

Agenda item	4
Report no	PLS-039-21

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: South Planning Applications Committee

Date: 16 June 2021

Report Title: Major Development Update

Report By: Area Planning Manager - South

Purpose/Executive Summary

This report provides an update on progress of all cases within the 'Major' development category currently with the Planning and Development Service for determination. The report also details progress on proposals submitted under Section 36 or Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 on which the Council is consulted.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the current position of these applications.

1. Update on Progress

- 1.1 Appendix 1 contains a list of all applications for Major Development currently with the Service and awaiting determination. A brief update on the progress of these applications is provided, including a likely timescale for each case to be determined.
- 1.2 Appendix 2 provides a list of all significant Electricity Act applications. It should be noted that for many of these, the Council has already provided its response to Scottish Government. Only once Scottish Ministers determine these cases will they be removed from the list. From a performance point of view, the Council is not required to meet the same target timescales expected with planning applications.
- 1.3 Details for any of these applications can be obtained through the Council's e-planning portal <http://wam.highland.gov.uk/wam> by entering the respective case reference number provided. The following abbreviations have been used in the appendices:
- PCO – Pending Consideration
 - PDE – Pending Decision
 - S36RO – raised an objection to an application for energy generation under the Electricity Act
 - S36RNO – raised no objection to an application for energy generation under the Electricity Act
 - S37RO – raised an objection to an application for energy transmission under the Electricity Act
 - S37RNO – raised no objection to an application for energy transmission under the Electricity Act
- 1.4 Following the request from Members at the meeting of the South Planning Applications Committee in April 2021, officers have been working to provide a technical solution to allow reporting of updates on major developments post consent. This work remains in progress and it is anticipated that the report to the August 2021 meeting of the Committee will include updates on all consented major developments, national developments and developments consented under Section 36 and Section 37 of the Electricity Act. In doing so the report will include all developments within these categories which have been granted planning permission or deemed planning permission in the last three years. Updates on other longer term strategic developments such as those at East Inverness, Tornagrain New Town and Inverness Airport Business Park will also be included.

2. Delegated Refusals of Major Applications and Current Appeals

- 2.1 Since the Major Developments Update Report presented to the last South Planning Applications Committee, no major applications have been refused using delegated powers, following circulation to local Members:

2.2 There are currently no appeals ongoing for major scale development in Highland. For those cases under the Electricity Act 1989 where a Public Local Inquiry has been held and we are awaiting the decision of the Scottish Ministers the case will be listed in the appendix to this report only.

3. Recent Decisions by Scottish Ministers

3.1 Since the last committee no decisions on Electricity Act applications have been issued by Scottish Ministers in the North Planning Applications Committee area.

4. Recommendation

4.1 That Members note the current position with these applications.

5. Implications

5.1 Resource: Not applicable.

5.2 Legal: Not applicable.

5.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural): Not applicable.

5.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever: Not applicable.

5.5 Risk: Not applicable.

5.6 Gaelic: Not applicable.

Designation: Area Planning Manager – South

Author: Simon Hindson, Team Leader – Strategic Projects

APPENDIX 1 - MAJOR APPLICATIONS POST 2009

OFFICER	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	APPLICANT	PROGRESS	REFERENCE	STATUS	WARD
Susan Macmillan	Construction of an aluminium recycling and billet casting facility, associated hardstanding, infrastructure and landscaping	Lochaber SmelterNorth RoadFort WilliamPH33 6TH	ALVANCE Aluminium Group Limited	The application will be determined in September 2021 following consideration of public and consultee comments.	21/02413/FUL	PCO	21
Keith Gibson	Community amenity development (masterplan), MUGA, sports/play areas, car park, community hall, gym	Land 100M NW Of LindenGrays ParkFoyers	Stratherrick And Foyers Community Trust Ltd	The application will be determined following consideration of public and consultee comments.	21/02331/FUL	PCO	12
Simon Hindson	Remix of house types in sub-phases B, C and D for a total of 66 homes previously granted planning permission under 18/03073/FUL	Land To South OfNairn RoadArdersier	Springfield Properties PLC	Subject to the submission of information to address matters raised by Transport Planning, it is anticipated that the application will be determined at South Planning Applications Committee in August 2021.	21/01018/FUL	PCO	17
Peter Wheelan	Residential development of up to 101 dwellings and associated infrastructure	Land At Wester Inshes South OfWest ParkInshesInverness	R.F. More (Properties) Limited	The application replaces a previously withdrawn application on the site for the same scale of development. This application now includes a secondary point of access to the proposed development. The application will be determined in August 2021 following consideration of comments from Members of the public and submission of information to address matters raised by Transport Planning.	20/05048/PIP	PCO	19
Elaine Watt	Erection of 42 houses and associated works	Land Adjacent To Fire StationEast EndBeauly	Springfield Properties PLC	The application will likely be reported to South Planning Applications Committee for determination in August 2021 following submission of information to address matters highlighted in the response from the Flood Risk Management Team and other consultees.	20/03444/FUL	PCO	12
Susan Macmillan	Lateral extension to, and further workings at existing Banavie Quarry to incorporate revised working and progressive restoration; Proposed extraction rate of up to 80,000 tonnes per annum and extension of operational lifespan to 2045	Banavie QuarryBanavieFort William	Breedon Northern Ltd	The application was determined at South Planning Applications Committee in December 2020 where Members were minded to grant subject to conclusion of a legal agreement to secure restoration of the site.	20/02154/FUL	PDE	11

OFFICER	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	APPLICANT	PROGRESS	REFERENCE	STATUS	WARD
Peter Wheelan	Erection of 28 houses, commercial unit (Class 1, 2, 3 - excluding Hot Food Takeaway, 4 & 10), sports pitch and associated infrastructure	Development Site Opposite Spean Crescent Spean Bridge	R. E. Campbell (Joinery) Ltd	Amendments have been sought to the scheme to address technical and design issues highlighted by consultees. Determination is anticipated in August 2021.	20/01909/FUL	PCO	11
John Kelly	Removal of Condition 4 (18/04829/FUL) (bus gateway) at Centre for Health Science 2	Land 330M NW Of Inverness College UH11 Inverness Campus Inverness	NHS Highland	Information is currently awaited on the approach to the provision of the bus gateway. It is likely the application will be determined in mid-2021.	20/01839/S42	PCO	19
Elaine Watt	Visitor accommodation with associated landscaping, access, footpaths, parking and associated amenity buildings	Land 280M SW Of Ballindoun Lodge Beaulieu	Gloag Investment Properties Portfolio 2 Ltd	The application was determined at the South Planning Applications Committee in March 2021. The decision will be issued following conclusion of discussions related to provision of active travel linkages.	20/01783/PIP	PDE	12
John Kelly	Erection of house	Land 730M NW Of King's Stables Cottage Westhill Inverness	Mr & Mrs C and D Wares	The application will be determined mid-2021 following further discussions between Historic Environment Scotland and applicant.	20/00967/FUL	PCO	19
Peter Wheelan	Mixed use masterplan for residential and leisure development including housing, marina, boat yacht club, visitor centre, nature conservation zones and hotel with supporting community facilities and sewage treatment plant (Renewal of Planning Permission in Principle 12/04225/S42 and 05/01294/OUTIN)	Former Fabrication Yard Ardersier Nairn	Ardersier Port Ltd	Further Environmental Information was required by NatureScot and it was submitted and re-advertised in October 2020. Anticipate determination at South Planning Applications Committee in August 2021 following any further consideration of site drainage strategy and comments from consultees. Drone footage is being provided by the applicant in lieu of the site visit requested by Members at the pre-application stage due to the current restrictions related to the pandemic.	20/00484/PIP	PCO	17
Simon Hindson	Erection of 298 dwellings & associated works	Land 370M SE Of Balloch Farm Cherry Park Balloch Inverness	The Highland Council	Application reported to South Planning Applications Committee in January 2020 where Members were minded to grant subject to conclusion of a legal agreement to secure developer contributions.	19/04213/PIP	PDE	17

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Peter Wheelan	Application under Section 42 of the Act for non compliance with Condition 1 of Planning Permission IN/1997/613 to extend the period of time of extraction.	Daviot Quarry Daviot Inverness IV2 5XL	Breedon Northern Limited	Application reported to South Planning Applications Committee in January 2020 where Members were minded to grant subject to conclusion of a legal agreement to secure developer contributions. Restoration bound amount now agreed and preparation of the S75 is in progress. Delay due to COVID-19 and the quarry manager being furloughed.	19/03995/S42	PDE	19
Laura Stewart	Section 42 Planning Application to vary Condition 5 of planning permission 09/00089/FULNA to extend operational life of quarry	Park Quarry Nairn	Tarmac Caledonian Ltd	Application determined at South Planning Applications Committee in June 2019 subject to conclusion of legal agreement to secure restoration of the site. Dialogue is ongoing with the applicant on the legal agreement.	19/00542/S42	PDE	18
Laura Stewart	Construction and operation of a sand and gravel quarry, including material processing plant and concrete batching plant	Land 575M SW Of Upper Remore Nairn	Breedon Northern Ltd	Application approved at June committee. Currently pending resolution of a legal agreement for a restoration bond.	18/05787/FUL	PDE	18

APPENDIX 2 - APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED UNDER THE ELECTRICITY ACT 1989

OFFICER	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	APPLICANT	PROGRESS	REFERENCE	STATUS	WARD
Laura Stewart	Construct and operate a pumped storage hydro scheme approximately 14km SW of Inverness (Red John Hydro)	Land 630M East Of Park CottageDores	Aecom Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited	Application further considered at December 2019 committee for submission of Further Environmental Information where Members moved to Raise an Objection. Following the response being sent to the Energy Consents Unit, the case has now been passed to the DPEA and a Public Local Inquiry was held week commencing 24 August 2020. This comprised hearing sessions related to landscape and visual impact and net benefits of the proposal. The Reporter will compile their report and submit it to Scottish Ministers in due course.	18/05427/S36	S36RO	12
Roddy Dowell	Glenshero wind farm consisting of 39 turbines with an indicative capacity of 168 MW.	Land 3730M NW Of1 GarvamoreLaggan	SIMEC	The Council raised an objection to the application in October 2019. The DPEA have been passed the case and two The Public Local Inquiry was held virtually between 10th and 18th November 2020 covering matters related to landscape and visual impact, wild land impacts, impacts on the Cairngorms National Park, Policy and Conditions. Legal submissions will be made following the end of the Inquiry and the Reporter will then make their recommendation to Scottish Ministers.	18/04733/S36	S36RO	20
Roddy Dowell	Corriegarth 2 Wind Farm - Erection and Operation of a Wind Farm for a period of 30 years, comprising of 16 Wind Turbines with a maximum blade tip height of 149.9m, access tracks, borrow pits, substation, control building, and ancillary infrastructure	Land At Carn Na SaobhaidheGorthleckInverness	Corriegarth 2 Windfarm Ltd	It is anticipated that the response to the application will be reported to South Planning Applications Committee in October 2021 following consideration of the comments from members of the public and consultees. An initial request seeking modifications to the proposed development has been passed to the applicant for consideration and a design workshop will be undertaken with the applicant to review the landscape and visual impacts of the proposal.	21/00101/S36	PCO	12
Alison Harvey	Cairn Dhuie Wind Farm Redesign - Erection and operation of wind farm for a period of 35 years, comprising of 16 wind turbines with maximum blade tip height of 149.9m, access tracks, borrow pits, switching station, substation, control building, temporary construction compound, battery storage infrastructure, and ancillary infrastructure	Land 2.8KM SE Of Little LyneGlenferness	Renewable Energy Systems Ltd (RES)	It is anticipated that a response will be submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit in September 2021 following consideration of public and consultee comments on the application.	21/01521/S36	PCO	18

OFFICER	PROPOSAL	ADDRESS	APPLICANT	PROGRESS	REFERENCE	STATUS	WARD
Peter Wheelan	Installation of 132kV overhead transmission line between Aberarder Estate and Dunmaglass Estate to connect to electricity grid network for Aberarder Wind Farm	Land 835M SE Of Dunmaglass MainsDunmaglassInverness	Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc	Response to the Energy Consents Unit will be submitted in July 2021 following the minded to not raise an objection decision at South Planning Applications Committee in March 2020. The delay in response is due to the need to conclude the agreement related to road improvements.	19/03244/S37	PDE	12
Peter Wheelan	Cloiche Wind Farm - Erection and Operation of a Wind Farm comprising 36 Wind Turbines (maximum blade tip hieght of 149.9m), access tracks, LiDAR, borrow pits, temporary construction compounds (inclusive of concrete batching area), sustation and operations building	Land 9400M SE Of GlendoebegUpper GlendoeFort Augustus	SSE Generation Limited	Officers have written to the applicant to request substantial amendments to the application to address concerns related to landscape and visual impact. The CNPA and NatureScot have outstanding objections which the applicant is seeking to address. Supplementary Information addressing concerns raised is likely to be submitted in Summer 2021. It is anticipated that the response will be determined in December 2021.	20/01796/S36	PCO	12