

South Kyle Wind Farm

community update Feb 2021

Construction gets underway

Work at Vattenfall's South Kyle Wind Farm is now moving into the construction phase with the focus throughout 2021 on civil engineering and electrical works ahead of turbine installation from spring 2022.

Scottish company RJ McLeod are leading the civil engineering project and together with their sub-contractors - many from Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway - the total average workforce on site now exceeds more than 300 people.

Over the winter, snow, ice and freezing temperatures have made conditions on site especially challenging, but health and safety remains paramount.

This is all the more so during the pandemic, and comprehensive covid-related measures are in place to keep our teams safe.

Meanwhile, access work continues, clearing the way for drivers, groundsmen, engineers and technicians, and contributing to South Kyle being one of the biggest timber resources in the UK throughout 2020/21. Their work will also help enable delivery of the habitat management plan and woodland replanting.



South Kyle has been covered in a blanket of snow for much of the winter

Wildlife in focus for local youngsters



South Kyle Wind Farm team would like to extend a big thank you to everyone at St Xavier's Primary School in Patna for welcoming us last term and taking part in our Wildlife and Wind Farms presentation.

Vattenfall's habitat management specialist Robin Cox and local liaison officer Carol Kane delivered an online session to the school, discussing how the wind farm project is helping to protect local wildlife during construction and how

work is already underway to enhance and create habitats for local wildlife species.

The presentation included clips from trail cameras which have been set up across the site, including footage of a young pine marten family (left).

The children also asked lots of great questions about the wind farm, what it's like to work there and about renewable energy.

More local schools presentations are in the pipeline. In the meantime, we are developing some resources for children and these will be on the South Kyle web page soon.



Community Investment

Thank you to everyone from the local area who participated in the first round of Inform and Inspire sessions for the South Kyle Wind Farm Community Investment Fund.

These sessions were a first step in a conversation to consider what local people want the wind farm's community benefits to achieve, and we were encouraged to see so many people from across the area join us online. Details of the next sessions will be published soon, and there will be more

opportunities to get involved as the year progresses with the creation of a working group. In the meantime, please take a look at the following two pages where we answer some of the initial questions local people have raised about the Fund.

We'd also like to thank everyone who took part in our online Give My View poll. The data from this will help shape these conversations, and you can read more about the results on the project webpage.

New Facebook Page

A new dedicated Facebook page has been created for the South Kyle Community Investment Fund.

It will provide updates on the Inform and Inspire sessions and the work towards creating the fund.

Follow the page at www.facebook.com/southkylecommunityfund



Festive Drop-Off

Before shutting down for Christmas, the South Kyle Wind Farm RJ McLeod team arranged a festive drop-off at community project, The Zone.

South Kyle site administrator Linda Robertson (pictured) made contact with The Zone's Elaine Stewart, and site operative Scott Whelan (right) made the festive delivery which included 50 selection boxes donated by RJ McLeod.



Jobs Update

Maximising opportunities for local people is a key objective for South Kyle Wind Farm and this includes creating jobs. We have been working closely with contractors and sub-contractors to identify vacancies, and sharing these with local groups and organisations as well as online.

New job opportunities are being advertised on a rolling basis at www.findajob.dwp.gov.uk (search South Kyle Wind Farm). CVs can also be submitted to southkyle.windfarm@vattenfall.com

Meanwhile, thank you to East Ayrshire Council's employability team and DWP's local Jobcentre Plus team for inviting Vattenfall to participate in a recent online jobs event and renewables jobs working group.



On a Roll

Everyone on site at South Kyle Wind Farm would like to thank Billy and his team at Bacchus Cafe in Dalmellington for helping to keep our teams going during the cold winter months. Each Friday morning, Billy has been driving up to our site to drop off our order of hot bacon rolls - a much appreciated and enjoyed service!

Keep in touch

For regular updates on the South Kyle Wind Farm project please visit www.vattenfall.co.uk/southkyle

You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn for news on Vattenfall's projects across the UK and Europe.

To contact the South Kyle team please email Southkyle.windfarm@vattenfall.com
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Your Questions Answered

South Kyle Wind Farm Community Investment Fund

Vattenfall is building South Kyle Wind Farm which lies between Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Carsphairn. Once completed, the wind farm will not only generate electricity, it will also generate a fund to benefit local communities. Here we answer some of the initial questions local people have raised about the Fund and the programme of engagement and preparation now being undertaken ahead of the Fund opening.

When will the Fund start?

South Kyle Wind Farm Community Investment Fund will be available once the wind farm is operational, which is expected to be in the early part of 2023.

How much will the Fund be?

Vattenfall's commitment on South Kyle is to provide £5,000 per MW per annum. This will be index linked for the operational lifetime of the wind farm which amounts to approximately £38million.

Who will provide the Fund?

Common practice is that following construction and commissioning of a development, voluntary community benefits are paid by wind farm owners. At South Kyle Wind Farm, this will be Greencoat UK Wind PLC. Greencoat will acquire full ownership of the wind farm once it is built and operational, and will make ongoing contributions to the Fund over the lifetime of the wind farm, as outlined above.

Who will benefit from the Fund and why?

Carsphairn, Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Patna are the communities who will benefit from the Fund. Prior to planning consent, Vattenfall engaged extensively with local communities as to key priorities for the community benefit. Vattenfall used engagement events, questionnaires, surveys and broad consultation (within a 15km radius of the proposed site) to gather this information. Engagement revealed that local residents felt that the neighbouring communities of Carsphairn, Dalmellington, New Cumnock and Patna should be the main focus of the community benefit dialogue if the planning application was to be successful. As a result, our local engagement regarding the Fund will principally be with these four communities and those organisations and groups who serve and represent them.

What is Foundation Scotland's role?

During construction of the wind farm, Vattenfall is working with local communities to develop a bespoke and sustainable community investment fund that reflects local priorities and aspirations; exploring questions such as how the Fund is used, governed and accessed. Foundation Scotland will help facilitate this community conversation.

Foundation Scotland is a charity that specialises in supporting developers and communities to set up and implement community benefit Funds, ensuring they are tailored to local needs, capacity and ambitions.

This community conversation is at an early stage and we will be encouraging as many local people as possible to get involved in the process.

What can the Fund be used for and how will it be managed?

Foundation Scotland will work with the communities to determine what the Fund can be used for, the different ways it could be made available and how it will be managed.

Why can't the Fund simply be split evenly between the four communities?

Vattenfall is committed to establishing a Fund that will enable maximum impact. By liaising with all four communities we can identify common challenges and opportunities and look at ways the Fund can bring transformative benefits across the area. We will work with the communities to establish a Fund that can support local issues (which some of the Action Plans already highlight) as well as needs and opportunities across a wider area.

What does Vattenfall's commitment to fossil free living within one generation mean for the Fund?

This means activity or projects supported from the Fund will need to consider any implications their project may have on the climate emergency. Depending on the nature and focus of the project this may be a significant factor (for example, improving a community building). In some cases however, it may be less relevant (for example, operating a local befriending service). Vattenfall will provide more guidance on this in due course as this is something being implemented across all of its Funds.

I belong to a group that has ideas for future projects, how can we tell you about them?

We know there are some projects already identified in local action plans, but we'd love to hear about other projects in the pipeline. Please complete the **South Kyle Community Investment Fund Expression of Interest Form** if you want to share a future project idea. Submitting the form doesn't guarantee future funding but it will help inform overall plans for the Fund. And who knows? Maybe it will be a project that does get support from the Fund in the future.

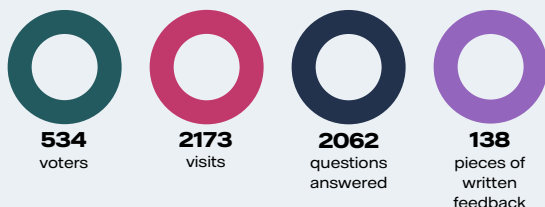
What were the results of the 'Give My View' poll and how will this influence the Fund?

Over 500 residents responded, many of whom were residents who had not previously replied to communications relating to the wind farm. As a result, a larger group of residents are now aware of the Fund and wish to be kept informed as plans develop. The poll revealed that people wanted to see 'more jobs and training', 'sports and leisure activities' and 'things to do for young people'. These results will help shape future discussions as we work with communities to consider the priorities in their community action plans.

If you want to see the results in more detail have a look **here** or on the project webpage.

South Kyle Poll on Community Investment

18.09.20 - 16.10.20



What are the opportunities to become involved in developing the South Kyle Community Investment Fund?

In November 2020, Foundation Scotland met with residents and community group representatives online at the Inform and Inspire sessions.

These sessions gave people from across the area the opportunity to learn more about what community benefit funds are and how Foundation Scotland will be supporting the set up of the South Kyle Fund. Further thematic Inform and Inspire sessions will be scheduled in the spring to look at how other community benefit funds are supporting key emerging priorities across the South Kyle communities, such as education and training and tourism and heritage.

Foundation Scotland will also work through local networks and groups to establish an area wide South Kyle Community Investment Fund Working Group.

Please contact suzy@foundationscotland.org.uk to register your interest if you wish to become part of this Group.



Where can I keep up to date with news about the Fund?

A new dedicated Facebook page has been created for the South Kyle Community Investment Fund. This page will provide updates on the Inform and Inspire sessions and the work going into creating the Fund. Follow the page at www.facebook.com/southkylecommunityfund.

You can also sign up for updates about South Kyle by emailing southkyle.windfarm@vattenfall.com putting "Community benefit" in the subject line.

My question isn't covered above?

If you have a question you would like answered, please don't hesitate to email us at southkyle.windfarm@vattenfall.com and we'll do our best to answer it.