

On-Shore Wind Energy 'Call for Sites' – October 2023

Guidance Note

What is this Call for Sites about?

Wyre council is in the process of conducting a review of its current Local Plan.

The Emerging Local Plan will be the Borough's chief planning document. It will set out the strategy for the Borough over the next 15 to 20 years, and policies, proposals and site allocations/designations to deliver the strategy. The Local Plan will continue to be the main reference document for determining planning applications in the Borough and guiding investment.

Policy EP12 Renewable Energy of the current Local Plan provides the basis for assessing proposals for renewable energy the definition of which includes wind power. The policy establishes that the area of search for on-shore wind power is the whole of the borough; however, the policy does not designate specific sites for wind energy.

In order to help inform the Emerging Local Plan, Wyre council is conducting a Call for Sites inviting landowners, agents, developers, community groups and others with an interest in delivering on-shore wind energy projects to submit land for inclusion in the reviewed Local Plan as **sites for on-shore wind energy projects**. This specific Call for Sites exercise will sit alongside our previous Call for Sites for housing, economic and other uses.

If you have submitted sites into the previous Call for Sites exercises you may also submit a site through this current exercise specifically aimed at on-shore wind energy.

There is no minimum or maximum site size or criteria at this stage. This on-shore wind energy 'Call for Sites' is seeking suggestions for land for one or more wind turbines. This may involve commercial standalone projects that will supply energy into the electricity grid (i.e. not those attached to a building or for private use) and proposals to use wind energy to directly supply local communities or businesses.

Please note that submitting a site does not guarantee that the council will allocate or designate it, or support its development in the future. All sites will need to be judged against relevant planning policies and other considerations. Until such time as any site is formally allocated, any submissions will have **no weight** as a material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications.

To submit sites please complete the response form available at <https://www.wyre.gov.uk/planning-policy/consultations/4>

Please include details of the site ownership, land owner's consent (see note below), proposed project, land availability and a scale map clearly identifying the precise boundaries of the land that is potentially available for a wind energy project.

Proposed sites can be submitted through the form at any time up to the closing date of **5pm Monday 30 October 2023**.

Sites submitted after this date will be kept on a register and considered next time we update the assessment.

How do I complete the response form?

- **Section A – Your Contact Details**

Your contact details are required. Please include your email address if available - this will be helpful as it enables the council to contact you easily if we need further information. The council is obliged to make all submissions available to the public, as they will form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan. The name of the sender and organisation (if relevant) will be published, no other personal information will be published. Please note that sites submitted cannot be treated as confidential and anonymous responses will not be accepted.

- **Section B – Site Details and Scale**

Please provide details about the site proposed, providing any relevant details that are available, including the scale of development for on-shore wind energy that the site can reasonably accommodate (e.g. the size and number of turbines). This should include a consideration of the extent to which the site is appropriately located. This includes the availability of an appropriate transmission infrastructure including connection to the electricity grid or to the proposed local recipient of the electricity generated. You should consider whether or not there is sufficient

capacity in the electricity grid to accommodate the energy produced, and if not how additional capacity will be achieved. To allow the council to accurately locate the site and its boundaries, your suggested site cannot be considered if you do not submit a location plan that clearly identifies the site boundary. Due to Ordnance Survey licensing restrictions, the council is unable to provide blank plans for this exercise. Ordnance Survey plans of sites may be obtained via external companies (there is normally a charge for these services).

- **Section C – Site Ownership**

Please specify the site ownership status. You do not need to be the owner of a site to promote it. However if you do not own the site, please provide evidence that the site owner is supportive of the use of the site for a wind energy project.

- **Section D – Market Interest in On-Shore Wind Energy**

Please provide any details or comments regarding any market interest in the site for a wind energy project.

- **Section E – Site Constraints and Considerations**

This section involves a deeper consideration of the site attributes with a focus on any known constraints and how they may be overcome. Please provide an indication of the extent of any known constraints and other considerations that may have implications for the feasibility of the suggested scale of development.

- **Section F – Site Ownership Considerations and Availability**

Please provide any details of any known legal, ownership or physical constraints that may have implications for how quickly the site may be developed, including viability matters. Please provide an indication of when the site may be available for a wind energy project.

- **Section G – Community Support**

Please provide details on any known community support for the site and its use for a wind energy project. This should include any known community concerns and how they may be addressed.

- **Section H– Additional Comments**

Please provide any additional comments to support your proposed site. Wherever possible, please provide proportionate evidence to support your submission. The council will consider this as part of the assessment work undertaken and may use your submitted information to consult with relevant stakeholders and infrastructure providers. As part of this assessment process, the council may come to a different conclusions from what is submitted on the response form and supporting evidence.

How can I keep informed of progress?

The council maintains a local plan consultation database which is used to notify interested individual and organisations of local plan consultation and planning policy matters. If you would like to be added to the local plan consultation database, you can subscribe online at: <https://www.wyre.gov.uk/planning-policy/consultations>

If you would like to subscribe to the database but are unable to do so, please contact the planning policy team.

Who should I contact for further information?

If you require any further information please contact the planning policy team via:

planning.policy@wyre.gov.uk or 01253 887302

How should I respond to the call for sites?

Please complete a separate response form for each site you are proposing.

This guidance note and a downloadable response form are available at

<https://www.wyre.gov.uk/planning-policy/consultations/4>

Completed forms and location plans should be submitted by either:

- Email: planning.policy@wyre.gov.uk or
- Post: Planning Policy, Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton le Fylde, FY6 7PU

All submissions should be received by the **deadline of 5.00pm on Monday 30 October 2023**. Late responses will not be considered.

Please be aware that if you are submitting your form via email you will need to send an electronic copy of a location plan (a scanned copy will suffice). As noted above, due to Ordnance Survey licensing restrictions the council is unable to provide blank

plans for this exercise. Plans of sites may be obtained via external companies (there is a charge for these services).