



KINTORE AND DISTRICT  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

# Approved Minutes of the Kintore & District Community Council

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Held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2026 at 7:00pm at Kintore School and via Zoom Video Conference

## 1) Welcome and Apologies

**Community Councillors Present:** MM Moira Moran, RS Rod Smith, JC Janine Cracknell, AM Alan Milne, KM Ken McEwen, AC Angus Cheyne, AW Anne Wels, EL Eve Lamond, DM David MacAllan

**Ward Councillors Present:** Cllr Glen Reid, Cllr Jim Gifford

**Members of the Public Present:** Wilma Walker, Rory Cameron, Jenna Roddie, Andy Roddie

**Apologies:** LM Laura Murrie, FB Fiona Brown, FG Fabio Greatbatch, JM June Morrison, Cllr Trevor Mason, Cllr Dominic Lonchay

**Welcome:** The Chair, Moira Moran, welcomed all attendees to the meeting once a quorum was confirmed and also noted the apologies.

## 2) Declarations of Interest

None declared.

## 3) Minutes of the Previous KDCC Meeting held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026

**Corrections:** No corrections were raised.

**Approval:** Approved - **Rod Smith**, Seconded – **Angus Cheyne**

## 4) Minutes of the It's Your Neighbourhood Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026

**Corrections:** A minor typing error was identified and corrected.

**Approval:** Approved – **Anne Wels**, Seconded – **Rod Smith**

## 5) Matters Arising; Update on Open Actions

All attendees were reminded that action updates are to be sent to LM via [vicechair.kdcc@gmail.com](mailto:vicechair.kdcc@gmail.com) and JC via [secretary.kdcc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.kdcc@gmail.com)

**2024/09/04 – RS to organise water pump training for members of the Kintore Resilience Group.**

Update (Apr): Training will be scheduled for later in 2026. **Action in progress.**

**2024/09/06 – RS to validate the list of Kintore Resilience volunteers and update any contact details.**

Update (Apr): To be completed alongside water pump training action **2024/09/04. Action in progress.**

**2025/03/12 – MM to provide the contact details for the Kemnay Community Councillors who are interested in attending the pump training to RS.**

Update (Apr): To be completed alongside water pump training action **2024/09/04. Action in progress.**

**2025/09/22 – JR is to co-ordinate a photograph with the complete set of sponsors and the BookBench once the plinth plastic stickers have been updated with the appropriate company logos.**

Update (Apr): JC advised that JR is in the process of completing the design of the plinth sticker. It is hoped that the plinth sticker and sponsors photo can be completed by the May meeting.

**Action in progress.**

**2025/09/26 – MM to create a post on the Kintore Facebook page once the compiled community information from Kintore Kirk has been received.**

Update (Apr): The compiled information has been published within the Kintore Konnect Spring Edition and the community are invited to provide updates as required. **Action in progress.**

**2025/09/27 – AC to set up a dedicated page on [www.kintore.org.uk](http://www.kintore.org.uk) website for the compiled community information and create a QR code.**

Update (Apr): The dedicated page has been set up and is being populated, but there are issues with the contact links. Discussions are underway as to how to proceed with this. **Action in progress.**

**Action in progress.**

**2026/01/01 – JC to contact PC Barber to clarify what police reporting will be provided to KDCC going forward.**

Update (Apr): KDCC received the new look Police Scotland Garioch report covering January-March 2026. This is discussed further in item 5. It has been confirmed that the report will be sent in this format on a quarterly basis. **Action closed.**

**2026/01/02 – DM to contact Aberdeenshire Council Planning regarding the wastewater treatment plant for APP/2025/1384 Crichtie.**

Update (Apr): It was noted that nothing further has appeared on the planning portal and clarification re wastewater transportation is still awaited. **Action in progress.**

**2026/01/06 – KDCC to arrange for the replacement of turf on the football pitch after the fireworks event.**

Update (Apr): The turf has been replaced on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026 by Its Your Neighbourhood volunteers. **Action closed.**

**2026/02/01 – JC to email Aberdeenshire Council Roads with the proposed street names for Phase 2 of the Scotia Homes development and advise KDCC of the outcome.**

Update (Apr): Confirmation has been received and shared with the wider KDCC. The approved road names for the Scotia Homes development are Campbell, Sharp and Robb (no first names).

**Action closed.**

**2026/02/03 – MM to contact the other community groups with a view to organising the network event for a weekend during April or May 2026, with a favoured date of Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2026.**

Update (Apr): It has been agreed to move this event to early autumn due to other KDCC commitments and already stretched resourcing. KDCC to revisit this in either the June or July meetings. JC is to keep this item on the agenda. **Action in progress.**

**2026/02/06 – MM/RS are to prepare a feature for the Autumn edition of the Kintore Konnect on the resilience measures an individual can take and protective equipment that can be purchased.**

Update (Apr): It was agreed for this action to be held over until early autumn. **Action in progress.**

**2026/02/07 – RS is to organise a meeting of the community resilience group for August 2026.**

Update (Apr): It was agreed for this action to be held over for a couple of months. **Action in progress.**

**2026/02/10 – MM is to contact the Garioch Area Office at Aberdeenshire Council for guidance re hustings for the Scottish elections and advise the rest of the KDCC.**

Update (Apr): Hustings have been organised elsewhere in the constituencies. **Action closed.**

**2026/02/11 – MM is to investigate into whether the Aberdeenshire Council Christmas Lights Policy has changed or there is an active consultation and advise the rest of the KDCC.**

Update (Apr): This has been discussed with the Kintore Fundraising Team and is pending with Aberdeenshire Council. **Action in progress.**

**2026/02/13 – MM to forward the email from Keep Scotland Beautiful to RS, AC and the floral display coordinator and highlight the information session and funding opportunities.**

Update (Apr): The information was forwarded. **Action closed.**

**2026/02/15 – MM is to request a quote from Zurich with the additions of the resilience trailer and an increase to 4,000 attendees for the KDCC public liability insurance and discuss the quote with the wider KDCC.**

Update (Apr): This action has been completed. An additional premium of £402.51 has been added to bring the total annual premium to £792.26. This has been paid as per the Treasurers Report; discussed under item 16. **Action closed.**

**2026/03/01 – JC to establish the current status of APP/2025/1888 and advise the wider KDCC.**

Update (Apr): This item is discussed under item 7)c). **Action closed.**

**2026/03/02 – MM to forward the latest Aberdeenshire Council Planning correspondence regarding ECU00005225 – Kintore to Tealing OHL to Cllr Reid.**

Update (Apr): MM forwarded the information requested. **Action closed.**

**2026/03/03 –MM/JC to forward the minutes from the Community Action Plan Stakeholders Meeting to the wider KDCC once received.**

Update (Apr): Minutes have not been received for this meeting, but the Formal Action Log prepared by Aberdeenshire Council is attached as **Appendix D** and discussed under item 7)e). **Action closed.**

**2026/03/04 – RS to send the scope of work for fitting out the resilience trailer to all community councillors and to co-ordinate obtaining a second quote for comparison purposes.**

Update (Apr): This is discussed under item 8)a). **Action closed.**

**2026/03/05 – MM to highlight the potential shortage of spare parts for the Leylodge AEDs to the SSEN Community Liaison Manager.**

Update (Apr): MM has advised the SSEN Community Liaison Manager. **Action closed.**

**2026/03/06 – JC is to discuss with Kemnay Academy the possibility of students helping with the creation of the Kintore Konnect going forward.**

Update (Apr): JC discussed this request with Kemnay Academy SMT and the students do not use Adobe Indesign. **Action closed.**

**2026/03/07 – MM is to forward all correspondence relating to the marketing of the Northern Road seating area (Northern Rest) to the ward councillors.**

Update (Apr): This was completed. MM also discussed this item with the Garioch Area Manager and the plot of land has been removed from sale for the time being. This is discussed under item 11). **Action closed.**

**2026/03/08 – MM and AM are to meet to discuss options for the water supply to the fountain located in the town square.**

Update (Apr): This relates to action 2026/04/09. AM has been working away and this discussion is still pending. **Action in progress.**

**2026/03/09 – MM is to continue to investigate into tar removal options for the cobbles located at the base of the fountain in the town square.**

Update (Apr): This relates to action 2026/04/10. It was agreed to plan any restorative works for early autumn 2026. **Action in progress.**

**2026/03/10 – MM is to discuss with AC what assistance the interested local businesses can be to It's Your Neighbourhood 2026.**

Update (Apr): This item was discussed in the recent Its Your Neighbourhood meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026. **Action closed.**

**2026/03/11 – Cllr Mason is to attempt to establish what is the scale of the Aberdeenshire Council funding for the World Rally Championship 2027 and advise the wider KDCC.**

Update (Apr): Cllr Mason was absent from the meeting. This action is pending. **Action in progress.**

**2026/03/12 – MM, AM and RS are to continue to investigate into funding for a replacement First Responders Vehicle.**

Update (Apr): Funding opportunities are being explored on an ongoing basis. **Action in progress.**

**2026/03/13 – JC is to co-ordinate KDCC attendees for the Community Council Forums as each date approaches.**

Update (Apr): This has been noted and JC will add Community Council Forum attendance to the preceding months' agenda. May (June meeting), July (September meeting), November (December meeting). **Action in progress.**

**2026/03/14 – JC is to distribute the Community Benefits Charter to the wider KDCC.**

Update (Apr): This was completed directly after the March meeting. **Action closed.**

**2026/04/01 – JR is to contact Arthur from Kintore Fire Station to confirm the current status of the spring slip road litter picks.**

Update (Apr): Action in progress. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/02 – MM and SP are to place the wildflower signs asking for no mowing to take place at the relevant spots once received.**

Update (Apr): This action was completed on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026. **Action closed.**

**2026/04/03 – RS is to inspect the bench located near the entrance to the Breedon Tom's Forest Quarry and co-ordinate the works required.**

Update (Apr): RS has inspected the bench. The wood was rotten and needed complete replacement. The metal support frames require rubbing down and repainting. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/04 – RS/LM is to ask LM if they will act as the co-ordinator for the Scarecrow Competition.**

Update (Apr): This action has been completed, LM has agreed to act as co-ordinator for the scarecrow competition. **Action closed.**

**2026/04/05 – RS to organise the tar painting outside Sustainable Roots, The Square and Dossetts Butchers.**

Update (Apr): This action is in progress and has been added to the Its Your Neighbourhood 2026 schedule. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/06 – FB to clarify what involvement is required from the It's Your Neighbourhood team for the Kintore School garden and pollinator project.**

Update (Apr): This action is in progress. FB was absent from the meeting due to another community commitment. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/07 – RS is to discuss with Breedon if they can support the creation of a permanent "Desire Path" behind the welcome to Kintore sign and flowerbed with materials and labour.**

Update (Apr): This action is in progress. RS has commenced discussions with Breedon. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/08 – RS is to investigate into self-build gazebos and request agreement to proceed to purchase the one deemed best value from the wider KDCC.**

Update (Apr): This is discussed under item 11)a). A self-build gazebo has been purchased and delivered following unanimous agreement from the community councillors via the WhatsApp chat. **Action closed.**

**2026/04/09 – MM/AM are to confirm what level of Legionella testing is required prior to the fountain in the town square being turned on.**

Update (Apr): This relates to action 2026/03/08. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/10 – It was agreed that any restorative work to the fountain should be scheduled for early autumn 2026.**

Update (Apr): This relates to action 2026/03/09. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/11 – JC to add the proposed change to the planting strategy to the KDCC April agenda as per the Floral co-ordinator's request and once a decision is reached, to advise the floral co-ordinator.**

Update (Apr): This action is discussed under item 11). JC has advised the floral co-ordinator of the outcome of the discussion and subsequent vote. **Action closed.**

**2026/04/12 – MM, JC or RS are to post on the Kintore Facebook page that the Floral co-ordinator is stepping down in 5 months' time and to appeal for any interested parties to be in touch.**

Update (Apr): This action is in progress and the timing of the post is being discussed. **Action in progress.**

**2026/04/13 – JR is to set up a new Its Your Neighbourhood 2026 WhatsApp group and invite all members of the old group to join.**

Update (Apr): This action has been completed. The new group was set up immediately after the meeting. **Action closed.**

## 6) Police Report & Update on Local Issues

The police report is attached under **Appendix A**. The Q1 Police Report was presented and discussed. It was noted that the report was high-level in nature and did not include detailed local statistics. Concern was expressed that this limits its usefulness in monitoring trends and supporting youth and community safety initiatives. It was commented that statistical information could be sourced in the future via a FOI (Freedom of Information) request. It was noted that more detailed reports are available via Garioch Area Committee and may be requested to supplement future KDCC reporting. JC is to contact the Garioch Area Office to request KDCC are sent the more detailed reports when available. **Action 2026/04/14 JC** JC is to feed back the various KDCC comments to PC Barber. **Action 2026/04/15 JC**

## 7) Planning Matters

- a) **Planning Report.** The full Planning Report is attached under **Appendix B**. The chair talked through the report, highlighting any points of interest.
- b) **APP/2025/1384 – Crichtie.** This relates to existing action **2026/01/02**. There is no further update on this application.
- c) **APP/2025/1888 – Erection of Dwellinghouse, Garage and Greenhouses.** This relates to existing action **2026/03/01**. This application was noted, with ongoing objections relating to access, parking constraints, and the site being outwith a designated development area. There has been a revised proposed site layout plan added to the application that includes planting.
- d) **ECU00005225 – Kintore to Tealing Overhead Line (SSEN).** The proposed overhead transmission line was discussed. It was noted that the scale of objections has resulted in a public inquiry process, with hearings scheduled at several locations including Kintore. KDCC is a signatory to a coordinated written submission with other community councils and community groups. This is attached under **Appendix C**.
- e) **Community Action Plan Update.** An update was provided on progress with the Community Action Plan, informed by surveys and community engagement. A stakeholder workshop was held with council services and partners on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 and KDCC was represented by MM and JC. It was noted that the stakeholder meeting was very positive and attendees participated fully in the discussions. Priority actions include youth engagement, community facilities, and healthcare access. Concern was recorded that there were no Aberdeenshire Health and Social Care Partnership representatives at the stakeholder session. The Formal Action Log from this meeting is attached under **Appendix D**.

## 8) Kintore Community Resilience

- a) **Resilience Plan:** This relates to existing actions **2024/09/04, 2024/09/06, 2025/03/12, 2026/02/06, 2026/02/07, 2026/03/04**. Agreement was requested and unanimously

granted via the KDCC WhatsApp group to proceed with the fitting out of the resilience trailer. It has been difficult to obtain other quotes for comparison purposes due to the bespoke nature of the required work. RS has been successful in securing some funding towards the cost of refitting the trailer, the final amount is to be confirmed.

- b) **AEDs:** It was confirmed that a replacement AED has been installed at Kintore Railway Station. It was noted that the AED cabinets will be due a clean and wipeout.

## 9) **Kintore Konnect**

An update was provided on the next issue of Kintore Konnect. MM has successfully found a replacement graphic designer from Oldmeldrum to take over from the next edition. The senior graphic designer will act as a mentor to the replacement graphic designer with ongoing support from MM. Contributors were reminded that the deadline for articles and adverts is 7th May 2026.

## 10) **Action Kintore**

Action Kintore continues to operate independently as a charity.

### a) **The Bothie Update**

Youth provision at The Bothie continues to operate successfully, with good attendance reported.

### b) **Town House Project**

It was confirmed that the Town House will be participating in Doors Open 2026 on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2026. The condition of the Town House clock (dated 1774) was discussed. Although recently serviced, specialist advice indicates refurbishment is required to prevent failure. The estimated cost is approximately £13,450 plus VAT. Funding and fundraising options are being explored.

## 11) **Community Projects for Kintore**

As per action **2026/04/11**, a proposal to move from a twice-yearly bedding plant approach to a more sustainable perennial-led planting strategy was discussed. The proposal also included not to persist with winter bedding plants as the weather conditions over recent winters have not suited the plants. A quorum was confirmed and a formal vote was held. The proposal was approved unanimously. JC is to advise the Floral co-ordinator of the outcome. It was also highlighted again that the Floral co-ordinator is stepping down from the role at the end of September 2026. A suggestion was made to approach other neighbouring community councils with the proposal to buy flowers in bulk to hopefully improve value for money for all. This is being considered and will be discussed in future meetings.

### a) **It's Your Neighbourhood**

Potential dates for the assessor visit were discussed, subject to volunteer availability. It was agreed to check with the Floral co-ordinator and if they are in agreement, to go back to the

Keep Scotland Beautiful assessor with Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2026 as the KDCC's preferred date.  
**Action 2026/04/16 MM**

**b) Kintore Community Group Networking Event**

This relates to action **2026/02/03**; it was agreed to defer the networking event until later in the year due to capacity constraints and competing priorities.

**c) Fireworks Planning**

Early planning for the fireworks event is underway, a meeting of some of the core committee was held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026. It was noted that the actions will be tracked out with the usual KDCC actions to try to improve efficiencies. Fireworks have been booked for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2026 and a deposit paid. Discussion covered insurance costs, sponsorship requirements, crowd management, parking, and access arrangements. It was agreed that electric fencing posts with luminous yellow rope would be a suitable solution for the event.

**d) CLAN BookBench Plinth**

This relates to existing action **2025/09/22**. Once this action has been completed, this agenda item can be removed.

**e) Allotments**

High demand for allotments was noted. Work continues to identify suitable land, taking account of flood risk and future land use.

**f) Men's Shed**

Kintore Men's Shed visited Midmar's Men's Shed recently. This was to view their facilities and buildings. There was a large amount of useful information obtained and it was agreed to maintain contact going forward. Last month, it was noted that six bird boxes were constructed and sold, raising £150 for Kintore Men's Shed. An update was provided following confirmation of charitable status for Kintore Men's Shed on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2026. The community asset transfer applications for Howieslap and the Northern Road site (aka Northern Rest) are to be discussed at the next Kintore Men's Shed meeting on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2026. It was noted that consideration will be given to removing the Kintore Men's Shed as a standing KDCC agenda item once finances are fully separated. This will be actioned once the Kintore Men's Shed has its own active bank account. Further discussions on the Kintore Men's Shed's split from Kintore & District Community Council will be required going forward.

**g) Bike Track**

Extensive discussions took place regarding proposals for a bike track. This was in response to the recent activities at Kintore public park that required some rectification works by Aberdeenshire Council. The disused football pitch at Howieslap was discussed as a temporary interim option, subject to insurance and sustainability considerations. Longer-term ambitions for a purpose-built pump track near Midmill School were also discussed. Plans for both locations are in the early stages. No formal vote was taken; further

discussions between Kintore & District Community Council, Kintore Men's Shed and wider community were agreed to progress feasibility work while managing expectations.

## **12) Kemnay Academy Parent Council**

An update was provided noting the Parent Council meeting was taking place concurrently. Recent S6 activities, including muck-up day, were reported as better managed than in previous years.

## **13) Aberdeenshire Councillors' Update**

Cllr Reid advised that a new litter bin will be placed near the Kintore public park pavilion after complaints were received that the original bin had been damaged and could no longer be used as a bin. Local residents had been clearing the rubbish left after football matches had taken place at the park. The two additional street lights along Northern Road have been delayed and it is now hoped they will be installed before the end of June 2026. It is hoped that the signage confirming The Crafty Café as Kintore's Comfort Partnership will be in place by the end of the summer. Cllr Reid is liaising with SEPA regarding the large mound of soil at the floodplain works adjacent to the Tuach Burn and the B987 and will advise further at the next meeting.

Cllr Gifford highlighted the special entertainment licensing arrangements for the late-night football World Cup events at public venues; such as Kintore Public Hall. It was noted that the special entertainment licensing arrangements only relate to the showing of the football matches and not any alcohol related activities.

## **14) Funding Opportunities**

Potential funding opportunities were highlighted, including Net Zero funding streams for community buildings. The application to the Propeller Fund for flowers has not been successful.

## **15) Correspondence**

JC talked through the correspondence received since the last KDCC meeting.

### **a) Care of War Memorials in Aberdeenshire**

Correspondence regarding responsibility for war memorial maintenance was discussed. There are commonwealth war graves at the Kintore Kirk and Kintore cemetery and the war memorial forms the entrance archway to Kintore Kirk. It is not known who maintains these sites. JC is to reply to the email with these details. **Action 2026/04/17 JC**

### **b) SEPA Flood Consultation deadline 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026**

The SEPA flood consultation deadline was noted.

### **c) Requests to promote Sheltered Housing at Provost Lawrence Court and Airlie House**

Requests to promote sheltered housing were noted, recognising sensitivities and cost considerations.

### **d) Various Training Opportunities circulated – does everyone have an ALDO logon?**

Training opportunities were discussed. It was noted that councillors require ALDO logins to access the online training portal. JC is to confirm with Aberdeenshire Council Garioch area

office which of the community councillors have ALDO logons and whether the logons are still active. **Action 2026/04/18 JC**

**e) Aberdeenshire Council Community Benefits Briefing Sheet**

The community benefits briefing sheet prepared by the reference group attended by MM has been circulated. It was reiterated that the community benefits are not mandatory.

**16) Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented the monthly position, the report is attached as **Appendix E**.

**a) KDCC Account - £17,513.73 as at 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**£17,513.73**, of which **£3,313.66** is held for Kintore Men's Shed

**b) Floral Display Account - £2,495.51 as at 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

It was noted that there has been an increase in funds to the floral display account of **£230.27**. **£125.17** was donated by the community via the collection jar at Dossetts Butchers and an additional **£105.00** consisted of various private donations. RS thanked the community for their generosity. An appeal for future donations will be made in the coming weeks to fund the next planting cycle.

**17) AOCB (Any Other Competent Business)**

**a) The Fountain located in the town square** – This relates to actions **2026/03/08** and **2026/04/09**. There was a discussion regarding turning on the fountain in the town square and the paradox of having to test the water before it is turned on and not being able to test the water until it is turned on. MM is to email Cllr Reid in order for this item to be highlighted to the relevant Aberdeenshire Council contact. **Action 2026/04/19 MM**

**b) Kintore Community Church** – The youth group at Kintore Community Church was highlighted, as well as the open house drop-in on Tuesdays. It was noted that due to the number of toilets on site not being deemed adequate, the Kintore Community Church can not obtain permission to rent out the space when not in use.

**c) Scarecrow Competition** – There was a discussion regarding the Scarecrow Competition scheduled for Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2026. There has been a number of entries already and these include some of the scout and girl guiding groups within Kintore. It was unanimously agreed that any community groups that do not have fixed premises or premises that are not open to the public could still enter and a specific judging slot would be allocated to them. JC is to advise LM of this decision after the meeting and JC is to add the Scarecrow Competition to the agenda for the next meeting. **Action 2026/04/20 JC**

**d) Scotia Homes Community Liaison Group** – The next meeting of the Scotia Homes Community Liaison Group has been agreed for Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm at the show house at the development. MM extended invitations to all the attendees and it is hoped additional persons will be encouraged to attend. There were discussions regarding uses for the Town Park; an astroturf football pitch and/or running track were mentioned. It was agreed that there is a significant shortage of usable football pitches within and outwith Kintore. It was suggested that an astroturf football pitch could offer a funding stream for the community going forward.

**18) Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at Kintore School and via Zoom.

# Garioch Community Policing Team CC Report 2026 – Q1

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## Garioch Community Policing Team (CPT) News

Police Chief Inspector Lesley Clarke took up post as the Area Commander for South Aberdeenshire at the beginning of the year. She brings a strong background in Community Policing, Public Protection, which will support ongoing partnership working and community focused Policing.

We would like to remind everyone that Inverurie Public Office is operating 7 days a week between 7am and midnight, providing an additional point of contact for those wishing to report incidents or seek advice in person.

And for those wishing to report non-emergency matters via other means, they are encouraged to do so via:

- Calling 101
- Reporting online via the Police Scotland website
- Email to your local CPT inbox
  - Inverurie & District [InverurieDistrictCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:InverurieDistrictCPT@Scotland.police.uk)
  - Westhill, Echt, Dunecht & district [WesthillDistrictCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:WesthillDistrictCPT@Scotland.police.uk)
  - East Garioch, Newmachar, Fintray & District  
[EastGariochCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:EastGariochCPT@Scotland.police.uk)
  - West Garioch, Kemnay, Inch & District [WestGariochCPT@Scotland.police.uk](mailto:WestGariochCPT@Scotland.police.uk)

## Community Based Officer Update from PC Mark Barber

Hello, I'm your local community beat Police Officer, Mark Barber.

I would like to provide an update on the work we have been completing in your communities over the last three months.

Throughout this reporting period, a continued focus has been on antisocial behaviour. With the transition from the festive period into the lighter nights, officers have been carrying out increased foot patrols and plain clothed patrols in hot spot areas, which has already proven successful as we have issued antisocial behaviour letters home to youth's parents. This approach has allowed us to both deter offending and identify those responsible for ongoing issues within our community.

Parking concerns within Inverurie town centre and Kemnay have also been raised during this period. In response, targeted patrols were carried out in December, which resulted in a noticeable improvement in compliance. However, it was noted that issues returned when

enforcement presence reduced. Further work is planned throughout each of your respective communities, aiming at addressing ongoing concerns and improving road safety.

In April we already have plans to visit some primary schools in Inverurie, Westhill and Kemnay to deliver inputs. These visits will be tailored to different age groups and will cover a range of topics such as anti-social behaviour, personal safety and making positive choices. Further school engagement is planned in the lead up the summer period to support early intervention and prevention.

Thank you again for your continued support.

### **Significant incidents with public interest**

There has been an increase in reports relating to theft of copper and scrap metal, which is believed to be linked to a rise in the value of same. One incident was reported in Westhill, where copper was stolen from an industrial premises and after Police enquiries, a suspect has been identified. A warrant is currently outstanding in relation to this matter. Officers from our Crime Reduction Unit have been out to this premises and given some suitable security advice and we will continue to monitor this trend and carry out proactive patrols to deter further offences.

A further incident of note involved a number of youths found in possession of weapons within a school environment. These items were identified as flick knives, made using a 3D printer. Four youths were identified and a report has been submitted to the Children Reporter. In response, our Youth engagement officer, PC Sarah Grant, delivered inputs focussed on knife crime and the risk and consequences associated with such behaviour.

There is no indication of further risk to the Gairloch community.

### **Proactive Work**

Throughout this reporting period, Community Policing Officers have continued to carry out proactive patrols across the Garioch area, focusing on identified areas highlighted through community concerns.

Proactive, intelligence-led Policing has also resulted in a number of positive outcomes. In Westhill, a vehicle was stopped after officers detected the smell of cannabis. This resulted in a male being charged with a number of offences, including possession of a controlled drug, driving whilst unfit, no insurance, no driving licence, vehicle in a dangerous condition, attempting to prevent the course of justice and threatening and abusive behaviour.

In a separate incident, officers acted on intelligence relating to the use of an off-road bike within a residential area in Inverurie. The vehicle failed to stop for Police and made off, however the rider was subsequently traced and apprehended following a short pursuit. The suspect was arrested, the bike was seized and they have been reported to the Children's Reporter.

Proactive Policing remains a priority, with officers maintaining a visible presence within communities to provide reassurance and build positive relationships with residents to build intelligence.

### **Road Safety**

The Garioch CPT have undertaken speed checks throughout the area and are focusing on driver education following the change in speed limits in many areas. 'Pop up Bob' has been utilised in

response to concerns of speeding and has been very well received by residents as showing a notable difference.

Parking around Kemnay Primary School and Inverurie town centre is a focus, with targeted enforcement carried out to address ongoing issues. While improvements were noted during periods of increased Police presence, further work is planned to target hot spot areas.

Both the Garioch CPT and Roads Policing Team have dealt with several other road traffic offences, including drink and drug driving, no insurance, no MOT and vehicle in dangerous condition. Action has been taken against all drivers found to have committed an offence to ensure public safety.

### **Recent Operations**

As part of the Darker Nights Initiative, alongside officers, our volunteers from Police Scotland Youth Volunteers (PSYV), carried out leaflet drops across the Garioch area. This activity provided advice to residents on home and vehicle security, reinforced simple measures to reduce risk of acquisitive crime.

### **Seasonal Advice**

Attached is our latest newsletter, which contains advice about metal theft and the reasons behind the increase. We have also included guidance from SPARC, as well as a leaflet providing information on the rise domestic heating fuel thefts.

### **Planned Activity for next Quarter**

The Garioch CPT have already increased foot patrols coming into the school easter holidays and the lighter nights, where we typically see an increase footfall. This will continue and we are currently applying for funding for a similar operation to 2025, which will target antisocial behaviour and retail crime.

**Appendix B – Planning Report**  
**Kintore & District Community Council Planning Report**

**Validated March 2026**

- **Erection of Dwellinghouse**

Site Adjacent To Wayside Kintore Aberdeenshire AB51 0YX

Ref. No: APP/2026/0408 · Received: Thu 12 Mar 2026 · Validated: Tue 17 Mar 2026 · Status:  
Pending Consideration

- **Demolition of Dwellinghouse and Outbuildings and Erection of 3 Dwellinghouses**

3 Crichton Cottages Port Elphinstone Inverurie Aberdeenshire AB51 5NP

Ref. No: APP/2026/0260 · Received: Tue 17 Feb 2026 · Validated: Tue 31 Mar 2026 · Status:  
Pending Consideration

- **Erection of 17 Dwellinghouses (Change Of House Types, Layout and Additional 2 Plots to Planning Permission Reference APP/2023/0872)**

Land Beside Woodside Croft Midmill Kintore Aberdeenshire

Ref. No: APP/2026/0199 · Received: Fri 06 Feb 2026 · Validated: Wed 04 Mar 2026 · Status:  
Pending Consideration

**Decided March 2026**

- **Erection of Shed**

2 Castleview Close Kintore Aberdeenshire AB51 0SE

Ref. No: APP/2026/0123 · Received: Tue 27 Jan 2026 · Validated: Wed 11 Feb 2026 · Status:  
Application Approved

- **Erection of Replacement Building (Classes 4 and 5)**

E Blast Ltd Tumulus Way Midmill Business Park Kintore AB51 0TG

Ref. No: APP/2026/0029 · Received: Fri 09 Jan 2026 · Validated: Mon 12 Jan 2026 · Status:  
Application Approved

- **Demolition of Building and Erection of Shed (Classes 5 and 6) Without Compliance with Condition 1 (Flood Risk Mitigation) of Planning Permission Reference APP/2020/2317**

Site To North Of Bridgefield Midmill Kintore Inverurie

Ref. No: APP/2025/1521 · Received: Fri 12 Sep 2025 · Validated: Mon 15 Sep 2025 · Status:  
Application Approved

**Validated April 2026**

- **Erection of Vehicle Sales Building**

C & M McDonald Bridgefield Kintore AB51 0XB

Ref. No: APP/2026/0641 · Received: Tue 14 Apr 2026 · Validated: Fri 17 Apr 2026 · Status:  
Pending Consideration

- **Alterations to Dwellinghouse**

5 Hallforest Crescent Kintore Aberdeenshire AB51 0SQ

Ref. No: APP/2026/0606 · Received: Wed 08 Apr 2026 · Validated: Fri 10 Apr 2026 · Status:  
Pending Consideration

- **Erection of Dwellinghouse**

Site At Boghead Farm Kintore Aberdeenshire

Ref. No: APP/2026/0596 · Received: Mon 06 Apr 2026 · Validated: Mon 06 Apr 2026 · Status:  
Pending Consideration

**Decided April 2026**

- **Erection of Temporary Building (Class 6)**

MH Wirth UK Ltd Tofthills Avenue Midmill Business Park Kintore Aberdeenshire AB51 0QP

Ref. No: APP/2026/0261 · Received: Tue 17 Feb 2026 · Validated: Wed 18 Feb 2026 · Status:  
Application Approved

## Appendix C – Further Written Submission to the DPEA Inquiry TRL120-1 Tealing – Kintore Overhead Line Proposal (ECU 00005225)

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### Further Written Submission to the DPEA Inquiry TRL120-1 Tealing- Kintore Overhead Line Proposal (ECU00005225) **(DATED)**

This is a joint submission by the following Community Councils together with Save Our Mearns (SOM):

Banchory Community Council  
Crathes Drumoak Durris Community Council  
Echt & Skene Community Council  
Glamis Community Council  
Inveresk Community Council  
Kintore & District Community Council  
Kirriemuir Landward East Community Council  
Mearns Community Council  
Tealing Community Council

This submission responds to the invitation contained in Annex A of the Pre-Inquiry Meeting to comment further on the Need for this project:

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#### **Annex A Matter 3: Need**

*The reporters have noted all of the evidence submitted to them in respect of the need for the project and potential alternatives to it. That evidence will inform their report to Ministers. At this point in time the reporters do not anticipate that they will require to have any hearing or inquiry session covering project need an alternatives.*

*They have noted, however, two recent decisions by Ministers consenting the Alyth to Tealing (Ref ECU00005167) and the Tealing to Westfield (Ref ECU00005168) 400kV Upgrade (Reconductoring) projects which are associated with the Tealing to Kintore 400kV application. These decision letters set out Minister's findings on, amongst other matters, the need for those projects. Therefore, the reporters invite parties to update their position, should they wish to do so, on the need for the Kintore-Tealing project in the light of the content of the above two decision letters.*

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#### **c) 1. Introduction and Scope of Submission**

This submission sets out the updated position of the Community Councils and Save Our Mearns on the needs case for the proposed **Kintore–Tealing 400 kV overhead line** in light of recent decisions.

While the Community Councils and Save Our Mearns acknowledge that some reinforcement of the east coast electricity transmission network is required, the issue for this Inquiry is **not whether upgrades in general are necessary**, but whether this **specific development** is:

- required **now**,
- required at **this scale**,
- required in **this form**, and
- whether it represents the **least environmentally harmful solution** available.

The recent decisions by Scottish Ministers to grant consent for the Alyth–Tealing and Tealing - Westfield 400kV upgrades, are noted. However, those decisions concerned the upgrading from 275kV to 400kV by reconductoring **existing overhead line corridors** and do not determine the need or acceptability of the present **new-build proposal**, which is of materially greater scale and impact.

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#### **d) 2. Statutory Decision Framework (Section 37)**

In determining an application under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989, Scottish Ministers must:

- weigh the **benefits of the proposal** against its **environmental and land-use impacts**;
- be satisfied that the development is **justified, proportionate, and necessary**; and
- base the decision on **evidence available at the time**, not speculative or contingent future scenarios.

A general policy support for grid reinforcement does not dispense with the requirement to demonstrate **specific and timely need**, nor does it override the obligation to identify the **most appropriate and least harmful solution**.

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#### **e) 3. Demonstration of Need: Absence of a Clear and Immediate Case**

##### **3.1 Relationship to Existing and Consented Infrastructure**

The applicant wishes to upgrade the east coast transmission system to 400kV operation through a series of connected projects. However, a general policy for grid reinforcement in the region still requires the applicant to demonstrate a specific and timely need for this particular development, and that the best solution has been chosen.

The **East Coast 400 kV Overhead Line Upgrade project (ECU00002132)** upgraded the existing westernmost 275 kV line between Kintore and Tealing to 400kV operation through reconductoring and involved increasing the heights of some pylons. The **Alyth–Tealing** and **Tealing–Westfield** reconductoring projects, consented in October 2025, will extend that 400 kV operation further south to connect with Scottish Power and National Grid assets.

We note that all three of these projects involve the upgrade of existing overhead line corridors, largely reusing existing infrastructure. The environmental effects were assessed as limited and capable of mitigation.

The justification required for the new-build scheme currently proposed is materially greater than for upgrading of an existing line.

We conclude that the Alyth-Tealing and Tealing -Westfield decisions are consistent with the principle of grid reinforcement in this corridor, but do not determine the need or acceptability of new-build infrastructure of a much greater scale and impact, such as the present proposal.

The applicant published the map shown below on its website. It illustrates the projects which Ofgem approved as part of ASTI in December 2022 with Item 4 being the proposed new Kintore-Tealing OHL. However, we note the applicant is not confident that Ofgem will approve the expenditure for this project as part of the RII0-3 price control, and we would argue that NESO's 2025 connections reform process has materially undermined the need case for a new OHL between Kintore and Tealing.

**The Motorways**  
Accelerating Strategic Transmission Investment (ASTI)

MAIN NORTH OF SCOTLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION NETWORK IN 2030

Investments currently in discussion with Ofgem

1. Angell 275kV strategy
2. Fort Augustus to Skye 132kV upgrade
3. Orkney 220kV AC subsea link

Pathway to 2030 Investments

- 1a. Beaulieu to Loch Buidhe 400kV reinforcement
- 1b. Loch Buidhe to Spittal 400kV reinforcement
- 2a. Beaulieu to Blackhillock 400kV double circuit
- 2b. Blackhillock and Peterhead 400kV double circuit
3. Beaulieu to Denny 275kV circuit to 400kV
4. East Coast Onshore 400kV Phase 2 reinforcement
5. Spittal to Peterhead 2GW HVDC subsea link
6. Peterhead to Drax 2GW HVDC subsea link (EGL2)
7. Peterhead to South Humber 2GW HVDC subsea link (EGL4)
8. Arnsay to Beaulieu 1.8GW HVDC Western Isle link
9. Aquila Pathfinder - Peterhead DC switching substation

Public Consultation to Inform Project Development

All new reinforcements remain subject to detailed consultation and environmental assessments to help inform route and technology options

More detail on these projects, including how to sign up for updates, will be made available on SSEN Transmission's website, [www.ssen-transmission.co.uk](http://www.ssen-transmission.co.uk)

Legend:

- New Infrastructure (Routes shown here are for illustrative purposes)
- - - Upgrade/Replacement of Existing Infrastructure
- Existing Network

Published on 10 Sept 2022

Scottish & Southern Electricity Networks TRANSMISSION

**Group Discussion**

ASTI was approved by Ofgem in December 2022.

It is SSEN Transmission's view that this should **not be reopened** as part of the RII0-T3 price control.

### 3.2 Impact of NESO Connections Reform Process

NESO is now taking a more proactive approach to managing which new renewable energy projects receive offers to connect to the transmission system. The objective is to encourage more developments close to demand centres and thereby avoid unnecessary expenditure on grid expansion to transmit power over long distances.

NESO concluded its Connections Reform process and released the results in December 2025, with further details provided in January and February 2026. This process determines which energy projects are given connection agreements enabling them to connect to the electricity transmission system, and when, initially between 2026 and 2035.

On 8th December 2025 NESO published a summary of its overall conclusions. These are available on its website here:

<https://www.neso.energy/industry-information/connections-reform/connections-reform-results>

NESO made the following general statements regarding connections for Onshore and Offshore Wind generation:

**Onshore Wind:** At a GB level, onshore wind is undersupplied by approximately 5GW for 2035, driven by a shortfall of “ready” projects in England and Wales. **Scotland is above capacity.** Therefore, the next window will allow applications for new “ready” projects in England and Wales, but only **protected projects in Scotland.**

**Offshore Wind:** Offshore wind is at the available capacity threshold for 2035, and all projects that were “ready” at the time of window closure are in the queue.

#### Onshore Generation Projects

In January 2026 NESO published their more detailed report ‘Connections Reform Detailed Results Data January 2026’ (<https://www.neso.energy/document/374936/download> ). This sets out the volume of each renewable energy generation type that will be awarded connection agreements in Phase 1 (projects needed for 2030) and Phase 2 (projects needed for 2035) by transmission zone.

In terms of projects wishing to connect to SSEN’s system, which is designated as Transmission Zone T1 in NESO’s report, we draw the reporters’ attention to Table 3 which shows only 3.105 GW of onshore wind being awarded connections in T1 during Phase 1 (to 2030), along with only 0.162 GW of solar.

(The volume of battery connections shown can essentially be ignored for the purposes of determining the need for the Kintore-Tealing OHL project, since batteries will merely substitute for wind and/or solar when it’s not windy and/or sunny.)

**Table 3: Phase 1 MW volumes for battery, onshore wind and solar by Transmission zone – final and zonal totals**







Phase 1 (Phase 1 Zones)	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	Grand Total
 <b>Battery</b>	1,850.5	7,740.8	342.4	4,574.9	2,359.0	1,020.8	784.0	2,388.9	1,084.3	202.0	1,919.0	<b>24,266.6</b>
 <b>Onshore Wind</b>	3,105.1	4,937.1	-	67.0	-	-	-	568.4	-	-	52.8	<b>8,730.4</b>
 <b>Solar</b>	162.0	612.5	78.4	1,793.4	5,066.2	2,031.2	380.8	1,246.7	199.5	1,049.0	987.9	<b>13,607.6</b>
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>5,117.6</b>	<b>13,290.4</b>	<b>420.8</b>	<b>6,435.3</b>	<b>7,425.2</b>	<b>3,052.0</b>	<b>1,164.8</b>	<b>4,204.0</b>	<b>1,283.8</b>	<b>1,251.0</b>	<b>2,959.7</b>	<b>46,604.6</b>

Table 6 shows a further 1.2GW of solar being awarded connections in T1 during Phase 2 (2030 to 2035) and Table 7 shows 0.9GW of onshore wind being awarded connections across the whole of Scotland during Phase 2, with the zonal locations of this 0.9GW being undeclared.

**Table 6: Phase 2 MW volumes for battery and solar by Transmission zone – final and zonal totals**

Phase 2 (Phase 2 Zones)	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6	T7	T8	T9	T10	T11	Grand Total
 <b>Battery</b>	450.0	4,997.9	4,697.0	7,230.1	5,830.9	2,242.4	927.6	741.2	797.1	1,007.0	2,674.9	31,596.1
 <b>Solar</b>	1,227.0	757.7	2,690.3	5,794.3	4,911.5	3,550.7	1,860.8	1,766.1	2,476.1	167.2	3,947.9	29,149.6
<b>Grand total</b>	1,677.0	5,755.6	7,387.3	13,024.5	10,742.4	5,793.1	2,788.4	2,507.3	3,273.2	1,174.2	6,622.8	60,745.8

**Table 7: Phase 2 MW volumes for onshore wind in England and Wales, and Scotland – final and zonal totals**

Technology	England and Wales	Scotland	Grand Total
 <b>Onshore Wind</b>	3,877.7	927.8	4,805.5

The additional capacity required in T1 by 2030 for onshore wind and solar is therefore only 3.2GW which is within the additional capacity that will be gained by the completion of the consented East Coast 400kV Overhead Line Upgrade project, together with the Tealing-Alyth and Tealing-Westfield reconductoring projects. Over the following five years to 2035 only an additional 1.2 GW of capacity is required within T1 for onshore wind and solar. **This further increment does not require a new 400kV OHL to be constructed between Kintore and Tealing.**

In February 2026, NESO published a further document ‘Gate 2 Phase 2 cut-off dates’ (<https://www.neso.energy/document/374001/download>) confirming that for Phase 2 all available connection capacity in Scotland for onshore wind is already filled by Protected Projects, and that only solar projects which gained planning permission before 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024 will get connection agreements in T1 in the period 2030-2035.

The applicant asserts in the EIA that an upgrade of the existing easternmost 275kV OHL between Kintore and Tealing is not feasible, but this was certainly not the position they presented during the initial public consultations on their new OHL proposal. At that time, they simply said an upgrade would provide less capacity than a new OHL.

Given the low volumes of incremental generation permitted to connect in T1 in Phases 1 and 2, it's therefore clear that a new Kintore-Tealing OHL is not required at this time, and an upgrade of the existing eastern 275kV OHL line to 400kV operation should be reconsidered as the more cost effective and less environmentally damaging option.

#### Offshore Generation Projects

In respect of providing capacity to transmit power to consumers further south in England and the Central Belt of Scotland, from yet-to-be-completed offshore wind projects off the northern coasts of Scotland, it remains our position that the adverse environmental impacts will be much lower using subsea HVDC cables to satisfy any such requirement, rather than new onshore overhead lines. An offshore HVDC grid is the solution preferred in the Holistic Network Design

We would also highlight recent news items in relation to the ScotWind offshore licences that were issued in 2022 including:

- 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025 Shell relinquished the licence for its Campion wind project and exited Marram Wind (<https://www.renews.biz/105212/shell-hands-back-2gw-campionwind-lease/> )
- 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Orsted & BlueFloat Energy exit Stromar (<https://www.energyvoice.com/renewables-energy-transition/wind/scotwind/594765/orsted-and-bluefloat-energy-exit-stromar-scotwind-nadara/> )
- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Ocean Wind scraps Arven South (citing transmission charges) and hands back lease (<https://renews.biz/110645/ocean-winds-to-cancel-arven-south-lease/> )

Of the 32.3 GW total capacity which was bid for under ScotWind, recent licence relinquishments have already reduced this to 28.8GW (<https://www.offshorewindscotland.org.uk/the-offshore-wind-market-in-scotland/scotwind-leasing-round/>). So far, only the West of Orkney (1.99GW) and Pentland Floating Offshore Project (0.09GW) have actually achieved planning consent, and only the latter has secured a Contract for Difference from the UK government in Allocation Round 7 (<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6966861de8c04eb2919f773a/contracts-for-difference-allocation-round-7-results-.pdf> ).

Going back to NESO's statement regarding Offshore Wind in the Connections Reform announcement of December 2025, none of the ScotWind projects (apart from Pentland Floating) will have secured a connection to the grid in Phases 1 or 2, and so there is no need to provide transmission capacity for them in Zone T1 until after 2035 at the earliest.

All of this points to a high degree of uncertainty regarding the volume of offshore wind that will be economically viable off Scotland, and the timing of it. Only the tiny Pentland Floating Offshore Project is expected to be operational by 2030. Given this uncertainty, it would be

premature to build any transmission capacity for offshore wind ahead of planning consent and final investment decisions being taken on more of these projects.

### **In Summary**

NESO's Connections Reform process now determines which renewable projects will receive grid connections between 2026 and 2035.

On the basis of NESO's 2025-6 award of connection offers in Scotland, we conclude that:

- Only **3.2 GW** of additional transmission capacity is required in the applicant's transmission zone T1 by 2030;
  - A further **1.2 GW** is required between 2030 and 2035;
  - This capacity can be provided by the already consented **East Coast 400 kV upgrade** and the **Alyth–Tealing and Tealing–Westfield reconductoring projects**, with an upgrade of the easternmost Kintore-Tealing 275kV OHL to supplement this if necessary; and
  - Therefore, need for a new 400 kV overhead line between Kintore and Tealing before 2035 has not been demonstrated at this time.
- 

### **3.4 Reduced Demand Forecasts and Strategic Overstatement**

NESO's 2022 Pathway to 2030 Holistic Network Design is based on assumptions that have not materialised:

- Heat pump deployment has fallen well short of forecasts;
- Industrial power demand is falling as higher electricity costs force de-industrialisation;
- The uptake of battery electric vehicles is falling behind government targets;
- Overall, UK energy demand has declined since 2005 by 29%  
<https://ourworldindata.org/profile/energy/united-kingdom>

National electricity demand has not grown as predicted. Local demand alone does not justify a major new transmission line, and a new Kintore–Tealing OHL does **not feature in Pathway to 2030**, notwithstanding claims made by the applicant.

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### **f) 4. Consideration of Alternatives and Lower-Impact Solutions**

Alternative technologies have not been considered by the applicant, who has opted for a century old solution of steel lattice towers to carry a powerline above ground, on the assumption that this is the cheapest and easiest to install.

While the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) identifies a range of alternatives, the assessments remain strategic rather than site-specific. They are also focussed on justifying the chosen option rather than enabling comparison. No evidence has been submitted to demonstrate that the proposed development is the least harmful option.

Alternative assessments are not location-specific, and do not follow sustainability principles, which require a balance between impacts on cost, people and environment.

In addition, the applicant has not demonstrated that this is the lowest lifetime cost solution, and a full costed options appraisal does not appear to have been carried out. Reports from 2024 demonstrate that underground HVDC has lower lifetime costs than OHLs.

The applicant's choice of technology has not been mandated by Ofgem or NESO, neither of whom specifically require that electricity must be transmitted via pylons. Both Ofgem and NESO have confirmed that the choice of technology rests with the Transmission Operator.

Were the applicant to take a long-term view then they would consider undergrounding of cables. This would protect natural landscapes, reduce EMF exposure and greatly mitigate public concern. This approach would also result in a more future-proofed grid, less susceptible to climate change impacts.

The alternatives assessment has been inadequate:

- Undergrounding is assessed largely on cost and construction impact, without location-specific analysis of environmental trade-offs and benefits.
- Long-term landscape and visual benefits of undergrounding are not balanced against the short-term construction convenience of OHL.
- Partial undergrounding has not been properly assessed, notwithstanding its relevance at sensitive locations.
- No transparent costed options appraisal has been presented.
- Full life-cycle costing has not been undertaken.

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## **g) 5. Conclusions**

We submit that although grid capacity upgrades are required, the specific need for a new Kintore–Tealing 400 kV overhead line has not been demonstrated. The evidence presented by the applicant does not clearly demonstrate the level of capacity required in the short to medium term, and recent NESO decisions regarding the award of grid connection offers have reduced the demand for transmission capacity in North East Scotland out to 2035.

The stated need for this proposal is reliant on uncertain future generation and demand scenarios and as such the application is premature and represents a risk of over-sized infrastructure.

The proposal front-end loads environmental and community harm, without sufficient certainty that any benefits will materialise within a reasonable timeframe. The 'need' case presented by the Applicant is speculative and not based on the current reality.

There is a clear imbalance between significant immediate harm and deferred, speculative benefits, with an inadequate assessment of alternatives that could reduce the adverse environmental impacts, including partial undergrounding and HVDC options.

The Alyth–Tealing and Tealing–Westfield decisions do not establish that this proposal, in this location, at this time, and in this form, is needed.

**Accordingly, the proposal does not meet the tests of justification and proportionality required under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 and should be refused.**

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Appendix D – Formal Action Log (Post Kintore Community Action Plan Stakeholders Meeting)

## Kintore Community Action Plan

### Formal Action Log (Post-Stakeholder Meeting)

Theme	Action Agreed	Lead Officer / Service	Supporting Officers / Services	Status / Next Steps
Health & Wellbeing	Seek clarification from NHS Grampian / HSCP on the current strategic position regarding use of the Kintore medical centre and requirements for local or outreach services	Jacky Niven (Independent Consultant) / Garioch Area Office – Community Planning	NHS Grampian; Aberdeenshire HSCP	Follow-up correspondence to be issued and response shared with partners and community  Set up meeting with Locality Manager Karen Donald
Transport & Health Access	Confirm whether supported local bus services currently stop at, or serve, the medical centre  Link in with Bus Forum Meeting – due to be held in May 2026	Susan Watt – Passenger Transport Unit	Transport operators	Update to be provided to community once position confirmed
Transport & Health Access	Promote awareness of existing transport-to-health options, including Royal Voluntary Service volunteer car scheme and A2B services	Heather Dey – Passenger Transport Unit (Demand Responsive Transport)	Royal Voluntary Service; Garioch Area Office	Promotion through community channels and monitoring of uptake
Transport Engagement	Encourage community attendance at Bus Forum to raise Kintore-specific transport issues	Susan Watt – Passenger Transport Unit	Kintore District Community Council / Action Kintore	Bus Forum scheduled for Spring – issues to be collated in advance

Theme	Action Agreed	Lead Officer / Service	Supporting Officers / Services	Status / Next Steps
Youth & Community Spaces	Coordinate a community space and land audit (Council and non-Council owned) to inform future youth, play and outdoor provision	Garioch Area Office – Community Planning	Susan Watt (land information); Oliver Deeming (Landscape Services); Andrew Moir (Asset Management)	Establish local focus group and collate audit findings
Youth Engagement	Ensure young people are actively involved in shaping future use of spaces and youth activities	Rachael Lewis – Youth Engagement (Tackling Poverty & Inequalities)	CLD; local schools; youth groups; Action Kintore	Ongoing engagement through youth-led activity and projects
Community Spaces	Improve coordination and use of existing halls and venues, supported by clearer guidance for community-led activity in Council-owned spaces	Garioch Area Office – Community Planning	Landscape Services; Asset Management; community groups	Link with space audit and ongoing Council guidance work
Rail Infrastructure	Raise accessibility issues and community requests (toilets, pop-up commercial facilities) with Network Rail and ScotRail	Caroline Hood – NESTRANS	Network Rail; ScotRail	Feedback to be provided once discussions held
Active Travel	Provide updates on active travel feasibility work (A96 corridor and links to Inverurie, Kemnay and Aberdeen)	Chris Menzies – Transportation Strategy	NESTRANS	Share feasibility updates as they become available
Community Safety	Continue joint working focused on early intervention and positive youth engagement to address anti-social behaviour	Andy Martin – Community Safety Team	Police Scotland; CLD; Youth Engagement; schools	Ongoing partnership working

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Action Agreed</b>	<b>Lead Officer / Service</b>	<b>Supporting Officers / Services</b>	<b>Status / Next Steps</b>
Alcohol & Substance Awareness	Explore participation in a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) approach	Rachael Lewis – Youth Engagement / Community Safety Team	Local partners; businesses	Information to be shared and next steps explored
Community Spirit & Inclusion	Support existing events, intergenerational activity and volunteering pathways, improving coordination and communication	Rachael Lewis – Youth Engagement / Vicky Stigant – Community Resilience (NESCAN)	Community groups; resilience volunteers; Garioch Area Office	Continue delivery and explore further funding opportunities
Organisational Sustainability	Support Action Kintore to strengthen governance, broaden membership and explore longer-term sustainable structures	Garioch Area Office – Community Planning / Jacky Niven	Action Kintore; Development Trust Association (exploratory)	Initial discussions to be progressed
Community Benefit Funding	Provide advice and signposting on community benefit funding linked to energy developments and Just Transition opportunities	Flick Millar – Economic Development	Community Planning; external funders	Follow-up support offered as opportunities arise

## Appendix E - Treasurer's Report

### Kintore & District Community Council Treasurers Report

– BANK BALANCES CORRECT AS AT 19 APR 2026

#### KINTORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL ACCOUNT

**BALANCE AT 19 APR 2026 £17513.73 FOR KDCC MEETING ON 21 APR 2026**

DOWN £2634.46 FROM £20148.19 REPORTED ON 17 MAR 2026 KDCC MEETING

**FIGURES INCLUDE MONEY HELD ON BEHALF OF MENS SHED - £3313.66**

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#### BANK MOVEMENT

INCOME TOTAL :- £0

EXPENDITURE TOTAL:- £2634.46

- £ 792.26 – Public Liability Insurance
- £66.47 – Mens Shed Expenditure (Reimbursed to Rod Smith)
- £63.93 – Wild Flower Signs
- £1599.00 – Airlee House Gazebo
- £84.00 – Don Valley – Turf Replacement
- £28.80 – Don Valley – Top Soil

#### PREDICTED INCOME & EXPENDITURE DUE BEFORE NEXT MEETING

Money due in before next meeting

Various Kintore Konnect Advertising Fees

Money due out before next meeting

None known

**KINTORE COMMUNITY COUNCIL FLORAL DISPLAY ACCOUNT**  
**BALANCE AT 19 APR 2026 £2495.51 FOR KDCC MEETING ON 21 APR 2026**  
UP £202.27 FROM £2293.24 REPORTED ON 17 MAR 2026 KDCC MEETING

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BANK MOVEMENT

INCOME TOTAL :- £230.27

- £105.00 - Various Private Donations
- £125.17 - Collection Jar at Butchers
- £0.10 - Cashback on Card

EXPENDITURE TOTAL:- £28.00

- £28 – Parkhill Nursery

PREDICTED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BEFORE NEXT MEETING:-

NONE I AM AWARE OF

WARNING ! – THERE STILL NEEDS TO BE A MASSIVE INJECTION OF FUNDS INTO THIS FLORAL ACCOUNT TO ALLOW THE FLORAL GROUP TO PAY FOR THE SUMMER PLANTS NEXT YEAR