

6 Cultural Heritage Assessment

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 This chapter outlines the cultural heritage context of the Proposed Development and considers the potential effects on cultural heritage assets associated with the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Proposed Development. The specific objectives of the chapter are to:

- Describe the current baseline within, and in the vicinity of, the Proposed Development;
- Describe the assessment methodology and significance criteria used in completing the impact assessment;
- Describe the potential effects, including direct and indirect effects, effects on the settings of heritage assets, and cumulative effects;
- Describe the mitigation measures proposed to address the likely significant effects; and
- Assess the residual effects remaining following the implementation of mitigation measures.

6.1.2 The assessment has been carried out by Jack Litchfield and reviewed and approved by Mhairi Hastie of CFA Ltd. Further details of experience and qualifications are provided in **Chapter 1: Introduction**. It has been prepared in accordance with both the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' 'Code of Conduct' (CIfA 2022) and 'Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment' (CIfA 2020), as well as the 'Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK' (IEMA 2021). The relevant statutory and planning frameworks for cultural heritage have been followed throughout.

6.1.3 The chapter is supported by the following figures and technical appendixes:

- **Figure 6.1:** Cultural Heritage Inner Study Area;
- **Figure 6.2:** Cultural Heritage Outer Study Area;
- **Figure 6.3:** Cultural Heritage Cumulative Schemes;
- **Technical Appendix 6.1:** Cultural Heritage Assets within the Inner Study Area (as shown on **Figures 6.2 and 6.3**);

- **Technical Appendix 6.2:** Cultural Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area (as shown on **Figures 6.2 and 6.3**); and
- **Technical Appendix 6.3:** Cultural Heritage Visualisations (**Figures 6.4 to 6.12**).

6.1.4 Figures, visualisations, and technical appendices are referenced in the text where relevant.

6.2 Legislation, Policy and Guidance

6.2.1 Legislation relevant to cultural heritage includes:

- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979;
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Scotland Act 1997, as amended by Historic Environment Scotland 2011); and
- Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment, Scotland) Regulations 2017.

6.2.2 The primary planning policy and guidance at the national level comprises:

- National Planning Framework (NPF4);
- Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (HESPS) 2019;
- Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting (HES 2016, updated 2020);
- Scottish Government Planning Advice Note 1/2013: Environmental Impact Assessment (PAN1/2013);
- Scottish Government Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology (PAN 2/2011); and
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Code of Conduct (CIfA 2014, revised 2022);
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (CIfA 2014, updated 2020);
- Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK (IEMA 2021);
- Designation Policy and Selection Guidance (HES 2019); and

- Environmental Impact Assessment Handbook (Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and HES 2018¹)

6.2.3 At the regional and local level, planning policy and guidance is set out in:

- Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan 2 (February 2024)

6.3 Consultation

6.3.1 Consultation for the Proposed Development was undertaken with statutory and non-statutory bodies as set out in Chapter 4.

6.3.2 The outcome of the relevant consultation with regards to cultural heritage is summarised in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1: Consultation Responses

Consultee	Summary of Responses	How Response Addressed
Historic Environment Scotland (HES) (Scoping Opinion, 20 October 2023)	Confirmed that there are no Scheduled Monuments, Category A Listed Buildings, World Heritage Sites, Inventory Battlefields or Gardens and Designed Landscapes within the Proposed Development boundary. Physical impacts are therefore not expected.	Noted The current baseline of the Inner Study Area is detailed in Section 6.6.
	Noted that there are a number of nationally important historic environment assets in the vicinity of the Proposed Development with the potential to experience adverse impacts on their settings and requested that the EIA paid particular attention to the potential impacts on the settings of the following heritage assets: Beacharr standing stone & long cairn (SM 182); Killean, fort NE of (SM 3179); Dun Beachaire, dun (SM 3143); Low Clachaig, cup marked boulder 915m E of (SM 4352); The Dolls' Houses, Killean (LB 43266); Killean House (LB 12005).	Noted. Follow up post-scoping consultation was carried out with HES (18/01/2024) by email, with draft wirelines issued for comments. The layout of the Proposed Development was revised in April 2024, reducing the number of turbines from twelve to nine turbines (see Figure 6.1). Following the reduction of the number of turbines, a revised design layout and updated Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was prepared and circulated to HES (29/04/2024) for further comments. Cultural heritage visualisations included in the EIAR are provided in Technical Appendix 6.3 (Figures 6.4 to 6.12) .

¹ Scottish Natural Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland (2018) Environment Impact Assessment Handbook.

Consultee	Summary of Responses	How Response Addressed
		Assessment of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on heritage assets within the Outer Study is provided in Technical Appendix 6.2 and, where requested by statutory consultees and/or potentially significant effects are predicted, in detail in Section 6.8.
	Requested that the potential cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development be assessed in combination with other developments in the vicinity. This should assess the incremental impact or change when the Proposed Development is combined with other present and reasonably foreseeable developments.	Noted Assessment of the cumulative impacts of the Proposed Development in combination with other developments is provided in Section 6.9.
	Welcomed that cultural heritage effects were being scoped into the assessment and noted that they were generally content with the methodology proposed for the assessment of impacts.	Noted The study areas used for the assessment are set out in Section 6.4.
	Welcomed the commitment given in section 7.6 of the Scoping Report to ensuring that heritage assets are not physically impacted during construction works. Advised that they would expect setting impacts to be mitigated within the design and assessment process.	Noted. The layout of the Proposed Development was revised in April 2024 (see Chapter 3: Design Evolution and Alternatives), reducing the number of turbines from twelve to nine (See Figure 6.1). The two northernmost turbines have been removed, increasing the stand-off buffer between the Proposed Development and the closest non-statutory register (NSR) Site: the Loch Dirigadale, cup-marked rock (7). The assessment of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on the setting of heritage assets is provided in Technical Appendix 6.2 and, where requested by statutory consultees and/or potentially significant effects are predicted, in detail in Section 6.8.
	Advised that where potentially significant impacts on an asset are identified, wireframes should be prepared to help assess these, and that where the impacts prove to be significant, photomontages should be prepared to illustrate the effects.	Noted. Follow up post-scoping consultation was carried out with HES (18/01/2024) by email, with draft wirelines issued for comments.

Consultee	Summary of Responses	How Response Addressed
	<p>Recommended that visualisations are included in the EIAR from the following heritage assets: Kilean, Fort (SM 3179); Beacharr, Standing Stones & Long Cairn (SM 182); Dun Bechaire Dun (SM 3143) and Low Clachaig, Cup Marked Boulder (SM 4352).</p>	<p>The layout of the Proposed Development was revised in April 2024, reducing the number of turbines from twelve to nine turbines (see Figure 6.1).</p> <p>Following the reduction of the number of turbines, a revised design layout and updated Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was prepared and circulated to HES (29/04/2024) for further comments.</p> <p>Cultural heritage visualisations included in the EIAR are provided in Technical Appendix 6.3 (Figures 6.4 to 6.12).</p> <p>Assessment of the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on the setting of these heritage assets is provided in Technical Appendix 6.2 and, where potentially significant effects are predicted, in detail in Section 6.8.</p>
	<p>Advised that due to the proximity of Category A Listed Doll's Houses (LB 43266) to the proposed access track and proposed turbine locations there is potential for the listed buildings to experience significant impacts from works associated with the construction and use of the Proposed Development. Requested that these impacts should be assessed within the EIA and mitigated if necessary.</p>	<p>Assessment of the potential effects of the Proposed Development on the setting of The Doll's Houses is provided in Section 6.8 and Technical Appendix 6.2.</p>
	<p>Advised that the proposed access track for the Proposed Development runs to the immediate north of Kilean, Fort (SM 3179). The present infrastructure already has an adverse impact on the appreciation of the fort's setting, and this could be exacerbated were the track to be repurposed as an access road for the Proposed Development.</p>	<p>The upgrades proposed for the access track, where it passes Kilean Fort, are minimal, comprising only resurfacing work, without any road widening or realignment. The track is already in use as a forestry haul road, facilitating access to Deuchran Hill Wind Farm, and these minor upgrade works (resurfacing) would not result in a noticeable change to the existing access track.</p>
	<p>Requested that any impacts on the setting of St John's Church, church, burial ground and carved stones (SM 3030) from the proposed access road should be assessed within the EIAR.</p>	<p>Assessment of the potential effects of the abnormal loads access on the setting of St John's Church is provided in Technical Appendix 6.2.</p>

Consultee	Summary of Responses	How Response Addressed
	Requested that the impacts of the Proposed Development on Dun Skeig, Duns and Fort (SM 2491) and Dun Chibhich, Fort (SM 3230) be assessed in the EIA.	The potential impact of the Proposed Development on the settings of Dun Skeig, Duns and Fort, and Dun Chibhich, Fort, is assessed in Section 6.8 and Technical Appendix 6.2 .
West Kintyre Community Council (Scoping Opinion, 05 October 2023)	Considered that Scheduled Monuments Duns Skeig, Duns and Fort (SM 2491) and A'Chleit Chuch, should be assessed for potential impacts resulting from the Proposed Development.	The potential impact of the Proposed Development on the setting of Dun Skeig, Duns and Fort (SM2491), and A'Chleit Church (LB12035) is provided in Section 6.8 and Technical Appendix 6.2 .
Campbeltown Community Council (Scoping Opinion, 04 October 2023)	Recommended that a visualisation is provided St John's Church at Killean, a culturally and historically significant monument with ties to local tourism.	A visualisation from St John's Church has been included (Technical Appendix 6.3 Figure 6.4), showing only limited visibility of the Proposed Development. This is outlined in Section 6.8 and Technical Appendix 6.2 .

6.4 Methodology

Scope of Assessment

6.4.1 The assessment evaluates the effects of the Proposed Development on:

- Scheduled Monuments and other archaeological features;
- Listed Buildings and other buildings of historic or architectural importance;
- Conservation Areas;
- Gardens and Designed Landscapes; and
- Inventory Historic Battlefields.

6.4.2 Hereafter, the above are referred to collectively as 'heritage assets'.

6.4.3 The assessment considers potential direct and indirect effects, effects on setting, and cumulative effects associated with the construction, operation, and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.

Baseline Characterisation

Study Area

6.4.4 Two study areas were used for this assessment:

- The Inner Study Area (**Figure 6.1**): the Proposed Development site boundary forms the study area for the identification of heritage assets

that could receive direct or indirect effects arising from the construction of the Proposed Development.

- The Outer Study Area (**Figure 6.2**): a wider study area extending 10km from the site boundary has been used to identify cultural heritage assets with settings that may be affected by the Proposed Development (including cumulative effects). Consideration has also been given to designated heritage assets beyond 10km where long-distance views and intervisibility are considered important to an asset's setting. One heritage asset (Dun Skeig SM 2491), outwith the 10km Study Area, was specifically identified by statutory consultees as requiring assessment given that it has theoretical intervisibility with the proposed wind turbines (Table 6.1). Assets identified as having settings sensitive to change are included in the assessment, even where no visibility is predicted from the asset, as views towards or across such sites may be important aspects of the settings.

Desk Study

- 6.4.5 Details of the locations and extents of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and Inventory Historic Battlefields were downloaded in GIS format from Historic Environment Scotland's Spatial Data Warehouse².
- 6.4.6 Information on known assets within the site was obtained in GIS format from the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) Historic Environment Record (HER)³.
- 6.4.7 Additional information on the character and condition of known heritage assets within the site was obtained from the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) via the online archive (Canmore)⁴.
- 6.4.8 Ordnance Survey maps (1870⁵, 1900⁶, and 1924⁷) and other early maps held by the Map Library of the National Library of Scotland were examined

² Historic Environment Scotland (HES) GIS downloader, available at <http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/spatialdownloads> (Accessed September 2023).

³ WoSAS HER - data provided as GIS extract on 13/07/2023 (CA1402)

⁴ Historic Environment Scotland (HES), Canmore [online], available at: <http://pastmap.org.uk/> (Accessed August 2023)

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1870) Argyllshire, Sheet CCXXXVI, 6 inches to 1 mile and Argyllshire, Sheet CCXXXV.11, 25 inches to 1 mile

⁶ Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map (1900) Argyllshire, Sheet CCXXXV1.SE, 6 inches to 1 mile

⁷ Ordnance Survey (1924) Argyllshire, Sheet CCXXXV, 6 inches to 1 mile

to provide information on sites of potential heritage value and on historic land-use development.

- 6.4.9 An assessment was made of available modern aerial photograph imagery (www.maps.google.co.uk)⁸.
- 6.4.10 The online Historic Land-Use Assessment Data for Scotland maps (HLAMap)⁹, maintained by HES, was consulted for information on the historic land use character of the site.
- 6.4.11 Relevant bibliographic references and digital historic research resources were consulted to provide background and historic information. These include: McInnes 1935¹⁰; Colville 1953¹¹; Coles 1962¹²; Glendinning 2007¹³; and the ‘History of Killean Estate in Kintyre’ (www.killeanestate.com)¹⁴.

Field Survey

- 6.4.12 No field survey has been undertaken for this application. The site was fully surveyed in 2015-16, for an earlier application of the same site, and the results of that survey remain valid for this application. That survey concentrated on proposed turbine locations and previously recorded cultural heritage assets, such as those in pastureland on the slopes of Cnoc Odhar Auchaluskin and in forestry near Loch Dirigadale. The interiors of commercial forestry compartments were not surveyed due to access difficulties.
- 6.4.13 An additional survey was carried out in 2018 (Birch 2018), covering part of the site boundary around Braids, and the results of that survey have been added to the baseline reported here.
- 6.4.14 An EIA was undertaken in support of an application on the same site (RES Ltd 2016). As there has been only a moderate change to the layout and height of the proposed turbines, it is considered that the results of setting

⁸ Google™ maps [online], available at: <http://www.google.com/intl/en/earth/index.html> (Accessed Nov 2015)

⁹ Historic Environment Scotland (HES), Historic Land-Use Assessment Data for Scotland, available at: <http://hلامap.org.uk> (Accessed August 2023)

¹⁰ McInnes, L (1935) Scroll descriptive of local prehistoric antiquities, (MS 92 Collection of the Kintyre Antiq Soc, Campbeltown Public Library)

¹¹ Colville, D (1953) Information provided from Colville to the Ordnance Survey in 1953, recorded by HES Canmore, record 38901

¹² Coles, J.M. (1962) ‘Scottish Late Bronze Age metalwork: typology, distribution and chronology’, PSAS, Vol 93, 1959-60, p16-134

¹³ Glendinning, B (2007) ‘Proposed Wind Farm at Cruach nan Gabhar, Kintyre, Argyll & Bute: Desk-based Study’, CFA Archaeology Report no 362

¹⁴ History of Killean Estate in Kintyre [online], available at: <http://www.killeanestate.com/history-killeanestate.php> (Accessed August 2023)

visits undertaken for the 2016 EIA remain valid for this assessment, and the setting assessment has been informed by the results of those visits.

6.4.15 The baseline character and assessed relative sensitivity of the heritage assets identified through desk-based assessment and field survey is set out in **Technical Appendix 6.2**. Interpretive statements on the relative importance and sensitivity of heritage assets are included below in the Baseline Conditions section.

Sensitivity Criteria

6.4.16 Cultural heritage assets are assigned value/importance through the designation process. Designation ensures that sites and places are recognised and protected by law through the planning system and other regulatory processes. The level of protection and how a site or place is managed varies depending on the type of designation and the laws and policies that apply to it (HES 2019).

6.4.17 Table 6.2 summarises the relative sensitivity of heritage assets (including their settings) relevant to the Proposed Development, based on the guidance set out in the SNH/HES EIA Handbook (version 5 2018).

Table 6.2: Sensitivity of Heritage Assets

Sensitivity of Asset	Definition / Criteria
High	Assets valued at an international or national level, including: Scheduled Monuments; Category A Listed Buildings; Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes; Inventory Historic Battlefields; and Non-designated assets that meet the relevant criteria for designation (including sites recorded in HERs as non-statutory register (NSR) sites with codes C and V, denoting presumed national importance).
Medium	Assets valued at a regional level, including: Archaeological sites and areas that have regional value (contributing to the aims of regional research frameworks); Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (ASA) (where these are identified in Local Authority records); Non-Inventory Designed Landscapes (NIDL) (where these are identified in Local Authority records); Category B Listed Buildings; and Conservation Areas.
Low	Assets valued at a local level, including: Archaeological sites that have local heritage value;

Sensitivity of Asset	Definition / Criteria
	Category C listed buildings; and Unlisted historic buildings and townscapes with local (vernacular) characteristics.
Negligible	Assets of little or no intrinsic heritage value, including: Artefact find-spots (where the artefacts are no longer in situ and where their provenance is uncertain); and Poorly preserved examples of particular types of features (e.g. quarries and gravel pits, dilapidated sheepfolds, etc)

Magnitude of Effect

6.4.18 The magnitude of impact (adverse or beneficial) will be assessed in the categories ‘high’, ‘medium’, ‘low’, and ‘negligible’, as described in Table 6.3.

Table 6.3: Magnitude of Impact

Magnitude of Impact	Criteria	
	Adverse	Beneficial
High	Changes to the fabric or setting of a heritage asset resulting in the complete or near complete loss of the asset’s cultural significance. Changes that substantially detract from how a heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.	Preservation of a heritage asset <i>in situ</i> where it would otherwise be completely or almost completely lost. Changes that appreciably enhance the cultural significance of a heritage asset and how it is understood, appreciated, and experienced.
Medium	Changes to those elements of the fabric or setting of a heritage asset that contribute to its cultural significance such that this quality is appreciably altered. Changes that appreciably detract from how a heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.	Changes to important elements of a heritage asset’s fabric or setting, resulting in its cultural significance being preserved (where this would otherwise be lost) or restored. Changes that improve the way in which the heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.
Low	Changes to those elements of the fabric or setting of a heritage asset that contribute to its cultural significance such that this quality is slightly altered. Changes that slightly detract from how a heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.	Changes that result in elements of a heritage asset’s fabric or setting detracting from its cultural significance being removed. Changes that result in a slight improvement in the way a heritage asset is understood, appreciated, and experienced.
Negligible	Changes to fabric or setting of a heritage asset that leave its cultural significance unchanged and do not affect how it is understood, appreciated, and experienced.	

Assessment of Effects on Setting (Indirect Effects)

- 6.4.19 The SNH/HES EIA Handbook (2018) Appendix 1, paragraph 42 advises that:
“In the context of cultural heritage impact assessment, the receptors are the heritage assets, and impacts will be considered in terms of the change in their cultural significance.”
- 6.4.20 Historic Environment Scotland's guidance document, 'Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting' (HES 2016), notes that:
"Setting can be important to the way in which historic structures or places are understood, appreciated, and experienced. It can often be integral to a historic asset's cultural significance."
"Setting often extends beyond the property boundary or 'curtilage' of an individual historic asset into a broader landscape context".
- 6.4.21 The guidance also advises that:
"If the proposed development is likely to affect the setting of a key historic asset, an objective written assessment should be prepared by the applicant to inform the decision-making process. The conclusions should take into account the significance of the asset and its setting, and attempt to quantify the extent of any impact. The methodology and level of information should be tailored to the circumstances of each case."
- 6.4.22 The guidance recommends that there are three stages in assessing the impact of a development on the setting of a historic asset or place:
- Stage 1: identify the historic assets that might be affected by the Proposed Development;
 - Stage 2: define and analyse the setting by establishing how the surroundings contribute to the ways in which the historic asset or place is understood, appreciated, and experienced; and
 - Stage 3: evaluate the potential impact of the proposed changes on the setting, and the extent to which any negative impacts can be mitigated.
- 6.4.23 The SNH/HES EIA Handbook (2018) Appendix 1, paragraph 43 advises that:
“When considering setting impacts, visual change should not be equated directly with adverse impact. Rather the impact should be assessed with reference to the degree that the proposal affects those aspects of setting that contribute to the asset’s cultural significance.”

- 6.4.24 Following these recommendations, the turbine blade tip (180m) ZTV (**Figure 6.2**) for the Proposed Development has been used to identify those heritage assets from which there would be theoretical visibility of one or more of the proposed wind turbines, and the degree of theoretical visibility (see Technical Appendix 6.2). The heritage assets subject to degrees of theoretical visibility comprise:
- Scheduled Monuments, Category A and B Listed Buildings, Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes, and NSR sites within the Outer Study Area; and
 - Category C Listed Buildings within 5km of the outermost turbines.
- 6.4.25 Consideration was also given to possible impacts on the settings of designated and non-designated heritage assets where there is no predicted visibility from the asset but where views of or across the asset are important factors contributing to its cultural significance. In such cases, consideration was given to whether the Proposed Development could appear in the background to those views. No such sites were identified.
- 6.4.26 Consideration was also given to designated heritage assets within the Outer Study Area where long-distance views and intervisibility between monuments are considered to be important aspects of an asset's setting. Dun Skeig (SM 2491), which lies approximately 12.3km to the north of the Proposed Development site, was identified by statutory consultees as requiring assessment given that it has theoretical intervisibility with the Proposed Development. An assessment is provided in **Technical Appendix 6.2**.

Significance Criteria

- 6.4.27 The sensitivity of the asset (Table 6.2) and the magnitude of the predicted impact (Table 6.3) will be used to inform an assessment of the level of the effect (direct effect, indirect effect or effect on setting), summarised using the formula set out in Table 6.4. The matrix employs a graduated scale (from negligible to major effects). Where two outcomes are possible through application of the matrix, professional judgement, supported by reasoned justification, will be used to determine the level of effect.

Table 6.4: Significance of Effect

Magnitude of Impact	Sensitivity of Asset			
	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
High	Major	Major / Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor / Negligible
Medium	Major / Moderate	Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor / Negligible
Low	Moderate / Minor	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Negligible
Negligible	Minor / Negligible	Minor / Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

- 6.4.28 Major and moderate effects are considered ‘significant’ in the context of The Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 (EIA Regulations). Minor and negligible effects are considered ‘not significant’.
- 6.4.29 Where a significant effect on the setting of a scheduled monument is predicted as a result of change within its surroundings, using the approach outlined above, an assessment will be made as to whether that effect would result in a significant adverse effect on the integrity of its setting (NPF4 Policy 7. For the purposes of the assessment, the integrity of the setting will be considered to be maintained if the setting’s contribution to the cultural significance of the monument, and its capacity to convey that significance to visitors, would not be significantly affected by the Proposed Development either alone or cumulatively.

Cumulative Assessment

- 6.4.30 The assessment of cumulative effects on heritage assets has been based upon consideration of the effects of the Proposed Development on the settings of assets with statutory designations and non-statutory designations within the Outer Study Area, in addition to the likely effects of other developments that are under construction, consented but not yet built, and those that are currently at the application stage (and for which sufficient detail is available upon which to develop an assessment).
- 6.4.31 Proposed developments at the scoping or pre-application stage are not included in the assessment, as such proposals are not fully formed and may be subject to changes that cannot be foreseen. The schemes included in the cumulative impact assessment are those identified through the LVIA consultations with Argyll and Bute Council (ABC) and NatureScot.
- 6.4.32 The assessment of cumulative effects on the settings of heritage assets from the Proposed Development in combination with pre-existing

developments is addressed during the assessment of effects of the Proposed Development, as pre-existing developments are part of the baseline environment.

- 6.4.33 The assessment takes into account the relative scale (i.e. size and number of turbines) of the identified developments, their distance from the affected assets, and the potential degree of visibility of the various developments from the assets under consideration. The use of cumulative wireline visualisations (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figures 6.4.-6.12.**) has been used to aid the assessment.

6.5 Baseline

Heritage Assets within the Inner Study Area

- 6.5.1 The Baseline Study has identified 51 heritage assets within the Inner Study Area, both those recorded on HER and identified during previous field surveys (CFA 2016 and Birch 2018). Seven of the HER sites are non-statutory register (NSR) sites, potentially of national importance and of schedulable quality. Asset locations and extents are shown on **Figure 6.1**, and **Technical Appendix 6.1** provides detailed gazetteer information on the character and baseline condition of the assets identified by the study. The heritage value and relative sensitivity of the assets is summarised below.
- 6.5.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments within the Inner Study Area, although two, Killean Fort (**SM 3179**) and St John's Church and Burial Ground (**SM 3030**), stand immediately outside the Inner Study Area boundary. St John's Church is also a Category A Listed Building (**LB 12004**).
- 6.5.3 Two Listed Buildings, Category A Listed The 'Doll's Houses (**LB 43266**) and Category B Listed Killean Former School (**LB 43250**), also stand outside the western boundary of the Inner Study Area, on the eastern side of the A83 public road, near to the site entrance. These buildings are components of a non-designated designed landscape (NIDL) that surrounds Killean House (**LB 12005**).
- 6.5.4 No part of the Inner Study Area lies within a Conservation Area, Inventory Garden and Designed Landscapes, or Inventory Historic Battlefield.

Prehistoric Remains

- 6.5.5 The remains of a prehistoric hut-circle (19a), with an associated section of turf bank (or dyke) (19b), are illustrative of limited prehistoric settlement activity within the Inner Study Area. As such the remains are assessed as having heritage value at a regional level and to be of medium sensitivity.
- 6.5.6 Several cup-marked and cup and ring-marked rocks (7, 8, 13-17, and 41) collectively contribute to a possible ritual or ceremonial significance afforded to the local prehistoric landscape. As such the assets are assessed as having heritage value at a regional level and to be of medium sensitivity. An additional cup-marked rock (18) is assessed to be of negligible sensitivity due to the stone being unaccounted for since 1978 (see Technical Appendix 6.1), while a final pair of cup-marked stones (23a-b) are assessed as having a heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity due to their recorded poor level of preservation.
- 6.5.7 A stone-revetted platform (32), located at the junction of two streams at Braids, may represent the remains of a prehistoric cairn. Given the uncertainty regarding the asset's character, along with the recorded poor level of preservation, it is assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.
- 6.5.8 The HER database records that a Bronze Age gold bracelet (12) was found at Braids in the 1930s. Because the artefact has since been removed, the findspot has no intrinsic heritage value and is of negligible sensitivity, although it is a further indication of low-level prehistoric activity within the Inner Study Area, particularly evident at Braids.

Medieval or Later Settlement

- 6.5.9 The remains of two farmsteads (20 and 22), each of which comprises the footings of at least one rectangular building, along with enclosures/fragments of stone and turf banks, with associated limekilns (20d and 21), are indicative of small-scale steading activity, likely post-medieval in origin. As such, the remains are assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low (20d) or negligible (21) sensitivity respectively.
- 6.5.10 A well-preserved group of at least 17 shieling huts (6) within a forest clearing east-southeast of Loch Dirigadale are illustrative of pastoral transhumance, denoting the site of upland pasture grounds associated with local farmsteads. The assets are assessed as having heritage value at

- a regional level and to be of medium sensitivity. The poorly preserved remains of two other shieling huts (24), of which little apart from the stone footings survives, are assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.
- 6.5.11 The well-preserved remains of a limekiln (9) denote the pre-industrial burning of calcium carbonate, likely for use in agricultural soil improvement. The remains are assessed as having heritage value at a local level and are of low sensitivity, whilst two other former kilns (10 and 21), of which there are little or no remains, are assessed as having no intrinsic heritage value and are of negligible sensitivity.
- 6.5.12 A well-preserved sheepfold (11), lying just northeast of the site of Braids farmhouse, a byre (50), which is located further south, and a stone and turf enclosure pen (34), all emphasise the agricultural character of the historic landscape in which the Proposed Development Site is located. The remains, which offer insight into pastoral practices, are all assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.
- 6.5.13 A partially metalled track (48) running east of the sheepfold (11) toward the byre (50) represents an associated, minor element of the historic agricultural landscape, and as such is assessed as having little or no intrinsic heritage value and is of negligible sensitivity.
- 6.5.14 Four quarries at 'Braids' (43-46), likely indicating rock extraction for construction of the nearby limekilns and livestock enclosures, are assessed as having little or no intrinsic heritage value and are of negligible sensitivity.
- 6.5.15 Two probable marker cairns (or shepherds cairns) (25 and 26) illustrate the pastoral organisation of the historic landscape. As such, the cairns are assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.
- 6.5.16 A former field system, defined by fragments of turf and stone banks (27a-f), defines the extent of a former rig and furrow field system in the Inner Study Area. As such, the field system is assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.
- 6.5.17 Multiple stone and turf dykes (31, 33, 35-40, 42, 47, 49), likely marking former enclosure boundaries at Braids, indicate patterns of agricultural activity formerly taking place within the Inner Study Area. As such, the

assets are assessed as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.

- 6.5.18 Other, more poorly preserved remains of relict rig and furrow cultivation (29) are, given this level of preservation, assessed as having no intrinsic heritage value and is of negligible sensitivity.
- 6.5.19 Collectively, these assets attest to the medieval to post-medieval settlement, pastoral transhumance, and other agriculture regimes which took place within the Inner Study Area.

Miscellaneous

- 6.5.20 Six large quarries (1-5 and 28), recorded in the HER, are of modern date and most likely used to provide gravel for the construction and maintenance of forestry access tracks. These assets are assessed as having no intrinsic heritage value and are of negligible sensitivity.
- 6.5.21 A commemorative stone (30), located on the western side of the Killean Burn, close to its source, is dedicated to James Macalister Hall (d. 1922), a former local landowner. The stone is considered as having heritage value at a local level and to be of low sensitivity.

Assessment of Archaeological Potential in the Inner Study Area

- 6.5.22 The Historic Landscape Assessment (HLA) records that much of the Inner Study Area, including the majority of the area where it is proposed to site turbines, is a commercial, 20th century forestry plantation. Part of the land now covered by this forestry has been exploited in the past as a shieling ground for the summer pasturage of livestock. The area outwith and to the east of the forestry is exclusively open moorland and rough pasture lying above 300m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). There are four small lochs within this moorland area. To the west of the forestry plantation, around the head waters of the Killean Burn and Braids, there is an area of medieval/post-medieval settlement and agriculture. This area also includes remains of prehistoric settlement and activity, with evidence of prehistoric activity also evident within the shieling ground at Loch Dirigidale. An area of open ground to the northwest of Braids, on the north side of the Killean Burn, is open moorland and rough pasture at elevations between 200m and 228m AOD. Evidence for prehistoric settlement is also provided by the presence of the probable Iron Age fort

at around 100m AOD, on the hillside northeast of Killean House, adjacent to the Killean Burn and Kintyre Way.

- 6.5.23 Peat Depth data for the Proposed Development indicates that the peat accumulation is variable. Above the 250m contour there are some deep deposits, commonly between 1m and 3m deep, with occasional pockets in excess of 3m. Such deep deposits could conceal archaeological remains relating especially to prehistoric periods, where peat cover can be expected to be greater than for more recent periods.
- 6.5.24 The part of the Inner Study Area that is commercial forestry is likely to have a low archaeological potential. Forestry ploughing and drainage works, as well as subsequent tree root growth and the effects of wind-throw, are likely to have disturbed or destroyed the integrity of any surviving buried archaeological deposits. It is possible, though, that some remains of archaeological interest survive within the forestry: cup-marked rocks, for example, are a relatively common feature in the general area and it is possible that some unrecorded examples survive within the afforested areas.
- 6.5.25 The open, higher ground to the east of the forestry is also likely to have a low archaeological potential. This area is at a high altitude (above 300m) and is unlikely to have been attractive for permanent settlement. The presence of two shieling huts (24a and b) and two marker cairns (25 and 26), however, does indicate at least occasional (probably seasonal) use of the landscape in the fairly recent past. It may also have been seasonally exploited in earlier times and it is possible that buried remains associated with such seasonal occupation may survive, perhaps close to watercourses or near the small lochans.
- 6.5.26 The site access and proposed turning area from the A83 (details provided in Chapter 2: Proposed Development) is likely to have a **low or negligible** archaeological potential as the route follows an existing forestry haul road, and the required additional land-take either side of the existing track is minimal. The proposed turning area, for Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL) vehicles, is located within an improved pasture field.

Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area

- 6.5.27 There are 45 Scheduled Monuments within the Outer Study Area. These are predominantly of prehistoric date, and include cairns, defended settlements (or 'duns'), and standing stones. More recent historical

activity is represented by a church, a castle, and several carved stone crosses.

- 6.5.28 53 Listed Buildings are recorded within the Outer Study Area, seven of Category A, 29 of Category B, and 17 of Category C. The Listed Buildings are in the main located to the west of the Proposed Development, along the west coast of Kintyre, including a cluster of Category A and B Listed Buildings at Killean.
- 6.5.29 There is one Inventory Garden and Designed Landscape within the Outer Study Area: the gardens and woodland of the Category B Achamore House (GDL 00005), located on the Isle of Gigha. There are no Conservation Areas or Inventory Historic Battlefield sites within the Outer Study Area.
- 6.5.30 In addition to the designated assets described above, there are 87 heritage assets recorded as NSR sites in the HER, 42 of which are located within 5km of the Proposed Development. With the notable exception of the remains of Old Largie Castle (3482), these assets are almost exclusively further examples of cup and ring-marked stones. Not all of these assets are in locations from which there would be theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development.
- 6.5.31 The blade tip height Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) map for the Proposed Development was used to identify those cultural heritage assets within, and where appropriate beyond, the Outer Study Area from which there could be theoretical visibility of one or more wind turbines. The assets from which there is potential theoretical visibility of the Proposed Development are shown on **Figure 6.2** and listed in **Technical Appendix 6.2**.

Future Baseline

- 6.5.32 If the Proposed Development were not to proceed there would likely be no change to the baseline condition of the various heritage assets that presently survive within the site. The ongoing use of the rough pastureland would most likely continue, and the moorland areas would remain undisturbed. The current commercial forestry land use would also be likely to continue on a 'fell and replant' basis, with some potential for further afforestation. This likely ongoing land-use regime, subject to the requirements of UK Forestry Standards, would result in limited potential for disturbance to the identified heritage assets. It is probable that only

natural decay (weathering and erosion) would impact the surviving earthwork remains and cup-marked stones.

- 6.5.33 Other wind farm developments in the area, those operational, consented, or proposed, would entail similar effects on the settings of heritage assets as those identified by this study. Any effects would, in turn, be removed by the future decommissioning of those projects.

6.6 Assessment of Potential Effects

Construction Effects

- 6.6.1 Any ground-breaking activities associated with the construction of the Proposed Development (such as those required for turbine bases, crane hardstanding, access tracks, cable routes, compounds, and borrow pits, etc.) have the potential to disturb or destroy features of cultural heritage interest. Other construction activities (such as vehicle movements, soil and overburden storage, and landscaping) also have the potential to cause direct, permanent and irreversible effects on cultural heritage. There is also potential for activities relating to forestry works (felling and compensatory planting) to have a direct effect on cultural heritage.
- 6.6.2 There are no known, previously recorded, and identified assets that would receive a direct effect from construction of the Proposed Development, or from forestry works, that are assessed to be significant in EIA terms. This is due to the approach adopted in formulating the Proposed Development design and layout, and in the development of the compensatory planting plan.
- 6.6.3 There is a **low** potential for direct effects on buried archaeological remains arising during construction of the Proposed Development or from forestry works, including compensatory planting, that could be significant in EIA terms.

Operational Effects

- 6.6.4 The Proposed Development may have indirect effects on the setting of cultural heritage assets in both the Inner Study Area and the Outer Study Area. In particular, there is potential for the turbines to be present in views toward and from Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, and Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes in the vicinity of the Proposed Development.

- 6.6.5 Effects on the settings of heritage assets are more likely to affect those within the Outer Study Area. Beyond 10 km, the Proposed Development would not be a dominant feature in the landscape and the effect on the settings of heritage assets would not be significant. **Technical Appendix 6.2** contains a summary assessment of the predicted effects.
- 6.6.6 The residual effects section below includes a brief discussion of those assets identified by HES or WoSAS as requiring assessment where the significance of the predicted effect is assessed as being 'significant' in EIA terms. Where the predicted effect upon the setting of a cultural heritage asset is assessed as being less than 'significant', it is summarised in **Technical Appendix 6.2**. Assessments of 'significant' effects are supported with visualisations (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figures 6.4 - 6.12**).

Decommissioning Effects

- 6.6.7 Any ground-breaking activities, or other activities, such as vehicle movements, soil and overburden storage, and landscaping, associated with the decommissioning of the Proposed Development have the potential to cause direct, permanent and irreversible effects on the cultural heritage. The likelihood of direct effects is similar to or less than that expected during construction, presuming that the built infrastructure is used to facilitate decommissioning and removal of the components of the Proposed Development from the site.
- 6.6.8 There are no known, previously recorded and identified assets likely to receive a direct effect arising from decommissioning of the Proposed Development which are 'significant' in EIA terms. This is due to the approach adopted in formulating the Proposed Development design and layout (i.e., avoidance), and because decommissioning works would be managed to recognise the presence of heritage assets and to avoid them.

6.7 Mitigation

- 6.7.1 A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) would be produced post consent that would address predicted effects on cultural heritage. Mitigation proposals would include:

- Post-felling surveys along the route of proposed access tracks and at turbine locations for the purpose of identifying any currently unknown heritage assets that may survive within the commercial forestry area;
- Fencing off of known assets in proximity to working areas; and
- Archaeological monitoring (watching briefs) during the construction phase.

6.8 Assessment of Residual Effects

- 6.8.1 The assessment of residual construction effects has been carried out with reference to the layout of the Proposed Development alongside the locations of known cultural heritage assets shown on **Figure 6.1**. The criteria detailed in Tables 6.2 - 6.4 has been used to assess the nature and magnitude of effects, which are discussed in more detail below. There would be no significant residual effects on cultural heritage assets identified within the Inner Study Area.
- 6.8.2 The only identified heritage assets within the Inner Study Area that are predicted to experience possible direct effects are the remains of two old quarries (4-5), located within or adjacent to areas allocated for borrow pit search areas. The quarries are assets of negligible sensitivity. The change to their character would be of high magnitude resulting in effects of minor significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).
- 6.8.3 No mitigation is required to offset the predicted effects.

Operational Effects

- 6.8.4 The assessment of residual operational effects on the settings of heritage assets has been carried out with reference to the layout of the Proposed Development and locations of the cultural heritage assets shown on **Figures 6.1 and 6.2**. The criteria detailed in Tables 6.2 - 6.4 have been used to assess the nature and magnitude of the effects which are set out in summary in **Technical Appendix 6.2**. Where the assessment has resulted in significant effects on the settings of heritage assets, and where detailed assessment of potential effects has been requested by statutory consultees, these are discussed in more detail below.
- 6.8.5 The assessment has resulted in the identification of significant (**Moderate** significance) effects on the settings of three groups of assets:
- A group of NSR assets at Braids, including hut-circle and cup and ring marked rocks;

- A group of NSR assets - cup-marked rocks - at Lagloskine; and
- A group of shielings (including an NSR asset - cup-marked rock) at Loch Dirigidale.

St John's Church (SM3030) and Killean Estate Buildings (including Doll's Houses (LB43266), Killean Hall (LB43250) and Killean House (LB12005) (Figures 6.4 and 6.9)

- 6.8.6 St John's Church, the Doll's Houses, Killean Hall, and Killean Home Farm and associated steading form a group of historic listed buildings in close proximity along the A83, either side of the Killean Burn. Killean House itself stands slightly away from the group, higher up the hill slope in a secluded woodland setting, and is approached via a winding track that leads from a small lodge beside the main road. As examples of medieval (St John's Church) to post-medieval architecture, the assets have the collective potential to provide information on building and decorative techniques relating to the Gothic, Early Renaissance, and Arts and Crafts movements. Killean House, the Doll's Houses, and St John's Church are Category A Listed Buildings (St John's Church also being a Scheduled Monument) and are of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity. Killean Hall is Category B Listed and is of heritage value at the regional level and of medium sensitivity.
- 6.8.7 The key setting aspects contributing to the cultural significance of the asset group in large part concern their collective proximity as a linear group on either side of the A83, along which the buildings form an inward-looking corridor. Appreciation and experience of the buildings is best undertaken close at hand, where the diverse architectural details of the assets are most apparent. Where the buildings are visible from further afield, such as from the coast, they are backdropped by a wooded hillside, which further enforces this localised setting. The key vista from the Estate buildings looks westward, toward the Sound of Gigha, while views to the east are substantially constrained by the aforementioned hillside.
- 6.8.8 The Proposed Development would be visible from some of the assets in this group. In practice, however, mature deciduous woodland and steeply rising hillside behind the buildings largely restricts eastern views to and from their individual and collective locations, and would serve to screen the Proposed Development from the buildings themselves. Whilst vegetation is subject to seasonal change, in this instance the height and

density of the trees, in combination with the rising topography of the landscape, is such that visibility of the Proposed Development is unlikely to intrude upon first-hand appreciation of the buildings' architectural qualities or relationship as a group. Long-distance views of the group, set against this woodland and hillside, can be obtained from the coastline, and from offshore in the Sound of Gigha itself. From such views, however, the buildings are not prominent or highly visible features.

- 6.8.9 The photomontage from the track to the west of St. John's Church (**Figure 6.4d**) demonstrates that only one blade tip would be visible from this western approach. It is possible that additional moving blade tips may be visible during winter conditions when the deciduous trees are not in full leaf. The depth and density of the woodland discernible in the visualisation, however, suggests that this would not be readily appreciable. The woodland behind the buildings, which serves to emphasise both the buildings' association with the lower coastal strip and their separation from the higher land to the east, would be retained. The access track, running behind the woodland, is unlikely to be visible in combination with any of the historic buildings, and their settings would therefore be unaffected.
- 6.8.10 The wireline from Killean House (**Figure 6.9**) likewise confirms that the steeply rising topography would screen most of the Proposed Development from the immediate surroundings of the House, with only two blade tips and one hub theoretically visible. In practice, the mature broadleaved woodland surrounding Killean House would provide further screening, and the Proposed Development would not negatively affect a visitor's experience and appreciation of Killean House's cultural significance, as conferred by the building's setting. The Proposed Development would represent a slight but detectable change to the backdrop to the buildings when viewed from the coast, such that their baseline setting would be slightly altered. The effect of the change is assessed to be of no more than low magnitude, and would only appreciably affect distant views of the buildings from the west, such as from the coast. Closer appreciation of the buildings, such as from the environs of St John's Church or from the A83, would be only slightly affected, and the key open aspect views of the coast from the buildings would be entirely unaffected (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.4**).

6.8.11 Overall, none of the proposed wind turbines would be physically dominant in relation to any of the buildings, either individually or as a group. It would remain possible for any visitor to appreciate the architectural qualities of the buildings, and to understand their relationship(s) with each other and their immediate landscape. As such, the integrity of the setting of the buildings, and its capacity to inform and convey their individual and collective cultural significance, would be unhindered. As a result, the effect of the change to the setting overall is assessed to be of no more than low magnitude and of **minor significance (not significant in EIA terms)**.

St John's Church (LB12004) and the Doll's Houses (LB43266): Effect of abnormal loads access and access track

6.8.12 Construction of the proposed abnormal loads overrun area, to the west of the A83, requires land take in the pasture field adjacent to the road, where a load-bearing surface will be laid, and the removal of sections of the existing hedge. Additionally, land-reprofiling earthworks are proposed along the verge where the overrun area meets the access road. Details of the construction of the overrun area are presented in **Chapter 10: Traffic and Access**. The commencement of the land take for the overrun area would be approximately 50m north of the Doll's Houses, and over 150 m north of St John's Church. The section of existing hedge between the Doll's Houses and the site access point would be retained, while vegetation along the Killean Burn, immediately north of St John's Church, would screen the building from the overrun further north. The overrun area would be retained throughout the operational phase of the Proposed Development and has been designed to be as visually unobtrusive as practicable.

6.8.13 The overrun would not be so close to either the Doll's Houses or St John's Church that it would interfere with the appreciation of either building's architectural qualities, or with the key coastal views currently obtained from the houses. Views of the houses from the coast would be similarly unaffected. As such while the overrun would represent a change to the current highway arrangement, the integrity of the settings of the monuments, and their capacity to inform and convey cultural significance, would be unhindered. The impact of the abnormal loads area is

consequently assessed as being a low magnitude change to the setting of the assets.

- 6.8.14 In addition to the overrun, a small number of trees are proposed to be thinned at the summit of the hill backdropping the Doll's Houses in order to facilitate widening of the access track. Where possible, trees will be trimmed back rather than removed entirely. This work would be minimal, and would not comprise appreciation of the key contributors to the Doll's Houses' setting or the corresponding contribution to the asset's cultural significance. As such, the proposed felling representing a low magnitude change to the setting of the Doll's Houses.
- 6.8.15 Overall, the impacts of the proposed abnormal loads overrun and access track would not amount to a significant adverse effect on the integrity of either asset's setting. As such, the proposed abnormal loads and access track works are assessed as being of **minor significance (not significant in EIA terms)**.

**Braids cup and ring marked rocks and hut-circle group (13, 15, 17, and 19)
(Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.5)**

- 6.8.16 The group of NSR assets at Braids includes three cup and ring marked rocks (13, 15 and 17) and a hut-circle (19) of prehistoric date. Close by, and also included in this group, is a fourth cup-marked rock (8), which lies alongside the existing access track (and Kintyre Way), and two other cup-marked rocks (14 and 16) that do not have attributed NSR codes in the HER but which are similar in character to those that do. They were recorded in 1994 (14) and 2007 (16) after the close of the NSR project, and NSR codes have not been attributed to these later discoveries.
- 6.8.17 Most of the cup and ring marked rocks have plain cups incised in their upper surfaces. One of the NSRs (17) consists of two boulders (17a-b), the larger of which (2.7m by 1.4m) bears an unusual combination of markings including cup and ring-marks, plain cup-marks, and rayed circles. Some examples have high numbers of incised cups: one (15) has 12 cups, and another (13) has 20. One of the later recorded cup-marked rocks (14) is recorded as having eight cups on its southern face and seven on its eastern face. The hut-circle is 9m in diameter and has an entrance in the southeast arc. Individually and collectively, these cup-marked rocks and the hut-circle are assessed as being of heritage value at the regional level and of medium sensitivity.

- 6.8.18 The current setting of the assets comprises a slight terrace in rough pasture and heather moorland on the hillside, with open aspect views to the northwest, towards (but not of) the coast. The ground to the east rises gradually into what is presently a commercial forestry plantation, and long-distance views are constrained by the topography in all directions. A notable feature of the setting of the group of assets is their distribution along or near to the network of minor watercourses that come together to form the Killean Burn, which then runs westwards to the sea.
- 6.8.19 The key setting aspects contributing to the cultural significance of these assets relate foremost to the localised experience of their individual features, best appreciated at close distance, as the assets are low relief features with no obvious visual link on the ground. The cup-marked rocks at Braids are also part of a wider grouping that includes examples at Drumnamucklach, further to the southwest near Killean House, and a group at Lagloskine to the north-northeast (both discussed below). These other groups lie in different topographic positions with no intervisibility connecting the groups, which are quite widely separated.
- 6.8.20 The Proposed Development would lie to the north and east of the group of assets, at higher altitude and mostly around 600m to 700m to the nearest turbine. One of the cup-marked rocks (**8**), a small example (0.8m by 0.7m) which bears at least nine cup-marks on its upper face, which is inclined to the northwest, would be approximately 400m from the nearest turbine. The photomontage (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.5**) shows that the nine turbines would be visible from the group, but also shows the physical separation between the assets in the group and the turbines themselves.
- 6.8.21 The Proposed Development would discernibly change the surroundings of the group of cup-marked rocks and hut-circle, such that their baseline setting would be partly altered. The effect of the change to the surroundings is assessed to be of medium magnitude, and would only affect views to the north and east. Close inspection and appreciation of the assets would be unaffected. The cup-marked rocks and the hut-circle are not prominent visual features in the landscape, and the cup-marked rocks in particular are not easily located within the dense moorland vegetation. None of the proposed wind turbines would be physically

dominant in relation to the cup-marked rocks and hut-circle, either individually or collectively.

- 6.8.22 Overall, it would remain possible for any visitor to both appreciate and understand the assets' individual qualities as well as their relationship with each other and the local landscape. Understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance of the assets would be unaffected by the introduction of the Proposed Development and, although the effect on their setting is assessed as being of **moderate** significance (**significant** in EIA terms), the predicted change would not reduce or adversely affect the cultural significance of the assets.

**Lagloskine cup-marked rocks group (3473, 3474, 3480, 3484 and 3485)
(Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.6)**

- 6.8.23 The group of NSR assets at Lagloskine is composed of five cup-marked rocks of prehistoric date. Individually they vary from a small earth-fast boulder (3484) measuring 0.8m by 0.5m, almost flush with the ground surface, to a largely turf-covered rock outcrop (3474). Each bears a small number of plain cup-marks varying from four (3474) to seven (3480). They lie in a loose grouping along an unnamed watercourse, running north-northeast to south-southwest, that feeds into the Tayinloan Burn, which drains from Loch Ulagadale. The cup-marked rocks lie approximately 200m to 300m northeast of the sheepfold and abandoned farmstead at Lagloskine, in an area of rough pasture and heather moorland on a south-east facing slope with rising ground to the northwest. A modern forestry plantation occupies the skyline in views to the east and south, and long-distance views are constrained by the topography in all directions. Individually and collectively, these cup-marked rocks are assessed as being of heritage value at the regional level and of medium sensitivity.
- 6.8.24 As with other examples of cup-marked rocks, the key setting aspects contributing to the cultural significance of these assets relate foremost to the localised experience of their individual features, best appreciated at close distance, as the assets are low relief features with no obvious visual link on the ground. The assets also form part of a wider grouping of cup and ring marked rocks that includes the examples at Braids (above) and at Drumnamucklach (below). These other groups lie in different topographic positions, and there is no intervisibility between the groups, which are widely separated.

- 6.8.25 The Proposed Development would lie to the south of the group of cup-marked rocks, on and beyond the hillside that forms the skyline in that direction, approximately 1.8km from the nearest turbine. The photomontage (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.6**) shows that nine turbines would be at least partly visible from the group, with the turbines of Clachaig Glen (in planning) visible in the rear ground. The visualisation also illustrates the physical separation between the assets in the group and the turbines.
- 6.8.26 The Proposed Development would discernibly change the surroundings of the group of cup-marked rocks, such that their baseline setting would be partly altered. The effect of the change to the surroundings is assessed to be of medium magnitude, and would only affect views in one direction. Close inspection and appreciation of the assets would be unaffected. The cup-marked rocks are not prominent visual features in the landscape, and are not easily located in the dense moorland vegetation. None of the proposed wind turbines would be physically dominant in relation to the cup-marked rocks, either individually or collectively.
- 6.8.27 Overall, it would remain possible for any visitor to both appreciate and understand the assets' individual qualities as well as their relationship with each other and the local landscape. Understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance of the assets would be unaffected by the introduction of the Proposed Development and, although the effect on their setting is assessed as being of **moderate** significance (**significant** in EIA terms), the predicted change would not reduce or adversely affect the cultural significance of the assets.

Loch Dirigadale shielings and cup-marked rock (assets 6 and 7) (Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.8)

- 6.8.28 This group of assets, comprising 17 shieling huts (6) and a prehistoric cup-marked rock (7), is located in a small clearing within a commercial forestry plantation, along an un-named watercourse flowing to the Killean Burn. The assets range in size from 3m by 2.5m to 5m by 3.5m, and stand on artificial mounds. As a group, they lie approximately 300m to 350m southeast of Loch Dirigadale, which drains northwards into the Tayinloan Burn. The cup-marked rock is a large boulder, 2.3m by 1.5m and 0.6m high, bearing at least 65 clear cup-marks and more than two dozen smaller, shallow cups. The cup-marked rock is assessed to be of regional

importance and medium sensitivity. The shielings have an NSR code N (not likely to be of national importance), and individually would be classed as being of local importance and low sensitivity. As a large and seemingly complex group, however, with evidence of successive periods of re-use, the shielings have the potential to provide information on medieval to post-medieval transhumance. They are assessed to be of regional importance and medium sensitivity.

- 6.8.29 The assets' current setting, dominated by commercial forestry which closely surrounds the group, is not sympathetic to their cultural significance. In the case of the shielings, the key setting aspect contributing to cultural significance of the assets comprises the immediate landscape in which medieval and later pastoral farming practices were undertaken - that which has since been converted for commercial forestry. The setting contribution to the single cup-marked rock is similarly constrained by forestry, obstructing closer appreciation of the asset and any possible intervisibility with assets of the same type.
- 6.8.30 The Proposed Development would lie to the south of the group of assets, around 500m to the nearest turbine (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.8a and 6.8b**). The ground to the southeast, across the un-named watercourse, rises steadily from the location of the shielings towards Cnoc nan Craobh and Cruach a' Bhodaidh. The proposed removal of the current forestry on the hillside to the southeast would appreciably open up the setting of the shielings, restoring something of the original pastoral setting in which the cultural heritage significance of the assets can be best understood. This would likewise, however, expose the asset to views of the Proposed Development. The existing forestry to the northwest of the shielings would be retained until the felling phase due date of 2030-35.
- 6.8.31 The Proposed Development would discernibly change the surroundings of the group, such that the settings of the shielings and cup-marked rock would be partly altered through the introduction of the proposed wind turbines. The effect of the change to the surroundings is assessed to be of medium magnitude, but would only appreciably affect views in one direction, to the southeast. If the vegetation around the assets were to be cleared, that would restore the remains to a more open aspect setting in which the cultural heritage significance of the assets could be better experienced.

6.8.32 Overall, the shielings and the cup-marked rock are not prominent visual features in the landscape, but can be relatively easily located within the moorland vegetation of the forest clearing. It would remain possible for any visitor to experience the assets, and appreciate their individual cultural significance in addition to their relationship(s) with each other and the historic landscape of which they were a part. Understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance of the assets would consequently be unaffected by the introduction of the Proposed Development and, although the effect on their setting is assessed as being of **moderate** significance (**significant** in EIA terms), the predicted change would not be so significant as to reduce or adversely affect the cultural significance of the assets.

Drumnamucklach cup and ring marked rocks (3153, 3178, 3491, and 3514-6) (Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.7)

6.8.33 On the hillside above Killean House, on the west facing slopes of Cnoc Odhar Auchaluskin, there is a loose distribution of 13 cup and ring-marked rocks. The group includes five assets (3153, 3178, 3514-6), shown on **Figure 6.2**, which collectively include seven individual cup and ring marked rocks, in addition to a further group of six other cup-marked rocks (3491), from which there is no predicted visibility of the Proposed Development. They each lie in rough pasture and heather moorland from which the principal vista is to the west, toward the coast. Similar to the examples discussed above, they vary in size and in the complexity of the markings on their surfaces. Some examples (3491) measure little more than 0.7m by 0.45m and barely protrude through the turf, with only a few plain cup-marks incised on their surface; others (3514) are considerably larger and more complex, comprising 42 plain cups, five with encircling rings and two of the ringed examples connected by a radial groove. Individually and collectively the Drumnamucklach cup-marked rocks are assessed as being of heritage value at the regional level and of medium sensitivity.

6.8.34 As with other examples of cup-marked rocks, the key setting aspects contributing to their cultural significance relate foremost to the localised experience of their individual features, best appreciated at close distance, as the assets are largely low relief features with no obvious visual link on the ground. They are also part of a wider grouping that includes examples

further upslope at Braids and to the northeast at Lagloskine, described above. These other groups lie in different topographic positions, with no intervisibility apparent between the groups.

- 6.8.35 The Proposed Development would lie to the east of this group of assets, at higher altitude, beyond the skyline formed by the ridge of the hills and at least 1.5 km to the nearest turbine. The wireline (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.7**), from one of the group lower down the hill shows that typically only two turbines would be theoretically visible beyond the skyline, only one at hub height. The ZTV predicts a greater degree of visibility from the northernmost of this group (**3514**) with between 7 and 9 turbines theoretically visible 1.6km to the east. This discrepancy is due to the wide dispersal of the asset group across uneven ground, with the northernmost of the group lying closest to the Proposed Development.
- 6.8.36 The Proposed Development would represent a slight but detectable change to the surroundings of the group of cup-marked rocks, such that the baseline setting would be slightly altered. The effect of the change to the surroundings is assessed to be of low or imperceptible magnitude, and would only appreciably affect views from the assets either individually or collectively in one direction, to the east, while the open aspect views to the west and the coast would be unaffected.
- 6.8.37 Overall, the cup-marked rocks are mostly not prominent visual features in the landscape and are not easily located in the moorland vegetation. None of the proposed wind turbines would be physically dominant in relation to the cup-marked rocks, either individually or as a group. It would remain possible for any visitor to both appreciate and understand the assets' individual qualities as well as their relationship with each other and the local landscape. The integrity of the monuments' setting, as comprised by the key aspects outlined above, would be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. Understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance of the assets would consequently be unaffected by the introduction of the Proposed Development, and the predicted change to their setting would not reduce the cultural significance of the assets. The effect of the change to the setting overall is assessed to be of no more than low magnitude and of **minor** significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

Killean, fort NE of (SM3179) (Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.10)

- 6.8.38 The slight remains of the fort lie in scrub woodland at the edge of a gorge through which the Killean Burn runs, opposite the existing haul road/Kintyre Way. The site descriptions are unclear as to where the entrance to the fort lies, but from its location there are open aspect views to the west, to the coastal plain, and to the Sound of Gigha. It is probable that the entrance would have been in this western arc of the fort's defences, the north and east arcs of the enclosing wall being closely encircled by the Killean Burn. The fort would have provided a location from which it would be possible to monitor movement on land and sea along the coast, and to control access to the higher ground via the route along the Killean Burn. As the remains of a later prehistoric fort, in a commanding and strategic location, it has the potential to provide information on settlement activity and social status in the Iron Age. The fort is a Scheduled Monument, of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.
- 6.8.39 The key setting aspects that most contribute to the Killean Fort's cultural significance derive from the monument's naturally defensive position as a hill and promontory fort. The open views of the coastal strip and Sound of Gigha, which the fort would have monitored, represent the key views from the monument, allowing for consideration of the fort's original purpose as a defensive fortification.
- 6.8.40 The Proposed Development would be partly visible from the fort, as shown by the wireline (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.10**). Four turbines are discernible at hub-height, while four others are theoretically visible at blade-tip height, above and beyond the ridgeline of the hills to the east. The nearest proposed wind turbine would be 2km distant. LVIA View Point 2 (as discussed in **Chapter 5: LVIA**) includes photomontages from locations on the Kintyre Way and proposed site access track, approximately 1km east of the fort's location and around 70m higher than the fort's elevation. Comparison between the photomontage views and that provided as a wireline from the fort emphasises the partial screening provided by the intervening topography.
- 6.8.41 The Proposed Development, including upgrading of the existing haul road, would represent a slight but detectable change to the surroundings of the fort, such that the baseline setting would be altered through the

introduction of the proposed wind turbines. The upgrading of the existing haul road itself would represent a barely distinguishable change to the baseline setting. The effect of the change to the surroundings is assessed to be of low magnitude, and the introduction of the proposed wind turbines would only appreciably affect views in one direction, to the east, while the open aspect views to the west and the coast, which make the greatest contribution to the asset's setting, would be unaffected.

- 6.8.42 None of the proposed wind turbines would be physically dominant in relation to the fort, and it would remain possible for any visitor to appreciate and understand the fort's relationship with its landscape, regardless of the limited visibility of the Proposed Development. The integrity of the setting, as comprised by the key aspects outlined above, would be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. Understanding and appreciation of the cultural significance of the fort would consequently be unaffected by the introduction of the Proposed Development, and the predicted change to its setting would not be so significant as to reduce its cultural significance. The effect of the change to the setting overall is assessed to be of low magnitude and of **minor significance (not significant in EIA terms)**.

Achamore House (LB11449) and Inventory Garden and Designed Landscape (Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.11)

- 6.8.43 Achamore House is a two-storey, Category B Listed, Scottish style country house, dated 1884 and set within a late 19th-century designed landscape on the south-east side of Gigha, in the lee of the island's central hill-range. The house overlooks the Sound of Gigha to the east, occupying a secluded location closely surrounded by woodland, with a small narrow lawn to the front (southeast). It is approached from the east via a driveway that runs through the woodland. The operational turbines of the Gigha Wind Farm are also a characteristic element of the house's setting. As a 19th-century grand house set amidst a designed landscape, which includes a garden of unusually diverse plant life, Achamore House has the potential to provide information on 19th-century architecture and horticultural collections. Achamore House is a Category B Listed Building, and is of regional heritage value and medium sensitivity, whilst the Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscape are of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.44 The key setting aspects that most contribute to the house and garden's cultural significance derive from the monument's island setting and secluded ornamental grounds. As a designed landscape, the setting has been deliberately created as a private resort, almost completely enclosed by woodland, to which long-distance views are largely unimportant. Although the house itself overlooks the Sound of Gigha to the east, this view already encompasses operational windfarms, such as the Gigha Wind Farm. The wireline view from Achamore House (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.11**) shows that the Proposed Development would be theoretically visible in distant views of the hills of the Kintyre peninsula, the nearest turbine being 8.4 km away. In practice, the wooded character of the Designed Landscape surrounding the house would provide screening of the Proposed Development to a greater or lesser degree varying with the viewpoint within the grounds.
- 6.8.45 Overall, the Proposed Development would represent a slight but detectable change to the view to the east from the house. The Proposed Development would not, however, affect the asset's setting as represented by the island location, and it would remain possible for a visitor to understand and appreciate the secluded grounds and gardens of the asset. The integrity of the setting, as comprised by the key aspects outlined above, would therefore be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting overall is assessed to be of low magnitude and of **minor significance (not significant in EIA terms)**.

Low Clachaig cup-marked boulder (SM4352) (Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.12)

- 6.8.46 The Low Clachaig cup-marked boulder is recorded as having the best examples of cup-and-ring markings in Kintyre. Originally one enormous boulder on a west-facing hillside, the Scheduled Monument now comprises two separate elements. The larger stone, 2.4m by 2.1m, bears at least 54 circular or oval cups, with three of the larger cups each having two complete or partial rings. The smaller stone, measuring 2.4m by 1.5m, has 39 cups, six of which are accompanied by an incomplete ring. As a Scheduled Monument, the Low Clachaig cup-marked boulder is of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.47 The current setting of the asset is in the midst of a commercial forestry plantation, adjacent to a forestry track. The formerly obtained long-distance views west, to the sea, have been severely curtailed as a result of the woodland. The key setting aspects contributing to the cultural significance of the asset relate foremost to the localised experience of the boulder's individual features, best appreciated at close distance. Appreciation of the cup-marked boulder alongside other cup-marked rocks in the area is currently constrained by the wooded setting.
- 6.8.48 The wireline view from the cup-marked boulder (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.12**) shows that the Proposed Development would be theoretically visible in distant views to the northeast. The nearest turbine, however, lies 3.8km away, and will not dominate the asset's setting. In practice, the densely forested character of the surroundings would provide full screening of the Proposed Development. Although it can be expected that the forestry would be subject to the normal cycle of felling and replanting, which may at times result in a more open setting for the cup-marked boulder, it is also likely that the commercial forestry nature of the woodland would remain a dominant feature of its setting.
- 6.8.49 Even in the absence of the present forestry, the Proposed Development would represent only a slight change to the view to the northeast. The integrity of the setting, as comprised by the key aspects outlined above, would be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting overall is consequently assessed to be of low magnitude and of **minor** significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

Beacharr Standing Stone and Long Cairn (SM182)

- 6.8.50 The standing stone at Beacharr measures over 5m in height, making it the tallest of its kind in Kintyre. From its base, the stone tapers to an irregular profile. Like other standing stones in the region, the Beacharr Standing Stone has been interpreted as a navigation tool, possibly used to identify sites of significance for those travelling from the west by boat (Cummings 2009). The long cairn also included in this designation lies only a few metres to the east of the standing stone. The long cairn, which is chambered, represents the only tomb of this kind currently identified on the west coast, and comprises an oval mound, 21m in length by 15m in width. The burial chamber, which measures 6.25m in length by 1.5m in width, was divided into four parts, occupied by three burial compartments and a short passage or porch area. Each of the burial compartments

contained two round-bottomed pots, now known by the standard name of 'Beacharra' ware. As the remains of a possible ritual or ceremonial prehistoric landscape, the standing stone and long cairn have the potential to provide information on prehistoric burial practices and the associated organisation of the landscape. As a Scheduled Monument, the Becharr Standing Stone and Long Cairn are of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.51 The current setting of the standing stone and long cairn is comprised by the raised beach east of Cara Island, with open views of Gigha and Jura to the west. This coastal setting, including striking views of the Sound of Gigha, represent the key setting aspects of the monuments, with evidence indicating that the monuments may have been designed with this western approach in mind.
- 6.8.52 The ZTV suggests that the Proposed Development would be theoretically visible at blade-tip height in views to the northeast, with the nearest turbine lying 2.7km away. In practice, the topography of the landscape, in addition to screening provided by woodland, will mean that the Proposed Development does not dominate the setting of the standing stone and cairn, as indicated by LVIA View Points from further south (e.g. **LVIA VP 7**). Moreover, the key coastal views to and from the monuments will be retained, with views from the Isle of Gigha (e.g. **LVIA VP 6**) emphasising the distance between the Proposed Development and location of the monuments.
- 6.8.53 The Proposed Development would represent only a slight change to north-eastern views from the monuments. The integrity of the setting, as comprised by the key coastal views outlined above, would be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting overall is consequently assessed to be of **low** magnitude and of minor significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

Dun Skeig, Duns and Fort (SM2491)

- 6.8.54 Dun Skeig is comprised of three structures: two duns, one of which is vitrified, which are enclosed by the remains of a third, larger defensive fortification. The overall complex dates to the Iron Age, with radiocarbon dating suggesting that the larger encompassing fortification was constructed first, with the smaller 'inner' duns representing later, though likely still Iron Age, occupation (Harding 2017, 175). The largest of the

forts measures 26m by 18.5 m, with no entrance visible. As the remains of a later prehistoric fort, in a commanding and strategic location, Dun Skeig has the potential to provide information on settlement activity and the development of coastal defences in the Iron Age. The fort is a Scheduled Monument, of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.55 Dun Skeig lies over 12km to the northeast of the Proposed Development site, approximately 400m inland of the entrance to West Loch Tabert, which the fort once likely guarded. The western and northern views from the monument across the Sound of Gigha and West Loch Tabert constitute the key aspects of the monument's setting, those which most contribute to the fort's cultural significance. From the rocky outcropping on which the fort stands, the visitor viewing the landscape in these directions can best appreciate the strategic placement of Dun Skeig, and the defensive purpose for which it was built.
- 6.8.56 The Proposed Development would be visible in distant views to the south; however, any visibility would be reduced both by the distance between the Dun Skeig and the Proposed Development, as well as the shifting topography of the intervening land. LVIA View Point 9, taken from approximately 2km to the east of Dun Skeig, at a similar altitude, confirms the visibility of the Proposed Development, but highlights the relatively slight presence of the turbines on the horizon, with the eye drawn instead to elements of the topographic landscape. Moreover, the key northern and western views from Dun Skeig would be entirely unaffected, as would views of the monument itself.
- 6.8.57 Overall, the Proposed Development would represent only a slight change to southern-western views from the fort. The integrity of the setting, as comprised by the key views of the coast and Loch Talbert West, would be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting is consequently assessed to be of **imperceptible** magnitude and of negligible significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

Dun Bechaire (SM3143)

- 6.8.58 The dun at Bechaire comprises a roughly rectangular fortification, measuring 17.5m by 13.5m, located on a low ridge. A wall, approximately 3m thick encloses the fort, with a gap at the fort's south-eastern side indicating a likely entrance point. The dun commands open views over the coastal raised beach to the west, and further out to sea. It lies approximately 150m southwest of the Beacharr Standing Stone and Long

Cairn (SM182), lying along the same ridge. As the remains of a prehistoric dun, in a commanding and strategic location, it has the potential to enhance understandings of the origins, date, nature, and development sequence of coastal defensive sites in western Scotland. Dun Beachaire is a Scheduled Monument, of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.59 The current setting of Dun Beachaire is comprised by the raised beach east of Cara Island, with open views of Gigha and Jura to the west. This coastal setting, including striking views of the Sound of Gigha, represent the key setting aspects of the monument. It is likely that the fort was originally intended to monitor this western approach, and this can be best appreciated from the ridge on which the dun lies, facing Cara Island and the Isle of Gigha.
- 6.8.60 The ZTV shows that the Proposed Development would be theoretically visible at blade-tip height in views to the northeast, with the nearest turbine lying 2.8km away. In practice, the topography of the landscape, in addition to screening provided by woodland, will mean that the Proposed Development does not dominate the setting of the standing stone and cairn, as indicated by visualisations from further south (e.g. LVIA VP 7). Moreover, the key coastal views to and from the monument will be retained, with views from the Isle of Gigha (e.g. LVIA VP 6) emphasising the distance between the Proposed Development and location of the monument.
- 6.8.61 Overall, the Proposed Development would represent only a slight change to north-eastern views from the monument. The integrity of the setting, as comprised by the key coastal views outlined above, would be retained and unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting overall is consequently assessed to be of **low** magnitude and of minor significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

Dun Chibhich, Fort (SM3230)

- 6.8.62 The remains of Dun Chibhich comprise of a large fort, measuring 13.5m by 6m, set on a rocky knoll upon the Isle of Gigha. The fort was located such as to take advantage of the natural defences offered by near-vertical rock faces located to the north, and by steep drops to the west and east. A well-defined entrance, measuring 15m in width, lies to the southeast. Dun Chibhich is notable for its larger than usual size, and the corresponding

variety of activities which may have been undertaken at the fort. As the remains of a large prehistoric fort, in a commanding and strategic location, it has the potential to provide information on settlement activity as well as the origins, date, nature, and development sequence of coastal defensive sites. Dun Chibhich is a Scheduled Monument, of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.63 The current setting of Dun Chibhich is an area of rough grazing upon a rocky knoll which crowns the north-eastern end of a prominent ridge. The fort commands views in all directions, with those to coast on either side of Gigha being particularly important. In addition, it has been suggested that Dun Chibhich was deliberately positioned to be intervisible with two other, smaller duns at Trinnse, 930m to the northwest, and Seasgain, 745m to the northeast. Views in these directions, in addition to the wider vantage upon Islay to the west and Kintyre to the east, constitute the key aspects of the monument's setting.
- 6.8.64 The Proposed Development would be visible in distant views to the east, with the nearest turbine lying 8.8km away. Visualisations prepared as part of the LVIA (e.g. LVIA VP 6) confirm the distant visibility of the Proposed Development lying upon the higher ground east of the coast. Due to the distance separating the Proposed Development from Dun Chibhich, the Proposed Development is not a dominant presence in eastern views of the Sound of Gigha and Killean coastland, while views in other directions, such as toward the associated duns to the north, are unaffected.
- 6.8.65 The Proposed Development would represent only a slight change to eastern views from the fort. The overall integrity of the setting, as comprised by key views to the west and north, as well as those to the east, would be largely unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting is consequently assessed to be of **low** magnitude and of negligible significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

Killean and Kilchenzie Parish, A'Chleit Chuch (LB12035)

- 6.8.66 The 18th-century parish church of Killean and Kilchenzie was built between 1787 and 1791 by Thomas Cairns. The church is of a neo-classical design, with a belfry added later in 1879. As of 2005, the interior was recorded to have been largely unaltered, with a canopied pulpit, box pews, and a horse-show gallery (Hume 2005, p. 68). As an 18th-century church, retaining much of its original fabric, it has the potential to provide information on Georgian architectural trends, and rural religious practices

on coastal Kintyre. The A'Chleit Church is a Category A Listed Building, and is of heritage value at the national level and of high sensitivity.

- 6.8.67 The current setting the A'Chleit Church is comprised by a promontory on the west coast of Kintyre, jutting into the Sound of Gigha. The key aspects of this setting, which contribute to the cultural significance of the church, largely concern this coastal location, with striking views to the west, toward the Sound of Gigha and Cara Island. To the north, east, and south the topography of the landscape rises, further enforcing the localised coastal setting of the church.
- 6.8.68 The Proposed Development would be visible at blade-tip height in views to the northeast, with the nearest turbine lying 4.3km away. The ZTV categorises this visibility between 1-3 blade tips, with limited visibility resulting of the rising topography which helps to screen the Proposed Development. LVIA viewpoints taken from further south along the western coast of Kintyre (e.g. LVIA VP 7), confirm this. The Proposed Development is consequently not a dominant presence in these northeastern views, while the key views to the west and northwest would be entirely unaffected.
- 6.8.69 The Proposed Development would represent only a slight change to north-eastern views from the church. The overall integrity of the setting, as comprised by coastal location and western views described above, would be unaffected by the Proposed Development. The effect of the change to the setting is consequently assessed to be of **low** magnitude and of negligible significance (**not significant** in EIA terms).

6.9 Assessment of Cumulative Effects

- 6.9.1 **Chapter 5: LVIA** outlines the distribution of cumulative schemes within the wider landscape, at a distance of 20km. These schemes include those already operational, approved or under construction, in planning, or subject to scoping.
- 6.9.2 **Figure 6.3** shows the Proposed Development within this same cumulative context (excluding projects at the scoping stage) together with cultural heritage assets identified within the Outer Study Area.

- 6.9.3 Based on professional judgement, one scheme has been identified which may have a cumulative impact upon cultural heritage assets. This scheme is:
- Clachaig Glen (12 turbines; blade tip between 185m and 200m): In planning*.
- *Note: Clachaig Glen is subject to a revised application for taller turbines which supersedes an earlier consent. See **Chapter 5: LVIA (Section 9: Assessment of Cumulative Effects)**.
- 6.9.4 In carrying out the following assessment, use has been made of cumulative ZTVs presented in **Chapter 5: LVIA (Figure 5.36)**, cumulative wirelines provided as part of the cultural heritage assessment (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.4 to 6.12**), and LVIA (LVIA VPs 6 and 8).
- 6.9.5 The Proposed Development, in combination with the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm, would have a cumulative impact on the settings of the group of cup-marked rocks at Braids (3501). **Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.5b-c** shows that the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm would be visible in views to the south, at times alongside the Proposed Development. Likewise, the settings of the cup-marked stones at Lagloskine (3473) would also be subject to a cumulative impact. **Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.6** shows the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm visible behind the Proposed Development, again only in views to the south. Finally, there would be a cumulative impact on the settings of the group of assets along the Clachaig Water (3497, 3505, 3511 and 3513), all of which lie within the proposed Clachaig Glen application area. **Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.12** shows the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm at a relatively close distance to the assets, with the Proposed Development lying at a greater remove to the north.
- 6.9.6 The cumulative impact of the addition of the Proposed Development to a baseline including the proposed Clachaig Glen Wind Farm on the settings of these cup-marked rocks would be of medium magnitude and **moderate** significance (**significant** in EIA terms). The developments would effectively form a single group on the horizon, with one development appearing to continue the line of turbines of the other. In each case, this is only the apparent in views of one direction, e.g. south or north. The predicted change would not be so significant as to reduce or adversely

affect the cultural significance of the assets. The greater influence on the setting of the group of assets along the Clachaig Water would arise from the closer proximity of the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm turbines, with these assets lying within the latter's application area (**Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.3**).

- 6.9.7 The Proposed Development, in combination with the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm, could also have a cumulative impact on the settings of heritage assets on Gigha, e.g. Achamore House (**LB11449**), from which both developments would be visible against the skyline formed by the hills on the Kintyre peninsula (**LVIA VPs 6 and 8**). **Technical Appendix 6.3, Figure 6.11** provides a typical wireline view of the proposals in combination, as well as others that would also be visible. The visualisation shows that, while most of the schemes could be discernible as separate developments of a similar scale, the proximity of the Proposed Development alongside the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm again suggests the presence of a single group of turbines. In addition, none of the schemes would affect the current landscape setting of the assets on Gigha, and it is only outward, easterly views from Gigha that could be affected.
- 6.9.8 The cumulative impact of the Proposed Development's addition to a baseline including the proposed Clachaig Glen Wind Farm on the settings of the various heritage assets on Gigha would likely be low magnitude and **minor significance (not significant in EIA terms)**. It would remain possible for a visitor to understand and appreciate the cultural significance of each asset as conveyed by its setting, the relative integrities of which would be retained.

6.10 Summary

- 6.10.1 A desk-based assessment and previous walk-over field survey (CFA 2016 and Birch 2018) have been carried out for the Proposed Development. The assessment has been informed by consultation with Historic Environment Scotland and WoSAS (who act as advisors to Argyll and Bute Council).
- 6.10.2 Fifty-one assets of cultural heritage interest were identified within the Inner Study Area (**Figure 6.1; Technical Appendix 6.1**). The majority of these assets are related to post-medieval, pre-improvement agriculture, such as a group of 17 shieling huts (**6**) assessed as being of regional heritage importance and medium sensitivity. A prehistoric hut-circle (**19**)

- and nine cup-marked rocks (7, 8, 13-18 and 23) have all been identified, and are assessed as being of regional importance and medium sensitivity.
- 6.10.3 An assessment of the known cultural heritage resource within and in the immediate vicinity of the Inner Study Area, understood alongside current and past land-use, indicates that there is a low potential for as yet undetected archaeological remains to survive both within the area of commercial forestry, and within the higher ground to the east of the forestry. There is a low to negligible potential for as yet undetected archaeological remains to survive along the proposed site access route.
- 6.10.4 The layout of the Proposed Development has been designed to avoid areas of heritage sensitivity, and there are no significant construction (direct) impacts predicted for known cultural heritage assets within the Inner Study Area. Two old quarries (4-5) of modern date and negligible heritage value may receive direct impacts of high magnitude and minor significance. The potential for significant direct effects on buried archaeological remains is considered to be low.
- 6.10.5 Moderately significant indirect effects (**significant** in EIA terms) on the settings of three groups of cultural heritage assets are predicted. These predicted effects arise as a result of the visibility of the Proposed Development in the landscape surroundings of three groups of cup-marked rocks and a group of shielings. The introduction of the Proposed Development would not, however, result in a change that would cause such significant impacts on the integrity of setting as to adversely affect the cultural significance of the assets. The key contributors to the cup-marked rocks and shielings significance would be retained, and it would still be possible for any visitor to the assets to understand and appreciate these qualities.
- 6.10.6 Cumulative impacts upon the settings of cultural heritage assets are predicted, arising from the Proposed Development in combination with the proposed Clachaig Glen Wind Farm. These impacts would be upon cup-marked rocks at Braids and Lagloskine, and those along the Clachaig Water, with all of the latter lying within the application site of the Clachaig Glen Wind Farm. This combined cumulative impact would, however, be no greater than the effect of the Proposed Development alone: that is, of medium magnitude and moderate significance (**significant** in EIA terms). This is due to the Proposed Development and Clachaig Glen being located such as to effectively form a single group on

the horizon, with one development appearing to continue the line of turbines of the other. The predicted cumulative change would not be so significant as to adversely affect the integrity of the setting of the assets, and their capacity to inform and convey their cultural significance would be unhindered.

Table 6.5: Summary of Residual Effects

Likely Significant Effect	Mitigation	Residual Effect
Construction (Direct)		
A marker cairn (26) lies in close proximity to the proposed location of Turbine 3 and could be subject to accidental adverse impacts resulting from construction activities.	The marker cairn will be fenced off or visibly marked out to signal its presence to construction workers.	No direct impact upon the marker cairn (26). (Not Significant in EIA Terms)
A commemorative stone (30) lies in close proximity to a proposed borrow pit search area and could be subject to accidental adverse impacts resulting from construction activities.	The commemorative stone will be fenced off or visibly marked out to signal its presence to construction workers.	No direct impact upon the commemorative stone (30). (Not Significant in EIA Terms)
Potential for impacts on currently unknown archaeological remains in areas of commercial forestry.	Post-felling surveys of access tracks and turbine locations in areas of former forestry to identify and record any currently unknown heritage assets that could be affected by construction works. Recording and fencing off/marketing out of any assets identified.	As a result of the identification and recording of any remains encountered, possible residual effects would be reduced to likely minor impacts (Not Significant in EIA Terms).
Potential for impacts on previously unknown buried archaeological remains.	Watching brief during groundbreaking works to identify and record any currently unknown archaeological remains that could be affected.	As a result of the identification and recording of any remains encountered, possible residual effects would be reduced to likely minor impacts (Not Significant in EIA Terms).
Operational		
Moderately significant impacts affecting the settings of three groups of cultural heritage assets (cup-marked rocks and a group of shielings) are predicted.	None	Moderately significant impacts (Significant in EIA Terms) affecting the settings of three groups of cultural heritage assets are predicted; however, this would not adversely impact the integrity of the setting or

Likely Significant Effect	Mitigation	Residual Effect
		diminish the cultural significance of the assets.
Decommissioning		
No direct effects are predicted to arise from decommissioning of the Proposed Development.	None	None
Removal of all effects on settings of heritage assets affected by the Proposed Development.	None	None

