



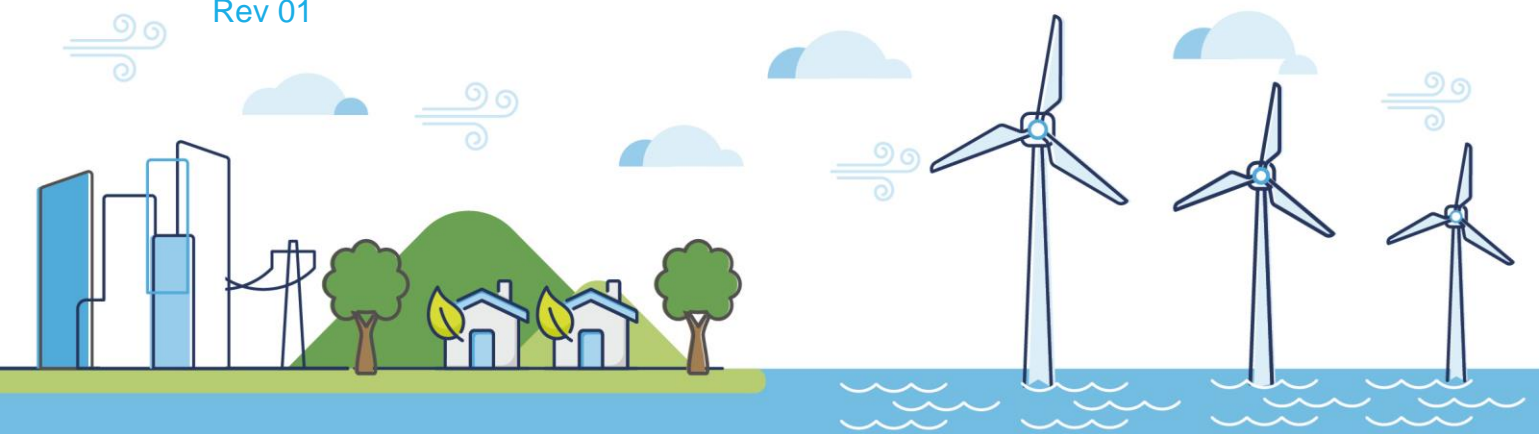
Morecambe Offshore Windfarm: Generation Assets Development Consent Order Documents

Volume 4 Consultation Report

PINS Document Reference: 4.1

APFP Regulation: 5(2)(q)

Rev 01



Document History

Doc No	MOR001-FLO-CON-ENV-RPT-0017	Rev	01
Alt Doc No	n/a		
Document Status	Approved for Use	Doc Date	May 2024
PINS Doc Ref	4.1	APFP Ref	5(2)(q)

Rev	Date	Doc Status	Originator	Reviewer	Approver	Modifications
01	May 2024	Approved for Use	Camargue	Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd	Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd	n/a

1 Contents

1	Executive Summary.....	25
1.1	Introduction	25
1.2	Purpose of the evidence plan.....	30
1.3	Stakeholder engagement strategy	31
1.4	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultation	33
1.5	Stage one ('non statutory') consultation	33
1.6	The Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC).....	35
1.7	Stage two ('statutory') consultation: identifying consultees	35
1.8	Section 42 'duty to consult'.....	36
1.9	Section 47 'duty to consult local community'	37
1.10	Section 46 'duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed Application' ..	39
1.11	Section 48 'duty to publicise'	39
1.12	Section 49 'duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity'	40
1.13	Statements of Common Ground.....	40
1.14	Next steps	40
1.15	Compliance checklist.....	41
1	Crynodeb Gweithredol	43
1.1	Cyflwyniad.....	43
1.2	Pwrpas y cynllun tystiolaeth	48
1.3	Strategaeth ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid.....	49
1.4	Ymgynghoriad ar yr Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol (AEA)	51
1.5	Ymgynghoriad Cam Un ('Anstatudol')	51
1.6	Y Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol (SoCC)	52
1.7	Ymgynghoriad Cam Dau ('statudol'): nodi ymgynghoreion	53
1.8	Adran 42 'Dyletswydd i Ymgynghori'	54
1.9	Adran 47 'Dyletswydd i Ymgynghori â'r Gymuned Leol'.....	55
1.10	Adran 46 'Dyletswydd i hysbysu'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol o Gais arfaethedig'	57
1.11	Adran 48 'Dyletswydd i roi cyhoeddusrwydd'	57
1.12	Adran 49 'dyletswydd i ystyried ymatebion i ymgynghoriad a chyhoeddusrwydd'.....	58

1.13	Datganiadau Tir Cyffredin	58
1.14	Y camau nesaf	58
1.15	Rhestr wirio cydymffurfiaeth	59
2	Introduction	61
2.1	Overview	61
2.2	The Applicant	61
2.3	The proposed Project site	62
2.4	The proposed Project	64
2.5	Consultation Report.....	64
3	Legislative context, relevant guidance and compliance	71
3.1	Overview of the DCO regime	71
3.2	Legislative requirements for pre-application consultation and publicity .	72
3.3	Relevant guidance.....	78
3.4	Legislative compliance	78
4	The Applicant’s approach to consultation	79
4.1	Staged approach	79
4.2	Non-technical engagement	80
4.3	Technical engagement.....	80
4.4	Stage one: non-statutory consultation	81
4.4.1	Feedback and reporting	82
4.4.2	Technical engagement.....	82
4.5	Development of draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) ...	83
4.6	Stage two: statutory consultation	84
4.6.1	Feedback and reporting	84
4.6.2	Technical engagement.....	84
5	Stakeholder engagement and consultation strategy	86
5.1	Background to preparation of the stakeholder engagement strategy	86
5.2	Timing of engagement.....	87
5.3	Definition of the consultation zones.....	87
5.4	Consultation methods.....	88
6	EIA related consultation	91
6.1	Evidence Plan Process (EPP).....	91

6.2	The EIA Regulations	92
6.3	Scoping Report	93
6.4	Scoping Opinion.....	93
6.5	Approach to Preparation and Publication of Preliminary Environmental Information	94
6.6	Habitats Regulations Assessment Consultation.....	94
6.7	Marine Conservation Zone Assessment Consultation.....	95
6.8	Preparation and Finalisation of the ES.....	95
6.9	Changes to the design made as a result of statutory consultation	95
6.10	Topics outside of the EPP.....	98
6.11	Commercial fisheries stakeholder engagement	98
6.12	Shipping and navigation stakeholder engagement.....	101
6.13	Aviation and radar stakeholder engagement.....	104
6.14	Infrastructure and other users stakeholder engagement.....	110
7	Stage one consultation: non-statutory	116
7.1	Who was consulted	116
7.2	How people were consulted and what they were consulted on	118
7.3	Promotion of the non-statutory consultation	120
7.4	Promotion of the non-statutory consultation website.....	121
7.5	How could feedback be provided	122
7.6	Response to non-statutory consultation	123
7.7	Key issues and themes of non-statutory consultation feedback.....	123
7.7.1	Theme 1 - Impact on shipping routes.....	123
7.7.2	Response to non-statutory consultation feedback on the impact on shipping routes.....	124
7.7.3	Theme 2 - General support for all projects	124
7.7.4	Response to general support for the Project.....	124
7.7.5	Theme 3 - Desire for additional consultation on the Isle of Man.....	125
7.7.6	Response to feedback on further consultation on the Isle of Man.....	125
7.7.7	Theme 4 - Calls for benefits to residents of the IoM.....	126
7.7.8	Response to calls for benefits to residents of the IoM.....	126
7.7.9	Theme 5 - Impact on marine wildlife and seabirds	126
7.7.10	Response to feedback on impact on marine wildlife and seabirds	126

7.7.11	Theme 6 - Onshore cable route	127
7.7.12	Response to feedback on the onshore cable route	127
7.7.13	Theme 7 - Impact on fishing industry	127
7.7.14	Response to feedback on the impact on the fishing industry	128
7.7.15	Theme 8 - Visual impact of the Project.....	128
7.7.16	Response to feedback on the visual impact of the Project.....	128
7.7.17	Theme 9 - Onshore substations	129
7.7.18	Response to feedback on onshore substations.....	129
7.7.19	Theme 10 – Non-statutory Consultation materials	129
7.7.20	Response to feedback on consultation materials	130
7.7.21	Theme 11 - Impact on onshore ecology.....	130
7.7.22	Theme 12 - Response to feedback on onshore ecology	130
7.7.23	Theme 13 - Lack of clarity on which projects were being discussed ...	130
7.7.24	Response to feedback on lack of clarity on which projects were being discussed	130
8	Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC): preparation and consultation	132
8.1	Legislative requirements	132
8.2	Background to the preparation of the SoCC.....	133
8.3	SoCC public consultation zone	134
8.4	Statutory consultation on the draft SoCC	137
8.5	Publication of the final SoCC and Section 47 notice	141
8.6	Compliance with the SoCC	144
9	Stage two (statutory) consultation: identifying consultees	164
9.1	Section 42 ‘duty to consult’.....	164
9.2	Identification of Section 42 consultees	166
9.3	Section 42(a): such persons as may be prescribed	166
9.4	Section 42(1)(b): each Local Planning Authority within section 43.....	167
9.5	Section 42(d): each person in one or more of the categories set out in Section 44	167
9.6	Non-prescribed consultees.....	168
9.7	Section 47: duty to consult local community.....	169
10	Stage two (statutory consultation): Section 42 (‘duty to consult’).....	170

11	Stage two consultation (statutory): Section 47 ('duty to consult local community')	173
11.1	Introduction	173
11.2	Consultation approach: presenting the full picture	173
11.3	Statutory consultation materials	174
11.4	Advertising the statutory consultation.....	175
11.5	Direct email communications	180
11.6	In-person consultation events	181
11.7	Consultation postcard.....	184
11.8	Consultation brochure	184
11.9	Posters	184
11.10	How to provide feedback.....	187
11.11	Telephone enquiries.....	188
12	Consultation (statutory): Section 46 Duty to notify Secretary of State of Proposed Application.....	189
13	Stage two consultation: Section 48 ('duty to publicise')	190
13.1	Summary of approach	190
13.2	Development of the notice.....	191
13.3	Publications	191
14	Limited extensions to consultation	194
14.1	Limited extension to consultation – 1	194
14.2	Limited extension to consultation – 2	195
15	Summary of responses to pre-application (statutory) consultation and applicant regard	198
15.1	Introduction	198
15.2	Legislation and guidance.....	198
15.3	Overview of responses.....	199
15.4	Introductory chapters (PEIR Volume 1, Chapters 1-6)	200
15.4.1	Key stakeholders.....	200
15.4.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard - Project Description (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 5)	200
15.4.3	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard – EIA Methodology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 6)	201

15.5	Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 7)	202
15.5.1	Key stakeholders.....	202
15.5.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	202
15.6	Marine Sediment and Water Quality (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 8)	204
15.6.1	Key stakeholders.....	204
15.6.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	204
15.7	Benthic Ecology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 9, draft RIAA and draft MCZA)	205
15.7.1	Key stakeholders.....	205
15.7.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	205
15.8	Fish and Shellfish Ecology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 10, draft RIAA and draft MCZA).....	206
15.8.1	Key stakeholders.....	206
15.8.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	206
15.9	Marine Mammals (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 11, and draft RIAA).....	209
15.9.1	Key stakeholders.....	209
15.9.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	210
15.10	Offshore Ornithology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 12, and draft RIAA) ..	215
15.10.1	Key stakeholders.....	215
15.10.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	215
15.10.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	220
15.11	Commercial Fisheries (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 13)	220
15.11.1	Key stakeholders.....	220
15.11.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	220
15.11.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	221
15.12	Shipping and Navigation (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 14).....	222
15.12.1	Key stakeholders.....	222
15.12.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	222
15.12.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	224
15.13	Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 15)	225
15.13.1	Key stakeholders.....	225

15.13.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	226
15.14	Civil and Military Aviation and Radar (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 16) ...	226
15.14.1	Key stakeholders.....	226
15.14.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	227
15.14.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	228
15.15	Infrastructure and Other Users (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 17)	229
15.15.1	Key stakeholders.....	229
15.15.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	229
15.16	Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 18)	231
15.16.1	Key stakeholders.....	231
15.16.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	231
15.16.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	232
15.17	Human Health (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 19).....	232
15.17.1	Key stakeholders.....	232
15.17.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	233
15.17.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	233
15.18	Socio-economic, Tourism and Recreation (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 20)	234
15.18.1	Key stakeholders.....	234
15.18.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	234
15.18.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	235
15.19	Climate change (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 21).....	235
15.19.1	Key stakeholders.....	235
15.19.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	236
15.19.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	236
15.20	Traffic and Transport (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 22).....	237
15.20.1	Key stakeholders.....	237
15.20.2	Section 42 responses and Applicant regard.....	237
15.20.3	Section 47 responses and Applicant regard.....	237
16	Post-statutory consultation engagement.....	238
16.1	Announcement of design refinements.....	238
17	Statements of Common Ground	240

18	Conclusion.....	241
19	Next Steps.....	242
20	References	243

Tables

Table 1.1 Consultation Report structure.....	28
Table 1.2 Summary of the Applicant’s pre-application consultation process.....	31
Table 1.1 Strwythur yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori.....	45
Table 1.2 Crynodeb o broses ymgynghori cyn ymgeisio’r Ymgeisydd	49
Table 2.1 Structure of the Consultation Report in relation to Advice Note Fourteen	66
Table 3.1 Requirements for pre-application consultation and publicity	74
Table 5.1 Methods of engagement during consultation.....	89
Table 6.1 Design changes adopted as a result of statutory consultation.	96
Table 6.2 Consultation log - a summary of all consultation and engagement with commercial fisheries stakeholders	98
Table 6.3 Consultation log - a summary of all consultation and engagement with shipping and navigation stakeholders	101
Table 6.4 Consultation log: Summary of all consultation, engagement and correspondence with aviation and radar stakeholders	105
Table 6.5 Consultation log - a summary of all consultation and engagement with infrastructure and other marine user stakeholders	110
Table 7.1 Non-statutory consultation event details.....	119
Table 8.1 Summary of feedback on draft SoCC received from Relevant LPAs.....	138
Table 8.2 Section 47 publication schedule	141
Table 8.3 Deposit locations	142
Table 8.4 Compliance with SoCC commitments	146
Table 10.1 Summary of communications sent to Section 42 consultees before and during statutory consultation	172
Table 11.1 Where and when the Section 47 notice appeared.....	175
Table 11.2 Methods employed to promote the statutory consultation	175
Table 11.3 Newspaper advertising.....	177
Table 11.4 Online advertising.....	178
Table 11.5 Google advertising	179
Table 11.6 Spotify advertising	180
Table 11.7 Direct email communications.....	181
Table 11.8 In-person consultation events.....	182
Table 11.9 Poster locations.....	185

Table 13.1 Publication of Section 48 notice	192
Table 14.1 Section 42 consultees that didn't open any emails.....	195
Table 14.2 Section 42 consultees affected by feedback form issue.....	197

Figures

Figure 1.1 Multi-phased approach to consultation.....	32
Figure 2.1 Location of the Project	63
Figure 8.1 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Blackpool south and coastal	135
Figure 8.2 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Southport venue	135
Figure 8.3 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Blackpool venue	135
Figure 8.4 Statutory consultation mailing zone – coastal and onshore communities	136
Figure 8.5 Statutory consultation mailing zone – north Wales.....	136
Figure 8.6 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Isle of Man	136
Figure 8.7 Deposit locations.....	143

Glossary of Acronyms

AfL	Agreement for Lease
AIS	Automatic Identification System
ALARP	As Low As Reasonably Practicable
APDO	Approved Procedure Design Organisation
APFP	Applications Prescribed Forms and Procedure
ATC	Air Traffic Control
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy ¹
CAA	Civil Aviation Authority
CCS	Carbon Capture and Storage
CEA	Cumulative Effects Assessment
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
COLREGS	Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
CRNRA	Cumulative Regional Navigational Risk Assessment
CTV	Crew Transfer Vessel
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DCO	Development Consent Order
DECC	Department for Energy and Climate Change ¹
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
DESNZ	Department for Energy Security and Net Zero ¹
DLUHC	Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
DML	Deemed Marine Licence
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPP	Evidence Plan Process
ERCoP	Emergency Response Cooperation Plan
ES	Environmental Statement
ETG	Expert Topic Group
EU	European Union
FLO	Fisheries Liaison Officer
GI	Geotechnical Investigations

¹ The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) was disbanded and merged with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to form the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) in 2016. As of February 2023, BEIS is known as the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).

HAT	Highest Astronomical Tide
HAZID	Hazard Identification
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
IACC	Isle of Anglesey County Council
IFP	Instrument Flight Procedure
IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
IoM	Isle of Man
IPMP	In Principle Monitoring Plan
LDNP	Lake District National Park
LMP	Lighting Management Plan
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MCZ	Marine Conservation Zone
MCZA	Marine Conservation Zone Assessment
MGN	Marine Guidance Note
MHCLG	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
MMMP	Marine Mammal Monitoring Protocol
MMO	Marine Management Organisation
MNEF	Maritime Navigation Engagement Forum
MOD	Ministry of Defence
MP	Members of Parliament
MPS	Marine Policy Statement
MS	Members of the Senedd
MU	Management Unit
NATS	National Air Traffic Services
NFFO	National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations
NIFPO	Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation
NPB	Non-Prescribed Bodies
NPC	Non-Prescribed Consultee
NPS	National Policy Statement
NRA	Navigational Risk Assessment
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NSTA	North Sea Transition Authority
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
NWIFCA	North Western Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority

O&G	Oil and Gas
OEC	Offshore Export Cables
OFTO	Offshore Transmission Owner
OSP	Offshore Substation Platform
OTNR	Offshore Transmission Network Review
PA 2008	The Planning Act 2008
PDE	Project Design Envelope
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PEXA	Practice and Exercise Areas
PIL	Persons with an Interest in Land
PINS	The Planning Inspectorate
POI	Point of Interconnection
PSR	Primary Surveillance Radar
RIAA	Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment
RLS	Radar Line of Sight
RNLI	Royal National Lifeboat Institution
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SAR	Search and Rescue
SIMOPS	Simultaneous Operations
SNCB	Statutory Nature Conservation Body
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoCG	Statements of Common Ground
SoS	Secretary of State
SSSP	Skomer, Skokholm and Seas off Pembrokeshire
SWFPA	Scottish White Fish Producers Association
TH	Trinity House
TSC	Territorial Seas Committee
UK	United Kingdom
VMP	Vessel Management Plan
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
VTS	Vessel Traffic Survey
WFSV	Wind Farm Service Vessel
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility
ZVI	Zone of Visual Influence

Glossary of Unit Terms

km	kilometre
km ²	kilometre squared
GW	Gigawatt
m	metre
m ²	metres squared
MW	Megawatt
nm	nautical mile

Glossary of Terminology

Applicant	Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd.
Agreement for Lease (AFL)	Agreements under which seabed rights are awarded following the completion of The Crown Estate tender process.
Application	This refers to the Applicant's application for a Development Consent Order (DCO). An application consists of a series of documents and plans which are published on the Planning Inspectorate's (PINS) website.
Collision	The act or process of colliding (crashing) between two moving objects.
Consultation Zone	The area(s) identified by the Project with reference to potential impacts of the Project, within which consultation was targeted. Those within the consultation zone boundaries were notified as part of the consultation(s).
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project(s) (NSIP).
Environmental Statement	The document presenting the result of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets.
Evidence Plan Process (EPP)	A voluntary consultation process with specialist stakeholders to agree the approach, and information to support, the EIA and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for certain topics. The EPP provides a mechanism to agree the information required to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate as part of the DCO application. This function of the EPP helps Applicants to provide sufficient information in their application, so that the Examining Authority can recommend to the Secretary of State whether or not to accept the application for examination and whether an appropriate assessment is required.
Expert Topic Group (ETG)	A forum for targeted engagement with regulators and interested stakeholders through the EPP.
Fishery	A group of vessel voyages which target the same species or use the same gear.
Fishing ground	An area of water or seabed targeted by fishing activity.
Fleet	A physical group of vessels sharing similar characteristics (e.g. nationality).
Gear type	The method/equipment used for fishing.
Generation Assets (the Project)	Generation Assets associated with the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm. This is infrastructure in connection with electricity production, namely the fixed foundation wind turbine generators (WTG), inter-array cables, OSP(s) and possible platform link cables to connect offshore substation platform(s).

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations)	The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations), is a statutory instrument relating to NSIPs.
The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations 2017)	The EIA Regulations 2017 transposed the European Union (EU) system of environmental assessment into domestic law and the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018 retained these provisions at the end of the transition period. With the repeal of the European Communities Act 1972, the UK Government needs to secure powers in primary legislation if it is to repeal and replace the EU system. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) is responsible for the EU derived environmental assessment regime throughout the planning system in England. This applies to projects consented under the Planning Act 2008 (i.e., the NSIP regime).
Instrument Flight Procedure (IFP)	An Instrument Flight Procedure (IFP) is a published procedure used by aircraft flying in accordance with Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) and is designed to facilitate safe and efficient aircraft operations. It is a description of a series of predetermined flight manoeuvres by reference to flight instruments, published by electronic and/or printed means.
Inter-array Cables	Cables which link the WTGs to each other and the offshore substation platform(s) (OSP(s)).
In-row	The distance separating WTGs in the main rows of the windfarm layout.
Inter-row	The distance separating the main rows of WTGs within the windfarm layout.
Landfall	Where the offshore export cables would come ashore.
Landings	Quantitative description of the amount of fish returned to port for sale, in terms of value or weight.
Local Authority	A body empowered by law to exercise various statutory functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom.
Marine Guidance Note (MGN)	A system of guidance notes issued by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), which provide significant advice relating to the improvement of the safety of shipping and of life at sea, and to prevent or minimise pollution from shipping.
Members of the Senedd	Member of the Welsh Parliament.
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	The UK Government organisation responsible for the protection and enhancement of the marine environment around England and supporting UK economic growth by enabling sustainable marine activities and development.

	<p>The MMO licenses, regulates and plans commercial fisheries activities in the seas around England, with jurisdiction from 0 to 12nm.</p> <p>The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 also gives the MMO delegated functions for marine planning and licencing from the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.</p>
Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets	<p>The transmission assets for the Morgan Offshore Wind Project and the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm. This includes the (OSP(s))², interconnector cables, Morgan offshore booster station, offshore export cables, landfall site, onshore export cables, onshore substations, 400 kilovolts (kV) cables and associated grid connection infrastructure such as circuit breaker infrastructure.</p> <p>Also referred to in this chapter as the Transmission Assets, for ease of reading.</p>
Mona Offshore Wind Project	<p>The Mona Offshore Wind Project is a proposed offshore windfarm in the Irish sea. This is being developed by Mona Offshore Wind Limited (a joint venture between bp Alternative Energy Investments Ltd. (bp) and Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (EnBW)). The Mona Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the Generation Assets and offshore and onshore Transmission Assets and associated activities.</p>
Morgan Offshore Wind Project	<p>The Morgan Offshore Wind Project is a proposed offshore windfarm in the Irish sea. This is being developed by Morgan Offshore Wind Limited (a joint venture between bp Alternative Energy Investments Ltd. (bp) and Energie Baden-Württemberg AG (EnBW)). The Morgan Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the Generation Assets and offshore and onshore Transmission Assets and associated activities.</p>
Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets	<p>This is the name given to the Morgan Generation Assets project (including all infrastructure and activities associated with construction, operations and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Generation Assets).</p>
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO)	<p>A UK organisation comprised of members from Producers' Organisations, fishermen's groups and individuals, representing fishers in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands.</p>
National Policy Statement (NPS)	<p>The planning documents that set out UK Government policy on different types of national infrastructure development. EN-3 is the NPS for renewable energy infrastructure and was</p>

² At the time of writing the Environmental Statement (ES), a decision had been taken that the OSP(s) would remain solely within the Generation Assets application and would not be included within the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Transmission Assets. This decision post-dated the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) that was prepared for the Transmission Assets. The OSP(s) are still included in the description of the Transmission Assets for the purposes of this ES as the Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) carried out in respect of the Generation/Transmission Assets is based on the information available from the Transmission Assets PEIR.

	produced by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ).
Non-prescribed Consultee	Organisations that are not defined under the Section 42 Regulations, but which have relevant functions and responsibilities.
Non-statutory Consultee	Organisations that an applicant may choose to consult in relation to a project who are not designated in law, but are likely to have an interest in the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets.
North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NWIFCA)	A UK authority that licenses, regulates, and plans commercial fisheries activities in the seas around England, with jurisdiction from 0 to 6nm. The North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NWIFCA) district spans 850km of coastline, from the Welsh Border in the Dee Estuary to the Scottish Border in the Solway Firth.
Offshore Export Cables (OEC)	The cables which would bring electricity from the OSP(s) to the landfall.
Offshore Substation Platform(s) (OSP(s))	A fixed structure located within the windfarm site, containing electrical equipment to aggregate the power from the wind turbine generators and convert it into a more suitable form for export to shore.
Pathways to 2030 Holistic Network Design	The Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design represents a suite of documents that together set out a coordinated approach for connecting 50GW of offshore wind to the UK electricity network.
Pelagic	Of or relating to the open sea, species living in the water column.
Penwortham National Grid Substation	This is the Point of Interconnection (POI) selected by the National Grid for the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Project.
Planning Act 2008	Primary legislation establishing, inter alia, the Infrastructure Planning Commission and provisions about its functions and provisions about and matters ancillary to the authorisation of NSIPs.
Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015) (DCLG Guidance)	The Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015) Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG Guidance) authored by the former DCLG (now the DLUHC) sets out the requirements and procedures for the pre-application process and consultation for major infrastructure projects.
Platform link cable	An electrical cable which links one or more offshore substation platforms.
Prescribed Consultee	Any organisation defined under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 as a Statutory Consultee for the proposed Application.
Primary Surveillance Radar (PSR)	A radar system that measures the bearing and distance of targets using the detected reflections of radio signals.

<p>Radar Line of Sight (RLoS)</p>	<p>Radar Line of Sight (RLoS) is the direct path from a radar to a target. Radio signals are generally bent or refracted downward in the earth's atmosphere, extending the radar horizon beyond the optical horizon. RLoS calculations account for refraction by assuming a 4/3 effective earth radius.</p>
<p>Local Planning Authority (LPA)</p>	<p>The Local Planning Authority (LPA) is the Local Authority in respect of an area within which a project is situated, as set out in Section 173 of the Planning Act 2008. LPAs may have responsibility for discharging requirements and some functions pursuant to the Development Consent Order, once made.</p>
<p>Safety Zones</p>	<p>A Safety Zone is an area around a structure or vessel which should be avoided, as set out in the Energy Act 2004 and the Electricity (Offshore Generating Stations) (Safety Zones) (Application Procedures and Control of Access) Regulations 2007.</p>
<p>Scallop Dredge</p>	<p>A method to catch scallop using steel dredges, with a leading bar fitted with a set of spring loaded, downward pointing teeth. Behind this toothed bar (sword), a matt of steel rings is fitted. A heavy net cover (back) is laced to the frame, sides and after end of the mat, to form a bag.</p>
<p>Scour Protection</p>	<p>Protective materials to avoid sediment being eroded away from the base of the foundations due to the flow of water.</p>
<p>Statutory Consultee</p>	<p>Organisations that are required to be consulted by an applicant pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 in relation to an application for DCO. Not all consultees will be Statutory Consultees (see Non-Statutory Consultee definition).</p>
<p>Steering Group</p>	<p>The Applicant and key stakeholders responsible for overseeing the EPP.</p>
<p>Study Area</p>	<p>This is an area which is defined for each EIA topic, which includes the windfarm site as well as potential spatial and temporal considerations of the impacts on relevant receptors. The Study Area for each EIA topic is intended to cover the area within which an effect can be reasonably expected.</p>
<p>Technical Stakeholders</p>	<p>Technical Stakeholders are considered to be organisations with detailed knowledge or experience of the area within which the Project is located and/or receptors which are considered in the EIA and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Examples of Technical Stakeholders include MMO, LPAs, Natural England, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), NATS and Ministry of Defence (MOD).</p>
<p>Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)</p>	<p>A system used in commercial fishing to allow environmental and fisheries regulatory organisations to monitor, minimally, the position, time at a position, and course and speed of fishing vessels.</p>

Windfarm Site	The area within which the WTGs, inter-array cables, OSP(s) and platform link cables will be present.
Wind Turbine Generator (WTG)	A fixed structure located within the windfarm site that converts the kinetic energy of wind into electrical energy.
Zone of Influence (Zol)	This is a refined area within the wider study area covering the maximum anticipated spatial extent of a given potential impact. As such, the Zol for each topic is intended to cover the area within which an effect can be reasonably expected.
Zone of Theoretical Impact (ZTV)	Also referred to as the Zone of Theoretical Visibility, the Zone of Theoretical Impact (ZTV) is the theoretical areas from where a development would be visible.



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1 Executive Summary

1.1 Introduction

1. This Consultation Report (Document Reference 4.1) has been prepared and submitted by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd ('the Applicant') on behalf of the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets ('the Project'). It forms part of the Application (the 'Application') for a Development Consent Order (DCO), that has been submitted to the Secretary of State (the 'SoS') for Energy Security and Net Zero. This Consultation Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 37(3)(c) of the Planning Act 2008 ('PA 2008'). It demonstrates how the Applicant has complied with its duties under Sections 42, 47, 48 and 49 of the PA 2008.
 - Under Section 42 of the PA 2008, bodies prescribed by Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 (the 'APFP Regulations') were consulted.
 - Under Section 47 of the PA 2008, a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) was developed for the Project. Given the Project is entirely offshore, the Applicant consulted with each Local Planning Authority (LPA) within Section 43(1) of the PA 2008 on a draft SoCC, as required by Section 47(2) of the PA 2008, areas that may be visually impacted by the windfarm, as well as the communities and businesses which may expect to be economically impacted. In addition to consulting with the LPAs, the Applicant also consulted with the MMO, Lake District National Park (LDNP) and the Isle of Man (IoM) Government on the draft SoCC. The SoCC was published in the prescribed manner and consultation with the local community was carried out in line with the SoCC.
 - Under Section 48 of the PA 2008, the proposed development was publicised in the prescribed manner in local and national newspapers, industry publications and commercial fishing publications. This was also made available on the consultation website for inspection free of charge in accordance with Section 48. The Section 48 consultation occurred in parallel to statutory consultation under Section 42 of the PA 2008;
 - Under Section 49 of the PA 2008, the Applicant has had regard to the relevant responses to all consultation and publicity carried out under Sections 42, 47 and 48.
2. Section 37 of the PA 2008 requires an application for a DCO to be accompanied by a 'Consultation Report' explaining how the applicant has complied with the relevant statutory, regulatory and policy requirements. The

Consultation Report must also set out (in accordance with Section 49) how the applicant has had regard to the responses received to the consultation.

3. This Consultation Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 37 of the PA 2008, Government guidance and advice from the Planning Inspectorate ('PINS') advice. It provides information in respect of the Applicant's staged pre-application consultation on the proposed Project and the analysis of the comments and feedback that has been received on the pre-application consultation.
4. The Applicant is applying for a DCO for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets ('the Project'). Details of the potential decommissioning activities are not known at this time and would be subject to separate consent. Further information is presented in **Chapter 5 Project Description** of the Environmental Statement (ES) (Document Reference 5.1.5).
5. This Project has a planned capacity of over 100MW and is categorised as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (or 'NSIP') under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(3) of the PA 2008.
6. Prior to the submission of an application for a DCO, the Applicant must carry out the consultation and publicity activities, as prescribed by Sections 42, 46, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008, the associated provisions of the APFP Regulations (as amended) and 'The Infrastructure Planning Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2017' (the 'EIA Regulations') and have regard to other relevant Government guidance. This includes consulting with the local community and certain prescribed persons and bodies (prescribed by regulations, such as LPAs, technical consultees and potentially affected land interests).
7. The Applicant developed a Scoping Report, which supported a request for a formal Scoping Opinion from PINS, in relation to the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets. The Scoping Report was prepared in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017 and submitted to PINS in June 2022 to seek a formal Scoping Opinion on the information to be included in an EIA.
8. The Scoping Report is the key early stage of the EIA process. It outlines an initial overview and description of the Project at the time of writing. It identifies the receptors that will be considered during the EIA and the potential impacts associated with the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases of the Project. The Scoping Opinion, provided by PINS on 2 August 2022, was in response to the Scoping Report submitted by the Applicant on the 23 June 2022.

9. This was followed by the Applicant producing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) to inform consultees about the Project and the likely significant effects associated with construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases of the Project.
10. As the Project is EIA Development, the Applicant produced a PEIR (adopting a draft ES format for this PEIR) which formed part of the consultation materials for the statutory consultation. This was undertaken and publicised as prescribed by Sections 42, 46, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008 and Regulation 12 of the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017. Further, in accordance with Regulation 13 of the Infrastructure Planning (EIA) Regulations 2017, a copy of the notice prepared in compliance with Section 48 of the PA 2008 was sent to the required consultation bodies. The PEIR was published on 19 April 2023, for comments to be received from consultees by 4 June 2023.
11. The Applicant promoted its consultation and associated activities widely, through various methods and communication channels, and as is laid out in this Consultation Report, responses were collated and considered.
12. As a result of statutory consultation and, in part, the feedback received, the Project design has been amended post-PEIR and refined in a number of ways. In summary:
 - The offshore windfarm site boundary has been reduced from 125km² to 87km² to improve navigation safety and co-exist with other marine users
 - The maximum number of wind turbine generators (WTGs) has been reduced from 40 to 35 as part of design refinement
 - The air gap above Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT) has increased from 22m to 25m above HAT to reduce potential impacts on ornithology receptors
13. In this Consultation Report, the Applicant has accurately summarised the various stages of consultation that have been undertaken, to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the PA 2008. This Consultation Report also sets out how the consultation responses provided during the statutory and non-statutory consultation have subsequently influenced the final DCO Application. **Table 1.1** below provides an overview to the structure of the Consultation Report.

Table 1.1 Consultation Report structure

Section	Title	Overview
Section 2	Introduction	Provides a summary of the Applicant and an overview of the proposed Project.
Section 3	Legislative context, relevant guidance, and compliance	Provides a summary of the legislative requirements of the PA 2008 and relevant Regulations (including APFP Regulations and the EIA Regulations) relating to pre-application consultation and includes a 'checklist' based upon PINS Advice Note Fourteen setting out how the Applicant's pre-application consultation has complied with those requirements. The checklist is intended to provide PINS with a 'quick guide' as to how the Applicant has complied with the legislative requirements for pre-application consultation and where this is referenced within the Consultation Report.
Section 4	Applicant's approach to consultation	Describes the Applicant's approach to the pre-application consultation on the proposed Project.
Section 5	Stakeholder engagement and consultation strategy	Explains the Project's stakeholder engagement strategy and how the Applicant has established the general principles and considerations for consultation and engagement, in accordance with the PA 2008 and DCO process.
Section 6	EIA related consultation	Explains how key stakeholders were consulted on a regular and formalised basis by using the Evidence Plan Process (EPP).
Section 7	Stage one consultation (non-statutory)	Describes the Stage 1 Consultation that was undertaken by the Applicant to introduce the proposed Project and the options being considered to the local community, the relevant LPAs, technical consultees, amongst others.
Section 1	Statement of Community Consultation: preparation and consultation	Describes the approach taken by the Applicant to the preparation of the Statement of Community Consultation (the 'SoCC'), as required by Section 47 of the PA 2008, and the consultation that took place with the relevant LPAs in relation to the preparation of the document, in addition to how the Applicant took account of the responses

Section	Title	Overview
		to the consultation in finalising the SoCC.
Section 9	Stage 2 (statutory) consultation: Identifying Consultees	Explains how the Applicant identified those persons whom there was a statutory duty to consult, in accordance with Sections 42, 43 and 44 of the PA 2008, for its Stage 2 ('statutory') Consultation (the 'Section 42 Consultees') and confirms who was consulted. It also lists other persons with no statutory duties to consult, but who the Applicant considered should be consulted in any case, as they may be interested in the Project ('non-prescribed consultees').
Section 10	Stage 2 Consultation: Section 42 'Duty to consult'	Sets out how the Applicant consulted the Section 42 consultees, including prescribed persons, relevant LPAs (Section 43) and land ownership interests and potentially affected interests (Section 44), as well as the non-prescribed consultees; the responses received to the consultation and how the consultation carried out complied with Section 42.
Section 11	Stage 2 Consultation: Section 47 'Duty to consult local community'	Describes the Section 47 consultation that the Applicant carried out with the local community during its Stage 2 Consultation, to provide more detailed information on the Project, as well as the opportunity for local people to comment upon it; the responses received on the consultation and how the consultation carried out and complied with the published SoCC.
Section 12	Stage 2 Consultation: Section 46 'Duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed application'	Sets out how the Applicant notified the SoS of the start of the Section 42 consultation, in accordance with Section 46 of the PA 2008, in advance of starting that consultation.
Section 13	Stage 2: Section 48 'Duty to publicise'	Explains how the Applicant publicised the Project in accordance with Section 48 of the PA 2008, including the newspapers and other publications that the Section 48 Notice was published in.
Section 14	Limited extensions to statutory consultation	Explains how the Applicant undertook additional consultation following the statutory consultation.

Section	Title	Overview
Section 15	Summary of responses and Applicant regard	Sets out summaries of the responses received to the statutory consultation and sets out how the Applicant considered the responses.
Section 1	Post statutory consultation engagement	Explains how the Project provided key updates to stakeholders and how the Applicant continues to engage with stakeholders to discuss matters raised within their consultation feedback and to seek to resolve any outstanding issues prior to submitting the Application.
Section 17	Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)	Sets out the Applicant's intent on seeking SoCG with key stakeholders to assist PINS and the SoS.
Section 18	Conclusion	Explains how the Applicant met the requirements of the statutory consultation process.
Section 19	Next Steps	Sets out how the Applicant intends to continue to engage with consultees following the submission of the Application and during the examination process.
Section 20	References	Provides links to references made within this Consultation Report.

1.2 Purpose of the evidence plan

14. A staged approach was taken to the pre-application consultation on the proposed Project. This involved two main stages of consultation, as follows:
- Stage 1 (non-statutory) Consultation – to introduce the proposed Project and seek comments/feedback on the early proposals
 - Stage 2 (statutory) Consultation – providing more detailed information on the proposed Project and PEIR ahead of the submission of the DCO Application
15. **Table 1.2** below provides a summary of the pre-application consultation on the proposed Project.

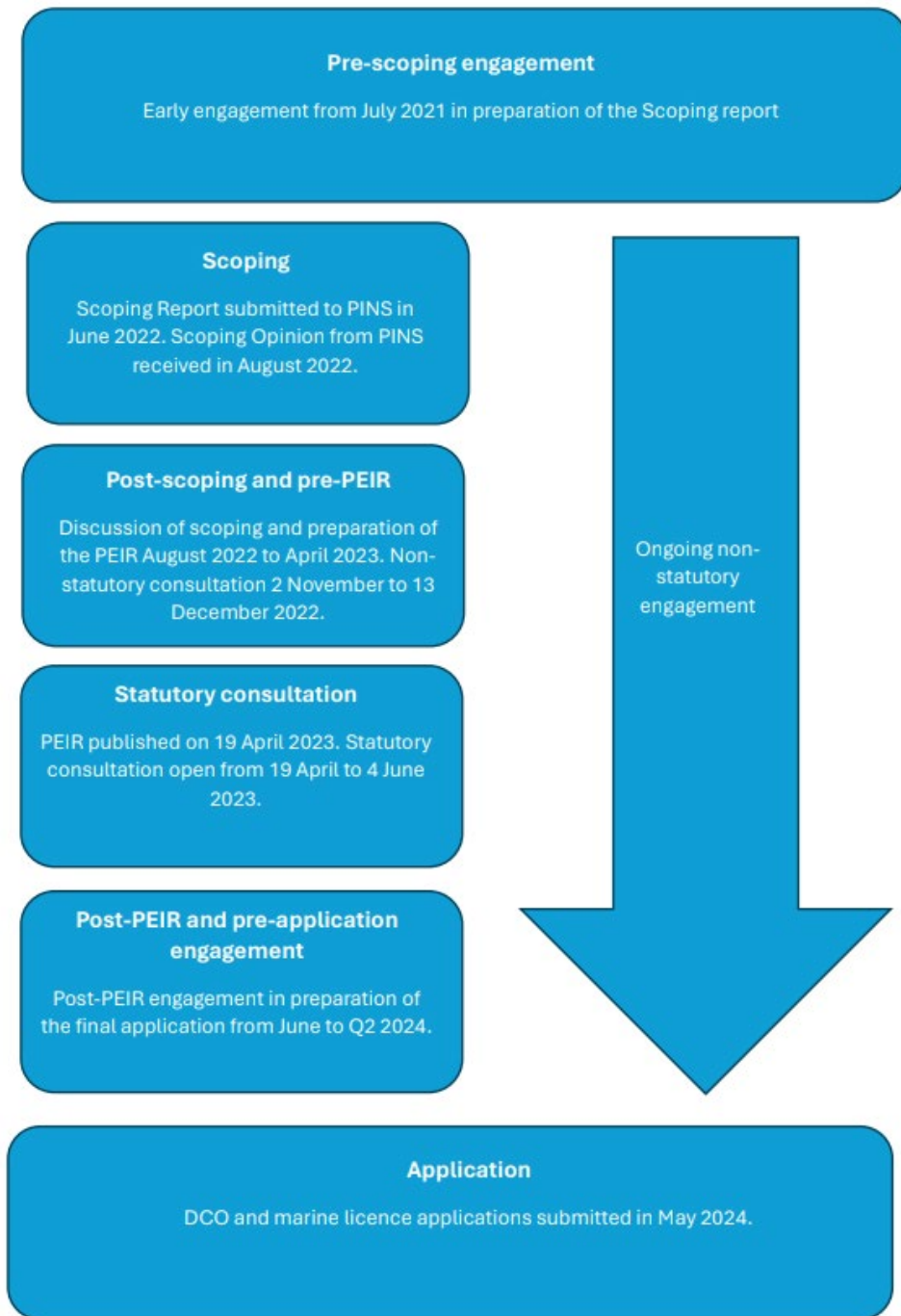
Table 1.2 Summary of the Applicant's pre-application consultation process

Stage	Overview of Consultation	Timescales
EIA Scoping	Submission of a request for an EIA Scoping Opinion to the SoS and receipt of EIA Scoping Opinion.	23 June to 2 August 2022
Stage 1 (non-statutory) consultation	Non-statutory consultation with communities and key stakeholders.	2 November to 13 December 2022
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	Consultation took place with the relevant LPAs closest to the Project, and those that may interact with the Project.	31 January to 27 February 2023
Stage 2 (statutory) Consultation pursuant to Sections 42, 43, 46, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008	Section 42 'Duty to consult': consultation with prescribed consultees, host and other relevant LPAs, potentially affected land ownership interests and non-prescribed consultees.	19 April to 4 June 2023

1.3 Stakeholder engagement strategy

16. Further information can be found in **Section 5** of this Consultation Report. The Applicant took the decision to adopt a two-stage approach to its pre-application consultation. This consisted of an initial stage of non-statutory consultation, which informed the development of the Project, followed by a second, statutory stage of consultation, which was delivered in accordance with the requirements of the PA 2008. This iterative, multi-phased approach was also supplemented by ongoing targeted non-statutory engagement throughout the pre-application phase, as shown in **Figure 1.1** below and covered in more detail in this Consultation Report.

Figure 1.1 Multi-phased approach to consultation



17. Non-statutory consultation began on 2 November 2022 and concluded on 13 December 2022.
18. The objective of the non-statutory consultation was to introduce the Applicant, the Project and its initial proposals, so that feedback on potential social and environmental impacts, opportunities and potential mitigation measures can be considered in advance of an application being made.
19. At non-statutory consultation, the Applicant undertook engagement with relevant LPAs, statutory consultees, community representatives, elected members and near neighbours, including discussion of emerging plans and the Applicant's approach to consultation.
20. Non-statutory consultation provided an opportunity for the Applicant to continue to build on dialogue started during the Project's introduction stage and pre-consultation engagement, thereby reinforcing the Applicant's commitment to open, constructive and collaborative engagement and consultation.
21. Statutory consultation began on 19 April 2023 and concluded on 4 June 2023. The objective of the statutory consultation was to present and seek views on more developed proposals and the preliminary findings of the Applicant's environmental assessment work, presented in the form of a PEIR. It also provided an opportunity to update the local community on how the Project has evolved following the Applicant's non-statutory consultation.

1.4 Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) consultation

22. The Applicant requested a formal Scoping Opinion (pursuant to Regulation 10 of the EIA Regulations) from PINS in June 2022. This was accompanied by a Scoping Report containing the relevant information required under Regulation 10(3) of the EIA Regulations. A Scoping Opinion (Document Reference 5.4) was received from PINS in August 2022.
23. Scoping responses received from stakeholders have been considered during the development of the PEIR, and subsequently the ES, with detail described within the consultation sections of the topic-specific ES chapters.
24. Further details of consultation under the EIA Regulations are set out in **Section 6** of this Consultation Report.

1.5 Stage one ('non statutory') consultation

25. Further information can be found in **Section 7** of this Consultation Report.
26. The overarching purpose of this stage of consultation was to explain context, present emerging proposals and gather feedback from local communities and

other stakeholders regarding possible impacts and gather suggestions to improve the Project.

27. It also presented information relating to three separate projects:
 - Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets (the Project and the focus of this Consultation Report)
 - Morgan Offshore Wind Project (Generation Assets)
 - Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets
28. These three projects were presented together at non-statutory consultation, explaining the reasons behind the joint consultation, with an explanation as to why they are separate, with each requiring their own Development Consent Order (DCO).
29. Both the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project were scoped into the Pathway to 2030 workstream, under the Offshore Transmission Network Review (OTNR). As part of this review, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) assessed options to improve the coordination of offshore wind generation connections and transmission networks.
30. As part of this, in July 2022, the UK Government published the Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design Report, which set out the approach to connecting 50GW of offshore wind to the UK electricity network.
31. The output of this process concluded that the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project should work collaboratively in connecting the windfarms to the national grid at Penwortham, in Lancashire. The developers were involved in this process and supported this decision.
32. Therefore, both projects intend to submit a single joint DCO Application for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets, comprising of individual offshore substation platform(s) (OSP(s)³) for both the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, shared offshore export cable corridors, landfall arrangements, shared onshore export cable corridors to new onshore substation(s), and onward connection to the National Grid electricity transmission network at Penwortham, Lancashire. The collaboration between the projects was intended to provide an opportunity for the projects to align on

³ At the time of writing the ES, a decision had been taken that the OSP(s) would remain solely within the Generation Assets application and would not be included within the DCO application for the Transmission Assets. This decision post-dated the PEIR that was prepared for the Transmission Assets. The OSP(s) are still included in the description of the Transmission Assets for the purposes of this ES as the Cumulative Effects Assessment (CEA) carried out in respect of the Generation/Transmission Assets is based on the information available from the Transmission Assets PEIR.

a consistent approach to environmental assessments and mitigation and reduce potential environmental impacts, including robust consideration of cumulative impacts, as well as providing a more streamlined process for all stakeholders.

1.6 The Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

33. Section 47 places a duty on applicants for a DCO to consult the ‘local community’, i.e., those people living within the vicinity of the land to which the application relates. Subsection (1) requires the Applicant to prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), setting out how it proposes to consult people living within the vicinity of the land to which the Application relates.
34. In preparing for the statutory consultation, the Applicant utilised its experience and the feedback gathered from its non-statutory consultation. This, combined with ongoing engagement with relevant LPAs and other strategically important stakeholders, as well as best practice guidance from PINS, informed the Applicant’s SoCC (Appendix C3 and C4), in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008.
35. The SoCC is a statutory document, which is used to define the methods and processes to be undertaken in consulting the public, relevant LPAs and technical consultees for the stage two, statutory consultation. The Applicant’s approach to developing and consulting upon the SoCC is set out in **Section 1** of this Consultation Report.
36. The Applicant issued a draft of the SoCC (see Appendix C1) to relevant LPAs on 31 January 2023 and the statutory 28-day SoCC consultation period ended on 27 February 2023. Details of the SoCC consultation, including which relevant LPAs were consulted, and what regard the Applicant had to feedback received, are set out in **Section 1** of this Consultation Report.
37. The Applicant created a holding page on the Project website and made available electronic copies of the finalised SoCC (see Appendix C7) and Section 47 notice from 28 March 2023 and beyond.

1.7 Stage two (‘statutory’) consultation: identifying consultees

38. The Applicant’s statutory consultation is covered in **Section 9** of this Consultation Report. Each strand of the statutory consultation – under Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008– was carried out in parallel.
39. The identification of prescribed bodies relevant to the Project was informed by the list of consultees prescribed in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations. This list of consultees was then augmented with additional bodies, who were

notified of the proposed Application by PINS, under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations (the Regulation 11 list).

40. Relevant LPAs were identified in accordance with Section 43(1) of the PA 2008. Given the Project is located entirely offshore, the decision was taken to engage with LPAs, based on the potential for visual and/or economic impact.
41. As the proposed Project is entirely at sea, the Applicant was not required to consult with any landowners and/or Persons with an Interest in Land (PIL), in accordance with Section 42(1)(d) of the PA 2008.
42. A number of stakeholders were identified as likely to have an interest in the proposed Project, as well as having the potential to offer valuable advice and, as such, were effectively treated as Section 42 consultees. Examples of these stakeholders include non-prescribed local authorities or marine users. These stakeholders were engaged through the Project EPP, the Marine Navigation Engagement Forum (MNEF) and other forms of engagement.

1.8 Section 42 ‘duty to consult’

43. Section 42 of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to consult prescribed persons, relevant LPAs and potentially affected land ownership interests (the ‘Section 42 Consultees’). To confirm, the Section 42 consultation was carried out in parallel with the Section 47 consultation, as part of the statutory consultation.
44. Section 42 consultees were identified in accordance with the following legislative requirements and other key considerations:
 - Section 42 of the PA 2008
 - Section 43 of the PA 2008 (LPAs for the purposes of Section 42(1)(b))
 - Section 44 of the PA 2008 (categories for the purposes of Section 42(1)(d))
 - Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations containing the ‘prescribed consultees’
45. Section 44 consultees are landowners, or those with an interest in, or a relevant claim to, the land to which the proposed Application relates (such as ownership, tenancy and/or other interests). As the Project is entirely based at sea, and outside of the 12 nautical mile (nm) limit, under this Section of the legislation, only The Crown Estate (TCE) were required to be consulted.
46. Section 42 consultees were emailed several times, before and during the Applicant’s statutory consultation. The Applicant analysed the series of emails sent to the Section 42 consultees to confirm whether the emails had been opened. Of those Section 42 consultees who did not open any of the emails,

in the interest of ensuring these consultees were not disadvantaged, the Applicant sent the consultation materials in the post. This included the statutory consultation brochure, a USB memory stick containing the full PEIR, the PEIR Non-Technical Summary (PEIR NTS), SoCC and feedback form.

47. Copies of the correspondence issued to Section 42 consultees are included in Appendix D1 to D14 and correspondence with Section 42 consultees is explained in more detail in **Section 10** of this Consultation Report.
48. The total period of the Applicant's statutory consultation took place from 19 April to 4 June 2023 (46 days), which exceeded the minimum 28-day period from the day after receipt of the Applicant's consultation documents, as required, pursuant to Section 45 of the PA 2008. The Applicant also exceeded the minimum 28-day period to reflect the duration of the non-statutory consultation, which took place from 2 November to 13 December 2022 for a total of 41 days.
49. Email correspondence to Section 42 consultees on 19 April 2023, the first day of the Applicant's statutory consultation, confirmed that supporting materials, including the Applicant's PEIR, and PEIR NTS, were available electronically on a website maintained by the Applicant and the website address was provided.

1.9 Section 47 'duty to consult local community'

50. The Section 47 consultation was conducted in accordance with the SoCC, through similar methods to those used for the non-statutory consultation. Section 5.2 of the Applicant's SoCC summarises its approach to identifying consultees in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008, which states:
 - *At the heart of every consultation are the people who live and work in the community. Consulting with people living near to the Project who may be affected by the development is an important part of the DCO planning process. Section 47 of the Planning Act describes these as people 'living in the vicinity of the land to which the proposed application relates'. The insight and local knowledge we receive through each stage of consultation means that our Project can best reflect the needs and expectations of those who live and work closest. For land-based projects, there is an established process for identifying stakeholders and consultees, which takes into account factors such as proximity to a project site, or the local authorities that administer a given area. As this project is at sea, in order to meet our responsibilities as developers, we are looking to consult widely, and are looking to receive feedback from people or groups who may interact with the Project or otherwise have an interest in it.*

51. Section 47 of the PA 2008 requires applicants to prepare a statement setting out how the applicant plans to consult, about the proposed application, with people living in the vicinity of the land. For land-based projects, there is an established process for identifying stakeholders and consultees. As this Project is at sea, adherence to Section 47 is voluntary. In order to meet the Applicant's responsibility as a developer, feedback was sought from people or groups who identify themselves as impacted by the Project, who may interact with the Project or otherwise have an interest in it.
52. The Applicant's SoCC can be seen at Appendix C3 and C4 and more information regarding identifying consultees and carrying out consultation in accordance with Section 47 of the PA 2008 can be found in **Section 11** of this Consultation Report.
53. In summary, the Applicant identified a consultation zone covering north Wales, northwest England and the Isle of Man (IoM), to help determine the areas where the consultation would take place. A total of 134,886 residential and business addresses were notified within this zone. Through desktop research, the Applicant further identified a range of relevant local interest groups, community organisations and gateway organisations representing the interests of seldom heard and underrepresented groups. The Applicant also sought feedback from LPAs through the consultation of the draft SoCC to identify any further groups and organisations. No further groups and organisations were identified.
54. The Applicant sent a consultation postcard (Appendix D25 and D26) via Royal Mail to all addresses within the consultation zone, including residential and business addresses (see **Figure 8.1** to **Figure 8.6**). The consultation postcard alerted recipients to the launch of the consultation and invited people to provide their feedback to the consultation, directing them to where supporting materials had been made available on the Applicant's website and providing details of consultation events. This information was also issued by email to other stakeholders, identified under Sections 42 and 47 of the PA 2008. For addresses in Wales, the Applicant collaborated with the Mona Offshore Wind Project. For addresses in England and on the IoM, the Applicant collaborated with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets projects. As each of the consultations took place at the same time to prevent 'consultation fatigue' and any confusion, a collaborative approach was taken to promote the consultations.
55. At the launch of the statutory consultation, the Applicant updated the Project website and made available electronic copies of the PEIR, PEIR NTS, and consultation materials, including the consultation brochure, feedback form, SoCC, poster, Section 47 and Section 48 notices.

56. All community and technical materials were also made available on the Project's consultation website and at 12 publicly accessible deposit locations. Additionally, the Project's consultation website was optimised, to enable stakeholders and communities to easily access information online and submit their feedback.
57. To ensure the consultation materials were made available to everyone including those without digital access, printed copies of the PEIR NTS, consultation brochure, SoCC and feedback form were also made available at 12 deposit locations, which were situated in publicly accessible venues across the consultation zone.
58. 19 in-person consultation events were held across northwest England, Wales and the IoM. These took place between Thursday 4 May 2023 and Thursday 25 May 2023, with an online event on Tuesday 16 May 2023. These events provided an opportunity for local communities to meet the Project Team, better understand the proposals and ask any questions. Details of the events that took place are set out in **Section 11** of this Consultation Report.

1.10 Section 46 'duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed Application'

59. This is covered in **Section 12** of this Consultation Report.
60. Section 46 of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to notify the SoS, through PINS, of the Section 42 (statutory) consultation. This must be done either before, or at the same time, as commencing the Section 42 (statutory) consultation and the SoS must be provided with the same information that is to be provided to the Section 42 consultees.
61. In accordance with Section 46 of the PA 2008, the Applicant notified PINS by email on 18 April 2023 (see Appendix E1 and **Section 12** for more information). This communication set out the background to the Project, the Applicant's intention to submit a DCO Application, details of the supporting materials included, and that these materials would be sent to consultees under Section 42 of the PA 2008, and a summary of the statutory consultation process.
62. The Applicant received an acknowledgement of receipt of its notification under Section 46 of the PA 2008 from PINS on 19 April 2023 (Appendix E2).

1.11 Section 48 'duty to publicise'

63. This is covered in **Section 13** of this Consultation Report.
64. As part of the statutory consultation and timed to coincide with the beginning of the Section 47 and 42 consultations, the Applicant published a notice in

accordance with Section 48 of the PA 2008 and Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations (Appendix F1 and F2).

65. This notice provided details of the Project and advised people how the consultation's supporting materials could be accessed and how to provide feedback, as well as providing a deadline for receipt of comments (4 June 2023).

1.12 Section 49 'duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity'

66. Section 49 of the PA 2008 requires Applicants to have regard to any relevant responses received to the consultation and publicity carried out in accordance with Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008. A relevant response for the purposes of Section 49 is a response received by an Applicant before the deadlines set in relation to the Sections 42, 47 and 48.
67. How the Applicant meets this requirement is covered in detail in **Section 15** of this Consultation Report and Appendix I.

1.13 Statements of Common Ground

68. Further information can be found in **Section 17** of this Consultation Report.
69. The Applicant is developing Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) with key consultees, to assist PINS and the SoS in understanding which issues regarding the Project are in the process of being resolved and which remain unresolved.
70. The SoCG will set out a record of consultation undertaken to date, with each relevant stakeholder, and the key areas of agreement and any outstanding issues. The SoCG will be updated throughout the Examination period to reflect ongoing consultation, as required.

1.14 Next steps

71. Since its inception, the Project has been the subject of extensive consultation (both statutory and non-statutory) with stakeholders, including regulators, the local community and other interest groups.
72. Consultation has had a significant influence on the Project, including characterising the baseline environment, establishing methods of assessment, as well as Project design, in terms of boundaries and the design envelope.

73. The Applicant published its PEIR for consultation on 19 April 2023 and undertook parallel statutory consultation under Sections 42 and 47 of the PA 2008.
74. All responses to the statutory consultation, whether they were received by the deadline or after the statutory consultation period, have had regard by the Applicant when preparing the DCO Application.
75. Where appropriate, responses have resulted in changes to the assessment and design of the Project and, where this has not been possible, justification has been provided for not doing this. Details regarding the amendments that have been made to the Project, as a result of statutory consultation, are described in **Table 5.1** and **Section 15** of this Consultation Report.
76. In the spirit of effective consultation, the Applicant continues to engage with a range of consultees on specific matters and will continue to do so, as the Project progresses into the Examination phase.

1.15 Compliance checklist

77. In developing the approach to consultation for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, the Applicant has followed the specific requirements set out in relevant legislation and guidance documents.
78. This Consultation Report describes the activities the Applicant has undertaken under Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008, the consultation responses received under these Sections and the regard had to them by the Applicant under Section 49.
79. Each section of the Consultation Report sets out the legislative context, to demonstrate how the consultation adhered to the relevant legislation and guidance.
80. A compliance checklist (Document Reference 1.4), which details how the Applicant has complied with the requirements of the PA 2008, the APFP Regulations, the EIA Regulations, as well as DCLG guidance and PINS Advice Notes, has been developed by the Applicant. This compliance checklist can be summarised, as follows:
 - Undertaking statutory consultation under Section 42 of the PA 2008: **Section 10** of this Consultation Report demonstrate that all requirements of the PA 2008 have been complied with and the guiding principles set out in the relevant guidance documents have been followed
 - Undertaking statutory consultation under Section 47 of the PA 2008: **Section 11** of this Consultation Report demonstrate that all requirements of the PA 2008 have been complied with and the guiding principles set out in the relevant guidance documents have been followed. Compliance

with the requirements set out in the SoCC has also been demonstrated (**Section 11**). In relation to the EIA Regulations, the SoCC provides relevant detail, as required under Regulation 12. In addition, the local community was provided with the consultation documents (as described in **Section 11** of this Consultation Report)

- Undertaking statutory publicity under Section 48 of the PA 2008: **Section 13** of this Consultation Report demonstrate that all requirements of the PA 2008 have been complied with and the guiding principles set out in the relevant guidance documents have been followed
- Having regard to Section 42 consultation responses: **Section 15** of this Consultation Report demonstrate that all requirements of the PA 2008 have been complied with and the guiding principles set out in the relevant guidance documents have been followed
- Having regard to Section 47 consultation responses: **Section 15** of this Consultation Report demonstrate that all requirements of the PA 2008 have been complied with and the guiding principles set out in the relevant guidance documents have been followed
- Having regard to Section 48 publicity responses: **Section 15** of this Consultation Report demonstrate that all requirements of the PA 2008 have been complied with and the guiding principles set out in the relevant guidance documents have been followed

81. The compliance checklist demonstrates that all relevant requirements set out in the legislation have been adhered to in completing the pre-application process.
82. Furthermore, where appropriate, guiding principles set out in relevant guidance documents have been followed in carrying out pre-application consultation for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets.
83. In this Consultation Report, the Applicant has endeavoured to accurately reflect the various stages of consultation that have been undertaken and to represent the views and feedback from consultees that have been engaged in the process.
84. In conclusion, the Applicant has undertaken extensive pre-application consultation in accordance with relevant legislation and guiding principles and in accordance with the SoCC.

1 Crynodeb Gweithredol

1.1 Cyflwyniad

85. Mae'r Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn (Cyfeirnod Dogfen 4.1) wedi cael ei baratoi a'i gyflwyno gan Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe Cyf ('yr Ymgeisydd') ar ran Asedau Cynhyrchu Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe ('y Prosiect'). Mae'n ffurfio rhan o'r Cais ('y Cais') am Orchymyn Cydsyniad Datblygu ('DCO'), sydd wedi cael ei gyflwyno i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol ('SoS') yr Adran Diogelwch Ynni a Sero Net. Paratowyd yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn unol ag Adran 37(3)(c) o Ddeddf Cynllunio 2008 ('PA 2008'). Mae'n dangos sut mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi cydymffurfio â'i ddyletswyddau o dan Adrannau 42, 47, 48 a 49 PA 2008.
- O dan Adran 42 PA 2008, ymgynghorwyd â chyrrff a ragnodir gan Atodlen 1 Rheoliadau Cynllunio Seilwaith (Ceisiadau: Ffurflenni a Gweithdrefnau Rhagnodedig) 2009 ('Rheoliadau APFP')
 - O dan Adran 47 PA 2008, datblygwyd Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol ('SoCC') ar gyfer y Prosiect. Gan fod y Prosiect wedi'i leoli ar y môr yn gyfan gwbl, ymgynghorodd yr Ymgeisydd â phob Awdurdod Cynllunio Lleol (LPA) o fewn Adran 43(1) PA 2008 ar SoCC drafft, fel sy'n ofynnol gan Adran 47(2) PA 2008, ardaloedd y gallai'r fferm wynt effeithio arnynt yn weledol, yn ogystal â'r cymunedau a'r busnesau y gellid disgwyl iddynt gael eu heffeithio'n economaidd. Yn ogystal ag ymgynghori â'r Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol (LPAs), ymgynghorodd yr Ymgeisydd â'r Sefydliad Rheoli Morol (MMO), Parc Cenedlaethol Ardal y Llynnoedd (LDNP) a Llywodraeth Ynys Manaw (IoM) ar y SoCC drafft. Cyhoeddwyd y SoCC yn y dull rhagnodedig, a chynhaliwyd ymgynghoriad â'r gymuned leol yn unol â'r SoCC
 - O dan Adran 48 PA 2008, rhoddwyd cyhoeddusrwydd i'r datblygiad arfaethedig yn y modd rhagnodedig mewn papurau newydd lleol, cyhoeddiadau'r diwydiant a chyhoeddiadau pysgota masnachol. Roedd hwn hefyd ar gael ar wefan yr ymgynghoriad i'w archwilio'n rhad ac am ddim, yn unol ag Adran 48. Cynhaliwyd ymgynghoriad Adran 48 ochr yn ochr ag ymgynghoriad statudol o dan Adran 42 PA 2008
 - O dan Adran 49 PA 2008, mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi ystyried yr ymatebion perthnasol i'r holl ymgynghoriad a chyhoeddusrwydd a gynhaliwyd o dan Adrannau 42, 47 a 48
86. Mae Adran 37 PA 2008 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol bod 'Adroddiad Ymgynghori' yn cyd-fynd â chais am DCO, sy'n egluro sut mae'r ymgeisydd wedi cydymffurfio â'r gofynion statudol, rheoleiddiol a pholisi perthnasol. Rhaid i'r

Adroddiad Ymgynghori hefyd nodi (yn unol ag Adran 49) sut mae'r ymgeisydd wedi ystyried yr ymatebion a gafwyd i'r ymgynghoriad.

87. Paratowyd yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn unol ag Adran 37 PA 2008, canllawiau'r Llywodraeth a chyngor gan yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio ('PINS'). Mae'n darparu gwybodaeth am yr ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio a gynhaliwyd gan yr Ymgeisydd ar y Prosiect arfaethedig, a'r dadansoddiad o'r sylwadau a'r adborth a gafwyd ar yr ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio.
88. Mae'r Ymgeisydd yn gwneud cais am DCO ar gyfer adeiladu, gweithredu a chynnal a chadw Asedau Cynhyrchu Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe ('y Prosiect'). Nid yw manylion y gweithgareddau datgomisiynu posibl yn hysbys ar hyn o bryd a byddent yn amodol ar ganiatâd ar wahân. Cyflwynir rhagor o wybodaeth ym Mhennod 5 (Disgrifiad o'r Prosiect) y Datganiad Amgylcheddol (Cyfeirnod Dogfen 5.1.5).
89. Mae gan y Prosiect hwn gapasiti arfaethedig o dros 100MW ac mae'n cael ei gategoreiddio fel Prosiect Seilwaith o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol (neu 'NSIP') o dan Adrannau 14(1)(a) ac 15(3) PA 2008.
90. Cyn cyflwyno cais am DCO, rhaid i'r Ymgeisydd gynnal y gweithgareddau ymgynghori a chyhoeddusrwydd, fel y nodir yn Adrannau 42, 46, 47 a 48 PA 2008, darpariaethau cysylltiedig Rheoliadau APFP (fel y'u diwygiwyd) a 'Rheoliadau Cynllunio Seilwaith (Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol) 2017' (y 'Rheoliadau AEA') a rhoi sylw i ganllawiau perthnasol eraill y Llywodraeth. Mae hyn yn cynnwys ymgynghori â'r gymuned leol ac unigolion a chyrrff penodol (a ragnodwyd yn y rheoliadau, megis awdurdodau cynllunio lleol, ymgylgoreion technegol a buddiannau mewn tir a allai gael eu heffeithio).
91. Datblygodd yr Ymgeisydd Adroddiad Cwmpasu, a oedd yn cefnogi cais am Farn Gwmpasu ffurfiol gan PINS, mewn perthynas ag Asedau Cynhyrchu Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe. Cafodd yr Adroddiad Cwmpasu ei baratoi yn unol â Rheoliad 10 Rheoliadau Cynllunio Seilwaith (AEA) 2017 a'i gyflwyno i PINS ym mis Mehefin 2022 i ofyn am Farn Gwmpasu ffurfiol ar yr wybodaeth sydd i'w chynnwys mewn Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol (AEA).
92. Yr Adroddiad Cwmpasu yw cam cynnar allweddol y broses AEA. Mae'n amlinellu trosolwg cychwynnol a disgrifiad o'r Prosiect adeg yr ysgrifennu. Mae'n nodi'r derbynyddion a fydd yn cael eu hystyried yn ystod yr AEA a'r effeithiau posibl sy'n gysylltiedig â chamau adeiladu, gweithredu, cynnal a chadw a datgomisiynu'r Prosiect. Roedd y Farn Gwmpasu, a ddarparwyd gan PINS ar 2 Awst 2022, yn ymateb i'r Adroddiad Cwmpasu a gyflwynwyd gan yr Ymgeisydd ar 23 Mehefin 2022.
93. Dilynwyd hyn gan yr Ymgeisydd yn cynhyrchu Adroddiad Gwybodaeth Amgylcheddol Ragarweiniol (PEIR) i roi gwybodaeth i ymgylgoreion am y

Prosiect a'r effeithiau arwyddocaol tebygol sy'n gysylltiedig â champau adeiladu, gweithredu, cynnal a chadw, a datgomisiynu'r prosiect.

94. Roedd yr Ymgeisydd wedi cynhyrchu PEIR, gan fabwysiadu fformat Datganiad Amgylcheddol (DA) drafft ar gyfer y PEIR hwn, a oedd yn sail i ymgynghoriad statudol fel y rhagnodir gan Adrannau 42, 46, 47 a 48 PA 2008, Rheoliadau Cynllunio Seilwaith (AEA) 2017, Rheoliad 12 (gofynion datganiadau ymgynghori) a Rheoliad 13 (cyhoeddusrwydd cyn ymgeisio o dan Adran 48 (dyletswydd i roi cyhoeddusrwydd)). Cafodd y PEIR ei gyhoeddi ar 19 Ebrill 2023, er mwyn derbyn sylwadau gan ymgynghoreion erbyn 4 Mehefin 2023.
95. Hyrwyddodd yr Ymgeisydd yr ymgynghoriad a'i weithgareddau cysylltiedig yn eang drwy amrywiaeth o ddulliau a sianeli cyfathrebu, ac fel y nodir yn yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn, casglwyd ac ystyriwyd yr ymatebion.
96. O ganlyniad i ymgynghoriad statudol ac, yn rhannol, i'r adborth a gafwyd, mae dyluniad y Prosiect wedi cael ei ddiwygio ar ôl y PEIR a'i fireinio mewn sawl ffordd. I grynhoi:
 - Mae ffin safle'r fferm wynt alltraeth wedi cael ei lleihau o 125km² i 87km² er mwyn gwella diogelwch mordwyo ac i gydfodoli â defnyddwyr morol eraill;
 - Mae uchafswm y generaduron tyrbinau gwynt (WTG) wedi cael ei leihau o 40 i 35 fel rhan o'r gwaith o fireinio'r dyluniad;
 - Mae'r bwlch aer uwchben y Llanw Seryddol Uchaf (HAT) wedi cynyddu o 22m i 25m uwchben HAT i leihau'r effeithiau posibl ar dderbynyddion adareg
97. Yn yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn, mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi crynhoi'n gywir y gwahanol gamau ymgynghori sydd wedi cael eu cynnal er mwyn dangos ei fod yn cydymffurfio â gofynion PA 2008. Mae'r Adroddiad Ymgynghori hefyd yn nodi sut mae'r ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad a ddarparwyd yn ystod yr ymgynghoriad statudol ac anstatudol wedi dylanwadu ar y cais terfynol.
98. Mae **Tabl 1.1** isod yn rhoi trosolwg o strwythur yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori.

Tabl 1.1 Strwythur yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori

Adran	Teitl	Trosolwg
Adran 2	Cyflwyniad	Yn rhoi crynodeb o'r Ymgeisydd a throsolwg o'r Prosiect arfaethedig.
Adran 3	Cyd-destun deddfwriaethol, canllawiau perthnasol, a chydymffurfiaeth	Yn rhoi crynodeb o ofynion deddfwriaethol PA 2008 a'r Rheoliadau perthnasol (gan gynnwys Rheoliadau APFP a'r Rheoliadau AEA) sy'n

Adran	Teitl	Trosolwg
		ymwneud ag ymgynghori cyn ymgeisio, ac mae'n cynnwys 'rhestr wirio' sy'n seiliedig ar Nodyn Cyngor 14 PINS, sy'n nodi sut mae ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio'r Ymgeisydd wedi cydymffurfio â'r gofynion hynny. Bwriad y rhestr wirio yw rhoi 'canllaw cyflym' i PINS o ran sut mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi cydymffurfio â'r gofynion deddfwriaethol ar gyfer ymgynghori cyn ymgeisio a lle cyfeirir at hyn yn yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori.
Adran 4	Dull gweithredu'r Ymgeisydd o ran ymgynghori	Yn disgrifio dull gweithredu'r Ymgeisydd ar gyfer yr ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio ar y Prosiect arfaethedig.
Adran 5	Strategaeth ymgysylltu ac ymgynghori â rhanddeiliaid	Yn egluro strategaeth ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid y Prosiect a sut mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi sefydlu'r egwyddorion a'r ystyriaethau cyffredinol ar gyfer ymgynghori ac ymgysylltu, yn unol â PA 2008 a'r broses DCO.
Adran 6	Ymgynghoriad cysylltiedig â'r AEA	Yn egluro sut yr ymgynghorwyd â rhanddeiliaid allweddol yn rheolaidd ac yn ffurfiol drwy ddefnyddio'r Broses Cynllun Tystiolaeth (EPP).
Adran 7	Ymgynghoriad Cam 1 (anstatudol)	Yn disgrifio'r Ymgynghoriad Cam 1 a gynhaliwyd gan yr Ymgeisydd i gyflwyno'r Prosiect arfaethedig a'r opsiynau sy'n cael eu hystyried i'r gymuned leol, yr Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol, ymgynghoreion technegol a thirfeddianwyr yr effeithir arnynt o bosibl, ymysg eraill.
Adran 8	Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol: paratoi ac ymgynghori	Yn disgrifio'r dull a ddefnyddiwyd gan yr Ymgeisydd i baratoi'r Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol ('SoCC'), fel sy'n ofynnol dan Adran 47 PA 2008, a'r ymgynghoriad a gynhaliwyd gyda'r Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol mewn perthynas â pharatoi'r ddogfen, yn ogystal â sut y gwnaeth yr Ymgeisydd ystyried yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad wrth gwblhau'r SoCC.

Adran	Teitl	Trosolwg
Adran 9	Ymgynghoriad Cam 2 (statudol): Nodi Ymgynghoreion	Yn egluro sut y nododd yr Ymgeisydd y personau hynny yr oedd dyletswydd statudol i ymgynghori â hwy, yn unol ag Adrannau 42, 43 a 44 PA 2008, ar gyfer ei Ymgynghoriad Cam 2 ('statudol') ('Ymgynghoreion Adran 42'), ac mae'n cadarnhau pwy yr ymgynghorwyd â hwy. Mae hefyd yn rhestru pobl eraill nad oes unrhyw ddyletswyddau statudol i ymgynghori â nhw, ond y mae'r Ymgeisydd o'r farn y dylid ymgynghori â nhw beth bynnag, gan y gallai fod ganddynt ddiddordeb yn y Prosiect ('ymgynghoreion nad ydynt wedi'u rhagnodi').
Adran 10	Ymgynghoriad Cam 2: Adran 42 'Dyletswydd i Ymgynghori'	Yn nodi sut yr ymgynghorodd yr Ymgeisydd ag ymgynghoreion Adran 42, gan gynnwys personau rhagnodedig, LPAs perthnasol (Adran 43), buddiannau mewn tir a buddiannau a allai gael eu heffeithio (Adran 44), yn ogystal â'r ymgynghoreion nad ydynt wedi'u rhagnodi; yr ymatebion a gafwyd i'r ymgynghoriad a sut yr oedd yr ymgynghoriad a gynhaliwyd yn cydymffurfio ag Adran 42.
Adran 11	Ymgynghoriad Cam 2: Adran 47 'Dyletswydd i Ymgynghori â'r Gymuned Leol'	Yn disgrifio'r ymgynghoriad Adran 47 a gynhaliodd yr Ymgeisydd gyda'r gymuned leol yn ystod Cam 2 yr Ymgynghoriad, er mwyn darparu gwybodaeth fanylach am y Prosiect, yn ogystal â'r cyfle i bobl leol roi sylwadau arno; yr ymatebion a gafwyd i'r ymgynghoriad, sut y cynhaliwyd yr ymgynghoriad a sut y cydymffurfiwyd â'r SoCC a gyhoeddwyd.
Adran 12	Ymgynghoriad Cam 2: Adran 46 'Dyletswydd i hysbysu'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol o gais arfaethedig'	Yn nodi sut rhoddodd yr Ymgeisydd wybod i'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol (SoS) am ddechrau ymgynghoriad Adran 42, yn unol ag Adran 46 PA 2008, cyn dechrau'r ymgynghoriad hwnnw.
Adran 13	Cam 2: Adran 48 'Dyletswydd i roi cyhoedduswydd'	Yn egluro sut y rhoddodd yr Ymgeisydd gyhoedduswydd i'r Prosiect yn unol ag Adran 48 PA 2008, gan gynnwys y papurau newydd a chyhoeddiadau eraill y

Adran	Teitl	Trosolwg
		cyhoeddwyd yr Hysbysiad Adran 48 ynddynt.
Adran 14	Estyniadau cyfyngedig i ymgynghoriad statudol	Yn egluro sut y cynhaliodd yr Ymgeisydd ymgynghoriad ychwanegol yn dilyn yr ymgynghoriad statudol.
Adran 15	Crynodeb o'r ymatebion a barn yr Ymgeisydd	Yn nodi crynodebau o'r ymatebion a gafwyd i'r ymgynghoriad statudol ac yn nodi sut y bu i'r Ymgeisydd ystyried yr ymatebion.
Adran 16	Ymgysylltu ar ôl yr ymgynghoriad statudol	Yn egluro sut mae'r Prosiect wedi darparu diweddariadau allweddol i rhanddeiliaid a sut mae'r Ymgeisydd yn parhau i ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid i drafod materion a godwyd yn eu hadborth i'r ymgynghoriad ac i geisio datrys unrhyw faterion sydd heb eu datrys cyn cyflwyno'r Cais.
Adran 17	Datganiadau Tir Cyffredin (SoCG)	Yn nodi bwriad yr Ymgeisydd ar geisio cael SoCG gyda rhanddeiliaid allweddol i helpu PINS a'r SoS.
Adran 18	Casgliad	Yn egluro sut y diwallodd yr Ymgeisydd ofynion proses yr ymgynghoriad statudol.
Adran 19	Y Camau Nesaf	Yn nodi sut mae'r Ymgeisydd yn bwriadu parhau i ymgysylltu ag ymgynghoreion ar ôl cyflwyno'r Cais ac yn ystod y broses archwilio.
Adran 20	Cyfeiriadau	Yn darparu dolenni at gyfeiriadau a wnaed yn yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.

1.2 Pwrpas y cynllun tystiolaeth

99. Cymerwyd ymagwedd fesul cam ar gyfer yr ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio ar y Prosiect arfaethedig. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys dau brif gam yr ymgynghoriad, fel a ganlyn:

- Ymgynghoriad Cam 1 (anstatudol) – i gyflwyno'r Prosiect arfaethedig a gofyn am sylwadau/adborth ar y cynigion cynnar;
- Ymgynghoriad Cam 2 (statudol) – darparu gwybodaeth fanylach am y Prosiect arfaethedig a'r PEIR cyn cyflwyno'r Cais am DCO.

100. Mae **Tabl 1.2** isod yn darparu crynodeb o'r ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio ar y Prosiect arfaethedig.

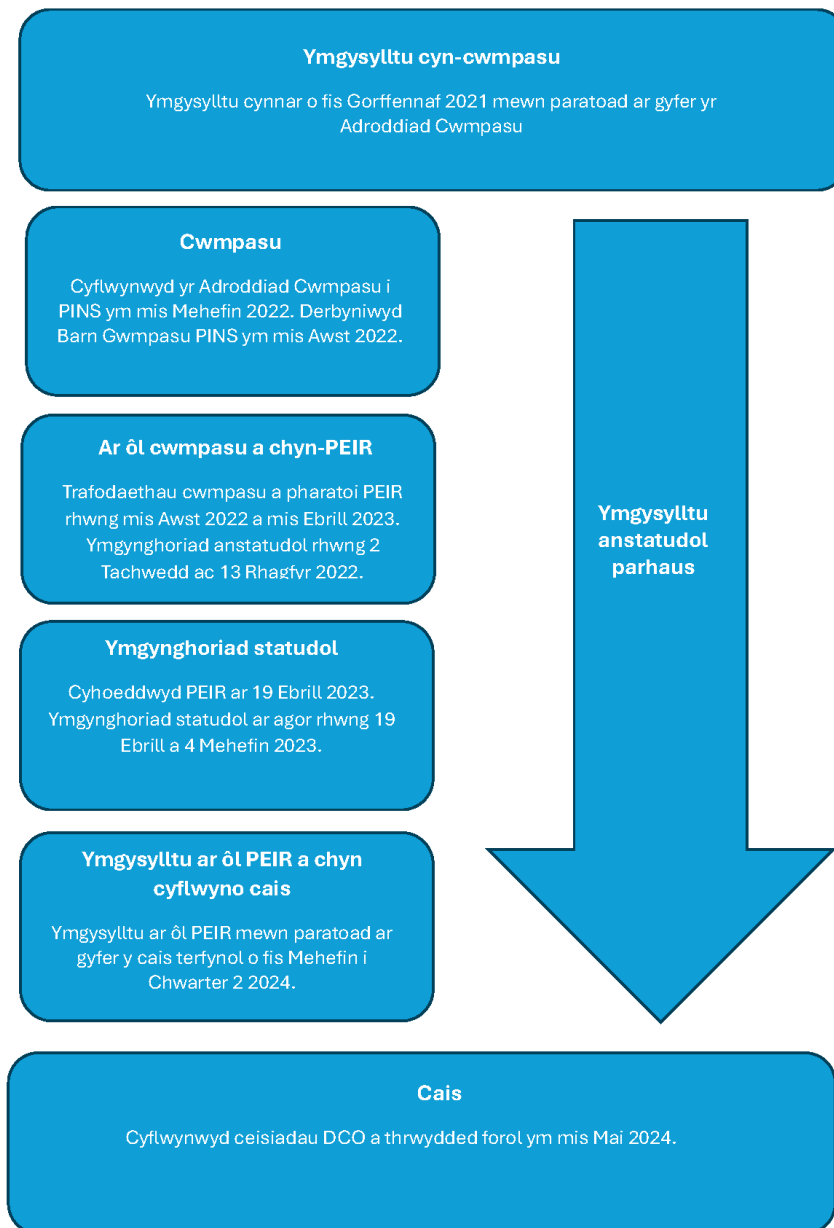
Tabl 1.2 Crynodeb o broses ymgynghori cyn ymgeisio'r Ymgeisydd

Cam	Trosolwg o'r Ymgynghoriad	Amserlenni
Cwmpasu AEA	Cyflwyno cais am Farn Gwmpasu AEA i'r SoS, a derbyn y Farn Gwmpasu AEA.	23 Mehefin i 2 Awst 2022
Ymgynghoriad Cam 1 (anstatudol):	Ymgynghori anstatudol â chymunedau a rhanddeiliaid allweddol.	2 Tachwedd 2021 i 13 Rhagfyr 2022
Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol (SoCC)	Ymgynghorwyd â'r Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol sydd agosaf at y Prosiect, a'r rheini a allai ryngweithio â'r Prosiect.	31 Ionawr i 27 Chwefror 2023
Ymgynghoriad Cam 2 (statudol), yn unol ag Adrannau 42, 43, 46, 47 a 48 PA 2008	Adran 42 'Dyletswydd i ymgynghori': ymgynghori ag ymgynghoreion rhagnodedig, Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol sy'n lletya ac Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol eraill, buddiannau mewn tir a allai gael eu heffeithio ac ymgynghoreion heb eu rhagnodi.	19 Ebrill i 4 Mehefin 2023

1.3 Strategaeth ymgysylltu â rhanddeiliaid

101. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael yn **Adran 5** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn. Penderfynodd yr Ymgeisydd fabwysiadu dull gweithredu dau gam ar gyfer ei ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys cam cychwynnol o ymgynghori anstatudol, a oedd yn sail i ddatblygiad y Prosiect, ac yna ail gam statudol o ymgynghori, a gyflwynwyd yn unol â gofynion PA 2008. Ategwyd y dull ailadroddol, aml-gam hwn hefyd gan ymgysylltu anstatudol parhaus wedi'i dargedu drwy gydol y cyfnod cyn ymgeisio, fel y dangosir yn Ffigur 1.1 isod, ac a drafodir yn fanylach yn yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.

Ffigur 1.1: Dull aml-gam o ymgynghori



102. Dechreuodd yr ymgynghoriad anstatudol ar 2 Tachwedd 2022 a daeth i ben ar 13 Rhagfyr 2022.
103. Amcan yr ymgynghoriad anstatudol oedd cyflwyno'r Ymgeisydd, y Prosiect a'i gynigion cychwynnol, er mwyn gallu ystyried adborth ar effeithiau cymdeithasol ac amgylcheddol posibl, a chyfluoedd a mesurau lliniaru posibl cyn gwneud cais.
104. Mewn ymgynghoriad anstatudol, bu'r Ymgeisydd yn ymgysylltu ag Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol, ymgynghoreion statudol,

cynrychiolwyr cymunedol, aelodau etholedig a chymdogion agos, gan gynnwys trafod cynlluniau sy'n dod i'r amlwg a dull ymgynghori'r Ymgeisydd.

105. Roedd ymgynghoriad anstatudol yn gyfle i'r Ymgeisydd barhau i adeiladu ar y ddeialog a ddechreuwyd yn ystod cam cyflwyno'r Prosiect a'r ymgysylltu cyn ymgynghori, gan atgyfnerthu ymrwymiad yr Ymgeisydd i ymgysylltu ac ymgynghori agored, adeiladol a chydweithredol.
106. Dechreuodd yr ymgynghoriad anstatudol ar 19 Ebrill 2023, a daeth i ben ar 4 Mehefin 2023. Amcan yr ymgynghoriad statudol oedd cyflwyno a cheisio barn ar gynigion mwy datblygedig a chanfyddiadau rhagarweiniol gwaith asesu amgylcheddol yr Ymgeisydd, a gyflwynir ar ffurf PEIR. Roedd hefyd yn gyfle i roi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf i'r gymuned leol am sut mae'r Prosiect wedi esblygu yn dilyn ymgynghoriad anstatudol yr Ymgeisydd.

1.4 Ymgynghoriad ar yr Asesiad o'r Effaith Amgylcheddol (AEA)

107. Gofynnodd yr Ymgeisydd am Farn Gwmpasu ffurfiol (yn unol â Rheoliad 10 Rheoliadau AEA) gan PINS ym mis Mehefin 2022. Ynghyd â hyn, cafwyd Adroddiad Cwmpasu a oedd yn cynnwys y wybodaeth berthnasol sy'n ofynnol o dan Reoliad 10(3) Rheoliadau AEA. Derbyniwyd Barn Gwmpasu (Cyfeirnod Dogfen 5.4) gan PINS ym mis Awst 2022.
108. Mae ymatebion cwmpasu a gafwyd gan randdeiliaid wedi cael eu hystyried wrth ddatblygu'r PEIR, ac wedyn y DA, gyda manylion yn cael eu disgrifio yn adrannau ymgynghori penodau'r DA sy'n benodol i bwnc.
109. Mae rhagor o fanylion am yr ymgynghoriad o dan Reoliadau AEA ar gael yn **Adran 6** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.

1.5 Ymgynghoriad Cam Un ('Anstatudol')

110. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael yn **Adran 7** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
111. Pwrpas cyffredinol y cam ymgynghori hwn oedd egluro'r cyd-destun, cyflwyno cynigion sy'n dod i'r amlwg a chasglu adborth gan gymunedau lleol a rhanddeiliaid eraill ynghylch effeithiau posibl, a chasglu awgrymiadau i wella'r Prosiect.
112. Roedd hefyd yn cyflwyno gwybodaeth yn ymwneud â thri phrosiect ar wahân:
 - Asedau Cynhyrchu Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe (y Prosiect a ffocws yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn);
 - Prosiect Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan (Asedau Cynhyrchu);
 - Ffermydd Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan a Morecambe: Asedau Trosglwyddo.

113. Cyflwynwyd y tri phrosiect hyn gyda'i gilydd mewn ymgynghoriad anstatudol, gan egluro'r rhesymau y tu ôl i'r ymgynghoriad ar y cyd, gydag esboniad pam eu bod ar wahân, gyda phob un angen eu Gorchymyn Cydsyniad Datblygu (DCO) eu hunain.
114. Cafodd Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe a Phrosiect Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan eu cwmpasu i ffrwd waith *Pathway to 2030*, o dan yr Adolygiad Rhwydwaith Trosglwyddo Alltraeth (OTNR). Fel rhan o'r adolygiad hwn, roedd Gweithredwr System Trydan y Grid Cenedlaethol (NGESO) wedi asesu opsiynau i wella'r gwaith o gydlynu cysylltiadau cynhyrchu ynni gwynt alltraeth a rhwydweithiau trosglwyddo.
115. Fel rhan o hyn, ym mis Gorffennaf 2022, cyhoeddodd Llywodraeth y DU ddogfennau Adroddiad Dylunio Rhwydwaith Cyfannol *Pathway to 2030*, a oedd yn nodi'r dull gweithredu ar gyfer cysylltu 50GW o ynni gwynt alltraeth â rhwydwaith trydan y DU.
116. Daeth allbwn y broses hon i'r casgliad y dylai Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe a Phrosiect Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan weithio ar y cyd i gysylltu'r ffermydd gwynt â'r grid cenedlaethol yn Penwortham yn Swydd Gaerhirfryn. Roedd y datblygwr yn rhan o'r broses hon ac yn cefnogi'r penderfyniad hwn.
117. Felly, mae'r ddau brosiect yn bwriadu cyflwyno un cais ar y cyd am DCO ar gyfer Ffermydd Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan a Morecambe: Asedau Trosglwyddo, sy'n cynnwys OSP(s)² unigol ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe ac Asedau Cynhyrchu Prosiect Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan, coridorau ceblau allforio alltraeth a rennir, trefniadau glanio, coridorau ceblau allforio ar y tir a rennir i is-orsaf(oedd) newydd ar y tir, a chysylltiad pellach â rhwydwaith trawsyrru trydan y Grid Cenedlaethol yn Penwortham, Swydd Gaerhirfryn. Bwriad y cydweithredu rhwng y prosiectau oedd rhoi cyfle i'r prosiectau alinio ar ddull cyson o asesu a lliniaru amgylcheddol a lleihau effeithiau amgylcheddol posibl, gan gynnwys ystyriaeth gadarn o effeithiau cronus, yn ogystal â darparu proses symlach i'r holl randdeiliaid.

1.6 Y Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol (SoCC)

118. Mae Adran 47 yn gosod dyletswydd ar ymgeiswyr am DCO i ymgynghori â'r 'gymuned leol', hynny yw, y bobl sy'n byw yng nghyffiniau'r tir y mae'r cais yn ymwneud ag ef. Mae isadran (1) yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Ymgeisydd baratoi Datganiad o Ymgynghori Cymunedol (SoCC), sy'n nodi sut y mae'n bwriadu ymgynghori â phobl sy'n byw yng nghyffiniau'r tir y mae'r Cais yn ymwneud ag ef.
119. Wrth baratoi ar gyfer yr ymgynghoriad statudol, defnyddiodd yr Ymgeisydd ei brofiad a'r adborth a gasglwyd o'i ymgynghoriad anstatudol. Roedd hyn, ynghyd ag ymgysylltu parhaus ag Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol a

rhanddeiliaid strategol bwysig eraill, yn ogystal â chanllawiau arfer gorau gan PINS, yn sail i SoCC yr Ymgeisydd (Atodiad C3 a C4), yn unol ag Adran 47 PA 2008.

120. Mae'r SoCC yn ddogfen statudol, sy'n cael ei defnyddio i ddiffinio'r dulliau a'r prosesau sydd i'w dilyn wrth ymgynghori â'r cyhoedd, Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol ac ymgynghoreion technegol ar gyfer ymgynghoriad statudol cam dau. Mae dull yr Ymgeisydd o ddatblygu ac ymgynghori ar y SoCC wedi'i nodi yn **Adran 8** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
121. Cyhoeddodd yr Ymgeisydd ddrafft o'r SoCC (gweler Atodiad C1) i'r Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol ar 31 Ionawr 2023, a daeth cyfnod ymgynghori statudol 28 diwrnod y SoCC i ben ar 27 Chwefror 2023. Mae **Adran 8** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn cynnwys manylion ymgynghoriad y SoCC, gan gynnwys pa Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol yr ymgynghorwyd â nhw, a sut yr ystyriodd yr Ymgeisydd yr adborth a gafwyd.
122. Creodd yr Ymgeisydd dudalen dros dro ar wefan y Prosiect a darparodd gopïau electronig o'r SoCC terfynol (gweler Atodiad C7) a hysbysiad Adran 47 o 28 Mawrth 2023 ymlaen a thu hwnt.

1.7 Ymgynghoriad Cam Dau ('statudol'): nodi ymgynghoreion

123. Ymdrinnir ag ymgynghoriad statudol yr Ymgeisydd yn **Adran 9** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn. Cynhaliwyd pob elfen o'r ymgynghoriad statudol – dan Adrannau 42, 47 a 48 PA 2008 – yn gyfochrog.
124. Cafodd y gwaith o nodi cyrff rhagnodedig sy'n berthnasol i'r Prosiect ei lywio gan y rhestr o ymgynghoreion a ragnodir yn Atodlen 1 y Rheoliadau APFP. Yna, cafodd y rhestr hon o ymgynghoreion ei hategu gan gyrff ychwanegol, a gafodd eu hysbysu o'r Cais arfaethedig gan PINS, o dan Reoliad 11(1)(a) Rheoliadau AEA (rhestr Rheoliad 11).
125. Nodwyd Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol, yn unol ag Adran 43(1) PA 2008. Gan fod y Prosiect wedi'i leoli'n gyfan gwbl ar y môr, penderfynwyd ymgysylltu ag Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol, ar sail y potensial ar gyfer effaith weledol a/neu economaidd.
126. Gan fod y Prosiect arfaethedig wedi'i leoli'n gyfan gwbl ar y môr, nid oedd yn ofynnol i'r Ymgeisydd ymgynghori ag unrhyw dirfeddianwyr a/neu Bersonau Sydd â Buddiant Mewn Tir (PIL), yn unol ag Adran 42(1)(d) PA 2008.
127. Nodwyd bod nifer o randdeiliaid yn debygol o fod â diddordeb yn y Prosiect arfaethedig, yn ogystal â'r potensial i gynnig cyngor gwerthfawr ac, o'r herwydd, cawsant eu trin fel ymgynghoreion Adran 42. Mae enghreifftiau o'r rhanddeiliaid hyn yn cynnwys awdurdodau lleol neu ddefnyddwyr morol heb

eu rhagnodi. Ymgysylltwyd â'r rhanddeiliaid hyn drwy Broses Cynllun Tystiolaeth (EPP) y Prosiect, y Fforwm Ymgysylltu Mordwyo Morol (MNEF) a mathau eraill o ymgysylltu.

1.8 Adran 42 'Dyletswydd i Ymgynghori'

128. Mae Adran 42 PA 2008 yn mynnu bod yr Ymgeisydd yn ymgynghori â phersonau rhagnodedig, Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol perthnasol, buddiannau mewn tir yr effeithir arnynt a buddiannau mewn tir a allai gael eu heffeithio ('Ymgylgoreion Adran 42'). I gadarnhau, cynhaliwyd ymgynghoriad Adran 42 ochr yn ochr â'r ymgynghoriad Adran 47, fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad statudol.
129. Nodwyd ymgylgoreion Adran 42 yn unol â'r gofynion deddfwriaethol canlynol ac ystyriaethau allweddol eraill:
- Adran 42 PA 2008
 - Adran 43 PA 2008 (Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol at ddibenion Adran 42(1)(b))
 - Adran 44 PA 2008 (categoriâu at ddibenion Adran 42(1)(d))
 - Atodlen 1 Rheoliadau APFP sy'n cynnwys yr 'ymgylgoreion rhagnodedig'
130. Mae ymgylgoreion Adran 44 yn dirfeddianwyr, neu mae ganddynt fuddiant yn y tir y mae'r cais arfaethedig yn ymwneud ag ef, neu hawliad perthnasol iddo (e.e. perchnogaeth, tenantiaeth a/neu fuddiannau eraill). Gan fod y Prosiect wedi'i leoli'n gyfan gwbl ar y môr, a'r tu allan i'r terfyn 12 milltir forol (nm), o dan yr Adran hon o'r ddeddfwriaeth, dim ond Ystâd y Goron (TCE) y mae'n rhaid ymgynghori â hi.
131. Anfonwyd neges e-bost at ymgylgoreion Adran 42 sawl gwaith, cyn ac yn ystod ymgynghoriad statudol yr Ymgeisydd. Dadansoddodd yr Ymgeisydd y gyfres o negeseuon e-bost a anfonwyd at ymgylgoreion Adran 42 i gadarnhau a oedd y negeseuon e-bost wedi cael eu hagor. O blith yr Ymgylgoreion Adran 42 hynny na wnaethant agor unrhyw un o'r negeseuon e-bost, er mwyn sicrhau nad oedd yr ymgylgoreion hyn dan anfantais, anfonodd yr Ymgeisydd gopi caled o'r deunyddiau ymgynghori atynt yn y post. Roedd hyn yn cynnwys llyfryn yr ymgynghoriad statudol, cof bach USB yn cynnwys y PEIR llawn, Crynodeb Annhechnegol y PEIR (PEIR NTS), SoCC a ffurflen adborth.
132. Mae copïau o'r ohebiaeth a anfonwyd at ymgylgoreion Adran 42 wedi'u cynnwys yn Atodiad D1 i D14 ac mae gohebiaeth ag ymgylgoreion Adran 42 yn cael ei hegluro'n fanylach yn **Adran 10** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
133. Cynhaliwyd ymgynghoriad statudol yr Ymgeisydd rhwng 19 Ebrill a 4 Mehefin 2023 (46 diwrnod), a oedd yn fwy na'r cyfnod o 28 diwrnod o'r diwrnod ar ôl

derbyn dogfennau ymgynghori'r Ymgeisydd, fel sy'n ofynnol, yn unol ag Adran 45 PA 2008. Roedd yr Ymgeisydd hefyd wedi mynd tu hwnt i'r cyfnod o 28 diwrnod (lleiafswm), er mwyn adlewyrchu hyd yr ymgynghoriad anstatudol, a gynhaliwyd rhwng 2 Tachwedd ac 13 Rhagfyr 2022 am gyfanswm o 41 diwrnod.

134. Roedd gohebiaeth e-bost at ymgynghoreion Adran 42 ar 19 Ebrill 2023, diwrnod cyntaf ymgynghoriad statudol yr Ymgeisydd, yn cadarnhau bod deunyddiau ategol, gan gynnwys PEIR a PEIR NTS yr Ymgeisydd, ar gael yn electronig ar wefan a gynhelir gan yr Ymgeisydd, a bod cyfeiriad y wefan wedi'i ddarparu.

1.9 Adran 47 'Dyletswydd i Ymgynghori â'r Gymuned Leol'

135. Cynhaliwyd yr ymgynghoriad Adran 47 yn unol â'r SoCC, drwy ddulliau tebyg i'r rhai a ddefnyddiwyd ar gyfer yr ymgynghoriad anstatudol. Mae Adran 5.2 o SoCC yr Ymgeisydd yn crynhoi ei ddull o ran nodi ymgynghoreion, yn unol ag Adran 47 PA 2008, sy'n datgan:

- Wrth galon pob ymgynghoriad mae'r bobl sy'n byw ac yn gweithio yn y gymuned. Mae ymgynghori â phobl sy'n byw'n agos at y prosiect, y gallai'r datblygiad effeithio arnynt, yn rhan bwysig o broses gynllunio Gorchymyn Cydsyniad Datblygu. Mae Adran 47 y Ddeddf Gynllunio yn disgrifio'r rhain fel 'pobl sy'n byw yng nghyffiniau'r tir sy'n rhan o'r cais arfaethedig'. Mae'r ddealltwriaeth a'r wybodaeth leol a gawn drwy bob cam o'r broses ymgynghori yn golygu y gall ein prosiect adlewyrchu anghenion a disgwyliadau'r rheini sy'n byw ac yn gweithio agosaf. Ar gyfer prosiectau ar y tir, mae proses sefydledig ar gyfer nodi rhanddeiliaid ac ymgynghoreion, sy'n ystyried ffactorau fel agosrwydd at safle'r prosiect, neu'r awdurdodau lleol sy'n gweinyddu ardal benodol. Gan fod y prosiect hwn ar y môr, er mwyn cyflawni ein cyfrifoldebau fel datblygwyr, rydym yn awyddus i ymgynghori'n eang, ac rydym yn awyddus i gael adborth gan bobl neu grwpiau a allai ryngweithio â'r Prosiect neu sydd â diddordeb ynddo fel arall.

136. Mae adran 47 PA 2008 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i ymgeiswyr 'baratoi datganiad sy'n nodi sut mae'r ymgeisydd yn bwriadu ymgynghori, ynghylch y cais arfaethedig, gyda phobl sy'n byw yng nghyffiniau'r tir'. Ar gyfer prosiectau ar y tir, mae proses sefydledig ar gyfer nodi rhanddeiliaid ac ymgynghoreion. Gan fod y prosiect hwn ar y môr, mae cydymffurfio ag Adran 47 yn wirfoddol. Er mwyn cyflawni cyfrifoldeb yr Ymgeisydd fel datblygwr, gofynnwyd am adborth gan bobl neu grwpiau sy'n nodi eu bod wedi cael eu heffeithio gan y Prosiect, a allai ryngweithio â'r Prosiect neu sydd â diddordeb ynddo fel arall.

137. Mae SoCC yr Ymgeisydd i'w weld yn Atodiad C3 a C4 ac mae rhagor o wybodaeth am nodi ymgynghoreion a chynnal ymgynghoriad yn unol ag Adran 47 PA 2008 ar gael yn **Adran 11** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
138. I grynhoi, nododd yr Ymgeisydd barth ymgynghori ar gyfer gogledd Cymru, gogledd-orllewin Lloegr ac Ynys Manaw (IoM), i helpu i benderfynu ar yr ardaloedd lle byddai'r ymgynghoriad yn cael ei gynnal. Hysbyswyd cyfanswm o 134,886 o gyfeiriadau preswyl a busnes yn y parth hwn. Drwy ymchwil bwrdd gwaith, nododd yr Ymgeisydd hefyd amrywiaeth o grwpiau buddiant lleol perthnasol, mudiadau cymunedol a sefydliadau porth sy'n cynrychioli buddiannau grwpiau nad ydynt yn cael eu clywed yn aml a grwpiau sy'n cael eu tangynrychioli. Gofynnodd yr Ymgeisydd hefyd am adborth gan Awdurdodau Cynllunio Lleol drwy ymgynghori ar y SoCC drafft i nodi unrhyw grwpiau a sefydliadau eraill. Ni nodwyd unrhyw grwpiau a sefydliadau pellach.
139. Anfonodd yr Ymgeisydd gerdyn post ymgynghori (Atodiad D25 a D26) drwy'r Post Brenhinol i bob cyfeiriad yn y parth ymgynghori, gan gynnwys cyfeiriadau preswyl a busnes (gweler Ffigur 8.1 i 8.6). Roedd y cerdyn post ymgynghori yn tynnu sylw'r derbynwyr at lansiad yr ymgynghoriad ac yn gwahodd pobl i roi eu hadborth i'r ymgynghoriad, gan eu cyfeirio at ble roedd deunyddiau ategol wedi cael eu darparu ar wefan yr Ymgeisydd a darparu manylion digwyddiadau ymgynghori. Cyhoeddwyd y wybodaeth hon hefyd drwy neges e-bost i randdeiliaid eraill, a nodwyd o dan Adrannau 42 a 47 PA 2008. Ar gyfer cyfeiriadau yng Nghymru, cydweithiodd yr Ymgeisydd â Phrosiect Gwynt Alltraeth Mona. Ar gyfer cyfeiriadau yn Lloegr ac ar yr IoM, cydweithiodd yr Ymgeisydd ag Asedau Cynhyrchu Prosiect Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan a Ffermydd Gwynt Alltraeth Morgan a Morecambe: Prosiectau Asedau Trosglwyddo. Gan fod pob un o'r ymgynghoriadau wedi digwydd ar yr un pryd i atal 'llesgedd ymgynghori' ac unrhyw ddriswch, cymerwyd dull cydweithredol i hyrwyddo'r ymgynghoriadau.
140. Wrth lansio'r ymgynghoriad statudol, diweddarodd yr Ymgeisydd wefan y Prosiect a darparu copïau electronig o'r PEIR, PEIR NTS a deunyddiau ymgynghori, gan gynnwys llyfryn yr ymgynghoriad, ffurflen adborth, SoCC, poster, a hysbysiadau Adran 47 ac Adran 48.
141. Roedd yr holl ddeunyddiau cymunedol a thechnegol hefyd ar gael ar wefan ymgynghori'r Prosiect ac mewn 12 lleoliad adneuo sy'n hygyrch i'r cyhoedd. Ar ben hynny, cafodd gwefan ymgynghori'r Prosiect ei optimeiddio, er mwyn galluogi rhanddeiliaid a chymunedau i gyrchu gwybodaeth yn hawdd ar-lein a chyflwyno eu hadborth.
142. Er mwyn sicrhau bod y deunyddiau ymgynghori ar gael i bawb, gan gynnwys y rheini heb fynediad digidol, roedd copïau wedi'u hargraffu o'r PEIR NTS, y llyfryn ymgynghori, y SoCC a'r ffurflen adborth hefyd ar gael mewn 12 lleoliad

adnewo, a oedd mewn lleoliadau hygyrch i'r cyhoedd ar draws y parth ymgynghori.

143. Cynhaliwyd 19 o ddiwyddiadau ymgynghori wyneb yn wyneb ar draws gogledd-orllewin Lloegr, Cymru a'r IOM. Cynhaliwyd y rhain rhwng dydd Iau 4 Mai 2023 a dydd Iau 25 Mai 2023, gyda digwyddiad ar-lein ddydd Mawrth 16 Mai 2023. Roedd y digwyddiadau hyn yn gyfle i gymunedau lleol gwrdd â Thîm y Prosiect, deall y cynigion yn well a gofyn unrhyw gwestiynau. Mae rhagor o fanylion am y digwyddiadau a gynhaliwyd ar gael yn **Adran 11** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.

1.10 Adran 46 'Dyletswydd i hysbysu'r Ysgrifennydd Gwladol o Gais arfaethedig'

144. Ymdrinnir â hyn yn Adran 12 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
145. Mae Adran 46 PA 2008 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol bod yr Ymgeisydd yn rhoi gwybod i'r SoS, drwy PINS, am ymgynghoriad Adran 42 (statudol). Rhaid gwneud hyn naill ai cyn, neu ar yr un pryd, â dechrau'r ymgynghoriad Adran 42 (statudol), a rhaid darparu'r un wybodaeth i'r SoS ag sydd i'w darparu i ymgynghoreion Adran 42.
146. Yn unol ag Adran 46 PA 2008, rhoddodd yr Ymgeisydd wybod i PINS drwy neges e-bost ar 18 Ebrill 2023 (gweler Atodiad E1 ac Adran 12 am ragor o wybodaeth). Roedd y cyfathrebiad hwn yn nodi cefndir y Prosiect, bwriad yr Ymgeisydd i gyflwyno DCO, manylion y deunyddiau ategol sydd wedi'u cynnwys, ac y byddai'r deunyddiau hyn yn cael eu hanfon at ymgynghoreion o dan Adran 42 PA 2008, a chrynodeb o'r broses ymgynghori statudol.
147. Derbyniodd yr Ymgeisydd gydnabyddiaeth o dderbyn ei hysbysiad dan Adran 46 PA 2008 gan PINS ar 19 Ebrill 2023 (Atodiad E2).

1.11 Adran 48 'Dyletswydd i roi cyhoeddusrwydd'

148. Ymdrinnir â hyn yn **Adran 13** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
149. Fel rhan o'r ymgynghoriad statudol ac wedi'i amseru i gyd-fynd â dechrau'r ymgynghoriadau Adran 47 a 42, cyhoeddodd yr Ymgeisydd hysbysiad yn unol ag Adran 48 PA 2008 a Rheoliad 4 Rheoliadau APFP (Atodiad F1 a F2).
150. Roedd yr hysbysiad hwn yn darparu manylion y Prosiect ac yn rhoi gwybod i bobl sut y gellid cael gafael ar ddeunyddiau ategol yr ymgynghoriad a sut i roi adborth, yn ogystal â darparu dyddiad cau ar gyfer derbyn sylwadau (4 Mehefin 2023).

1.12 Adran 49 ‘dyletswydd i ystyried ymatebion i ymgynghoriad a chyhoedduswydd’

151. Mae Adran 49 PA 2008 yn ei gwneud yn ofynnol i'r Ymgeisydd ystyried unrhyw ymatebion perthnasol i'r ymgynghoriad a chyhoedduswydd a gynhaliwyd yn unol ag Adrannau 42, 47 a 48 PA 2008. At ddibenion Adran 49, mae 'ymatebion perthnasol' yn cyfeirio at ymatebion a dderbynnir gan Ymgeisydd cyn y dyddiadau cau a bennir mewn perthynas ag Adrannau 42, 47 a 48.
152. Ymdrinnir yn fanwl â sut mae'r Ymgeisydd yn bodloni'r gofyniad hwn yn Adran 15 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn ac Atodiad I.

1.13 Datganiadau Tir Cyffredin

153. Mae rhagor o wybodaeth ar gael yn Adran 17 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.
154. Mae'r Ymgeisydd yn datblygu Datganiadau Tir Cyffredin (SoCG) gydag ymgynghoreion allweddol, i helpu PINS a'r SoS i ddeall pa faterion sy'n ymwneud â'r Prosiect sydd wrthi'n cael eu datrys ac sy'n dal heb eu datrys.
155. Bydd yr SoGC yn nodi cofnod o'r ymgynghoriad a gynhaliwyd hyd yma, gyda phob rhanddeiliad perthnasol, a'r prif feysydd cytundeb ac unrhyw faterion sydd heb eu datrys. Bydd yr SoGC yn cael ei ddiweddarau drwy gydol cyfnod yr Archwiliad i adlewyrchu'r ymgynghoriad parhaus, yn ôl yr angen.

1.14 Y camau nesaf

156. Ers ei sefydlu, mae'r Prosiect wedi bod yn destun ymgynghoriad helaeth (statudol ac anstatudol) gyda rhanddeiliaid, gan gynnwys rheoleiddwyr, y gymuned leol a grwpiau buddiant eraill.
157. Mae'r ymgynghoriad wedi cael dylanwad sylweddol ar y Prosiect, gan gynnwys nodweddu'r amgylchedd llinell sylfaen, sefydlu dulliau asesu, yn ogystal â dyluniad y prosiect, o ran ffiniau a'r cwmpas dylunio.
158. Cyhoeddodd yr Ymgeisydd ei PEIR ar gyfer ymgynghoriad ar 19 Ebrill 2023 a chynhaliodd ymgynghoriad statudol cyfochrog o dan Adrannau 42 a 47 PA 2008.
159. Mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi ystyried yr holl ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad statudol, boed iddynt ddod i law erbyn y dyddiad cau neu ar ôl y cyfnod ymgynghori statudol, wrth baratoi'r Cais DCO.
160. Lle bo'n briodol, mae ymatebion wedi arwain at newidiadau i asesiad a dyluniad y Prosiect a, lle nad yw hyn wedi bod yn bosibl, mae cyfiawnhad wedi'i roi dros beidio â gwneud hyn. Mae manylion y newidiadau sydd wedi

cael eu gwneud i'r Prosiect, o ganlyniad i'r ymgynghoriad statudol, yn cael eu disgrifio yn **Nhabl 6.1** ac **Adran 16** yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn.

161. Yn unol ag arferion ymgynghori effeithiol, mae'r Ymgeisydd yn parhau i ymgysylltu ag amrywiaeth o ymgynghoreion ar faterion penodol, a bydd yn parhau i wneud hynny, wrth i'r Prosiect symud ymlaen i'r cam Archwilio.

1.15 Rhestr wirio cydymffurfiaeth

162. Wrth ddatblygu'r dull ymgynghori ar gyfer Asedau Cynhyrchu Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe, mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi dilyn y gofynion penodol sydd wedi'u nodi mewn deddfwriaeth a dogfennau canllaw perthnasol.
163. Mae'r Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn disgrifio'r gweithgareddau y mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi ymgymryd â hwy o dan Adrannau 42, 47 a 48 PA 2008, yr ymatebion i'r ymgynghoriad a gafwyd o dan yr Adrannau hyn a'r sylw a roddwyd iddynt gan yr Ymgeisydd o dan Adran 49.
164. Mae pob adran o'r Adroddiad Ymgynghori yn nodi'r cyd-destun deddfwriaethol, i ddangos sut yr oedd yr ymgynghoriad yn cydymffurfio â'r deddfwriaeth a'r canllawiau perthnasol.
165. Mae rhestr wirio cydymffurfiaeth (Atodiad J1), sy'n nodi sut mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi cydymffurfio â gofynion PA 2008, Rheoliadau APFP, Rheoliadau AEA, yn ogystal â chanllawiau'r Adran Ffyniant Bro, Tai a Chymunedau (DCLG) a Nodiadau Cyngor PINS, wedi cael ei datblygu gan yr Ymgeisydd. Mae modd crynhoi'r rhestr wirio cydymffurfiaeth fel a ganlyn:
- Cynnal ymgynghoriad statudol dan Adran 42 PA 2008: Mae Adran 10 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn dangos y cydymffurfiwyd â holl ofynion PA 2008 a bod yr egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir yn y dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi'u dilyn
 - Cynnal ymgynghoriad statudol dan Adran 47 PA 2008: Mae Adran 11 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn dangos y cydymffurfiwyd â holl ofynion PA 2008 a bod yr egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir yn y dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi cael eu dilyn. Yn ogystal, mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi dangos ei fod wedi cydymffurfio â'r gofynion a nodir yn y SoCC (Adran 11). Mewn perthynas â'r Rheoliadau AEA, mae'r SoCC yn darparu manylion perthnasol, fel sy'n ofynnol o dan Reoliad 12. Yn ogystal, darparwyd y dogfennau ymgynghori i'r gymuned leol (fel y disgrifir yn Adran 11 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn)
 - Cynnal cyhoeddusrwydd statudol dan Adran 48 PA 2008: Mae Adran 13 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn dangos y cydymffurfiwyd â holl ofynion PA 2008 a bod yr egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir yn y dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi'u dilyn

- Ystyried ymatebion Adran 42 i'r ymgynghoriad: Mae Adran 15 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn dangos y cydymffurfiwyd â holl ofynion PA 2008 a bod yr egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir yn y dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi'u dilyn
 - Ystyried ymatebion Adran 47 i'r ymgynghoriad: Mae Adran 15 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn dangos y cydymffurfiwyd â holl ofynion PA 2008 a bod yr egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir yn y dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi'u dilyn
 - Ystyried ymatebion i gyhoeddusrwydd Adran 48: Mae Adran 15 yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn yn dangos y cydymffurfiwyd â holl ofynion PA 2008 a bod yr egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir yn y dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi'u dilyn
166. Mae'r rhestr wirio cydymffurfiaeth yn dangos y glynwyd wrth yr holl ofynion perthnasol a nodir yn y ddeddfwriaeth wrth gwblhau'r broses cyn ymgeisio.
167. Ar ben hynny, lle bo'n briodol, mae egwyddorion arweiniol a nodir mewn dogfennau canllaw perthnasol wedi cael eu dilyn wrth gynnal ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio ar gyfer Asedau Cynhyrchu Fferm Wynt Alltraeth Morecambe.
168. Yn yr Adroddiad Ymgynghori hwn, mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi ceisio adlewyrchu'n gywir y gwahanol gamau ymgynghori sydd wedi cael eu cynnal ac i gynrychioli'r safbwyntiau a'r adborth gan ymgynghoreion sydd wedi bod yn rhan o'r broses.
169. I gloi, mae'r Ymgeisydd wedi cynnal ymgynghoriad helaeth cyn ymgeisio, yn unol â deddfwriaeth berthnasol ac egwyddorion arweiniol, ac yn unol â'r SoCC.

2 Introduction

2.1 Overview

170. This Consultation Report (Document Reference 4.1) has been prepared on behalf of Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd (the Applicant). It forms part of a set of documents that supports the DCO Application submitted to the Secretary of State (the SoS) for the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), under Section 37 of the PA 2008.
171. The Applicant is seeking development consent to authorise the construction, operation and maintenance for the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets (the Project).
172. The Project has a planned capacity of over 100MW and is categorised as a NSIP under Sections 14(1)(a) and 15(3) of the PA 2008, as amended.

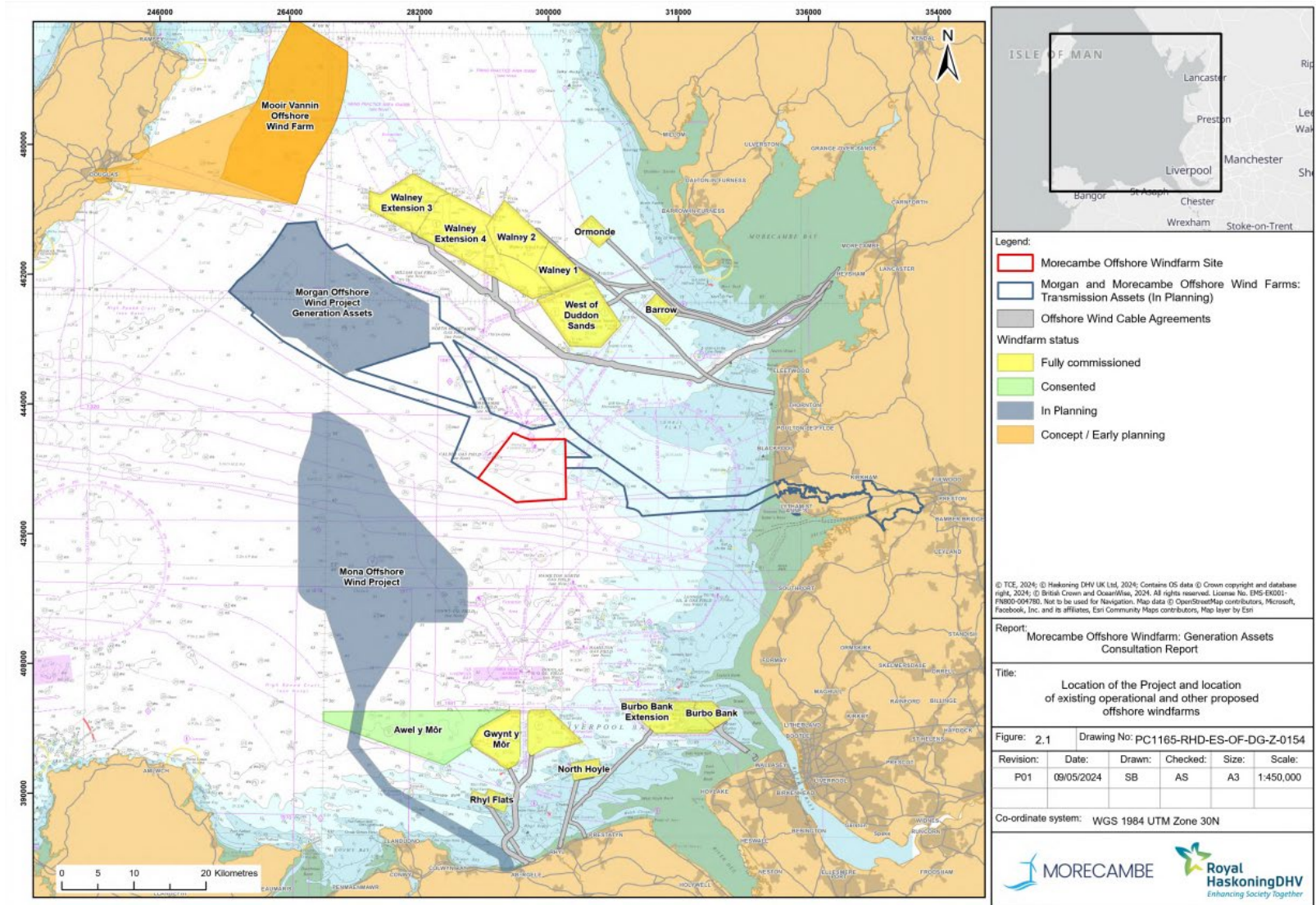
2.2 The Applicant

173. The Applicant is Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd, a joint venture between Zero-E Offshore Wind S.L.U. (Spain) (a Cobra group company), and Flotation Energy Ltd. (Flotation Energy).
174. With 80 years of experience, Cobra is a historically significant Group in the development of industrial infrastructure and service provision, and one of the key players in the renewable energy sector in Spain and Latin America. The Group possesses the capacity and determination to develop, build, and operate industrial and energy infrastructures that demand a high level of service, grounded in excellence in integration, technological innovation, and financial robustness. Their unrivalled knowledge and understanding of floating offshore wind developments is a significant advantage in delivering a high quality and efficient project, coupled with their commitment to environmental stewardship. Their experience as a major player in offshore wind is based on a 50MW project in operation and over 11.2GW under development.
175. Flotation Energy, headquartered in Edinburgh, Scotland, sits at the heart of the energy transition. It's determined to support the big switch to sustainable, clean and affordable energy through the application of innovative offshore wind technology. An ambitious offshore wind developer, Flotation Energy has a 13GW portfolio that covers both fixed and floating developments globally, with projects in the UK, Ireland, Taiwan, Japan and Australia. Whilst Flotation Energy develops projects independently, it also recognises the strategic value of partnership and collaboration to deliver proven, cost-effective solutions.

2.3 The proposed Project site

176. The windfarm site (encompassing all Project infrastructure) is located in the Eastern Irish Sea, approximately 30km from the nearest point on the coast of Lancashire.
177. Following The Crown Estate's Offshore Wind Round 4 Leasing process between 2019 and 2021, the Agreement for Lease (AfL) for the windfarm site was awarded by The Crown Estate to the Applicant in 2023. The AfL comprised an area of up to 125km² and reflects the windfarm site that was assessed in the Project's PEIR.
178. Following design development, surveys, assessments and consultation on the PEIR, the proposed windfarm site has been reduced to approximately 87km².
179. The location of the windfarm site in relation to existing operational and other proposed offshore windfarms is given in **Figure 2.1**, including the location of Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (provided for context).

Figure 2.1 Location of the Project



2.4 The proposed Project

180. The Project refers to the Generation Assets located within the windfarm site (including WTGs, inter-array cables, (OSP(s)) and possible platform link cables to connect OSP(s)).
181. When fully operational, the windfarm is anticipated to generate a nominal capacity of 480MW and produce renewable power for over 500,000 homes in the UK.
182. The Project will include WTGs (windfarm array), OSP(s) to convert generated power to a suitable voltage for transmission to shore, inter-array cables to connect WTGs to the OSP(s) and possible platform link cables to connect OSP(s). A full description of the Project is provided in **Chapter 5 Project Description** (Document Reference 5.1.5) of the ES.
183. A Government-initiated review of offshore windfarm transmission connections concluded that the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm would share a grid connection location at Penwortham in Lancashire with the Morgan Offshore Wind Project, another offshore windfarm also located in the east Irish Sea. Given this, the Applicant intends to deliver a coordinated grid connection with the Morgan Offshore Wind Project and is, together with the Applicant submitting a separate DCO application for the Transmission Assets for both projects. This is known as the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project.

2.5 Consultation Report

184. Section 37(3)(c) of the PA 2008 requires an application for a DCO to be accompanied by a 'Consultation Report'. Section 37(7) confirms that a Consultation Report means a report giving details of:
- What has been done by the Applicant to comply with Sections 42 ('Duty to consult'), Section 47 ('Duty to consult local community') and Section 48 ('Duty to publicise') of the PA 2008
 - Any 'relevant responses' to the consultation under Sections 42, 47 and 48
 - The account taken by the Applicant of any relevant responses, as required by Section 49 ('Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity'), in developing the Application from proposed to final form

185. A 'relevant response' is defined by Section 49(3) as:
- A response from a person consulted under Section 42 that is received by the Applicant before the deadline imposed by Section 45 ('Timetable for consultation under Section 42'), in that person's case
 - A response to consultation under Section 47 that is received by the Applicant before any applicable deadline imposed, in accordance with the statement prepared under Section 47 (the 'Statement of Community Consultation')
 - A response to publicity under Section 48 that is received by the applicant before the deadline imposed, in accordance with Section 48 in relation to that publicity
186. This Consultation Report describes the approach taken in respect of the pre-application consultation for the proposed Project, including the methods employed. It sets out what was done for the pre-application consultation, including the statutory consultation, as required by the PA 2008 and related Regulations.
187. As confirmed above, PINS Advice Note Fourteen 'Compiling the Consultation Report' provides guidance on the structure and content of Consultation Reports. **Table 2.1** below identifies how the structure and content of this Consultation Report complies with this guidance and where the information is provided.

Table 2.1 Structure of the Consultation Report in relation to Advice Note Fourteen

Section of Advice note Fourteen	Recommendation from Advice Note Fourteen	Where addressed in Consultation Report
Explanatory Text	A quick reference guide to the pre-application stage should be provided near the start of the Consultation Report, in bullet point form, summarising all consultation activity in chronological order. This section should define the whole pre-application consultation and explain the relationship between any informal consultation that may have taken place and statutory consultation carried out under the PA 2008.	Table 1.2 in the ‘Executive Summary’ to the Consultation Report provides a quick reference guide to the pre-application consultation carried out by the Applicant. This summarises all the key consultation stages in chronological order where possible. The summary (paragraphs) also explains the relationship between the Stage 1 (non-statutory) and Stage 2 (statutory) Consultation.
Consultation with prescribed consultees	The applicant should include a full list of the prescribed consultees as part of the Consultation Report. If the list varies in any way from Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations this should be robustly justified. A short description of how Section 43 of the PA 2008 has been applied to identify relevant local authorities should be included. This could be supported by a map showing the site and identifying the boundaries of the relevant authorities. Those with an interest in the land consulted under Section 44 should be identified as a distinct element of the wider Section 42 consultation.	Section 42(a) – Such persons as may be prescribed: A list of such persons as may be prescribed (the ‘prescribed persons’) and must therefore be consulted at Stage 2 is provided at Appendix D16. Table 10.1 confirms when the prescribed persons were consulted. Section 42(b) – each LPA that is within Section 43: The approach taken to identifying relevant LPAs is described in Section 1 and listed in Appendix D17.
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	It would be helpful to provide a summary of the rationale behind the SoCC methodology to assist the SoS’s understanding of the community consultation and provide a context for considering how the consultation was undertaken and how the SoCC has been complied with. Evidence should be submitted as part of the report that shows which local authorities were consulted about the content of the draft SoCC; what the authorities’ comments were; confirmation that they were given 28 days to provide	The preparation of consultation on and publication of the SoCC is covered at Section 7 of this Consultation Report. A summary of the rationale behind the SoCC methodology and the definition of the public consultation zones for the Section 47 local community consultation is provided at Section 7. Figure 8.1 to Figure 8.6 shows the geographical

Section of Advice note Fourteen	Recommendation from Advice Note Fourteen	Where addressed in Consultation Report
	<p>their comments and a description of how the applicant had regard to the authorities' comments.</p> <p>Copies of the published SoCC as it appeared in the local press should be provided along with confirmation of which local newspapers it was published in and when.</p> <p>Where there were any inconsistencies with the SoCC, for example where additional activities took place that were not included in the SoCC, then this should be clearly explained and justified.</p> <p>The SoCC process is usually best dealt with as a discrete section within the report.</p>	<p>extent of the public consultation zones relative to the windfarm site.</p> <p>As this Project is at sea, the communities, groups and people who may be affected is less defined. As such, the SoCC was developed in consultation with the relevant authorities closest to the Project, and those that may interact with the Project.</p> <p>Examples of the correspondence sent to the relevant LPAs, the MMO, Lake District National Park and the Isle of Man Government consulting them on the draft SoCC pursuant to Section 47 and providing 28 days for the receipt of comments is provided at Appendix C2. A total of four emails were sent to each of the relevant LPAs, the MMO, Lake District National Park and the IoM Government. In total, The Applicant received two pieces of feedback to the draft SoCC.</p> <p>The SoCC notice (Section 47 notice) was published in the Golwg, Blackpool Gazette, Daily Post, Isle of Man Courier, Lancashire Post and Liverpool Echo on 30 March 2023. Copies of the Section 47 notice as published are provided at Appendix C8. The Stage 2 Consultation was undertaken in accordance with the published SoCC.</p>
Statutory publicity (Section 48)	<p>A copy of the Section 48 notice as it appeared in the local and national newspapers, together with a description of where the notice was published and confirmation of the time period given for responses should be included within the report.</p>	<p>A separate section has been provided on Section 48 publicity in Section 12 and provides information on where the Section 48 notice was published, the dates of publication (Table 13.1) and also the time period given for responses. An example copy of the Section 48 notice is provided at Appendix F1 and F2 with copies of the Section 48 notice as published at Appendix F3.</p>

Section of Advice note Fourteen	Recommendation from Advice Note Fourteen	Where addressed in Consultation Report
	<p>Applicants should provide confirmation that the Section 48 notice was sent to the prescribed consultees at the same time the notice was published.</p> <p>Section 48 publicity is best dealt as a separate section within the report.</p>	
Non-statutory consultation	Any consultation not carried out under the provisions of the PA 2008 should be clearly indicated and identified separately in the report from the statutory consultation.	Section 6 describes the Stage 1 non-statutory consultation used to introduce the Project and the options being considered to the local community, the relevant LPAs, technical consultees amongst others, in advance of the Stage 2 statutory consultation.
Statutory consultation	<p>Consultation undertaken as part of the EIA regime is separate to that required under the PA 2008. Applicants may wish to draw attention to consultation responses received under the EIA process, but any reference to this consultation should be kept separate from the statutory consultation carried out under the provisions of the PA 2008.</p> <p>A list of the individual responses received should be provided and categorised in an appropriate way. We advise that applicants group responses under the three strands of consultation as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 42 prescribed consultees (including S.43 and S.44) ▪ Section 47 community consultees ▪ Section 48 responses to statutory publicity <p>The list should also make further distinction within those categories by sorting response according to whether they</p>	<p>Section 5 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken as part of the EIA regime. This is detailed further in Appendix A1.</p> <p>Section 14 provides a summary of the responses received to the consultations grouped under Sections 42 and 47; how the Applicant has taken account of those responses; and whether the responses have led to changes to the proposed Project and Application.</p>

Section of Advice note Fourteen	Recommendation from Advice Note Fourteen	Where addressed in Consultation Report
	<p>contain comments which have led to changes to matters such as siting, route, design, form or scale of the scheme itself, or to mitigation or compensatory measures proposed, or have led to no change.</p> <p>A summary of responses by appropriate category together with a clear explanation of the reason responses have led to no change should also be included, including where responses have been received after the deadline set by the applicant. It is important that where areas of disagreement have not been resolved, the reasons why are set out clearly in the summary.</p>	
Phased approach	Where a phased approach to consultation was undertaken then this can be reflected in the structure of the report and in the summary of responses.	The Applicant undertook multiple stages of consultation (non-statutory and statutory). This Consultation Report is structured chronologically to set out each stage and the results/responses received.
Request for responses	It is important that the consultation report is clear and that the SoS can quickly identify whether applicants have met all statutory requirements. The applicant may be asked to provide a copy of all consultation responses that have been received.	<p>Section 1 provides a quick reference as to how the Applicant has met all of the statutory requirements relating to pre-application consultation. This includes evidence of compliance and where this is referenced and contained within the Consultation Report. This is also presented in the compliance checklist (Document Reference 1.4).</p> <p>Copies of the consultation responses for all consultees including Section 42 consultees are provided within Appendix I. The consultation responses received from members of the public can be made available to PINS.</p>

Section of Advice note Fourteen	Recommendation from Advice Note Fourteen	Where addressed in Consultation Report
Data protection	Applicants should ensure the consultation report complies with the Data Protection Act 1998 and addresses and other contact information are treated appropriately	The contact information (telephone numbers and email addresses) of consultees have been omitted.

3 Legislative context, relevant guidance and compliance

188. This section provides a summary of the legislative context for NSIPs, including the legislative requirements and relevant guidance relating to pre-application consultation and publicity.

3.1 Overview of the DCO regime

189. The Project has a planned capacity of over 100MW and, therefore, is considered an NSIP under the PA 2008, as amended. It is, therefore, necessary (as specified in Section 31 of the PA 2008) for the Applicant to apply to the SoS via PINS for a DCO.

190. PINS is responsible for examining the DCO Application and making a recommendation to the relevant SoS, in this case DESNZ, who then takes the decision as to whether a DCO should be made, authorising the project to proceed. A DCO can also include a range of other consents and licences and powers.

191. Under the DCO regime, the primary policy framework for examining and determining applications is provided by National Policy Statements ('NPSs'). NPSs are designed to set the policy framework for determination of NSIP applications. They integrate the UK Government's objectives for infrastructure capacity and development with its wider economic, environmental and social policy objectives, including climate change goals and targets, in order to deliver sustainable development.

192. NPSs are produced by the UK Government and set out national policy against which proposals for major infrastructure projects will be assessed. Planning decisions will be taken within the clear policy framework set out in the NPSs, making the decision-making process transparent. The Examining Authority will have regard to applicable NPSs in its examination of applications for development consent. The relevant SoS must also have regard to them and decide the application in accordance with applicable NPSs, subject to specified exceptions.

193. In making decisions on NSIPs, the PA 2008 (section 104) also states that the SoS must have regard to any 'local impact report' submitted by a relevant LPA, any relevant matters prescribed in regulations and any other matters that the SoS thinks are both 'important and relevant'.

194. There are 12 NPSs in total, relating to different types of infrastructure projects. Of these, there are six energy NPSs, produced by the DESNZ.

195. The NPSs considered to be of direct relevance to the Project are as follows:
- Overarching NPS for Energy (EN-1) (DESNZ, 2023a)
 - NPS for Renewable Energy (EN-3) (DESNZ, 2023b). This covers nationally significant renewable energy infrastructure (including offshore generation in excess of 100MW)
196. The NPS for Electricity Networks Infrastructure (EN-5) (DESNZ, 2023c), which covers the electrical infrastructure associated with an NSIP is less applicable to the Project, as the Project comprises of Generation Assets only. The NPS EN-5 is more relevant to the associated Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project.
197. In September 2021, and again in March 2023 and November 2023, the UK Government published draft updates for a range of energy-related NPSs, including EN-1 and EN-3. The updated draft NPSs include a number of key changes, which were finalised in November 2023 and new NPS adopted in 2024. They also include reference to plans to decarbonise the UK's economy, strategies to ensure energy security and a reduction in the cost of energy for consumers. The updated draft NPSs highlight the need for diversification of energy generation infrastructure, to include a mix of sources to help with the transition to Net Zero.
198. On 30 April 2024 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published six guidance notes for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. One of these guidance notes, Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024) supersedes the previous guidance note Planning Act 2008: guidance on the pre-application process for major infrastructure projects. The Applicant has had regard to the new guidance notes in preparing this Application, but all activities carried out by the Applicant prior to the 30 April 2024 were undertaken with reference to the now superseded guidance. The Applicant has not identified any material discrepancies in its approach as compared to the new guidance.

3.2 Legislative requirements for pre-application consultation and publicity

199. The legislative framework, and the requirements relating to pre-application consultation and publicity for NSIPs, are set out within the following:
- The Planning Act 2008
 - The Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure Regulations 2009 ('the APFP Regulations') (as amended)
 - The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regulations')

200. The legislative requirements for applicants to follow, in relation to pre-application consultation and publicity, are summarised in **Table 3.1** below.

Table 3.1 Requirements for pre-application consultation and publicity

Section of PA 2008/ Relevant Regulation	Legislative Requirement
Section 37: Applications for orders granting development consent	Section 37(3) requires that any application for a DCO must be accompanied by a consultation report, which provides details of what has been done to comply with Sections 42, 47 and 48, any relevant responses received to consultation and the account taken of those responses.
Section 47: Duty to consult local community	<p>Applicants must prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) explaining how they intend to consult the people living within the vicinity of the land to which the proposed project relates about the proposed application.</p> <p>Before preparing the SoCC the applicant must consult the relevant local authorities about what is to be included within it, provide a period for comments of at least 28 days starting with the day after the day the SoCC is received, and have regard to any comments received before the deadline.</p> <p>Owing to changes made in 2020 to the Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc.) (Amendment) Regulations 2020, ('the 2020 Regulations') applicants no longer need to place paper (hard) copies of the SoCC at deposit locations (for inspection by the public) within the vicinity of the proposed project, but instead can make the SoCC available for inspection online.</p> <p>Applicants must publish a SoCC Notice in a circulating newspaper within the vicinity of the proposed project for at least one week. Where it is not possible to place the SoCC notice in a printed newspaper, then a screen shot of the notice as it was published in an online newspaper publication (including the full website address and relevant telephone number for enquiries as required by the 2020 Regulations) should be provided.</p> <p>The Section 47 consultation must be carried out in accordance with the SoCC. Where there are any inconsistencies between the SoCC and the consultation carried out, this should be clearly explained and justified in the consultation report.</p>

Section of PA 2008/ Relevant Regulation	Legislative Requirement
Section 42: Duty to consult	<p>Applicants must consult the following about the proposed application for at least 28 days, starting with the day after the day the consultation documents are received (Section 45):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 42(a) such persons as may be prescribed; ▪ Section 42(aa) the Marine Management Organisation (MMO), in any case where the proposed project would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in subsection (2) (being waters in or adjacent to England up to the seaward limits of the territorial sea); ▪ Section 42(b) each local authority that is within Section 43; ▪ Section 42 (c) “the Greater London Authority if the land is in Greater London; and ▪ Section 42(d) each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44 (i.e. affected and potentially affected landowners, including occupiers, tenants, lessees and other affected persons).
Section 46: Duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed application	<p>Applicants must notify the SoS of the start of the Section 42 consultation and provide the SoS with the same information as the applicant intends to send to the Section 42 consultees, either at the same time as or before commencing the section 42 consultation.</p>
Section 48: Duty to publicise	<p>Applicants must publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner (by a Section 48 notice), in accordance with APFP Regulation 4(2), once in a national newspaper, once in the London Gazette, once in the Lloyds List and appropriate fishing journal where offshore development is involved, and for two consecutive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity of the land to which the proposed project relates.</p> <p>The deadline for the receipt of responses stated in the section 48 notice must not be less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published.</p> <p>The Section 48 notice must include the following (APFP Regulation 4(3)):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the name and address of the applicant;

Section of PA 2008/ Relevant Regulation	Legislative Requirement
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State; ▪ a statement as to whether the application is an EIA development; ▪ a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed project; ▪ the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection; whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge; ▪ details of how to respond to the publicity; and ▪ a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published <p>APFP Regulation 4(3) was amended by the 2020 Regulations to remove the requirement for applicants to place paper (hard) copies of the relevant documents, plans and maps on deposit. Instead, there is now a requirement for the documents, plans and maps to be made available for inspection free of charge on a website maintained by or on behalf of the applicant and the notice must provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the address of the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected; ▪ the place on the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected; ▪ a telephone number which can be used to contact the applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps;
EIA Regulation 13: Pre-application publicity under Section 48 (duty to publicise)	<p>Where the proposed application is for EIA development, the applicant must, at the same time as publishing notice of the proposed application under Section 48(1), send a copy of the Section 48 Notice to all the consultation bodies ('consultation bodies' means for the purposes of the EIA Regulations a body prescribed under Section 42(1)(a)) and listed in column 1 of the table set out in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations where the circumstances set out in Schedule 2 are satisfied in respect of that body), 'such persons as may be prescribed', each local authority within Section 43 'Local authorities for the purposes of Section 42(1)(b)' and any person notified to the applicant by the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with EIA Regulation 11(1)(c)).</p>

Section of PA 2008/ Relevant Regulation	Legislative Requirement
Section 49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity	Where a phased approach to consultation was undertaken then this can be reflected in the structure of the report and in the summary of responses.
Section 50: Guidance about pre-application procedure	<p>The Applicant must have regard to any pre-application procedural guidance issued under this section by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>The principal pre-application guidance is 'PA 2008: guidance on the pre-application process' (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2015). This provides advice on a wide range of pre-application activities.</p> <p>In addition, guidance was issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on 22 July 2020 (updated on 31 December 2020) on pre-application procedures in the context of the coronavirus pandemic. This guidance provides suggestions on website design and methods of providing copies of documentation. It also provides guidance on satisfying the requirement to make the SoCC available for inspection, by providing it online (via a project specific website) and via hard copies on request. These are described further under 'Relevant guidance' below.</p>

3.3 Relevant guidance

201. Relevant guidance relating to pre-application consultation and publicity is provided by the following documents:
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG): Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015)
202. In addition, PINS has published a series of Advice Notes, setting out recommendations for applicants, consultees, the public and others about a range of process matters, including:
- PINS Advice Note Three: EIA notification and consultation (Republished August 2017, version 7)
 - PINS Advice Note Six: preparation and submission of application documents (May 2012 version 11) (Advice Note Six)
 - PINS Advice Note Seven: Environmental Impact Assessment: process, preliminary environmental information and environmental statements (June 2020, version 7) (Advice Note Seven)
 - PINS Advice Note Eleven: working with public bodies in the infrastructure planning process (November 2017, version 4) (Advice Note Eleven)
 - PINS Advice Note Twelve: transboundary impacts and process (December 2020, version 6) (Advice Note Twelve)
 - PINS Advice Note Fourteen: compiling the consultation report (February 2021, version 3) (Advice Note Fourteen)

3.4 Legislative compliance

203. The compliance checklist (Document Reference 1.4) sets out how the Applicant's pre-application consultation and publicity has complied with the legislative requirements of the PA 2008 (and related Regulations) relating to pre-application consultation. This 'compliance' exercise has been carried out against the PINS 'Section 55 Acceptance of Application Checklist' and the acceptance criteria that are relevant to pre-application consultation.

4 The Applicant's approach to consultation

4.1 Staged approach

204. In considering the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) 'Guidance on the pre-application process' (DCLG, March 2015), the Applicant has undertaken an iterative, multi-phased consultation approach.
205. The consultation undertaken by the Applicant has involved statutory Section 42 and Section 47 consultation, in addition to early and ongoing non-statutory consultation and engagement with stakeholders.
206. By definition, there is no statutory requirement for non-statutory consultation to be undertaken or reported upon. However, the DCLG Guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015) on pre-application consultation notes, in Paragraph 21, that technical expert input from key stakeholders will often be needed in advance of formal compliance with the pre-application requirements. It continues that early engagement with these 'technical' bodies can help avoid unnecessary delays and the costs of having to make changes at later stages of the DCO process.
207. In addition, paragraph 52 of the DCLG guidance suggests that applicants might wish to consider undertaking early non-statutory consultation, at a stage where options are still being considered, as this will be helpful in informing proposals and assisting the Applicant in establishing a preferred option on which to undertake statutory public consultation.
208. PINS also recognises, in Advice Note Fourteen, that applicants may have been engaged in non-statutory consultation in advance of statutory consultation under the PA 2008. It is advised in this guidance that any such consultation, not carried out under the provisions of the PA 2008, is identified separately from statutory consultation in the Consultation Report.
209. It is a statutory requirement for promoters of a DCO Application to engage in pre-application consultation with local communities, relevant LPAs and those who may be directly affected by the Applicant's Project. As such, the Applicant produced a PEIR to inform consultees about Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets and the likely significant effects associated with the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning phases of the Project.

210. Considering this guidance, the Applicant, therefore, carried out two phases of public consultation:
- Phase one: non-statutory consultation
 - Phase two: statutory consultation (under Section 42 and 47 of the PA 2008)
211. These phases of consultation took place following early non-technical and technical engagement, as explained below.

4.2 Non-technical engagement

212. This phase of pre-scoping engagement (as presented in **Figure 1.1**) focused more on the dissemination of information, than on the collection of feedback. Due to the early stage of the Project, and the high-level nature of the information available, engagement at this stage was restricted to community representatives and technical stakeholders representing the Applicant's Project area.
213. The strategic imperatives were to:
- Introduce the Project to stakeholders and community representatives across the Project area
 - Start to build a profile for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets and the lead consultants supporting the Project – giving faces and voices to the Project
 - Set down an early marker that the Applicant's approach is for open, constructive and collaborative consultation; that the Project will listen to its stakeholders; and engage with integrity and respect
 - Open lines of dialogue and kickstart relationships with key stakeholders and interested community leaders – engaging and managing expectations ahead of non-statutory consultation in 2022
 - Signpost interested parties to sources of further information (i.e. the Project website, Project enquiry line and email)
214. It was anticipated that Project introductions would be conducted largely online, although early in-person briefings were considered, if requested. This included the Cabinets and/or LPAs and Members of Parliament (MPs).

4.3 Technical engagement

215. Technical engagement took place with specialist bodies during pre-scoping engagement (including some statutory bodies, as defined under Section 42 of

the PA 2008). This engagement was coordinated with the Project introduction, to ensure consistency of messaging. This included:

- Introductory meetings with PINS and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO)
- Introductory meetings with appropriate environmental departments at the relevant LPAs
- Establishing the EPP Steering Group and holding first meeting of the EPP Steering Group and associated Expert Topic Groups (ETGs) (see Appendix A1)
- The Maritime Navigation Engagement Forum (MNEF) and holding first meeting of the MNEF in May 2022
- Early engagement with military organisations
- Continued engagement with oil and gas operators
- Early engagement with aviation stakeholders
- Continued engagement with commercial fisheries stakeholders

4.4 Stage one: non-statutory consultation

216. The non-statutory consultation was an opportunity to seek views from local stakeholders and communities for the first time.

217. Non-statutory consultation was held following the submission of the Project's Scoping Report to PINS, (see Document Reference 5.4). The consultation was based on early Project information, which was primarily used in the preparation of the Scoping Report.

218. The strategic imperatives of this stage were to:

- Provide an initial view of the Project in detail, highlighting areas for which feedback was being sought and being clear about the areas of the Project stakeholders and communities were able to influence
- Flush out the key areas of concern among stakeholders and communities being consulted, enabling the Project team to collect a comprehensive view of likely issues to be addressed during the statutory consultation
- Highlight areas of the proposals that were likely to be fixed (i.e. which cannot be influenced) and explain why this needs to be the case
- Highlight areas that were still being developed, upon which more information would ultimately be available and upon which feedback was welcomed

- Continue to build on dialogue started during the Project introduction stage and reinforce the Project's approach to engagement and consultation as continuing to be open, constructive and collaborative
 - Signpost further opportunities for communities and stakeholders to give their views on the Project and to provide a broad timescale for when further information, including key documentation, was expected to be made available
219. An online consultation platform was the central hub for the consultation, making all information easily accessible and providing a simple way to provide feedback.
220. In summary, activity included:
- A series of live drop-in style consultation events at easily accessible community venues, attended by the Project team and publicised effectively, in advance, to optimise levels of attendance
 - Materials made available at the events, including a series of 'pull up' style display panels, maps, information sheets and digital resources, helping communities and stakeholders to visualise and understand the Project
 - An enhanced online consultation platform, enabling stakeholders and communities to access information online and feedback their comments, using an intuitive and interactive web function
 - Offers of update briefings to key stakeholders (MPs, LPA Officers and other elected representatives).

4.4.1 Feedback and reporting

221. An important aspect of pre-application consultation is demonstrating how the Project has had regard to feedback received. Responses to consultation were, therefore, analysed and issues for response identified. These were then shared with the appropriate members of the Project team for answers to be provided.
222. All feedback and subsequent answers for the non-statutory consultation were logged, recorded and analysed. How the Project had regard to the feedback received is set out in **Section 7.7** of this Consultation Report.

4.4.2 Technical engagement

223. As well as consulting with local communities and their representatives, it is good practice to consult with statutory stakeholders (as defined by Section 42 of the PA 2008) at the non-statutory stage. These were therefore identified in

advance of the consultation and accounted for any technical engagement that had already taken place with any of these stakeholders.

224. Where appropriate, reference was made to the Scoping Report in communications with relevant parties at the launch of non-statutory consultation.
225. Technical engagement continued with PINS, Natural England and the MMO, through the ETG and EPP Steering Groups, and the MNEF, throughout all stages of the Project as described in **Section 6** of this Consultation Report.

4.5 Development of draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

226. A SoCC sets out how a Project intends to comply with their statutory consultation obligations under the PA 2008. It is a statutory document and evidence has been provided in this Consultation Report that demonstrates how the Project's statutory consultation complies with a SoCC.
227. A draft SoCC was prepared for consultation with relevant LPAs in early 2023 and was published ahead of the statutory consultation. It set out:
- An introduction to the Project
 - An explanation of the consenting process
 - Consultation undertaken so far on the Project
 - The Applicant's consultation objectives
 - What was being consulted on
 - Who was being consulted and how/when/where
 - How to take part in the consultation
 - How consultation responses were to be addressed
228. The draft SoCC (see Appendix C1) was produced in consultation with the relevant authorities (as per Section 43 of the PA 2008) and all formal requirements under Section 47 of the PA 2008 (i.e. placing notices in regional newspapers) were met. Feedback received during the consultation on the draft SoCC, and the Applicant's response, can be found in **Table 8.1** of this Consultation Report. The consultation was then carried out in the manner set out in the SoCC and this Consultation Report includes details of how this was done.

4.6 Stage two: statutory consultation

229. The statutory consultation for the Project commenced on 19 April 2023, in accordance with the Applicant's SoCC. It was a formal consultation on the contents of the Applicant's PEIR.
230. The strategic imperative for this stage of the consultation was to ensure it was delivered in a SoCC-compliant manner and to also:
- Present a detailed information on proposals and the preliminary findings of the EIA process to communities and stakeholders, in order to enable them to consider the potential benefits and impacts of the Project.
 - Clarify which areas were being consulted on, which were set and why this was the case
 - Consolidate ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders, community groups, residents etc
 - Signpost how the consenting process would continue and outline what further opportunities existed for interested parties to continue offering their views when the Examination process started
 - Continue to reinforce the Project's approach to engagement and consultation as open, constructive and collaborative
231. Logistically, the statutory consultation was delivered in a similar format to the non-statutory consultation, based on a series of public 'drop-in' in-person exhibitions, online webinar, opportunities for online feedback, stakeholder briefings and media liaison.
232. A more detailed overview of the Applicant's statutory consultation can be found in **Sections 9 to 11** of this Consultation Report.

4.6.1 Feedback and reporting

233. As with non-statutory consultation, a framework for generating constructive feedback was developed in discussion with the Project team. This formed the basis of encouraging feedback and the structure for analysing any responses received.
234. All feedback for the statutory consultation were logged, recorded and analysed. How the Project had regard to the feedback received is set out in Appendix I and **Section 15** of this Consultation Report.

4.6.2 Technical engagement

235. As well as consulting communities and their representatives in accordance with the SoCC, the Project consulted statutory stakeholders under the relevant

Sections of the PA 2008. This activity was carried out alongside the activities outlined in the SoCC in a fully compliant manner. It also took account of any previous engagement with these organisations.

5 Stakeholder engagement and consultation strategy

5.1 Background to preparation of the stakeholder engagement strategy

236. The Project's stakeholder engagement strategy established the general principles and considerations for consultation and engagement, in accordance with the PA 2008 and DCO process.
237. The DCO process requires applicants to carry out one stage of pre-application consultation that meets the requirements set out in Sections 42 to Section 49 of the PA 2008. The consultation carried out under these requirements is referred to as the 'statutory consultation'. This consultation must take place over a period of at least 28 days.
238. Applicants are also encouraged to "consider an iterative, phased consultation consisting of two (or more) stages, especially for large projects with long development periods". These additional consultations are referred to as 'non-statutory consultations' (PA 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process, DCLG, March 2015). More information about the iterative, multi-phased approach the Applicant carried out is covered in **Sections 7, 10 and 11** of this Consultation Report.
239. The differences between consultation and engagement can be broadly defined as:
- Consultation: a defined period, typically in which formal written feedback is invited from all stakeholders identified as having an interest in the Project. Information presented is made available to everyone, so all have the opportunity to respond to the same level of detail. This feedback is subsequently recorded and analysed for the purposes of the Consultation Report
 - Engagement: ongoing interaction with stakeholders, whether formal or informal, in-person, by email, letter or telephone, to keep them informed on the Project's development and to listen to and respond to queries and concerns. Through engagement, shared information will be tailored to suit the level of interest and understanding, and relevance of the recipient. This also includes ongoing online engagement, such as through the Project website
240. The broad strategy consisted of an initial phase of engagement to introduce the Project, a non-statutory stage of consultation on early Project information

and a statutory consultation on more detailed proposals and the preliminary findings of the EIA process, as set out in a PEIR.

241. A non-statutory stage of consultation provided a useful opportunity to engage with consultees early, gauge reaction and identify any likely points of contention ahead of the statutory consultation stage.

5.2 Timing of engagement

242. Timings for the engagement process are summarised below and set out in detail later in this section.

- June – December 2021 (Part 1): Project introduction, initial engagement with priority stakeholders
- May 2022 and ongoing (Part 2): Targeted technical consultation, to run in parallel with Project introduction
- November to December 2022: Non-statutory consultation
- January to February 2023: draft SoCC issued to LPAs, the MMO, LDNP and the IoM Government for consultation, ahead of statutory consultation
- April to June 2023: Statutory consultation on more detailed proposals and the Project's PEIR

5.3 Definition of the consultation zones

243. During non-statutory consultation, the Applicant consulted alongside Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project. The consultation zone was identified largely by reference to the search area for onshore infrastructure associated with the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project and the coastal communities that may be visually impacted by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets. During statutory consultation, the Applicant also consulted alongside the Mona Offshore Wind Project in Wales.

244. The Applicant took account of the need to engage with a wide cross section of society. The consultation was designed to be open to anyone who felt directly or indirectly impacted by the proposals, including:

- Local communities – people with homes and businesses in the consultation zone and those outside who have previously commented on the proposals
- Elected Representatives – District, Borough and Unitary Authority Councillors, County Councillors, Parish Councils

- MPs, Members of the Senedd (MSs) and Members of Isle of Man Parliament (Tynwald)
- Seldom heard groups
- Identified special interest groups
- Prescribed bodies and statutory consultees
- LPAs
- Those who could be potentially impacted visually by the windfarm

5.4 Consultation methods

245. The methods adopted for both stages of consultation (non-statutory and statutory) are detailed in the respective sections.
246. To summarise, the Applicant aimed to make engaging with both stages of consultation as accessible as possible. It did this, primarily, through a digital-first approach, with the Applicant's consultation website acting as the main source of information about the Applicant's proposals:
- www.morecambeandmorgan.com for non-statutory consultation
 - www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe for statutory consultation
247. Throughout the pre-application process, the Applicant strived to be as open and transparent as possible, with the materials produced and methods adopted being engaging, informative and easy to understand.
248. Methods adopted are listed and briefly summarised in **Table 5.1**.
249. All feedback received were logged and coded and used to inform the development of the Project and the ES. Feedback that did not relate to a specific chapter of the PEIR was also considered and received a response from the Applicant.

Table 5.1 Methods of engagement during consultation

Method of engagement	Description
Posters	Posters publicised the consultation, including a brief summary of the Project, consultation dates, where to find more information and how to take part.
Postcards	Dual-sided postcards were sent to residential and business addresses in the vicinity of the public consultation events. They highlighted consultation dates and clearly explained where more information could be found, with a focus on encouraging people to visit the Applicant's consultation website.
Website	The Applicant's consultation website acted as the main public source of information and was updated to explain the latest proposals. It made clear how people could take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback was. It also included an interactive feedback map and a feedback form. All materials supporting the Project were available on the website.
Consultation brochure	This provided a summary of the latest proposals and details of consultation, using easy to understand language. It made clear how people could take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback was. The brochure was made available at publicly accessible venues, consultation events, on request from the Project team and on the website.
Online feedback map	This enabled people to drop a pin on a specific area and leave comments online and/or attach supporting files to their feedback.
Feedback form	This questionnaire provided an easy way for people to record and submit their feedback. People were able to submit feedback by filling in the printed form or visiting the Applicant's consultation website and completing the form online. Printed feedback forms could be returned to the Project's freepost address (FREEPOST MORECAMBE GENERATION) or handed to a member of the Project team at one of the face-to-face community events. The feedback form was designed to encourage people to provide feedback specific to the Applicant's proposals and also to provide wider feedback in relation to the Project. These forms were made available at publicly accessible venues, public consultation events and online.
Community events	These were drop-in events, meaning people could come along at any time of the event. They were designed to give local people the opportunity to meet the Project team, better understand the proposals and ask any questions. Events were held in communities which may be directly affected by the proposals. This included coastal area communities that may be visually impacted by the windfarm, as well as the communities and businesses which may expect to be economically impacted.

Method of engagement	Description
	<p>Three types of events were held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultation events – located at accessible public locations with a full suite of consultation materials available for people to view; ▪ Pop-up events – where members of the team were out and about in the community, providing information on the Project and answering any questions people had. These events were located in areas where people were going about their daily activities, such as supermarkets and leisure venues; and ▪ Online events – publicised in consultation materials and consisting of an overview presentation about the Project and a question-and-answer session with a range of Project team members on hand to answer questions.
Press releases	These were issued to local media during both phases of consultation, encouraging people to take part and informing them where they could find more information.
Advertising	A mix of digital and print advertising in local newspapers serving the communities that may be visually and/or economically impacted by the Project, with the aim of encouraging engagement and feedback.
Social media	Both phases of consultation were promoted via social media channels owned and managed by Flotation Energy.
Emails	These were sent to key stakeholders, including elected representatives, relevant interest groups and local community organisations, inviting them to take part in both phases of consultation and encourage others to do so.
Online briefing sessions	The Applicant responded to requests for more detailed information by offering online virtual briefings.
Statutory notices	Statutory notices announced the publication of the Applicant’s SoCC and the statutory consultation itself, both locally and nationally. Notices directed stakeholders to the Applicant’s consultation website for further information.
Deposit locations	These were publicly accessible venues in the vicinity of the proposed development which had key consultation materials available for the public to view.

6 EIA related consultation

6.1 Evidence Plan Process (EPP)

250. To ensure key stakeholders are consulted on a regular and formalised basis an EPP has been adopted, with key consultation outcomes recorded in the relevant chapters of the ES.
251. The EPP is a process to help agree the information to be provided to the SoS as part of the DCO Application such that the Project can show compliance with the EIA Regulations and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).
252. The EPP aims to assist all parties involved in the process, during the evolution of the proposed DCO Application, by providing:
- Greater confidence on the suitability of existing information, any additional evidence requirements and suitable survey methodologies to fill data gaps
 - An opportunity to make good use of time and resources by focussing on key matters early on, avoiding unnecessarily revisiting ‘old ground’ at a later stage
 - Clarity and direction for survey work, analysis and interpretation of findings
 - A record of discussions and an audit trail
253. The EPP does not replace, or duplicate, existing requirements and has been structured to fit within the DCO Application process, including the statutory pre-application consultation process.
254. The EPP was initiated with an introductory meeting to the Project in Q4 2021 and aimed to agree the evidence required to be submitted within the ES as part of the DCO Application.
255. The EPP was also used as a forum to discuss and agree matters relevant to the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA). The HRA Report to Inform Appropriate Assessment (RIAA) (Document Reference 4.9) accompanies the DCO Application (considering guidance in PINS Advice Note Ten).
256. The EPP is a voluntary and informal process and forms a record of the agreements and disagreements between the Applicant and the interested parties and helps to inform SoCG. This is further detailed in **Section 17** of this Consultation Report and in the Evidence Plan Report.

257. Full details of the EPP and consultation with stakeholders as part of the EPP approach are documented in the Appendix A1.
258. EIA topic areas, for which there are established consultation processes that stand outside the EPP, are covered in **Sections 6.11 to 6.14** of this Consultation Report, namely:
- Shipping and Navigation
 - Infrastructure and Other Users
 - Civil and Military Aviation and Radar
 - Commercial Fisheries

6.2 The EIA Regulations

259. The EIA Regulations apply the amended EU directive “on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment” (usually referred to as the ‘EIA Directive’) to the planning system in England. The EIA Regulations require that an EIA be undertaken in support of an application for a DCO for certain type of projects. Offshore windfarms are listed in Schedule 2 to the EIA Regulations as “installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms)”.
260. The EIA framework is set out within EU Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU) (the EIA Directive). Whilst EU Directives no longer form part of legislation in the UK, since the UK’s exit from the European Union (Brexit), the EIA Directive was transposed into UK law for NSIPs through The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations), which remain in force and set out the requirements for EIA. Key requirements of the EIA Regulations are detailed in Chapter 6 EIA Methodology (Document Reference 5.1.6) of the ES.
261. The purpose of the EIA Regulations is to ensure that, when an authority giving consent for a particular project makes its decision, it does so in the knowledge of any likely significant effects on the environment. An EIA provides for the systematic assessment of a project’s likely significant environmental effects for consideration by both the public and the relevant competent authority before a planning consent decision is made.
262. According to Regulation 5(1) of the EIA Regulations, the EIA is a process of:
- The preparation of an ES
 - Any consultation, publication and notification required by, or by virtue of, these Regulations or any other enactment in respect of EIA development

- Consideration of whether planning permission or subsequent consent should be granted

6.3 Scoping Report

263. In accordance with Regulation 10 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, a Scoping Report (Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd, 2022) was prepared by the Applicant in support of a request for a Scoping Opinion from the SoS. To comply with Regulation 10 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, the Scoping Report provided:

- Plans sufficient to identify the area required for the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the proposed Project
- A brief description of the nature and purpose of the proposed project, and of its possible effect on the environment
- Other information on the characteristics of the proposed project and the environmental features likely to be affected by the proposed project, sufficient to define those potential characteristics, impacts and features to be considered further in the EIA and those which need not be considered further

264. On 23 June 2022, the Applicant notified the SoS under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the 2017 EIA Regulations that they propose to provide an ES in respect of the Proposed Development and by virtue of Regulation 6(2)(a), the Proposed Development is 'EIA development'.

6.4 Scoping Opinion

265. On receipt of the Scoping Report, PINS, on behalf of the SoS for Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), consulted on the Scoping Report and issued a Scoping Opinion in August 2022.

266. Comments received through the scoping process were considered by the Applicant and used to inform the selection of survey methodologies for the EIA and the EIA scope and methodologies to be adopted in the ES. This included consideration through the EPP and ETG process. This is further detailed in the Evidence Plan Report (Appendix A1) and chapters of the Environmental Statement.

267. The Applicant has had regard to responses captured in the Scoping Opinion and key consultation responses are included in the consultation tables provided within the relevant ES topic chapters.

6.5 Approach to Preparation and Publication of Preliminary Environmental Information

268. The purpose of the EIA Regulations is to ensure that, when an authority giving consent for a particular project makes its decision, it does so in the knowledge of any likely significant effects on the environment. The EIA Regulations set out a procedure that must be followed for certain type of project before they can be granted a DCO. An EIA provides for the systematic assessment of a project's likely significant environmental effects for consideration, by both the public and the relevant competent authority before a planning consent decision is made.
269. On 19 April 2023 the Applicant submitted the Project PEIR for consultation under Sections 42 and 47 of the PA 2008. This consultation period concluded on 4 June 2023 and feedback received through this consultation has been taken into consideration and incorporated into the ES, where appropriate.
270. Evidence that the Applicant has complied with the 2017 EIA Regulations is provided in ES Chapter 6 EIA Methodology (Document Reference 5.1.6).

6.6 Habitats Regulations Assessment Consultation

271. The Applicant has consulted specifically on the HRA process through the EPP, in line with the PINS Advice Note Ten: Habitats Regulations Assessment relevant to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. The Applicant provided ETG members (Ornithology, Marine Mammals and Marine Ecology) a draft HRA Screening Report for comment in August 2022. Subsequently, the Applicant submitted the HRA Screening Report as part of statutory consultation in April 2023. Responses from consultees were provided in writing, as well as being discussed through the relevant ETGs. Where a response to the HRA Screening Report consultation resulted in a change in the screening outcomes, those changes were explained and taken forward in the draft HRA RIAA.
272. A draft RIAA (including the HRA Screening Report) was made available for consultation with the Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs), other potentially affected transboundary consultees and interested parties on 19 April 2023. The consultation period for the draft RIAA was open until the 4 June 2023, aligning with the Section 42 consultation on the PEIR. Responses from consultees were provided in writing, as well as being discussed through the relevant ETG meetings. Feedback received through this consultation has been taken into consideration and incorporated into the final RIAA, where appropriate.

6.7 Marine Conservation Zone Assessment Consultation

273. In parallel to the process described with regard to HRA, the Applicant has also consulted specifically on Marine Conservation Zone Assessment (MCZA) requirements, as set out under the Marine and Coastal Access Act (MCAA) 2009. This has included the following:

- The MCZA Screening Report was submitted in draft to SNCBs for comment in August 2022. Responses from consultees were provided in writing, as well as being discussed through the seabed ETG meetings. Where a response to the MCZA Screening Report consultation resulted in a change in the screening outcomes, those changes were explained and taken forward in the Draft MCZA Report
- The Draft MCZA Report (addressing Stage 1 of the MCZA process) was submitted to SNCBs for consultation in April 2023, alongside the Section 42 consultation on the PEIR.

6.8 Preparation and Finalisation of the ES

274. In line with the guidance from PINS in Advice Note Seven, the Applicant has sought to undertake a proportionate approach to EIA. This approach follows guidance by the UK's professional body for EIA, the Institute of Environment Management and Assessment (IEMA, 2017), which set out details of a collaborate strategy for enhancing EIA practice.

275. Consultation is largely an iterative process and has taken place over a long period of time. Stakeholder responses received during consultation on the PEIR have, in some cases, led to changes in the Project design and to the approach to assessments and data collection.

276. Topics with consultation relating to the ES but falling outside of the EPP are covered in **Sections 6.11 to 6.14** of this Consultation Report.

6.9 Changes to the design made as a result of statutory consultation

277. Changes to the Project assessment and design occurred following consultation and have been implemented, as set out in **Table 6.1**. Other changes to the Project design that are not directly related to consultation are not included.

Table 6.1 Design changes adopted as a result of statutory consultation.

Change	Description	Justification	Reference
Refinement of Project boundary and maximum number of WTGs	<p>A windfarm site of 125km² (reflecting the Agreement for Lease (AfL) area) was assessed in the Project PEIR. The development area has been subsequently reduced to 87km² and reflects the windfarm site assessed in the ES and the extent of the DCO order limits.</p> <p>The maximum number of WTGs has also been reduced from 40 to 35.</p> <p>The maximum height of the WTGs has been reduced from 345m above HAT (at PEIR) to 310m</p>	<p>The windfarm site refinement was undertaken following analysis of geophysical survey data, environmental analysis, consultation feedback and layout design development, with the following key drivers for change:</p> <p>Shipping and Navigation - A Cumulative Regional Navigational Risk Assessment (CRNRA) carried out for PEIR, covering the Irish Sea Round 4 projects (Morecambe, Morgan and Mona offshore windfarm projects), identified the benefits of increased sea room between the various project boundaries, to mitigate impacts to existing ferry and other shipping routes between Liverpool, the Isle of Man, Belfast and the wider Irish Sea area. The improvements to navigational safety due to the refinement of boundaries of all three projects have been acknowledged by stakeholders through the subsequent CRNRA Hazard Workshop that informs the ES Shipping and Navigation assessment (Section 6.12).</p> <p>Oil and Gas – Until the completion of decommissioning of existing oil and gas infrastructure, there will be a requirement for the coexistence of activities. Assessments identified the potential interaction between the windfarm site and vessels and helicopter operations of the South Morecambe and Calder gas fields. The windfarm site refinement reduces this interaction with the gas field operations, specifically helicopter approaches to the Calder CA1 platform (which now sits outside of the windfarm site).</p> <p>Ground conditions – The western section of the AfL area has the highest presence of sand waves and mega ripples, with the eastern AfL area (i.e. the refined windfarm site area) containing a lower coverage of these features. The lower coverage of these features may also reduce the level of seabed preparation required. The refined site area also has the deepest areas of rockhead, and shallowest water depth, which may reduce the size of foundations needed.</p> <p>Layout - Excluding the areas west of the CA1 platform reduces the need for long inter-array cables, thus helping to minimise installation cost, electrical losses and environmental impact. Reduced cabling length would</p>	<p>Chapter 4 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives (Document Reference 5.4.1)</p> <p>Chapter 14 Shipping and Navigation (Document Reference 5.1.14)</p> <p>Appendix 14.2 Cumulative Regional Navigational Risk Assessment (CRNRA) (Document Reference 5.2.14.2)</p> <p>Chapter 17 Infrastructure and Other Users (Document Reference 5.1.17)</p> <p>Chapter 16 Civil and Military Aviation and Radar (Document Reference 5.1.16)</p> <p>Chapter 18 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment</p>

Change	Description	Justification	Reference
	above HAT (at ES).	<p>also reduce the risk of cable damage due to anchor or fishing net/gear fouling. The reduction in the western boundary also reduces underwater noise impact ranges out to the west.</p> <p>Seascape, Landscape and Visual - Whilst the size, number and positioning of the WTGs has yet to be finalised, the reduction in the windfarm site boundary means the windfarm site has a narrower lateral spread (east to west) when viewed from the coast, particularly from the north and south. The maximum number of WTGs has also been reduced, which lessens any potential visual effect, along with a reduction in maximum tip height that reduces the apparent scale of the WTGs.</p> <p>Other marine users – The level of interaction between known marine users and the windfarm is minimised by reducing the impacted area.</p>	(Document Reference 5.1.18)
Increased air gap	<p>The Project design assessed in the PEIR had an air gap of 22m above Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT).</p> <p>Since PEIR, the air gap has been increased to 25m above HAT, in response to consultation feedback, providing further reduction of potential collision risk for offshore ornithology receptors.</p>	<p>Comments received from Natural England, through consultation on the PEIR, highlighted that increasing the minimum rotor clearance above sea level (air gap) would reduce the seabird collision risk estimates generated by the Project and they requested that the Applicant explore the feasibility of achieving greater clearance.</p> <p>The minimum rotor clearance outlined in the PEIR was 22m above HAT. Following stakeholder consultation, the minimum rotor clearance has been increased to 25m above HAT (equivalent to 34.56m above Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT)). This change has led to reduced potential collision risk effects on offshore ornithology receptors.</p> <p>The revised air gap of 25m above HAT is also well above the minimum requirements for shipping and navigation.</p>	<p>Chapter 5 Project Description (Document Reference 5.1.5)</p> <p>Chapter 12 Offshore Ornithology (Document Reference 5.1.12)</p>

6.10 Topics outside of the EPP

278. The following **Sections 6.11 to 6.14** provide a summary of the consultation and engagement undertaken for topics which sit outside of the EPP:

- Commercial fisheries (**Section 6.11**)
- Shipping and navigation (**Section 6.12**)
- Aviation and radar (**Section 6.13**)
- Infrastructure and other users (**Section 6.14**)

279. The purpose of the following sections is to provide a summary of all types of consultation that has occurred for each topic. Appendix I details where feedback has been addressed in the DCO Application and how they have been addressed.

6.11 Commercial fisheries stakeholder engagement

280. Fisheries consultation has been undertaken in a number of ways including:

- Face-to-face events with fisheries representatives and fishers
- Online meetings with fisheries representatives
- Communications through the Project Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO), including advertisement of public consultation events via publication of the PEIR

281. **Table 6.2** below summarises the communications undertaken with fisheries stakeholders, which have been used to inform the EIA undertaken by the Applicant.

Table 6.2 Consultation log - a summary of all consultation and engagement with commercial fisheries stakeholders

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NWIFCA)	March 2021	Fishing Industry Representative (FIR) phone call with Chief Fishing Officer, requesting information on fishing activities.
NFFO	30 November 2021	Online meeting to introduce the Project, site selection methodology and process, EIA scoping approach, and outline schedule.
NWIFCA	13 December 2021	Online meeting to introduce the Project, site selection methodology and process, EIA scoping approach, and outline schedule.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture (DEFA) – Fisheries Division, Isle of Man (IoM) Government and Manx Fish Producers Organisation	25 October 2022	Online meeting to introduce the Project, present baseline commercial fisheries data, discuss data sources and discuss EIA methodology.
Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) and Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA)	28 October 2022	Online meeting to introduce the Project, present baseline commercial fisheries data, discuss data sources and discuss EIA methodology.
All	2 November to 13 December 2022	Non-statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the non-statutory consultation, which took place between 2 November and 13 December 2022.
Anglo-North Irish Fish Producers Organisation (ANIFPO)	2 November 2022	Online meeting to introduce the Project, present baseline commercial fisheries data, discuss data sources and discuss EIA methodology.
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Workington	28 November 2022	Face to face meeting to introduce Project and ground truth baseline data.
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Carnforth	29 November 2022	Face to face meeting to introduce Project and ground truth baseline data.
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Lancaster	29 November 2022	Face to face meeting to introduce Project and ground truth baseline data.
Public commercial fisheries and recreational angling meeting in Rhyl	30 November 2022	Face to face meeting to introduce Project and ground truth baseline data.
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Conwy	30 November 2022	Face to face meeting to introduce Project and ground truth baseline data.
All	19 April to 4 June 2023	Statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the statutory consultation, which took place between 19 April and 4 June 2023.
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Annan	19 September 2023	Face to face meetings to present updated baseline data and PEIR findings.
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Kirkcudbright	19 September 2023	Face to face meetings to present updated baseline data and PEIR findings.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation	
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Blackpool	20 September 2023	Face to face meetings to present updated baseline data and PEIR findings.	
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Whitehaven	20 September 2023	Face to face meetings to present updated baseline data and PEIR findings.	
Public commercial fisheries meeting in Conwy	21 September 2023	Face to face meetings to present updated baseline data and PEIR findings.	
Manx Fish Producers Organisation	Throughout October 2023	Email communication with information provided on project updates, updated commercial fisheries baseline data and PEIR findings, together with an invitation to meet and discuss any concerns.	
Scallop Industry Consultation Group	Throughout October 2023		
South West Fish Producer Organisation	Throughout October 2023		
Cornish Fish Producer Organisation	Throughout October 2023		
Irish South and East Fish Producer's Organisation	Throughout October 2023		
Irish Fish Producer's Organisation	Throughout October 2023		
Scallop Industry Consultation Group	Throughout October 2023		
Welsh Fishermen's Association	Throughout October 2023		
SFF	Throughout October 2023		
Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA)	Throughout October 2023		
NWIFCA	26 October 2023		Online meeting to discuss PEIR findings and comments on PEIR.
DEFA, IoM Government	23 November 2023		Online meeting to discuss PEIR findings and comments on PEIR.
NFFO	24 November 2023	Online meeting to discuss PEIR findings and comments on PEIR.	
ANIFPO and Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation (NIFPO)	4 December 2023	Online meeting to discuss PEIR findings and comments on PEIR.	
Rederscentrale (Belgian fisheries)	6 December 2023	Online meeting to provide Project updates, present baseline commercial fisheries data and discuss PEIR findings.	

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Western Fish Producers' Organisation	1 February 2024	Online meeting to provide project updates, present baseline commercial fisheries data and discuss PEIR findings.
ANIFPO and NIFPO	5 February 2024	Face to face meeting to discuss PEIR findings and fish and shellfish ecology.
Independent fisher	15 March 2024	Discussion on fishing activity across the windfarm site, proposed mitigation for the potting fleet and appropriate lines of communication.

6.12 Shipping and navigation stakeholder engagement

282. Extensive consultation with shipping and navigation stakeholders has been undertaken by the Applicant. Following early feedback from stakeholders, and concerns around cumulative shipping and navigation effects, the Applicant has been coordinating assessments and consultation with the developers of the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
283. **Table 6.3** below summaries the communications undertaken, which have been used to inform the navigation risk assessments and EIA undertaken by the Applicant.

Table 6.3 Consultation log - a summary of all consultation and engagement with shipping and navigation stakeholders

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
IoM Government	29 November 2021	Online introductory meeting to provide an overview of the Project and proposed future engagement with the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company (IoMSPC) and Territorial Sea Committee.
Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA)	7 January 2022	Online introductory meeting to provide an overview of the Project, indicative timelines and upcoming survey plan and methodology.
Seatruck, Stena Line and IoMSPC	7 February 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of the Scoping Report, key impacts to ferry operations and agree ways forward for Navigation Risk Assessment (NRA) methodology for the Project.
UK Chamber of Shipping and IoMSPC	9 February 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of Scoping Report, key impacts and agree ways forward for NRA methodology for the Project.
MCA and Trinity House (TH)	3 March 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of Scoping Report, key impacts and agree ways forward for NRA methodology for the Project.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Ministry of Defence (MOD)	9 March 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of Scoping Report, key impacts and agree ways forward for NRA methodology for the Project.
Peel Ports, Associated British Ports, Isle of Man Harbours and Coastguard	10 March 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of Scoping Report, key impacts and agree ways forward for NRA methodology for the Project.
Marine Navigation Engagement Forum (MNEF)	6 May 2022	Online meeting to discuss navigation safety, cumulative assessments with the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and development of the CRNRA.
Royal Yachting Association	12 May 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of the Project and identify key impacts.
IoMSPC	20 and 21 July 2022	Bridge Simulation Preparations for the cumulative assessments with the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
Seatruck Ferries, Stena Line, IoMSPC, Chamber of Shipping, MCA and TH	9 August 2022	Online meeting with ferry operators, MCA, TH and Chamber of Shipping to provide an update on shipping and navigation project timeline and upcoming assessments. Also, to present ferry operator passage plans, alongside (Automatic Identification System (AIS) data and refine understanding of passage planning and adverse weather routing.
Stena Line	11 and 12 August 2022	Bridge Simulation Preparations for the cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
IoMSPC	17 to 19 August 2022	Bridge Simulations for the cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
Stena Line	23 to 25 August 2022	Bridge Simulations for the cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
Seatruck	8 and 9 September 2022	Bridge Simulations for the cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
MNEF	10 October 2022	Online meeting to discuss navigation safety and cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Hazard Workshop Attendees	12 October 2022	In-person hazard workshop, attended by representatives from ferry operators, regulators, commercial bodies, IoM Government, oil and gas, ports, fishing communities and recreational users.
All	2 November to 13 December 2022	Non-statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the non-statutory consultation, which took place between 2 November and 13 December 2022.
MNEF	18 January 2023	Online meeting to discuss navigation safety and cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets pre- PEIR.
All	19 April to 4 June 2023	Statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the statutory consultation, which took place between 19 April and 4 June 2023.
Stena Line	23 to 25 May 2023	Update to Bridge Simulations for the cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets to inform the ES. The updated simulations reflected the site boundary changes made since PEIR by the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
Seatruck	22 and 23 June 2023	Update to Bridge Simulations for the cumulative assessments with the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets to inform the ES. The updated simulations reflected the site boundary changes made since PEIR by the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
Spirit and Harbour Energy	23 August 2023	Online meeting to provide project update and overview of Vessel Management Plan (VMP).
MNEF	21 September 2023	Online meeting to provide project updates and review of site boundary changes made since PEIR by the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets.
TH	26 September 2023	Online meeting to provide project update and to discuss proposed construction and operational lighting/markings around the windfarm.
Hazard Workshop Attendees	28 and 29 September 2023	In-person updated hazard workshop to inform the updated NRA/CRNRA for ES, attended by representatives from ferry operators, regulators, commercial bodies, oil and gas, ports, fishing communities and recreational users.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Seatruck	7 December 2023	Online meeting to provide project updates, including review of engagements and assessments, and cumulative impacts associated with the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm.
IoMSPC and IoM Government	11 December 2023	Online meeting to provide project updates, including review of engagements and assessments, and cumulative impacts associated with the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm.
Stena Line	13 December 2023	Online meeting to provide project updates, including review of engagements and assessments, and cumulative impacts associated with the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm.
TH	18 December 2023	Online meeting to provide project updates, including review of engagements and assessments, and cumulative impacts associated with the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm.
MCA	19 December 2023	Online meeting to provide project update, including review of engagements and assessments, and cumulative impacts associated with the Moir Vannin Offshore Wind Farm.
Douglas City Council	11 January 2024	Online meeting to provide project update and changes following PEIR, NRA updates and engagement with shipping and navigation stakeholders.
MNEF	8 February 2024	Online meeting to provide Project updates.
Stena Line	22 February 2024	Online meeting to provide a Project update and to discuss any residual concerns.
IoMSPC	1 March 2024	Online meeting to provide a Project update and to discuss any residual concerns.

6.13 Aviation and radar stakeholder engagement

284. Through the development of the Scoping Report, potential aviation receptors were identified and stakeholders contacted, with meetings held/information provided where a response was received. The PEIR then identified potential effects on aviation stakeholders, which was also used to seek feedback. Following PEIR, updated Radar Line of Sight (RLoS) analysis assessments were shared with relevant stakeholders, as well as detailed assessments on Instrument Flight Procedure (IFP) effects. Meetings have been held, as appropriate, to discuss the findings of the RLoS and IFP assessments and undertake further work and mitigation, as necessary.

285. **Table 6.4** summarises the communications undertaken, which have been used to inform the EIA undertaken by the Applicant.

Table 6.4 Consultation log: Summary of all consultation, engagement and correspondence with aviation and radar stakeholders

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Barrow/ Walney, Blackpool, Hawarden, Isle of Man, Liverpool, Manchester, MOD Warton airports, and NATS	Q3 2022	Introductory letter to the Project sent to stakeholders.
MOD	31 March 2022	Pre-application advice provided from MOD.
Blackpool Airport	11 April 2022	Online introductory meeting to the Project. Meeting was delivered jointly with the Mona Offshore Wind Project and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project.
Blackpool Airport	18 August 2022	Online meeting to discuss project timeline, design, outline of assessment for PEIR and potential impacts of the WTGs on the airport.
All	2 November to 13 December 2022	Non-statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the non-statutory consultation, which took place between 2 November and 13 December 2022.
NATS	10 March 2023	Technical and operational assessment undertaken by NATS.
All	19 April to 4 June 2023	Statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the statutory consultation, which took place between 19 April and 4 June 2023.
Blackpool Airport	20 July 2023	Online meeting to introduce Blackpool Airport to our Aviation specialist for the Project, to discuss the airports statutory consultation feedback and next steps for undertaking an IFP assessment.
MOD	27 July 2023	Initial phone call to discuss MOD assessment of potential impacts including Warton and Woodvale IFPs.
Blackpool Airport	27 July 2023	Follow-up online meeting to discuss potential impact to Blackpool Airport's IFP procedures and how to move this forward.
Barrow/Walney Airport	2 August 2023	Introductory email to the Project and request for initial phone call to discuss

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
		potential impact on Barrow/Walney Airport IFPs.
Barrow/Walney Airport	2 August 2023	Follow-up phone call to discuss IFP assessment process for Barrow/Walney Airport. NATS are the airport's Approved Procedure Design Organisation (APDO) but noted that the Project could appoint other APDO, if required. Noted that NATS (through the airport) would be required to assess the validity of other APDO's assessment.
MOD	10 August 2023	Email to MOD to request clarification of MOD position regarding Warton and Woodvale IFPs and to confirm no impact on Warton Air Traffic Control (ATC) radar.
MOD	11 August 2023	Email response from MOD confirming no operational impact on Warton ATC radar. Return email sent to MOD requesting clarification on IFP assessments.
MOD	24 August 2023	MOD response to email dated 11 August 2023 saying that this query is still ongoing and will respond in due course. No response received.
Isle of Man Airport	25 August 2023	Introductory email to the Project and request for initial phone call to discuss potential impact on Isle of Man Airport IFPs and ATC radar.
Liverpool Airport	25 August 2023	Introductory email to the Project and request for initial phone call to discuss potential impact on Liverpool Airport IFPs and ATC radar.
National Air Traffic Services (NATS)	31 August 2023	Email to NATS requesting mitigation options for impact on Great Dun Fell, Lowther Hill and St Annes ATC radars be investigated.
Isle of Man Airport	14 September 2023	Phone call to discuss IFP and radar assessment process for Isle of Man Airport. Request by Isle of Man Airport for Project details to be sent by email.
Liverpool Airport	13 September 2023	Email of 25 August 2023 acknowledged by Liverpool Airport. Request for phone call when convenient.
Liverpool Airport	13 September 2023	Phone call to discuss IFP and radar assessment process for Liverpool Airport.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
		Advised that WTG tips heights would be reducing since PEIR and being remodelled, noting IFPs unlikely to be affected.
Manchester Airport	14 September 2023	Email to Manchester Airport outlining PEIR findings and requesting confirmation that Manchester Airport IFPs and radar would not be affected.
Hawarden Airport	20 September 2023	Email consultation to Hawarden Airport providing PEIR findings and requesting confirmation that Hawarden IFPs and radar would not be affected.
Isle of Man Airport	21 September 2023	Email to Isle of Man Airport outlining PEIR findings and requesting confirmation that Isle of Man IFPs and radar would not be affected.
Liverpool Airport	21 September 2023	Email to Liverpool Airport outlining PEIR findings and requesting confirmation that Liverpool IFPs and radar would not be affected.
Liverpool Airport	21 September 2023	Email response from Liverpool Airport confirming that PEIR documents have been sent to ATC Technical Services Manager. Confirmation that at 34nm, the Project site will be outside Liverpool IFP area.
Isle of Man Airport	27 September 2023	Email of 21 September 2023 re-sent as not previously acknowledged.
Isle of Man Airport	5 October 2023	Phone call with the Isle of Man Airport seeking a response of 27 September 2023 email, who confirmed they would review the information provided.
Isle of Man Airport	19 October 2023	Follow up phone call seeking a response. Airport acknowledgement of receipt of 27 September 2023 email and would respond in due course.
Blackpool Airport	9 November 2023	Correspondence (phone call) with Blackpool Airport to discuss outcome of Cyrrus IFP assessment, identified mitigation measures for the Project and next steps.
Hawarden Airport	16 November 2023	Email of 20 September 2023 re-sent.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Liverpool Airport	16 November 2023	Email of 21 September 2023 re-sent.
Manchester Airport	16 November 2023	Email of 14 September 2023 re-sent.
Hawarden Airport	20 November 2023	Request for further information from Hawarden Airport.
Blackpool Airport	24 November 2023	Online meeting to discuss the outputs of the IFP assessment and potential mitigation measures.
Blackpool Airport	5 December 2023	Follow-up online meeting to discuss the outputs of the IFP assessment and potential mitigation measures.
Blackpool Airport	19 December 2023	Online meeting with Blackpool Airport, Morgan and Mona projects to discuss proposals to undertake a joint IFP assessment across all three projects collectively.
Blackpool Airport	11 January 2024	Online update meeting with Blackpool Airport to discuss timelines for progression of IFP assessments and IFP mitigation design process.
NATS	25 January 2024	Confirmation from NATS that mitigation for the Project is available in the form of multi-Radar Tracker blanking. Commencement of agreement between NATS and the Project has begun.
Liverpool Airport	8 February 2024	Email consultation providing Liverpool Airport with finalised Cyrrus radar modelling and Osprey IFP assessment for review and consideration.
Manchester Airport	8 February 2024	Email consultation providing Manchester Airport with finalised Cyrrus radar modelling and Osprey IFP assessment for review and consideration.
Barrow/Walney Airport	9 February 2024	Email providing Barrow/Walney Airport with finalised Osprey IFP assessment for review and consideration. Response requested by 22 February 2024.
Hawarden Airport	9 February 2024	Email consultation providing Hawarden Airport with finalised Osprey IFP assessment for review and consideration.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
MOD	9 February 2024	Email consultation providing MOD with finalised Osprey IFP assessment for review and consideration.
Blackpool Airport	12 February 2024	Online meeting regarding identified mitigation measures for the Project and next steps.
Isle of Man Airport	13 February 2024	Email consultation providing Isle of Man Airport with finalised Cyrrus radar modelling and Osprey IFP assessment for review and consideration.
Blackpool Airport	13 February 2024	Email meeting notes to Blackpool Airport following Teams meeting on 12 February 2024.
Hawarden Airport	15 February 2024	Email response from Hawarden Airport confirming that proposed development will not cause any negative operational impacts to aircraft or Air Traffic Control (ATC) operations at Hawarden Airport and, therefore, no objection to the development proceeding.
Isle of Man Airport	16 February 2024	Email response to previous consultation email (13 February 2024).
Barrow/Walney Airport	20 February 2024	Email response to Barrow/Walney Airport following questions on Osprey IFP assessment.
Blackpool Airport	28 February 2024	Teams meeting with Blackpool Airport to discuss IFP mitigation process.
Manchester Airport	11 March 2024	Email response from Manchester Airport confirming no objections to the proposed development.
Isle of Man Airport	24 March 2024	Email to Isle of Man Airport requesting clarification of airport's position.
MOD	8 April 2024	Email requesting response to consultation email sent on 9 February 2024.
Isle of Man Airport	9 April 2024	Teams meeting to discuss potential impact of proposed development on Isle of Man Airport ATC radar.
Blackpool Airport	16 April 2024	Teams meeting to discuss Statement of Intent regarding mitigation of impact on airport IFPs.
MOD	18 April 2024	Phone call with MOD to discuss potential impact on Warton and RAF Valley IFPs.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Liverpool Airport	19 April 2024	Email response from Liverpool Airport confirming no objections to the proposed development.
Blackpool Airport	19 April 2024	Draft Statement of Intent regarding mitigation of impact on airport IFPs forwarded by Blackpool Airport received by the Applicant.
Blackpool Airport	1 May 2024	Comments on draft Statement of Intent forwarded to Blackpool Airport.
Barrow/Walney Airport	7 March to 2 May 2024	Emails and phone messages to Barrow/Walney Airport requesting timeline for response on Osprey IFP assessment. No responses received.

6.14 Infrastructure and other users stakeholder engagement

286. Extensive consultation with infrastructure and other users stakeholders has been undertaken by the Applicant from an early stage. Following early feedback from stakeholders, and concerns around some cumulative effects, the Applicant has been coordinating consultation and/or assessments with the developers of the Mona Offshore Wind Project and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets for some topics (for example, shipping and navigation (as outlined in **Section 6.12**) and potential impacts to other Irish Sea operational windfarms). Given the proximity of the windfarm site to existing oil and gas and other infrastructure, liaison in relation to Project survey activities has also been conducted to support survey planning.
287. **Table 6.5** summaries the communications undertaken which have been used to inform the EIA undertaken by the Applicant.

Table 6.5 Consultation log - a summary of all consultation and engagement with infrastructure and other marine user stakeholders

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	5 February 2020	Online meeting providing Project information, overall Project status, timeline, surveys, data gathering, site selection development and future ways of working.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	20 February 2020	Online meeting providing Project information, overall Project status, timeline, surveys, data gathering, site selection development, future ways of working and operational overlaps.

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	6 May 2020	Online meeting providing detailed Project information, overall Project status and timelines.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	24 September 2020	Online meeting providing detailed Project information, overall Project status and timelines.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	15 November 2020	Online meeting providing Project information, overall Project status, timeline, surveys and feasibility studies.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	26 March 2021	Online meeting providing Project information, overall project status, timeline, surveys, data gathering, site selection development, future ways of working, operational overlaps and feasibility studies
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	16 April 2021	Online meeting providing Project information, overall project status, timeline, surveys, data gathering, site selection development, future ways of working and operational overlaps and feasibility studies.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	4 May 2021	Online meeting providing Project information, overall project status, timeline, surveys, data gathering, site selection development, future ways of working and operational overlaps and feasibility studies.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	20 May 2021	Online meeting providing Project information, overall project status, timeline, surveys, site selection development and scoping.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	31 May 2021	Online meeting to discuss work pertaining to Geotechnical Investigations (GI) and data needed, understanding of Spirit and Harbour's data and if this can be shared.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 June 2021	Online meeting providing Project information, overall project status, timeline, surveys, site selection development and scoping.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	6 and 27 July 2021	Online meeting to discuss future ways of working, initial meetings covered site selection developments and scenario timelines, stage gate review, commercial planning, energy integration planning, Carbon Capture Storage (CCS) planning and operational overlaps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	6, 11, 18 and 25 August 2021	Online meeting to discuss future ways of working, initial meetings covered site selection developments and scenario timelines, stage gate review, commercial planning, energy

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
		integration planning, CCS planning and operational overlaps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	8, 16 and 29 September 2021	Online meeting to discuss future ways of working, initial meetings covered site selection developments and scenario timelines, stage gate review, commercial planning, energy integration planning, CCS planning and operational overlaps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	11 October 2021	Online meeting to discuss future ways of working, initial meetings covered site selection developments and scenario timelines, stage gate review, commercial planning, energy integration planning, CCS planning and operational overlaps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	11 November 2021	Online meeting regarding data gathering update from Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	24 November 2021	Online meeting to discuss future ways of working, initial meetings covered site selection developments and scenario timelines, stage gate review, commercial planning, energy integration planning, CCS planning and operational overlaps.
MCA	7 January 2022	Online introductory meeting to the Project, including project briefing, indicative timelines, survey plan and methodology and next steps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	26 January 2022	Online meeting to inform them of imminent winter Vessel Traffic Survey (VTS) and Scoping submission. Continued discussion on constraints, layout considerations and next steps.
Port of Barrow	7 February 2022	Online introductory meeting to the Project, including Project overview, onshore and offshore elements
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	2 March 2022	Online meeting to provide updates on winter VTS, Scoping Report submission delay, and continued discussion on constraints, layout considerations and next steps
MCA and Trinity House	3 March 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of the Project, Scoping Report, identification of key impacts from MCA's and Trinity House's perspective, agree next steps for NRA assessment methodology and understand best way to engage moving forward.
MOD	9 March 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of the Project, Scoping Report, identification of key

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
		impacts from MOD's perspective, agree next steps for NRA assessment methodology and understand best way to engage moving forward.
Peel Ports, Associated British Ports, IoM Harbours and Coastguard	10 March 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of the Project, Scoping Report, identification of key impacts from the Port's perspective, agree next steps for NRA assessment methodology and understand best way to engage moving forward.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	23 March 2022	Online meeting to provide updates on winter VTS, Scoping Report submission delay and continued discussion on constraints, layout considerations and next steps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	27 April 2022	Online meeting to provide updates on the Projects survey programme, concept design and gas field interaction study. Continue discussion on constraints, layout considerations and next steps.
Royal Yachting Association	12 May 2022	Online meeting to provide an overview of the Project and Scoping Report, agree specification of NRA and identify any recreational concerns.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	7 September 2022	Online meeting to provide Project updates, updates on gas field interaction study and next steps.
All	2 November to 13 December 2022	Non-statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the non-statutory consultation, which took place between 2 November and 13 December 2022.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	1 February 2023	Online meeting to provide updates on consenting and consultation, engineering, gas field interaction study and next steps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	1 March 2023	Online meeting to provide updates on consenting and upcoming statutory consultation, engineering, gas field interaction study, Simultaneous Operations (SIMOPS) Hazard Identification (HAZID) workshop and next steps.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	23 March 2023	Face to face workshop to discuss and identify potential hazard interactions between the oil and gas facilities and the windfarm.
All	19 April to 4 June 2023	Statutory consultation. Email notification was sent at the launch of the statutory consultation,

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
		which took place between 19 April and 4 June 2023.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	26 April 2023	Online meeting to provide updates on consenting and upcoming statutory consultation, engineering, gas field interaction study, SIMOPS HAZID workshop and next steps.
Hibernia Atlantic/ Pelagian/Exa Infrastructure	27 June 2023	Online introductory meeting to the Project and to discuss the Project Phase 2 GI survey campaign.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	27 June 2023	Online meeting to provide updates on consenting and consultation, engineering and review of their consultation feedback. Workshop and next steps. Spirit and Harbour also presented the outputs of a helicopter study, commissioned by them.
Spirit Energy	5 July 2023	Online introductory meeting to Spirit Energy's CCS project.
Vodafone	5 July 2023	Online introductory meeting to the Project and to discuss the Project Phase 2 GI survey campaign.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	23 August 2023	Online meeting to provide updates on consenting and consultation, engineering and review of their consultation feedback. Workshop and next steps. High level overview of the Project's VMP was also provided and how the Project proposed to consult with them moving forward.
Trinity House	26 September 2023	Online meeting to discuss TH feedback to the statutory consultation and the Projects construction and operational markings.
Orsted operational offshore windfarm projects (Barrow, Burbo Bank, Burbo Bank Extension, and Walney 1, 2, 3 and 4)	25 October 2023	Online meeting delivered collectively with the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets. The collective projects discussed the topics set out in the Orsted Section 42 response(s) to better understand any potential project interactions. Each Project also provided information on project changes, consideration and commitments following the publication of the respective PEIR's for each project.
Morecambe Wind Limited (West of Duddon Sands project (WoDS))	8 November 2023	Online meeting delivered collectively with the Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets. The collective projects discussed the topics set out

Stakeholder	Date	Type of consultation
		in the WoDS Section 42 response(s) to better understand any potential project interactions. Each project also provided information on project changes, consideration and commitments following the publication of the respective PEIRs for each project.
Associated British Ports	10 November 2023	Face to face meeting to provide a Project update.
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	13 December 2023	Online meeting to provide updates on consenting and consultation, engineering and review of their consultation feedback. Workshop and next steps. Morecambe also provided a summary of the helicopter study being undertaken by Anatec on behalf of the Project.
Spirit Energy	28 February 2024	Online meeting to discuss the Project Phase 3 GI survey campaign and Spirit Energy's planned seismic surveys
Spirit Energy	1 March 2024	Online meeting to discuss the Project Phase 3 GI survey campaign and Spirit Energy's seismic surveys
Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy	21 March 2024	Online meeting to present and discuss the helicopter interactions study undertaken on behalf of the Project.
Spirit Energy	22 March 2024	Online meeting to discuss the Project Phase 3 GI survey campaign and Spirit Energy's seismic surveys
ENI	18 April 2024	Online meeting to present and discuss the helicopter interactions study undertaken on behalf of the Project.

7 Stage one consultation: non-statutory

288. The PA 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process (March 2015), set out by the former Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (now the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)), highlights at Paragraph 29 the likely need for detailed, technical input from expert bodies in advance of formal consultation, in compliance with the pre-application requirements. It details: ‘Early engagement with these bodies can help avoid unnecessary delays and the costs of having to make change at later stages in the process.’
289. On 30 April 2024 the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities published six guidance notes for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. One of these guidance notes, Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (April 2024) supersedes the previous guidance note Planning Act 2008: guidance on the pre-application process for major infrastructure projects. The Applicant has had regard to the new guidance notes in preparing this Application, but all activities carried out by the Applicant prior to the 30 April 2024 were undertaken with reference to the now superseded guidance. The Applicant has not identified any material discrepancies in its approach as compared to the new guidance.
290. The guidance also suggests that applicants may wish to consider undertaking non-statutory consultation, as comments/feedback may help applicants develop more informed and refined proposals.
291. PINS Advice Note Fourteen also recognises that applicants may have engaged in non-statutory consultation, prior to statutory consultation taking place, in accordance with the PA 2008. The Advice Note advises that any consultation not carried out under the provisions of the PA 2008 is separately identified from statutory consultation within the Consultation Report. Engaging with stakeholders in early non-statutory consultation, although not required under the PA 2008, promotes best practice and encourages full engagement with local communities.

7.1 Who was consulted

292. The aim of this non-statutory consultation was to introduce the Project proposals widely to stakeholders and communities, collectively with the neighbouring projects: Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (a joint application being developed by Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd and Morgan Offshore Wind Limited).
293. The collective project teams were conscious of avoiding ‘consultation fatigue’ by consulting on the separate projects consecutively in the same geographical

areas and causing any possible confusion amongst local communities and wider stakeholders.

294. The Applicant collated an extensive list of consultees that went beyond those prescribed by Section 42 and those captured as part of the community consultation process under Section 47 of the PA 2008.
295. Non-statutory consultation started in autumn 2022 (2 November to 13 December 2022), with a written communication to stakeholders on 2 November 2022.
296. This early communication was positioned as a broad introduction - establishing the Applicant for the first time and opening a line of communication. As previously noted in paragraph 25, given the very early nature of this communication, whilst consenting strategies were still being developed, the Project and the other neighbouring developments were jointly referred to in the communications sent to stakeholders in the relevant regions of England and Wales, and on the Isle of Man. Once the consenting strategies for each project had been confirmed, and prior to the submission of the Morecambe Scoping Report (Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd, 2022), the Project and the other neighbouring developments were from thereon in referred to separately in materials/communications.
297. An example of this correspondence is included in Appendix B1. This communication recognised that this could have been the first time many of the stakeholders would have been made aware of the applicant's intentions to develop the windfarm(s) and set out the following key points:
- Introduced Flotation Energy and Cobra, bp and EnBW as the developers of the collective projects
 - Set out the likely size and generating capacity of the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project
 - Informed stakeholders that the Project, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, and the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets would form three separate DCO Applications, but that one joint consultation for all three projects would take place for the initial non-statutory phase
 - Notified interested parties that there would be consultation with communities and stakeholders, with informal engagement starting shortly and feeding into formal community consultations in 2022
 - Appraised interested parties that it was hoped the projects would be in a position to start generating energy by 2030 and that project websites launched by the Applicant, bp and EnBW would provide further information

298. The communication (Appendix B1) was sent to stakeholders, as listed in Appendix B13.

7.2 How people were consulted and what they were consulted on

299. Early proposals for all three projects were presented and local communities and stakeholders were given an opportunity to provide feedback.

300. This was the first phase of a two-phase consultation process for the Project: stage one (non-statutory consultation) and stage two (statutory consultation). It was made clear in consultation materials, and through subsequent conversations at in-person consultation events, that this was the first of two phases of consultation, and that people would have another opportunity to provide feedback.

301. This consultation was delivered online and in-person, attended by more than 500 people, with more than 800 pieces of feedback received.

302. The event programme included five consultation events (see **Table 7.1**). In-person consultation events took the form of an exhibition in designated venues providing information on the Project.

303. Six pop-up events also took place in communities in Lancashire, Cumbria, Merseyside and on the Isle of Anglesey, in north Wales. Pop-up events saw the project teams provide information via a stall in a public place, which was frequented by local residents.

304. An online webinar consultation event was also delivered for those not able, or not inclined, to attend the in-person events.

305. The consultation was promoted to the local community via:

- Press release issued to local print, broadcast and digital outlets
- Digital and display advertising with the Isle of Man Courier, the Blackpool Gazette and the Lancashire Evening Post to promote the consultation
- Printed postcards delivered to 36,405 addresses in the UK and 45,811 addresses on the Isle of Man
- Social media posts
- Posters distributed to relevant locations in the consultation area
- Direct emails sent to local stakeholders

Table 7.1 Non-statutory consultation event details

Date and time	Event	Location	Attendees
Thursday 3 November 2022 15:00-19:00	Consultation event	Douglas Borough Council, Town Hall, Ridgeway Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1AD	85
Thursday 10 November 2022 18:30-20:00	Online webinar	www.morecambeandmorgan.com	47
Friday 18 November 2022 10:00-13:00	Pop-up event	Barrow-in-Furness Leisure Centre, Greengate St, Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9DT	45
Saturday 19 November 2022 14:30-18:30	Consultation event	Morecambe War Memorial Hall, Church St, Morecambe LA4 5PR	2
Monday 21 November 2022 15:00-19:00	Consultation event	Lytham Assembly Rooms, Dicconson Terrace, Lytham FY8 5JY	151
Tuesday 22 November 2022 10:00-13:00	Pop-up event	Fleetwood YMCA Leisure Centre, Fleetwood FY7 6HF	26
Tuesday 22 November 2022 14:30-16:30	Pop-up event	Blackpool Tourist Information Centre, Promenade, Blackpool FY1 1AP	0
Wednesday 23 November 2022, 10:00-13:00	Pop-up event	Preston Fishergate Shopping Centre, Preston PR1 8HJ	7
Wednesday 23 November 2022 15:00-19:00	Consultation event	Hutton Village Hall, Moor Ln, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SE	99
Thursday 24 November 2022 10:00-13:00	Pop-up event	Southport Eco Centre, Esplanade, Southport PR8 1RX	52
Thursday 24 November 2022 15:00-21:00	Consultation event	The Guild Hall, Church Rd, Formby, Liverpool L37 3NG	1
Wednesday 30 November 2022 10:00 – 13:00	Pop-up event	Amlwch Town Hall, Amlwch LL68 9EN	4
Total			519

306. The non-statutory consultation ran for 41 days, between 2 November and 13 December 2022. It was supported by consultation materials, which included:
- A Project website: www.morecambeandmorgan.com
 - A consultation brochure, published on the first day of the consultation, available on the website and in hard copy at consultation events
 - A feedback form, published on the first day of the consultation, available on the website and in hard copy at consultation events
 - Information panels and mapping, providing background and geographical reference to attendees at consultation events
307. Further information on these materials can be found in **Section 7.3** 'Promotion of the non-statutory consultation'.
308. The information presented in the non-statutory consultation materials provided key background to the combined projects, including:
- An introduction to the combined projects and the joint venture partners proposing to build each windfarm
 - The need for offshore wind and how it works
 - An overview of offshore infrastructure, including plans for turbines and the construction of offshore windfarms
 - Information on onshore infrastructure, including plans for a point of interconnection, substations and cable route corridor
 - Details of the DCO application process and how NSIPs are consented
 - Key background on other important issues, including environmental and technical assessments, the potential for jobs and development of new skills and combined Project timelines

7.3 Promotion of the non-statutory consultation

309. The non-statutory consultation launched on 2 November 2022, using the following promotional channels:
- A promotional postcard was distributed to 36,405 addresses within the onshore scoping search area, including both residential and business addresses. This mailing included addresses in the FY4, FY8, PR1, PR2 and PR4 postcodes. The promotional postcard was also delivered to every residential and business address on the Isle of Man, via the Isle of Man Post Office (Appendix B7)
 - Ahead of the consultation launch, posters were sent to 36 local community organisations and councils in England and Wales, with a

request to display in appropriate locations. The posters were received on 1 November 2022. Posters were also sent to 43 locations on the Isle of Man (Appendix B6)

- A press release (Appendix B10) was distributed to media outlets on 4 November 2022, announcing the launch of the consultation and explained how to access consultation content and provide feedback. As a result of the press release and events, the consultation was covered by Energy FM (in IoM), North Lancashire's Beyond Radio, the Lancashire Evening Post, Business 365 (in IoM), BBC News and Isle of Man Today. The distribution list for the press release is presented in Appendix B11
- Advertisements appeared in the Isle of Man Courier, Blackpool Gazette, Lancashire Evening Post and Daily Post (in Wales). The advertisements were timed to coincide with the start of consultation events, detailing events in each area, alongside webinar and general consultation information. Advertisements are presented in Appendix B8
- An email (see Appendix B1) was distributed to local stakeholders, alerting them to the launch of the consultation and inviting them to take part. These stakeholders included MPs of immediate and neighbouring constituencies, LPAs, local elected leaders and representatives, community councils and interest groups, such as associations, universities, government agencies and environmental groups
- An email was also distributed to local seldom heard groups – identified using desktop research (Appendix B1)
- Social media activity was also delivered via four posts (Appendix B12) on the Flotation Energy LinkedIn page, which at the time had more than 5,000 followers

7.4 Promotion of the non-statutory consultation website

310. Whilst the Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project (bp/EnBW) had their own project websites (www.morecambeoffshorewind.com and www.enbw-bp.com/morgan-and-mona, respectively), for ease of access, the projects created a joint website (www.morecambeandmorgan.com) to support this non-statutory consultation and host consultation materials. The new website was launched on 2 November 2022 at the launch of non-statutory consultation.
311. The combined project website was updated for the non-statutory consultation launch, (Appendix B4) and new content was added to the website. This included:

- Introduction to Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets
 - Background on Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Ltd
 - Background on Morgan Offshore Wind Limited
 - Information relating to onshore infrastructure, including broad plans for a point of interconnection, substation and cable route corridor
 - Information relating to offshore infrastructure, including broad plans for turbines and background information on the construction of offshore windfarms
 - Environmental and technical assessments
 - How energy produced will reach homes and businesses
 - Consenting process
 - TCE Offshore Wind Leasing Round 4
 - Jobs and skills
 - Consultation events
 - Feedback form
 - Feedback mapping
312. The website also included downloadable materials, including:
- Consultation brochure
 - Feedback form
 - Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets EIA Scoping Report
 - Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets EIA Scoping Report
 - Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets EIA Scoping Report

7.5 How could feedback be provided

313. Non-statutory consultation represented the first opportunity for local communities and other stakeholders to understand the collaboration between the Project and other neighbouring projects, and provided broad details of how each will be developed. The Applicant, therefore, welcomed feedback on its early plans.

314. The Applicant also encouraged feedback on:
- Potential environmental or community constraints to onshore and offshore transmission assets
 - Potential environmental or community constraints that could inform the substation site selection process
 - Community benefits
 - Information that could help plan for construction
 - How the projects could help support and create jobs
315. Feedback could be provided, by using the online feedback form or interactive map, on www.morecambeandmorgan.com. Respondents could also send an email to info@morecambeandmorgan.com and return written feedback to FREEPOST MORECAMBE AND MORGAN or by handing this to a member of the Project team at one of the face-to-face community events.

7.6 Response to non-statutory consultation

316. A total of 846 pieces of feedback were received:
- 602 submitted via hard copy feedback forms
 - 204 submitted via email
 - 40 submitted via post to the Freepost MORECAMBE AND MORGAN address
317. While the Applicant encouraged consultees to provide feedback that was labelled as being specific to the Project, much of the feedback received was general in nature. Therefore, all feedback was deemed relevant to the Project.
318. Where those responding to the non-statutory consultation listed a postcode as part of their feedback, the majority of postcodes (approximately 89%) were for addresses on the Isle of Man. Those listing a UK postcode made up nearly 11% of respondents.

7.7 Key issues and themes of non-statutory consultation feedback

319. The following section provides a summary of the key issues and general themes raised in the feedback received during this non-statutory consultation.

7.7.1 Theme 1 - Impact on shipping routes

320. Of the feedback received, more than half was directly related to shipping routes in the Irish Sea. The key issue expressed was a concern that the

combined projects might be configured in a way that has implications for the IoMSPC's routes between Douglas and Heysham, and Douglas and Liverpool.

321. Many consultation responses noted the IoMSPC's publicly communicated concerns about navigation of ships sailing through the combined windfarm corridors, and potential for increases in cancellations in rough weather, due to a lack of open sea room for adverse weather re-routeing and navigation in this area.
322. Consultation responses also expressed concerns about potential associated delays and increases in cancellations, and the knock-on impacts these delays and cancellations might have on passengers and freight to the IoM, and therefore wider accumulative impacts to the IoM's economy and tourism.
323. A significant number of responses also queried whether extra sailing distances might be required as a result of the combined construction of the windfarms, leading the IoMSPC's vessels to use more fuel, and therefore increasing costs, carbon emissions and journey times.

7.7.2 Response to non-statutory consultation feedback on the impact on shipping routes

324. The Applicant understands the vital importance of the ferry routes serving the IoM and is working closely with marine stakeholders, including the IoMSPC, to ensure any impacts that are identified can be addressed appropriately.
325. The Applicant has conducted a thorough analysis of vessel traffic data, carried out navigational risk modelling and held a number of meetings and workshops. This helped to understand the needs of the IoMSPC and other ferry operators and develop proposals that consider these needs appropriately.

7.7.3 Theme 2 - General support for all projects

326. A significant number of those attending non-statutory consultation events and responding to the non-statutory consultation did so in order to express their support for renewable energy generation and offshore wind. These responses tended to express broad support, without going into specifics, but a number chose to note increases in energy prices as part of their response.

7.7.4 Response to general support for the Project

327. The Applicant is grateful to all those who expressed support for the Project. Renewable energy is central to supporting the UK's ambitions to lead the world in combatting climate change, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and embracing a future where renewable energy powers homes and businesses.

328. At the centre of this drive is a commitment to reducing UK greenhouse gas emissions and reaching Net Zero by 2050.
329. Figures released by the DESNZ, show that by the end of 2022 the UK had more than 13GW of installed offshore wind capacity (Digest of UK Energy Statistics (DUKES): renewable sources of energy (2022)).
330. To achieve the UK's climate goals, offshore wind generation needs to quadruple – that means having 50GW of generating capacity installed and operating by 2030.
331. There is still some way to go to meet the target. This means the projects combined have a critical role to play – both in helping the UK to achieve its Net Zero ambitions and, specifically, in reaching offshore wind generation capacity goals.

7.7.5 Theme 3 - Desire for additional consultation on the Isle of Man

332. Those responding to the non-statutory consultation on issues related to shipping routes to the IoM were keen to ensure that the views of IoM residents were properly understood by the combined projects. This led to a number of requests in feedback for further consultation on the IoM and for additional information on the combined projects to be provided to the residents of the IoM.

7.7.6 Response to feedback on further consultation on the Isle of Man

333. The Applicant is grateful for this feedback, which helped to plan the statutory phase of consultation in 2023 and continues to consult with residents of the IoM. The Applicant held a public non-statutory consultation event in the council chamber at Douglas Borough Council buildings, on 3 November 2022, and delivered a postcard promoting this event and the non-statutory consultation to business and residential addresses across the IoM. More than 80 people came along to discuss the combined proposals, with the project teams in person at the event, and a significant number responded to the non-statutory consultation.
334. At statutory consultation, the Applicant held two public consultation events at Ramsey Town Hall on the 18 May and at Douglas Borough Council Town Hall on the 19 May. Postcards promoting these events were delivered to business and residential addresses across the IoM.

7.7.7 Theme 4 - Calls for benefits to residents of the IoM

335. Consultees on the IoM were keen for the combined projects to explore any potential benefits for IoM residents, given that the windfarms were not being constructed in IoM territorial waters.

7.7.8 Response to calls for benefits to residents of the IoM

336. The IoM is connected to the UK National Grid, via an interconnector cable, which runs beneath the sea, between Douglas on the IoM and Bispham, on the Lancashire coast. This means that, when the electricity generated is fed into the national grid, the Manx Utilities Authority will be able to draw on the power generated to help meet the needs of IoM residents and businesses.
337. Alongside energy supply security, offshore wind projects bring significant benefits to their local communities, and the Applicant believes it is important that the local supply chain contributes to this too.
338. The Applicant has created a portal on the Project website (www.morecambeoffshorewind.com) to enable local companies to pair their skills with the Project's needs. The portal provides access for companies of all sizes to register their interest for future work. The Applicant has encouraged any relevant suppliers based on the IoM to register their interest, so they can help to deliver this important Project.

7.7.9 Theme 5 - Impact on marine wildlife and seabirds

339. Consultees were keen to understand how potential impacts on wildlife and seabirds would be minimised, both during the construction and operation of the windfarm.

7.7.10 Response to feedback on impact on marine wildlife and seabirds

340. In June 2022, the Applicant published a Scoping Report which set out what was understood at the time to be the Project's likely effects on the environment and how they would be assessed. The Applicant's Scoping Report was followed by the Secretary of State's Scoping Opinion, which was provided in August 2022. Since then, a range of environmental assessments have been carried out to better understand the potential impacts of the Project on the environment.
341. The environmental assessments were undertaken using a wide range of data sources, including Project specific surveys to understand the potential impacts during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning phases of the Project, and identify appropriate mitigation to any effects.

342. These initial assessments and potential mitigations were presented in the PEIR at statutory consultation in 2023. These assessments have been updated and included in the respective chapters of the Environmental Statement.
343. The assessments on marine life are presented in the following chapters of the Environmental Statement:
- **Chapter 9 Benthic Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.9)
 - **Chapter 10 Fish and Shellfish Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.10)
 - **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11)
 - **Chapter 12 Offshore Ornithology** (Document Reference 5.1.12)
344. As part of the HRA process, environmental assessments have been undertaken as part of the RIAA (Document Reference 4.9) and the MCZA (Document Reference 4.13) under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

7.7.11 Theme 6 - Onshore cable route

345. A number of consultees made suggestions regarding the onshore cable route. While this wasn't specified within the feedback, the Applicant believes the feedback was associated with the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project, which is subject to a separate DCO application. Some consultees suggested the onshore cable route should follow the line of existing infrastructure (e.g. highways, including the M55, and the Blackpool branch line rail routes from Preston to Blackpool). Other consultees were keen for the project to explore using the banks – or even bed – of the River Ribble for the cable route. Comments also requested to limit the impact of the proposed landfall location on the Fylde Sand Dunes Project Conservation Area.

7.7.12 Response to feedback on the onshore cable route

346. Given that the Project is entirely offshore, the Applicant believes this feedback would be for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project, which is subject to a separate DCO application.
347. Feedback has been referred to the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project for consideration.

7.7.13 Theme 7 - Impact on fishing industry

348. Consultees sought reassurance about the potential impacts of the offshore generation assets and transmission infrastructure on the fishing industry.

7.7.14 Response to feedback on the impact on the fishing industry

349. Commercial fishing activity has been characterised using landings statistics, publicly available vessel data, and engagement with the fishing industry.
350. Based on an analysis of the location of the Project, fishing activity is expected to be dominated by larger vessels potting for whelk, and to a lesser extent dredging for scallops. With additional mitigation for the construction period, Project effects have been assessed as minor.
351. The Applicant confirms that a Fishing Liaison Officer (FLO) for the Project is in place to maintain regular communication with the local fishery associations. This is presented in the Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan (Document Reference 6.3) which has been included within the DCO application. The plan also refers to the process for justifiable disturbance payments and notes the Project is open participation in any regional fisheries working group set up in the local area.
352. Further information on our assessments can be found in **Chapter 13 Commercial Fisheries** of the ES (Document Reference 5.1.13).

7.7.15 Theme 8 - Visual impact of the Project

353. Some of those who responded to the non-statutory consultation raised concerns about the visual impact of the Project and sought reassurance about this. The majority of these concerns related to the increased volume of wind turbines that will be visible from the IoM, if the projects proceed as proposed. Though the visual impact of the Project's turbines from the IoM is likely to be more limited than those of the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, given the level of detail that was available at the time of the non-statutory consultation, there was limited understanding within the feedback received on how the different projects would have different impacts.

7.7.16 Response to feedback on the visual impact of the Project

354. The Applicant undertook a Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA) to understand the extent of views of the Project, as well as any effects on the landscape character. The study area was defined as 60km from the windfarm site and related to the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) (Document Reference 5.3.18) as the zone within which likely significant effects may occur.
355. The assessments identified that many views of the Project are either distant and/or heavily influenced by existing operational offshore windfarms, however the introduction of the Project has been assessed to have some significant effects.

356. The areas with the most visual effects, which are deemed to be significant, are limited to areas around Fylde and Sefton Coastline in Lancashire. Although there are localised effects on views from this section of the coast, there are no measures available to completely mitigate the significant effects on views experienced by residents of these coastal settlements and tourist visitors.
357. The siting of the Project at long distance offshore is the key measure that minimises potential for significant effects experienced in coastal views.
358. Whilst the size, number and positioning of the WTGs has yet to be finalised, following the statutory consultation in 2023, the Project's windfarm site boundary has been reduced from 125km² to 87km² and the tip height of WTGs has been reduced. This has resulted in the windfarm site having a narrower lateral spread (east to west) and the apparent scale of the WTGs being smaller. The maximum number of WTGs has also been reduced from 40 to 35, which reduces effects.
359. Further information on our assessments can be found in **Chapter 18 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** of the ES (Document Reference 5.1.18).

7.7.17 Theme 9 - Onshore substations

360. Some consultees sought reassurance about the onshore substations, including potential impacts during construction and operation. There were also comments seeking reassurance about the height and footprint of the substations. While this wasn't specified within the feedback, the Applicant believes the feedback was associated with the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project, which is subject to a separate DCO application.

7.7.18 Response to feedback on onshore substations

361. Given that the Project is entirely offshore, this feedback would be for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project, which is subject to a separate DCO application.
362. Feedback has been referred to the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project for consideration.

7.7.19 Theme 10 – Non-statutory Consultation materials

363. Where consultees commented on the non-statutory consultation materials, the most frequent comment was a request for better representation of other Irish Sea windfarms (both operational and in development) within the consultation materials.

7.7.20 Response to feedback on consultation materials

364. Mapping showing locations of other Irish Sea windfarms (both operational and in development) was provided at consultation events. The Applicant is grateful for this feedback, which supported the statutory phase of consultation in 2023.

7.7.21 Theme 11 - Impact on onshore ecology

365. Consultees were keen to ensure that any impacts on onshore ecology were properly understood and mitigated.

7.7.22 Theme 12 - Response to feedback on onshore ecology

366. Through the scoping process undertaken, as confirmed in the Scoping Opinion, onshore ecology was scoped out of the Project's assessment due to no pathway of effects. Any linkages from the Project to onshore receptors have been assessed within the Environmental Statement. For example impacts to migratory fish which could be associated with fresh water rivers has been assessed. In addition, **Chapter 23 Summary: Generation and Transmission Assets Assessment** of the ES (Document Reference 5.1.23) provides a summary of potential cumulative effects between the Project and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project.

7.7.23 Theme 13 - Lack of clarity on which projects were being discussed

367. The non-statutory consultation asked those responding to answer questions relating to three separate projects, which will all be the subject of their own DCO Applications, as follows:

- Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets
- Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets
- Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets

368. Whilst it was not specifically referred to in feedback from the non-statutory consultation, it was clear that many of the responses received referred to single overarching themes, often providing the same response to each question, or choosing to only respond to one question. This made analysis for individual projects more complicated.

7.7.24 Response to feedback on lack of clarity on which projects were being discussed

369. Every effort was made to communicate the three projects clearly within the consultation materials, asking consultees to respond on the specifics. The

Applicant was grateful for all the feedback received and this was used to develop the statutory consultation on the PEIR in 2023.

8 Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC): preparation and consultation

8.1 Legislative requirements

370. Section 47(1) of the PA 2008 places a duty on the applicant to prepare a statement which should set out “how it proposes to consult, about the proposed application, people living in the vicinity of the land”. This is known as the SoCC. Subsection (2) goes on to state that, in preparing the SoCC, applicants must consult the relevant LPAs in respect of the content of the document, because their knowledge of the local area can helpfully inform decisions on the geographical extent of consultation and the methods that will be the most effective in the local circumstances.
371. Relevant LPA responses to consultation on the content of the SoCC should be received by the Applicant within a 28-day period (commencing on the day after the day the relevant LPA receives the consultation documents) (Section 47(3)).
372. A draft SoCC must be provided to the relevant LPAs at this stage, providing information which allows the authority to make an informed response to the SoCC consultation. Section 47(5) of the PA 2008 also requires applicants to have regard to any response that is received within the 28-day period.
373. In developing the SoCC, regard must be had to the EIA Regulations and relevant guidance about pre-application procedures. Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations stipulates that the SoCC must set out whether the proposal is an EIA development and, if so, how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the PEIR.
374. Once the SoCC has been finalised, Applicants must make the SoCC available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land (Section 47(6)(za)), publish in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land, with a notice stating where and when the SoCC can be inspected (Section 47(6)(a)) and publish the SoCC in such manner as may be prescribed (Section 47(6)(b)). Applicants must also then carry out consultation in accordance with the proposals set out in the SoCC (Section 47(7)).
375. The PA 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process, Paragraph 57, gives further guidance on the SoCC, including that the SoCC document should be made available online and at any exhibitions or other events held by the Applicants. The SoCC should also be placed at appropriate local deposit points (e.g. libraries, council offices) and be sent to local community groups, as appropriate.

376. Details of the requirements regarding the SoCC, from the legislation and guidance, and how the requirements have been complied with, are set out in **Table 8.4** below and the compliance checklist (Document Reference 1.4).

8.2 Background to the preparation of the SoCC

377. As prescribed by Section 47(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant prepared a SoCC setting out how consultation would be undertaken with people living in the vicinity of the land affected by the Project.

378. In preparing the draft SoCC, the Applicant considered best practice and guidance from PINS, early and ongoing engagement with host authorities, experience of, feedback to and lessons learned from its first stage of non-statutory consultation (**Section 7**) and its knowledge of the area of the Project.

379. The Applicant also reviewed published SoCCs for other offshore wind NSIPs, as well as those of NSIPs more broadly across other technologies.

380. For land-based projects, there is an established process for identifying stakeholders and consultees. As this project is at sea, the communities, groups and people who may be affected is less clear. As such, the SoCC was developed in consultation with the relevant authorities closest to the Project and those that may interact with the Project.

381. To reflect the requirements of Section 47 of the PA 2008, the Applicant consulted with each relevant LPA within Section 43(1) of the PA 2008 on a draft SoCC, as required by Section 47(2) of the PA 2008. In addition to consulting with the relevant LPAs within Section 43(1) of the PA 2008, the Applicant also consulted with the MMO, LDNP and the IoM Government on the draft SoCC.

382. A copy of the draft SoCC was supplied ahead of formal Section 47(2) consultation, with officers being invited to informally provide any comments on the content and detail set out for consideration by the Applicant, in advance of the formal consultation.

383. A copy of the draft SoCC supplied is provided in Appendix C1. The bullet points below summarise the contents of the draft SoCC:

- Information about the Applicant
- Overview of the Project's proposals
- Explanation of the DCO process
- A summary of the Applicant's work to date, including its 2022 non-statutory consultation

- An overview of the Applicant's statutory consultation on the PEIR, including who it consulted, what it consulted on, when consultation took place and how the Applicant consulted with local communities
- How the Applicant publicised the PEIR consultation
- How consultees were asked to provide feedback on the PEIR consultation
- An overview of the likely next steps following the statutory consultation on the PEIR, including an indicative timeline for the DCO application and consultation following its publication

8.3 SoCC public consultation zone

384. When developing the consultation zone for the Project, the Applicant took into account the need to engage with a wide cross section of the community, ensuring that the consultation would be open to anyone who could feel, or would be directly or indirectly impacted by the proposals – either visually or economically.
385. The Applicant engaged with the following Section 47 groups:
- Local communities - people with homes and businesses in the consultation zone and those outside who have previously commented on the proposals
 - Elected representatives - community councils; county councillors; Members of Parliament; and Members of the Senedd
 - Seldom heard groups - individuals and groups that may have difficulties taking part in the consultation process for a range of reasons
386. This was in addition to consultees as prescribed under Sections 42 and 43 of the PA 2008.
387. As this Project is based at sea, only TCE are prescribed under Section 44 of the PA 2008.
388. For the statutory consultation, a consultation zone was refined to broadly encompass the locations of:
- In-person consultation events in northwest England, which encompassed large parts of the northwest England coast as shown in **Figure 8.1 to Figure 8.4** (58, 265 addresses)
 - In-person consultation events in north Wales as shown in **Figure 8.5** (30,810 addresses)
 - The entirety of the IoM as shown in **Figure 8.6** (45,811 addresses)

Figure 8.1 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Blackpool south and coastal



Figure 8.2 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Southport venue



Figure 8.3 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Blackpool venue

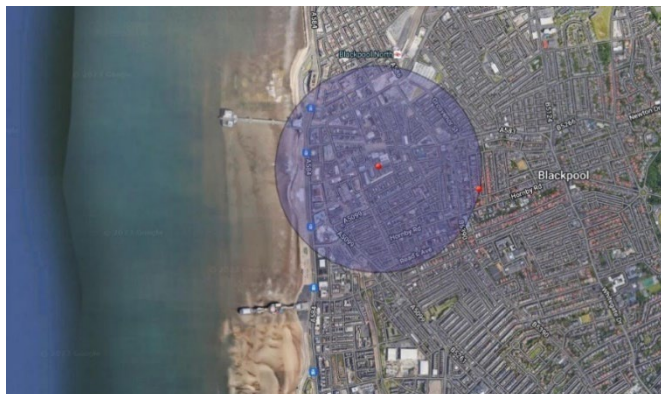


Figure 8.4 Statutory consultation mailing zone – coastal and onshore communities

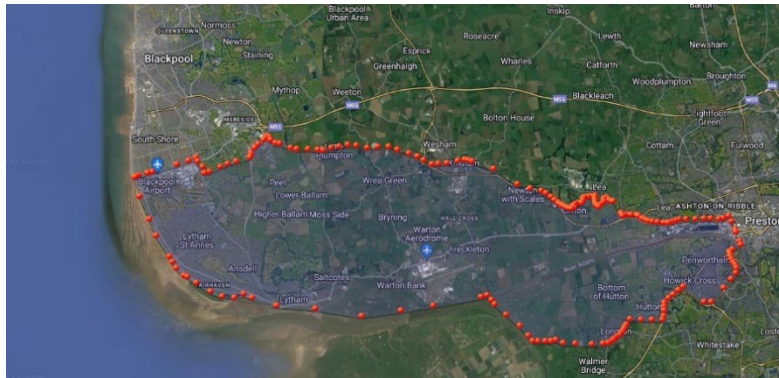
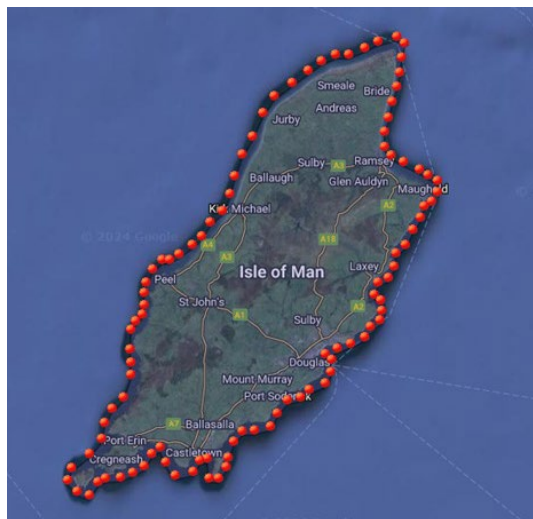


Figure 8.5 Statutory consultation mailing zone – north Wales



Figure 8.6 Statutory consultation mailing zone – Isle of Man



389. In total, the Project sent a statutory consultation postcard to 134, 886 addresses covering the IoM, north Wales and northwest England.

8.4 Statutory consultation on the draft SoCC

390. As set out in PINS Advice Note Fourteen, the Consultation Report should provide evidence of how Applicants have complied with the SoCC preparation process. The note also advises that evidence should be submitted which shows which relevant LPAs were consulted about the content of the draft SoCC, what comments were received from relevant LPAs, confirmation that they were given 28 days' notice to provide comments and a description of how Applicants have had regard to comments received.
391. Section 47(2) of the PA 2008 states that, before preparing a SoCC, Applicants must consult with each LPA that is within Section 43(1) on what is to be in the SoCC.
392. Initial consultation on the contents of the draft SoCC was undertaken for 28 days, beginning the day after the draft SoCC was received by the LPAs, from 30 January to 27 February 2023. The Applicant identified and consulted all relevant LPAs, based on likely possible visual and economic impact, and given the proposed development is located entirely at sea.
393. Whilst this falls outside of Section 47(2) of the PA 2008, the Applicant also consulted with the MMO, Lake District National Park (LDNP) and the Isle of Man (IoM) Government on the draft SoCC.
394. Given the relatively low level of feedback received, the Applicant notified the relevant LPAs and other identified stakeholders that, even though the consultation period on the draft SoCC had finished, it would accept feedback until 6 March 2023.
395. In line with Section 47(5), the Applicant gave regard to the responses received from the relevant LPAs and other identified stakeholders during both the non-statutory and statutory consultations in the finalisation of the draft SoCC. A summary of the responses received, and action taken, can be seen in **Table 8.1**.

Table 8.1 Summary of feedback on draft SoCC received from Relevant LPAs

Consultee	Summary of feedback	Response
Isle of Anglesey County Council	<p>Thank you for consulting the Isle of Anglesey County Council (hereafter referred to as the IACC) as part of the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Morecambe Offshore Wind Farm Project.</p> <p>The IACC welcomes the high level overview provided within the consultation document of the proposed means of consulting with those communities that could be impacted by the project. We would be eager to engage further with you as further details of community consultation becomes available and to advise in relation to appropriate consultation event locations on Anglesey.</p> <p>The IACC has had an opportunity to review the Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report submitted between Cobra Instalaciones y Servies, S.A and Flotation Energy Ltd together with the Planning Inspectorate Scoping Opinion. It should be noted that we weren't consulted by PINS as part of this Scoping Opinion and therefore take the opportunity to include our comments as part of our response to the Statement of Community Consultation.</p> <p>The IACC has a strong commitment and a track record of promoting, supporting and facilitating progress in the low carbon energy sector through its Energy Island Programme (EIP) https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Business/Energy-Island%E2%84%A2-Isle-of-Anglesey-North-Wales/What-is-Energy-Island%E2%84%A2.aspx.</p> <p>The vision of the EIP is for Anglesey to be an exemplar in the transition to a prosperous and resilient low carbon economy, providing high quality jobs, education and supply chain opportunities, whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment and enabling the Welsh Language and culture to thrive in vibrant communities.'</p> <p>The IACC's interest with regards to the Morecambe Offshore Project is mainly in relation to the potential impact on the Island's seascape, landscape and visual amenity. The Anglesey Area of Outstanding</p>	<p>As you're aware, Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited are intending to carry out a statutory consultation in spring 2023 on its proposals for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, as required by the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).</p> <p>As prescribed by section 47 of the PA 2008, we consulted with the relevant authorities our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which describes how we plan to undertake our upcoming statutory consultation.</p> <p>We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for providing your feedback sent on the 21 February 2023. We are considering all feedback provided before finalising the document for publication.</p> <p>I'm sorry to hear Isle of Anglesey County Council (IACC) were not consulted on the Scoping Report. As you're aware, this consultation closed last year, however, we will take your feedback into consideration as the project develops further.</p> <p>In terms of IACC providing comment in relation to the Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA), we'd be happy for IACC to attend future SLVIA Expert Topic Group (ETG) meetings going forward. The next meeting is planned In June 2023, and will focus on the PEIR (and feedback from the group) which will be available in the coming weeks. An invitation will be sent to you in due course.</p>

Consultee	Summary of feedback	Response
	<p>Natural Beauty (AONB) is located south west of the proposed development and as such careful consideration will therefore be required to ensure the proposal does not affect the setting and/or significant view into and out of the AONB. The IOACC requests that it is provided with the opportunity to be included on the relevant technical group in order to provide further comment in relation to the Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA) that will form part of the Environmental Statement (ES) that will support the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO).</p> <p>From a socio economic prospective, the IACC would be seeking for the ES to identify and confirm the socio-economic opportunities that will be available at all project phases. These relate to maximising local and regional employment, skills and supply chain opportunities including the potential of using Holyhead Port for the construction, operation and maintenance phase. The IOACC requests that it is provided with the opportunity to be included on the relevant technical group in order to provide further advice as to securing local and regional socio-economic opportunities from the project. The IACC also advises that you include the Welsh Government in these discussions.</p> <p>The IACC though the Energy Island Project is committed to working collaboratively with you and other stakeholders to provide advice and guidance to ensure that the project aligns with the vision of the Energy Island Project and to ensure that Anglesey fully benefit from the potential opportunities associated with the proposed Morecambe wind farm and to ensure that significant effects are avoided.</p> <p>The IACC would welcome that all future communication takes place through the EIPs Programme Management Office PMO@ynysmon.llyw.cymru. The communication will then be forwarded to the relevant officer.</p> <p>Thanking you again for consulting with the IACC. We look forward to engaging further with you in due course in relation to the proposed Morecambe Wind Farm.</p>	

Consultee	Summary of feedback	Response
Douglas Borough Council	<p>Douglas City Council has no comment on the draft consultation pack. Venues – you have already booked City Hall for consultation.</p> <p>Reference locations – the city library would be a good venue to hold printed copies of your consultation materials, as well as city hall.</p> <p>Stakeholder groups – you appear to have captured the main stakeholder groups. As well as the Steam Packet Company, you also need to consult with tourism on the impact the windfarm will have on cruise ship visits to the island.</p> <p>Working with us – we can share your consultation through our various media platforms. The consultation when undertaken will be referred to a political working group for consideration ahead of a response by the council. This group or the council may require a presentation. You will be advised if this is the case. In addition, it would be useful to receive the full Environmental Impact Assessment and Preliminary Environmental Information Report together with confirmation on whether your consultation is for Morecambe Farm or Morgan Farm or both. It's not currently clear.</p>	<p>As you're aware, Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Limited are intending to carry out a statutory consultation in spring 2023 on its proposals for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, as required by the Planning Act 2008 ('the Act'). As prescribed by section 47 of the Act, we consulted with the relevant authorities our Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC), which describes how we plan to undertake our upcoming statutory consultation. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for providing your feedback sent on the 23 February and 3 March 2023. We're currently considering all feedback provided before finalising the document for publication.</p> <p>If there is anything else I can assist you with, please don't hesitate to contact me at hello@morecambeoffshorewind.com.</p>

396. As required by Section 47(6) of the PA 2008, the SoCC was then made available for inspection by the public (from 29 March 2023) and newspaper notices were published stating where and when the SoCC could be inspected.

8.5 Publication of the final SoCC and Section 47 notice

397. Newspaper notices (statutory Section 47 notices) were published stating where and when the final SoCC could be inspected. These newspapers served the closest section of the coast and those who may interact with and/or have an interest in the Project and/or experience some possible visual and/or economic impact.
398. **Table 8.2** below shows the schedule of where and when the Section 47 notice appeared, and whether English-only, Welsh-only or bilingual (English and Welsh).

Table 8.2 Section 47 publication schedule

Publication	Date appeared	Language
Liverpool Echo	29 March 2023	English
Blackpool Gazette	30 March 2023	English
Lancashire Evening Post	30 March 2023	English
Daily Post	29 March 2023	English and Welsh
Isle of Man Courier	31 March 2023	English
Golwg	30 March 2023	Welsh

399. To coincide with the notice's first appearance (29 March 2023), a 'holding' page (Appendix C7) was made live on the Project website (www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe). This hosted a digital copy of the Project's final SoCC in English and Welsh and informed visitors of the holding page of the Project's upcoming statutory consultation and when it was going to begin. Digital copies of the Project's SoCC – in English and Welsh – remained available for people to view beyond the close of statutory consultation (4 June 2023).
400. The Applicant also notified PINS to confirm the Section 47 'notice publicising the Statement of Community Consultation' had been issued for publication. The Applicant also informed PINS that a copy of the final SoCC and the Section 47 notice was available to view on the Project website.
401. As required by Section 47(6) of the PA 2008, the final SoCC was made available for inspection by the public at the deposit locations listed in **Table 8.3** below. Copies of the Project's consultation brochure, PEIR NTS, feedback

form and a copy of the full PEIR on a USB memory stick were also made available from the launch of statutory consultation (19 April 2023).

402. For deposit locations in Wales, a Welsh version of the final SoCC was displayed, alongside an English version, so that people could view materials in their chosen language. Deposit locations in northwest England and on the IoM received an English version only. These materials were available for the public to view at deposit locations for the duration of the statutory consultation period.
403. Deposit locations were chosen by mapping an even spread across the consultation zone and then narrowing down those locations with the likely highest footfall.

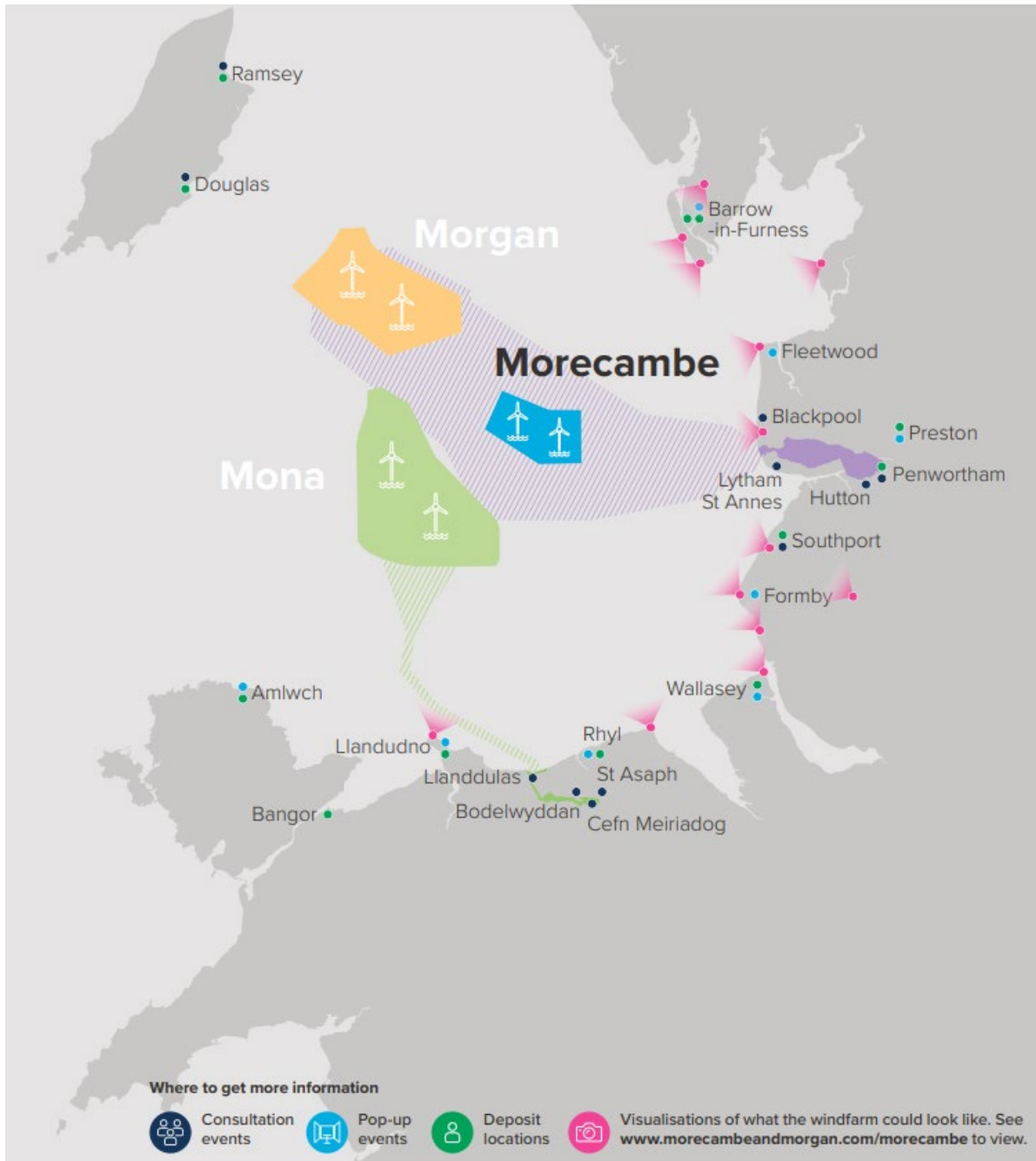
Table 8.3 Deposit locations

Location	Address
Henry Bloom Noble Library	8 Duke Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 2AY
Ramsey Town Library	Parliament Square, Ramsey, Isle of Man IM8 1RT
Abbots Vale Community Centre	Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9PA
Egremont Community Centre	Egremont Mission, Guildford Street, Wallasey CH44 0BP
Penwortham Town Council and Community Centre	Kingsfold Drive, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9EQ
Preston City Council	Town Hall, Lancaster Road, Preston PR1 2RL
Southport Library	Lord Street, Southport PR8 1DJ
Amlwch Library	Parys Road, Amlwch, Anglesey LL68 9EA
Bangor Public Library	Gwynedd Road, Bangor LL57 1DT
Llandudno Library	48 Mostyn Street, Llandudno LL30 2RP
Rhyl Library, Museum and Arts Centre	Church Street, Rhyl LL18 3AA

404. A note was included with the deposit location material inviting staff and/or members of the public to contact the Project via the hotline telephone number, or by email should they require more information about the consultation and/or wanted to request additional copies of materials.
405. Each deposit location was contacted by telephone before sending the SoCC, to explain what the final SoCC was, why it was important it was made available to the public and how to contact the Project to request more copies.

406. **Figure 8.7** below shows deposit locations, plotted alongside consultation events and pop-up events (as taken from pages 12-13 of the Applicant’s consultation brochure).

Figure 8.7 Deposit locations



8.6 Compliance with the SoCC

407. As set out in PINS Advice Note Fourteen, the Consultation Report should provide evidence of how applicants have complied with the SoCC preparation process. The note also advises that evidence should be submitted which shows which relevant LPAs were consulted about the content of the draft SoCC, what comments were received from local authorities, confirmation that they were given 28 days' notice to provide comments and a description of how Applicants have had regard to comments received.
408. In accordance with Section 47(7) of the PA 2008, consultation was carried out in accordance with the proposals set out in the SoCC.
409. The following statutory requirements have been fulfilled during the statutory Section 47 consultation:
- A draft SoCC was prepared which sets out how the Applicant proposed to deal with the relevant LPAs in whose area the proposed development lies (Section 47(2))
 - Statutory consultation on the draft SoCC with the relevant LPAs ran from 30 January 2023 to 27 February 2023, allowing a period of 28 days for responses (Section 47(3)). Given the relatively low level of feedback received, the Applicant notified the relevant LPAs and other identified stakeholders that it would continue to accept feedback until 6 March 2023
 - The consultation documents comprised the draft SoCC (Section 47(4)), and were supported by a cover email, which set out information regarding the formal consultation process
 - The Applicant considered all relevant responses received on the draft SoCC (Section 47(5))
 - Notice of the final SoCC was published in local newspapers, and copies of the final SoCC were made available on the Project's consultation website (www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe) and at local deposit locations (Section 47(6))
 - The consultation process was carried out in accordance with the SoCC (Section 47(7)) and a compliance checklist highlighting how the SoCC commitments have been complied with is contained in **Table 8.4** of this document
 - The SoCC stated that the application comprised an EIA development and described how the Applicant intended to publicise and consult on the PEIR (Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations)

410. Whilst an email was sent to both the Coal Authority and the Cheshire and Wirral NHS Trust (both included within Appendix 2 of the SoCC as Local authorities and other stakeholders to be consulted) as set out in paragraph 5.7 (Publicising the Consultation) of the SoCC), during the production of this Consultation Report it was identified that the email was not delivered. The Applicant considers that this does not materially impact its compliance with the commitments set out in the SoCC or the adequacy of the consultation, in particular given that neither is a prescribed consultee in relation to the Application and the distance offshore of the proposed development.
411. Compliance with each commitment set out in the SOCC is established below.

Table 8.4 Compliance with SoCC commitments

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
1.1 Overview of the SoCC	To meet the requirements of Section 47 of the Act, we have publicised this SoCC through public notices in the Liverpool Echo, Blackpool Gazette, Lancashire Evening Post, Daily Post, IoM Courier and Golwg newspapers, serving the closest section of the coast and those communities that may interact with the Project	The Project's Section 47 notice appeared in the Liverpool Echo and Daily Post on 29 March 2023. It appeared in the Blackpool Gazette, Lancashire Post and Golwg on 30 March 2023. It appeared in the IoM Courier on 31 March 2023.	See Appendix C8
1.1 Overview of the SoCC	This SoCC has been developed in consultation with the relevant authorities closest to the Project, and those that may interact with the Project.	<p>The Project wrote to the LPAs listed below and consulted them for the required 28 days on its draft SoCC. Their feedback verbatim, if it was provided, and how the Project had regard to the feedback received when developing and publishing its final SoCC, can be found via the adjacent evidence reference.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Blackpool Council ▪ Conwy County Borough Council ▪ Denbighshire County Council ▪ Douglas Borough Council ▪ Flintshire County Council ▪ Fylde Council ▪ Isle of Anglesey County Council ▪ IoM Government ▪ Lake District National Park ▪ Lancashire County Council ▪ Lancaster City Council ▪ Liverpool City Council ▪ Liverpool City Region Combined Authority 	See Appendix C2

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marine Management Organisation ▪ Sefton Council ▪ West Lancashire Borough Council ▪ Westmorland and Furness Council ▪ Wirral Council ▪ Wyre Council 	
3.2 What are EIA and PEIR?	<p>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</p> <p>The development requires Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as defined in The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, and The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007. EIA is being undertaken to ensure the likely effects of the Project are properly understood, including whether appropriate mitigation can be put in place. The EIA process is presented and reported in an Environmental Statement document which will form part of the application documents supporting a DCO Application.</p> <p>Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)</p> <p>We are also required to produce a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR), which is an important document within the consenting process relating to preliminary environmental</p>	<p>The Project's PEIR, along with a number of other materials designed to help people better understand the Project, were available for people to view on the Project website for the duration of the statutory consultation period (19 April to 4 June 2023) and beyond.</p>	<p>See Appendix D</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	<p>considerations based on an early Project conceptual design. The PEIR will include survey methodologies, where possible initial results, and initial considerations of the EIA process regarding the likely significant environmental effects of the Project. It will also set out potential mitigation measures that could prevent, reduce or offset any environmental effects identified as part of early assessments and consultation. The PEIR will then be further refined and updated based on consultation feedback and engineering design development into the final Environmental Statement. Copies of the PEIR will be made available on the website at www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe for the duration of the consultation (19 April to 4 June 2023).</p>		
<p>5.2 Who we are consulting</p>	<p>As this is a statutory consultation, we are required to consult with a number of representative individuals and groups. These groups are defined in the Planning Act 2008 as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Section 42: Prescribed bodies and statutory consultees ▪ Section 43: Local Planning Authorities ▪ Section 44: Landowners/those with an interest in the land ▪ Local communities 	<p>Statutory bodies identified under Section 42(1)(a)</p> <p>These stakeholders were notified on the 14 April 2023 to give them advance warning of statutory consultation launching on 19 April 2023. This served as a reminder of the Project, its key proposals, need case, how consultees would be able to access more information and provide feedback.</p> <p>They were notified again, formally under Section 42 of the PA 2008, at the launch of consultation (19 April 2023).</p> <p>In the interest of encouraging as much feedback as possible before the close of statutory consultation, the Project sent a ‘Consultation closing soon’ email on 22 May 2023, and a ‘Last</p>	<p>See Appendix D15 to D18</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elected representatives (parish councils, county councillors etc.) ▪ Seldom heard groups ▪ Identified special interest groups. <p>We will engage with these consultees directly and will be inviting them to comment on our proposals during the consultation.</p>	<p>chance to provide feedback’ email on 2 June 2023, two days prior to the close of statutory consultation.</p> <p>These emails reiterated how people could find out more information about the Project and provide feedback. The ‘Consultation closing soon’ email also reminded people of the remaining in-person exhibition events and directed people to a recording of the online event webinar on the Project website.</p> <p>Marine Management Organisation (the MMO), Section 42(1)(aa)</p> <p>The MMO was notified to at the launch of consultation (19 April 2023) and was sent ‘Consultation closing soon’ and ‘Last chance to provide feedback’ emails on 22 May and 2 June 2023 respectively.</p> <p>LPAs identified under Section 42(1)(b)</p> <p>Besides the already completed SoCC consultation, the LPAs were notified in advance of consultation launching on the 14 April 2023, reminding them of the Project and its request for feedback; and formally under Section 42 of the PA 2008 at the launch of consultation (19th April 2023).</p> <p>Advance communications to LPAs included an invitation to attend a briefing session via Microsoft Teams on 25 April 2023, 11:00 to 12:00. This comprised a presentation from the Project team and a question-and-answer session.</p> <p>Relevant LPAs were also sent ‘Consultation closing soon’ and ‘Last chance to provide feedback’ emails on 22 May and 2 June 2023 respectively.</p>	

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<p>People with Interest in Land (PIL), Section 42(1)(d) As this Project is based at sea, under this Section of the legislation we welcome comments from people and groups with an interest in the seabed. As the Project is entirely based at sea, and outside of the 12 nautical mile (nm) limit, only The Crown Estate (TCE) were required to be consulted.</p> <p>PINS on behalf of the Secretary of State, under Section 46 Prior to the launch of consultation, the Project issued its Section 46 notification, in accordance with the PA 2008, to PINS, The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP, in his then capacity as Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, and the Rt Hon David TC Davies MP, in his capacity as Secretary of State for Wales. The Applicant received an acknowledgement letter of receipt from PINS on the 19 April 2023.</p> <p>Non-statutory bodies identified under Section 47 Seldom heard groups, identified under Section 47 of the PA 2008 were written to in advance of the statutory consultation launching on the 14 April 2023. This communication was in an attempt to learn and understand how the Project could better engage groups that are typically underrepresented and underheard and was undertaken far enough in advance of consultation launching so as to allow the Project sufficient time to give proper regard to any requests.</p> <p>The Applicant did not receive any feedback from any of the seldom heard groups it wrote to.</p>	

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<p>The Applicant wrote to other non-statutory bodies at the launch of consultation (19 April 2023) and they also received a 'Consultation closing soon' email on 22 May 2023.</p> <p>Local communities identified under Section 47 Local communities within the Project's consultation zone received a physical consultation invitation postcard at the launch of statutory consultation (19 April 2023). This postcard provided an overview of the Project and its proposals, where people could find more information and how they could provide feedback.</p>	
<p>5.4 When are we consulting</p>	<p>The statutory consultation will run from 19 April to 4 June 2023. The minimum consultation period is 28 days starting from the day after the publishing of consultation documents, such as the PEIR.</p> <p>We are extending this period to give people as much opportunity as possible to provide their feedback.</p>	<p>All consultation materials; all informal advertising and formal notices; and all written correspondence with stakeholders referenced the dates of the statutory consultation: 19 April to 4 June 2023.</p> <p>The Applicant also took necessary steps to remind people, wherever possible, when consultation was closing. For example, the Applicant sent 'Consultation Closing Soon' reminder communications to all statutory bodies, the MMO, relevant LPAs and non-statutory bodies, including seldom heard groups.</p> <p>The closing date was visible on the Project website; on materials at exhibition events; and the Project, in conjunction with Morgan Offshore Wind Project and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets, distributed a 'Consultation closing soon' press release to regional and trade press.</p>	<p>See Appendix D</p>
<p>5.5 Where we are consulting</p>	<p>We will hold public consultation events in the coastal communities that may be visually impacted by Morecambe Offshore</p>	<p>Consultation events, including exhibition and 'pop-up' events were held in coastal communities that could potentially be impacted by the Project. Events were also held in communities</p>	<p>See Appendix C, Appendix D</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	<p>Windfarm Generation Assets (see map below). We will also hold consultation events in communities relevant to the Transmission Assets.</p>	<p>relevant to Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets.</p> <p>These events were publicised in informal advertising and formal notices and referenced in consultation materials, including the brochure and website.</p> <p>Exhibition events were ‘drop-in’, meaning people could come along at any time between the hours stated.</p> <p>‘Pop-up’ events were smaller in scale and set in areas of likely high footfall to engage people who may not have previously been aware of the Project.</p> <p>One online webinar was held on Tuesday 16 May 2023 for consultees who were unable to attend in-person events.</p>	<p>and Appendix F</p>
<p>5.7 Publicising the SoCC</p>	<p>We will promote the consultation through advertising and press releases in local newspapers that serve these communities</p>	<p>The Project carried out a comprehensive programme of informal advertising and publicity online, via Google search, audio and print channels. The aim being to reach as large and broad a demographic as possible.</p> <p>The mix of outlets chosen were selected to cover the Project area and areas on and near to the coastline which may experience some possible visual and/or economic impact.</p> <p>In the interest of demonstrating collaboration between Morecambe Offshore Windfarm and other neighbouring developments – Mona Offshore Wind Project, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets – the Project carried out joint advertising with Mona Offshore Wind Project, when advertising in Wales, and Morgan Offshore Wind Project and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets, when advertising in England and the IoM.</p>	<p>See Appendix D30 to D34</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<p>Advertisements in the Welsh language publication, Golwg, appeared in Welsh only. Advertisements in the Daily Post, a news outlet covering Wales, appeared in Welsh and English. All other advertisements in England and the IoM appeared in English only.</p> <p>Google and Spotify advertising campaigns were targeted at the geographic areas in which events were being held.</p> <p>For Google advertising, specific search terms relevant to the Project were targeted.</p> <p>As with online advertisements, words and artwork carried a 'consultation open' message from 19 April to 17 May 2023. From 17 May to 4 June 2023, words and artwork carried a 'consultation closing' message.</p>	
5.6 How we will consult	Posters – will be printed and issued for display via local councils, venues hosting events and to other local venues such as supermarkets, shops and libraries.	<p>Posters publicising the Project, the consultation, how to find out more information, provide feedback and attend an event, were sent to prominent locations across the Project area. These posters were sent with a covering letter enclosed, encouraging the recipient to display the poster in a place where it would be seen and to get in touch with the Project team should they require more posters.</p>	See Appendix D23 and D24
5.6 How we will consult	Consultation postcards – this A5 dual sided postcard will be sent to residential and business addresses in the vicinity of the public consultation events. It will highlight the consultation dates and clearly explain where further information can be found, with a focus on encouraging people to visit the website or contact us via the Project information channels. Details on how to access information on the	<p>Postcards inviting local communities to take part in the Project's consultation were sent to 134, 886 people and businesses within the consultation zone.</p> <p>These postcards publicised the Project, the consultation, how to find out more information, provide feedback and attend an event.</p> <p>These postcards were sent via the Royal Mail in England and Wales. For the IoM they were sent via the IoM Post Office.</p>	See Appendix D25 and D26

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	consultation exhibition events will also be included.		
5.6 Publicising the consultation	Website – the Project website www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe will be the main public source of information and will be updated to explain the latest proposals. The website will make clear how people can take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback is. It will include an interactive feedback map of the proposals and a feedback form. All Project materials will also be available on the website.	<p>In line with a ‘digital first’ approach to the Project’s consultation, the website acted as the main hub of information. As well as providing more information relating to the Project’s need and context, it also played host to all materials from non-statutory and statutory consultations.</p> <p>These materials were available for people to view throughout the consultation period and will remain available for people to view for the lifetime of the Project, as appropriate.</p> <p>The website also hosted an online version of the feedback form where people could submit feedback digitally. People could also digitally submit feedback via the Project’s interactive feedback map. This map allowed people to search by post code, zoom into the Project’s proposals and pinpoint specific locations to provide feedback.</p> <p>From the launch of consultation (19 April 2023) to 15 May 2023, the website carried a ‘consultation open’ banner at the top of each page, reminding visitors that consultation was open and to provide feedback. From 15 May 2023 to the close of consultation (4 June 2023), in line with other publicity efforts, the banner carried a ‘consultation closing’ message.</p>	See Appendix D27 and D28
5.6 How we will consult	Consultation brochures – this brochure will provide a summary of the latest proposals and details of the consultation using easily accessible, plain English. It will make clear how people can take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback is. The brochure will be available at publicly accessible venues (see page 16), consultation events, on request from	<p>The Project’s consultation brochure was a key point of reference supporting the statutory consultation. It summarised the Project’s proposals and details relating to the statutory consultation in an easily accessible yet relatively detailed format.</p> <p>It made clear how people could take part in the consultation and what the deadline for feedback was. This brochure was made publicly available in print format at deposit locations</p>	See Appendix D19 and D20

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	<p>the Project team and made available on the website.</p>	<p>throughout the consultation period, exhibition events and pop-up events. Printed copies were also sent to people on request. The brochure, in multiple places, also referenced where people could find more information. For example, pages 20-21 told people which page of the PEIR to view to find out more about particular topics. The brochure also utilised a glossary to explain words, terms and policies that may not be familiar to some people.</p> <p>The brochure was hosted in digital format on the Project website, in single page and double page spread formats.</p> <p>Two versions of the brochure were created: one Welsh, one English. Both versions were hosted digitally on the Project website. Welsh stakeholders received a physical copy and/or link to the Welsh version. English stakeholders received a physical copy and/or link to the English version. Welsh and English copies were made available at deposit locations and events located in Wales. English copies only were made available at deposit locations and events located in England and the IoM.</p>	
<p>5.6 How we will consult</p>	<p>Feedback forms – this questionnaire will provide an easy way for people to record and submit their feedback. People will be able to submit feedback by filling in the printed form or visiting our Project website and completing the form online. The feedback form will be designed to encourage people to provide feedback specific to our proposals and also to provide wider feedback in relation to the proposed development. Forms will be available at publicly accessible venues,</p>	<p>The Projects' feedback form was designed to provide an easy way for people to record and submit their feedback.</p> <p>People were able to provide feedback by filling in, by hand, a printed feedback form. They could pick a printed form up from one of the Project's deposit locations or an exhibition or pop-up event. They could also download, print and complete a digital replica of the feedback form from the Project website's Information Hub.</p> <p>All printed feedback forms could be sent free of charge to FREEPOST MORECAMBE GENERATION. The printed feedback form was designed in such a way so that people</p>	<p>See Appendix D21 and D22</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	our public consultation exhibitions and online.	<p>could also fold it up, stick it together and post it without having to use an envelope or write an address.</p> <p>Printed copies were also sent to people on request.</p> <p>An online feedback form enabled people to submit feedback digitally and followed the same format as the printed feedback form.</p> <p>Two versions of the feedback form were created: one Welsh, one English. Both versions were hosted digitally on the Project website. Welsh stakeholders received a physical copy and/or link to the Welsh version. English stakeholders received a physical copy and/or link to the English version. Welsh and English copies were made available at deposit locations and events located in Wales. English copies only were made available at deposit locations and events located in England and the IoM.</p>	
5.6 How we will consult	A range of other materials, including the PEIR, will also be made available to help people better understand our proposals and provide us with their feedback.	<p>The PEIR was a core document, the contents of which the Project encouraged feedback on during statutory consultation.</p> <p>Due to the highly technical nature of the PEIR, this may be inaccessible to some people. Therefore the Project developed a number of other materials to help people more easily understand the Project and take part in the consultation. All of these materials were informed by information in the PEIR but written in clear, plain English and designed to be eye-catching and engaging. These materials included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online and print advertising ▪ PEIR NTS ▪ Consultation brochure ▪ Feedback form ▪ Poster 	See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Postcard ▪ Exhibition panels and large-scale maps for events ▪ Presentation to inform the online event and other stakeholder briefings ▪ SoCC 	
5.6 How we will consult	<p>Consultation events – a series of public events for people to visit and meet the Project team, find out about the Project and ask any questions they might have.</p> <p>The events will be located at accessible public locations. Consultation materials will be available at each event and people will be able to submit feedback</p>	<p>Consultation materials (as listed above) were available at consultation events held at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Llandullas Village Hall ▪ St. Asaph Parish Church ▪ Winter Gardens Blackpool ▪ Fylde Rugby Club ▪ Kingsfold Methodist Church ▪ Ramsey Town Hall ▪ Bodelwyddan Village Hall ▪ Douglas Borough Council ▪ Neuadd Owen Village Hall ▪ Hutton Village Hall ▪ Royal Clifton Hotel Southport 	<p>See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D</p>
5.6 How we will consult	<p>Pop-up events – members of the team will be out and about in the communities, to provide information on the Project and answer any questions people might have. These events will be located in areas where people are going about their daily activities such as supermarkets, leisure venues and transport hubs. The events, which will be publicised in the poster, postcard and Project website, as well as</p>	<p>Pop-up events were held at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Llandudno Library ▪ Rhyl Tourist Information Centre ▪ Amlwch Library ▪ Barrow Park Leisure Centre ▪ Affinity Outlet Shopping Lancashire ▪ Preston Market ▪ Waitrose & Partners Formby 	<p>See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
	via advertising (both print and online), will be held at the locations and times listed here.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ JunctionONE Retail Park 	
5.6 How we will consult	Online webinar – we will also hold an online webinar on the 16 May 2023. This will be publicised in consultation materials and people will be able to register online. The webinar will consist of an overview presentation about the Project and a Q&A session, with a range of Project team members available to answer questions.	A webinar was held on 16 May 2023 at 6pm. The webinar consisted of an overview presentation about the proposals and a live Question and Answer session following the presentation.	See Appendix D37
5.6 How we will consult	Deposit locations – these are publicly accessible venues where printed copies of the SoCC, consultation brochure, PEIR Non-Technical Summary and feedback form can be viewed. You will also be able to view our full PEIR digitally.	<p>Deposit locations were chosen by mapping an even spread across the consultation zone and then narrowing down those locations with the likely highest footfall.</p> <p>For deposit locations in Wales, Welsh materials were displayed alongside English versions, so that people could view materials in their chosen language. Deposit locations in England and on the IoM received English only materials.</p> <p>These materials were available for the public to view at deposit locations for the duration of the statutory consultation period.</p>	See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D
5.6 How we will consult	The Project will operate a freephone enquiry line answer phone service during the consultation. People will be able to leave a message and a member of the Project team will respond swiftly	<p>The Project’s freephone enquiry line (0800 915 2493 (Option 2)) was serviced 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, throughout the consultation period. If for any reason a call was missed, callers could leave a voicemail at any time. A member of the Project team would then either return the call or complete their request.</p> <p>In line with the Project’s commitment to clearly separate itself from neighbouring projects, a different extension number was used to the other projects. Throughout the consultation period, one call was taken relating specifically to the Project.</p>	See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<p>The Project’s freephone enquiry line number was printed in the consultation brochure, postcard, poster and SoCC and was included in multiple email and letter responses, as well as email auto responses. People were encouraged to use the Project freephone enquiry line to speak with a member of the Project team and ask any questions they may have.</p>	
5.7 Publicising the consultation	<p>Advertising – the Project will run two rounds of advertising in local media – at Project launch and two weeks before the close of consultation, encouraging people to take part. This will consist of print advertising in local newspapers that serve the communities that may be visually impacted by the windfarm. We will also advertise online, using local media platforms and Google.</p>	<p>The Project ran two rounds of advertising in local media – one at project launch and one two weeks before the close of consultation, encouraging people to take part. This consisted of print advertising in local newspapers such as the Blackpool Gazette and the use of online advertising, such as local media platforms, Spotify and Google.</p>	<p>See Appendix D30 to D34</p>
5.7 Publicising the consultation	<p>Press releases – news releases will be issued to local media during the consultation. A press release will be issued at the start of consultation. A further press release may be issued before the close of consultation, encouraging people to take part.</p>	<p>In collaboration with the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, the Mona Offshore Wind Project, and the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets, the Applicant issued two press releases to regional and trade media outlets – one at the launch of consultation and one around two weeks prior to the statutory consultation closing. Press releases were distributed across the full project area, including northwest England, the IoM and north Wales.</p> <p>The first press release announced that consultation had opened. It provided an overview of the Project’s proposals, where people could find more information and how they could take part in the consultation. It also referenced consultation events and encouraged people to come along and meet the Project Team.</p>	<p>See Appendix D35</p>

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		The second press release reminded people that consultation was closing soon (4 June 2023) and encouraged them to take part if they hadn't done so already.	
5.7 Publicising the consultation	Social media – the Project will promote the consultation on social media channels that are owned and managed by Morecambe Offshore Wind Ltd.	A series of social media posts were published throughout the consultation period via the Flotation Energy's LinkedIn channel	See Appendix D29
5.7 Publicising the consultation	Public notices – the Project will also take out public notices in local and national newspapers, as required by the Planning Act 2008.	The Project placed notices in regional and national newspapers to fulfil its statutory requirements under Sections 47 and 48 of the PA 2008.	See Appendix C8 and Appendix F3
5.7 Publicising the consultation	Posters – will be printed and issued for display via local councils, venues hosting events and to other local venues such as supermarkets, shops and libraries.	The Applicant sent posters for display to locations across north Wales, northwest England and the IoM.	Appendix D23 and D24
5.7 Publicising the consultation	Emails – will be sent to key stakeholders including local councillors, inviting them to take part and to encourage others to do so. Emails will also be sent to other relevant interest groups and local community organisations	A series of four emails were sent to stakeholders and community groups on 14 April, 19 April, 22 May and 2 June 2023.	See Appendix D1 to D14
5.9 Requests for documents	We will respond to reasonable requests for further copies of documents. Requests for hard copies will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. A reasonable copying charge may apply, to be paid by the recipient in advance.	The Project received no requests for hard copy materials throughout the consultation period.	N/A

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
6.1 How to submit feedback	Everyone submitting their comments to us (and providing their contact details) will receive an acknowledgement that their feedback has been received.	All consultees who submitted feedback via email received an email auto response from the Project, thanking them for taking part in the consultation. All consultees who submitted feedback via the Project website's online feedback form or interactive feedback map received a digital acknowledgement that their feedback had been received. All consultees who submitted written feedback received a written acknowledgement that their feedback had been received.	See Appendix D39 and D40
6.1 How to submit feedback	Feedback map – available on the Project website feedback.morecambeandmorgan.com . This interactive map of the proposals allows people to drop a pin and leave comments online and/or attach files (such as document or images) to their feedback.	<p>This interactive map was a key tool in helping people better understand the Project's proposals and provide feedback in specific areas.</p> <p>Users could search the map by postcode to see the Project's proposals in relation to their address, zoom in and pinpoint specific locations to provide feedback.</p>	See Appendix D27 and D28
6.1 How to submit feedback	Online feedback form – available on the Project website www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe	A feedback form including 22 questions where feedback was sought was made available on the project website. Copies of the form could be printed from the consultation website, collected from a deposit location or consultation event and returned via freepost. On 16 August 2023 the Applicant became aware that a technical website error meant respondents' feedback to Question 1.16 (Traffic and Transport), submitted via the online feedback form on the consultation website, had not been captured. Everyone who had submitted online feedback was contacted and asked to resubmit their feedback to this question. More information about this extended period of consultation can be found in Section 14 .	See Appendix D27 and D28

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
6.1 How to submit feedback	Feedback form – available at consultation events, pop-up events, deposit locations or by request from the consultation team	This existed in hard copy format. A pdf version of the feedback form was uploaded to the Project’s consultation website, allowing people to print out copies to complete should they wish to do so. The venues used as deposit locations were all invited to contact the Applicant and ask to be sent more feedback forms if required. People were able to complete and submit a printed feedback form at a consultation event or visit the project website to complete the form online. The feedback form was designed for it to be folded with the Project’s freepost address on the front to make submitting feedback as easy as possible.	See Appendix D21 and D22
6.1 How to submit feedback	By email – to hello@morecambeoffshorewind.com	<p>At non-statutory consultation the Project shared an email address with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets: info@morecambeandmorgan.com.</p> <p>In line with the Project’s commitment to clearly separate itself from neighbouring projects, the Project created its own email address ahead of statutory consultation: hello@morecambeoffshorewind.com.</p> <p>This email account was used to collect and acknowledge feedback and answer any email enquiries and/or requests received.</p> <p>The Project’s freephone enquiry line number was printed in the consultation brochure, postcard, poster and SoCC. At every turn people were encouraged to use the Project email account to engage with the Project and ask any questions they may have.</p> <p>All proactive communications to prescribed bodies and statutory consultees, relevant LPAs, elected representatives, seldom heard groups and identified special interest groups were sent via this email account.</p>	See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D

Section of the SoCC	SoCC wording	How the Applicant complied	Evidence reference
		<p>The account's inbox was actively monitored 0900 to 1700, Monday to Friday. Its primary function during the consultation period was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Receive and acknowledge feedback ▪ Answer questions and direct people to more information <p>When answering people's questions, the Project strived to provide as much information as possible but wasn't able to answer every question. Where this was the case, the Project said so and told people that more information and detail regarding the Project would be published as part of the Project's DCO application.</p> <p>Feedback acknowledgements were issued as auto responses and therefore immediate. For all other enquiries the Project aimed to respond as quickly as possible. The time it took to respond depended on the nature and complexity of the enquiry.</p>	
6.1 How to submit feedback	In writing – FREEPOST MORECAMBE GENERATION (please be advised it is not possible to send registered post to a freepost address)	<p>At non-statutory consultation the Project shared a freepost address with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets: FREEPOST MORECAMBE AND MORGAN.</p> <p>In line with the Project's commitment to clearly separate itself from neighbouring projects, the Project created its own freepost address ahead of statutory consultation: FREEPOST MORECAMBE GENERATION.</p>	See Appendix C3 and C4, and Appendix D

9 Stage two (statutory) consultation: identifying consultees

9.1 Section 42 ‘duty to consult’

412. The activities undertaken by the Applicant to comply with its duty to consult under Section 42 of the PA 2008 is provided in the following section. The information provided is relevant to Section 42 consultation, as required under Section 37(7)(a) of the PA 2008 and associated guidance. Statutory consultation was carried out by the Applicant to ensure the prescribed consultees were engaged and provided with the opportunity to comment.
413. The Applicant aligned its Section 42 and Section 47 consultations to the same period, running from 19 April 2023 to 4 June 2023, to allow consultees the opportunity to comment simultaneously.
414. Section 42(1) of the PA 2008 states applicants must consult the following about a proposed application:
- (a) such persons as may be prescribed
 - (aa) the Marine Management Organisation, in any case where the proposed development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in subsection (2)
 - (b) each local authority that is within Section 43
 - (c) the Greater London Authority if the land is in Greater London
 - (d) each person who is within one or more of the categories set out in Section 44
415. For the purposes of Section 42(a) of the PA 2008, the persons prescribed are those listed in column 1 of the table in Schedule 1 to the APFP Regulations.
416. With regard to (aa)(2) of Section 42(1), the areas include waters in or adjacent to England up to the seaward limits of the territorial sea. The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) was therefore duly included as a Section 42 consultee.

417. Section 43 defines local authorities in terms of whether they fall within the categories of an 'A', 'B', 'C' or 'D' local authority:
- 'A' – is a neighbouring local authority (s43(3)) that shares a boundary with a 'B' host authority;
 - 'B' – is either a unitary council or a lower-tier district council in which the Proposed Development and any associated development is situated (a host authority);
 - 'C' – is an upper-tier county council in which the Proposed Development is situated (a host authority); and
 - 'D' – is a neighbouring local authority (s43(3)) which is not a lower-tier district council and shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.
418. A full list of consultees identified in accordance with Section 42(1) is included in Appendix D16.
419. Due to the location of the Project, the Greater London Authority has not been consulted, as the development falls outside the jurisdiction of this authority.
420. For the purposes of Section 42(d), a person is within Section 44 of the PA 2008 if the Applicant knows (after making diligent inquiry) that the person falls within 3 Categories:
- An owner, lessee tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land (Category 1, Section 44(1))
 - Interested in the land or has the power to sell and convey the land or, to release the land (Category 2, Section 44(2))
 - The person would or might be entitled (a) as a result of the implementing of the order, (b) as a result of the order having been implemented, or (c) as a result of the use of the land once the order has been implemented, to make a relevant claim (Category 3, Section 44(4))
421. A duty on the Applicant exists when consulting a person or organisation under Section 42 to notify them of the deadline for receipt of comments to the consultation (Section 45(1)). As per Section 45(2), this must be a minimum of 28 days, commencing on the day the person receives the consultation documents and the consultation documents must be supplied to the person by the Applicant for the purposes of the consultation (Section 45(3)). The statutory consultation ran for over six weeks, between 19 April and 4 June 2023, for consultees to respond to the consultation materials (longer than the 28-day requirement).
422. Alongside the statutory consultation, as prescribed under Section 42, Section 46 also requires the Applicant to notify the SoS of the proposed Application. Under Section 46, the Applicant must supply the SoS with the same

information provided for the purpose of complying with Section 42, if the Applicant was required by that Section to consult the SoS about the proposed Application (Section 46(1)), and this must be complied with on, or before, commencing a Section 42 consultation (Section 46(2)). A Section 46 notification was sent to the SoS for DESNZ and PINS, containing the relevant consultation information on 18 April 2023. See below for further information.

9.2 Identification of Section 42 consultees

423. The following section provides details on how the Applicant identified Section 42 consultees for the statutory consultation under the following three categories:
- Prescribed bodies
 - Local Planning Authorities
 - Landowners and persons with an Interest in Land (PILs)
424. For the purposes of the Consultation Report, unless specifically identified, the consultees identified under these three categories are collectively referred to as 'Section 42 consultees'; a full list of Section 42 consultees is provided in Appendix D16.
425. Advice Note Three (Planning Inspectorate, 2017, version 7) explains the approach taken by PINS when identifying consultation bodies to be notified, and where relevant, consulted on the scope of the ES in accordance with the EIA Regulations. Whilst the responsibility is on the Applicant to ensure pre-application consultation fully accords with requirements of the PA 2008, the guidance suggests that Applicants may find it helpful to understand the approach taken by PINS, when meeting its relevant statutory notifications and consultation obligations under the EIA Regulations.

9.3 Section 42(a): such persons as may be prescribed

426. These cover the main statutory bodies that were consulted under Section 42 and comprise those with specific expertise and/or statutory responsibility for the given discipline(s).
427. The list of consultees detailed in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations) provided a starting point for identifying the prescribed bodies relevant to Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets.
428. Additional bodies who were notified of the proposed application by PINS under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations were then also added to the statutory consultation distribution list (Appendix D15). The Regulation 11 list was produced in response to the Applicant notifying PINS that an ES was

proposed to be provided for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, under Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations.

429. As part of the Project's ongoing consultation with technical consultees via the EPP ETGs, Steering Group and Engagement Forums, the Project was in contact with a number of individuals within the organisations identified within the prescribed consultee list. As such, consultation materials were shared with both the main contact of the organisations and any other relevant contacts the Project identified, as presented in the Evidence Plan Report (Appendix A1).

9.4 Section 42(1)(b): each Local Planning Authority within section 43

430. For Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, the relevant LPAs were located in England and Wales and based on whether these LPAs could experience some possible visual and/or economic impact.
431. This decision had regard to PINS Advice Note Three (2017, Version 7), which highlights at Paragraph 7.1 that some developments, including those with an offshore element, may have a potential visual impact to areas in relevant LPAs, which are not identified as 'A', 'B', 'C' or 'D' authorities under Section 43.
432. Advice Note Three advises that PINS will exercise its discretion in determining whether or not to consult with these LPAs on a non-statutory basis, having regard to the likely Zone of Visual Influence Theoretical (ZVI).
433. The LDNP was also consulted for the same reasons of possible visual and/or economic impact.
434. Despite not falling within the definitions prescribed under Section 43, the Applicant identified and consulted with those LPAs which were located within the Project's Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV). The Applicant took a similar approach for the identification of parish and community councils identified under Section 42(1) and included those located within all relevant LPAs. The full list of LPAs, parish councils and all other consultees are presented in Appendix D15 to D18.

9.5 Section 42(d): each person in one or more of the categories set out in Section 44

435. For the purposes of Section 42(1)(d), a person is within a category set out in Section 44 of the PA 2008 if the Applicant knows (after making diligent inquiry) that the person falls within three Categories:
- An owner, lessee tenant (whatever the tenancy period) or occupier of the land (Category 1, Section 44(1))

- Interested in the land or has the power to sell and convey the land or, to release the land (Category 2, Section 44(2))
 - The person would or might be entitled (a) as a result of the implementing of the order, (b) as a result of the order having been implemented, or (c) as a result of the use of the land once the order has been implemented, to make a relevant claim (Category 3, Section 44(4))
436. As the Project is located offshore in the east Irish Sea, only TCE were consulted for the purposes of Section 42(1)(d).

9.6 Non-prescribed consultees

437. The PINS Advice Note Three (2017, version 7) provides guidance on Non-Prescribed Consultation bodies (NPC), which are not defined as consultation bodies under the EIA Regulations, but have relevant functions and responsibilities, which are akin to other consultation bodies. As detailed at Paragraph C1.4 of Advice Note Three, whilst the Applicant is not required to consult with the NPC, in order to meet the statutory pre-application consultation obligations, the Applicant is encouraged to consult with as wide a range of bodies as appropriate during the pre-application stage, including whilst preparing the ES.
438. The Applicant included these NPCs within the Section 42 consultees list and duly consulted with them. There was no distinction made in materials shared as part of consultation between prescribed and non-prescribed consultees. All NPCs are identified in Appendix D18.
439. The IoM is also identified as a Relevant British Crown Dependency, which is not listed in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations but has planning functions akin to an LPA in England and Wales. As set out above, the IoM Government was included as a Section 43 consultee.
440. The PINS Advice Note Three also provides guidance on consulting where a proposed development includes an offshore element, such as the case with Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets.
441. Some of the NPCs relating to offshore proposals also appear as a prescribed consultees in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations. Some have functions and responsibilities that extend to the offshore area that are not reflected in the relevance or circumstances tests in Schedule 1 of the APFP Regulations. In this regard, the Applicant consulted with the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and MOD Safeguarding.
442. All of the identified Section 42 consultees (Appendix D15 to D17) received the same information and were included in the same way in the Section 42 consultation as the prescribed Section 42 consultees.

9.7 Section 47: duty to consult local community

443. The Applicant contacted a number of Section 47 consultees to make them aware of the consultation and encourage them to provide feedback (see Appendix D3 to D6 and D9 to D11). A number of these consultees are listed at Appendix 2 of the SoCC and all were consulted, but the Applicant added further Section 47 stakeholders and community groups, which were also consulted.
444. This wide-ranging group of stakeholders and community groups was compiled of what were considered to be relevant and interested bodies who did not fall into the Section 42, Section 44 or Section 43 categories. The database was compiled by the Applicant, based on the groups and individuals already being engaged through other workstreams, as well as groups and individuals who had not yet engaged with the Project, but it was considered should be encouraged to do so. It was also compiled with consideration of the stakeholders and community groups operating in the vicinity of the Project.
445. The Applicant also identified interested individuals, organisations and community groups that were active in – or represented communities or groups within - the areas likely to be impacted by the project. It considered both community-based groups and political representatives/bodies. It also identified organisations likely to have a professional interest in the Project but not specified as section 42 consultees.
446. This Section 47 database was sent the same range of communications as the groups and individuals being consulted under Section 42, with the exception of the ‘last chance to take part’ communication.
447. The Applicant contacted this list of section 47 consultees to make them aware of the consultation and encourage them to provide feedback.
448. More information regarding the definition of the Applicant’s consultation zone for the purposes of statutory consultation can be found in **Section 5** of this Consultation Report.

10 Stage two (statutory consultation): Section 42 ('duty to consult')

449. Engagement with statutory consultees, identified under Section 42 of the PA 2008, in preparation for the launch of the Project's statutory consultation, began a week ahead of the consultation, starting with a 'consultation coming soon' email (or 'advance notice of Section 42 consultation') (see Appendix D1 and D2).
450. This advance notice email was sent to all consultees identified under Section 42 of the PA 2008, on 14 April 2023. This email covered the following key points:
- An introduction to the Project for those who may not previously have been aware of it
 - Signposting to the existing Project consultation website (www.morecambeandmorgan.com/morecambe) for further information about the Project, and how to access supporting consultation materials once they became available
 - Highlighting where and when in-person and online consultation events would be held and inviting consultees to attend
 - Listing the different ways in which feedback could be submitted and the channels that could be used to provide feedback
 - Confirming that another communication would be sent at the point the consultation launched (19 April 2023)
451. Following this communication, the Project 'analysed' the email address data it had compiled. This included an analysis of the email delivery report, identifying all 'hard' bounces (undelivered emails). The Project then sought to identify appropriate alternative email addresses for these undelivered emails for the purpose of future communications.
452. Launch communications were issued to all statutory consultees identified under Section 42 via email ('the Section 42 launch email') (see Appendix D7 and D8). Where incorrect email addresses had been identified, these were either removed and replaced, or a hard copy letter was sent in the post. The launch communications covered the following key points:
- Confirming the recipient had been identified as a statutory consultee under Section 42 of the PA 2008 by the Project and linking to a copy of the Section 48 notice and other supporting consultation materials, including the consultation brochure and SoCC, on the Project website:
 - Outlining the key elements of the Project

- Highlighting the start and closing dates of the consultation
 - Highlighting where and when in-person and online consultation events would be held and inviting consultees to attend
 - Listing the different ways in which feedback could be submitted and the channels that could be used to provide feedback
 - Explaining what would happen after consultation closes (i.e. the likely next steps)
 - Defining the Project as an EIA development, and signposting that a PEIR had been published, as well as the PEIR NTS
 - Explaining how to contact the Applicant with questions and/or requests for further documentation and/or information
453. Any further ‘hard’ bounces or undelivered emails were analysed and ‘cleansed’ to improve the database and include alternative email addresses.
454. In the interest of encouraging as much feedback as possible before the close of statutory consultation, the Applicant sent a ‘consultation closing soon’ email (see Appendix D11 and D12) on 22 May 2023 to all statutory consultees identified under Section 42.
455. A further email (‘last chance to provide feedback’) (see Appendix D13 and D14) was sent to all statutory consultees identified under Section 42 two days prior to the close of statutory consultation.
456. The ‘Consultation closing soon’ and ‘Last chance to provide feedback’ emails reiterated how people could find out more information about the Project and provide feedback. The ‘consultation closing soon’ email also reminded people of the remaining in-person exhibition events and directed people to a recording of the online event webinar on the Project website. See
457. **Table 10.1** for a summary of all communications sent to Section 42 consultees before and throughout the statutory consultation period.

Table 10.1 Summary of communications sent to Section 42 consultees before and during statutory consultation

Date	Subject	Reference
14 April 2023	Advanced notice of statutory consultation launching for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets	See Appendix D1 and D2
19 April 2023	Announcing the launch of statutory consultation	See Appendix D7 and D8
22 May 2023	A reminder that consultation would be closing soon	See Appendix D11 and D12
2 June 2023	Last chance to provide feedback	See Appendix D13 and D14

11 Stage two consultation (statutory): Section 47 ('duty to consult local community')

11.1 Introduction

458. As required by Section 47 of the PA 2008 the Applicant conducted statutory consultation to engage Section 47 consultees early in the Project's development and to allow multiple opportunities for their input. A draft, then final SoCC was prepared (Appendix C3 and C4) outlining the proposed community consultation approach. This approach was then implemented, as described in **Table 8.4** (Compliance with the SoCC).

11.2 Consultation approach: presenting the full picture

459. Following non-statutory consultation, the decision was taken to define the Project, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets and steps were taken to make it clear that they are interlinked, but also separate projects, each requiring their own DCO. This followed direction from PINS.

460. The Project teams were also conscious of avoiding 'consultation fatigue' by consulting on the separate projects consecutively in the same geographical areas and causing any possible confusion amongst local communities and wider stakeholders.

461. The approach for statutory consultation was therefore taken to carry out separate consultations but combine some activities and create combined materials where appropriate, thereby minimising the materials consultees would need to digest. A non-statutory consultation for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets was undertaken at this time as the Project's statutory consultation. The projects carried out separate activities and created separate materials where appropriate. In summary:

- Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets and Mona Offshore Wind Project consulted in Wales
- Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets consulted in England and the IoM.

462. This meant that:

- All four projects combined certain agreed materials and activities for consultation on the IoM
- Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets and Mona Offshore Wind Project combined some materials and activities for consultation in Wales
- Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets combined some materials and activities for consultation in England

11.3 Statutory consultation materials

463. The Applicant consulted using a variety of methods to help explain the proposals and encourage people to provide their comments. Community focused materials included:

- A consultation postcard (available at Appendix D25 and D26)
- Consultation posters (available at Appendix D23 and D24)
- The SoCC (available at Appendix C3 and C4)
- A project consultation website (available at Appendix D27 and D28)
- A consultation brochure (available at Appendix D19 and D20)
- Consultation feedback form (available at Appendix D21 and D22) and
- PEIR NTS (available at Appendix D41)

464. All documents were proposed in the draft SoCC that was the subject of consultation with LPAs and other identified stakeholders. They were created to help people understand the proposed development and provide their comments to the consultation. The Applicant aimed to make these documents and resources easy to understand and navigate and, where appropriate, the resources made strong use of images and graphics. The consultation postcard, poster, brochure, feedback forms and website were available in Welsh, as well as English, to encourage consultees to engage in the consultation using the language of their choice.

11.4 Advertising the statutory consultation

465. **Table 11.1** below shows the schedule of where and when the Section 47 notice appeared, and whether English-only, Welsh-only or bilingual (English and Welsh). The Section 47 notice was issued to coincide with the start of the Section 42 and 47 consultation period (19 April to 4 June 2023).

Table 11.1 Where and when the Section 47 notice appeared

Publication	Date appeared	Language
Blackpool Gazette	30 March 2023	English
Daily Post	29 March 2023	English and Welsh
Golwg	30 March 2023	Welsh
IoM Courier	31 March 2023	English
Lancashire Evening Post	30 March 2023	English
Liverpool Echo	29 March 2023	English

466. All these notices, as they appeared in-situ, are shown in Appendix C8.

467. A variety of different communications channels and tactics were used to promote the consultation and encourage the submission of feedback. **Table 11.2** below provides a summary of activity undertaken, as well as a reference to the relevant appendix item.


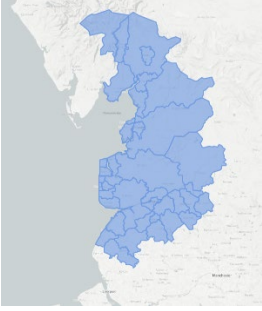
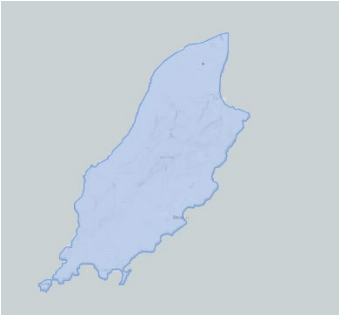
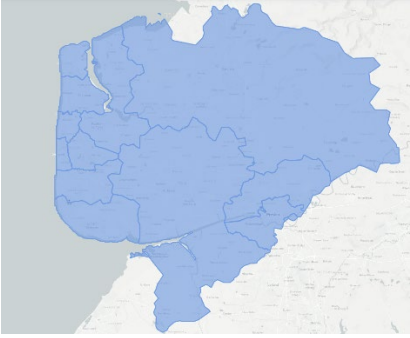
Table 11.2 Methods employed to promote the statutory consultation

Method	Detail	Reference
Project website	A dedicated Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets consultation website, available in English and Welsh.	See Appendix D27 and D28
LPA briefing	A specific briefing for relevant LPAs was held via Teams on 25 April 2023, 11:00 to 12:00.	See Appendix D38
Consultation postcard	The Project sent an English-only postcard, in collaboration with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Projects: Transmission Assets, to 58,265 addresses in England and 45,811 addresses on the Isle of Man. Bilingual (English and Welsh) postcards were sent to 30,810 addresses in Wales, in collaboration with Mona Offshore Wind Project.	See Appendix D25 and D26

Method	Detail	Reference
Consultation brochure	A brochure was created that provided a summary of the latest proposals and details of the consultation in English and Welsh.	See Appendix D19 and D20
Posters	English-only posters were produced for deposit locations and other prominent places across England and the IoM. Bilingual posters were produced for deposit locations and other prominent places across Wales. These posters promoted participation in the consultation.	See Appendix D23 and D24
Press releases	Press releases were issued to local media at the launch of consultation and two weeks before consultation closed.	See Appendix D35
Newspaper advertising	The Project ran two rounds of advertising in regional print media – one at project launch and one two weeks before the close of consultation, encouraging people to take part.	See Appendix D33 and D34
Online advertising	Online advertising on regional media platforms, as well as Google and Spotify, took place throughout the duration of the consultation period. At the launch of consultation, online advertising artwork carried a 'consultation open' message. Two weeks before the close of consultation, this artwork was changed to carry a 'consultation closing soon' message. See Table 11.4 for more information.	See Appendix D30 to D32
Direct email communication	A series of email communications were issued to promote the statutory consultation, signpost recipients to sources of information and encourage them to give feedback. Emails were sent to all identified consultees under both Section 42 and Section 47 (see Table 11.7 Direct email communications for more information).	See Appendix D1 to D14
Social media	A series of social media posts were issued throughout the consultation period via the Flotation Energy's LinkedIn channel	See Appendix D29

468. The tables below (**Table 11.3 to Table 11.6**) detail the date advertising appeared, the nature of the advertisement, the media outlet and which neighbouring projects collaborated with the Project. As with other materials, advertisements in newspapers and online media platforms circulating in England and on the IoM were English-only. Advertisements in newspapers and online media platforms circulating in Wales were bilingual (English and Welsh).

Table 11.3 Newspaper advertising

Date	Detail	Outlet	Coverage area
Print advertising: Northwest England and Isle of Man			
19 April 2023	'Consultation open'	Liverpool Echo	
14 May 2023	'Consultation closing'		
19 April 2023	'Consultation open'	Lancashire Post	
14 May 2023	'Consultation closing'		
19 April 2023	'Consultation open'	Isle of Man Courier	
14 May 2023	'Consultation closing'		
19 April 2023	'Consultation open'	Blackpool Gazette	
14 May 2023	'Consultation closing'		


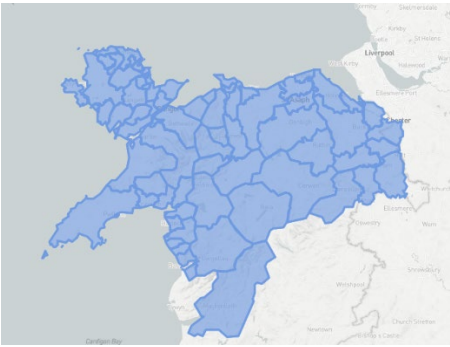
Date	Detail	Outlet	Coverage area
Print advertising: Wales			
19 April 2023	'Consultation open'	Golwg	
14 May 2023	'Consultation closing'		
19 April 2023	'Consultation open'	Daily Post	
14 May 2023	'Consultation closing'		

Table 11.4 Online advertising

Date	Detail	Outlet
Online advertising: Northwest England and Isle of Man		
19 April to 17 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.liverpoolecho.co.uk (Liverpool Echo)
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	
19 April to 17 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.lep.co.uk (Lancashire Evening Post)
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	
19 April to 17 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.iomtoday.co.uk (Isle of Man Today)
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	
19 April to 17 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.blackpoolgazette.co.uk (Blackpool Gazette)
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	
Online advertising: Wales		
19 April to 17 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.golwg.360.cymru (Golwg)
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	

Date	Detail	Outlet
19 April to 17 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.dailypost.co.uk
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	North Wales Live
19 April to 1 May 2023	'Consultation open'	www.walesonline.co.uk
17 May to 4 June 2023	'Consultation closing'	Wales Online

Table 11.5 Google advertising

Date	Google advertising: Wales	
19 April to 4 June 2023	Impressions	1,836
	Clicks to www.morecambeandmorgan.com	98
	Times on mobile devices	1,210
	Times to people aged 65 and over	343
Date	Google advertising: England and Isle of Man	
19 April to 4 June 2023	Impressions	69.4k
	Clicks to www.morecambeandmorgan.com	1.67k
	Times on mobile devices	59.4k
	Times to people aged 25-34	16.5k

Table 11.6 Spotify advertising

Date		Spotify advertising: England and Isle of Man	
'Consultation open'			
19 April to 25 May 2023	Impressions	118,051	
	Reach	16,330	
	Clicks to www.morecambeandmorgan.com	204	
'Consultation closing'			
25 May to 4 June 2023	Impressions	71,332	
	Reach	14,001	
	Clicks to www.morecambeandmorgan.com	102	
Date		Spotify advertising: Wales	
'Consultation open'			
19 April to 25 May 2023	Impressions	108,996	
	Reach	11,784	
	Clicks to www.morecambeandmorgan.com	208	
'Consultation closing'			
25 May to 4 June 2023	Impressions	43,893	
	Reach	7,087	
	Clicks to www.morecambeandmorgan.com	82	

11.5 Direct email communications

469. A series of email communications were issued to promote the statutory consultation, signpost recipients to sources of information and encourage them to give feedback. Emails were sent to all identified consultees under both Section 42 and Section 47 (see Appendix D1 to D14 and **Table 11.7** below).

Table 11.7 Direct email communications

Date	Subject	Consultees issued to	Reference
14 April 2023	Advanced notice of a statutory consultation launching for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets	Section 42 and 47 consultees	See Appendix D1 to D6
19 April 2023	Announcing the launch of statutory consultation	Section 42 and 47 consultees	See Appendix D7 to D10
22 May 2023	A reminder that consultation would be closing soon	Section 42 and 47 consultees	See Appendix D11 and D12
2 June 2023	Last chance to provide feedback	Section 42 consultees	See Appendix D13 and D14

11.6 In-person consultation events

470. The Applicant ensured that representatives of the Project team were accessible to members of the public and stakeholders via a series of consultation events. These events provided an opportunity for people to find out more about the Project, ask any questions and/ or meet the Project team. People could also complete hard copy feedback forms and submit feedback.
471. A series of 19 in- person events were held – eight of which were ‘pop-up’ events, which were smaller-scale events in areas of high footfall.
472. Events were located at accessible and popular public locations. All Project materials were printed and available at all events. A full copy of the Project’s PEIR was only not available at pop-up events, however, USBs containing the PEIR were available upon request. Events were held at a variety of times throughout the entire week, including the weekend, to increase attendance as much as possible.
473. Events held in Wales were co-hosted with Mona Offshore Wind Project. All display boards were bilingual and Welsh versions of all supporting materials were available. The PEIR was available in English only.
474. Events held in England were co-hosted with Morgan Offshore Wind Farm Generation Assets, Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets, and Mona Offshore Wind Project. Events held on the IoM were co-hosted by all four projects.
475. For those who could not make it to an in-person event, the Project hosted an online event via Zoom. This comprised a presentation from members of the Project team, explaining different elements of the Project’s proposals, followed by a question-and-answer session. The online event took place between 18:00 and 19:00 on 16 May 2023. A recording of the online event was uploaded to the Project consultation website the next day (17 May 2023). The

recording remained available to view throughout the consultation period and beyond.

476. In-person events are detailed below in **Table 11.8**. This table also includes attendance numbers for each event.
477. All events were detailed in the Project's consultation brochure, SoCC and its consultation website, and publicised in the Project's postcard and poster.

Table 11.8 In-person consultation events

Location	Date and time	Attendees
Full exhibition events		
Llanddulas Village Hall Beulah Avenue, Llanddulas, Abergele LL22 8FH	Thursday 4 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	15
St Asaph Parish Church 1 High Street, St Asaph LL17 0RG	Friday 5 May 2023 15:00 to 18:00	37
Winter Gardens Blackpool 97 Church Street, Blackpool FY1 1HL	Wednesday 10 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	5
Fylde Rugby Football Club Woodlands Memorial Ground, Blackpool Road, Lytham St Annes FY8 4EL	Friday 12 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	48
Kingsfold Methodist Church Hawksbury Drive, Kingsfold, Penwortham PR1 9EN	Saturday 13 May 2023 10:00 to 13:00	4
Webinar Online	Tuesday 16 May 2023 18:00 to 19:00	11
Ramsey Town Hall Parliament Square, Ramsey, Isle of Man IM8 1RT	Thursday 18 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	14
Bodelwyddan Village Hall Ronaldsway, Bodelwyddan, Rhyl LL18 5TE	Friday 19 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	28
Douglas Borough Council Town Hall, Ridgeway Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1AD	Friday 19 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	32
Neuadd Owen Village Hall Cefn Meiriadog, St Asaph, Denbighshire LL17 0EY	Saturday 20 May 2023	56

Location	Date and time	Attendees
	10:00 to 13:00	
Hutton Village Hall Moor Lane, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SE	Monday 22 May 2023 15:00 to 19:00	13
Royal Clifton Hotel Southport Promenade, Southport PR8 1RB	Wednesday 24 May 2023 16:00 to 20:00	3
Pop-up events		
Llandudno Library 48 Mostyn Street, Llandudno LL30 2RP	Wednesday 3 May 2023 14:00 to 17:00	3
Rhyl Tourist Information Centre The Village, West Parade, Rhyl LL18 1HZ	Thursday 4 May 2023 10:00 to 13:00	5
Amlwch Library Parys Road, Amlwch LL68 9EA	Saturday 6 May 2023 10:00 to 12:00	1
Barrow Park Leisure Centre Greengate Street, Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9DT	Thursday 11 May 2023 10:00 to 13:00	17
Affinity Outlet Shopping Lancashire Anchorage Road, Fleetwood FY7 6AE	Tuesday 23rd May 2023 10:00 to 13:00	25
Preston Market 28 Market Street, Preston PR1 2AR	Wednesday 24 May 2023 10:00 to 13:00	12
Waitrose & Partners Formby Three Tuns Lane, Formby, Liverpool L37 4AJ	Thursday 25 May 2023 10:00 to 13:00	25
JunctionONE Retail Park Bidston Moss, Wallasey CH44 2HE	Thursday 25 May 2023 15:00 to 18:00	7
Total		350

11.7 Consultation postcard

478. All residential and business addresses within the Applicant's consultation zone, covering north Wales, northwest England and in the IoM, received an A5 postcard via Royal Mail and the IoM Post Office to coincide with the launch of the consultation (19 April 2023). This totalled 134, 886 addresses.
479. Addresses in Wales received a bilingual postcard and the Project collaborated with Mona Offshore Wind Project (see Appendix D26).
480. Addresses in northwest England and on the Isle of Man received an English postcard and the Project collaborated with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets, and Mona Offshore Wind Project (see Appendix D25).
481. The postcard included the following information:
- Details of the project(s) being consulted on
 - A map showing the offshore and onshore PEIR boundaries
 - A request for recipients to provide feedback to the consultation
 - The dates of the consultation
 - The locations of the planned public consultation events
 - Contact details for (website, telephone, email, freepost address) so that people could find out more information, provide feedback and/or ask questions

11.8 Consultation brochure

482. A brochure was created that provided a summary of the Applicant's proposals and details of the consultation. It provided legislative context, an explanation of the technology, information relating to the Project's proposals and how people could take part in the consultation.
483. The brochure was available at consultation events, deposit locations and online on the Project's consultation website. It was also available in hard copy upon request from the Project team.
484. The brochure was produced in Welsh for deposit locations and events in Wales (see Appendix D20). An English version of the brochure was available at deposit locations and events in England and the IoM (see Appendix D19).

11.9 Posters

485. The Applicant sent posters to display at locations across northwest England, north Wales and the IoM.

486. The locations were chosen by mapping, through desktop research, a range of regional locations with likely high footfall.
487. In total, posters were sent to 44 locations (see **Table 11.9**) along with a covering letter asking recipients to display the poster in a prominent location.
488. The posters were delivered to coincide with the launch of the consultation and the covering letter asked recipients to display posters for the duration of the consultation.
489. Posters sent to locations in Wales were bilingual and the Project collaborated with Mona Offshore Wind Project (see Appendix D24). Posters sent to locations in England were English and the Project collaborated with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets (see Appendix D23). Posters sent to the IoM were English and the Project collaborated with Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets.

Table 11.9 Poster locations

Location	Address
Jai's Place (Thorou Goods)	Jai's Place, 101 Liverpool Road, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SN
Hutton Village Hall	Hutton Village Hall, Moor Lanen, Hutton, Preston PR4 5SE
Longton Library	Liverpool Old Road, Longton, Preston, Lancashire PR4 5HA
Lytham Assembly Rooms (including the library)	Lytham Assembly Rooms, Dicconson Terrace, Lytham St. Annes FY8 5JY
Fylde Rugby Football Club	Woodlands Memorial Ground, Blackpool Road, Ansdell, Lytham St. Annes, Lancashire FY8 4EL
Sainsbury's Local (Clifton St, Lytham)	Sainsburys, 78-80 Clifton Street, Lytham St. Annes FY8 5EN
Blackpool Winter Gardens	Winter Gardens Blackpool, Church Street, Blackpool FY1 1HU
Blackpool Central Library	Central Library, Queen Street, Blackpool FY1 1PX
Sainsbury's (Talbot Rd, Blackpool)	Sainsburys, Talbot Road, Blackpool FY1 3AJ
Blackpool Boat Angling Club	Blackpool Boat Angling Club, Squires Gate Slipway FY1 1SY
Kirkham Library	Station Road, Kirkham, Lancashire PR4 2HD
Penwortham Community Library in	Priory Lane Community Centre, Priory Lane, Penwortham, Preston PR1 0AR

Location	Address
the Penwortham Youth and Community Centre	
Sharoe Green Library	Galloways (Preston)
Barrow-in-Furness Leisure Centre	Barrow Park Leisure Centre, Greengate St, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA13 9DT
Roose Library	91-93 Roose Road, Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9RJ
Aldi (Risedale Rd, Barrow-in-Furness)	Aldi, 148 Risedale Road, Barrow-in-Furness LA13 9RA
Fleetwood Affinity Shopping Centre	Anchorage Road, Fleetwood, Lancashire FY7 6AE
Fleetwood Library	North Albert Street, Fleetwood, Lancashire FY7 6AJ
Asda Fleetwood Superstore	Asda, Cop Lane, Fleetwood FY7 6NU
Southport Clifton Hotel	Royal Clifton Hotel Southport, Promenade, Southport PR8 1RB
Tesco Express (Chapel St, Southport)	Tesco, 50-52 Chapel Street, Southport PR8 1BZ
Southport Boat Angling Club	Southport Boat Angling Club, Ainsdale Beach, Southport PR8 2PZ
Penwortham Methodist Church	Penwortham Bridge Methodist Church, Leyland Road, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9XR
Kingsfold Library	Hawksbury Drive, Penwortham, Preston, Lancashire PR1 9EJ
St. Stephen's Parish Centre	St. Stephen's Parish Centre, Bird Street, Broadgate, Preston PR1 8DY
Penwortham Arts Centre 'The Venue'	Penwortham Arts Centre, Liverpool Road, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9XE
One Stop (Leyland Rd, Penwortham)	One Stop, 39 Leyland Road, Penwortham, Preston PR1 9QH
Tesco Superstore (Formby)	Tesco Superstore, Altcar Road, Liverpool L37 8DP
Formby Library	Formby Library, Duke Street, Formby, L37 4AN
Waitrose & Partners (Formby)	Waitrose, Three Tuns Lane, Formby, Liverpool L37 4AJ
Tesco Express (Old Hall St, Liverpool)	Old Hall St Express, A-B, City Exchange, Old Hall Street Liverpool L3 9RQ
Liverpool Ferry Terminal	Landing Stage Terminal, Off St Nicholas Place, Princes Parade, Liverpool L3 1DL
Wallasey Junction One Retail Park	Bidston Moss, Wallasey CH44 2HE

Location	Address
Wallasey Shopping Centre	Cherry Shopping Centre, 6-8 Cherry Square, Liscard, Wallasey CH44 5XU
Wallasey Central Library	Wallasey Central Library, Earliston Road, Wallasey, CH45 5DX
Tesco Express (Wallasey)	Tesco Express, 15-17 Liscard Village, Liscard, Wallasey CH45 4JG
Morecambe Library	Morecambe Library, Central Drive, Morecambe, Lancashire, LA4 5DL
Trev's Fishing Tackle (Morecambe)	Trev's Fishing Tackle, 48-50, 48 Pedder Street, Morecambe LA4 5EA
Heysham Ferry Terminal	Passenger Terminal, South Quay, Heysham, Lancashire, LA3 2XE
Premier (Trumacar Ln, Heysham)	Premier shop, 1 Trumacar Ln, Heysham, Morecambe LA3 2SY
Tesco Superstore (Douglas)	Tesco Superstore, Lake Road, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 5AF
Douglas Borough Council Town Hall	Town Hall, Ridgeway Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1AD
Douglas Ferry Terminal	Isle of Man Steam Packet Company, Sea Terminal, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 2RF
Co-op Food (Parliament St, Ramsey)	Co-op Food, Parliament Street, Ramsey, Isle of Man IM8 1AQ, Isle of Man

11.10 How to provide feedback

490. Respondents were able to provide feedback in a number of different ways throughout the consultation period.

- Online feedback map on the consultation website - this enabled people to drop a pin on a specific area and leave comments online and/or attach supporting files to their feedback (Appendix D27 and D28)
- Feedback form - this existed in hard copy format and was available at deposit locations and all in-person events. The Project responded to requests for hard copy feedback forms. A pdf version of the feedback form was uploaded to the Project's consultation website, allowing people to print out copies to complete should they wish to do so. The feedback form was designed for it to be folded with the Project's freepost address on the front to make submitting feedback as easy as possible (Appendix D21 and D22). Hard copy feedback forms could also be returned to members of the Project team at in person consultation events

- Online feedback form - this was a digital version of the Project's feedback form that allowed people to submit feedback electronically (Appendix D27 and D28)
 - By email – this allowed respondents to submit their feedback to the dedicated email inbox for Morecambe Offshore Windfarm Generation Assets hello@morecambeoffshorewind.com
 - In writing – this allowed respondents to submit their feedback in writing to the freepost address: FREEPOST MORECAMBE GENERATION
491. Everyone that submitted feedback and provided their contact details received an acknowledgement that their feedback had been received. See Appendix D40 an example of the acknowledgement for respondents who submitted feedback electronically – either via the online feedback form or online feedback map. See Appendix D39 for an example of the acknowledgement for respondents who submitted feedback via email and in writing.
492. The SoCC stipulated (in section 5.1) that the Project would be unable to respond individually to every question submitted, but the themes and issues raised during the consultation would be summarised in its Consultation Report.
493. It also stipulated (again in section 5.1) that the Project would reply to queries received about the logistics of the consultation itself, details of the events being held, availability of consultation materials, or advice on how to submit a response.

11.11 Telephone enquiries

494. A dedicated telephone line (0800 915 2493 (option 2)) was available throughout the consultation and remains live. The telephone line was open 09:00 to 17:00, Monday to Friday. If no one was able to answer, people were able to leave a voicemail at any time and calls were returned as quickly as possible.
495. Whenever asked, it was made clear that verbal feedback (either over the phone or in-person) could not be accepted and encouraged people to submit their feedback in writing via one of the methods listed previously.

12 Consultation (statutory): Section 46 Duty to notify Secretary of State of Proposed Application

496. Section 46 of the PA 2008 places a duty on the applicant for a DCO Application to notify the SoS of the Section 42 consultation that it is to carry out. The applicant must comply with this requirement either before, or at the same time, as commencing the Section 42 consultation. In doing so, the applicant must send to the SoS the same information that is to be provided to the Section 42 consultees.
497. The Applicant commenced the Section 42 consultation (as part of the Stage 2 statutory consultation) on 19 April 2023. Advanced notification emails were sent to the Section 42 consultees (including non-prescribed consultees) on the 14 April 2023. A further notification email was sent at the start of statutory consultation on the 19 April 2023.
498. In accordance with Section 46, PINS were notified by email on the 18 April 2023, prior to the start of the consultation on 19 April 2023. The email contained a SharePoint link encompassing the consultation documents that were to be sent to the Section 42 consultees (and non-prescribed consultees). The consultation documents were also sent via a WeTransfer link as requested by PINS. A copy of the Section 46 notification to PINS is provided in Appendix E1.
499. PINS acknowledged receipt of the Section 46 notification by email on 19 April 2023. A copy of the PINS acknowledgement is provided at Appendix E2.
500. The Applicant therefore complied with Section 46 of the PA 2008 for this section of the consultation.

13 Stage two consultation: Section 48 ('duty to publicise')

13.1 Summary of approach

501. This section outlines how the Applicant has complied with the "Duty to Publicise" under Section 48 of the PA 2008.
502. This section of the Consultation Report is included in compliance with the requirements of Section 37(7) of the PA 2008, PINS and DLUHC guidance.
503. Section 48(1) of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to publicise a proposed application at the pre-application stage, in the prescribed manner, to include a deadline for receipt of responses to the publicity.
504. The prescribed manner is set out in Regulation 4 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations). Regulation 4(2) sets out what the publicity must entail, specifically this requires the notice to be placed within:
- One or more local newspapers, for at least two consecutive weeks;
 - A national newspaper (once); and
 - The London Gazette (once) and if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette (once).
505. and, where the proposed application relates to offshore development, within:
- Lloyds List (once); and
 - An appropriate fishing trade journal (once).
506. Regulation 4(3)(a) – (i) goes on to provide the detail of the matters which must be included in that notice. This includes:
- Name and address of the Applicant;
 - Statements that the Applicant intends to make an application for development;
 - Whether that application is an EIA development;
 - A summary of the main proposals;
 - The documents, plans and maps demonstrating the nature and location of development, can be inspected free of charge on a website (maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant) at times set out in the notice and for how long (including the address of the website and where the

documents, plans and maps may be inspected and a telephone number for contacting the Applicant for enquiries relating to the documents); and

- Whether there is a charge, and how much, for copies of any of the documents, plans and maps; how to respond to publicity and by which date (not being less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published).

507. In developing and publishing the Section 48 notice, regard must be had to the EIA Regulations and relevant guidance about pre-application procedures. Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations places a requirement on the Applicant, where a development is an EIA development, they must at the same time as publicising the notice of the proposed Application under Section 48(1), send a copy of the notice to the relevant consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations. No additional consultation bodies were notified to the Applicant by PINS in accordance with Regulation 11(1)(c).

508. Guidance provided by DCLG relevant to Section 48 publicity can be summarised as follows:

- The Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process (DCLG, March 2015) notes in paragraph 58 that Section 48 publicity is an integral part of the local community consultation process and, where possible, the first of the two required local newspaper advertisements should coincide approximately with the beginning of the consultation with communities. However, given the detailed information required for the publicity in the Regulations, aligning publicity with consultation may not always be possible, especially where a multi-stage consultation is intended.

13.2 Development of the notice

509. The notice, which is included as Appendix F1 and F2, provided the Applicant's details, project description, an overview of what the application would cover and the consultation period dates. It specified where consultation materials were available to view and how people could respond to the notice or make representations in respect of the Project. A bilingual version of the Section 48 notice appeared in newspapers circulating in Wales.

13.3 Publications

510. **Table 13.1** below shows the schedule of where and when the Section 48 notice appeared, and whether English-only, Welsh-only or bilingual (English and Welsh). The Section 48 notice appeared between the 12 and 20 April 2023, to coincide with the start of the Section 42 and Section 47 consultation

period (19 April to 4 June 2023). An email to statutory consultees notifying them of the start of consultation ('Section 42 launch email') included reference to the Section 48 notice and a link to where the notice could be read on the Applicant's consultation website. The email included a formal request for comment on the proposed application and also confirmed that the deadline for responses to the statutory consultation was 4 June 2023.

Table 13.1 Publication of Section 48 notice

Publication	First appearance	Second appearance	Language
The Guardian	12 April 2023	N/A	English
London Gazette	12 April 2023	N/A	English
IoM Courier	14 April 2023	21 April 2023	English
Liverpool Echo	12 April 2023	19 April 2023	English
Lancashire Post	12 April 2023	19 April 2023	English
Golwg	13 April 2023	20 April 2023	Welsh
Barrow Mail	12 April 2023	19 April 2023	English
Blackpool Gazette	12 April 2023	19 April 2023	English
Daily Post	12 April 2023	19 April 2023	English and Welsh
Lloyd's List	12 April 2023	N/A	English
Fishing News	12 April 2023	N/A	English

511. All these notices, as they appeared in-situ, are shown in Appendix F3.
512. In accordance with Section 48 of the PA 2008, the Section 48 notice appeared in The Guardian and London Gazette for one week only. The Section 48 notice appeared in the remaining regional newspapers – 'in the vicinity of which the proposed development is situated' (as per The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017) – for two consecutive weeks.
513. As the Project is an offshore development, the Section 48 notice also appeared once in Lloyd's List and once in 'an appropriate fishing trade journal' (Fishing News). Copies of how the Section 48 notice appeared in both these publications can be found in Appendix F3, respectively.
514. The Section 48 notice provided details of the Project and advised how the consultation documents could be accessed, as well as providing a deadline for receipt of comments, which was 4 June 2023. A copy of the Section 48 notice is provided in Appendix F1 and F2.

515. For the Daily Post, an English-language newspaper covering the entirety of Wales, the notice appeared in English and Welsh. For Golwg, a Welsh-language newspaper, the notice appeared in Welsh only. In all other newspapers, situated in England and the IoM, the notice appeared in English only.
516. Upon publishing the Section 48 notice, a digital copy was uploaded to the Project website and remained available to view beyond the close of statutory consultation.
517. Statutory consultees, identified under Section 42 of the PA 2008, were also directed to a digital copy and/or sent a physical copy.

14 Limited extensions to consultation

14.1 Limited extension to consultation – 1

518. Following the close of statutory consultation and further analysis of the email address data, work was undertaken to find any consultees identified under Section 42 who had received but not opened any of the previous emails they were sent ('consultation coming soon', 'Section 42 launch email', 'Consultation closing soon', 'Last chance to provide feedback').
519. This process identified that 39 Section 42 consultees had received, but not opened, any of the aforementioned emails. In the interest of ensuring these consultees were not disadvantaged by having not opened the emails they were sent, the Applicant sent a hard copy set of consultation materials in the post. This included:
- Statutory consultation brochure
 - A USB memory stick containing the full PEIR
 - PEIR NTS
 - SoCC
 - Feedback form
520. These consultees were given a further 28 days to consider the consultation materials and provide any feedback they may have. The letters were issued on 16 June 2023 and the deadline provided for the receipt of feedback was midnight on the 14 July 2023 (see Appendix G1).
521. As a result of this extended consultation, the Applicant received no additional pieces of feedback from Section 42 consultees. Any feedback received would have been treated in exactly the same way as the feedback received during the initial statutory consultation.
522. **Table 14.1** shows list of statutory consultees identified under Section 42 that were contacted as a result of this process:

Table 14.1 Section 42 consultees that didn't open any emails

Organisation	Organisation
Westby Parish Council	Dalton with Newton Town Council
Scarisbrick Parish Council	Utility Assets
Murphy Gas Networks Limited	Last Mile Asset Management
Indigo Pipelines	Stalmine Parish Council
Ministry of Defence Hebrides	Vattenfall IDNO
ESP Utilities Group	Office of Rail and Road
National Highways	Scottish Power
Utility Connections	National Grid ESO
Marine Scotland	Warrington and Halton Hospitals NHS Trust
Civil Aviation Authority	Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust
Middleton Parish Council	Cheshire and Merseyside Cancer Alliance
North West Coastal Forum	Leep Utilities
UK Territorial Sea	Gwynt Y Môr OFTO
Last Mile Electricity	Kirkham Town Council
Vattenfall	RWE
Utility Assets	Singleton Parish Council
Water Resources West	Weeton-with-Preese Parish Council
Hibernia Networks	Wirral Community Health and Care NSH Foundation Trust
National Grid	SP Energy Networks
Ribby-with-Wrea Parish Council	MP for Wyre and Preston North

14.2 Limited extension to consultation – 2

523. On 16 August 2023 it came to the Applicant's attention that a technical website error occurred to the online feedback form. This meant that respondents' feedback to question 1.16, relating to traffic and transport, submitted via the online feedback form on the website were not captured.

524. The Applicant therefore took necessary steps to recapture, as far as possible, feedback relating to Question 1.16 ‘traffic and transport’ submitted via the online feedback form on the website. This included:
- Gathering the contact details of respondents whose feedback was not captured
 - Sending an email and/or letter to these respondents, explaining the error that occurred and asking them to resubmit their feedback relating to Question 1.16 on traffic and transport. The Applicant provided respondents with an additional 28 days in order to provide their response
525. Emails and/or letters, along with a feedback form, were sent to respondents on 25 August 2023 (see Appendix G2 and G3). The Applicant counted 25 August 2023 as day one of this additional consultation period. This means the ‘limited extension to consultation – 2’ ran from 25 August to 25 September 2023 inclusive.
526. The Project therefore proactively contacted everybody who had submitted feedback via the online feedback form - and who had provided their contact details (a total of 53 consultees, including four Section 42 consultees with the remainder being classified as Section 47 consultees). In total, 46 consultees received both a letter and an email, three consultees received just a letter and four consultees only received an email. Everybody received at least one form of communication directly (see Appendix G2 and G3 for example email/ letter, letter and feedback form).
527. In response, the Applicant received 15 pieces of feedback: Nine emails and six hard copy responses. One of these organisations was a Section 42 consultee, Spirit Energy. As a result of this additional contact, Spirit Energy did not provide any response further to that already previously provided (see Appendix I). All feedback received during the ‘Limited extension to consultation – 2’ is presented in Appendix I.
528. This feedback was subsequently logged and treated in exactly the same way as the feedback received during the initial statutory consultation.
529. **Table 14.2** shows the list of statutory consultees identified under Section 42 that were contacted as a result of this process.

Table 14.2 Section 42 consultees affected by feedback form issue

Organisation	Method of contact
Blackpool Airport	Email and letter
Liverpool Airport	Email and letter
Spirit Energy	Email and letter
Virgin Media O2 & ESCA	Email and letter

15 Summary of responses to pre-application (statutory) consultation and applicant regard

15.1 Introduction

530. This section of the Consultation Report includes summaries of the responses received to the statutory consultations and sets out how the Applicant has complied with its duty under Section 49 of the PA 2008 to have regard to consultation responses received under Sections 42, 47 and 48.
531. The following sections summarise key issues that were raised during the statutory consultation, including comments on the PEIR, draft MCZA and draft RIAA. The sections also summarise how the Applicant has taken account of these responses during the preparation and finalisation of the ES, RIAA (Document Reference 4.9) and MCZA (Document Reference 4.12). This Consultation Report does not highlight all comments, but key themes from the consultation. All comments received during statutory consultation are provided in Appendix I, with relevant comments also provided within the relevant ES chapters, the RIAA and the MCZA.
532. In some instances, the consultation feedback has resulted in changes to the Project design. Where no changes have been made to aspects of the Project design, this is clearly explained.
533. The responses are summarised below by their relevance to each of the topics assessed within the PEIR technical chapters and other documents submitted. Care has been taken to ensure that responses were categorised into subjects appropriately. Tables of all statutory consultation feedback and the Applicant regard to those responses are contained in Appendix I of this Consultation Report.
534. Regard has been had to consultation responses in a number of different ways. In most cases, comments have been addressed through provision of further assessments, clarification provided either in the ES chapters submitted with the Application or through ongoing stakeholder engagement.

15.2 Legislation and guidance

535. Section 49(2) of the PA 2008 requires the Applicant to have regard to relevant responses to the consultation and publicity that has been undertaken under Sections 42, 47 and 48. A relevant response is defined in Section 49(3) as:
- A response from a person consulted under Section 42 that is received by the Applicant before the deadline imposed

- A response to consultation under Section 47(7) that is received by the Applicant before any applicable deadline
 - A response to publicity under Section 48 that is received by the Applicant before the deadline imposed
536. Section 37(7) states that the Consultation Report should, inter alia, give details of:
- Relevant responses to the statutory consultation and publicity under Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008
 - The account taken of any relevant responses
537. PINS Advice Note Fourteen (PINS, 2021) on compiling the Consultation Report, states that the Consultation Report should draw together a summary of the relevant responses to the separate strands of consultation, and the account taken of the responses in developing the application from proposed to final form, as required by Section 49(2). The note also states that a summary of responses by appropriate category should be included together with a clear explanation of the reason why it may have led to no change, including where responses have been received after deadlines set by the Applicant.

15.3 Overview of responses

538. All responses from the statutory consultation are detailed in Appendix I and are summarised below. Section 42 consultees, such as prescribed bodies, statutory undertakers and relevant LPAs, have been considered separately to Section 47 consultees, such as members of the public, local businesses and non-statutory organisations.
539. The Applicant has categorised issues raised in responses according to the corresponding topic it relates to, allowing the presentation of responses by appropriate category in both the main Consultation Report and associated Appendices. It is important to note that each issue raised is given equal importance, regardless of the frequency with which it was raised, or who raised it.
540. Many responses received contained comments relevant to more than one topic. In these instances, the response has been broken down and separated across the relevant topics, as appropriate.
541. All comments have had due regard paid to them by the Applicant. In many cases this has resulted in amendments to the project design and/or changes or additions to the application documentation (e.g. the ES or DCO Application documents) or has led to further discussion and agreement with the relevant consultees.

15.4 Introductory chapters (PEIR Volume 1, Chapters 1-6)

15.4.1 Key stakeholders

542. The description of the Project and EIA methodology, as well as other Project information contained within the introductory chapters of the ES, have been shaped by the pre-application consultation undertaken by the Applicant and by responses of a number of key stakeholders. This included comments received on the introductory chapters of the PEIR (**Chapter 1 Introduction, Chapter 2 Need for the Project, Chapter 3 Policy and Legislation, Chapter 4 Site Selection and Assessment of Alternatives, Chapter 5 Project Description and Chapter 6 EIA Methodology**).
543. Comments were received on Chapter 5 Project Description and Chapter 6 EIA Methodology and included responses from the MMO, Natural England, Historic England and Natural Resources Wales (NRW). Responses received on these introductory topics, as well as the regard had to them by the Applicant, are also described within the consultation tables of the relevant chapters of the ES (Volume 5, **Chapters 1 to 6** (Document References 5.1.1 to 5.1.6)) and supporting appendices, as well as within the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9), the **MCZA** (Document Reference 4.12).

15.4.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard - Project Description (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 5)

544. Comments on the Project Description from the MMO sought clarification on whether concurrent/simultaneous piling would occur. The Applicant has confirmed that the construction assumptions are that no concurrent piling is planned for the Project during installation of WTG/OSP foundations. This is reflected in the underwater noise modelling assessments presented in the ES.
545. Historic England highlighted that the estimates of foundation types, OSP/WTG footprints used in the Project Design Envelope (PDE) can lead to wide range of potential impact magnitudes and areas impacted. The Applicant highlights that updates have been made to the Project Description based on the refinement of the PDE since the PEIR regarding sediment disturbance areas. The disturbance areas of each foundation type in consideration are given within **Chapter 5 Project Description** (Document Reference 5.1.5), with assessments made using the worst-case scenario for the relevant impacts. Final foundation type selection and layout arrangements will continue to be developed post-consent.
546. Historic England recommended that considerations of the potential to encounter both known and unknown historic environment assets should be

considered throughout the Project (particularly around installation of seabed infrastructure and cabling). Historic England also highlighted the importance of archaeological advice required to differentiate contemporary debris/litter or geological items (e.g. boulders) from other materials which might be of archaeological interest. They note geological investigations should be timed to optimise the timely involvement of professional, experienced and accredited archaeological consultants. The Applicant has considered the potential for heritage assets throughout the stages of the Project and the pre-installation requirements for marine archaeology are included in **Chapter 15 Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage** (Document Reference 5.1.15). This chapter also highlights how archaeological analysis and input into surveys to date has been conducted.

547. In consideration of impacts of operational WTGs, Natural England commented that increasing the minimum rotor clearance above sea level would reduce ornithology collision risk estimates generated by the Project and requested that the Applicant explore the feasibility of achieving greater clearance. This advice has led to the Project increasing the minimum rotor clearance from 22m to 25m above HAT.
548. Natural England also noted that the impact of pre-installation works on benthic habitats were not fully assessed, in particular the impact of unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance was assessed as negligible but not supported by assessment in the relevant PEIR chapters. The Applicant notes that pre-installation works are assessed in **Chapter 7 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes** (Document Reference 5.1.7), **Chapter 8 Marine Sediment and Water Quality** (Document Reference 5.1.8) and **Chapter 9 Benthic Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.9). Consideration to UXO clearance is provided within the ES where appropriate, noting however that a more detailed assessment of UXO clearance would be undertaken as part of a separate marine licence application when the scale of UXO clearance (if required) is better defined, in line with MMO licencing preference.

15.4.3 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard – EIA Methodology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 6)

549. Given the Application covers only the Generation Assets of the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm, Natural England and MMO commented that the EIA methodology does not address concerns that it is not possible to assess the full impact of the Morecambe Offshore Windfarm whilst excluding the associated Transmission Assets. Natural England noted that cumulative assessments are not standardised and therefore frequently less detailed. The concerns raised have been discussed with Natural England and MMO and stakeholders as part of the EPP Steering Group. To address the concerns, in each ES technical chapter, a separate assessment considering both the

Generation Assets (the Project) and the Transmission Assets is undertaken as a combined assessment within the CEA section before the CEA thereafter considers all plans and projects. Additionally, a separate ES chapter that summarises the impacts of both the Project and the Transmission Assets is also provided as part of the DCO Application (Document Reference 5.1.23).

550. Natural England highlighted the matrix approach to determining the significance of effects on ecological features often relies on value rather than evidence-based judgements and is typically subjective. They highlighted this also introduces potential error if cut-offs for defining significance exclude any effects less than moderate significance, which may affect the assessment of cumulative effects. The Applicant notes that the matrix is used only to guide the assessment and is supported with evidence-based judgements, noting further evidence is used in the assessments to support the inputs (establishing the magnitude and sensitivity). A 'cut off' is not used in the CEA based on level of significance (apart from where no change has been identified in the Project alone assessment).

15.5 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 7)

15.5.1 Key stakeholders

551. Detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP and targeted consultation as required. Comments on the topic of marine geology, oceanography and physical processes included those received in relation to the PEIR chapter (which were also relevant to the draft MCZA and draft RIAA).
552. Key stakeholders with comments on the PEIR Chapter 7 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes were from the MMO, Natural England and NRW. One comment was received from Douglas Borough Council. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 7 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes** (Document Reference 5.1.7) and **Appendix 9.1 Benthic Characterisation Survey** (Document Reference 5.2.9.1).

15.5.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

553. The MMO commented that there were information gaps concerning the use of physical processes modelling data from Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) as a proxy for the Project. They requested that more location-specific detail is required to enhance the comparison made to date, to illustrate the implied impact envelopes for the Project site itself. This comment was echoed by Natural England, noting their preference for site specific modelling. The Applicant notes that numerical modelling is now available for the nearby

proposed Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Projects, via their respective PEIRs, and this modelling has now also been considered within the assessment. This updated approach to the assessment was presented at ETG meetings. Further justification of this approach was provided in a technical note outlining a more comprehensive conceptual approach to the assessment of physical processes, which was issued to the Marine Ecology ETG members (including MMO, Natural England).

554. The MMO recommended a more detailed discussion on the impacts of hydrodynamics, due to the alignment of Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets immediately seaward of the Project. MMO noted that sediment transport had not been modelled and this prevents understanding of the combined impact of the windfarms in the area would have on the change to the sediment budget. A cumulative assessment of all windfarms in the study area has been undertaken within the ES. The assessment shows there is no cumulative impact on the physical processes, given localised effects from each project, and as such, no cumulative impact on sedimentary processes which are driven by them.
555. The MMO also commented that there was insufficient justification for screening out sediment suspension from bedload higher into the water column, due to turbulence around the foot of monopiles in the operational phase. The Applicant notes that further detail on wakes potentially caused by the presence of foundation structures and the effect of vertical redistribution of sediment plumes in the lee of foundation structures is presented in **Chapter 7 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes** (Document Reference 5.1.7).
556. Natural England advised that when the ground truthing surveys are considered alongside geophysical surveys, there needs to be sufficient confidence to characterise the seabed and the associated communities. In relation to this, Natural England provided recommendations on the sampling strategy that should be included in the In Principle Monitoring Plan (IPMP) at the time of submission. The Applicant acknowledges the comment, however, notes there is no overlap of the windfarm site with designated sites and following the refinement of the windfarm site boundary, areas of sand waves and the prevalence of megaripples within the site has reduced. All video transects taken in EIA baseline surveys lie within the windfarm site boundary. As discussed at ETG meetings, there is not considered to be any need for further benthic surveys, but pre and post-construction bathymetric surveys are included in the IPMP.
557. NRW commented that there is a very significant amount of cable/scour protection potentially proposed for both the Morgan and Mona Array sites and, when taken together with the Project, will lead to long term habitat loss and change of seabed substrate and supporting habitat for other receptors (i.e.

birds, benthic ecology) and can lead to permanent alterations to the seabed morphodynamics. The amount of scour protection for the Project has been reduced since PEIR, and the maximum length of inter-array cabling also reduced (although an amendment to cable protection height design means the associated maximum cable footprint would increase). A cumulative assessment of cable/scour protection on benthic receptors, and other inter-related receptors, is presented in **Chapter 9 Benthic Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.9), noting the scale of the protection in relation to the wider habitats across the region and lack of sensitive/designated features.

558. Douglas Borough Council noted there can be sea-bed changes as windfarms can, over time, affect the depth of water, and can obstruct tidal streams which then may impact marine life. These effects have been assessed within the ES via assessments made in **Chapter 7 Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes** (Document Reference 5.1.7).

15.6 Marine Sediment and Water Quality (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 8)

15.6.1 Key stakeholders

559. Detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP. Comments relating to marine sediment and water quality were limited as many topics were covered in comments relating to Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes. The only stakeholders to comment on the PEIR Marine Sediment and Water Quality Chapter were the MMO and Natural England, and two of these comments are addressed
560. Discussions were held with stakeholders through the EPP regarding the results of the site-specific baseline sediment sampling surveys and, given the low level of sediment contaminants detected in the windfarm site, indirect effects on other receptors due to remobilisation of contaminated sediments could be scoped out of assessments. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 8 Marine Sediment and Water Quality** (Document Reference 5.1.8) and supporting appendices.

15.6.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

561. The MMO requested that the ES should clarify if data was below Action Level 1 for organotins and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), as these were not readily detailed in the PEIR Chapter. The Applicant explained in ETG meetings that these parameters were recorded at values below the limit of detection. This has been clarified in **Chapter 8 Marine Sediment and Water Quality** (Document Reference 5.1.8).

15.7 Benthic Ecology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 9, draft RIAA and draft MCZA)

15.7.1 Key stakeholders

562. Detailed discussions were facilitated through the EPP. Comments on the Benthic Ecology topic included comments on the PEIR chapter (and also relevant to the draft MCZA and draft RIAA), with responses received from Natural England, Manx National Heritage and North West Wildlife Trusts (NWWT). No comments from the MMO or Cefas were made and this position was confirmed in the subsequent ETG meetings.
563. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 9 Benthic Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.9) and as appropriate in the **MCZA** (Document Reference 4.12) and **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).

15.7.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

564. Natural England noted that there was no evidence presented to confirm that the increase of additional infrastructure would not increase the risk of potential for spread of invasive non-native species (INNS) and monitoring was recommended. Mitigation measures in **Chapter 9 Benthic Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.9) include for INNS management, and monitoring is highlighted in the IPMP, which notes that INNS monitoring would be undertaken in line with post-consent inspection surveys of infrastructure.
565. Manx Natural Heritage recommended protection of the seabed, with particular reference to areas of high conservation or carbon sequestration value, as highlighted in the Manx Marine Nature Reserves. They also recommended cables avoid any Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The Applicant notes that the 15km Zone of Influence (Zol) of the Project for benthic effects would not extend into Manx territorial waters, Marine Nature Reserves or MPAs and the assessment focussed on habitats within the Zol.
566. The NWWT recommended methods to mitigate electromagnetic field (EMF) effects. The Trust also highlighted that the baseline conditions already represent a degraded state from its potential, given the 'shifting baseline syndrome' and noted biodiversity net gain is essential. The Applicant's position on net gain is described in the **Environmental Benefit and Net Gain Statement** (Document Reference 4.4) that has been submitted as part of the DCO Application. It is considered outside the scope of the ES to consider changes from pre-industrial baseline conditions for impact assessments.
567. The NWWT recommended that fishing should not be considered as part of the baseline and should be included in the CEA. The ES considers that fishing will

continue at a comparable intensity/rate and inclusion of fishing in the baseline is considered appropriate. The activity of fisheries management measures (such as fishing restrictions in protected areas) are however considered as an activity in the cumulative assessment of **Chapter 10 Commercial Fisheries** (Document Reference 5.1.13).

15.8 Fish and Shellfish Ecology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 10, draft RIAA and draft MCZA)

15.8.1 Key stakeholders

568. Detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP. In relation to fish and shellfish ecology there were detailed comments on the Fish and Shellfish Ecology PEIR chapter, the draft MCZA and draft RIAA, as well as the Underwater Noise Modelling Report that supported the underwater noise assessments.
569. The key stakeholders providing comment were the MMO, NWWT, Natural England, the IoM Government, NFFO, Welsh Fishermen's Association (WFA), Northern Ireland Fish Producers' Organisation (NIFPO) and NRW. Some general amendments and corrections to the text were suggested by the MMO and the IoM Government, which are acknowledged but are not included here. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in the **Chapter 10 Fish and Shellfish Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.10), the **MCZA** (Document Reference 4.12), the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).

15.8.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

570. The MMO had several comments relating to the impact of noise on herring. They recommended herring spawning habitat suitability assessment should be included using the method described by MarineSpace (2013) with Northern Irish Herring Larvae Survey (NIHLS) data. Some minor clarifications on herring spawning and distributions were also made by the IoM Government. The Applicant notes that herring spawning habitat heatmapping, using NIHLS data, has been undertaken as recommended and results were shared at ETG meetings. Noise impact contours are displayed visually in the ES chapter, alongside the herring spawning heatmap and historical spawning ground extents around the IoM.
571. The MMO recommended a detailed assessment of the impacts of underwater noise from piling is undertaken using the most recent evidence for Atlantic cod and including the potential impacts to eggs and larvae. The MMO considered fish should be assessed as a stationary receptor and this should be used for assessments. Natural England concurred with this view of fish as a stationary receptor. Noise impact modelling for eggs, larvae and different fish hearing

groups, including cod, has been undertaken by the Applicant. The impact thresholds used are based on Popper *et al.*, (2014). As a precaution, all receptors have been treated as stationary in the modelling.

572. The MMO sought clarification on the Underwater Noise Assessment on the metrics used for modelling and impact ranges used for different fish species. Comments have been addressed in an updated Underwater Noise Modelling Report, which now reflects the worst-case potential hammer models to be used for the Project and the refinement of the windfarm site boundary. Clarifications, as noted, are included in the updated **Appendix 11.2 Underwater Noise Assessment** (Document Reference 5.2.11.1).
573. The MMO disagreed that the River Ehen Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and River Eden SAC could be scoped out of the RIAA/ES. The River Ehen SAC is designated for Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), which have medium-sensitivity to underwater noise, and the River Eden SAC, which is designated for brook lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*), river lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*) and sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*). It is noted that the River Eden SAC is located more than 50km away from the Project (straight line distance) and that it is over 100km via sea to the estuary (through the Solway Firth) and is, therefore, beyond the Project Zol. On a precautionary basis, however, the River Ehen and River Eden are considered in **Chapter 10 Fish and Shellfish Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.10) and within the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).
574. Natural England and the NWWT both highlighted that both shad species (*Alosa alosa* and *Alosa fallax*) had been omitted from the diadromous fish receptor group, despite being present in the region (non-spawning). It is noted that, whilst shad are present in the region, there is no SAC designated for shad within 100km of the Project, thereby ruling out direct effects on these sites. Shad species, however, are now considered in **Chapter 10 Fish and Shellfish Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.10) as part of the diadromous fish assemblage.
575. Natural England recommended that, as well as the SACs recommended by the MMO above, to include Solway Firth MCZ (Smelt), Solway Firth SAC (Sea lamprey, River lamprey, Brook lamprey) and River Derwent and Bassenthwaite Lake SAC (Atlantic Salmon, Sea lamprey, River lamprey). Designated sites beyond 100km are not listed in the ES, but an assessment of the species listed as part of the Solway Firth MCZ and SAC are considered in the fish assemblages. All sites are also discussed within the **MCZA** (Document Reference 4.12) and the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).
576. Natural England were broadly happy with the data sources used, but additional, dedicated surveys for protected species (such as diadromous fish) were recommended, where potential risks to local populations had been

identified. The ES has not identified significant effects on protected species and, as such, no survey work or monitoring has been proposed.

577. The IoM Government sought clarification on whether connectivity had been assessed with respect to fish life cycle stages. It is acknowledged that within the worst-case assessed instantaneous noise impact range (within 302m from the pile) that pelagic larvae and eggs may be subject to mortality or injury. However, the viability of the IoM herring population is not considered to be at risk from impacts on larvae and eggs of this scale. Planktonic larvae will be numerous (10,000 – 60,000 eggs per female in the case of herring) and dispersed across a wider area by the time some larvae drift to the windfarm site.
578. Comments from the IoM Government were made on the approach to transboundary assessment and the determination that no effects are expected for noise affecting IoM waters. The Applicant notes that the windfarm site has been refined since PEIR and the worst-case impact ranges (and therefore Zol for the Project) can be more confidently applied, noting there is no overlap of noise contours with the herring spawning grounds at the IoM. Assessments are made in the ES noting the proximity to the spawning grounds.
579. The developer of the IoM Offshore Windfarm (Moor Vannin OWF) sought confirmation that the IoM Offshore Windfarm had been considered in the CEA. It is confirmed that this project is considered in the CEA for the ES. However, at the time of the assessment undertaken by the Project, no underwater noise modelling had been undertaken by Moor Vannin OWF, and timescales published within the Moor Vannin OWF Scoping Report suggest offshore construction would not overlap.
580. A number of comments from the NFFO, WFA and the NIFPO via targeted consultation, related to the lack of site-specific data used to characterise the baseline environment for fish and shellfish. The data sources used in the baseline characterisation have been expanded as detailed in **Chapter 10 Fish and Shellfish Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.10), noting more publicly available datasets. In addition to publicly available information, the baseline environment has been further characterised by site-specific benthic data, 10 years of AFBI larvae data, and additional stock assessments, surveys and tagging studies undertaken in the region. Therefore, it is considered by the Applicant that sufficient information has been included to undertake a robust assessment and no site-specific surveys are proposed.
581. The NFFO and the WFA jointly questioned the reliance of the assessment on Coull *et al.* (1998) and Ellis *et al.* (2012) and the outcome of the assessments as no greater than “not significant” for all receptors, noting the need for monitoring to ensure there would be no adverse effects on the ecology of these commercially important stocks. The Applicant notes that the non-

significant impacts assessed with respect to spawning and nursery grounds consider both receptor sensitivity and impact magnitude, as required in the EIA Regulations and in line with guidance. There is no current proposal to undertake post-construction monitoring specifically for fish and shellfish ecology, given that no impacts have been assessed as significant in EIA terms. Following the refinement of the windfarm site boundary and the noise re-modelling for an updated piling scenario, there is no overlap with the historical herring spawning grounds as defined by Coull *et al.* (1998) and Ellis *et al.* (2012). Heat mapping using the most recent 10 years of larval data and site-specific sediment sampling has been undertaken to support the use of Coull *et al.* (1998) and Ellis *et al.* (2012). The windfarm site overlaps with cod spawning grounds, but given the size of the spawning area, the limited piling days and the size of the Project, no significant effects are identified. The Project has a number of embedded mitigation measures relevant to fish and shellfish ecology, and the IPMP proposes to collate and monitor commercial fisheries landings and activity data to understand and verify any variation in fishing activity. The findings of this monitoring, whilst predominantly a commercial fishery monitoring measure, would also be interpreted in the context of fish and shellfish ecology.

582. NRW agreed with the findings of the PEIR and the draft RIAA. There were comments regarding assessing fish as a stationary receptor for pile driving noise impact modelling and some recommendations for the ES cumulative assessment to include Atlantic cod and to further assess cumulative impacts on herring. These comments are noted and cumulative impacts on cod have been considered and an assessment on herring spawning has been made. Within the underwater noise modelling for pile driving, fish are precautionarily treated as a stationary receptor.

15.9 Marine Mammals (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 11, and draft RIAA)

15.9.1 Key stakeholders

583. Detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP and through targeted consultation as required. In relation to marine mammals there were detailed comments on the draft RIAA, Marine Mammals PEIR chapter and the associated appendices, including the Underwater Noise Modelling Report supporting the assessments.
584. The key stakeholders providing comment were Natural England, the MMO, the IoM Government, NWWT and NRW. Some general suggestions, amendments and corrections to the text were made by stakeholders, which are acknowledged, but are not included here, but are included in full in

Chapter 11 Marine Mammals (Document Reference 5.1.11), **Appendix 11.1 Underwater Noise Modelling** (Document Reference 5.2.11.1) and **Appendix 11.2 Marine Mammal Information and Survey Data** (Document Reference 5.2.11.2) and **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).

15.9.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

585. Natural England and the MMO sought clarification on the worst-case scenario with regard to hammer energies. Natural England asked for the piling worst-case to be secured in the DCO Application. It is noted the worst-case hammer energy of 6,600kJ is used for monopile assessments. Due to updates to the PDE, there is the potential for up to three monopiles and four pin piles to be installed sequentially (but not concurrently) within 24 hours. Underwater noise modelling (**Appendix 11.1 Underwater Noise Modelling** (Document Reference 5.2.11.1) of **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11) and impact assessments have been updated accordingly. The final piling parameters would be confirmed post-consent and secured through the consultation on the final Marine Mammal Monitoring Protocol (MMMP).
586. Natural England, NWWT and NRW requested that the submitted ES would present two-years of baseline characterisation data and that density data derived from only a single year could not be agreed upon. The Applicant notes that two-years of survey data has been analysed and is presented in the ES and **Appendix 11.2 Marine Mammal Information and Survey Data** (Document Reference 5.2.11.2).
587. The IoM Government requested additional information on the Manx population of Risso's dolphin and minke whale, which they found to have been underrepresented in the baseline description. Additional information has been added to **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11).
588. Further comments highlighted the omission of the IoM's grey seal-haul out and pupping areas. More information regarding the IoM has been added to **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11), as well as the **Appendix 11.2 Marine Mammal Information and Survey Data** (Document Reference 5.2.11.2).
589. Assessments on harbour seal and grey seal were made only against the wider reference population of multiple Management Unit (MUs) and recommendations were made by Natural England to use only the nearest MU, the northwest England MU, as the worst-case reference population. The seal assessments within the ES have been based on a dual approach to present the assessment based on a NW England MU, as well as an assessment considering the combined MUs for the wider reference population.

590. Natural England further advised that the harbour seal reference population from the IoM estimate should be updated. The IoM Government suggested to update these from 50 to 400 and to contact the Manx Wildlife Trust for additional information. Population numbers have therefore been updated to 400 and impact assessments amended. Contact was made with the Manx Wildlife Trust, however available sitings data from the IoM is considered within Evans and Waggitt (2023) used within the assessment.
591. NRW agreed with the grey seal boundaries, to capture their range and connectivity, but stated that the cumulative study area should encompass regions beyond UK waters, based on photo-ID and telemetry data. The Applicant acknowledged the provided evidence supporting the knowledge of wide ranges exhibited by grey seals. The assessment therefore includes the relevant MUs (including the Republic of Ireland) that are understood to be the most representative of this behaviour and supported by tagging data. Due to considerable differences in population numbers between the wider reference population (13,283 grey seals) and OSPAR region III (60,780 grey seals), the assessment was not undertaken using the OSPAR region III as the baseline population in the CEA assessment, as this would cause a dilution of animals affected in the impact assessment and is likely to underestimate effects. Thus, only projects within the associated MUs have been screened in and assessed.
592. A number of comments from Natural England, and also NRW, were regarding the use of Waggitt *et al.* (2019) data to determine densities for several marine mammal species, in particular for harbour porpoise, for which site-specific was deemed more appropriate. NRW recommended using the newest version of the Marine Mammal Atlas for density data, due to the authors' caution against absolute density use. Densities for all species have been reviewed by the Applicant across the most recent and available sources, including Project specific surveys, SCANS-IV (2023), Evans and Waggitt (2023) and Waggitt *et al.* (2019). To ensure comparability across differing data sources, species densities have been calculated across the area of the SCANS block relevant to the Project and the highest density for each species is applied to the assessment. The worst-case density from across the relevant data sources has been applied to the assessment.
593. Natural England required further clarification as to why the correction factor had not been applied to the IoM seal count. It is noted by the Applicant that, to generate a population estimate, the correction factor is applied to the haul-out count to account for those at sea at the time of survey. The seals counted by Howe (2018) on the IoM is classified as a population estimate not a count, thus the correction factor does not need to be applied.
594. Natural England highlighted disagreement with the Applicant regarding a statement that there were currently no agreed disturbance thresholds for the

behavioural response of marine mammals. The Applicant acknowledges that there are several studies on behavioural responses to disturbance from underwater noise, however, there is lack of agreement on disturbance ranges. The following sources (as suggested by Natural England) have been reviewed as requested: the JNCC report No. 654 (JNCC, 2020) (to which the NRW PS017 report makes reference to) is quite clear on the use of Effective Deterrent Radius (EDR), whilst Tougaard (2021) only describes auditory injury and does not refer to behavioural disturbance. The Applicant agrees with Heinis *et al.* (2019) that states “there is as yet no international or national consensus in this respect (i.e. prediction of behavioural responses)”. Limitations and assessments in a number of ways are provided in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11).

595. Natural England emphasised the need for presenting disturbance ranges from other projects’ project-specific assessments. Wherever possible, project-specific data is applied by the Applicant for impact ranges to the assessment. If such data is omitted, the Applicant has applied known disturbance ranges, based on data from the Project, or from available scientific literature, using the worst-case scenarios.
596. Natural England requested more information and the appropriateness of using a 26km EDR for the piling activities for the Transmission Assets. The 26km EDR is based on a monopile without mitigation, noting the Transmission Assets may use a monopile to install the booster station. As such, 26km EDR is used as an appropriate worst case.
597. A number of comments regarding behavioural disturbance assessments were made by the MMO, NWWT and NRW. A variety of methods have been used to assess the potential effect of disturbance in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11), including species specific dose response curve data or EDRs.
598. The MMO questioned the lack of evidence supporting the estimated worst-case 5km disturbance range for low-order UXO clearance. The Applicant notes a 5km disturbance range is listed in the current JNCC guidance (2023). Further information is available in **Appendix 11.3 Marine Mammal Unexploded Ordnance Assessment** (Document Reference 5.2.11.3).
599. NRW recommended using dose-response curves for predicting numbers of marine mammals disturbed, instead of EDRs. Dose-response curves have been applied for harbour porpoise, grey seal and harbour seal in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11). Applying the harbour porpoise dose response curve to dolphin spp. has also been undertaken as a precautionary approach to disturbance. As dolphins are in a different functional hearing group to harbour porpoise, this approach is very likely to

overestimate the number of individuals to be potentially disturbed, thus providing a conservative assessment.

600. The Applicant considers the use of dual densities for harbour porpoise, incorporating a higher site-specific density, alongside one that better reflects the species' distribution in the wider area. However, this approach received comments from NRW and Natural England. It is noted, however, that it would be an unrealistic worst-case if the site-specific summer density for harbour porpoise would be fully applied, for example, to the dose-response curve. The justification for this approach is based on a comparison of harbour porpoise densities from the nearby Morgan OWF (0.247 animals/km²), Mona OWF (0.097 animals/km²), Awel y Môr OWF (0.395 animals/km²) and SCANS block CS-E (0.5153 animals/ km² which give evidence that surrounding area has much lower densities and, thus, the application of dual densities is more representative of the wider area. The 5dB noise contour levels cover most of the Liverpool Bay area, thus incorporating other OWFs where lower densities have been measured. Therefore, the site-specific summer density within the contours of the survey area has been used and for all noise contours beyond the survey area, the density estimate from the worst-case wider density are applied to the dose-response curve assessment.
601. A 2km impact range of vessel disturbance and construction activities was deemed sufficient by the Applicant, based on the observations made by Benhemma-Le Gall *et al.* (2021). Several comments from NRW and Natural England, however, recommended a 4km radius, also referring back to the evidence from this journal article. It is noted that, as a precautionary approach, 4km is used for assessing disturbance from vessels in the ES.
602. NRW and Natural England noted the need for population modelling. Population modelling has been undertaken by the Applicant to determine whether there is a risk to the population from the Project alone, and for cumulative effects, in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11).
603. Natural England and NRW suggested considering noise abatement systems in the draft MMMP. The draft MMMP (Document Reference 6.5) is provided within the DCO Application, and all mitigation measures are considered at this stage. The mitigation requirements will be finalised through consultation, post-consent, when Project design has been confirmed.
604. Natural England noted there was a mismatch between the PEIR screening area and the number of animals presented as a proportion of the Celtic and Irish Sea MU. The screening of projects within the entire coverage of the harbour porpoise Celtic and Irish Sea MU has now been undertaken (**Appendix 11.4 Marine Mammal CEA Project Screening** (Document Reference 5.2.11.4)).

605. There were a number of Natural England comments regarding the projects screened for the CEA, requesting review of these for the ES, noting there was uncertainty of overlap in construction windows based on the information that had changed since PEIR submission. The Applicant confirms all relevant plans and projects assessed for cumulative effects have been updated and included as appropriate in **Appendix 11.4 Marine Mammal CEA Project Screening** (Document Reference 5.2.11.4) and **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11).
606. NRW, NWWT and Natural England suggested that operational noise should be considered in sufficient detail, especially given the presence of multiple wind farms in close proximity. An assessment for Project alone and cumulative impacts of operational wind turbines is included in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11). Based on a literature review and underwater noise modelling, the anticipated impact from operational turbines is very low.
607. Natural England enquired how the observation of unidentified species in site surveys were assigned to those that were identified. The Applicant notes that unidentified marine mammal species have been apportioned to those that have been identified to species level (where appropriate), based on their respective abundance ratio (per survey).
608. In a comment by Natural England concerning the use of geophysical surveys as a point source, they recommended treating them as a moving source instead. Where relevant, point sources have now been assessed as moving sources by the Applicant. It should be noted, however, that assuming them to be a moving source may overestimate the number of marine mammals at potential risk. At some point in the day, marine mammals would recover from the disturbance and return to the area, rather than staying away for the whole day, which is what the moving source assessment assumes.
609. The MMO highlighted that the seabed parameters used in the underwater noise modelling may not match the ones typical for the Project area, which could result in larger effect ranges if sand was assumed to be the primary sediment type. Underwater noise modelling, undertaken by Subacoustech, has been used for prediction of underwater noise propagation for windfarms around the UK and, to date, have presented good agreement with field measurements at the time of foundation installation. The model has been refined over 10 years using hundreds of datasets from field studies. It is also noted that precaution is built into the modelling, given that modelling is undertaken considering the conservative maximum design scenario and modelling is undertaken with no mitigation.
610. The NWWT was concerned that the large Project site was not considered appropriately with regard to barrier effects to marine mammals. It is noted that

the windfarm site has been reduced since PEIR to 87km² with up to 35 turbines, reducing potential for Project alone barrier effects, and this is assessed in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11). Further considerations to cumulative effects have been considered in **Chapter 11 Marine Mammals** (Document Reference 5.1.11).

15.10 Offshore Ornithology (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 12, and draft RIAA)

15.10.1 Key stakeholders

611. Detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP and through targeted consultation as required. In relation to offshore ornithology there were detailed comments on the offshore ornithology chapter and appendices of the PEIR and the draft RIAA. The key stakeholders providing comments were Natural England, NRW, the IoM Government and the RSPB, with comments also received from the NWWT. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 12 Offshore Ornithology** (Document Reference 5.1.12), and **Appendix 12.1 Offshore Ornithology Technical Report** (Document Reference 5.2.12.1).

15.10.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

612. Natural England, NRW and NWWT noted that the PEIR offshore ornithology baseline was characterised using the first 12 months of digital aerial survey data only, noting that 24 months of survey effort is the minimum expected evidence standard for ornithological impact assessment. The Applicant notes that the ES includes the full 24 months of survey data and Project-alone and cumulative assessments have been updated accordingly.

613. Natural England highlighted that increasing the minimum rotor clearance above sea level would reduce ornithology collision risk estimates generated by the Project and requested that the Applicant explored the feasibility of achieving greater clearance. Following stakeholder consultation, the minimum rotor clearance above sea level has been increased from 22m to 25m above HAT.

614. Natural England did not consider the approach taken at PEIR to estimate breeding season populations for EIA, which added immature birds from the preceding BDMPS population to the total breeding population within foraging range, to be appropriate or suitably evidence based. NRW was also uncertain of the appropriateness of this method. Following consultation, Natural England's preferred approach of using the largest regional (Biologically Defined Minimum Population Scales (BDMPS)) breeding season population has been adopted for the ES.

615. Construction displacement impacts at PEIR were assessed within 2km radius circles around individual WTGs and construction vessels. Natural England and NRW advised that construction displacement impacts should instead be equivalent to 50% of operational and maintenance phase impacts, to account for the incremental development of the array. As advised, construction displacement impacts are assumed to be 50% of operational and maintenance impacts in the ES.
616. The use of a 100km buffer to screen sites for migratory non-seabirds was not considered to be a standard approach by Natural England and NRW, who nevertheless recognised the need to identify a proportionate set of SPAs for a more detailed assessment. The Applicant considers the approach to assessing migratory non-seabird collision risk (presented during the second ETG meeting on 7 September 2022) is appropriate to screen sites for migratory non-seabirds. The approach was agreed with Natural England at an ETG meeting on 25 September 2023.
617. Natural England and NRW highlighted a lack of consideration of construction and maintenance vessel routes in the PEIR. NRW advised that some indication should be given as to the port where construction vessels are likely to sail from and noted that routes through the Liverpool Bay SPA should follow best practice protocols (including adhering to existing routes wherever possible), to minimise disturbance to red-throated diver and common scoter. The final selection of the port facilities required to construct and operate the Project have not yet been determined, however, it is assumed the construction port will be in the UK and the operational port will be within 50km of the windfarm site. It is assumed that, in a worst-case scenario, vessel movements will cross Liverpool Bay SPA. Embedded mitigation in the ES includes best practice vessel management, as detailed in the **Outline Project Environmental Management Plan** (Document Reference 6.2).
618. Natural England and NRW did not consider it appropriate to base the cumulative and in-combination assessments on unknowns for impacts from historical projects, and, therefore, did not comment on the potential significance of the cumulative and in-combination impacts presented in the PEIR and draft RIAA. Following further consultation with Natural England and NRW the cumulative and in-combination assessments in the ES and **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9) have been updated, taking into account available numbers from historical projects, alongside qualitative assessment which is considered to provide a robust assessment.
619. NRW advised that Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) needed to be assessed within the ES, where there is potential connectivity between the Project and seabird interest features of SSSIs that were not already considered in the draft RIAA (as part of SPAs/Ramsar sites) and highlighted the example of Pen y Gogarth/Great Orme's Head SSSI, which is designated

for breeding kittiwake, guillemot and razorbill. NRW also advised that consideration should be given to seabirds potentially passing through the Project on a broad migratory front. It is confirmed that effects on SSSIs are now considered in the ES. An assessment of collision risk for migratory seabird species is also set out in the ES.

620. NRW did not consider that species identification confidence levels ('Possible', 'Probable' or 'Definite') used to generate an 'ID rate' for survey data to be helpful, suggesting that more information was required to describe the data more fully, through presentation of the proportions of data assigned to all identification confidence categories for each species and each survey. Annex VII of **Appendix 12.2 Aerial Survey Two-Year Report Mar 21 to Feb 23** (Document Reference 5.2.12.2) presents the identification confidence levels for each species across the survey period. The average monthly ID rate has been checked and an average of 96.05% is obtained.
621. NRW noted that the assessments for a number of the Welsh designated sites were incomplete (e.g. Anglesey Terns SPA; Skomer, Skokholm and Seas off Pembrokeshire (SSSP) SPA), because not all the qualifying features that the HRA Screening Report had concluded to be screened in for LSE had been considered. NRW advised that once the full 24 months of data became available, and the sites and features screened in for LSE have been reviewed, the RIAA should be reviewed and updated, and all relevant qualifying features of sites screened in should be assessed. The **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9) has been reviewed and updated based on the full 24 months of survey data.
622. Natural England and NRW considered the calculation of an 'effective displacement area' for red-throated diver to be flawed and consider that red-throated divers could be affected over the whole displacement area. The Applicant does not agree that application of the displacement gradient to the effective area of displacement is without merit. It is established that the displacement effect will diminish as distance from the windfarm increases, and, therefore, it is logical to conclude that the effective area would also be reduced. It is acknowledged that the application of the Natural England gradient is a proxy, however the total (uncorrected) values have also been presented with the ES for comparison, in line with comments received.
623. Natural England advised the use of a graduated 10km buffer for assessing impacts on red-throated diver in the ES. Natural England subsequently confirmed, during the fifth ETG meeting (12 October 2023), that a 4km buffer for red-throated diver is acceptable for the EIA.
624. In relation to Manx shearwater, NE and NRW raised concerns about this species being screened out of construction disturbance and displacement in the PEIR; this was also queried by the IoM Government. All three bodies

advised that Manx shearwater should be screened into construction disturbance and displacement. Natural England also highlighted that Manx shearwater is a surface diving species and, therefore, it may be appropriate to consider availability bias. The Applicant considers Manx shearwater to have a low susceptibility to disturbance and displacement, based on previous studies, however, on a precautionary basis it has been screened into the construction disturbance and displacement assessment in the ES. There are currently insufficient peer-reviewed data for other surface diving species, such as Manx shearwater, therefore, the availability bias correction is limited to the auk species.

625. NRW stated that no consideration had been given to potential impacts of lighting during any phase on Manx shearwater (particularly in relation to the Coast and Bardsey Island SPA and Skomer Skokholm and Seas off Pembrokeshire (SSSP) SPA). The Applicant confirms that impacts of lighting, including consideration of the Marine Scotland (MS) report on OWF lighting impacts on Manx shearwater (Deakin *et al.*, 2022), have been considered in the ES and also discussed in the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).
626. NRW made a number of comments in relation to the apportionment of impacts to colonies in the non-breeding seasons, specifically in relation to SPA colonies including Grassholm SPA (gannet) and SSSP SPA (Manx shearwater), and the use of updated colony figures rather than those from Furness (2015), which they did not recommend. The apportioning approach for the non-breeding season has been updated in the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9) to reflect NRW's comment.
627. NRW did not agree that gannet should have been screened out of construction disturbance and displacement screening, due to its sensitivity to displacement and barrier effects. The Applicant considers gannet to have a low sensitivity to construction disturbance and displacement, and it is, therefore, considered reasonable to screen gannet out in respect of this impact pathway.
628. Awel y Môr OWF was not considered in the PEIR cumulative and in-combination assessment of lesser black-backed gull collision risk. Natural England advised that all impacts should be scoped into the in-combination assessment, including those that do not result in >1% increases of baseline mortality. The Applicant notes that lesser black-backed gull was recorded in very low numbers and scoped out of the assessment for Awel y Môr OWF, however, lesser black-backed gull mortality has been quantified for this site in the cumulative and in-combination assessments.
629. The RSPB raised concerns about breeding lesser black-backed gull, mentioning that the colonies at Bowland Fells SPA and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA require restoration to favourable conservation status, and highlighting a recent paper which stated that Bowland Fells may be the

largest lesser black-backed gull colony in the world. Impacts on SPA lesser black-backed gull colonies have been fully considered in the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9). The Bowland Fells SPA lesser black-backed gull colony has been screened into the assessment, however, lack of breeding season connectivity with offshore areas is noted, and this is referenced in the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).

630. The IoM Government requested that the transboundary assessment takes into account IoM designated sites and key seabird sites, highlighting that IoM has one Ramsar site (Ballaugh Curragh, which has wintering hen harrier as a qualifying feature). Impacts on IoM designated sites have been considered under transboundary impacts in the ES (except for Ballaugh Curragh Ramsar site which has been considered in the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9)).
631. Ballaugh Curragh Ramsar site was omitted from the draft RIAA, but the IoM Government acknowledged the results of the migratory non-seabird collision risk assessment presented at PEIR, which did not predict any hen harrier mortality from the Project. Impacts on Ballaugh Curragh Ramsar site have now been considered in the **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9). The updated migratory non-seabird collision risk assessment, which are considered to be negligible in EIA terms and would not affect any IoM sites/populations.
632. The IoM Government sought assurances that no Manx bird populations would be significantly adversely affected by the Project, highlighting the importance of the Calf of Man as a seabird breeding colony (particularly for Manx shearwater, for which it is the closest colony of this species to the Project) and suggesting Manx National Heritage and Manx Wildlife Trust would have most up to date breeding seabird figures for this colony. Effects on IoM breeding colonies have been considered in the ES. It should be noted that data used in the wider assessment includes available colony counts from IoM in the Seabird Monitoring Program (SMP) database. Seabird breeding data from the Calf of Man for 2022 has been obtained from Manx Wildlife Trust and are presented in the ES.
633. Due to time constraints, NWWT were unable to assess the PEIR offshore ornithology chapter, but echoed all of RSPB's comments and stated that they expected all impacts to be minimised through the project design and best use of available technology. NWWT also requested a full cumulative assessment to be undertaken, including consideration of transboundary impacts, and raised concerns over the possible disturbance, displacement and barrier effects on sensitive receptors, particularly black-backed gulls. The Applicant notes that design changes have been made since PEIR. The minimum rotor clearance above sea level has been increased to 25m above HAT (from 22m above HAT), and the maximum number of turbines and maximum tip height have been reduced. Further design details are not fixed at this stage in the process, but as the design develops, the use of best available technology will

be considered as appropriate. A full cumulative impact assessment has been undertaken and impacts on great black-backed gull and lesser black-backed gull have been fully considered in the ES and **RIAA** (Document Reference 4.9).

15.10.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

634. A small number of responses were received from members of the public in relation to offshore ornithology. These responses were varied, however, the main areas of concern were impacts to migrating birds and bird collision with WTG's. Other feedback expressed concern for impacts to wildlife in general.
635. Throughout the development of the Project, the Applicant has worked closely with stakeholders and has undertaken extensive data analysis to better understand potential impacts to birds, as demonstrated within the PEIR and ES offshore ornithology chapters. This feedback is noted by the Applicant, who will continue to work with stakeholders to mitigate any potential impacts where possible.

15.11 Commercial Fisheries (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 13)

15.11.1 Key stakeholders

636. On the topic of commercial fisheries, detailed comments were received on the PEIR chapter and associated appendix, alongside targeted consultation events with the fishing industry. The key stakeholders providing comment were North Western Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority (NWIFCA), MMO, the IoM Government, NFFO, WFA, NIFPO and Morecambe Bay Fisherman's Association. Full details of the comments and the Applicant's responses are provided in the **Chapter 13 Commercial Fisheries** (Document Reference 5.1.13).

15.11.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

637. Responses from the key stakeholders concentrated on concerns around the cumulative effects in the Irish Sea region. The Project has committed to mitigation for fleets impacted by the Project within the ES and, as such, no significant effects are identified. Whilst the contribution to cumulative effects from the Project is low, a cumulative assessment has been undertaken and has led to the commitment of monitoring fishing activity via publicly available sources and continued discussions with the fishing industry.
638. Responses from the NFFO and WFA identify their views that pre, during and post construction surveys should be undertaken, to expand baseline understanding and allow effects assessed in the ES to be verified. This view

is also echoed by Northern Ireland Fisheries Representatives, established through consultation meetings. The Applicant notes these views and, whilst site specific fisheries surveys have not been undertaken, a wide range of publicly available sources and consultations have led to a good understanding of the baseline used to inform the impact assessment. Monitoring of publicly available fishing activity data has also been committed to, and ongoing communications with stakeholders are highlighted in the **Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan** (Document Reference 6.3).

639. Detailed comments were provided by the IoM Government on the baseline data within the PEIR chapter and technical appendix. **Chapter 13 Commercial Fisheries** (Document Reference 5.1.12) and **Appendix 13.1 Commercial Fisheries Technical Report** (Document Reference 5.2.13.1) have been updated with the data sources provided, and a meeting has been held with the stakeholder to better understand and apply the suggested updates.
640. The MMO and NFFO stressed that it should be factored into the assessment that, during operation, there would be a change of fishing patterns within the windfarm site. The Applicant acknowledges that the use of the windfarm site during operation would be dependent on the type of fishery, noting the main activity in the site is potting and it is assumed this could resume during the operational phase to some level.
641. NWIFA identify the links to effects on the inshore fisheries, this is echoed by the Morecambe Bay Fishermen's Association. The Applicant notes that, whilst these fleets are not active in the windfarm site, there are potential effects to the species targeted by the inshore fisheries and, as such impacts to all fish and shellfish receptors are assessed within **Chapter 10 Fish and Shellfish Ecology** (Document Reference 5.1.10).

15.11.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

642. Minimal responses were received from members of the public in relation to fisheries. These responses were varied, however, the main area of concern was the potential loss of fishing ground. In contrast, one member of the public suggested all fishing should be banned within the windfarm site to improve wildlife. Commercial fishing activity has been characterised using landings statistics, publicly available vessel data, and engagement with the fishing industry.
643. Based on an analysis of the location of the Project, fishing activity is expected to be dominated by larger vessels potting for whelk, and to a lesser extent dredging for scallops. With additional mitigation for the construction period, Project effects have been assessed as minor.

644. The Applicant confirms that a Fishing Liaison Officer (FLO) for the Project is in place to maintain regular communication with the local fishery associations. This is presented in the **Outline Fisheries Liaison and Coexistence Plan** (Document Reference 6.3) which has been included within the DCO application. The plan also refers to the process for justifiable disturbance payments for impacted fleets, as appropriate.
645. Further information on our assessments can be found in **Chapter 13 Commercial Fisheries** (Document Reference 5.1.13).
646. Restrictions, if required, will be temporary and to meet Health and Safety (safety zone legislation) and the Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) obligations.

15.12 Shipping and Navigation (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 14)

15.12.1 Key stakeholders

647. Extensive consultation has been undertaken with shipping and navigation stakeholders, including at a regional level with the Mona Offshore Wind Project, Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets, and the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets. Established meetings with stakeholders have been held via the MNEF, the Navigation Risk Assessment (NRA) process, including bridge simulations and hazard workshops, as well as targeted Project consultation.
648. On the topic of shipping and navigation, responses included detailed comments on the PEIR chapter and the associated appendices – the NRA and the Cumulative Regional Navigation Risk Assessment (CRNRA). Key stakeholders providing comment were the Maritime Coastguard Agency (MCA), the IoM Government, IoMSPC, Stena Line, Seatruck, Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy and the Chamber of Shipping. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 14 Shipping and Navigation** (Document Reference 5.1.14), **Appendix 14.1 Navigation Risk Assessment (NRA)** (Document Reference 5.2.14.1), and **Appendix 14.2 Cumulative Regional Navigation Risk Assessment (CRNRA)** (Document Reference 5.2.14.2).

15.12.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

649. Responses from the key stakeholders, notably ferry operators, were detailed and focussed on the potential cumulative effects of the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project on navigational safety and ferry routeing in the Irish Sea, based on the project boundaries presented in

the PEIR. This was considered during CRNRA navigation simulation sessions, carried out in 2022, which resulted in numerous failed runs with all three projects in place, particularly during adverse weather and with complex traffic situations. The potential effects of the Project alone were limited to minor re-routing of ferries transiting between Liverpool and Belfast (operated by Stena Line).

650. To mitigate the potential significant adverse cumulative effects arising from the Project, Mona Offshore Wind Project and Morgan Offshore Wind Project, the site boundaries for all three projects were amended to increase the available searoom. Re-assessment has been undertaken, considering the revised project boundaries, responses from stakeholders and other risk controls adopted. The MNEF was also maintained to understand and discuss comments and concerns raised by stakeholders.
651. The CRNRA navigation simulations were re-run in 2023 with stakeholders to assess the potential effects on navigational safety when considering the revised project boundaries. The simulations were held at HR Wallingford and were attended by the key ferry operators, Stena Line, Seatruck and IoMSPC. The simulations found that the revised boundaries significantly improved navigational safety in comparison with the PEIR boundaries. Hazard workshops were held in September 2023 to inform the CRNRA and NRA, attended by key stakeholders. The results of the simulations and updated hazard scores were presented and all stakeholders were provided the opportunity to comment and amend the hazard scores. Additional risk controls and appropriate risk controls required to reduce any effects on navigation to As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) were reviewed with stakeholders.
652. The results of the updated NRA and CRNRA are presented and assessed in the ES in **Chapter 14 Shipping and Navigation** (Document Reference 5.1.14), the **NRA** (Document Reference 5.2.14.1) and **Appendix 14.2 CRNRA** (Document Reference 5.2.14.2). In summary, the changes made by the projects were shown to successfully mitigate the potential cumulative effects on navigation safety to ALARP, and therefore Tolerable. Whilst cumulative effects on some ferry operations are identified in the ES, the contribution made by the Project is considered minimal and the Applicant has undertaken consultation and proposed mitigation measures to manage residual effects to facilitate co-existence.
653. Key stakeholders also raised that the proposed Isle of Man Wind Farm (Moor Vannin OWF) should be considered within the navigation simulations and assessments, noting a Scoping Report for the project would be submitted later in 2023. Consideration of the potential cumulative effects of the Moor Vannin OWF with the Project and the Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Projects is presented in an Addendum to **Appendix 14.2 CRNRA** (Document Reference

5.2.14.2). As the Moir Vannin OWF Scoping Report was issued after the completion of many of the activities undertaken to inform the CRNRA, the assessment within the Addendum is primarily desk based, applying the high-level information contained within the Moir Vannin OWF Scoping Report to identify any changes to the earlier findings of the CRNRA. While some significant cumulative risks were identified when considering the Moir Vannin OWF in combination with other projects, the risks areas are not driven by the Project, which does not materially contribute to the effects.

654. The IoMSPC commented that they have no objection and do not anticipate any significant impact on their long-established sea routes due to the Project, when considered in isolation, with their concerns mainly around the cumulative impacts with the other Round 4 projects. The Applicant notes the minimal Project impacts to IoMSPC routes, also demonstrating minimal contribution to cumulative effects.
655. Developers of existing windfarms within the Irish Sea commented that more information was required regarding the locations where Project vessel activity would increase, noting the construction and operation and maintenance ports are not yet confirmed. Whilst the location of the port(s) to supply the Project have not been selected, mitigation measures have been embedded into the Project design to facilitate coexistence, with meetings held with operators to discuss these matters. Measures include use of safety zones, continued engagement with key stakeholders, use of Aids to Navigation and the establishment of a Vessel Traffic Management Plan (VTMP), a Crew Transfer Vessel (CTV) passage plan, and an Emergency Response Cooperation Plan (ERCoP).
656. Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy require safe vessel operations at their assets within the Irish Sea. The Applicant notes that the refinement of the windfarm site provides access to the Calder platform and that embedded separation distances from existing oil and gas infrastructure are built into the layout design to allow appropriate vessel access to oil and gas facilities.

15.12.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

657. In excess of 60 responses from members of the public were received. For those who provided contact details, most of the feedback came from residents of the IoM. These responses were varied, however, the main area of concern was potential impacts to ferry route operations in terms of safety, increase of journey time, marine traffic, additional costs being transferred to the consumer, potential impacts to the economy and an increased risk of cancellations.

658. Consultation with ferry route operators and shipping and navigation stakeholders has been extensive throughout the pre-application period and development of the Project.
659. As summarised in **Section 15.12.2** of this Consultation Report, since the publication of the PEIR and statutory consultation feedback, the Project windfarm site boundary and the maximum number of turbines proposed has been reduced to improve safety and navigation around the Project. A detailed **CRNRA** (Document Reference 5.2.14.2) has been undertaken on behalf of all Round 4 offshore windfarm projects in the Irish sea, noting the site boundaries for the Morgan and Mona Offshore Wind Projects have also been amended to reduce impacts to shipping and ferry route operations. The **CRNRA** concluded that the changes made by the projects since PEIR were shown to successfully mitigate the potential cumulative effects on navigation safety to ALARP. Whilst cumulative effects on some ferry operations are identified in the ES, the contribution made by the Project is considered minimal and the Applicant has undertaken consultation and proposed mitigation measures to manage residual effects to facilitate co-existence.
660. The **CRNRA** also includes an Addendum providing consideration of the Mooir Vannin OWF. While some significant cumulative risks were identified when considering the Mooir Vannin OWF in combination with other projects, the risks areas are not driven by the Project, which does not materially contribute to the effects.

15.13 Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 15)

15.13.1 Key stakeholders

661. On the topic of marine archaeology and cultural heritage, detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP and included discussion and provision of method statements to Historic England for planned survey works. Comments received included detailed comments on the PEIR chapter and associated appendices from Historic England and comments by Manx National Heritage on the consideration of heritage assets on the IoM. Some general amendments and corrections to the text in the PEIR were suggested by Historic England, which are acknowledged but are not included here. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in the ES **Chapter 15 Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage** (Document Reference 5.1.15) and supporting appendices.

15.13.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

662. Historic England recommended that, if it is the intention to use Archaeological Exclusion Zones (AEZs), that the ES should include detailed assessments of identifiable interest, to allow them to advise as to their archaeological significance. The Applicant confirms the ES includes a description of the archaeological interest of heritage assets to which an AEZ has been assigned.
663. Historic England noted that the PEIR references an Outline Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Offshore) but requested clarification regarding the preparation of a phase specific WSI. It is noted that an **Outline Offshore WSI** (Document Reference 6.10) has been produced and submitted with the DCO Application, forming an umbrella document for all future survey, investigation and assessment, which is to be supported by activity-specific Method Statements. The **Outline Offshore WSI** (Document Reference 6.10) will be followed by a pre-commencement detailed WSI (based on the Outline WSI), to be agreed with Historic England, to ensure archaeological objectives are taken into account. A final agreed WSI will be produced, post-consent, to be followed by Method Statements for each phase of construction.
664. Request was made to clarify the strategies for avoidance, as reference to policies used in the PEIR chapter incorrectly included National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which relate to onshore developments. It was recommended the application of AEZs should include, with an explanation about an adaptive approach, and Historic England reiterated that attempting to “repair damage” to archaeological sites can never be considered as mitigation. Reference to the NPPF has been removed from the ES, and embedded mitigation strategies for the Project are confirmed to include avoidance strategies.
665. The Manx National Heritage noted the potential impacts to heritage assets on the IoM. The Applicant has considered these impacts within the ES, including a settings assessment to account for potential visual impacts.

15.14 Civil and Military Aviation and Radar (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 16)

15.14.1 Key stakeholders

666. Targeted consultation with stakeholders, including all aviation operators potentially impacted by the Project, was undertaken by the Applicant as detailed in **Chapter 16 Civil and Military Aviation and Radar** (Document Reference 5.1.16). Feedback included detailed comments on the PEIR from a number of potentially affected stakeholders, with comments received from developers of existing Irish Sea offshore windfarms, Civil Aviation Authority

(CAA), Ministry of Defence (MOD), NATS, Harbour Energy, Spirit Energy and Stena Line. Following statutory consultation, the Applicant has continued to engage with stakeholders to further understand potential impacts and progress any mitigation solutions as required.

667. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 16 Civil and Military Aviation and Radar** (Document Reference 5.1.16) and supporting appendices.

15.14.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

668. MOD provided comments reflecting that they were content that the Project will not have an impact on Practice and Exercise Areas (PEXA).
669. IoM Airport requested the Project conducts thorough impact assessments, technical safeguarding assessments of aerodrome navigation systems, develops appropriate mitigation measures and regularly monitors the wind farms impact on aviation safety. It is confirmed that impacts on IoM Airport have been assessed in the ES chapter and the Project has engaged with the airport to discuss assessment outcomes.
670. Developers of the Barrow Offshore Wind Farm, Burbo Bank and Burbo Bank Extension Offshore Wind Farms, Walney and Walney Extension Offshore Wind Farms and West of Duddon Sands Offshore Windfarm all requested further information to be included in the ES on heliport site(s) or transit route(s) identified, to quantify the level of impact from helicopter usage. Further detail on radar mitigation solutions was also requested. These stakeholders also all expressed that communication is welcomed in collaborating in circumstances where emergency responses are required. Meetings and communications have been established by the Applicant with stakeholders. Information on the likely number of helicopter return trips during the throughout the Project is detailed in the ES, however, further details would be known and discussed post-consent. Potential radar mitigation solutions are also given in the ES, noting these would be further developed post-consent. The opportunity for collaboration with other Irish Sea developers on emergency response is noted, and an ERCoP would be submitted to the MMO under a condition of the draft DCO.
671. Stena Line expressed concerns about the high densities of WTGs on marine radar and potential radar interference from navigating in proximity to high density windfarms. They note that the PEIR identified a potential hazard that aviation lighting fitted to WTGs could cause confusion to mariners or impact their ability to manoeuvre safely. The ES provides an assessment of effects on radar and aviation lighting. The requirement for lighting to comply with Trinity House requirements is embedded in the Project design.

672. CAA made a number of requests for considerations for the ES, which included aviation obstacle notification, aeronautical obstacle lighting and marking, instrument flight procedures, requirements for winching operations and additional construction considerations for use of machinery above 100m in height. All of these topics have been considered in **Chapter 16 Civil and Military Aviation and Radar** (Document Reference 5.1.16) within either the mitigation and/or impact assessment sections.
673. CAA also noted that helicopter operators will likely need to re-route around the windfarms, which may lead to increased fuel burn and lower load capacity. Engagement with operators and duty holders is recommended. The Applicant confirms that consultation with relevant stakeholders has been undertaken and would continue as the Project design develops.
674. Harbour Energy has stated that the identified 1.5nm separation zone around oil and gas platforms with helidecks would be insufficient and that they require larger access routes around the Calder platform. Spirit Energy also stated they require further discussion around the proposed separation of WTGs/OSPs to platforms with a helideck. Regular meetings have been held between the Applicant and both Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy, noting also that the amendment made to the windfarm western boundary means the Calder platform now lies outside of the windfarm site, facilitating access. Specific access studies, including a helicopter access study, have been undertaken by the Applicant. Whilst this would be a logistical impact on the operator, Search and Rescue (SAR) access would remain unaffected. The Applicant has been in regular engagement with Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy throughout the development of the Project, to date. The Applicant is continuing to engage with Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy on terms of suitable cooperation and coexistence agreements, with protective provisions included in the draft DCO for completeness (as further discussed in **Chapter 17 Infrastructure and Other Users** (Document Reference 5.1.17) and in **Chapter 16 Civil and Military Aviation and Radar** (Document Reference 5.1.16)).
675. NATS has confirmed impacts to Lowther, Great Dun Fell and St Annes Primary Surveillance Radars (PSRs). NATS has also confirmed that a radar mitigation solution is available, with a draft requirement secured in the draft DCO. This is detailed further in Section 16.5.2.4 and discussed in Section 16.6.3.1 (as well as cumulatively in Section 16.7) in **Chapter 16 and Military Aviation and Radar** (Document Reference 5.1.16).

15.14.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

676. One response from members of the public was received in relation to aviation matters. The level of detail in the response was minimal and related to

concerns on potential impacts to low flying aircraft and associated radar systems.

677. The feedback from the member of the public has been noted. Consultation has been ongoing with aviation stakeholders to agree additional appropriate mitigations to safeguard aircraft and radar operations and these mitigations are secured within the draft DCO.

15.15 Infrastructure and Other Users (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 17)

15.15.1 Key stakeholders

678. Targeted consultation with stakeholders was undertaken by the Applicant as detailed in **Chapter 17 Infrastructure and Other Users** (Document Reference 5.1.17). Other ES topics which are relevant to the assessment for other marine users include commercial fisheries, shipping and navigation, civil and military aviation and radar, but summaries of the consultation responses to those topics are presented in other relevant sections of this report.
679. Key stakeholders for this topic were operators of cables, the IoM Government, Harbour Energy, Spirit Energy, MOD and developers/operators of existing and planned Irish Sea offshore windfarms, all providing responses on this topic related to the PEIR chapter. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 17 Infrastructure and Other Users** (Document Reference 5.1.17).

15.15.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

680. Havhingsten Cable System Consortia, Virgin Media and O2, Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy made comments regarding layout and buffer zones around existing infrastructure. The Applicant is committed to co-existence with other marine users and has adopted embedded mitigation that includes provisions for physical separation of Project WTGs/OSPs from existing infrastructure, and for crossing/proximity agreements to be agreed where required. The Applicant has undertaken specific helicopter access studies and radar studies and engaged in consultation with infrastructure operators to understand potential impacts and agree suitable management procedures to facilitate co-existence. Comments in relation to site layout have been covered in **Chapter 17 Infrastructure and Other Users** (Document Reference 5.1.17).
681. IoM Government commented that there was a licence issued for a hydrocarbon block 112/25 located within IoM waters, which was not included in the PEIR. This has now been updated and included in the ES.

682. IoM Government encouraged engagement with Manx Utilities for any survey works that are in close proximity to the IoM Interconnector cable and to limit cable crossings with the IoM Interconnector. They also highlighted plans for a second IoM Interconnector to be installed in the future, with potential overlap/interaction with the windfarm site. The Applicant notes that the existing IoM Interconnector cable is located 4.6km (c.2.5nm) to the north of the windfarm site and therefore no direct interaction is predicted, although increased vessel activity is assessed in **Chapter 14 Shipping and Navigation** (Document Reference 5.1.14). Engagement with Manx Utilities has identified the potential plan for a second Interconnector in the vicinity of the Project, which has been acknowledged in the CEA. But as plans are in their early stages, a detailed assessment cannot be made.
683. The developer of the proposed IoM Offshore Wind Farm (the Moir Vannin OWF) commented that consideration of the project should be included in the ES. As discussed in Section 15.12 of **Appendix 14.2 CRNRA** (Document Reference 5.2.14.2), includes an Addendum providing consideration of the Moir Vannin OWF. Furthermore, the cumulative assessment within relevant ES chapters include consideration of the Moir Vannin OWF, as applicable.
684. Given the proximity, a number of aspects have been raised by developers of existing windfarms (Barrow, West of Duddon Sands, Burbo Bank, Burbo Bank Extension and Walney Offshore Wind Farms, including the Walney Extension) including impacts to shipping and navigation, physical interaction of projects, helicopter activity, emergency response, radar mitigation and energy yield/wake effects. The Applicant has engaged with the developers (Ørsted and Scottish Power Renewables) of these operational windfarms to facilitate co-existence, noting the aspects raised, and would maintain ongoing engagement as the Project development progresses.
685. Harbour Energy and Spirit Energy both made comments regarding the requirement for marine and helicopter access around oil and gas infrastructure. Refinement of the windfarm site boundary means the Calder platform now sits outside the windfarm site, facilitating access. WTG/OSP layout separation distances of 1.5nm from oil and gas platforms with helidecks are also included in the Project design and an assessment of assess impacts has been undertaken. The layout is yet to be finalised, and discussions with owners and operators of oil and gas infrastructure in the area are ongoing, with a commitment from the Applicant to develop co-existence plans with Spirit Energy and Harbour Energy.

15.16 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 18)

15.16.1 Key stakeholders

686. Detailed engagement was facilitated through the EPP. Comments on the seascape, landscape and visual impact assessment (SLVIA) included comments on the PEIR chapter and on the Viewpoint Assessment Appendix by the CAA, IoM Government, NRW and Natural England. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 18 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** (Document Reference 5.1.18) and supporting appendices.

15.16.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

687. The CAA requested notification of a change to aviation obstacles if it or they are 100 metres or more above sea level and highlighted that a Lighting Management Plan (LMP) must be agreed and implemented in consultation with the CAA. The Applicant notes that standard lighting and marking requirements and consultation upon these are detailed in the **draft DCO** (Document Reference 3.1).
688. The IoM Government made comments regarding Morecambe, Mona and Morgan Offshore Windfarms generally concurring with the findings of the SLVIA assessment. NRW also commented to generally agree with the findings presented in the PEIR and the Viewpoint Assessment Appendix. NRW highlighted visual and landscape effects on Welsh receptors are scoped out, but that viewpoints from two Welsh sites are in the Appendix. These views are representative of the findings presented in **Chapter 18 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** (Document Reference 5.1.18).
689. Natural England agreed with the use of a 60km buffer/study area for the SLVIA and welcomed further engagement. Agreement with Natural England on the 60km study area for the SLVIA is noted.
690. Natural England also noted agreement that effects to the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and Arnside and Silverdale AONB would not be significant but noted that further assessment was needed. The AONBs are at least 50km from the Project and views at this distance would be limited. The Applicant has further engaged with the managers of the AONBs providing the results of the assessment.

15.16.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

691. A moderate number of responses were received from members of the public related to visual impact from various coastal viewpoints, but in general had concern over visual impacts from the Project. In contrast, others welcomed windfarm views across the landscape. The feedback from members of the public has been noted.
692. The Applicant undertook a SLVIA to understand the extent of views of the Project, as well as any effects on the landscape character. The study area was defined as 60km from the windfarm site and related to the **Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)** (Document Reference 5.3.18) as the zone within which likely significant effects may occur.
693. The assessments identified that many views of the Project are either distant and/or heavily influenced by existing operational offshore windfarms, however the introduction of the Project has been assessed to have some significant effects.
694. The areas with the most visual effects, which are deemed to be significant, are limited to areas around Fylde and Sefton Coastline in Lancashire. Although there are localised effects on views from this section of the coast, there are no measures available to completely mitigate the significant effects on views experienced by residents of these coastal settlements and tourist visitors.
695. The siting of the Project at long distance offshore is the key measure that minimises potential for significant effects experienced in coastal views.
696. Whilst the size, number and positioning of the WTGs has yet to be finalised, following the statutory consultation in 2023, the Project's windfarm site boundary has been reduced from 125km² to 87km² and the tip height of WTGs has been reduced. This has resulted in the windfarm site having a narrower lateral spread (east to west) and the apparent scale of the WTGs being smaller. The maximum number of WTGs has also been reduced from 40 to 35, which reduces effects.
697. Further information on our assessments can be found **Chapter 18 Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment** of the ES (Document Reference 5.1.18).

15.17 Human Health (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 19)

15.17.1 Key stakeholders

698. Alongside consultation initiated by the Applicant, statutory consultation feedback on this topic included comments on the PEIR chapter. Key

stakeholders were UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership (CLEP), Blackpool Council, Lancaster City Council, Westmorland and Furness Council and Isle of Anglesey Public Protection Department.

699. Full details of the consultation, comments on the PEIR and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 19 Human Health** (Document Reference 5.1.19).

15.17.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

700. The IoM Government commented that, as an island nation, they are heavily reliant on imported goods, including time-critical deliveries, such as food, medical supplies and construction materials, and disruptions to these lifeline goods can have broad societal impacts. The Applicant notes that impacts on health are assessed in **Chapter 19 Human Health** (Document Reference 5.1.19). Given the location of the Project (outside of main ferry routes to/from the IoM), and the associated minimal impacts on ferry routes to the IoM, no significant effects have been identified on human health as result of the Project. Cumulative effects are also assessed, as appropriate.
701. All statutory consultees for this topic were satisfied with the conclusions that were drawn in the PEIR health assessment. The ES assessment is based in the approach taken in the PEIR, noting onshore impacts are limited with the Project being offshore.

15.17.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

702. Minimal responses were received from members of the public regarding human health. These responses related to concerns on impacts to mental health. One member of the public expressed mental health being impacted, due to potential impacts to ferry route operations and the knock-on effect this will have to people's mental health. Another member of the public expressed how the Project would visually impact the seascape and landscape, which is relied upon to protect their mental health.
703. The Applicant has noted the responses, and these impacts are assessed within **Chapter 19 Human Health** (Document Reference 5.1.19), including consideration of interrelated effect from other topics, such as shipping and navigation and seascape and landscape.

15.18 Socio-economic, Tourism and Recreation (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 20)

15.18.1 Key stakeholders

704. Key comments in relation to socio-economic, tourism and recreation impacts were received from the IoM Government, CLEP, Stena Line and Westmorland and Furness Council. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 20 Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation** (Document Reference 5.1.20), and **Appendix 20.1 Offshore Windfarm Economic Impact Assessment Methodology** (Document Reference 5.2.20.1).
705. Further, an **Outline Skills and Employment Plan** (Document Reference 6.11) has been provided in the DCO Application, identifying continued engagement as the Project develops.

15.18.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

706. The IoM Government highlighted that Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Projects represent the biggest economic risk to the Island. They noted that the consultation documents did not provide sufficient discussion on the economic impacts on the IoM. They noted that disruptions to shipping of lifeline goods can have broad societal impact and that the IoM's competitive disadvantage in transit times for goods would worsen, with an increase in delays and cancellations. Comments from this stakeholder were provided as part of the IoM Government's response to the individual PEIRs for the Project and the Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Projects and as such, some of the comments did not directly apply to the Project. A discussion of any implications on the IoM due to the Project is provided in **Chapter 20 Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation** (Document Reference 5.1.20), as well as consideration of cumulative effects, as appropriate.
707. The IoM Government commented on the impact of delays on lifeline goods, and the potential for competitive disadvantage in transit times resulting from the presence of restrictions around the Irish Sea Round 4 projects (i.e. the Project and the Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Projects). They commented that the economic and social well-being of the island is closely tied to the reliability of shipping operations, and that increased economic costs can affect the attractiveness of the island as a place to live and work. The Applicant has provided a discussion of any socio-economic implications on the IoM due to the Project in **Chapter 20 Socio-economics, Tourism and Recreation** (Document Reference 5.1.20), but notes the limited effect of the Project in isolation and in terms of contribution to cumulative effects. As discussed in

Section 15.12, the Applicant has been part of the MNEF, used to discuss effects and mitigations in relation to ferry operators.

708. CLEP and Westmorland and Furness Council are generally supportive of the Project. CLEP sought engagement with the Project team, particularly in seeking opportunities for Cumbria businesses to build on the growing skills and capability in the Barrow area. Further consultation is expected as the Project development (and port(s) selection) progresses post-consent and the Applicant has produced an **Outline Skills and Employment Plan** (Document Reference 6.11).
709. Stena Line responded stating that further information was necessary to be provided before it can comment on any potential socio-economic impacts that might affect its operations. Further consultation has taken place since the PEIR regarding Project alone and cumulative operational effects, alongside revisions to the Project boundaries.

15.18.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

710. Several responses were received from members of the public. Based on the feedback provided, most of the feedback came from residents of the IoM. These responses were varied, however, the main area of concern was perceived lack of benefits to the Isle of Man. Concerns were also expressed on impacts to tourism, should impacts to ferry route operations occur.
711. After seeing benefits to the local economy and job creation, brought by other offshore windfarm developers in their community, other members of the public recognised the potential economic benefits that the Project could bring.
712. All feedback was noted by the Applicant. These potential impacts are assessed within **Chapter 20 Socio-Economics, Tourism and Recreation** (Document Reference 5.1.20), including consideration of interrelated effect from other topics, such as shipping and navigation and seascape and landscape.

15.19 Climate change (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 21)

15.19.1 Key stakeholders

713. Consultation responses relating to climate change included comments on the PEIR chapter and the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Assessment Methodology Appendix. Responses were received from the IoM Government, Manx Natural Heritage and Stena Line. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 21 Climate Change** (Document Reference 5.1.21) and supporting appendices.

15.19.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

714. The IoM Government commented that the PEIR was comprehensive, and the Project and emissions were clearly described. It noted that as ferries are by far the lowest carbon emitting way to travel to and from the Island, it is very important that these routes are not significantly affected by this development proposal. The Applicant acknowledges this comment in relation to emissions. The impact on ferries is assessed in **Chapter 14 Shipping and Navigation** (Document Reference 5.1.14).
715. Manx Natural Heritage highlighted the need for protection of the seabed, with particular reference to areas of high conservation or carbon sequestration value. The Applicant notes the windfarm site does not overlap with marine habitats with high carbon sequestration potential and no likely significant effects on blue carbon storage are expected.
716. Manx Natural Heritage commented that the PEIR chapter should consider the Transmission Assets. The Applicant confirms that the GHG assessment has been updated for the ES to consider the combined GHG emissions arising from the Project together with the Transmission Assets for the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Windfarms, which are the subject of a separate DCO application).
717. Stena Line noted indirect GHG emissions are not fully considered as the increase in GHG emissions resulting from additional vessel transit time when routing around the windfarms was not considered in the assessment. They noted there have been no cumulative assessments of the impact of the Mona, Morecambe and Morgan projects on direct/indirect GHG emissions or the climate generally. GHG emissions arising from the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Mona and Morgan Offshore Wind Projects fall beyond the system boundary for the Project's GHG assessment, as these are under separate DCO Applications. In line with IEMA's guidance (2022), the effects of GHG emissions from non-Project related developments are not individually assessed. However, the GHG emissions associated with ferry diversions have been calculated and presented in the ES.

15.19.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

718. A moderate number of responses were received from members of the public. Most of which were supportive of renewable energy generation and were in agreement that it is essential for fighting climate change. One member of the public felt however that climate change is a hoax.
719. Whilst recognising the need for renewable energy, some expressed their concern on potential impacts to ferry route operations and that these should be considered whilst developing the Project.

720. The Applicant is supportive of the UK Government's Net Zero by 2050 target, recognising that more needs to be done to tackle climate change. Throughout the development of the Project, the Applicant has, and will continue to, collaborate with stakeholders, enabling us to coexist and enable the balance of different users offshore.

15.20 Traffic and Transport (PEIR Volume 1, Chapter 22)

15.20.1 Key stakeholders

721. Comments on traffic and transport were from CLEP, Westmorland and Furness Council and the IoM Government. Full details of the comments and the Applicant responses are provided in **Chapter 22 Traffic and Transport** (Document Reference 5.1.22) and supporting appendices.

15.20.2 Section 42 responses and Applicant regard

722. CLEP and Westmorland and Furness Council are generally supportive of the Project, and Westmorland and Furness Council highlighted that Barrow Port is already a significant offshore wind supply base and that key area of focus should be the approach to utilising local assets, resource and facilities. They note that onshore traffic movements may need to be assessed. The Applicant notes that skills and employment plans, as well as the supply chain for the Project, are being developed. Further consultation upon these would be expected as the Project design and Port selection process progresses post-consent. An **Outline Port Access and Transport Plan** (Document Reference 6.7) has been submitted as part of the DCO Application, which sets out management of onshore traffic when the port(s) are confirmed.

15.20.3 Section 47 responses and Applicant regard

723. Several responses were received regarding traffic from members of the public. However, only one response referred to traffic to the road or highway network, noting that additional traffic is expected during the construction phase. The feedback from the member of public has been noted. Based on the feedback received, the Applicant believes this feedback is associated with the Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets project.
724. The remainder of the feedback received from members of the public related to marine traffic. Further information on how the Application has had regard can be found in **Section 15.12.3** of this Consultation Report.

16 Post-statutory consultation engagement

725. Following the statutory consultation activities prescribed by the PA 2008, where appropriate, the Applicant continued to engage with stakeholders to discuss matters raised within their consultation feedback, to seek to resolve any outstanding issues prior to submitting the DCO Application.
726. The Applicant has also continued to engage with the EPP Steering Group and ETGs post-statutory consultation, with a series of meetings held between June 2023 and February 2024 to discuss the statutory consultation responses and updated assessments.
727. Relevant outcomes of the ETG meetings are discussed in detail within the consultation sections of the individual ES chapters, as well as in the EPP Report (Appendix A1).
728. Consultation also continued to take place with stakeholders regarding issues associated with commercial fishing, shipping and navigation, aviation and radar and infrastructure and other users. Ongoing consultation across these topics post-statutory consultation is presented in **Table 6.2** to **Table 6.5**. Where relevant, the outcomes of these consultations are detailed within the consultation sections of each respective ES chapter.

16.1 Announcement of design refinements

729. In September 2023, the Applicant announced that feedback received during the statutory consultation had helped a decision to be made to reduce the windfarm site development area.
730. A four-page newsletter was created detailing this and other Project refinements. This is included as Appendix H1.
731. This post-consultation newsletter explained that the Applicant had been working closely with stakeholders to understand the potential impacts of the proposed offshore windfarm and to identify how it could work with stakeholders to mitigate any potential effects.
732. Specifically, the newsletter explained that feedback received during the statutory consultation, alongside further engineering, environmental and technical work, had informed a decision to reduce the windfarm site development area from 125km² to 87km².
733. The Applicant said it believed this would further reduce the effects on ferry operations and other marine users, as well as reducing cumulative effects, when considered alongside other neighbouring developments.
734. The newsletter also highlighted that the Applicant would be reducing its maximum number of turbines from 40 to 35, whilst still generating at a nominal

capacity of 480MW, producing renewable power for over 500,000 homes in the UK.

735. In addition, it was noted that:

- The Applicant would continue to undertake assessments and engage with stakeholders and regulators to explore whether it could further mitigate any potential effects
- Geotechnical surveying was currently taking place within the reduced windfarm site development area
- The Applicant intended to submit its Application for DCO in Q2 2024
- A separate statutory consultation was due to start for Morgan and Morecambe Offshore Wind Farms: Transmission Assets. This refers to the offshore and onshore assets that would be used to transport electricity from the Project and the Morgan Offshore Wind Project Generation Assets (a neighbouring development being led by EnBW/bp) to the National Grid substation at Penwortham
- The newsletter was distributed to members of the MNEF, ETGs and other technical stakeholders and uploaded to the consultation website, where it remains available for download.

17 Statements of Common Ground

736. Where possible, the Applicant has sought (and is continuing to seek) Statements of Common Ground (SoCGs) with key consultees to assist PINS and the SoS to understand which issues regarding the Project have been resolved and which remain unresolved.
737. The SoCGs would set out a record of consultation undertaken to date with each relevant stakeholder and the key areas of agreement and any outstanding issues. The SoCGs would be updated throughout the Examination period to reflect ongoing consultation, as required.

18 Conclusion

738. In this Consultation Report, the Applicant has set out how it has demonstrated its commitment to a robust consultation, which is dedicated to the principles of openness, transparency and collaboration. Consulting with people living and working near to the project, and who may be affected by the development, is an integral part of the DCO planning process. This Consultation Report explains that all consultation activity has been conducted accordingly, with an emphasis not merely on legal compliance, but on a comprehensive engagement. This spans the Project's earlier, pre-scoping phase in July 2021, to the published periods of non-statutory consultation in 2022 and the statutory consultation in 2023. It also covers the ongoing community and stakeholder engagement activity that has continued beyond consultation and into 2024.
739. The Consultation Report has set out how the Applicant has fulfilled its statutory obligations under Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the PA 2008 regarding who should be consulted, how they should be consulted and how the consultation should be publicised. The Consultation Report itself aligns with the recommended structure and content for a comprehensive Consultation Report and provides a detailed account of all pre-application stage consultation and stakeholder engagement activities related to the Project, in accordance with PINS guidelines and the DCLG Guidance.
740. The Applicant has striven for the highest standards regarding compliance. To demonstrate that the Applicant has met the requirements of both legislation and guidance regarding pre-application consultation, a Consultation Compliance Checklist is provided (see Document Reference 1.4).
741. In particular, and in compliance with Section 47(7) of the PA 2008, consultation was carried out in accordance with the proposals set out in the SoCC. As set out in PINS Advice Note Fourteen, the Consultation Report has provided evidence of how the Applicant has complied with the published SoCC.
742. Throughout all stages of consultation, the Applicant's main aim has been to allow interested parties the opportunity to provide their feedback on the proposals. The Applicant is grateful to all individuals and organisations who have taken part in the consultation and submitted their views. All these views have been considered as the proposals have been refined ahead of submitting the DCO Application.
743. All feedback has been published, along with the Applicant's regard to the feedback, as part of this Consultation Report, and a summary has been given of where feedback has influenced the project design (as prescribed by Section 49 of the 2008 Act).

19 Next Steps

744. The Applicant is committed to continued engagement with stakeholders, relevant LPAs, neighbouring projects and with anyone who may have an interest in the Project.
745. It is the Applicant's intention to issue regular Project updates, as appropriate (see **Section 15** for where this being delivered). The updates will be provided via the project website, social media, by email and through engagement with stakeholders.
746. Additionally, there are statutory notification and publicity requirements pursuant to Section 56 of the PA 2008 that the Applicant will need to fulfil, subject to the acceptance of the Application for examination by the SoS. This will provide a further opportunity for interested parties to make comments, which will continue during the Examination period. The Applicant is likely to adopt a similar approach to electronic and postal service as that carried out during statutory consultation. This will provide a further opportunity for interested parties to make comments, which will continue during the Examination period.

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