

SOWSD Update on commitments as of April 2025

The Scottish Onshore Wind Sector Deal was signed in September 2023, representing a landmark moment for Scotland's onshore wind industry. Setting out 63 commitments across seven themes, and a collective ambition of reaching 20 GW of onshore wind in Scotland by 2030.

Since publication, significant progress has been made across the themes. There have been notable successes, including local content tracking frameworks, updating the register of community benefits, EIA report streamlining, the adoption of the Pathfinder procurement portal, skills analyses and aviation work packages. Several commitments are in the delivery phase and are expected to be completed in 2025. However, several commitments are at an impasse and some that have not been completed with the expected level of collaboration required to deliver the Sector Deal effectively.

Scottish Renewables continues to engage with industry and government stakeholders to drive the progression of the remaining Sector Deal commitments. As we reach the delivery phase of more commitments, strong engagement from industry and government is crucial to effectively deliver on the Sector Deal and create a lasting legacy for the Scottish Onshore Wind Industry.

Tables 1 and 2 below break down the progression of the Sector Deal by commitment owner and theme.

Table 1. Commitment progress by owner

Commitment owner	Completed (Implemented or Under Review)	Remaining (Active or Waiting)
Government	11	8
Sector	15	12
Collaborative	6	11
Total	31	32

Table 2. Commitment progress by theme

Commitment theme	Completed (Implemented or Under Review)	Remaining (Active or Waiting)
Community	7	2
Legislative and Regulatory	5	2
Land Use and Environment	2	7
Planning	9	8
Supply chain and skills	4	5
Circularity	2	2
Technical	3	5

Commitment Status Key:

Implemented - The commitment has been delivered. There is no further work or review required.

Under review - No further work is required to deliver the commitment, but the nature of the commitment and its delivery mechanism require ongoing monitoring to ensure that expectations are being met.

Active - Commitment is in the process of being delivered and is being actively managed.

Waiting - On hold until one or more commitments that it depends on are complete or is currently non-urgent.

Commitment Tracker

Theme of commitment	ID	Status	Commitment	Sector, Gov or collaborative	Delivered by and through	Notes as of April 2025
Community	C-01	Under review	Engage with communities from the earliest opportunity possible in the project development cycle to agree a community package that will meet or exceed the principles set out in the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments 2019 and the Good Practice Principles for Shared Ownership from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments 2019.	Sector	G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager PM will monitor project pipeline reports against LES community benefit database to ensure LES & communities have early sight of projects coming forward through the planning system. PM to help facilitate communication between developers & LES so early engagement with community can take place and is fully supported.	Over 2024, the Local Energy Scotland (LES) Community Benefits Register was updated to reflect the Sector's community commitments and adherence to the Good Practice Principles. SR is now working with LES and industry to upload operational projects to the register. SR and LES will then work to periodically review these commitments. Scottish Renewables now hosts a monthly Community Benefit Working Group to supports industry's commitment to collaborating on community benefit funding.
Community	C-02	Under review	Aim to provide an in-principle community benefit agreement prior to the Financial Investment Decision (FID) and will ensure that community benefit agreements become binding once FID is achieved	Sector	Delivered as per C-1	As above
Community	C-03	Under review	When projects are sold or there is a transfer of interest, we will ensure that any community benefit and community shared ownership agreements are maintained as a condition of the sale or transfer	Sector	Delivered as per C-1	As above
Community	C-04	Under review	Seek opportunities to provide support and funding that enables more ambitious projects, that make a long-term strategic impact in supporting a just transition to net zero, to be delivered	Sector	G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager PM will monitor project pipeline reports against LES community benefit	As above

Community	C-05	Under review	Look for opportunities where we can take a collaborative approach to co-ordinating community benefit funds with developers, owners, and the local communities of neighbouring developments where there are common or overlapping areas of benefit	Sector	As per C-4 - G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager PM will monitor project pipeline reports and look to identify emerging clusters of projects. PM to help facilitate communication between developers & LES so coordination and cooperation can happen.	As above
Community	C-06	Under review	Engage with key stakeholder organisations during the pre-planning application phase of projects to highlight community shared ownership opportunities and provide community bodies with sufficient time to investigate these opportunities	Sector	Delivered as per C-1	As above
Community	C-07	Waiting	Establish a standard approach to the financial management of community benefits funds to ensure: o Transparency in how funds are managed and spent, o Effective reporting of the impact of community benefit in Scotland's communities, o That a national register of community benefit and community shared ownership is created and updated on an annual basis.	Collaborative	SR convened a workshop of key stakeholders/experts to discuss good practice principles. Follow-up with Local Energy Scotland (LES) indicates the new register meets this commitment. Waiting for ScotGov consensus.	This commitment is partially met through the updated LES Community Benefit Register, which provides publicly available information on community benefit funds and allows for annual updates. The wider community benefits workstream at SR has been on hold during the preparation of the Community Benefits Consultation Response and is now resuming.

Community	C-08	Active	Develop practical approaches to support and encourage community shared ownership models to assist developers, funders, local government and communities to engage in these opportunities, publishing a framework	Collaborative	SR to convene a workshop of key stakeholders/experts to establish issues on both sides. Follow-up workshop to agree outline framework principles. Follow-up by establishing a Task & Finish Group to develop the framework principles in detail. Once agreed, socialise the framework principles with G12 and industry.	<p>The Scottish Government is now procuring contracts to research and create models to support developers and communities in shared ownership opportunities. Scottish Renewables is liaising with industry as this progresses.</p> <p>SR is working with ScotGov to determine how to move forward on this commitment together.</p>
Community	C-09	Under review	We will continue to make the community benefits toolkit available on the Local Energy Scotland website and will update relevant case studies on an ongoing basis.	Government	Scottish Government	Local Energy Scotland continues to make the community benefits toolkit available online.
Legislative and regulatory	LR-01	Under review	Through existing working groups, we will proactively engage with National Grid ESO, Scottish Power Energy Networks and SSE Networks to support short- and long-term improvements to the connection process, in particular supporting actions to improve the management of the connection queue. From 2024, we will proactively help manage the connection queue, ensuring that stalled projects are removed or amended where appropriate.	Sector	SR Grid Task & Finish Group	Scottish Renewables is actively engaging the ESO, ScottishPower Energy Networks and SSE Networks through their ongoing work programme on grid and network issues. This work covers the interests of the whole renewables sector and includes the Sector Deal.

Legislative and regulatory	LR-02	Under review	Provide clear information on the expected pipeline of new wind farms, extensions to existing wind farms, life extensions and re-powering projects expected between 2024 and 2030. This spatial vision for the delivery of the 2030 ambition will build on the pipeline analysis committed to under the Planning section of the sector deal and will provide an evidence base to support National Grid ESO and Scotland's network companies to deliver strategic network planning.	Sector	SR as per P-1	<p>BVG Associates briefed SSEN and SPEN on the Onshore Wind Pipeline Analysis.</p> <p>The Scottish Government's ambition of 20GW of onshore wind by 2030 is included in the NESO's Beyond 2030 national blueprint for a decarbonised electricity system in Great Britain (page 50). This work is being taken forward in CP2030 and the SSEP.</p>
Legislative and regulatory	LR-03	Active	Publish an analysis quantifying the likely scale of abnormal load movements throughout Scotland to deliver the 2030 ambition and make the results available to Government, Police Scotland, Transport Scotland, and others involved in escorting loads. This analysis will provide forecasts of abnormal load movements over time, including the likely number of turbine components that will need to be transported during each year to 2030 and the identification of the likely strategic access routes that will be used by multiple developers.	Sector	SR as per P-1	<p>This commitment was met in the Scotland 2030 Pipeline Analysis June 2024 update which quantifies the impacts of abnormal loads requirements from the onshore wind pipeline. Police Scotland were briefed on that analysis. We are working with Police Scotland to determine what route analysis would be useful for their planning.</p>
Legislative and regulatory	LR-04	Active	Agree plans to ensure timely and properly-resourced processes for wind turbine component transportation capable of supporting the growing volume of towers and blades that will need to be transported across Scotland's road network.	Collaborative	Led by industry, facilitated by SG. Dependant on outcome of pipeline work Potentially delivered through the Abnormal Loads Legislative Group	<p>The Abnormal Loads Legislative Reform Group was reconvened, and Police Scotland, Transport Scotland, and the Scottish Government were briefed on the Onshore Wind 2030 Pipeline. Following meetings with this group, Police Scotland is now vetting internally a proposal for a developer-funded new unit within Police Scotland to support abnormal load demand. The size of the unit is expected to be flexible to accommodate changing demand. A proposal is expected later in 2025. A legislative solution is also being considered through the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.</p>

Legislative and regulatory	LR-05	Waiting	Develop good practice guidance, which will include a benchmarking exercise, depending on the availability of relevant data, for contractual negotiations in overrun and oversail situations	Government	Scottish Government, supported by Industry.	<p>Following a developer survey, Scottish Government determined that there was insufficient data to produce a publishable benchmark for oversail and overrun negotiations. This commitment is classed as "waiting" pending a final decision from Scottish Government around the direction of this commitment.</p> <p>Scottish Renewables is now developing a proposed amendment to expand wayleaves to generation in the Electricity Act via the Planning and Infrastructure Bill which would support developers in oversail and overrun negotiations.</p>
Legislative and regulatory	LR-06	Under review	Provide a forward vision for onshore wind which will look beyond 2030 and lay out the role that the sector is likely to play in the longer-term decarbonisation of Scotland's energy system. We will engage with Scotland's network companies, along with National Grid ESO, the Future System Operator, Ofgem and UK Government to ensure that the vision is integrated into plans for the development of the wider GB energy system.	Government	Scottish Government through final ESJTP	<p>The relevant Scottish Government teams continue to engage with UK Government counterparts actively across all ongoing strategic work streams, providing input and support to ensure alignment with broader policy objectives.</p> <p>Scot Gov is cognisant of the concerns of industry relating to post 2030 onshore wind deployment limits in Scotland. SG continues to engage with the UK Government on the risks to investment in renewable energy projects if the suggested deployment limits come into effect.</p>
Legislative and regulatory	LR-07	Under review	Continue to engage with the UK Government and other relevant decision makers and stakeholders to advocate for market reform, a Contracts for Difference (CfD) mechanism and network charging that supports the delivery of Scotland's onshore wind ambition as part of a whole system approach to delivering net zero.	Government	Scottish Government	<p>Scottish Government engagement with the UK Government through the UK Onshore Wind Taskforce - Routes to Market subgroup to advocate for reform on the CfD and network charging.</p> <p>The relevant Scottish Government teams continue to engage with UK Government counterparts actively across all ongoing strategic work streams, providing input and support to ensure alignment with broader policy objectives. This includes engagement with the UK Government through the UK Onshore Wind Taskforce - Routes to Market subgroup to advocate for reform on the CfD and network charging.</p>

Land use and environment	LUE-01	Waiting	Once a consistent national approach to measuring and evidencing biodiversity enhancement is in place, we will adopt this approach to measuring and evidencing biodiversity enhancements on our project sites, providing monitoring data (but excluding information which cannot legally be made generally available) to the central repository	Sector	G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager SR to socialise national approach with G12/SR members. PM will monitor project pipeline reports against central repository to ensure data is being uploaded. Best practice shared via SR.	This follows LEU-06/7. There is no consensus around how a data repository can be created or who will own it, and SR is waiting for a response from Scottish Ministers on a meeting to discuss how to move forward.
Land use and environment	LUE-02	Waiting	Following the outputs of the peat expert group, we will provide monitoring data (but excluding information which cannot legally be made generally available) to the central repository so that peatland management and restoration activity can be tracked over time.	Sector	G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager PM will monitor project pipeline reports against central repository to ensure data is being uploaded. Best practice shared via SR.	This commitment is on hold until a determination is made on the commitment to create a central data repository.
Land use and environment	LUE-03	Waiting	Establish a working group alongside relevant stakeholders to explore the lessons learned from the Hagshaw cluster, and to consider the wider potential of a project cluster approach to biodiversity enhancement and infrastructure efficiencies, publishing initial findings by Oct 2024.	Sector	Workshop with Hagshaw Cluster and G12/SR	The G12 has agreed that this commitment will be completed upon the publication of the upcoming study on 'Enhancing Ornithological Outcomes in Scotland Using the Hagshaw Renewable Energy Framework as a Test Cases' commissioned from Net Zero Ecology by Scottish Renewables, expected in Q2 2025. This study will consider the wider lessons learned from developers within the Hagshaw cluster, which can be applied to other clusters.
Land use and environment	LUE-04	Waiting	Provide project information produced as part of the consenting process, such as the site location, dimensions of infrastructure and habitat management plans (but excluding information which cannot legally be made generally available), to the central data repository in a useable format.	Sector	G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager PM will monitor project pipeline reports against central repository to ensure data is being uploaded. Best practice shared via SR.	This commitment is on hold until a determination is made on the commitment to create a central data repository.

Land use and environment	LUE-05	Active	Participate in the peat expert group. The group will draw on existing and emerging industry, academic and public sector expertise and practice to provide advice to the Government on how peatland management and restoration and onshore wind ambitions can be delivered. Guidance will be brought into line with the peat expert group's recommendations.	Collaborative	Peat Expert Group	The PEAG met over 2024 to discuss the set of issues around peatland management. A subgroup was created to discuss the details of policy, but the subgroup arrived at an impasse on some core issues. SG took it away to determine a way forward, and since doing so Chris Mackie has left the role and Catherine Wilson is now in it. SR has presented an updated priority list for the PEAG to SG for 2025. The PEAG has not yet met in 2025 and SG are considering options on how to format the group and it's meetings before proceeding.
Land use and environment	LUE-06	Active	Collaborate on a consistent, evidence-based, proportionate national approach to measuring and evidencing biodiversity enhancements on onshore wind project sites, including consideration of the approach to offsite enhancement.	Collaborative	Scottish Government - through NatureScot. Have commitment from PARD/Cara Davison that SR/Industry will be consulted on this but need to ensure that happens.	This work is happening through the PEAG but some of the policy issues have hit an impasse. We are waiting for SG to move forward with new PEAG meetings in 2025 to determine how this will get resolved. A BNG metric is being developed by NatureScot and is expected in 2027.
Land use and environment	LUE-07	Active	Establish a mechanism by which onshore wind developers can submit information produced as part of the consenting process, such as the site location, dimensions and habitat management plans, but excluding information which cannot legally be made generally available, to a central data repository. This process will include a mechanism for submitting the data. This data will be used to create a central geospatial database that will be regularly maintained and updated, and which can be accessed for various analytical and monitoring purposes.	Collaborative	<p>A phased implementation is proposed - Phase 1 would develop a system to gather GIS data on size and location of wind farms + tag polygons with key data e.g. this site has peatland restoration activity, this site has bird monitoring. This would enable analysis on how many wind farms, covering what area, which sites have peatland restoration, where is bird monitoring taking place, etc.</p> <p>Phase 2 would explore developing a mechanism by which the details of habitat management plans, biodiversity net gain, peatland restoration and bird monitoring data could be systematically collected.</p>	A proposed data repository has been discussed in a forum between SG, SR, ECU and the Improvement Service, which hosts similar data currently. We have currently reached an impasse on how to progress with this commitment and are seeking a meeting with the Minister to discuss a way forwards.

Land use and environment	LUE-08	Implemented	We will provide clear guidance to developers and planners on the expectations associated with environmental protection and enhancement, including through publishing guidance on NPF4 biodiversity policy and clarifying any potential policy conflicts between onshore wind ambitions and peatland restoration.	Government	Scottish Government	PARD released guidance in 2024.
Land use and environment	LUE-09	Under review	We will seek opportunities to collaborate with public bodies on new guidance they bring forward relating to their functions in onshore wind applications	Government	Scottish Government	Scottish Government will maintain collaboration with public bodies when any new guidance is brought forward.
Planning	P-01	Implemented	By the end of 2023, we will provide an analysis of the expected pipeline of new onshore wind projects, extensions to existing projects, life extensions and re-powering projects expected between 2023 and 2030. This analysis will include when these developments are likely to be submitted for Section 36 consent or planning permission, the likely geographic distribution of development between planning authorities, and the potential MW scale of development. We will update this pipeline at least bi-annually to enable Government and statutory consultees to plan ahead for the resources that will be required to process applications.	Sector	SR	From December 2023 BVGA have published a report on the Scottish Onshore Wind Pipeline with 6 monthly updates.

Planning	P-02	Under review	Submit plans for consent that are buildable without delay, to the extent that such delays are not caused by external factors beyond a developer's control. Developers need to react to rapidly changing market conditions and as such it may continue to be necessary to seek consent for amended schemes, but we will seek to take such action only on the basis of turbine availability or project viability.	Sector	G12, with SR to socialise wider	This is dependent on the delivery of P-06 and P-12.
Planning	P-03	Under review	Proactively engage with consultees to improve approaches to the scoping of the environmental information required in EIARs. We will seek to ensure that the information produced on each topic is both sufficient and as brief as possible, focusing on potentially significant environmental effects while explaining why other topics do not require assessment within the EIAR. We will provide notice of upcoming consultations as early as is practical, helping ensure that the appropriate resource will be available when needed.	Sector	G12, with SR to socialise wider	This work is almost complete from the EIAR T&F group and the ECU. Guidance is expected to be published on the SG website in spring 2025. At that point, SR will work with members to socialise the guidance.
Planning	P-04	Under review	Ensure that in planning for developments close to other projects, regardless of the owners/developers involved, due attention is given to cooperation on interconnected planning and environmental considerations for the area. This will be done through joint working on topics such as operational noise, construction access, the delivery of biodiversity enhancement, habitat management plans, layout and design, and benefits for the community, where this can be achieved without undue delay to any individual project.	Sector	G12 overseen by SR SOWSD Project Manager PM will monitor project pipeline reports and look to identify emerging clusters of projects. PM to help facilitate communication between developers so coordination and cooperation can happen.	Scottish Renewables has defined eight regional clusters covering all areas of Scotland. Initial outreach has been made to project managers of projects in the area that are in development or in planning, and Outlook groups have been created for each region. Scottish Renewables will host a meeting with these project managers to discuss options for these clusters moving forwards.

Planning	P-05	Waiting	We will ensure the submission of Section 36 applications for consent, and the accompanying EIARs, are based as far as is possible on the agreed templates, scopes, and formats, to enable effective and efficient determinations without any need for additional information.	Sector	G12, with SR to socialise wider	Once P6 and P7 are complete, SR will socialise with members.
Planning	P-06	Active	Establish a collaborative working group to develop a recommended standard scope and format for EIARs for onshore wind farms, designed to reduce the burden on consultees and other stakeholders.	Collaborative	Connected to P-12 SR supported Task & Finish Group combining industry with NS, SEPA & ECU has been established and is consulting with other key stakeholders inc HES. Group co-led by Marcus Trinick (planning law) and Jo Wotton (ecology). Will bring forward proposals for 'two loops' consultation and refinement.	The SR EIAR Task and Finish Group sent initial guidance notes on EIAR streamlining to ECU in Q4 2024. ECU have since responded with amendments and the task and finish group are now working to implement these into the guidance notes. Scottish Government are now working through the process of preparing them for publication on the Scot Gov website.
Planning	P-07	Implemented	Agree and publish template formats for Section 36 consents and deemed planning permission, including conditions imposed on consents, which will facilitate both the more efficient issue of consents and an efficient and speedy variation process.	Collaborative	New working group, led by Scottish Government attended by industry. Connected to P-15	Section 36 standard conditions were drafted and Scottish Renewables' members had the opportunity to provide feedback, which the ECU took under consideration. Finalised Standard onshore wind conditions – section 36 have now been published.
Planning	P-08	Under review	Meet at least annually to examine data on consenting timelines and agree on any actions needed to achieve the desired targets.	Collaborative	Driven by SG, attended by HOPS, Stat consultees and SR	A meeting was held in October 2024 in which the ECU presented data on current determination timelines. The ECU are now refining further data and updating its portal. The next meeting is expected in Q2 2025.
Planning	P-09	Waiting	Determine resourcing and training requirements to process the expected project pipeline.	Collaborative	Once pipeline received, mainly SG working with Stat consultees	The Planning Hub is being created to support LPAs. There is no plan for supporting other statutory consultees.

Planning	P-10	Active	Set out proposals for how additional resources and/or training can be accessed by statutory consultees when they are responding to onshore wind applications, and by decision makers when discharging pre-commencement planning conditions.	Collaborative	Scottish Government	A Planning Hub was announced in the Scottish Government's Programme for Government in 2024. This is designed to support the planning process in a way that best suits the respective industries. Scottish Renewables has had early discussions with Scottish Government on industry feedback around what the Onshore Wind Planning Hub should be. It was recently announced that the Onshore Wind Planning hub will be going live in April 2025.
Planning	P-11	Waiting	The additional resource and training proposal is expected to be in place and will be funded through an agreement between Government and the onshore wind sector.	Collaborative	Scottish Government agreed mechanism	The Planning Hub will be released in spring 2025. Funding for the hub has not been discussed with SR.
Planning	P-12	Under review	Review how baseline information requirements for the EIA of projects to re-power operational wind farms, or for life extension applications under Section 36C, can be appropriately optimised, having regard to the relevance of data already available from earlier EIARs and published reports of surveys of the environmental impacts of construction and operation, whether generic or site specific. The work to develop a standard scope and format for EIARs will reflect this review.	Collaborative	Connected to P-6 - TFG already working on this.	Repowering is being included in the EIAR streamlining work within the EIAR Task and Finish Group.
Planning	P-13	Waiting	Aim to determine Section 36 applications for new sites, and for the repowering of existing operational sites, within 12 months where there is no public inquiry, or 24 months if there is a public inquiry. Further, we will aim to determine applications for the life extension of operational wind farms within five months, and other Section 36C applications within nine months where there is no public inquiry.	Government	Scottish Government	This commitment is contingent on completing the commitments around streamlining planning processes and building our resources across the ECU and Statutory Consultees.

Planning	P-14	Under review	Promote the timely discharge of pre-commencement planning conditions, aspiring to discharge the majority of construction-ready projects within six weeks.	Government	Scottish Government	Completed in late 2023/early 2024 after the publication of the Sector Deal. A letter was sent from Ministers.
Planning	P-15	Active	Develop guidance on consistent formats for public inquiry reports for Section 36 applications and consultation responses from PAs.	Government	New working group, led by Scottish Government attended by industry. Connected to P-7	ECU is currently working on this. SR has asked for clarity from SG on the timeline for publication.
Planning	P-16	Waiting	Publish planning and climate change guidance providing advice on the application of NPF4 policy in supporting development that helps meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.	Government	Scottish Government	PARD is working on guidance for NPF4 Policy 2. SR and PEAG members have provided feedback.
Planning	P-17	Implemented	Write to relevant statutory consultees to highlight the ambitions of the new determination timescales for Section 36 applications and set out the need for those statutory consultees to support this ambition when responding to consent applications.	Government	Scottish Government	SG sent the letter in 2024.
Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-01	Active	Following the collaborative work undertaken by the Sector and Government to identify skills gaps and opportunities for training, the Sector will commit to an appropriate number of apprenticeships, training opportunities and skilled jobs, across the sector and related industries for the lifetime of the sector deal.	Sector	SR to establish a Task & Finish Group in Q3 with G12/S5 including HE, FE, ESP, agencies to build on the skills work and agree a way forward.	Scottish Renewables hosted a Skills Roundtable in February 2025 to discuss the outputs of the ClimateXChange reports on skills requirements and training provisions training provisions for the Onshore Wind industry. Following the roundtable Scottish Renewables has committed to entering an MOU with Energy and Utility Skills to progress with this workstream.

Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-02	Active	Publish data on the percentage of local content in the supply chain and O&M arrangements of our projects at the point of commissioning.	Sector	SR in collaboration with G12	<p>Scottish Renewables has created guidance on measuring local content at the Scottish and Regional levels with the support of BVG Associates. These frameworks, and a contractual mechanism to implement it, is being developed by Scottish Renewables with the support of Frank Elsworth (ERECL). Finalised guidance is expected to be shared with developers in Q2 2025.</p> <p>An interim solution has been agreed on, under which Scottish Renewables has selected case studies on some G12 developers' local content data and good practice on a project. These will be published in the 24/25 SR Supply Chain Impact Statement on April 30.</p>
Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-03	Active	Establish a collaborative approach to promoting supply chain opportunities to support increased local content in projects.	Sector	SR is exploring this internally through joint working between our onshore & supply chain teams	<p>Energy Pathfinder is a supply chain opportunity advertising portal hosted by the North Sea Transition Authority. An SR task and finish group agreed on proposed updates to the portal to best support the onshore wind industry. These recommendations are being implemented in current updates which are expected to go live in May 2025.</p> <p>Following this, Scottish Renewables will work with the G12 to test and populate the site. SR will then socialise with other members.</p>
Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-04	Active	Utilise onshore wind pipeline data to identify and pursue opportunities for geographic clustering of O&M capacity and will seek collaborative co-investment in O&M facilities and logistics infrastructure around Scotland, delivering economic impact in the locale of projects	Sector	SR to organise a workshop to discuss this in collaboration with G12/S5 and key stakeholders	<p>Scottish Renewables has defined eight regional clusters covering all areas of Scotland. Initial outreach has been made to project managers of projects in the area that are in development or in planning, and Outlook groups have been created for each region. Scottish Renewables will host a meeting with these project managers to discuss options for these clusters moving forward.</p>

Circular economy	SSC-05	Active	Collaborate with the Coalition for Wind Industry Circularity (CWIC) to facilitate publishing its full programme of commitments by Q1 2024.	Sector	CWIC with Morag as key liaison (SR)	Over the second half of 2024, CWIC changed its governance structure and published its new ambition . The carbon trust has now been brought into CWIC, changing it from a voluntary forum to a funded partnership. Carbon Trust is working with CWIC members to form a work plan and deliver full programme of commitments.
Circular economy	SSC-06	Implemented	Deliver at least one specialist blade treatment facility in Scotland by 2030, positioning Scotland as a European hub for this significant market opportunity	Sector	As SSC-5	SR has met with ReBlade, a blade treatment facility based in Dumfries. It is the first specialist wind turbine decommissioning service in the UK. Following a report on ReBlade's capabilities, the SLG has agreed that this commitment is complete.
Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-07	Implemented	Established a working group and publish a paper identifying the range of skills needed by industry to deliver our 2030 target.	Collaborative	<p>SG has contracted with Optimat through CXC to undertake this work.</p> <p>SG, CXC, SR and SSE (co-chair of G12) on steering group for contract.</p> <p>This research is about sector skills demand, NOT ECU/PA/NatureScot etc skills demand</p>	Scottish Government contracted Optimat via ClimateXChange to analyse the skills and FTEs required to deliver on the 2030 20GW ambition. The workforce and skills requirements report was published in June 2024.

Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-08	Implemented	Collaborate with the further and higher education sector and relevant training providers to use the skills analysis to enhance the current skills and training provision for apprenticeships, academic, transition and vocational modules.	Collaborative	Follows on from SSC-7. Same TFG as SSC-1 SR to establish a Task & Finish Group in Q3 with G12/S5 including HE, FE, ESP, agencies to build on the skills work and agree a way forward.	Scottish Government contracted Optimat via ClimateXChange to analyse the current provision for training and skills development across the industry. The training provision report was published in January 2025.
Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-09	Implemented	We will explore opportunities with EAs to support onshore supply chain development and business diversification and transition, publishing a strategy paper by July 2024.	Government	SG and through the Green Industrial Strategy	This commitment has been agreed to be implemented following the publication of the Scottish Government Green Industrial Strategy in September 2024. This outlines a support strategy for supply chain development.
Circular economy	SSC-10	Active	Explore the role a regulatory stimulus could play in driving behavioural change in the circularity of materials, including blades and the use of refurbished or remanufactured components, publishing a strategy paper by October 2024	Government	Scottish Government	Scottish Government is currently looking at a circularity strategy that supports the Circular Economy Act. Scottish Government are involved in discussions with Zero Waste Scotland who are working to assess priority areas for the strategy.
Circular economy	SSC-11	Under review	From Q3 2023 our direct partner agencies, including SEPA, Zero Waste Scotland and EAs, will aim to participate in the CWIC initiative and develop industry collaboration in support of delivering CWIC's ambitions.	Government	Scottish Government	In early 2024, Scottish Government sent letters to direct partner agencies and received supportive responses to the CWIC initiative. This commitment is now being monitored to ensure direct partner agencies remain engaged with CWIC.

Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-12	Under review	We will continue to provide a national, strategic framework for skills in Scotland with the National Strategy for Economic Transformation Skilled Workforce programme, the Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan and the Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan	Government	Scottish Government	This commitment is being delivered through ongoing strategic frameworks of the National Strategy for Economic Transformation, Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan and the 2022 Draft Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan, of which a final version is expected soon.
Supply chain, skills and circular economy	SSC-13	Active	We will seek to work with SOWEC through its Skills Group to support coordinated skills information for onshore and offshore wind.	Government	Scottish Government	In February 2025, Scottish Government attended a Scottish Renewables' Skills Roundtable during which key industry stakeholders discussed the findings of the ClimateXChange reports on both the skills gaps and training provisions in the onshore wind industry. A representative from SOWEC attended the roundtable
Technical	T-01	Implemented	Following on from, and considering the results of, the national aviation issues survey identified above, we will work with stakeholders to support the execution of a market survey on existing and emerging wind farm tolerant surveillance systems and their costs that will support the delivery of enduring solutions.	Sector	G12	This commitment has been implemented following the publication of The Aviation Wind Farm Mitigation Market Study , completed in collaboration with Egis. This study assesses the current and emerging wind farm tolerant surveillance systems. This commitment falls within an Onward2030 work package.
Technical	T-02	Active	We will collaborate with regulators and Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) to review and optimise Instrument Flight Procedures (IFPs) to accommodate maximum wind farm capacity while maintaining safe airport operations.	Sector	AWG (rUK), with Sam J and Andy Liddel, and ONWARD2030	This commitment is being progressed under an Onward2030 work package. Early discussions have been held between Onward2030 members, and delivery is expected in Q3 2025.
Technical	T-03	Active	We will collaborate with the aviation sector, civil and military, to identify mutually acceptable mitigation solutions, considering the need for transparent, fair, and equitable processes, and reduced costs, while ensuring safe airspace use and programme urgency. CNS technology developments and the UK Airspace Modernisation Strategy will also be considered.	Sector	As per T-2	This commitment is being progressed under an Onward2030 work package. Egis has been commissioned to deliver on this work and is expected to deliver the study of mutually acceptable mitigation solutions in Q2 2025.

Technical	T-04	Active	Deliver the results of a comprehensive national survey establishing the extent of aviation-related issues associated with onshore wind farm development and permitting.	Collaborative	Industry - through ONWARD2030 and the AMB	This commitment is being progressed under an Onward2030 work package. The National Aviation Survey, run by RUK has been conducted with results circulated with DfT, Scottish Government and DESNZ. A final report on findings is currently being reviewed by DESNZ and a timeline for published findings is unclear due to internal resource pressures.
Technical	T-05	Implemented	Publish details setting out a proactive, transparent, and consistent approach to the management of aviation issues relating to onshore wind developments, seeking to establish fair and equitable deployment and funding of aviation mitigation solutions. In addition, the collaboration will consider future financial implications and contractual arrangements in respect of mitigation implementation.	Collaborative	Lead by industry, supported by SG (and ideally UKG). Delivered through ONWARD 2030 / AMB (TBD)	This commitment has now been met following the publication of Recommendations of the (Onward 2030) Work Package 5 Group – Transparency .
Technical	T-06	Implemented	Finalise and actively promote the Aviation Lighting Assessment Guidance and ensure its implementation through the ECU, aligning safety with planning considerations.	Government	Scottish Government - through the Aviation Lighting Working Group	The Guidance on Aviation Lighting Impact Assessment is now hosted on the Nature Scot website and is being advertised through Scot Gov and the SR monthly briefing.
Technical	T-07	Active	Engage with UK Government to highlight and seek to address reserved matters regarding aviation regulation and defence requirements with the aim of seeking active participation in support of the delivery of this sector deal.	Government	Scottish Government	<p>Scottish Government regularly engage with DESNZ several times a month on these matters. It has also been picked up in the UK Government Onshore Wind Industry Taskforce by SG and other Scottish based entities. From the outset, DESNZ recognised the work Scotland did with the Sector Deal and looked to avoid duplication and learn lessons from Sector Deal.</p> <p>DESNZ is now represented in Onward2030 which meets quarterly and is delivering on five work packages that align with Technical Sector Deal commitments.</p>

Technical	T-08	Active	Work collaboratively with the MOD to finalise a new approach to seismic noise budget management which will include reaching an agreement with the MOD regarding their acceptance of technical studies being conducted on behalf of Government, and to develop new guidance, with a view to enabling the development of a new safeguarding approach and management tool. This new approach will aim to support the consenting of projects via deliverable suspensive conditions, if necessary, that provide appropriate protection to MOD while maximising efficient wind energy generation.	Government	Scottish Government through the Eskdalemuir Working Group	The Eskdalemuir Working Group meets 6 weekly and members are working to unlock further development in the consultation zone. UK and Scottish governments must collaborate on developing law that will support MOD in adopting a new process for managing the seismic impacts of developments in the area; timelines on developing this law are currently undetermined. Xi Engineering is under way with developing the underlying analysis and technical solutions that will support the optimisation of development in the consultation zone. These works are on track to be delivered across Q2-Q3 2025.
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