

05.

**Planning
Policy &
Legislation
Context**

5. Planning Policy Context

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This chapter summarises the key legislation and policies pertinent to the Project.
- 5.1.2 A separate Planning Statement has been prepared for the Project. The Planning Statement has assessed the Project against the relevant policies (both environmental and non-environmental) and other material considerations, in the context of the relevant consenting regimes.

5.2 Climate Change and Energy Policy Context

Climate Change Plan 2018-2032 (2020 update)¹

- 5.2.1 The Climate Change Plan 2018–2032 (2020 Update) outlines Scotland’s strategic framework for achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, with interim targets including a 75% reduction by 2030. The plan sets out a wide range of policy commitments across sectors such as transport, energy, buildings, land use and waste, emphasising a just transition that supports jobs, communities, and economic opportunities. Key actions include increasing renewable energy generation, improving energy efficiency in homes and buildings, promoting active and low-emission transport, restoring peatlands, and expanding woodland planting.

Scotland’s Climate Change Plan: 2026-2040²

- 5.2.2 The Climate Change Plan 2018-2032 (2020 update) has been replaced by Scotland’s Climate Change Plan: 2026-2040. Scotland’s Climate Change Plan: 2026-2040 outlines the Scottish Government’s strategy for achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emission by 2045. The plan sets a target for average levels of carbon emission reduction in Scotland’s in five-year intervals between 2026 and 2045, with the first target being 57% lower than the 1990 baseline for 2026-2030. The plan sets out a wide range of policy commitments across sectors such as residential and public; transport; waste management; energy supply; business and industrial processes; land use, land use change and forestry; and agriculture. The targets set out within this plan were based on recommendations from the UK’s independent adviser on climate change, the Climate Change Committee³.

Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024⁴

- 5.2.3 The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024 amended the Climate Change (Scotland) 2009 to replace the annual and interim targets, such as the target to 75% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030) with five-year carbon budget targets. The Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024 does not remove the legally binding target of achieving net-zero emissions by 2045. For the 2026-2030 carbon budget period, the target is for emissions to be 57% lower than the 1990 baseline, as defined by the new Scotland’s Climate Change Plan: 2026-2040.

¹ Update to the Climate Change Plan 2018-2031: Securing a Green Recovery on a Path to Net-zero (2020), Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/securing-green-recovery-path-net-zero-update-climate-change-plan-20182032/documents>

² Scotland’s Climate Change Plan: 2026-2-24 (2026), Scottish Government: <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2026/03/scotlands-climate-change-plan-2026-2040-annexes/documents/scotlands-climate-change-plan-2026-2040/scotlands-climate-change-plan-2026-2040/govscot%3Adocument/scotlands-climate-change-plan-2026-2040.pdf>

³ Scotland’s Carbon Budgets (2025). Climate Change Committee: <https://www.theccc.org.uk/publication/scotlands-carbon-budgets/>

⁴ Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2024.

Climate Change: Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029⁵

- 5.2.4 The Climate Change: Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029 sets out the actions that the Scottish Government and partners will take to respond to the impacts of climate change. This is done through support for communities; businesses; public services, and nature. The adaptation plan defines Scotland's priorities for the years between 2024 and 2029. The adaptation plan outlines the importance of energy network resilience.

Update to the 2020 Offshore Wind Policy Statement (2026)⁶

- 5.2.5 The Offshore Wind Policy Statement sets out Scotland's vision to become a global leader in offshore wind energy, aiming to support up to 40 gigawatts (GW) of new offshore wind by 2035-2040 (in the 2020 version, this was 8-11 GW by 2030). It outlines the Scottish Government's commitment to harnessing the economic, environmental and social benefits of offshore wind, including reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs and boosting the supply chain. The statement emphasises the need for sustainable development, strategic planning and collaboration with stakeholders to balance energy ambitions with environmental protection, particularly for marine ecosystems. It also supports innovation in technologies like floating wind and encourages investment to help deliver a just and inclusive energy transition.

Onshore Wind Policy Statement (2022)⁷

- 5.2.6 The Onshore Wind Policy Statement (2022) outlines Scotland's commitment to significantly expanding onshore wind capacity to help meet its net-zero target by 2045, aiming for up to 20 GW of installed capacity by 2030. It emphasises the role of onshore wind as a key, low-cost renewable energy source and focuses on repowering existing sites, accelerating permitting processes and strengthening community engagement and benefit-sharing. The statement also highlights the importance of protecting the natural environment, supporting a skilled workforce and maximising economic opportunities for local supply chains while ensuring developments align with climate and biodiversity goals.

Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan (2023)⁸

- 5.2.7 The Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan (2023) set out Scotland's vision for a secure, affordable and decarbonised energy system aligned with its target of net-zero by 2045. It outlines a roadmap to reduce dependence on oil and gas while accelerating the transition to renewable energy, such as wind, hydrogen and solar. Central to the plan is the principle of a just transition, ensuring that the move to a low-carbon economy supports workers, communities and industries through retraining, investment and inclusive growth. The strategy emphasises energy security, economic opportunity and climate resilience, aiming to build a fairer, greener energy future for all of Scotland.

Green Industrial Strategy (2024)⁹

- 5.2.8 The Green Industrial Strategy (2024) lays out Scotland's plan to harness the global shift to net-zero by making green industries a core part of its economic growth and job creation. It identifies five opportunity areas: wind; carbon capture and utilisation and storage; green

⁵ Climate Change: Scottish National Adaptation Plan 2024-2029 (2024), Scottish Government: <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/strategy-plan/2024/09/scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029-2/documents/scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029/scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029/govscot%3Adocument/scottish-national-adaptation-plan-2024-2029.pdf>

⁶ Update to the Offshore Wind Policy Statement (2026), Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/offshore-wind-policy-statement/>

⁷ Onshore Wind: Policy Statement 2022 (2022). <https://www.gov.scot/publications/onshore-wind-policy-statement-2022/>

⁸ Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan (2023). Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/draft-energy-strategy-transition-plan/>

⁹ Green Industrial Strategy (2024). Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/green-industrial-strategy/>

economy financial and professional services; hydrogen; and building clean industries. To enable this, the Strategy underlines scaling up investment, building supply chains and skills, improving planning and regulatory regimes, seizing regional strengths and ensuring growth is fair and substantially benefits communities across Scotland.

The Global Climate Emergency – Scotland’s Response: Climate Change Statement (2019)¹⁰

- 5.2.9 The Global Climate Emergency - Scotland's Response: Climate Change Secretary Roseanna Cunningham's statement (2019) sets out Scotland’s Response to the global climate emergency. The statements set out what the Scottish Government has done in the light of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Relevant Legislative Provisions

The Electricity Act¹³

- 5.2.10 The Applicant is subject to duties under Schedule 9 to the Electricity Act 1989¹⁴:

“have regard to the desirability of preserving natural beauty, of conserving flora, fauna and geological or physiographical features of special interest and of protecting sites, buildings and objects of architectural, historic or archaeological interest”;

“do what [it] reasonably can to mitigate any effect which the proposals would have on the natural beauty of the countryside or on any such flora, fauna, features, sites, buildings or objects.”

“avoid, so far as possible, causing injury to fisheries or to the stock of fish in any waters”.

- 5.2.11 Consent will be sought under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 (‘section 37 consent’) for the New Build Overhead Line and Upgraded Overhead Lines. Further details are provided in Chapter 1 Introduction.

Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997¹¹

- 5.2.12 As detailed in Chapter 1 Introduction, the Applicant will also apply for deemed planning permission under section 57 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (‘TCPA’) for the Substation Works (except the Cumbernauld Substation Extension works) and the Ancillary Works and associated works (such as temporary infrastructure and access tracks) (‘deemed planning permission’).

- 5.2.13 Planning permission for the Cumbernauld Substation Extension works will be sought from North Lanarkshire Council under the TCPA.

Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations

- 5.2.14 Chapter 1 Introduction of this EIA Report sets out the applicable EIA regulations for the Project.
- 5.2.15 The Applicant has undertaken an EIA scoping exercise which determined potential likely significant adverse effects across the environmental topics. The Scoping exercise also

¹⁰ The Global Climate Emergency - Scotland's Response: Climate Change Secretary Roseanna Cunningham's statement (2019). Scottish Government. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/global-climate-emergency-scotlands-response-climate-change-secretary-roseanna-cunninghams-statement/>

¹¹ Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

identified the requirement for proportionate cumulative effects assessment focusing only on cumulative construction phase traffic and cumulative construction and operational noise.

- 5.2.16 The EIA scoping exercise and technical assessments presented within this EIA Report form part of the EIA process which has been undertaken for the Project. The EIA Scoping Report (Appendix 2.2) and this EIA Report demonstrate how the EIA undertaken by the Applicant aligns with SP Transmission (*the Applicant's*) statutory duties (Schedule 9 (a) and (b) above).

Development Management Procedure

- 5.2.17 The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Scotland Regulations 2013¹² outlines the procedures for planning applications in Scotland. The Applicant is responsible for ensuring that the procedural rules have been followed for the Project and all required documentation is provided.

Construction (Design and Management) Regulations

- 5.2.18 The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015¹³ (CDM 2015) set out how health and safety should be managed across design and construction. The Applicant is responsible for ensuring that the Project has been designed in consideration of the CDM 2015 regulations. Reference is made to the CDM 2015 regulations through this EIA Report where relevant, for example in relation to mitigation of environmental impacts during construction.
- 5.2.19 Where relevant, the technical chapters (Chapters 6-14) refer to topic specific legislation.

5.3 The Development Plan

- 5.3.1 Through modifications introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019¹⁴, Section 24 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997¹⁵ stipulates that the Development Plan comprises the National Planning Framework (NPF) and the Local Development Plan (LDP) for the area.
- 5.3.2 The Development Plans for the Project comprises NPF4 (2023)¹⁶ as well as the local development plans for:
- North Lanarkshire Council – North Lanarkshire Council Local Development Plan (adopted 6th July 2022)¹⁷; and
 - Falkirk Council – Falkirk Council Local Development Plan 2 (adopted 7th August 2020)¹⁸.
- 5.3.3 Where there is incompatibility between the LDP and NPF4, the one later in date takes precedence.

5.4 National Planning Policy

National Planning Framework 4

- 5.4.1 NPF4, adopted in February 2023, sets out how the Scottish Government's approach to planning and development will help to achieve a net-zero, sustainable Scotland by 2045. It

¹² The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Scotland Regulations 2013

¹³ The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015

¹⁴ Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, Scottish Government <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/13/contents>

¹⁵ Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (1997), Scottish Government

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/8/contents>

¹⁶ National Planning Framework 4 (2023), Scottish Government <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/documents/>

¹⁷ North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (2022), North Lanarkshire Council <https://www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building/development-plans/current-north-lanarkshire-local-development-plan>

¹⁸ Falkirk Local Development Plan 2 (2020), Falkirk Council <https://www.falkirk.gov.uk/development-planning/falkirk-local-development-plan-2>

also identifies 18 National Developments which are developments of national importance that will help deliver the spatial strategy. The need for any development which has been designated as a National Development is established. This includes 'Strategic Renewable Electricity Generation and Transmission Infrastructure'. This is outlined in NPF4 Annex B, which states that this National Development supports renewable electricity generation, repowering, and expansion of the electricity grid.

- 5.4.2 Development contributing to the delivery of 'Strategic Renewable Electricity Generation and Transmission Infrastructure', is classed as a 'National Development' in NPF4, if it is of a scale or type that would otherwise have been classed as 'major' by 'The Town and Country Planning (Hierarchy of Developments) (Scotland) Regulations 2009'. The Classes of National Development include: "*New and/or replacement upgraded on and offshore high voltage electricity transmission lines, cables and interconnectors of 132kv or more*" and "*New and/or upgraded infrastructure directly supporting on and offshore high voltage electricity lines, cables and interconnectors including converter stations, switching stations and substations.*" The Project is classed as 'National Development'.
- 5.4.3 NPF4 must be read as a whole, and its 33 policies are to be used as a guide to decision making. Table 5-1 summarises relevant NPF4 policies and related EIA topics.

Table 5-1: Relevant NPF4 Policies

Policy	Summary
Policy 1: Tackling the climate and nature crises	Policy 1 gives significant weight to the climate emergency and nature crisis in order to ensure that these are recognised as priorities in all plans and decisions taken regarding new development. The policy intends to “ <i>encourage, promote and facilitate development that addresses the global climate emergency and nature crisis</i> ” with the policy outcome being zero carbon, nature positive places.
Policy 2: Climate mitigation and adaptation	Policy 2 is intended to encourage, promote and facilitate development that minimises emissions and adapts to current and future impacts arising from climate change.
Policy 3: Biodiversity	Policy 3 protects biodiversity and requires proposals for national or major development to conserve, enhance and restore biodiversity. Specifically, Policy 3 states that developments that require EIA will only be supported where they can demonstrate that the proposal will conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity, including nature networks, so they are in a better state than without intervention. Proposals will require to demonstrate how they have met a number of criteria: understanding of existing characteristics; using nature-based solutions where feasible; significant biodiversity enhancements are provided; and local community benefits have been considered.
Policy 4: Natural Places	Policy 4 protects internationally, nationally, regionally and locally important nature assets such as sites designated for landscape or ecological purposes as well as protected habitats and species.
Policy 5: Soils	Policy 5 provides protection to carbon-rich soils and peatlands as well as prime agricultural land.

Policy	Summary
Policy 6: Forestry, Woodland, and Trees	Policy 6 provides protection to trees and woodland encouraging the retention and expansion of both.
Policy 7: Historic Assets and Places	Policy 7 protects historic environment assets and requires development proposals with the potential to significantly impact them to be accompanied by an assessment considering their cultural significance.
Policy 8: Green Belts	Policy 8 is intended to promote sustainable, compact urban growth by directing development to appropriate locations, increasing urban density, protecting the character and natural environments of settlements and supporting nature networks and climate change actions.
Policy 11: Energy	Policy 11 is intended to encourage, promote and facilitate all forms of renewable energy development including new and replacement electricity transmission infrastructure. In particular Policy 11 states that development proposals that enable renewable, low-carbon and zero emissions technologies will be supported, this includes grid transmission and distribution infrastructure. It also sets out a range of impacts which must be considered in the design of proposals including on a range of environmental aspects.
Policy 18: Infrastructure First	Policy 18 encourages development proposals which provide (or contribute to) infrastructure in line with that identified as necessary in LDPs and their delivery programmes will be supported.
Policy 22: Flood Risk and Water Management	Policy 22 seeks to ensure that flood risk is not exacerbated by development proposals and facilitates the delivery of sustainable flood risk management solutions. It sets out conditions which must be satisfied in instances where development proposals are at risk of flooding or located within a flood risk area.



Policy	Summary
Policy 23 Health and Safety	Policy 23 seeks to protect people and places from environmental harm and mitigate risks that could arise from safety hazards. It sets out a number of factors to be considered including in relation to air quality and noise.

5.5 North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan

- 5.5.1 Adopted on 6th July 2022, NLLDP presents a 5 to 10 year strategy for development within the North Lanarkshire authority area. The LDP's vision introduces a focus on places, placemaking and sustainability, and successful and safeguarded places. As such, the LDP is intended to guide the regeneration of North Lanarkshire's economy and physical fabric with the creation of better places. Table 5-2 summarises relevant North Lanarkshire Plan policies

Table 5-2: Relevant North Lanarkshire LDP Policies

North Lanarkshire LDP Policy	Policy Summary
Policy PROM LOC4: Special Landscape Areas and Green Network Improvements	Policy PROM LOC4 promotes understanding and awareness of the distinctive character and special qualities of the designated Special Landscape Areas. North Lanarkshire Council require that any proposals affecting the Special Landscape Areas, and any proposals affecting the Green Network in North Lanarkshire and other natural areas and green space will both be required to satisfy the provisions of all Environmental & Design Qualities (EDQ) and Protecting Assets (PROT) Policies.
Policy PROM ID2: Utilities Improvements	Policy PROM ID2 of the NLLDP supports utilities development, including renewable energy infrastructure, in principle, subject to compliance with legislation and other LDP policies. It states that Planning Applications will be assessed for their suitability for being located in the Land Use Character Area in which they are proposed in terms of specific protection and environmental qualities.
Policy PROT A: Natural Environment and Green Networks Assets	Policy PROT A of the NLLDP seeks to protect natural and resilient sustainable places by safeguarding natural heritage assets. It identifies international, national and local locations site categories, and urban green networks and protected species, as categories which are protected for their importance for species or habitats, or other environmental value. National and Local Sites are of particular significance to the Project. For national sites, the council will only support development affecting a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) where an appraisal shows the site's objectives and overall integrity are not compromised, or any significant adverse effects are clearly outweighed by social or economic benefits of national importance. In regard to ancient woodland, the council expects applicants to follow the Clydeplan Forestry & Woodland Strategy and to comply with the Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy for any proposals involving woodland (in whole or in part). For local sites, planning permission will only be granted where applicants demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that there will be no adverse impact, or that any impacts are mitigated appropriately in environmental terms relevant to the impact.

North Lanarkshire LDP Policy	Policy Summary
Policy PROT B: Historic Environment Assets	Policy PROT B of the NLLDP seeks to protect and create resilient sustainable places by safeguarding historic environment assets. The policy states that there will be a presumption against development with the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site Buffer Zone s which would have an adverse impact on the site and its setting. The policy also outlines how the development should not adversely impact on national designations such as Scheduled Monuments and Category A Listed Buildings.
Policy PROT C: Mineral Resources	Policy PROT C of the NLLDP states that there is a presumption against proposals for development that would potentially sterilise valuable mineral resource.
Policy EDQ 1: Site Appraisal	Policy EDQ 1 requires that Projectbe appraised in terms of the site and its surroundings to ensure it will integrate successfully into the local area and avoid harm to neighbouring amenity. Policy EDQ 1 states that matters that should be addressed in the appraisal include: public utilities (e.g. overhead power lines); ground contamination; biodiversity of plant and animals; and heritage or amenity value.
Policy EDQ 2: Specific Features for Consideration	Policy EDQ 2 addresses development in areas with specific constraints, including hazardous zones (flood risk, contaminated land, ground instability) utilities infrastructure and management areas, including noise and air quality management areas.
Policy EDQ 3: Quality of Development	Policy EDQ 3 requires that development will only be permitted where high standards of site planning and sustainable design are achieved. Planning Applications will need to demonstrate that the Projecttakes account of the site appraisal carried out as a requirement of Policies EDQ 1 and, if appropriate, EDQ 2, assets protected under Policies PROT A,B and C, any evaluation of design options, and achieves a high-quality development, including in terms of moving towards a low-carbon economy.
PP 4: Purpose of Place	PP 4 Policy Purpose of Place Is designed to protect the setting of communities, support regeneration by directing growth to urban areas, protect natural assets and provide a high quality environment, by promoting a Green Belt.

5.6 Falkirk Local Development Plan

- 5.6.1 The relevant Local Development Plan (LDP) for the part of the Project within Falkirk is the Falkirk Local Development Plan 2 (FLDP2) which was adopted on 7th August 2020. The LDP sets out strategic objectives and planning policies to guide development within Falkirk and is supported by Supplementary Guidance (SG). Table 5-3 summarises relevant Falkirk LDP policies.

Table 5-3: Relevant Falkirk LDP Policies

Falkirk LDP Policy	Policy Summary
PE05: Antonine Wall	Policy PE05 of the FLDP2 states that the Council will seek to retain, protect, preserve and enhance the Antonine Wall, its associated archaeology, character and setting.
PE06: Archaeological Sites	Policy PE06 of the FLDP2 requires Scheduled Monuments (SM) and other identified nationally important archaeological resources to be preserved in situ and within an appropriate setting, with Developments which have an adverse effect on SM or the integrity of their setting not being permitted.
PE07: Listed Buildings	Policy PE07 of the FLDP2 requires that Development proposals within the curtilage or affecting the setting of a listed building should not adversely affect the character, appearance, special architectural or historic interest of the building, or its setting.
PE08: Conservation Areas	Policy PE08 of the FLDP2 requires that the Council protect the historic character and visual amenity of each Conservation area.
PE14: Countryside	Policy PE14 of the FLDP2 states that new developments in the countryside should demonstrate that their scale, siting and design is such that there will be no significant adverse impact on the rural environment.
PE18: Landscape	Policy PE18 of the FLDP2 states that the Council will seek to protect and enhance landscape quality with development in a Local Landscape Areas designed to minimise the adverse effects on the landscape character and scenic interest. The policy also states that any proposals that are likely to have significant landscape and visual effects must be accompanied by a landscape and visual impact assessment.
PE19: Biodiversity and Geodiversity	Policy PE19 of the FLDP2 states that the Council will protect and enhance habitats and species of importance and will promote biodiversity and geodiversity through the planning process. Specifically, the policy outlines how developments that can impact Natura 2000 sites, statutory designated sites (such as SSSIs), locally designated sites (such as Local

Falkirk LDP Policy	Policy Summary
	Nature Reserves), or European protected species will be managed. The policy also specifies that should any development adversely impact any site, habitat, or species of significant local nature conservation value, appropriate mitigation measures will be required.
PE20: Trees Woodland and Hedgerows	Policy PE20 of the FLDP2 establishes a presumption against removal of safe and healthy trees where it would harm landscape, local amenity, nature conservation, recreation or historic environment interests, or erosion and natural flood management. Ancient, long-established, and semi-natural woodlands are recognised as a resource of irreplaceable value and will be protected, while development in areas subject to Tree Preservation Orders or Conservation Areas must ensure trees health, stability, and biodiversity are not adversely affected.
PE22: The Water Environment	Policy PE22 of the FLDP2 recognises the importance of the water environment within the Council area in terms of its landscape, ecological, recreational and land drainage functions. Additionally, the policy emphasises the protection and enhancement of watercourses for their landscape, ecological, recreational and land drainage functions.
PE24: Flood Management	Policy PE24 of the FLDP2 prioritises protecting people, property, and the environment from flood risk, supporting the objectives of Local Flood Risk Management Strategies and Plans. There is a clear presumption against development that would be likely to be at risk of flooding or increase the level of risk of flooding for existing development, and proposals in medium to high-risk areas must provide a flood risk assessment demonstrating that risks can be managed, climate change allowances are included, and safe access and egress are provided.
PE25: Soils and Agricultural Land	Policy PE25 of the FLDP2 safeguards high-quality and carbon-rich soils, with a presumption against development that would result in the loss of prime quality agricultural land (Classes 1, 2 and 3.1) unless it meets an overriding local or national need, is allocated in the LDP, supports a rural business, or facilitates renewable energy or minerals extraction consistent with other policies.
PE26: Air Quality	Policy PE26 of the FLDP2 ensures that development does not worsen existing air quality or create new pollution without mitigation, with particular attention to Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA). Developments may require an Air Quality Assessment where they could cause or significantly contribute towards a breach of National Air Quality Standards.
PE27: Vacant, Derelict, Unstable and Contaminated Land	Policy PE27 of the FLDP2 supports proposals that reduce the extent of vacant, derelict, unstable, or contaminated land, provided they comply with other LDP policies. Development on unstable or contaminated sites will only be permitted where appropriate remediation or mitigation measures have been undertaken and proposals meet the requirements of PAN 33, ensuring safe and sustainable reuse of such land.



Falkirk LDP Policy	Policy Summary
IR12: Energy Generation Development	Policy IR12 of the FLDP2 sets out that energy infrastructure proposals will be assessed on multiple factors, including economic and community benefits, contribution to renewable energy targets and the effect on greenhouse gas emissions, landscape and visual impacts, ecological and water environment effects, impacts on forestry, soils, green belt, historic environment, heritage, aviation, digital infrastructure, communities, tourism and recreation. Developments must also consider cumulative effects and waste minimisation, following detailed guidance in SG14 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy.