or from the SMR records as appropriate.
- 11.39 Ordnance Survey maps and other early maps held by the Map Library of the National Library of Scotland were examined, to provide information on sites of potential archaeological significance and historic land-use development.
- 11.40 An assessment was made of vertical aerial photograph collections held by the RCAHMS. Sorties dating from 1946 to 1967 were available for examination.
- 11.41 Bibliographic references were consulted to provide background and historical information.
- 11.42 The online Historic Land-Use Assessment for Scotland (HLAMap) (http://www.rcahms.gov.uk), maintained by the RCAHMS was consulted for information on the historic land use character of the proposed development area.

11.43 The Scottish Palaeoenvironmental Database (SPAD) (http://www.geo.ed.ac.uk/spad), which records the distribution of known palaeoenvironmental sites across Scotland was consulted for information on palaeoenvironmental data within or adjacent to the proposed development area.

Field Survey

- 11.44 A reconnaissance field survey was undertaken (5 April 2011) of the proposed development area (**Figure 11.1**) with the following aims:
 - To assess the present baseline condition of the known archaeology and heritage features identified through the desk-based assessment.
 - To identify any further features of cultural heritage interest not detected from the desk-based assessment and to identify areas with the potential to contain currently unrecorded, buried archaeological remains.
- 11.45 The results of the desk-based assessment and reconnaissance field survey are detailed in **Paragraphs**11.65 11.81 (Baseline Conditions). No intrusive archaeological interventions have been carried out as part of this assessment.
- 11.46 Field visits to key cultural heritage receptors, within the wider landscape, were also carried out on the same day to assess the character and sensitivity of the settings of cultural heritage receptors within 10km of the proposed development (Figure 11.2), and to assess the effects of the proposed development on those settings. Site visits focused on cultural heritage sites most likely to receive significant effects on their settings (ie those closest to the development area and those specifically identified as requiring assessment by Historic Scotland). Factors considered included the location and orientation of the site; important views of or from principal facades; the importance, if applicable, of designed settings, and any obvious views or vistas. A summary assessment of the predicted indirect effects on a site-by-site basis is provided in Appendices 11.1 and 11.2, and these are discussed in Paragraphs 11.86 11.113 (Indirect Effects).

Assessing Significance

- 11.47 The effects of the proposed development on cultural heritage assets are assessed on the basis of their type (direct, secondary, indirect, cumulative), nature (beneficial, neutral or adverse), and longevity (reversible, short-term or long-term; irreversible, permanent). The assessment takes into account the sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of effect. Mitigation measures designed to prevent, reduce or offset significant adverse effects are proposed, and residual effects are assessed taking into account the likely effectiveness of the mitigation proposed.
- 11.48 The assessment of sensitivity of archaeological and heritage assets has been determined from the relative weight given to them in SPP and SHEP). **Table 11.2** summarises the relative sensitivity of key cultural heritage resources.

| SENSITVITY | DEFINITION/CRITERIA |
|------------|--|
| High | Sites of national and international importance, including: |
| | World Heritage Sites. |
| | Scheduled Monuments and sites proposed for scheduling. |
| | Undesignated archaeological sites and areas of likely national importance identified in HERs / |
| | SMRs. |
| | Category A Listed Buildings. |
| | Gardens and Designed Landscapes (Inventory sites). |
| | Outstanding Conservation Areas. |
| | Designated Wreck Sites. |

| Medium | Sites of regional importance, including: Archaeological sites and areas of distinctive regional importance |
|------------|--|
| | Archaeologically Sensitive Areas. |
| | Category B Listed Buildings. |
| | Conservation Areas. |
| | Non-Inventory Designed Landscapes. |
| Low | Sites of local importance, including: |
| | Archaeological sites of local importance. |
| | Category C(S) Listed Buildings. |
| | Unlisted historic buildings and townscapes with local (vernacular) characteristics. |
| Negligible | Sites of little or no importance, including: |
| | Sites of former archaeological features. |
| | Unlisted buildings of minor historic or architectural interest. |
| | Poorly preserved examples of particular types of features. |

Table 11.2 Sensitivity of Cultural Heritage Assets

Assessment of Direct Effects

11.49 Criteria for assessing magnitude of a direct effect, which measures the degree of change to the baseline condition of a feature that would result from the construction of one or more element of the proposed development, are presented in **Table 11.3**.

| LEVEL OF MAGNITUDE | DEFINITION |
|--------------------|---|
| High | A fundamental change to the baseline condition of the receptor, leading to total or |
| | major alteration of character. |
| Medium | A material, partial alteration of character. |
| Low | Slight detectable alteration of the baseline condition of the receptor. |
| Imperceptible | A barely distinguishable change from baseline conditions. |

Table 11.3 Magnitude of Direct Effects

11.50 The sensitivity of the receptor and the magnitude of the predicted effect are used to inform the professional judgment of the likely significance of the direct effect. **Table 11.4** summarises the criteria for assigning significance of a direct effect. Major and moderate direct effects are considered to significant in terms of the EIA regulations. Where a direct effect on a feature is likely, the assessment will contain a summary statement of the 'cultural significance' of that feature (following the guidance defined in Annex 1 of SHEP).

| MAGNITUDE OF | SENSITIVITY OF RECEPTOR ► | | | | |
|--------------|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|--|
| EFFECT ▼ | HIGH MEDIUM LOW NEGLIGIBLE | | | | |
| HIGH | Major | Major | Moderate | Minor | |
| MEDIUM | Major | Moderate | Minor | Negligible | |
| LOW | Moderate | Minor | Negligible | Negligible | |
| IMPERCETIBLE | Minor | Negligible | Negligible | Negligible | |

Table 11.4 Significance of Direct Effects

Identification of External Receptors and Characterisation of their Setting

11.51 The setting of a heritage site, feature or area is defined as 'the immediate and extended environment that is part of, or contributes to, its significance and distinctive character' (International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) 2005). Beyond the physical and visual aspects, the setting includes

interaction with the natural environment; past or present, social or spiritual practices, customs, traditional knowledge, use or activities and other forms of intangible cultural heritage aspects that created and form the space as well as the current and dynamic cultural, social and economic context. In Historic Scotland's recent guidance document – Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting 2010 – it notes that 'setting can be thought of as the way in which a historic structure's surroundings contribute to how it is experienced, understood and appreciated'.

- 11.52 Current Historic Scotland guidance (2010) notes that the setting of a receptor could be affected by the introduction of new development into its surroundings, even if that new development will not be directly visible from the receptor. The setting of a site often extends beyond the property boundary, or 'curtilage', of an individual historic asset into a broader landscape context and can include other, less tangible factors.
- 11.53 Details of previously recorded cultural heritage sites, monuments and landscape features with statutory and non-statutory designations, undesignated archaeological sites of likely national importance, within the landscape surrounding, the proposed development area were obtained. A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) map, generated for the proposed development, was used to identify those cultural heritage receptors within 10 km of the proposed development from where there is theoretical intervisibility with one or more wind turbine. Beyond 10km it is considered that the five proposed turbines would not be a dominant feature in the surrounding landscape and that the effect on the setting of heritage assets, beyond 10km, would not be significant.
- The baseline setting of each relevant receptor or related group of receptors was then characterised on a case-by-case basis. Characterisation of setting of a receptor was based upon its properties and location, and took into account the factors identified in the guidance issued by Historic Scotland (2010). The baseline setting of each receptor was characterised principally in terms of the:
 - Archaeological / historical context of the receptor.
 - Current landscape and visual surroundings of the receptor.
 - Aesthetic and experiential properties of the receptor within its surroundings.
 - Social value (actual or potential) of the receptor as a recreational / leisure or educational resource.
- 11.55 The outcome of this work was an understanding, involving the application of professional judgment, of the key characteristics that define the setting of each receptor.

Assessment of Effects on Setting

- 11.56 For each receptor, where a potential effect on setting has been identified, the assessment of possible effects has followed a four-stage approach:
 - Identification of the characteristics of the setting of the receptor (see above).
 - Assessment of the sensitivity of that setting.
 - Identification of how the presence of the proposed development will affect that setting (magnitude of effect).
 - Assessment of significance of effect.

Criteria for Assessing Sensitivity of Setting

- 11.57 Sensitivity of setting has been assessed by considering two factors:
 - The relative weight which statue and policy attach to the receptor and its setting.
 - The degree to which the baseline setting contributes to the understanding and / or appreciation, and hence value, of the receptor.

- 11.58 The relative weight that statute and policy attach to the receptor and its setting is determined using the sensitivity of archaeological and heritage resources set out in **Table 11.2**. Where individual designated receptors are present within larger designated areas (e.g. Listed Buildings within a Conservation Area); the sensitivity is stated as the higher of the two designations.
- 11.59 The degree to which the baseline setting contributes to the understanding and / or appreciation of the receptor has been assessed according to the criteria set out in **Table 11.5**.

| CONTRIBUTION | DEFINITION |
|--------------|--|
| High | A setting which makes a strong positive contribution to the understanding and/or appreciation of the siting and/or historical/archaeological/architectural context of a receptor. (e.g. a prominent topographic location; surroundings that include related monuments in close association; surroundings that are believed to be little changed from those when the receptor was created). |
| Moderate | A setting which makes some positive contribution to the understanding and/or appreciation of the siting and/or historical/archaeological/architectural context of a receptor. (e.g. surroundings that complement the siting and appearance of a receptor, such as the presence of a feature of the rural past within a more recent farming landscape containing little or no urban or industrial development). |
| Low | A setting which makes little positive contribution to the understanding and/or appreciation of the siting and/or historical/archaeological/architectural context of a receptor. (e.g. where surroundings only partially complement the siting and appearance of a receptor, such as the presence of a feature of the rural past within a partly urbanised or industrialised landscape). |
| Negligible | A setting which does not contribute positively to the understanding and/or appreciation of the siting and/or historical/archaeological/architectural context of a receptor. (e.g. immediate surroundings, such as, of a commercial coniferous single species woodland or industrial development, that are not relevant to understanding the context of the receptor). |

Table 11.5 Contribution of Setting to Understanding and Appreciation of a Cultural Heritage Receptor

11.60 These two criteria (sensitivity of receptor and contribution to setting) are combined to assess the overall sensitivity of a setting, as set out in **Table 11.6**.

| SENSITIVITY OF | CONTRIBUTION OF SETTING ► | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|------------|--------|-----|
| RECEPTOR ▼ | HIGH | NEGLIGIBLE | | |
| HIGH | High | High | Medium | Low |
| MEDIUM | High | Medium | Low | Low |
| LOW | Medium | Low | Low | Low |

Table 11.6 Sensitivity of Setting of a Receptor

Identification of Magnitude of Effect on Setting

11.61 Where it has been established that the setting of a receptor is such that there is no potential for it to be affected by the presence of the development, the receptor will not be considered further in the assessment. Examples may occur where the setting of a receptor is localised and does not include the development area or, setting of a cultural heritage asset may not include all land visible from the asset, since distant views alone are not necessarily sufficient to raise concerns about adverse effects on setting.

11.62 For the remaining sites, the magnitude of effect on setting has been assessed according to the thresholds in **Table 11.7**.

| LEVEL OF MAGNITUDE | DEFINITION |
|--------------------|---|
| High | Fundamental effects obviously changing the surroundings of a receptor, such that its |
| | baseline setting is substantially or totally altered. |
| Medium | Effects discernibly changing the surroundings of a receptor, such that its baseline |
| | setting is partly altered. |
| Low | Slight, but detectable effects that do not alter the baseline setting of the receptor |
| | materially. |
| Imperceptible | A very slight and barely distinguishable change from baseline conditions. |

Table 11.7 Magnitude of Effects on Setting

Assessment of Effect Significance

11.63 The significance of an effect on setting depends on both the magnitude of the effect and the sensitivity of the setting of the receptor. **Table 11.8** presents a matrix that has been used to inform the assessment in combination with professional judgment.

| MAGNITUDE OF EFFECT ▼ | SENSITVITY OF SETTING ► | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|--|
| | HIGH MEDIUM LOW | | | |
| HIGH | Major | Major | Minor | |
| MEDIUM | Major | Moderate | Minor | |
| LOW | Minor ¹ | Minor | Negligible | |
| IMPERCETIBLE | Negligible | Negligible | Negligible | |

Table 11.8 Significance of Effects on Setting

Significance Criteria

11.64 Significance of effect is classified as major, moderate, minor or negligible, as defined in **Table 11.9**. Major and moderate effects are considered significant in accordance with the EIA Regulations.

| SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECT | DEFINITION |
|------------------------|---|
| Major | A change to the fabric or setting that leads to a substantial effect on the character, quality or context of a receptor. |
| Moderate | Changes to the fabric or setting that lead to a material effect on the character, quality or context of a receptor. |
| Minor | Changes to the fabric or setting that lead to a detectable but non-material change effect on the character, quality or context of a receptor. |
| Negligible | Changes to the fabric or setting that lead to, at most, a negligible effect on the character, quality or context of a receptor. |

Table 11.9 Significance Criteria

¹ A non-material change to baseline conditions cannot by its nature lead to a significant effect. A significant effect arises from a material change to baseline conditions. This distinction explains why this particular significance assessment finding is not 'moderate'.

BASELINE CONDITIONS

Current Heritage Assets within the Study Area

- 11.65 There are no Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings within the proposed development area, and no part of the proposed development would lie within a Conservation Area or Garden and Designed Landscape.
- 11.66 The NMRS and Aberdeenshire Council SMR contain no records of sites within the proposed development area. The SMR does however record one site, which is considered to be of regional importance, hut circles and cairn (SMR Ref: NO77SE0029, recorded as a NSR Site) just north of the proposed development boundary (shown in brown on **Figure 11.1**).
- 11.67 Examination of historical maps did not identify any sites or features within the proposed development area.
- 11.68 Examination of aerial photographs identified four linear spreads of stone clearance (1), within an improved arable field to the north of Tullo farmsteading.
- 11.69 The Scottish Palaeoenvironmental Database (SPAD) provided no relevant information specific to the proposed development area.
- 11.70 Field reconnaissance survey allowed the character and condition of the sites located through desk-based assessment to be assessed. No further sites or features were recorded.
- 11.71 Consultation of the HLAMap indicates that the proposed development area consists primarily of post-improvement enclosed pasture to the northeast of Easter Tulloch Farm.
- 11.72 Numbers in brackets, in the following sections, refer to site numbers identified on **Figure 11.1**.

Character of the Cultural Heritage within the study area

11.73 Four linear spreads of partially turf covered stone clearance (1) are present crossing an improved pasture field to the north of Tullo Farm (**Figure 11.1**). Stone cleared from the fields during improvement activity has been placed in four lines approximately 100-200m apart, aligned northeast to southwest. The field clearance spreads range in width and height from 0.2-1m high and 1.5-2m wide. Later unturfed circular piles of clearance have also been placed on top of the linear spreads. One of the linear spreads now has a later post and wire fence running along its length. The clearance spreads are of unknown date, however they follow the same alignment of the field boundary shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map suggesting that they were formed during the 19th century when the area was enclosed as part of land improvement works. The clearance spreads are considered to be of lesser importance and negligible sensitivity.

Assessment of Archaeological Potential of the Proposed Development Area

- 11.74 The proposed development area occupies an area of improved farmland to the northwest of Easter Tulloch Farm on an east facing slope ranging between 180m-240m AOD.
- 11.75 Roy's map (1747-55) depicts the area as open, uncultivated hilly ground with only a small area of cultivation surrounding a settlement at 'Over Tulloch' (located roughly to the east of the propose development area). Later maps (for instance Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1868) indicate that the area has been enclosed, probably during the 18th and 19th century improvement period. Today, the landscape is divided into a number of flat ploughed medium sized fields demarcated by post and wire fences which are used for both animal grazing and arable cultivation.

- 11.76 No prehistoric feature have been identified within the proposed development area, however the NMRS and Aberdeenshire SMR record several prehistoric findspots and other settlement / funerary remains within the wider landscape.
- 11.77 The closest site lies immediately north of the proposed development boundary, with the denuded remains of two hut-circles and a burial cairn (SMR Ref: NO77SE0029) surviving within an improved pasture field overlooking Treehead farmstead. Numerous prehistoric funerary remains are also recorded in the surrounding area, including the remains of three cist burials and a possible fourth uncovered at Nether Tulloch Farm (NMRS Ref: NO77SE 12 & NO77SE 13) in the mid-19th century, 1km to the southeast of the proposed development; a burial cairn and associated cist (NMRS Ref: NO77SE 14) which was excavated in the early-19th century 100m southeast of the proposed development boundary at Easter Tulloch; a cremation burial (NMRS Ref: NO77SE 10) near Brownlie's-Ley Farm which was uncovered in the late-19th century, just over 500m to the northeast of the proposed development; a large burial cairn at Cairn of Shiels, which is a scheduled monument (5315), around 800m to the west of the proposed development; and, the remains of a burial cairn (NMRS Ref: NO77SE 31) within improved pasture just north of the proposed development boundary. The majority of these sites no longer survive as upstanding remains, the surface remains having been ploughed away during land improvement activities in the mid- and late-19th century.
- 11.78 An archaeological watching brief and subsequent excavation (Kirby 2009) carried out during ground-breaking works for the adjacent Tullo Wind Farm, present southwest of the proposed development, uncovered a cluster of five pits situated on a south-facing terrace to the south of Cairn of Shiels (5315) and approximately 800m to the west of the proposed development. Fragments of prehistoric pottery and a quartz scarper were recovered from the pit dating the features to the Neolithic period.
- 11.79 Several findspots have also been uncovered during the 1960s/70s, including: the recovering of a number of barbed and tanged arrowheads around Brownie's-Leys Farm uncovered around 500m to the east of the proposed development area; another barbed and tanged arrowhead (NMRS Ref: NO77SSE 33) was uncovered at Davo House, approximately 800m to the northeast of the proposed development; and a carved stone ball potential of Neolithic date (NMRS Ref: NO77SE 23) was discovered at Tullo Farm, around 250m south of the proposed development.
- 11.80 A settlement or 'fermtoun', annotated as 'Over Tulloch', is depicted just east of the proposed development area on Roys map (1747-55) indicating that the area had been settled from at least the mid-18th century. The settlement at Over Tulloch is recorded on subsequent maps until the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map when the settlement is replaced by three farmsteads with a common name, Tullo, Easter Tulloch and Nether Tulloch, suggesting that the earlier 'fermtoun' had split during the pre-improvement period as a result of, for example, changes in land ownership (i.e. subletting of land, division through inheritance) or increased population growth (Glendinning & Wade Martins 2008), the split 'fermtouns' then amalgamated into single farms during the improvement period (Whyte & Whyte 1991). A small area of rig and furrow cultivation (SMR Ref: NO77SE0052), probably associated with the earlier 'fermtouns', has been recorded by the SMR on the lower slopes of the hill just north of Tullo Farm, just outside the proposed development boundary.
- 11.81 The development area has not been extensively development in recent times and has been principally used for grazing animals during the 19th and 20th centuries. Given the large number of prehistoric sites and features recorded in close proximity to the proposed development and the historic land-use of the area it is considered that the potential of as yet, undetected, buried remains and sites to survive within the proposed development area is high. However, taking into account the limited land-take required by the separate elements of the proposed development the probability of encountering hitherto undiscovered sites of archaeological significance during the course of the construction work is judged to be moderate.

EFFECT ASSESSMENT

- 11.82 The assessment of predicted effects has been carried out with reference to the proposed development layout shown on **Figure 11.1** and is structured as follows:
 - Direct (Construction) Effects.
 - Indirect (Operational) Effects.
 - Decommissioning Effects.
 - Cumulative Effects.

Direct (Construction) Effects

11.83 The assessment of predicted impacts has been carried out with reference to the layout shown on **Figure 11.1.** There are no direct effects predicted from the construction of the proposed development.

Uncertain Effects

11.84 Ground disturbing excavations associated with the construction of the proposed development could have an adverse effect on any hitherto unrecorded, buried archaeological remains present in affected areas. Taking into account the limited extent of the proposed ground disturbance generated by the construction of access tracks, cable routes, turbine bases, hardstanding areas, construction compound and substation, the likelihood of encountering remains of archaeological significance is considered to be moderate.

Decommissioning Effects

11.85 No significant effects are predicted during the decommissioning of the wind farm, presuming that the same road infrastructure is used for the dismantling and removal of the built features of the proposed development. The removal of the wind turbines would have a beneficial effect, removing any adverse effects of the wind farm on the settings of the affected sites.

Indirect (Operational) Effects

- 11.86 A list of those external receptors within 10 km of the proposed development area and predicted by the ZTV to have theoretical views to one or more turbines is provided in **Appendices 11.1 and 11.2**, and their locations are shown on **Figure 11.2**. **Appendices 11.1 and 11.2** provide a summary assessment of the predicted indirect effects on a site-by-site basis.
- 11.87 The assessment of the magnitude of effects provided in **Appendices 11.1 and 11.2** has been based on the analysis of the blade tip ZTV, taking into account the:
- distance of the assessed site from the proposed wind farm;
- the number of blade tips visible; and
- the present baseline setting of each site.
- 11.88 The ZTV model is, however, a coarse predictive tool based on bare-earth surface topography and maximum blade-tip heights. It takes no account of obstructions to intervisibility caused by existing forestry and other vegetation or buildings and other man-made features. Therefore, professional judgement has been used to assess the significance of effects informed by the ZTV and field survey. Sites identified by Historic Scotland and / or the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist to be specifically assessed in the EIA and those judged to have the most sensitive settings have been assessed in more detail using wireframes and photomontages (refer to **Table 11.10**).

| SITE NAME / NO | STATUS | WIREFRAMES |
|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Cairn of Shiels (5315) | Scheduled Monument | Wireframe: Landscape and Visual |
| | | Chapter 10, Viewpoint 18, Figure |
| | | 8 |
| Tower of Johnston, cairn and tower (6435) | Scheduled Monument | Wireframe: Landscape and Visual Chapter 10, Viewpoint 19, Figure |
| | | 9 |
| Arbuthnott House | Garden and Designed Landscape | Wireframe: Landscape and Visual |
| | | Chapter 10, Viewpoint 16 |

Table 11.10. Cultural Heritage Photomontage and Wireframe Viewpoints

- 11.89 Scheduled Monuments, Category A and B Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, and Inventory Gardens / Designed Landscapes within 10 km of the proposed development; and Category C(S) Listed Buildings within 5 km of the proposed development are assessed.
- 11.90 Analysis of the ZTV indicates that there would be theoretical visibility of the turbines from 17 Scheduled Monuments, two of which are also Category B Listed, four Category A Listed Buildings; 44 additional Category B Listed Buildings; 11 Category C(S) Listed Buildings; two Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and one Conservation Areas.
- 11.91 The Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist also requested that the effect of the development on NSR site, hut-circles and cairns (SMR Ref: NO77SE0029), which is considered to be of regional importance, also to be assessed as part of the ES.

General Observations

- 11.92 The proposed development would stand on the upper slopes of Cairn of Shiels approximately 300m north of Tullo Farm. Cairn of Shiels is a prominent hill within the landscape just northwest of Laurencekirk, and the ZTV indicates that the proposed development would be visible in the wider landscape, particularly in an arc from Muirton of Ballochy, in the southwest, to Drumlithie, in the north; while the natural rising topography of hills to the southeast would limit views of the proposed development from the coast. The proposed wind turbines would be seen together, effectively as one slightly larger wind farm, with the operational Tullo Wind Farm, that lies immediately to the south of the proposed development boundary.
- 11.93 No significant effects have been predicted on the setting of cultural heritage receptors in the wider landscape.

Scheduled Monuments

Cairn of Shiels, cairn (5315)

The remains of a large burial cairn are situated on the upper slopes of Cairn of Shiels in an area of rough pasture. There are open views out to the surrounding landscape in all directions. The existing Tullo Wind Farm is located immediately east of the monument, the closest operational turbines being approximately 200m from the cairn. The proposed wind turbines would be present to the northeast behind the existing Tullo Wind Farm and would be seen as an extension of the existing wind farm (Landscape and Visual Chapter 10, Viewpoint 18, Figure 8). The nearest new proposed turbine for the Easter Tullo scheme would lie approximately 1.2km from the cairn. The proposed turbines would be visible in the same arc of view as those of the operational Tullo Wind Farm.

11.95 The presence of the operational Tullo Wind Farm has already affected the setting of the cairn and taken against the current baseline the proposed turbines would only have a minimal effect on the setting of the monument; none of the proposed turbines being closer to the cairn than the nearest Tullo Wind Farm turbines. It is therefore considered that the proposed development would have a low magnitude effect on the setting of the cairn resulting in an effect of minor significance.

Erskine's Knap, burial mound (5168)

11.96 No upstanding remains of the burial mound survive today, the area having been substantially ploughed, and the monument is only visible as a cropmark site on aerial photographs. The setting of the site, which lies in flat modern farmland to the east of the proposed development, adds little to its value or significance. It is considered that the proposed development would have no more than an imperceptible magnitude effect of negligible significance on its setting.

Tower of Johnston, cairn and tower (6435)

- 11.97 The substantial remains of a prehistoric burial cairn are located on the summit of Garvock Hill in an area of improved pasture. A 19th century tower or folly has been erected on top of the cairn remains. The tower is a prominent feature in the surrounding landscape and is visible in long distant views from the coast and the A90. Panoramic views are gained from the cairn out to the surrounding landscape in all directions. Such monuments often have intervisibility between similar features in the wider landscape and there are several possible contemporary burial cairns in the surrounding landscape which may have theoretical intervisibility with the monument, for instance Cairn of Shiels cairn (5315), to the northeast, and The Cloch cairn (5143) and Bridgeton Hill cairn (5318), to the east. However, any intervisibility between Cairn of Shiels cairn (5315) and the monument is now screened by intervening woodland shelterbelts.
- 11.98 The proposed development would be present to the northeast of the cairn and tower, the nearest turbine lying approximately 4.3km away. The proposed turbines would be seen along with the operational Tullo Wind Farm, in the same arc of view, and would appear as only one slightly larger wind farm (Landscape and Visual Chapter 10, Viewpoint 19, Figure 9). Although the proposed turbines would be additional industrial elements in the surrounding landscape, they would be seen as a small extension of the operational wind farm, and it is considered that their presence would have only a minimal affect on the current baseline setting of the cultural heritage features. In addition, the proposed turbines would not be seen in views to the tower from the surrounding landscape. It is considered that the proposed development would have no more than a low magnitude effect of minor significance on the setting of the cairn and tower.

Cairn of Arthurhouse (3339)

11.99 This well-preserved prehistoric burial cairn lies 2.4km to the north of the proposed development. The burial cairn stands in a woodland shelterbelt on the edge of a flat arable field, 300m west of Thornylea Farm. The cairn is surrounded by trees which are also growing on top of the cairn; nevertheless, the monument is still apparent and can be appreciated in its immediate surroundings. However, the woodland shelterbelt in which the cairn sits limits views out to the surrounding landscape and separates the cairn from its wider landscape context and thus the current setting of the monument adds little to its understanding. Views of the proposed turbines will be limited by the surrounding woodland and their presence will not affect the immediate setting of the cairn; the effect on its setting being of imperceptible magnitude effect and of negligible significance.

Other Scheduled Monuments

11.100 A further fourteen Scheduled Monuments within 10km of the proposed development are predicted by the ZTV to have theoretical visibility of the turbines.

- 11.101 Seven of these are burial cairns dating to the Neolithic (long cairns: 547, 4534) and Bronze Age (round cairns: 4754, 4778, 4820, 5143, 5318). Many of these monuments are situated on the summit of hills surrounding the proposed development. Such sites tended to have long views out to the surrounding landscape and intervisibility between them. Most of these monuments lie over 5.5km from the proposed development. The proposed turbines would be visible as part of the operational Tullo Wind Farm, that lies immediately south of the proposed development, and would not be prominent additional features in the wider landscape. In addition, the proposed turbines would not intervene with intervisibility between the sites. It is judged that the proposed development would have a minimal effect on the setting of these individual sites; the effects on each being of imperceptible magnitude and negligible significance.
- 11.102 A further seven Scheduled Monuments, including: Fordoun homestead (2231); the ruins of Benholm Castle (985) and Kincardine Castle (988); Drumnagair ring enclosure (2834); St Pallidus Chapel (9723), and the ruins of St Cyrus Old Parish Church (9743), are predicted to have theoretical views of the proposed development. The majority of these sites are situated within woodland/covered by trees and this limits views out to the surrounding landscape. Two sites St Pallidus Chapel (9723) and St Cyrus Old Parish Church (9743) have enclosed village settings. All have localised settings and the presence of the proposed development would not detract from the appreciation or understanding of these sites. The effect of the proposed development on the setting of these individual sites is considered to be of imperceptible magnitude and of negligible significance.

NSR Site

- 11.103 The remains of two hut circles and a possible burial cairn (NO77SE0029), considered to be of regional importance by the Aberdeenshire SMR, are situated on an east facing slope above Treehead Farm and immediately north of the proposed development, and would be 100m from the nearest proposed turbine. Little survives of the hut-circles and cairn, which now lie in an improved pasture field that has been substantially ploughed. The features are ephemeral and difficult to distinguish and it is hard to gain an understanding of the layout of the site in its current state of preservation. The site has little aesthetic value.
- 11.104 The operational Tullo Wind Farm is visible in close proximity to the features, and although the proposed turbines would be additional industrial elements in the surrounding landscape, they would be seen as a small extension of the operation wind farm. It is considered that their presence would have no additional affect on the current baseline setting of the cultural heritage features. It is therefore judged that the effect of the proposed development on the setting of the hut-circles and cairn is of low magnitude and of negligible significance.

Listed Buildings

- 11.105 The majority of the listed buildings within the study area (principally Category B and Category C(S) Listed Buildings) are principally historical country houses and farm buildings which sit in small designed landscapes or enclosed farmsteads. The setting of these various historic buildings is the group of related farm buildings or the designed landscape of which they are an integral part. The presence of the proposed development would not materially affect those relationships and the character of the landscape in which they lie would remain unaffected. It is considered that the effects on the settings of these buildings would be no more than of low magnitude and no more than of minor significance.
- 11.106 The discussion of the predicted effects on the setting of Category A Listed Arbuthnott House (2880) is discussed below, **Paragraph 11.111-11.115**, together with Arbuthnott GDL which it forms an integral part.
- 11.107 Other listed buildings within the study area lie within the built up areas of Laurencekirk and Aucehblae. All of the listed buildings in Auchenblae form part of the Conservation Area (discussed below). These buildings all lie in the enclosed settings of the towns; and views from them are concentrated on the

surroundings streets; none have extensive views out to the surrounding areas and the architectural qualities of each are appreciated at best at close quarters. In each case the predicted effect is assessed as being of imperceptible magnitude and of negligible significance.

Conservation Areas

- 11.108 One Conservation Area within 10km of the proposed development, Auchenblae, is predicted by the ZTV to have theoretical visibility of the proposed wind turbines.
- 11.109 Auchenblae Conservation Area is situated approximately 7.3km to the northeast of the proposed development. The Conservation Area is located to the east of the Luther Water and includes over 70 Listed Buildings, of which the majority are small residential buildings concentrated along and looking out onto the main street of the town. The proposed development would be visible in the far distance from the Conservation Area, visible together with the operational Tullo Wind Farm. At this distance the turbines would not be prominent new elements in the surrounding landscape, being seen as a small addition alongside the operational Tullo Wind Farm, and it is considered that the effect on the setting of the Conservation as a whole would be of imperceptible magnitude and of negligible significance.

Garden and Designed Landscapes

11.110 There are two Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes (GDLs): Arbuthnott House and Glenbervie House, within 10 km of the proposed development that are predicted by the ZTV to have visibility of the proposed turbines.

Arbuthnott House GDL

- 11.111 Arbuthnott House GDL is situated in the valley of the Bervie Water, and provides the setting for several historic buildings and structures, including: Arbuthnott House (2880) and the North Bridge (31), which are Category A Listed Buildings: Ice House (2881), Sundial (2838), Garden House (2837), East Gate (2841), and Mains Farm (2839), which are all Category B Listed; and Dovecot (2840) which is Category C(S) Listed.
- 11.112 The Inventory describes the GDL as being of outstanding historical value through its association with Hugo de Swinton and that families association with the land dating back to the 12th century. The site also has outstanding value for the architectural qualities of the buildings for which it forms the setting, and the terrace gardens have outstanding value as a work of art. It is also considered to have some scenic value provided mainly by the GDL woodland policies that contrast with the surrounding arable landscape. Its rural, valley bottom location with few modern intrusions, together with the scenic value provided by the contrast between its woodland policies and the surrounding arable landscape, provide a setting that overall, makes a strong positive contribution to appreciation of the character and qualities of the Category A Listed house and its surrounding GDL; consequently the site has a setting of high sensitivity to change.
- 11.113 The proposed development would lie to the southwest of the GDL, the closest proposed turbine being 4.1km from Arbuthnott House, which lies at the centre of the GDL. Its rear elevation oriented towards the southwest. The house has a formal winding driveway from the north (from the East Gate (2841)), although public access is now via a farm track from the northeast. The formal terraced gardens are located to the southwest of the house and these are open to the public: the gardens are oriented to the WSW, aligned roughly parallel to the Bervie Water. The Grampian Mountains are visible in distant views to the west from within the open spaces within the GDL, but views of the immediately surrounding landscape are restricted due to the GDL's valley setting and surrounding estate woodlands. The policy woodlands to the southeast, enclosed by Birnie Hill and Crow woods, form an important backdrop to views across the terraced gardens (Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes, Historic Scotland 2011). From the rear of the house, views across the terrace gardens are to the SSW and along the Bervie Water.

- 11.114 The ZTV indicates that all five turbines would be visible in views from the rear of the house and from the terrace gardens; they would also be visible from much of the GDL policies north of the river. The turbines would be seen on the skyline formed by Tullo Hill and in combination with the existing Tullo Hill Wind Farm, together with which it will appear as a single development. Landscape and Visual Chapter 10, Viewpoint 16 provides a visualization of the appearance of the proposed development in combination with the existing and consented Tullo Hill turbines.
- 11.115 Although, the proposed Easter Tullo turbines would introduce a new and detectable element into the wider landscape views to the southwest, it is judged that their introduction alongside the existing and consented turbines would represent only a low magnitude of change to the baseline, resulting in an effect of minor significance. Their introduction would not affect the relationships between the various listed buildings or between the buildings and other designed landscape elements. The proposed turbines would not detract from an appreciation of the GDL, nor would they adversely affect the integrity and character of the gardens and the designed landscape as a whole.

Glenbervie House GDL

11.116 The ZTV indicates that only very limited views of the proposed turbines will be afforded from the northeastern edge of Glenbervie House GDL, which lies over 8.2 km to the north of the proposed development. None of the historic buildings or other elements of the designed landscape, including Glenbervie House, would have views of the proposed wind turbines and their settings would not be affected. The effect of the development on the designed landscape is therefore considered to be of imperceptible magnitude and of negligible significance.

MITIGATION

11.117 Any requirement for archaeological mitigation through pre-construction trial trench evaluation or construction phase monitoring of works through watching briefs, would be agreed in consultation with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist. Site mitigation work may be required along proposed new sections of access routes and the proposed turbine / hardstanding locations, for example, where there is a possibility that construction activities may encounter hitherto unknown buried remains of former sites.

RESIDUAL EFFECTS

- 11.118 Completion of a programme of archaeological mitigation works as agreed with the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist would offset the loss of any archaeological resource that would occur as a result of the construction of the proposed development. Taking the mitigation into account, no significant residual effects are anticipated in relation to cultural heritage resources within the proposed development area.
- 11.119 There will be no significant effects on the setting of any key cultural heritage assets within the wider landscape; therefore the proposed development will not have a significant residual effect on the setting of any of these sites.

CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

11.120 Cumulative effects on the cultural heritage resource result from changes to the current baseline setting of the resource caused by the proposed development in conjunction with other developments that occurred in the past or are likely to occur in the foreseeable future (Landscape Institute 2002). Figure 11.3 shows the proposed development, the location of cultural heritage receptors from which there would be predicted views of the development, and other schemes included in the cumulative assessment.

- 11.121 The proposed turbines would stand on the upper slopes of Cairn of Shiels and immediately north of the operational Tullo Wind Farm, which comprises of seven turbines. The proposed development would be seen along with the operational Tullo scheme and would appear as a small extension to the existing wind farm. Together these developments would have the most effect on the setting of monuments in closest proximity to them, particularly the Cairn of Shiels cairn (5315) which lies approximately just over 1km south west of the nearest proposed Easter Tullo wind turbine.
- 11.122 The development would also be visible in combination with other wind farms in the surrounding landscape. In the wider 10km study area there are three further consented wind farms, St John's Hill, Droop Hill and Herscha Hill. The closest wind farm, to the proposed Easter Tulloch development, is the St John's Hill (nine turbine development), which lies approximately 7km to the northeast of the proposed Easter Tulloch turbines. The proposed Easter Tullo scheme, existing Tullo Wind Farm and St John's Hall development, would be seen in different arcs of views from the majority of external receptors. Were views do take in all three developments principally views from the southwest, the St John's development would be seen in the far distance, behind the proposed Easter Tullo turbines; the cumulative effect being only minimal.
- 11.123 The other two wind farms, Hescha Hill and Droop Hill, lie approximately 9km from the proposed Easter Tulloch scheme; these are small one and two turbine developments respectively and would not have a significant cumulative effect. Several other wind farm schemes are present further afield (outwith the 10km study area) particularly to the north of the proposed Easter Tulloch scheme. All lie some distance from the proposed development (over 11km) and would only be seen in the far distance, if at all, from receptors whose settings would be affected to some degree by the proposed development and would not result in any significance cumulative effects.
- 11.124 Taking into consideration the operational, consented and other submitted applications within the 10km study area it is judged that the cumulative effect on key cultural heritage receptors from the proposed development would be of minor significance.

Cairn of Shiels cairn (5315)

- 11.125 The greatest cumulative effect on this site would arise from the proposed development in combination with the existing Tullo Wind Farm (seven turbines), which lies immediately southwest of the propoed development on the south facing slopes of Cairn of Shiels.
- 11.126 There would be a cumulative effect on the Cairn of Shiels cairn (5315) which is situated just outside the boundary of the existing Tullo Wind Farm, around 200m from the nearest existing Tullo turbine. The two developments would be visible as a continuous arc of turbines to the northeast of the cairn and would be clearly visible in views from the cairn out in that direction. The operational Tullo Wind Farm has already affected the setting of the cairn, introducing a prominent industrial element into the surrounding landscape, and the addition of the proposed development, five additional turbines, would result in a small cumulative effect on the cairns setting. Nevertheless, it is considered that this cumulative effect would be of low magnitude resulting in a minor cumulative effect and not significant.

CONCLUSION

- 11.127 Only the remains of four linear clearance spreads (1) have been identified within the proposed development area. They are considered to be of lesser importance and negligible sensitivity. No direct effects have been predicted from the construction of the proposed development.
- 11.128 Taking into account the limited extent of the proposed ground disturbance generated by the elements of the proposed development the likelihood of encountering remains of archaeological significance is considered to be moderate.

- 11.129 Indirect but not significant effects are identified on 17 Scheduled Monuments, two of which are Category B Listed Buildings; four Category A Listed Buildings; 44 additional Category B Listed Buildings; 11 Category C(S) Listed Buildings; two Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes, one Conservation Area and one NSR site.
- 11.130 The cumulative effect of the proposed development in combination with other developments in the vicinity is considered to be of minor significance.

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| | | 038-043 | | |

APPENDIX 11.1: External Receptors within 5km of the proposed development and predicted to have theoretical views of the turbines

| Site no | Site Name | Status | Easting | Northing | No of turbine visible | Distance to nearest turbine (km) | Sensitivity of Receptor | Setting | Contribution of Setting | Sensitivity of Setting | Impact Magnitude | Significance of Predicted Impact |
|------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 985 | Benholm Castle, Tower | Scheduled Monument | 380409 | 770428 | 5 | 4.2 | High | A ruinous castle tower situated on a spur overlooking the Bervic Water. The castle comprises of a 15th century tower with later 16th century cape-house. A later mansion house was built on the south side of the tower in the early-19th century. The tower is also a Category A Listed Building (2807) together with the other castle buildings. Situated within a small designed landscape and surrounded by woodland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 3339 | Cairn of Arthurhouse, 260m W of Thornylea | Scheduled Monument | 376133 | 774752 | 5 | 2.4 | High | Remains of a large burial cairn situated within a woodland shelterbelt on the edge of an arable field. Trees cover the cairn remains. | Moderate | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 5143 | The Cloch, Cairn 1700m W of Mains of Brotherton | Scheduled Monument | 378120 | 767942 | 5 | 4.3 | High | Remains of a burial cairn on the summit of Cloch Hill. Situated in improved pasture. Surrounded by open arable fields. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 5168 | Erskine's Knap, Burial Mound 600m SE of Scotston | Scheduled Monument | 373799 | 773455 | 2 | 2.4 | High | Cropmark site in arable farmland. | Low | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 5315 | Cairn of Shiels, Cairn | Scheduled Monument | 374743 | 771754 | 5 | 1.2 | High | The remains of a large burial cairn situated on the upper slopes of Cairn of Shiels approximately 900 m southeast of The Shiels Farm. Open views out to the surrounding landscape in all directions. The existing Tullo Wind Farm is located immediately east of the monument | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 5318 | Bridgeton Hill, Cairn 900m ENE of Mains of Bridgeton | Scheduled Monument | 378140 | 767473 | 5 | 4.7 | High | Remains of a burial cairn just south of the summit of Bridgeton Hill. Situated in improved pasture. Surrounded by open arable fields. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 6435 | Tower of Johnston, Cairn and Tower | Scheduled Monument | 372672 | 769182 | 5 | 4.3 | High | The substantial remains of a Bronze Age burial cairn situated at the summit of Garvock Hill in open improved pasture. In 1812 a high tower (folly - 9 m high) was erected on top of the cairn by James Farquhar. The cairn and tower are prominent features in the surrounding landscape. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| NO77SE0029 | Hut-circles and cairn | NSR Site (of Regional Importance) | 375943 | 772532 | 5 | 0.1 | Medium | The poorly preserved remains of two possible hutcircles and a cairn situated on an east facing slope above Treehead Farm. Little survives of the hutcircles and cairn previously recorded by the NMRS in 1982, the area has been substantially ploughed. Surrounded by open arable farmland. | Low | Low | Low | Negligible |
| 31 | Arbuthnott House, North Bridge | Category A Listed | 379504 | 775146 | 5 | 4.1 | High | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 2807 | Benholm Castle | Category A Listed | 380405 | 770430 | 5 | 4.2 | High | A ruinous castle that is situated on a spur overlooking the Bervic Water. The castle comprises of a 15th century tower with later 16th century cape-house and an early-19th century mansion which was built on the south side of tower. The castles tower is also a Scheduled Monument (985). Situated within a small designed landscape and surrounded by woodland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2880 | Arbuthnott House | Category A Listed | 379498 | 775071 | 5 | 4.1 | High | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 2808 | Benholm Castle, Dovecot | Category B Listed | 380448 | 770667 | 5 | 4.2 | Medium | Situated in scrub land at the northern end of the designed landscape that surrounds Benholm Castle (2807). Immediately south of Benholm Farm and a series of large modern farm buildings. Surrounded by woodland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2809 | Muirton | Category B Listed | 378035 | 768801 | 5 | 3.5 | Medium | Farmhouse. Enclosed farm setting. Large woodland (Muirton Wood) immediately west of the farm. Surrounded by open arable farmland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |

| Site no | Site Name | Status | Easting | Northing | No of turbine visible | Distance to nearest turbine (km) | Sensitivity of Receptor | Setting | Contribution of Setting | Sensitivity of Setting | Impact Magnitude | Significance of Predicted Impact |
|---------|--|----------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2837 | Arbuthnott House, Garden House | Category B Listed | 379318 | 775034 | 5 | 3.9 | Medium | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 2838 | Arbuthnott House, Sundial | Category B Listed | 379432 | 775043 | 5 | 4.0 | Medium | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 2839 | Arbuthnott House, Mains Farm | Category B Listed | 379347 | 775359 | 5 | 4.2 | Medium | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 2841 | Arbuthnott House Main Gate | Category B Listed | 379479 | 775712 | 5 | 4.5 | Medium | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 2842 | Kair House | Category B Listed | 376876 | 776511 | 5 | 4.2 | Medium | Country House. Standing in small designed landscape. Woodland shelterbelt to S limited views out in this direction. Surrounded by open arable farmland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2843 | Mains of Kair | Category B Listed | 376967 | 776795 | 5 | 4.5 | Medium | Farmhouse. Standing at edge of modern farmstead. Surrounded by open arable farmland. Immediately north of House of Kairs | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2844 | Kair Lodge | Category B Listed | 376345 | 775719 | 5 | 3.4 | Medium | Small lodge for Redhall Country House (9652). Situated next to public road surrounded by shelterbelts. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2881 | Arbuthnott House, Ice-House | Category B Listed | 379530 | 775065 | 5 | 4.1 | Medium | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Low | Minor |
| 6752 | Laurencekirk, Johnston Mains, Gamekeepers Cottage | Category B Listed | 372220 | 770123 | 1 | 4.1 | Medium | 19th century cottage surrounded by modern farmsteading. Surrounded by open arable farmland. Main orientation to northeast and southwest. | Moderate | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9636 | Bridge of Kair | Category B Listed | 376255 | 775662 | 5 | 3.3 | Medium | Road bridge. River setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9650 | Pittarrow, Dovecot | Category B Listed | 372649 | 774942 | 5 | 4.3 | Medium | Early-18th century dovecot standing on the east banks of the Luther Water at the corner of a improved pasture field and immediately south of public road running from Westerton Farm to Pittarrow Farm. River setting. | Moderate | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9652 | Redhall House | Category B Listed | 374314 | 776802 | 5 | 4.8 | Medium | Country house. Woodland shelter belt on east and south sides limits views out in these directions. Open views out to the east overlooking flat arable farmland and the Fordoun disused airfield which is now used as a storage area for pipes and drilling equipment used in the North Sea Oil Fields. Large modern barn and courtyard present just 80 m to the north. | Moderate | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 37229 | Laurencekirk Parish Church and Graveyard | Category B Listed | 371811 | 771625 | 2 | 4.1 | Medium | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 37232 | Laurencekirk, Frogfield | Category B Listed | 371630 | 771543 | 2 | 4.3 | Medium | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 37234 | Laurencekirk, Beattie Lodge | Category B Listed | 371641 | 770770 | 1 | 4.4 | Medium | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 43643 | Laurencekirk, 4-6 Alma Place, Alma Hotel | Category B Listed | 371814 | 771511 | 1 | 4.1 | Medium | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 43684 | Laurencekirk, 1 Alma Place | Category B Listed | 371804 | 771526 | 1 | 4.1 | Medium | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 47653 | Laurencekirk, Station Road, Station | Category B Listed | 371702 | 771812 | 2 | 4.2 | Medium | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2840 | Arbuthnott House - Doocot | Category C(S) Listed | 379247 | 775401 | 5 | 4.2 | Low | Forms part of Arbuthnott House GDL. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9525 | Laurencekirk, Johnston Mains, Old Johnston Farmhouse | Category C(S) Listed | 372138 | 770180 | 1 | 4.2 | Low | Old farmhouse, 18th century. Standing on edge of modern farmstead. Enclosed setting; surrounded by woodland. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9528 | Mill of Conveth | Category C(S) Listed | 372876 | 774304 | 4 | 3.7 | Low | Former mill of mid-19th century date. No longer in use; has been gutted and now forms part of a farmsteading. Enclosed setting. | Moderate | Low | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9649 | Pitarrow Bridge over Luther Water | Category C(S) Listed | 372636 | 774950 | 5 | 4.3 | Low | Road bridge. River setting. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9653 | House of Redhall Lodge | Category C(S) Listed | 374246 | 776687 | 5 | 4.7 | Low | Small lodge for Redhall Country House (9652). Situated next to public road within woodland. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |

| Site no | Site Name | Status | Easting | Northing | No of turbine visible | Distance to nearest turbine (km) | Sensitivity of Receptor | Setting | Contribution of Setting | Sensitivity of Setting | Impact Magnitude | Significance of Predicted Impact |
|---------|---|----------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 37230 | Laurencekirk, High Street, Gardenstone Arms Hotel | Category C(S) Listed | 371868 | 771575 | 1 | 4.0 | Low | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 37231 | Laurencekirk, Eastview Nursing Home, Formerly Parish Kirk Manse | Category C(S) Listed | 371776 | 771660 | 2 | 4.1 | Low | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 37233 | Laurencekirk, 60 High Street | Category C(S) Listed | 371677 | 771409 | 2 | 4.2 | Low | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 43682 | Laurencekirk, 13, 15 High Street | Category C(S) Listed | 371807 | 771536 | 1 | 4.1 | Low | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 43683 | Laurencekirk, 11 Alma Place | Category C(S) Listed | 371818 | 771493 | 1 | 4.1 | Low | Forms part of Laurencekirk Village. Enclosed village setting. | High | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 49842 | Scotston Farmhouse including Ancillary Buildings | Category C(S) Listed | 373298 | 773827 | 3 | 3.1 | Low | Early to mid 19th century farmhouse and associated buildings. Enclosed setting, surrounded by woodland. Situated immediately west of A90 carriageway. Forms part of a village present on either side of the A90 carriageway. | High | Medium | Low | Minor |
| | Arbuthnott House | GDL | 379105 | 774977 | 5 | 3.7 | High | Situated in the valley of the Bervie Water which forms a steep sided valley at this location. There are distant views to the Grampain Mountains to the wet. Views from the immediate surrounding landscape are restricted due to the valley setting and surrounding estate woodlands. House stands on the north banks of the Bervie Eater. The estate polices are enclosed by a stone wall. Beyond the river on a north facing slope the parkland enclosed by Birniehill and Crow woods forms an important backdrop to views across the terraced gardens. The GDL includes several listed buildings including Artbuthnott House (2880). The house and other associated structures, such as lodges, and significant garden features including an ice house and gardeners cottage are surrounded by woodland which limits views out to the surrounding landscape. | High | High | Low | Minor |

APPENDIX 11.2: External Receptors within 5-10km of the proposed development and predicted to have theoretical views of the turbines

| Site no | Site Name | Status | Easting | Northing | No of turbine visible | Distance to nearest turbine (km) | Sensitivity of Receptor | Setting | Contribution of Setting | Sensitivity of Setting | Impact Magnitude | Significance of Predicted Impact |
|--------------|--|--|---------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| 547 | Gourdon Hill, Long Cairn | Scheduled Monument | 381809 | 770657 | 5 | 5.5 | High | Remains of a long cairn on the summit of Gourdon Hill. Surrounded by open arable fields. Main focus to the east out to the coast. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 988 / 6770 | Kincardine Castle | Scheduled Monument / Category B Listed | 367103 | 775102 | 5 | 9.2 | High | The remains of a castle, not much more than the foundations surviving, standing on a natural wooded hillock 100 m northeast of Castleton of Kincardine Farm. Covered in trees. | Low | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2231 | Fordoun, Homestead Moat | Scheduled Monument | 373548 | 777030 | 5 | 5.3 | High | Remains of a possible medieval moated site situated at the edge of an arable field and 200 m east of Fordoun House. The remains of the site are surrounded by a small shelterbelt of trees. | Moderate | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 2834 | Drumnagair, Ring Enclosure 300m SE of | Scheduled Monument | 368335 | 768334 | 2 | 8.4 | High | Cropmark site in arable farmland. | Low | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 4534 | Hillhead, Long Cairn 320m SW of Upper Craighill | Scheduled Monument | 379560 | 776807 | 5 | 5.5 | High | The remains of a long cairn situated on the summit of Hill head. Situated in a flat arable field. Surrounded by open arable farmland. Open views out to the surrounding landscape in all directions. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 4754 | Montgoldrum, Cairns & Hut Circle 400m E of | Scheduled Monument | 381702 | 777205 | 5 | 7.2 | High | The remains of at least six burial cairns and a possible hut-circle at the summit of Camp Hill (Mount Goldrum). Situated in a rou pasture clearing in woodland. Open views out to the south. Other views limited by woodland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 4778 | Droop Hill, Cairns 1250m SW of Inches | Scheduled Monument | 375557 | 781517 | 5 | 9.2 | High | A group of at least 30 cairns sitting on the summit of Droop Hill, some of which may be burial cairns. Situated in rough pasture. Surrounded by open arable farmland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 4820 | Montgoldrum, Cairn 750m ENE of | Scheduled Monument | 382018 | 777352 | 5 | 7.5 | High | The remains of a cairn situated on the northeast-facing slopes of Camp Hill (Mont Goldrum). Situated in an area of rough pasture. Surrounded by open arable farmland. Views to west limited by a rise in topography. Open views out in all other directions. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9723 / 10726 | St. Palladius' Chapel | Scheduled Monument / Category B Listed | 372616 | 778417 | 5 | 7.0 | High | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9743 | St Cyrus, Old Parish Church | Scheduled Monument | 375048 | 764779 | 5 | 7.2 | High | The limited remains of the old church of Cyrus. All that remains of this church is the south aisle (now a burial-enclosure), which stands in the burial ground, immediately east of the present parish church. The church remains are also a Category B Listed building with the current Parish Church of Garvock-St Cyrus (16317) | Moderate | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9646 | Phesdo House | Category A Listed | 367586 | 775634 | 5 | 9.0 | High | Country House. Standing in small designed landscape. Surrounded by a number of shelterbelts. Main elevations orientated northwest and southeast. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9340 | Harlingtongue | Category B Listed | 377281 | 780863 | 4 | 8.6 | Medium | Farmhouse. Forms part of a modern farmsteading. Surrounded by open arable farmland. | High | High (localised) | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9527 | Blackiemuir Mill Bridge | Category B Listed | 369824 | 771506 | 2 | 6.1 | Medium | Road bridge. River setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9635 | Fordoun House | Category B Listed | 373277 | 777016 | 5 | 5.5 | Medium | Country House. Enclosed farm setting. Surrounded by woodland and modern farm buildings. | Moderate | Medium | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9637 | Mill of Kincardine | Category B Listed | 367290 | 775962 | 5 | 9.4 | Medium | Farmhouse. Enclosed farm setting. Situated to the northwest of Phesdo House (9646) and on the edge of a small designed landscape that surrounds the country house. | High | High | Imperceptible | |
| 9643 | Monboddo House | Category B Listed | 374466 | 778243 | 5 | 6.1 | Medium | Country house. Standing in small designed landscape. Surrounded by trees and later housing estate. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |

| Site no | Site Name | Status | Easting | Northing | No of turbine visible | Distance to nearest turbine (km) | Sensitivity of Receptor | Setting | Contribution of Setting | Sensitivity of Setting | Impact Magnitude | Significance of Predicted Impact |
|---------|---|-------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| 9645 | Bridge of Mondynes | Category B Listed | 378216 | 779666 | 5 | 7.6 | Medium | Road bridge. River setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9647 | Phesdo House, Stables | Category B Listed | 367609 | 775822 | 5 | 9.0 | Medium | Forms part of small designed landscape surrounding Phesdo House (9646). Courtyard setting. Surrounded by parkland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 9648 | Phesdo House, Dovecot | Category B Listed | 367429 | 775886 | 5 | 9.2 | Medium | Forms part of small designed landscape surrounding Phesdo House (9646). Situated in an improved pasture field to the northwest of the house. Surrounded by a number of woodland shelterbelts. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10691 | Auchenblae, Fordoun Parish Church | Category B Listed | 372605 | 778448 | 4 | 7.0 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10723 | Auchenblae, Mackenzie Avenue, Kintore Cottage | Category B Listed | 372774 | 778826 | 5 | 7.3 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10726 | Auchenblae, St Palladius's Chapel | Category B Listed | 372616 | 778417 | 5 | 7.0 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10727 | Auchenblae, Fordoun Parish Church, Manse | Category B Listed | 372586 | 778379 | 5 | 7.0 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10729 | Kirkton | Category B Listed | 372544 | 778415 | 5 | 7.1 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10740 | Auchcairnie | Category B Listed | 368965 | 775504 | 5 | 7.7 | Medium | Farmhouse. Enclosed farm setting. Surrounded by woodland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10749 | Auchenblae, High Street, The Hollies | Category B Listed | 372653 | 778802 | 2 | 7.3 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 10773 | Auchenblae, Inverurie Street, Fernlea | Category B Listed | 372653 | 778964 | 5 | 7.5 | Medium | Forms part of Auchenblae Conservation Area. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16281 | Hatton Mains | Category B Listed | 367597 | 767541 | 2 | 9.4 | Medium | Country House. Standing in small designed landscape immediately next to large modern farmsteading. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16282 | Hatton Mains, Garage and Garden Wall | Category B Listed | 367651 | 767506 | 2 | 9.4 | Medium | Forms part of the small designed landscape surrounding Hatton Mains House. Surrounded by woodland. | High | High (localised) | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16283 | Hatton Mains, Steading | Category B Listed | 367537 | 767506 | 2 | 9.5 | Medium | Enclosed farm setting. | High | High (localised) | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16295 | Thornton Castle | Category B Listed | 368754 | 771818 | 3 | 7.1 | Medium | Country House. Stands in small designed landscape. Surrounded by woodland shelterbelts. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16317 | St Cyrus, St Cyrus Parish Church, Churchyard with Old Parish Church | Category B Listed | 375047 | 764779 | 5 | 7.2 | Medium | Forming part of Cyrus Town. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16318 | St Cyrus, School Wynd, St Cyrus Primary School | Category B Listed | 374976 | 764725 | 5 | 7.3 | Medium | Forming part of Cyrus Town. Enclosed town setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 16323 | St Cyrus, Ecclesgreig House, Terrace, Steps and Garden Ornaments | Category B Listed | 373825 | 765824 | 2 | 6.6 | Medium | Country House. Standing in small designed landscape. Surrounded by open arable farmland. Main elevations orientated northwest and southeast. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| 47357 | Woodston Fishery and Ice-House | Category B Listed | 375678 | 764901 | 5 | 7.0 | Medium | Earlier 19th century fishing station, former skippers quarters, bothy and ice house. Coastal setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| | Glenbervie House | GDL | 377222 | 780440 | 5 | 8.2 | High | Situated east of the confluence of the Pilketty Burn and the Bervie Water on the edge of the Howe of Mearns. Surrounded by arable landscape. No significant views out expect to the east across the parkland. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |
| | Auchenblae | CA | 372602 | 778753 | 5 | 7.3 | Medium | Conservation Area including over 70 listed buildings, all of which are either residential properties or shops concentrated along either side of the main street. Town located to east of Luther Water. Enclosed village setting. | High | High | Imperceptible | Negligible |





