

## REGULATORY PANEL: 23 JUNE 2022

22/00242/APP

**ERECTION OF A TEMPORARY 140M HIGH TEMPORARY METEOROLOGICAL MAST AT KNOCKCRONAL, U4 FROM C1 JUNCTION NEAR CRAIG VIA BALBEG AND DALMORTON TO PALMULLAN BRIDGE STRAITON, SOUTH AYRSHIRE**

**REPORT BY PLACE DIRECTORATE**

### Location Plan



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### Summary

This application is for the erection of a temporary 140m high meteorological mast at Knockcronal, which is located in an application site approximately 5.6km to the southwest of Straiton. Following review, it is considered that the proposal is capable of positive consideration against the terms of the Local Development Plan and associated guidance, and it is therefore recommended that the application be approved, subject to conditions.



## REPORT BY PLACE DIRECTORATE

REGULATORY PANEL: 23 JUNE 2022

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PLANNING APPLICATION REPORT</b>
<b>APPLICATION REF:</b>	<b>22/00242/APP</b>
<b>SITE ADDRESS:</b>	<b>KNOCKCRONAL U4 FROM C1 JUNCTION NEAR CRAIG VIA BALBEG AND DALMORTON TO PALMULLAN BRIDGE STRAITON SOUTH AYRSHIRE</b>
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	<b>ERECTION OF A TEMPORARY 140M HIGH METEOROLOGICAL MAST</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	<b>APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS</b>

### APPLICATION REPORT

This report fulfils the requirements of Regulation 16, Schedule 2, paragraphs 3(c) and 4 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013. The application is considered in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation as well as the Procedures for the Handling of Planning Applications.

1. **Proposal (including development details, application site description and planning history):**

Planning Permission is sought for the installation of a meteorological mast for a temporary period of up to three years, after which the mast would be removed, and the site would be restored to its current condition. The meteorological mast would be up to 140m in height and would take the design of an elongated steel tube with a matt finish. The mast would be supported by steel guy wires/ropes connected to anchors (either raft or concrete foundation at the mast point) to secure the met mast in-situ. The guy wires/ropes would extend out to a maximum distance of 100m.

A meteorological monitoring system would be mounted on the mast fixed to horizontal booms. This would consist of a series of anemometers, wind vanes, thermometers, barometers, data logger, solar panel or power supply and lighting rod (to protect the tower against any potential lightning strikes). The equipment would gather a range of meteorological data for the three-year period in order to provide a detailed understanding of the wind characteristics in the area.

The site itself lies approximately 5.6km south of Straiton within South Ayrshire Council. The specific location has been chosen by the applicant as this site is considered to be in an optimal position in relation to assessing the wind regime for the proposed Knockcronal Windfarm development. The land within the site comprises of semi-improved acid grassland/marshy grasslands and the condition of the site is of varying topography with the mast to be situated at approximately 303m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD). A micrositing allowance of up to 50m in all directions is being sought for the mast location and the application site boundary reflects this. The site location is not located within any sensitive environmental and heritage designations and/or constraints.

Access to the site would be taken via A77 and B7045 to Straiton. From Straiton, the site is reached from travelling south along Newton Stewart Road for approximately 2.5km (with the entrance to Linfairn Farm on the right hand side) and following the road past Balbeg and Dalmorton to Linfairn Farm. From Linfairn Farm the meteorological mast location would be accessed via 4x4 or all-terrain vehicles, therefore no access tracks would be required as part of the development.

In terms of planning history, Knockcronal Wind Farm Ltd (the same applicant as this application) has submitted an application to the Scottish Government for the development of a wind farm comprising of up to 9 turbines total alongside other features and infrastructure. The Scottish Government have consulted South Ayrshire Council on this application (Council Reference: [21/00993/DEEM](#)) and the meteorological mast application site sits within the auspices of this wider development site. The Planning Service is currently considering the wind farm application with an intention to take their assessment and recommendations as a statutory consultee to the Council's Regulatory Panel in June 2022.

This planning application is being reported to the Regulatory Panel, in accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, as a Community Council has formally objected to the application.

## **2. Consultations:**

- **National Air Traffic Services (NATS) Safeguarding: No objections.** NATS Safeguarding advise that the proposed development has been examined from a technical safeguarding aspect and does not conflict with their safeguarding criteria and that as a result, they have no safeguarding objection to the proposal.
- **Ministry of Defence (MoD): No objection subject to conditions.** In their consultation response, the MOD advise that the application site falls within part of the UK Military Low Flying System designated Tactical Training Area which is an area within which fixed wing aircraft may operate as low as 100 feet or 30.5 metres above ground. As a result they consider that the introduction of the meteorological mast in this location has the potential to introduce a physical obstruction to low flying aircraft operating in the area. Notwithstanding this, the MOD has advised that they would have no statutory safeguarding objections subject to the imposition of mitigation secured through conditions. The first requires the met mast to be fitted with aviation safety lighting which produces 25cd visible or Infra-Red lighting). The second condition relates to a requirement for the applicant/agent to notify the MOD with certain information to allow them to update their aeronautical charts and mapping records. This includes details of precise location, the date of commencement of construction, date of completion of construction, the height of the structure, the maximum height of any construction equipment and details of aviation warning lights to be fitted.
- **Glasgow Prestwick Airport (GPA): No objections.** GPA in their initial consultation response dated 26/04/22 issued a holding objection to the application. GPA advised that given the proposed met mast position and height (140m/459ft above ground level in an area of already high ground of circa 300m/984ft) and the fact that it is on the edge of our ATS Surveillance Minimum Altitude Chart (AD 2-EGPK-5-1) and in close proximity to published flight paths, a Instrument Flight Procedure (IFP) Assessment is required to be conducted to confirm that the proposed met mast has no impact on both on their charts and regulations. The IFP Assessment was subsequently undertaken following further review, GPA provided a re-consultation response dated 31/05/22 to confirm their acceptance of the findings and in turn, their withdrawal of their initial holding objection.
- **South Ayrshire Council Biodiversity and Ranger Services: No objections subject to conditions.** Whilst this section has no objections to the proposed development, they highlight Section 5.2 Ornithology of the Applicant's Supporting Statement which in line with NatureScot Guidance 'Assessment and mitigation of power lines and guyed meteorological masts on birds', makes reference to the potential for installation of bird diverters on the guy wires associated with these proposals in order to further reduce potential collision risk. Whilst this consultee acknowledges that the mast location is considered to be in a low collision risk, they do reference the fact that Loch Bradan is situated approximately 4km from the site and is an important lek site for black grouse. As a result of this, they recommend that line marking/installation of bird diverters on the guy wires would be appropriate to secure to reduce risk of collision from birds moving between leks or dispersal.

- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB): No objections subject to conditions. Whilst the RSPB have no objections to the application, as the met mast is within 4km of known Black Grouse leks, and the area around the Carrick Forest in general is key for the southern Scotland population of Black Grouse, the RSPB strongly recommend that the guy wires are fitted with bird deflectors to reduce the collision risk for Black Grouse.

### 3. **Submitted Assessments/Reports:**

In assessing and reporting on a planning application the Council is required to provide details of any report or assessment submitted as set out in Regulation 16, Schedule 2, para 4(c) (i) to (iv) of the Development Management Regulations.

The application has been supported by a series of plans and drawings, visualisations and wireline drawings and a Supporting Statement. The Supporting Statement includes an assessment of the potential impacts of the development on landscape and visual receptors and designations, residential and visual amenity, ecology, ornithology, geology, hydrology and hydrogeology as well as the historic environment. As part of the Supporting Statement which accompanies this planning application, the applicant also provides a planning background to the proposals, and this includes an explanation of the purpose of the temporary meteorological mast. Summarising this, the statement sets out that while it is possible to monitor wind regimes with digital equipment that utilise sonar or radar technology, the quality of the data and therefore the accuracy of the predictions derived from it are less compared to physically monitoring the wind resource at a range of heights using a static tall mast. For the purposes of design, impact assessment and project financing, particularly with the high wind speeds that occur at this site, the applicant advises that a temporary met mast is both vital and necessary for the measurement of accurate wind data for determining the wind resource for the prospective Knockcronal Windfarm development.

### 4. **S75 Obligations:**

In assessing and reporting on a planning application the Council is required to provide a summary of the terms of any planning obligation entered into under Section 75 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act in relation to the grant of planning permission for the proposed development.

**None.**

### 5. **Scottish Ministers Directions:**

In determining a planning application, the Council is required to provide details of any Direction made by Scottish Ministers under Regulation 30 (Directions requiring consultation), Regulation 31 (Directions requiring information), Regulation 32 (Directions restricting the grant of planning permission) and Regulation 33 (Directions requiring consideration of condition) of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure)(Scotland) Regulations 2013, or under Regulation 50 (that development is EIA development) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

**None.**

### 6. **Representations:**

1 representation have been received from Barr Community Council which objects to the proposed development. The representations can be viewed online at [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning). The issues raised in the representations can be summarised as follows (italics below):

- *Proposed met mast installation is both premature and speculative.*
- *No further wind farms and associated developments should be permitted locally until a coordinated and independent review of all potential cumulative impacts and effects of wind-farm densification has been carried out by or on behalf of the Scottish Government.*

In accordance with the Council's procedures for the handling of planning applications the opportunity exists for representees to make further submissions upon the issue of this Panel Report, either by addressing the Panel directly or by making a further written submission. Members can view any further written submissions in advance of the Panel meeting at [www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning). A response to these representation is included within the assessment section of this report.

## 7. Assessment:

The material considerations in the assessment of this planning application are the provisions of the development plan, other policy considerations (including government guidance), representations received, consultation responses received and the impact of the proposal on the amenity of the locality.

### (i) Development Plan

Section 25 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) indicates that in making any determination under the Planning Acts, regard is to be had to the development plan; the determination shall be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The following provisions of the development plan are considered relevant to the consideration of this application:

The following policies are relevant in the assessment of the application and can be viewed in full online at <http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning/local-development-plans/local-development-plan.aspx>

- LDP Policy: Sustainable Development
- LDP Policy: Wind Energy
- LDP Policy: Landscape Quality
- LDP Policy: Landscape Protection
- LDP Policy: Protecting the Landscape
- LDP Policy: Natural Heritage
- LDP Policy: Air, Noise and Light Pollution
- LDP Policy: Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere
- LDP Policy: Dark Skies

Whilst the proposed meteorological mast is clearly wind energy related, it is not a wind farm/turbine development and consequently it is considered that the impacts of the proposal are assessed in terms of specific visual/landscape policies of the Development Plan, together with any implications the mast location may have on natural heritage/wildlife interests.

LDP policies on landscape quality, protecting the landscape and natural heritage seek to maintain and improve the quality of South Ayrshire's landscape and ensure that the integrity of sites is maintained. It is considered that the siting, scale, design and temporary nature of this proposal will result in no overriding adverse effect on the landscape or the integrity of the application site or the surrounding area, subject to the conditions recommended below.

Although the application site is situated in close proximity to the buffer zone of both the Galloway Forest Dark Sky Park and the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere which are to the south and part of the east and west of the site, it is considered that the proposal will have a neutral effect on both. Aviation lighting will be required to be fitted to the mast itself as requested by the MoD however, in line with the supplementary guidance on dark sky lighting, a condition has been attached which includes a requirement for the aviation lighting to be infrared, with details of the lighting to be submitted to the Planning Service (in consultation with the MOD) for prior written approval. The combination of the lighting design secured through a condition combined with the overall temporary nature of the development contributes to allowing the impacts on night receptors to not be considered significant or adverse in this instance.

The development proposal has been assessed against the above policies and is considered to be in accordance with the development plan.

The Scottish Government Department of Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) concluded its Examination of the South Ayrshire Modified Proposed Local Development Plan 2 (MPLDP 2 but referred to as LDP2) and issued its Examination Report on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022. At a special meeting of the Council on 10 March 2022, Members accepted the modified LDP2 and approved it for submission to Scottish Ministers as the Council's intended adopted Local Development Plan. LDP2 now forms a substantial material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

With respect to the proposed development, policies contained within LDP2 are not at significant variance with those of the adopted LDP1.

The provisions of LDP1 and LDP2 must be read and applied as a whole, and as such, no single policy should be read in isolation. The application has been considered in this context.

(ii) Other Policy Considerations (including Government Guidance)

**Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)** highlights the value of the natural environment and that the Planning System should facilitate positive change while maintaining and enhancing distinctive landscape character. The SPP refers to areas of wild land character as identified by Scottish Natural Heritage in 2014 and notes that within such areas, that while development may be appropriate in some circumstances, there is sensitivity to any form of intrusive human activity and there may be little or no capacity to accept new development. In this case the application site is not located within the Merrick Wild Land Area but could potentially be visible from it in certain locations, including at night noting the requirement for lighting. Notwithstanding this, due to its location, scale, design and temporary nature the proposal is not considered to have any adverse impact on the Merrick Wild Land Area with this assessed in more detail in the proceeding sub-section below.

(iii) Impact on the Locality (visual, environmental and technical considerations)

At up to 140 metres high, supported by guy wires/ropes, the mast will be visible from certain locations in the surrounding area and it is accepted by the applicant in their supporting information that granting this development would introduce a new tall structural and man-made element to the baseline landscape albeit it for a defined, temporary period of time.

The Landscape and Visual Impact assessment provided has been supported by a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) map which demonstrates the predicted visibility of the proposed met mast from the surrounding landscape. This study includes 5 different viewpoints comprising predominantly of wireline diagrams alongside one photomontage which stretch up to a 10km radius from the site. This part of the assessment, combined with the written narrative, evidence and demonstrate that despite the sizeable height of the mast, it has been designed to be slender and unobtrusive by virtue of its form, materials, and colour (dull grey matt finish). In particular, it is considered that the small diameter, narrow silhouette and the lightweight nature of the met mast and associated guy wires combined with the site location will collectively contribute to reduce the prominence and visual impact of the structure itself. The assessment also demonstrates that beyond a viewing distance of 1.5 – 2.5km, a met mast of this height may be a discernible feature of the wider landscape and that the limited mass of the design and the matt finish of the tubular construction mean they lack the substance to significantly alter the setting or appreciation of the baseline landscape.

On the site location, due weight is given to the fact that this site is relatively remote from any significant public aspect. From distant views, the met mast would not be of a sufficient scale, extent or duration to alter the existing landscape character which is already subject to modification through the introduction of human-made features. In turn, it is considered the temporary mast structure from further viewpoints would not be intrusive and that it would not constitute a defining element on the landscape. The assessment on this predicts that, where it is visible, the perceived scale and overtness of the proposed mast development will diminish with increased viewing distance, particularly when viewed in the context of this large-scale landscape. From a closer proximity and from localised viewpoints near to the site itself, the assessment demonstrates that visibility would be limited to the upper portions of the met mast and frequently restricted by intervening forestry which would limit the ability to experience unhindered views.

Whilst the proposed development as submitted did not include the provision for any notable lighting to be attached to the mast, following the consultation response received from the MOD, aviation lighting will be required. Although this will introduce a form of light at night, including the darker hours and evening, it is not considered that this would be so significant as to adversely impact upon the Galloway Forest Dark Sky Park, the Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere and more broadly the Merrick WLA. As previously set out, the aviation lighting is a fundamental requirement of the MOD to ensure safety measures for low flying aircraft in the area and therefore it is not open to negotiation if such lighting is necessary or not. Notwithstanding this, the lighting will be infrared as secured for through an appropriately worded planning condition and this safeguarding design component (which is in line with current guidance in relation to dark skies parks) combined with the overall temporary nature of the development combines to allow for the visual impact of the lighting not to be considered significant or to reach an unacceptable level.

The Supporting Statement submitted as part of this planning application also includes an assessment of the potential impacts of the development on residential and visual amenity, ecology, ornithology, geology, hydrology and hydrogeology as well as the historic environment. The surveys and supporting information produced for the EIA Report for the prospective Knockcronal Windfarm application have been used to inform considerations of each of these topics for this specific development. From review of the assessment provided for each of these topics, it is considered the application site chosen combined with the position of the met mast within the landscape (which would be located on semi-improved acid grassland/ marshy grasslands within the site) would not result in any unacceptable impact on natural heritage, built environment, built heritage, hydrogeological matters or the amenity of nearby residents during the relatively short period that it would be erected for. Following consultation with both the Council's Biodiversity and Ranger Services and the RSPB, one condition is proposed requiring the installation of bird divertors/line markings on the guy wires supporting the meteorological mast and this is included below.

Further to all of the above and as referenced throughout this report, significant weight also requires to be given to the fact that the development is of a temporary nature and that the applicant has requested permission for the mast to remain for a relatively short period of 3 years. After the 3 year timescale, the applicant advises that the mast (including the associated foundations and anchor points) would be removed from the site, with the disturbed land in the site reinstated in full as an integral part of the decommissioning process. The fact that the development is temporary and includes reinstatement allows any potential impacts and effects (both direct and indirect) as set out above to be categorised as both short-term and wholly reversible and this offers further support and justification in favour of the proposals. On this basis, and subject to the conditions to secure the temporary consent and reinstatement, it is considered that the proposal will not have an over-riding detrimental impact on the locality, the surrounding landscape and any other environmental or technical factors and constraints which are relevant or applicable.

(iv) Consultee responses received

It is noted that National Air Traffic Services, the Ministry of Defence, the Council's Biodiversity and Ranger Services and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds do not object to the application. Whilst Glasgow Prestwick Airport initially issued a holding objection, following the completion of an IFP Assessment, this established that there would be no IFP infringements from the proposed meteorological mast development. On this basis, Glasgow Prestwick Airport provided an addendum consultation response which confirmed the withdrawal of their holding objection.

It is relevant to note that the Ministry of Defence has no objection subject to the imposition of conditions requiring aviation lighting and notifications, both of which are included in the recommendation below. The Council's Biodiversity and Ranger Services and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds have also requested a condition relating to bird deflectors for the guy wires and again this mitigation has been included as a condition in the recommendation below as set out.

(v) Objector Concerns

The focus of the points of objections received in the representation from Barr Community Council relate to the fact that they consider the application to be both premature and speculative. As part of this they reference a wider need for this proposal to be considered collectively alongside all other windfarm proposals in an independent review to establish capacity and cumulative impacts in more general terms. In response to this, it is important to note that each application has to be considered on its own merits taking into account the relevant policy context and other material considerations. Applications for other development, including wind turbines, will equally be considered on their own merits should they be received. For clarity, the implications of further wind turbines are not material to the consideration of this application.

It is also relevant to note that the applicant within their supporting information which accompanies this application acknowledges that although part of the wind farm process, this is a standalone planning application which seeks temporary consent for monitoring equipment. As part of this, they confirm in the written narrative their understanding and awareness that this development does not constitute a renewable energy development and that a decision on this current application has no weight and will in no way prejudice the outcome of the separate Knockcronal Windfarm application that was submitted to Scottish Ministers in November 2021 and which is before the Council for consideration as a consultee. This acknowledgement and acceptance further reinforces the recognised distinctions between this current application and other windfarm developments on both the same site but also in the wider locality.

**8. Conclusion:**

Given the above assessment and having balanced the applicant's rights against the general interest, it is recommended that the application be approved subject to conditions.

**9. Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the application is approved subject to the following conditions:

- 1) That the development hereby granted shall be implemented in accordance with the approved plans(s) as listed below and as forming part of this permission unless a variation required by a condition of the permission or a non-material variation has been agreed in writing by the Planning Authority.
- 2) That the approval for the proposed use is limited to 3 years at which date the use of the meteorological mast shall be terminated and the meteorological mast shall be removed from site. Furthermore, the site shall be restored to its former condition in accordance with a written specification, including a timescale within which the works shall be implemented, to be submitted for the prior written approval of the Planning Authority. The restoration specification shall be submitted within 2 months of the date of this planning approval and implemented as approved.
- 3) That prior to the meteorological mast hereby approved becoming operational, bird divertors/line markings in accordance with the criteria as set out in NatureScot's Guidance 'Assessment and Mitigation of Impacts of Power Lines and Guyed Meteorological Masts on Birds' (dated 2016) shall be installed on all of the guy wires supporting the meteorological mast. These bird divertors/line markings once installed shall thereafter be maintained for the lifetime of the development (e.g. 3 years from the date of this consent) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Planning Authority.
- 4) That prior to the commencement of development (including the deployment of any construction equipment or temporal structures 15.2 metres or more in height above ground level), an aviation lighting scheme shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Authority (in consultation with the Ministry of Defence). The aviation lighting scheme shall include details and information relating to the following:
  - a) Details of any construction equipment and temporal structures with a total height of 15.2 metres or greater (above ground level) that will be deployed during the construction of the meteorological mast and details of any aviation warning lighting that they will be fitted with;
  - b) The location and height of the meteorological mast identifying the position of the lights on the mast, the type(s) of lights that will be fitted and the performance specification(s) of the lighting type(s) to be used. These details shall show the meteorological mast shall be fitted with a minimum intensity 25 candela omni directional flashing red light or equivalent infrared light aviation lighting at the highest practicable point of the structure.
  - c) Details of how the development will be lit throughout its life to maintain civil and military aviation safety requirements as determined necessary for aviation safety by the Ministry of Defence.

Thereafter, the approved infrared light aviation lighting and associated measures shall be installed and operated in strict accordance with the approved layout and specifications of the aviation lighting scheme. The lighting and associated features once installed shall be retained in situ in an effective operating condition for the lifetime of the development (e.g. 3 years from the date of this consent), unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Planning Authority.



- 5) That the developer shall notify UK DVOF & Powerlines at the Defence Geographic Centre with the following information prior to development commencing:
- a. Precise location of development.
  - b. Date of commencement of construction.
  - c. Date of completion of construction.
  - d. The height above ground level of the tallest structure.
  - e. The maximum extension height of any construction equipment.
  - f. Details of any aviation warning lighting fitted to the structure(s)

This information can be sent by e-mail to UK DVOF & Powerlines at [icgdgc-prodaisafdb@mod.uk](mailto:icgdgc-prodaisafdb@mod.uk), or posted to:

D-UKDVOF & Power Lines  
Air Information Centre  
Defence Geographic Centre  
DGIA  
Elmwood Avenue  
Feltham  
Middlesex  
TW13 7AH

**Reasons:**

- 1) To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the approved plans unless otherwise agreed.
- 2) The use of the land is of a temporary nature and is only acceptable as a temporary expedient.
- 3) In the interests of reducing bird strike and collision.
- 4) In the interest of maintaining aviation safety.
- 5) To ensure that the Ministry of Defence (MoD) is aware of the details of the development, in the interests of aviation safety.

**Advisory Notes:**

- **NATS Safeguarding:** The consultation response provided applies specifically to the consultation request issued and only reflects the position of NATS (that is responsible for the management of en route air traffic) based on the information supplied at the time of this application. This letter does not provide any indication of the position of any other party, whether they be an airport, airspace user or otherwise. It remains your responsibility to ensure that all the appropriate consultees are properly consulted. If any changes are proposed to the information supplied to NATS in regard to this application which become the basis of a revised, amended or further application for approval, then as a statutory consultee NERL requires that it be further consulted on any such changes prior to any planning permission or any consent being granted.
- **Ministry of Defence (MoD):** The MoD emphasise that the advice provided in their consultation response is in response to the information detailed in the developer's document titled 'Supporting Information' dated 14/03/22. Any variations of the parameters (which include the location, dimensions, form, ad finishing materials) detailed may significantly alter how the development relates to MOD safeguarding requirements and cause adverse impacts to safeguarded defence assets or capabilities. In the event that any amendment, whether considered materials or not by the determining authority, is submitted for approval, the MOD should be consulted and provided with adequate time to carry out assessments and provide a formal response.
- **Glasgow Prestwick Airport:** The IFP Assessment undertaken did not assess the turbines which is a separate application (Scottish Ministers reference: ECU00002181). On this basis, the outcome of the IFP Assessment has no bearing on the separate Section 36 application for a windfarm development at Knockcronal.

### **List of Determined Plans:**

- Figure 1 - Mast Location Plan
- Figure 2 – Mast Layout Plan
- Figure 3 – Met Mast Elevation Drawing
- Figure 4 – Block Plan
- Figure A – Met Mast ZTV with Viewpoints
- Figure B – Viewpoint 1: Minor Road near Craig
- Figure C – Viewpoint 2: Minor Road near Stinchar Bridge
- Figure D – Viewpoint 3: NCN7 near Palmullan Bridge
- Figure E – Viewpoint 4: Craigengower Monument (wireline)
- Figure F – Viewpoint 4: Craigengower Monument (photomontage)
- Figure G – Viewpoint 5: B741 near Largs Farm
- Supporting information (ITP Energised, Dated 14/03/22)

### **Reason for Decision (where approved):**

The siting and design of the meteorological mast development hereby approved is considered to accord with the provisions of the development plan and there is no significant adverse impact on the amenity of neighbouring land and buildings.

### **Background Papers:**

1. Application form, plans and submitted documentation
2. Consultation Responses
3. Representations
4. Adopted South Ayrshire Local Development Plan
5. Proposed South Ayrshire Local Development Plan
6. Supplementary Guidance: Dark Sky Lighting
7. Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)

### **Equalities Impact Assessment**

An Equalities Impact Assessment is not required because the proposed development is not considered to give rise to any differential impacts on those with protected characteristics.

### **Person to Contact:**

Mr Ross Lee, Supervisory Planner (Place Planning), 01292 616 383