

Addendum

LA01/2022/1567/F

1.0 Update

Points raised by Agent

- 1.1 After reviewing the Planning Committee Report, the agent contacted the Planning Department to seek revision of several points contained in the report.
- 1.4 In the Planning Committee Report, a representation by Mr Daniel Rafferty is listed as an objection. The Agent is of the opinion that it is not an objection to the proposal. The Agent states that Mr Rafferty sought further engagement with the Applicant and clarification and that this was undertaken. They go on to state that Mr Rafferty made no further representations to the two subsequent FEIs postdating the original and that he has since signed up to the Electrical Discount Scheme offered as part of the proposal.
- 1.5 In his letter of representation, Mr Rafferty stated he had concerns regarding glimmer/reflection and shadowing that might affect his house. He also states that the existing view from the front of his property already contains quite a few visible wind turbines and he feels the visual impact alone of even more turbines should be taken into account. These are points of objection. If Mr Rafferty no longer wanted his comments to be considered, then he had the option to withdraw his letter of representation. This was not done, therefore the representation stands as an objection to the proposal.
- 1.6 The Applicant is of the opinion that para. 8.103 of the report is incorrect. They state that job creation has been detailed in the ES and that this omission must be corrected and reassessed given the very significant weighing exercise that policy mandates.

- 1.7 The part of para. 8.103 referred to states:
‘The letters of representation also state that there will be benefit to the local area through jobs, local contracts and accommodation and food for workers during construction. These are assumptions as the Applicant has not given any details on job creation or how workers will be accommodated.’
- 1.8 Para. 8.81 of the report acknowledges that the ES states that over the 35 year lifecycle of the project, approximately 98.6 FTE job years will be created and sustained in Northern Ireland; and that jobs include construction contracts and civils contracts. The information regarding job creation as set out in the ES has been considered and given appropriate weight in the assessment of the proposal.
- 1.9 Para. 8.103 of the Planning Committee Report provides consideration of the opinion expressed in the letters of representation that **local** jobs will be created. In clarification, the Planning Department’s opinion on this statement is that the Applicant has not provided information on whether any of the jobs will be created in the local Armoy area. The ES sets out that 35.6 of the 98.6 job years will be at skill level 4 (including, research, engineering and technology professionals, planners and financial advisers etc), while the remaining 63 job years are classed as skill level 3 (skilled construction and building trades). These jobs may already exist and will not be created locally.

Further representation received

- 1.10 Since publication of the Planning Committee Report, a further representation has been received from Philip Christie on behalf of Glen Rovers GAC and Glen Rural Community Group. This is the second letter of support which has been submitted by Mr Christie on behalf of Glen Rovers GAC. It reiterates the previous points raised in the original letter and raises no new issues. All issues have been considered in the Planning Committee Report.

Further issues

1.11 Para. 8.65 of the Planning Committee Report states:

VP 12 is located at the old Armoy Rugby Club. The site is no longer used for rugby. However, it is still open to the public and its use could recommence in the future.

It has been brought to the attention of the Planning Department that the rugby club grounds are now being used for sporting activities.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That the Committee note the contents of this addendum and agree with the recommendation to refuse the application as per the recommendation provided at Paragraph 1.1 of the Planning Committee Report.