

Windfarm Survey Work Summary Report

February 2026

**Compiled by WMG Consultancy Ltd
For Strathdearn Community Council**

Map of Strathdearn Wind Farms - All Stages January 2026

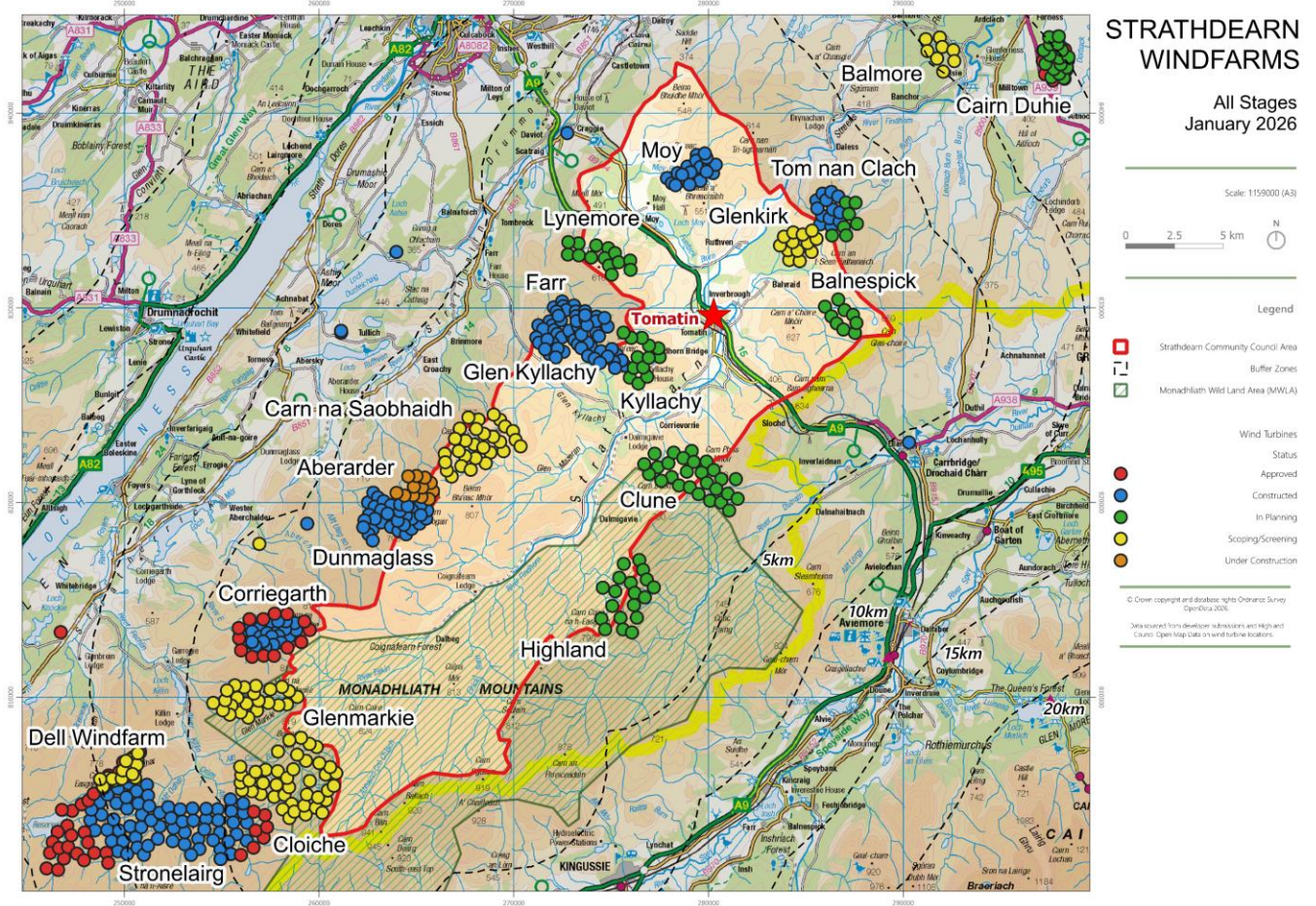
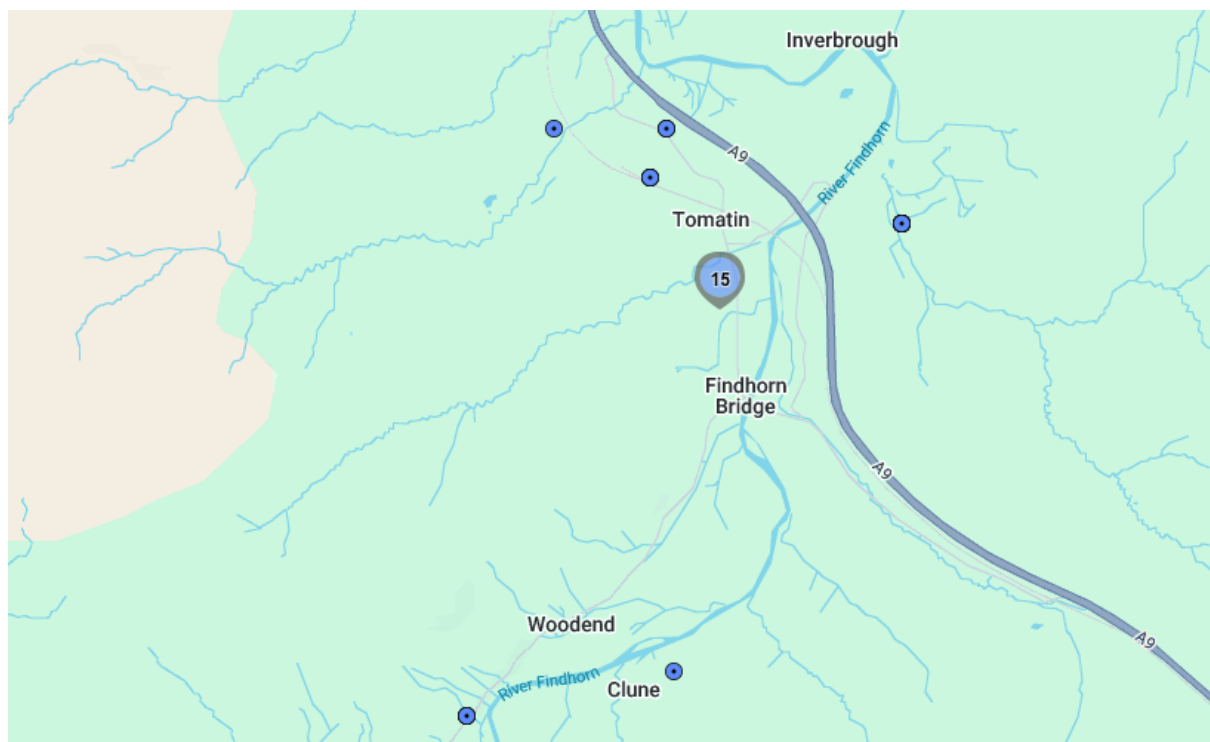
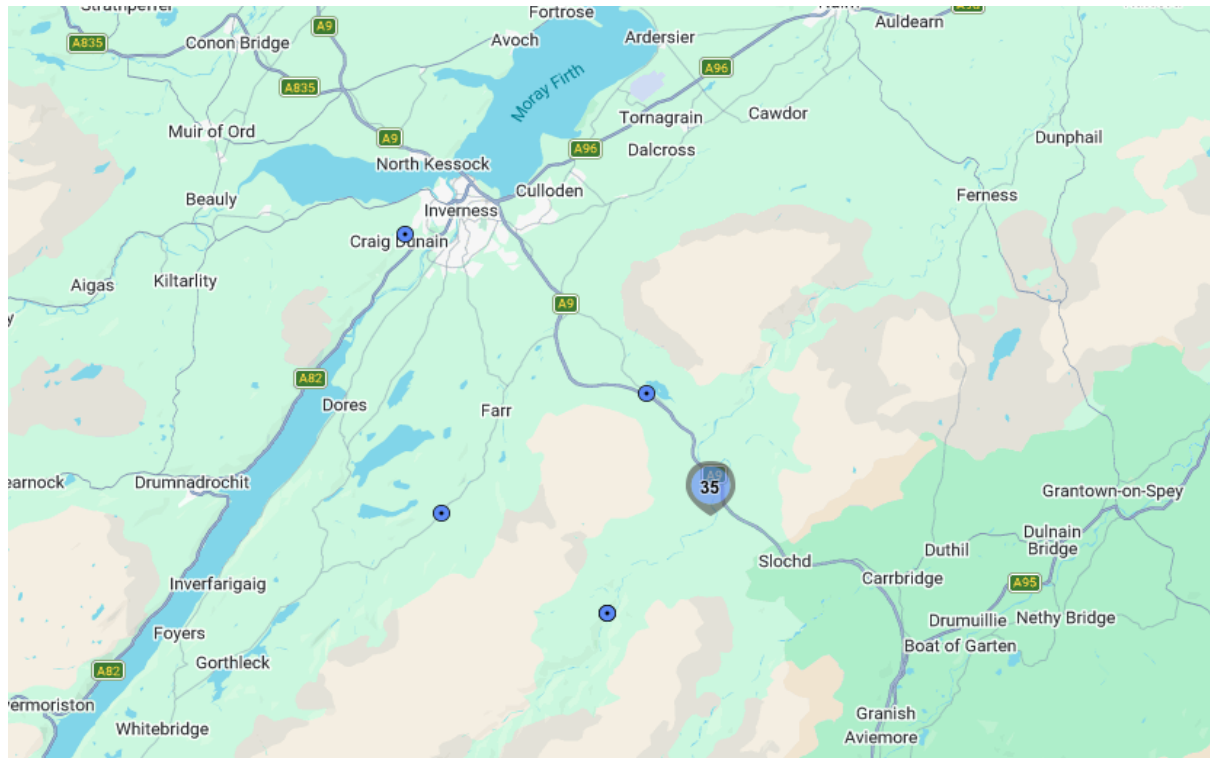


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Respondent Information

The survey received 49 responses with the results presented in this report. All respondents were given the opportunity to provide their post code in order to better understand the reach of the engagement. For those who provided this (41), these have been mapped below.



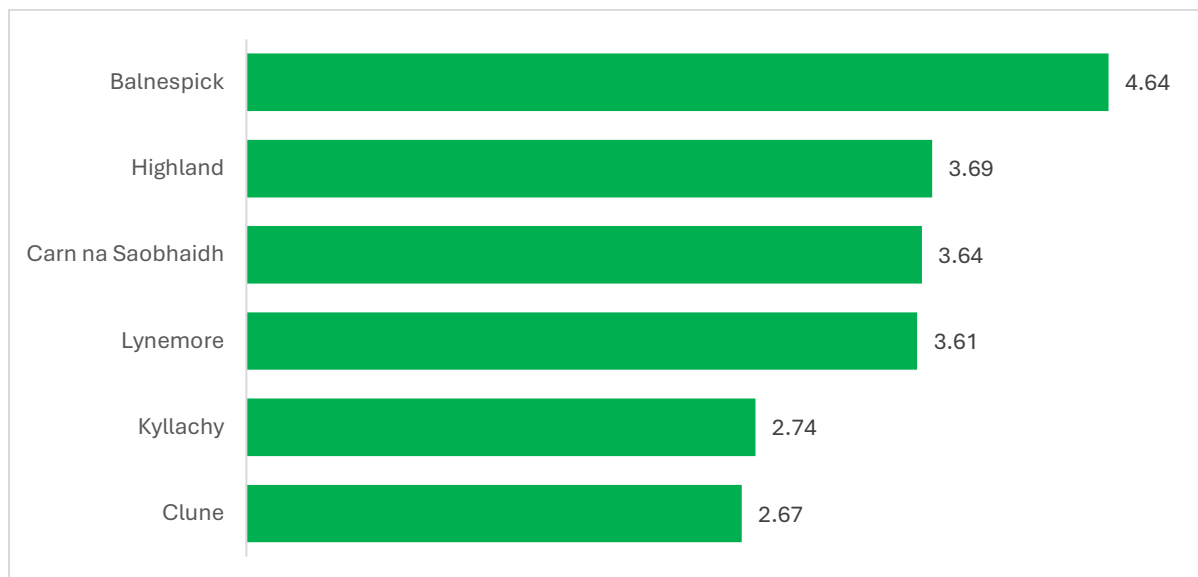
Respondents were also given the opportunity to provide their email addresses. These have been stored separate to this report.

Cumulative Impact

Respondents were asked to rate the overall impact of both windfarms from 1-6 (where 6 is the most preferable and 1 is least preferable). Respondents were shown the previous scoring from the community survey in 2025 that considered the impact of SIX other wind farm developments proposed in the area. The results for Glenmarkie and Glenkirk are shown below, based on a Likert Score out of 6.

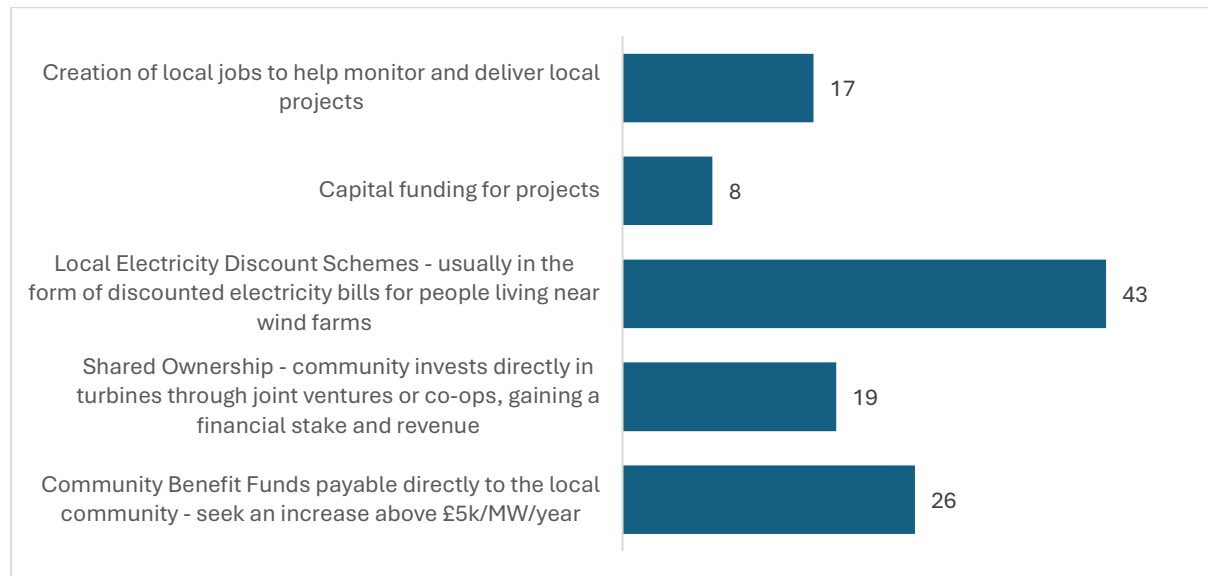


Comparison with SIX other Wind Farm Likert Scores (from 2025 community survey)



Community Benefit Options

Respondents were asked to consider several Community Benefit options – selecting those they would be keen to see provided. The results are shown in the graph below:



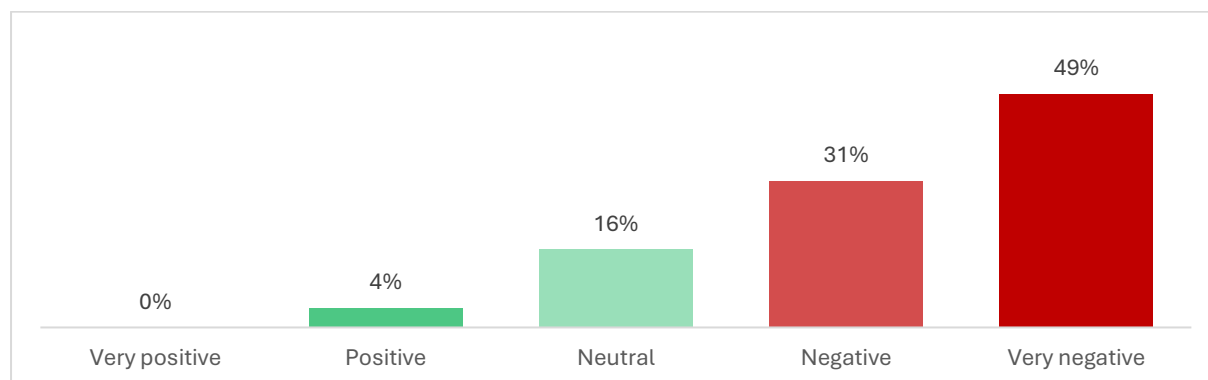
Five respondents provided comments on these questions suggesting other initiatives:

- Electricity discount based on usage. Proposals in past have said a 'fixed discount' per household. However, this does not account for households that have invested in green energy such as heat pumps, instead of relying on oil. Also, for those that have invested in electric vehicles. We should be encouraged to make use of the energy generated.
- Local supply of electricity and limit the amount of electricity being produced purely for markets out with the immediate area
- Properties within 2-3km compensated for loss in value, 50% off electricity discounts for local businesses, scheme to encourage take up electric alternatives
- Stop building wind farms – we have got enough here
- Upgrade of local energy distribution network to reduce number of outages. LED for community-run buildings - hub, cafe, shop and housing plus Primary School. Energy efficiency survey of all properties in Strathdearn with advice on improving energy performance and supporting grants.

Glenmarkie Wind Farm

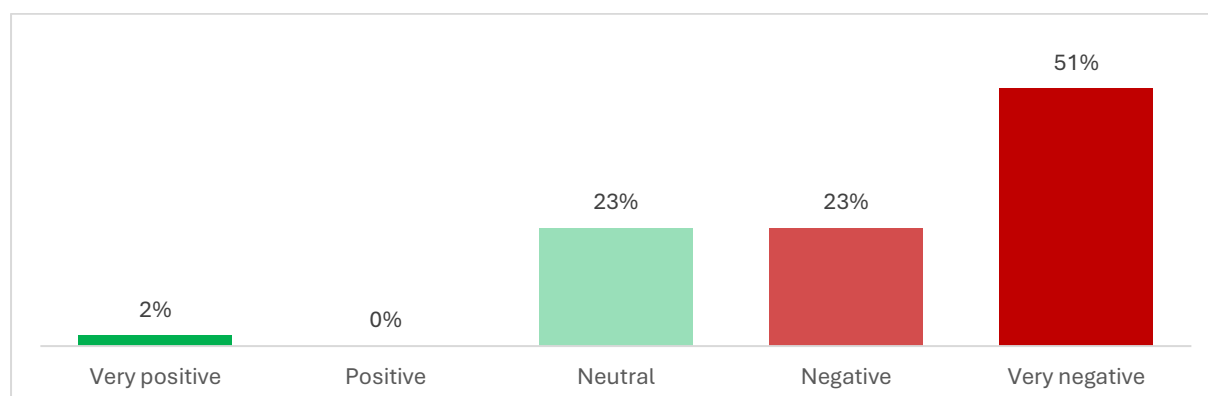
Respondents were asked about the impacts and effects of a proposed windfarm at Glenmarkie – the results and summary feedback are shown below.

Impact on Landscape



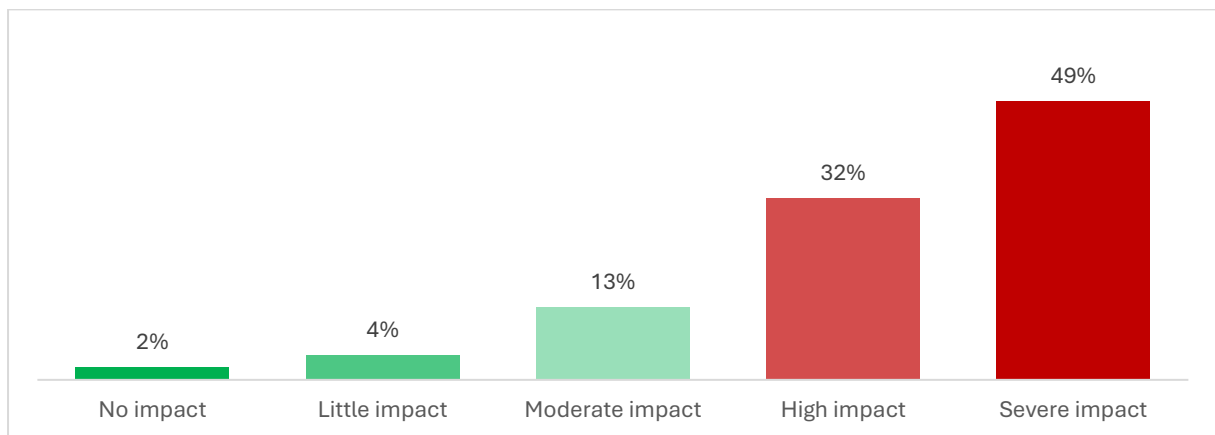
Positive	Respondents expressed positive views that the wind turbines would add a graceful and elegant feature to the landscape, symbolising clean, green energy and environmental progress.
Neutral	Respondents noted that the proposed wind farm would be located in a remote area, largely out of sight from nearby settlements such as Tomatin and not within the main part of the glen. However, some highlighted that the site forms part of valued wild land with strong natural, cultural and scenic qualities, and expressed general concern about the cumulative presence of wind farms in remote landscapes.
Negative	Respondents expressed strong concern that the cumulative impact of existing and proposed wind farms is saturating the landscape with industrial structures, particularly within what is perceived as a relatively wild and scenic area of the Monadhliath Mountains. Many felt turbines dominate skylines, erode the sense of remoteness and beauty, and leave little visual separation between developments from Fort Augustus to Tomatin, especially when viewed from higher ground and within nearby villages. There was also criticism that associated infrastructure such as roads, pylons and tracks further industrialises the area and negatively affects wildlife. Some respondents questioned the wider purpose and benefits of the development, citing concerns around corporate profit, foreign ownership, and a belief that landscape restoration or native woodland would be a more appropriate enhancement.

Effect on Tourism & Recreation



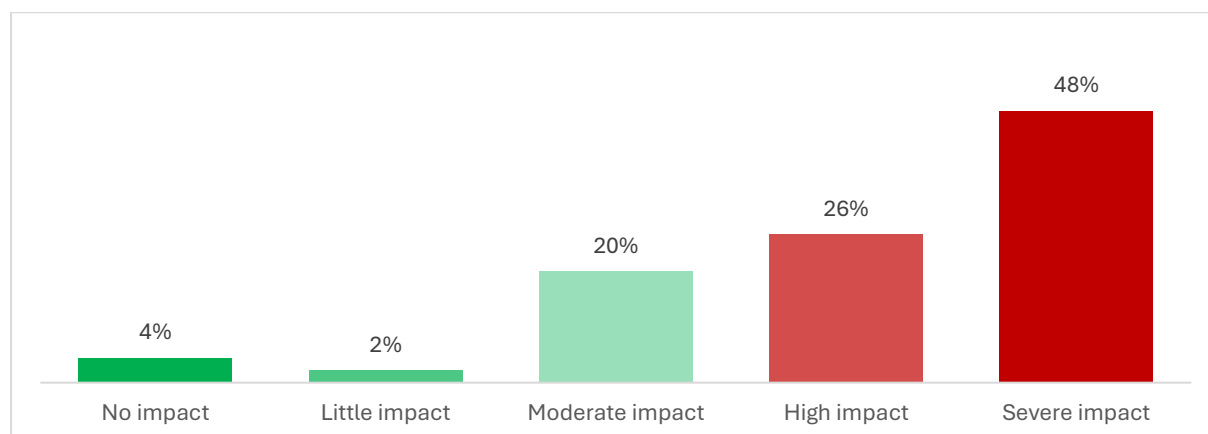
Positive	A respondent felt the wind farm would support tourism and recreation by contributing to wider economic regeneration, helping to strengthen the local visitor economy and related industries.
Neutral	Respondents generally felt the proposed wind farm would have little or no impact on tourism and recreation due to its remote location and distance from where most visitors go. However, some acknowledged that it would be sited within an area of wild land with strong natural, cultural and scenic value, and views on whether any change to visitor numbers would be positive or negative were mixed.
Negative	Respondents raised strong concerns that the wind farm would significantly detract from the scenic qualities that attract visitors to the area, with fears that turbines would dominate the horizon and create an industrial appearance. Many felt this would discourage key recreation and tourism users such as cyclists, hill walkers, wildlife enthusiasts and general sightseers, particularly given the area's proximity to Loch Ness and valued viewpoints within the glen. Some tourism operators stated that the proposal could directly affect investment decisions, including plans for new accommodation. Overall, respondents expressed concern that constant visibility and movement of turbines would undermine the sense of escape, tranquillity and natural beauty that underpin the local tourism economy.

Effect on Wildlife



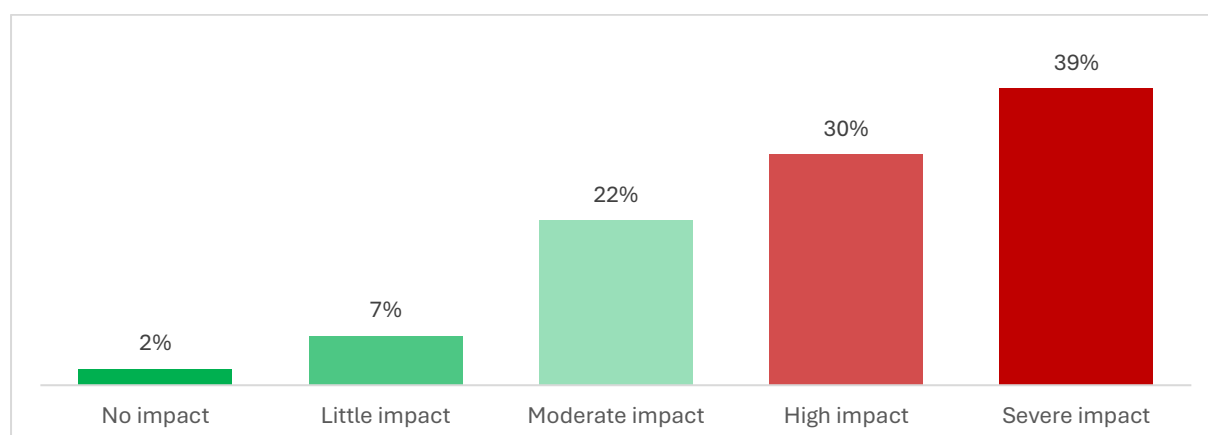
Positive	A respondent felt the wind farm could have a positive impact on wildlife if it displaces alternative land uses that may be more damaging to habitats and species.
Neutral/ Moderate	A respondent felt some raptors will be caught in the turbines and ground nesting birds will be affected as the work is being done.
Negative	Respondents expressed significant concern about the potential impacts of the wind farm on wildlife, particularly protected and sensitive bird species such as Golden Eagles, White-tailed Eagles and other raptors and ground-nesting birds found within the Monadhliaths. Many felt that turbine installation, access tracks, soil disturbance and long construction periods would disrupt habitats, displace wildlife and increase the risk of bird strikes during operation. There was particular anxiety that cumulative impacts from multiple wind farms could pose a serious long-term threat to raptor populations, given recognised collision risks identified through Environmental Impact Assessments. Overall, respondents emphasised that the area's wild character and ecological importance make it an inappropriate location for further industrial development.

Effect on Natural Environment



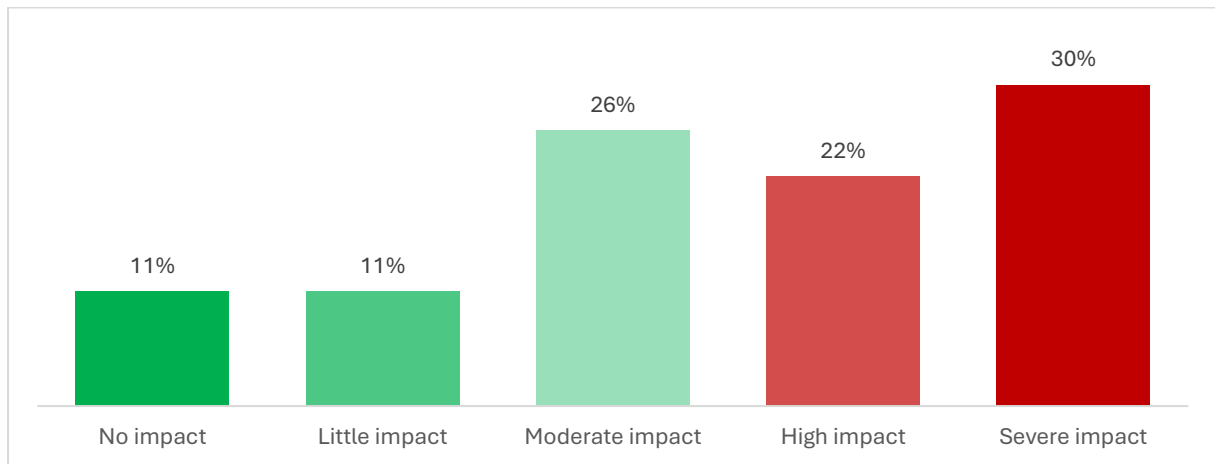
Positive	A respondent felt that it may positively impact if it displaced alternative land use that is more harmful.
Neutral/ Moderate	Respondents noted that construction in a high-level, mountainous environment would disturb soils, peat and hydrology, with potential implications for carbon storage, biodiversity and downstream water systems. However, some felt these impacts could be mitigated and managed through careful design, consultation and appropriate environmental controls.
Negative	Respondents raised major concerns that the development would cause long-term and potentially irreversible environmental damage to a wild land and moorland environment, eroding the area's sense of isolation and natural character. Many highlighted noise impacts during construction and operation, alongside the extensive footprint of access roads, pylons, buildings and large concrete foundations, which were seen as permanently altering soils, habitats and landscapes. There was strong concern about cumulative effects, with the proposal viewed as filling gaps between existing wind farms and further intensifying environmental pressures across the wider area. Overall, respondents felt the combined visual, ecological and infrastructure impacts would blight Strathdearn and its surrounding uplands for generations.

Effect on Lighting and Dark Skies



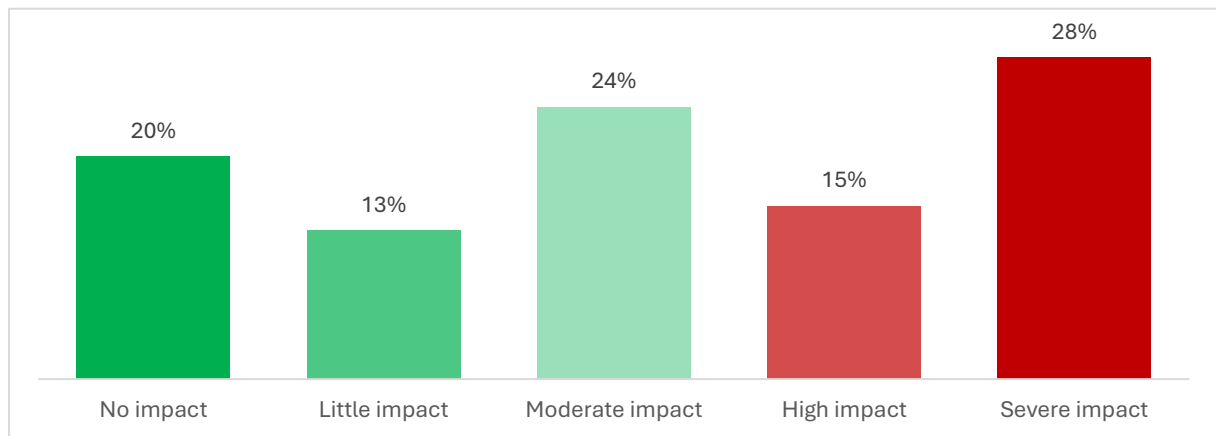
Positive	A respondent commented that there may be red lights for tall windmills, but this has little impact in terms of light pollution.
Neutral/ Moderate	Respondents felt the impact on dark skies would be moderate, particularly if aircraft warning lights are not permanently illuminated and overall light emissions are limited. However, some uncertainty was expressed about the lighting proposals, with concerns that aviation lights could affect dark sky quality and potentially disturb wildlife such as bats and birds.
Negative	Respondents expressed strong concern that the proposal would undermine a valued dark sky environment in a wild and remote landscape, with some stating that dark skies have already been significantly eroded. Many felt that turbine lighting, alongside cumulative development, risks turning the hills into an industrialised landscape, diminishing the rarity and importance of truly dark skies.

Noise Pollution Impact



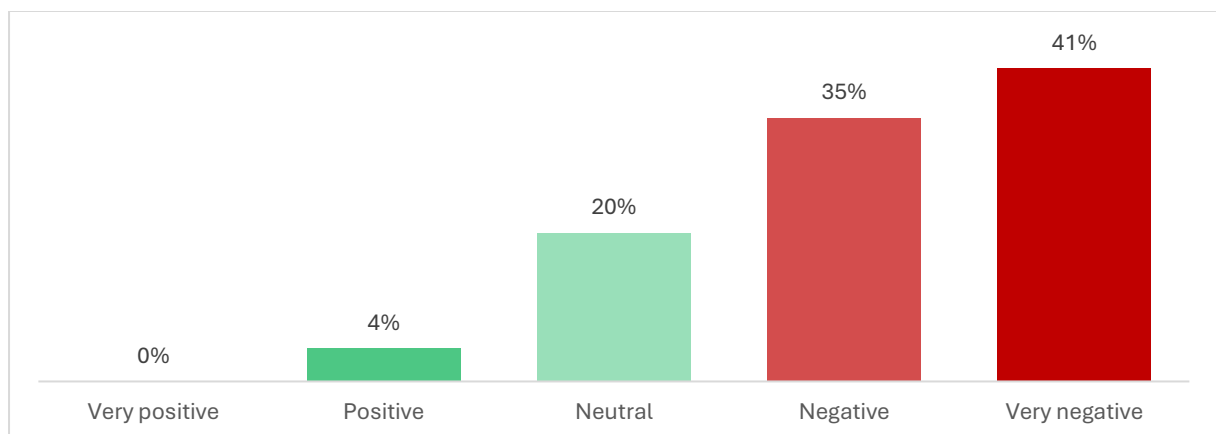
Positive	Respondents felt noise impacts would be low to negligible, noting that the turbines would be too far away to be audible or would only generate minimal noise when in very close proximity.
Neutral/ Moderate	Respondents generally felt that noise impacts would be limited due to the site's distance from settlements, with effects more likely during construction or for people nearby and recreation users rather than village residents. Some acknowledged that turbine operation produces ongoing noise and that this may affect those with sensitive hearing and potentially wildlife, even if it is not considered severe.
Negative	Respondents expressed strong concern that noise impacts are being underestimated, drawing on experience from nearby wind farms where turbine noise is audible indoors during certain conditions and complaints have not led to effective mitigation. Some described anxiety about persistent "whooshing" sounds and a lack of confidence that developers' assurances can be relied upon once developments are operational. There was particular concern about impacts on health and wellbeing, including for people with conditions such as tinnitus, with fears that noise pollution could force residents to relocate.

Turbine Blade Flicker Effects



Positive	Respondents stated that turbine blade flicker would have no impact, as it would not be visible from Strathdearn or affect them personally.
Neutral	Respondents felt turbine blade flicker would have a limited impact for most people but could be a nuisance for a small number of residents and potentially affect animals. Some also highlighted uncertainty due to the absence of detailed blade flicker modelling, particularly when considering cumulative impacts alongside existing and proposed developments.
Negative	Respondents expressed concern that turbine blade flicker could have severe impacts on people living closest to the site, even if not affecting everyone directly. Some described the potential effects as distressing and unbearable, with particular anxiety about possible health impacts such as migraines and other sensitivity-related conditions, and the wider blighting of the landscape and community.

Impact on Roads



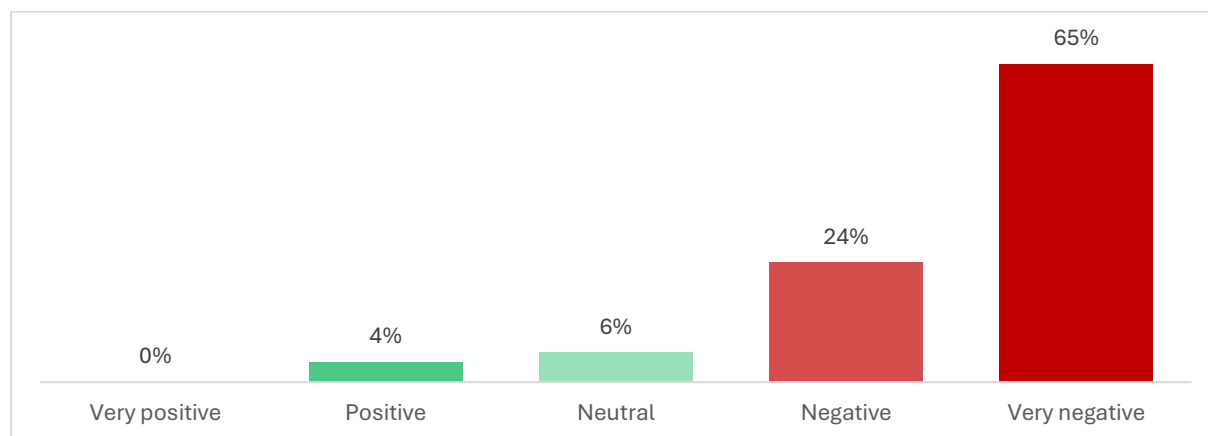
Positive	A respondent felt there might be more access as a result.
Neutral	Respondents generally felt that impacts on public roads would be limited or largely unnoticeable, with any increased traffic mainly confined to the construction phase. Some noted potential benefits from improved road safety measures and the provision of well-designed tracks that could also support cycling and recreational access, despite wider environmental trade-offs.

Negative	Respondents expressed strong concern that new and permanent access tracks would scar hillsides, create unsightly views from paths and trails, and open up areas that are currently undisturbed. Many felt the cumulative number of tracks would fundamentally change the character of the landscape, particularly in more remote locations such as Whitebridge. There were also fears that increased construction and maintenance traffic would overwhelm unsuitable single-track roads, heightening safety risks and leaving communities vulnerable during adverse weather.
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Glenkirk Wind Farm

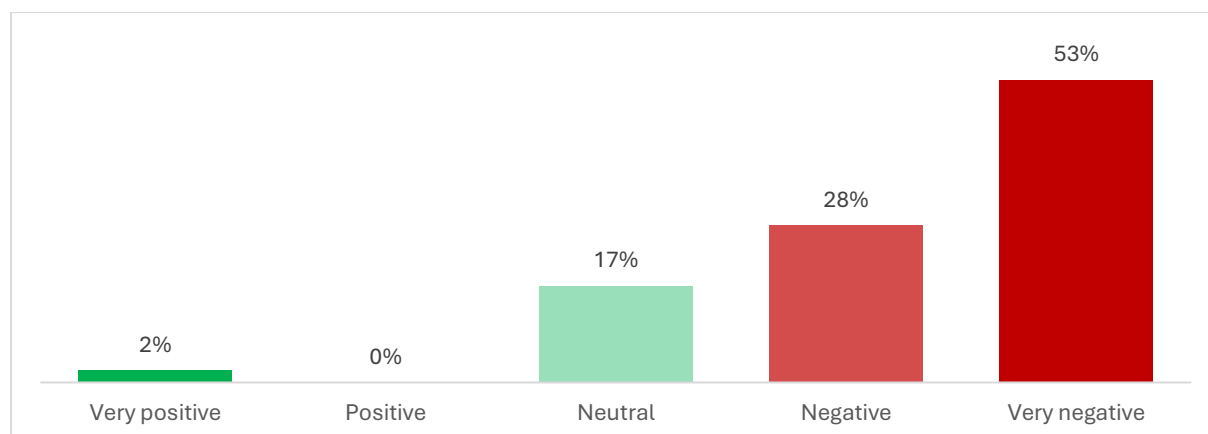
Respondents were asked about the impacts and effects of a proposed windfarm at Glenkirk – the results and summary feedback are shown below.

Impact on Landscape



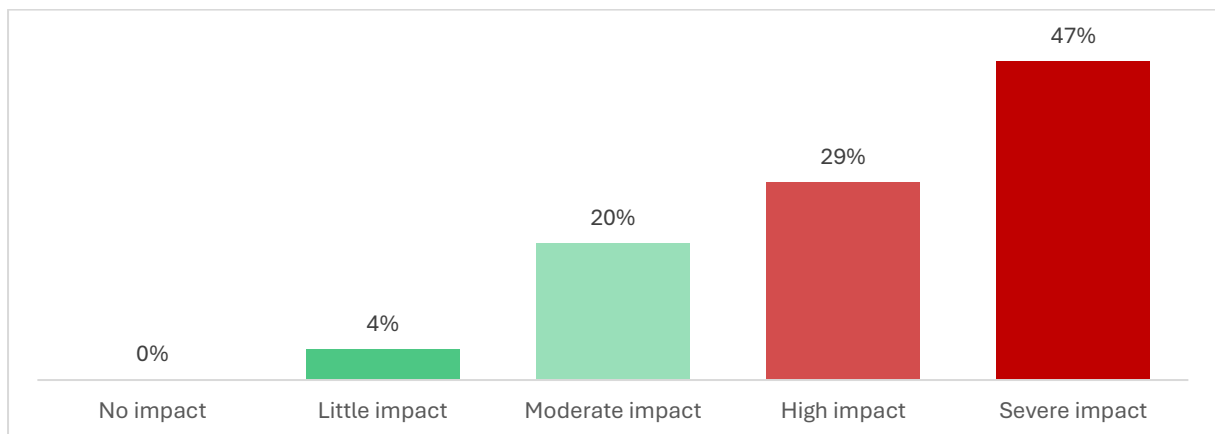
Positive	A respondent stated that they liked windfarms and found them attractive on the landscape.
Neutral	A respondent noted that they would not bother them.
Negative	Respondents expressed strong opposition to the proposal, arguing that additional turbines would further industrialise a rural and wildlife-rich landscape and exacerbate the cumulative visual impact of existing wind farms. Many were concerned about the prominence of the site, its close proximity to homes and villages, and the dominance of turbines on skylines with little to break up their visual presence. The development was seen as particularly harmful given its visibility from residential areas and popular recreational routes used for walking, cycling and wildlife watching. Some respondents also questioned the wider rationale for the scheme, expressing frustration at perceived overdevelopment and a sense that the local landscape and community are already saturated by wind energy infrastructure.

Effect on Tourism & Recreation



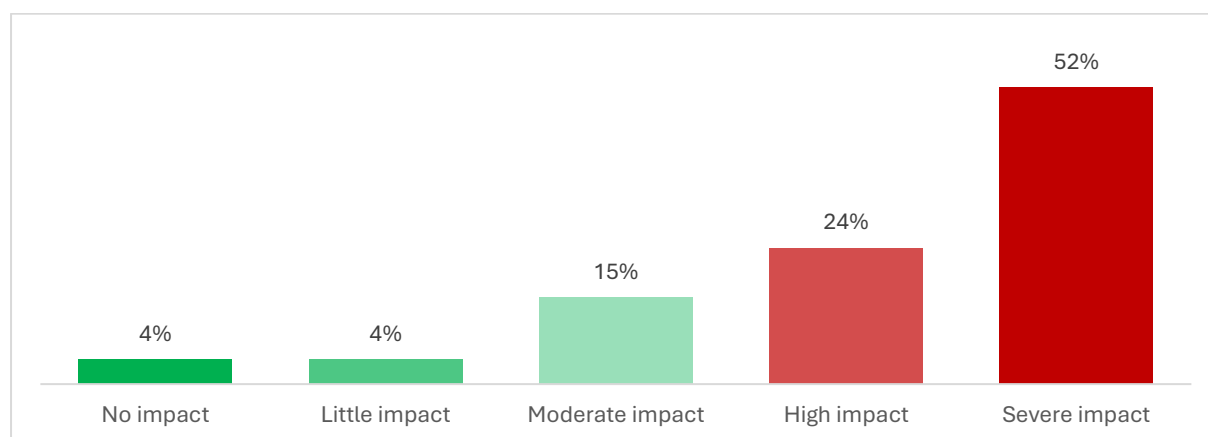
Positive	A respondent felt the wind farm could support tourism indirectly by contributing to wider economic regeneration that benefits local businesses and visitor services.
Neutral	Others did not foresee a significant impact on tourism, noting limited visibility in some areas and suggesting that visitors are already accustomed to seeing turbine tips in the wider landscape, with some feeling any reduction in visitor numbers would be inconsequential.
Negative	Many respondents believed the development would seriously harm tourism by replacing valued natural scenery with an industrial landscape that dominates skylines and key views. Strong concern was raised about impacts on nearby tourist accommodation and popular recreational areas, with fears that noise, light flicker and constant turbine movement would undermine visitors' sense of escape and tranquillity. Overall, respondents felt the proposal would detract from the natural environment that draws people to the area, discouraging visitors who come to Scotland for its scenery rather than large-scale energy infrastructure.

Effect on Wildlife



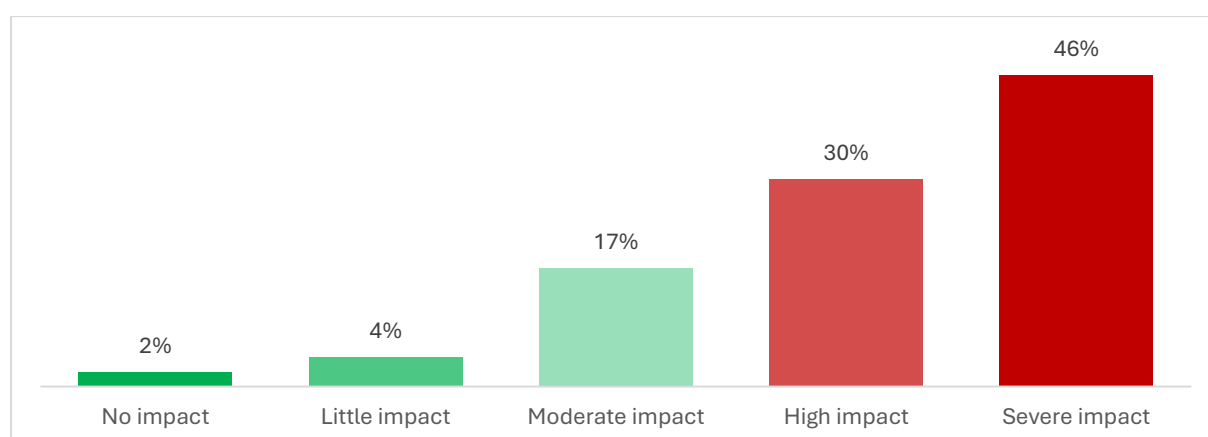
Positive	A small number of respondents felt the wind farm could have no overall negative effect on wildlife if it displaced alternative land uses that might be more harmful to habitats.
Neutral	Some respondents anticipated limited impacts, acknowledging that certain raptors and ground-nesting birds may be affected during construction and operation, but viewing these effects as relatively contained.
Negative	Respondents expressed strong concern that the wind farm would cause significant harm to wildlife through habitat loss, soil disturbance and long-term displacement associated with turbines, access tracks and other infrastructure. Particular anxiety was raised about impacts on bird populations, including raptors and ground-nesting species, with fears that construction activity, noise and turbine operation would disrupt feeding, breeding and migration patterns. Protected species such as Golden and White-tailed Eagles and Goshawks were highlighted as being especially at risk, given known nesting and foraging activity in the area and recognised collision risks. Overall, respondents felt the cumulative effects of development would result in a substantial net loss to biodiversity and pose a long-term threat to sensitive species.

Effect on Natural Environment



Positive	A respondent felt that it may positively impact if it displaced alternative land use that is more harmful.
Neutral	A respondent noted that there is massive disruption of land and the water table, but that it can be well managed with input and consultation.
Negative	Respondents raised serious concerns that the proposal would cause substantial and potentially irreversible damage to the natural environment through large-scale land disturbance, infrastructure development and long-term alteration of soils and hydrology. Particular emphasis was placed on the vulnerability of wild land, deep peat and upland catchments feeding the River Findhorn, with fears that carbon storage, biodiversity and water quality would be adversely affected. Many felt that access roads, pylons and permanent concrete foundations would leave a lasting legacy well beyond the operational life of the turbines, compounded by noise and visual intrusion. Overall, respondents viewed the scheme as an inappropriate and cumulative intensification of development that would fundamentally erode the area's wild character and environmental integrity.

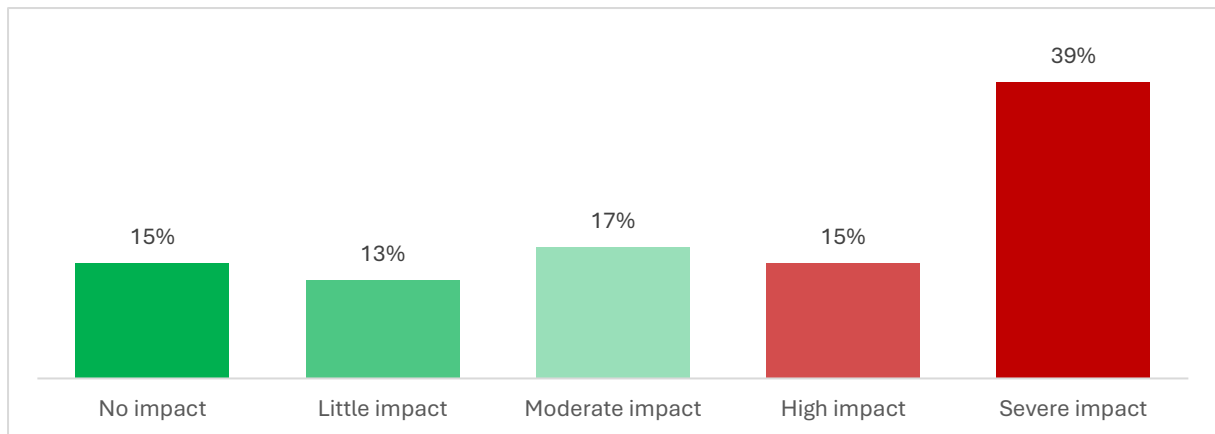
Effects on Lighting & Dark Skies



Neutral	Respondents felt the impact on dark skies would be moderate, particularly if aircraft warning lights are not permanently illuminated. However, given the site's proximity to the A9, Tomatin and Inverness, some acknowledged that turbine lighting could still reduce overall darkness and affect night-time sky quality.
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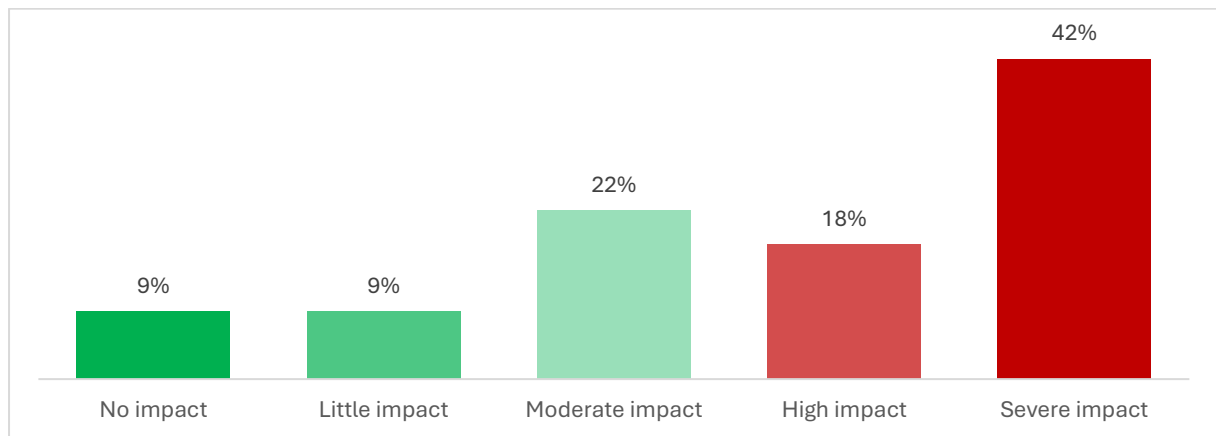
Negative	Respondents expressed severe concern that turbine lighting would cause significant light pollution in a highly prominent location beside residential areas and major transport corridors, including the A9 and Highland Mainline railway. Many felt that cumulative wind farm development has already destroyed what was once a valued dark sky environment, with further proposals seen as unjustified and deeply harmful to the area's character.
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Noise Pollution Impact



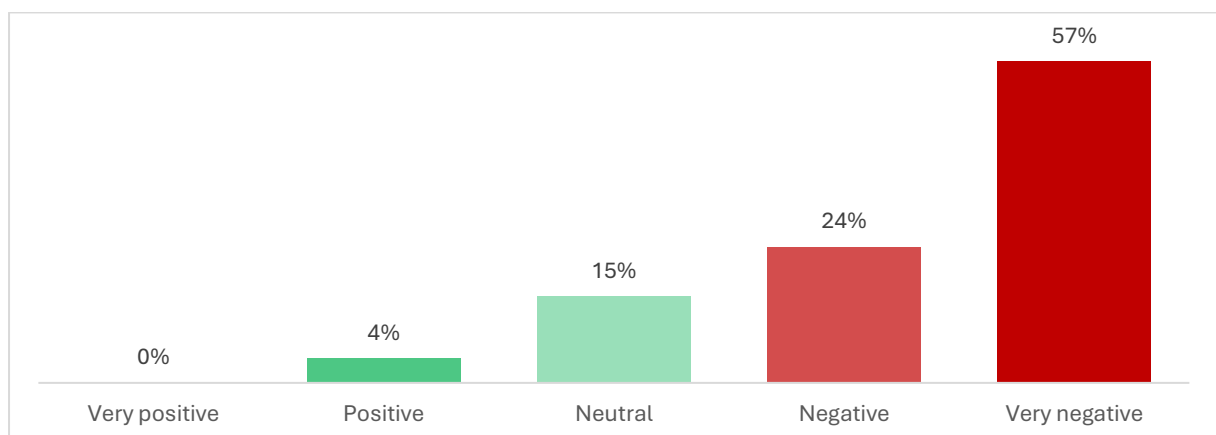
Positive	A respondent felt there would be hardly any noise unless you are very close, and then it is not a problem.
Neutral	Respondents felt that some noise impacts are likely, particularly during construction and for residents in nearby areas but considered these effects manageable rather than severe. It was also noted that turbine operation produces ongoing noise that may affect people with sensitive hearing and potentially wildlife, although the scale of these impacts is difficult to quantify.
Negative	Respondents expressed serious concern that the site's proximity to villages and housing, combined with local topography and prevailing wind directions, would channel turbine noise directly towards settlements. Many drew on experience of existing wind farms, noting that noise can be clearly audible indoors during certain conditions and that past complaints have not resulted in effective mitigation. There was particular anxiety about cumulative noise impacts from multiple nearby developments, with fears of persistent noise affecting health, wellbeing and quality of life across Tomatin.

Turbine Blade Flicker Effects



Positive	A respondent felt there would be hardly any impact unless you are very close, and then it is not a problem.
Neutral	A respondent noted that this will be of little impact to the majority of the population but will be a nuisance to a minority element and will also impact animals
Negative	Respondents raised strong concern that turbine blade flicker could have severe impacts on people living close to the site, particularly given its proximity to housing and Tomatin. Many expressed anxiety about potential health and wellbeing effects, including migraines and other sensitivity-related conditions, and frustration that these issues were perceived as inadequately addressed in the planning process. There was also significant concern about uncertainty, with respondents highlighting the lack of detailed blade flicker modelling and the potential for cumulative impacts alongside existing and proposed developments.

Impact on Roads



Positive	Some respondents felt the proposal could bring limited benefits by improving access to more remote parts of Strathdearn.
Neutral	Others considered that, while new tracks would have long-term environmental impacts, effects on public roads would be minimal or short-term, with potential safety benefits from road widening and clearer signage offset by construction traffic.

Negative	Many respondents raised serious concerns about the lack of clear and suitable access arrangements, with fears that narrow, poorly maintained local roads—particularly routes serving Glenkirk, Balvraid and surrounding communities—are wholly unsuited to heavy construction traffic. Strong opposition was expressed to the proliferation of permanent access tracks and the potential requirement for new infrastructure such as a bridge over the River Findhorn, which was viewed as unacceptable. Overall, respondents believed increased construction and maintenance traffic would scar the landscape, overwhelm local roads, and significantly disrupt daily life for residents who rely on these routes as essential community lifelines.
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Appendix One: Survey Comments in Detail

Glenmarkie Wind Farm

Impact on Landscape

Positive	- I like the windmills. They have a graceful beauty. - For all wind farms, they are an elegant symbol of green energy and clean air
Neutral	- Proposed wind farm is to be located next to a remote part of our community where few people go. That said it would occupy an area of wild land that has strong, natural, cultural and scenic value. - not in immediate part of the glen - We won't see the turbines from Tomatin - Very far away - There are far too many wind farms, and this should be left as a remote place
Negative	- While it would have the advantage of being adjacent to existing wind farms and hopefully share infrastructure the landscape is in danger of being saturated by industrial structures - While I do like windmills, I have no negative remark about them, other than the relatively short lifespan of them. With nothing else to break up the skyline other than the windmills. They stand out. A native forest restoration or mountain planting would really enhance the area - Perfection probably would have no manmade items in the view
Very Negative	- I live in the village and don't want to be surrounded by turbines. - There will be no space between wind farms from Fort Augustus to Tomatin. The area is swamped by wind farms producing electricity no one wants. All the developers are foreign, so profit is not staying in this country. - I'm horrified at the destruction of the landscape. We have enough wind turbines, and this is driven by personal profit. - In the Monadhliath - relatively wild landscape where these turbines do not belong. Too many turbines proposed for that area. - This area of the Monadhliath is of immense beauty, but it is already spoiled by a large number of turbines. This will make matters worse. However, I'm not sure of validity of the question, as I can't imagine anyone would say that a turbine would improve a wild space. - This is a wildlife area - the wind farm effectively industrialises the landscape; not only with the turbines but also with the access roads, pylons and connecting infrastructure - I have ticked this box because, I do not want corporate greed to destroy the landscape and kill countless wild birds in the name of money and status. - Visual impact from top of the Glen - We are shrouded with enough of the bloody things ,spoiling our area - Wind power is an absolute joke

Effect on Tourism & Recreation

Positive	They will economically regenerate the area and that will support other industries like tourism.
Neutral	I don't foresee any impact, other than the view. In fact if it turned tourists away from the area, that be a bonus

	• No effect because the farm is too far away from here • Proposed wind farm is to be located next to a remote part of our community where few people go. That said it would occupy an area of wild land that has strong, natural, cultural and scenic value.
Negative	• Our whole horizon is to be swallowed up! • Who would want to come to an area previously known for its outstanding beauty and varied wildlife to see an area industrialized beyond belief.
Very Negative	• As it is close to Loch Ness and should be left as an untouched landscape • Cyclists, hill walkers and bird spotters will definitely be put off by turbines and associated hill tracks and other infrastructure • I run a number of tourism businesses and would like to invest locally in new tourist accommodation such as holiday lodges. I am going to be much less likely to do this if this happens. • The development will detract from the very natural surroundings that attract visitors to the area • Tourists come to Scotland to look at the scenery, not windmills • Visual impact from top of the Glen • Who wants to see huge turbines • Worried about industrial appearance • Would you visit an area where you can't escape from seeing turbines? Constant movement where ever you look. It's like trying to do something else while there's a TV in the room.

Effect On Wildlife

No Impact	• In some ways it may positively impact if it displaced alternative land use that is more harmful.
Moderate Impact	• Some raptors will be caught in the turbines and ground nesting birds will be affected as the work is being done
High Impact	• High impact in respect of key species such as Golden and White-tailed eagles and possibly other raptor and wading bird species too. • I'd be concerned for the Golden Eagles that live in this part of the Monadhliath in particular. • Industrial development will upset the natural habitat of wildlife and effectively evict them from their home areas. We should respect that the animals are indigenous to the area and are entitled to live and roam without being disturbed. I am sure that the community would complain if a turbine was erected in the centre of Inverness - the animals rights should have similar rights to their environment. • The infrastructure, the land moved and disrupted causes severe damage to habitat and soils. I know that these will recover with time and input. Birds are always a worry. The solution of painting one fin black is enough to reduce impacts of bird fatalities
Severe Impact	• Bird life disturbed other wildlife the same due to installation and noise • Disruptive to bird life. • Ground nesting birds will be affected during construction along with raptors trying to feed, and when finished, bird strikes will happen. • If a Golden Eagle is found dead there is always an enquiry to establish the cause of death as they are such an important protected species . Each wind farm produces an EIA to calculate the possibility of death by turbine blades to the population of Golden Eagles. Each one has recognized that there will be

	golden eagle deaths by turbine blade impact. Multiply this by the number of wind farms and there is little hope for the future of our raptor population. • It is a very well-known fact, that windfarms KILL birds. The fact that people are trying to put up all these wind farms, especially since we have a good population of golden eagles, which are endangered and rare should be a crime. Also buzzards, red kites, sparrowhawks and kestrels are birds of prey that will be affected, not to mention every other species of bird that will be affected. • It will be years in the making and disturbance over a long period • It's not the natural habitat of a red kite, which we see daily in this area. • Too many in one location • Very wild area - bird habitat
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Effect on Natural Environment

No Impact	• In some ways it may positively impact if it displaced alternative land use that is more harmful.
Moderate Impact	• Given this is a high level, mountainous environment, the building of the site will affect the soils in particular. I am not concerned about the water/air impact. • Glen Markie lies across areas of deep peat and forms the upper catchment of significant rivers like the Spey which is an SAC. Watershed carbon, biodiversity and water chemistry are likely to be affected by constructions. • There is massive disruption of Land, the water table, etc. But can be managed with input and consultation.
High Impact	• Noise will be a constant hum from them and very noisy during construction • The impact will not only result from the construction and operation of the wind turbines, but also from the construction and ongoing use of access roads and connecting infrastructure (pylons, buildings, etc.) over the life span of the development. Even after the end of the operation of the proposed development, further destruction will result from the removal and restoration works (??) necessary - in fact the environment will be permanently damaged • Wild land area
Severe Impact	• Destruction of moorland • Development and construction especially unnecessary projects, pollute the environment that's non debatable. • It just fills a gap between existing wind farms and will have an accumulative effect on the natural environment. • Strathdearn has a unique isolation which will now be blighted by these monstrosities. • The concrete foundations will be there long after windmills have gone. • Visual impact from top of the Glen as well as wildlife and flora and fauna

Effect on Dark Skies

No Impact	• Yes, there may be red lights for tall windmills, but this has little impact in terms of light pollution.
Moderate Impact	• As long as the aircraft warning lights are not permanently on, the impact will be moderate • From what I can see when looking at them, they don't seem to cause much light pollution. But I have read that the air traffic lights on the turbines can disrupt bats and birds. • If the turbines have lights on the top for aircraft safety, then the dark sky will no longer be completely dark

	• Not sure of lighting proposal linked to turbine height • This question should provide information, what is meant by lighting on dark sky
High Impact	• As I've said it's a wild remote place and it should stay that way, not every part of our wildland needs windmills • Only while construction is ongoing • This used to be a dark sky area. Now totally destroyed.
Severe Impact	• Dark skies are invaluable. These monstrous turbines will destroy the dark sky which is such a Precious commodity. • Given the wild location of this site, it risks turning the hills into an industrial zone (in particular given all the other plans for turbines too) • Light pollution

Noise Pollution Impact

No Impact	• Too far away • Hardly any noise unless you are very close, and then it is not a problem.
Moderate Impact	• Long way away so less impact • Noise will most likely be an issue nearby but not in village. Other impacts more concerning • Site is remote from permanent settlement, but recreationists would be affected. • The initial construction will be noisy. The mills themselves do give off a noise when rotating. It's not horrendous, but will have an impact • This will undoubtedly impact some people with sensitive hearing. Similarly there will be an impact within the animal population - this cannot be underestimated and will be difficult to quantify
Severe Impact	• We keep being told by the developers that there will be no or very little noise impact. They said this about the Farr and Glen Kyllachy wind farms. When there is wind shear the noise from these two wind farms can be heard indoors. Complaints about this have had no effect. Once built locals just have to put up with it. • Woosh sound • As a tinnitus sufferer I am extremely anxious about the noise pollution and the impact it will have on my condition. I may have to move because of it. All for the personal profit of someone I don't know and who doesn't know me.

Turbine Blade Flicker Effect

No Impact	• I won't be affected at all. • Not visible in Strathdearn
Moderate Impact	• Again, this will be of little impact to the majority of the population but will be a nuisance to a minority element and will also impact animals • Uncertain as no TBF modelling - combined with other proposed and existing developments has been presented for scrutiny.
High Impact	• It most likely won't affect me but people in the near vicinity will be seriously impacted by this.
Severe Impact	• Again this is very distressing and a blight on the community and landscape. • Potential to affect BVD, Migraines and POTS • Unbearable

Impact on Roads

Positive	• More access to remote parts of Strathdearn
Neutral	• More access tracks will have a negative environmental impact that will take tens of years to recover (if at all), however the impact on public roads will probably never be noticed as the condition and level of highway maintenance currently enjoyed is around best poor • Unlikely to affect public roads. Welcome appropriately sited cycle tracks to ensure circular access and recreation options • Widening of roads with clear signage is good for driver safety and tracks are good for cyclists- balanced by the negative effect of more traffic- but only at the construction stage
Negative	• I'm usually against any new track; it scars the land scape and give access to areas that would otherwise be undisturbed by humans. If the tracks could be removed after use, that would definitely be better • More unsightly access tracks. • Unsightly and ugly view from trails and paths in the hills.
Very Negative	• Impact more on Whitebridge and far areas • Increased construction traffic and ongoing maintenance traffic. Unsightly tracks scarring hillsides • It should be left as an untouched area • Our single-track roads are unsuitable for the traffic these projects will bring. The recent cold weather Has demonstrated how vulnerable we are. We will be prisoners in our own homes. • Too many access tracks

Glenkirk Wind Farm

Impact on Landscape

Positive	• I like the windmills. They have a graceful beauty
Neutral	• Personally the turbines don't bother me
Negative	• Perfection probably would have no man-made items in the view • While I do like windmills, I have no negative remark about them, other than the relatively short lifespan of them. With nothing else to break up the skyline other than the windmills. They stand out. A native forest restoration or mountain planting would really enhance the area
Very Negative	• Again - This is a wildlife area - the wind farm effectively industrialises the landscape; not only with the turbines but also with the access roads, pylons and connecting infrastructure • Another wind farm to destroy the Highlands of Scotland. An unnecessary burden on the local population who will be affected by all the byproducts of wind farms. • I live in the village and don't want to be surrounded by turbines. • Proposed wind farm is to be located in a prominent part of our community area and will be highly visible. The location in Glenkirk is a relatively popular recreational area for walking, cycling, running, x country skiing and wildlife watching. The access to the site from a public road of a suitable standard to

	carry heavy construction traffic is not at all certain and the developer has no control over surrounding land. • The new "clean" or "green" energy agenda which in my opinion is a scam. Is using things like these wind farms, to push said agenda which helps expand the energy companies' portfolios, customer base and therefore much more opportunity for profit. The government also might be able to tax, on many more technologies under the guise of the green energy goals they are trying to reach. • The proximity to residents • very close to houses and to the Tomatin community. We already have so many windfarms and proposed windfarms around us! • Very close to the village • Visual impact from village and Melfort Estate • We are already surrounded • We are shrouded with enough of the bloody things, spoiling our area • Wind power is a joke • With the existing adjacent wind farms this proposal would lead to an excessive industrial infrastructure in a rural landscape • Within 1.5km of houses
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Effect on Tourism & Recreation

Positive	They will economically regenerate the area and that will support other industries like tourism.
Neutral	• I don't foresee any impact, other than the view. In fact if it turned tourists away from the area, that be a bonus • Not very visible • Tourists will be accustomed to seeing the tips of turbines in our area
Negative	• A forest replaced by a wind farm. No thanks • Who cares about windfarms
Very Negative	• Because of the overpowering view and dominating the skyline • It would overlook a number of tourist accommodation, not only being an eye sore, noise and light flicker • Proposed wind farm is to be located in a prominent part of our community area and will be highly visible. The location in Glenkirk is a relatively popular recreational area for walking, cycling, running, x country skiing and wildlife watching. The access to the site from a public road of a suitable standard to carry heavy construction traffic is not at all certain and the developer has no control over surrounding land. • Self-catering acclamation and B&B both within 1.5km and in full view • The development will detract from the very natural surroundings that attract visitors to the area • Tourists come to Scotland to look at the scenery, not windmills • Visual impact from village • Who wants to see huge turbines • Worried about industrial appearance • Would you visit an area where you can't escape from seeing turbines? Constant movement where ever you look. It's like trying to do something else while there's a TV in the room

Effect On Wildlife

No Impact	In some ways it may positively impact if it displaced alternative land use that is more harmful.
Moderate Impact	Some raptors will be caught in the turbines and ground nesting birds will be affected as the work is being done
High Impact	- Bird habitat - Industrial development will upset the natural habitat of wildlife and effectively evict them from their home areas. We should respect that the animals are indigenous to the area and are entitled to live and roam without being disturbed. I am sure that the community would complain if a turbine was erected in the centre of Inverness - the animals rights should have similar rights to their environment. - The infrastructure, the land moved and disrupted causes severe damage to habitat and soils. I know that these will recover with time and input. Birds are always a worry. The solution of painting one fin black is enough to reduce impacts of bird fatalities
Severe Impact	- Bird life disturbed other wildlife the same due to installation and noise - Disruptive to bird life. - Effects on local wildlife real concern - Ground nesting birds will be affected during construction along with raptors trying to feed, and when finished, bird strikes will happen. - It will be years in the making and disturbance over a long period - Severe impact in respect of key species such as Golden and White-tailed eagles and Goshawks that nest in Glenkirk. Young eagles use the area around the wood which carries a high population of mountain hares. Possibly other raptor and woodland bird species too. - Wherever there is largescale development, all manner of species will be killed and displaced due to habitat loss and destruction. So this is a complete net negative on the natural world. - If a Golden Eagle is found dead there is always an enquiry to establish the cause of death as they are such an important protected species . Each wind farm produces an EIA to calculate the possibility of death by turbine blades to the population of Golden Eagles. Each one has recognized that there will be golden eagle deaths by turbine blade impact. Multiply this by the number of wind farms and there is little hope for the future of our raptor population.

Effect on Natural Environment

No Impact	In some ways it may positively impact if it displaced alternative land use that is more harmful.
Moderate Impact	There is massive disruption of Land, the water table, etc. But can be managed with input and consultation.
High Impact	- The impact will not only result from the construction and operation of the wind turbines, but also from the construction and ongoing use of access roads and connecting infrastructure (pylons, buildings, etc.) over the life span of the development. Even after the end of the operation of the proposed development, further destruction will result from the removal and restoration works necessary - in fact the environment will be permanently damaged - the site is uphill from the burn that feeds down to Inverbrough and Corrybrough estates - Wild land - needs to stay wild

Severe Impact	• Destruction of moorland • Glenkirk lies across areas of deep peat and forms the upper catchment of the River Findhorn. Watershed carbon, biodiversity and water chemistry are likely to be affected by large scale woodland removal and wind farm infrastructure constructions. • It just fills a gap between existing wind farms and will have an accumulative effect on the natural environment. • Monstrous proposal. • Noise will be a constant hum from them and very noisy during construction • The concrete foundations will be there long after windmills have gone. • Visual impact from top of the Village as well as wildlife and flora and fauna
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Effect on Dark Skies

Moderate Impact	• As long as the aircraft warning lights are not permanently on, the impact will be moderate • Given its proximity to the A9/village of Tomatin, as well as its proximity to Inverness, I think the impact will be moderate. • If the turbines have lights on the top for aircraft safety, then the dark sky will no longer be completely dark
Severe Impact	• Beside residential area • Light pollution • Not sure of lighting proposal linked to turbine height. But site is highly prominent from both the community and millions of travellers on the A 9(T) road and Highland mainline railway. • The village is now surrounded by wind farms and we've had enough, • There is no justification for this ecological vandalism. None at all. • This used to be a dark sky area. Now totally destroyed.

Noise Pollution Impact

No Impact	• Hardly any noise unless you are very close, and then it is not a problem.
Moderate Impact	• Overlooking Strathdearn - will affect residents • The initial construction will be noisy. The mills themselves do give off a noise when rotating. It's not horrendous, but will have an impact • This will undoubtedly impact some people with sensitive hearing. Similarly there will be an impact within the animal population - this cannot be underestimated and will be difficult to quantify.
High Impact	• when the wind is easterly or northerly the sound will be projected down towards settlements and the village by the lie of the land
Severe Impact	• I'm so anxious about noise pollution. We can hear Farr wind farm. What will be the effect of these monstrous constructions to my health and wellbeing? • It's close vicinity to the village • Near housing • Site is close to permanent settlement and to other existing and proposed developments. Cumulative and combined noise impacts could be significant. • We keep being told by the developers that there will be no or very little noise impact. They said this about the Farr and Glen Kyllachy wind farms. When there is wind shear the noise from these two wind farms can be heard indoors. Complaints about this have had no effect. Once built locals just have to put up with it.

	• Will be heard throughout village area • Woosh sound
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Turbine Blade Flicker Effect

No Impact	• Hardly any noise unless you are very close, and then it is not a problem.
Moderate Impact	• Again, this will be of little impact to the majority of the population but will be a nuisance to a minority element and will also impact animals
High Impact	• Close to the village • It most likely won't affect me but people in the near vicinity will be seriously impacted by this.
Severe Impact	• Just can't imagine the full impact of the flicker effect. I'm furious health and wellbeing are not considered in the planning application. • Near housing • Potential to affect BVD, Migraines and POTS • Unbearable • Uncertain as no TBF modelling - combined with other proposed and existing developments has been presented for scrutiny. But high proximity to settlements and community.

Impact on Roads

Positive	• More access to remote parts of Strathdearn
Neutral	• More access tracks will have a negative environmental impact that will take tens of years to recover (if at all), however the impact on public roads will probably never be noticed as the condition and level of highway maintenance currently enjoyed is around best poor D124 • Widening of roads with clear signage is good for driver safety and tracks are good for cyclists- balanced by the negative effect of more traffic- but only at the construction stage
Negative	• Access may be by Balvraid • I'm usually against any new track; it scars the land scape and give access to areas that would otherwise be undisturbed by humans. If the tracks could be removed after use, that would definitely be better • More unsightly access tracks.
Very Negative	• Access options not presented. Proposal should not be considered by ECU until any realistic options are made clear. A new bridge across the River Findhorn is unacceptable. • Increased construction traffic and ongoing maintenance traffic. Unsightly tracks scarring hillsides • Massive impact on Local roads • Poor access affecting Village and community • Public road completely unsuitable for the construction traffic associated with this location. The Timber Transport funded improvements are only just sufficient for timber extraction with the traffic staggered over a lengthy period. The volumes for wind farm construction would be excessive • The above answer is based on the assumption they will need to use the existing Raigbeg/Balvraid Road -

	• the road into Glenkirk is narrow and poorly maintained and is a lifeline for the many houses along it. Construction traffic will make life more difficult • There is enough traffic for the road of heavy and large vehicles for the land, and this would hugely impact the whole community • There is no access at the moment • Too many access tracks • We don't need more roads everywhere
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