



Blair Hill Wind Farm

Technical Appendix 6.2 - Viewpoint Selection Process

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This appendix contains additional detail regarding the viewpoint selection process. This includes responses to received to the Scoping Report as well as subsequent responses received during the viewpoint agreement process.

2 Consultation Responses

- 2.1.1 A formal scoping report was issued to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) in July 2023 and a response was provided in November 2023. A summary of consultation responses relevant to the landscape and visual assessment is set out in **Table 6.1** of the LVIA and those points relevant to viewpoint agreement are addressed in **Table 6.2.1** below.
- 2.1.2 Additional subsequent responses have been received from Mountaineering Scotland and Dumfries and Galloway Council in relation to the Gatecheck Report submitted in July 2024. These responses are also addressed in **Table 6.1** of the LVIA and those points relevant to viewpoint agreement are addressed in **Table 6.2.1** below.

Table 6.2.1: Summary of Consultation Responses relevant to Viewpoint Agreement

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
Dumfries and Galloway Council	Scoping Opinion (02/02/2024)	Proposed viewpoint 1 Drumwhirl Cairn, 2.6km SW RSPB Reserve visitors, NCR7. Minor road. - Agree. Photomontage.	Photomontage agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 2 Corsbie Road, Newton Stewart, 4.1km S Visitors, residents NW edge Newton Stewart. - Agree. Photomontage.	Worst case viewpoint selected. Photomontage agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 3 A75 S of Newton Stewart, 4.7km S Visitors and residents of Newton Stewart, NCR 73, A75 users. - Agree. Photomontage.	Subsequent site visits have identified that a location further south along the A714, as identified by Cree Valley Community Council is a more appropriate viewpoint location, with more open visibility of the Proposed Development and for more sensitive visual receptors. Photomontage agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 4 Glenvernoch Fell, Hill of Ochiltree, 7.6km W SUW walkers - Agree. Photomontage. Potentially other SUW representation.	Photomontage agreed. Three viewpoints currently located along SUW - very limited visibility indicated from stretches north or north east of the Site, even on the bareground ZTVs
		Proposed viewpoint 5 NCR 7 N of Glentroot, 7.9km NW Visitors and residents of Glentroot village, users NCR 7, recreators in the Galloway Forest. - Agree, potentially try wireline in first instance.	Alternative locations closer to the visitor centre, as suggested by Cree Valley Community Council, have been explored but provide only glimpsed views towards the Proposed Development. Wireline agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 6 Cairnmore of Fleet, 8.4km E Hill walkers. - Agree. Photomontage.	Photomontage agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 7 Merrick, 11.5km N WLA, Dark Sky Park, hill walkers. - Agree. Check if Benyellary a wcs. Photomontage or wireline.	Very limited visibility is shown on the latest ZTVS from either location, based on the revised layout. Merrick would be the wcs (with tips of three turbines visible and only two visible from Benyellary). Photomontage agreed given importance of viewpoint.
		Proposed viewpoint 8 A75 near Creetown, 12.3km S A75 travellers, residents of Creetown. - Agree. Photomontage. Also wireline Carsluith Castle.	Photomontage agreed. No visibility shown from Carsluith Castle even on bareground ZTV

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		Proposed viewpoint 9 Kirkcowan, 12.6km SW Kirkcowan visitors and residents, minor roads used by residents and recreators. - Agree. Check how open. If enclosed then wireline only.	Original viewpoint location retained as more open views than those from Kirkcowan Church (suggested by Cree Valley Community Council). Photomontage agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 10 NCR 73, minor road N of Wigtown, 13.3km S Wigtown visitors and residents, cyclists - Agree, photomontage; and / or the A714 representative VP N of Wigtown	Alternative locations, including the A714 north of Wigtown, within the Conservation Area and from the Martyrs Monument have been assessed on site. The original viewpoint location is retained as the view is more representative of the greater extent of visibility in its locality than very localised channelled views at the Martyrs Monument and along Lovers' Walk, and the receptors represented, as cyclists on a nationally promoted cycle route, are more sensitive than road users at the A714/B7005 junction where there is also open visibility towards the Proposed Development. Photomontage agreed.
		Proposed viewpoint 11 Bennieguinea Lookout, 14.2km E - Unsure, not familiar with public use. Possibly wireline.	Wireline suggested. Walking websites suggest it is a known walk from the Clatteringshaws visitor centre, with views across the loch towards hilltops beyond particularly noted.
		Proposed viewpoint 12 Mochrum Lochs, 19km SW RSA, minor roads over Gagrie Moor. - Check. Potentially wireline only. Check alternative core path to N.	Wireline suggested. Core path to north was assessed on site but was found to be inaccessible due to keep out signs and locked gates.
		Proposed viewpoint 13 Minor Road near Barhill Station	No comment made by DGC
		Proposed viewpoint 14 SUW near Artfield Fell, 19.6km W SUW walkers. - Check. Potentially wireline only.	Wireline suggested.
		Proposed viewpoint 15 A746 N of Whithorn, 28.5km S Whithorn residents and visitors, road users. - Check. Potentially wireline only, and / or B7004.	B7004 shows very limited visibility on updated ZTVs. A746 viewpoint more representative of settlement. Wireline suggested.
		Proposed viewpoint 16 Byne Hill	No comment made by DGC.

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		Proposed viewpoint 17 A712 E of Corsock, 36.5km E A712 to the east. - Disagree. Too distant with intervening landform.	Agreed by NatureScot - will retain. Wireline.
		Proposed viewpoint 18 SUW near Stranraer, 37.6km SW - Disagree. Too distant with intervening landform and dev't.	Agreed by NatureScot - will retain. Wireline.
		Proposed viewpoint 19 Sandhead, 37.8km W North Rhins residents and visitors. - Check. Potentially wireline if relevant.	ZTVs continue to indicate potential visibility. Given distance from site, wireline proposed.
		Proposed viewpoint 20 Minnigaff Church, 2.9km S - Agree. Photomontage.	Photomontage agreed
		Proposed viewpoint 21 Lamachan Hill, 3.1km NE - Agree. Photomontage.	Wireline only. It is not considered proportionate to climb all of the hills requested in the vicinity of the Site to obtain photography, given that many of these summits would take around a day to climb in good conditions.
		Proposed viewpoint 22 Millfore, 5.4km NE - Agree. Photomontage.	Wireline only. It is not considered proportionate to climb all of the hills requested in the vicinity of the Site to obtain photography, given that many of these summits would take around a day to climb in good conditions.
		Proposed viewpoint 23 Coreserine, 14.9km NE, wirelines only - Agree. Wireline.	Viewpoint moved to Meikle Millyea as updated ZTV shows almost no visibility from Coreserine. Wireline only.
		Suggested Viewpoint: Challoch Church / graveyard - Agree. Photomontage	This viewpoint will be added to the list as the Knockman Wood viewpoint originally suggested has limited visibility when visited on site.
		Suggested Viewpoint: More from SUW - Check with wirelines. VPs 4 and 14 possibly adequate for photomontage visualisation.	See response to VP4 above

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		Suggested Viewpoint: Lower Queensway, A712 near Newton Stewart. - Agree. Photomontage. Check, but possibly GR: 44 2 67 8.	Revised ZTVs indicate almost no visibility from this route in the vicinity of the suggested location
		Suggested Viewpoint: A714 north. - Agree. Photomontage, or potentially wireline. Check, but possibly along the northern approaches to Whitecairn, and / or Creebank Cottage.	Whitecairn will be provided as a heritage visual and has been agreed with HES as a wireframe.
		Suggested Viewpoint: A714 south. - Agree. Photomontage, as additional or alternative to VP 10. Check, but possibly GR: 42 3 60 8.	A viewpoint in this vicinity has been suggested by Cree Valley Community Council and was found to be a more suitable viewpoint than the previously proposed location for VP3.
		Suggested Viewpoint: Wigtown Conservation Area, Kirkland Hill. - Agree. Photomontage. Potentially Martyr's Monument, GR 43 1 55 5.	See response to VP10 above
		Suggested Viewpoint: Wigtown / Wigtown Bay frontage.	Locations on the bay side of Wigtown (including around the Martyrs Stake and car park/picnic area) have previously been considered and found to be less open than VP10. See response for VP10 on wcs viewpoint from Wigtown.
		Suggested Viewpoint: Wigtown Harbour core path / hide, GR: 44 0 54 9, or picnic site, GR: 42 7 55 7, or Lover's Walk, GR: 43 3 56 0. Photomontage from wcs.	As above. Previous site visits indicate very limited visibility from location of picnic area.
		Suggested Viewpoint: A75 west. Check for worst case scenarios / wcs travelling east from Barlae, potentially approx. GR: 29 3 61 1, and GR: 32 5 62 9. Check wcs, one photomontage and the other wireline.	More westerly location indicated to have very intermittent visibility. More easterly location very close to VP9, which has been considered on site as the most suitable of the locations to use.
		Suggested Viewpoint: A75 east. Typical representative viewpoints include the ramparts of Carluith Castle, and also the layby at Point Fishery. Check VP 8 and depending on wcs, one photomontage and other wirelines.	Updated ZTVs indicate very limited visibility from Carluith Castle. Site visits indicated that the layby at Point Fishery has localised foreground vegetation that make the view less open than VP8.

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		Suggested Viewpoint: Knockman Woods. Look for wcs, potentially GR: 40 8 68 4. Photomontage.	Given recreational use and the proximity to Newton Stewart/Minnigaff, a viewpoint was intended to be included at this location. However, site visits indicated that visibility would be very limited and a viewpoint from Challoch Church will be prepared instead.
		Suggested Viewpoint: Garlies Wood - Look for wcs, potentially GR: 42 2 68 9. Photomontage.	Garlies Castle will be provided as a heritage visual and has been agreed with HES as a photomontage.
		Suggested Viewpoint: Craigeach Fell / core path (N of VP 12). - GR: 31 9 56 5. Wireline.	See response to VP12 above
		Suggested Viewpoint: Minor road from Spittal northwards. - Representation from Machars roads, potentially setting of Newton Stewart & Minnigaff, Galloway Hills backdrop. GR: 36 4	Revised ZTV shows very limited visibility from the first suggested viewpoint. Road looks to be frequently lined with vegetation in the vicinity of the second suggested location and of limited suitability for a viewpoint.
		Suggested Viewpoint: 60 4, & / or Culbratton, GR: 39 0 62 9. Photomontage from wcs.	This location would provide a representative viewpoint in a direction/at a distance not currently covered by the representative viewpoints and would also represent views from within the RSA/LLA. A viewpoint will be provided from Innerwell Fishery approach.
		Suggested Viewpoint: B7004 Garlieston northwestward, or Innerwell Fishery approach. - Worst case scenario from Garlieston area: B7004 / proxy for Innerwell core path. GR: 47 5 49 2. Wirelines.	Representing very limited number or receptors. Whilst views are open for some stretches of the road, the proposed scheme would be located to one side of the focus of the road, with other landform appearing more prominent in the direct view.
		Suggested Viewpoint: B7085 northwards, near Kirkland of Longcastle. - Representation from Machars roads, and properties, long views to the Galloway Hills. GR: 37 7 47 5.	Revised ZTV shows no visi Representing very limited number or receptors. Whilst views are open for some stretches of the road, the proposed scheme would be located to one side of the focus of the road, with other landform appearing more prominent in the direct view. bility from Cruggleton Castle / Point.

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		Suggested Viewpoint: Cruggleton Castle / Point. - Wireline.	Revised ZTV shows no visibility from Cruggleton Castle / Point.
		Suggested Viewpoint: Meikle Millyea. - Wireline.	Greater visibility indicated than for Coreserine based on updated ZTVs. Swap VP23 to here
		Suggested Viewpoint: Benyellary, Merrick path, descent. - Outlook south from Merrick descent. GR: 41 5 83 9. Check VP 7, and do photomontage of wcs, wireline of other.	See response to VP7 above
		Suggested Viewpoint: Representation from local designed landscapes, Castle Stewart, Merton Hall, and Kirroughtree. - Castle Stewart, Penninghame Estate pond, promoted walks, GR: 37 4 69 3. Merton Hall, footpath: GR: 38 3 64 0. Kirroughtree / golf course, GR: 41 9 66 2. Wirelines from all these, photomontage wcs.	Local Designed Landscapes would not usually be included as viewpoints unless they also have a wider recreational value. None of these locations have been identified as heritage viewpoints. Revised ZTVs show very limited visibility from Kirroughtree local designed landscape. Merton Hall is a private property with limited access within the local designed landscape. Castle Stewart has public access within the vicinity of Penninghame Estate pond, so a viewpoint will be provided in this location.
		Suggested Viewpoint: B7207 Merrick viewpoint, approximately around the DGC border. - Relationship to the Merrick summit in longer range views. GR: 75 6 28 9.	Revised ZTV shows very limited visibility from the suggested viewpoint
	Response to draft visualisations (04/09/202424)	Reviewing the recent visualisations again, and taking into consideration the photography (which is already done from 2 of the viewpoints), I can't think why photomontages wouldn't be included for the 4 x viewpoints listed - the turbines would be likely to be visible from VP5 and VP11, and although there isn't currently a photograph from VP21 or 22, unless the viewpoints are screened from the proposed wind farm (in which case VPs might be relocated?) we would expect them to be the subject of full photomontages.	Viewpoint 5 - this viewpoint is intended to demonstrate likely visibility from the area around Glentool Visitor Centre, given its popularity as a visitor attraction and a gateway to Galloway Forest Park. Having tested a number of locations in the vicinity, Viewpoint 5 has been selected as the worst case scenario in terms of likely visibility. Draft feedback received from Dumfries and Galloway Council indicated agreement to this location in response to the Scoping Report (subject to testing of alternative locations from the Visitor Centre car park) and stated 'potentially try wireline in first instance'.

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
			<p>The finalised list of viewpoints was issued to Dumfries and Galloway Council in April 2024 and were also appended to the Gatecheck Report submitted in July 2024. These indicated that the visualisations from this location would be a wireline. It is considered that the wireframe demonstrates a worst case visualisation of the likely visual effects.</p> <hr/> <p>Viewpoint 11 - this viewpoint demonstrates visibility from a high point east of the site, at a different orientation and distance from other high points. It demonstrates the variety of views likely to be experienced. As with Viewpoint 5, the draft feedback received from Dumfries and Galloway Council post scoping indicated that a wireline may be acceptable from this location. The same approach to agreeing viewpoints was undertaken for this viewpoint and it is considered that the wireline therefore presents a worst case visualisation .</p> <hr/> <p>Viewpoints 21 Lamachan Hill and 22 Millfore - these additional viewpoint locations were requested by Mountaineering Scotland (alongside a viewpoint from Coreserine that has subsequently been relocated to Meikle Millyea where there is a greater degree of visibility) in response to the submitted Scoping Report. As set out in our response to the additional requested viewpoints, given the number of hill tops within Galloway Forest Park it is not considered proportionate to obtain photography from all the summits identified. The key hill tops, that are referred to in guidance documents and have been identified as the most frequently visited through research using walking and tourism websites and materials, which include Merrick and Cairnsmore of Fleet, have been identified as locations for the production of pPhotomontages. Given the nature of the landform between these hilltops and the</p>

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
			Proposed Development, it is considered that the wireframes provide a sufficiently accurate representation of the likely views from VPs 5, 11 and 21.
Cree Valley Community Council	Scoping Opinion (October 2023)	<p>“With regard to the list of Viewpoints provided by RES. The official guidance contained in both “Visual Representations of Windfarms, SNH/Nature Scot 2017”, and “Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, LEMA[sic]” indicates that the list of viewpoints selected by RES for LVIA is inadequate and requires to be revised. We suggest that the following list of viewpoints is much more in keeping with the official guidance and is appropriate if the significant visual impacts of the Blair Hill Wind Farm are to be properly understood.</p> <p>VP1- Drumwhirn Cairn.</p> <p>VP2- Monigaff Parish Church car park. This is a spot frequented by parishioners, walkers to Knockman Wood, visitors to the Wood of Cree and RSPB nature reserves, and cyclists on both National Cycle Route 7 and the 7stanes Big Country Route.</p> <p>VP3- Risk Road/ Auchenleck Road junction at Glenhoise. “Roon the Risk” which passes this location is a popular walking, jogging, and cycling circuit for the people of Minnigaff. It is also a way point on a scenic section of National Cycle Route 7 and the 7stanes Big Country Cycle route.</p> <p>VP4- The entrance gate to the DEHS playing fields. The view from here is experienced by schoolchildren enjoying outdoor sport, local residents recreationally walking to Blairmount Park, and the staff and members of the public travelling to make use of the facilities at the Merrick Leisure Centre, as well as the staff and pupils of the DEHS travelling to and from</p>	<p>The original viewpoint list was compiled in accordance with best practice guidance, including those mentioned within Cree Valley Community Council’s response.</p> <p>The suggested viewpoints have been thoroughly reviewed through desk-based research and on-site investigation. Of those suggested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 9 of the 22 suggested viewpoints were already included as proposed viewpoints within the EIA Scoping Report; - Another 9 of the 22 suggested viewpoints were located adjacent to, or in very similar locations to the viewpoints proposed within the scoping response, such that they represent the same view or receptor group. These have been reviewed and, where appropriate, localised amendments have been made to the locations of the original proposed viewpoints; - 3 of the 22 suggested viewpoints were dismissed due to a lack of safe access on public land (suggested VP12), a lack of visibility (suggested VP17) or limited evidence of receptors using the viewpoint (suggested VP15); and <p>1 of the 22 suggested viewpoints, ‘VP2 - Monigaff Parish Church Car Park’ has been included as a new viewpoint (VP22) within this assessment.</p>

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		<p>the school. The view is very similar to that experienced from home by the many residents of the Viewhills Road/ Corsbie Road/Doonhill area of Newton Stewart.</p> <p>VP5- The A75 at Knockbren Toll. The 19th century Toll house was built here because all road traffic using the A75 to the west of Newton Stewart must pass by. The minor roads heading north and south from this busy crossroads are also popular with walkers, cyclists, and tourers seeking to enjoy the local scenery.</p> <p>VP6- All Saints Church, Challoch. The popular tourist route, the A714, from Ayrshire and Glentworth to the north, and Newton Stewart and Wigtown to the south passes this location. The view from it, with the River Cree in the foreground and the hills as the backdrop, is stunning.</p> <p>VP7- The cycle path adjacent to the A714 at the entrance to the Nether Barr Steading Self Catering Holiday Lodges. The cycle path is particularly popular with local families.</p> <p>VP8- The Glentworth Visitor Centre Carpark (eastern Pay and Display point) The Glentworth Visitor Centre Carpark is the busiest place in the Glentworth area. The visitor centre is one of the 7stanes. It is the start point for several scenic, world renowned mountain bike trails. It is also the start point for half a dozen colour graded forest paths and the site of the busy tearoom/visitor centre. Hill walkers en route to climb the Merrick, tourists on their way to visit Bruce's Stone, and cyclists on the National Cycle Route must pass by and often stop here.</p> <p>VP9- The trig point at the high point of the Hill of Ochiltree. The Southern Upland Way passes through this point. This location has historical importance being the site of a main fort on the ruined Deil's</p>	

Consultee	Consultation	Consultation Response	Applicant Action
		<p>Dyke, a rampart constructed by the Novantae to demarcate their territory in the period after Roman influence ended in Galloway.</p> <p>VP10- The A75 parking area south of Creetown.</p> <p>VP11- The junction of the B7005 with the A714 at Culquhirk just north of Wigtown, Scotland’s National Book Town. This is a location that all visitors to and residents of Wigtown and the Machars regularly pass through.</p> <p>VP12- The A714 at Whitecairn, the “Orangerie Restaurant” one mile north of Bargrennan.</p> <p>VP13- The summit of the Merrick.</p> <p>VP14- The summit of Cairnsmore of Fleet. Climbing Cairnsmore is the most popular recreational hill walk in the area for local people and visitors seeking to enjoy a panoramic view. The view from it is seen by thousands of people each year.</p> <p>VP15- Garlick Hill.</p> <p>VP16- Benninguinea Lookout.</p> <p>VP17- Kirkcowan Church.</p> <p>VP18- Southern Upland Way at Artfield Fell.</p> <p>VP19- Barrhill Station.</p> <p>VP20- Southern Upland Way above Stranraer.</p> <p>VP21 - A714 North of Whithorn.</p> <p>VP22- Sandhead.”</p>	

3 Finalisation of Viewpoints Locations

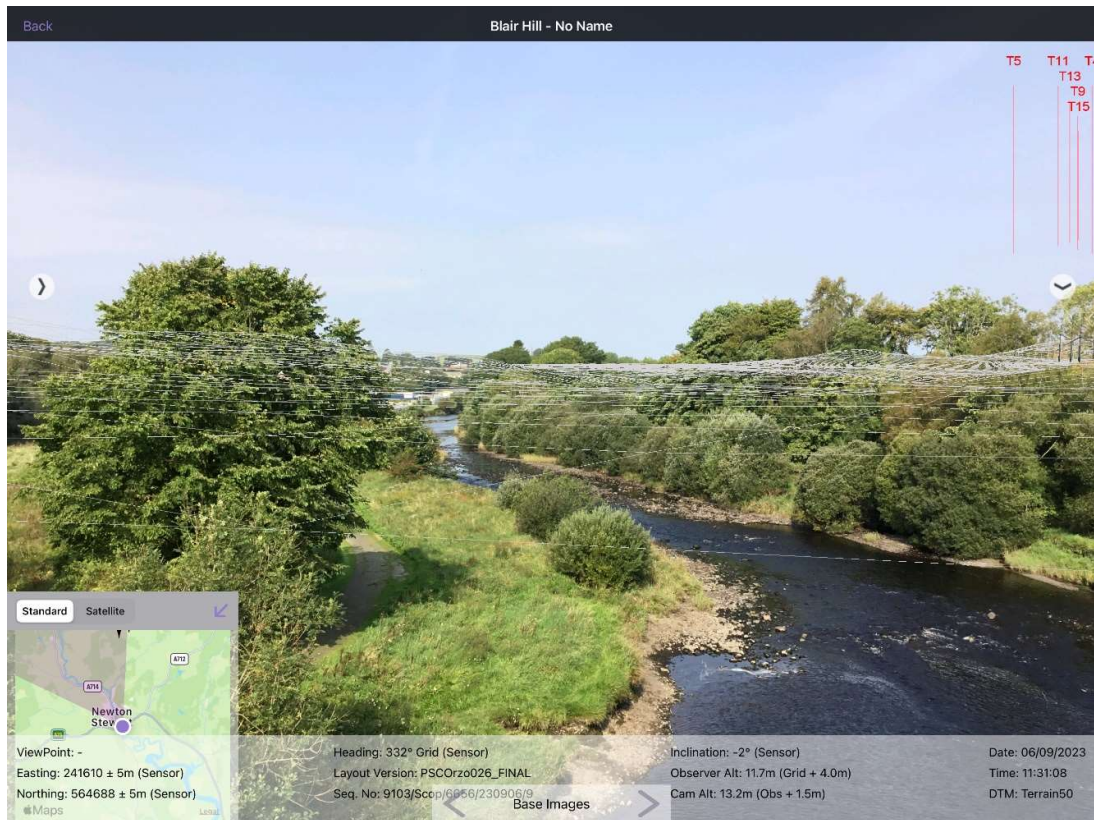
3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 Within viewpoint agreement documents submitted to the Energy Consent Unit and Dumfries and Galloway Council in April 2024, a small number of viewpoint locations were subject to the need for a further site visit and listed alternative options based on suggested locations provided by Dumfries and Galloway Council and Cree Valley Community Council. In the Gatecheck Report submitted in July 2024, the viewpoint locations had been finalised. The following text sets out justification for the viewpoint location chosen in each case, including working images of the anticipated view captured during subsequent site visits. Finally, a schedule of viewpoints is provided that sets out the rationale for the type of visualisations prepared for each viewpoint.
- 3.1.2 Visualisations used in this appendix have been produced using True View Augmented Reality Software. This software runs on an iPad and creates a 3-dimensional model of both the landform (provided by standard terrain mapping data) and an approximate model of the development (simple turbine models of the correct height, located and sized to match the proposed development). Based on the viewpoint location, a view of the proposed development is generated and superimposed on the view seen through the iPad camera lens, which is then be captured and recorded.
- 3.1.3 The two other aspects of accuracy are vertical (up/down) and horizontal (right/left) matching. Vertical matching is achieved using the horizon lines and terrain model provided by the ‘wireline’ and matching that to the terrain as seen in the view. Horizontal matching is achieved using terrain. This provides a ‘close enough’ match on site, which is then further refined as required back at a desk.
- 3.1.4 Allowing for the limitations of what can be achieved whilst on site, the software has the facility to adjust the vertical and horizontal matching once images have been captured and the user is back at a desk. This allows adjustment of the vertical match on a larger, better quality screen to ensure it is as close as possible.

3.2 Viewpoint 3 south of Newton Stewart

- 3.2.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:
- 241585, 564705 on the A75 bridge over the River Cree, south of Newton Stewart, as originally proposed;
 - 241875, 563640 on the cycle path adjacent to the A714 at the entrance to the Nether Barr Steading Self Catering Holiday Lodges, a location requested by Cree Valley Community Council; and
 - 242300, 560800 further south on the A714 near Causeway End as suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council.
- 3.2.2 The A75 south of Newton Stewart was not taken forward, as views from the bridge over the River Cree would be relatively restricted by riverside vegetation. **Figure 6-2.1** below shows the proposed view from this location.

Figure 6-2.1: View from the A75 bridge over the River Cree, south of Newton Stewart



3.2.3 The A714 near Causeway End was not taken forward as roadside vegetation would frequently obscure views towards the proposed development in this vicinity and safe stopping places to undertake photography were not available. Consequently a proposed view has not been possible.

3.3 Viewpoint 5 Glentrool

3.3.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:

- 236118, 579390 on National Cycle Route (NCR) 7 on the minor road north of Glentrool Village, as originally proposed; and
- 237256, 578536 in the Glentrool Visitor Centre car park, a location requested by Cree Valley Community Council.

3.3.2 Locations closer to the Glentrool visitor centre were not taken forward as views towards the proposed development were largely obscured by trees. Figures 6-2.2 and 6-2.2 below show proposed views from this location.

Figure 6-2.2: View from Glentrool visitor centre car park access



Figure 6-2.3: View from Glentrool visitor centre car park



3.4 Viewpoint 8 Creetown

3.4.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:

- 247180, 558229 at the junction of the A75 and the turning for Creetown, as originally proposed; and
- 247196, 557737 in the layby off the A75 at Point Fishery as suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council and Cree Valley Community Council.

3.4.2 The location in the layby off the A75 at Point Fishery was not taken forward as foreground vegetation would largely obscure views towards the proposed development. **Figure 6-2.4** below shows the proposed view from this location, which was the only location found with a view towards the site. Views from the A75 junction would be for a longer extent of the road.

Figure 6-2.4: View from layby off the A75 at Point Fishery



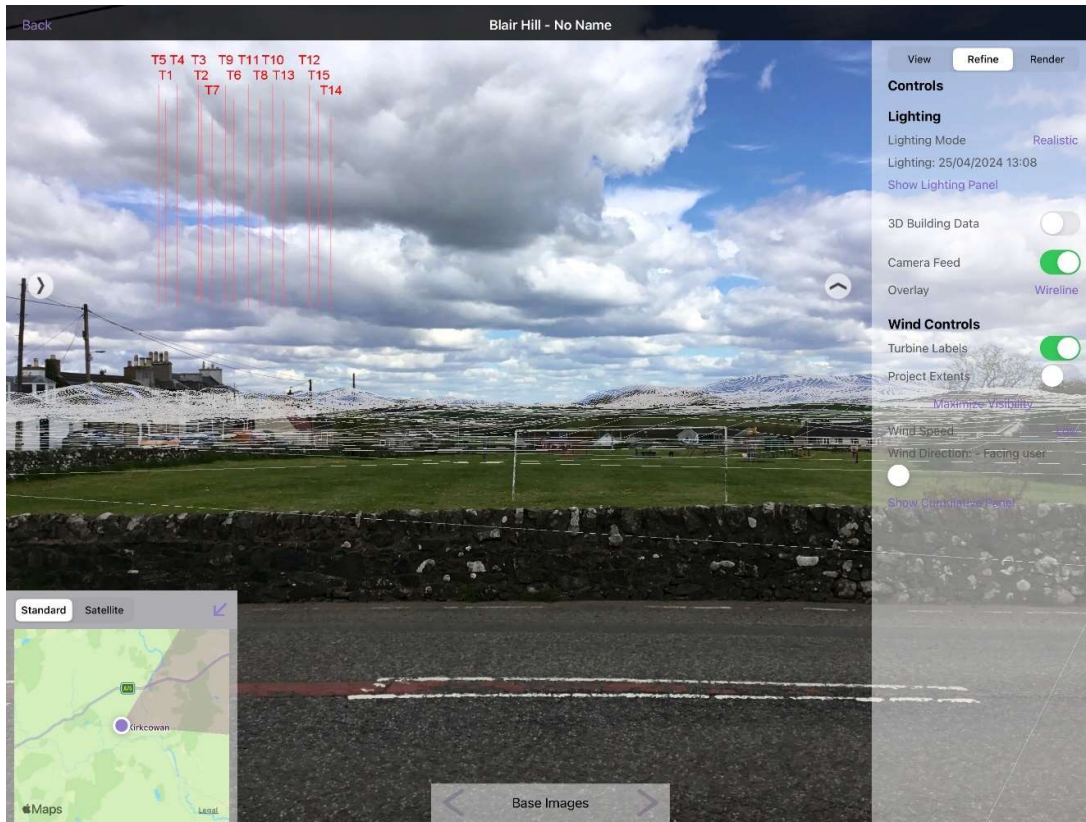
3.5 Viewpoint 9 Kirkcowan

3.5.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:

- 233241, 560466 at the war memorial on the B733, as originally proposed; and
- 232752, 560954 on Main Street near the Church, a location requested by Cree Valley Community Council.

3.5.2 The location on Main Street near the Church was not taken forward as the proposed development would be partially obscured by built development in the village. **Figure 6-2.5** below shows the proposed view from this location.

Figure 6-2.5: View from Main Street, Kirkcowan, at the Church



3.6 Viewpoint 10 Wigtown

3.6.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:

- 243472, 556227 on NCR73 on the minor road north of Wigtown, as originally proposed;
- 243054, 555420 at Martyr's Monument, as suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council;
- 244000, 554900 at or near the bird hide at Wigtown Harbour, as suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council;
- 243300, 556000 at Kirkland Hill/Lover's Walk on the northern edge of Wigtown, as suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council; and
- 242711, 556790 at the A714/B7005 junction north of Wigtown, a location requested by Cree Valley Community Council.

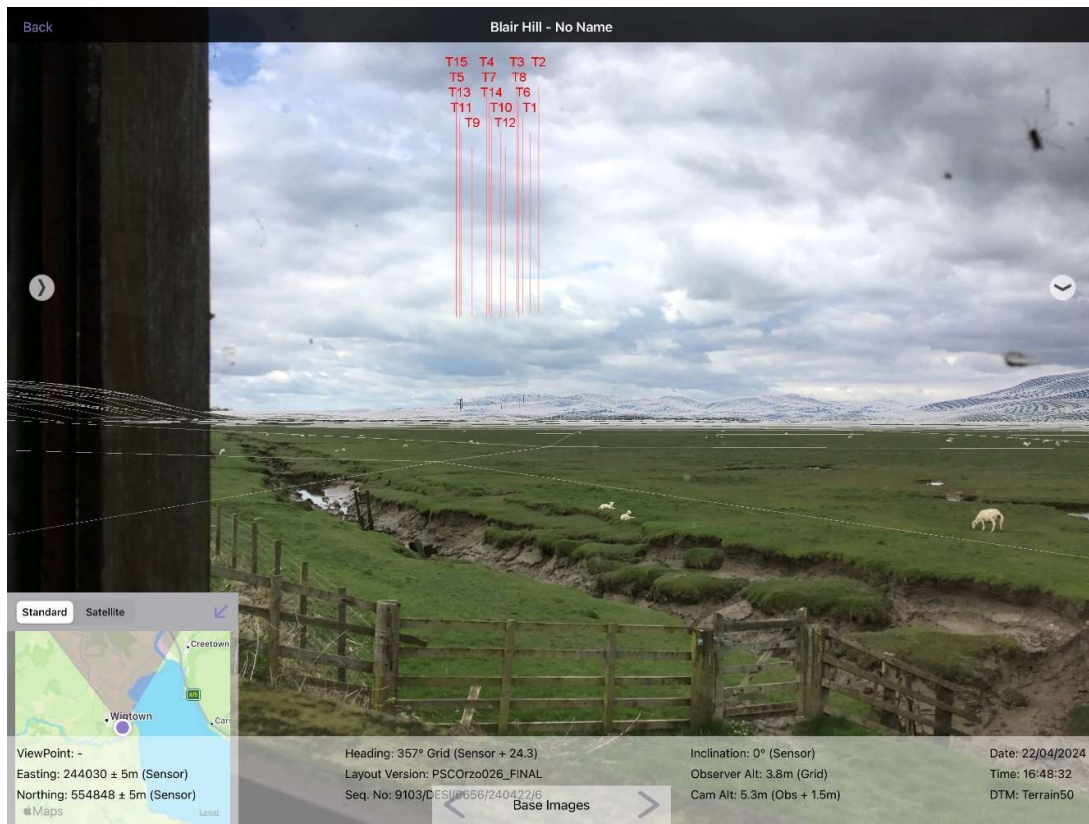
3.6.2 The view from the Martyr's Monument was not taken forward as the view was a single channelled view that isn't representative of the surrounding views. Most of the surrounding views towards the proposed development would be largely obstructed by vegetation and buildings within the village. Figure 6-2.6 below shows the proposed view from this location.

Figure 6-2.6: View from Martyr's Monument, Wigtown



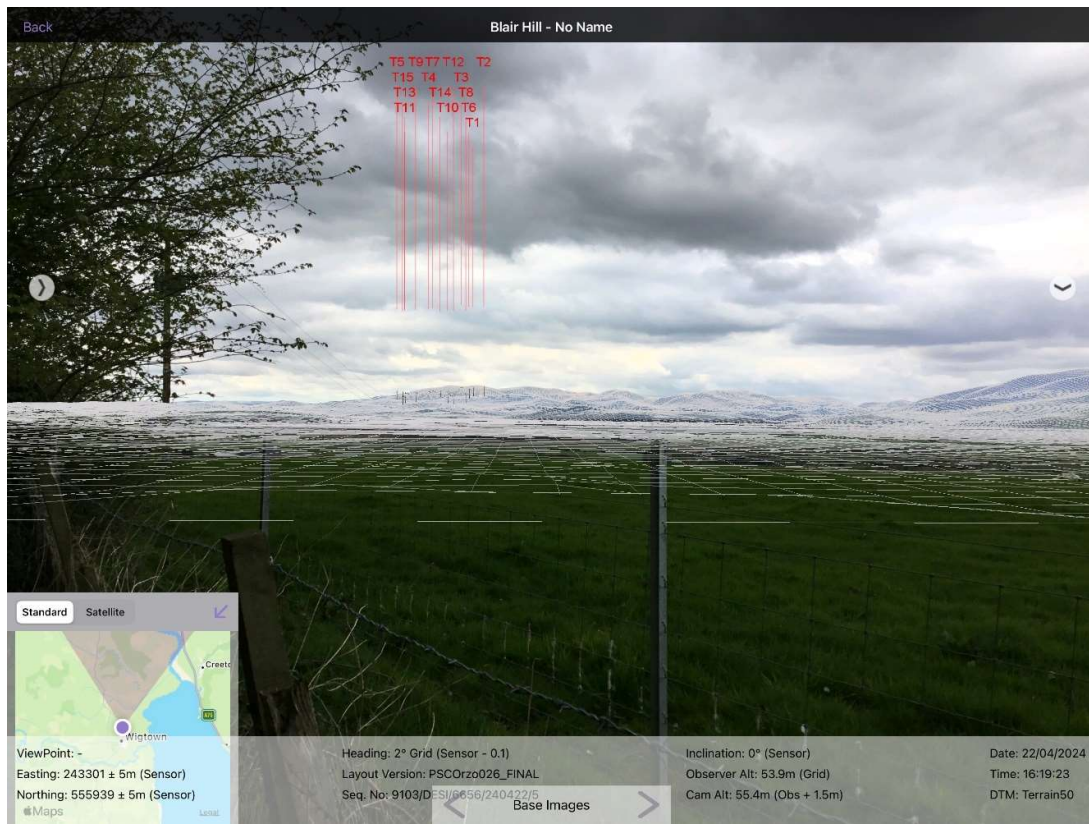
3.6.3 The view from the bird hide at Wigtown Harbour was not taken forward as views from a single side of the hide are not representative of surrounding views, which are largely screened by surrounding vegetation. Figure 6-2.7 below shows the proposed view from this location.

Figure 6-2.7: View from bird hide at Wigtown Harbour



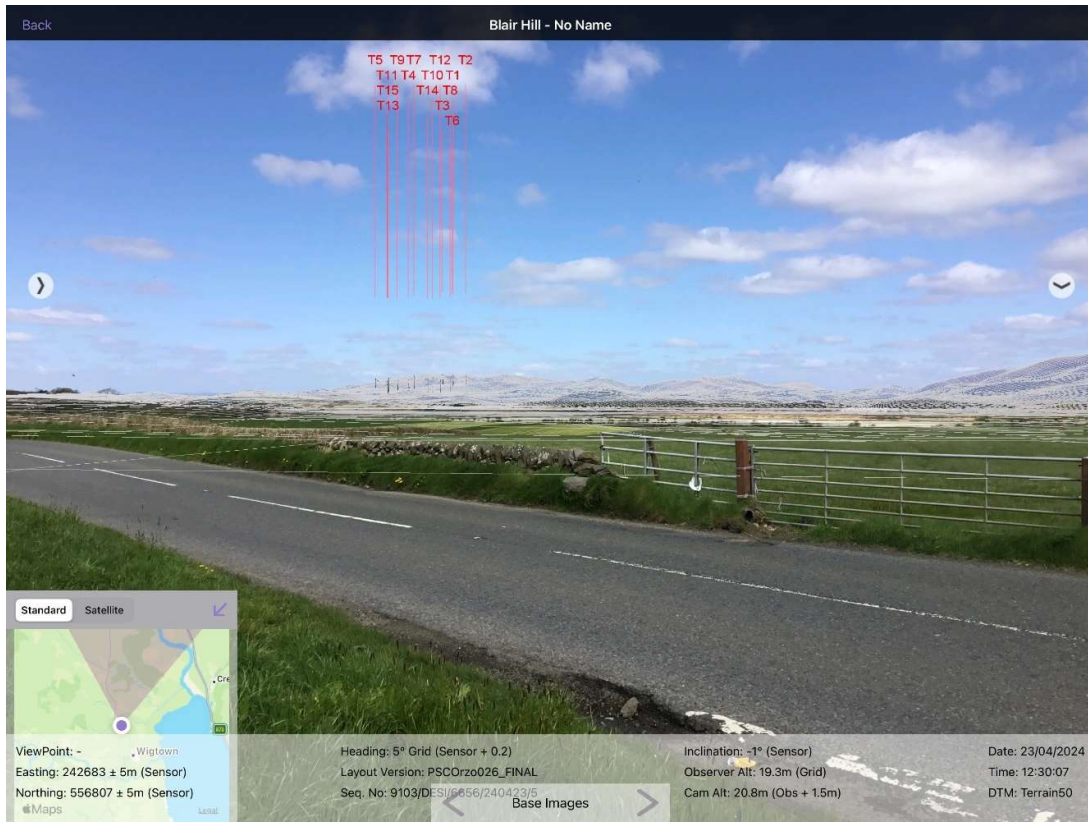
3.6.4 From Kirkland Hill/Lover's Walk, only a single location was found where there would be a view towards the proposed development. Whilst this would be an open view, it is not representative of other views along the footpath or along the northern edge of Wigtown. Figure 6-2.8 below shows the proposed view from this location.

Figure 6-2.8: View from Kirkland Hill/Lover's Walk, Wigtown



3.6.5 The view from the A714/B7005 Junction north of Wigtown was not taken forward as although there would be views of the proposed development, visual receptors would be less sensitive than those at the chosen location on NCR73. Figure 6-2.9 below shows the proposed view from this location.

Figure 6-2.9: View from the A714/B7005 Junction north of Wigtown



3.7 Viewpoint 12 Mochrum Lochs LLA

- 3.7.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:
- 230678, 554200 on a minor road to the south-west of Gargrie Moor, as originally proposed; and
 - 231917, 556693 on the core path to the north of the originally proposed location, as suggested by Dumfries and Galloway Council.
- 3.7.2 The Core Path to the north of the originally proposed location was not accessible during the site visit, with no entry signs, barbed wire and bulls present in fields that would need to be crossed. Consequently the viewpoint on the minor road to the south-west of Gargrie Moor has been used.

3.8 Viewpoint 13 near Barhill Station

- 3.8.1 The suggested alternative locations for this viewpoint were as follows:
- 222659, 581336 on a minor road to the south of Barhill Station, as originally proposed; and
 - 232752, 560954 at Barhill Station, a location requested by Cree Valley Community Council.
- 3.8.2 The view from Barhill Station has not been taken forward as clear visibility was not possible from either platform. **Figures 6-2.10** and **6-2.11** below show proposed views from the two platforms.

Figure 6-2.10: View from Barhill Station eastern platform

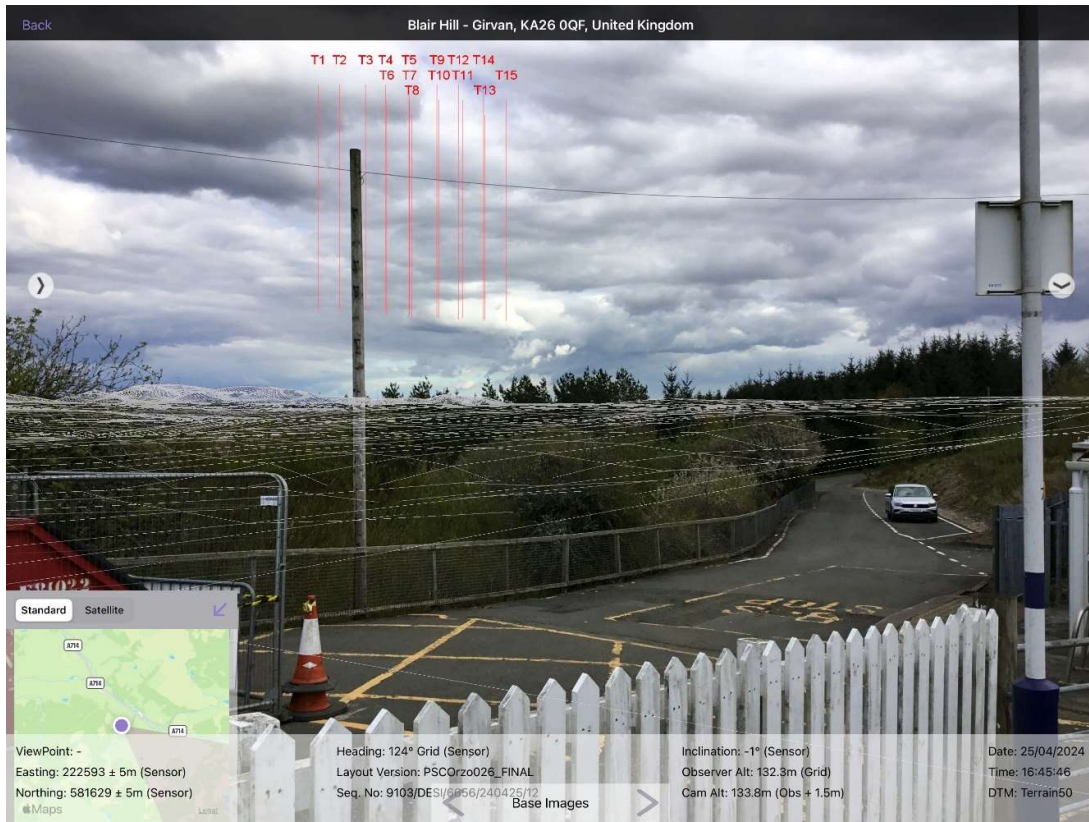
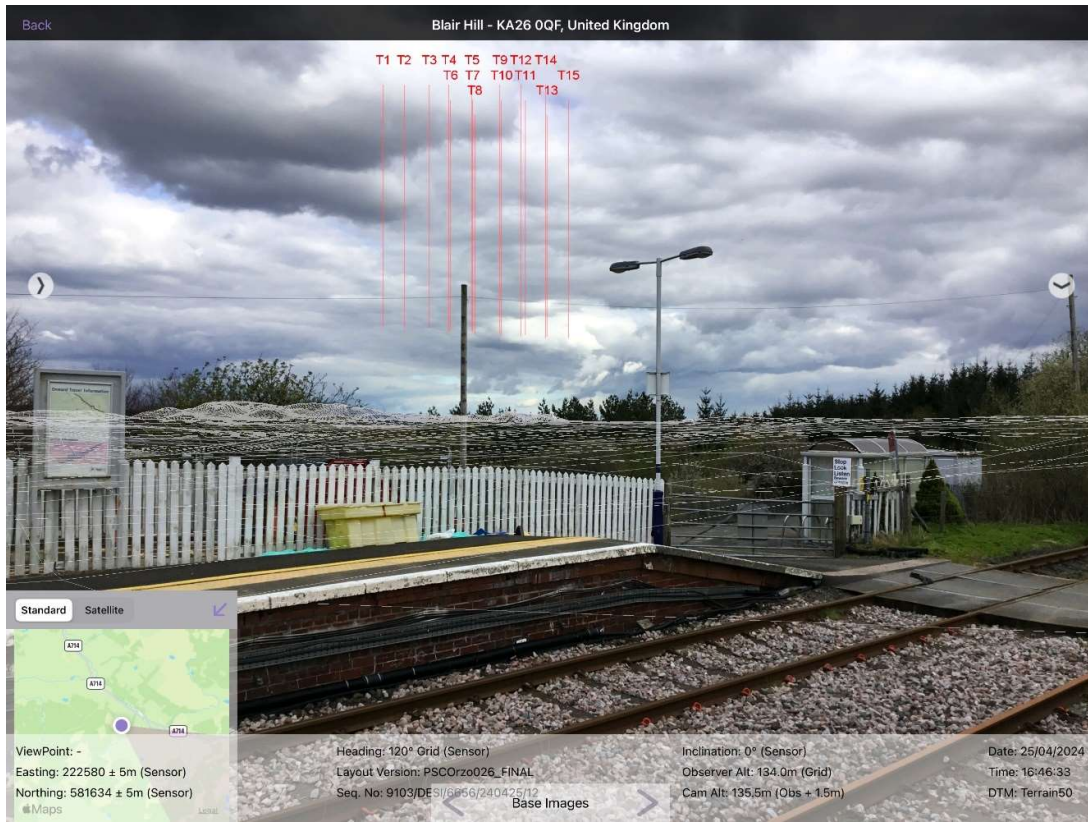


Figure 6-2.11: View from Barhill Station western platform



3.9 Viewpoint 23 Meikle Millyea

3.9.1 Mountaineering Scotland initially proposed a viewpoint at Corserine, which was proposed as a wireframe view only during initial consultation. Refinements to the design have meant that visibility from Corserine has reduced and a replacement for viewpoint has been proposed from Meikle Millyea, which is in the same group of hills and indicated to have a greater degree of potential visibility. The ZTV extracts at **Figures 6-2.12** and **6-2.13** below demonstrate the number of proposed turbine tips and hubs anticipated to be visible from the two summits for comparison, using a bareground model that doesn't take account of woodland and settlement.

Figure 6-2.12: ZTV extract for Corserine and Meikle Millyea - hub height

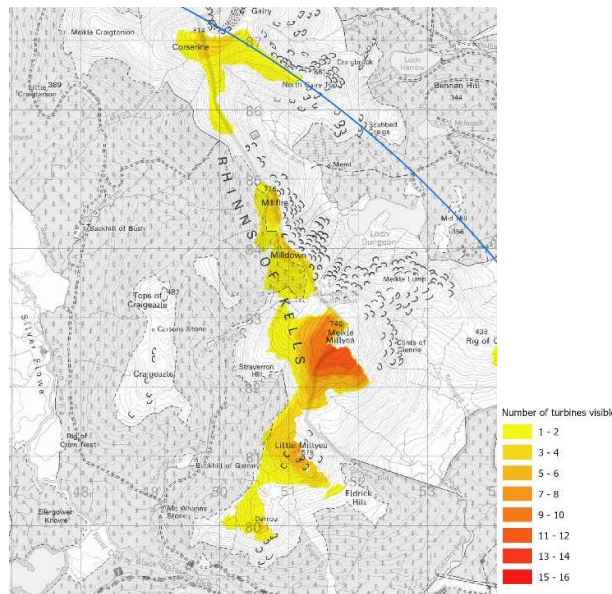
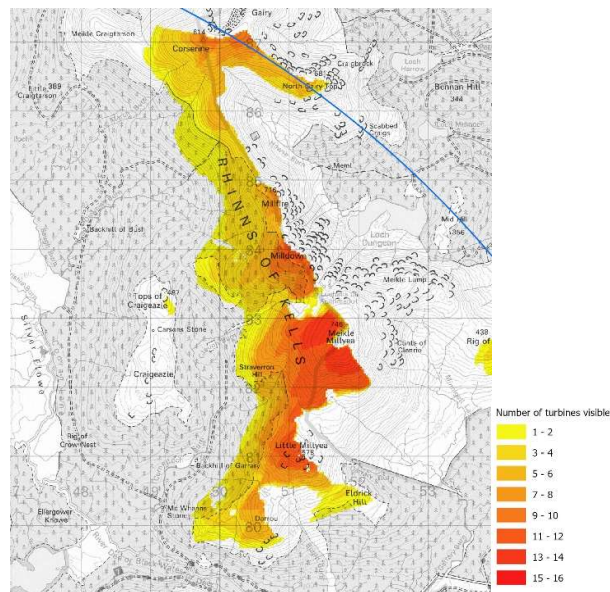


Figure 6-2.13: ZTV extract for Corserine and Meikle Millyea - tip height



3.10 Viewpoint 26 Knockman Woods

3.10.1 A viewpoint was suggested at Knockman Woods by Dumfries and Galloway Council. During the site visit it was established that there would be very limited visibility of the proposed development from any locations within Knockman Wood or on the western edge of the recreational area. Figure 6-2.14 below shows the approximate proposed view from this location. A viewpoint that had previously been requested by Dumfries and Galloway Council and Cree Valley Community Council at Challoch Church to the west of the Site has been used instead, where views would be more open.

Figure 6-2.14: View from the western edge of Knockman Woods



3.11 Schedule of visualisations

Table 6.2.2: Schedule of visualisation types

Viewpoint	Visualisation type	Reasoning
Viewpoint 1 - Drumwhirl Cairn, Moor of Barclye	Photomontage	Within 5 km of proposed turbines. Less likely location to be visited at night, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 2 - Corsbie Road, Newton Stewart	Photomontage	Within 5 km of proposed turbines.
	Nighttime photomontage	Residential location within 5 km of proposed turbines. Location that will be visited at night.
Viewpoint 3 - Sustrans National Cycle Route 73/A714 south of Newton Stewart	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors in well used recreational location within 15 km of proposed turbines. Cyclists at night are less sensitive at night due to need to concentrate on route, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 4 - Glenvernoch Fell / Hill of Ochiltree	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors on well used recreational route within 15 km of proposed turbines. Less likely location to be visited at night, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 5 - NCR7 on Minor Road	Wireline	As set out above, Viewpoint 5 has been selected as the worst case scenario in terms of

Viewpoint	Visualisation type	Reasoning
North of Glentroot Village		likely visibility in this vicinity. Dumfries and Galloway Council initially indicated 'try wireline in first instance' at this location. It is considered that the wireframe demonstrates a worst case visualisation of the likely visual effects and a photomontage would only further demonstrate the additional localised screening of elements of the Proposed Development by woodland in the middle distance.
Viewpoint 6 - Cairnsmore of Fleet	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors in well used recreational location within 15 km of proposed turbines. Less likely location to be visited at night, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 7 - Merrick	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors in well used recreational location within 15 km of proposed turbines. No nighttime visibility of lighting, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 8 - A75 near Creetown	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors in residential location within 15 km of proposed turbines.
	Nighttime photomontage	Residential location within 15 km of proposed turbines. Location that will be visited at night.
Viewpoint 9 - Kirkcowan	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors in residential location within 15 km of proposed turbines.
	Nighttime photomontage	Residential location within 15 km of proposed turbines. Location that will be visited at night.
Viewpoint 10 - NCR73 on Minor Road North of Wigtown	Photomontage	Sensitive visual receptors in residential location within 15 km of proposed turbines.
	Nighttime photomontage	Residential location within 15 km of proposed turbines. Location that will be visited at night.
Viewpoint 11 - Bennigunnea Lookout	Wireline	Given the nature of the landform between the hilltop and the Proposed Development, it is considered that the wireframes provide a sufficiently accurate representation of the likely views from these locations. Less likely location to be visited at night, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 12 - Mochrum Lochs LLA, Moor of Drumwall	Wireline	Located beyond 15 km with limited visibility.
Viewpoint 13 - Minor Road near Barhill Station	Wireline	Located beyond 15 km with close operational wind farms.
Viewpoint 14 - Southern Upland Way near Artfield Fell	Wireline	Located beyond 15 km with close operational wind farms.
Viewpoint 15 - A746 North of Whithorn	Wireline	Located beyond 20 km.

Viewpoint	Visualisation type	Reasoning
Viewpoint 16 - Byne Hill	Wireline	Located beyond 30 km.
Viewpoint 17 - A712 east of Corsock	Wireline	Located beyond 30 km.
Viewpoint 18 - Southern Upland Way near Stranraer	Wireline	Located beyond 30 km.
Viewpoint 19 - Sandhead	Wireline	Located beyond 30 km.
Viewpoint 20 - Monigaff Parish Church	Photomontage	Within 5 km of proposed turbines. Foreground lighting already visible in view.
Viewpoint 21 - Lamachan Hill	Wireframe only	Given the number of hill tops within Galloway Forest Park it is not considered proportionate to climb all of the hills requested in the vicinity of the Site to obtain photography, given that many of these summits would take around a day to climb in good conditions. The key hill tops, that are referred to in guidance documents and have been identified as the most frequently visited through research using walking and tourism websites and materials, which include Merrick and Cairnsmore of Fleet, have been identified as locations for the production of Photomontages. Given the nature of the landform between these hilltops and the Proposed Development, it is considered that the wireframes provide a sufficiently accurate representation of the likely views from these locations.
Viewpoint 22 - Millfore	Wireframe only	
Viewpoint 23 - Meikle Millyea	Wireframe only	
Viewpoint 24 - Innerwell Fishery approach	Wireline	Located beyond 20 km.
Viewpoint 25 - Penninghame Estate pond, Castle Stewart	Photomontage	Within 5 km of proposed turbines. Less likely location to be visited at night, so no nighttime photomontage.
Viewpoint 26 - Challoch Church	Photomontage	Within 5 km of proposed turbines. Roadside location will already have views of vehicle lighting at night, so no nighttime photomontage.