



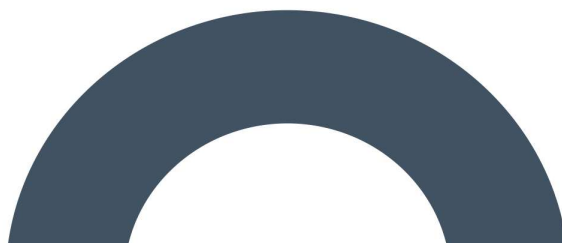
## **APPENDIX 2-3**

***COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT REPORT***



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# 1. INTRODUCTION

This Community Engagement Report was prepared by MKO on behalf of Carrow Renewable Energy Limited (a subsidiary of Atlantic Infrastructure Renewables (AIR)) to document the process of community consultation and public engagement during the pre-planning phase of the fourteen-turbine “Proposed Wind Farm” and associated “Proposed Grid Connection” called “Carrow Wind Farm”. Together the Proposed Wind Farm and Proposed Grid Connection are referred to as “Proposed Project” located in County Tipperary and County Limerick. AIR is an Irish-owned company based in Co Limerick.

The report sets out how the objectives of a proactive community engagement approach have been met and further demonstrates AIR’s commitment to a programme of ongoing engagement with the local community over the lifespan of the project.

This report will outline the steps that AIR have taken since project inception to ensure transparent community engagement through all phases of the project to date. It will also demonstrate the values and objectives applied by AIR to the processes of public consultation and stakeholder engagement. Effective and timely community consultation is important to ensure that communities have a say and are heard. Engaging with stakeholders enables developers of projects to understand their needs, their preferences and their expectations. It can also help build trust.

This report has been prepared in line with the requirements as set out in the Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines (December 2019) – Community Engagement which state that developers of wind farms should, in advance of submitting applications for planning permission, take “active steps to: inform local communities as they begin to develop their proposals; take the views of local communities into account in designing their proposals; demonstrate what practical effect that process of engagement has had; and, set out how the project will perform as a good neighbour in the context of the long-term economic and social development of the community or communities within which it is situated.”

All community engagement activities have been carried out according to the fundamental principle that proactive consultation and open discussion with local stakeholders is a crucial element of any wind energy project. In carrying out these community engagement activities, AIR put the community at the heart of the process to ensure meaningful consultation was carried out which generated goodwill and feedback.

## 1.1 Background to Community Consultation

Prior to the commencement of community engagement, AIR appointed MKO to consult on the process. MKO devised a Community Engagement Strategy which set out the steps involved in the community consultation approach and introduced a phased timeline for the successful rollout of the engagement process. The developers were cognisant at all times of the need to include the local community in every stage of the process and to ensure openness, transparency and inclusiveness in the development of this critical project.

Initial meetings were held between AIR and MKO in March 2024, prior to the commencement of the public consultation process. The purpose of these meetings was to establish the specific goals of the consultation programme and to plot out the steps required.

Arising from these meetings, Mark Higgins of MKO was appointed as Community Liaison Officer (CLO) on the project. The CLO had the responsibility for acting as the first point of contact for members of the public with questions or queries about the Proposed Project. A dedicated CLO email address and phone number were established in March 2024 to allow members of the public to communicate directly with the project team.

In 2024, Declan Dooley of Morland Land Property Services Ltd took over the role as CLO on the project, with responsibility for acting as the point of contact for members of the public with questions or queries about

the Proposed Project. Declan was given access to the dedicated CLO email address, and a dedicated phone number was established to allow members of the public to communicate directly with the project team.

### 1.1.1 Objectives of Community Consultation

Before the process of community consultation was initiated, it was important to make clear the specific objectives and goals of the process. The overarching philosophy of the project team was to manage communications around the Carrow Wind Farm, to provide clear, accurate and timely information to members of the local community, and to provide the means and opportunities by which the local community could give their feedback, ask questions, or lodge complaints about the Proposed Project.

As such, the primary objectives of the community consultation process were as follows:

- To put the needs of the local community at the centre of the engagement process;
- To identify the appropriate groups with whom to engage, based on their proximity to the Proposed Project and the impact the development was likely to have on their day-to-day lives.
- To reach out to the community in a manner that was timely, proactive and respectful.
- To identify the main concerns expressed by members of the community in relation to the Proposed Project and to address these concerns as comprehensively as possible.
- To create and maintain an open, two-way dialogue between the developers and the local community for the duration of the development process, beginning in the pre- planning phase and continuing through to project realisation and operation.
- To counteract the potential spread of speculation and misinformation relating to the Proposed Project.

The Community Engagement Strategy, in which the process of community consultation was laid out, was an evolving document which could be continually reviewed and amended throughout the consultation process to reflect both the specific aspects of the project as they were encountered as well as community feedback.

## 2. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation process consisted of a range of different methodologies. These included:

- The setting up of a dedicated project email address and CLO phone number.
- The design and development of a project website with frequently updated information on the project and contact information.
- Use of several different channels of communication including face-to-face meetings, email, phone calls, door-knocking and online tools.
- Direct engagement with local political representatives including local councillors, TDs and senators.
- Door-to-door engagement with residents within a 1.5km radius of the Proposed Wind Farm site.
- Wider consultation with groups, clubs and businesses within a 5km radius of the development, to consist of a mailout of an introductory letter and a project brochure, with additional follow-up meetings held when requested.
- A Virtual Consultation Room on the project website.
- A Public Information Event

## 2.1 Door-to-Door Engagement

Given the rural nature of the area in question and the relatively low density of houses, it was decided that door-to-door consultation would be merited at every house within a 1.5km radius of the Proposed Wind Farm.

### First Door-to-Door & Leaflet Drop

In March 2024, the project interim CLO commenced the programme of ‘door-knocking’ and leaflet drop in the designated zone. Over the course of 21<sup>st</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024, 103 homes were visited (map provided in Appendix 1). Where the door was answered, the CLO introduced the project and MKO’s involvement. The benefits to the local community as well as the wider environmental benefits and how the Proposed Project aligned to the Government’s climate action targets were explained. The CLO also explained the process of ongoing community engagement, the many channels available to the residents to get in touch with the project team, and next steps. Feedback was invited.

Each resident was given a brochure with information on the project, such as the location of the development study area, the estimated project timeline and contact details. Residents were also given a feedback questionnaire (see Appendix 2) and asked to respond with any concerns or questions they may have. The questionnaire asked four questions about the development:

- If the proposed project is developed, what types of benefits should the Carrow Wind Farm provide to the local community?
- Do you have any concerns about this proposed wind farm and if so, what are they?
- Have you any further comments in relation to the proposed project?
- Carrow Renewable Energy Limited is committed to keeping the local community informed about the proposed project. Please help us identify any other local groups which you feel should be consulted with.

These project brochures and questionnaires were also left at those houses where the door-knock was unanswered. An online version of the questionnaire was also available on the project website and the link to the website was included. A small number of households had follow up queries and a few were visited again.

### Second Door-to-Door & Leaflet Drop

In August 2025, the project CLO Declan Dooley commenced the second programme of ‘door-knocking’ and leaflet drop in the designated zone. Over the course of 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> August 2025, 103 homes were visited (map provided in Appendix 1). Where the door was answered, the CLO discussed the progression of the Proposed Project and MKO’s involvement. The CLO took this time to explain how the Proposed Project had evolved and how feedback from the first Door-to-Door had been incorporated. The CLO also explained the channels available to the residents to get in touch with the project team remained available and encouraged those who wished discuss the Proposed Project further to reach out via those channels.

The reception to the initial door-knock was overall very positive. Most residents were supportive of the project, while a small number expressed concerns over the noise of the wind turbines, shadow flicker, property values, the impact the turbines would have on the native wildlife. Several residents requested more detailed information and precise maps of the Proposed Project and were told that these would become available and would be shared as the project progressed over the coming months.

A number of local residents were offered a follow up face-to-face meeting with the CLO and AIR representative Neil O’Brien to discuss these concerns. These meeting took place on various dates during the duration of the consultation period.

### Third Door-to-Door & Leaflet Drop

In January 2026, the project CLO Declan Dooley commenced the third programme of ‘door-knocking’ and leaflet drop in the designated zone. Over the course of 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> January 2026, 103 homes were visited (map provided in Appendix 1). Where the door was answered, the CLO discussed the progression of the Proposed Project and MKO’s involvement. The CLO took this time to explain how the Proposed Project had evolved and how feedback from the first and second Door-to-Door events had been incorporated. The CLO also explained the channels available to the residents to get in touch with the project team remained available and encouraged those who wished discuss the Proposed Project further to reach out via those channels. The CLO distributed an information leaflet which provided details regarding the upcoming Public Information Event on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026.

## 2.2 Wider Community Consultation

Businesses, schools, groups and clubs within a 5km radius of the Proposed Wind Farm site received an information pack containing an introductory letter, project brochure and questionnaire during the ‘door-knocking’ exercise in April 2025. These project brochures contained up-to-date information on the project plans, including:

- An outline description of the project.
- Information about the design team, AIR and MKO.
- The main advantages and benefits of wind energy.
- Details of the planning process and next steps.
- Information about the Community Benefit Fund.
- Contact information.

The CLO delivered information packs to a number of GAA representatives from clubs in the area. Such GAA clubs included Eire Og Annacarty Donohill GAA & Camogie Club in Annacarty, Co. Tipperary, Knockavilla-Donaskeigh Kickhams GAA Club in Dunderum, Co. Tipperary, Clonoulty-Rossmore GAA Club in Clonoulty, Co. Tipperary, Cappawhite GAA club in Cappawhite, Co. Tipperary and the Annacarty Community Hall in Annacarty, Co. Tipperary. The majority of representative showed an interest and support for the Proposed Project and requested further clarification on the Community Benefit Fund (See Chapter 4 of this EIAR).

During the information pack drops the CLO met a visited a number of National Schools in the surrounding area on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. The CLO explained what the Proposed Project entailed and provided information on the Community Benefit Fund. Annacarty National School (NS), Cappawhite NS, Hollyford NS, Knockavilla NS, Clonoulty Central NS, Rossmore NS, Donohill NS were included in this information pack drop.

An information pack was also dropped into the Annacarty Community Hall.

## 2.3 Engagement with Public Representatives

As part of the community consultation process, on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2025 an information pack was sent to 11-no. councillors for the Tipperary-Cahir-Cashel Municipal District and 3.no. Teachtaí Dalá (TD) for Tipperary South. The information included an information letter, information brochure, a Site Location map and a Feedback Questionnaire.

Public representatives were invited to attend the Public Information Event in January 2026, as part of the consultation process.

## 2.4 Project Website

A dedicated project website (<https://carrowwindfarm.com/>) was designed and went live in April 2024 on the same day as the first Door-to Door Engagement was carried out. The website was constantly updated with the latest information over the following months as the project plans took shape. The website contained an FAQ section answering the most frequently asked questions about the development, as well as details about the government’s wind energy policies under the Climate Action Plan. The website also contained contact information.

In January 2026, on the day of the Public Information Event, the Virtual Consultation Room went live on the project website. This interactive online space contained the most detailed plans of the project yet, including:

- Specific locations for the proposed fourteen turbines.
- An introduction to the project and a list of the environmental and economic benefits for the local community.
- An explanation of how the Community Benefit Fund can benefit the area.
- Aerial imaging of the site showing the broader location of the wind farm site relative to the area’s nearest settlements.
- A map showing the proposed grid connection route to bring power from the wind farm to the Killonan 110kV substation in Co. Limerick.
- A map of the proposed Turbine Delivery Route (TDR)
- Further information on site constraints, the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), the planning process and the planned next steps.
- Photomontage impressions showing what the turbines, if built, would look like from six locations surrounding the development site at varying distances and angles.

The information displayed on the project website was the same information presented at the Public Information Event.

### 3. PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT

The Public Information Event (PIE) was organised for Wednesday, January 21st, 2026 (see image taken at PIE in Appendix 3). The venue chosen for the event was the Annacarty Community Hall, County Tipperary, this location was chosen during feedback from the local residents closest to the proposed wind farm site. The event was staged between 3pm and 8pm and was attended by representatives of the project team including:

- > Neil O'Brien, AIR
- > Gus McCarthy, AIR
- > Delcan Dooley, Morland and Property Services Ltd, Director /project CLO
- > Eoin McCarthy, MKO Project Director
- > Jonny Fearon, MKO Project Environmental Scientist
- > Edward Ryan, MKO Environmental Scientist
- > Evan Connolly, MKO Environmental Scientist
- > Joye Atkinson, MKO Environmental Scientist

#### 3.1 Event Advertisement

To bring the PIE to the attention of as many people as possible, newspaper adverts were placed in two of the local newspapers, the *The Nationalist (Clonmel)* and the *Tipperary Star*, in their respective editions of Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, one week out from the event (see Appendix 4).

The project website was also updated to include the advertisement of the PIE ([carrowwindfarm.com/news](http://carrowwindfarm.com/news)).

Over the course of three days Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, the CLO performed a door-to-door visit to houses within a 1.5km radius of the development, dropping leaflets of the same advert that had appeared in the local newspapers ensure as many of the residents as possible were made aware of the PIE.

#### 3.2 Event Format

The PIE was staged in a format designed to be open and interactive for the attendees. Boards were erected on either side of the hall displaying posters with information about the development and maps of the proposed site layout. Maps were also displayed showing the turbine delivery and grid connection routes, and aerial imaging of the site with the locations of the turbines clearly marked.

At the far end of the hall a series of photomontages were displayed showing what the Proposed Project would look like from various distances away from the site. Booklets of these photomontages were also laid out for attendees to peruse. Everything on view on the project website was presented at the PIE, and vice versa.

A welcome desk was set up at the entrance to the hall and attendees were invited to sign in with their names and contact details, with the option of signing up to a mailing list also provided.

Attendees were greeted at the sign-in desk and brought through the display by a member of the project team. Attendees were also given the option of perusing the display in their own time. Attendees were also encouraged to ask questions or raise any concerns they may have with members of the project team.

Comment sheets were available for attendees to fill out as they left the event, with 4 attendees electing to comment.

Approximately 80-100 people attended the Public Information Event over the course of the five hours, with 35 of these electing to leave their names and contact details.

Feelings toward the wind farm varied amongst the attendees; the majority of the local community who attended were roundly supportive of the project and were curious to learn more about the plans. While a small number of the attendees were in opposition to the development and made their positions known to the project team.

## 4. FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTATION

### 4.1 Main Issues Raised

Several issues relating to the proposed Carrow Wind Farm were raised over the course of the community consultation process, from the initial door-knocking phase through to the Public Information Event and subsequently. Among the most raised issues were:

- > The visual impact of the project.
- > Shadow flicker.
- > The impact on local wildlife
- > The noise generated by the turbines.
- > Payments to near neighbours
- > The Community Benefit Fund
- > The potential traffic disruption from the construction traffic.
- > The potential for damage to local roads during the construction phase.
- > The proximity of the proposed turbines to homes.
- > The impact the development would have on local property prices.

#### Visual impact / Shadow flicker

The visual impact of the proposed turbines was a major concern for residents living closest to the Site. Several residents expressed their concern about the turbines appearing to “loom over” their homes. Several residents also raised concerns about shadow flicker from the spinning turbine blades affecting their homes.

These concerns were closely tied to the concerns over proximity. Residents were reassured that the turbines are positioned beyond the minimum setback distance specified in the Draft Wind Energy Guidelines (2019)

Residents were also assured that shadow flicker experienced at any property would not exceed the limits set out in the currently adopted 2006 Guidelines.

#### Impact on local wildlife

Some local residents raised concerns about the potential impact of both the construction and operation of the Proposed Project would have on the local wildlife and habitats in the area.

In response, the project team assured those who expressed these concerns that a full Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) would be included with the planning application upon submission, which would contain reports from the extensive ecological and ornithological surveys carried out in the site over recent years.

Residents were also informed on the inclusion of a Biodiversity Management and Enhancement Plan which would see measures such as grassland management and tree planting occur on the Site, in order to positively impact biodiversity.

#### Noise concerns

Concerns about turbine noise were closely linked to issues around proximity, particularly among those living nearest to the Proposed Wind Farm. Residents were informed that modern turbine technologies are

designed to produce as little noise as possible, and that the development would be required by law to abide by any planning conditions set out by the planning authorities regarding the noise from the turbines.

### Payments to near neighbours/Community Benefit Fund

At the Public Information Event, some landowners with lands near the Proposed Wind Farm site expressed the view that they should receive compensation for the anticipated disruption caused by the construction and operation of the wind farm.

These landowners were informed that, as their lands are not directly involved in the development, they would not be eligible for direct payments. However, they were encouraged to apply to the Community Benefit Fund, which supports local projects and initiatives. The landowners were also assured that access to their lands would be maintained at all times, and that a traffic management plan would be implemented to reduce disruption for local road users.

Several community members also queried if they would benefit from reduced electricity costs as a result of living in close proximity to the Proposed Wind Farm.

### Impact on local roads

Residents living along the surrounding local roads raised concerns over the potential increased traffic flow during the construction phase of the Proposed Project and over the potential damage that may be caused to the road surfaces by the volume of heavy machinery accessing the development.

In response, the residents were assured that all efforts would be made to minimise disruption during construction. Key activities, such as turbine blade deliveries, would be scheduled during off-peak hours when traffic is at its lowest.

Due care will also be taken to ensure the roads around the development site are respected. In any potential instance in which a road surface is damaged, it will be restored to the same or better condition as soon as possible. In addition, it was explained to residents that roads within the development site itself will need to be considerably improved, and new roads laid, to allow the construction phase to proceed.

### Proximity to homes

The proximity of the proposed turbines to homes was the most significant concern raised by members of the local community over the course of the public consultation process.

During the Public Information Event (PIE), homeowners, farmers, and tenants living or working along these routes voiced strong concerns regarding the closeness of certain turbines to their homes and land.

Residents were informed that one of the key initial criteria in selecting the Carrow site was the separation distance between the wind turbines and residential dwellings. They were reassured that the design of the project complies with the minimum separation distance recommended in the Draft Wind Energy Guidelines (DWEG, 2019<sup>1</sup>), which requires a setback of four times the turbine's tip

In this instance, the full ground to blade tip height of the Carrow turbines is 185 meters and no turbine will be placed less than 740 meters from a home. In this regard, AIR have adhered to the 2019 draft guidelines rather than the advisory guidelines in the current legislation<sup>2</sup>, which advise that turbines should be a

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<sup>1</sup> Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, 2019

<sup>2</sup> Wind Energy Development Guidelines, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, 2006

minimum of 500m away from a dwelling. The developers have thereby sought to increase the minimum distance between the turbines and the nearest dwellings by nearly 40 percent more than the advisory guidelines.

### Impact on property prices

Some members of the local community voiced concerns that the Proposed Wind Farm would negatively affect local property values. A number of residents also noted that their children had intended to build homes nearby, and that the development would cause them to reconsider those plans.

In response, residents were informed that peer-reviewed research conducted in the EU and mainland Europe has demonstrated that proximity to a wind farm has no material impact on property prices, and that prices are far more sensitive to the wider influences that dictate the rise and fall of properties values nationwide.

### Positive feedback

Notwithstanding the concerns expressed by residents on the above topics, the public consultation process also elicited positive feedback from individuals, households and groups in the local area. The positive feedback in relation to the Proposed Wind Farm comprised of support for wind energy and the benefits, both environmental and economic, that the Proposed Development would provide to the local community. There was also enthusiasm among residents regarding the Community Benefit Fund (CBF).

A common theme of the consultation was that the local area should see real, tangible benefits from the Proposed Wind Farm. Those residents living closest to the turbine sites will be in receipt of proximity payments through the CBF while the wider community at large will be able to apply for funds through the CBF to support sustainability projects.

The project team informed the community that this fund would be administered by a committee made up of local people and would ideally be comprised of representatives of a broad cross-section of groups and clubs. Representatives from AIR visited 4 households in the following month as a follow-up on the PIE.

## 5. **CONCLUSION**

AIR made meaningful engagement with the local community a primary consideration of the project. Through face-to-face, written, telephone and online contact, the community consultation process has been effective, open and transparent.

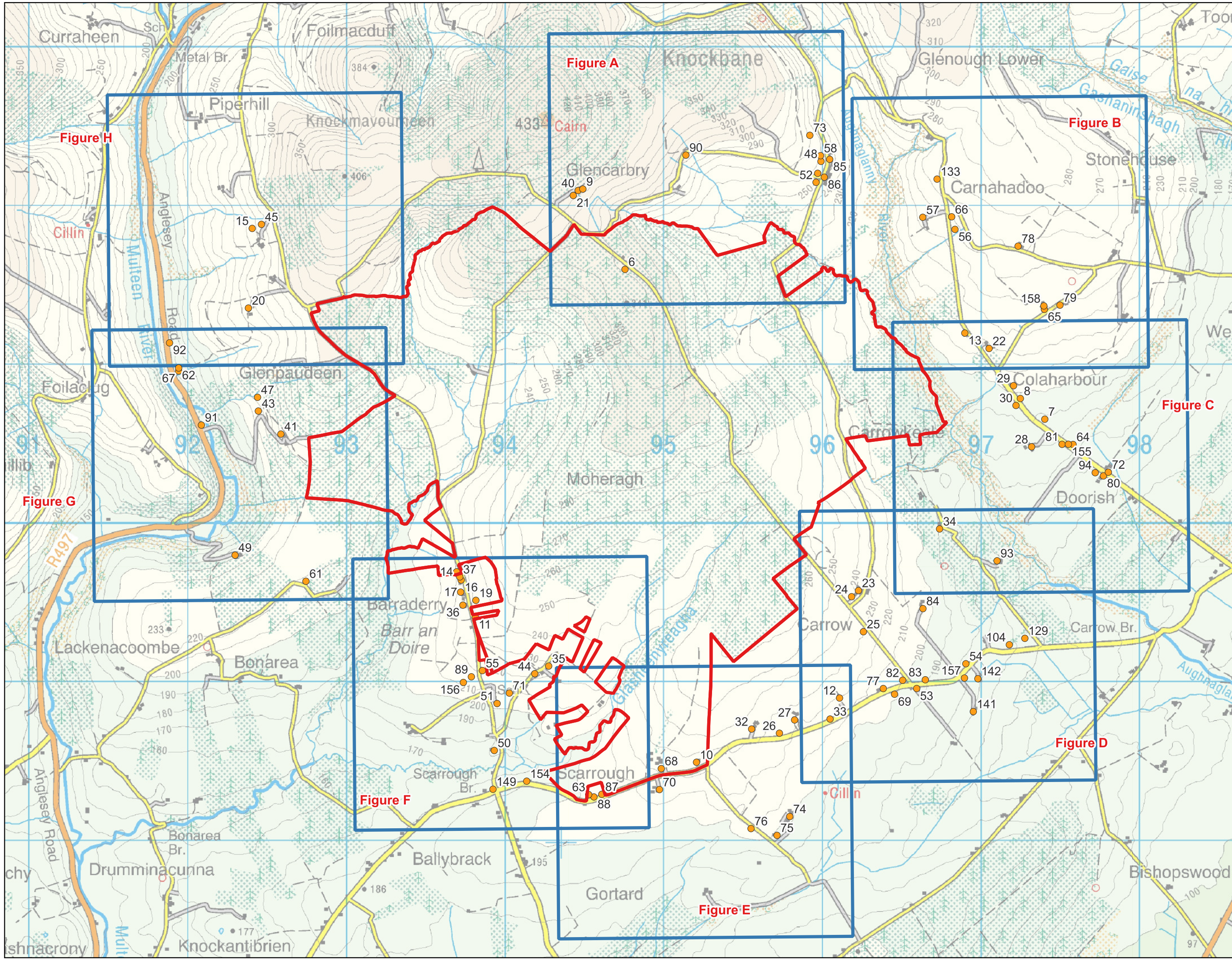
AIR has engaged and consulted with the local community from an early stage of the pre-planning phase of the Carrow Wind Farm development. This process of community engagement has proven highly valuable as a means of identifying the key concerns of the local community in relation to the Proposed Wind Farm.

The development of the Carrow Wind Farm will provide a direct and prolonged economic benefit to the communities surrounding the Proposed Wind Farm site through the Community Benefit Fund, and through employment opportunities during the construction process. The developers are committed to maintaining the strong community engagement approach throughout the post-application stage and, if planning permission is granted, will continue to consult with and be available to residents through the construction and operational lifespan of the Carrow Wind Farm.



## **APPENDIX 1**

### **MAP OF DOOR-TO-DOOR ENGAGEMENT**



**Map Legend**

- EIAR Site Boundary
- Dwellings

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|  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Door Knock</b>  |                                |
| <b>Carrow Wind Farm</b>  |                                |
| Drawn By<br><b>ER</b>  | Checked By<br><b>EM</b>        |
| Project No.<br><b>231102</b>   | Drawing No.<br><b>Figure 1</b> |
| Scale<br><b>1:21,000</b>   | Date<br><b>2025-08-19</b>      |
| <br><b>MKO</b><br>Planning and Environmental Consultants<br><small>Team Road, Galway<br/>       Ireland, H91 VW84<br/>       +353 (0) 91 736611<br/>       email: info@mkofireland.ie<br/>       Website: www.mkofireland.ie</small> |                                |



## **APPENDIX 2**

### **FEEDBACK QUESTIONNAIRE**







## **APPENDIX 3**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENT**



*Figure 1 Carrow Wind Farm - Public Information Event 21/01/2026*



## **APPENDIX 4**

**EVENT ADVERTISEMENT**

# Carrow Wind Farm

## Public Information Day

Atlantic Infrastructure Renewables Ltd and Carrow Renewable Energy Ltd will host a Public Information Day on Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> to provide details of and address any queries you may have on the proposed Carrow Wind Farm.

The wind farm is being proposed in the townlands of Carrow, Carrowkeale, Moheragh and Glenpaudeen Co. Tipperary

Representatives of the developer and environmental consultants will be present to discuss the project with you.

All are welcome.

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When: Wednesday, January 21<sup>st</sup> – 3pm to 8pm

Where: Annacarty Hall, Annacarty, Co. Tipperary,  
E34 RT61

See [carrowwindfarm.com](http://carrowwindfarm.com) for more  
information or contact  
[clo@carrowwindfarm.com](mailto:clo@carrowwindfarm.com)  
or phone 087 118 8952