APPENDIX 2-2

BALLYDERMOT WIND FARM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Ballydermot Wind Farm

Community Engagement Report

October 2026



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1. Introduction

This Community Engagement Report documents the consultation and engagement undertaken with local communities and other stakeholders during the pre-application phase of the Proposed Project It summarises the engagement methods used, the principal matters raised, how those matters were considered through the project design and Environmental Impact Assessment process, and the measures proposed to provide potential enduring benefits to surrounding communities.

This report has been prepared with regard to the following wind energy guidance documents and recommended industry practices:

1. The Wind Energy Development Guidelines[1] (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006), which state:

   "While it is not a mandatory requirement, it is strongly recommended that developers of a wind energy project should engage in active consultation and dialogue with the local community at an early stage in the planning process, ideally prior to submitting a planning application."

2. The Preferred Draft Approach to Wind Energy Development in Ireland[2] (June 2017), which states in relation to wind farm planning applications:

   "Planning applications must contain a Community Report prepared by the applicant which will specify how the final proposal reflects community consultation. The Community Report must also outline steps taken to ensure that the Proposed Project will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned."

3. The Draft Revised Wind Energy Guidelines[3] (Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 2019) retain this position and state:

"In order to promote the observance of best practice, planning authorities should require applicants to prepare and submit a Community Report with their planning application and a condition on any subsequent planning permission should require developers to carry out the development in accordance with the approved Community Report."

This Community Engagement Report outlines the public consultation and community engagement initiatives undertaken by the Project Team prior to the submission of the planning application for the Proposed Development. It also identifies the key issues raised during the consultation process, explains how community feedback informed the final design of the Proposed Project and outlines the steps taken to support enduring economic benefits for the communities concerned.

[1] The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Wind Energy Planning Guidelines 2006, p. 19
[2] The Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment and Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Information Note Review of the Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2006 "Preferred Draft Approach", 2017 p.8
[3] The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines 2019, p. 4

2. Consultation with the Local Community

The Proposed Project was launched by Bord na Móna Powergen Ltd (trading as BnM) in October 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic. The public health restrictions in place at that time significantly limited opportunities for in-person meetings and community events. In response, the Project Team adopted virtual engagement methods and sought to ensure that consultation on the Proposed Project was undertaken proactively, safely and in accordance with the applicable Government public health guidance and restrictions. This section of the Community Report outlines the engagement activities undertaken in respect of the Proposed Project and the measures adopted to facilitate continued engagement during the pandemic.

2.1 Summary of Engagement

The Applicant undertook a phased programme of community and stakeholder engagement from the announcement of the Proposed Project in October 2020 through to the pre-application activities completed in 2026. The programme included household information distribution, virtual and in-person consultation, appointment-based clinics, feedback questionnaires, print and radio advertising, direct correspondence, a dedicated project website and contact channels, engagement with elected representatives and community groups, and consultation on the proposed grid connection route. The principal stages of engagement are summarised chronologically below.

October 2020 to February 2021 – project launch and Phase 1 consultation: The Proposed Project was announced in October 2020. Household outreach commenced on 5 October 2020 and concluded on 13 November 2020, during which Project Information Packs *(Appendix A)* were delivered to circa 1,014 residences within approximately 1.5 km of the study area. A dedicated project website and three-dimensional virtual consultation room were launched in October 2020; the virtual room remained available until 30 January 2021 and recorded 183 visits. Feedback questionnaires were available in print and online between October 2020 and January 2021, and 34 responses were received. Appointment-based online Community Engagement Clinics commenced on 1 February 2021 and were held over a two-week period, with 22 people attending. Relevant County Councillors and TDs were provided electronically with project information at the outset in October 2020.

June to September 2021 – publication of draft layout and Phase 2 consultation: Between 8 June and 11 August 2021, an updated Project Information Pack (Appendix B) containing the draft turbine layout, project information booklet, photomontage booklet, A2 draft layout map and feedback questionnaire was delivered to approximately 1,014 homes. The dedicated project website and virtual consultation room were updated with the Phase 2 consultation material, and the virtual room remained available until 2 September 2021, recording 298 visits. Appointment-only Community Information Sessions were held at Allenwood Development Association on 30 June and 21 July 2021 and at Rathangan Community Centre on 7 July 2021. The sessions were promoted through advertisements in the Leinster Leader and Kildare Nationalist and radio broadcasts on Midlands 103 and KFM. Nineteen expressions of interest were received, 15 clinics were held and 39 completed feedback questionnaires were received between June and September 2021.

August 2022 to September 2024 – proposed final layout, Draft Amenity Plan and project update:
Between 19 August and 15 September 2022, a further Project Information Pack *(Appendix C)* was delivered to approximately 800 homes within approximately 2 km of the proposed turbine locations. The pack included the proposed final turbine layout, infrastructure and proximity maps, the Draft Amenity Plan and an amenity questionnaire. Twenty-five amenity feedback forms were received. Relevant County Councillors and TDs were provided with the same project-stage information in August 2022. In August and September 2024, a project update letter outlining the anticipated planning application submission timeline was delivered to approximately 800 homes within 2 km of a Proposed Turbine and was also issued to relevant elected representatives.

April 2026 onwards – Proposed Grid Connection route and planning application lodgement:
Between 13 April and 8 May 2026, information on the Proposed Grid Connection route was distributed to approximately 1,150 homes within approximately 2 km of the proposed turbine locations and adjacent to the proposed route *(Appendix D).* Community Information Sessions were held in Prosperous on 18 May 2026 and Allenwood on 20 May 2026, with more than 30 people attending across the two events. Relevant County Councillors and TDs were issued with the grid-route information in April 2026. Throughout the pre-application period, engagement was supported by the dedicated Community Liaison Team, project website, postal address, email and telephone contact details, through which 264 enquiries were received, and by a mailing list of approximately 70 people. Project information was also circulated to community groups through the Kildare and Offaly Public Participation Networks.

Following lodgement of the planning application, the refined layout map will be provided to residents within approximately 2 km of a proposed turbine and to relevant elected representatives, together with information on where the planning application documentation can be viewed.

2.2 Notification of Local Representatives

Due to COVID-19-related travel and meeting restrictions in winter 2020, the Applicant was unable to hold an in-person briefing session for Municipal District Councillors in conjunction with the first round of public consultation. Accordingly, in October 2020, the Project Team contacted Kildare County Councillors representing the Clane/Maynooth and Kildare/Newbridge Municipal Districts, and Offaly County Councillors representing the Edenderry Municipal District, by electronic communication to advise them of the Applicant's intention to develop a wind farm across the Ballydermot Bog Group, to be known as Ballydermot Wind Farm. The correspondence included a Project Information Booklet, an A2 double-sided map, a Project Information Letter, a link to the Virtual Consultation Room and a Feedback Questionnaire. The purpose of the engagement was to provide information on the Proposed Project and invite Councillors to contact the Project Team with any queries or feedback. Relevant TDs representing the Dáil Éireann constituencies of Laois –Offaly and Kildare South were also contacted electronically and provided with information on the Proposed Project

In June 2021, the Project Team provided relevant TDs and County Councillors with a further update on the Proposed Project by electronic communication. The information provided included a Project Information Booklet, a Photomontage Booklet, access to the Virtual Consultation Room, an A2 double-sided map, a Project Information Letter and a Feedback Questionnaire. Owing to the COVID-19 restrictions then in place, the Applicant was unable to hold an in-person briefing for TDs

and Councillors in advance of the second round of community information events (Appendix 2 – Project Information Pack, Summer 2021).

In August 2022, the Project Team contacted relevant TDs and County Councillors electronically and provided information on the proposed final layout and infrastructure plan, together with a Project Information Booklet on the Draft Amenity Plan and an amenity questionnaire (Appendix 3 – Project Information Pack, Autumn 2022).

In August 2024, relevant TDs and County Councillors were issued electronically with a project update letter outlining the anticipated planning application submission timeline (Appendix 4 – Project Update Letter, Autumn 2024).

In April 2026, relevant TDs and County Councillors were provided electronically with an update on the Proposed Grid Connection route for Ballydermot Wind Farm. The correspondence included an A2 double-sided map, a Project Information Booklet, a Project Information Letter and details of the forthcoming public consultation events (Appendix 5 – Project Information Pack, Spring/Summer 2026).

The project layout was further refined prior to lodgement of the planning application. The revised layout map will be provided to relevant County Councillors and TDs as part of the communication confirming that the planning application has been lodged, together with information on where the planning application documentation can be viewed.

2.3 Notification of Local Community

Following the announcement of the Proposed Development in October 2020, the Communit Liaison Team commenced household outreach on 5 October 2020 to provide information t residents within approximately 1.5 km of the study area. Door-to-door engagement was undertake initially; however, following the introduction of additional COVID-19 public health restrictions information packs were delivered without direct contact. The outreach concluded on 13 Novembe 2020, by which time approximately 1,014 residences had received a Project Information Pac *(Appendix A).* The pack contained:

- Introductory Letter.
- Accompanying Letter outlining engagement approach post 14th October due to additional Covid-19 measures announced by the Government.
- Details of Virtual Consultation Room.
- Project Information Brochure – including Community Liaison contact details for any follow-up queries or concerns.
- An A2 double-sided map – outlining the study area for the Proposed Development.
- A Feedback Questionnaire – to submit any comments/suggestions or identify other people/groups who should be included on the circulation list for project updates.
- A Consent form – to join the Proposed Development's postal system.
- A Freepost envelope – to facilitate the return of completed Feedback Questionnaire; Communications Opt-Out form and Consent form to the Project Team.
- A Community Engagement Clinic Flyer – with details on how to book by appointment only session.

2.4 Community Information Sessions – Phase 1

2.4.1 Virtual Clinics

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bord na Móna Powergen Ltd organised a series of online Community Information Sessions via Zoom. The first round commenced on 1 February 2021 and continued over a two-week period, with 22 people attending. Attendees received a brief presentation on the Proposed Development and had an opportunity to meet members of the Project Team and ask questions.

2.4.2 Virtual Room

A virtual consultation room was launched in October 2020 for the Phase 1 consultation and remained available online until 30 January 2021. It could be accessed directly or through the dedicated project website and provided a three-dimensional environment in which local communities and other stakeholders could view project information.

The geographical data recorded visitors from Dublin, Cork, Kildare, Wicklow, Galway, Limerick, Carlow, Cavan and Kerry, as well as visitors from South Africa and the United States. Frequently accessed content included the welcome section, the Ballydermot Wind Farm study-area map, the project overview, information on how wind turbines operate and information on the need for wind energy. The Virtual Consultation Room recorded 183 visits between October 2020 and January 2021 *(Appendix E).*

2.4.3 Feedback Forms

In addition to the Clinics, the Project Team received 34 responses via the dedicated feedback forms (print and online) between October 2020 and January 2021. The main queries/concerns raised during this stage of consultation were:

Bogs included in study area	Community Benefits	Community Engagement
Amenity Connectivity	Planning and road infrastructure	Biodiversity
Ecological sensitivity/wildlife	Visual Impact	Noise and Shadow Flicker

2.4.4 Mailing List

Between April 2021 and February 2026, circa 70 people signed up for the Proposed Project's mailing list.

2.5 Community Information Sessions – Phase 2

A second round of Community Information Sessions was held in summer 2021, when the project design had progressed to the draft turbine-layout stage. In accordance with the COVID-19 public health guidance then in place, the sessions were conducted on an appointment-only basis at the following locations and dates:

- 30th June & 21st July 2021: Allenwood Development Association, Station Rd., Allenwood.
- 7th July 2021: Rathangan Community Centre, Newtown St., Rathangan.

The dedicated project website and updated virtual consultation room made the Phase 2 consultation material available online. The material comprised:

- Cover Letter;
- Project Information Booklet;
- Draft Wind Turbine Layout A2 Map;
- 360-degree Photomontage Viewer;
- Feedback Questionnaire.

Between 8 June and 11 August 2021, the Community Liaison Team delivered a detailed Project Information Pack *(Appendix B)* containing the draft turbine layout and associated consultation material to approximately 1,014 homes. The information distributed to each household consisted of:

- Letter;
- A Project Information Booklet;
- A Photomontage booklet;
- An A2 Double Sided Draft Wind Turbine Layout A2 Map;
- A Feedback Questionnaire and Freepost Envelope.

Residents were advised that, subject to the further easing of COVID-19 restrictions, the Project Team intended to hold appointment-based Community Engagement Sessions in the locality of the Proposed Development during July and August 2021. Residents were invited to contact the Clinic Coordinator or visit the project website to register their interest. Nineteen expressions of interest were received, and 15 clinics were held.

2.5.1 Print Advertisement of Community Information Sessions

Advertisements with details on the Community Engagement Clinics were placed in local print media namely Leinster Leader and Kildare Nationalist *(Appendix F).* Details of the Community Engagement Clinics were advertised along with information on how to view the public consultation material on the project website or via contacting the Community Liaison.

2.5.2 Broadcast Advertisement of Community Information Sessions

Details of the Community information Sessions were broadcast on 2 local radio stations (Midlands 103 & KFM) three times daily on the 17th, 18th and 19th June and again on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of July to inform the local community of the Sessions.

2.5.3 Virtual Room

The virtual consultation room was updated on 8 June 2021 and remained available online until 2 September 2021. It could be accessed directly through the virtual-room link and through the dedicated project website.

The geographical data recorded visitors from Dublin, Kildare, Kerry, Meath, Galway and Cork, as well as visitors from the United Kingdom and the United States. Frequently accessed content included the welcome video, photomontage viewer, draft layout map and Proposed Project information. The Virtual Consultation Room recorded 298 visits between June and September 2021 *(Appendix G).*

2.5.4 Feedback Questionnaires

In respect of feedback questionnaires which were available in the Project Information Pack and accessible online through the Project website and the 'Virtual Consultation Room', between June and September 2021, the Proposed Development's communications team received 39 responses. Overall, the main queries/concerns raised during this stage of consultation were:

Traffic and Local Road Infrastructure	Proximity and height of turbines	Cumulative Visual Impact
Biodiversity and Ecology	Noise and Shadow Flicker	Community Benefit
Amenity	Community Engagement	Peatland Use

2.6 Community Information Session – Phase 3

2.6.1 Publication of Final Layout

Between 19 August and 15 September 2022, the Community Liaison Team delivered a project information pack *(Appendix C)* containing the proposed final turbine layout and Draft Amenity Plan to circa 800 homes within approximately 2 km of the Proposed Turbine locations. The information distributed to each household consisted of:

- Project Information Booklet (Draft Amenity);
- Project Final Layout Letter;
- Final Wind Farm turbine proximity layout A2 Map;
- Final Wind Farm Infrastructure A2 Map;
- Draft Amenity Infrastructure A2 Map;
- Draft Amenity Plan Questionnaire and Freepost Envelope.

The maps illustrated the proposed final turbine layout, indicative substation location, internal road infrastructure and Draft Amenity Plan. One map included distance bands extending to 2 km from the proposed turbines, enabling residents to identify the approximate proximity of the nearest proposed turbine to their property. A detailed Draft Amenity Plan booklet was also provided, together with a questionnaire inviting feedback on the amenity proposals. Twenty-five completed feedback forms were received.

2.7 Project Update Letter

In August and September 2024, the Community Liaison Team delivered a project update letter *(Appendix H)* outlining the anticipated planning application submission timeline to approximately 800 homes within 2 km of a proposed turbine.

2.8 Proposed Grid Route Consultation

2.8.1 Publication of Proposed Grid Route

Between 13 April and 8 May 2026, the Community Liaison Team delivered a Project Information Pack *(Appendix D)* containing updated information on the Proposed Project and the Proposed Grid Connection route to circa 1,150 homes within approximately 2 km of the Proposed Turbine locations and adjacent to the Proposed Grid Connection route. The pack distributed to each household consisted of:

- Project Information Letter and Booklet
- Proposed Grid Route A2 Map
- Details of two Community Information Sessions

2.8.2 Public Information Event

On 18 and 20 May 2026, Community Information Sessions were held in Prosperous and Allenwood to provide members of the local community with an opportunity to discuss the Proposed Project and Proposed Grid Connection route with the Project Team and external planning and environmental consultants. The events were advertised in local print media, including the Leinster Leader, from the week commencing 11 May 2026. More than 30 people attended across the two sessions.

2.9 Dedicated Contact Details

Since the project was first announced in October 2020, the Project Team has provided dedicated contact details for the Proposed Project including a dedicated phone number, email address,and postal address. To date, these channels have facilitated 264 enquiries about the Proposed Project.

2.10 Project Website

A dedicated project website, **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie** was created at the beginning of the Proposed Development and was updated throughout the lifecycle of the Proposed Project with information about the Proposed Project such as information distributed at Community Information Sessions, news, events, dedicated contact details for the Project Team, and downloadable material relating to the proposed location, project information booklets, layout maps, and communications with the public.

2.11 Dedicated Community Liaison Team

In October 2020, BnM appointed a dedicated Community Liaison Team for the Proposed Project to provide an accessible and consistent point of contact for local residents and stakeholders. The Team's role has included providing project updates, receiving and responding to queries, concerns and feedback, facilitating meetings and clinics, and referring relevant matters to the wider Project Team for consideration through the design and assessment process.

Although COVID-19 public health restrictions affected the frequency and format of in-person engagement, the Community Liaison Team continued to provide project information and facilitate engagement through the available channels, in accordance with the public health guidance applicable at the time.

The engagement programme used multiple channels, including household information distribution, virtual consultation facilities, online and appointment-based clinics, public information sessions, questionnaires, direct correspondence, dedicated contact details and the project website. These measures enabled consultation and information-sharing to continue throughout the pre-application period in accordance with the COVID-19 public health requirements applicable at the time.

2.12 Engagement with Community Groups

The Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development in Ireland requests that all community groups local to the Proposed Project should be provided with the same information material as provided to local residents.

As the Applicant did not hold a comprehensive database of community groups in the vicinity of the Proposed Project, the Project Team liaised with the Kildare and Offaly Public Participation Networks to identify an appropriate means of distributing project information. For data-protection reasons, the Public Participation Networks could not provide group contact details but agreed to circulate the relevant project information to community groups on the Applicant's behalf. Project information issued to residents was therefore also provided electronically to both Public Participation Networks for onward circulation.

2.13 Notification of Planning Application Lodgement

The project layout was further refined prior to lodgement of the planning application. While the revised layout map has not yet been published, it will be provided to residents within approximately 2 km of a proposed turbine as part of the communication confirming that the planning application has been lodged. This notification will provide residents with the updated layout and information on where the planning application documentation can be viewed.

3. Community Input into Proposed Project

Feedback received through questionnaires, clinics, public information sessions, correspondence and direct meetings was recorded and reviewed by the Project Team. Matters capable of influencing the design were considered alongside the findings of the EIAR studies and other technical and planning constraints. Recurring topics included turbine proximity and layout, visual effects, noise, shadow flicker, ecology and biodiversity, traffic and road infrastructure, peatland use, amenity, community benefit and the proposed grid connection. The principal design and amenity responses arising from this process are summarised below.

3.1 Number of Turbines

The initial draft layout shared with the public comprised 50 turbines. Following consideration of consultation feedback, together with environmental surveys, noise and shadow flicker modelling, technical studies and advice from the planning and environmental consultants, the layout was refined to 46 turbines. Strong community sentiment was expressed regarding the potential siting of turbines on Lodge Bog. This feedback was considered as part of the iterative design process, alongside the relevant environmental and technical constraints, and no turbines are proposed on Lodge Bog. The final layout therefore reflects community input where practicable, together with the environmental and technical considerations assessed in the EIAR.

3.2 Recreational Facilities

The Proposed Project includes new access roads required for turbine construction, operation and maintenance. Consultation feedback identified a local interest in recreational access and connectivity, and this informed the preparation of the Draft Amenity Plan published in 2022. The plan proposes using appropriate sections of the wind farm infrastructure to support walking, cycling and equestrian routes, subject to environmental, operational and safety requirements. It includes approximately 55 km of proposed waymarked routes, together with car parking, toilets, sheltered rest areas, seating, picnic areas, signage, a natural play area, sensory features and interpretative elements. The proposed facilities have been designed to integrate with the wind farm infrastructure, and peatland rehabilitation works and to support potential future connections with surrounding settlements and sites of interest.

3.2.1 Interpretation Panels

Interpretation and orientation signage is proposed at appropriate locations throughout the site to guide and inform users. A consistent design approach would be applied, with durable materials selected to integrate with the landscape and other proposed site furniture. Subject to detailed design, interpretative features may include interactive signs incorporating bird calls or historic recordings and may use renewable-energy or manually operated systems.

3.2.2 Benches and Picnic Tables

Simple rustic style benches with armrests are proposed throughout the Proposed Wind Farm site. Every effort will be made to use recycled/reusable materials where possible. Typical examples of such materials would be reclaimed timber or recycled plastic. Picnic table sets of a similar design will be installed at various locations to provide users with opportunities to rest and enjoy lunch on their visit. They will be designed to be wheelchair accessible.

3.2.3 Way marker Post

Waymarker posts will be used at key junctions throughout the Proposed Wind Farm site to guide users along designated trails. The posts and bollards will be made from recycled plastic. They will include:

- Tall finger posts with labelled markers at main path intersections to highlight routes to special features such as car parks or sites of interest;
- Smaller waymarker bollards at path junctions with colour coded directional discs to direct people along designated trails.

3.2.4 Shelters

Simple shelters are proposed at key locations around the Proposed Wind Farm site.
Benches/picnic tables will be located within or beside the shelters to create areas for rest on longer walks.

3.2.5 Sculptural Features

Sculptures will feature on walking trails near the Ballydermot Works Car Park and the Edenderry Car Park to increase awareness and understanding of the heritage of the Proposed Wind Farm site. They will also act as points of interest for trail users.

3.2.6 Sensory Garden and Play Amenities

A natural adventure play area is proposed as part of the Draft Amenity Plan. Natural play uses a mix of natural materials and features including earth mounding, boulders, logs and fallen trees, trees and other vegetation to create play opportunities. A sensory garden will be located next to the natural play area. This space will have a range of play features, materials, paving surfaces and planting that stimulate the various senses. This will include large sensory play boards / panels, a kinetic wind sculpture and sensory path surfaces.

3.3 Proposed Trails

Consultation feedback identified a desire for recreational facilities and improved amenity connectivity within and beyond the site. In response, the Draft Amenity Plan includes a network of proposed walking, cycling and equestrian routes of varying lengths. The routes use existing roads, former railway lines and proposed wind farm access roads where practicable, thereby limiting additional land disturbance and supporting integration with the wider peatland rehabilitation and environmental management objectives. The proposed trail network includes:

- Nine waymarked circular walking/cycling trails ranging from 1.3km to 21km;
- A dedicated 8.5km circular trail for equestrian users only;

- Proposed connections to neighbouring sites of interest including Killinthomas Wood, the Grand Canal and Cloncreen Wind Farm with potential for future connectivity to other neighbouring sites of interest;
- Approx. 55km of waymarked routes (walking, cycling, and equestrian) on BnM lands within the Ballydermot Wind Farm.

3.3.1. Primary Access Points - Amenity Carparks

The Draft Amenity Plan proposes four public car parks for recreational use during the operational stage of the Proposed Project Three would provide general pedestrian and cycling access at different locations across the site, while a separate parking area for equestrian users is proposed on the eastern side. The proposed car parks would include bicycle-parking facilities, and seating and picnic tables would be provided at appropriate locations, subject to detailed design and the relevant planning, environmental, operational and safety requirements.

3.4 Construction Traffic and Local Roads

Community members raised concerns regarding the use of local roads by construction and delivery vehicles and the potential effects on local road infrastructure and road users. In response, and informed by the relevant traffic and transport studies, the Project Team has developed the proposed construction traffic routes to prioritise the use of national and regional roads, where practicable, and thereby limit the use of local roads during construction of the Proposed Project.

3.5 Amenity Access and Connectivity

Local feedback informed further refinement of the proposed amenity design. The route along the Crabtree River was updated to provide walking-only access along the existing track, reflecting local views regarding the appropriate use of this area. The amenity proposals also include a connection towards Killinthomas Wood, supporting improved recreational connectivity between the Proposed Project and this established local amenity, subject to the relevant environmental, land, operational and safety requirements.

3.6 Turbine Height

As part of the iterative design process, the maximum tip height of the Proposed Turbines located along the outer edge of the Proposed Project was reduced from 220m to 200m. The refinement followed consideration of community feedback concerning turbine height and visual effects, together with aviation requirements and the relevant technical and environmental assessments.

4. Enduring Economic Benefit

4.1 Enduring Economic Benefit

The Applicant recognises that the Preferred Draft Approach to Wind Energy Development in Ireland (June 2017) and the Code of Practice for Wind Energy Development in Ireland (December 2016) stipulate that wind farm developers should identify the enduring economic benefits that a proposed development may provide to the communities concerned and should also identify potential short-term economic benefits.

4.1.1 Short Term Economic Benefits

Subject to planning consent, final investment decision, procurement arrangements and the construction programme, the Proposed Project is estimated to support approximately 200–250 jobs at peak construction. Construction activity may also provide indirect benefits to the local and regional economy through demand for accommodation, food and other services and through the supply of materials, including stone and concrete. The scale and location of these benefits would depend on contractor requirements, workforce availability and procurement outcomes.

Subject to planning consent, the Proposed Project would be liable for any development contribution imposed by the relevant planning authority in accordance with the applicable development contribution scheme. Such contributions may be applied by the relevant local authority towards public infrastructure and facilities, including roads, parking, wastewater infrastructure, drainage, water services, open space, community facilities, amenities and landscaping works. The allocation of any contribution would be a matter for the relevant local authority.

4.1.2 Long-Term Economic Benefits

Subject to planning consent, final investment decision and the applicable regulatory and funding arrangements, the Proposed Project has the potential to provide long-term economic benefits to surrounding communities, including employment, commercial rates and a Community Benefit Fund.

-Employment

If constructed and operational, the Proposed Project would support a number of long-term technical roles associated with its operation and maintenance.

-Commercial Rates

If constructed and operational, the Proposed Project would be liable for commercial rates payable to the relevant local authorities in accordance with the applicable valuation and rating arrangements. The use and allocation of rates income would be a matter for the relevant local authorities.

-Community Benefit Fund

Should the Proposed Project receive planning consent and proceed to construction and operation following a final investment decision, a Community Benefit Fund would be established in accordance with the applicable regulatory and funding requirements. The Fund's value, duration, eligibility criteria, governance and allocation arrangements would be confirmed having regard to the final project capacity, generation performance and the requirements applicable at the time of implementation.

In accordance with the Department's Community Benefit Fund Rulebook, as updated in 2025, the Fund would be intended to support projects and initiatives benefiting communities surrounding the Proposed Development. Subject to the requirements applicable at the time, community participation would inform the Fund's governance and strategy, with arrangements designed to represent a broad cross-section of the eligible community.

BnM has a long history of delivering local community benefit funds at other wind farms, and has supported a number of strategic initiatives, including support for scholarships and strategic community projects, may inform the development of the Ballydermot fund; however, its priorities and awards would be determined through its own governance and allocation processes.

For example, BnM administers scholarship programmes associated with the Cloncreen, Derrinlough and Oweninny Phase 2 wind farms. Depending on the applicable fund strategy and eligibility criteria, such programmes may provide grants to successful applicants, including apprentices, over a defined period of study. Eligible costs may include course fees, accommodation, tools and transport. Any scholarship programme associated with the Proposed Project would be developed through the applicable Community Benefit Fund governance and consultation process.

Subject to the applicable Community Benefit Fund requirements and the final scheme design, the fund may include a Near Neighbour Scheme for eligible principal private residences within a prescribed distance of a wind turbine. The scheme may provide annual financial support that could be used towards energy costs, home retrofits or other energy-efficiency measures and may also include contributions towards eligible property measures or education support.

Based on an assumed annual generation of 823,650 MWh and a contribution rate of €2/MWh, the indicative value of the Community Benefit Fund is estimated at approximately €24 million over the first 15 years of operation. This estimate is subject to the Proposed Development receiving planning consent, reaching final investment decision and becoming operational, and would vary with the final installed capacity, actual electricity generation, operational availability and the Community Benefit Fund requirements applicable at the time.

5. Conclusion

The Project Team engaged with local communities and stakeholders from the announcement of the Proposed Development in October 2020. As the project was launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, public health restrictions limited conventional in-person engagement. The Project Team therefore used household information distribution, a dedicated project website, a three-dimensional virtual consultation room, online clinics and feedback questionnaires, with appointment-based in-person engagement introduced as restrictions eased.

The engagement programme enabled the Project Team to identify and consider recurring community matters throughout the pre-application process. Feedback relating to turbine layout, residential amenity, noise, shadow flicker, visual effects, traffic, ecology, peatland use, recreational access, community benefit and the grid connection was recorded and referred for consideration through the iterative design and EIA process. The resulting proposal reflects community input where practicable, alongside the environmental, technical, planning, land and operational constraints applicable to the Proposed Project.

Subject to planning consent, final investment decision and the applicable funding and regulatory arrangements, the Proposed Project would provide potential short- and long-term benefits to surrounding communities. These include construction and operational employment, commercial rates payable to the relevant local authorities, proposed recreational infrastructure and a Community Benefit Fund. The detailed delivery and administration of these measures would be progressed in accordance with the relevant statutory, regulatory and project requirements.

Subject to the conditions outlined above, the Community Benefit Fund would provide a mechanism to support eligible local initiatives and community priorities. Its governance, strategic objectives and allocation arrangements would be developed in consultation with community representatives and in accordance with the applicable Community Benefit Fund requirements. This approach is intended to support transparent decision-making and the delivery of locally relevant benefits over the operational life of the Proposed Project.

Appendix A: Project Information Pack, Winter 2020, Project Introduction

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

Bord na Móna Powergen
Main Street
Newbridge
Co. Kildare
5th October 2020

Re: Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

Dear Resident,

In line with ongoing company strategy, Bord na Móna Powergen is proposing to develop a wind farm within the Ballydermot Bog Group located in counties Kildare and Offaly. Please see enclosed map for more detail on the study area for the proposed development. The wind farm will be known as Ballydermot Wind Farm.

Bord na Móna Powergen's interest in bringing forward the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm is a result of the company's transition to becoming a major supplier of renewable energy. As part of its Brown to Green Strategy, the company is implementing an extensive peatland rehabilitation programme and expanding its new low carbon operations and resource recovery. A key objective of this strategy involves using the land to continue to underpin Ireland's energy independence by developing green, sustainable energy sources to assist with Ireland's commitment to generate 70% renewable electricity by 2030.

The proposed development of Ballydermot Wind Farm will contribute to both Ireland's and the European Union's renewable energy targets. It will also contribute to increasing the security of Ireland's energy supply and will facilitate a higher level of energy generation and self-sufficiency.

As the project is at a very early stage the proposed location and height of the turbines has not been determined. As this information becomes available, we will continue to keep you informed. At this stage of the project, the company is seeking to consult the local community about its intention to develop a wind farm on these bogs.

Community Engagement Clinics

Bord na Móna will be holding Community Engagement Clinics in late November/early December in Allenwood, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan. In order to ensure the safety of both our employees and members of the public due to Covid-19, and that all social distancing requirements and Government health guidelines are adhered to, these Community Engagement Clinics will be held **by appointment only**. They will be restricted to up to three people per household at any one time.

If you would like to find out more about the Clinics and avail of an appointment, please contact the clinic co-ordinator on 087-9460284 before November 25th. If you are unable to attend, the project team can also facilitate meetings outside of these sessions and the proposed study area map can also be viewed on the project website at www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie.

Information Pack

In the meantime, please find enclosed the following:

1. Project Information Brochure;
2. An A2 double sided map - outlining the study area for the proposed development;
3. A feedback sheet should you wish to submit any comments/suggestions or identify other people/groups who should be included on the circulation list for project updates;
4. A form should you not wish to receive further related information on the proposed development;

Please turn over →

5. A consent form to sign up to our postal system should we not be able to call directly to your home due to Covid 19 restrictions;
6. A freepost envelope.
7. Details of our Virtual Consultation Room

A copy of this letter is being circulated to all homes within a 1.5km radius of the Ballydermot bog group. It will also be circulated to the Public Participation Networks for Offaly and Kildare for distribution to Community Groups in the vicinity of the proposed development to inform them of the project.

Virtual Consultation Room

As part of our Community Engagement activities, we have also launched a 'Virtual Consultation Room'. The Virtual Room is set-up in a similar style to our tradition public consultation events which we are currently unable to hold due to Covid-19. The Room contains information about the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm in an interactive format. Please feel free to visit the Virtual Consultation Room and explore the content provided. This Virtual Room can be viewed at www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie.

Contact Details

In the meantime, if you would like any further information please contact our Community Liaison Officers – James on 087-7087022 or Niall on 087-9951174. You can also email us at ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie. or write to us at Ballydermot Wind Farm, Bord na Móna Powergen, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

Yours Faithfully,

Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

Ballydermot Wind Farm – Feedback Questionnaire

Please return completed form by 23rd December 2020.

You can also complete this form online by visiting www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie

Q1. What are the main concerns you have about the Company's proposal to developing Ballydermot Wind Farm?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q2. What types of benefits do you believe the local community should receive if the wind farm is developed?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q3. What further information would you like to see at the next stage of consultation for the project?
Note, a draft layout including proposed number of turbines and their locations will be published at the next stage of Community Consultation.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q4. Have you any other comments in relation to the project?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Q5. Please identify other groups who should be included on the circulation list for project updates other than those outlined in the main letter.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Eircode: _____

RETURN ADDRESS – via freepost envelope enclosed: Bord na Móna Powergen, Main Street, FREEPOST FNS109 Newbridge, Co. Kildare E-mail: Ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

Communications Opt Out Form

Dear Resident,

*Should you **not** wish to receive any further related information on the proposed development please complete the form below and return via the freepost envelope enclosed.*

For the purposes of data protection, please note that the only personal data that we hold will be your name and Eircode. This will not be connected to any other personal data relating to you. Your details will be stored in a secure encrypted database on the Bord na Móna servers for the duration of the Ballydermot Wind Farm project. Your details will only be used to ensure you are not included on any of circulation lists for project updates/further related information on the Ballydermot Wind Farm project. Your details will be deleted from our systems on completion of the Ballydermot Wind Farm project.

By submitting your name and Eircode to us, you are consenting to allow us to use your information for the above purpose.

Yours Faithfully,
Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team



By submitting my contact details to Bord na Móna Powergen Ltd., I confirm I **do not** wish to receive any further related information on the proposed *Ballydermot* Wind Farm project.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name: _____

Eircode: _____

Please return via the freepost envelope enclosed to: **Bord na Móna Powergen, FREEPOST FNS109, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.**

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

Consent Form to join Postal Communication List

You can also complete this form online by visiting www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie

Dear Resident,

To keep you informed of all relevant project updates Bord na Móna Powergen Ltd. is providing the option to subscribe to our postal service to provide project updates. If you wish to participate in this service for the Ballydermot Wind Farm project, please provide your name and address on the below form and return it via freepost in the enclosed envelope. Please note you can Opt-Out of the service at any time by email to ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie *or by writing to: Ballydermot Wind Farm, Bord na Móna Powergen, Newbridge Co. Kildare.*

For the purposes of data protection, please note that the only personal data that we hold will be your name and address. This will not be connected to any other personal data relating to you. Your details will be stored in a secure encrypted database on the Bord na Móna servers for the duration of the Ballydermot Wind Farm project (or until you opt out of the service). Your details will only be used to send you postal updates with relevant project updates for the Ballydermot Wind Farm project.

If you decide to opt out at any time, your details will be securely deleted from our systems and you will no longer be contacted. Otherwise, your details will be deleted from our systems on completion of the Ballydermot Wind Farm project.

By submitting your name and address to us, you are consenting to allow us to use your information for the above purpose.

Yours Faithfully,
Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team

By submitting my contact details to Bord na Móna Powergen Ltd., I consent **to allow** them to use my information to send me relevant project updates via post for the *Ballydermot* Wind Farm project.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

Name: _____

Address: _____

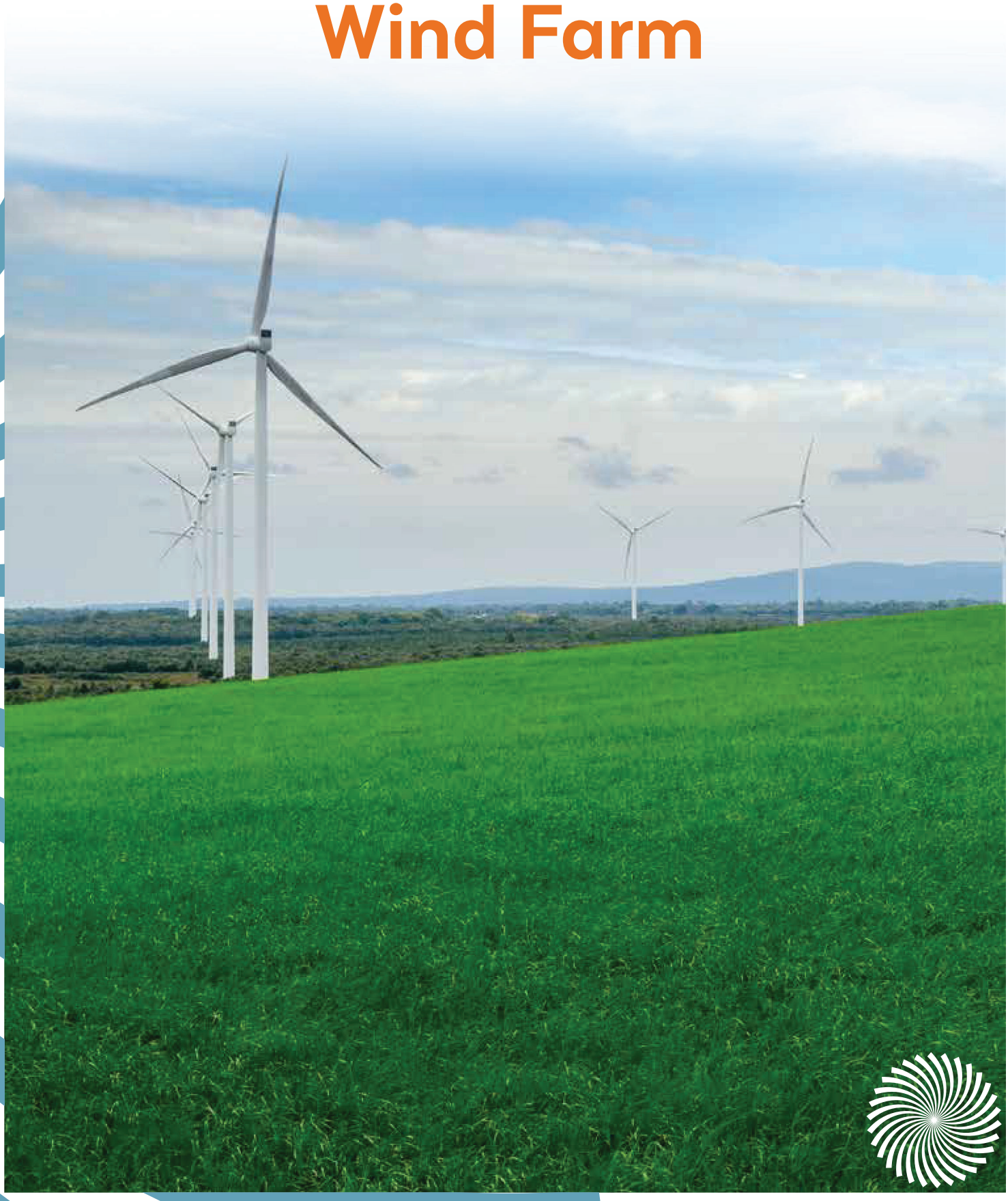
Eircode: _____

Please return via the freepost envelope enclosed to: **Bord na Móna Powergen, FREEPOST FNS109, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.**

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

October 2020

Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm



Introduction

Bord na Móna is an iconic commercial semi-state company that was established almost 90 years ago to develop Ireland's peat resources for the economic benefit of Ireland and to enhance security of energy supply. In recent times, the business has gone through radical change, announcing the new "Brown to Green" strategy, moving away from peat, and focusing on renewable energy, recycling, and peatland rehabilitation operations. A key objective of this strategy involves using the land to continue to underpin Ireland's energy independence by developing green, sustainable energy sources to assist with Ireland's commitment to achieve 70% renewable electricity by 2030.

Bord na Móna is committed to investing to deliver low carbon energy solutions in Ireland, thereby continuing its pivotal role in contributing to the State's energy security. To achieve this Bord na Móna will significantly increase its existing renewable energy asset base beyond the current installed capacity of almost 400 MW.

The company has been a leader in the Irish renewables sector for some time, having been involved in the development of Ireland's first ever commercial wind farm on its Bellacorick Bog in Co Mayo in 1992.

As part of the company's Brown to Green Strategy, Bord na Móna has identified the Ballydermot Bog Group as having the potential for the development of a wind farm.

The Proposed Development - Ballydermot Wind Farm

The proposed development study area comprises 14 bogs, known as the Ballydermot Bog Group located in Counties Kildare and Offaly. The study area for the proposed wind farm is shown in Figure 1 below. The Bog Group is close to the communities of Allenwood, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan.

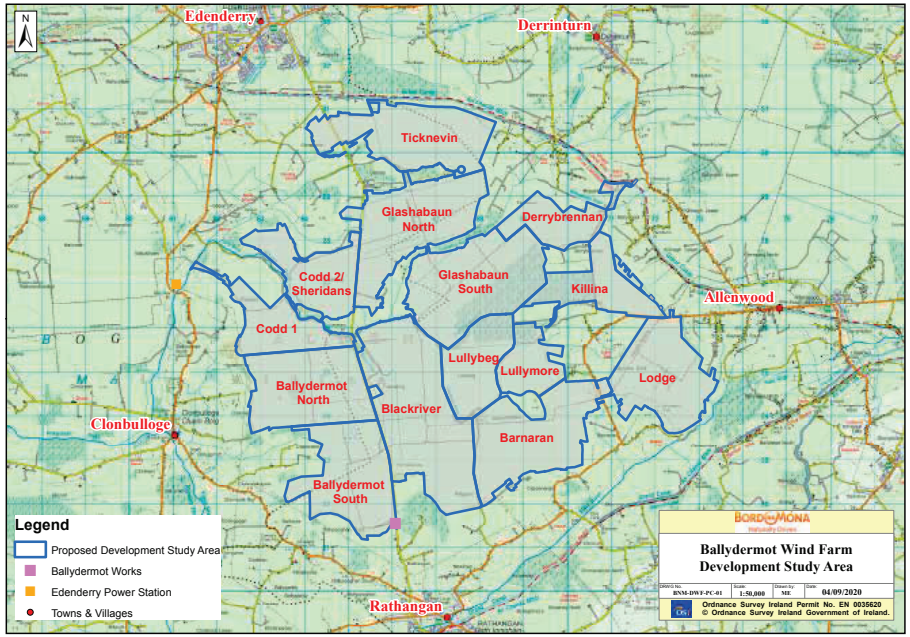


Figure 1 – Site Location Map

The development of a wind farm on this Bog Group would continue the long tradition of energy production in a new increasingly sustainable form and underpin Bord na Móna's move away from its traditional 'brown' generation to a more sustainable 'green' future. The electricity generated by the turbines would be transmitted directly onto Ireland's National Grid which is managed by EirGrid for distribution around the country. As the project is at an early stage the number and location of turbines has not yet been determined.

Bord na Móna's peatlands offer a number of advantages for the development of onshore wind farms, which include:

- Significant scale, and are present in large blocks
- Industrial, brown-field sites, suitable for redevelopment
- Open, unenclosed landscapes with good wind characteristics
- Linked by rail or road passageways, suitable for cable connection
- Generally flat and well drained, with minimal dangers of land slippage
- Proven delivery of this type of development, as demonstrated by Bruckana, Mountlucas and Oweninny Wind Farms.

Irish Government Policy on Renewable Energy

Successive Governments have been developing policy to chart a course towards ambitious decarbonisation targets for Electricity, Transport, Built Environment, Industry and Agriculture.

In March 2019, the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action published its cross-party report entitled, Climate Change: A Cross-Party Consensus for Action, which set out 42 priority recommendations in the area of climate action, including a target for 70 percent renewable electricity.

The Programme for Government 2020 details how energy will play a central role in the creation of a strong and sustainable economy over the next decade. The reliable supply of safe, secure and clean energy is essential in order to deliver a phase-out of fossil fuels. We need to facilitate the increased electrification of heat and transport. This will create rapid growth in demand for electricity which must be planned and delivered in a cost-effective way.

The Irish Government supports the use of Ireland's wind resources to meet our renewable energy targets. Outlined below is some of the most recent relevant Irish Government Policy:

- Energy White Paper entitled Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015-2030.
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 as a landmark national milestone in the evolution of climate change policy in Ireland. The purpose of the act is pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.
- The Climate Action Plan 2019: This plan identifies how Ireland will achieve its 2030 targets for carbon emissions, and puts the country on a trajectory to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The plan outlines that Ireland will move to 70% renewable electricity by 2030. The Government will be bringing forward the Climate Action (Amendment) Bill, this will ensure the Climate Action Plan is made into law.
- Project 2040: National Development Plan 2018 – 2027 which outlines an additional 4,500 MW of renewable energy as an investment priority as part of strategic pillar No. 8 – Transition to a Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Society.
- Renewable Electricity Support Scheme to contribute to Ireland's 2020 renewable electricity targets and to deliver Ireland's renewable energy ambitions out to 2030.
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government is currently preparing an update to the 2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines and in December 2019 published revised draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines for consultation.
- Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment is preparing a Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework to guide the development of renewable electricity projects in line with the objectives of Irish energy policy.

Need for Wind Energy

Government policy has set a target for 40% of the electricity consumed in 2020 to be generated from renewable resources, within an overall renewable energy target of 16%. It is acknowledged that wind energy will provide the main component of Ireland's renewable electricity at that time. Furthermore, in March 2019, the Government announced a renewable electricity target of 70% by 2030. The proposed development is likely to be operational before 2030 and would therefore contribute to this 2030 target.

The Climate Action Plan 2019 (CAP) was published on the 1st of August 2019 by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. The CAP sets out an ambitious course of action over the coming years to address the impacts which climate may have on Ireland's environment, society, economic and natural resources. This Plan clearly recognises that Ireland must significantly step up its commitments to tackle climate disruption. The CAP identifies a need for 8.2GW of onshore wind generation. The CAP presents clear and unequivocal support for the provision of additional renewable energy generation and presents yet further policy support for increased wind energy.

Wind farms produce renewable electricity and assist in the offset of carbon emissions including those arising from other sectors, such as agriculture. The proposed project will contribute to both Ireland's and the European Union's renewable energy targets. It will also contribute to increasing the security of Ireland's energy supply and will facilitate a higher level of energy generation and self-sufficiency.

Site Selection

In selecting a site for a wind farm development there are a number of criteria that must be considered. Based on these criteria some sites are more suitable for wind farms than others. The main criteria that we consider include:

- Grid Access
- Proximity to Dwellings
- County Development Plan
- Environmental and Ecological Sensitivities
- Telecommunications Links
- Cumulative Visual Impact
- Flooding Risk
- Supporting Infrastructure
- Aviation



Wind Stats - Did you know?

15%
In 2019, wind energy covered 15% of the EU's electricity demand.

28.1%
Wind Generation accounted for 28.1% (normalised) of the electricity generated in Ireland in 2018 and was the second largest source of electricity generation after natural gas.

33%
In Europe, Ireland had the second highest share of wind in its electricity demand in 2019 - 33%. Denmark had the highest share at 48%.

1,276 MW
Installed capacity in NI: 1,276 MW

205,000 MW
At the end of 2019, Europe had 205,000 MW of wind energy capacity installed

1992
Year Ireland's first commercial wind farm was commissioned at Bellacorick, Co. Mayo.

Installed capacity in ROI : 4,201 MW
4,201 MW

€37bn
Wind contributes €37bn to EU GDP. Each GW of onshore wind Europe builds supports around 5,000 jobs in planning, manufacturing and installation.

169 MW
Installed capacity of Ireland's largest wind farm in Co. Galway

4,249 MW
New All Ireland Wind Record was set on 21st February 2020 at 18:21. Up from the previous record of 4,137 MW.

Source: Irish Wind Energy Association/Energy in Ireland 1990 - 2016. Wind Europe 2020 Report published by SEAI/Global Wind Energy Council

How Wind Turbines Operate

Almost all wind turbines producing electricity consist of vertical blades which rotate around a horizontal axis. Most modern wind turbines have three blades which face into the wind when extracting the energy needed to generate electricity. The blades are attached to a hub which in turn is connected to a generator by means of a gearbox or direct drive mechanism, which are located inside a protective container called a nacelle. This is where the electricity is made. As the blades are turning, they spin the generator to create electricity. A generator is a machine that produces electrical energy from mechanical energy, whereas an electric motor does the reverse.

The nacelle is the large box at the top of the tower where all the main electrical components are located. Figure 2 shows an image which depicts the main elements of a modern wind turbine. Many of the key working parts of a wind turbine are located in the nacelle at the top of the tower and their enclosure within the nacelle reduces noise from the turbine. A schematic of a wind turbine nacelle is shown in Figure 3, with the key components labelled for easy reference.

Tubular towers, which support the nacelle and rotor, are usually made of steel and taper from their base to the top. The entire nacelle and rotor are designed to swing around, or 'yaw', in order to face the prevailing wind and extract the maximum amount of energy.

A modern wind turbine is designed to produce high quality electricity whenever enough wind is available. Wind turbines can operate continuously, unattended, and with low maintenance, with a design life of over 20 years. They are highly reliable, with operating availabilities (the proportion of the time in which they could generate if wind conditions were suitable) of up to 98%. Few other electricity generating technologies offer a higher availability.

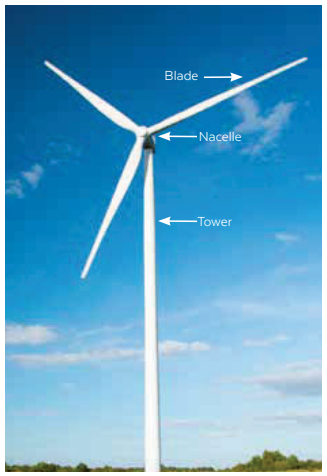


Figure 2 – Image of a Typical Wind Turbine

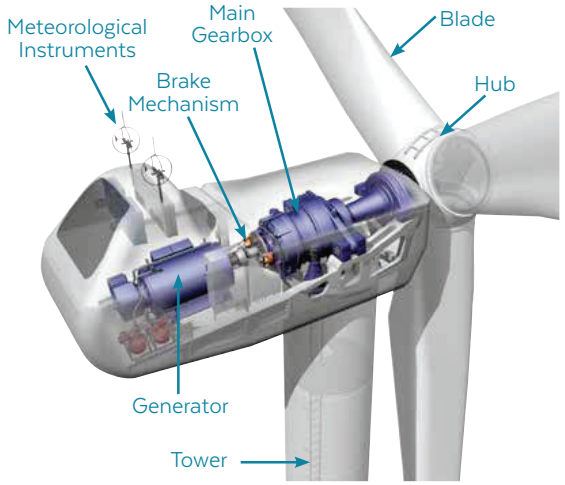


Figure 3 - Schematic of a typical Wind Turbine nacelle

Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines in Ireland

Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines were issued for public consultation in December 2019 after the review of the 2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines. Key aspects of the draft included:

1. **Noise Limits**

   Noise restriction limits consistent with World Health Organisation standards are proposed. The noise limits will apply to outdoor locations at any residential or noise sensitive properties.

2. **Visual Amenity Setback**

   A visual amenity setback distance, of 4 times the tip height, between a wind turbine and the nearest residential property is proposed, subject to a mandatory minimum setback of 500 metres.

3. **Shadow Flicker**

   It is proposed that technology and appropriate modelling at design stage is adopted to eradicate the occurrence of shadow flicker and must be confirmed in all planning applications for wind energy development.

4. **Consultation Obligations**

   Planning applications must contain a 'Community Report' prepared by the applicant which will specify how the final proposal reflects community consultation and the steps taken to ensure that the proposed development will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned and demonstrate adherence to community engagement codes of practice.

5. **Grid Connection**

   From a visual amenity aspect, undergrounding of cable connections from wind farms to the transmission and distribution system is the most appropriate solution, except where specific ground conditions or technical considerations make this impractical.

6. **Community Dividend**

   Wind farm developers will also be required to take steps to ensure that the proposed development will be of enduring economic benefit to the communities concerned.

Strategic Infrastructure Development Planning Process Explained

For most large projects, a key issue is whether a development is Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) or not? Energy infrastructure which is considered SID* includes:

"An installation for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (a wind farm) with more than 25 turbines or having a total output greater than 50 megawatts" *(as outlined in the Seventh Schedule, Section 1 of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006).

SID Projects	Non-SID Projects
Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála	Planning Application to Local County Council
Environmental Impact Assessment Mandatory	Environmental Impact Assessment Mandatory in some cases

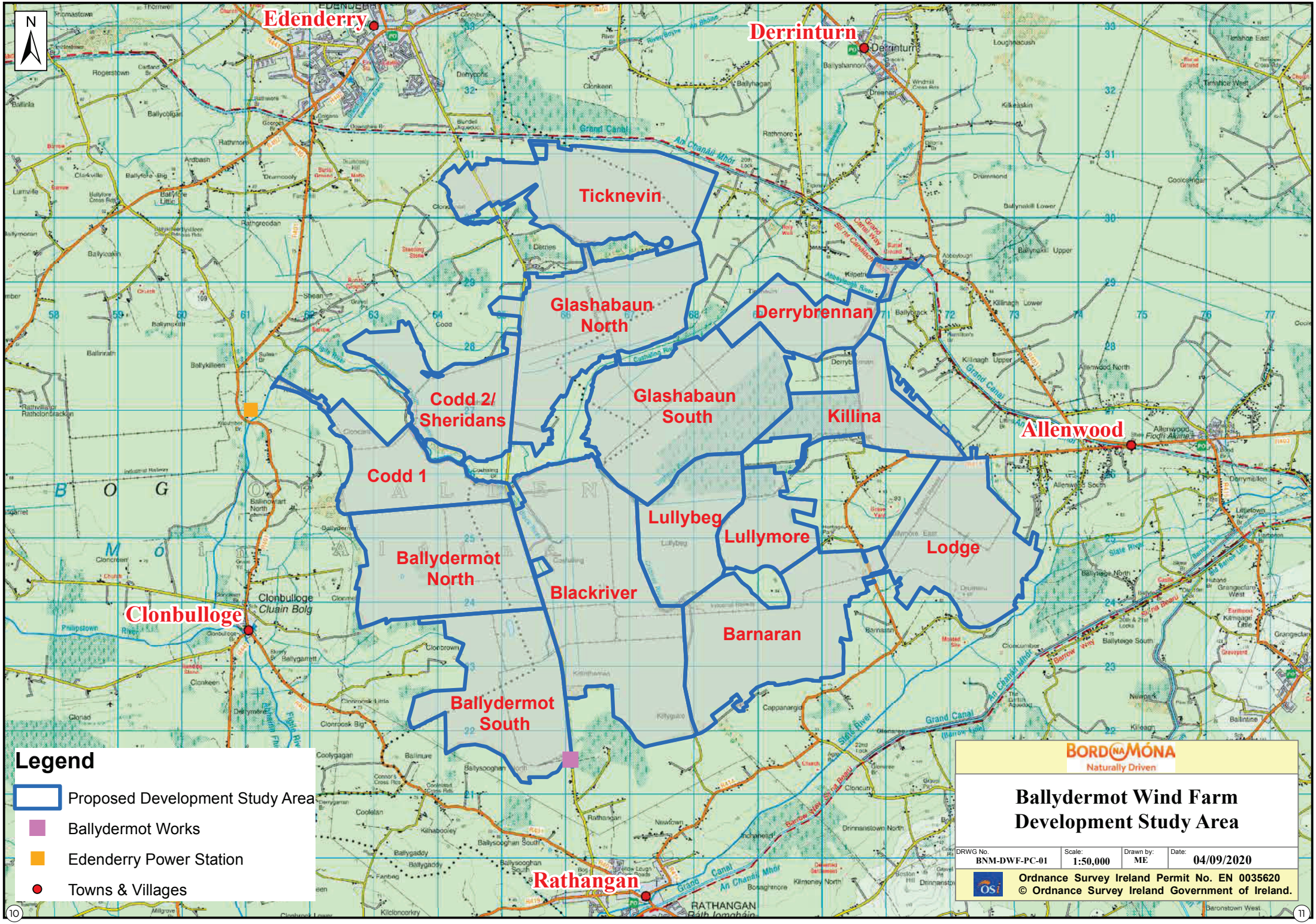
At this early stage of the project, Bord na Móna estimate that the output of the proposed wind farm will be in excess of 50MW. Consequently, Bord na Móna will need to go through a pre-planning consultation process with An Bord Pleanála to determine with certainty who the consenting authority will be. Irrespective of the Consenting Authority it is our view that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be required as supporting documentation to the planning application. To learn more about the SID process please visit: www.pleanala.ie/sid

What is included in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)?

Due to the nature and scale of the proposed development an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposed development will need to be carried out. As part of this process, an environmental baseline for the proposed development site will be established through fieldwork and other baseline surveys.

All of this information will be described and documented in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (formerly known as an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)) which will accompany the planning application documentation submitted to the appropriate Consenting Authority for consideration. The EIAR will comprise the following chapters as a minimum:




N
Edenderry
Derrinturn
Ticknevin
Glashabaun North
Derrybrennan
Codd 2/ Sheridans
Glashabaun South
Killina
Allenwood
Codd 1
Lullybeg
Lullymore
Lodge
Ballydermot North
Blackriver
Barnaran
Clonbulloge
Ballydermot South
Rathangan
Legend
Proposed Development Study Area
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Towns & Villages
BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Development Study Area
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PC-01
Scale: 1:50,000
Drawn by: ME
Date: 04/09/2020
Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. EN 0035620
© Ordnance Survey Ireland Government of Ireland.

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

A typical tool utilised in the assessment of the visual impact of a wind farm is a Photomontage. Photomontages are visualisations that superimpose an image of a proposed development upon a photograph or series of photographs and are used to illustrate the potential impact of a development on the existing landscape. A number of photomontages will be created as part of the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) for the proposed wind farm.

Photomontages were produced as part of the LVIA for Mountlucas Wind Farm during the planning application process. A comparison of one of the photomontages generated for the LVIA, and a photograph taken from the same location post construction, is shown below. It illustrates the effectiveness and accuracy of this tool when applied to this type of development. Samples of the photomontages which will form part of the LVIA for this proposed development will be provided at the next round of Community Information Sessions.



Benefits of the Development

The proposed development will give rise to a range of benefits at different levels:

At a Local Level, benefits arising from the construction and operation of the proposed wind farm will include:

- Community Benefit Fund.
- 150 - 200 jobs at peak construction.
- Substantial rates paid to the relevant Local Authority.
- Upgrading of the road infrastructure in the vicinity of the wind farm (as required).
- Payment of taxes from the project, and dividends from Bord na Móna to the State.
- Supporting a number of long term, high quality technical jobs in operations and maintenance.
- Indirect employment created through the sub-supply of a wide range of products and services.

At a Regional Level, the new development will help to supply the rising demand for electricity, resulting from renewed economic growth in the Midlands region. During construction, additional employment will be created in the region through the supply of services and materials to the wind farm.

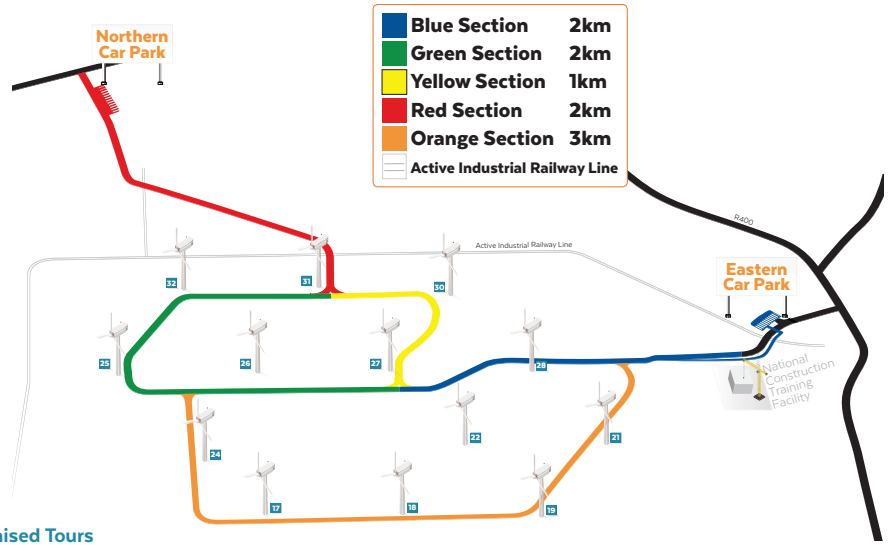
At a National Level, the new development will play a significant role in contributing to the country's national renewable electricity production and carbon emissions reduction targets by 2030, while also supporting a growing economy and population. During operation, the wind farm will eliminate the need to generate the equivalent amount of electricity from fossil fuels, and it will therefore help to reduce total national greenhouse gas emissions. In doing so, it will reduce our dependence on external energy sources, help improve our energy security of supply and make a major contribution to Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2019, which has set a target of 8.2GW of onshore wind capacity by 2030.



Potential Wind Farm Recreational Facilities

Public Walkway – Cycleway

Mountlucas Wind Farm consists of a 10 km walkway / cycleway around the wind farm. It is generally accessible all year round – free of charge with onsite parking facilities at both the Northern and Eastern access points. This amenity is for walking, running and cycling and it is hoped to incorporate similar amenities as part of the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm. Since 2016, over 180,000 visits have been made to the wind farm's amenity facilities.



Organised Tours

Mountlucas Wind Farm also offers free guided tours of the site. In 2019 we welcomed over 4,000 people to the wind farm on prebooked visits. The guided tour lasts approximately 2 hours and covers renewable energy, wind farm construction, biodiversity and archaeology. Facilities for the tour include car and coach parking, 10 km walkway-cycleway and toilet facilities. If your family, group, club or school would like to book a tour please contact Catherine on: 087-1175756 to arrange a visit.

Community Engagement

1st Public Consultation: Autumn/Winter 2020 – Consultation Sessions
2nd Public Consultation: Spring/Summer 2021 – Draft Layout Consultation Sessions
3rd Public Consultation: Autumn/Winter 2021 – Final Layout Consultation Sessions

Bord na Móna will engage on an ongoing basis with the local communities regarding the development of the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm through:

- Community Liaison Officer
- Virtual Consultation Room
- Community Engagement Clinic (by appointment)
- Dedicated project website – www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie
- Organised visits to Mountlucas Wind Farm
- Project Information Pack will be delivered by door to door house calls in the vicinity of the proposed wind farm

Virtual Consultation Room

As part of our Community Engagement activities, we have launched a 'Virtual Consultation Room'. The Virtual Room is set-up in a similar style to our traditional public consultation events which we are currently unable to hold due to Covid-19. The Room contains information about the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm in an interactive format. Please feel free to visit the Virtual Consultation Room which can be accessed via our website www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie

Community Engagement Clinics

Bord na Móna will be holding Community Engagement Clinics in late November/early December in Allenwood, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan. In order to ensure the safety of both our employees and members of the public due to Covid-19, and that all social distancing requirements and Government health guidelines are adhered to, these Community Engagement Clinics will be held by appointment only. They will be restricted to three people per household at any one time.

If you would like to find out more about the Clinics and avail of an appointment, please contact the clinic Co-ordinator before 25th November on 087-9460284.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How many turbines are proposed for the development?

As the project is at an early stage the number and location of turbines has not yet been determined.

2. Where will the power from the proposed wind farm go?

The electricity generated by the turbines would be transmitted directly onto Ireland's National Grid which is managed by EirGrid for distribution around the country. The proposed development will also make a significant contribution to Irelands Climate Action Plan 2019, which has a set a target of 8.2GW of onshore wind capacity by 2030.

3. What works are the project team currently undertaking?

Over the coming months, in order to determine the extent of the proposed development Bord na Móna will undertake a number of on-site surveys on Ballydermot Bog Group, such as ecology surveys, ornithology surveys, aquatic surveys, heritage surveys and site investigation works. Additionally the company will also commence a series of off-site surveys, such as noise monitoring at sensitive receptors around the site and topographical surveys of the proposed grid connection and proposed haul routes.

4. What Information will be provided at the next stage of public consultation which is planned for Spring/ Summer 2021?

The draft wind turbine layout will be available at the 2nd round of public consultations and will provide detail on the setback distance, location, height and number of proposed turbines. Information will also be provided on the proposed substation locations for the development. The project team will also have a subset of Photomontages available that will show what the proposed development may look like from the area. For more information on Photomontages please refer to page 12.

How you can Get in Touch

Our Community Liaison Officers, Niall and James are available to discuss residents' queries or concerns in relation to the proposed development. Please feel free to contact them by phone or email to enquire about any aspect of the project. Call Niall on: 087-9951174 or James on: 087-7087022 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday) or Email: ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie



Niall



James

For more information about the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm, please visit www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie

About Bord na Móna

Bord na Móna is an iconic Irish company operating four business units – Powergen Development, Resource Recovery, Energy and New Business. Over 80 years ago, Bord na Móna was established to develop Ireland's peat resources for the economic benefit of Ireland. Ireland's urgent need to support positive climate action measures means the company is now managing its land in a very different way.

As part of its Brown to Green Strategy, Bord na Móna is implementing an extensive peatland rehabilitation programme and expanding its low carbon operations as well as its Resource Recovery and recycling business. A key objective of this strategy involves using the land to continue to underpin Ireland's energy independence by developing green, sustainable energy sources to assist with Ireland's commitment to achieve 70% renewable electricity by 2030.

The company is rapidly decarbonising and as it does it is building a new, more sustainable business and rural economy. Bord na Móna has a strong record of siting, designing and delivering wind farms within its cutaway peat lands, such as Bellacorick, Bruckana, Mountlucas and Oweninny Wind Farms.



Overview of Bord na Móna Powergen Projects*

*correct as of time of print, October 5th 2020.



Overview of Bord na Móna Powergen Projects*

*correct as of time of print, October 5th 2020.

1 Project Name: Oweninny Wind Farm Phase 1 (Joint Venture with ESB)
Location: County Mayo
Project Stage: Operational (2019)
Installed Capacity: 93 MW
No. Turbines: 29
Overall Blade Tip Height: 176 metres
website: www.oweninnywindfarm.ie

2 Project Name: Oweninny Wind Farm Phase 2 (Joint Venture with ESB)
Location: County Mayo
Project Stage: Pre-Construction
Proposed Maximum Export Capacity: 83MW
Proposed No. Turbines: 31
Proposed Overall Blade Tip Height: 176 metres
website: www.oweninnywindfarm.ie

3 Project Name: Cloncreen Wind Farm
Location: County Offaly
Project Stage: Construction
Proposed Maximum Export Capacity: 100MW
Proposed No. Turbines: 21
Proposed Overall Blade Tip Height: 170 metres
website: www.cloncreenwindfarm.ie

4 Project Name: Derryadd Wind Farm
Location: County Longford
Project Stage: Consented
Proposed Maximum Export Capacity: 96 MW
Proposed No. Turbines: 24
Proposed Overall Blade Tip Height: 185 metres
website: www.derryaddwindfarm.ie

5 Project Name: Derrinlough Wind Farm
Location: County Offaly
Project Stage: Planning
Proposed Maximum Export Capacity: 85 MW
Proposed No. Turbines: 21
Proposed Overall Blade Tip Height: 185 metres
website: www.derrinloughwindfarm.ie

6 Project Name: Ballivor Wind Farm
Location: Counties Meath and Westmeath
Project Stage: Pre-Planning
Proposed Maximum Export Capacity: 100MW
Proposed No. Turbines (draft layout): 26
Proposed Overall Blade Tip Height (draft layout): 200 metres
website: www.ballivorwindfarm.ie

7 Project Name: Timahoe North Solar Farm (Co-Development Agreement with ESB)
Location: County Kildare
Project Stage: Consented
Proposed Installed Generating Capacity: 70 MW

8 Project Name: Cuil na Móna Renewable Gas Facility
Location: County Laois
Project Stage: Planning

9 Project Name: Bruckana Wind Farm
Location: Counties Tipperary/Laois/Kilkenny
Project Stage: Operational (2014)
Installed Capacity: 42 MW
No. Turbines: 14
Overall Blade Tip Height: 150 metres
website: www.bruckanawindfarm.ie

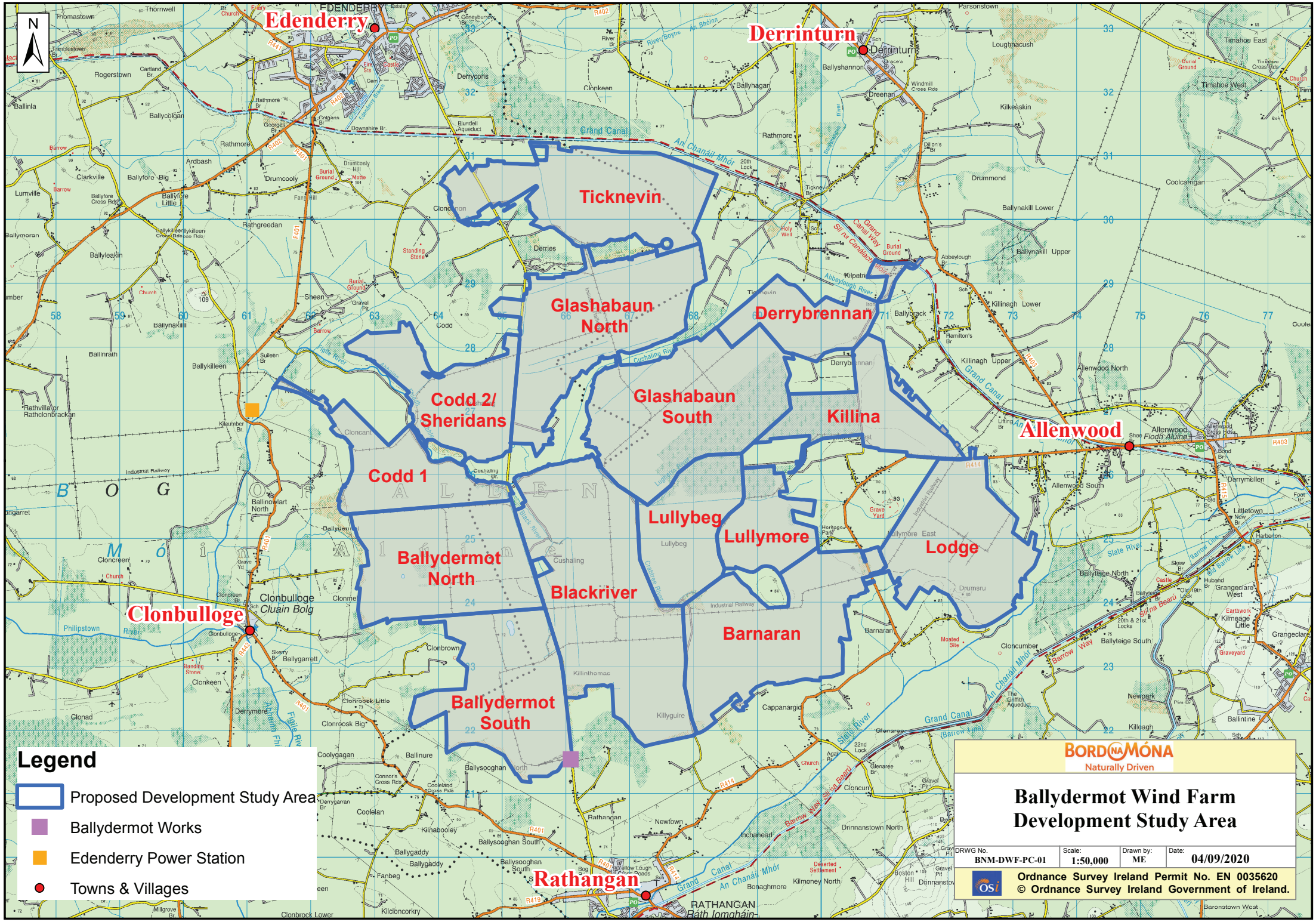
10 Project Name: Mountlucas Wind Farm
Location: County Offaly
Project Stage: Operational (2014)
Installed Capacity: 84 MW
No. Turbines: 28
Overall Blade Tip Height: 150 metres
website: www.mountlucaswindfarm.ie

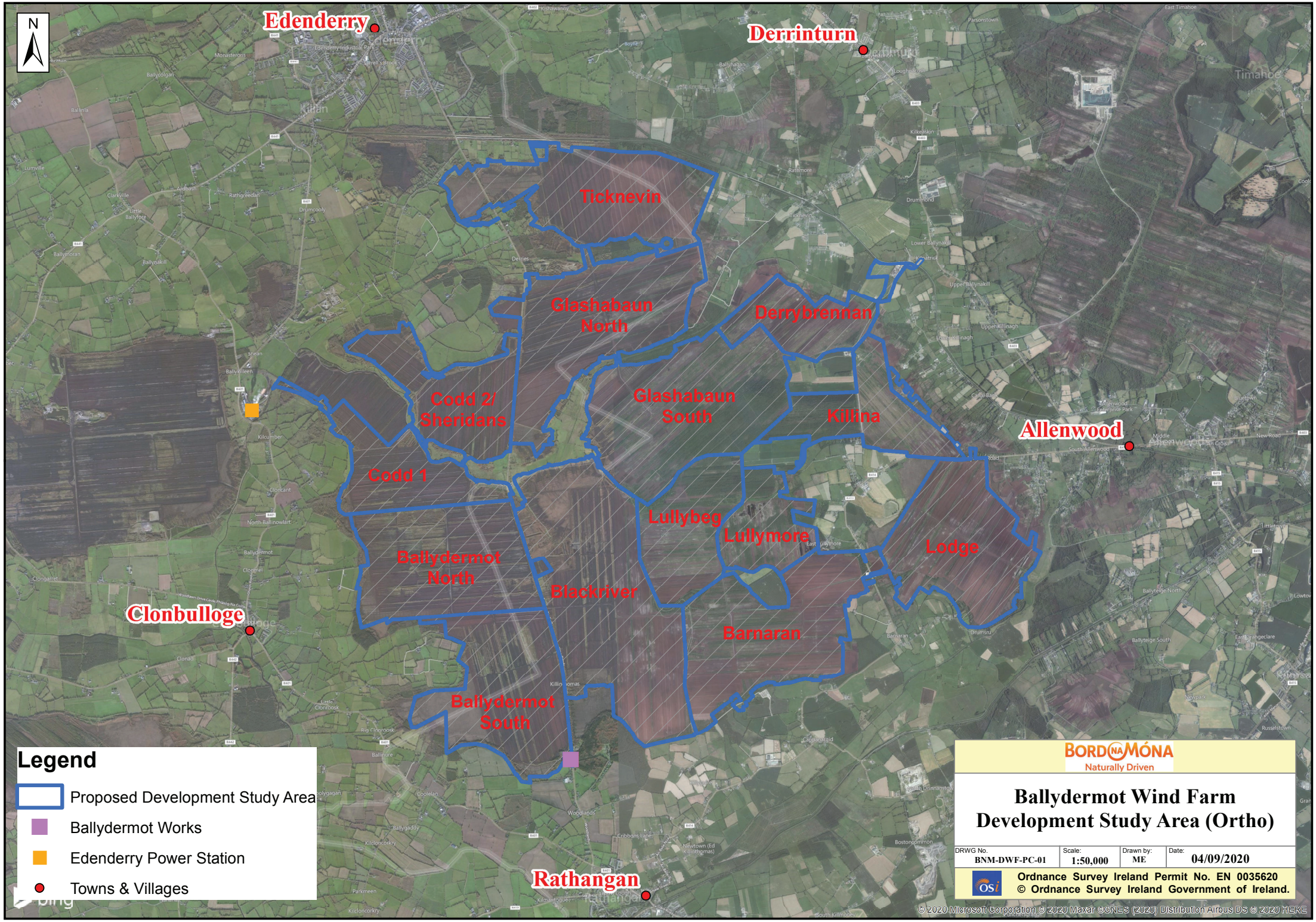
11 Project Name: Sliabh Bawn Wind Farm (Joint Venture with Coillte and Greencoat Renewables)
Location: County Roscommon
Project Stage: Operational (2017)
Installed Capacity: 64 MW
No. Turbines: 20
Overall Blade Tip Height: 130 metres
website: www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie

12 Project Name: Bellacorick Wind Farm
Location: County Mayo
Project Stage: Operational (1992)
Installed Capacity: 6.45 MW
No. Turbines: 21

13 Project Name: Oweninny Wind Farm Phase 3
Location: County Mayo
Project Stage: Pre-Planning
website: www.oweninnywindfarmphasethree.ie
**At this stage, the scale of the proposed development has not been determined*

14 Project Name: Ballydermot Wind Farm
Location: Counties Kildare and Offaly
Project Stage: Pre-Planning
website: www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie
** At this stage, the scale of the proposed development has not been determined.*


Edenderry
Derrinturn
Ticknevin
Glashabaun North
Derrybrennan
Codd 2/ Sheridans
Glashabaun South
Killina
Allenwood
Codd 1
Lullybeg
Lullymore
Lodge
Ballydermot North
Blackriver
Barnaran
Clonbulloge
Ballydermot South
Rathangan
Legend
Proposed Development Study Area
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Towns & Villages
BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Development Study Area
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PC-01
Scale: 1:50,000
Drawn by: ME
Date: 04/09/2020
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N
Edenderry
Derrinturn
Ticknevin
Glashabaun North
Derrybrennan
Codd 2/ Sheridans
Glashabaun South
Killina
Allenwood
Codd 1
Lullybeg
Lullymore
Lodge
Ballydermot North
Blackriver
Clonbulloge
Barnaran
Ballydermot South
Rathangan
Legend
Proposed Development Study Area
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Towns & Villages
BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Development Study Area (Ortho)
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PC-01
Scale: 1:50,000
Drawn by: ME
Date: 04/09/2020
Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. EN 0035620
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Sorry I missed you ...

I dropped by today to discuss the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm. I am sorry I missed you. If you have any questions please contact me on the number provided below or email us at ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie to arrange another day.

☐ James: 087-7087022

☐ Niall: 087-9951174

Date:.....

BORD NA MÓNA

Naturally Driven

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

Bord na Móna Powergen
Main Street
Newbridge
Co. Kildare
15th October 2020

REF: Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

Dear Resident,

As you may be aware, Bord na Móna Powergen is proposing to develop a wind farm within the Ballydermot Bog Group located in counties Kildare and Offaly. The wind farm will be known as Ballydermot Wind Farm.

Under normal circumstances, at this early stage of the project, we would be visiting you to discuss the proposed development and holding Community Engagement Sessions in the locality. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic we have had to alter our approach to community engagement to ensure that all social distancing requirements, HSE and Government health guidelines are adhered to in order to ensure the safety of both members of the community and our employees.

Due to the additional Covid-19 measures announced by the Government on the 14th of October in relation to household visits, we are not in a position to knock on your door and speak directly with you today about the project. Instead, we have dropped a detailed project information pack through your letterbox to inform you about the proposed development. Once you have had a chance to read through the enclosed project information pack, please contact any of the team using the contact details in the information booklet if you wish to discuss the proposed development with us.

Additionally, as an alternative to the Community Engagement Sessions, we have launched a Virtual Consultation Room. The Virtual Room is set-up in a similar style to our tradition public consultation events which we are currently unable to hold due to Covid-19. The Room contains information about the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm in an interactive format. Please feel free to visit the Virtual Consultation Room and explore the content provided. This Virtual Room can be accessed via https://www.innovision.ie/ballydermot

Please be assured that we will continue to make every effort to continue to engage with you about the proposed development as it progresses through the pre-planning phase. We will communicate key project updates with you as they occur.

In the meantime, we would like to extend our best wishes to you during these challenging times and hope you stay safe and well and adhere to all Government guidance.

Yours Faithfully,

Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team

Community Engagement Clinics

Bord na Móna will be holding Community Engagement Clinics in late November/early December in Allenwood, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan. In order to ensure the safety of both our employees and members of the public due to Covid-19, and that all social distancing requirements and Government health guidelines are adhered to, these Community Engagement Clinics will be held **by appointment only.**

If you would like to find out more about the Clinics and avail of an appointment, please contact the clinic co-ordinator on 087-9460284 **before November 25th.**

The proposed development study area map is available to view on **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie**

Appendix B: Project Information Pack, Summer 2021, Draft Layout

Bord na Móna

Bord na Móna Giníuint Cumhachta Oifig Chláraithe: An bPriómhshráid, Droichead Nua, Co. Chill Dara, W12 XR59, Éire
Bord na Móna Powergen Limited Registered Office: Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 XR59, Ireland
Fón/T +353 (0)45 439 000 **Facs/F** +353(0) 45 439 001 **bordnamona.ie**

Summer 2021

Dear Resident,

Project: Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

The purpose of this communication is to provide you with an update on the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm. Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who submitted feedback and participated in the online clinics during our first round of public consultations conducted in recent months.

Since then, the project team has been advancing the project design and has now produced a draft layout comprising of 50 turbines with an overall tip height of 220 metres for the proposed development. This draft layout has been designed with regard to the Wind Energy Development Draft Guidelines (2019), along with site investigation surveys, constraints mapping and public consultations carried out to date.

Accompanying this letter please find enclosed a Project Information Pack consisting of:

1. A Photomontage Booklet
2. A Project Information Booklet
3. An A2 double sided draft layout map
4. A feedback questionnaire and Freepost envelope

It is very important to us that local communities have the opportunity to provide feedback to help inform design, construction, and operation of the proposed Wind Farm. At this stage of the project, we are now seeking feedback from the local community on this draft layout. For more detailed information on the proposed development please refer to the enclosed Project Information Booklet.

Subject to Covid-19 restrictions, we intend to hold Community Engagement Clinics in the locality in July and August. In order to ensure the safety of both our employees and members of the public due to Covid-19, and that all social distancing requirements and Government health guidelines are adhered to, these Clinics will be held by appointment only. If you would like to find out more about the Clinics and register your interest, please contact the Clinic Co-Ordinator on **087-9460284** before **20th August**. Alternatively, you can visit the project website (www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie) to register your interest.

In the meantime, if you would like any further information on the proposed development, please contact our Community Liaison Officers – James (087-7087022) or Niall (087-9951174) or via **ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie**. We remain committed to keeping you informed about the project as it progresses and will continue to provide you with updates over the coming months. It is envisaged that a planning application will be lodged in Summer 2022 for the proposed development.

Yours faithfully,
Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team

Uimhir Chláraithe/Registered No. 218162 **Cáin Bhreisluacha/VAT No.** 8218162L
Stiúrthóirí/Directors J Coleman, T Egan, J Reilly

Bord na Móna

Ballydermot Wind Farm
Feedback Questionnaire

Please return completed form by **30th August 2021**
You can also complete this questionnaire online
by visiting **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie**

To record your views and also help us improve future public consultation concerning this project we would be grateful if you would answer the following questions.

Q1. Do you have any feedback with regard to the draft layout for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm?

Q2. Do you have any amenity suggestions that you would like us to consider for inclusion in the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm development?

Q3. What types of benefits do you believe the local community should receive if the Wind Farm is developed?

Q4. Do you feel this consultation process has enhanced your understanding of the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm? If no, please state the reasons why?

Q5. Have you any other comments or additional information you would like to provide in relation to the proposed development.

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

Name: .....

Address: .....

Eircode: .....

Please return completed feedback questionnaire via Freepost envelope enclosed
or via email to: ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

Summer 2021

Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

Bord na Móna



Frequently Asked Questions

1. How many turbines are proposed for the development?
Resulting from the development of the draft wind turbine layout there are 50 turbines proposed for the Ballydermot Wind Farm project. For further information, please see page 6.

2. What height are the proposed turbines and how close are they to peoples homes?
The proposed turbines will have an overall blade tip height of up to 220 metres. For further information, please see page 6.

3. What setback distance has been applied from houses?
The turbine layout has been designed with a minimum setback distance of 4 times the tip height (880 metres) to the nearest house. For further information, please see page 6.

4. When will a planning application be lodged?
It is envisaged that a planning application will be lodged in Summer 2022 for the proposed development. It is intended to submit the planning permission application directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006. An initial approach is therefore being made to An Bord Pleanála seeking a determination in relation to the Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) status, or otherwise, of the proposed wind farm development. For further information, please see page 9.

5. What land area will the proposed wind farm occupy?
The Ballydermot Bogs that form part of the proposed development area compromise circa 5,580 hectares. Only approximately 5% of this area will be used for turbine bases, crane hard-standings and access tracks, so much of the land area will not be required by the development. This means that it can be utilised for other purposes, such as biodiversity and amenity.

6. Where will the power from the proposed wind farm go?
The electricity generated by the turbines will be transmitted directly onto Ireland's National Grid which is managed by EirGrid for distribution around the country. The proposed development will make a significant contribution to Irelands Climate Action Plan 2019, which has a set a target of 8.2GW of onshore wind capacity by 2030.

7. What stage is the project at now?
The project team is conducting a number of onsite surveys including ecology surveys, ornithology surveys, aquatic surveys, heritage surveys and site investigation work. In addition to these site works, we are also looking to consult with the community on the draft wind turbine layout.

8. How can I provide feedback on the proposed development to Bord na Móna?
We encourage feedback through a number of channels including:

- Through the Project's Community Liaison Officers: Niall and James (please see page 13 for further details).
- Submission of a Feedback Questionnaire (please see page 10 for further details).
- Via the project's dedicated email address: **ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie**



Introduction

Bord na Móna is an Irish, semi-state climate solutions company helping lead Ireland towards a climate neutral future.

Bord na Móna has been serving communities for over 90 years, always rising to meet the needs of the day. It was founded in 1934 as The Turf Development Board to enhance national energy security through peat harvesting and became Bord na Móna in 1946.

Today, we've radically changed our approach to face an even greater challenge: climate change. We've ended peat harvesting and now focus on developing climate solutions in renewable energy, sustainable waste management, carbon storage, and biodiversity conservation.

Ireland has committed to ambitious climate goals and Bord na Móna's climate solutions are helping to achieve them. Our vision is to help Ireland reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This means helping to remove the same amount of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere that are released.

To power a net zero future, we're expanding our renewable energy infrastructure. We've been constructing and maintaining large-scale infrastructure for decades. Today, we're using that experience to build renewable energy developments across the country. These developments are transforming the way we generate and consume energy.

Ireland has committed to generating 70% of electricity from renewable sources by 2030. We're working across wind, solar, biomass and biogas to help achieve this target and to provide energy security for future generations.



Irish Government Policy on Renewable Energy

Successive Governments have been developing policy to chart a course towards ambitious decarbonisation targets for Electricity, Transport, Built Environment, Industry and Agriculture. In March 2019, the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Climate Action published its cross-party report entitled, Climate Change:

A Cross-Party Consensus for Action, which set out 42 priority recommendations in the area of climate action, including a target for 70 percent renewable electricity.

The Programme for Government 2020 details how energy will play a central role in the creation of a strong and sustainable economy over the next decade. The reliable supply of safe, secure, and clean energy is essential to deliver a phase-out of fossil fuels. To reduce emissions and decarbonise both Heat and Transport, electrification will play an important role in ensuring Ireland meets emission targets. This will create rapid growth in demand for electricity which must be planned and delivered in a cost-effective way.

The Irish Government supports the use of Ireland's wind resources to meet our renewable energy targets. Outlined below is some of the most recent relevant Irish Government Policy:

- Energy White Paper entitled Ireland's Transition to a Low Carbon Energy Future 2015–2030.
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 as a landmark national milestone in the evolution of climate change policy in Ireland. The purpose of the act is pursuing the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy.
- The Climate Action Plan 2019: This plan identifies how Ireland will achieve its 2030 targets for carbon emissions and puts the country on a trajectory to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. The plan outlines that Ireland will move to 70% renewable electricity by 2030.
- Project 2040: National Development Plan 2018 – 2027 which outlines an additional 4,500 MW of renewable energy as an investment priority as part of strategic pillar No. 8 - Transition to a Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Society.
- Renewable Electricity Support Scheme to contribute to Ireland's 2020 renewable electricity targets and to deliver Ireland's renewable energy ambitions out to 2030.
- Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government is currently preparing an update to the 2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines and in December 2019 published revised draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines for consultation.
- Department of Environment, Climate and Communications is preparing a Renewable Electricity Policy and Development Framework to guide the development of renewable electricity projects in line with the objectives of Irish energy policy.
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Bill 2021. Legislation designed to put Ireland on a path to net zero emissions, no later than 2050 and a 51% reduction in emissions by the end of the decade.



The Proposed Location

The proposed site for the wind farm is shown in Figure 1 below. It is adjacent to the communities of Allenwood, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan.

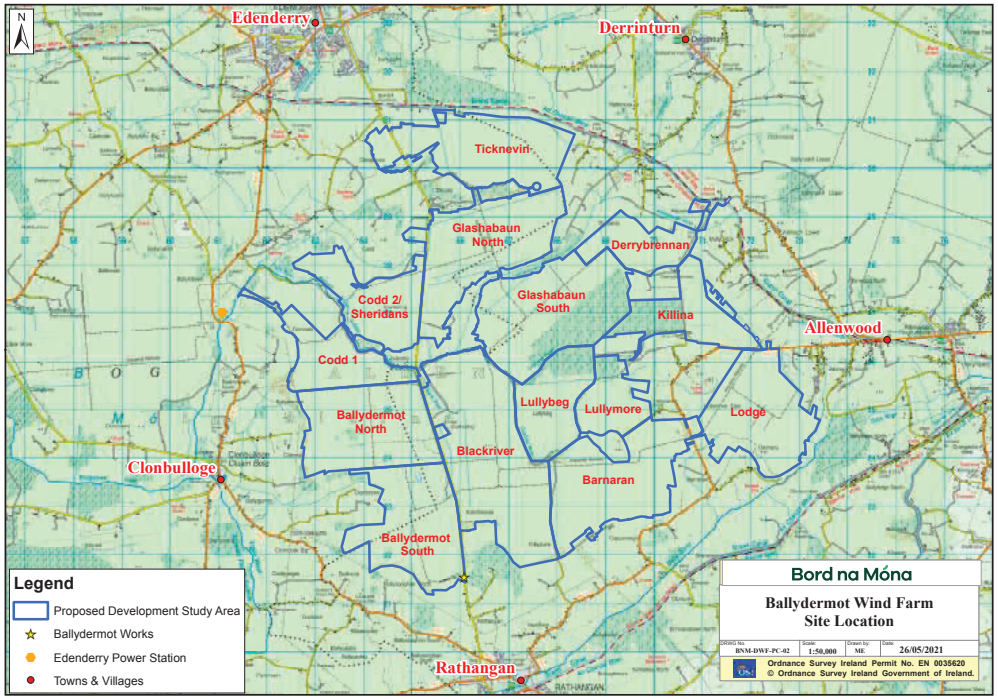


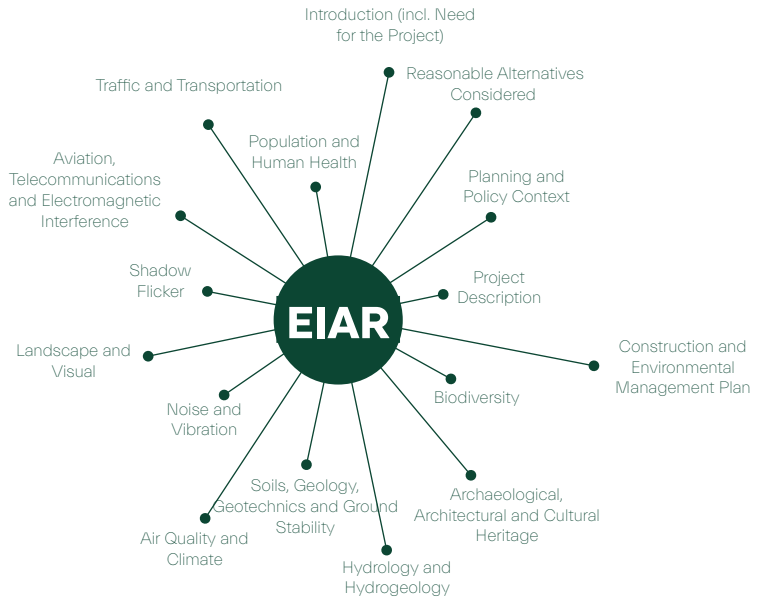
Figure 1 - Site Location Map

The proposed development will be located within the Bord na Móna Ballydermot Bog Group which comprises of circa 5,580 hectares. This Bog Group consists of 14 bogs, 12 of which have been identified as potentially suitable for the location of turbines (to view the draft layout map, please refer to pages 7 and 8).

It is envisaged the proposed development footprint would take up approximately 5% of the total site area for turbine bases, crane hard-standings and access tracks, meaning much of the land area will not be required by the development. This provides opportunity for the remainder of the site to be utilised for other purposes, such as biodiversity and amenity.

Site Layout Design

In designing a layout for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm there were several factors to be considered, including:





The Proposed Wind Farm

Number of Turbines - 50

The draft layout comprises of 50 wind turbines. Apart from the turbines themselves, the other principal components of the wind farm are the foundations to support the turbine towers, access, crane hard standings, underground cables between the turbines, an on-site electricity substation and an electrical connection to the appropriate node on the National Grid. Please see pages 7 and 8 for Draft Layout Map.

Height of Turbines - 220m

The proposed turbines will have an overall blade tip height of up to 220 metres. Within this size envelope, various configurations of hub height and rotor diameter may be used. The exact make and model of the turbine will be dictated by a competitive tender process, post planning and it will not exceed the maximum tip height of 220 metres.

Setback Distance - 880m

The turbine layout has been designed with a minimum setback distance of 880m to the nearest house from a turbine. This complies with the Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2019), which proposes a setback distance of 4 times the tip height.

Distance	No. of Houses	Cumulative
880m	0	0
1000m	45	45
1250m	130	175
1500m	189	364
1700m	226	590
2000m	321	911

Table 1. Setback Distance to Houses



Wind Farm Output: 240–270MW

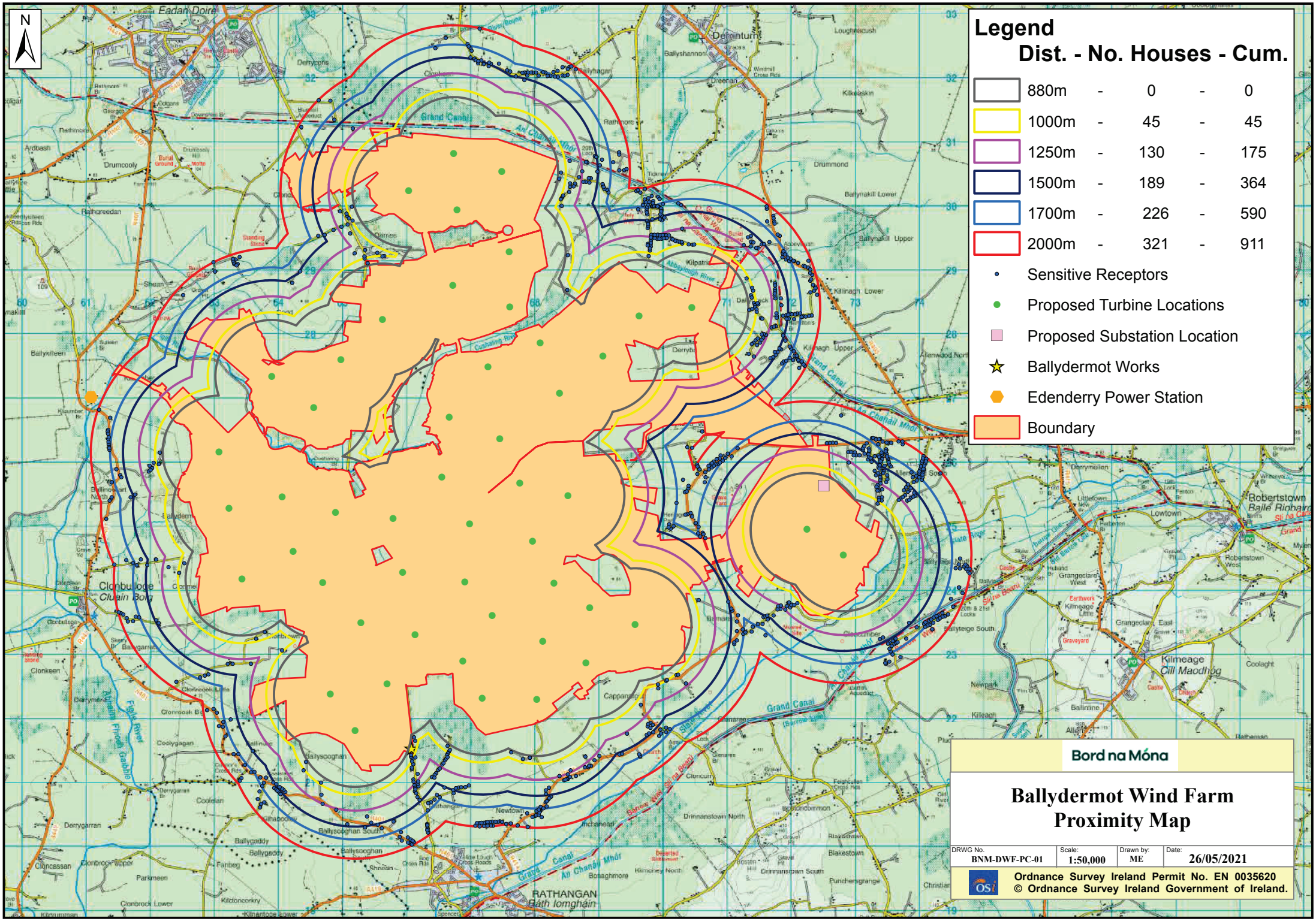
Early studies of the site have indicated that it may be capable of accommodating approximately 240–270 Megawatts (MW) of installed generating capacity – making it the largest proposed onshore wind farm in Ireland to date. Currently, the largest operational onshore wind farm in Ireland is The Galway Wind Park, co-developed by SSE and Coillte in Connemara's Cloosh Valley with an installed generating capacity of 169 MW. When operational, the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm will generate a volume of electricity equivalent to the average annual electrical demand of circa 150,000 Irish homes*.

Planning Timeline

It is intended to submit a planning application in Summer 2022 for the proposed development. It is envisaged that the planning permission application will be submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála, under the provisions of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 (please refer to page 14 for more information on the wind farm development timeline process).

2nd Public Consultation: Summer 2021
Final Layout Publication: Spring 2022
Submission of Planning Application: Summer 2022

**based on Annual Capacity Factor across Ireland in 2019 of 29.3% and average household electricity consumption of 4,200kwH*


N
Legend
Dist. - No. Houses - Cum.
880m - 0 - 0
1000m - 45 - 45
1250m - 130 - 175
1500m - 189 - 364
1700m - 226 - 590
2000m - 321 - 911
Sensitive Receptors
Proposed Turbine Locations
Proposed Substation Location
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Boundary
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proximity Map
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PC-01
Scale: 1:50,000
Drawn by: ME
Date: 26/05/2021
Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. EN 0035620
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Strategic Infrastructure Planning Process Explained

For most large projects, a key issue is whether a development is Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) or not? Energy infrastructure which is considered SID* includes:

"An installation for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (a wind farm) with more than 25 turbines or having a total output greater than 50 megawatts"

*(as outlined in the Seventh Schedule, Section 1 of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006).

SID Projects	Non-SID Projects
Planning Application to An Bord Pleanála	Planning Application to Local County Council
Environmental Impact Assessment Mandatory	Environmental Impact Assessment Mandatory in some cases

At this stage of the project, Bord na Móna estimate that the output of the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm will be approximately 240–270MW. Consequently, Bord na Móna will need to go through a pre-planning consultation process with An Bord Pleanála to determine with certainty who the consenting authority will be.

Irrespective of the Consenting Authority it is our view that an Environmental Impact Assessment Report will be required as supporting documentation to the planning application.



Community Engagement

Bord na Móna understands the importance of community engagement at every stage of the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm development process. The proposed development will benefit from participation by all interested parties during each stage of the development.

We are constantly updating and adapting our communications channels to ensure the public are informed about the proposed development. This means continuing to use our traditional methods of communication in addition to a number of interactive online tools to ensure we engage on an ongoing basis through the following:

Community Engagement Clinics

Subject to Covid-19 restrictions, Bord na Móna intend to hold Community Engagement Clinics in the locality in July and August. In order to ensure the safety of both our employees and members of the public due to Covid-19, and that all social distancing requirements and Government health guidelines are adhered to, these Community Engagement Clinics will be held by appointment only. If you would like to find out more about the Clinics and avail of an appointment, please contact the clinic Co-Ordinator on 087–9460284 before **13th August.** Alternatively, you can visit the project website and complete the expression of interest form there.

A Feedback Questionnaire

Should you wish to submit any comments/suggestions on the proposed development, a feedback questionnaire can also be completed on the project website. For your convenience, we have included a paper-based copy of the questionnaire and a freepost envelope within the project information pack you received for the proposed wind farm.

A Virtual Consultation Room

As part of our Community Engagement activities, we have updated the Ballydermot Wind Farm "Virtual Consultation Room' that was launched last October as part of our Communication Tools for the project. The Virtual Consultation Room contains a number of interactive features including a 360° Photomontage viewer and a virtual 'fly by' video of the site location. Please feel free to visit the Virtual Consultation Room via the project's dedicated website **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie.**



Benefits of the Development

The proposed development will give rise to a range of benefits at different levels. At a Local Level, benefits arising from the construction and operation of the proposed wind farm will include:

- Employment
- Amenity and Recreational Facilities
- The provision of a Community Benefit Fund
- Substantial rates paid to the relevant Local Authorities.
- Upgrading of the road infrastructure in the vicinity of the wind farm (as required).
- Payment of taxes from the project, and dividends from Bord na Móna to the State.

Employment

A large wind farm development of this scale would typically support 150–200 jobs at peak construction. There will also be indirect employment created through the sub-supply of a wide range of products and services including: gravel and graded stone for roads and hard stands, concrete and steel for turbine bases, building materials for sub stations, haulage of components from the ports to the site, accommodation, legal and financial services. Once complete the project will also support a number of long term, high quality technical jobs in operations and maintenance.

Amenity and Recreational Facilities

A high-level amenity plan will accompany the planning application. A draft version of the plan will be available for feedback over the coming months.

A good example of one of our existing wind farm amenity facilities is Mountlucas Wind Farm in North Offaly. The site consists of a 10km walkway / cycleway around the wind farm in addition to interpretative signage, outdoor exercise equipment and a learning hub which is utilised by various school and college groups for educational purposes and day trips. In 2020, the wind farm welcomed over 45,000 visits to its amenity facilities.

Community Benefit Fund

Similar to our existing wind farms, it is envisaged that an annual Community Benefit Fund will be set up for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm once the project is operational. As the project is at an early stage of its development, the exact nature and structure of a proposed Community Benefit Fund is not known at this time, albeit we would envisage it being similar in type to our existing Community Benefit Funds which include:

- A Community Gain Scheme – providing funding to local community and not-for-profit organisations
- A Near Neighbour Fund – providing an annual electricity contribution and once off support to carry out energy efficiency measures and/or education support to residents within a prescribed distance of a turbine.





How you can Get in Touch

The Ballydermot Wind Farm will benefit from participation by all interested parties during each stage of the development. There are a few ways you can get in touch with us:





Call Us
If you wish to make a comment or require further information about the proposed wind farm please call the project's Community Liaison Officers Niall (087–9951174) * or James (087–7087022) *.

Email Us
Email us any comments or queries via: ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

Write to us
Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team, Bord na Móna, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare

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**9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding bank holidays*

How long does it take to develop a wind farm?

6 – 9 months
Site selection & feasibility studies

24 months
Preparation of planning application

Up to 24 months
Planning Consent

12 - 18 months
Pre-construction studies, procurement and financial close

18 - 24 months
Construction of wind farm (including commissioning)

Typically 6 to 8 years



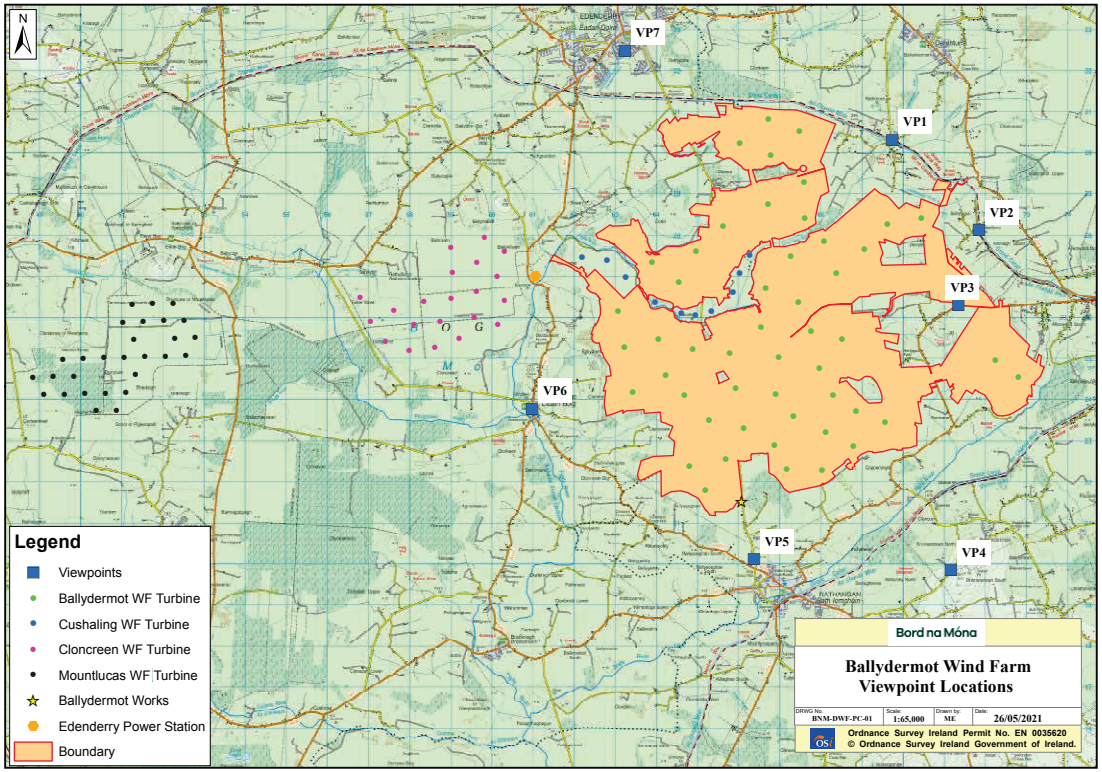


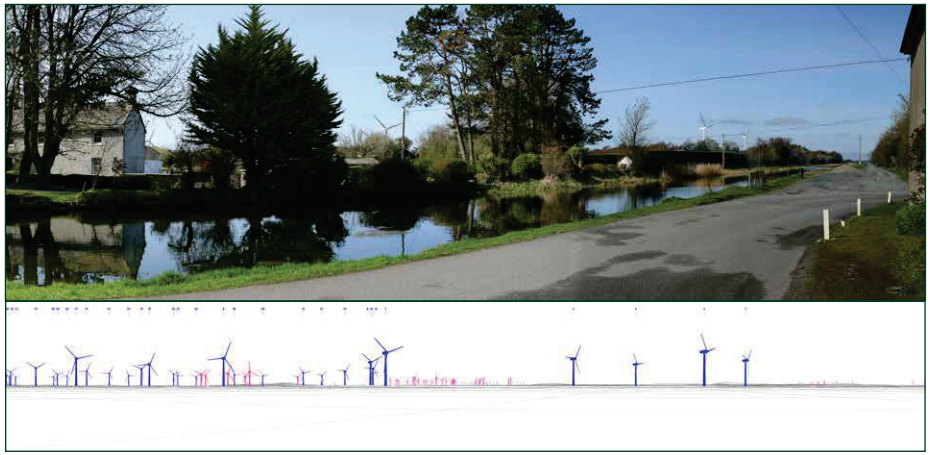
Summer 2021

Photomontage Booklet for Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

Bord na Móna







Viewpoint 1: View from Ticknevin Bridge on the Grand Canal, south east of Edenderry and approximately 2km from the proposed development. VP1 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	



Viewpoint 2: View from Hamilton Bridge on the Grand Canal, south east of Edenderry and approximately 14km from the proposed development. VP2 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	



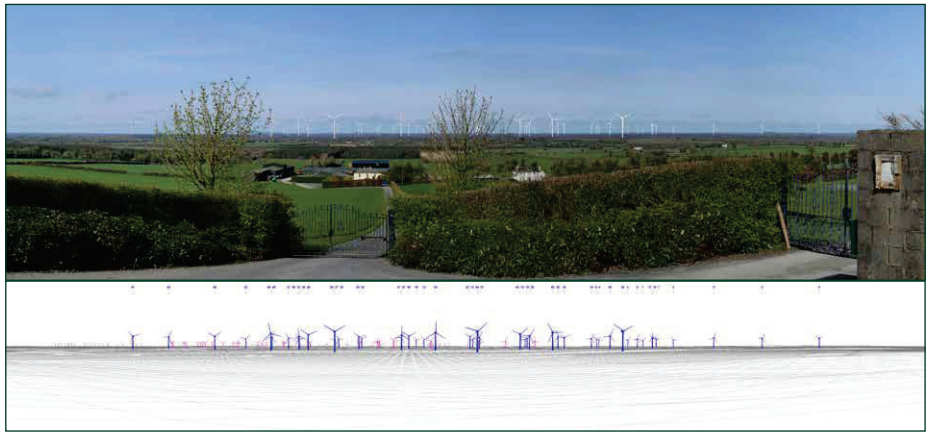
Viewpoint 3 (looking south west): View from the Regional Road (R403) in Lullymore, at the entrance to Lodge Bog Nature Reserve looking south west and approximately 1.6km from the proposed development. VP3 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	



Viewpoint 3 (looking east): View from the Regional Road (R403) in Lullymore, at the entrance to Lodge Bog Nature Reserve looking east and approximately 1.6km from the proposed development. VP3 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	



Viewpoint 4: View from Local Road (L3002) on Boston Hill, north east of Rathangan, approximately 4km south east of the proposed development. VP4 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	



Viewpoint 5: View from The Bog Road, at Rathangan Cemetery (St. Patricks Cemetery) north west of Rathangan Village, approximately 2km south of the proposed development. VP5 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	



Viewpoint 6: View from Regional Road (R442) on the eastern side of Clonbullogue Bridge in Clonbullogue Village, approximately 2.4km south west of the proposed development. VP6 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

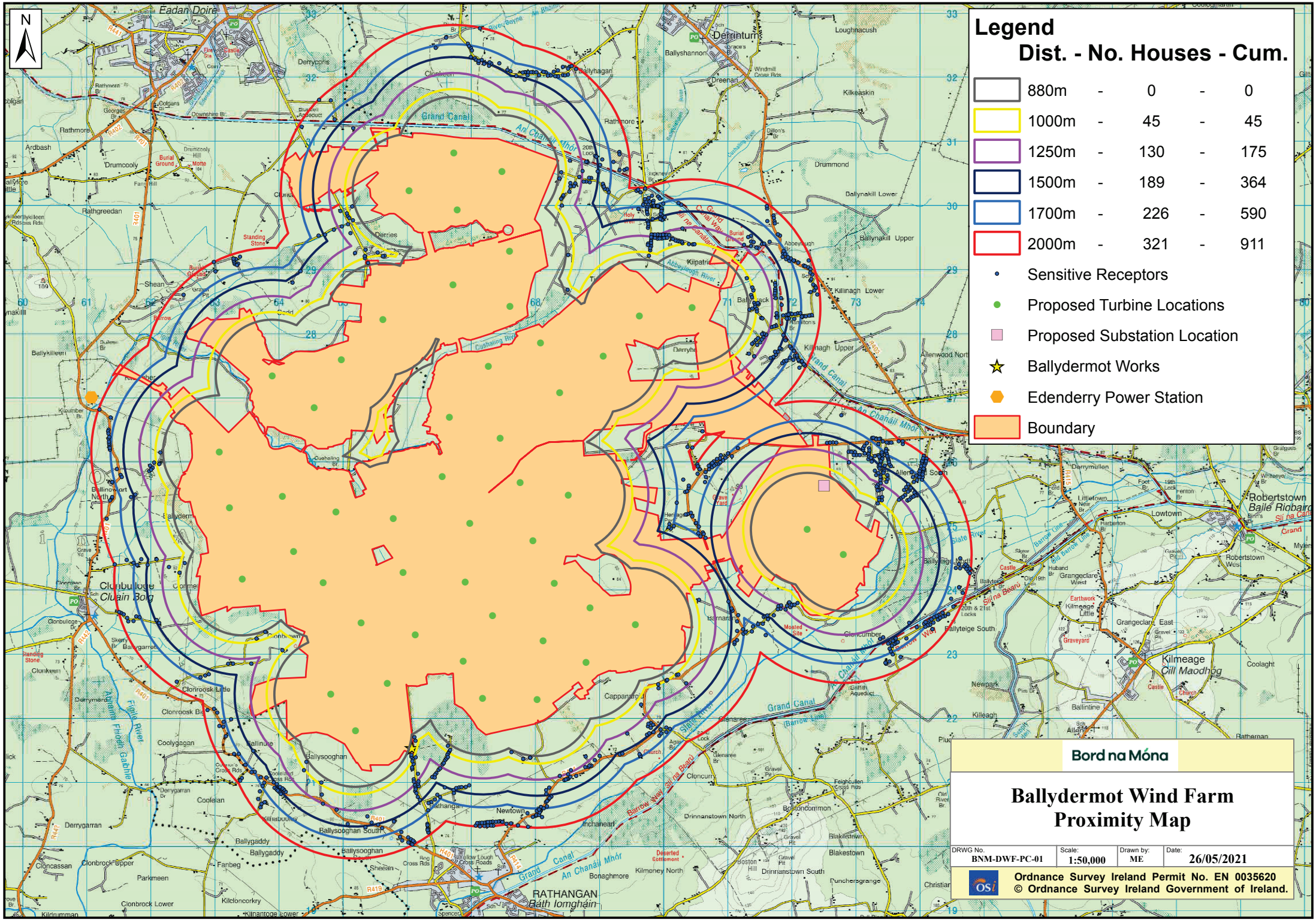
Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	

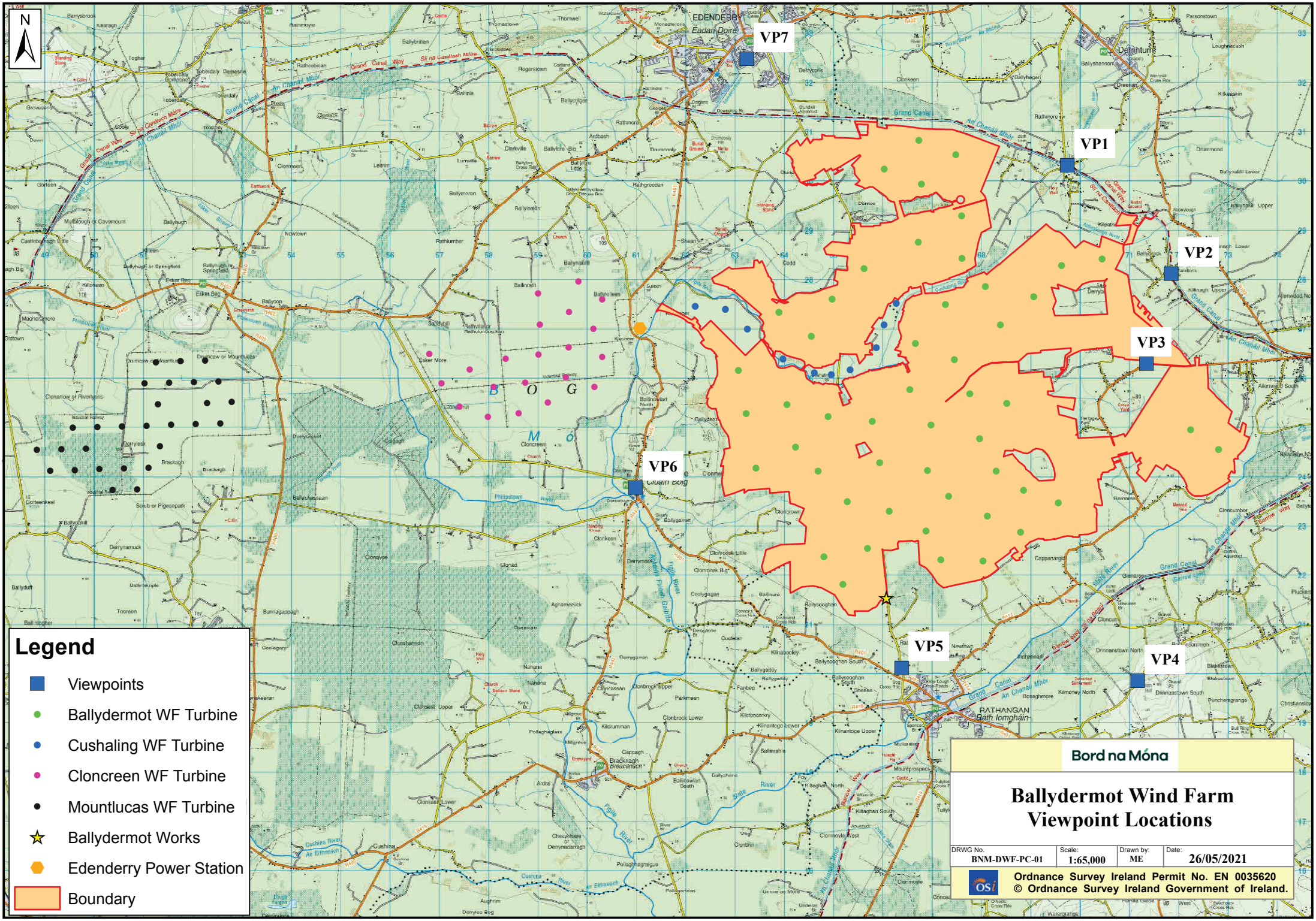


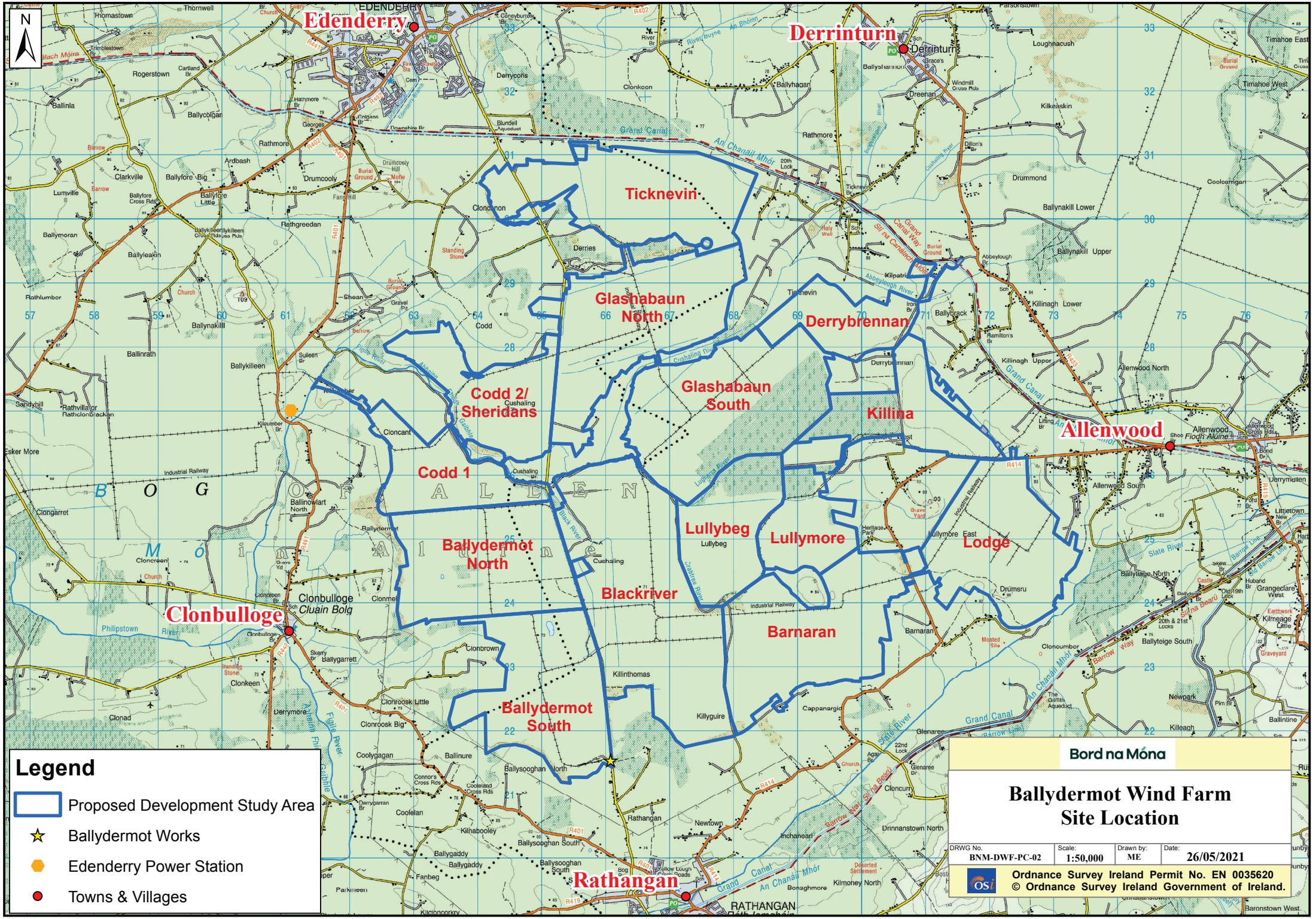
Viewpoint 7: View from Edenderry Castle Ruin, on the southern side of Edenderry town, approximately 2.5km north west of the proposed development. VP7 on Viewpoint Locations Map.

Legend	
Ballydermot WF Turbines	
Consented WF Turbines (Cushaling WF, Cloncreen WF)	
Existing WF (Mountlucas WF)	




N
Legend
Dist. - No. Houses - Cum.
880m - 0 - 0
1000m - 45 - 45
1250m - 130 - 175
1500m - 189 - 364
1700m - 226 - 590
2000m - 321 - 911
Sensitive Receptors
Proposed Turbine Locations
Proposed Substation Location
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Boundary
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proximity Map
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PC-01
Scale: 1:50,000
Drawn by: ME
Date: 26/05/2021
Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. EN 0035620
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N
VP7
VP1
VP2
VP3
VP6
VP5
VP4
EDENDERRY
Eadan Doire
RATHANGAN
Rath Iomghain
B O G
Legend
Viewpoints
Ballydermot WF Turbine
Cushaling WF Turbine
Cloncreen WF Turbine
Mountlucas WF Turbine
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Boundary
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Viewpoint Locations
DRWG No.
BNM-DWF-PC-01
Scale:
1:65,000
Drawn by:
ME
Date:
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Edenderry
Derrinturn
Ticknevin
Glashabaun North
Derrybrennan
Codd 2/ Sheridans
Glashabaun South
Killina
Allenwood
Codd 1
Lullybeg
Lullymore
Lodge
Ballydermot North
Blackriver
Barnaran
Clonbulloge
Ballydermot South
Rathangan
Legend
Proposed Development Study Area
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Towns & Villages
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Site Location
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PC-02
Scale: 1:50,000
Drawn by: ME
Date: 26/05/2021
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Appendix C: Project Information Pack, Autumn 2022, Final Layout and Draft Amenity Plan

Bord na Móna

Bord na Móna Giniúint Cumhachta Oifig Chláraithe: An bPriómhshráid, Droichead Nua, Co. Chill Dara, W12 XR59, Éire
Bord na Móna Powergen Limited Registered Office: Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 XR59, Ireland
Fón /T +353 (0)45 439 000 Facs/F +353(0) 45 439 001 bordnamona.ie

Summer 2022

Dear Resident,

Project: Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm – Final Turbine Layout

The purpose of this communication is to provide you with an update on the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm. Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who submitted feedback and participated in our public consultation events held from October 2020 – January 2021 and June – September 2021.

Since then, the project team has been advancing the project design and has now produced a final layout for the proposed development. Accompanying this letter please find enclosed a double-sided map showing the final turbine layout and internal infrastructure for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm.

The revisions to the layout are primarily associated with feedback from public consultation events held in 2020 and 2021 and revisions to the site constraints arising from further studies. The revised proposal, for which Bord na Móna intend to submit a planning application in late 2022, comprises 47 turbines with an overall tip height ranging from 200 to 220 metres (please refer to the enclosed double sided A2 map for further detail).

The proposed turbine layout design has taken account of the requirements of the '*Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2019)"* which proposes a visual amenity setback of four times the turbine tip height between a wind turbine and the nearest residential property, subject to a mandatory minimum distance of 500 metres. The minimum setback distance applied for the proposed layout is 880m.

It is intended that the revised layout as shown on the enclosed maps will be the layout submitted with the planning application - which is envisaged to be lodged in late 2022. Should there be any significant change to the proposed layout prior to submission we will keep you informed.

In addition, the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm will include the construction of new access roads to install and maintain the wind turbines. The Draft Amenity Plan will seek to utilise these new access roads as a basis for most of the proposed trails for walking, cycling and horse riding. Additional amenity links are also provided to create loops and increase accessibility within the site. Former railway lines, existing roads and machine passes are also proposed to be utilised. Please refer to the enclosed Draft Amenity Plan Booklet for more detail on the proposed amenity plans for the development.

Please return your feedback on this draft Amenity Plan to the Project Team via the FREEPOST envelope included or email to: ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie by **Friday 30th September 2022.**

We will inform you directly when a planning application has been lodged for the proposed development. In the meantime, if you would like any further information on the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm please contact our Community Liaison Officers, Niall on 087 9951174 or James on 087 7087022 or via **ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie**

Yours Faithfully,
Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team

Summer 2022

Bord na Móna

Draft Amenity Plan for the Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm



Introduction

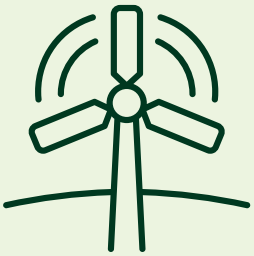
The vision of this draft Amenity Plan is to provide a new local and regional recreational resource that provides for co-location with the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm and potential future uses of the site. The scale of the site and its proximity to other tourist activities in the area means that it has the potential to become a site of national tourist interest, an ecotourism destination related to peatlands.

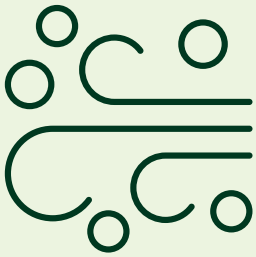
This Draft Amenity Plan has been produced in consultation with team members from Bord na Móna Renewable Energy, community feedback received from the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Consultation events held from October 2020 – January 2021 and June – September 2021 along with desktop research and site visits.

The Ballydermot Wind Farm Draft Amenity Plan provides a comprehensive layout of amenity facilities for the proposed Wind Farm. This Draft Amenity Plan will be submitted as part of the planning application for the proposed wind farm development. The Draft Amenity Plan does not seek to impinge on areas of high ecological or other environmental value within the site nor on any adjacent land use. The amenities will tie in with and complement the proposed wind farm infrastructure and the peatland rehabilitation works. The amenity facilities will also link in with future connectivity in the surrounding settlements and sites / areas of interest. These include the towns / villages of Edenderry, Allenwood, Lullymore, Rathangan, Clonbullogue, etc. and the Grand Canal.

The key amenities identified in this Draft Amenity Plan include:

- a strategic route network that provides access links to surrounding settlements and sites of interest.
- a network of internal paths and cycleways that provide looped routes and a dedicated equestrian trail.
- a natural play park.
- trail infrastructure such as benches and shelters.
- waymarker posts and orientation information boards.
- key amenity access infrastructure such as car parks and toilets.







Much like the nearby Mountlucas Wind Farm development and associated amenity facilities, the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm has the potential to deliver a range of economic, social and environmental benefits at the local, regional and national level. Some of these are outlined here:

Job Creation: the development is an opportunity to create jobs not only linked to the wind farm operations but also from the tourism potential that such an amenity site offers. These can be either through tourism linked to wildlife watching or from the extensive recreational and amenity facilities provided.

Health and Well-Being: access to such a large amenity park with off-road facilities will provide local communities opportunities for exercise and outdoor recreation, which has become even more important after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Biodiversity: the rehabilitation of such a large area of natural habitat will have significant benefits for wildlife in the region.

Heritage and Culture: the development offers the opportunity to conserve and interpret key parts of the local heritage and culture of the area.

Environmental: the restoration of peatland and wetland habitat on this scale will facilitate the capture of significant quantities of carbon. The wind energy produced will also provide a clean and renewable source of energy that can reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

Energy: the wind farm will generate a significant amount of clean and renewable energy to meet national demand.

Other Economic Activities: the scale of this project will allow for other business activities that complement the wind farm and amenity proposals, be they on site or in adjoining areas.


Ticknevin
Glashabaun North
Codd 2/Sheridans
Codd 1
Ballydermot North
Blackriver
Ballydermot South
Clonbulloge
Cluain Bolg
Clonbulloge
Clonkeen
Grand Canal
Rathmore
Ardbash
Drumcooly
Rathgreedan
Shean
Codd
Ballynakill
Ballydilleen
Ballinowlart North
Clonbrown
Ballygarrett
Clonrooask Little
Clonrooask Big
Coolygagan
Ballinure
Ballysooghan
Rathangan
Derrymore
Figile River
Abhainn Fhíogh Gaibhle
R402
R401
R442


Legend
Proposed Development Area
Towns
Derrybrennan
Killina
Lullymore
Lodge
Barnaran
Allenwood
Grand Canal
An Chanáil Mhór
Sli na Cianlach Mór
Sli na Bearu
Barrow Way
Slate River
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Development Study Farm
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PG-10-04
Scale: 1:40,000
Drawn by: GR
Date: 22/07/2022
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Site Location

The proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm is a large site of approximately 5,880 hectares on the Offaly and Kildare border (please refer to map on previous page). The site covers an area of Bord na Móna peatland that has been previously used for peat extraction.

The site has good existing access mainly by road and the Grand Canal. The M4 and M6 motorways run approximately 25km to the north of the site and M7 approximately 15km to the south. It is bounded by the Regional Road R402 to the north connecting to the R401 to the west and south, the R414 to the east and R403 also to the east. Several regional roads link into the surrounding settlements and a local road runs through the site connecting the towns of Edenderry and Rathangan. The site is approximately an hour from Dublin and just over two hours from Cork and Galway.

The Grand Canal main line runs to the north of the site and the Grand Canal Barrow Line runs to the south of the site. Existing walking/cycle paths on the canal routes have the potential to be linked into the proposed amenity facilities at Ballydermot Wind Farm.

There are several towns and villages that surround the site including Allenwood, Carbury, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan.



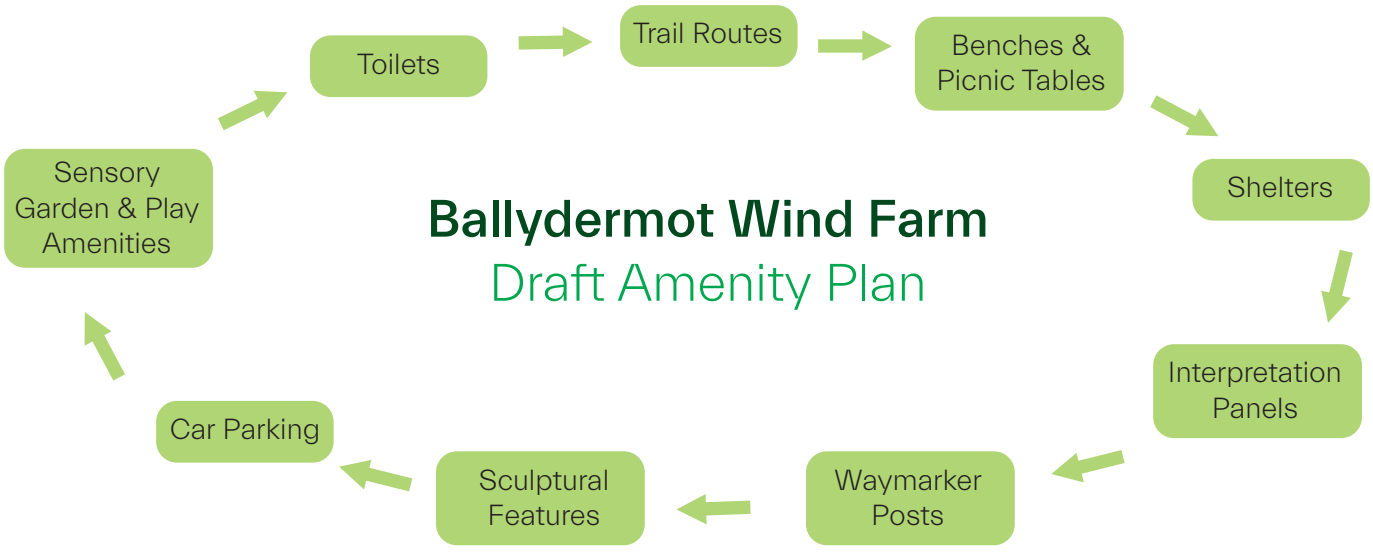
Draft Amenity Plan

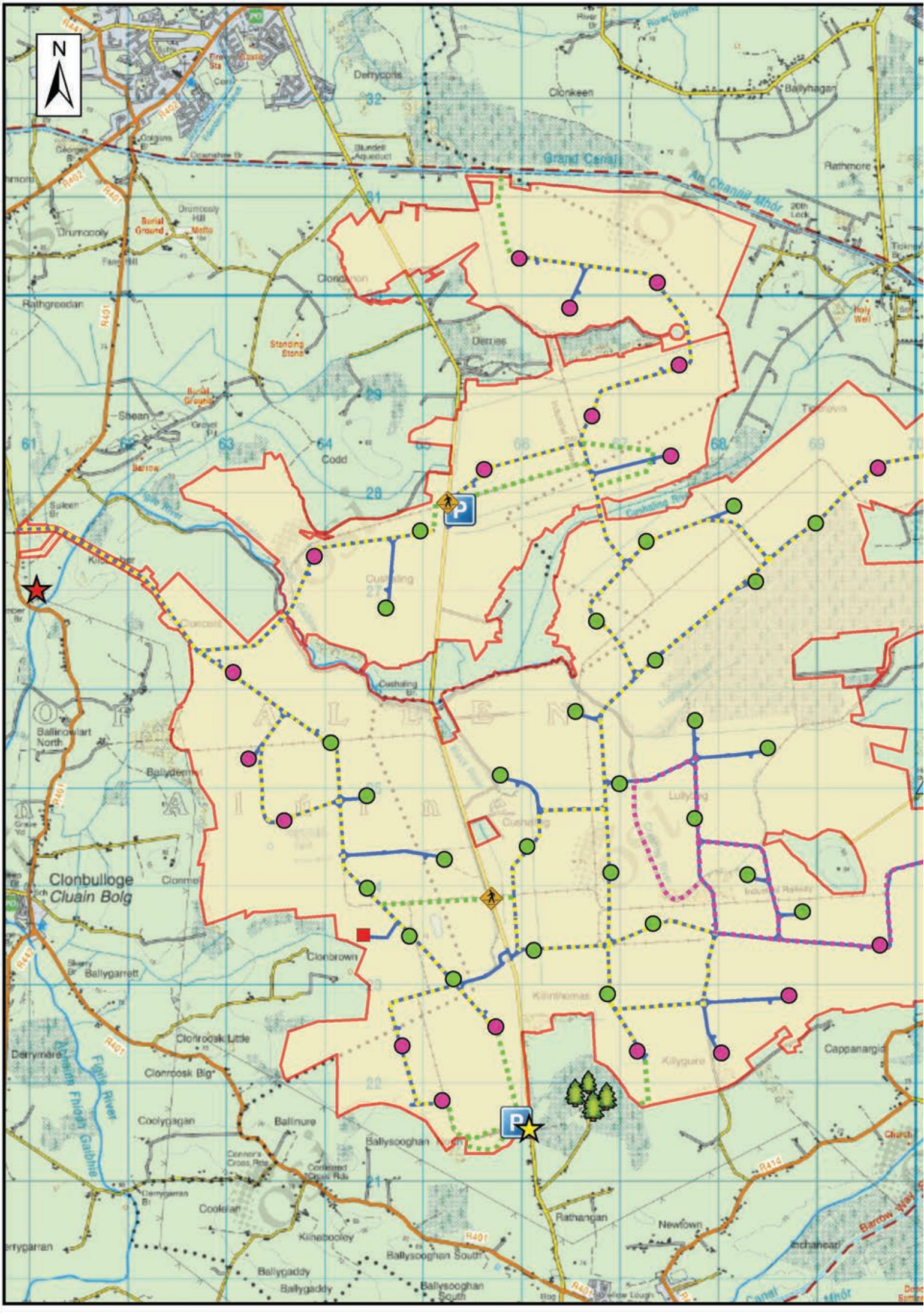


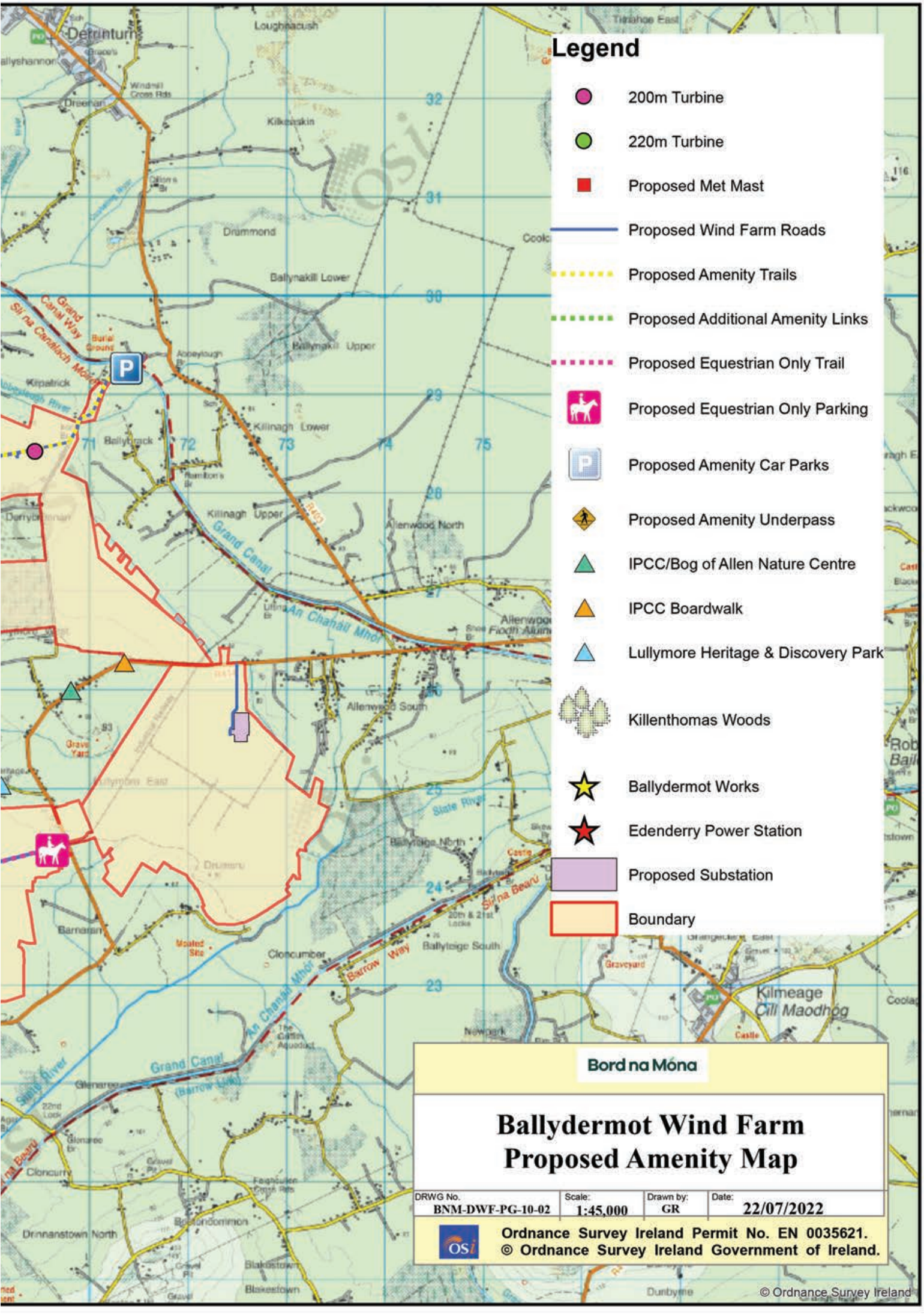
The proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm will include the construction of new access roads to install and maintain the wind turbines. The Draft Amenity Plan utilises this new infrastructure as a basis for most of the proposed trails for walking, cycling and horse riding. Additional amenity links are also provided to create loops and increase accessibility within the site. Former railway lines, existing roads and machine passes are also utilised. This approach is used on other Bord na Móna wind farms including Mountlucas and Cloncreen.

The Draft Amenity Plan proposes the creation of a network of trails that will cater for a range of users including pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. The Draft Amenity Plan also considers how this internal network of trails connects with, and complements surrounding trails which link with neighbouring settlements, visitor centres and sites of interest.

The Draft Amenity Plan proposes various trail infrastructure, amenities and facilities to maximise the visitor experience and enjoyment of the site. This includes car parking, toilets, sheltered resting spaces, seating, picnic areas, signage, a natural play area and sculptural features and interpretative signage.




N
Grand Canal
An Chanáil Mhór
Clonbulloge
Cluain Bolg
Clonbrown
Ballinowlart North
Ballyderrett
Ballygarrett
Clonroosk Little
Clonroosk Big
Derrymore
Coolygagan
Ballinure
Ballysooghan North
Ballysooghan South
Ballygaddy
Ballygaddy South
Kilnaboley
Coolran
Rathangan
Newtown
Kilnahomas
Kilygare
Cappanargid
Derrycorte
Clonkeen
Ballyhagan
Rathmore
Drumcooly
Rathgreedan
Derries
Codd
Shean
Cushaling
Cushaling Br.
Fiodh Gabhla
Fiodh River
Barrow Way


Legend
200m Turbine
220m Turbine
Proposed Met Mast
Proposed Wind Farm Roads
Proposed Amenity Trails
Proposed Additional Amenity Links
Proposed Equestrian Only Trail
Proposed Equestrian Only Parking
Proposed Amenity Car Parks
Proposed Amenity Underpass
IPCC/Bog of Allen Nature Centre
IPCC Boardwalk
Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park
Killenthomas Woods
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Proposed Substation
Boundary
Derrinturn
Loughnacush
Drummond
Ballynakill Lower
Ballynakill Upper
Kilinagh Lower
Kilinagh Upper
Allenwood North
Allenwood South
Ballyteige North
Ballyteige South
Cloncumber
Barnamoin
Kilmeage
Cill Maodhóg
Grand Canal
An Chanáil Mhór
Barrow Way
Slí na Bearu
Slí na Cianalach Mór
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proposed Amenity Map
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PG-10-02
Scale: 1:45,000
Drawn by: GR
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Proposed Trail Routes

The Draft Amenity Plan includes several waymarked trails of different lengths, ranging from short to epic, which will accommodate walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The routes have been designed to be circular and tie in with the network of existing roads, former railway lines and proposed internal wind turbine roads to minimise disturbance to wildlife and the peatland.

The trails include:

- Nine waymarked circular walking/cycling trails ranging from 1.3km to 21km.
- A dedicated 9km circular trail for equestrian users only.
- A trail connecting the Grand Canal Blueway to the east and Cloncreen Wind Farm to the west.
- Proposed connections to neighbouring sites of interest including Killinthomas Wood, the Grand Canal Blueway and Cloncreen Wind Farm with potential for future connectivity to other neighbouring sites of interest.
- Approx. 60km of waymarked routes (walking, cycling, and equestrian) on Bord na Móna lands within the Ballydermot Wind Farm. Please see the draft amenity map on the previous page for further details.

Benches and Picnic Tables

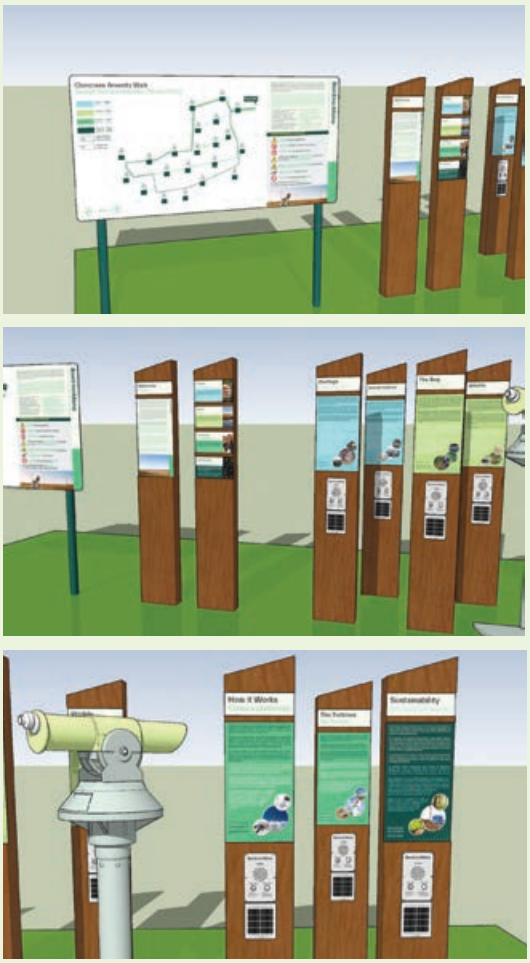
Simple rustic style benches with armrests are proposed throughout the site. Every effort will be made to use recycled/reusable materials where possible. Typical examples of such materials would be reclaimed timber or recycled plastic. Picnic table sets of a similar design will be installed at various locations to provide users with opportunities to rest and enjoy lunch on their visit. They will be designed to be wheelchair accessible.

Shelters

Simple shelters are proposed at key locations around the site. Benches/picnic tables will be located within or beside the shelters to create areas for rest on longer walks.

Interpretation Panels

Interpretation and orientation signage will be strategically located throughout the site to guide, inform and maximise enjoyment of the site for all users. The style of all signage will be consistent throughout. Natural materials such as corten steel will be used to provide a durable finish that will visually blend in with the natural landscape and create a visual link to other site furnishings including the proposed benches. Interactive signs that play recordings such as bird calls or historic recordings to be included with the potential for these signs to be powered by renewable energy sources and crankshaft systems.



Examples of Interpretative Signage Designed in Consultation with the Local Community for the Amenity Facilities at Bord na Móna's Cloncreen Wind Farm.





Examples of benches from Irish Recycled Products that have been installed on other Bord na Móna Wind Farms.

Waymarker Posts

Waymarker posts will be used at key junctions throughout the site to guide users along designated trails. They will include:

- Tall finger posts with labelled markers at main path intersections to highlight routes to special features such as car parks or sites of interest.
- Smaller waymarker bollards at path junctions with colour coded directional discs to direct people along designated trails.

The posts and bollards will be made from recycled plastic.





Style of waymarker posts proposed for use along the trails.

Sculptural Features

Sculptures will feature on walking trails near the Ballydermot Works Car Park and the Edenderry Car Park to increase awareness and understanding of the heritage of the site. They will also act as points of interest for trail users.

Car Parking

There are four new car parks proposed to service access to the site by vehicle. Three of the car parks are for general pedestrian and cycling use and will be distributed geographically across the site. These are intended to provide a range of options to access the site. A separate parking area for equestrian users is proposed on the eastern side of the site. Please refer to the amenity map on the next page for the proposed locations.

Sensory Garden & Play Amenities

A natural adventure play area is proposed as part of the Draft Amenity Plan. Natural play uses a mix of natural materials and features including earth mounding, boulders, logs and fallen trees, trees and other vegetation to create play opportunities.

A sensory garden will be located next to the natural play area. This space will have a range of play features, materials, paving surfaces and planting that stimulate the various senses. This will include large sensory play boards / panels, a kinetic wind sculpture and sensory path surfaces.





Examples of sensory play features including a sensory play panel and paths.

Please return your feedback on this Amenity Plan Consultation to the Project Team via the FREEPOST envelope included or email to:
ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie
by **Friday 30th September 2022**.

The views submitted by you on our proposals, along with results from further studies, will help us to identify the best plan to take forward into the planning process.

Bord na Móna



Bord na Móna

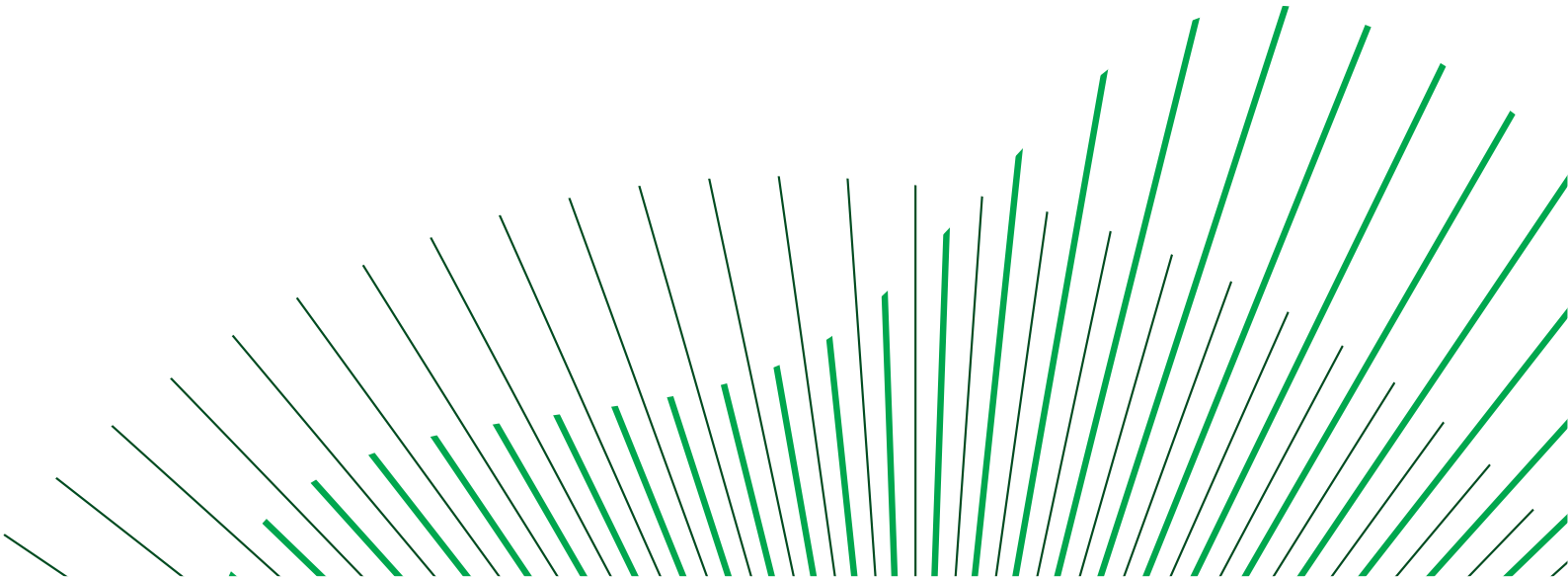
Draft Amenity Plan for proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

Feedback Questionnaire
Summer 2022

You can also submit your feedback to the project team via the online feedback form available on the dedicated project website www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie

Please return your feedback on this Consultation Phase to the Project Team by **Friday 30th September 2022** via the FREEPOST envelope included or email to: ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

The views submitted by you on our proposals, along with results from further studies, will help us to identify the best plan to take forward into the planning process.



Bord na Móna

Q1. Do you have any feedback regarding the draft Amenity Plan for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm?

Q2. Do you have any additional amenity suggestions that you would like us to consider for inclusion in the draft Amenity Plan?

Bord na Móna

Q3. Have you any other comments, suggestions or additional information you would like to provide in relation to the draft Amenity Plan?

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS.

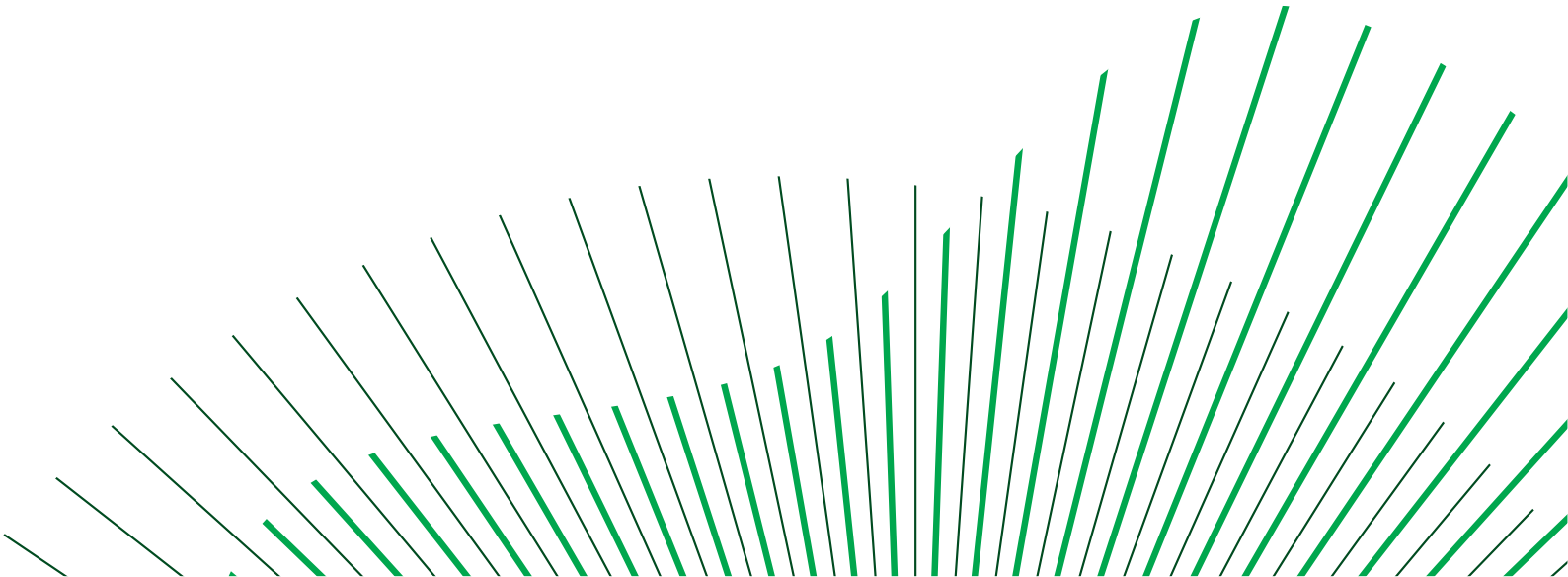
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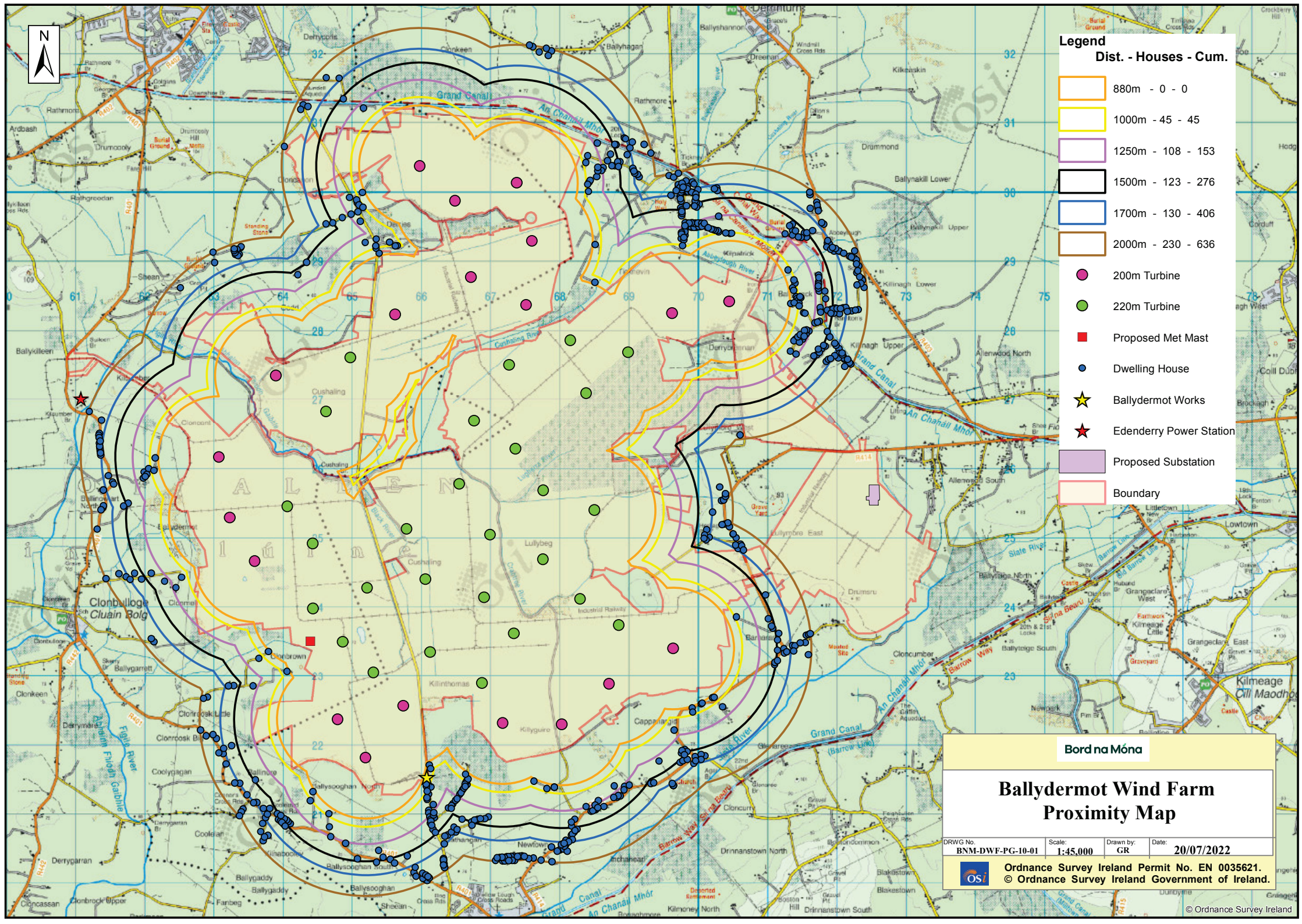
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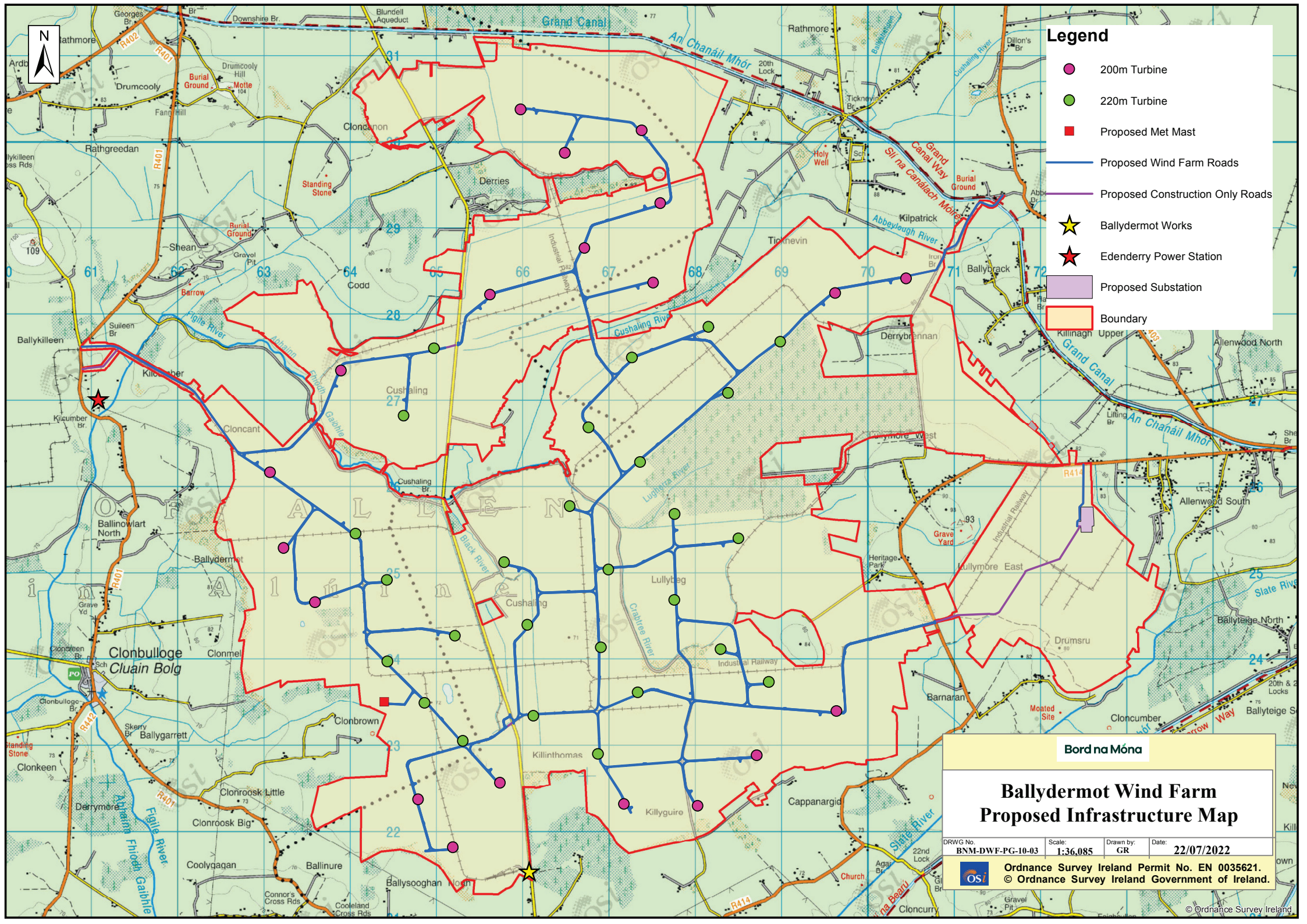
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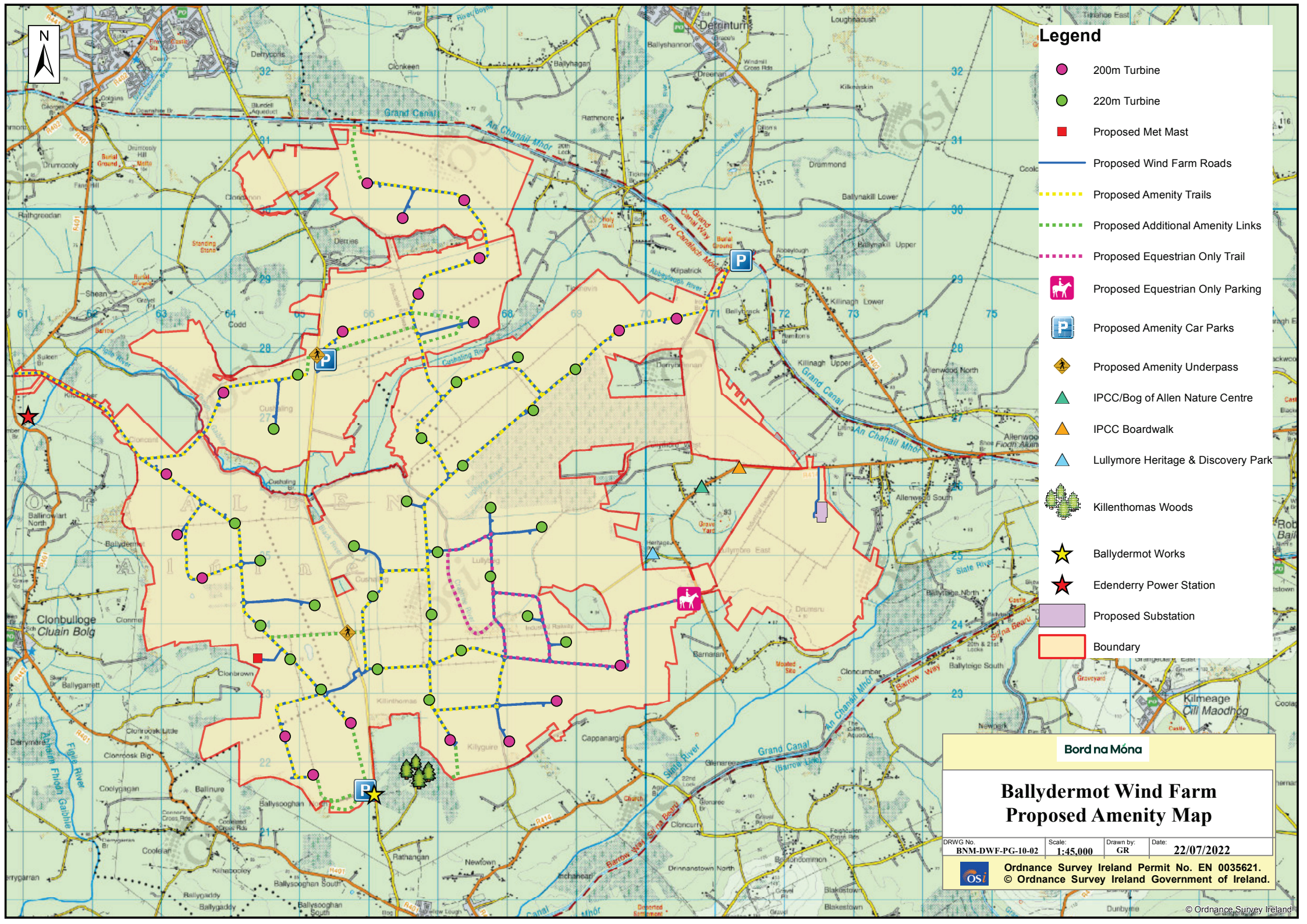
Please return your feedback on this Consultation Phase to the Project Team by **Friday 30th September 2022** via the FREEPOST envelope included or email to: ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

Bord na Móna




N
Legend
Dist. - Houses - Cum.
880m - 0 - 0
1000m - 45 - 45
1250m - 108 - 153
1500m - 123 - 276
1700m - 130 - 406
2000m - 230 - 636
200m Turbine
220m Turbine
Proposed Met Mast
Dwelling House
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Proposed Substation
Boundary
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proximity Map
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PG-10-01
Scale: 1:45,000
Drawn by: GR
Date: 20/07/2022
Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. EN 0035621.
© Ordnance Survey Ireland Government of Ireland.
© Ordnance Survey Ireland


N
Legend
200m Turbine
220m Turbine
Proposed Met Mast
Proposed Wind Farm Roads
Proposed Construction Only Roads
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Proposed Substation
Boundary
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proposed Infrastructure Map
DRWG No.
BNM-DWF-PG-10-03
Scale:
1:36,085
Drawn by:
GR
Date:
22/07/2022
Ordnance Survey Ireland Permit No. EN 0035621.
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© Ordnance Survey Ireland


N
Legend
200m Turbine
220m Turbine
Proposed Met Mast
Proposed Wind Farm Roads
Proposed Amenity Trails
Proposed Additional Amenity Links
Proposed Equestrian Only Trail
Proposed Equestrian Only Parking
Proposed Amenity Car Parks
Proposed Amenity Underpass
IPCC/Bog of Allen Nature Centre
IPCC Boardwalk
Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park
Killenthomas Woods
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Proposed Substation
Boundary
Bord na Móna
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proposed Amenity Map
DRWG No. BNM-DWF-PG-10-02
Scale: 1:45,000
Drawn by: GR
Date: 22/07/2022
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Appendix D: Project Information Pack, Summer 2026, Proposed Grid Route

Bord na Móna
Giniúint Cumhachta
An bPriómhshráid,
Droichead Nua,
Co Chill Dara,
W12 XR59

Bord na Móna
Powergen Limited
Main Street,
Newbridge,
Co Kildare,
W12 XR59

T +353 (0) 45 439 000
F +353 (0) 45 439 001
info@bnm.ie

-
bnm.ie

Spring 2026

Dear Resident,

Bord na Móna Powergen Ltd (trading as BnM) is progressing plans for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm (announced in 2020) within the Ballydermot Bog Group located in counties Kildare and Offaly. We are writing to provide an update on the project with a particular focus on the proposed grid connection required to connect the proposed wind farm to Ireland's national electricity grid.

The proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm layout remains as previously shared with the local community in late 2022 and comprises 47 turbines with an overall tip height of 200 and 220 metres. A copy of the proposed wind farm layout and draft amenity plan, as circulated at that time, is available on the dedicated project website: **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie** or can be requested using the contact details provided overleaf.

As with all wind energy developments, a grid connection is required to enable the electricity generated by the proposed wind farm to be transmitted to the national electricity grid, which is operated by EirGrid and supplies electricity across Ireland.

The proposed development includes an on-site 220kV electricity substation (on-site substation) within the wind farm site, along with an underground grid connection linking the site to an off-site 220kV electricity substation (off-site substation). The grid connection would comprise approximately 12.3 kilometres of underground cabling and would be installed mainly within the public road corridor where possible to minimise impacts on private land. Should the project be consented and progress to construction, traffic management measures will be implemented in consultation with the relevant local authorities to minimise disruption.

Based on current design work, the proposed underground 220kV electrical cabling route for the grid connection will exit the proposed on-site substation located on Lodge Bog via an internal access track onto the R414. It will continue along existing public roads, crossing beneath the Grand Canal west of Shee Bridge via Horizontal Directional Drilling. From here, it will continue along the R403, through Allenwood, and turning south along the L6002 at Prosperous to connect to the proposed off-site substation. From this point, it will provide connection to the national grid via a loop-in connection to the existing Maynooth-Dunstown 220kV overhead line. Please see enclosed map for details.

BnM is committed to ongoing engagement and keeping local communities informed as the project progresses. In line with this commitment, two Community Information Sessions will be held to provide the local community an opportunity to discuss the proposed wind farm and grid connection with the Project Team, as shown overleaf.

Continued overleaf

Time	Date	Location
5pm–8.30pm	Monday 18th May 2026	Scoil an Linbh Íosa, Prosperous, Co. Kildare, W91 DT10
5pm–8.30pm	Wednesday 20th May 2026	Allenwood GAA Club, Seán Tierney Park, Allenwood North, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 AK02

If you would like further information in the meantime, please contact the project's Community Liaison Team on 087 995 1174 (Niall) or 087 708 7022 (James), or by email at ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie. Project updates will also continue to be published on **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie**.

We will continue to keep you informed as the project progresses and will notify you directly when a planning application for the proposed wind farm and grid connection is submitted.

Yours faithfully,

Ballydermot Wind Farm Community Relations Team

Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proposed Grid Route

April/May 2026





Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who is BnM?

BnM is a leading renewable energy provider supporting Ireland's journey to net zero by delivering secure, renewable energy at scale for businesses across the country. As part of the company's plans for the future, Bord na Móna has updated its brand to BnM, reflecting the company's future focus while also recognising its legacy.

2. What is the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm?

The proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm, announced in 2020, is planned within the Ballydermot Bog Group area. Please see page 6 for further details.

3. What stage is the project at now?

BnM is advancing plans for the Ballydermot Wind Farm in counties Kildare and Offaly, focusing on the required grid connection to link the wind farm to Ireland's national electricity grid. Please see page 7 for further details.

4. How many turbines are proposed for the development and what height will they be?

The proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm layout remains as previously shared with the local community in late 2022 and comprises 47 turbines with an overall tip height of 200 and 220 metres. Further details and a draft amenity plan are available on the project website or by request.

5. When will a planning application be lodged?

BnM commits to keeping residents informed throughout the project's progress and will notify the community directly when a planning application for the wind farm and grid connection is submitted in the coming months.

6. Where will the power from the proposed wind farm go?

The electricity generated by the turbines will be transmitted directly onto Ireland's National Grid which is managed by EirGrid.



Introduction

BnM is a leading renewable energy provider supporting Ireland's journey to net zero by delivering secure, renewable energy for homes and businesses across the country.

Working with our landbank, strategic partners and local communities we are building a 5GW renewable energy pipeline, including onshore and offshore wind, solar and biomass projects – enabling industrial growth while contributing to our sustainable future.

BnM has been serving communities across Ireland for over 90 years. Today we continue to support business and local communities not only by safeguarding renewable energy supply, but also through our dedicated programme of community initiatives including community benefit funds, Mountlucas Wind Farm, Lough Boora Discovery Park, our business accelerator Accelerate Green, our Pathways to the Future educational supports and other initiatives.

For more information about BnM visit: **bnm.ie**

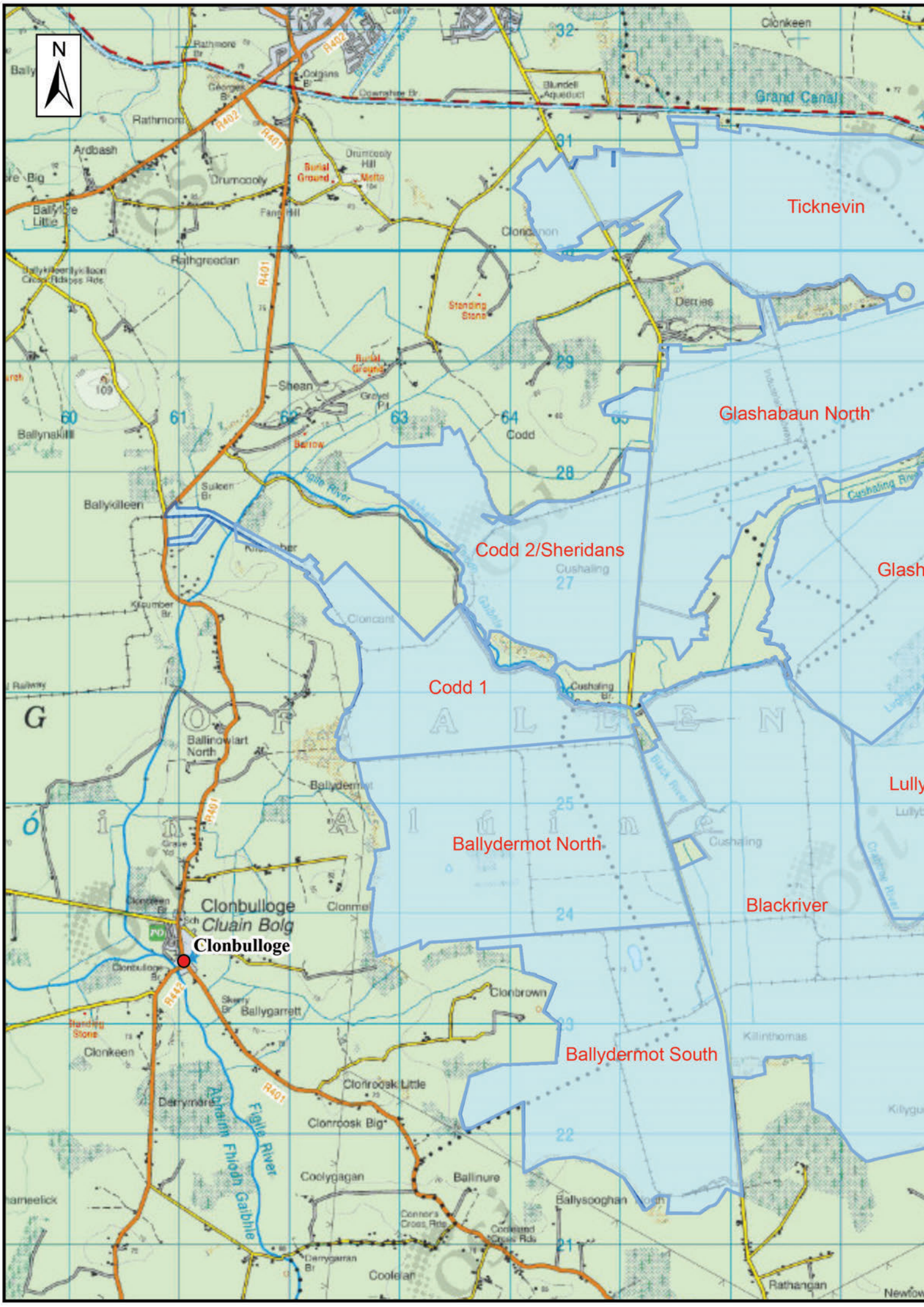
Site Location

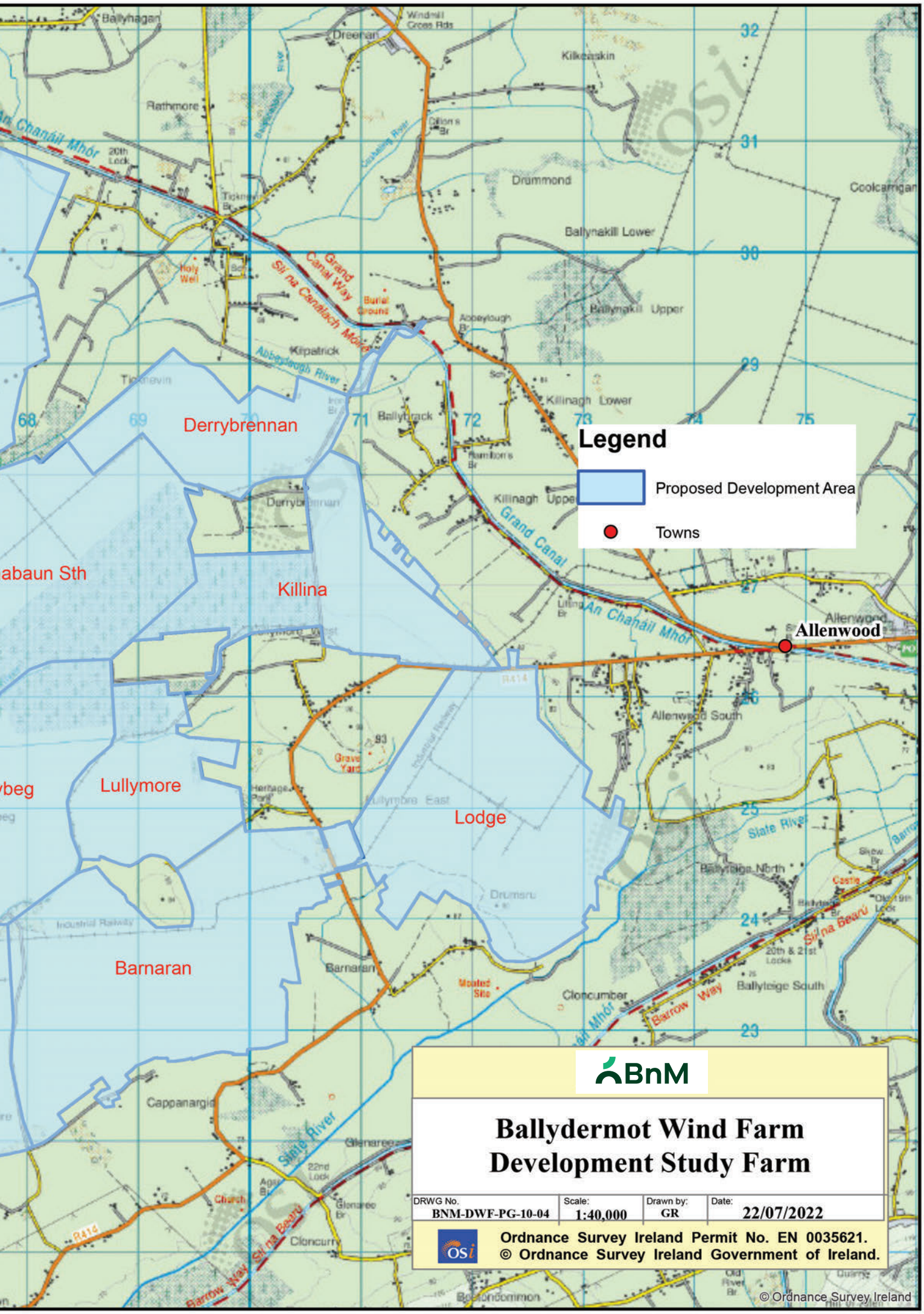
The proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm, announced in 2020, is planned within the Ballydermot Bog Group area on the Offaly and Kildare border. The proposed wind farm site benefits from good existing access, primarily via the local road network and the Grand Canal.

The M4 and M6 motorways are located approximately 25km to the north of the proposed wind farm site, with the M7 approximately 15km to the south. The proposed wind farm site is bounded by the R402 to the north, which connects to the R401 to the west and south, and by the R414 and R403 to the east. A network of regional roads links the proposed wind farm site to surrounding settlements, while a local road runs through the site connecting the towns of Edenderry and Rathangan. The proposed wind farm site is located approximately one hour from Dublin and just over two hours from Cork and Galway.

The Grand Canal main line runs to the north of the proposed wind farm site, with the Grand Canal Barrow Line to the south, and existing walking and cycling routes along the canal routes have the potential to link with the proposed amenity facilities at Ballydermot Wind Farm.

There are several towns and villages that surround the site including Allenwood, Carbury, Clonbullogue, Derrinturn, Edenderry and Rathangan.


Ticknevin
Glashabaun North
Codd 2/Sheridans
Codd 1
Ballydermot North
Blackriver
Ballydermot South
Clonbulloge
Cluain Bolg
Clonbulloge
Grand Canal
Figile River
Abhainn Fhíodh Gaibhle
Figile River
Clonkeen
Rathmore
Ardbash
Drumcooly
Rathgreedan
Shean
Codd
Ballynakill
Ballykilleen
Ballinowlart North
Clonbrown
Ballygarrett
Clonrooskbeg
Coolygagan
Ballinure
Ballysooghan
Rathangan
Cushaling
Glash
Lully



Ballydermot Wind Farm
Development Study Farm

DRWG No.	Scale:	Drawn by:	Date:
BNM-DWF-PG-10-04	1:40,000	GR	22/07/2022

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Overview of Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm

The proposed development will be located within the BnM Ballydermot Bog Group which comprises of circa 5,880 hectares. This Bog Group consists of 14 bogs (please refer to map on pages 4 and 5), 12 of which have been identified as potentially suitable for the location of turbines. It is envisaged the proposed development footprint would take up approximately 5% of the total site area for turbine bases, crane hard-standings and access tracks, meaning much of the land area will not be required by the development. This provides opportunity for the remainder of the site to be utilised for other purposes, such as biodiversity and amenity.

Number of Turbines: 47

The layout includes 47 turbines, 20 turbines will have a max. blade tip height of 200m and 27 turbines will have a max. blade tip height of 220m consistent with the design shared with the community in late 2022.

Setback Distance: 880m

The turbine layout has been designed with a minimum setback distance of 880m to the nearest house from a turbine. This complies with the Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines (2019), which proposes a setback distance of 4 times the tip height.

Wind Farm Capacity: 329MW

The Proposed Project will accommodate approximately 329 Megawatts (MW) of installed generating capacity – making it the largest proposed onshore wind farm in Ireland to date. When operational, the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm will generate a volume of electricity equivalent to the average annual electrical demand of over 200,000 Irish homes.



Overview of Proposed Grid Route

Proposed Grid Route

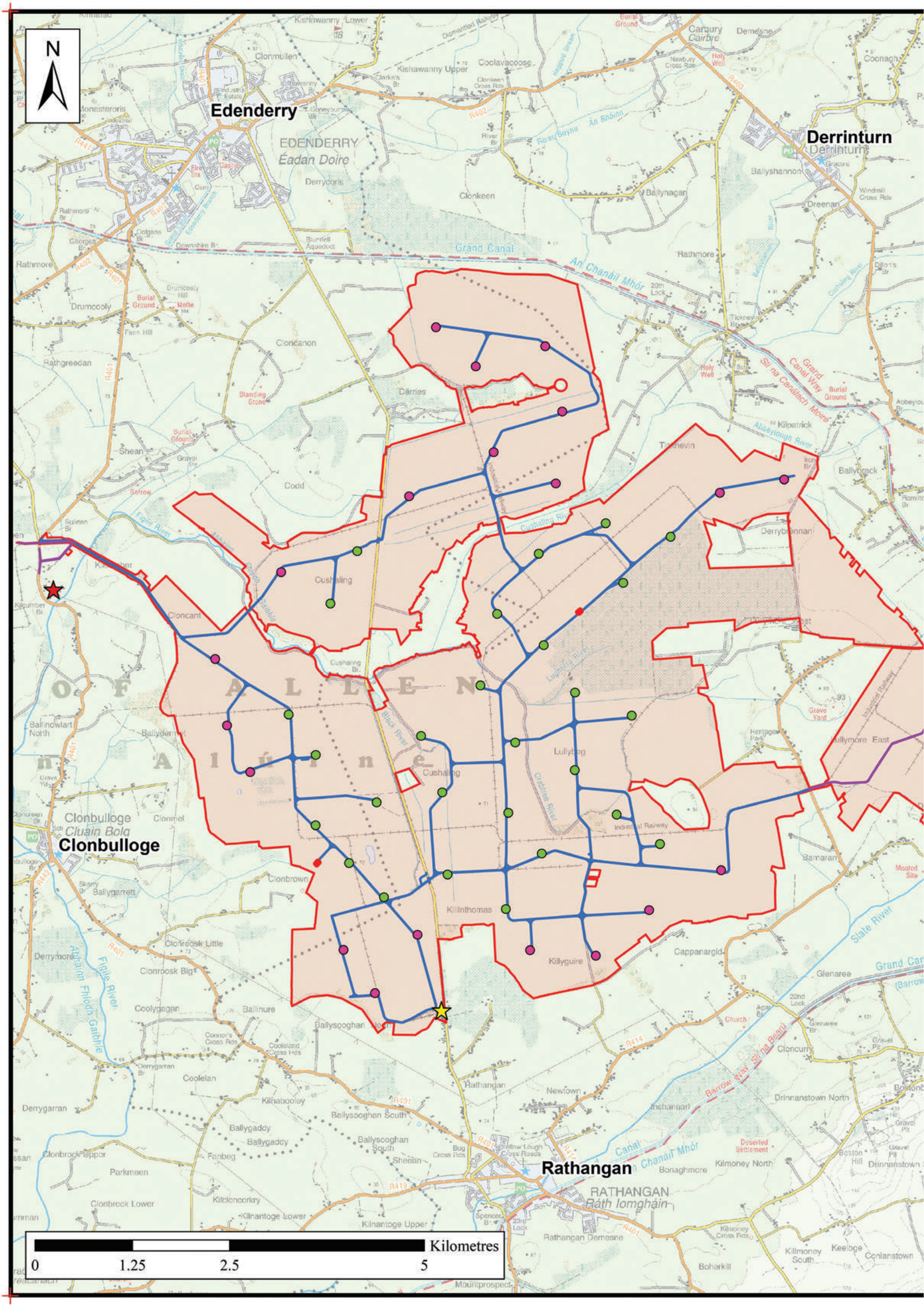
As with all wind energy developments, a grid connection is required to enable the electricity generated by the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm to be transmitted to the national electricity grid, which is operated by EirGrid and supplies electricity across Ireland.

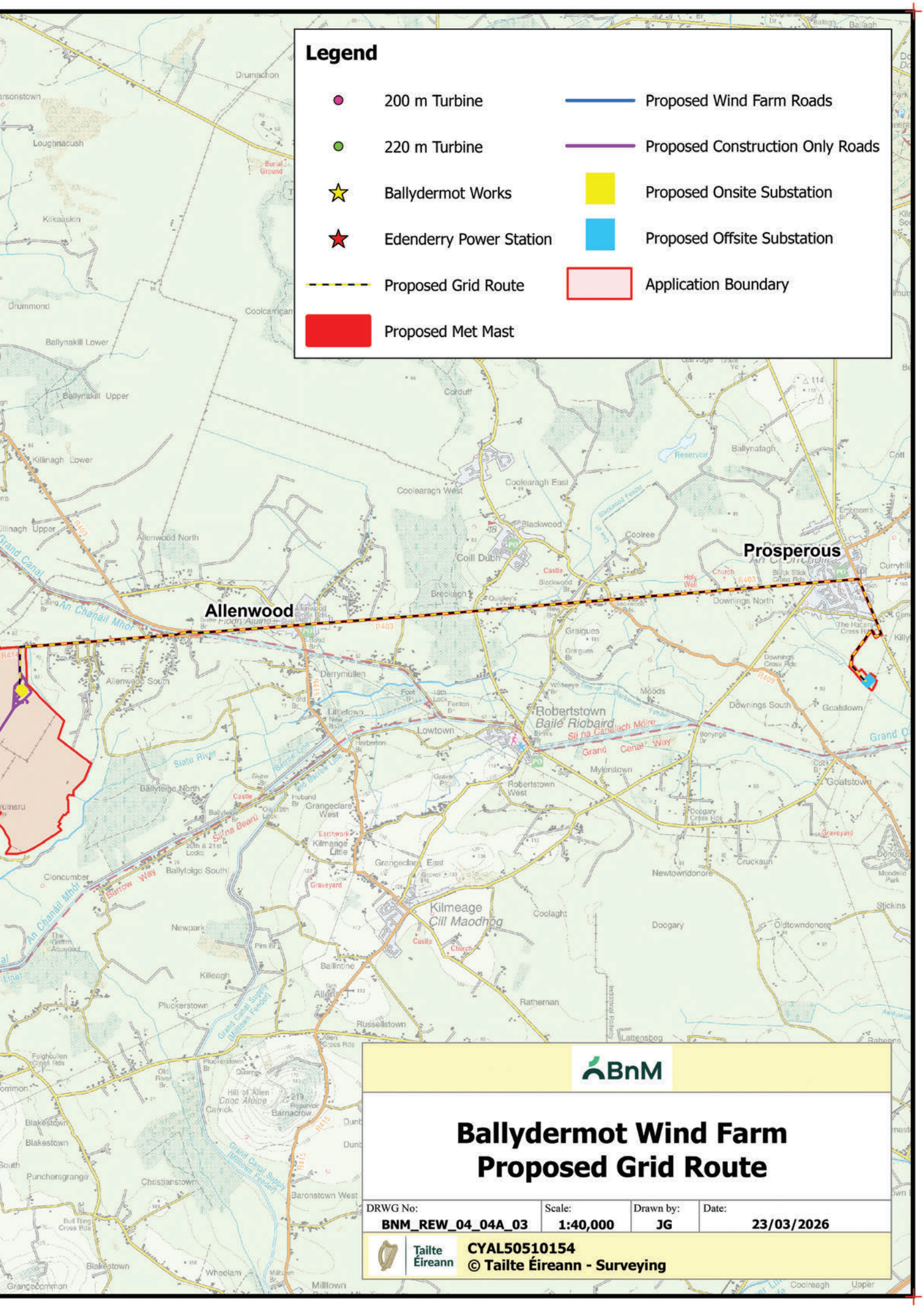
The proposed wind farm development includes an on-site 220kV electricity substation *(on-site substation)* within the wind farm site, along with an underground grid connection linking the site to an off-site 220kV electricity substation *(off-site substation)*. The grid connection would comprise approximately 12.3 kilometres of underground cabling and would be installed mainly within the public road corridor where possible to minimise impacts on private land. Should the project be consented and progress to construction, traffic management measures will be implemented in consultation with the relevant local authorities to minimise disruption.

Based on current design work, the proposed underground 220kV electrical cabling route for the grid connection will exit the proposed on-site substation located on Lodge Bog via an internal access track onto the R414. It will continue along existing public roads, crossing beneath the Grand Canal west of Shee Bridge via Horizontal Directional Drilling. From here, it will continue along the R403, through Allenwood, and turning south along the L6002 at Prosperous to connect to the proposed off-site substation. From this point, it will provide connection to the national grid via a loop-in connection to the existing Maynooth-Dunstown 220kV overhead line. Please see pages 8 and 9 for a map of the proposed grid route.

Traffic Management

The grid route has been designed to remain within public road corridors where possible to minimise impacts on private land. Should the project be consented and progress to construction, traffic management measures will be implemented in consultation with the relevant local authorities to minimise disruption.


N
Edenderry
EDENDERRY
Éadan Doire
Derrinturn
Clonbulloge
Cluain Bolg
Rathangan
RATHANGAN
Ráth Iomgháin
Grand Canal
An Chanáil Mhór
Grand Canal Way
Slí na Canálach Móire
Barrow Way Slí na Bearú
Figile River
Slate River
Cushaling River
Lughill River
Black River
Abbeylough River
Cushaling
Lullybeg
Killinthomas
Killyguire
Cloncant
Codd
Derries
Clonkeen
Clonmullen
Kishawanny Lower
Kishawanny Upper
Coolavacoose
Carbury
Cairbre
Derrybrennan
Cappanargid
Glenaree
Ballysooghan North
Ballysooghan South
Clonrook Big
Clonrook Little
Derrymore
Coolygagan
Coolelan
Derrygarran
Parkmeen
Clonbrock Upper
Clonbrock Lower
Newtown
Kilnantoge Upper
Kilnantoge Lower
Rathangan Demesne
Bonaghmore
Kilmoney North
Drinnanstown North
Ballygadoy
Industrial Railway
Kilometres
0
1.25
2.5
5



BnM

Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proposed Grid Route

DRWG No:	Scale:	Drawn by:	Date:
BNM_REW_04_04A_03	1:40,000	JG	23/03/2026

Tailte Éireann

CYAL50510154
© Tailte Éireann - Surveying

Need for Wind Energy

Wind farms generate renewable electricity that contributes to the long-term decarbonisation of Ireland's energy system and helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions across the wider economy, including agriculture and transport.

The proposed project would contribute to Ireland's and the European Union's renewable energy and climate objectives over the medium to long term, supporting energy security and the transition towards greater energy self-sufficiency.

National policy, including the National Development Plan 2021–2030, sets ambitious targets to deliver up to 80% renewable electricity by 2030, while recognising that continued investment in renewable energy infrastructure beyond 2030 will be essential to meeting Ireland's long-term climate commitments as the country progresses towards net zero by 2050.

In this context, the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm represents an important element of Ireland's long-term response to climate change. By supporting the continued growth of renewable electricity generation, the project would help underpin future climate commitments, enhance energy security, and reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels in the years ahead.

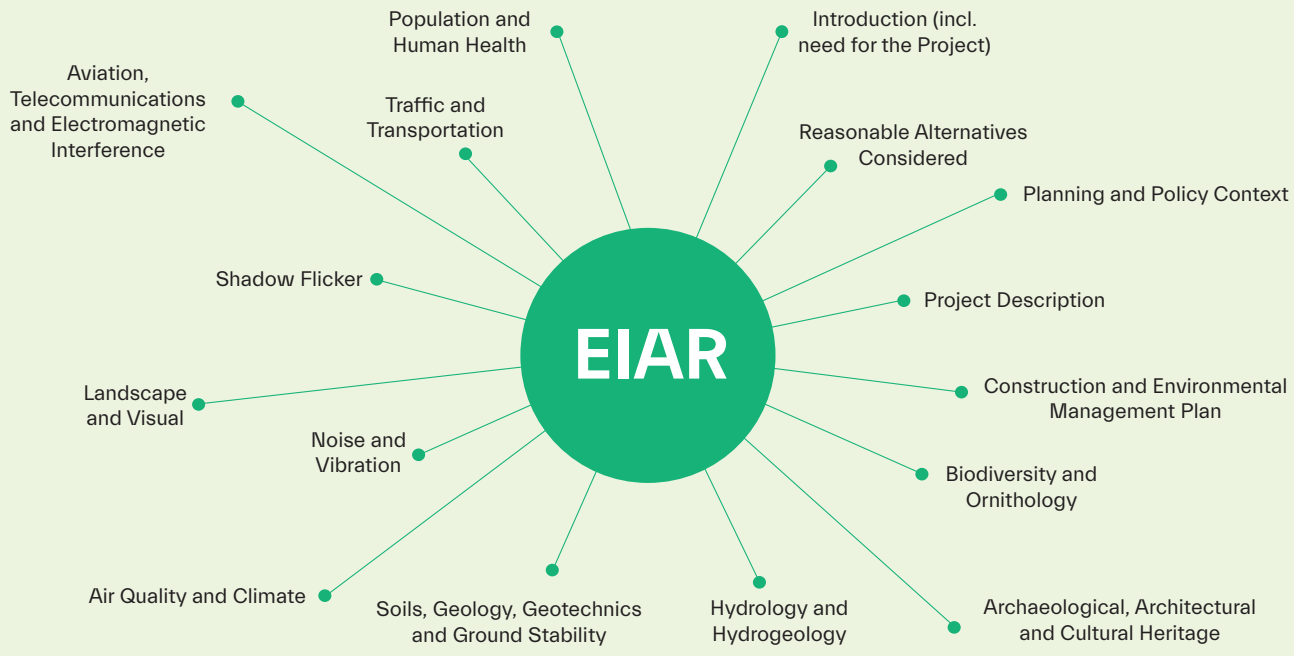
Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Due to the nature and scale of the proposed development, a detailed environmental study, known as an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required. As part of this process, an environmental baseline for the site has been established through fieldwork and a programme of baseline surveys.

The findings of these assessments will be documented in an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The EIAR will include dedicated chapters on topics such as biodiversity and wildlife, noise, landscape and visual, shadow flicker, traffic and transport, air quality, climate, water and cultural heritage, aviation, population and human health.

The EIAR is a comprehensive public document that accompanies the planning application and is submitted to the appropriate consenting authority for independent assessment.

At a minimum, the EIAR for Ballydermot Wind Farm will comprise the following:



Benefits of the Development

The proposed development will give rise to a range of benefits at different levels. At a local level, benefits arising from the construction and operation of the proposed wind farm will include:

- Employment;
- Upgrading of the road infrastructure in the vicinity of the wind farm (as required);
- Amenity and Recreational Facilities;
- The provision of a Community Benefit Fund;
- Payment of taxes from the project, and dividends from BnM to the State;
- Substantial rates paid to the relevant Local Authorities.

Employment

Based on the current design, the proposed wind farm would support around 200–250 jobs at peak construction. There will also be indirect employment created through the sub-supply of a wide range of products and services including: gravel and graded stone for roads and hard stands, concrete and steel for turbine bases, building materials for sub stations, haulage of components from the ports to the site, accommodation, legal and financial services. Once complete the project will also support a number of long term, high quality technical jobs in operations and maintenance.

Amenity and Recreational Facilities

The vision of the Amenity Plan (published in 2022) is to provide a new local and regional recreational resource that provides for co-location with the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm and potential future uses of the site. The Draft Amenity Plan proposes various trail infrastructure, including over 60km of waymarked routes, amenities and facilities to maximise the visitor experience and enjoyment of the site. This includes car parking, toilets, sheltered resting spaces, seating, picnic areas, signage, a natural play area and sculptural features and interpretative signage. The Draft Amenity Plan will not impinge on areas of high



ecological or other environmental value within the site nor on any adjacent land use. The amenities will tie in with and complement the proposed wind farm infrastructure, and the peatland rehabilitation works. The amenity facilities will also link in with future connectivity in the surrounding settlements and sites / areas of interest. More details on this Amenity Plan can be viewed via the project website: **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie.**

Community Benefit Fund

Similar to our existing wind farms, it is envisaged that an annual Community Benefit Fund will be set up for the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm once the project is operational. As the project is at an early stage of its development, the exact nature and structure of a proposed Community Benefit Fund is not known at this time, albeit we would envisage it being similar in type to our existing Community Benefit Funds which include:

- **A Community Benefit Fund**
  Providing funding to local community and not-for-profit organisations
- **A Near Neighbour Fund**
  Providing an annual electricity contribution and once off support to carry out energy efficiency measures and/or education support to residents within a prescribed distance of a turbine.

How you can get in touch

The Ballydermot Wind Farm will benefit from participation by all interested parties during each stage of the development. There are a few ways you can get in touch with us:

Call us

If you wish to make a comment or require further information about the proposed wind farm please call the project's Community Liaison Team Niall (087 995 1174) or James (087 708 7022).

Email us

Email us any comments or queries via:
ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

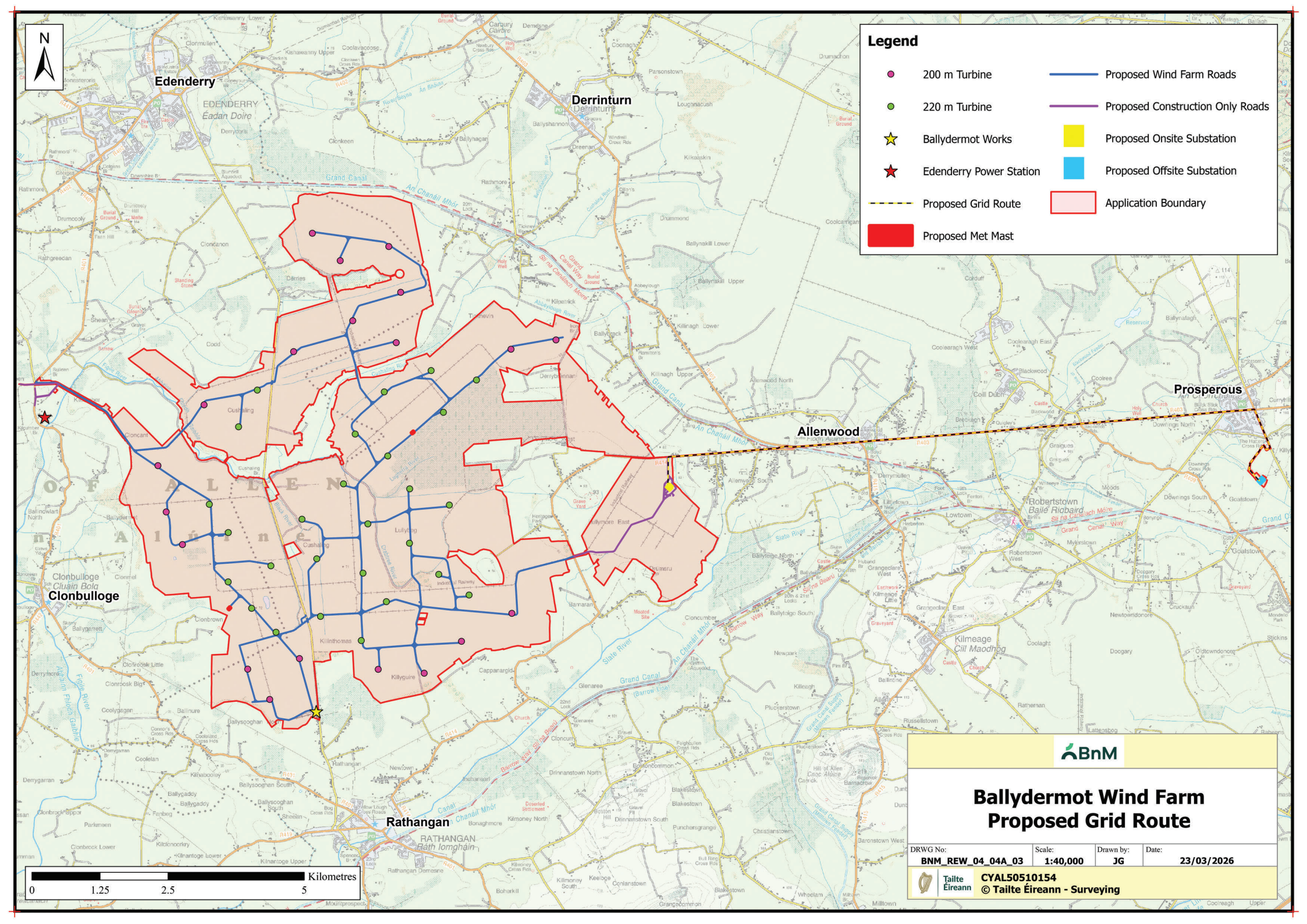
Write to us

Ballydermot Wind Farm Community Relations Team,
BnM, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 XR59

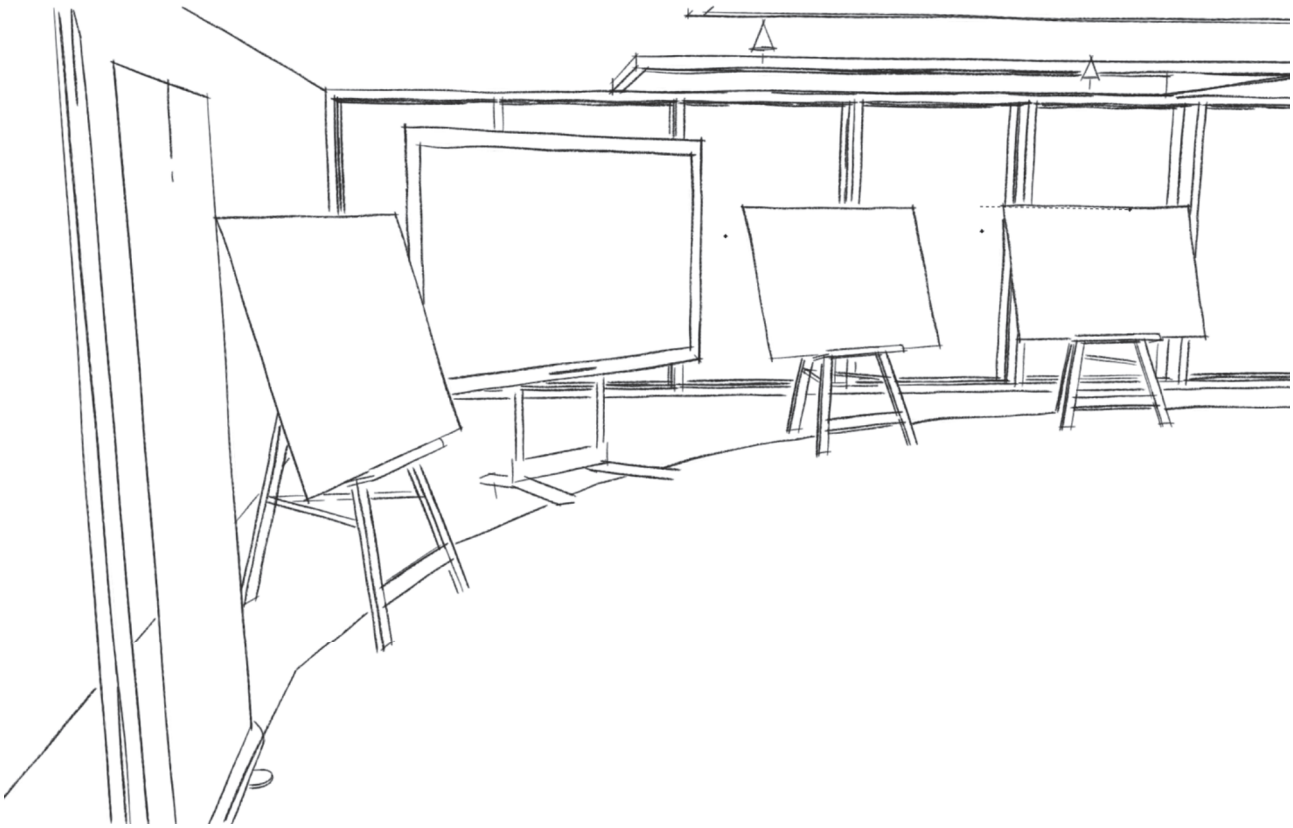
Join our mailing list

Keep informed of all project updates by signing up to our project mailing list. Please visit the project website to complete the sign-up form:
www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie

BnM


N
Legend
200 m Turbine
220 m Turbine
Ballydermot Works
Edenderry Power Station
Proposed Grid Route
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Proposed Wind Farm Roads
Proposed Construction Only Roads
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Application Boundary
Edenderry
Derrinturn
Allenwood
Prosperous
Clonbulloge
Rathangan
Kilometres
0
1.25
2.5
5
BnM
Ballydermot Wind Farm
Proposed Grid Route
DRWG No: BNM_REW_04_04A_03
Scale: 1:40,000
Drawn by: JG
Date: 23/03/2026
Tailte Éireann
CYAL50510154
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Appendix E: Virtual Consultation Room Reports 2021, Project Launch



Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

October 2020

Executive Summary

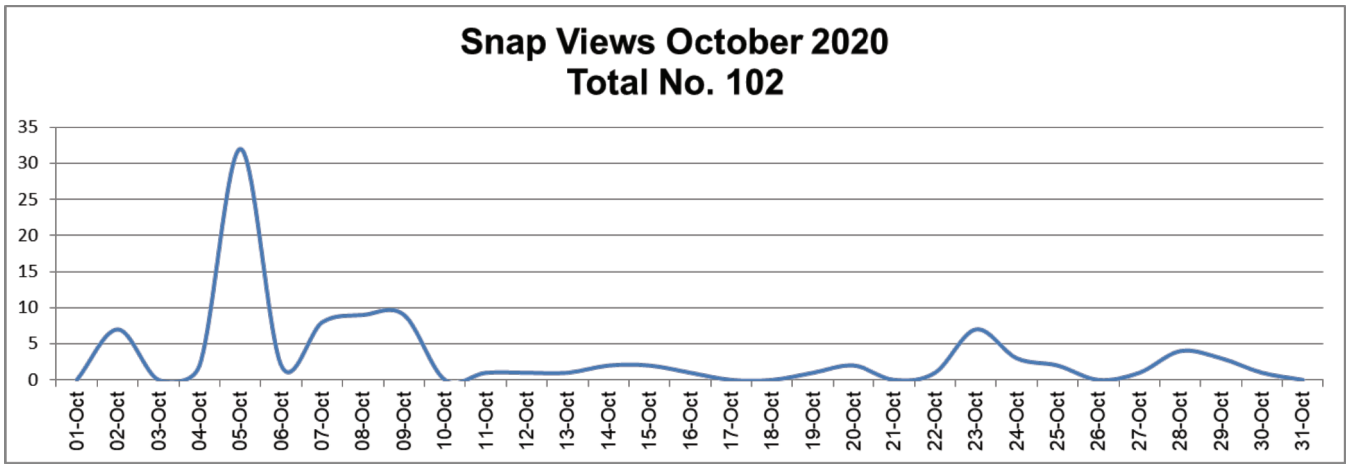
- The total number of visits to the site during October was 102.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome” banner followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Project” banner.
- 18 visitors (18%) spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- 96% of visitors were from Ireland with 38% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

Table of Contents

	Page
• Site Visits	3
• Top 5 Hotspot Clicks	4
• Duration of Site Visits	6
• Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors	7
• Device, Browser and Platform Information	8

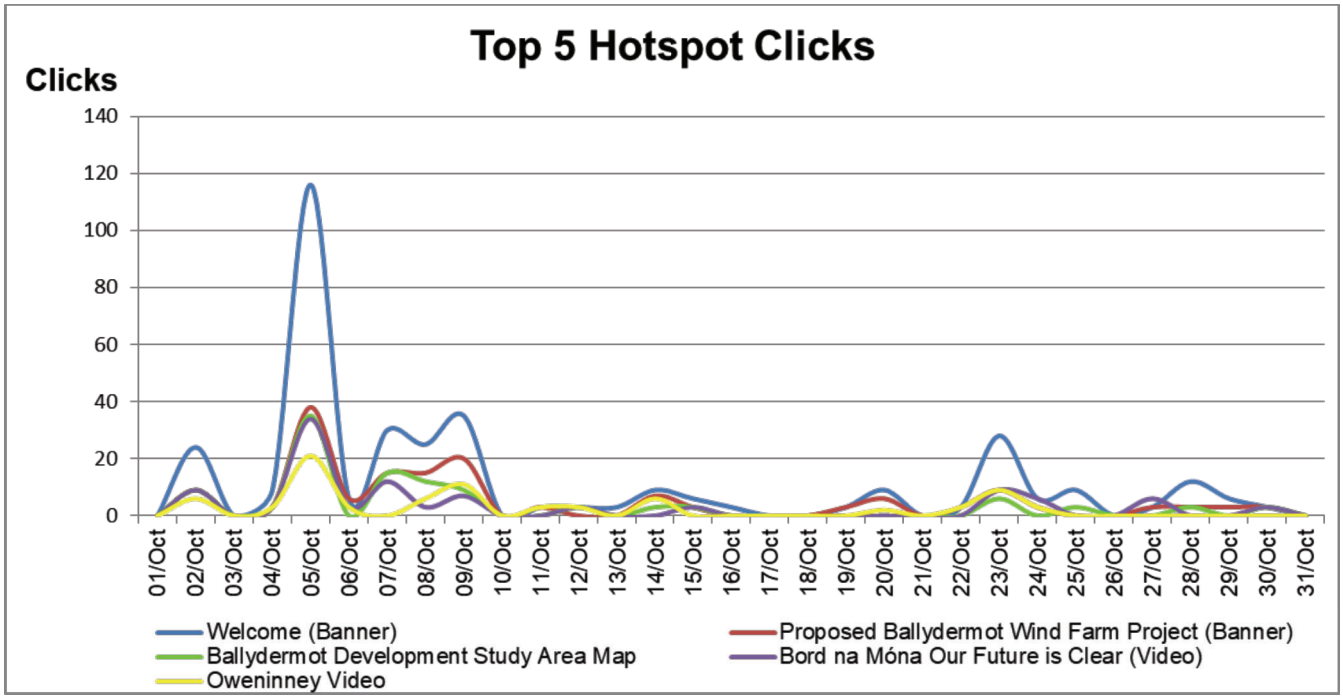
Site Visits

There were 102 visits to the room during the month. Most activity was during the first 10 days of the month, with a spike on October 5th. There were further increases in activity between October 23rd and 29th.



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

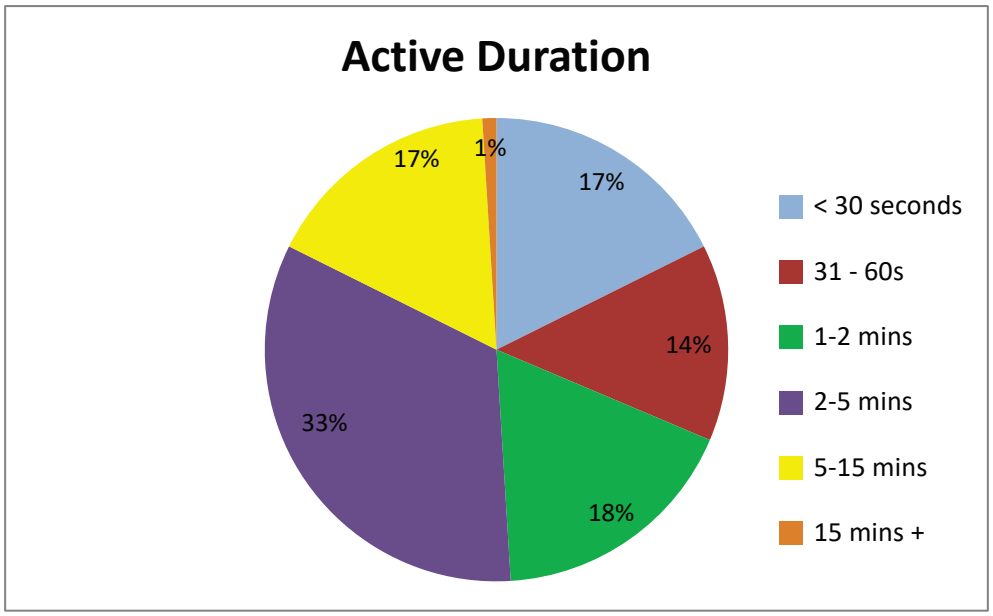
The “Welcome” banner is the most viewed in the room at 354 clicks. This is followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm” banner and the “Ballydermot Development Study Area Map with 155 and 107 clicks respectively.
After that, the “Bord na Móna Our Future is Clear” video and the “Oweninny” video complete the most popular five with 101 and 79 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



Hotspot	No. Clicks
Welcome (Banner)	354
Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Project (Banner)	155
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	107
Bord na Móna Our Future is Clear (Video)	101
Oweninny Video	79
How Wind Turbines Operate (Banner)	77
Need For Wind Energy (Banner)	72
LVIA (Banner)	51
Benefits of the Development (Banner)	44
Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines in Ireland (Banner)	43
Community Engagement (Banner)	41
FAQ's	38
EIAR (Banner)	26
Project Information Brochure Download	26
SID Process (Banner)	18
Contact Us	18
Join Our Mailing List	12
Book an appointment for our Community Engagement Clinics	6
Total	**1268**

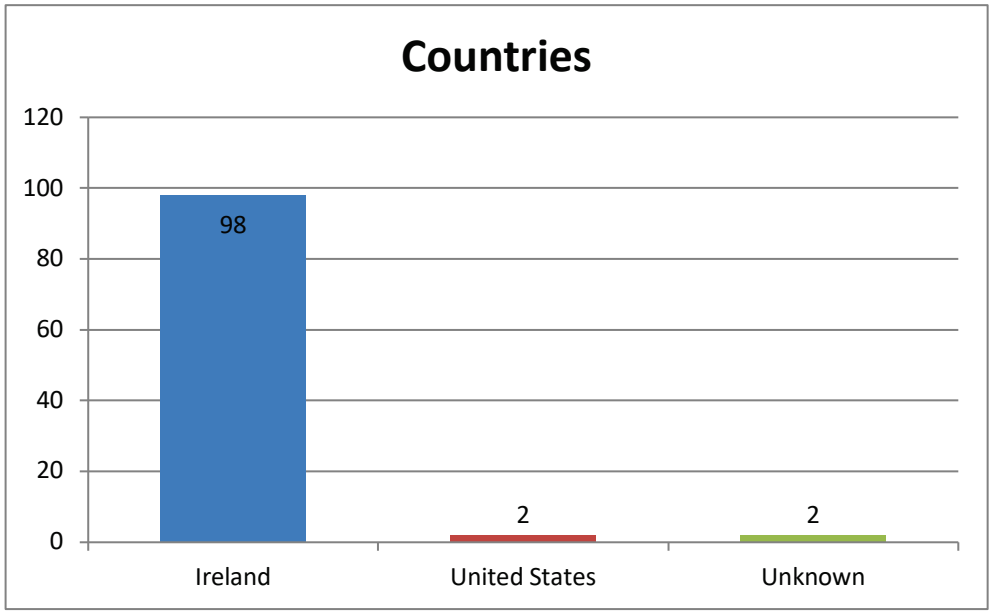
Duration of Site Visits

18 visitors (18%) spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 32 visitors (31%) spent less than one minute in the room.

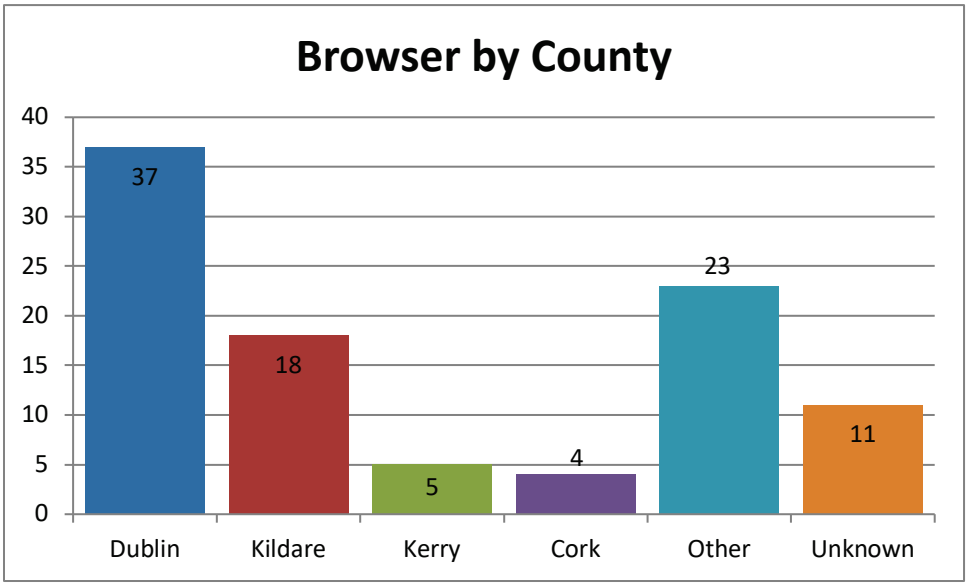


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

98% of traffic in October was from Ireland with 2% from the US. A further 2% were from an Unknown location.



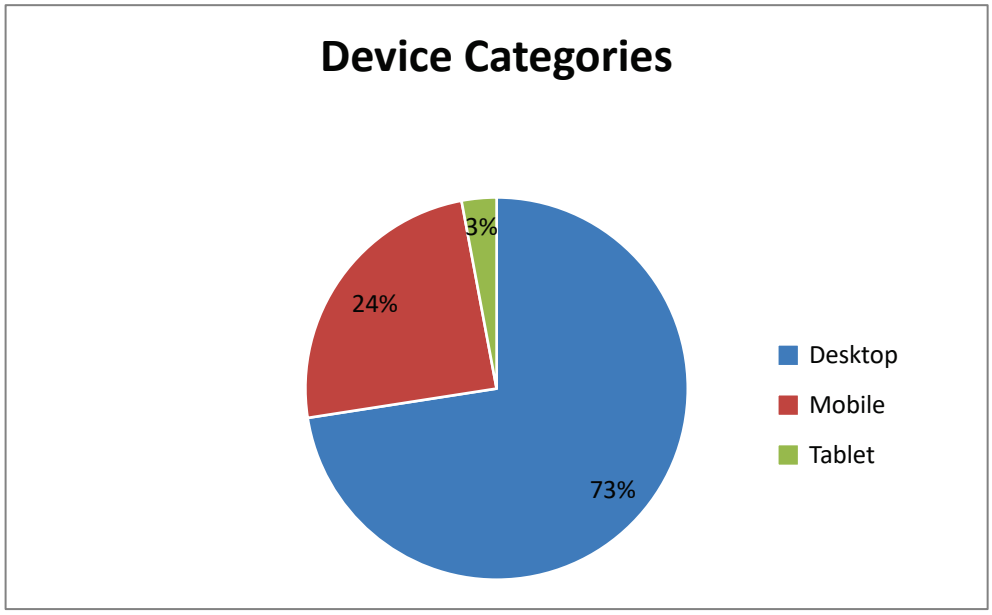
Dublin visitors (37) to the site represented approximately 38% of Irish visitors. There were eighteen visitors from Kildare, five from Kerry and four visitors from Cork. A further 23 visitors were from other counties in Ireland. A further 2% were from other locations but it was not possible to determine where due to user defined browser restrictions. These are indicated as "Unknown" in the chart below.



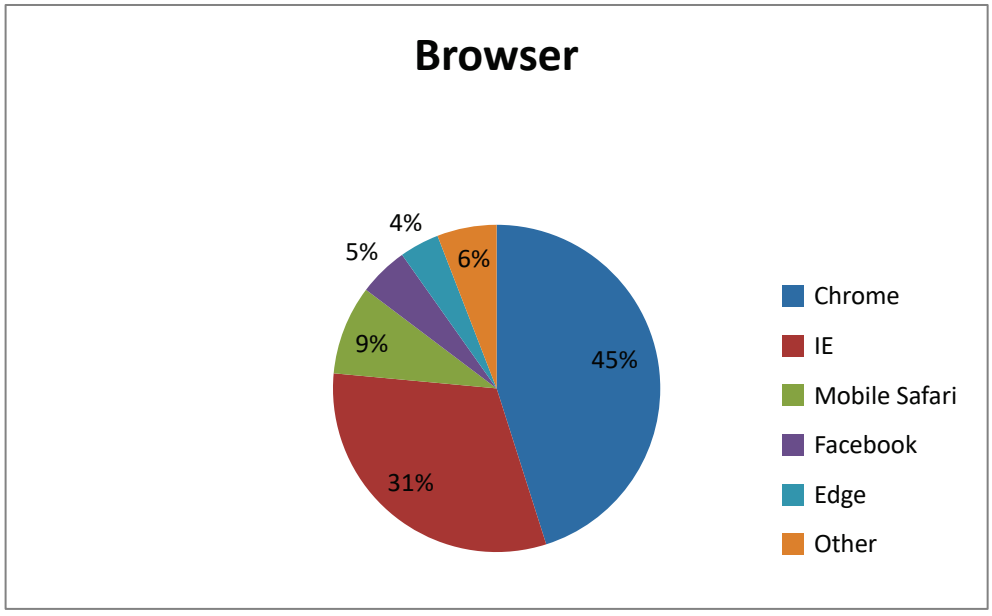
Note: The above browser location statistics do not always necessarily represent the location of the device accessing the website and may just represent the location of the user's internet service provider server. As such, these figures should be regarded with caution.

Device, Browser and Platform Information

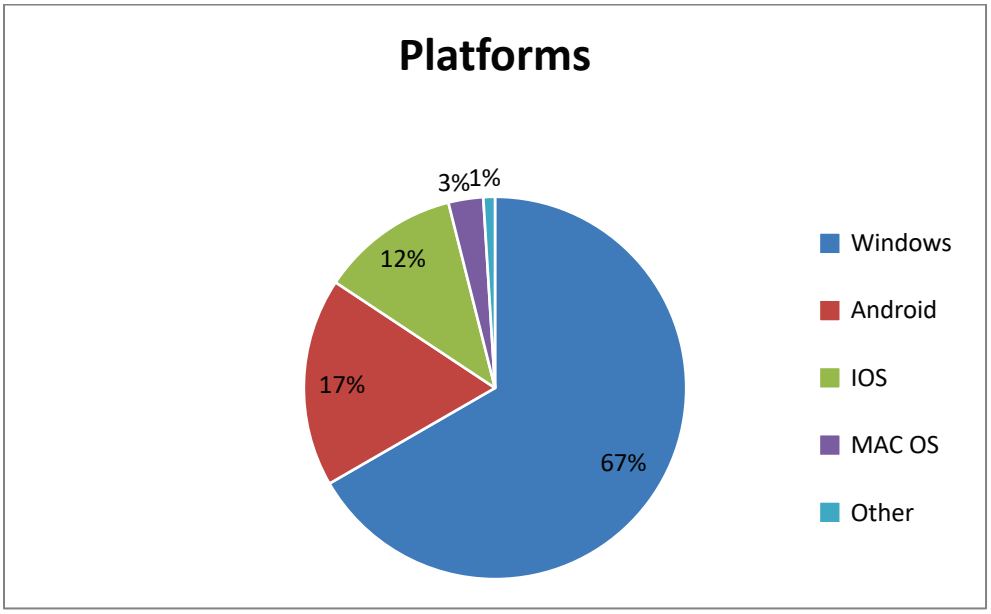
73% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 24% were accessing from a mobile device and 3% from a tablet.

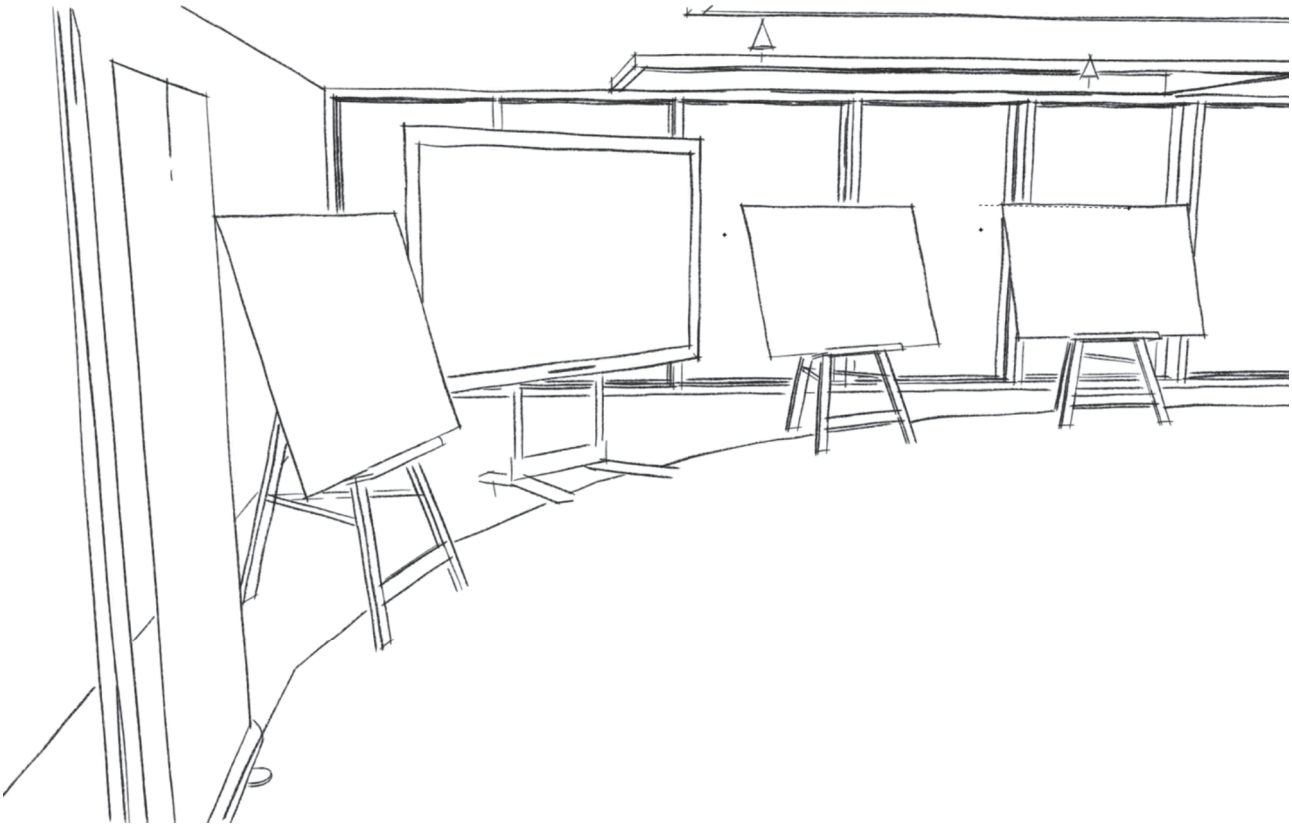


The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 45%. Internet Explorer accounted for 31% while Mobile Safari was used by 9%. The remaining 15% were using other browsers.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 67% of traffic using it. This was followed by Android with 17% and IOS with 12%. MAC OS and others made up the remaining 4%.





Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

November 2020

Executive Summary

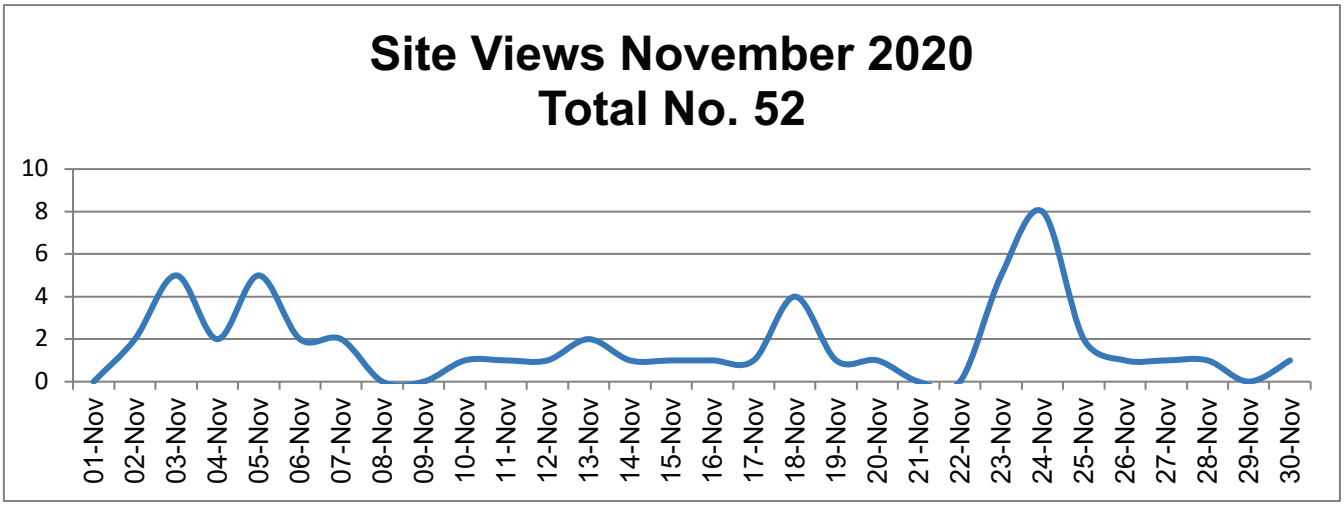
- The total number of visits to the site during November was 52.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome” Banner followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Project” Banner.
- 25% of visitors spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- 90% of visitors were from Ireland with 50% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

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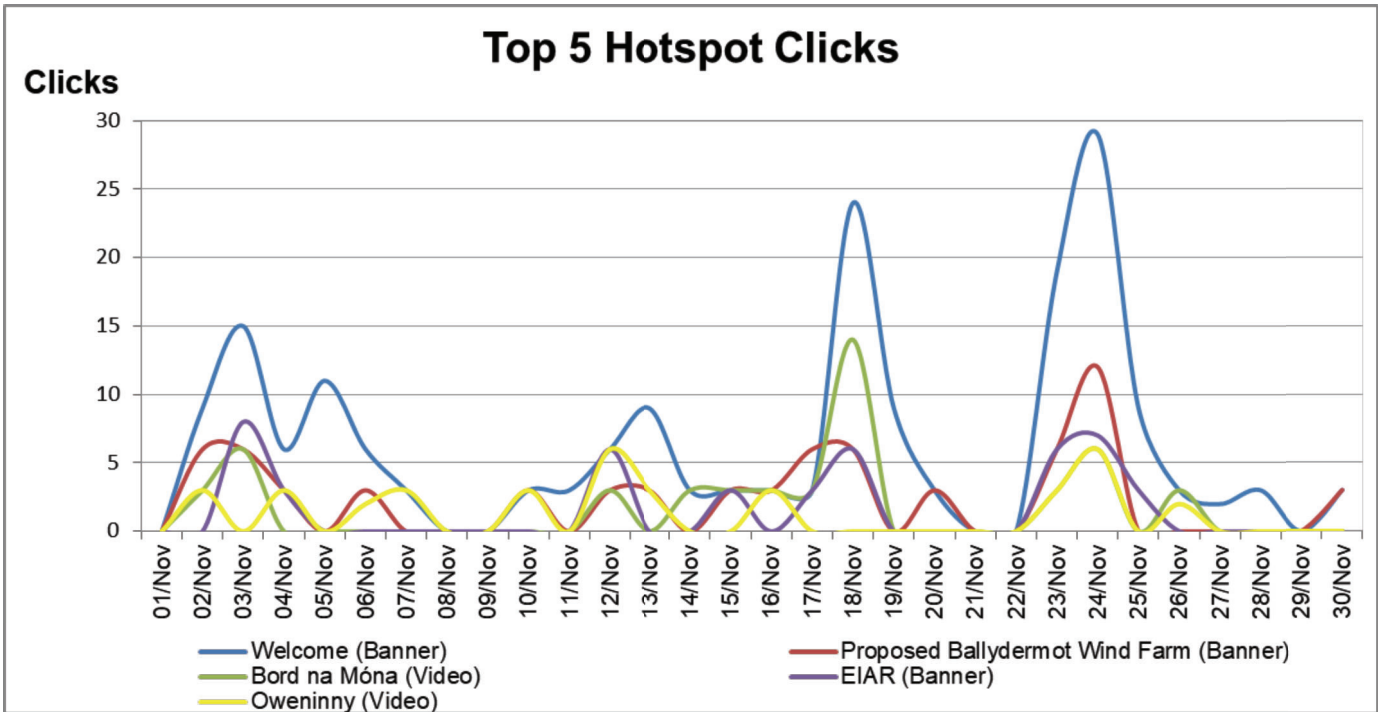
Site Visits

There were 52 visits to the room in this period. There were spikes in visits early in the month and again on 23rd and 24th. Site visits averaged approx.1 per day throughout the rest of the month.



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

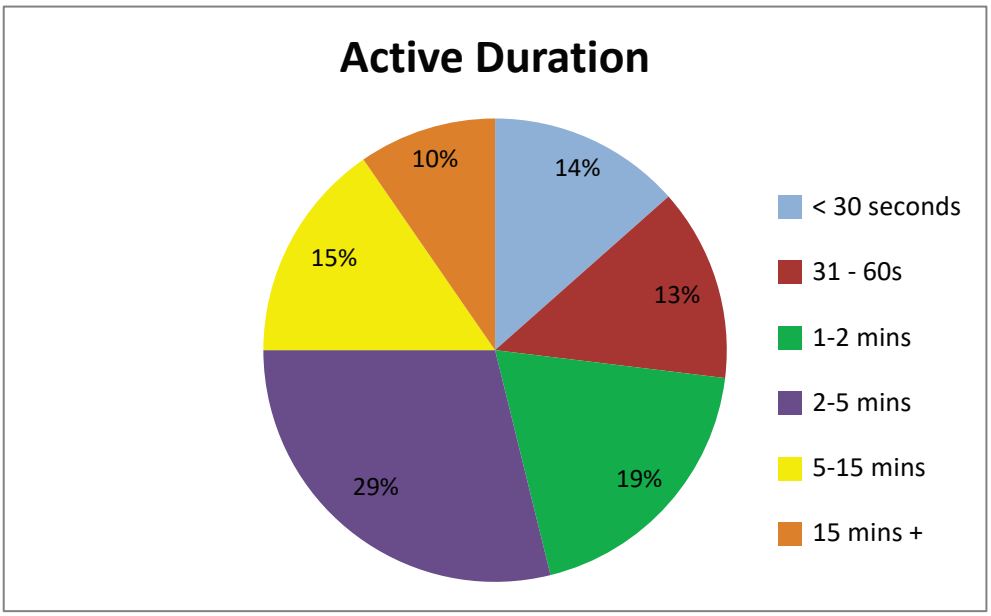
The “Welcome” banner is the most viewed in the room at 187 clicks. This is followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Project” banner and the Bord na Móna video at 69 and 50 clicks respectively.
After that, the “EIAR” banner and Oweninny video complete the most popular five with 45 and 37 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



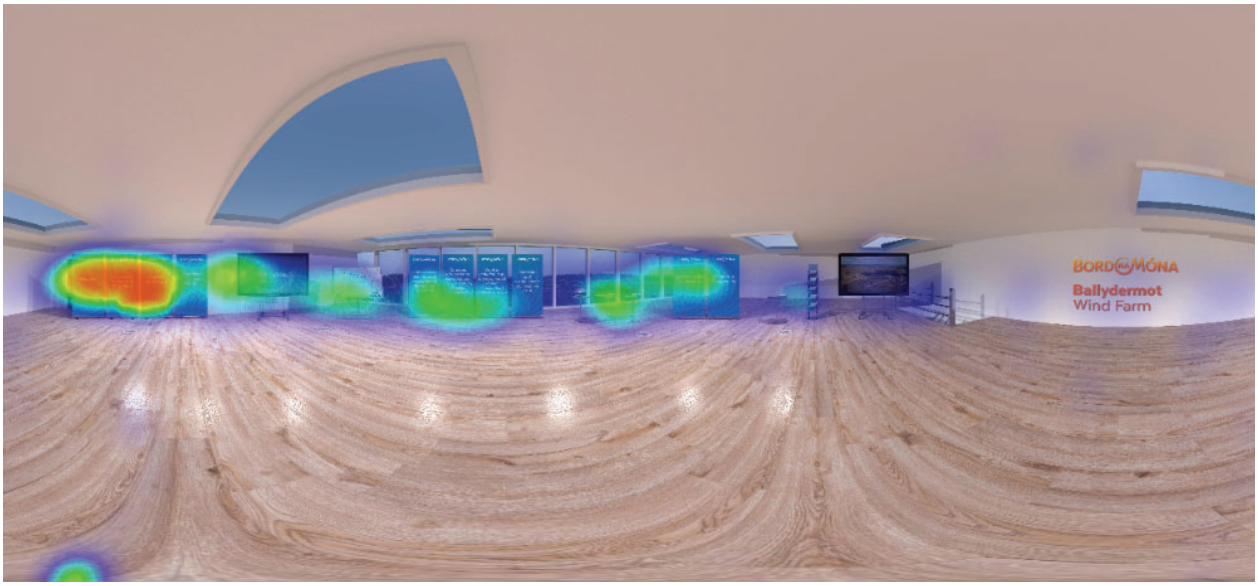
Hotspot	No.Clicks
Welcome (Banner)	187
Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm (Banner)	69
Bord na Móna (Video)	50
EIAR (Banner)	45
Oweninny (Video)	37
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	33
Need For Wind Energy (Banner)	33
How Wind Turbines Operate (Banner)	31
Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines in Ireland (Banner)	31
LVIA (Banner)	29
Benefits of the Development (Banner)	26
SID Process (Banner)	25
FAQ's	23
Community Engagement (Banner)	20
Contact Us	15
Feedback Questionnaire	8
Brochure Download	8
Join Our Mailing List	8
Book an appointment	4
Total	**682**

Duration of Site Visits

13 visitors (25%) spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 14 visitors (27%) spent less than one minute in the room.

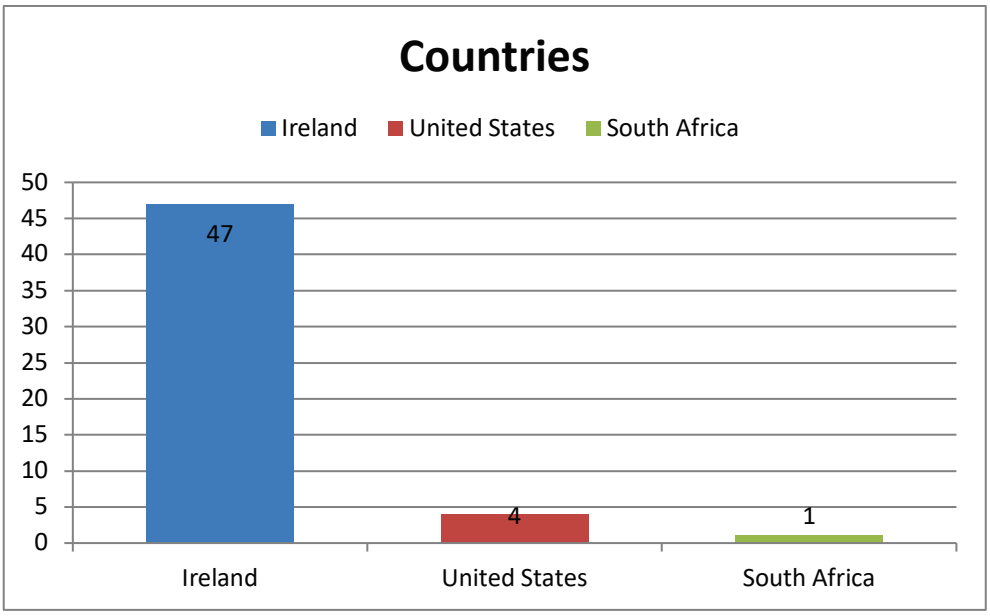


The heatmap below indicates the areas of the room people have been looking at. A decrease in activity towards the end of the room (right hand side of image) shows that not all users are staying in the portal until the end of the exhibition.

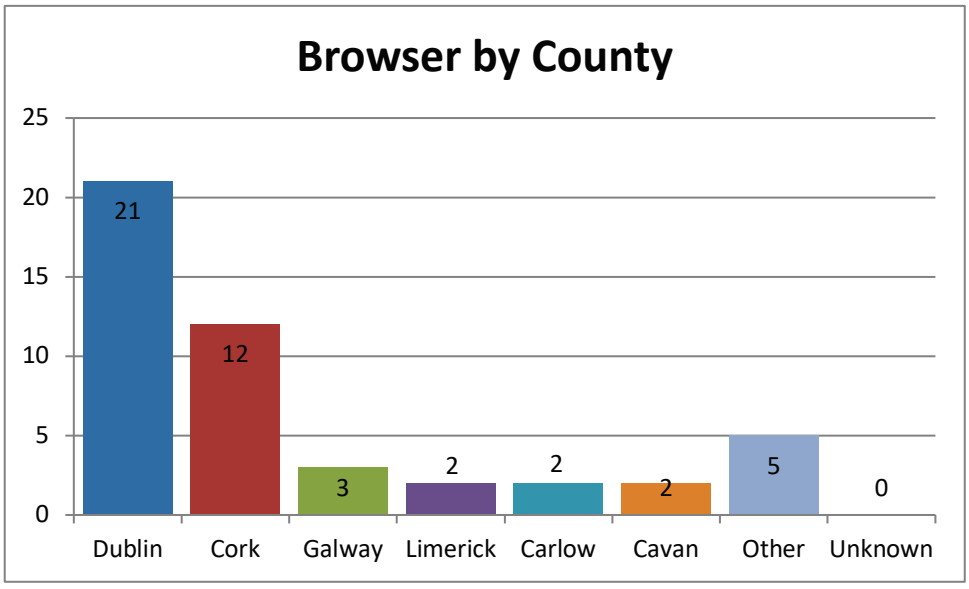


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

At least 90% of the traffic was from Ireland with 8% from the US and another 2% from South Africa.

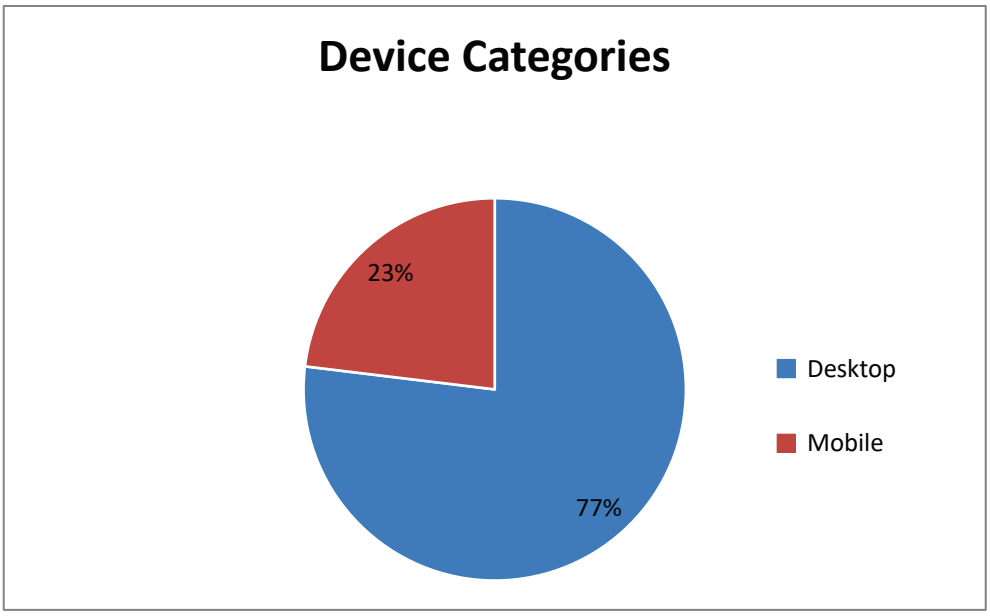


Dublin visitors to the site represented 50% of Irish visitors. This was followed by Cork at 28%, Galway at 7% and three other counties at 5% each.

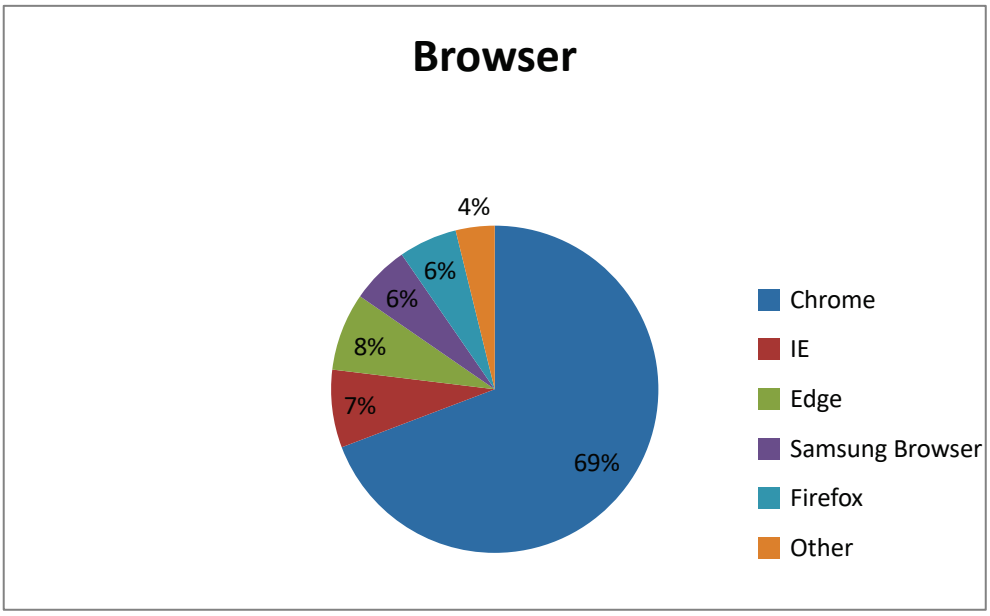


Device, Browser and Platform Information

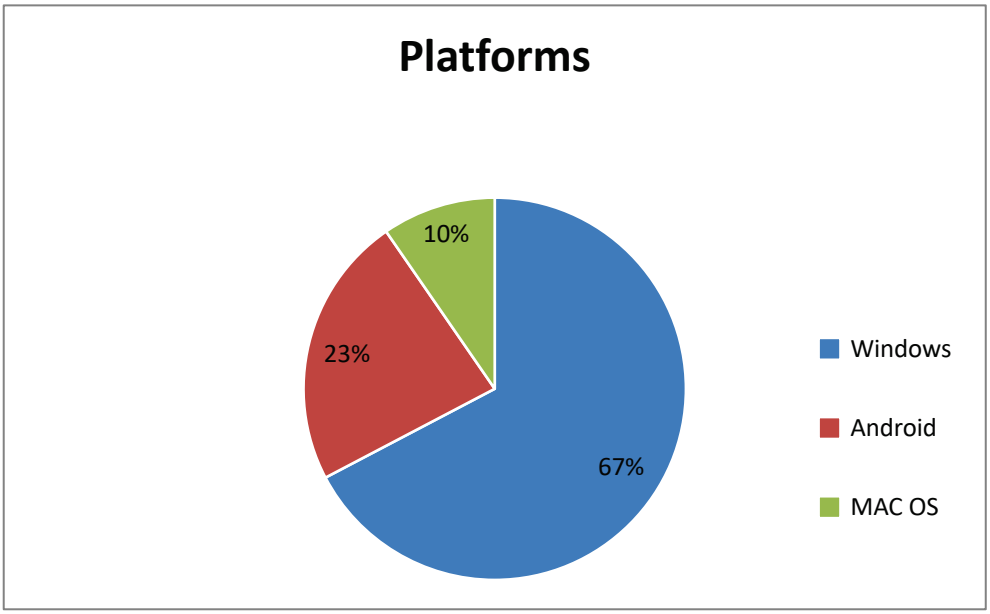
77% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 23% were accessing from a mobile device.

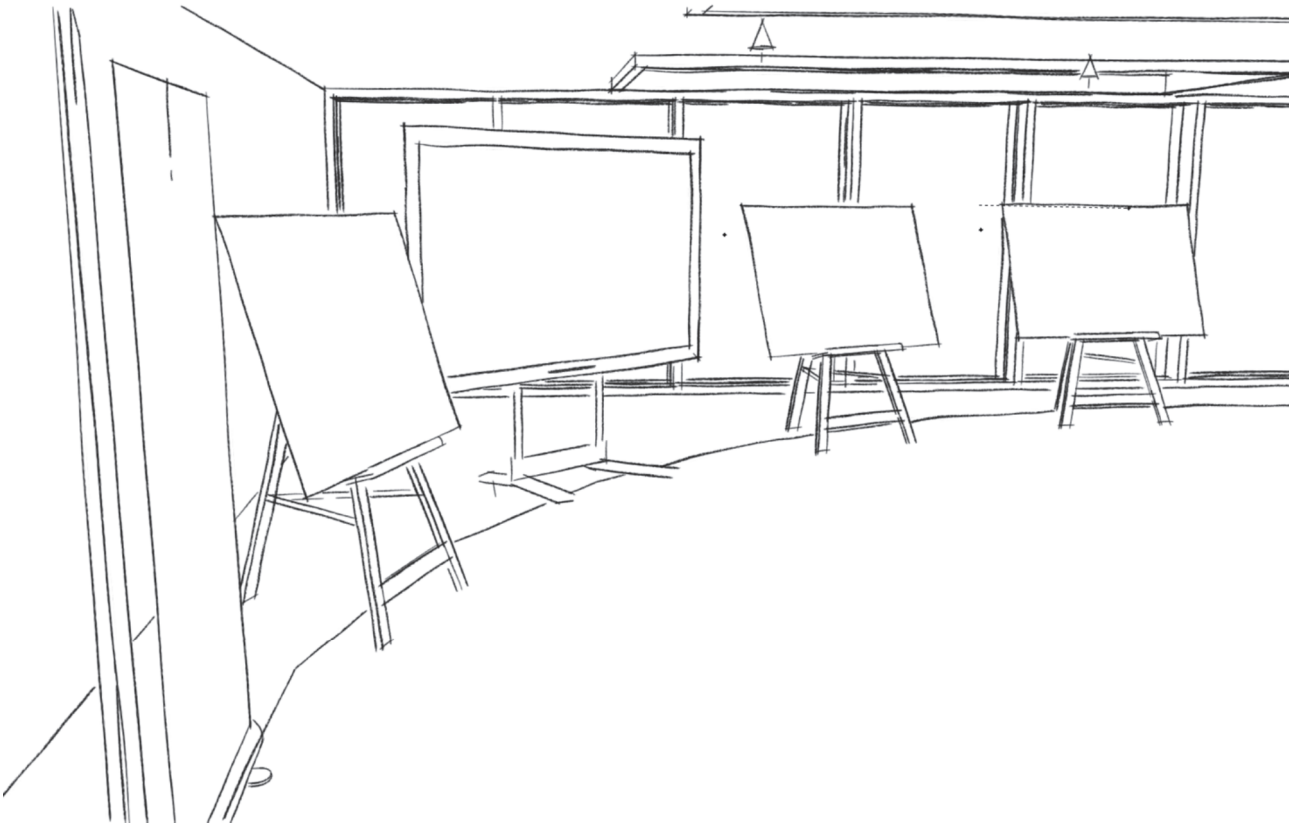


The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 69% with the other 31% split between different browsers as shown below.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 67% of traffic using it.





Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

December 2020

Executive Summary

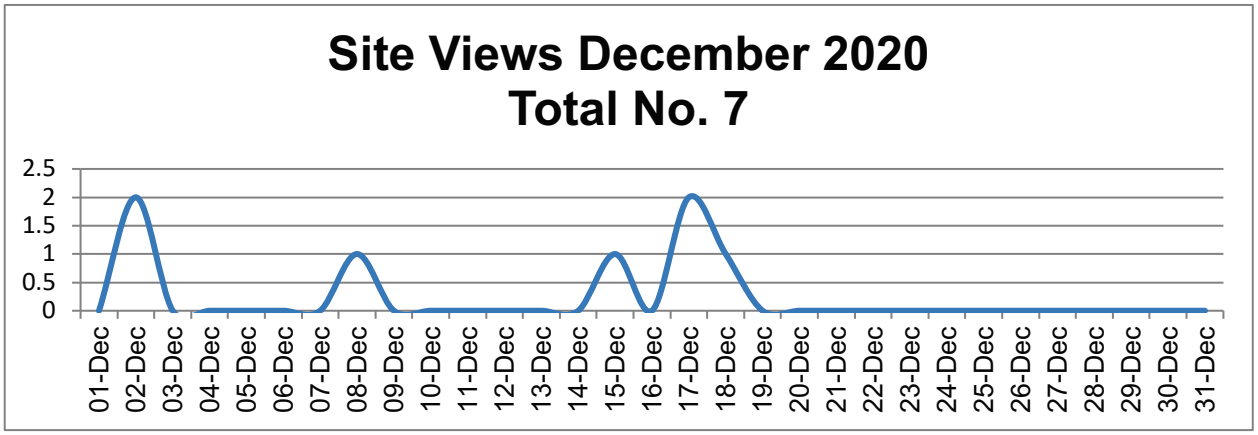
- The total number of visits to the site during December was 7.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome” banner followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Project” banner.
- No visitors spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- All visitors were from Ireland with 70% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

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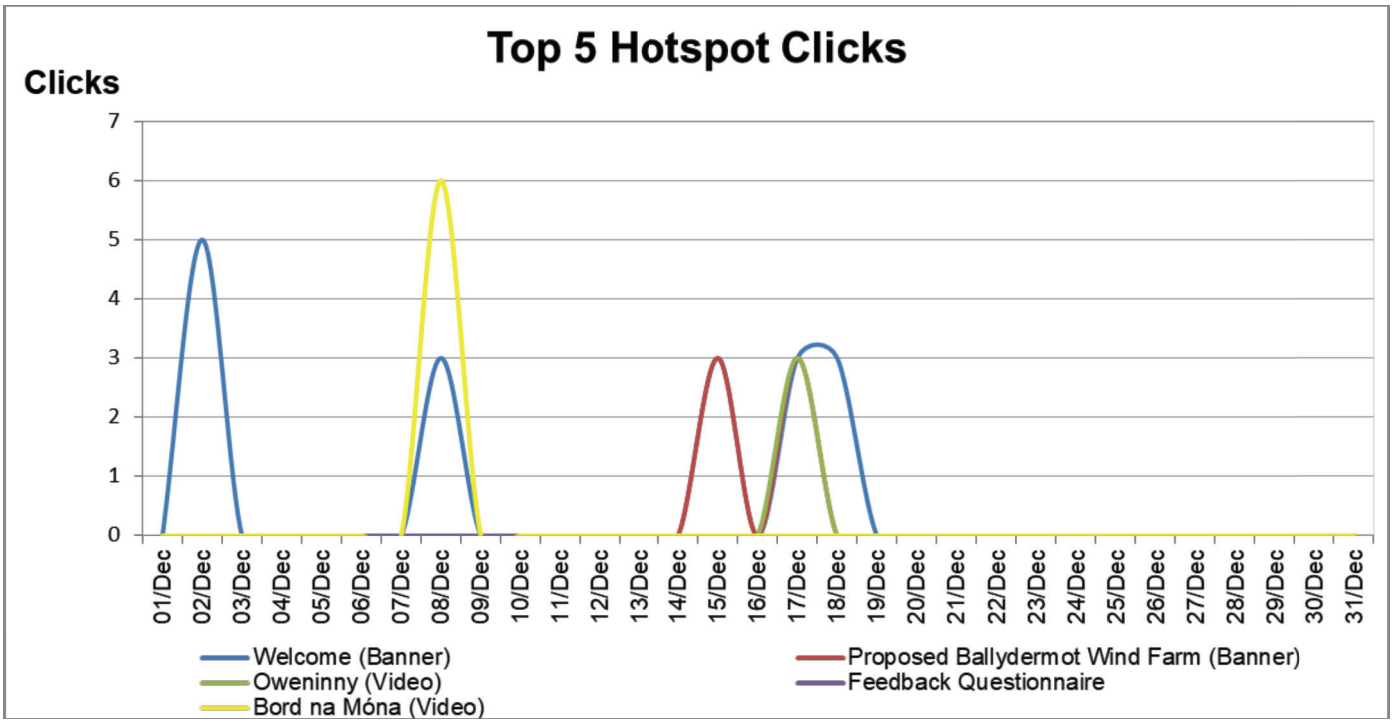
Site Visits

There were 7 visits to the room in this period. There were two visits each on December 2nd and 17th. There was one visit on each of December 8th, 15th and 18th.



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

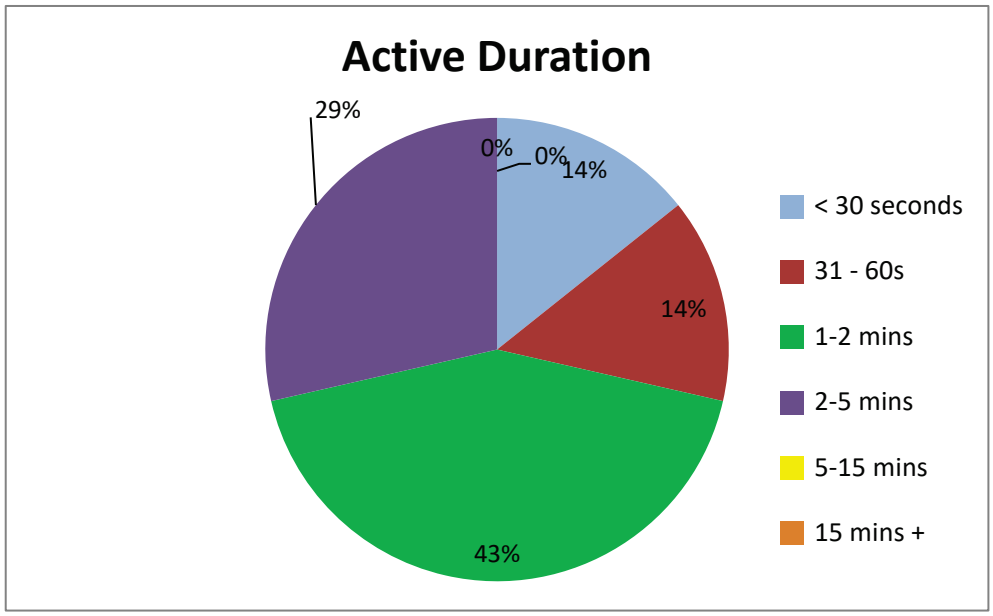
The “Welcome” banner is the most viewed in the room at 17 clicks. This is followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm” banner and the Bord na Móna video at 6 clicks each.
After that, the Feedback questionnaire and Oweninny video complete the most popular five with 4 and 3 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



Hotspot	No.Clicks
Welcome (Banner)	17
Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm (Banner)	6
Oweninny (Video)	6
Feedback Questionnaire	4
Bord na Móna (Video)	3
Need For Wind Energy (Banner)	3
Brochure Download	2
EIAR (Banner)	0
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	0
How Wind Turbines Operate (Banner)	0
Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines in Ireland (Banner)	0
LVIA (Banner)	0
Benefits of the Development (Banner)	0
SID Process (Banner)	0
FAQ's	0
Community Engagement (Banner)	0
Contact Us	0
Join Our Mailing List	0
Book an appointment	0
Total	**41**

Duration of Site Visits

No visitors spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 2 visitors (28%) spent less than one minute in the room.

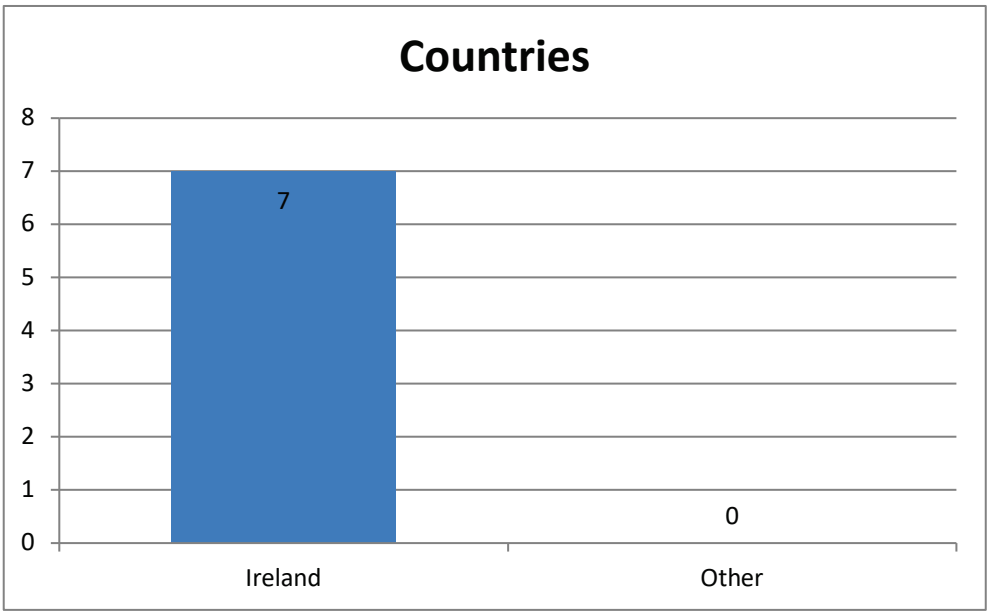


Given the low visitor numbers for this period, the heatmap does not give significant insights.

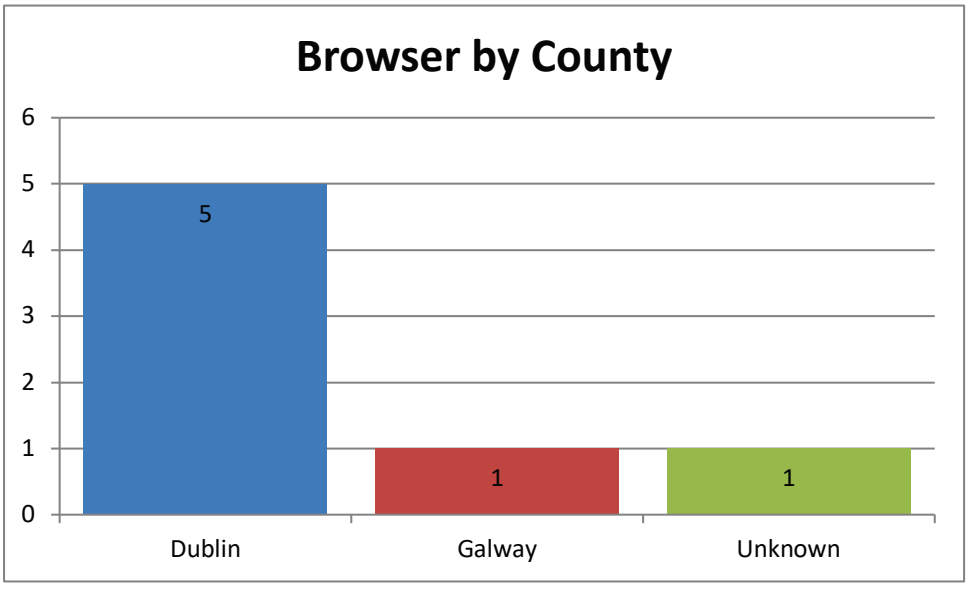


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

All traffic in December was from Ireland.

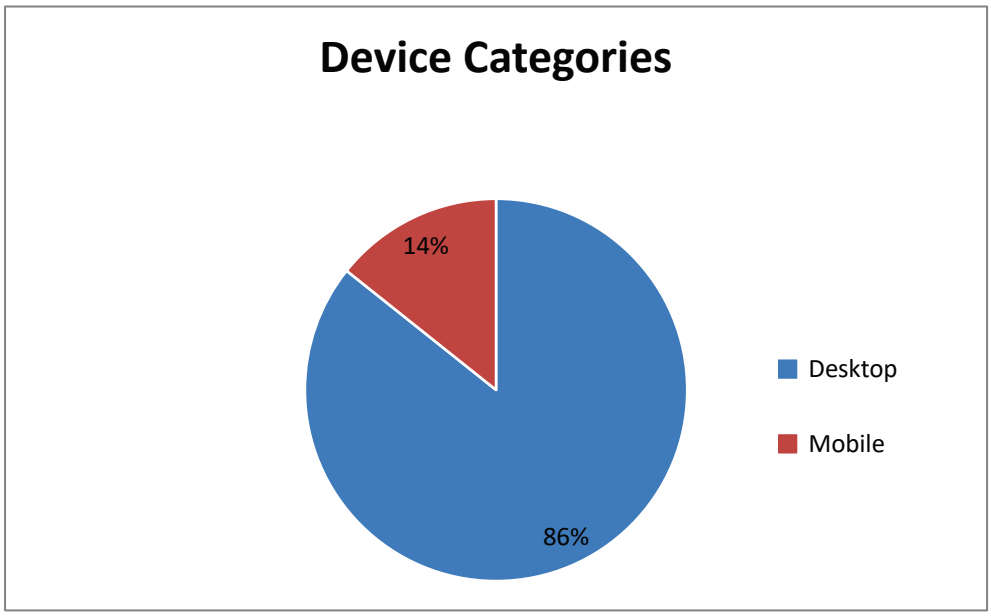


Dublin visitors to the site represented approximately 70% of Irish visitors. There was one visitor from Galway and one visitor. There was also one visitor from another part of Ireland but it was not possible to determine the county due to user defined browser restrictions.

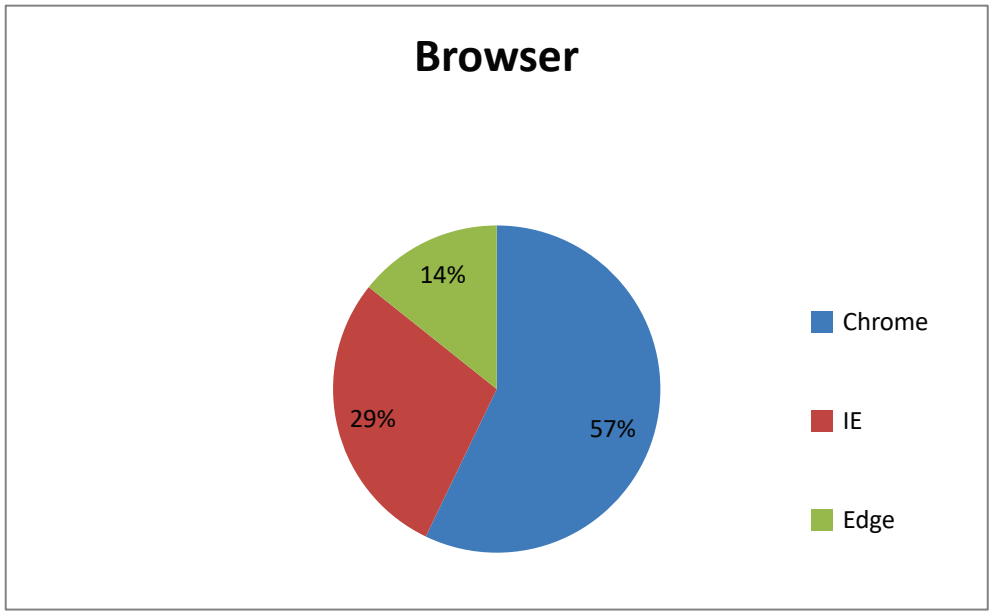


Device, Browser and Platform Information

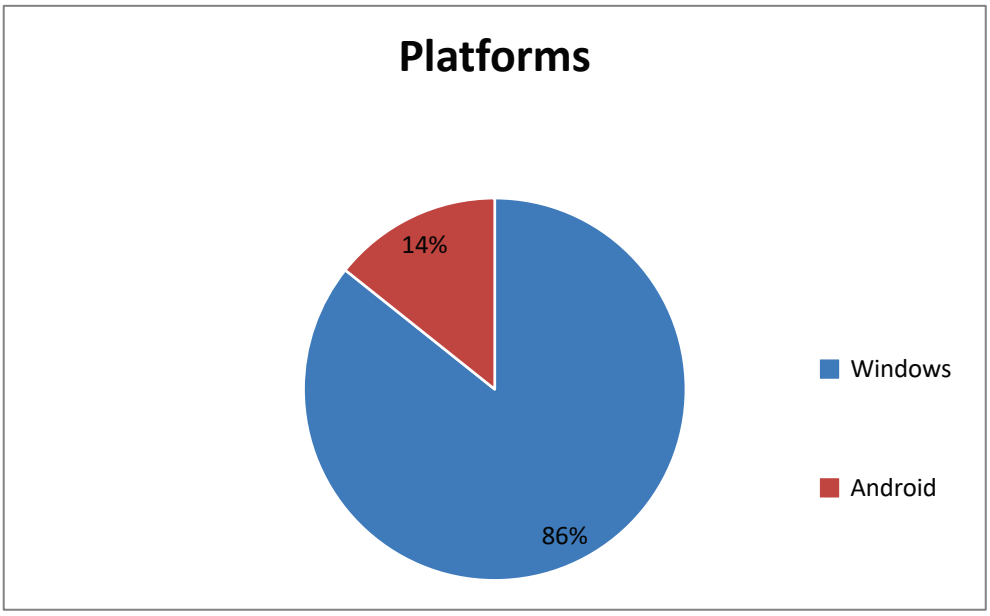
86% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 14% were accessing from a mobile device.

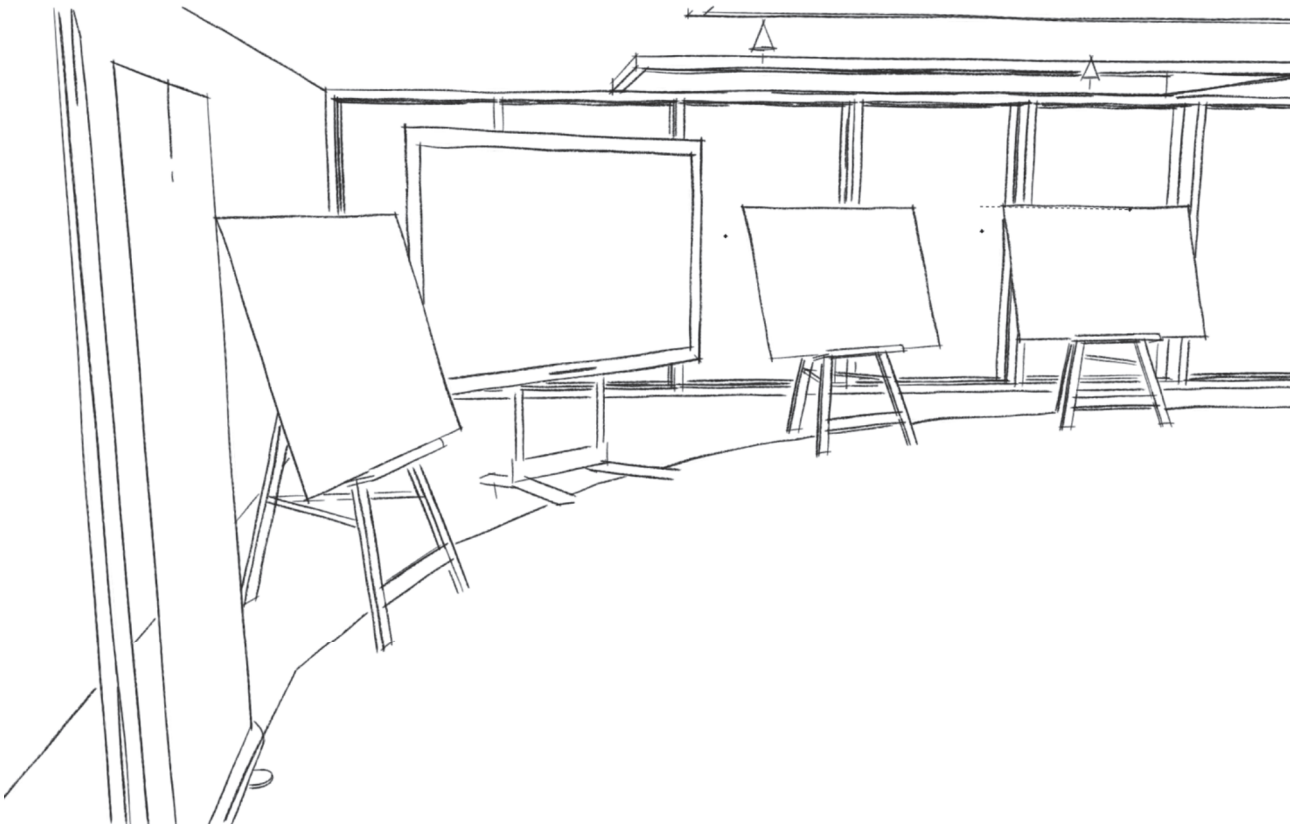


The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 57%. Internet Explorer accounted for 29% with the remaining 14% using Edge.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 86% of traffic using it. This was followed by Android with14%. These were the only platforms used.





Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

January 2021

Executive Summary

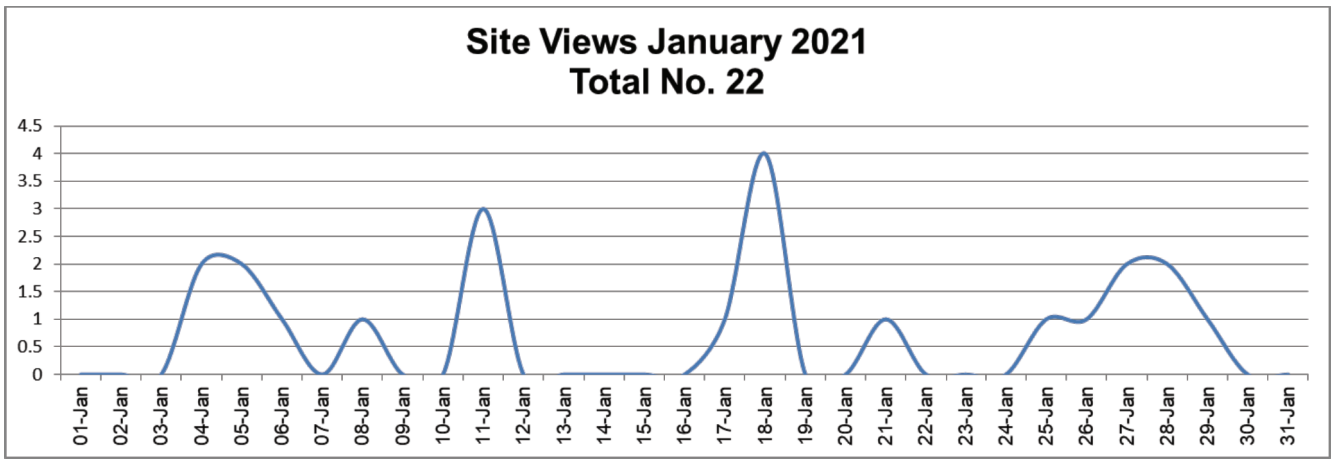
- The total number of visits to the site during December was 22.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome” banner followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Project” banner.
- 7 visitors (32%) spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- All visitors were from Ireland with 82% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

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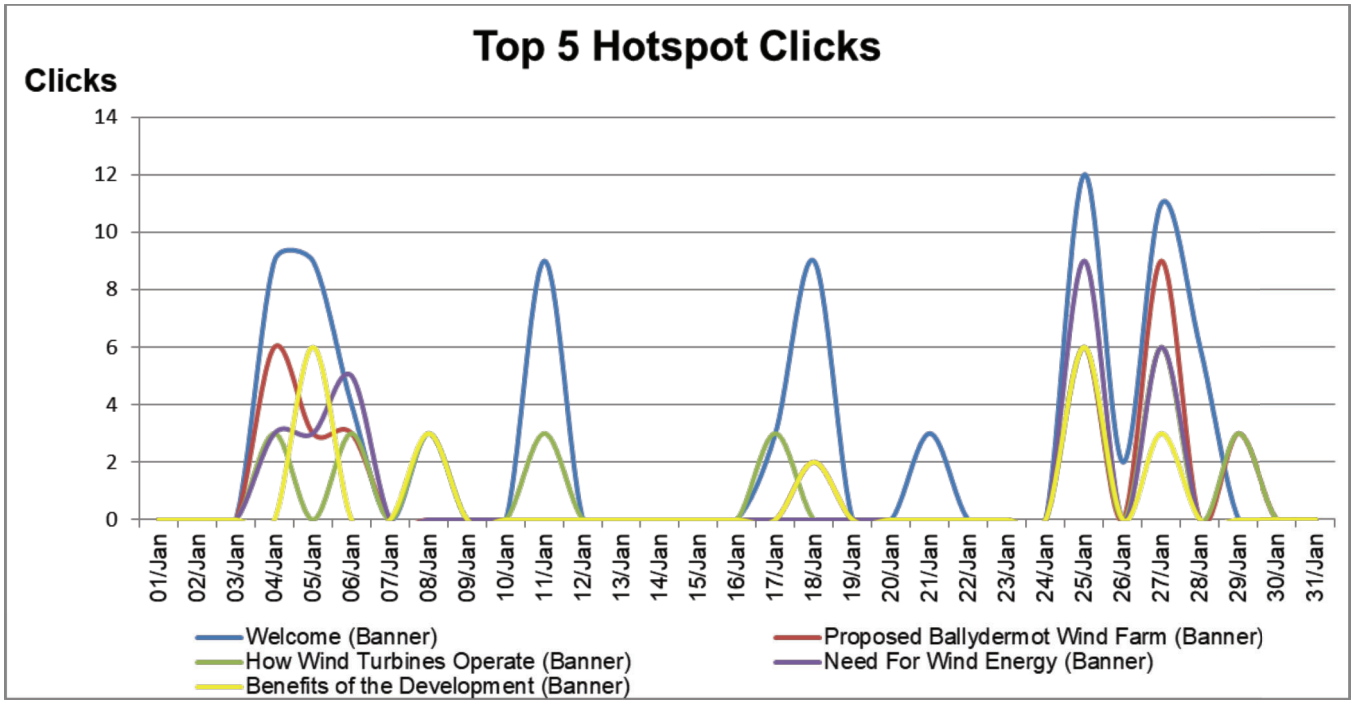
Site Visits

There were 22 visits to the room during the month. There were four visits on January 18th, three visits on January 11th and two visits on each of January 4th, 5th, 27th and 28th.There was one visit on six other dates.



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

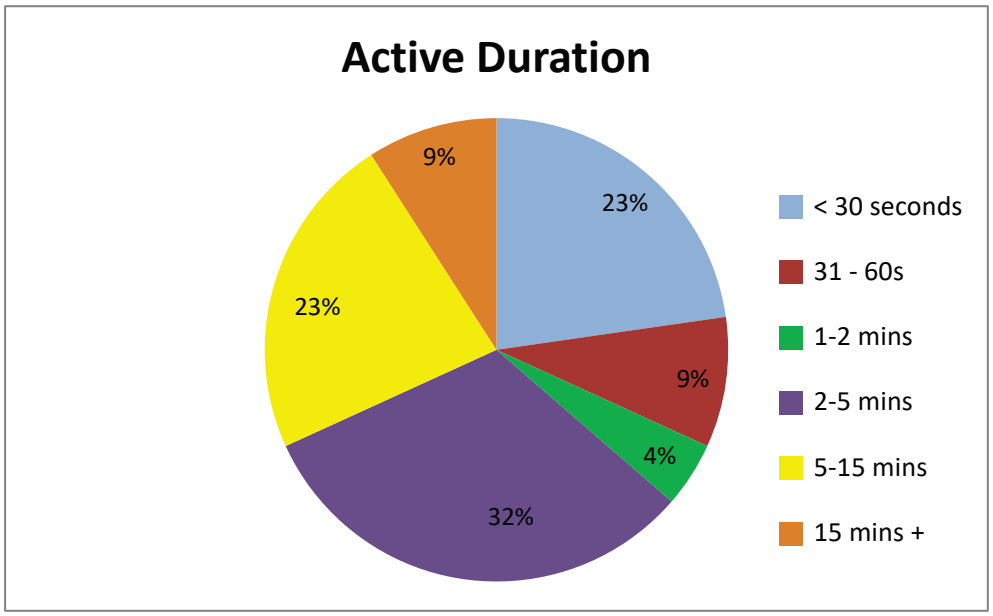
The “Welcome” banner is the most viewed in the room at 80 clicks. This is followed by the “Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm” and the “How Wind Farms Operate” banners with 32 and 30 clicks respectively.
After that, the “Need for Wind Energy” banner “Benefits of the development” banner complete the most popular five with 26 and 20 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



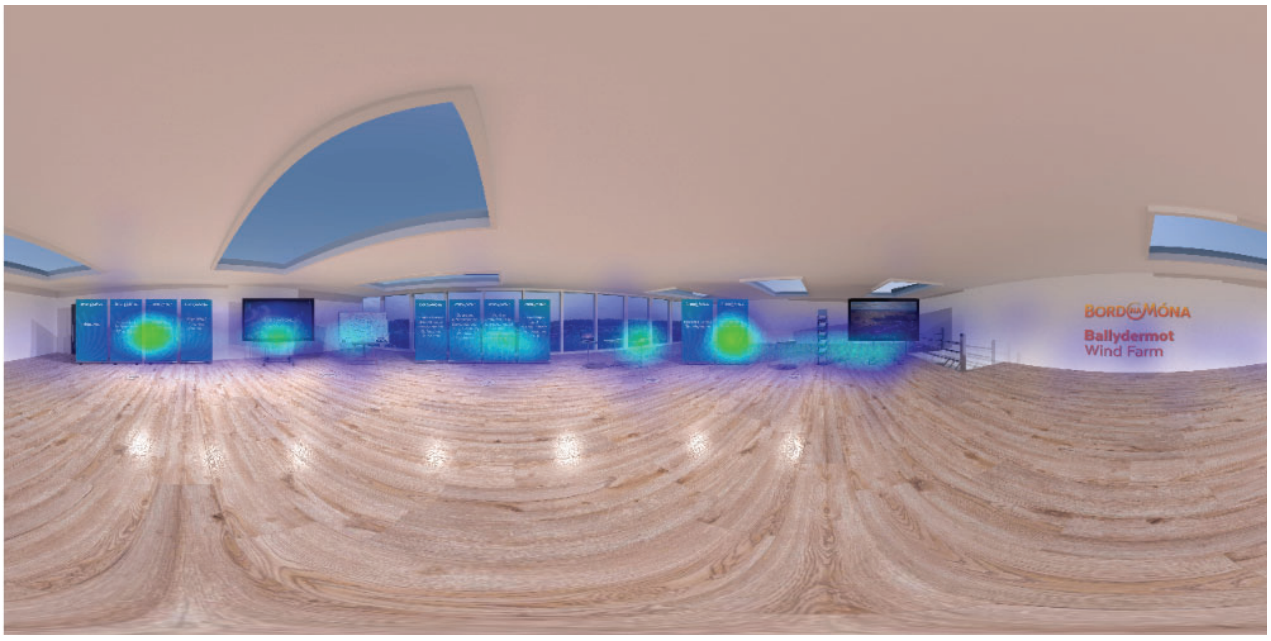
Hotspot	No. Clicks
Welcome (Banner)	80
Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm (Banner)	32
How Wind Turbines Operate (Banner)	30
Need For Wind Energy (Banner)	26
Benefits of the Development (Banner)	20
SID Process (Banner)	16
LVIA (Banner)	15
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	13
Community Engagement (Banner)	12
Draft Revised Wind Energy Development Guidelines in Ireland (Banner)	9
FAQ's	9
Bord na Móna Our Future is Clear (Video)	9
Contact Us	6
EIAR (Banner)	6
Oweninney Video	3
Join Our Mailing List	2
Book an appointment for our Community Engagement Clinics	2
Total	**290**

Duration of Site Visits

7 visitors (32%) spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 7 visitors (32%) also spent less than one minute in the room.

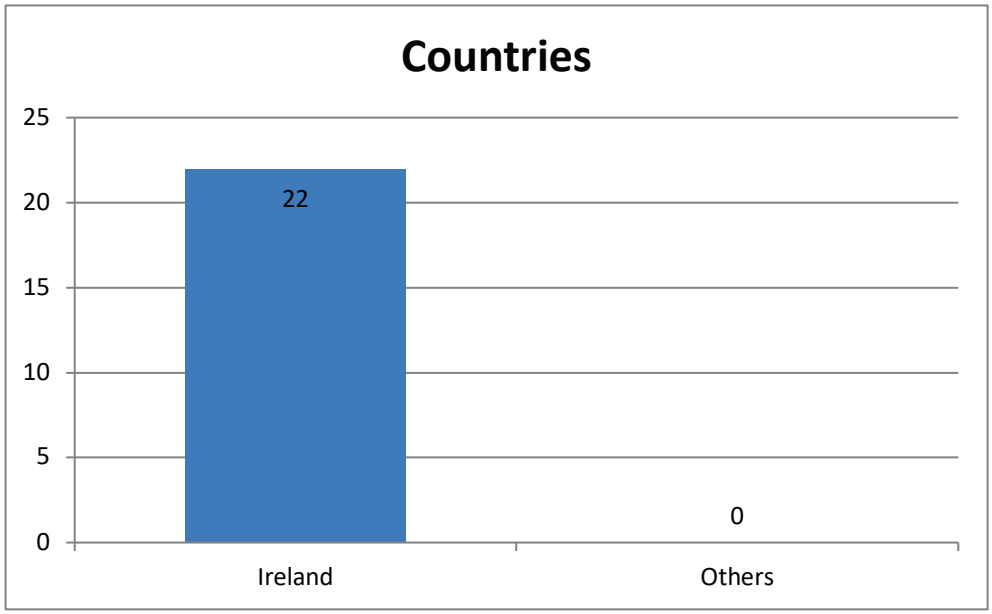


Given the low visitor numbers for this period, the heat map does not give significant insights.

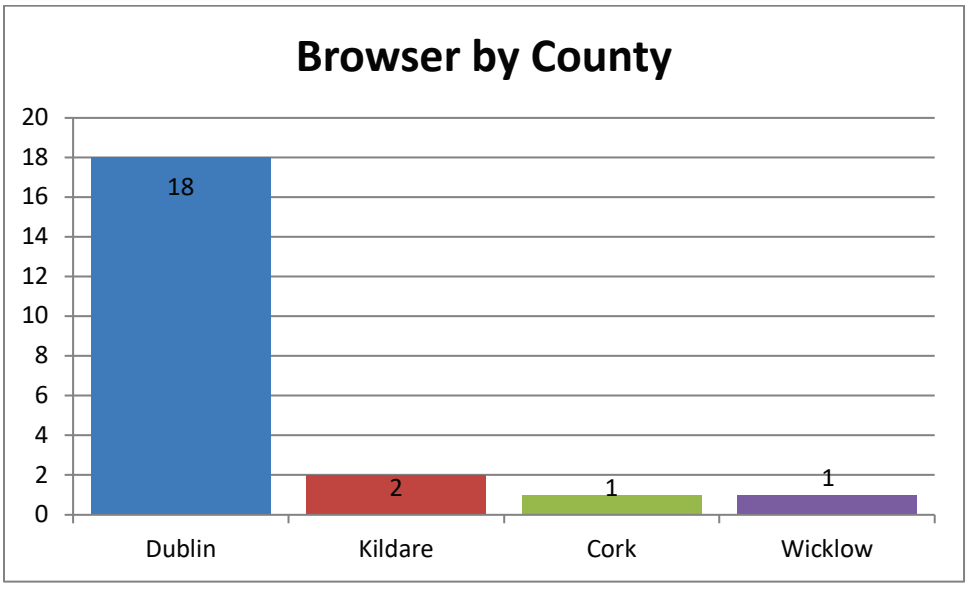


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

All traffic in January was from Ireland.



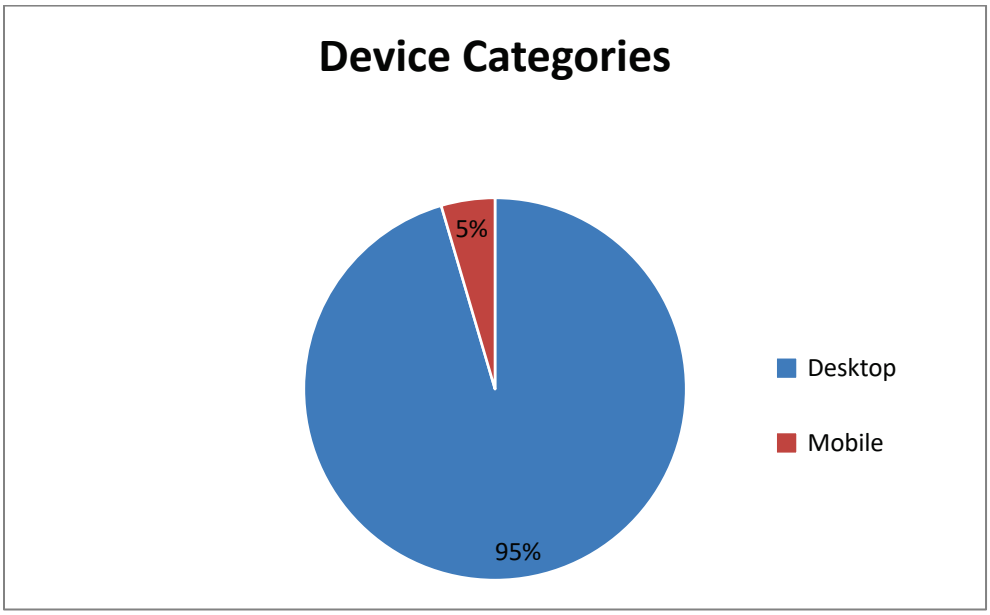
Dublin visitors to the site represented approximately 82% of Irish visitors. There were two visitors from Kildare and one visitor from both Cork and Wicklow.



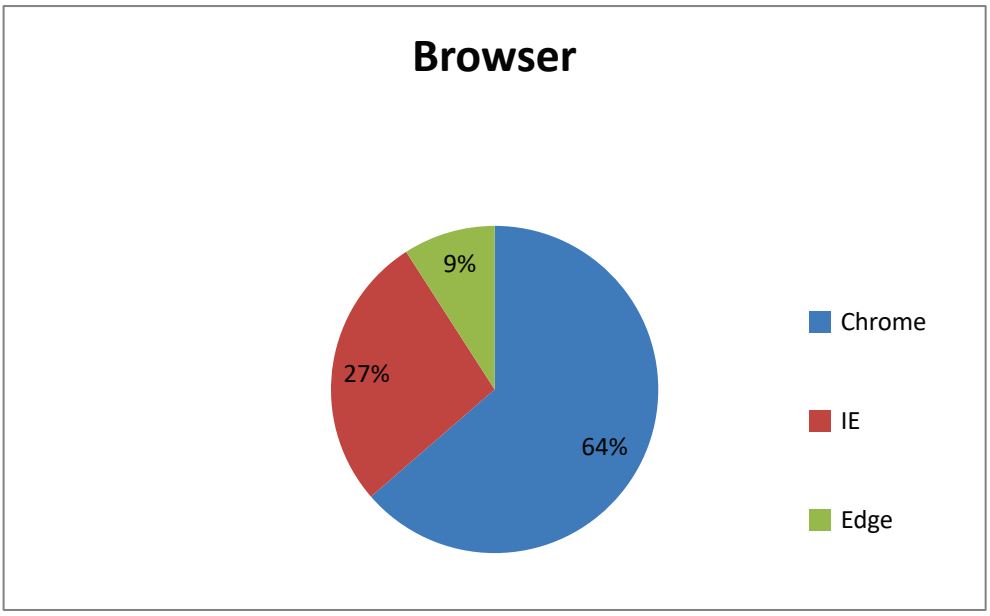
Note: The above browser location statistics do not always necessarily represent the location of the device accessing the website and may just represent the location of the user's internet service provider server. As such, these figures should be regarded with caution.

Device, Browser and Platform Information

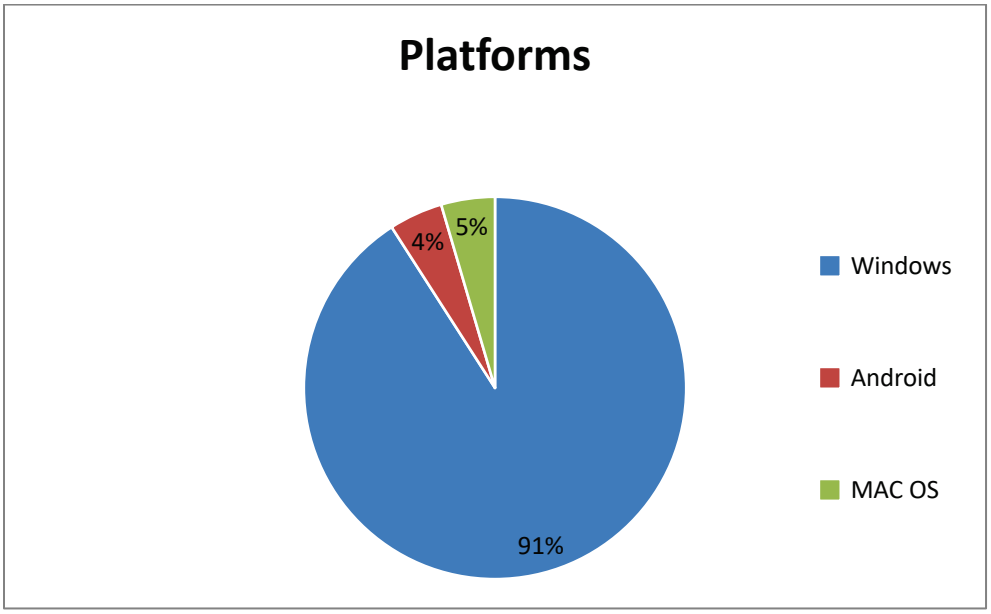
95% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 5% were accessing from a mobile device.



The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 64%. Internet Explorer accounted for 27% with the remaining 9% using Edge.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 91% of traffic using it. This was followed by MAC OS and Android with 4.5% each. These were the only platforms used.



Appendix F: August 2021 Local Media Advertisements

Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm Community Engagement Clinics

Bord na Móna

Bord na Móna intend to hold Community Engagement Clinics in July and August regarding its proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm.

Due to COVID -19 restrictions regarding public gatherings, these clinics will be held by appointment only. Bord na Móna will be ensuring that all social distancing requirements and Government health guidelines are adhered to.

If you wish to find out more about the clinics or arrange an appointment please call : 087 9460284

About the project: Bord na Móna is proposing to develop a wind farm within the Ballydermot group of bogs located in Counties Kildare and Offaly. The proposed development will consist of 50 turbines with an overall blade tip height of 220m. To view a copy of the proposed layout please visit: **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie**

In addition to the above-mentioned clinics we have also launched a Virtual Public Consultation Experience on the dedicated project website mentioned above.

Through this Virtual Public Consultation Experience, you can view information on the proposed development and submit feedback to the Project Team in a safe and accessible environment. To have your say, please complete the online survey via the dedicated project website mentioned above. Or, you can download a PDF version of the survey form from the above website. If you are unable to use the online survey you can send your completed survey form or other views, observations, or comments to us via the following channels:

By post to: Ballydermot Wind Farm, Bord na Móna, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare. W12 XR59

By email to: **Ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie**

Should you not have access to the internet, a postal copy of the public consultation material can be requested by contacting the project's Community Liaison Officers – James (087-7087022) or Niall on (087- 9951174) weekdays 9am-5pm or by emailing ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie

Please return your feedback on this Consultation Phase to the Project Team by Friday 30th August 2021.

The views submitted by you on our proposals, along with results from further studies, will help us to identify the best plan to take forward into the planning process. All feedback in relation to the proposed development will be reviewed and considered by the project team.

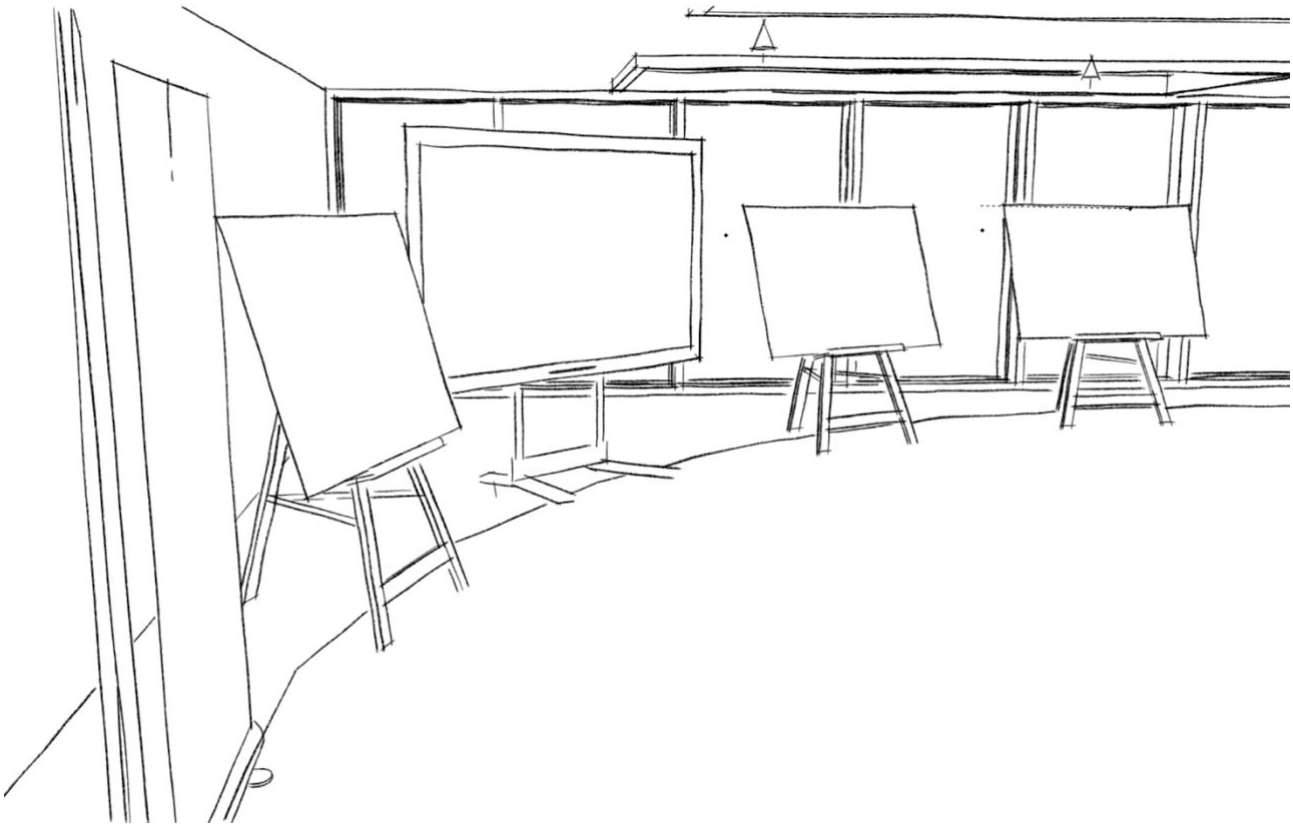
As part of our commitment to community engagement and to ensure you are kept up-to-date on developments of this project you can also join our project mailing list via the project website.

Visit **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie** for more information.



bnm.ie

Appendix G: Virtual Consultation Room Reports 2021, Publication of Draft Layout



Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm (Stage 2 Consultation)

June 2021

Executive Summary

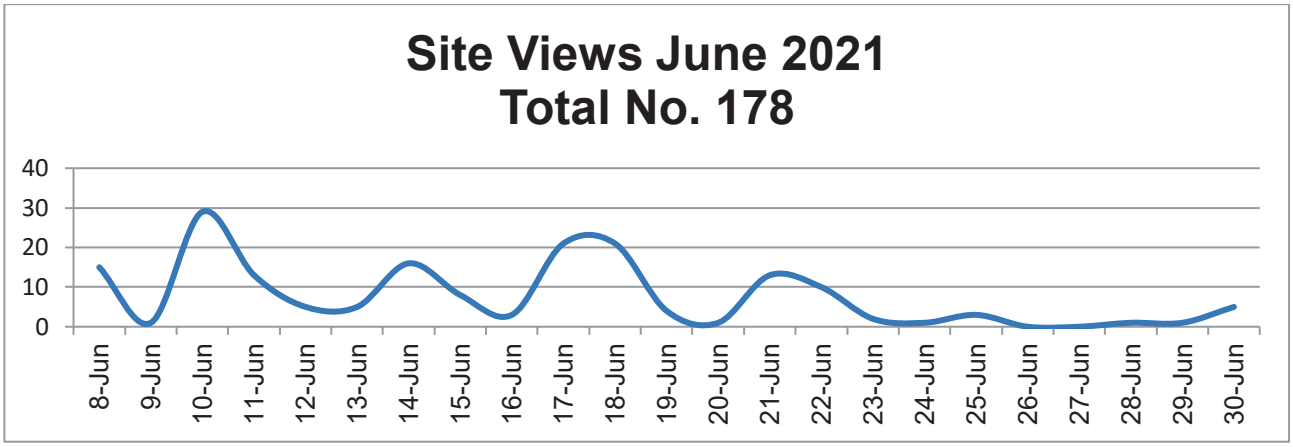
- The total number of visits to the site during June was 178.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome Video” followed by the “Photomontage Viewer”.
- 29 visitors (16%) spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- 98% of visitors were from Ireland with 32% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

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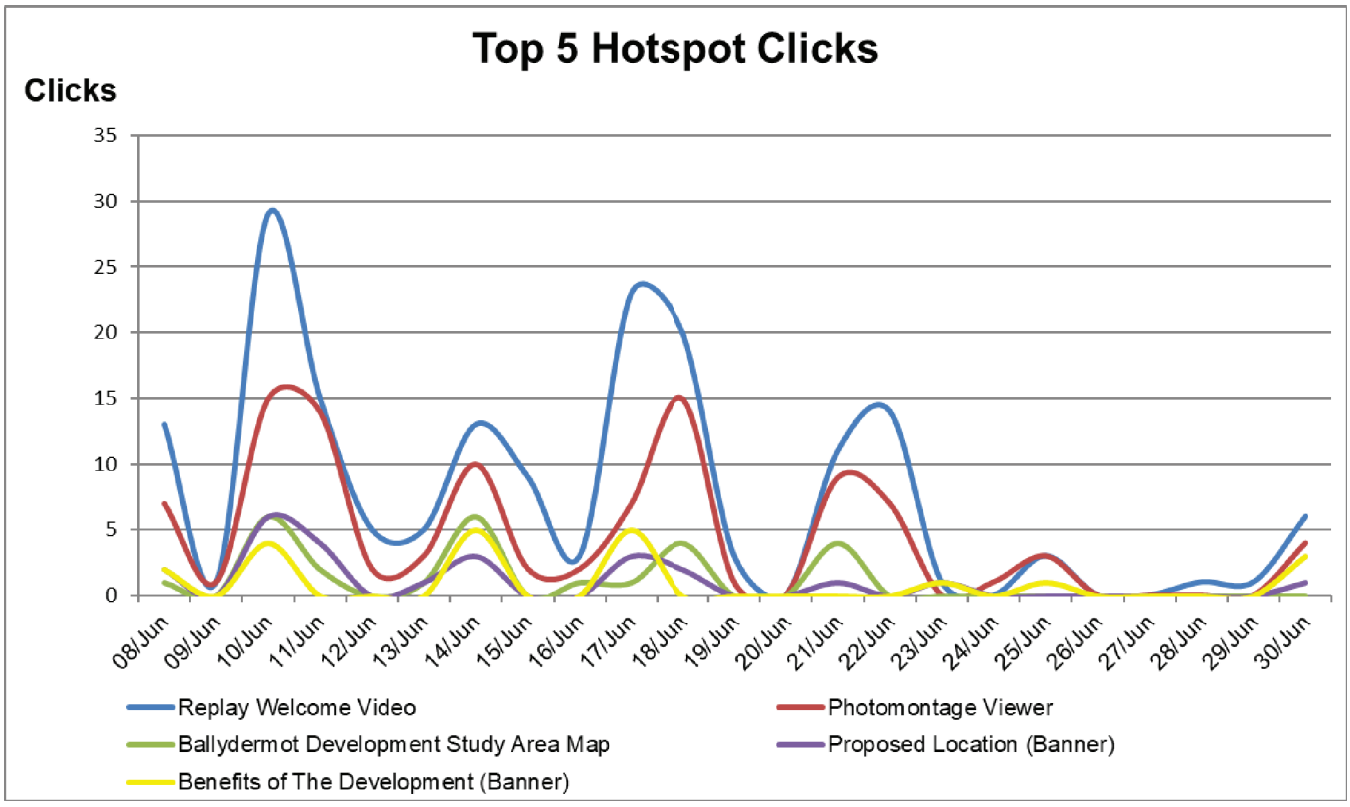
Site Visits

There were 178 visits to the room during the month. The highest number of visits was on June 10th with 29 visits. There were other spikes in the number of visits on June 14th (16), 17th (21), 18th (21) and 21st (13).



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

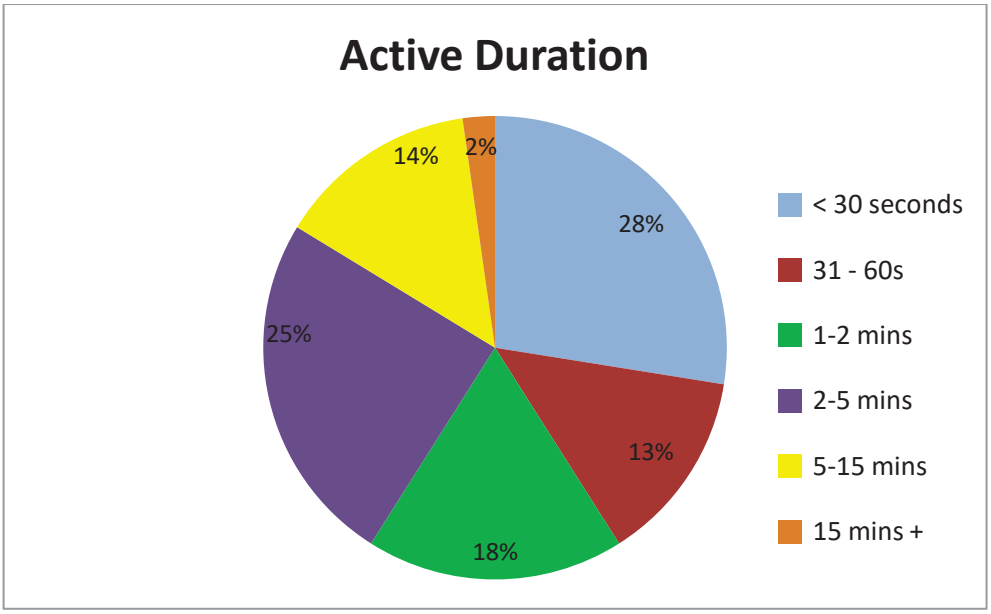
The “Welcome Video” is the most viewed part of the room. This is to be expected as the video launches when the page is accessed through the BNM website. This is followed by the “Photomontage Viewer” with 103 clicks while the “Ballydermot Development Study Area Map” had 26 clicks. After that, the “Proposed Location” banner “Benefits of the Development” banner complete the most popular five with 24 and 21 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



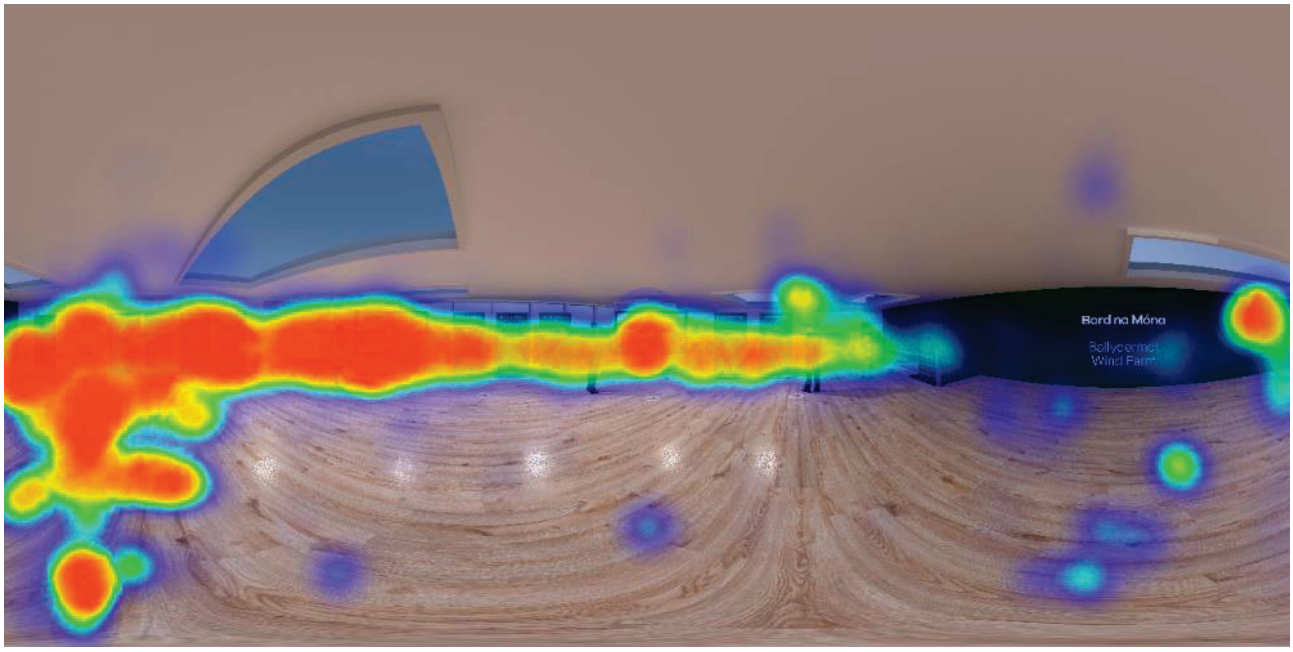
Hotspot	No. Clicks
Welcome Video	176
Photomontage Viewer	103
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	26
Proposed Location (Banner)	24
Benefits of The Development (Banner)	21
The Proposed Wind Farm (Banner)	18
EIAR (Banner)	17
Oweninny Wind Farm (Video)	15
SID Process (Banner)	10
Government Policy (Banner)	9
Welcome (Banner)	8
How Long to Develop (Banner)	8
FAQs	6
Book an appointment for our Community Engagement Clinics	4
Exit / Project Feedback Questionnaire	3
Want to join our mailing list?	2
Want to Contact Us?	2
Total	**452**

Duration of Site Visits

29 visitors (16%) spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 73 visitors (41%) spent less than one minute in the room.

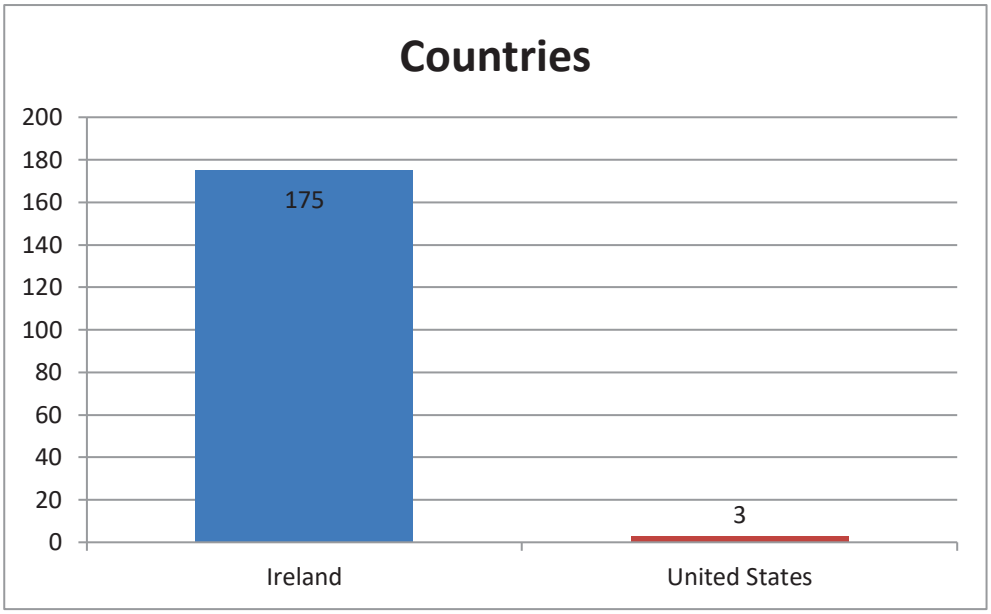


The heat map below indicates the areas of the room people have been looking at. There is a heavy concentration on the left-hand side which is where visitors enter the room. There is a drop off in activity moving towards the right-hand side which depicts the end of the exhibition, except for the Photomontage Viewer which is centrally located.

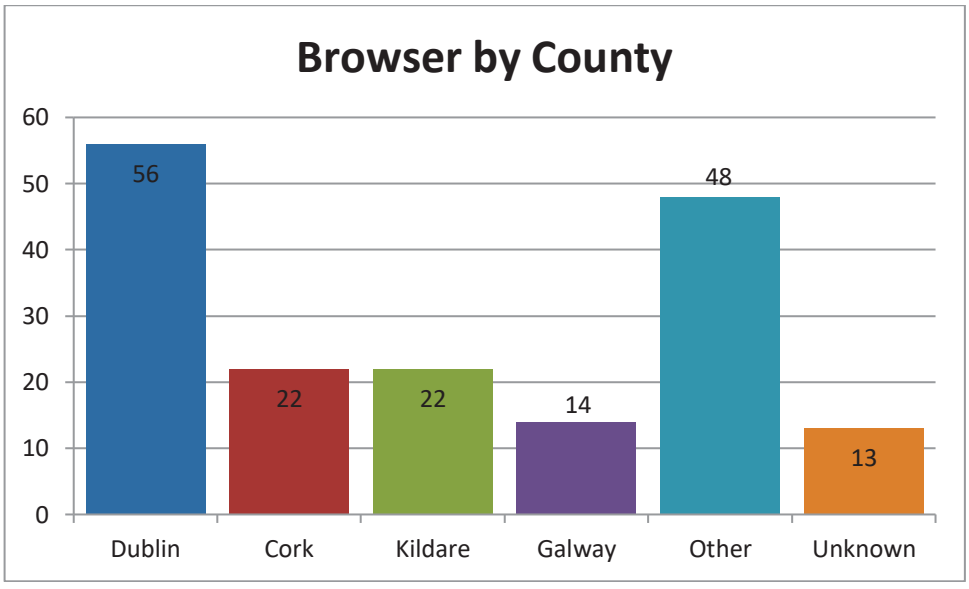


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

All traffic in June was from Ireland and the USA. There were 175 visits from Ireland and 3 from the United States.



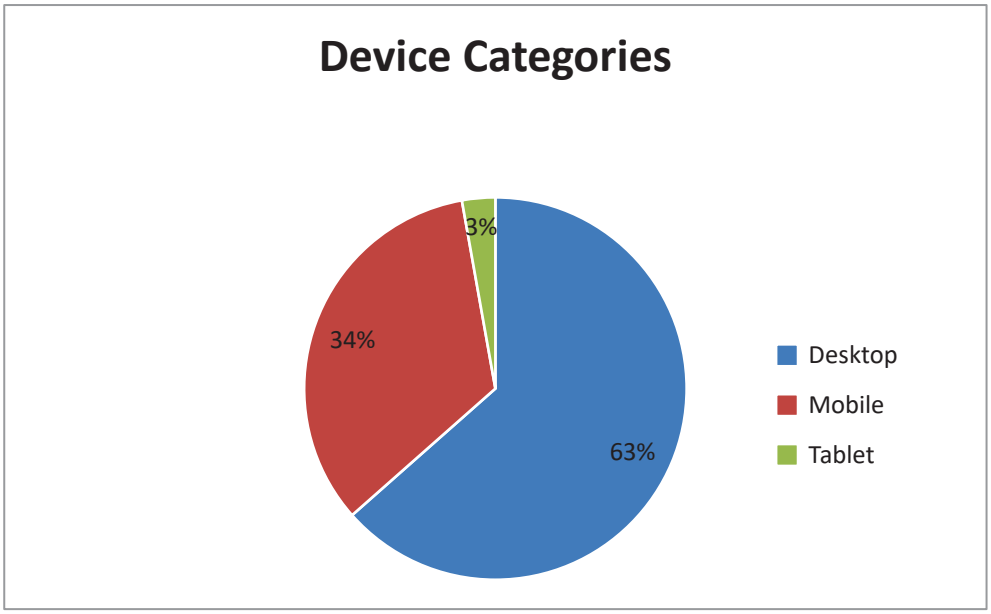
Dublin visitors to the site represented approximately 32% of Irish visitors. Cork and Kildare accounted for 13% each, while visitors from Galway made up 8% of Irish visitors. 13 visitors (7%) were from other locations in Ireland, but it was not possible to determine where due to user defined browser restrictions. These are indicated as “Unknown” in the chart below*.



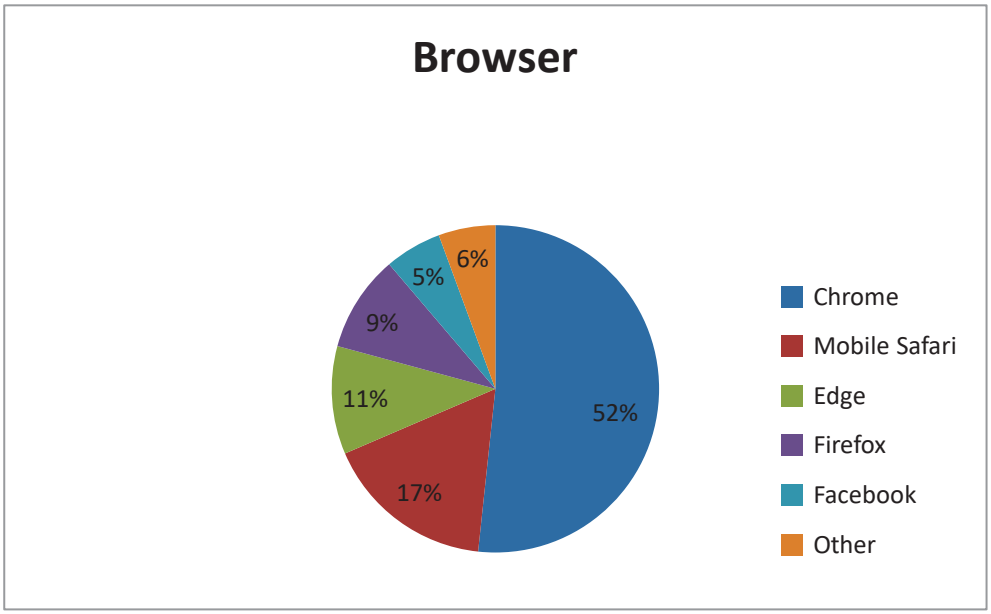
Note: The above browser location statistics do not always necessarily represent the location of the device accessing the website and may just represent the location of the user’s internet service provider server. As such, these figures should be regarded with caution.

Device, Browser and Platform Information

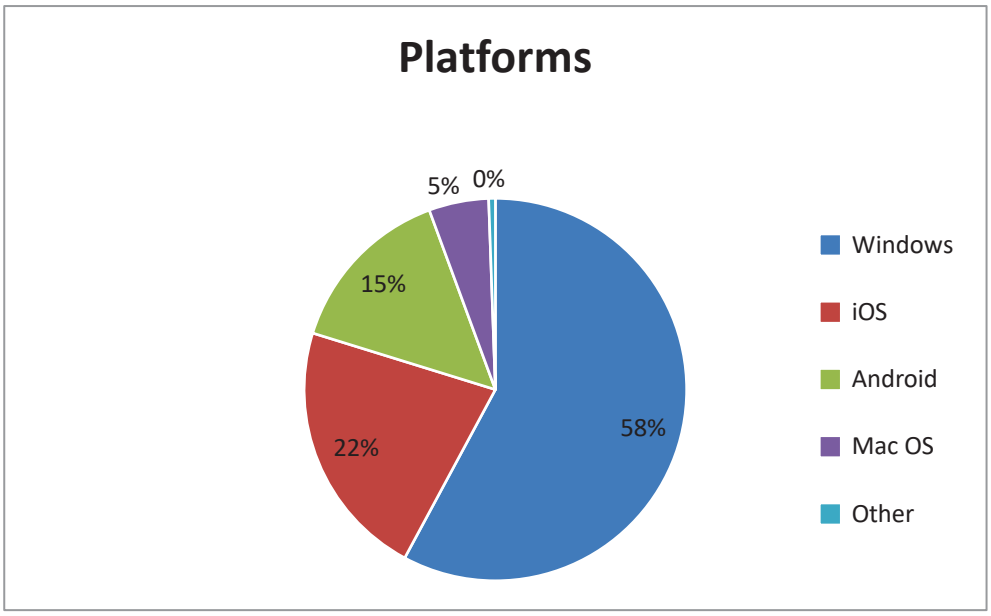
63% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 34% accessed from a mobile device. The other 3% accessed from a tablet.

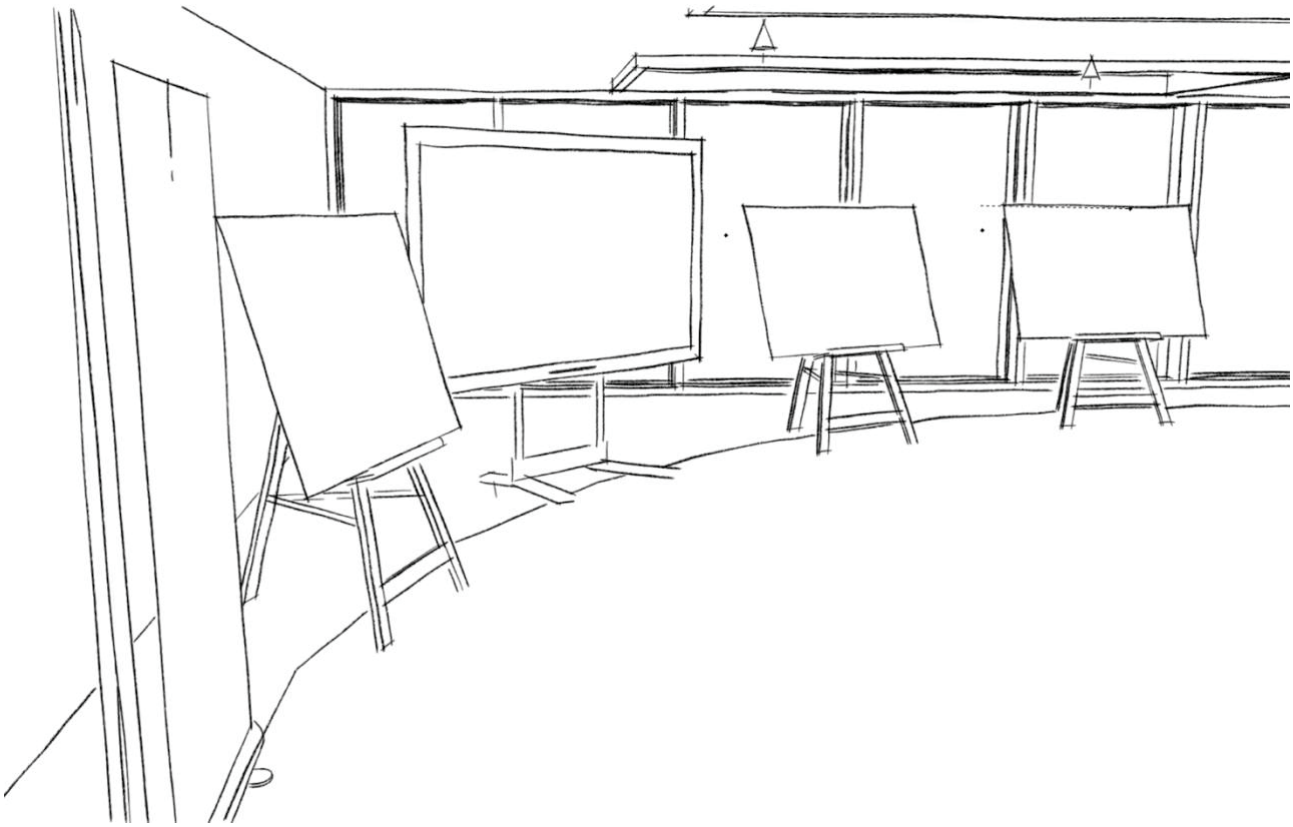


The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 52%. Mobile Safari accounted for 17% while Edge, Firefox and Facebook accounted for 11%, 9% and 5% respectively. 6% accessed the site using other browsers.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 58% of traffic using it. This was followed by iOS with 22%, Android at 15% and Mac OS at 5%. 1 visitor was using another platform.





Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

July 2021

Executive Summary

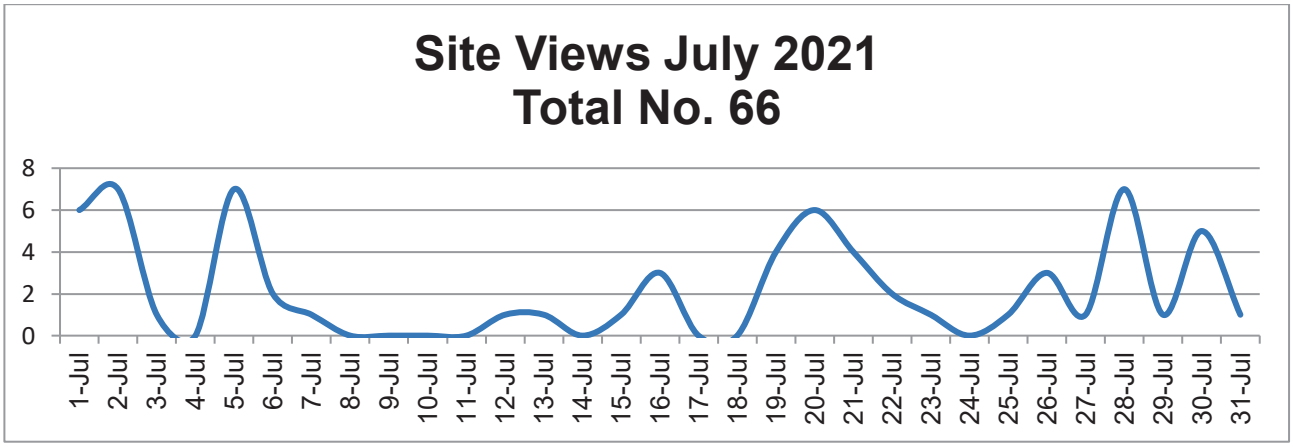
- The total number of visits to the site during July was 66.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome Video” followed by the “Photomontage Viewer”.
- 5 visitors (8%) spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- 88% of visitors were from Ireland with 34% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

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• Site Visits	3
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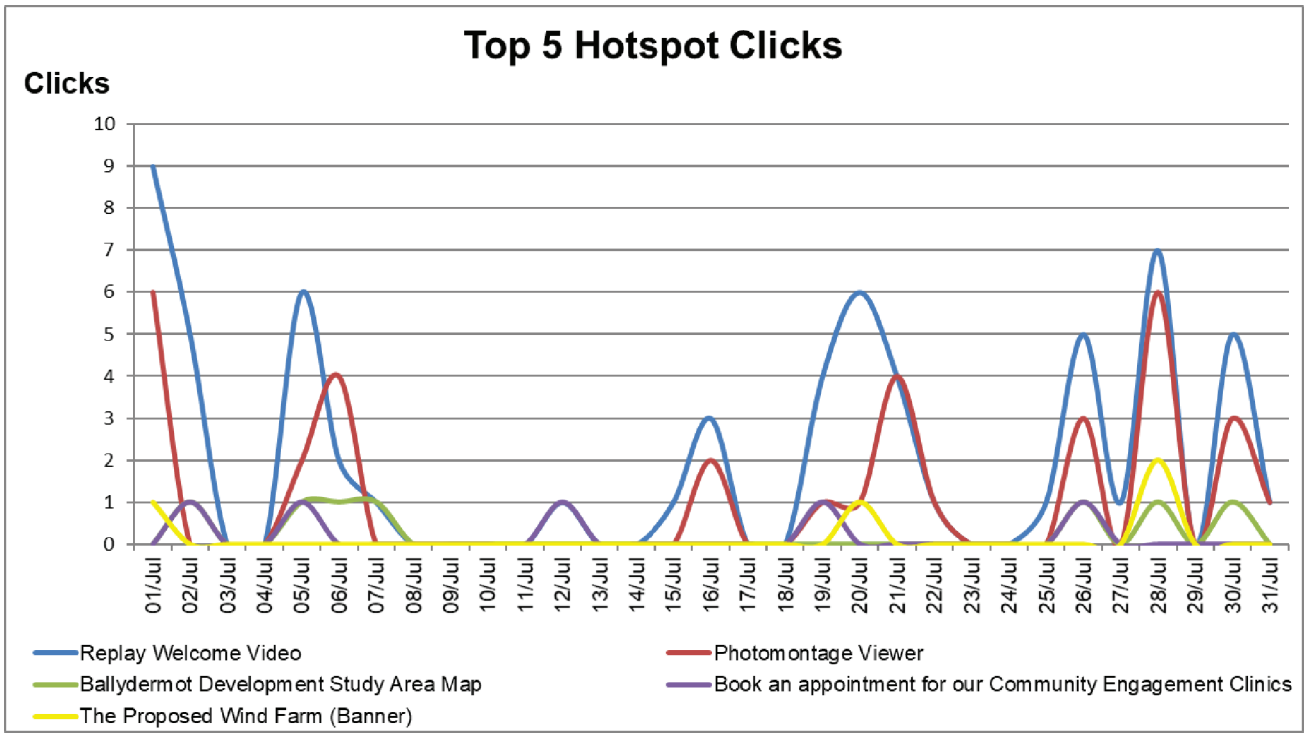
Site Visits

There were 66 visits to the room during the month. The highest numbers of visits were on July 2nd, 7th and 28th with 7 visits. There were other spikes in the number of visits on July 1st (6), 20th (6), and 30th (5).



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

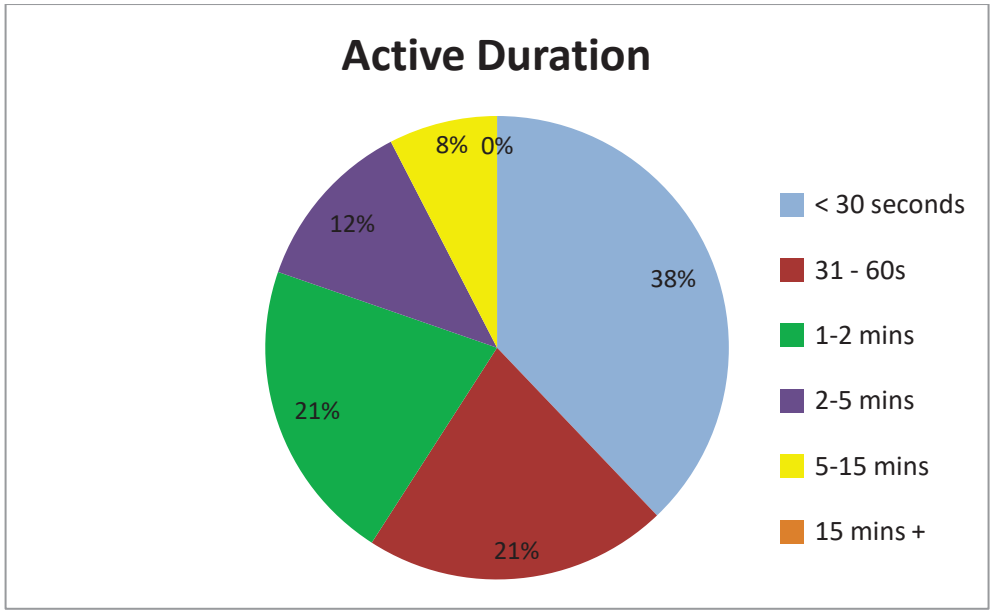
The “Welcome Video” is the most viewed part of the room. This is to be expected as the video launches when the page is accessed through the BNM website. This is followed by the “Photomontage Viewer” with 34 clicks while the “Ballydermot Development Study Area Map” had 7 clicks. After that, the “Book an appointment with Community Engagement Clinics” and the “Proposed Wind Farm” banner complete the most popular five with 5 and 4 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



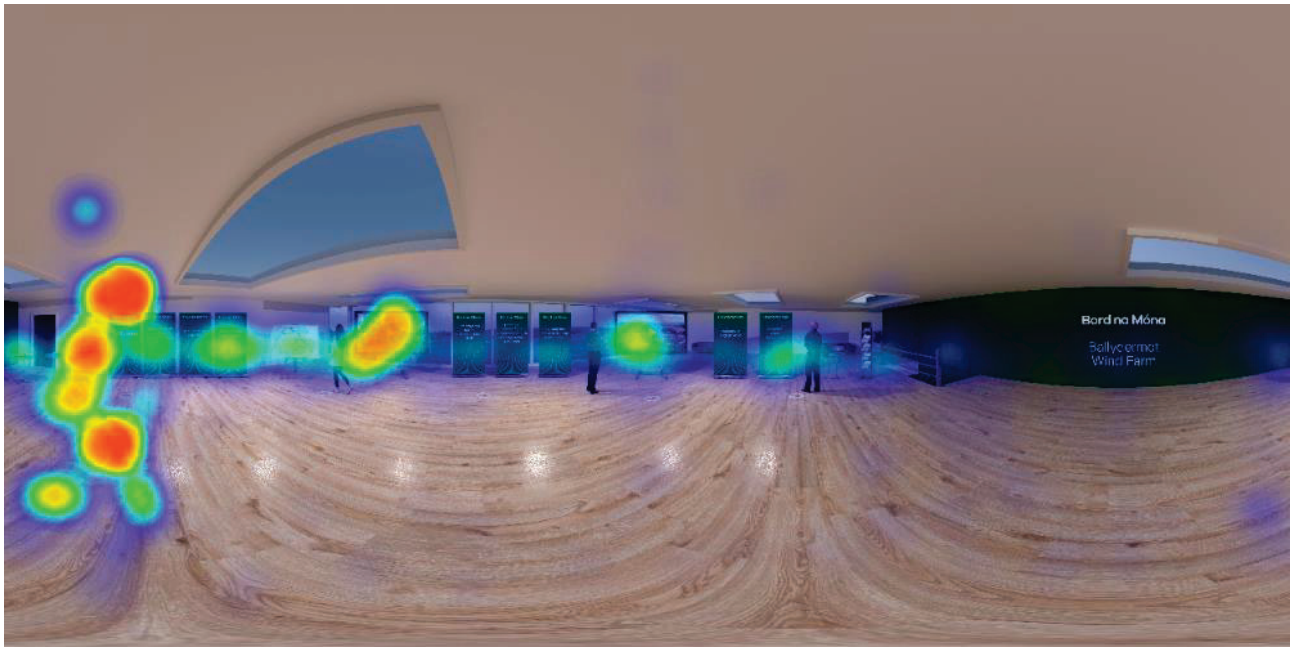
Hotspot	No. Clicks
Replay Welcome Video	63
Photomontage Viewer	34
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	7
Book an appointment for our Community Engagement Clinics	5
The Proposed Wind Farm (Banner)	4
Oweninny Wind Farm (Video)	3
Proposed Location (Banner)	3
Benefits of The Development	3
FAQs	2
Project Information Booklet Download	1
Exit / Project Feedback Questionnaire	1
Welcome (Banner)	1
Want to join our mailing list?	1
Want to Contact Us?	1
Government Policy (Banner)	1
How Long to Develop (Banner)	1
Total	**131**

Duration of Site Visits

5 visitors (8%) spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 39 visitors (59%) spent less than one minute in the room.

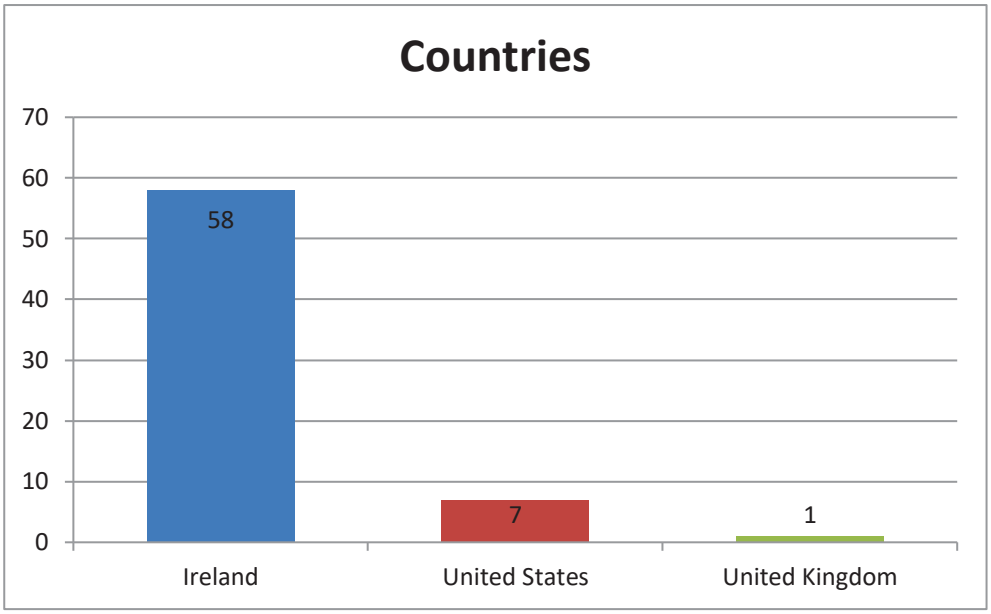


The heat map below indicates the areas of the room people have been looking at. There is a heavy concentration on the left-hand side which is where visitors enter the room. Moving towards the right-hand side which depicts the end of the exhibition, the low level of activity is evident, except for the Photomontage Viewer which is centrally located.

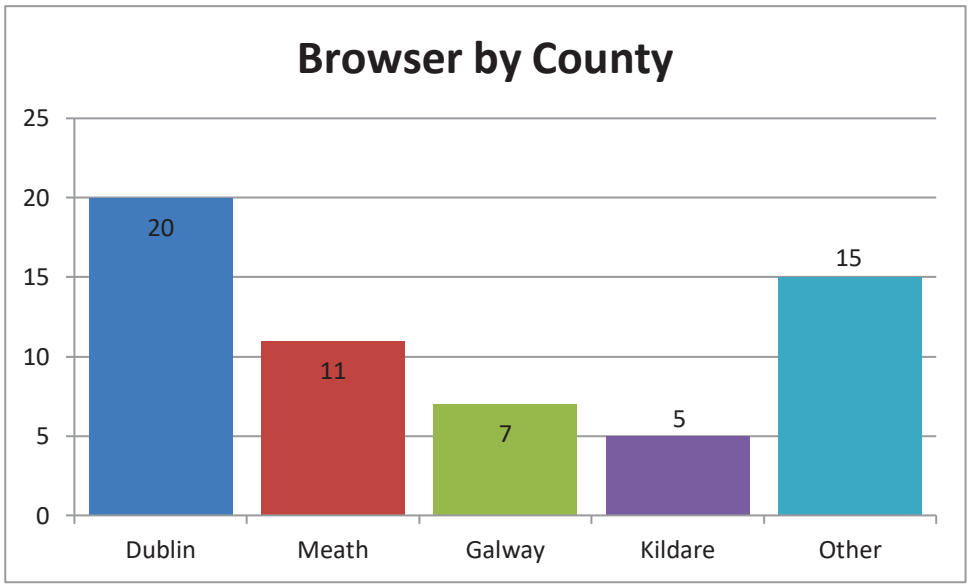


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

All traffic in July was from Ireland, the USA, and the UK. There were 58 visits from Ireland, 7 from the United States and 1 from the United Kingdom.



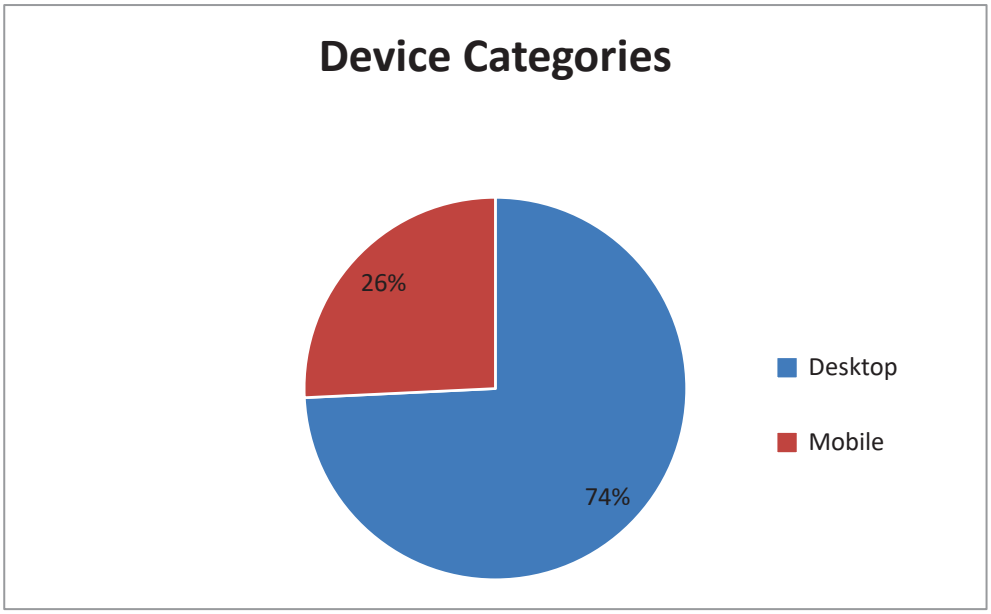
Dublin visitors to the site represented approximately 34% of Irish visitors. Visitors from Meath accounted for 19%, while visitors from Galway made up 12% of Irish visitors. There were 5 visitors from Kildare, representing 9% of Irish visitors. 15 visitors (26%) were from other locations in Ireland*.



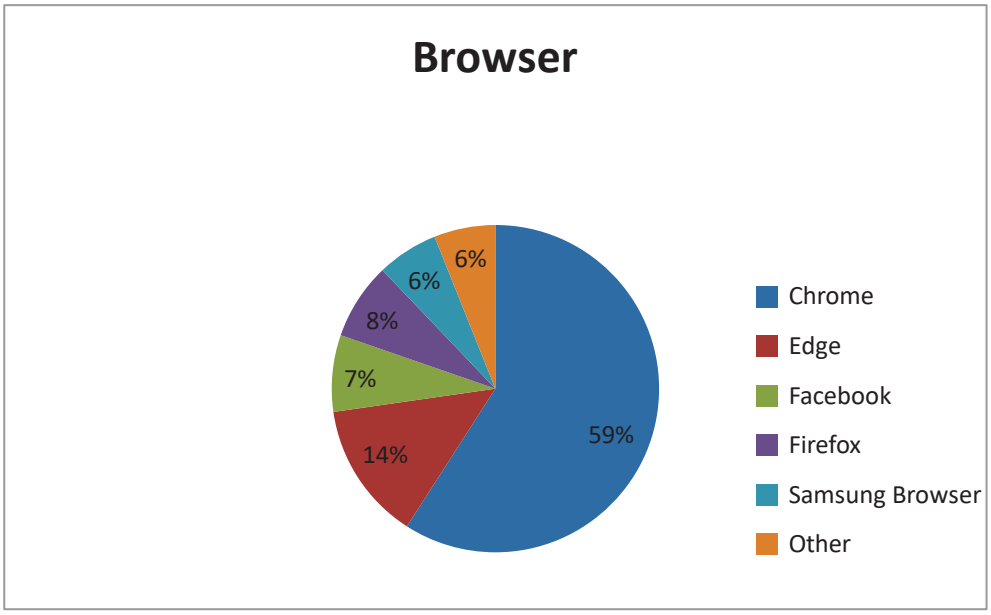
Note: The above browser location statistics do not always necessarily represent the location of the device accessing the website and may just represent the location of the user's internet service provider server. As such, these figures should be regarded with caution.

Device, Browser and Platform Information

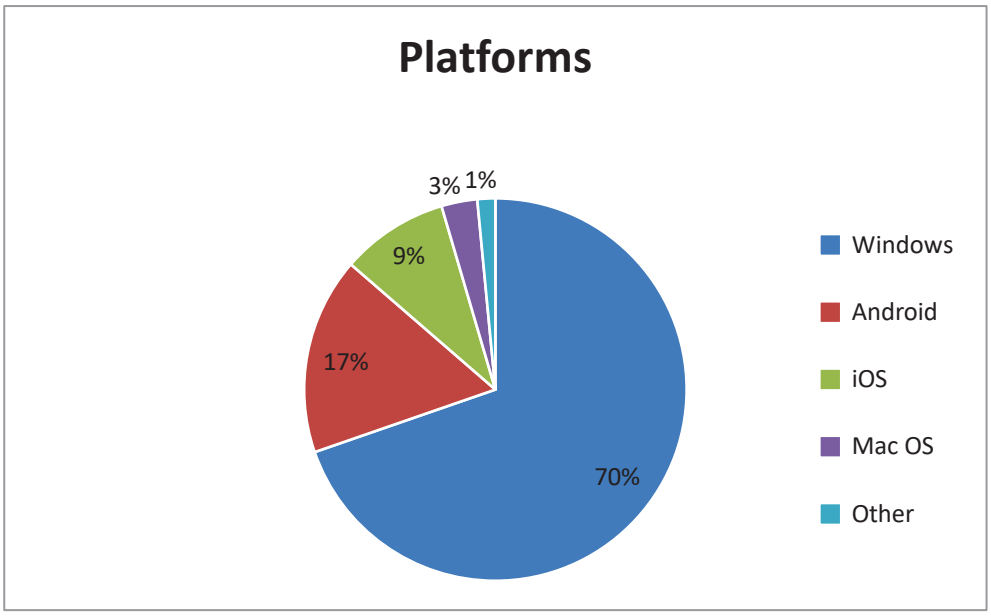
74% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 26% accessed from a mobile device.

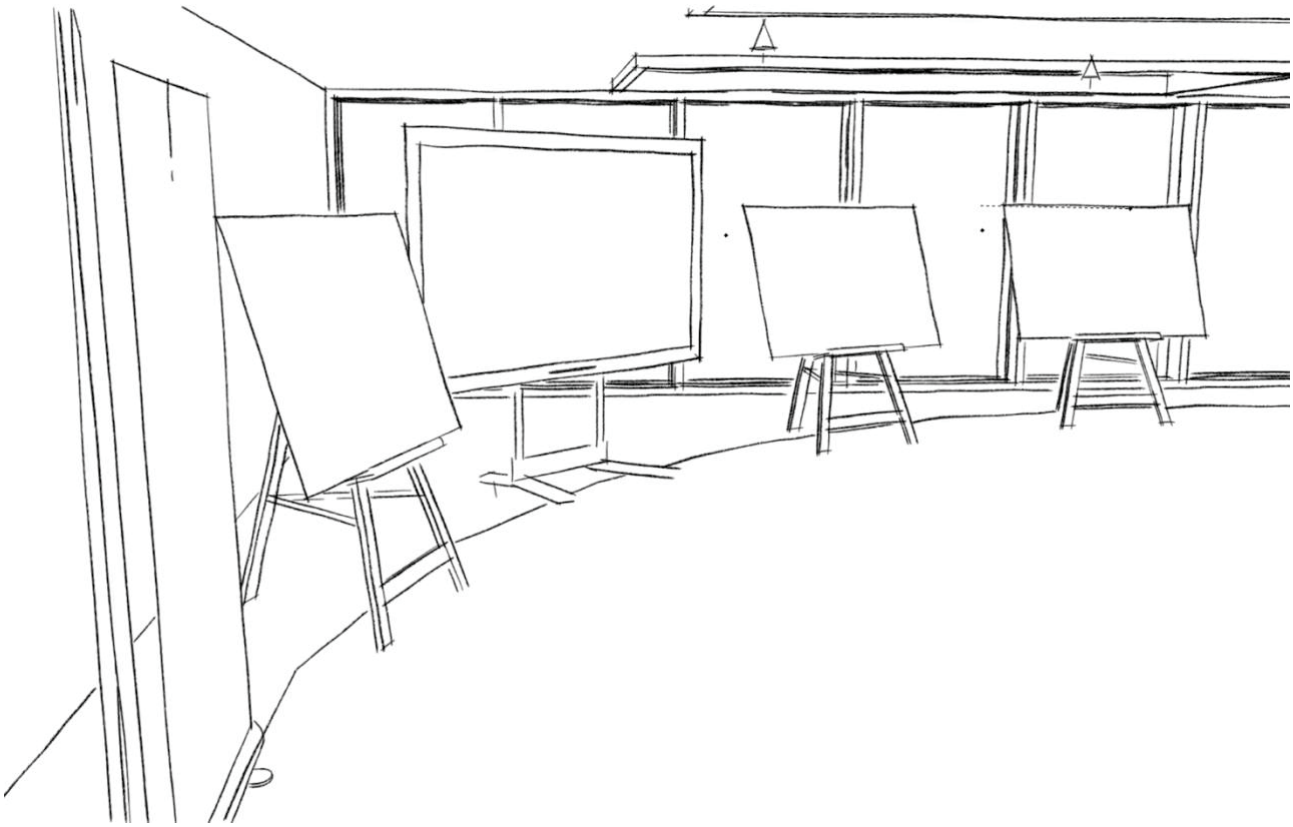


The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 59%. Edge accounted for 14% while Facebook and Firefox were both used by 7.5% of visitors. Samsung Browser accounted for 6% and the remaining 6% accessed the site using other browsers.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 70% of traffic using it. This was followed by Android with 17%, iOS at 9% and Mac OS at 3%. 1 visitor was using another platform.





Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

August 2021

Executive Summary

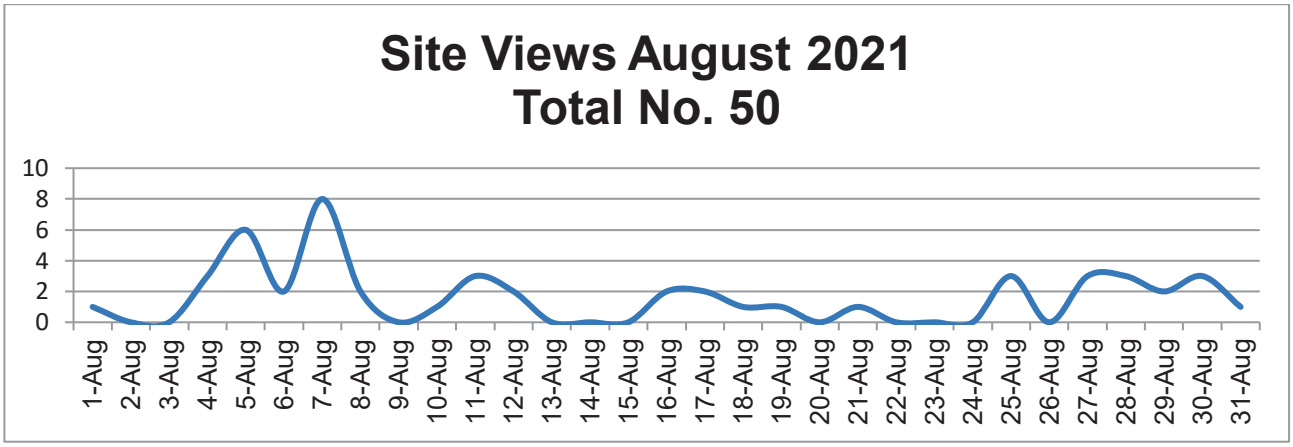
- The total number of visits to the site during August was 50.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome Video” followed by the “Photomontage Viewer”.
- 5 visitors (10%) spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- 80% of visitors were from Ireland with 50% of those in the Dublin area.
- A desktop/laptop was the most common device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The browser used most frequently to access the site was Chrome.

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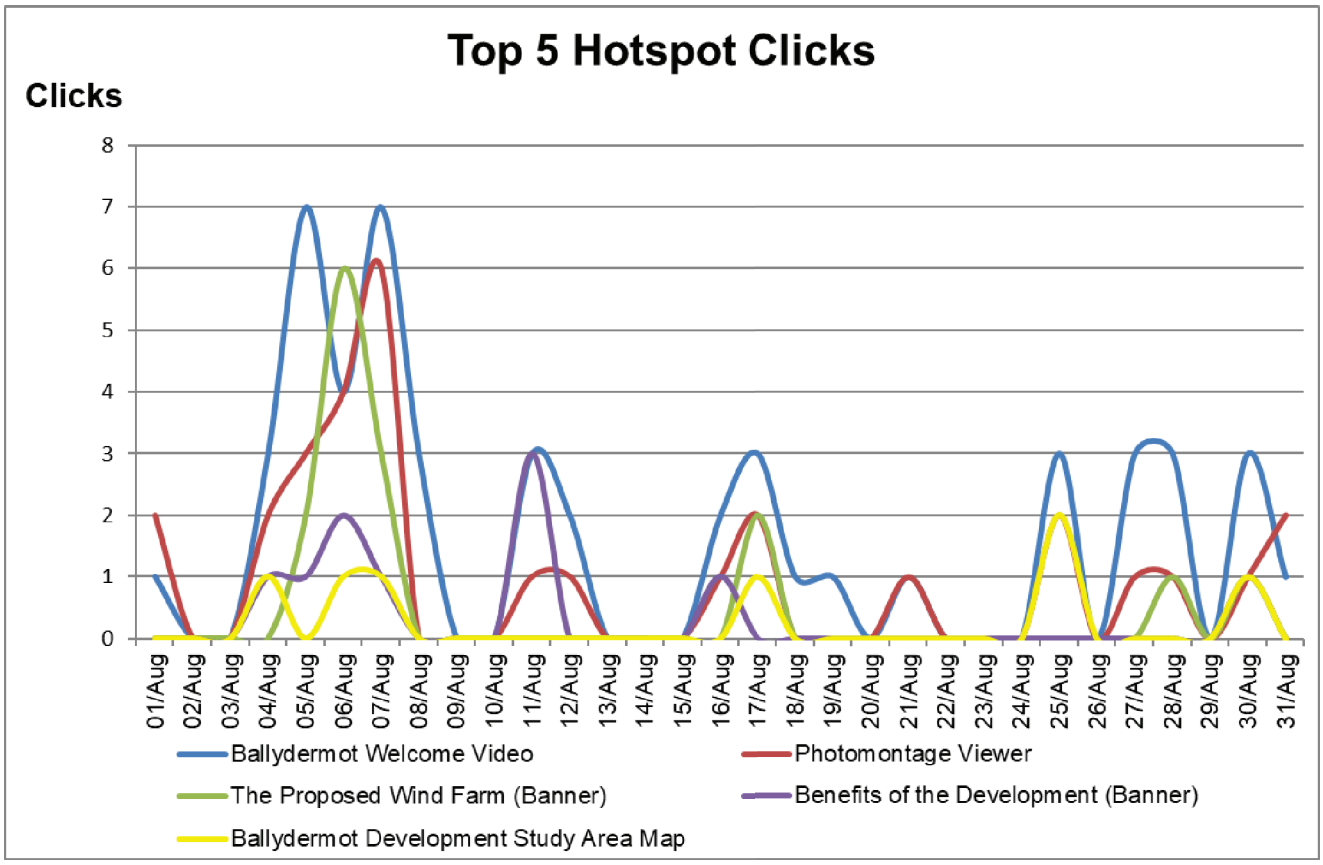
Site Visits

There were 50 visits to the room during the month. The highest numbers of visits were on August 7th and 5th with 8 and 6 visits respectively. There were 3 or more visits on each of August 4th, 11th, 25th,27th, 28th and 30th.



Top 5 Hotspot Clicks

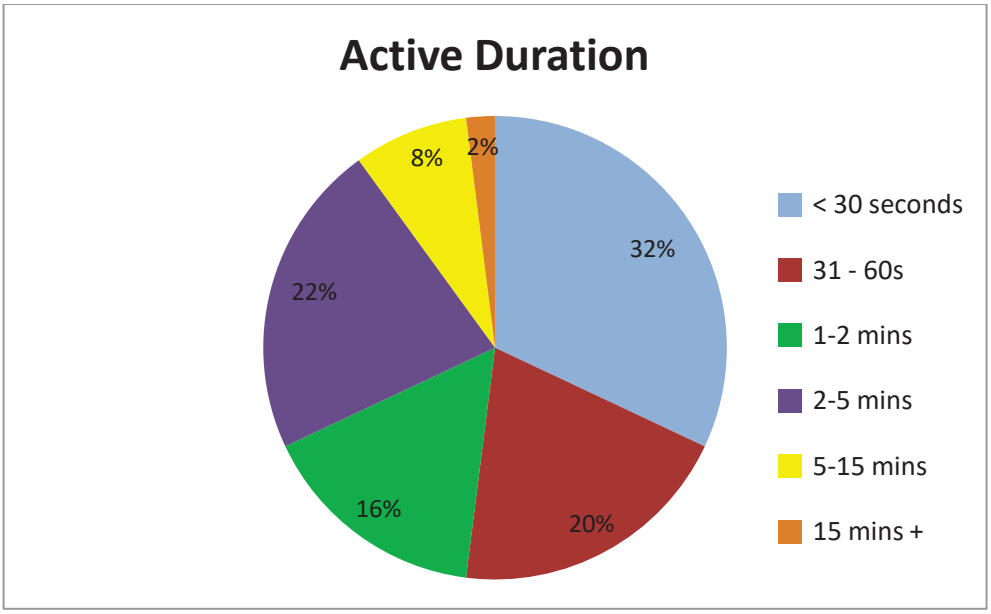
The “Ballydermot Welcome Video” is the most viewed part of the room. This is to be expected as the video launches when the page is accessed through the BNM website. This is followed by the “Photomontage Viewer” with 30 clicks while the “Proposed Wind Farm” banner attracted 15 clicks. After that, the “Benefits of the Development” banner and the “Ballydermot Development Study Area Map” complete the most popular five with 10 and 7 clicks respectively. All other figures are available in the table on page 5.



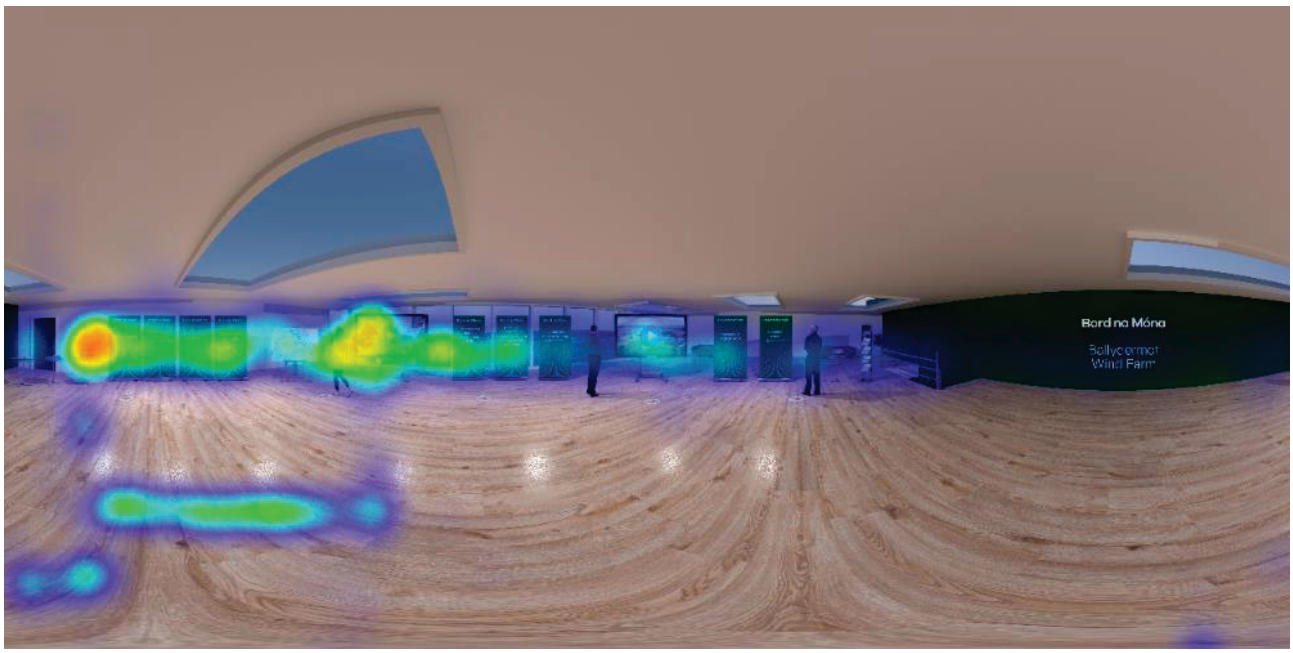
Hotspot	No. Clicks
Ballydermot Welcome Video	51
Photomontage Viewer	30
The Proposed Wind Farm (Banner)	15
Benefits of the Development (Banner)	10
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	7
Proposed Location (Banner)	6
EIAR (Banner)	5
Exit / Project Feedback Questionnaire	5
FAQs	5
Want to Contact Us?	4
SID Process (Banner)	3
Project Information Booklet Download	3
Welcome (Banner)	3
Government Policy (Banner)	3
Oweninny Wind Farm (Video)	3
Want to join our mailing list?	2
Community Engagement Clinics	2
How Long to Develop (Banner)	1
Total	**158**

Duration of Site Visits

5 visitors (10%) spent longer than 5 minutes in the room while 26 visitors (52%) spent less than one minute in the room.

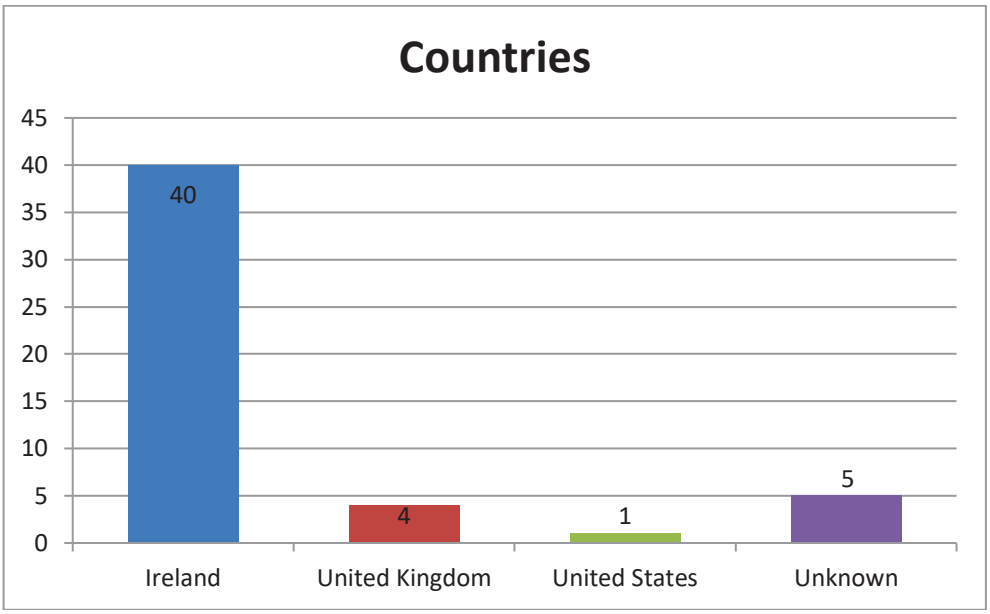


The heat map below indicates the areas of the room people have been looking at. There is a concentration on the left-hand side which is where visitors enter the room and view the Ballydermot Welcome Video. A low level of activity is evident moving towards the right-hand side which depicts the end of the exhibition, except for the Photomontage Viewer which is centrally located.

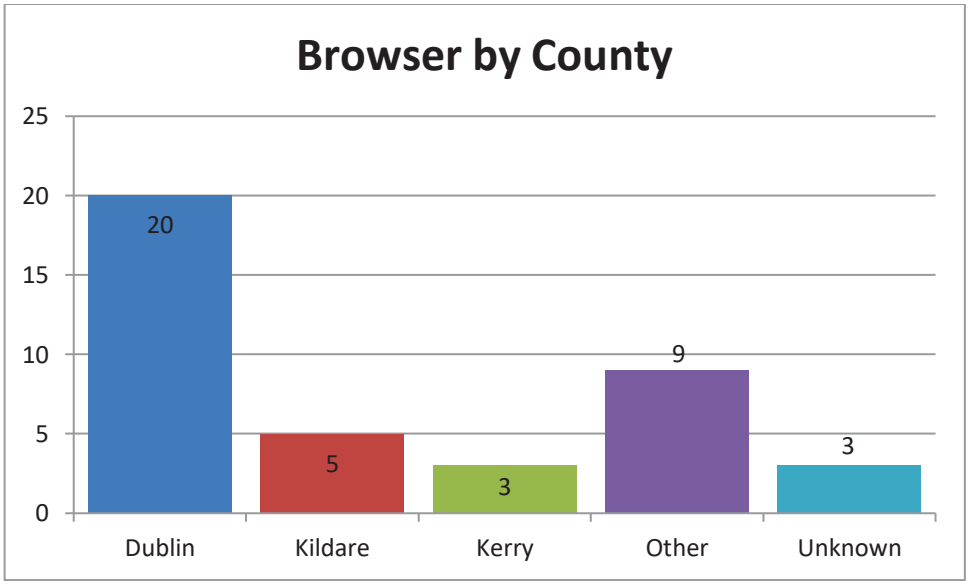


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

All known traffic in August was from Ireland, the UK, and the USA. There were 40 visits from Ireland, 4 from the United Kingdom and 1 from the United States. There were also 5 visits from unknown countries.



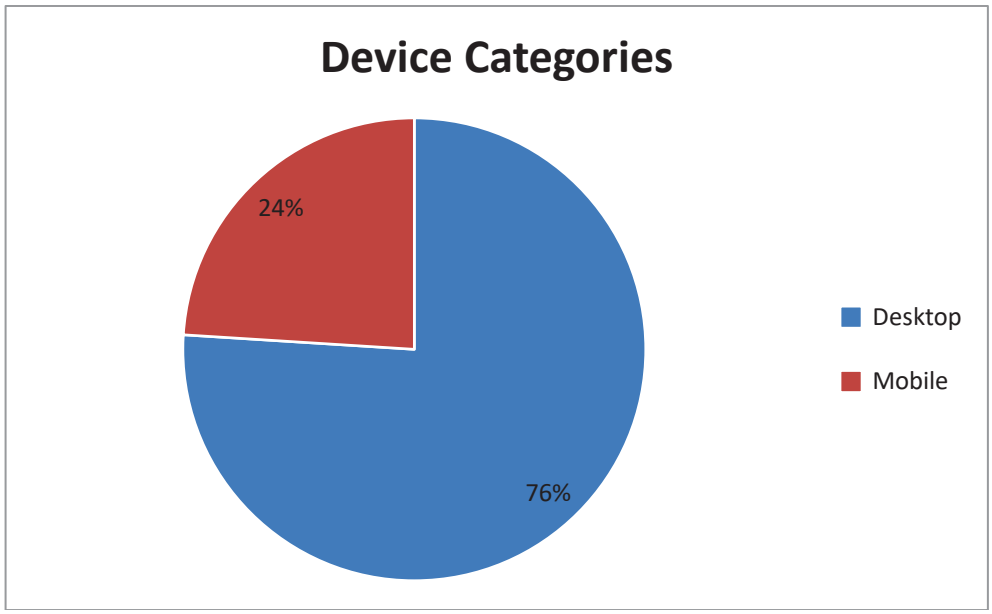
Dublin visitors to the site represented 50% of Irish visitors. Visitors from Kildare accounted for 13%, while visitors from Kerry made up 8% of Irish visitors. There were 9 (23%) visitors from other counties. 3 visitors (8%) were from other locations in Ireland, but it was not possible to determine where due to user defined browser restrictions. These are indicated as “Unknown” in the chart below*.



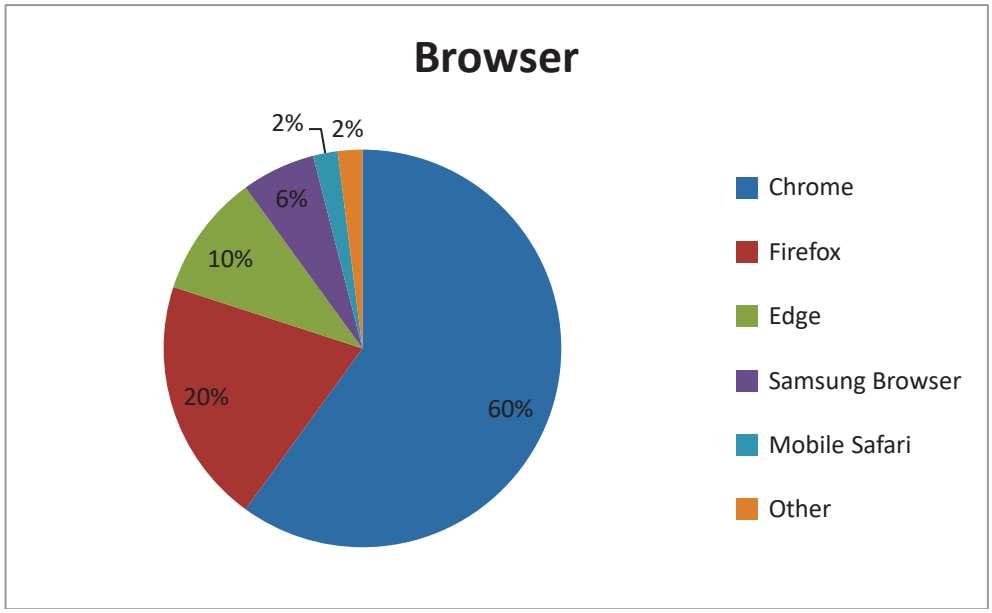
Note: The above browser location statistics do not always necessarily represent the location of the device accessing the website and may just represent the location of the user’s internet service provider server. As such, these figures should be regarded with caution.

Device, Browser and Platform Information

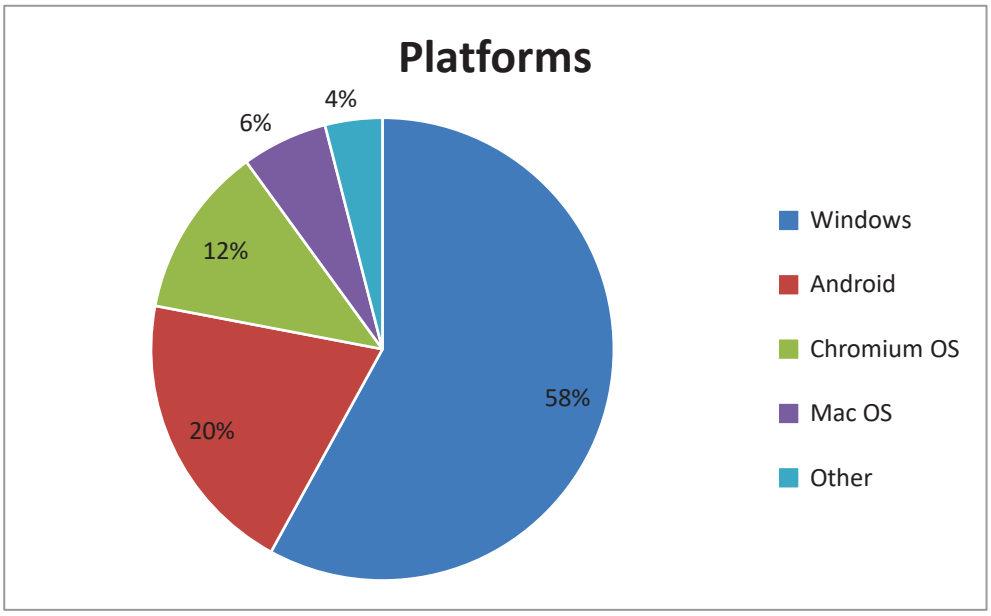
76% visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer while 24% accessed from a mobile device.

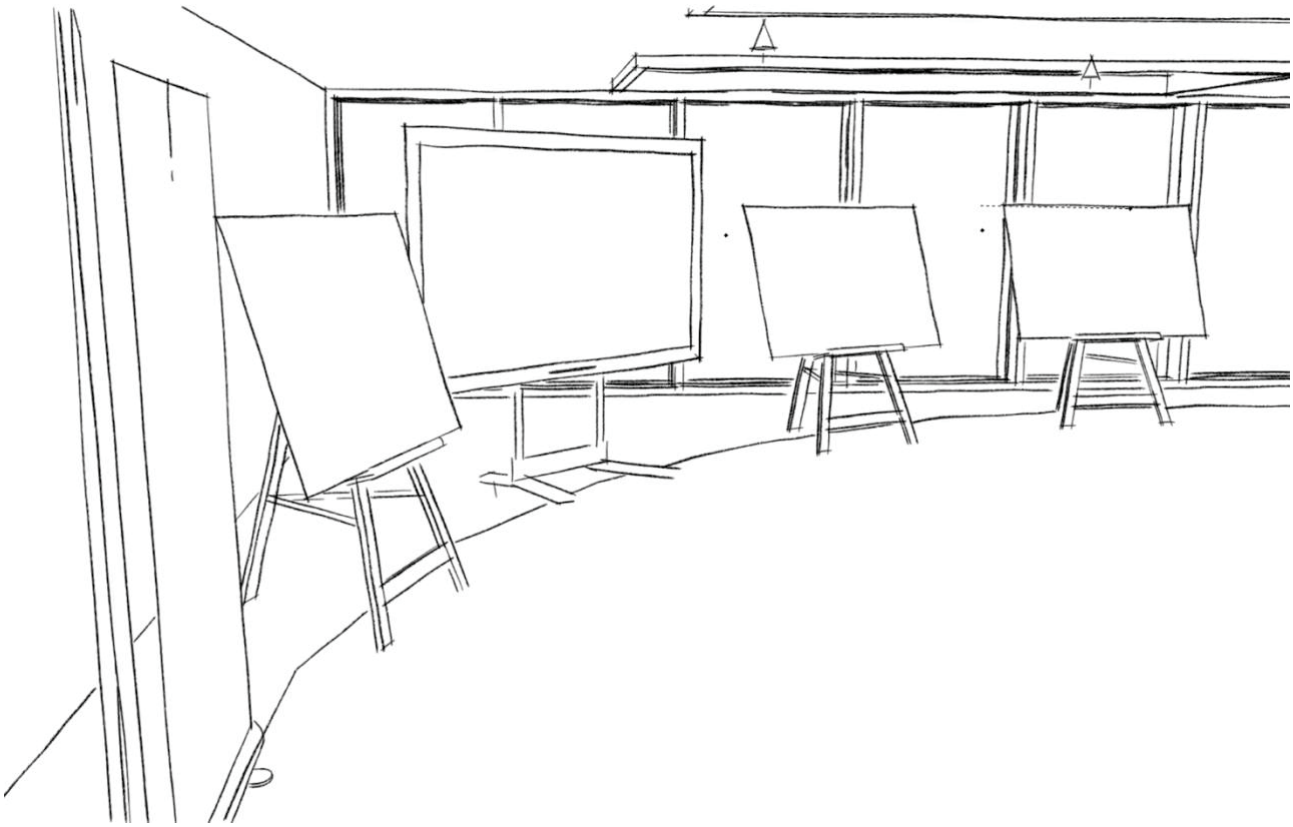


The most popular browser used to visit the site was Chrome. This accounted for 60%. Firefox accounted for 20% while Edge was used by 10% of visitors. Samsung Browser accounted for 6%, Mobile Safari for 2% and the remaining 2% accessed the site using other browsers.



Windows was easily the most popular platform used with 58% of traffic using it. This was followed by Android with 20%, Chromium OS with 12% and Mac OS at 6%. 2 visitors were using other platforms.





Virtual Public Exhibition
Web Traffic Report

Ballydermot Wind Farm

September 2021

Executive Summary

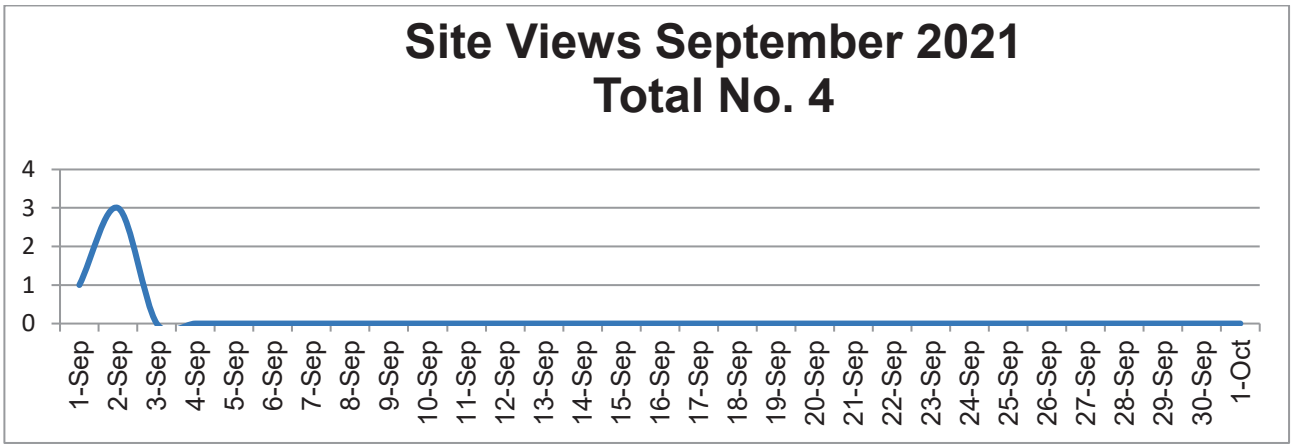
- The total number of visits to the site during September was 4.
- The most popular parts of the site were the “Welcome Video” followed by the “Oweninny Video”.
- No visitors spent more than 5 minutes in the room.
- All visitors were from Ireland with 50% in each of the Dublin and Galway areas.
- A desktop/laptop was the only device used to access the site.
- The most common platform in use was Windows.
- The only browser used to access the site was Chrome.

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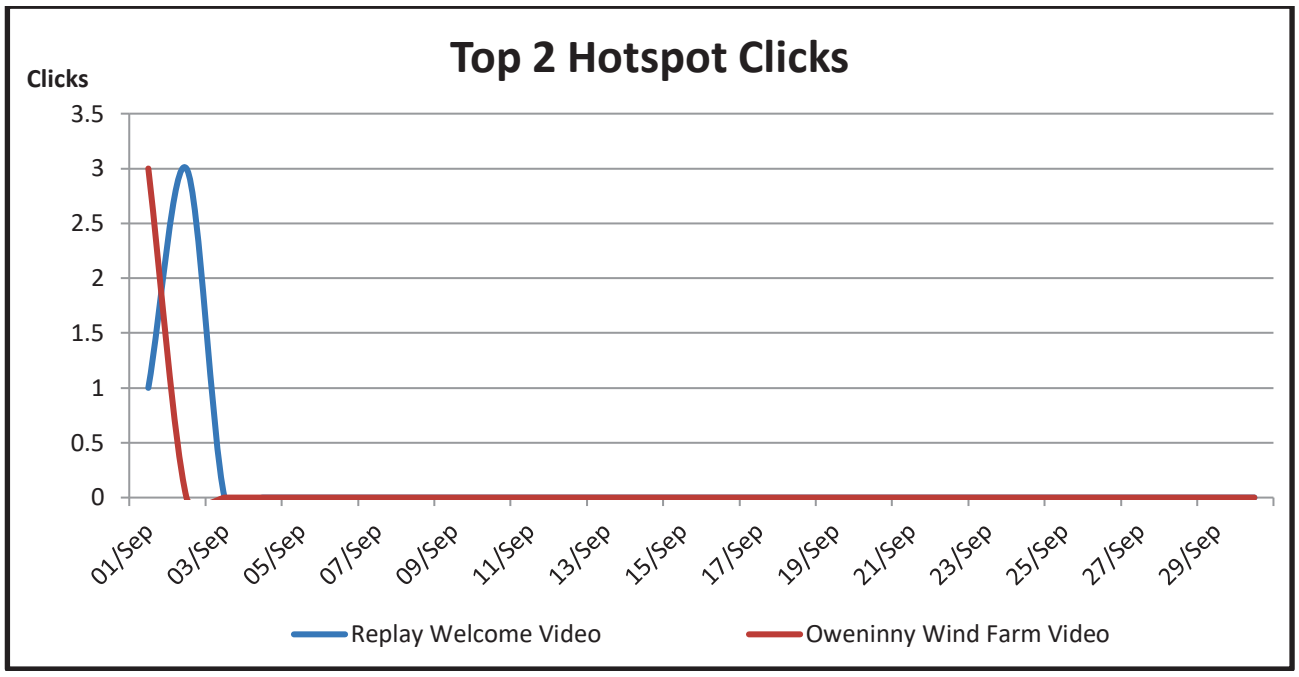
Site Visits

There were 4 visits to the room during the month. There were no visits after September 2nd. There was 1 visit on September 1st and 3 on September 2nd.



Top 2 Hotspot Clicks

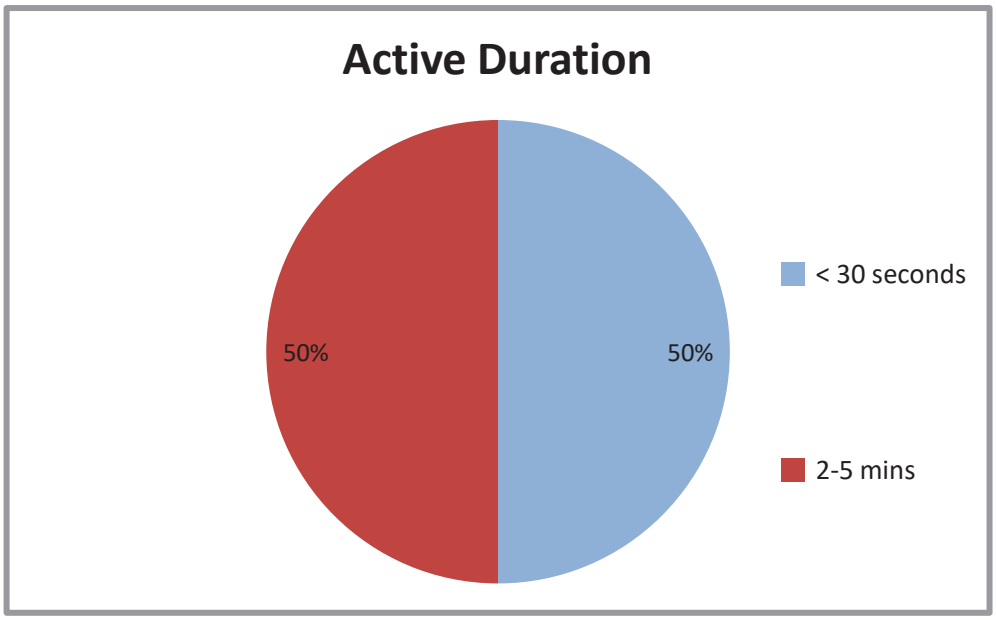
The “Welcome Video” is the most viewed part of the room. This is to be expected as the video launches when the page is accessed through the BNM website. This is followed by the “Oweninny Wind Farm Video” with 3 clicks. The other parts of the room that attracted clicks had 1 click each. These are listed in the table on page 5.



Hotspot	No. Clicks
Replay Welcome Video	4
Oweninny Wind Farm Video	3
Ballydermot Development Study Area Map	1
Photomontage Viewer	1
Feedback questionnaire	1
Government Policy (Banner)	1
Benefits of the Development (Banner)	1
Interactive Photomontage Viewer	1
Welcome (Banner)	1
Total	**14**

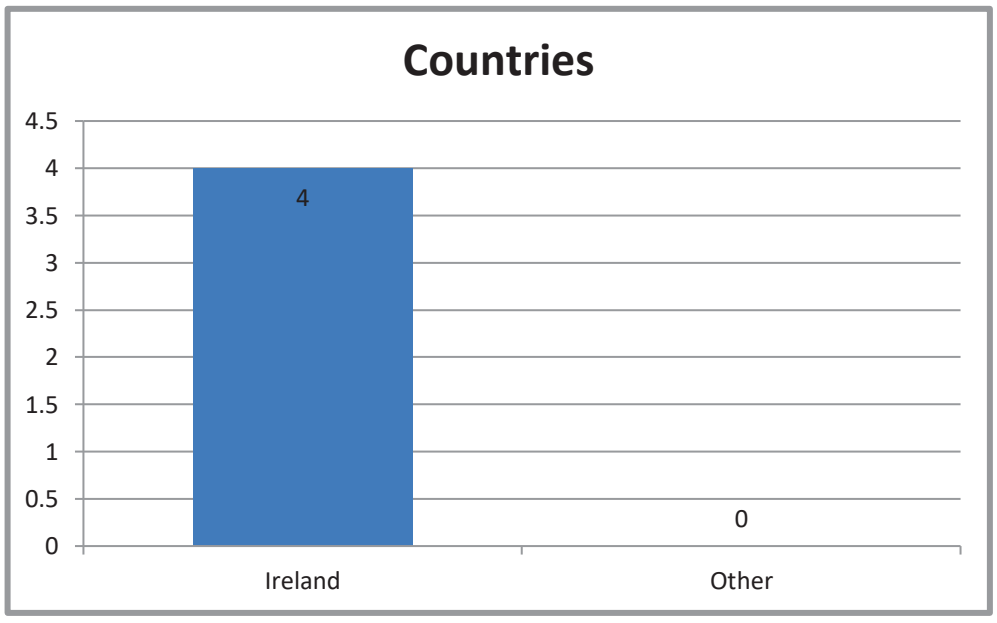
Duration of Site Visits

No visitors spent longer than 5 minutes in the room. 2 visitors spend less than 30 seconds in the room while the other 2 spent between 2 and 5 minutes in the room.

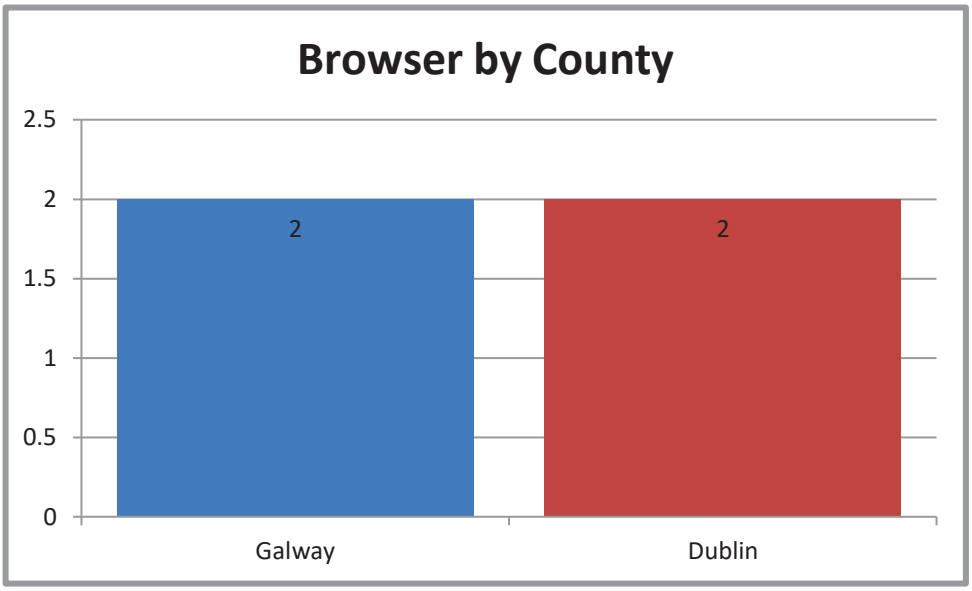


Geographical Breakdown of Site Visitors

All traffic in September was from Ireland.



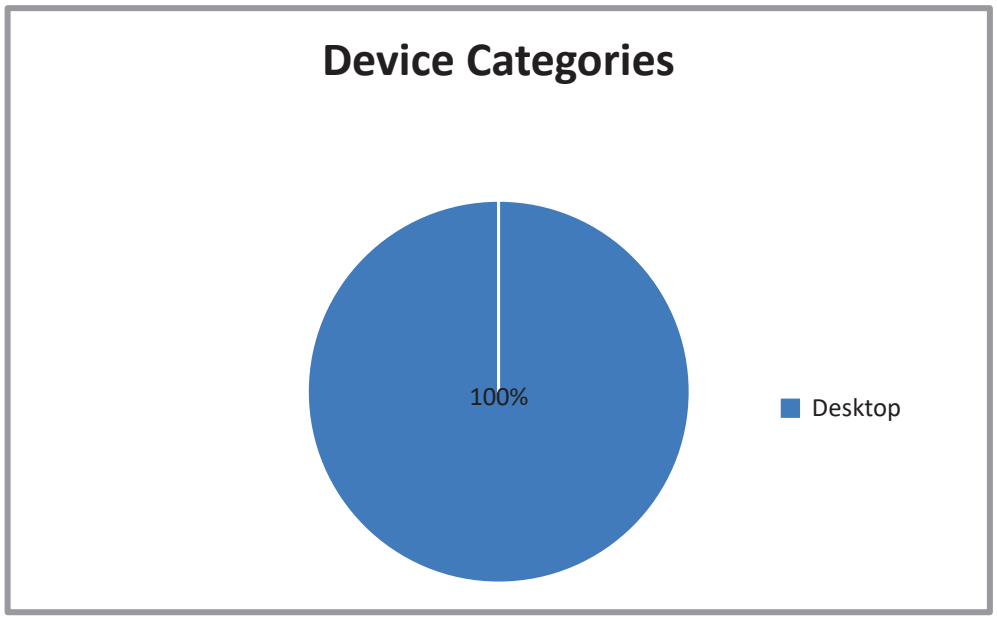
There were two visitors from Galway and two from Dublin. There were no other visitors to the room.



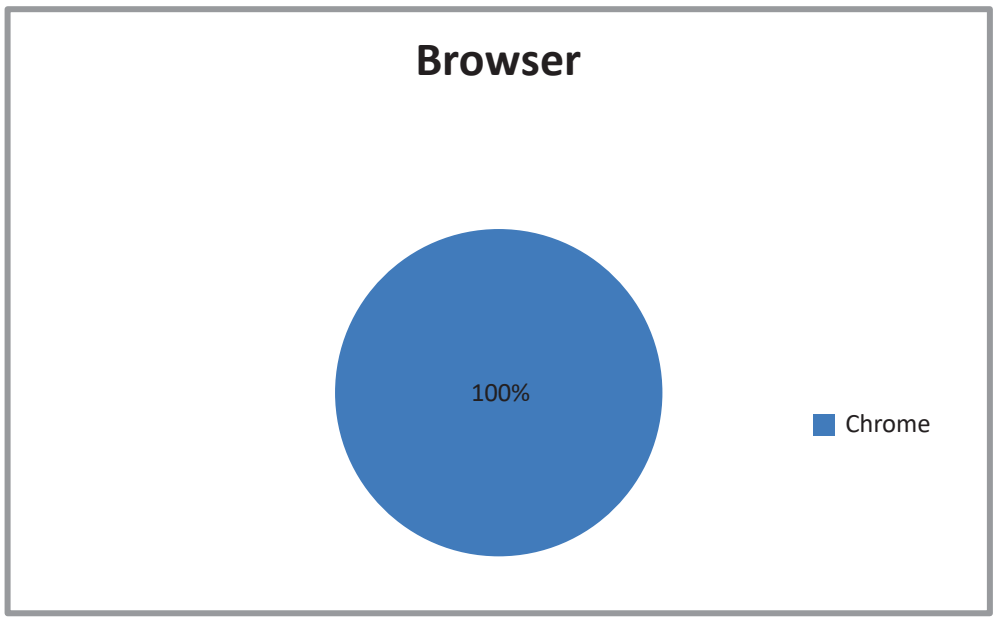
Note: The above browser location statistics do not always necessarily represent the location of the device accessing the website and may just represent the location of the user's internet service provider server. As such, these figures should be regarded with caution.

Device, Browser and Platform Information

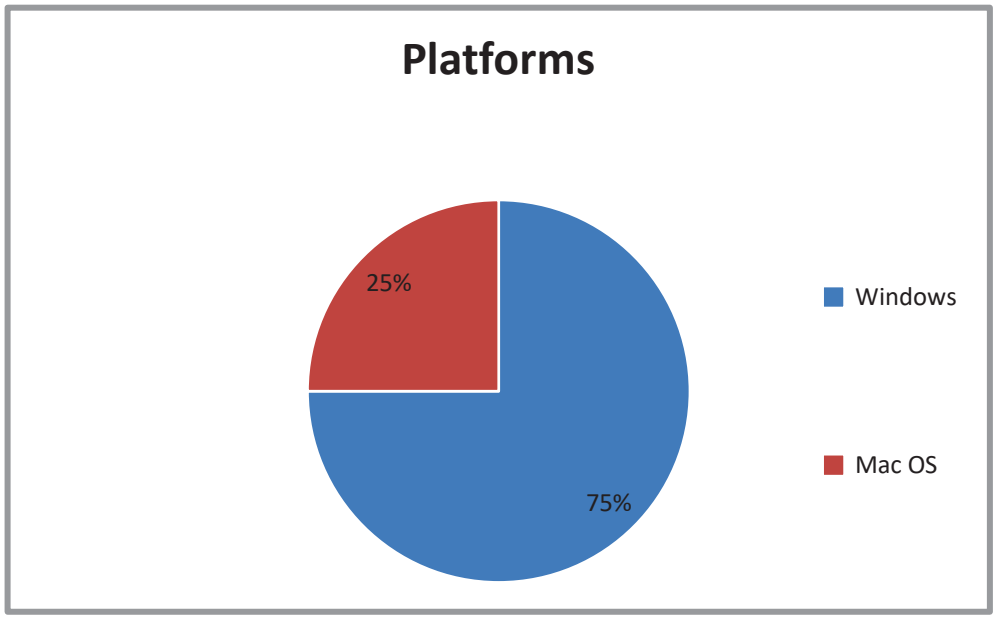
All 4 visitors accessed the room from a desktop/laptop computer.



The only browser used to visit the site was Chrome.



Windows was the most popular platform used with 3 of the 4 visitors using it. 1 visitor was using Mac OS.



Appendix H: Project Update Letter 2024

Bord na Móna

Bord na Móna Giníuint Cumhachta Oifig Chláraithe: An bPriómhshráid, Droichead Nua, Co. Chill Dara, W12 XR59, Éire
Bord na Móna Powergen Limited Registered Office: Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, W12 XR59, Ireland
Fón/T +353 (0)45 439 000 **Facs/F** +353(0) 45 439 001 **bordnamona.ie**

Autumn 2024

Project: Proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm – Project Update

Dear Resident,

As you are aware Bord na Móna announced plans in 2020 to develop the proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm within the Ballydermot Bog Group located within counties Kildare and Offaly. The purpose of this communication is to provide an update on the proposed development. The company is continuing to prepare the planning application for the proposed wind farm, with a view to lodging an application in 2025.

The final proposed Ballydermot Wind Farm layout is as distributed to the community in late 2022, and comprises 47 turbines with an overall tip height ranging from 200 to 220 metres. The proposed turbine layout design has taken account of the requirements of the "*Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines* (2019)" which proposes a visual amenity setback of four times the turbine tip height between a wind turbine and the nearest residental property, subject to a mandatory minimum distance of 500 metres. The minimum setback distance applied for the proposed layout is 880 metres. Should there be any significant change to the proposed layout prior to submission we will keep you informed.

The project team has also developed a draft amenity plan; to be co-located with the proposed wind farm and this will be submitted as part of the planning application for the project. The proposed amenity will provide a new local and regional recreational resource for the local communities and wider area. This plan was presented to the community in 2022 and proposes to use the wind farm roads, which will be developed to facilitate delivery and maintenance of turbines as a basis for most of the proposed trails for walking, cycling and horse riding.

In addition to the wind farm roads, additional amenity links (including the proposed utilisation of former railway lines, existing roads, and machine passes) are also proposed to create loops and increase accessibility within the site. The key amenities proposed in the Draft Amenity plan include.

- A network of internal paths and cycleways that provide looped routes.
- A dedicated equestrian trail.
- Key amenity infrastructure such as access, car parks and toilets.
- A strategic route network that provides access links to surrounding settlements and sites of interest.
- Trail infrastructure such as benches and shelters, waymarker posts and orientation information boards.
- A natural play park.

A copy of the proposed wind farm layout and draft amenity plan, as circulated in 2022, can be found on the dedicated project website: **www.ballydermotwindfarm.ie**.

It is intended to lodge the planning application in 2025 directly with An Bord Pleanála, details of which will be advertised via media. We will also inform you directly when the planning application has been lodged.

To date, the following community engagement measures and activities have been put in place:

- Appointment of a dedicated Community Liaison team.
- Launch of project specific website and virtual Consultation Rooms.
- 2 No. Phases of Community Engagement Clinics on the proposed wind farm development (Phase 1 facilitated by virtual meeting and Phase 2 both in person appointment only clinics and virtual meetings).
- 1 No. Phase of Community Engagement on the proposed wind farm draft amenity plan.
- A series of house-to-house visits to homes within a minimum 1.5km distance from the proposed development (some limitations applied due to Covid-19 restrictions at the time) to provide and discuss project updates including the publication of the draft and final layouts for the proposed wind farm.
- Ongoing Stakeholder and Councillor updates and consultation meetings.

In the meantime, your designated Local Community Liaison Officers, Niall contactable at 087 9951174 and James contactable at 087 7087022 are available to meet residents and to discuss any queries you may have. Queries may also be directed to the project email address **ballydermotwindfarm@bnm.ie**.

Yours Faithfully,
Ballydermot Wind Farm Communications Team

