

Report

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Report to:	Enterprise Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 May 2016
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Community Benefit Funds – New Contribution - Dungavel Wind Farm
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ seek approval for community benefit payments generated from the development and operation of the Dungavel Windfarm to be managed through the Renewable Energy Fund (REF)

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the Council's REF incorporate provision for the receipt and disbursement of community benefit payments in respect of Dungavel Wind Farm.
- (2) that the Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources) be authorised to conclude administrative matters in relation to the incorporation of the community benefit using the established REF mechanism.

3. Background

Dungavel Wind Farm

- 3.1. The wind farm, operated by Dreachmhor Wind Farm Ltd, is located south of Strathaven and east of Drumclog, near Dungavel and comprises 13 turbines.
- 3.2. Through its Renewable Energy Community Benefits Policy, the Council has sought a community benefit annual payment of £2,500 per MW of installed capacity. This is the minimum contribution for a development of this nature applicable at the time the planning application was submitted in 2006.

Details of the development and the agreed contribution to the REF are provided in the following table.

Application Number	Site	Consent Granted	Development	Contribution to REF	Contribution calculation
EK/06/0072	Dungavel Wind Farm	April 2012	13 x 2mw turbines	£65,000 Annually to REF for period from commissioning of the development until date of completion of decommissioning.	2006 application. 13 x 2mw x £2500 =£65,000 per annum

3.3. The agreement with the developer places an obligation on the Council to administer community benefit received in respect of this development through the established REF processes. The REF currently manages community benefits from a number of windfarm developments including Andershaw, Blacklaw, Whitelees, Pates Hill, Stallashaw Moss, Millburn, Dykehead, Haspielaw, Upper Haywood, Tanhill, North Brackenridge, Blantyre Muir, Browncastle, Burnbrae, Calder Water, Lampits and Andershaw wind turbine sites.

4. Eligible Area for Distribution of REF Grants from Dungavel Wind Farm

4.1. The eligible area for the funds generated from the development at Dungavel Wind Farm is shown on Appendix 1 within this report and is broadly the area within South Lanarkshire, within 10km of the application site boundaries.

5. Employee Implications

The additional REF contribution will be managed using existing resources within Planning and Economic Development Services.

6. Financial Implications

There are no additional financial implications for the Council in managing the proposed new funds.

7. Other Implications

7.1 There is no risk to the Council in supporting this proposal and the work can be undertaken within existing resources. By not proceeding the Council would not be acting consistently in support of its adopted policy and there would be a risk that the funds would not be distributed timeously and equitably to appropriate, eligible community organisations.

8. Equality Impact Arrangements and Consultation Arrangements

8.1. Community benefit will provide support to a wide range of voluntary, charitable and community groups/bodies across an extensive area of rural Clydesdale. Consultation has taken place with Planning Services and the developers.

8.2. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

Michael McGlynn

Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

4 May 2016

Link(s) to Council Objectives and Values

- Sustainable development
- People focused

Previous References

- Planning Approvals – Dungavel Wind Farm.

List of Background Papers

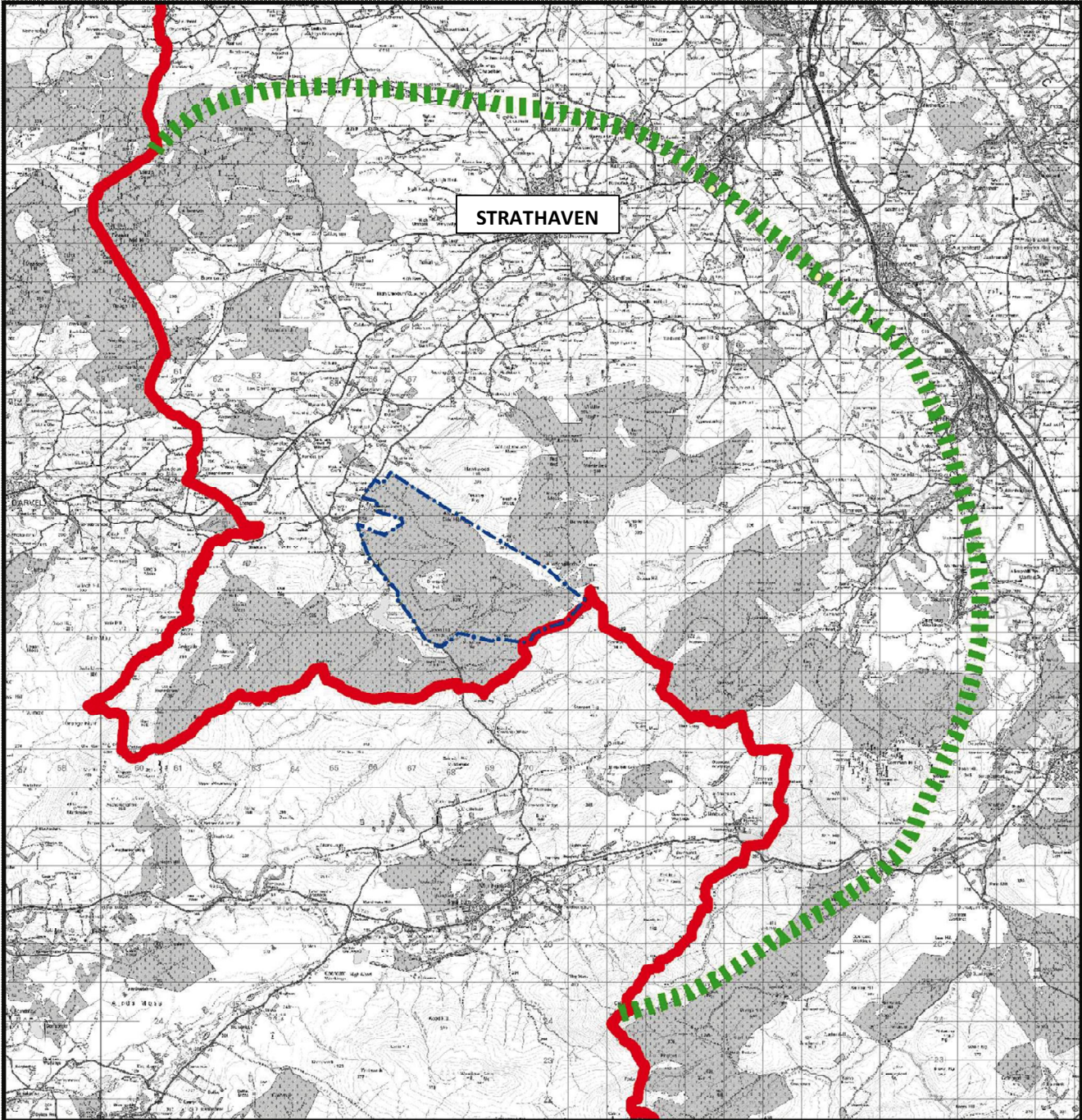
- Executive Committee 3 March 2004, “Community Benefit: Establishment of a Renewable Energy Fund”.
- Executive Committee 01 December 2010, Renewable Energy Developments and Community Benefit.
- Enterprise Services Committee, 01 April 2014, Scottish Government Consultation on Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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Dungavel (Dreachmhor Wind Farm Limited)



KEY

- Windfarm
- Windfarm 10k boundary
- SLC boundary

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