

OUTLINE STATEMENT

Alnwick District Council "The Council" will provide evidence to the Public Inquiry and will structure their evidence around the relevant matters identified by the Secretary of State in his letter of 6th August, 2007.

The Council will explain the process of their consideration of the application that was submitted and the results of the consultations with the statutory bodies as well as the consultation responses received from other interested parties.

The Council will explain the relevant planning policy context provided by The Development Plan comprising the Regional Planning Guidance adopted in November 2002, the Northumberland County Structure Plan adopted in February 2005 and the Alnwick District Wide Local Plan adopted in 1997.

In addition they will identify relevant material considerations including the emerging Local Development Framework Core Strategy, the emerging RSS, and relevant national guidance including PPS1, PPS7 and PPS22.

The Council will explain how their policy approach to wind farm development has been informed by landscape character assessments and exercises undertaken to assess the capacity of the landscape to assimilate wind farm development.

The Council will maintain that the proposal will have an adverse detrimental impact on the wider landscape setting and in particular the setting of the Northumberland Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

They will also maintain that the proposal will have a detrimental impact on the countryside in which the proposal is intended to be sited contrary to emerging policy in the LDF Core Strategy.

The Council will maintain that the proposal as submitted will have a harmful and dominant impact on the landscape setting and residential amenity of the residents of North Charlton and South Charlton.

The Council will explain their concerns regarding the cumulative impact that this proposal could have when considered in conjunction with the proposed wind farm at Wandylaw located nearby in the administrative area of Berwick District Council. Taken together these proposals would represent large scale development beyond the capacity of the landscape and could give rise to a "wind farm landscape" contrary to emerging LDF policy S21. The Council will inform the Inquiry regarding the process with the Wandylaw application.