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TECHNICAL APPENDIX 7.3: VIEWPOINT ANALYSIS

Introduction

1. A viewpoint assessment has been carried out from a selection of key representative viewpoint locations to inform the assessment of the likely magnitude and significance of landscape and visual effects arising as a result of the proposed Harestanes West Windfarm (hereafter, 'the proposed Development').

2. Following desk-top analysis and site survey work, a total of 19 viewpoint locations were selected to represent the main landscape and visual receptors found in the study area.

3. The locations of the selected viewpoints are shown on **Volume 3a: EIA Report Figures 7.1 – 7.15**. Details for each viewpoint are provided below. Panoramic photographs, wireline diagrams and photomontages (in most cases) are provided to illustrate the existing view at each viewpoint location and the likely extent of the proposed Development within the view (see **Volume 3b: EIA Report Figures, Viewpoints 1-19**). A summary of the viewpoint analysis is provided in **Table 7.8** in the main LVIA (see **Volume 2: EIA Report, Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment**).

4. The viewpoints presented at Scoping were incorporated into the final list with the numbers reordered by distance with one viewpoint (Scoping VP2) removed due to screening by tree cover. The dawn/dusk photomontages have been agreed following Scoping and the night-time viewpoint analysis is presented in **Technical Appendix 7.5**.

5. This viewpoint assessment considers the nature of the predicted view and the scale of change. The wider extent of the effect (beyond the individual viewpoint considered), and its duration, are not captured in the viewpoint analysis (as a single viewpoint cannot capture extent or duration) and are considered in the main body of the assessment (see **Chapter 7**). Extent and duration are factors in the overall judgement on magnitude of change, therefore judgements on magnitude of change and overall level of effect and significance are also provided in the main assessment.

6. The method of assessment used for the viewpoint analysis, which is described in **Technical Appendix 7.1**, accords with current best-practice guidance for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management, 2013). Observations are made of the baseline landscape and visual characteristics at each of the representative viewpoints. Observations, computer modelling and professional judgement are applied to determine the scale of change attributable to the proposed Development **(Large, Medium, Small and Negligible**) upon landscape character and visual amenity at each individual viewpoint in order to determine the scale of effect.

7. The visual assessment takes into account the screening effect of intervening landform, vegetation and built form and the potential for changes to those baseline features. It assumes excellent clear weather conditions; although the influence of different seasons, weather, sunlight and visibility conditions have been considered, where relevant.

8. The cumulative assessment relates to the assessment of the effects of more than one development and is described in **Technical Appendix 7.1**. It is important to differentiate between the assessment of cumulative effects arising from the proposed Development with other developments that are:

- **Scenario 1**: Operational or under construction, which have been included as part of the baseline assessed in the LVIA chapter;
- **Scenario 2**: Consented, which can be considered as part of a scenario with some certainty; and
- **Scenario 3**: Other Proposals with validated planning applications, of which there can be little certainty.

VP	Location	Key Features of Existing View	Predicted Visual Change	Predicted Change to Landscape Character	Predicted Change to Designated Area
1	Minor Road near Burnfoot Distance to nearest turbine: 1.1 km	This is a close-range view of the proposed Development from the Windyhill Burn valley. Views are channelled up and down the valley and along the road, contained by low rolling foothills to the east and west. There is a small cluster of houses along the road. Both sides of the road are characterised by rolling hills of agricultural pasture giving way to forestry and woodland on the slopes. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** No operational sites visible.	Intervening landform would screen much of the proposed Development, particularly the lower parts of most turbines. However, there would still be up to 5 turbines clearly noticeable above the horizon to the west, plus up to 3 further sets of blade tips. Local tree cover and forestry would provide screening to some, but not all of these turbines. The proposed Development would introduce new large-scale features widely spaced on the skyline across a long horizontal extent of the western side of the valley but at a low density. The rotation of blades would be clearly noticeable at this distance and would draw the eye. There would be no ground level infrastructure visible. The nacelle lights on T1, T3 and T6 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Large** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No other proposed scheme visible.	This viewpoint is located within the Ae unit of Foothills with Forestry (18a). The proposed Development would introduce turbines within forestry beyond the skyline. These turbines would represent new large scale man-made features in this part of the landscape, which would contrast with some of the smaller scale elements within the incised valley. However, the extent of screening and setback provides a degree of separation when in the base of the valley and the turbines. **Operational scale of change: Large**	None
2	Loch Ettrick Distance to nearest turbine: 1.3 km	Views from this loch are mostly contained by landform and vegetation, however there is a slightly longer distance view to the northeast, with a few turbines of Harestanes visible in the distance. The lochside vegetation comprises a mix of deciduous and coniferous woodland which provides screening depending on the state of the forestry. There is a small boat house at the end of the dam wall. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Harestanes and Minnygap are visible 4 km to the northeast in the distance, just above forestry.	Landform would screen much of the proposed Development. However, there would be a few prominent turbines on the horizon from the east to the south. The turbines would be widely spaced across nearly 90 degrees of the view. However, the current state of tree cover to the south would screen all but two of the turbines. In time the restocking of forestry would also screen those, but felling of other areas would bring different turbines into view. The rotation of blades would be clearly noticeable at this distance and draw the eye. There would be no ground level infrastructure visible. The nacelle lights on T1 and T3 would be theoretically visible, but with the current forestry southwest of the dam bank would screen the light on T3. **Operational scale of change: Large** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Theoretically a turbine of Harestanes South would be visible but would not be noticeable due to the extent of screening by landform and further by landcover. No change to the scale of change reported for Scenario 1.	This viewpoint is located within the Ae unit of Foothills with Forestry (18a). The proposed Development would introduce new large-scale elements on the skyline in close proximity within this part of the landscape. They would become new focal points in the landscape which is already characterised by windfarm development. The introduction of the turbines would alter the setting of the loch, however it is already surrounded by large scale commercial forestry and the loch itself is a man-made feature with high dam wall. In time the views of the turbines would change as forestry grows in some areas and felled in others, as it has changed over time. **Operational scale of change: Large** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No change to the scale of change reported for Scenario 1.	None

3	Ae-Dulcrum Rise Distance to nearest turbine: 2.0 km	This is a mid-distance view in the valley base from the outer edge of residential settlement near a bench at the western edge of Ae. Views north, east and south are restricted by two storey residential dwellings and dense hedgerows. More open views west can be obtained which extends across undulating pasture then rising to form low foothills with forestry. Crocket Hill and Auchengeith Hill create the horizon with established plantation forest which defines the skyline in views west. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** No operational sites visible.	Most of the upper parts of the proposed turbines would be visible above the skyline, contained within the extent of existing forestry. All 12 turbines could be visible on the horizon with no forestry. With the current state of forestry eight turbines would be clearly visible above the forestry with an additional two turbine blades appearing noticeably above the forestry. There would be views to ground level infrastructure at the base of T8, but otherwise screened by landform. The proposed Development would introduce new large-scale rotating features across a c.75 degree horizontal extent of the skyline to the west which would draw the eye and likely to become the focus of views. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be theoretically visible, however the lights on T3 and T1 would be screened by forestry/woodland as it currently stands. **Operational scale of change: Large** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No other proposed scheme visible.	This viewpoint is located within the Ae unit of Foothills with Forestry (18a). The proposed Development would notably add the influence of wind turbines within this part of the valley which is currently free from wind turbines. The proposed Development would introduce turbines within areas of commercial forestry on the western side of the valley. These turbines would represent new large scale man-made features in this part of the landscape, which would contrast with some of the smaller scale elements within the incised valley. **Operational scale of change: Large**	None
4	Minor Road near Mitchellslacks Distance to nearest turbine: 2.1 km	This is a view from the minor road to the north of the Site, near Mitchellslacks. As the road heads north, the route transitions from the incised valley within the heavily afforested foothills to a more open upland landscape of the Thornhill Uplands / Southern Uplands. Views south towards the site are more curtailed and characterised by forestry. In contrast, views north are more extensive across open upland moor with a higher scenic quality within the Regional Scenic Area to the north. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** No operational sites visible.	The proposed Development would appear as a compact cluster of up to 12 turbines, partially screened by landform. However, due to screening by relatively young forestry in the foreground, only 8 turbines would be clearly noticeable on the horizon, which would reduce in time with the growth of the trees, but then open up again when felled. The rotation of blades would be clearly noticeable at this distance and draw the eye. The proposed Development would appear in the direction of travel when heading south and would introduce new wind farm array. There would be no ground level infrastructure visible from this position. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, and T9 would be theoretically visible, however forestry as it currently stands would screen T6, T8 and T9. **Operational scale of change: Large** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No other proposed scheme visible.	This view is at the boundary between Southern Uplands (19) and Foothills with Forestry (18a) LCTs and the boundary between them is distinct. The proposed Development would introduce large scale turbines within forestry within the foothills, clearly separate from the more upland moors to the north. From this location turbines would introduce windfarm development into this part of the landscape, where windfarm development is not a readily perceptible feature. **Operational scale of change: Large**	This viewpoint is located near the boundary of the Thornhill Uplands Regional Scenic Area. The boundary between the Southern Uplands to the north and the heavily afforested foothills to the south is clear. The views within the uplands are open and wide ranging, which contrasts with the predominantly curtailed views within the foothills.

5	A701, south of Ae Bridgend Distance to nearest turbine: 5.3 km	To the northwest, there are long-range and expansive views which extend across open gently undulating agricultural fields towards Fulton farmstead. Post and wire fences and hedgerows define field boundaries. Small pockets of mature trees and linear belts of trees are cluster around the farm buildings and property. The background of the view is comprised of rising foothills with bands of shelterbelt woodland on lower slopes rising to expanses of forestry on higher ground within the Forest of Ae. Landform across the background is of uniform height with the exception of Brownmoor Hill to the north-east. Views for those on this transport corridor are focussed on the road corridor travelling north-east or south-west. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Operational windfarm development including turbines at Dalswinton (between Fern Hill and Pennywell Moor 0.6 km away) and Harestanes (between Brownmoor hill and Pumro Fell 4km away) can be clearly seen on the skyline.	The full array of 12 turbines of the proposed Development would appear across on the skyline above the forestry occupying 30 degrees of the horizontal extent in views north. The turbines would appear at an even height along the ridge and relatively regularly spaced adjacent to Dalwsinton. The track between T1 and T2 may be visible and some tracks, round level infrastructure and key-holing may be visible at the base of T5 but at this distance would be of limited influence on the view. The proposed Development would appear adjacent to smaller Dalswinton array which is both smaller and further away thereby exaggerating the scale difference between the different turbine sizes from this position. Whilst the contrast between the two arrays would be very noticeable, they would have a similar relationship with the underlying landscape, with Harestanes West appearing to extend wind turbines further up the western side of the Windyhill Burn valley. For road users on the A701 transport corridor, the proposed Development would appear obliquely to the direction of travel but visible in both directions of travel. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Large/Medium** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be clearly visible in front of the operational Harestanes, appearing a similar size and extent of array as Harestanes West but separated by about 20 degrees. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and Harestanes, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would reduce to **Medium** as there would already be a similar influence of turbines on the view.	This viewpoint is located within the Ae unit of Upland Fringe (16). The proposed Development would appear clearly in the adjacent landscape character type and form a notable feature on the skyline. This would occur within a landscape type which is already characterised by wind energy development. The increase in turbine height, compared to the existing wind turbines, would also be clearly noticeable. The proposed Development would intensify the perception of wind energy development with the adjacent Foothills with Forest LCT, which would lead to an influence on the adjacent Ae unit of Upland Fringe where these two LCTs have a visual relationship, such as at this viewpoint. **Operational scale of change: Medium** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** The presence of Harestanes South would already establish an increased influence on this part of the Upland Fringe, but Harestanes West would intensify that influence further. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and Harestanes, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Medium** as there would already be a similar influence of turbines on the view.	None

6	Minor Road north of Riddingwood House Distance to nearest turbine: 5.5 km	This viewpoint is representative of the occasional long-range view north-west across this landscape. There are open agricultural fields within this Upland Fringe which occasional open up along minor roads mostly lined with hedgerows. In this view Riddingwood Farm is noticeable in this fringe landscape, with the Foothills with Forest forming the skyline. Views from this minor road and area are fleeting and mostly enclosed by vegetation. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Dalswinton Windfarm is visible 0.6km away on the skyline to the northwest. From this location the tips of Harestanes are screened.	10 proposed turbines would be visible on the skyline to the northwest above mainly deciduous tree cover. The two sets of blade tips would be screened by deciduous tree cover. The turbines would be contained within one compact grouping adjacent to blocks of forestry. The rotating blades of the proposed turbines would appear within the context of Dalswinton which would be noticeably smaller in scale than the proposed Development but the gap between the two arrays would lessen the direct scale comparison. There would be no ground level infrastructure visible. The rotation of turbine blades would be clearly noticeable and draw the eye. The views towards the proposed Development would be fleeting from this minor road and often oblique with a high degree of filtering by close range vegetation and shelterbelts. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be theoretically visible, however T1 would be screened by woodland. **Operational scale of change: Large/Medium** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Theoretically one hub of Harestanes South would be noticeable on the horizon, along with a few blade tips. However, from this location they would be screened by hedges as wide panoramic views would be limited in this part of the landscape where mainly sequential views would be possible. No change to the scale of change reported for Scenario 1.	This viewpoint is located within the Ae unit of Upland Fringe (16). The proposed Development would appear in the adjacent Foothills with Forestry. The proposed turbines would be a notable man-made addition on the skyline and would intensify the perception of wind energy development with the adjacent Foothills with Forest LCT, which would lead to an influence on part of the Ae unit of Upland Fringe. The turbines would appear as a separate array from Dalswinton, also on the skyline and would contain noticeably larger turbines but they would have a similar relationship to the landscape. **Operational scale of change: Medium/Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No change to the scale of change reported for Scenario 1.	None

7	A76, Closeburn Distance to nearest turbine: 6.0 km	There are open views east from Closeburn across the Upland Fringe landscape to the Southern Uplands and Foothills with Forestry. Mid-range views of Upland Fringe is characteristic with pockets of woodland rises gently to the consistent backcloth of foothills with blocks of forestry on the skyline. There are also open views from some parts of Closeburn to the west, but not so from this precise location. Dalswinton is visible on the horizon to the southeast. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Dalswinton Windfarm is visible 0.6 km away on the skyline to the southeast.	Theoretically ten blade tips and 1 hub would be visible, but only seven blade tips would be visible above forestry on the skyline in views east. Landform would screen most of the proposed Development with forestry screening the one hub and a few blade tips. The turbines would be visible but would not draw the eye or be readily noticeable on the horizon due to the extent of screening. There would be very limited change to the overall composition and balance of features in the view. The movement of the blades above the horizon would be noticeable from more static receptors such as residents, compared with road users on the A76. The nacelle light on T9 would be theoretically visible, however it would be screened by forestry on the horizon. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No other proposed scheme visible.	This viewpoint is on the boundary between the Upland Fringe LCT 16 to the east and the Nithsdale Middle Dale LCT 7 to the west. The proposed Development would be visible but not readily noticeable on the skyline to the east, within the adjacent Foothills with Forest. Given the presence of Dalswinton already a feature on this skyline, there would be little perceptible influence on key characterises of either LCT at this viewpoint. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**	This viewpoint is located within the Thornhill Uplands RSA and views northeast towards the more distinctive Lowther Hills are available from this viewpoint. However, the proposed Development would not be visible in the same part of the view and would not have any influence on the perception of the Thornhill Uplands RSA at this viewpoint. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**

8	Queensberry Distance to nearest turbine: 6.6 km	Panoramic and long-range views from one of the most elevated and distinctive peaks within the local landscape at the southern edge of the Southern Uplands LCT. To the south, the distinctive landform in the Torthorwald Ridge RSA at the edge of the Ae fringe landscape. The more settled landscape beyond opens into the Solway Firth with the distant skyline of Criffel. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** To the north (partially screened by the summit) views look out across to the Lowther hills and towards Daer Reservoir. Clyde Windfarm (17km away) covers a large expanse to the east of the reservoir. The view north-east includes the Moffat Hills and wedges of the Talla Hart Fell Wild Land Area. Views east and south comprise wind turbines at Harestanes (4km away) and Minnygap (7km away) Windfarms in foreground within the commercial forestry at various stages of rotation in the Forest of Ae. The coastal granite uplands appear across views south-west beyond Dalswinton Windfarm (0.6 km away) and against the backcloth of the Upland fringe along Nithsdale. Views towards with the west comprise undulating foothills and uplands with expanses of forestry. Other more distant windfarm is perceptible in distant views.	The full turbine array of the proposed Development would be visible as a compact cluster in front of Dalswinton Windfarm in views southeast. The proposed turbines would appear as separate group within commercial forestry. Some ground level infrastructure and the main access track through the Forest of Ae would be visible for much of its extent as you look down into the forest below. The bases of nearly all of the turbines would be visible along with changes to the long term management including key-holing in the forestry and Habitat Management Area A. Some of the improved or additional access tracks would be visible along with the substation between T10 and T12 at the back of the array. The proposed turbines would be more distant than the operational turbines at Harestanes but would appear at a similar scale from the summit. The proposed turbines would fit in with the existing pattern of cumulative development to the south. Due to the elevation of the viewpoint, the proposed Development would appear much lower in the landscape, thereby reducing the impact for those on the summit. The proposed Development would affect a small proportion of the view and away from the more valued scenic qualities to the north. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Construction scale of change: Medium** **Operational scale of change: Medium** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be clearly visible 4 km away, behind the operational Harestanes, and would be subsumed within that existing array. Daer would be visible 10 km to the north side of the summit but given its broad summit, not so noticeable at the same time as Harestanes West, mainly visible sequentially. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Medium**.	This viewpoint is located within the Southern Uplands LCT 19. The proposed Development would be noticeable in the lower adjacent Foothills with Forest LCT to the south where windfarms are a distinctive characteristic of the adjacent LCT. The proposed Development would modestly increase the influence of windfarm development within views, but would not encroach closer to the summit of Queensberry. **Construction scale of change: Medium/Small** **Operational scale of change: Medium/Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be subsumed within that existing array. Daer would be visible to the north side of the summit amongst the other wind energy developments to the north. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Medium/Small**.	This viewpoint is located within the Thornhill Uplands RSA. The proposed Development would add to the influence of windfarm development on the southern part of this RSA but would not encroach into the RSA and dramatically change the nature of views from Queensberry. **Construction scale of change: Medium/Small** **Operational scale of change: Medium/Small** There are views to Criffel in the Nithsdale NSA, but there would be little or no impact on appreciation of this landmark hill.

9	A76, near Portrack Distance to nearest turbine: 6.7 km	The view north from this section of the A76 is heavily filtered by mature trees along the transport corridor and rising landform to the west. Where available, views north-east extend across the dale of agricultural fields to the afforested foothills, which forms a consistent skyline. When travelling on the A76, views tend to be focussed north and south in the direction of travel. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Dalswinton Windfarm is visible 0.3 km away, across a small part of the skyline in views northeast.	The proposed Development would be visible over 6.8km northeast adjacent to the Dalswinton turbines. Four turbines (T7, T9, T11 and T12) and four blade tips would be visible across a small part the skyline above forestry in views northeast. The remaining tips and hubs would be screened by landform and further by forestry. The proposed Development would appear no higher above the horizon than Dalswinton, but the turbines would be noticeably larger in scale, but lower on the horizon. Views towards the proposed Development would be oblique to the focus of transport users on the A76 but visible travelling in both directions and filtered by intervening vegetation along the road. The nacelle lights on T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Medium/Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Theoretically a few tips of Harestanes South would be visible on the horizon, but they would not be perceptible. No change to the scale of change reported for Scenario 1.	This viewpoint is in the Nithsdale Middle Dale LCT 7. The proposed Development would appear setback beyond the enclosing hillside and clearly within a separate landscape to the Middle Dale LCT. The proposed Development would read as an extension to the existing windfarm development and as a result the influence would be moderated. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No change to the scale of change reported for Scenario 1.	None
10	Thornhill Distance to nearest turbine: 7.8 km	Views from the A76 on the southern edge of Thornhill are contained by established hedgerows and trees which tends to limit views beyond the road corridor. However, on the descent from Thornhill, there is an open view southeast across the Middle Dale and Upland Fringe. The backcloth of hills is comprised of a mixture of forestry, broadleaf woodland and open fields at similar elevation within the upland fringe and forested foothills which defines the skyline. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Dalswinton Windfarm is visible 0.3 km away on the skyline above existing forestry.	Landform would predominantly limit visibility of the proposed Development to mainly turbine tips and three hubs with one of those more notable above the skyline. The distance of over 7.7km to the proposed Development combined with the intervening landform would result in limited change to the baseline and would not draw attention from the focus of existing views for receptors. The nacelle lights on T3, T7, and T9 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** No other proposed scheme visible.	This viewpoint is in the Nithsdale Middle Dale LCT 7. Blade tips associated proposed Development would be visible but not very noticeable on the skyline above forestry. Given the setback from this dale, the proposed array would be perceived in a clearly a separate landscape to the Middle Dale LCT. The extension of windfarm development on the skyline would result in a limited change to key characteristics of this LCT. **Operational scale of change: Small**	This viewpoint is located within the Thornhill Uplands RSA. Blade tips of the proposed Development would appear on the skyline but would result in little perceptible change to the special qualities of the Thornhill Uplands RSA at this viewpoint. **Operational scale of change: Small/Negligible**

11	A75 – Dumfries Distance to nearest turbine: 11.0 km	There are long-range views north from the bridge across the River Nith on the A75, across the Lower Dale landscape. Riparian woodland lines the River Nith, with large fields bound by flood embankments. The view north to the foothills forms a consistent backcloth to the view with the exception of Queensberry hill which is a notable peak on the skyline on the southern edge of the Thornhill Uplands Regional Scenic Area (RSA). **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Operational windfarm development is characteristic on the distant skyline north and includes Dalswinton (0.3 km away), Harestanes/ Minnygap (4 km away).	The full turbine array would appear on the skyline over 11 km away as a compact group. The proposed turbines could read as a lateral extension to Dalswinton Windfarm with a similar relationship with the landscape but with noticeably larger turbines. Felling and the bases of T9 and T11 would be visible but at this distance would not influence the view. The proposed Development would add to the presence of windfarms on the skyline to the north. The rotation of blades would be noticeable but not out of character with the fast-moving traffic. The proposed Development would be clearly noticeable from this viewpoint, but given the baseline would be unlikely to result in a notable change to the composition and features in view. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Medium/Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, in front of the operational Harestanes and Minnygap Windfarms. Both Daer and Rivox would be theoretically visible 11 km to the north but not perceptible. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Medium/Small**.	This viewpoint is located within Lower Dale (Valley) LCT 6, which has some relationship with the enclosing Foothills with Forest. The proposed Development would appear in a clearly separate landscape but given the baseline would have a more limited influence on the perceptual associations of the Lower Dale (valley). The proposed turbines would appear as an intensification of the wind energy development in the Foothills but would be located on a part of the less distinctive skyline. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** There would be clear gap between the Harestanes West and Harestanes South groups but they would both appear within the Foothills with Forest LCT. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	This viewpoint is not located within the RSA, but the distinctive peak of Queensberry Hill, at the southern edge of the Thornhill Uplands RSA is visible. The proposed Development would not appear in front of Queensbury nor reduce the ability to appreciate this peak or the Thornhill Uplands RSA in the distance. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**

12	Drumlanrig Castle Distance to nearest turbine: 12.0 km	This viewpoint is located within the east parterre garden on the elevated footway surrounding Drumlanrig Castle. Views from the east side of the Castle are to the parterre gardens with policy woodland belts, pastoral landscape and the background of upland hills within the Thornhill Uplands RSA. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** The few tips of Harestanes are not perceptible in the view. Views to Dalswinton (0.3 km away) are screened for the most part by policy woodland, even in winter).	Landform and vegetation on the skyline would screen most of the proposed Development on the distant skyline in views east. In winter months there would be heavily filtered views of the tops of turbines. However, most of the proposed turbines would be screened by established policy woodland and trees. The proposed Development would result in the introduction of man-made, large scale elements on the skyline but they would not be readily noticeable or draw the eye away from the garden itself. However, the rotation of the blades may draw some attention to them where visible. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be theoretically visible, however all but T1 would be screened in summer and filtered in winter by deciduous trees within the garden. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 14 km away, adjacent to the proposed Development. But only one or two turbines might be noticeable above the horizon, where not screened by tree cover. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	Turbines and blade tips associated proposed Development would be perceptible on the skyline, clearly within a separate landscape to the Upper Dale (Valley) LCT. The introduction of windfarm development on the skyline would have limited influence on the key characteristics of this LCT which at this viewpoint are focussed on the parkland qualities of the GDL. **Operational scale of change: Small/ Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes West would fill in the gap between Harestanes/Harestanes South and Dalswinton on the distant horizon within the Foothills with Forest LCT. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	From this viewpoint the proposed Development would result in a limited increase in the influence of windfarm development on the south-eastern setting of the Thornhill Uplands RSA. **Operational scale of change: Small/ Negligible**

13	Breckenry Road over A74 (M) Distance to nearest turbine: 16.5 km	From this overbridge there are long-range views across the A74(M) carriageway and beyond that a network of agricultural fields and farmsteads across the Middle Dale LCT. Gently rising farmland and hills comprise woodland shelterbelts which form a band at the base of more upland and forested foothills across the dale. More distinctive peaks such as Queensberry hill is distinguishable beyond Harestanes/Minnygap Windfarms on the skyline northwest. Behind this view, is the Lockerbie plant with chimney and associated large industrial buildings. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** The operational Dalswinton Windfarm is 0.3 km away and Harestanes/Minnygap (4 km away) are visible across part of the northwest skyline.	Ten of the proposed turbines would be visible across a small horizontal extent of the background, with two sets of blade tips unlikely to be perceptible. The proposed Development would extend the presence of windfarm development across the skyline and appear larger in scale as a lateral extension to Dalswinton. At this distance, the rotation of turbine blades is unlikely to draw attention. The nacelle lights on T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, appearing in front of operational Harestanes with a small gap to the Harestanes West. The proposed Harestanes South turbines would appear a similar size to those of Harestanes West. Daer (11km away) and Rivox (10 km away) would be visible behind Minnygap, further up Annandale. Together, all of these windfarms would span 60 degrees of the skyline. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	The proposed Development would appear on the skyline and would increase the influence of windfarm development in the Middle Dale LCT. However, the proposed Development would be located clearly outwith the Middle Dale LCT separated by the band of Upland Fringe. There would be no change to key characteristics in this part of the LCT. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** The operational and other proposals would appear to be located in similar landscapes to the north or west of Annandale having a similar relationship with the landscape, but combined would increase the influence from existing. Harestanes West would be intensifying the amount of wind energy but not extend the lateral extent. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible.**	This viewpoint is not located within the RSA, but the distinctive peak of Queensberry Hill, at the southern edge of the Thornhill Uplands RSA is visible. The proposed Development would not affect the appreciation of the scenic qualities and setting of the Thornhill Uplands RSA at this viewpoint. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**

14	A75 - west of Brae Distance to nearest turbine: 18.4 km	There are long-range views from the Drumlin Pastures to the north and west from this location on the A75. Small clusters and linear belts of broadleaf woodland line parts of mid-range to distant hills above pockets of residential dwellings and farmsteads. Upland peaks within the Thornhill Uplands RSA and operational wind turbines are perceptible on the distant horizon and forms part of a slightly more elevated backcloth. Views across the landscape extending from north-west to north-east are the main aspect of views. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** The operational Dalswinton Windfarm is 0.3 km away, Harestanes/Minnygap (4 km away) are visible in a gap in the nearby Terregles ridge to the northeast more distant skyline.	The majority of the turbine array of the proposed Development would be visible over 18 km away forming part of the background view. The proposed turbines would appear amongst existing turbines in the distance and read as an intensification of wind energy development. Compared to the operational turbines at Dalswinton and Harestanes/Minnygap, the proposed Development would appear greater in scale but not wider in extent. However, the distance to the proposed Development would limit the scale of change and would not disrupt the overall balance of features on the skyline. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, in front and to the side of operational Harestanes. Daer (11 km away) would be visible as mainly 1 turbine through a gap in landform but Rivox would be screened and not visible. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	This viewpoint is located within the Drumlin Pastures LCT 13. The proposed Development would appear in a distant and separate landscape which has a more limited relationship with the Drumlin Pastures LCT. The proposed turbines would have limited influence on the local landscape and there would be little perceptible change or influence on key characterises of this LCT at this viewpoint. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Although visible, these other proposals would be seen as distant features in the background with little influence on local landscape character. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	This viewpoint is not located within any RSAs. The proposed Development would appear beyond the Terregles Ridge RSA (visible from this viewpoint) with little influence the perception of its special qualities. The proposed Development would appear within the foothills, adjacent to and two turbines in front of, Queensberry in the Thornhill Uplands RSA. The proposed Development would not significantly diminish the ability to appreciate the distinctive upland skyline or an appreciation of the special qualities. **Operational scale of change: Small**

15	Annandale Way, Monument Distance to nearest turbine: 18.5 km	This viewpoint is located at a monument on an elevated part of the Annadale Way. 360 degree panoramic views extend across the landscape with views south towards the Nith Estuary. Views north extend across undulating pasture and open moor with bands of forestry through the upland fringe landscape. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Operational windfarm development including Dalswinton (0.3km away), Harestanes/ Minnygap (4km away) are visible on the skyline amongst large blocks of forestry in the distant landscape.	The proposed Development would be visible in the background in views northwest and to the right of Dalswinton Windfarm. The full turbine array of the proposed Development would appear as one grouping and albeit greater in scale to existing turbines, but typical of the existing composition of the skyline. Considering the existing context and the distance of over 18 km away, the proposed Development would result a relatively small change in the balance of features in the view. There would be no change across the more valued aspect of the view. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, in front and to the side of operational Harestanes. Daer (11 km away) and Rivox (10 km away) would be visible behind Harestanes/Minnygap but of larger scale turbines. These three proposals would intensify the Harestanes/Minnygap group. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	The proposed Development would sit clearly within a distant and separate landscape above forestry. There would be limited influence on local landscape and from this location would result in barely discernible change to the key characteristics of Upland Fringe LCT. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Although visible, these other proposals would be seen as distant features in the background with little influence on local landscape character. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	The proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the setting or special qualities of Torthorwald Ridge RSA due to the distance and the existing context windfarm development on the skyline. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**
16	B7068 East of Lockerbie Distance to nearest turbine: 19.6 km	Long range and wide-angle views can be obtained from more elevated residential area and the B7068. Mid-range views north-west and west extend across built development in Lockerbie. Supermarket within Lockerbie contrasts with the scale and colour of other surrounding built development and draws the eye. A consistent band of upland hills extend across long range views from southwest to northwest. More distinctive peak of Queensberry hill is noticeable on the skyline beyond Harestanes/Minnygap. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Dalswinton is located 0.3 km to the northwest with Harestanes / Minnygap (4 km away) perceptible on the skyline.	Ten turbines of the proposed Development would be visible on the distant skyline to the northwest nearly 20 km away, with the two blade tips unlikely to be perceptible. The proposed Development would appear adjacent and at a larger scale than existing windfarm development. The nacelle lights on T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Small** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, in front and to the side of operational Harestanes. Daer (11 km away) and Rivox (10 km away) would be visible behind Harestanes/Minnygap. These three proposals would increase the extent of turbines in this area. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Small**.	The proposed Development would appear on the skyline in a clearly separate landscape. Considering the distance to the proposed Development, the influence of existing windfarm development on the skyline, there would be no perceptible change to key characteristics of this LCT. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Although visible, these other proposals would be seen as distant features in the background with little influence on local landscape character. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	NA

17	Criffel Distance to nearest turbine: 27.1 km	This is an elevated and panoramic view that extends across much the landscape. Views north extend across the lower dales and expanse of settlement within Dumfries to the more elevated backcloth of the Southern Uplands LCT. Queensberry hill forms the tallest back across the band of upland hills. The key views are those south over the coastline onto the Solway Firth and to the Lake District. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** There is a corridor of operational wind of operational windfarms at Harestanes, Dalswinton and Minnygap perceptible within the foothills and below the skyline.	The proposed Development would be visible adjacent to existing Dalswinton Windfarm. The distance at over 27 km and the context of existing windfarm development would reduce the scale of change. The proposed turbines would not break the skyline from this elevated viewpoint and would have little influence on views north. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, in front of operational Harestanes/Minnygap. Daer (11 km away) would be predominantly screened. Rivox (10 km away) would be visible behind Harestanes but the turbines would be larger in scale. These three proposals would increase the extent of turbines in this area. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	The proposed Development would sit clearly within a distant landscape with minimal change in long-range views would not affect any of the key characteristics of the Coastal Granite Uplands LCT. The increase of windfarm development would not have any discernible influence within this landscape. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Although visible, these other proposals would be seen as very distant features in the background with little influence on local landscape character. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	The proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the setting or special qualities of the Nith Estuary NSA or Solway Coast RSA due to the distance to the proposed Development. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**
18	Hart Fell Distance to nearest turbine: 24.9 km	This viewpoint is located at the summit of Hart Fell and within the Talla- Hart Fell Wild Land Area. Wide angle views extend from southeast to northwest. Views south illustrate the distinction between the uplands fringes to the foothills and upland fringes to more settled valley dales. The Foothills with Forest LCT lie in the mid-range views leading up to Queensbury hill with The Lowther Hills of the Southern Uplands LCT forms part of the background view to the west. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Operational windfarms at Harestanes, Minnygap and Dalswinton would be perceptible within the backdrop of forestry and below the skyline adjacent to Queensbury. Several wind turbines at Ewehill are visible beyond the immediate foreground to the southeast. Other more distant operational windfarm development is perceptible in distant views.	The proposed Development would be visible in excellent weather conditions across a very small portion of distant view behind Harestanes. The distance to the proposed Development and context of operational development would result in a barely discernible change to the composition of views. The nacelle lights on T1, T3, T6, T7, T8, T9 and T12 would be visible. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, adjacent to Harestanes/Minnygap. Rivox (10 km away) and Daer (11 km away) would be visible in front of the Southern Uplands. These two proposals would increase the extent of turbines visible from this area, more notably than either Harestanes South or West. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	The introduction of the proposed Development would be in a distant landscape over 24 km southwest. Considered the existing context of windfarm development, and location, the scale of change would not affect the key characteristics associated with this LCT. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Rivox and Daer would increase the influence of wind energy but would still remain well separated with limited influence locally to this viewpoint. Harestanes South would be seen as a very distant feature in the background with no influence on local landscape character. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	This viewpoint is located within the Talla- Hart Fell WLA. Taking into account the distant and existing context, the proposed Development would result in no perceptible change within this upland landscape. **Operational scale of change: Negligible**

19	Bowness-on-Solway, car park Distance to nearest turbine: 37.0 km	This viewpoint is located on the coast at a local carpark at the western edge of Bowness-on-Solway. Views west and east are channelled along the road corridor whilst views south are truncated by tall roadside vegetation. The main focus of views are long distance north across the Solway Firth. These views across the firth extend to a band of low level coastal development rising to a band of more distant upland hills including Criffel to the west. The large flat expanses and vista across the firth is a characteristic feature of the Solway Coast. **Cumulative Scenario 1:** Operational windfarms including Harestanes and Minnygap are barely discernible on the skyline, over 4 km away.	The proposed Development would be visible on the skyline in excellent weather condition within the context of operational windfarms at Harestanes/Minnygap. However, at over 37 km north from this location, there would result in a barely discernible change in views. The nacelle lights on T3, T6, T7, and T8 would be theoretically visible. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Harestanes South would be visible 4 km away, in front of Harestanes/Minnygap. Rivox (10 km away) and Daer (11 km away) would be barely discernible, even in excellent weather conditions. Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	The introduction of the proposed Development would result in barely discernible change in the landscape due to the distance and landform across the background. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** **Cumulative Scenario 3:** Assuming the prior presence of the operational and these other proposals, the scale of change from introducing Harestanes West would remain at **Negligible**.	This viewpoint is located within the Solway Coast National Landscape. The proposed Development would result in no perceptible change to the setting or special qualities of the Solway Coast due to the distance and the existing context windfarm development on the skyline. **Operational scale of change: Negligible** There are views to Criffel down the Solway Firth to the west within the Nithsdale NSA. However, the proposed Development would be seen to the northwest with no impact on appreciation of this landmark hill.