Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

Offshore Pre-Application Consultation

Volume RP.A.4, Report 1: Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report

SALAMANDER

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Simply Blue Group

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00	19 April 2024	Final	ERM	Salamander	Hugh Yendole

Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Glossary

Term	Definition
Applicant	Salamander Wind Project Company Ltd. (SWPC), a joint venture between Ørsted, Simply Blue Group, and Subsea7.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A statutory process by which certain planned projects must be assessed before a formal decision to proceed can be made. It involves the collection and consideration of environmental information, which fulfils the assessment requirements of the EIA Regulations, including the publication of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)	A document reporting the findings of the EIA and produced in accordance with the EIA Regulations.
Impact	An impact is considered to be the change to the baseline as a result of an activity or event related to the Salamander Project. Impacts can be both adverse or beneficial impacts on the environment and be either temporary or permanent.
Landfall	The generic term applied to the entire landfall corridor between Mean Low Water Spring (MLWS) tide and the Transition Joint Bay (TJB) inclusive of all construction works, including the offshore and onshore Export Cable Corridor, and landfall compound, where the offshore cables come ashore north of Peterhead.
Offshore Development	The entire Offshore Development, including all offshore components of the Project (Wind Turbine Generators, Inter-array Cables and Offshore Export Cable(s), floating substructures, mooring lines and anchors, and all other associated offshore infrastructure) required across all Project phases from development to decommissioning, for which the Applicant is seeking consent.
Offshore Development Area	The total area comprising the Offshore Array Area and the Offshore Export Cable Corridor.
PAC Report	Pre-application Consultation Report, which summarises all engagement and consultation undertaken with stakeholders and the general public.
Salamander Project	The proposed Salamander Offshore Wind Farm. The term covers all elements of both the offshore and onshore aspects of the project.
Scoping	An early part of the EIA process by which the key potential significant impacts of the project are identified, and methodologies identified for how these should be assessed. This process gives the relevant authorities and key consultees opportunity to comment and define the full extent of the final EIA – which can also then be tailored through the consultation process.

Scottish Marine Area	Defined in the Marine Act 2010 as "*the area of sea within the seaward limits of the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to Scotland and includes the bed and subsoil of the sea within that area*",

Acronyms

Term	Definition
ASCO	Aberdeen Service Company
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (now Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ))
BIFA	Buchan Inshore Fisherman's Association
CES	Crown Estate Scotland
CNSE	Central North Sea Electrification
DESNZ	Department of Energy Security and Net Zero (formerly BEIS)
ECU	Energy Consents Unit
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ERM	Environmental Resources Management
GW	Gigawatts
JV	Joint Venture
km	Kilometre
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team (formerly MS-LOT)
MW	Megawatts

Term	Definition
MPPs	Marine Planning Partnerships
NATS	National Air Traffic Services
NBL	Northern Lighthouse Board
NGN	Northern Gas Networks
nm	Nautical miles
NPF	National Planning Framework
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation
PoAN	Proposal of Application Notice
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Scotland
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SFF	Scottish Fishermen's Federation
SWPC	Salamander Wind Project Company Ltd. (formerly called Simply Blue Energy (Scotland) Ltd)
NS	NatureScot (formerly Scottish Natural Heritage – SNH)
SPP	Scottish Planning Policy
SWFPA	Scottish White Fish Producers Association
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations

1 Pre-application Consultation Report Form

PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

Marine (Scotland) Act 2010: Section 24

1. Proposed Licensable Marine Activity

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the proposed licensable marine activity, including its location.

See **Section 2.1** of this PAC report

2. Applicant Details

Title	Initials	Surname
Mr	H	Yendole

Trading Title
(if appropriate)

Salamander Wind Project Company Ltd. (SWPC)

Address

2nd Floor, 2 Lochrin Square,
96 Fountainbridge
Edinburgh
Scotland, EH3 9QA

Name of contact
(if different)

Position within Company
(if appropriate)

Project Director

Telephone No. **(inc. dialing code)**	**Fax No.** **(inc. dialing code)**
+44 7532 489348	

Company Registration No.	**Email**
SC662940	HUYEN@orsted.com

Is this prospective applicant the proposed licensee?

YES ✓ **NO** ☐

If NO, please complete Section 3 below.

3. Proposed Licensee Details

Title	**Initials**	**Surname**

Trading Title
(if appropriate)

Address

Name of contact
(if different)

Position within Company (if appropriate)	

Telephone No. (inc. dialing code)	**Fax No. (inc. dialing code)**

Company Registration No.	**Email**

4. Pre-application Consultation Event

Please describe below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form the pre-application consultation event.

Please see **Sections 6 and 7** for details of the two Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) events.

5. Information provided by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any information provided by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event.

Please see **Sections 6 and 7** and **Appendices B, C, E and F** for details of the PAC materials provided at each of the PAC events.

6. Information received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event

Please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of any comments and objections received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event.

Please see **Sections 6.6, 7.6 and 8** for details of the feedback received during each of the PAC events.

7. Amendments made, or to be made, to the Application for a Marine Licence by the Prospective Applicant following their Consideration of Comments and/or Objections received at the Pre-application Consultation Event

Where any amendments are made, or are to be made, by the prospective applicant for a marine licence application as a direct result of their consideration or comments and/or objections received at the pre-application consultation event, please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form details of such amendments.

Whilst no further amendments to the Offshore Development were considered to be required as a result of comments received during the PAC events, there were some comments raised by members of the public at the PAC events relating to proposed Landfall methods. This aspect of the project design was already being considered by the Salamander Project as part of the EIA process and a design change was being further evaluated as the EIA assessment progressed rather than directly from comments received through the PAC process. However, commitment to trenchless installation at the landfall, reducing disturbance compared to trenched installation at landfall addressed comments raised during PAC. Please see **Section 7.7** for details of the amendments to the Project Description and Marine Licence application.

8. Explanation of Approach taken by the Prospective Applicant where, following Relevant Comments and/or Objections being received by the Prospective Applicant at the Pre-application Consultation Event, no Relevant Amendment is made to the Application for a Marine Licence.

Where, following comments and/or objections having been received by the prospective applicant for a marine licence at the pre-application consultation event, no relevant amendment is made to the application for a marine licence by the prospective applicant, then please provide below or, where there is insufficient space, in a document attached to this form an explanation for the approach taken.

No further amendments to the Offshore Development were considered to be required as a result of comments received during the PAC events, that were not already being implemented as part of the EIA process. Please see **Section 7.7** details of the amendments to the Project Description and Marine Licence application. (Salamander Project - Floating Offshore Wind Scotland - Simply Blue Energy (salamanderfloatingwind.com)).

Certification

Insert Name	Hugh Yendole
Insert address	Salamander Offshore Wind Farm
	Salamander Wind Project Company Ltd.
	2nd Floor, 2 Lochrin Square
	96 Fountainbridge
Town	Edinburgh
County	
Postcode	EH3 9QA

I certify that I have complied with the legislative requirements relating to pre-application consultation and that the pre-application consultation has been undertaken in accordance with the Statutory requirements.

Signature  **Date** 26th April 2024

2 Introduction

2.1 Project Overview

2.1.1.1 This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report has been prepared by Environmental Resources Management (ERM) on behalf of Salamander Wind Project Company Ltd. (SWPC), (the 'Applicant'). ERM has been commissioned to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm (hereafter called the 'Salamander Project'). It forms part of the Marine Licence Application for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm (the 'Proposed Development'), which will demonstrate the offshore wind capabilities of the North Sea through the installation of a floating wind farm approximately 35 kilometres (km) off the coast of Peterhead with an installed capacity of up to 100 Megawatts (MW). It will assist in facilitating the move towards the net zero targets set out in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 and the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019.

2.1.1.2 It will also contribute to the United Kingdom (UK) Government's British Energy Security Strategy of developing 50 Gigawatts (GW) of operational offshore wind power by 2030, and the Scottish Government's ambition within the Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan for deployment of up to 11 GW installed offshore wind capacity by 2030.

2.1.1.3 This will maximise the financial benefit of offshore wind power capabilities in Scotland and generate long term job opportunities for local communities. The Salamander Project will be supported by a UK grid connection to maximise the benefits of this offshore wind resource.

2.1.1.4 This PAC Report presents the stakeholder engagement and consultation undertaken, as required by Scottish Marine legislation and requirements, for the Offshore marine application. A second PAC Report will be issued with the Onshore planning application to show how the consultation undertaken has met the Scottish consultation requirements.

2.2 The Applicant

2.2.1.1 The Applicant, SWPC, is a joint venture (JV) partnership between Ørsted, Simply Blue Group and Subsea7, is proposing the development of the Salamander Project.

2.2.1.2 Globally, Ørsted is the market leader in offshore wind and it is constructing the world's biggest offshore wind farms off the East Coast of the UK. Its UK offshore wind farms generate enough clean electricity for seven million UK homes. Ørsted ranks as the number one energy company in Corporate Knights' 2022 index of the Global 100 most sustainable corporations in the world. Headquartered in Denmark, Ørsted employs 6,500 people, including over 1,100 in the UK. The Ørsted vision is a world that runs entirely on green energy. Ørsted develops, constructs, and operates offshore and onshore wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities, and bioenergy plants, and provides energy products to its customers.

2.2.1.3 Simply Blue Group, headquartered in Cork, Ireland, is a leading blue economy developer focused on replacing fossil fuels with clean ocean energy. It develops pioneering blue economy projects – offshore wind, sustainable fuels, marine energy, carbon dioxide removal and low-impact aquaculture – all in harmony with the oceans. The company has a pipeline of over 10 GW of offshore wind projects across the globe. Simply Blue Group is committed to creating new economic opportunities for coastal communities, and developing projects that co-exist with sustainable fisheries and marine conservation. With a passionate team of over

100 people, Simply Blue Group has offices in Cork, Dublin, Newquay, Pembrokeshire, Edinburgh, Bilbao, and Nova Scotia.

2.2.1.4 Subsea7, based in north-east Scotland, is a global leader in the delivery of offshore projects and services for the evolving energy industry. Subsea7 creates sustainable value by being the industry's partner and employer of choice in delivering the efficient offshore solutions the world needs.

2.2.2 The Proposed Development

2.2.2.1 The Applicant will combine the knowledge of the JV partnership and their experience in offshore wind energy to provide an opportunity for the local supply chain to scale-up in preparation for the commercial, GW scale opportunities in Scotland resulting from the ScotWind process. Further information on the Offshore Proposed Development is provided in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description**.

2.2.2.2 The Salamander Project will consist of offshore and onshore infrastructure, including an offshore generating station (wind farm), export cables to landfall, and connection to the electricity transmission network. This document is the Offshore PAC Report, which will be submitted with the Marine Licence Application and Offshore Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), and relates to the offshore components of the Salamander Project seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS). A separate Onshore PAC Report and EIAR will also be prepared for the onshore components, and will be submitted later in 2024 with the Onshore planning application.

2.2.2.3 Further information on the Proposed Development are included in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description** however, the main components are summarised as:

- Up to seven offshore wind turbine generators (WTGs);
- Floating substructures to support the WTGs;
- Mooring and anchoring systems to connect the structures to the seabed;
- Inter-array cables (including both dynamic and static cable sections) to collect the power from the WTGs;
- Connection hub(s)/joint(s) on the seabed, and their associated foundations; and
- Up to two static export cable(s) either from the connection hubs or as a continuation of the dynamic inter-array cables to bring power ashore.

At Landfall, the offshore export cable(s) will be joined to onshore export cables at the TJB(s) which will be located above MHWS. The main onshore components will include:

- TJB(s) to join the offshore and onshore cables;
- Onshore export cables buried in up to two trenches (if required);
- Onshore Substation (OnSS) and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI) compounds and associated infrastructure;
- Grid connection works; and
- An access road to the OnSS and EBI.

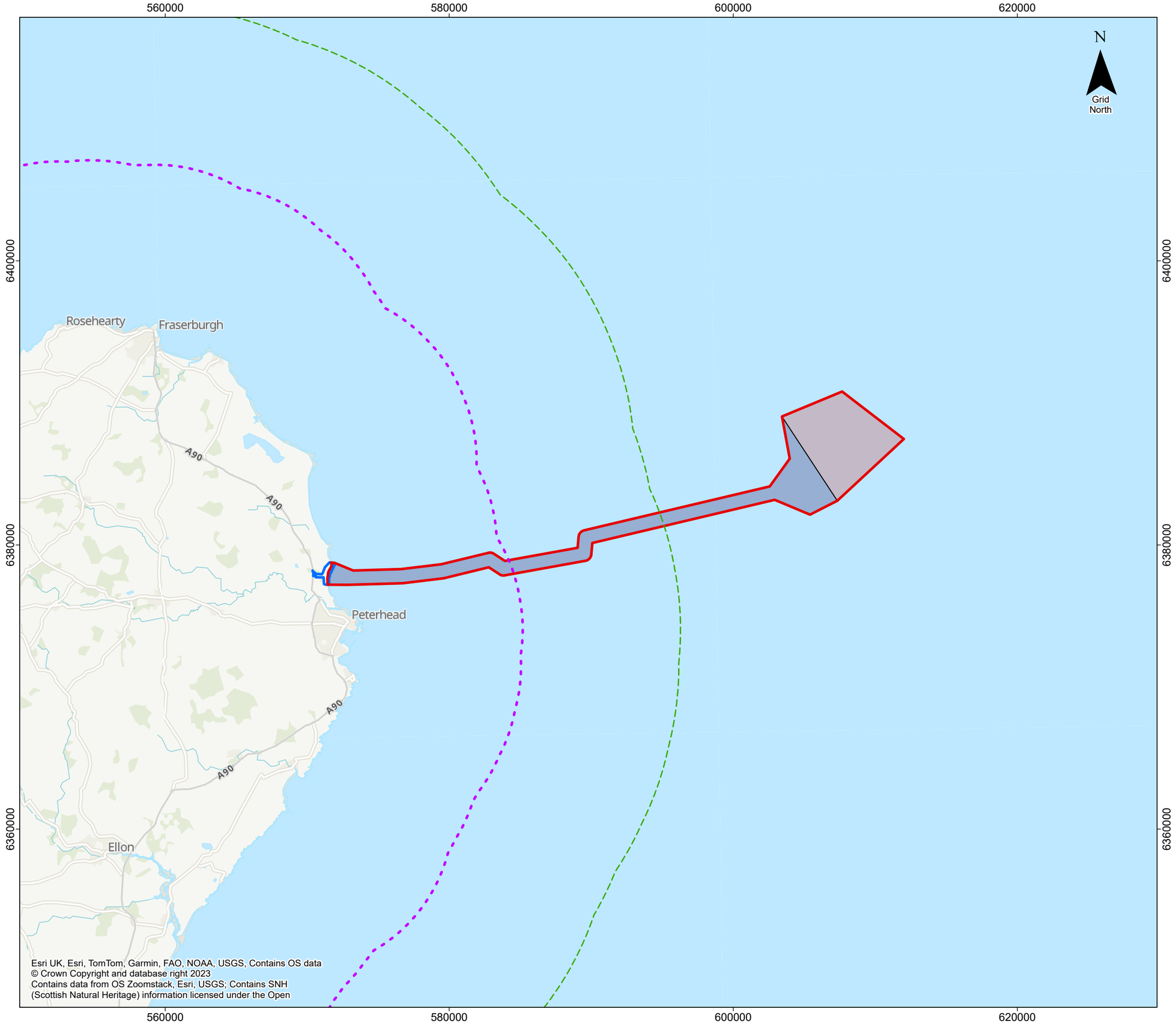
2.2.2.4 The Salamander Project will include EBI alongside the OnSS to provide services to the whole energy system, which may include importing, storing and exporting energy to meet grid needs, improving grid stability and reliability, or providing additional services such as system monitoring and computing.

2.2.2.5 **Figure 2-1** shows the boundaries related to the Offshore EIAR, and the indicative onshore boundary.

Salamander

Figure 2-1

Project Location



Legend

- Offshore Development Area
- Offshore Array Area
- Offshore Export Cable Corridor
- Indicative Onshore Development Area
- 6nm limit
- 12nm limit

Coordinate System: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 30N

Scale @ A3 : 1:259,369

0 7.5 15 Kilometers

0 2 4 8 Nautical Miles

Rev	Description	Date
00	Final	27/03/2024
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Doc. Title : Project Location
Doc. No : SWF01ER0255
Created by : NB
Checked by : IW
Approved by : HY

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2.3 Purpose of this report

2.3.1.1 The Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report shows how the Applicant has both informed and engaged key stakeholders and the local community. It summarises feedback received and how these comments have informed the design of the Salamander Project (the Proposed Development).

2.3.1.2 This document describes the process, events and findings from the consultation and engagement programme carried out alongside the EIA process.

2.3.1.3 The consultation and engagement programme has been delivered by the Applicant, and ERM has prepared this PAC Report.

2.3.1.4 The following sections include the engagement set out, and the feedback received from stakeholders and the wider community and concludes with next steps for the Salamander Project. The Appendices in this report contain a record of all publicity and consultation materials available throughout the consultation and engagement process, as well as copies of key stakeholder responses received.

2.4 Engagement Programme

2.4.1.1 **Figure 2-2** outlines the engagement undertaken during the pre-application stage of the Salamander Project, up until application submission.

Phase 1: Pre-Scoping (2020 - 2022)	Phase 2: Scoping & First Round PAC (Q4 2022 – Q3 2023)	Phase 3: EIA & Second Round PAC (Q3 2023 - Q2 2024)
• First engagement with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders to discuss project introduction and site selection. • Consultation on offshore digital aerial bird/marine mammal surveys and benthic ecology surveys (prior to surveys commencing). • Establish contact points and build relationships with key stakeholders.	• Engagement with technical and statutory stakeholders to inform baseline and scoping stage. Briefing packs distributed to frame discussion in technical scoping workshops. • Formal Scoping Opinion sought in February 2023. • First round PAC events during June - July 2023 to present the proposals, and gather feedback from stakeholders and the wider community. • Formal Scoping Opinion received June 2023	• Ongoing engagement with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders to inform evolving assessment. • Second round PAC on the location of the onshore infrastructure, offshore elements and access to the substation, held in November - December 2023. • Second round PAC to also show how the feedback has been considered and incorporated into the proposals where relevant. • Review of consultation carried out in pre-application stage and any further targeted engagement with stakeholders (if needed).

Figure 2-2 Engagement Phasing

3 Legislative Context and Relevant Guidance

3.1 Scottish Offshore Policy and Guidance

3.1.1.1 The below described the relevant policy and guidance related to the engagement consultation requirements for the offshore application. For more information on wider offshore planning policy, please refer to **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 2: Legislative Context and Regulatory Requirements** of the offshore EIAR.

3.1.2 Marine Scotland Act 2010

3.1.2.1 The Marine Scotland Act 2010 (Section 24) sets out the requirement for Pre-Application Consultation for developments within the Scottish Marine Area, defined in the Act as "*the area of sea within the seaward limits of the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to Scotland and includes the bed and subsoil of the sea within that area*", with the potential for significant impact on the environment and local communities. The process provides opportunities to receive feedback from the public and key stakeholders that can then be addressed in the application and supporting EIA Report. Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT) require applicants to have undertaken pre-application consultation with stakeholders, consultees and the public in accordance with the legislative requirements.

3.1.3 The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

3.1.3.1 The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013 came into force on 1 January 2014 and apply to all relevant Marine Licence applications received by the Scottish Ministers on or after 6 April 2014. These requirements only apply in respect of relevant applications in the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) to 12 nautical miles (nm) offshore. Pre-Application Consultation is required for licensable activities which involve, among other things:

- The deposit of a submarine cable within the Scottish Marine Area either in the sea or on or under the seabed from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container, where that cable is over 1,853 m in length and where it crosses the inter-tidal boundary;
- The deposit of any substance or object within the Scottish Marine Area either in the sea or on or under the seabed from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container, or;
- The construction of a renewable energy structure within the Scottish Marine Area in or over the sea or on or under the seabed, where the total area in which the structure is to be located exceeds 10,000 m^2.

3.1.3.2 The purpose of the Regulations is to allow the local community, stakeholders and other interested parties to comment upon marine development proposals prior to an application for a Marine Licence being submitted. The Regulations set out for Offshore Pre-application Consultation are summarised in **Table 3-1**.

Table 3.1 Pre-Application Consultation requirements under the Marine Licensing (Pre-application consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013

Requirement	Action Taken
5. Procedure in relation to a pre-application consultation statement. *(1). A prospective applicant for a marine licence who considers that the activity in respect of which a licence may, or is to, be sought which may, or is to, be of a class or description prescribed in regulation 4 may notify the Scottish Ministers requiring a pre-application consultation statement from them.* *(2). A notification requiring a pre-application consultation statement must be accompanied by—*	A pre-application statement was not sought from Scottish Ministers as there was no ambiguity around the Offshore Development being of a class or description prescribed in Regulation 4. MD-LOT have been engaged throughout the EIA process, on behalf of Scottish Ministers, and are fully aware of the

Requirement	Action Taken
a) a plan sufficient to identify the area of the Scottish marine area which is the subject of a prospective application for a marine licence; *b) a description of the nature and the purpose of the licensable marine activity and of its possible effects on the environment; and* *c) such further information or representations that the prospective applicant considers relevant.*	prospective application for Marine Licences and Section 36 consent for the Offshore Development.
(3). On receiving a notification under paragraph (1), the Scottish Ministers must, if they consider that they have not been provided with sufficient information to give a pre-application consultation statement, within three weeks of their receipt of the notification give notice to the prospective applicant of the particular points on which they require further information	N/A
(4). When the Scottish Ministers consider that they have been provided with sufficient information in respect of the marine activity referred to in the notification under paragraph (1) they must provide a pre-application consultation statement to the prospective applicant under paragraph (5) or (6) within three weeks of whichever is the later of— *a) the date of receipt by them of the notification requiring a preapplication consultation statement; and* *b) the date by which they have received all the further information required by them under paragraph (3), or within such longer period as may be agreed by the Scottish Ministers and the prospective applicant.*	N/A
(5). Where the Scottish Ministers are of the opinion that the marine activity referred to in the notification under paragraph (1) is of a class or description prescribed in regulation 4, then they must provide the prospective applicant with a pre-application consultation statement to that effect giving reasons for their opinion. *(6). Where the Scottish Ministers are of the opinion that the marine activity referred to in the notification under paragraph (1) is not of a class or description prescribed in regulation 4, then they must provide the prospective applicant with a pre-application consultation statement to that effect giving reasons for their opinion.*	N/A
6. Pre-application consultation *(1). This regulation and regulation 7 apply to a prospective applicant for a marine licence to whom the Scottish Ministers have provided a preapplication consultation statement under regulation 5(5).* *(2). The prospective applicant for a marine licence must give notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted to—* *a) the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses;* *b) the Maritime and Coastguard Agency;* *c) the Scottish Environment Protection Agency;* *d) NatureScot; and* *e) any delegate for a marine region where the application for a marine licence is for an activity which is to be carried out wholly or partly in that region*	Phase 2 (PAC Event 1): Notification was given on the 26 April 2023, submitted to the Northern Lighthouse Board, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and NatureScot No marine region was relevant to the Salamander Project offshore location, so the notification was only sent to the four statutory stakeholders listed in the regulation. PAC Advert also sent to MD-LOT and Aberdeenshire Council on 26 April 2023. MD-LOT put this advert on their website. Phase 3 (PAC Event 2): Notification was given on the 1 November 2023, submitted to the Northern Lighthouse Board, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and NatureScot No marine region was relevant to the Salamander Project offshore location, so the notification was only sent to the four statutory stakeholders listed in the regulation.

Requirement	Action Taken
	PAC Advert also sent to MD-LOT and Aberdeenshire Council on 6 November 2023. MD-LOT put this advert on their website.
7. Pre-application consultation event *(1). The prospective applicant for a marine licence must— a) hold at least one pre-application consultation event at which those persons mentioned in regulation 6(2), and members of the public, may provide comments to the prospective applicant as regards the licensable marine activity to which the application for a marine licence is to relate; and*	Pre-application Consultation events were held over two phases (detailed in **Sections 6 and 7** of this report). Phase 2 (**Section 6** of this report) was the first round of PAC events, which included those mentioned in Reg 6(2), interested stakeholders and members of the public being notified of the public consultation, and invited to provide comments. This was possible both at in-person events in June 2023, as well as online via the consultation platform. Feedback was sought by 7 July 2023. Phase 3 (**Section 7** of this report) was the second round of PAC events for Salamander Project, which included those mentioned in Reg 6(2), interested stakeholders and members of the public being notified of the public consultation, and invited to provide comments. This was possible both at in-person events in November 2023, as well as online via the consultation platform. Feedback was sought by 10 December 2023.
b) publish in a local newspaper a notice containing— *(i). a description, including the location of, the licensable marine activity for which the marine licence is to be sought;* *(ii). Details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed licensable marine activity;* *(iii). The date and place of the pre-application consultation event;* *(iv). A statement explaining how persons wishing to provide comments to the prospective applicant relating to the proposed licensable marine activity may do so, and the date by which this must be done; and* *(v). a statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and that if the prospective applicant makes an application for a marine licence that there will be an opportunity for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.*	Phase 2 – The local newspaper notice was published in The Press and Journal on Wednesday 26 April 2023. The notice fulfilled all these requirements, and can be viewed in **Appendix C**. Phase 3 – The local newspaper notice was published in The Press and Journal on Tuesday 3 October 2023. The notice fulfilled all these requirements, and can be viewed in **Appendix E**.

(2). A pre-application consultation event must be held no earlier than six weeks after the later of—
 	
a) the date on which notification of such event is given in accordance with paragraph (1)(b); and
 	
b) the date of notification that an application for a marine licence is to be submitted is given in accordance with regulation 6(2).
 	
(3). Paragraph (1) does not apply where—
 	
a) a pre-application consultation event in respect of the licensable marine activity for which a marine licence is sought has been held in relation to that activity within one year of the date on which the application for a marine licence is received by the Scottish Ministers;
	Phase 2:
	
	• Posters located around Peterhead and Crimond on 23 May 2023
	• Press (online and print) – June 2023
	• Virtual consultation – 5 June 2023 – 2 July 2023
	• In-person events:
	  o Balmoor Football Stadium, Peterhead – 7 June 2023
	  o Crimond Public Hall, Crimond – 8 June 2023

Requirement	Action Taken
b) that pre-application consultation event has been held in a suitably accessible venue; and *c) that pre-application consultation event has been advertised at least six weeks prior to the event in a manner likely to bring the application to the attention of persons likely to be interested in it.*	Phase 3: • Posters located around Peterhead and Crimond on 16 November 2023 • Press (online and print) – October 2023 • Virtual consultation – 21 November 2023 – 3 December 2023 • In-person events: o Balmoor Football Stadium, Peterhead – 21 November 2023 o Crimond Public Hall, Crimond – 22 November 2023
8. Pre-application consultation report *A pre-application consultation report which must be prepared by virtue of section 24(1) of the Act must be in the form prescribed in the Schedule.*	This report completes this requirement. The Pre-Application Report (PAC) Report contains a detailed summary of the consultation undertaken on the Salamander Project, and the PAC form is included at the beginning of this report.

3.1.4 Guidance on Marine Licensable Activities subject to Pre-Application Consultation, Marine Scotland

3.1.4.1 There is no similar provision for pre-application consultation in the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, so these requirements only apply to applications in the Scottish Inshore Region, from Mean High Water Springs to 12 nautical miles. It is noted that the offshore wind farm itself is located beyond this area.

3.1.4.2 States that public pre-application consultation consists of at least one public event where key stakeholders (local communities, environmental groups, NGOs, regulators and other interested parties), are given the opportunity to provide feedback on a prospective application for those marine licensable activities that are prescribed in the Regulations.

3.1.4.3 The prospective applicant must notify the following statutory consultees that an application for a marine licence for a prescribed activity is to be submitted to MD-LOT:

- The Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses
- The Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- The Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Any delegate for the relevant marine region or regions, when such delegates have been established under Section 12(1) of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

3.1.4.4 The notification should include basic information relating to the application and include the time and location of the consultation event. The notification must be made at least 6 weeks in advance of the event.

3.1.4.5 A notice in a local newspaper should be published no less than 6 weeks in advance of the public consultation event.

3.1.4.6 A pre-application consultation report, as described by the Regulations, should be prepared and submitted with the marine licence application.

3.1.4.7 As per the Regulations and the guidance described above, this PAC Report describes how the above guidance has been delivered as part of the pre-application consultation and engagement.

4 Engagement and Consultation Plan

4.1 Engagement Approach and Methodology

4.1.1.1 The Salamander Project Team aimed to meet regulatory requirements, best practice, and deliver a "beyond compliance" approach, which includes:

- A hybrid approach to engagement and consultation with online and in-person presence, to maximise accessibility and facilitate stakeholder feedback from inception to operation;
- A detailed programme of engagement with the breadth of technical stakeholders (beyond statutory) to allow for early visibility and ongoing inputs and establishing a shared platform for dissemination of information;
- Two stages of public consultation on the offshore application (which were combined with the onshore pre-application consultation)
- PAC Report and statement demonstrating how feedback has informed the Salamander Project;
- Continuing liaison with stakeholders through online and direct engagement.

4.2 Stakeholder Mapping

4.2.1.1 Stakeholders are mapped and reviewed on a regular basis through a Quarterly Deep Dive exercise. This exercise includes Work Package leaders across the project, including Consents. Stakeholders are reviewed for their status and level of criticality relative to current project activities. 'SMART' (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound) objectives are set for each stakeholder according to project need. The Stakeholder List is included in **Appendix A**.

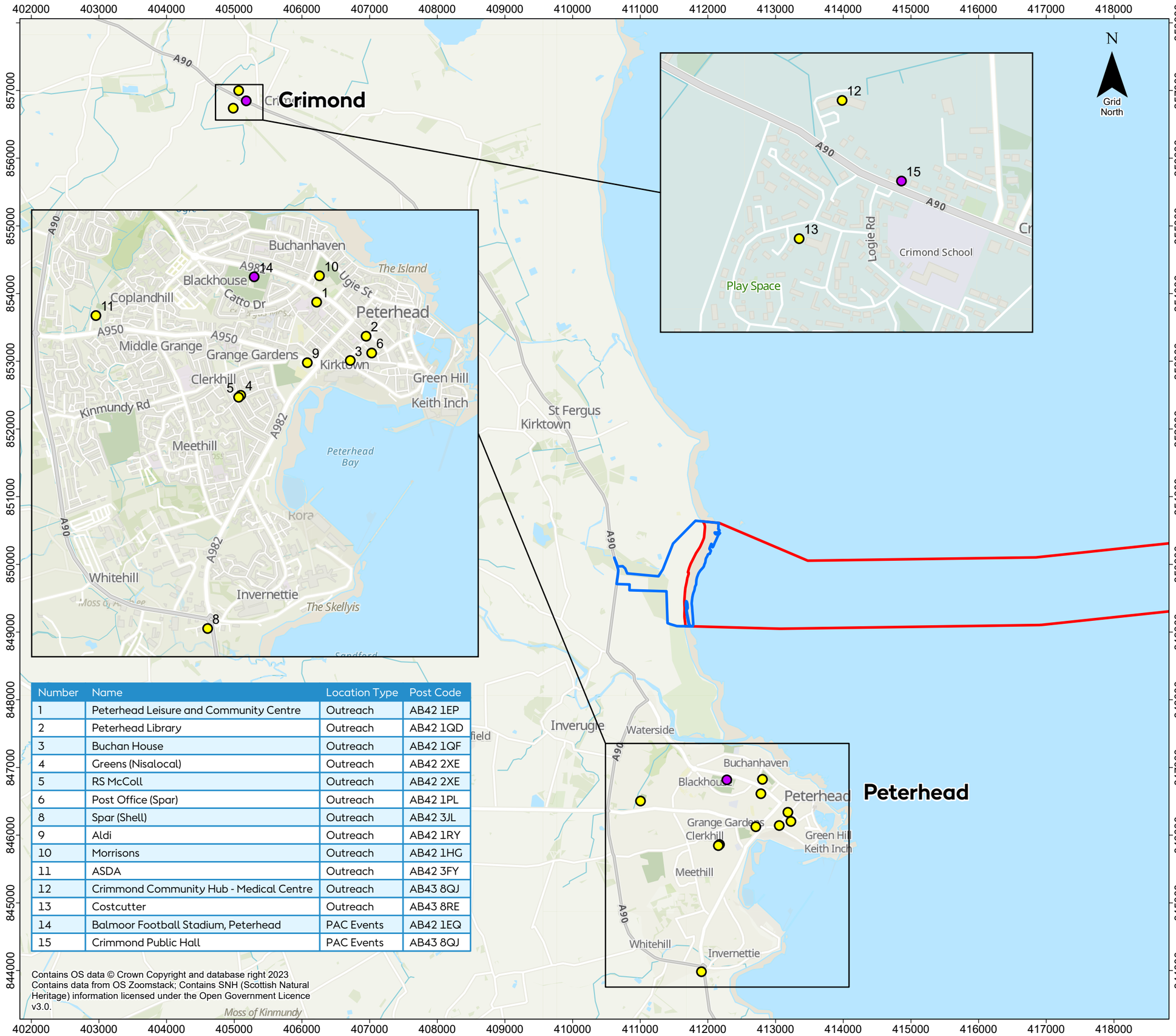
4.3 Consultation Area

4.3.1.1 **Figure 4-1** shows the Consultation Area used for the two rounds of PAC events in 2023. Outreach was targeted at Crimond and Peterhead, as the most populated settlements close to the Proposed Development site. Peterhead is the nearest urban centre to the Onshore Development Area, and Crimond is in close proximity to the Onshore Development Area and grid connection point. At the recommendation of Aberdeenshire Council's Buchan Area Committee, in-person events were held across two days in both of these locations at each stage. Also based on a recommendation by the Committee, posters were put up across a range of public locations in advance of each event, notifying the community of the events taking place as part of the pre-application consultation. Posters for the first PAC events were mounted on 23 May 2023, two weeks in advance of the events, and can be found in **Appendix B**. Posters for the second PAC events were mounted on 16 November 2023, just under one week in advance of the events, and can be found in **Appendix E**.

Salamander

Figure 4-1

Consultation Locations



Number	Name	Location Type	Post Code
1	Peterhead Leisure and Community Centre	Outreach	AB42 1EP
2	Peterhead Library	Outreach	AB42 1QD
3	Buchan House	Outreach	AB42 1QF
4	Greens (Nisalocal)	Outreach	AB42 2XE
5	RS McColl	Outreach	AB42 2XE
6	Post Office (Spar)	Outreach	AB42 1PL
8	Spar (Shell)	Outreach	AB42 3JL
9	Aldi	Outreach	AB42 1RY
10	Morrisons	Outreach	AB42 1HG
11	ASDA	Outreach	AB42 3FY
12	Crimmond Community Hub - Medical Centre	Outreach	AB43 8QJ
13	Costcutter	Outreach	AB43 8RE
14	Balmoor Football Stadium, Peterhead	PAC Events	AB42 1EQ
15	Crimmond Public Hall	PAC Events	AB43 8QJ

Indicative Onshore Development Area

Offshore Development Area

Consultation Locations:

- Outreach
- PAC Events

Coordinate System: British National Grid

Vertical Datum : MLLW

Scale @ A3 : 1:55,000

0 1.5 3 Kilometers

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Rev	Description	Date
00	Final	04/04/2024
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Doc. Title : Consultation Locations
Doc. No : SWF01ER0000
Created by : MTC
Checked by :
Approved by :

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5 Phase 1: Pre-scoping

5.1 Overview

5.1.1.1 The first phase in the engagement programme (2020 - 2022) aimed to deliver introductory engagement with councils and other key stakeholders to introduce the Salamander Project, build relationships, inform the site selection process, understand initial concerns, and seek recommendations on further engagement activity and the EIA process. This phase did not include public consultation. Details on early engagement with stakeholders can be found in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 3: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives** and **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 5: Stakeholder Consultation**.

5.2 Stakeholder Meetings and Consultation

5.2.1.1 This phase of engagement involved contacting key stakeholders to refine the site selection and get input into early surveys (offshore ornithology and marine mammals aerial surveys, and geophysical and environmental benthic surveys).

5.2.1.2 The Applicant invited several stakeholders to attend the early-stage informal discussions, which took place between 2 to 8 July 2020 through video conference utilising Microsoft Teams. The aims for this phase of engagement were to:

- Make the consultees aware of the plans with regards to the Salamander Project;
- Gain the views of the stakeholders to feed into the site selection process for the Offshore Array Area; and
- Discuss the environmental consenting process for the Salamander Project.

5.2.1.3 The stakeholders engaged during this stage included:

- NatureScot;
- Scottish Government – Marine Directorate, Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT);
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Scotland (RSPB);
- Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF);
- Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA); and
- Crown Estate Scotland (CES).

5.2.1.4 Survey design workshops were held with a number of relevant stakeholders for ornithology and marine mammals in August and October 2020, and discussion on benthic surveys taking place in December 2021.

5.2.1.5 Further detail of site selection is given in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 3: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives** of the Offshore EIAR, and related meetings with key stakeholders can be found in the offshore EIA Report, summarised in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 5: Stakeholder Consultation**, and detailed further in the **Volume ER.A.3, Chapters 7 – 22**.

5.3 Outreach and Communications

5.3.1 Project Website

5.3.1.1 The Salamander Project website was launched on 24 August 2020, and information was progressively added over time. The website URL is: https://salamanderfloatingwind.com/

6 Phase 2: Scoping and First Round PAC

6.1 Overview

6.1.1.1 The second phase of engagement (Q4 2022 – Q3 2023) included ongoing consultation with key stakeholders, as well as holding the first round of PAC events. This used a virtual consultation room which could be viewed from 5 June until 2 July 2023, and in-person drop-in events. Feedback forms were available via the virtual consultation room and at the in-person events. The first round of PAC events sought feedback from stakeholders and the wider community on the onshore and offshore proposals.

6.2 Stakeholder Meetings

6.2.1.1 The scoping workshops, held in November 2022, informed the Scoping Report and associated consultation. These stakeholder meetings included discussion on a range of topic areas, as shown in **Section 6.2.1.2**. Tailored briefing packs were sent to stakeholders in preparation of the scoping workshops (at least two weeks ahead of the workshops), in order to provide context, guide discussion and identify where feedback was needed. During the workshops, presentations and guided discussion were held to collate feedback from participating stakeholders.

6.2.1.2 Topics of these workshops included:

- Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), and Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage;
- Terrestrial Ornithology, Ecology and Onshore Geology, Hydrology;
- Benthic Ecology and Fish and Shellfish Ecology;
- Marine Ornithology;
- Marine Mammals;
- Marine Physical Processes; and
- Navigational risk assessment and EIA methodologies for Shipping and Navigation.

6.2.1.3 Stakeholders engaged with during this phase included:

- Scottish Government – Marine Directorate, Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT);
- Aberdeenshire Council;
- NatureScot;
- Marine Scotland Science;
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Scotland (RSPB) (invited, could not attend)
- Historic Environment England (HES) (invited, could not attend);
- Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB);
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA); and
- Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

6.2.1.4 In addition to these workshops, other meetings were held with stakeholders where required as well as regularly occurring meetings with key groups to keep these stakeholders informed:

- Meeting in March 2023 with Transport Scotland;
- Monthly project update meetings with SFF, SWFPA, and North & East Coast Regional Inshore Fishery Group.

- Quarterly project update meetings with MD-LOT, NatureScot and Aberdeenshire Council

6.2.1.5 NatureScot, SEPA, NLB and MCA were notified by email regarding the PAC events on 26 April 2023.

6.2.1.6 Further details and comments from technical consultation meetings with key stakeholders can be found in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 5: Stakeholder Consultation**, and the technical chapters of **Volume ER.A.3, Chapters 7 – 22**.

6.3 Outreach and Communications

6.3.1 Summary

6.3.1.1 A range of communications and outreach was delivered as part of publicising the public consultation. This included posters, print and digital media notifications, emails and update of the project website.

6.3.1.2 This section details the outreach of the project communications in scoping, as well as in the lead up to, and during, the Phase 2 consultation stage. A summary of participation at the first PAC events is shown below in **Table 6-1**.

Table 6.1 Outreach and participation summary

Outreach/Event	People reached/participated
PAC events attendees	41 attendees (of which 11 students on delegation from North East Scotland College), 41 registrations, 10 questionnaires filled out.
Visits to online exhibition	25
Social media interactions	2 posts across Instagram, X (formerly Twitter) and LinkedIn, total 217 interactions.

6.3.2 Consultation Notices

6.3.2.1 The Consultation Notice of the first PAC events was published in the Press and Journal on 26 April 2023, which described the Salamander Project, identified how to provide feedback, directed people to the consultation materials online and invited people to attend in-person PAC events.

6.3.2.2 A copy of the notice was also provided to Aberdeenshire Council and MD-LOT on 26 April 2023. Statutory consultees (NLB, MCA, SEPA and NatureScot) were notified of the consultation on 26 April 2023. This notice was also put on the MD-LOT website.

6.3.2.3 In accordance with Section 25B and Regulation 6, a PoAN was sent to Aberdeenshire Council on 15 May 2023, and subsequently to six neighbouring community councils on 16 May 2023. These neighbouring councils included: Buchan East, Invercain, Rathen, Memsie and Cortes, Strichen & District, Peterhead.

6.3.2.4 These consultation notices were also uploaded to the Salamander Project website. The consultation notice can be viewed in **Appendix C.**

6.3.3 Advertising

6.3.3.1 Press articles were published in June 2023, in the lead up to the PAC events across multiple forms of print and online media. This included the Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce, Grampian Online, Peterhead Live, Wind Systems Magazine, Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund, OGV Energy, Keyfacts Energy, Aberdeen Business News. These articles introduced the project, and provided further

information where the public could learn more about the project and participate in the consultation both online and in-person. Examples of these press adverts can be viewed in **Appendix C.**

6.3.4 Written Communications

6.3.4.1 Emails were sent out on 23 May 2023 to 33 key stakeholders, notifying them of the consultation, and asking them to attend the in-person events or view the consultation online and how to provide feedback.

6.3.5 Project Website

6.3.5.1 The Salamander Project website (https://salamanderfloatingwind.com/) was updated with the notice of the event by 30 May 2023.

6.3.6 Posters

6.3.6.1 A3 and A4 posters were displayed in locations listed below in **Table 6-2** and **Table 6-3** to advertise the in-person events. Posters are included in the Phase 2 communications materials in **Appendix B**.

6.3.6.2 **Peterhead –** All posters put up on Tuesday 23 May 2023.

Table 6.2 Peterhead poster locations

Place	Location
Peterhead Leisure and Community Centre	AB42 1EP
Peterhead Library	AB42 1QD
Buchan House	AB42 1QF
Greens	AB42 2XE
RS McColl	AB42 2XE
Post Office	AB42 1PL
Spar	AB24 3GT
Aldi	AB42 1RY
Morrisons	AB42 1HG
ASDA	AB42 2FY

6.3.6.3 **Crimond –** All posters put up on Tuesday 23 May 2023.

Table 6.3 Crimond poster locations

Place	Location
Crimond Community Hub	AB43 8QJ
Costcutter	AB43 8RE

6.3.7 Brochures

6.3.7.1 A5 brochures were available at the in-person PAC events, so people could take home information on the Salamander Project, including information on the location, timeline and contact information. These can be viewed in **Appendix B**.

6.3.8 Social Media

6.3.8.1 Details of the consultation were also shared on 6 June 2023, via Simply Blue Group's LinkedIn, X (formerly Twitter) and Instagram platforms. These posts can be viewed in **Appendix C**, and the engagement analytics are shown in **Table 6-4** below.

Table 6.4 Social Media Engagement Analytics

Post Date	Post Interactions
Post 1: 6 June 2023	• Instagram: 1 like, 98 Impressions, 0 shares, 0 comments, 98 accounts reached • LinkedIn: Engagement rate: 5.6%, 24 reactions, 2 reposts, 1,535 organic impressions, 61 organic click-throughs • X: Engagement rate: 1.7%, 229 Impressions and total engagement 4, total likes 4
Post 2: 3 July 2023	• Instagram: 4 likes, 0 shares, 0 comments, 95 accounts reached • LinkedIn: Engagement rate: 3.9%, 31 reactions, 3 reposts, 1 comment, 2,178 organic impressions, 50 organic click-throughs • X: Engagement rate: 9.4%, 426 Impressions, Total engagements 40

6.4 Engagement Tools

6.4.1.1 In line with current best practice and stakeholder expectations, a multi-layer approach was deemed to be the most appropriate method of undertaking consultation activities. Consultation was held both online and in-person. The following sections outlines the engagement tools utilised to increase outreach and enable the provision of feedback to be accessible for the community.

6.4.2 Online Exhibition

6.4.2.1 A virtual consultation room was set up, so those who could not attend the in-person events could still view the consultation materials and submit their feedback. The online exhibition ran from 5 June until 2 July 2023, and was accessible at the following URL:

https://www.3dwtech.co.uk/dashboard/simplyblue/salamander-exhibition/exhibition-en/

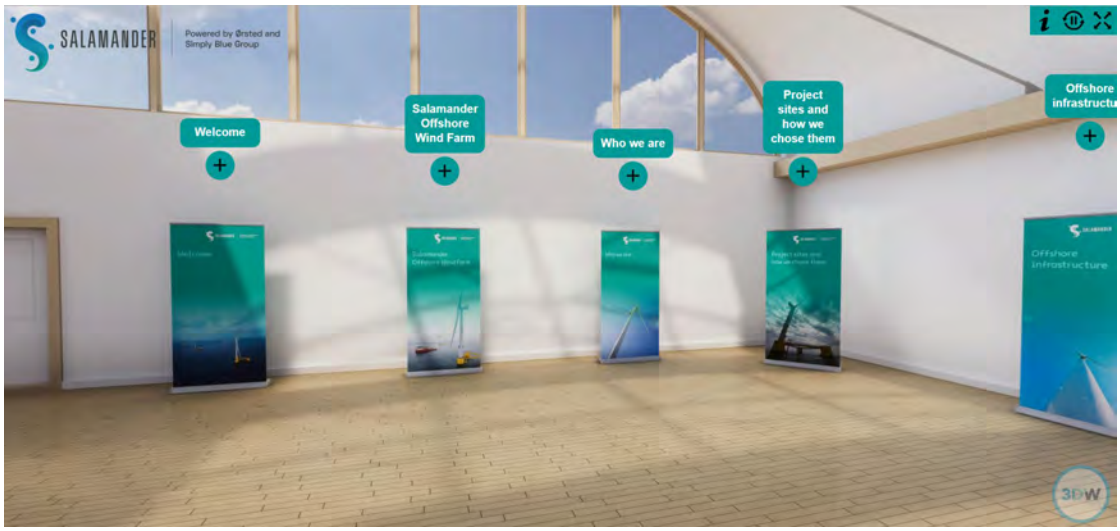


Figure 6-1 Virtual Consultation Room

6.4.2.2 Based on Google Analytics of the online exhibition (as shown in **Table 6-1)**, there were 25 visits to the page between 5 June and 2 July, with 17 of these being redirected from the project website.

6.4.3 Events

6.4.3.1 There were two in-person drop-in events held during the consultation period, to allow people the opportunity to view the information, ask the team questions and provide their feedback. Three hard copies of the Scoping Report were also made available for reference at each event, as well as being available for download from the project website.

6.4.3.2 The in-person events had the same consultation information banners as those used for the online exhibition, to ensure information was consistent between consultation formats. The information banners that were presented both online and in-person can be viewed in **Appendix D**.

6.4.3.3 The event details were as shown below in **Table 6-5.**

Table 6.5 Phase 2 in-person PAC events

Venue	Date	Time
Balmoor Football Stadium, Peterhead	Wednesday, 7 June 2023	2pm – 8pm
Crimond Public Hall, Crimond	Thursday, 8 June 2023	10am – 2pm

Figure 6-2 In-person PAC Events

6.4.3.4 A total of 41 people who attended the in-person events registered attendance on a registration form. Twenty-seven of these were from the Peterhead event, while 14 of these were from Crimond. This attendance also included representatives from Peterhead Community Council and Buchan East Community Council.

6.4.3.5 In line with Marine Scotland consultation requirements and guidance (Section 3 - Legislative Context and Relevant Guidance), the venues selected met the accessibility standards to ensure all who attended could participate.

- Crimond: Full disabled access was available to all parts of the building with preferential disability parking also provided. Disabled toilets with wheelchair access are also available on each floor of the venue.
- Peterhead: Full disabled access was available to all parts of the building with preferential disability parking also provided. There are two accessible toilets available to access via the Blue Toon suite: one situated at ground level in the Main Stands, and another situated on the upper floor of the Main Stand.

6.5 Feedback Mechanisms

6.5.1 Questionnaire

6.5.1.1 A questionnaire was available both online via the online exhibition, as well as printed copies available at the in-person events. The printed version of the questionnaire is available in **Appendix D**.

6.5.1.2 Of the 41 people who registered at the in-person events, 10 attendees also filled out the questionnaire. No surveys were completed online.

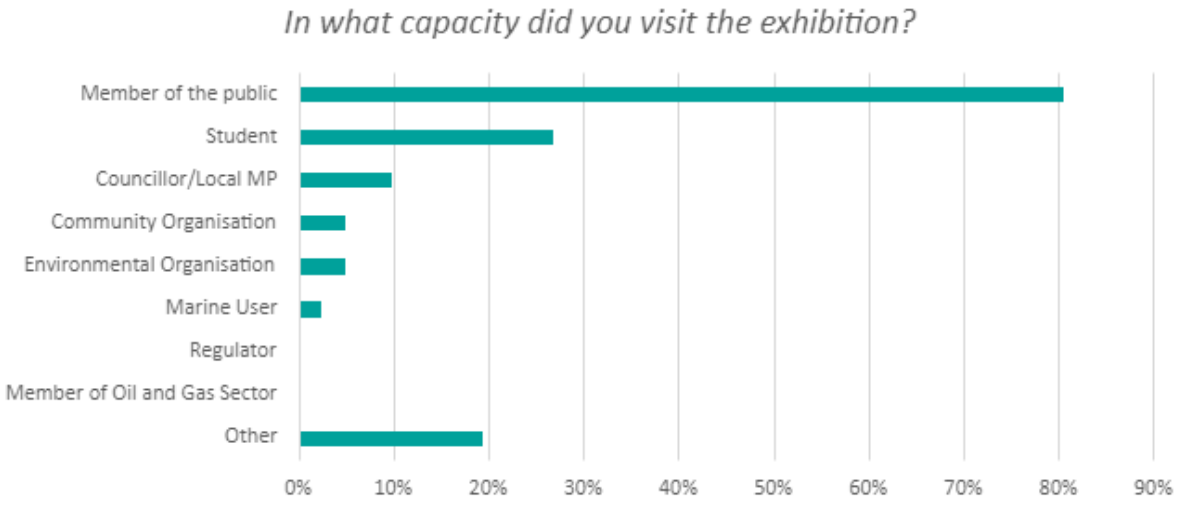
6.5.2 Project Contact Details

6.5.2.1 The Salamander Project's Stakeholder and Policy Manager's details, as well as the general Salamander Project email (info@salamanderwind.com) were included in all project communications, including the Salamander Project website and online exhibition. This allowed people to provide feedback via email, or alternatively ask for materials in a different format if required.

6.6 Feedback Summary

6.6.1 Who Participated?

Figure 6-3 below summarises who participated in the PAC events, based on information from registration forms. All 41 attendees completed a registration form at the in-person events, while 10 people filled out the full consultation questionnaire.



*Note people could select more than one answer

Figure 6-3 Questionnaire Participants

6.6.2 Key Comments and Concerns

Feedback received has been collated according to question and category. Feedback (inclusive of both onshore and offshore components) is presented in **Tables 6-6** to **6-10**.

Table 6.6 PAC 1 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q1: Do you have any general comments on the proposals for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?*"

Number of responses:	7	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Onshore power delivery and cabling	a) Seeking further clarification on onward delivery of power from the landfall into the grid connection point; urging the project to negotiate as far as possible with SSEN to encourage cable burial rather than via overhead power lines.	The onshore transmission owner (Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN)) is responsible for planning, consenting, consultation, and construction of the electricality grid connection between the Salamander Project's onshore substation and the National Grid. Where possible, the Salamander Project will work with SSEN seeking to ensure necessary grid upgrades have a minimal impact on the community and wider environment.
Onshore power delivery and cabling	b) Recommendation that the project be aware of the presence of concrete anti-tank defences between the pill boxes on the coastline.	The Salamander Project is aware of these features and is considering them specifically in relation to onshore archaeology and cultural heritage. The offshore export cables will make landfall using a trenchless technique. The target burial depth will be somewhere between 5 m – 40 m avoiding disturbance to the beach and existing structures such as the pill boxes and anti-tank defences.
Onshore power delivery and cabling	c) Concerns raised about the impact on property owners' land from cable construction.	The Salamander Project engages regularly with all relevant landowners to identify ways to avoid or minimise impacts.
Consultation and Engagement	d) Constructive feedback on the delivery of the event, suggesting improved placement of the feedback survey on the project website for improved accessibility.	Following this feedback, a link to the virtual exhibition, including the feedback survey, was placed in a prominent position on the homepage of the Salamander Project website ahead of the second PAC events to maximise accessibility of the information and opportunity to provide feedback virtually.
Consultation and Engagement	e) Statement of support for the project's engagement approach of incorporating smaller communities such as Crimond into the scope of engagement. Feedback provided that engaging in this way (i.e. beyond the immediate Peterhead area) will help to distinguish the project in the long term.	Following this feedback, the same approach was taken for the second suite of PAC events. Events were held in both Peterhead and Crimond again.

Community Benefit	f) Support for community benefit to be at forefront of the Salamander Project, particularly where property owners' land stands to be impacted by cable construction. Suggestions made include: • Schemes intended to lower the energy bills of local residents; • Contributions to funds for community buildings and projects; and • Additional funding for the community, particularly to support the creation of local jobs.	The Salamander Project Team engages with the local community at the project location and actively seeks to maximise the benefits brought to the community while mitigating any potentially negative impacts. Following this feedback, an information board outlining the Salamander Project's proposed plan for the development and implementation of a Community Benefit Fund was presented at the second PAC events (See **Appendix F**).
Supply Chain	g) Comment querying the project's approach to engaging with local supply chain; specifically, whether the type of material or labour required, will be made known with sufficient notice as to give local companies the opportunity to scale in advance.	Salamander collaborates with the supply chain at every stage to support the scale up of facilities, expertise and workforce. Salamander has processes and policies to encourage local employment as a first point of call and plans to use local labour as far as possible. The project engages directly with local Tier 1 suppliers and with suppliers from Tiers 2 to 4 through Scottish Enterprise. The project also provides information on supply chain requirements to Scottish Enterprise. The Salamander project has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and other similar agreements with just under 60 local suppliers and ports and issued Letters of Support for key local supply chain initiatives.
Supply Chain	h) Support for Salamander based on the project's contribution to supply chain development: 'The project is exactly what the Scottish supply chain needs to prepare for ScotWind.'	Noted, no further response required.
Supply Chain	i) Suggestion that the project is presented within the context of INTOG, in order to highlight constraints for ScotWind and verbalise challenges to the supply chain.	Following this feedback, a section was added to the information boards presenting the Salamander Project within the context of the ScotWind leasing round.

Table 6.7 PAC 1 Summary of feedback in response to *"Q2: Do you have any comments on the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm? This includes the area where the offshore cables bringing electricity from the wind farm will come ashore to meet the onshore cables to run to the onshore substation."*

Number of responses:	4	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Offshore power delivery and cabling	a) Concerns about potential Electro-Magnetic Fields (EMF) from cables.	The consent application will be accompanied by a publicly available Environmental Impact Assessment Report which considers the potential Environmental Impacts of the proposed development. Electro-magnetic fields are considered within this Environmental Impact Assessment. Further details of the assessment are provided in **Volume ER.A.3, Chapter 10: Fish and Shellfish Ecology**.
Offshore power delivery and cabling	b) Recommendation that any insights on ecological issues as a result of cabling and mooring lines be published, in order for solutions to be found and implemented.	The consent application will be accompanied by a publicly available Environmental Impact Assessment Report which considers the potential Environmental Impacts of the proposed development such as benthic ecology and marine mammals. Within the Environmental Impact Assessment appropriate mitigation and monitoring are included where significant impacts are identified and where relevant will form part of the proposed development consent conditions issued by MD-LOT in consultation with relevant stakeholders.
Visual Impacts	c) Support for the minimal visual impact of the project given its distance from shore.	While this feedback didn't require a direct response, the Salamander Project presented photomontages at the second suite of PAC events of the Offshore Array from various key viewpoints along the coastline to the north and south of Peterhead. This was presented in order to inform public stakeholders of what the visual impact would be on a clear day.
General Comments	d) Support of project's offshore elements: 'Seems well-planned and clear'.	No response required.

Table 6.8 PAC 1 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q3: Do you have any comments on the proposed location and components of the onshore infrastructure of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?*"

Number of responses:	3	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Biodiversity and ecology	a) Raising awareness of the wide range of wildlife present in the sand dunes north of Peterhead; urging the project to minimise impact on local ecology (such as common lizards, insects and plants) in crossing the dunes to install the cable.	As part of the Onshore consents applications we undertaking an an Onshore EIA which includes assessment of any potential impacts and strategies for mitigating them, where relevant. Mitigation measures that will be applied to minimise these risks include refining the footprint of the Onshore Development.
Onshore power delivery and cabling	b) Comment urging the project to negotiate as far as possible with SSEN to encourage cable burial over the installation of pylons in the area.	The onshore transmission owner, SSEN, is responsible for planning, consenting, consultation, and construction of the electrical grid connection between the Salamander Project's onshore substation and the National Grid. Where possible, Salamander will work closely with SSEN seeking to ensure necessary grid upgrades have a minimal impact on the community and wider environment.
General Comments	c) Support for the project's onshore elements: 'Seems well-planned and clear'.	Noted, no response required.

Table 6.9 PAC 1 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q4: What are your views on the proposed access to the Onshore Substation?*"

Number of responses:	2	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Project response**
Onshore power delivery and cabling	a) Concern that access to the sand dunes or sea shore would be inhibited.	The offshore export cables will make landfall using a trenchless technique, therefore the Salamander Project will not inhibit access to the beach, foredunes and coastal path. However, for safety reasons, access around active construction areas will be restricted which could impact some areas of the dunes further inland. Full consideration of access to the sand dunes and surrounding area will be considered within the Onshore EIAR.
Road safety	b) Statement of support for the access to the onshore substation; that, particularly after construction, traffic movements will be low.	No response required.
Engagement	**c)** Recommendation that the project engages with the local community via local events such as Doors Open Days and Scottish Week.	The Salamander Project team endeavours to reach as diverse a range of local organisations as possible in all public engagement. For each of the four PAC events held to date, notice was made across a number of outlets including; local newspapers, local distribution channels, posters in locations across the area, social media, the Salamander Project website, and word of mouth, in addition to the consultation made fully available online via a virtual platform. A project email address (info@salamanderwind.com) is monitored regularly, and we invite feedback from stakeholders. We will continue this approach to ensure that all local stakeholders can engage with the Salamander Project in a way that suits them. The Salamander Project plans to distribute a newsletter to the community on a bi-annual (including one distributed in March 2024 – refer to **Appendix B**) basis with the intention of keeping the community informed with key project updates and upcoming consultation. The newsletter will cover a broad range of elements but will focus on those of particular interest to the community. The ways the newsletter will be distributed will be informed by the needs of the community; the Salamander Project has already consulted Aberdeenshire Council for their view on this. The newsletter will be distributed across a wide range of outlets, both in paper format and digitally, to maximise outreach. Venues for distribution of the newsletter are expected to include community centres and cafes.

Table 6.10 PAC 1 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q5: Do you have any other general comments on the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?*"

Number of responses:	2	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Project response**
Community	a) Caution to consider the local community in our operations, minimising any impact the Salamander Project stands to have.	The Salamander Project will assess the potential impacts to the local community as part of the Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment to be submitted as part of the onshore application. In developing the project, the Salamander Project will seek to employ wherever practicable, methods and best practice to minimise any potential impact to the local community.
General comments	b) Expression of a general lack of support for the project.	Acknowledged.

6.6.3 Consultation Review

1. How did you find the quality of the information provided in this consultation?

6.6.3.1 Five answers were received for this question as shown in **Figure 6-4.**

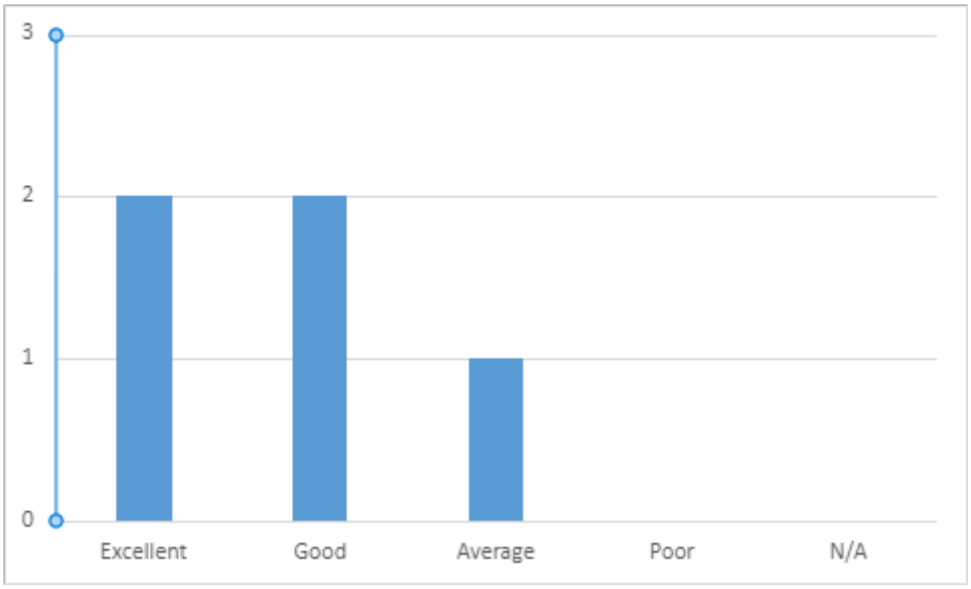


Figure 6-4 Consultation Review

2. Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?

6.6.3.2 Six answers were received for this question as shown in **Figure 6-5**.

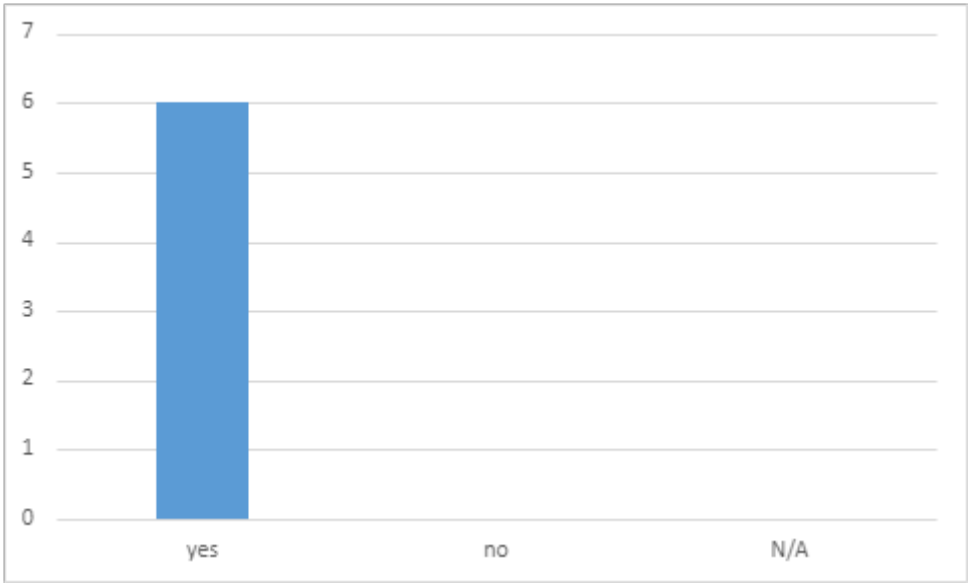


Figure 6-5 Accessibility – Consultation

7 Phase 3: EIAR and Second Round PAC

7.1 Overview

7.1.1.1 The third phase of engagement (Q3 2023 – Q2 2024) included ongoing consultation with key stakeholders, as well as holding the second round of PAC events. This phase considered the outcomes of the first round PAC events feedback and ongoing stakeholder discussions. The second round of PAC events used a virtual consultation room which could be viewed from 21 November until 3 December, and in-person drop-in events. Feedback forms were available via the virtual consultation room and at the in-person events. These PAC events sought feedback from stakeholders and the wider community on the onshore and offshore proposals.

7.2 Stakeholder Meetings

7.2.1.1 Stakeholder meetings were held in this stage to undertake targeted discussions and feedback. Further details of these meetings are summarised in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 5: Stakeholder Consultation** of the Offshore EIAR, and feedback summarised in **Volume ER.A.3, Chapters 7 – 22**.

7.3 Outreach and Communications

7.3.1 Summary

7.3.1.1 A range of communications and outreach was delivered as part of publicising the public consultation. This included posters, print and digital media notifications, emails, and update of the project website.

7.3.1.2 This section details the outreach of the project communications in the lead up to, and during, the Phase 3 consultation stage. A summary of participation at the PAC events is shown below in **Table 7-1**.

Table 7.1 Outreach and participation summary

Outreach/Event	People reached/participated
PAC events attendees	39 attendees (of which 2 were Association/Federation, 7 Community Organisation, 8 Councillor/Local MP, 7 Marine User, 22 Member of the public and 2 Students), 39 registrations, 14 questionnaires filled out.
Visits to online exhibition	39 visits, 1 online feedback form submitted
Salamander Project website visits	19
Social media interactions	2 posts on LinkedIn total of interactions (Impressions 747, Clicks 43, CTR 4.12%, Reactions 31, Repost 4- Engagement rate 9.57%

7.3.2 Press and Consultation Notices

7.3.2.1 The Consultation Notice of the second PAC events was published in the Press and Journal on 3 October 2023 which described the Salamander Project, identified how to provide feedback, directed people to the consultation materials online and invited people to attend in-person PAC events.

7.3.2.2 A copy of the notice was also provided to Aberdeenshire Council and MD-LOT on 6 November 2023. Statutory consultees (NatureScot, NLB, MCA and SEPA) were notified of the consultation on 1 November 2023. This notice was also put on the MD-LOT website.

7.3.2.3 These consultation notices were also uploaded to the Salamander Project website. The consultation notice can be viewed in **Appendix E**.

7.3.3 Written Communications

7.3.3.1 On 3 November 2023, 39 stakeholders received email notification of the consultation, with information regarding the virtual consultation room and in-person events.

7.3.4 Posters

7.3.4.1 A3 and A4 posters were displayed in the same locations as in the first events, shown in **Table 6-2** and **Table 6-3**, to advertise the in-person events. Posters are included in the Phase 3 consultation materials in **Appendix E**. All posters were put up on 16 November 2023 for both Peterhead and Crimond.

7.3.5 Brochures

7.3.5.1 A5 brochures were available at the in-person PAC events, so people could take home information on the Salamander Project, including information on the location, timeline and contact information. These can be viewed in **Appendix E**.

7.3.6 Social Media

7.3.6.1 Details of the consultation were also shared on 6 June 2023, via Salamander Floating Wind's LinkedIn platform. These posts can be viewed in **Appendix E**, and the engagement analytics are shown in **Table 7-2** below.

Table 7.2 Social Media Engagement Analytics

Post Date	Post Interactions
Post 1: 24 October 2023	LinkedIn: Engagement rate: 8.03%, 10 reactions, 1 reposts, 162 organic impressions, 2 organic click-throughs
Post 2: 21 November 2023	LinkedIn: Engagement rate: 11.11%, 21 reactions, 3 reposts, 585 organic impressions, 41 organic click-throughs

7.4 Engagement Tools

7.4.1.1 In line with current best practice and stakeholder expectations, a multi-layer approach was deemed to be the most appropriate method of undertaking consultation activities. Consultation was held both online and in-person, with additional copies of materials made available in alternative formats. The following sections outline the engagement tools utilised to increase outreach and enable feedback to be accessible for the community.

7.4.2 Online Exhibition

7.4.2.1 A virtual consultation room was set up, so those who could not attend the in-person events could still view the consultation materials and submit their feedback. The online exhibition ran from 21 November until 3 December, and was accessible at the following URL:
https://www.3dwtech.co.uk/dashboard/simplyblue/salamander-exhibition/exhibition-update/

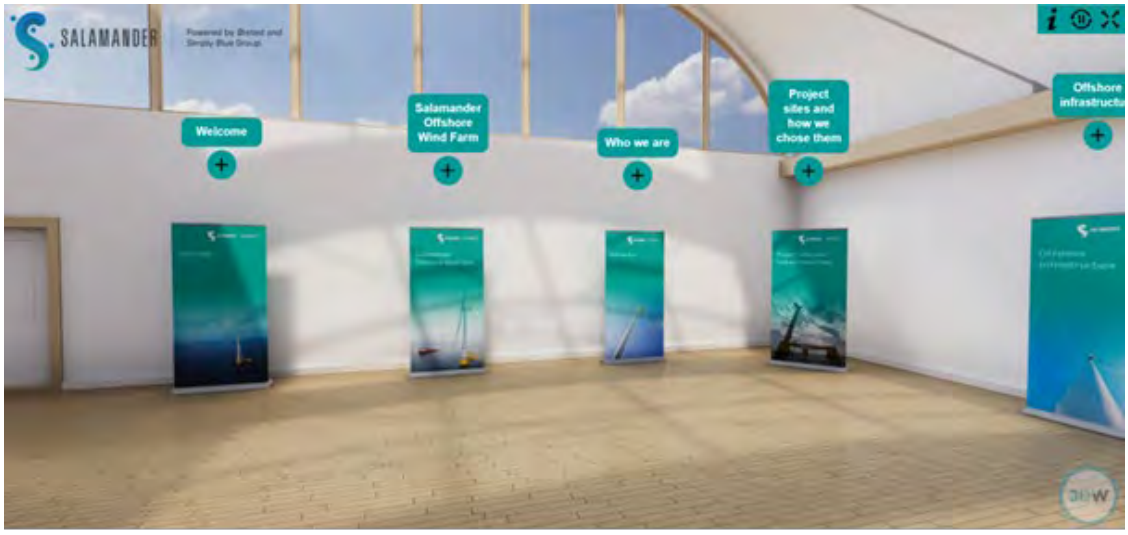


Figure 7-1 Phase 3 Virtual Consultation Room

7.4.2.2 Based on Google Analytics of the online exhibition, there were 39 visits to the page between 21 November and 3 December, with 19 of these being redirected from the project website.

7.4.3 Events

7.4.3.1 There were two in-person drop-in events held during the consultation period, to allow people the opportunity to view the information, ask the team questions and provide their feedback. Three hard copies of the Scoping Report were also made available for reference at each event, as well as being available for download from the project website.

7.4.3.2 The in-person events had the same consultation information banners as those used for the online exhibition, to ensure information was consistent between consultation formats. The information banners presented both online and in-person can be viewed in **Appendix F**.

7.4.3.3 The event details were as shown below in **Table 7-3.**

Table 7.3 Phase 3 in-person PAC events

Venue	Date	Time
Balmoor Football Stadium, Peterhead	Tuesday, 21 November 2023	10 am – 7pm
Crimond Medical & Community Hub, Crimond	Wednesday, 22 November	10am – 4pm

Figure 7-2 In person PAC events

7.4.3.4 A total of 39 people who attended the in-person events registered attendance on a registration form. Thirty-six of these were from the Peterhead event, while three of these were from Crimond. Included were two representatives from Cruden Bay Community Council who attended the in-person event at Peterhead.

7.4.3.5 In line with Scottish consultation requirements, the venues selected met the accessibility standards to ensure all who attended could participate.

- **Crimond:** Full disabled access is available to all parts of the building with preferential disability parking also provided. Disabled toilets with wheelchair access are also available on each floor of the venue.
- **Peterhead:** Full disabled access is available to all parts of the building with preferential disability parking also provided. There are two accessible toilets available to access via the Blue Toon suite: one situated at ground level in the Main Stands, and another situated on the upper floor of the Main Stand.

7.5 Feedback Mechanisms

7.5.1 Questionnaire

7.5.1.1 A questionnaire was available both online via the online exhibition, as well as printed copies available at the in-person events. The printed version of the questionnaire is available in **Appendix G**.

7.5.1.2 Of the 39 people who registered at the in-person events, 14 attendees also filled out the questionnaire. Six surveys were completed online. Six feedback e-mails were received. A summary of the key points raised via these emails is presented with the Salamander Project's response in **Tables 7-4** to **7-9**. Feedback is presented in the order provided in order to reflect stakeholder viewpoints with accuracy; this means that, for example,

some responses pertaining to the offshore components are included in tables pertaining to questions on the onshore components.

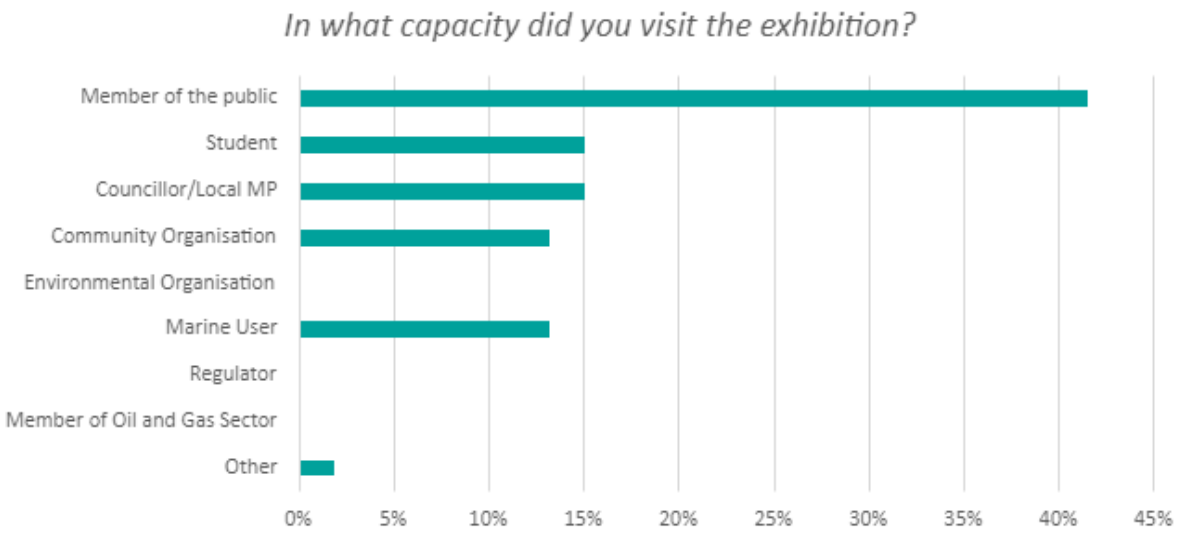
7.5.2 Project Contact Details

7.5.2.1 The Salamander Project's Stakeholder and Policy Manager's details, as well as the general Salamander Project email (info@salamanderwind.com) were included in all project communications, including the Salamander Project website and online exhibition. This allowed people to provide feedback via email, or alternatively ask for materials in a different format if required.

7.6 Feedback Summary

7.6.1 Who Participated?

7.6.1.1 **Figure 7-3** below summarises who participated in the PAC events, based on information from registration forms. All 39 attendees completed a registration form at the in-person events, while 14 people filled out the full consultation questionnaire and one person provided feedback by email.



*Note people could select more than one answer

Figure 7-3 PAC Event participation summary

7.6.2 Questionnaire feedback

Table 7.4 PAC 2 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q1: Do you have any general comments on the proposals for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?*"

Number of responses:	**13**	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Fishing	a) Seeking further understanding of the long-term effects of projects like Salamander on shellfish, lobster and crab fisheries.	The offshore consent applications for the Salamander Project will be accompanied by a publicly available Offshore EIAR which will include ecological considerations such as benthic ecology, and fish and shellfish ecology. The potential damage and disturbance to benthic habitats from cable installation has been assessed within **Volume ER.A.3, Chapter 9: Benthic and Intertidal Ecology**, the potential impact of EMF from the export cables has been assessed within **Volume ER.A.3, Chapter 10: Fish and Shellfish Ecology**, and potential impacts (such as loss or restricted access to fishing grounds, displacement of fishing activity into other areas, and interference with fishing activity as a result of increased vessel traffic) have been fully assessed for all types of commercial fishing, including potters, within **Volume ER.A.3, Chapter 13: Commercial Fisheries**. Additionally, within this chapter is a cumulative impact assessment which considers the Salamander Project alongside the other proposed projects that may have export cables within the nearshore area where Salamander is planning to make landfall. In the event that significant adverse impacts are predicted, the Salamander Project will identify and implement appropriate mitigation measures.
Fishing	b) Seeking further understanding of the long-term effects of electrical cables associated with projects like Salamander on brown crab and lobster fisheries. Recommendation that the project consults inshore fishers on the toping of the impact of sub-seabed cables on shellfish.	See PAC2 Q1(a) above.
Fishing	c) Urging project to prioritise consideration of fishing.	See PAC2 Q1(a) above.
Engagement	d) Support for the presentation of the project proposals via the public event.	Noted, no response required.

Visual impact	e) Support for project based on its minimal visual impact: 'No negative visual impact that out-weighs the overall benefits of the development'.	While this feedback didn't require a direct response, the Salamander Project presented photomontages at the second suite of PAC events of the Offshore Array from various key viewpoints along the coastline to the north and south of Peterhead. This was presented in order to inform public stakeholders of what the visual impact would be on a clear day.
Sustainability	f) Support for the project based on its contribution to energy balancing measures and consequent achievement of long-term sustainability objectives.	Noted, no response required.
General comments	g) General statement of support for the project.	Noted, no response required.
General comments	h) Statement of support for the project, provided the interest of the local community are considered.	Please see PAC1 Q5 (a) in **Table 6-10** above.
General comments	i) Statement of support for the project: 'Floating wind farms are a fantastic idea and are exciting for the future of clean energy'.	Noted, no response required.
General comments	j) Statement of welcome asking what the project may do to contribute to Peterhead.	Please see PAC1 Q5 (a) in **Table 6-10** above.
Economic benefit	k) Support for the project based on the potential job opportunities it supports for the local community.	The Salamander Project is anticipated to generate £26m for the Aberdeenshire economy, £171m for the rest of Scotland and £115m for the UK. Our approach to supply chain development aims to capture as much as possible of this economic activity – and associated jobs – within the local supply chain.

Table 7.5 PAC 2 Summary of feedback in response to *"Q2: Do you have any comments on the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm? This includes the area where the offshore cables bringing electricity from the wind farm will come ashore to meet the onshore cables to run to the onshore substation."*

Number of responses:	8	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Offshore power delivery and cabling	a) Expression of concerns about the volume of cables coming ashore at Kirkton / Scotstown area [from the cumulative projects]. Recommendation that the EMF effect of multiple cables be assessed.	See PAC2 Q1(a) in **Table 7-4** above.
Offshore power delivery and cabling	b) Recommendation that cables be trenched and buried.	Where technically feasible, the Salamander Project will attempt to bury the offshore cables on the seabed. However, due to seabed conditions this may not be possible and some sections of the static cabling within both the Offshore Array Area and Offshore ECC may require additional remedial cable protection; this will be informed by the Cable Burial Risk Assessment to be undertaken post-consent. Details of cable installation and additional remedial rock protection are provided in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description**. Assessment of the potential impacts from cable installation has been undertaken in the relevant topic chapters of the Offshore EIAR.
Marine Ecology	c) Seeking further understanding of the long-term effects of projects like Salamander on shellfish, lobster and crab fisheries.	See PAC2 Q1(a) in **Table 7-4** above.
Marine Ecology	d) Seeking further understanding of the long-term effects of electrical cables associated with projects like Salamander on brown crab and lobster fisheries.	See PAC2 Q1(a) in **Table 7-4** above.
Visual impact	e) Support for the minimal visual impact from land given the array's distance from shore.	See PAC2 Q1(a) in **Table 7-4** above.
General comments	f) General statement of support for the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm.	Noted, no response required.
General comments	g) Support for the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm, provided onshore and offshore environmental effects are minimised.	See PAC1 Q2 (b)

General comments	h) Support for the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm, provided cultural heritage and fishing are secure.	See PAC2 Q1-(a) in **Table 7-4** above for how the Salamander Project is considering commercial fishing. The Salamander Project is committed to avoiding heritage sites where possible. Our team has been working with Aberdeenshire Council, Historic Environment Scotland and other stakeholders to identify the sites of cultural and historical importance within the vicinity of the area we are considering for our onshore infrastructure. The Salamander Project is assessing the impacts of the proposed onshore development on the local sites of cultural and historical importance. Further details of the onshore project description and the potential impacts will be provided in the Onshore EIAR when it is submitted to Aberdeenshire Council. The Salamander Project has also assessed the visual impacts of the Offshore Array on onshore cultural heritage sites; details of the outcomes of this assessment are presented in **Volume ER.A.3, Chapter 11: Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage**.

Table 7.6 PAC 2 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q3: Do you have any comments on the proposed location and components of the onshore infrastructure of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?*"

Number of responses:	6	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Project response**
Marine Ecology	a) Seeking further understanding of the long-term effects of projects like Salamander on shellfish, lobster and crab fisheries.	See PAC2 Q1-(a) in **Table 7-4** above.
Marine Ecology	b) Seeking further understanding of the long-term effects of electrical cables associated with projects like Salamander on brown crab and lobster fisheries.	See PAC2 Q1-(a) in **Table 7-4** above.
Substation location	c) General support for the location of the substation.	Noted, no response required.
Substation location	d) Support for the location of the substation due to the minimal disruption it stands to place on local residents.	Noted, no response required.
Supply chain	e) Seeking further information on the supply and manufacture of the battery component.	At this stage of the Salamander Project, information on the supply and manufacture of the battery component is not available; this would be developed during detailed design post-consent. As part of the Salamander Project's ethos of developing local innovation, where practical, work with the supply chain to support the industrialisation of more novel battery materials and develop optimal recycling methods to ensure sustainability.
General comments	f) General statement of support for the proposed location and components of the onshore elements of the project.	Noted, no response required.
General comments	g) Comment urging the project to maintain respect for the local community.	Please see PAC1 Q5 (a) in **Table 6-10** above.

Table 7.7 Summary of feedback in response to "*Q4: What are your views on the proposed access to the onshore substation?*"

Number of responses:	9	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Road safety	a) Comment urging the need of risk assessment due to proximity of access road to A90.	The Salamander Project commissioned a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit of a new access junction on the A90 near Lunderton in Aberdeenshire; this is being prepared by Stewart Paton Associates in Q1 2024, for submission to Transport Scotland when the onshore applications are submitted.
Road safety	b) Comment supporting the proposed access road's location on the A90, being on 'a safe point on a straight section of road'.	Noted, no response required.
Road safety	c) Query of potential road improvements resulting from the proposed access to the onshore substation.	A new access junction will be required from the A90. A section of A90 roadside verge has been included in the Onshore Development Area boundary, in case verge clearance is required to improve visibility at the access junction. Consultation with Transport Scotland is ongoing to agree access arrangements, however significant improvements to the A90 are not envisaged as part of the Project.
Public access	d) Query of whether Scotstown Beach will remain open to the general public.	The offshore export cables will make landfall using a trenchless technique, therefore the Salamander Project will not inhibit access to the beach, foredunes and coastal path.
General comment	e) General statement of support for the proposed access to the onshore substation.	Noted, no response required.
General comment	f) General statement of support for the proposed access to the onshore substation.	None required.
General comment	g) General statement of support for the proposed access to the onshore substation.	None required.

General comment	h)	General statement of support for the proposed access to the onshore substation.	None required.
General comment	i)	General statement of support for the proposed access to the onshore substation.	None required.
General comment	j)	Statement of support for the proposed access to the onshore substation based on its proximity to the local power station and national grid.	None required.
General comment	k)	Statement of support for the project based on its importance for 'future commitments'.	Noted, no response required.

Table 7.8 PAC 2 Summary of feedback in response to *"Q5: Do you have any other general comments on the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm project?"*

Number of responses:	6	
Category	**Summary of feedback**	**Salamander Project response**
Engagement	a) Suggestion that future engagement could reach the community through local organisations and events such as the Peterhead Farmers Market, to broaden the reach.	The project endeavours to reach as diverse a range of local organisations as possible in all public engagement. For each of the four Pre-Application Consultation events held thus far, notice was made across a number of channels – local newspapers, local distribution channels, posters in locations across the area, social media, the project website, and word of mouth, in addition to the consultation made fully available online via a virtual platform. A project email address (info@salamanderwind.com) is monitored regularly, and we invite feedback from stakeholders there. We will continue this approach to ensure that all local stakeholders can engage with the project in a way that suits them.
Engagement	b) Suggestion that newsletters be distributed via email or as hard copies across the local area (e.g. in community centres and cafes).	Salamander plans to distribute a newsletter to the community on a bi-annual basis with the intention of keeping the community informed with key project updates and upcoming consultation. The newsletter will cover broad range of elements but will focus on those of particular interest to the community. The ways the newsletter will be distributed will be informed by the needs of the community; the project has already consulted the local council for their view on this. The newsletter will be distributed across a wide range of outlets, both in paper format and digitally, to maximise outreach. Venues will include community centres and cafes – the project is grateful for this suggestion.
Engagement	c) Comment conveying importance of regular stakeholder engagement.	See PAC2 Q5 (a)
Project development pathway	d) General query on project timescales.	Up-to-date project timelines have been presented at each stage of public engagement (within the EIA Scoping Report, the first PAC events and second PAC events). Further information on the Salamander Project construction timeline is provided in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description**.
Project development pathway	e) Query on project timescales within the context of creeling.	The Salamander Project engages with creelers, as with all commercial fisheries, both through direct engagement and via the Peterhead Developers Forum. Up-to-date project timelines have been presented at each stage of public engagement (within the EIA Scoping Report, the first PAC events and second PAC events). Further information on the Salamander Project construction timeline is provided in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description**.

7.6.3 Feedback received through other channels

A summary of feedback received via email and verbally conveyed at the in-person events is presented in **Table 7-9** below.

Table 7.9 Summary of feedback received via email and verbally conveyed

Channel	Key topic	Salamander Project Response
Email / verbal	Depth of cable burial at landfall and though the dunes	Where technically feasible, the Salamander Project will attempt to bury the offshore export and inter-array cables. However, due to seabed conditions this may not be possible and some sections of the static cabling within both the Offshore Array Area and Offshore ECC may require additional remedial cable protection; this will be informed by the Cable Burial Risk Assessment to be undertaken post-consent. Details of cable installation and additional remedial rock protection are provided in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description**. Assessment of the potential impacts from cable installation has been undertaken in the relevant topic chapters of the Offshore EIAR, **Volume ER.A.3, Chapters 7 – 22**.
Email	Use of local businesses in supply chain	The Salamander Project is anticipated to generate £26m for the Aberdeenshire economy, £171m for the rest of Scotland and £115m for the UK. Our approach to supply chain development aims to capture as much as possible of this economic activity – and associated jobs – within the local supply chain.
Email	Enquiry into the availability of the Community Benefit Fund for a community initiative	The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm plans to deliver a Community Benefit Fund for the local area, currently in early development. Consultation with the local community on this topic, both directly and via the local council, is planned to start in early 2024. Key parameters of the fund, such as the geographical scope and eligibility criteria, will be informed as far as possible by the needs and wants of the community. Examples of eligibility criteria could be projects that satisfy renewable or climate objectives, or educational aims. The fund will be administered by a third-party organisation to ensure impartiality from the project. The fund will be discharged to local projects meeting the eligibility criteria that are successful in their application.
Email	Enquiry into the supply and manufacture of the battery component.	At this stage of the Salamander Project, information on the supply and manufacture of the battery component is not available; this would be developed during detailed design post-consent. As part of the Salamander Project's ethos of developing local innovation, we will, where practical, work with the supply chain to support the commercial scale development of more novel battery materials and develop optimal recycling methods to ensure sustainability.
Verbal	Concern around stakeholder fatigue at the	As coordinator of the Peterhead Developers Forum, the Salamander Project is collaborating with other developers coming into the area to ensure clarity of public communications. This includes the development of a website and leaflet

	number of projects coming ashore locally	with details of each project, both currently ongoing. The Salamander Project has also since made efforts to distinguish itself from other projects through local community and STEM Outreach engagement.
Verbal	Indication that the stretch of the A90 from which the access road is proposed is busy with a history of fatalities.	A new access junction will be required from the A90. A section of A90 roadside verge has been included in the Onshore Development Area boundary, in case verge clearance is required to improve visibility at the access junction. As part of the junction design development, the Salamander Project will work with Transport Scotland to ensure the design meets the required safety standards.

7.6.4 Consultation Review

1. How did you find the quality of the information provided in this consultation?

7.6.4.1 87% of the attendees found the quality of the information provided excellent or good, except for two participants who did not answer the question. 13 answers were received for this question (see **Figure 7-4**).

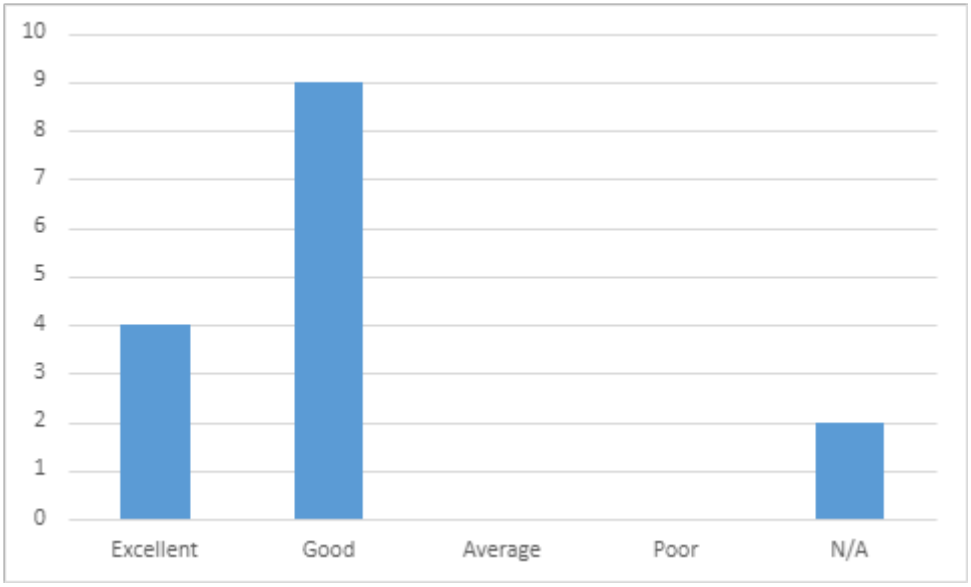


Figure 7-4 Consultation Review

2. Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?

7.6.4.2 All participants (of those who responded to this question) found the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate. There were no comments on how the consultation could be improved. 13 answers were received for this question, and two participants did not answer (see **Figure 7-5**).

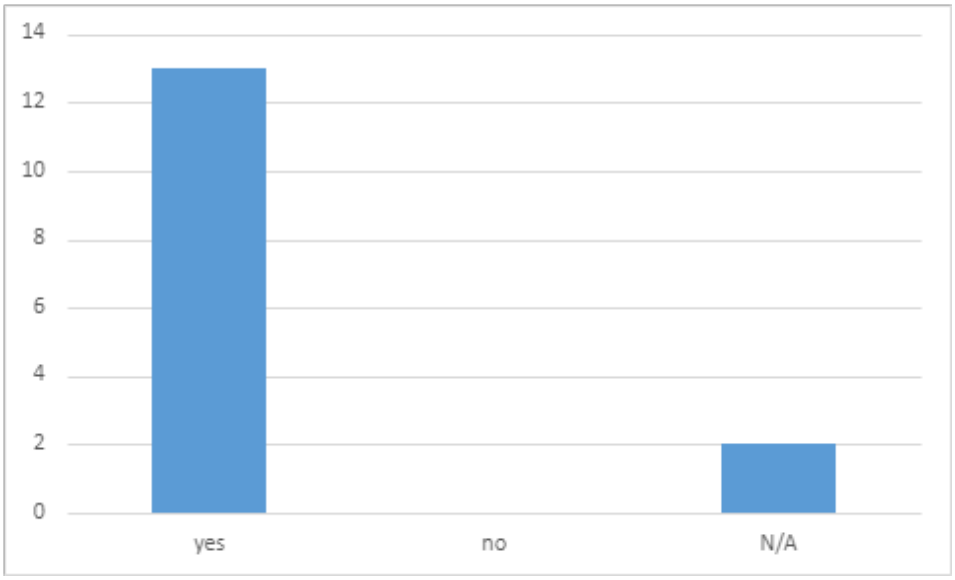


Figure 7-5 Accessibility – Consultation

7.6.4.3 These responses reflect positively on the PAC events and consultation process, and shows that information provided was generally clear for public understanding, and the virtual and in-person events were accessible as per the Scottish requirements for public consultation.

7.6.5 Changes made to the Offshore Development

7.6.5.1 At the time of submitting the EIA Scoping Report (SBES, 2023), the Salamander Project was considering both trenched and trenchless methods for the offshore export cable landfall. Since this time, there has been a decision to remove the trenched landfall installation methodology within the intertidal area and foredunes from the Project Design Envelope. This decision was informed by engineering, environmental and social considerations, including:

- Maintenance of recreational access during construction: the Aberdeenshire coastal path, which is a Core Path, crosses the indicative Onshore Development Area through the dunes. Restricting access during construction of trenched methods could temporarily impact recreational users of the area;
- Reduce impacts to sensitive dune habitat; and
- Health and safety factors associated with deep excavations in the dune system.

7.6.5.2 The above environmental impacts were also raised as points of concern from members of the public during the PAC Events that the Salamander Project held in 2023, as described in **Sections 6.6.2, 7.6.2** and **7.7**. Further detail on this design change is provided in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 3: Site Selection and Consideration of Alternatives**, and details on the planned landfall method can be found in **Volume ER.A.2, Chapter 4: Project Description**.

8 Key Feedback Summary and Conclusions

8.1 Overview

8.1.1.1 The Salamander Project Team's ambitions for the Project's engagement and consultation programme was to ensure a transparent and accessible process, and ensure the Proposed Development obtains the 'social license to operate' from within the local community.

8.1.1.2 The Salamander Project Team has not only met regulatory and legislative requirements, but also displayed a beyond compliance approach, to ensure that the consultation is inclusive to the wider community. Feedback from stakeholders and the community have been considered as part of the proposals, and the feedback from the second round of PAC events shows while there are some remaining concerns in the community, there is general support.

8.2 Key Feedback Summary

8.2.1.1 The feedback received between the first and second PAC events were different, which shows that initial comments and clarifications from the first round PAC were resolved in the supplementary information presented at the second round PAC events.

8.2.1.2 Salamander will distribute a newsletter to the community on a bi-annual basis with the intention of keeping the community informed with key project updates and upcoming consultation. The newsletter will cover a broad range of elements but will focus on those of particular interest to the community. The ways the newsletter will be distributed will be informed by the needs of the community; the project has already consulted the local council for their view on this.

8.2.1.3 The newsletter will be distributed across a wide range of outlets, both in paper format and digitally, to maximise outreach. The first edition, distributed in April 2024, is included as an appendix to this report (see **Appendix E**). It introduced the project, summarised key feedback received at the two sets of public consultation events held in 2023 and gave an update on our progress in delivering our Community Benefit Fund.

8.2.1.4 Key comments on the second round PAC events were supportive, with higher levels of engagement, with positive sentiments towards the consultation process, and the positive impacts the Salamander Project could have on local employment.

8.2.1.5 Common feedback between both rounds of PAC events related to specific community benefits, and concerns about potential electromagnetic impacts from onshore cables.

8.2.1.6 **Table 8-1** summarises the key topics and summary of feedback received and provides the Salamander Project team's response to how the feedback has been considered or responded to.

Table 8.1 Feedback summary

Key Topic raised	Salamander response
How will the project benefit the community?	The Salamander Project engages with the community around the Project location, and actively seeks to maximise the benefits brought to the community while mitigating any potentially negative impacts. We plan to deliver a Community Benefit Fund for the local area, currently in early development. Currently in early development, we will consult the local community in early 2024. We also consider education to be key to the success of future renewables projects in Scotland, especially in the development of local supply chain. The Salamander Project Team are pursuing opportunities for

Key Topic raised	Salamander response
	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) learning outreach and would be happy to hear from local initiatives. Finally, we plan to distribute a to distribute a newsletter to the community on a bi-annual basis with the intention of keeping the community informed with key project updates and upcoming consultation. More broadly, the Salamander Project's supply chain activity is expected to contribute £26m to Aberdeenshire's economy and £171m to Scotland's economy.
How will any long-term environmental impacts on marine life be mitigated?	As part of the Offshore consents applications, the Salamander Project has produced an Offshore EIAR which includes assessment of any potential impacts over the proposed lifetime of the project, and where relevant, identification of appropriate mitigation measures. The EIAR considers all relevant ecological receptors, including, benthic species, fish and shellfish, marine mammals and ornithology receptors. More detail on how these are assessed is covered in **Volume ER.A.3, Chapters 3, 4, 5 and 6** of the EIAR.
How will the effects of the project on the onshore ecology be managed?	As part of the Onshore consents applications we have undertaken an Onshore EIA which includes assessment of any potential impacts and strategies for mitigating them, where relevant. The key risks relating to onshore ecology and terrestrial ornithology identified for the Salamander Project relate to both temporary and long-term habitat loss. Mitigation measures that will be applied to minimise these risks include minimising the footprint of the Onshore Development.
Will the project impact the fishing industry?	The effects of the Salamander Project on commercial fisheries receptors were found to primarily concern potential for loss of or restricted access to fishing grounds, displacement of fishing activity, and disruption due to increased vessel traffic. However, it was also noted that the Salamander Project may result in potential opportunities for local vessels to support offshore activities during the project's lifeline. Potential adverse impacts have been mitigated through selection of an Offshore Array Area that avoids key fishing grounds and sensitive ecological features, and a commitment to develop and adhere to a Vessel Management Plan, relevant international legislation, and notification of proposed activities via Notice to Mariners and on key commercial fisheries bulletins. During the project lifetime there will be interactions between the fishing industry and the Salamander Project, however, this will be managed via ongoing communications and development of and adherence to a Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy (FMMS). Full details of the assessment is found in **Volume ER.A.3, Chapter 13: Commercial Fisheries** of the EIAR.
How does the Salamander Project manage any potential impacts of the landfall and onshore cabling on the local environment and landowners?	As all offshore cables for the Salamander Project will be buried underground, no adverse human health effects in relation to exposure to electro-magnetic fields (EMF) are expected. The Salamander Project is undertaking environmental impact assessment which will consider cumulative environmental impacts in combination with other planned projects. The Salamander Project's Land and Property Manager engages regularly with all relevant landowners to ensure any impact on neighbouring properties and land is minimal.
How will access to the substation from the A90 be	A new access road will be introduced for both the construction and operation of the Salamander Project which will include a new junction from the A90. A section of A90 roadside verge has been included in the Onshore Development Area boundary, in case verge clearance is required to improve visibility at the

Key Topic raised	Salamander response
managed to minimise traffic risk?	access junction. As part of the junction design development, the Salamander Project will work with Transport Scotland to ensure the design meets the required safety standards.
Will local access be maintained during the substation's construction and operation?	Access to Scotstown Beach will remain open to the public throughout the construction and operation of the Salamander Project. During periods of construction, there may be areas of the sand dune system which for health and safety reasons will require access to be managed. Any access requirements will be assessed within the Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment and consulted upon with Aberdeenshire Council and their relevant consultees.
How will the project keep the community in the loop in future?	The project endeavours to reach as diverse a range of local organisations as possible in all public engagement. For each of the four Pre-Application Consultation events held thus far, notice was made across a number of channels – local newspapers, local distribution channels, posters in locations across the area, social media, the project website, and word of mouth, in addition to the consultation made fully available online via a virtual platform. A project email address (info@salamanderwind.com) is monitored regularly, and we invite feedback from stakeholders there. We will continue this approach to ensure that all local stakeholders can engage with the project in a way that suits them. Salamander plans to distribute a newsletter to the community on a bi-annual basis with the intention of keeping the community informed with key project updates and upcoming consultation. The newsletter will cover broad range of elements but will focus on those of particular interest to the community. The ways the newsletter will be distributed will be informed by the needs of the community; the project has already consulted the local council for their view on this. The newsletter will be distributed across a wide range of outlets, both in paper format and digitally, to maximise outreach. Venues will include community centres and cafes – the project is grateful for this suggestion.
How will the project interact with the local supply chain, and give local companies the opportunity to scale in advance?	Salamander collaborates with the supply chain at every stage to support the scale up of facilities, expertise and workforce. Salamander has processes and policies to encourage local employment as a first point of call and plans to use local labour as far as possible. The project engages directly with local Tier 1 suppliers and with suppliers from Tiers 2 to 4 through Scottish Enterprise. The project also provides information on supply chain requirements to Scottish Enterprise. Salamander facilitates and supports engagement between ports and suppliers across all tiers. For example, Salamander hosts workshops between a port, relevant foundation supplier, vessel operator and other relevant supply chain to foster dialogue around necessary upgrades to service floating offshore wind projects. The Salamander project has signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and other similar agreements with just under 60 local suppliers and ports and issued Letters of Support for key local supply chain initiatives. Our Supply Chain Portal can be found on the Salamander Project website, where prospective suppliers can submit their details for consideration as the project progresses. The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm considers education and engagement on marine renewable energy to be an integral part of the fight against climate change and development of the blue economy. Moreover, we recognise the opportunity that local and national renewables development brings in providing access and opportunity to access STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning. The project team are pursuing opportunities for educational outreach and would be happy to

Key Topic raised	Salamander response
	hear from local initiatives. The project provides educational support with a view to supporting the development of the next generation of workforce to resource suppliers in all tiers. This support is provided through engagement with local schools, colleges and educational institutions.

8.3 Further Engagement

8.3.1.1 The Salamander Project Team is committed to ensuring stakeholders and the community are kept up to date on the progress of the Offshore and Onshore applications for the Salamander Project. The project website (www.salamanderfloatingwind.com) will continue to be updated post-submission, and contact details made available.

8.3.1.2 Should the Salamander Project be developed, the Salamander Project plans to deliver a Community Benefit Fund for the local area, currently in early development. Consultation with the local community on this topic, both directly and via the local council, is planned to start in early 2024. Key parameters of the fund, such as the geographical scope and eligibility criteria, will be informed as far as possible by the needs and wants of the community. Examples of eligibility criteria could be projects that satisfy renewable or climate objectives, or educational aims. The fund will be administered by a third-party organisation to ensure impartiality from the project. The fund will be discharged to local projects meeting the eligibility criteria that are successful in their application.

8.3.1.3 The Salamander Project considers education and engagement on marine renewable energy to be an integral part of the fight against climate change and development of the blue economy. Moreover, we recognise the opportunity that local and national renewables development brings in providing access and opportunity to access Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) learning. The Salamander Project Team will continue to engage with STEM stakeholders to this end. The Salamander Project signed a Learning Partnership agreement with Peterhead Academy to formalise our commitment to STEM outreach; through this, the Salamander Project Team will be available for teachers and educational staff to approach for support, for example for lesson planning and delivery. The Salamander Project has also contributed a Letter of Support for Score Group's Apprenticeship Hub, which will support the training of the next generation of local workforce to service the future offshore wind pipeline. Finally, the Salamander Project is actively building working relationships with key stakeholders such as the Scottish Maritime Academy and North East Scotland College (NESCol) more broadly, exploring collaboration, sponsorshipand knowledge-sharing opportunities.

8.3.1.4 The Salamander Project will continue to engage with neighbouring Community Councils as representatives of the local community stakeholders.

8.3.1.5 The Salamander Project will respond to any public or consultee comments on the submitted application and pertaining to the project in general.

8.4 Next Steps

8.4.1.1 Following submission of the offshore application, the onshore application will be made later in 2024 to Aberdeenshire Council and the Energy Consents Unit (ECU). This application will include an updated PAC Report, which will detail how the engagement has met the relevant planning legislation and guidance.

8.4.1.2 Paper copies of the Offshore EIAR and associated documents will be made available to view publicly at accessible locations. These documents will also be available for download online on the project website (www.salamanderfloatingwind.com). Anyone having difficulty accessing the documents can contact

info@salamanderwind.com. The Application documents are also available via the Marine Directorate website at https://marine.gov.scot/marine-licence-applications.

8.4.1.3 If you wish to comment on this Offshore EIAR or make representations to Marine Directorate, any comments or representations must be submitted to MD-LOT within the deadlines set out in the notice advertising the application and EIAR. Details to provide feedback on the onshore application will be included in the onshore PAC Report, which will be submitted later in 2024.

8.4.1.4 Please email Marine Directorate at the following address: ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot, or write to Marine Directorate at:

Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team
Marine Scotland
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

Appendices

Appendix A Stakeholder List

Government and Administration	
Aberdeenshire Council Strategic Development Delivery Team	Marine Directorate
Buchan East Community Council	Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT)
Crown Estate Scotland (CES)	Peterhead Community Council
Cruden Community Council	Rathen, Cortes and Memsie Community Council
Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DEZNZ) – (formerly Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS))	Scottish Government
Invercairn Community Council	Scottish Government Energy Consents Unit (ECU)
Longside Community Council	Strichen Community Council
Technical (Statutory and Non-statutory)	
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	NatureScot
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB)
Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)	Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)
Marine Directorate Science	Scottish Water
Ministry of Defence (MoD)/Defence Estates	Scottish Wildlife Trust
National Air Traffic Services	Transport Scotland
Interest Groups	
Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)	Scottish Wildlife Trust
RSPB Scotland	
Industry/ Supply Chains/ Academia/ Education	
Aberdeen Service Company (ASCO)	Peterhead Academy
Aberdeen Harbour Board	Peterhead Developers Forum
Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group	Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN)
Aberdeen's Robert Gordon University (RGU)	Scottish Development International
European Marine Energy Centre	Scottish Enterprise

Fraserburgh Academy	SGN
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	Scottish Maritime Academy
Mintlaw Academy	Scottish Power Renewables
North East Scotland College	The University of Edinburgh
Net Zero Technology Centre (NZTC)	University of Aberdeen
Pale Blue Dot	University of St Andrews - Sea Mammal Research Unit
Community and Media	
Aberdeenshire Sailing Trust	Peterhead Golf Club
Aberdeen Group	Peterhead Sailing Club
BBC Scotland	Public/Local Community
Buchan Development Partnership	Royal Yachting Association (Scotland)
Buchanhaven Harbour Trust	RYA Scotland
Buchanhaven Heritage Centre	Scottish Federation of Sea Anglers
Cruden Bay Community Association	Scottish sub-aqua Club
Cruden Bay Harbour Trustees	Scottish Surfing Federation
Local golf clubs	Scottish Wildlife Trust (Aberdeenshire)
Moray & Firth Coastal Partnership	Sport Scotland
Peterhead Canoe Club	Surfers Against Sewage (Scotland)
Peterhead Community Council	VisitScotland
Peterhead Gazette	Ythan Biodiversity Volunteers
Fisheries and Marine	
	The National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO)
Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW)	Scottish Fisheries Sustainable Accreditation Group (SFSAG) - Northern shelf saithe
Fisheries Management Scotland	Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF)
International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)	Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA)

Marine Directorate – Marine and Fisheries	
North and East Coast Fishery Regional Inshore Fishery Group	

Appendix B Phase 2 Communication Materials

SALAMANDER OFFSHORE WIND FARM
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
PRE-APPLICATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Notice is hereby given that Simply Blue Energy (Scotland) Ltd, (company number: SC662940 - 10 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EP) plans to a hold pre-application consultation (PAC) event regarding applications for proposed licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters east of Peterhead and onshore, north of Peterhead.

The proposed Salamander Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 35 kilometres (km) east of Peterhead, supported by an export cable making landfall approximately 2.5 km to the north of Peterhead. The licensable activity within Scottish Territorial Waters consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables from the wind farm array area to landfall north of Peterhead. The application(s) for onshore activities will include the installation of onshore export cables, substation, energy balancing infrastructure (including battery storage) and associated infrastructure.

Central grid references:

a) the point at which the offshore export cable route passes 12 nautical miles (nm) from shore: 57° 33' 56.48" N, 001° 26' 17.28" W;
b) the mid-point of the offshore export cable route between landfall and 12 nm: 57° 32' 41.96" N, 001° 37' 14.70" W;
c) the centre point of the area of search for the coastal landfall: 57° 32' 21.29" N, 001° 48' 21.59" W; and
d) the centre point of the area of search for the onshore works: 57° 32' 24.81" N, 001° 48' 50.23" W.

The following pre-application consultations will be held at the times and locations below. These consultations will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to consider and comment on the proposed Salamander Offshore Wind Farm.

Event	Date and Time	Location
Virtual Exhibition	Launches Monday 5 June 2023 and available until Friday, 23 June	Available at: www.salamanderfloatingwind.com
In-person drop-in event – Balmoor Stadium, Peterhead	Wednesday 7 June 2023, 14:00 – 20:00	Balmoor Stadium, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB42 1EQ
In-person drop in event – Crimond Public Hall, Crimond	Thursday 8 June 2023, 10:00 - 14:00	Crimond Public Hall, Logie Road East, Crimond, Fraserburgh, AB43 8QH

The virtual public exhibition will include a link to a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the project team. Alternatively, feedback can be given by emailing info@salamanderwind.com. Comments (which should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making comment) can also be shared by post to Salamander Offshore Wind Farm - 10 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EP.

If you have further questions or comments on the proposals, we request that these be submitted via the feedback form by Friday, 7 July 2023.

Further information can be obtained concerning the proposed floating offshore wind farm from: www.salamanderfloatingwind.com.

Please note that comments made to the Salamander project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers or Aberdeenshire Council. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers and Aberdeenshire Council when the Salamander project submits its application(s) and accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report(s).

Phase 2 PAC Event – Newspaper Notice

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Wednesday, April 26, 2023

CLASSIFIED 47

The Press and Journal
Classified

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Notice Board

Public Notices

SALAMANDER OFFSHORE WIND FARM
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
PRE-APPLICATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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In person drop in event – Crimond Public Hall, Crimond	Thursday 8 June 2023	Crimond Public Hall, Logie Road East, Crimond, Fraserburgh

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Press and Journal Notice – 26 April 2023

GRAMPIAN ONLINE

Reminder: Public consultation to be held for latest offshore windfarm near Peterhead

A series of public consultations are set to be held by the Salamander floating offshore wind project next week.

Salamander is a joint venture between Ørsted, Simply Blue Group, and Subsea7 and the team is inviting the local community to share their thoughts on the project, which will support the local supply chain and create jobs.

Salamander, to be developed 35 kilometres off the coast of Peterhead, will generate enough green energy to power 100,000 Scottish homes.

The joint venture aims to begin construction in 2026.

Salamander help deliver the Scottish Government's target of 11GW of offshore wind by 2030 and the UK government's target of 5GW of operational floating offshore wind by the same date.

Huw Bell, project director for Salamander said: "Salamander presents an exciting opportunity for the Scottish energy sector and will serve a crucial role in the progression towards our decarbonisation goals.

"We're holding these consultation events so that local residents can learn more about this innovative development taking place on their doorsteps and be proud to be part of it. We also want to hear any ideas or concerns from the community so that we can take these into account at an early stage."

The in-person consultation events will take place from 2pm – 8pm on Wednesday, June 7 at Balmoor Stadium, Peterhead, and from 10am to 2pm on Thursday, June 8 at Crimond Public Hall.

Each event will give people the opportunity to speak with the project team to find out more.

The consultation will also be open virtually via the Salamander website between Monday, June 5 and Friday, 23.

The virtual and in-person public exhibitions will give the public an opportunity to complete a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the project team.

Visit **www.salamanderfloatingwind.com** for more information.

Grampian Online – 4 June 2023

Peterhead community invited to Salamander floating offshore windfarm events

A series of public consultations are set to be held by the Salamander floating offshore wind project next week (7th/8th June).

Salamander is a joint venture between Ørsted, Simply Blue Group, and Subsea7 and the team is inviting the local community to share their thoughts on the project, which will support the local supply chain and create jobs.

Salamander, to be developed 35 kilometres off the coast of Peterhead, will generate enough green energy to power 100,000 Scottish homes. The joint venture aims to begin construction in 2026.

The project is a stepping-stone to the large-scale floating offshore wind projects coming to Scotland in the near future. It has been designed to give Scottish companies the opportunity to roll out new technologies at a smaller-scale, as they prepare to expand their operations. This means local companies will be best placed to compete for contracts and create sustainable, long-term jobs.

Salamander will also help deliver the Scottish Government's target of 11GW of offshore wind by 2030 and the UK government's target of 5GW of operational floating offshore wind by the same date.

Huw Bell, project director for Salamander said: "Salamander presents an exciting opportunity for the Scottish energy sector and will serve a crucial role in the progression towards our decarbonisation goals.

"We're holding these consultation events so that local residents can learn more about this innovative development taking place on their doorsteps and be proud to be part of it. We also want to hear any ideas or concerns from the community so that we can take these into account at an early stage."

The in-person consultation Salamander floating offshore windfarm events will take place:

- from 2pm – 8pm on Wednesday, 7 June at Balmoor Stadium, Peterhead, and
- from 10am to 2pm on Thursday, 8 June at Crimond Public Hall.

Each Salamander floating offshore windfarm events will give people the opportunity to speak with the project team to find out more.

The consultation will also be open virtually via the Salamander website between Monday, 5 June and Friday, 23 June.

The virtual and in-person public exhibitions will give the public an opportunity to complete a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the project team.

Peterhead Live – 6 June 2023

WIND SYSTEMS

Salamander invites Peterhead to wind-farm consults

The Salamander offshore wind joint venture is holding consultations allowing people to speak with the project team. The consultations will also be available virtually on the Salamander website until Friday, June 23.

Salamander is a joint venture between Orsted, Simply Blue Group, and Subsea7 that will support the local supply chain and create jobs.

Salamander, to be developed 35 km off the coast of Peterhead, will generate enough green energy to power 100,000 Scottish homes. The joint venture aims to begin construction in 2026.

"We're holding these consultation events so that local residents can learn more about this innovative development taking place on their doorsteps and be proud to be part of it. We also want to hear any ideas or concerns from the community so that we can take these into account at an early stage," said Huw Bell, Salamander project director.

"Salamander presents an exciting opportunity for the Scottish energy sector and will serve a crucial role in the progression towards our decarbonization goals," Bell said.

The project is a stepping-stone to the large-scale floating offshore wind projects coming to Scotland in the near future. It has been designed to give Scottish companies the opportunity to roll out new technologies at a smaller-scale, as they prepare to expand their operations. This means local companies will be best placed to compete for contracts and create sustainable, long-term jobs.

Salamander will also help deliver the Scottish government's target of 11GW of offshore wind by 2030 and the UK government's target of 5GW of operational floating offshore wind by the same date.

The virtual and in-person public exhibitions will give the public an opportunity to complete a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the project team.

Wind Systems Magazine – 6 June 2023

Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce (online) – 1 June 2023

LinkedIn Posts

A4/A3 Consultation Posters

Appendix C Phase 2 PAC Event Exhibition Boards

Welcome to our Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm. We are holding these consultation events to share our proposals with you and invite your views and local knowledge to inform our project design.

Please take some time to review the information here today and talk to our team to ask any questions you may have or share your views.

Once you've had a look around, we would appreciate if you could take a few minutes to answer the questionnaire provided by our team, or accessible via the QR code below. You can also view all the information on our website www.salamanderfloatingwind.com.

Being involved

The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm is still in its early stage of development. At this stage we are particularly interested in your views on:

- the location of the offshore wind farm, approximately 35 km off the coast of Peterhead;
- the area where the offshore cable bringing electricity from the wind farm will come ashore to meet the onshore cable that runs to the onshore substation;
- the location of the proposed onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage; and
- access to the onshore substation.

Please provide any feedback by 7th July 2023 to enable us to consider it as we develop the project.

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm, being developed by Simply Blue Energy (Scotland) Ltd., is a proposed floating offshore wind farm approximately 35 km off the coast of Peterhead. With up to seven turbines, Salamander will generate up to 100 MW of electricity – that's enough to power 100,000 Scottish homes.

Tower will come ashore on Scotstown beach, approximately 2.5 km north of Peterhead. From there it will connect to Salamander's onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage, before connecting to the National Grid which will deliver it to homes and businesses across the country.

Location map

"Floating technology allows us to put turbines in deeper waters and further from shore where they are less visible from land."

Why we are developing the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

Salamander will produce renewable electricity, helping Scotland transition our energy system away from fossil fuels to a cleaner, greener and more secure energy future.

It will help Scotland and the UK to deliver on their offshore wind goals, contributing to the Scottish Government's ambition for 11 GW of installed offshore wind capacity by 2030 and the UK Government's ambition to have 50 GW of operational offshore wind power by the same date.

Floating technology allows us to put turbines in deeper waters and further from shore where they are less visible from land. Although still in its infancy, floating offshore wind is a fast growing global market and Scotland stands at the forefront with more large-scale floating projects in development than any other country. This is a huge opportunity.

Crucially, Salamander aims to help ensure floating offshore wind brings maximum benefit to Scotland's economy, communities and environment. Building a new floating offshore wind farm of the scale of Salamander will help us learn how to deliver even larger projects in the future. In doing so it will provide an opportunity for local suppliers to gear up for the larger opportunities in Scotland's near future, and globally, and build up the broader economic benefits for local communities. It will also help us learn how to improve the environmental footprint of floating offshore wind and how to best co-exist with other marine users.

Salamander will demonstrate innovative technologies to get them ready for roll out in large-scale offshore wind projects being developed such as those within the Scottish offshore wind seabed leasing round, ScotWind. These technologies will be critical to ensuring floating offshore wind energy is not only clean but reliable and affordable for consumers.

SALAMANDER

The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm is a partnership between Ørsted, Simply Blue Group and Subsea7 bringing together the best expertise and experience to unlock Scotland's floating offshore wind potential.

- Ørsted is the global leader in offshore wind with a vision of a world that runs entirely on green energy. Ørsted has worked in the UK for nearly 20 years where it develops, constructs, and operates offshore and onshore wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities and bioenergy plants. The company proudly provides over 7% of the UK's electricity. Today Ørsted has 8.9 GW deployed globally and a goal of 30 GW by 2030.
- Simply Blue Group is a leading blue economy developer focused on replacing fossil fuels with clean ocean energy. It develops pioneering blue economy projects - floating offshore wind, e-Fuels, wave energy, and low-impact aquaculture - all in harmony with the oceans. The company has a pipeline of over 10 GW of floating offshore wind projects across the globe.
- Subsea7 is a global leader in the delivery of offshore projects and services for the evolving energy industry. Subsea7 creates sustainable value by being the industry's partner and employer of choice in delivering the efficient offshore solutions the world needs.

Together, we are committed to creating new economic opportunities for coastal communities, and developing projects that co-exist with sustainable fisheries and marine conservation.

Ørsted

Simply Blue Group

subsea 7

Project sites and how we chose them

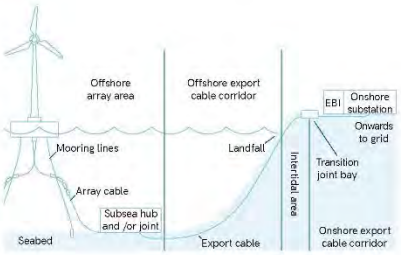
The proposed area the wind turbines will occupy is approximately 35km east of Peterhead. The initial area of search covered approximately 205km^2, with water depths of over 100m. This was refined to a final site for the offshore wind turbines (approximately 33km^2) by analysing environmental, technical and other marine user constraints as well as consulting with key stakeholders such as Marine Scotland, NatureScot and the fishing community. Crown Estate Scotland were also consulted to ensure the site complied with seabed leasing criteria.

For the cable route from the wind farm to shore, we selected the shortest technically feasible route to the landfall closest to the onshore substation location, taking into consideration other marine users such as shipping and other seabed infrastructure such as pipelines and other cables. The final offshore cable route will be refined based on feedback on the landfall area, the location where it comes ashore, and further environmental studies we are undertaking such as seabed ecology.

The proposed landfall area is approximately 2.5km north of Peterhead on Scotstown Beach between Kirkton and Lunderton. The area being considered for the onshore infrastructure has the A90 as its western border, a dead-end road leading to St. Fergus Church to its north and a small waterway to its south. When identifying a location for the onshore substation and EBI, our engineers considered community interests, proximity to homes, landscaping, designated sites, cultural assets and protected species, as well as proximity to the grid connection and technical feasibility. Views from bodies such as Aberdeenshire Council, NatureScot, SEPA, RSPB Scotland and Transport Scotland were also sought.

Salamander location map

The Salamander development



Offshore infrastructure

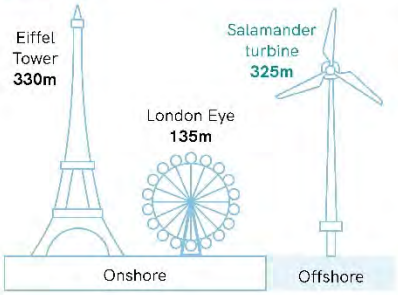
Floating offshore wind can be deployed in deeper water where more energy can be generated. Turbines can be constructed in port and towed out to site where they can be hooked up to the pre-installed mooring system. This means turbines can be installed much faster than fixed-bottom offshore turbines.

What do we plan to build?

Offshore wind turbines

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm will consist of up to seven floating wind turbines. These could have a maximum blade tip height of up to 325m and a rotor diameter of up to 280m. At their highest point, the blade tips of the turbines are just shorter than the Eiffel Tower, which is 330m tall!

How the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm compares



Floating foundations

The turbines sit on top of floating foundations, of which there are many different types. Salamander has not yet chosen a foundation type and is considering barge, semi-submersible and tension leg platforms.

Moorings and anchors

Floating foundations are kept in place with mooring and anchoring systems, even in extreme weather conditions. We will choose the type of anchor and mooring system based on data on the site environment and physical conditions.

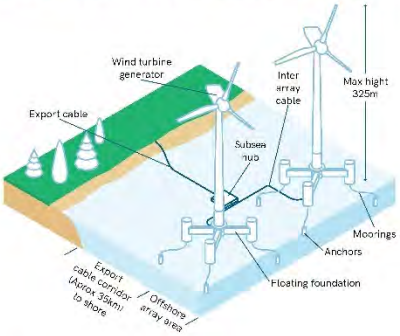
Inter-array cables and connection hubs

The cables between the turbines are called inter-array cables. These are dynamic as they have to move with the floating foundation. Some sections may be buried. These cables connect to hubs on the seabed before connecting to the offshore export cables.

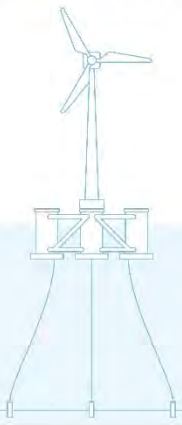
How power makes it to shore

Two offshore export cables need to be installed along the seabed to bring the power to the landfall. Where technically feasible these are typically buried.

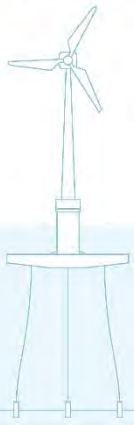
Illustration of offshore infrastructure



Semi-submersible



Tension leg platform



Barge

SALAMANDER

Onshore infrastructure

What do we plan to build?

Salamander's onshore infrastructure will include a landfall, buried cable route, a new onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage.

Landfall

Salamander is still in the early stage of its design, but we expect the export cables will be brought to shore using either an open-cut trench or trenchless method. Trenchless methods could involve drilling from the onshore side, seawards and installing plastic ducts through which the offshore cables would later be pulled. Once above mean high water springs, where it is always dry, a transition joint bay would be built where the export offshore cables would be jointed with the onshore export cables.

Onshore export cables

All onshore export cables are buried in trenches. During construction the cable corridor is wider than the permanent buried cable corridor, and working areas fenced off for safety. The wider corridor allows for the storage of soil, vehicle access and working area during installation, and is reinstated once construction is complete.

Detailed map of onshore site

New substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure, including battery storage

We need to build a new substation to allow us to transform the power from the wind farm ready to connect into the National Grid.

We also plan to build EBI, including battery storage. We believe that energy storage will play a pivotal role in helping Scotland make its shift towards a green, secure and affordable energy system. The EBI manages the peaks and troughs in supply and demand. When demand is low but the wind blows, Salamander will be able to store the excess energy it generates. That energy can then be dispatched to the grid when demand is high.

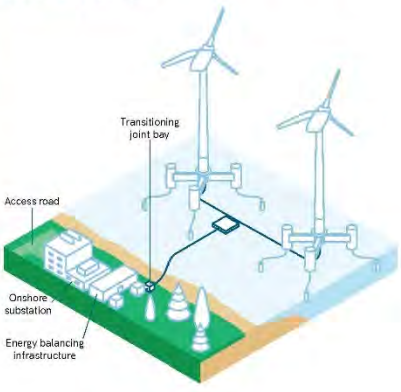
Access to the onshore substation

Access to the onshore substation site will be via a new access road from the A90 or an upgrade of existing access. Access for the operations phase of the project would be up to 10 m wide, comprising 7 m of road, and up to 1.5 m either side for stabilisation and potentially the installation of utilities (such as water and telecommunications).

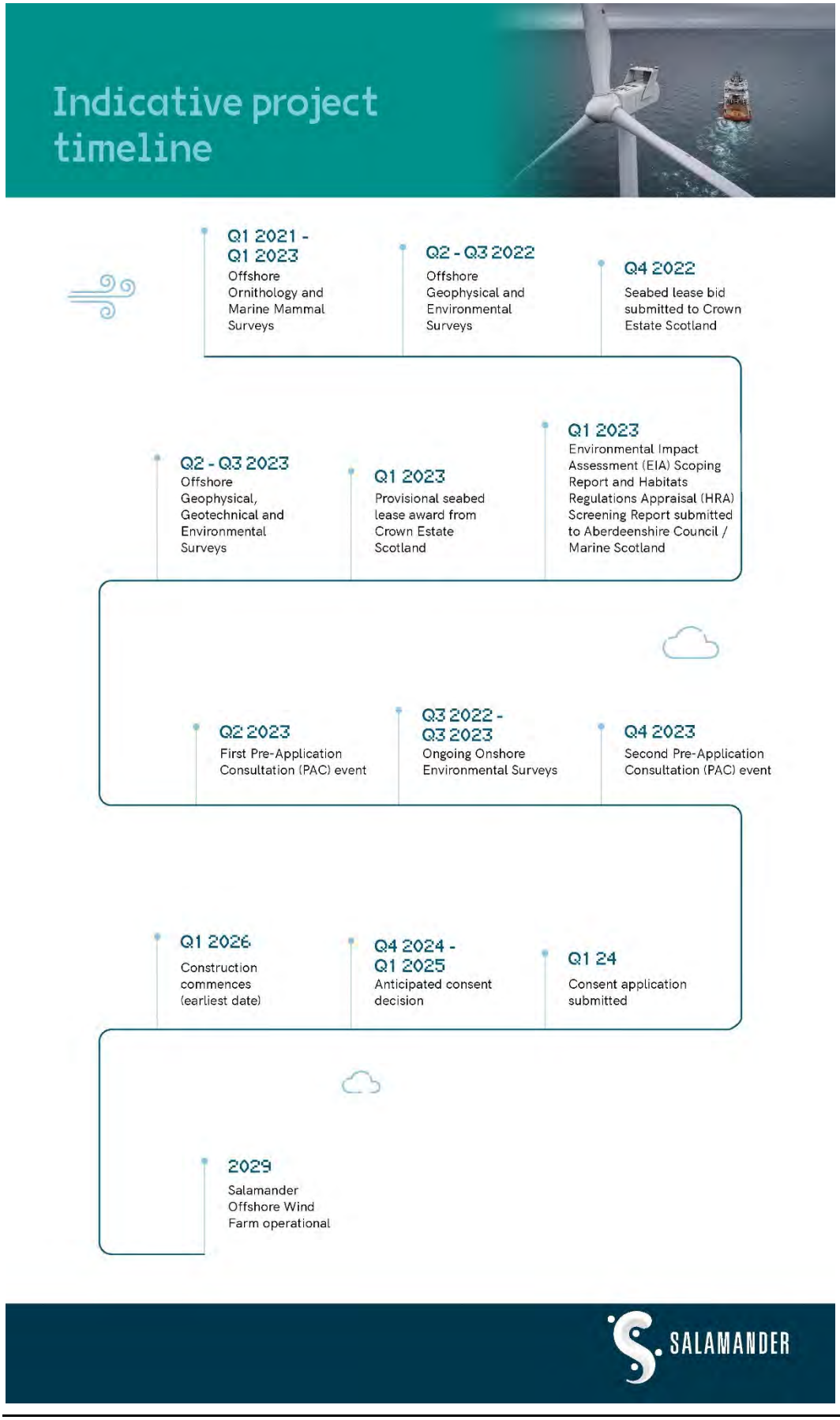
Temporary infrastructure

During the construction of the onshore infrastructure we will need temporary construction compounds, containers, welfare facilities, construction equipment and cable drums. Once construction is finished, these temporary elements will be removed and the land reinstated back to its prior condition.

Illustration of indicative onshore infrastructure



SALAMANDER


Indicative project timeline
Q1 2021 - Q1 2023
Offshore Ornithology and Marine Mammal Surveys
Q2 - Q3 2022
Offshore Geophysical and Environmental Surveys
Q4 2022
Seabed lease bid submitted to Crown Estate Scotland
Q1 2023
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report and Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) Screening Report submitted to Aberdeenshire Council / Marine Scotland
Q1 2023
Provisional seabed lease award from Crown Estate Scotland
Q2 - Q3 2023
Offshore Geophysical, Geotechnical and Environmental Surveys
Q4 2023
Second Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event
Q3 2022 - Q3 2023
Ongoing Onshore Environmental Surveys
Q2 2023
First Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event
Q1 24
Consent application submitted
Q4 2024 - Q1 2025
Anticipated consent decision
Q1 2026
Construction commences (earliest date)
2029
Salamander Offshore Wind Farm operational
SALAMANDER

Development Process

The development process

Before any offshore wind project is granted consent it must conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and abitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) to identify and assess the potential impact the project may have on the environment in all its phases – construction, operation and decommissioning. The EIA and HRA also inform the design of the project. As part of the EIA and HRA, we must identify and commit to measures to minimise the project's impact on the environment.

The first step in the EIA process is to submit an EIA Scoping Report and HRA Screening Report. Salamander has submitted these documents to Marine Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council. These documents outline the potential environmental impacts of the project to the regulators and stakeholder organisations such as NatureScot, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and others. These bodies then provide advice on what they think should be included in the full EIA and HRA reports and on how impacts should be measured.

The EIA and HRA consider what we call the project 'design envelope' – that is a version of the planned project with the greatest potential impact. Although it is this 'design envelope' we seek consent for, the final built project may not end up having this significant an impact.

We currently plan to assess the following in the EIA process:

Receptor Categories	Offshore Receptors	Onshore Receptors
Physical Environment	Marine Physical Processes Water and Sediment Quality	Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology
Biological Environment	Benthic Ecology Fish and Shellfish Ecology Marine Mammals Offshore Ornithology	Terrestrial Ornithology Terrestrial Ecology
Human Environment	Commercial Fisheries Shipping and Navigation Aviation and Radar Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Other Users of the Marine Environment	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Air Quality Landscape and Visual Amenity Traffic and Transport Onshore Noise and Vibration Land Use and Other Users
Overarching Topics	Socio-economics Climate Change and Carbon Major Accidents and Disasters	

Courtesy of ERM

Courtesy of ERM

SALAMANDER

Landscape & visual

We are committed to reducing the visual impact of our onshore development where possible.

Onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure

The onshore substation and EBI area will comprise electrical equipment and a number of buildings and containers with the tallest component being up to 25 m high and tallest building being 20 m high. As the design options are narrowed down we will share an indicative photomontage of how it might look on our website and at our next consultation event.

We are proposing to site the onshore substation and EBI in an area of commercial spruce plantation which will allow us to use both the trees and a natural rise in the land to provide some natural physical screening. We also intend to plant some additional woodland to further screen any views of the substation.

We are proposing we create a new access road from the A90 to the onshore substation and EBI site.

We would welcome any comments you have on the proposed location of the onshore substation and EBI as well as the proposed access from the A90.

Offshore turbines

On a clear day the turbines may be visible from the shore. Salamander turbines will be slightly shorter than the Eiffel Tower and approximately 35 km from the shore. Once Salamander selects a technology and floating foundation we will share an indicative photomontage of how it might look on our website and at our next consultation event.

Courtesy of ERM

We are committed to avoiding heritage sites wherever possible. Our team has been working with Aberdeenshire Council, Historic Environment Scotland and other stakeholders to identify the sites of cultural and historical importance within the vicinity of the area we are considering for our onshore infrastructure. These include St Fergus' Church, Castle Hill, Inverurgie Castle, Ravenscraig Castle and three of the Rattray Line of pill boxes dating to World War II.

In the coming months we will be visiting the area to understand more about these sites, how they might be impacted by the development and how we might mitigate against any impacts. The St Fergus Cemetery, which is inside our area of search, has been excluded from any type of development from the outset.

We will be assessing the setting of the sites of cultural and historical importance and minimising any visual impact from the development.

We would welcome your local insights into the culture and heritage of the area and to hear of any concerns you have.

Ecology & biodiversity

We are committed to having a positive impact on the climate and nature through our development.

In parallel to this public consultation we are undertaking extensive environmental surveys and studies to understand any potential impacts our project may have and how we can best mitigate against them, and even enhance the local ecology and biodiversity.

We are currently undertaking onshore surveys for habitats of badgers, birds, bats, water voles, otters and great crested newts. These will continue until October 2023.

To understand Salamander's potential impact in the offshore environment the project is collecting data to inform environmental impact assessments for topics including ornithology, marine mammals and seabed habitats.

Data collected will help inform any potential mitigation required to reduce any potential impacts and will accompany our consent application.

We will assess the results of these studies fully in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will accompany our consent application.

We are also funding a 12 month research programme being carried out by the Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund to explore how offshore renewables can contribute to nature restoration and enhancement in Scottish seas.

Courtesy of ERM

Construction phase

The construction of Salamander's onshore infrastructure could begin as early as 2026 and last for approximately 24 months, with peaks and troughs of activity throughout.

We recognise that deliveries and construction activity can disturb those living near the development site. Our objective will be to limit disturbance as much as is reasonably practicable by following best practices such as undertaking work only during the working hours agreed with the local authority and using quieter alternative methods and equipment wherever we can.

We will work in close consultation with Aberdeenshire Council and Transport Scotland to assess the potential impacts of construction traffic to ensure that all road users are considered. When it comes to the construction phase, we will create a Construction Traffic Management Plan to carefully manage traffic movements as sensitively as possible.

We anticipate that the offshore construction activities will commence a year after the onshore construction commences. Offshore construction is likely to take place over two years, predominantly during spring, summer and autumn months when the weather is suitable for offshore activities.

Operations & maintenance

Once operational, the onshore substation and EBI will operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, but will be unstaffed with no day-to-day personnel and will be monitored remotely from our control room.

Inspection and maintenance visits will tend to occur on a monthly basis, usually in a small van or car which will gain access to the site via the new access road or upgraded existing access. Only if a substation component such as the transformer needs replacing would there be any large or abnormal load vehicles required.

During the operation of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm, both the onshore and offshore infrastructure, including export cables will be regularly inspected and maintained throughout its lifetime.

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm will operate for up to 35 years

Decommissioning

Our consent application will include provision for the decommissioning of the site at the end of its operational life. The onshore substation will be decommissioned or repurposed at the end of its operational life. All onshore buried infrastructure will be removed to a depth of up to 1m, if technically feasible. It is also anticipated that all offshore infrastructure on or above the seabed will be completely removed in line with the Scottish Government's position on the decommissioning of Offshore Renewable Energy Installations. The approach employed at decommissioning will be compliant with the legislation and policy requirements at the time of decommissioning. Any waste arising will be disposed of in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The decommissioning sequence will generally be the reverse of the construction sequence and involve similar types and numbers of vehicles, vessels and equipment.

Appendix D Phase 2 Questionnaire

SALAMANDER

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation

Public feedback survey

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm proposals. The project is in early development and we appreciate your input at this stage. We are particularly interested in your views on the information presented within the consultation materials. Your feedback will come directly to the Salamander project team and will inform our consent application.

Please note your feedback will not go to Scottish Ministers responsible for determining whether consent is approved or not – you will have an opportunity to share views with Scottish Ministers after our application is submitted.

Responses to this survey will remain anonymous. We would be grateful to receive your response by 7 July 2023.

GDPR Compliance: Please tick this box to indicate you consent to your personal information being stored and used in adherence with GDPR to provide you with future project information. No personal data should be added in the comments fields of the form ☐

1. **Did you visit the exhibition at one of our in-person events or online? (please circle)**

Online virtual exhibition	Peterhead in-person	Crimond in-person

2. **In what capacity did you visit the exhibition? (please circle)**

Member of the public	Marine user	Environmental organisation	Community organisation	Member of oil and gas sector	Regulator	Other (please state)

3. **Do you have any general comments on the proposals for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?**

4. **Do you have any comments on the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm? This includes the area where the offshore cables bringing electricity from the wind farm will come ashore to meet the onshore cables that run to the onshore substation.**

5. **Do you have any comments on the proposed location and components of the onshore infrastructure of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm? This includes the onshore substation and the Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage.**

Read our Privacy Policy here: https://orsted.com/en/privacy-policy

Phase 2 Questionnaire – page 1

6. **What are your views on the proposed access to the onshore substation?**

7. **This is the first consultation event we have held about the project. We plan to hold another event in November 2023 and will provide regular updates via a quarterly newsletter and on our website. Is there any additional engagement you would find helpful?**

8. **Would you like to receive our quarterly electronic newsletter, starting later this year?**

Yes	No

If yes, please provide your details:

Name	
Email address	

9. **How did you find the quality of the information provided in this consultation?**

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor

10. **Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?**

Yes	No

If no, how could we improve?

Thank you and how to get in touch

Thanks again for taking the time to complete this form. If you would like to provide any other feedback get in touch with us at info@salamanderwind.com. This survey is also accessible online via the QR code and on our website www.salamanderfloatingwind.com.

If you are a local supplier you can register on our supply chain portal at www.salamanderfloatingwind.com/contact/become-a-supplier.

Read our Privacy Policy here: https://orsted.com/en/privacy-policy

Phase 2 Questionnaire – page 2

Appendix E Phase 3 Communications Materials

THE PRESS AND JOURNAL
Tuesday, October 3, 2023

CLASSIFIED 43

Notice Board

Notices

Anniversaries
Birthdays
Charities
Church Notices
Congratulations
Contracts and Tenders
Engagements
Father's Day
Graduation
Mother's Day
Notices
Off To School
Pets In Memory
Personal Seasons Greetings
Public Notices
Retirement
Special Messages
Thank You
Wedding Notices

Personal

FRIENDLY MALE

60s, would like to meet similar very down-to-earth lady, aged 65 to 75 for time and fun together. I drive, also have my own home.

To find out more my contact number is 07497 394632.

Personal

RESPECTFUL MAN

Seeks open-minded lady as lover.

Tel: 07955 846577

Personal

COUNTRY GENT

Active, genuine and friendly 65 year old man would like to meet a like-minded 50+ woman who enjoys the countryside for companionship.

Tel: 07935 537867
NORTH EAST

To insert your notice in
The Press and Journal
Call 01224 691212
The Press and Journal Classified

Public Notices

SALAMANDER OFFSHORE WIND FARM
Marine (Scotland) Act 2010
Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 2017
Electricity Act 1989
PRE-APPLICATION PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Notice is hereby given that Simply Blue Energy (Scotland) Ltd. (company number: SC662940 – 10 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EP) plans to a hold a second set of pre-application consultation (PAC) events regarding applications for proposed licensable activities within Scottish Territorial Waters east of Peterhead and onshore, north of Peterhead.

The proposed Salamander Offshore Wind Farm is located approximately 35 kilometres km east of Peterhead, supported by an export cable making landfall approximately 2.5 km to the north of Peterhead.

The licensable activity within Scottish territorial Waters consists of the installation of up to two submarine export cables from the wind farm array area to landfall north of Peterhead. The application(s) for onshore activities will include the installation of onshore export cables, substation, energy balancing infrastructure (including battery storage) and associated infrastructure.

Central grid references:

a) the point at which the offshore export cable route passes 12 nautical miles (nm) from shore: 57° 33' 56.48" N, 001° 26' 17.28" W;
b) the mid-point of the offshore export cable route between landfall and 12 nm: 57° 32' 41.96" N, 001° 37' 14.70" W;
c) the centre point of the area of search for the coastal landfall: 57° 32' 21.68" N, 001° 48' 21.35" W and
d) the centre point of the area of search for the onshore works: 57° 32' 20.33" N, 001° 48' 30.59" W

The following pre-application consultations will be held at the times and locations below. These consultations will provide an opportunity for the public and stakeholders to consider and comment on the proposed Salamander Offshore Wind Farm.

Event	Date and Time	Location
Virtual Exhibition	Launches Monday 20 November 2023, and available until Sunday 3 December 2023	Available at: www.salamanderfloatingwind.com
In-person drop-in event Balmoor Stadium, Peterhead	Tuesday 21 November 2023, 10:00 – 19:00	Balmoor Stadium, Balmoor Terrace, Peterhead, AB42 1EQ
In-person drop in event Crimond Medical & Community Hub, Crimond	Wednesday 22 November 2023, 10:00 – 16:00	Crimond Medical & Community Hub Logie Avenue West, Crimond, Fraserburgh, AB43 8QJ

The virtual public exhibition will include a link to a feedback form where comments and questions on the proposal, as well as any requests for further information, can be submitted directly to the project team. Alternatively, feedback can be given by emailing info@salamanderwind.com

Comments (which should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making comment) can also be shared by post to Salamander Offshore Wind Farm – 10 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EP.

If you have further questions or comments on the proposals, we request that these be submitted via the feedback form by Sunday 10 December 2023.

Further information can be obtained concerning the proposed floating offshore wind farm from: www.salamanderfloatingwind.com

Please note that comments made to the Salamander project team are not representations to the Scottish Ministers or Aberdeenshire Council. There will be an opportunity to make representations to the Scottish Ministers and Aberdeenshire Council when the Salamander project submits its application(s) and accompanying Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report(s).

To insert your notice in
The Press and Journal
Call 01224 691212
The Press and Journal Classified

Public Notices

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

A87 GLEN SHIEL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT
DETERMINATION UNDER SECTION 55A OF THE ROADS (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

THE SCOTTISH MINISTERS give notice that they have determined that the project for rockfall remediation works on the A87 at Glen Shiel is a relevant project within the meaning of section 55A of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 ("the 1984 Act") and falls within Annex II of Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of certain public and private projects on the environment, but that having regard to -

(a) the selection criteria contained in Annex III of that Directive, namely
(i) the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;
(ii) the production of waste;
(iii) pollution and nuisances;
(iv) the risks to human health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution);
(v) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance,
(b) the results of the Environmental Screening Assessment under section 55A(2) of the 1984 Act,
(c) the information set out in the Record of Determination dated 1 February 2023, available at https://www.transport.gov.scot/transport-network/roads/road-orders-and-records-of-determination/#63527, the project does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

The main reasons for the conclusion that no Environmental Impact Assessment is required are:

(a) Whilst works are located within a National Scenic Area, they are of a sufficiently minor and localised scale that there will be no change to the special qualities for which the area is designated;
(b) There will be no impacts on the Glenshiel Earthworks Scheduled Monument; and
(c) Any potential impacts of the works are expected to be temporary, short-term, non-significant, and limited to the construction phase.

The features of the project which are envisaged to avoid or prevent significant adverse effects on the environment are:

(a) Mitigation measures and best practice will be implemented to ensure no short-term or long-term significant negative impacts on the environment;
(b) Scheduled Monument Consent has been issued by Historic Environment Scotland and all mitigation measures detailed in the consent will be adhered to;
(c) Containment measures of the working area will be in place to prevent debris or pollutants from entering the surrounding environment; and
(d) Measures will be in place to ensure appropriate removal and disposal of waste.

J DUNLOP
A member of the staff of the Scottish Ministers
Transport Scotland, George House,
36 North Hanover Street, Glasgow G1 2AD

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND

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The Press and Journal Classified

Press and Journal Notice – 3 October 2023

EveningExpress

Wind farm to launch second consultation

THE team behind the Salamander floating offshore wind project off the north-east coast is to hold a second series of public consultation events in Peterhead.

Following feedback from the local community, the joint venture partners behind Salamander have revised their plans.

The new consultation events will take place from 10am to 7pm next Tuesday at Balmoor Stadium, and from 10am to 4pm on the Wednesday at Crimond medical and community hub.

The consultations will also be open virtually via the Salamander website from next Monday until Sunday December 3.

Local residents will be invited to review updated plans for the project around 21 miles off the coast of Peterhead.

ENERGY VOICE

Salamander floating wind farm to launch second public consultation

The team behind the upcoming Salamander floating offshore wind project is holding a second series of public consultation events in Peterhead this mont... Read More

The P&J SCOTTISH NEWS WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

Plan update brings new consultation

The team behind the Salamander floating offshore wind project off the north-east coast is to hold a second series of public consultation events.

Following feedback from the local community, the joint venture partners behind Salamander have revised their plans.

The new consultation events will take place from 10am to 7pm on Tuesday November 21 at Balmoor Stadium, and from 10am to 4pm on Wednesday November 22 at Crimond medical and community hub.

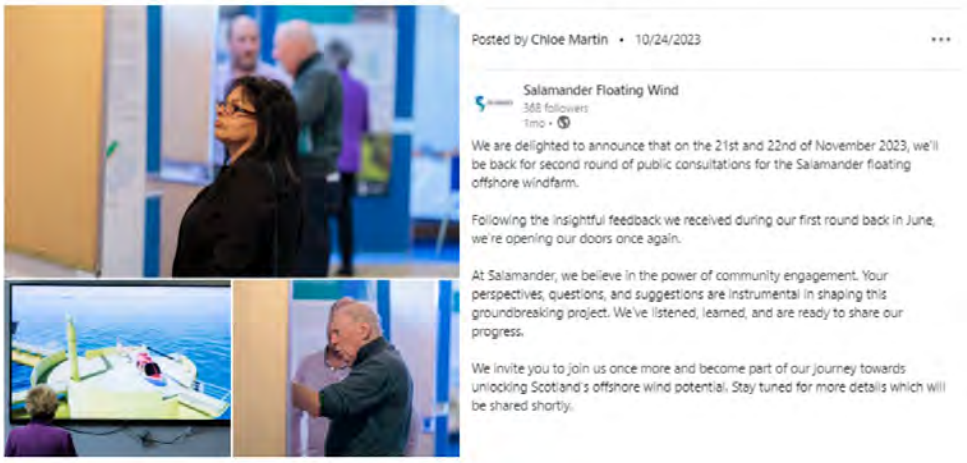
The consultations will also be open virtually via the Salamander website between Monday November 20 and Sunday December 3.

Local residents will be invited to review updated plans for the project around 21 miles off the coast of Peterhead.

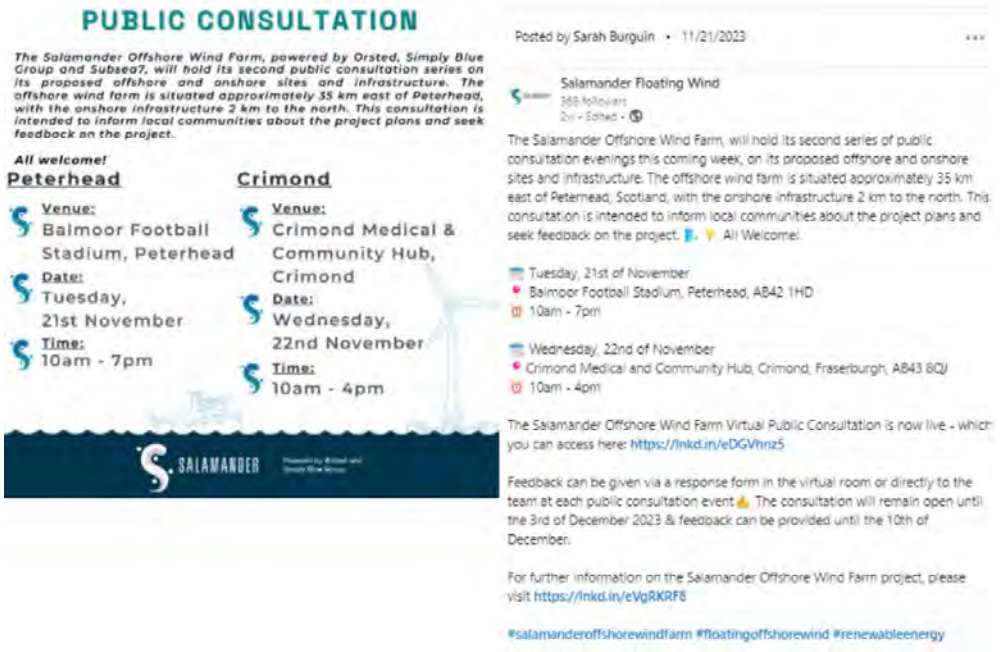
With construction starting in 2027, Salamander is expected to deliver 100 megawatts when fully operational.

Press Notice – October 2023

Poster Crimond Hub



LinkedIn Post October 2023



LinkedIn Post November 2023

Consultation Brochure November 2023

Community Newsletter – Edition 1, April 2024

SALAMANDER | Powered by Ørsted and Simply Blue Group

Community Newsletter
Edition 1 – April 2024

We're delighted to introduce our first Salamander Offshore Wind Farm newsletter.

These regular bulletins will help keep you updated on the project's progress and will include details on how you can provide feedback. In this edition, we tell you more about the project and the dedicated and talented team working on it. We'll also share our response to the feedback you gave us during our recent public consultation events. Finally, we'll also tell you about our exciting plans for developing a Community Benefit Fund.

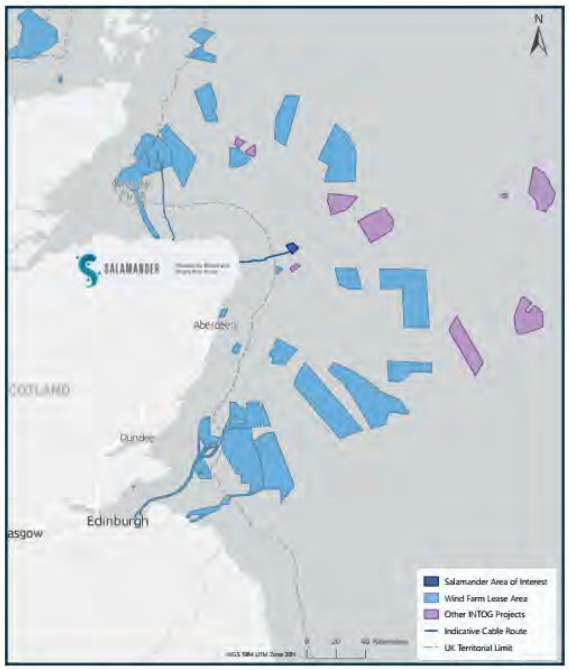
About Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

A floating offshore wind farm, approximately 35 km off Peterhead, Salamander will have up to seven turbines and will generate up to 100 MW of electricity – that's enough to power 100,000 Scottish homes.

Power will come ashore at Scotstown beach, about 2.5 km north of Peterhead. From there, it will connect to Salamander's onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (including battery storage) at Lunderton. Following which, it will then connect to the National Grid, providing clean and sustainable electricity to homes and businesses across Scotland.

Salamander has several important roles to play. Firstly, it will be a trail blazer – as one of Scotland's first floating wind farms.

Secondly, it will be vital in helping to get your local supply chain ready to deliver the pipeline for larger scale future projects. We want to ensure your businesses really benefit from the opportunities these projects offer, so we're engaging directly with local suppliers and ports to communicate these opportunities to you throughout the project.



A message from our Project Director, Hugh Yendole

I'm excited by the many real benefits this project will bring to the communities and businesses here in North East Scotland. I'm proud of what it will offer you, Scotland and the environment. Salamander is a project the community can really get behind!

Once complete, Salamander will provide enough power to meet the average daily electricity need of up to 100,000 homes.

Salamander will provide a community benefit fund: designed in partnership with your community, for your community.

Salamander will help to deliver high-quality jobs and investment into the UK's offshore wind supply chain to unlock future floating wind opportunities.

Our partnership

Ørsted

Ørsted is one of the world's most sustainable energy companies. With 30 years of experience and expertise developing green energy solutions, Ørsted has worked together with local communities, suppliers, partners, and the government, to help make the UK global leaders in offshore wind.

Simply Blue Group

Simply Blue Group are a leading renewable energy developer with a focus on replacing fossil fuels with clean energy. It develops pioneering renewable energy projects both offshore and onshore wind, sustainable fuels, marine energy, and low-impact aquaculture - all in harmony with the oceans and the land.

subsea 7

Subsea7 is a leading Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Installation (EPCI) contractor. It has an extensive track record of delivering offshore wind in Scotland. Based in Westhill, it is a major employer in Aberdeenshire.

Public feedback

Salamander held a series of in-person and virtual public consultation events in 2023. Thank you to all of you who came along and shared your views with us. Here we'd like to share some answers to the questions most frequently asked both at those events and in our survey.

How will the project benefit the community?
We plan to deliver a Community Benefit Fund for the local area (details on page 5). During construction and operation, Salamander will contribute to Aberdeenshire's economy through employment within the supply chain.

How will any long-term environmental impacts on marine life and onshore ecology be mitigated?
We are undertaking an Offshore and Onshore Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This assessed the potential impacts on all relevant ecology and species over the proposed lifetime of the project, and identified how we can mitigate against them. You can find more details in the EIA Reports which we will submit alongside our consent applications later this year.

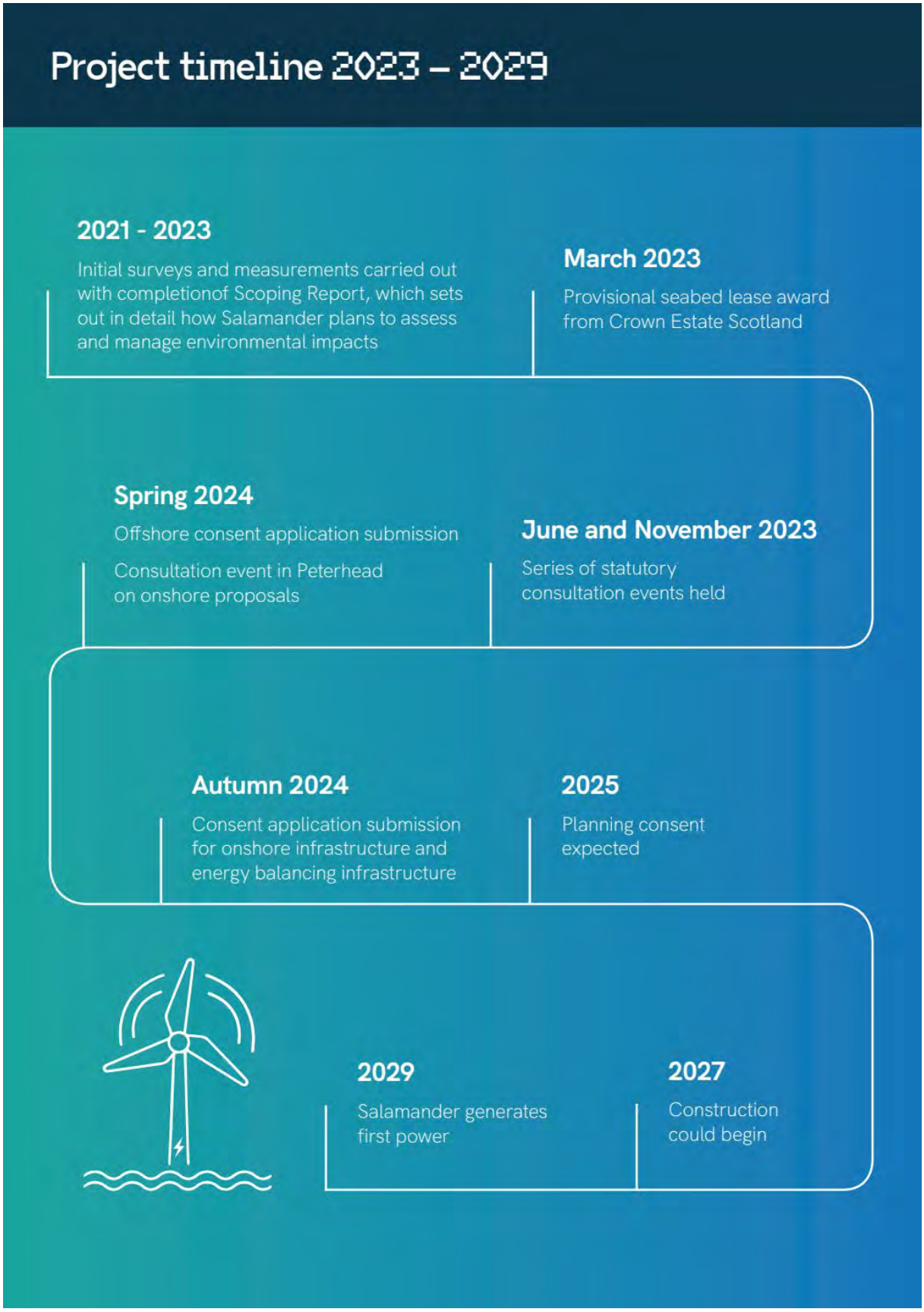
How does Salamander manage potential impacts on landowners?
We're in regular contact with landowners and will continue to engage as the project develops, to ensure our impact is minimal and that we always act as a good neighbour.

How will access to the substation from the A90 be managed to minimise traffic risk?
We'll work with Transport Scotland to ensure the design of the proposed new access road meets the required safety standards. We've also commissioned a Road Safety Audit of a new access junction on the A90 near Lunderton for submission to Transport Scotland.

Will local access to the beach and coastal path be maintained during the substation's construction and operation?
Access to Scotstown Beach and the coastal path will be maintained as far as possible as a result of the project's decision to have a trenchless landfall beneath the foredunes and beach. During construction, there may be areas of the sand dunes where, for health and safety reasons, there will be temporary access restrictions.

How will you give local companies the opportunity to support the project?
We're designing Salamander specifically to give local businesses the best possible opportunity to get involved. We've already signed agreements with almost 60 local suppliers and ports, and issued Letters of Support for key local supply chain initiatives.

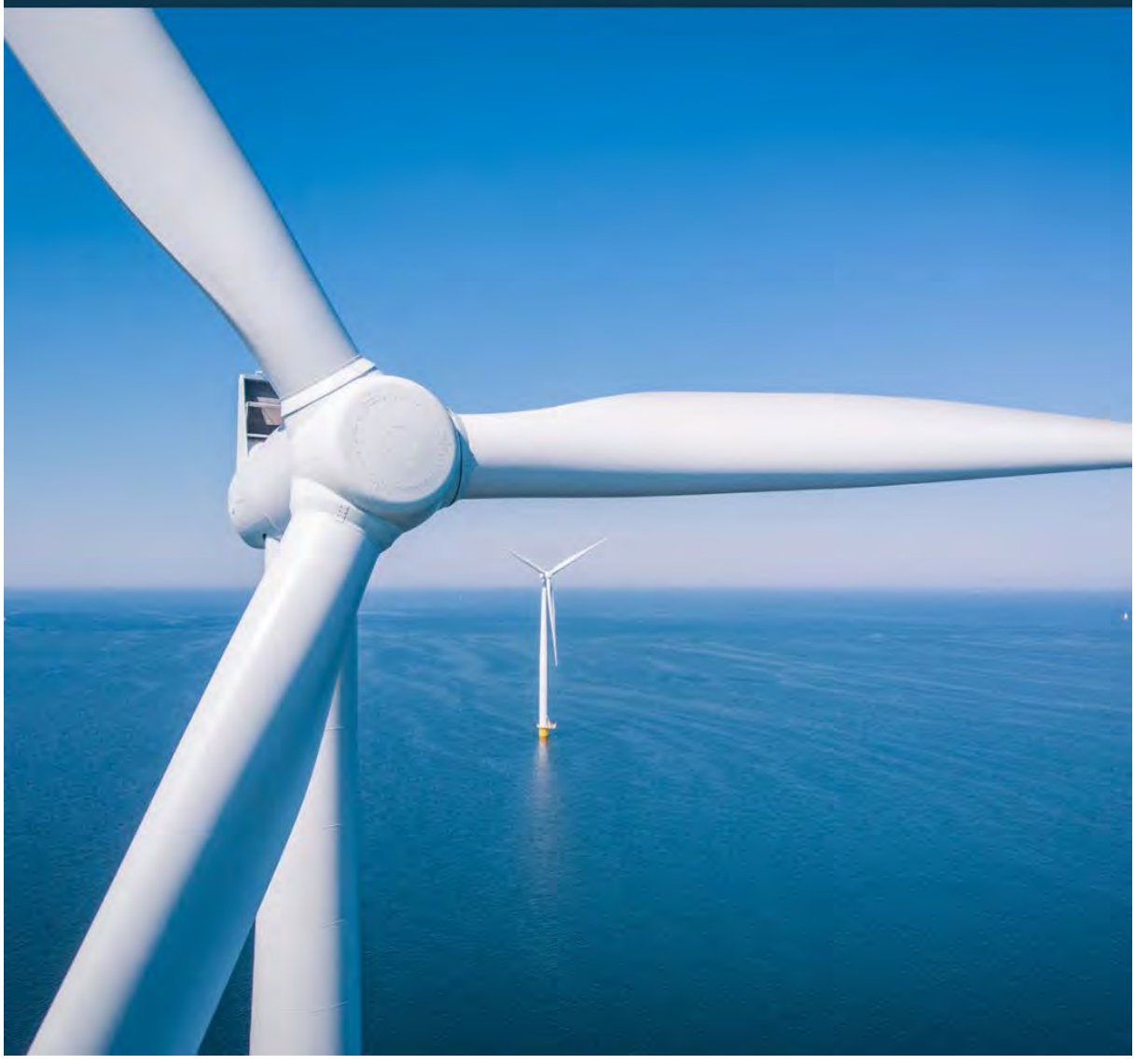
We also believe that creating local opportunities for the community relies on ensuring the right education and skills programmes are available here. We were delighted to sign a learning partnership with Peterhead Academy in February 2024, committing to working with the school to lend our knowledge and time to support students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) learning.


Project timeline 2023 – 2029
2021 - 2023
Initial surveys and measurements carried out with completionof Scoping Report, which sets out in detail how Salamander plans to assess and manage environmental impacts
March 2023
Provisional seabed lease award from Crown Estate Scotland
Spring 2024
Offshore consent application submission
Consultation event in Peterhead on onshore proposals
June and November 2023
Series of statutory consultation events held
Autumn 2024
Consent application submission for onshore infrastructure and energy balancing infrastructure
2025
Planning consent expected
2029
Salamander generates first power
2027
Construction could begin

Salamander's Community Benefit Fund

We are committed to making a positive impact in the community. We plan to establish a voluntary Community Benefit Fund - subject to the project taking a positive Financial Investment Decision (FID). The fund will support local initiatives and will be designed in partnership with the community. We're in the early stages of planning the fund but we'll provide ample opportunity for you to discuss, learn more and feedback on how the fund is shaped. Make sure you're kept in the loop: if you have an email address, please sign up for future newsletters via our website.

Salamander partner, Ørsted, delivers Community Benefit Funds elsewhere in the UK. You can read more about those funds at **www.orsted.co.uk/about-us/corporate-responsibility/grants-and-sponsorship/community-benefit-funds.**



Meet the team

Hugh Yendole, Project Director

With over 25 years' experience in the wind industry, Hugh has played a crucial role in successfully delivering and managing multiple ground-breaking offshore and onshore renewable energy developments across the UK, Europe and the US. He is responsible for the overarching delivery of Salamander.

Cameron Moffat, Commercial Fisheries Manager

Cameron works with local fisheries and government bodies to ensure we develop the project responsibly and fairly, being sensitive to other users of the sea.

Charlotte Cochrane, Stakeholder Manager

Charlotte works to ensure we develop Salamander in partnership with you, the local community; and design the project so it will make the best possible contribution to your area and the people who live here with you.

How to provide feedback

- At our next public consultation, we'll focus just on onshore proposals. Please do come along: we'll be at the **Scottish Maritime Academy in Peterhead on Wednesday 29 May, 12pm – 6pm.**
- We welcome all questions, comments and feedback. Please don't wait for our consent submission to have your say! Get in touch anytime at: info@salamanderwind.com.

  Once our applications are submitted, you can provide comments directly:
  - For offshore proposals, please contact the Marine Directorate Licensing and Operations team (MD-LOT).
  - For onshore proposals, Aberdeenshire Council.
  - For the Energy Balancing Infrastructure proposals, please contact the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit via their respective websites.

Keep in touch

If you have an email address, please sign up for future newsletters on our website.

If you are a local supplier, please register your interest in working with us on our supply chain portal, (also on our website).

For any more information, visit our website any time: **www.salamanderwind.com**
Email: **info@salamanderwind.com** Follow us on **LinkedIn**

Appendix F Phase 3 PAC Event Exhibition Boards

Welcome to our Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm. We are holding these consultation events to share our proposals with you and to inform our project design.

Please take some time to review the information here today and talk to our team to ask any questions you may have or share your views.

Once you've had a look around, we would appreciate if you could take a few minutes to answer the questionnaire provided by our team, or accessible via the QR code below. You can also view all the information on our website www.salamanderfloatingwind.com.

Being involved

The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm is in the development stage and prior to submitting our consent applications we would like to hear your views on:

- the location of the offshore wind farm, approximately 35 km off the coast of Peterhead;
- the area where the offshore cable bringing electricity from the wind farm will come ashore to meet the onshore cable that runs to the onshore substation;
- the location of the proposed onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage; and
- access to the onshore substation such as during the construction and Operations & Maintenance phases of the project

Please provide any feedback by 10th December 2023 to enable us to consider it as we develop the project.

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm, being developed by Simply Blue Energy (Scotland) Ltd., is a proposed floating offshore wind farm approximately 35 km off the coast of Peterhead. With up to seven turbines, Salamander will generate up to 100 MW of electricity – that's enough to power 100,000 Scottish homes.

Power will come ashore on Scotstown beach, approximately 2.5 km north of Peterhead. From there it will connect to Salamander's onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage, before connecting to the National Grid which will deliver it to homes and businesses across the country.

Location map

"Floating technology allows us to put turbines in deeper waters and further from shore where they are less visible from land."

Why we are developing the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

Salamander will produce renewable electricity, helping Scotland transition our energy system away from fossil fuels to a cleaner, greener and more secure energy future.

It will help Scotland and the UK to deliver on their offshore wind goals, contributing to the Scottish Government's ambition for 11 GW of installed offshore wind capacity by 2030 and the UK Government's ambition to have 50 GW of operational offshore wind power by the same date.

Floating technology allows us to put turbines in deeper waters and further from shore where they are less visible from land. Although still in its infancy, floating offshore wind is a fast growing global market and Scotland stands at the forefront with more large-scale floating projects in development than any other country. This is a huge opportunity. These technologies will be critical to ensuring floating offshore wind technology is not only clean but reliable and affordable for consumers.

Crucially, Salamander aims to help ensure floating offshore wind brings maximum benefit to Scotland's economy, communities and environment. Building a new floating offshore wind farm of the scale of Salamander will help us learn how to deliver even larger projects in the future. In doing so it will provide an opportunity for local suppliers to gear up for the larger opportunities in Scotland's near future, and globally, and build up the broader economic benefits for local communities. It will also help us learn how to improve the environmental footprint of floating offshore wind and how to best co-exist with other marine users.

Salamander signed an Exclusivity Agreement over its seabed site in May 2023 as part of Crown Estate Scotland's Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation (INTOG) leasing round.

This means we have progressed towards having 'site security', where our project is the only activity permitted on that area of seabed. This does not stop other marine activity at the site such as fishing or sailing.

As a stepping-stone project it aims to help Scottish supply chain businesses best position themselves to win contracts from the large-scale floating ScotWind build out as well as projects elsewhere in the global market, anchoring jobs in Scotland for the long-term.

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The Salamander Offshore Wind Farm is a partnership between Ørsted, Simply Blue Group and Subsea7 bringing together the best expertise and experience to unlock Scotland's floating offshore wind potential.

- Ørsted is the global leader in offshore wind with a vision of a world that runs entirely on green energy. Ørsted has worked in the UK for nearly 20 years where it develops, constructs, and operates offshore and onshore wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities and bioenergy plants. The company proudly provides over 7% of the UK's electricity. Today Ørsted has 8.9 GW deployed globally and a goal of 30 GW by 2030.
- Simply Blue Group is a leading blue economy developer focused on replacing fossil fuels with clean ocean energy. It develops pioneering blue economy projects – floating offshore wind, e-Fuels, wave energy, and low-impact aquaculture – all in harmony with the oceans. The company has a pipeline of over 10 GW of floating offshore wind projects across the globe.
- Subsea7 is a global leader in the delivery of offshore projects and services for the evolving energy industry. Subsea7 creates sustainable value by being the industry's partner and employer of choice in delivering the efficient offshore solutions the world needs.

Ørsted

Simply Blue Group

subsea 7

Together, we are committed to creating new economic opportunities for coastal communities, and developing projects that co-exist with sustainable fisheries and marine conservation.

Our site selection journey

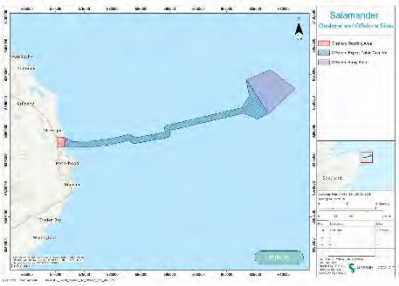
The proposed area the wind turbines will occupy is approximately 35km east of Peterhead. The initial area of search covered approximately 205km^2, with water depths of over 100m. This was refined to a final site for the offshore wind turbines (approximately 33km^2) by analysing environmental, technical and other marine user constraints as well as consulting with key stakeholders such as Marine Scotland, NatureScot and the fishing community. Crown Estate Scotland were also consulted to ensure the site complied with seabed leasing criteria.

For the cable route from the wind farm to shore, we selected the shortest feasible route to where the project comes onto land closest to the onshore substation location, taking into consideration other marine users such as shipping and other seabed infrastructure such as pipelines and other cables. The final offshore cable route will be refined based on feedback on the landfall area, the location where it comes ashore, and further environmental studies we are undertaking such as seabed ecology.

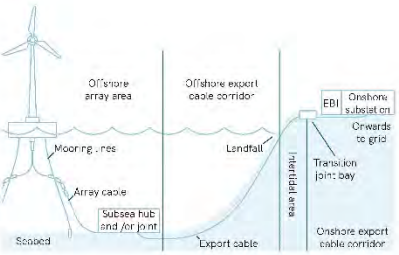
The proposed landfall area is approximately 2.5 km north of Peterhead on Scotstown Beach between Kirkton and Lunderton. The area being considered for the onshore infrastructure has the A90 as its western boarder, a dead-end road leading to St. Fergus Church to its north and a small waterway to its south. When identifying a location for the onshore substation, our engineers considered community interests, proximity to homes, landscaping, designated sites, cultural assets, and protected species, as well as proximity to the grid connection and technical feasibility.We have also sought views from bodies such as Aberdeenshire Council, NatureScot, SEPA, RSPB Scotland and Transport Scotland.

Since we last consulted in June 2023, the Onshore Development boundary has been refined from the original Scoping Boundary to account for the Kirkton solar farm development to the north and other environmental constraints. The refined Onshore Development Area is presented in more detail on the onshore infrastructure board.

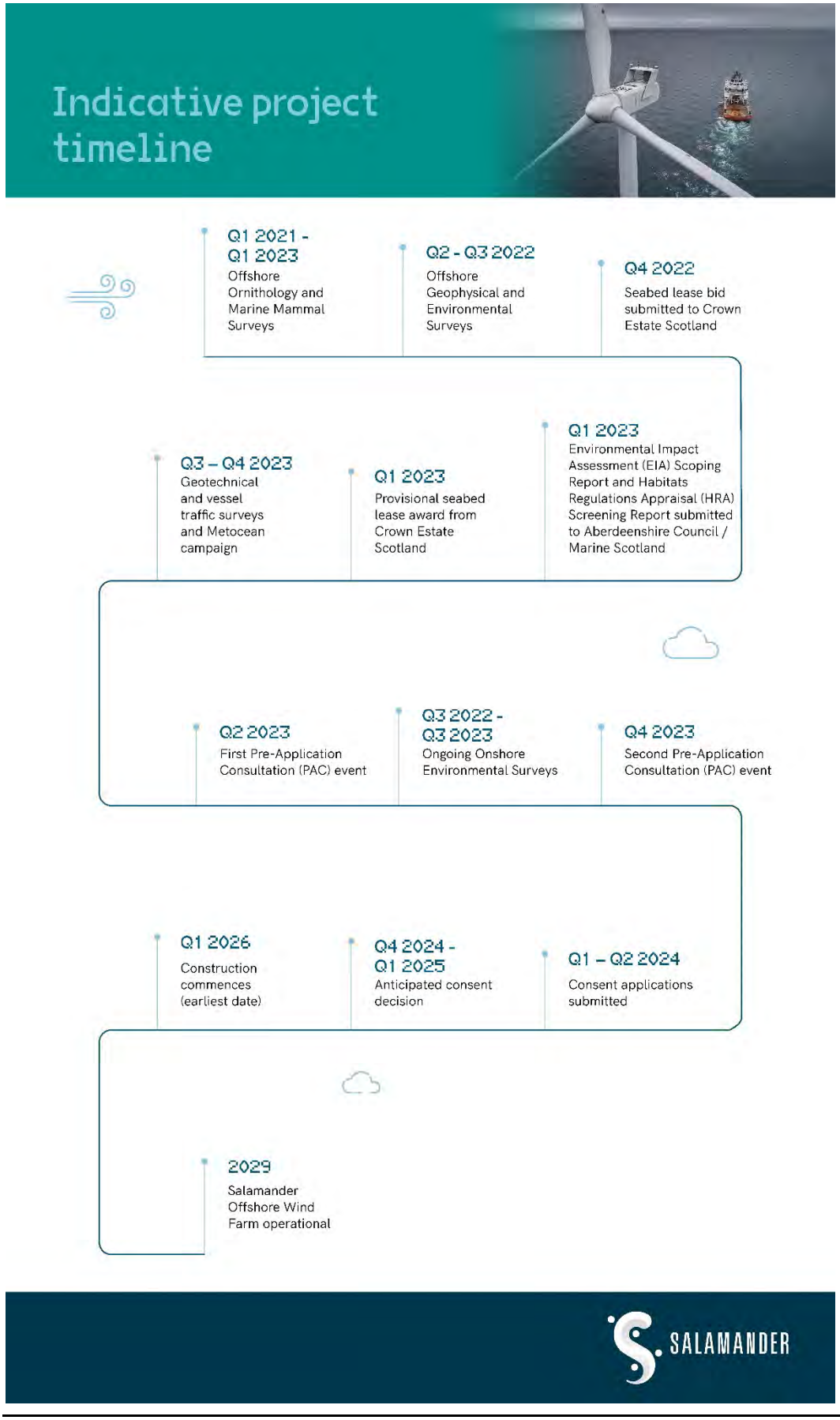
Salamander EIA Scoping Boundary



The Salamander development



Landfall is planned to be made near Peterhead because of its proximity to the provisional grid connection point offered to the project.


Indicative project timeline
Q1 2021 - Q1 2023
Offshore Ornithology and Marine Mammal Surveys
Q2 - Q3 2022
Offshore Geophysical and Environmental Surveys
Q4 2022
Seabed lease bid submitted to Crown Estate Scotland
Q1 2023
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report and Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) Screening Report submitted to Aberdeenshire Council / Marine Scotland
Q3 – Q4 2023
Geotechnical and vessel traffic surveys and Metocean campaign
Q1 2023
Provisional seabed lease award from Crown Estate Scotland
Q2 2023
First Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event
Q3 2022 - Q3 2023
Ongoing Onshore Environmental Surveys
Q4 2023
Second Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) event
Q1 2026
Construction commences (earliest date)
Q4 2024 - Q1 2025
Anticipated consent decision
Q1 – Q2 2024
Consent applications submitted
2029
Salamander Offshore Wind Farm operational
SALAMANDER

Environmental Assessments

The development process

Before any offshore wind project is granted consent it must conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Habitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) to identify and assess the potential impact the project may have on the environment in all its phases – construction, operation and decommissioning. The EIA and HRA also inform the design of the project. As part of the EIA and HRA, we must identify and commit to measures to minimise the project's impact on the environment.

The first step in the EIA process is to submit an EIA Scoping Report and HRA Screening Report. Salamander has submitted these documents to Marine Scotland and Aberdeenshire Council. These documents outline the potential environmental impacts of the project to the regulators and stakeholder organisations such as NatureScot, the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency and others. These bodies then provide advice on what they think should be included in the full EIA and HRA reports and on how impacts should be measured.

The EIA and HRA consider what we call the project 'design envelope' – that is, a version of the planned project with the greatest potential impact. Although it is this 'design envelope' we seek consent for, the final built project may end up having less of an impact than actually assessed.

Since the first public consultation events, the team has been surveying the seabed and geology in the lease area and export cable route to inform the engineering design and the EIA.

We are currently assessing the following 'receptors' in the EIA process. Receptors are environmental features and ecology that could be affected by the project

Receptor Categories	Offshore Receptors	Onshore Receptors
Physical Environment	Marine Physical Processes Water and Sediment Quality	Geology, Hydrology and Hydrogeology
Biological Environment	Benthic (or 'bottom-dwelling') and Intertidal Ecology Fish and Shellfish Ecology Marine Mammals Offshore and Intertidal Ornithology	Terrestrial Ornithology Terrestrial Ecology
Human Environment	Commercial Fisheries Shipping and Navigation Aviation and Radar Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Other Users of the Marine Environment	Onshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Air Quality Landscape and Visual Amenity Traffic and Transport Onshore Noise and Vibration Land Use and Other Users
Overarching Topics	Socio-economics Climate Change and Carbon Major Accidents and Disasters	

Courtesy of ERM

Courtesy of ERM

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Offshore infrastructure

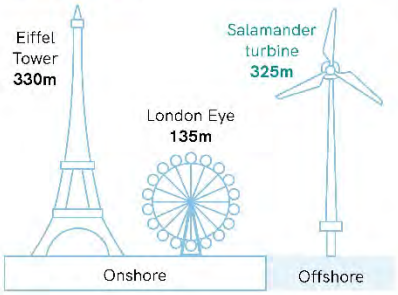
Floating offshore wind can be deployed in deeper water where more energy can be generated. Turbines can be constructed in port and towed out to site where they can be hooked up to the pre-installed mooring system. This means turbines can be installed much faster than fixed-bottom offshore turbines.

What do we plan to build?

Offshore wind turbines

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm will consist of up to seven floating wind turbines. These could have a maximum blade tip height of up to 325m and a rotor diameter of up to 280m. At their highest point, the blade tips of the turbines are just shorter than the Eiffel Tower, which is 330m tall!

How the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm compares



Floating foundations

The turbines sit on top of floating foundations, of which there are many different types. Salamander has not yet chosen a foundation type and is considering barge, semi-submersible and tension leg platforms.

Moorings and anchors

Floating foundations are kept in place with mooring and anchoring systems, even in extreme weather conditions. We will choose the type of anchor and mooring system based on data on the site environment and physical conditions.

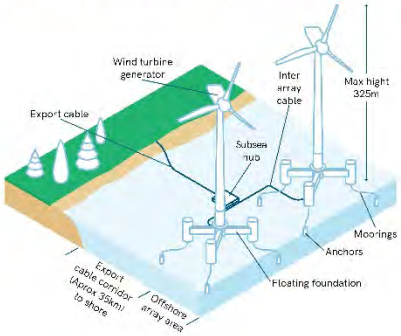
Inter-array cables and connection hubs

The cables between the turbines are called inter-array cables. These are dynamic as they have to move with the floating foundation. Some sections may be buried. These cables connect to hubs on the seabed before connecting to the offshore export cables.

How power makes it to shore

Two offshore export cables need to be installed along the seabed to bring the power to the landfall. Where technically feasible these are typically buried.

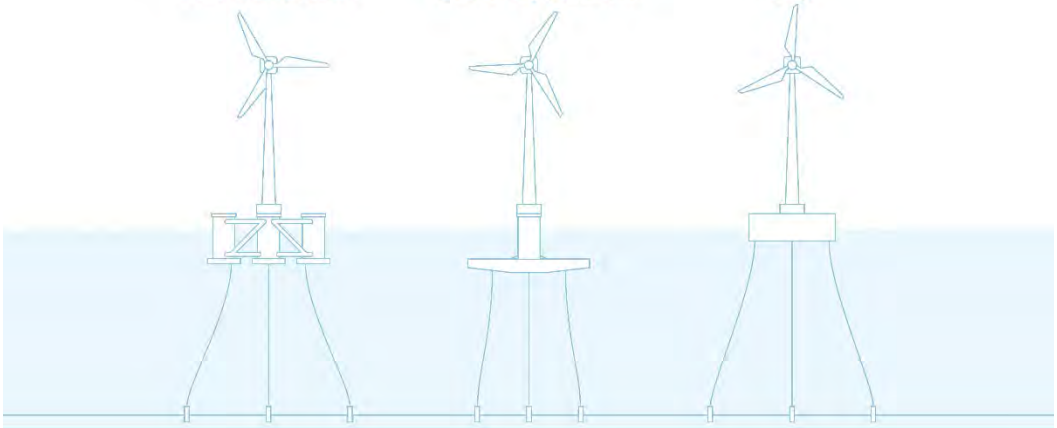
Illustration of offshore infrastructure



Semi-submersible

Tension leg platform

Barge



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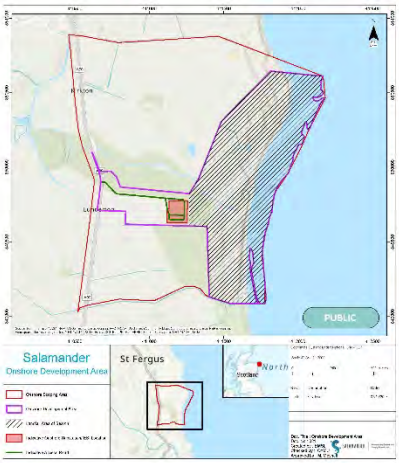
Onshore infrastructure

What do we plan to build?

Salamander's onshore infrastructure will include a landfall and buried cable route to a new onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI). EBI stores the electricity so it can be used when the wind isn't blowing.

Detailed map of onshore site



Onward grid

Additional infrastructure is required to connect our project to the national electricity grid infrastructure.

The onshore transmission owner is responsible for planning, consenting, consultation, and construction of the electricity grid between our onshore substation and the National Grid. Salamander will work closely with SSEN to ensure necessary grid upgrades have a minimal impact on the community and wider environment.

New substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure

The Salamander project needs to build a new substation to allow the power from the wind farm to be transformed ready to connect into the National Grid.

It is also planned that the Salamander project will include energy balancing infrastructure (EBI). Energy storage will play a pivotal role in helping Scotland make its shift towards a green, secure and affordable energy system.

Access to the onshore substation

During the construction phase of the onshore infrastructure, access will be required for construction related activities such as temporary construction compounds, containers, welfare facilities, construction equipment and cable drums.

A permanent access road will be built to the onshore substation and a temporary access road will be required for works between the landfall and onshore substation. This area and any temporary construction equipment and facilities will be removed and the areas reinstated once works are complete.

Export cable and landfall

Landfall

The Salamander project is in the early design stages, however it is expected that the offshore export cables will be joined to the onshore ones either via trenches or underground, depending what works best for the geography of the area. The landfall will be located in the Landfall Area of Search (indicated on the map on the Onshore Infrastructure board).

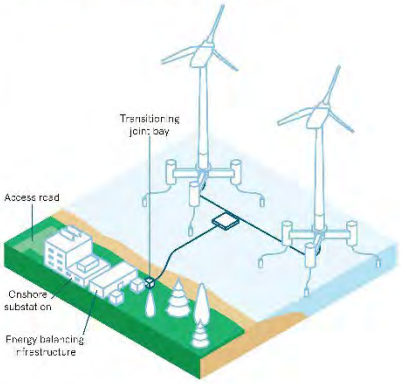
Onshore export cables

All onshore cables will be buried. During construction the cable corridor is wider than the permanent buried cable corridor to allow for movement of construction vehicles and storage of excavated material. Working areas are fenced off for safety. The ground is reinstated once construction is complete.

Offshore surveys

We deploy a floating LIDAR or FLIDAR and a specialized wave buoy, designed to measure wind and wave conditions close to the offshore wind farm site and necessary for the design and the lay-out of the wind farm. This buoy includes equipment to monitor and model fish migration which will allow us to better understand and predict bird migrations and marine mammal movements in future.

Illustration of indicative onshore infrastructure and landfall



Seascape, Landscape & Visual Impact

We are committed to reducing the visual impact of the onshore and offshore components of our project as far as possible.

Onshore substation and Energy Balancing Infrastructure

The onshore substation and EBI area will comprise electrical equipment and a number of containers. It is anticipated that the tallest component - the lightning mast – will be up to 20m high; the tallest building will be a maximum of 15m tall. However, the project is still in the design phase and parameters may change up to the submission of the application.

We are proposing to site the onshore substation and EBI in an area of commercial spruce plantation which will allow us to use both the trees and a natural rise in the land to provide some natural physical screening. We also intend to plant some additional woodland to further screen any views of the substation.

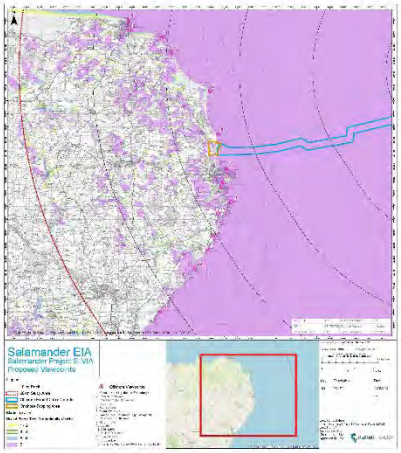
We are proposing we create a new access road from the A90 to the onshore substation and EBI site.

We would welcome any comments you have on the proposed location of the onshore substation and EBI as well as the proposed access from the A90.

Visibility from shore

We have produced impressions of how the wind farm will look from a number of vantage points around the area and coastline (right). The full collection of photomontages will be available on our website once our EIA application has been submitted.

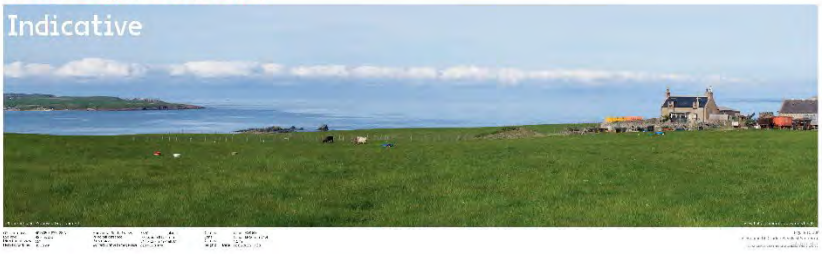
Courtesy of ERM



Visibility from shore

On a clear day the turbines may be visible from the shore. Salamander turbines will be slightly shorter than the Eiffel Tower in height and approximately 35 km from the shore. Please see below photomontages for an indication of what this might look like from various key vantage points in the area on a clear day.

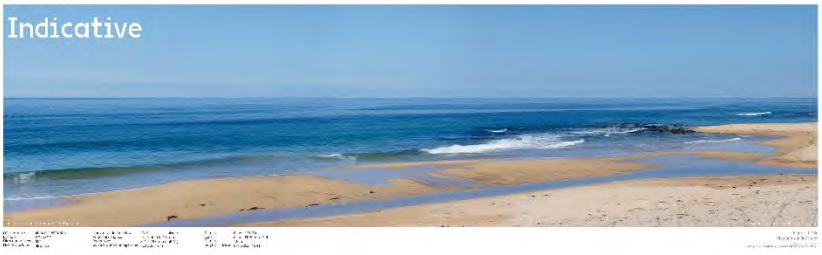
Cruden Bay (East Sandend)



Peterhead Bay (South Road)

Rattray Head

St.Combs



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Cultural Heritage

We are committed to avoiding heritage sites wherever possible. Our team has been working with Aberdeenshire Council, Historic Environment Scotland and other stakeholders to identify the sites of cultural and historical importance within the vicinity of the area we are considering for our onshore infrastructure. These include St Fergus' Church, Castle Hill, Inverurgie Castle, Ravenscraig Castle and three of the Rattray Line of pill boxes dating to World War II.

Since the last events, we have been visiting the area to understand more about these sites, how they might be impacted by the development and how we might mitigate any impacts. The St Fergus Cemetery, which is inside our area of search, has been excluded from any type of development from the outset.

We have been assessing the impacts of the proposed onshore development on the local sites of cultural and historical importance and have then fed this back into the ongoing design of the development to minimise visual impacts as far as possible..

Ecology & biodiversity

We are committed to having a positive impact on the climate and nature through our development.

In parallel to this public consultation we are undertaking extensive environmental surveys and studies to understand any potential impacts our project may have and how we can best mitigate against them, and even enhance the local ecology and biodiversity.

We have recently undertaken onshore surveys for habitats of badgers, birds, bats, water voles, otters and great crested newts. These concluded in September 2023.

To understand Salamander's potential impact in the offshore environment, the project has collected data to inform environmental impact assessments for topics including ornithology, marine mammals and seabed habitats.

Data collected will help inform any potential mitigation required to reduce any potential impacts and will accompany our consent application.

We will assess the results of these studies fully in the final Environmental Impact Assessment Report which will accompany our consent applications.

We are also funding a 12 month research programme being carried out by the Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund to explore how offshore renewables can contribute to nature restoration and enhancement in Scottish seas.

Courtesy of ERM

Community and Economic Benefit

Salamander is planning to launch a voluntary Community Benefit Fund to accompany our offshore wind farm. We are in the early stages of developing this fund. Salamander partner Ørsted have experience delivering funds like this elsewhere in the UK, for example for their Burbo Bank Extension, Walney Extension and Hornsea 3 projects.

The fund is intended to operate in line with funds that Ørsted have delivered for their offshore wind projects elsewhere in the UK. It is expected to yield an annual sum for the local community over a period to be defined.

The distribution of this funding will depend on the needs of the community but is intended to support local projects and initiatives. The parameters of the fund, such as the geographical scope and type of eligible projects, will be developed in consultation with the local community. The parameters of the fund will then be published along with the community feedback received.

The fund will be administered by a third-party organisation over its duration.

You are here

Q4 2023
Pre-Application Consultation

Q1 2024
Consultation on fund parameters begins

Q4 2024
Initial fund parameters define

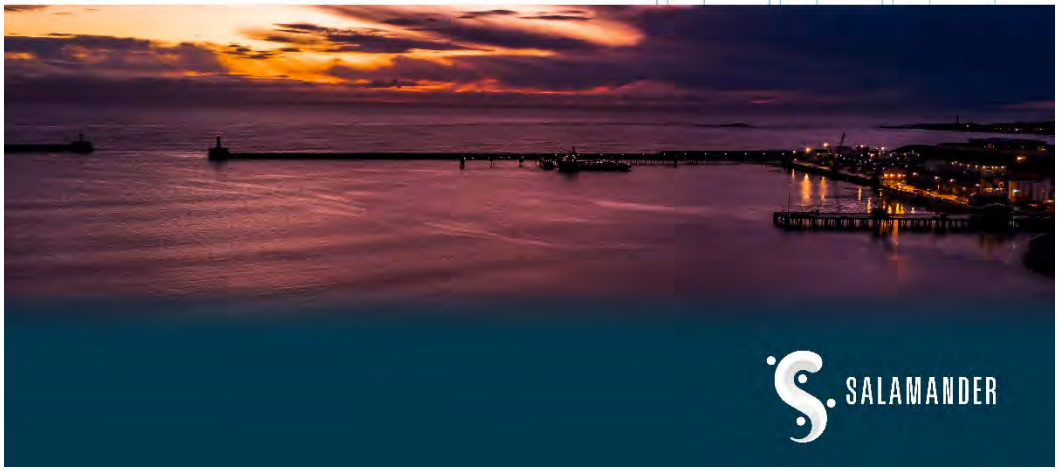
Q1 2025
Tailoring of parameter

Q1 2026
Construction starts (earliest date)

Fund opens during construction

Review of fund every 2.5 years

More broadly, Salamander's supply chain activity is expected to contribute £26m to Aberdeenshire's economy and £171m to Scotland's economy.



Construction phase

The construction of Salamander's onshore infrastructure could begin as early as 2026 and last for approximately 24 months, with peaks and troughs of activity throughout.

We recognise that deliveries and construction activity can disturb those living near the development site. Our objective will be to limit disturbance as much as is reasonably practicable by following best practices such as undertaking work only during the working hours agreed with the local authority and using quieter alternative methods and equipment wherever we can.

We will work in close consultation with Aberdeenshire Council and Transport Scotland to assess the potential impacts of construction traffic to ensure that all road users are considered. When it comes to the construction phase, we will create a Construction Traffic Management Plan to carefully manage traffic movements as sensitively as possible.

We anticipate that the offshore construction activities will commence a year after the onshore construction commences. Offshore construction is likely to take place over two years, predominantly during spring, summer and autumn months when the weather is suitable for offshore activities.

Operations & maintenance

Once operational, the onshore substation and EBI will operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, but will be unstaffed with no day-to-day personnel and will be monitored remotely from our control room.

Inspection and maintenance visits will tend to occur on a monthly basis, usually in a small van or car which will gain access to the site via the new access road or upgraded existing access. Only if a substation component such as the transformer needs replacing would there be any large or abnormal load vehicles required.

During the operation of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm, both the onshore and offshore infrastructure, including export cables will be regularly inspected and maintained throughout its lifetime.

Salamander Offshore Wind Farm will operate for up to 35 years

Decommissioning

Our consent application will include provision for the decommissioning of the site at the end of its operational life. The onshore substation will be decommissioned or repurposed at the end of its operational life. All onshore buried infrastructure will be removed to a depth of up to 1m, if technically feasible. It is also anticipated that all offshore infrastructure on or above the seabed will be completely removed in line with the Scottish Government's position on the decommissioning of Offshore Renewable Energy Installations. The approach employed at decommissioning will be compliant with the legislation and policy requirements at the time of decommissioning. Any waste arising will be disposed of in accordance with the relevant regulations.

The decommissioning sequence will generally be the reverse of the construction sequence and involve similar types and numbers of vehicles, vessels and equipment.

Appendix G Phase 3 Questionnaire

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Salamander Offshore Wind Farm

Pre-Application Consultation

Public feedback survey

Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback on the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm proposals. The project is in early development and we appreciate your input at this stage. We are particularly interested in your views on the information presented within the consultation materials. Your feedback will come directly to the Salamander project team and will inform our consent application.

Please note your feedback will not go to Scottish Ministers responsible for determining whether consent is approved or not – you will have an opportunity to share views with Scottish Ministers after our application is submitted.

Responses to this survey will remain anonymous. We would be grateful to receive your response by 10th December 2023.

GDPR Compliance: Please tick this box to indicate you consent to your personal information being stored and used in adherence with GDPR to provide you with future project information. No personal data should be added in the comments fields of the form ☐

1. **Did you visit the exhibition at one of our in-person events or online? (please circle)**

Online virtual exhibition	Peterhead in-person	Crimond in-person

2. **In what capacity did you visit the exhibition? (please circle)**

Member of the public	Marine user	Environmental organisation	Community organisation	Member of oil and gas sector	Regulator	Other (please state)

3. **Do you have any general comments on the proposals for the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm?**

4. **Do you have any comments on the proposed offshore elements of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm? This includes the area where the offshore cables bringing electricity from the wind farm will come ashore to meet the onshore cables that run to the onshore substation.**

5. **Do you have any comments on the proposed location and components of the onshore infrastructure of the Salamander Offshore Wind Farm? This includes the onshore substation and the Energy Balancing Infrastructure (EBI), including battery storage.**

Read our Privacy Policy here: https://orsted.com/en/privacy-policy

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6. **What are your views on the proposed access to the onshore substation?**

7. **We plan to provide regular updates via a community newsletter and on our website. Is there any additional engagement you would find helpful?**

8. **Would you like to receive our quarterly electronic newsletter, starting later this year?**

Yes	No

If yes, please provide your details:

Name	
Email address	

9. **How did you find the quality of the information provided in this consultation?**

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor

10. **Did you find the exhibition accessible and easy to navigate?**

Yes	No

If no, how could we improve?

Thank you and how to get in touch

Thanks again for taking the time to complete this form. If you would like to provide any other feedback get in touch with us at info@salamanderwind.com. This survey is also accessible online via the QR code and on our website www.salamanderfloatingwind.com.

If you are a local supplier you can register on our supply chain portal at www.salamanderfloatingwind.com/contact/become-a-supplier.