December 2024

Shaneragh Energy Storage System

Pre-application Community Consultation (PACC) Report

Contents

1 Introduction

This Pre-Application Community Consultation (PACC) Report outlines how RES, hereinafter referred to as the Applicant has engaged with the local community to inform them about the proposed Shaneragh Battery Energy Storage System, hereinafter referred to as the Proposed Development.

It explains how and when the community was consulted before the planning application was submitted to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, hereinafter referred to as the LPA, and how this consultation has shaped the Proposed Development.

The PACC Report summarises those activities undertaken, details how comments received from the community were considered and sets out if any consequent changes or mitigating measures have been included in the proposal.

The consultation activities described within this Report demonstrates how PACC has been undertaken in accordance with requirements in respect of same, set out in the Planning Act (NI) 2011, Regulation 5 of the Planning (Development Management) Regulation (NI) 2015 and other relevant guidance including Development Management Practice Notice 10 – Pre-Application Community Consultation.

1.1 Proposed Development

Construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) including DNO substation building, control building, auxiliary transformer, grid compliance equipment, CCTV & lighting columns, security fencing, ancillary works, access track, entrance upgrades, hardstanding, widening along the Skreen Road and associated works.

2 The Applicant's commitment to consultation

The Applicant is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, working across 24 countries and active in wind, solar, energy storage, green hydrogen, transmission and distribution. As an industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 27GW of renewable energy projects across the globe and supports an operational asset portfolio exceeding 41GW worldwide for a large client base.

The Applicant is committed to finding effective and appropriate ways of engaging with all its stakeholders, including local residents and community organisations, and believes that the views of local people are an integral part of the development process.

The Applicant is also committed to developing long term relationships with the communities around its projects, proactively seeking ways in which it can support and encourage community involvement in social and environmental projects near its developments. The Applicant is the power behind a clean energy future where everyone has access to affordable zero carbon energy and brings together global experience, passion, and the innovation of 4,500 people to transform the way energy is generated, stored and supplied.

3 Statutory requirements and best practice guidance

On 1st July 2015 a statutory duty on developers to consult with the local community, in advance of submitting a planning application for major and regionally significant development proposals, was introduced.

The legislation requires developers to submit a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) a minimum of 12 weeks before submitting a formal planning application for Major applications. The PAN explains how a prospective applicant will engage with the local community and sets out a timetable for the engagement. Once a planning authority receives a PAN, they have 21 days to consider the proposal.

The Applicant submitted a PAN to the LPA on 26 July 2024. The submitted information included details of the site location, the type of consultation methods that would be undertaken, with whom and within what distance from the site.

On 7 August 2024 the Applicant received a response stating that the LPA had reviewed the PAN and considered that it contained sufficient information with regards to community consultation measures and, therefore, it was compliant with Section 27 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

4 Consultation methodology

The purpose of pre-application community consultation is to improve, where possible, the quality of the proposed planning application by considering public opinions and addressing, wherever possible, any issues raised by stakeholders. It is also intended that any interested stakeholders have access to up-to-date and accurate information regarding the Proposed Development and the opportunity to provide feedback to be considered prior to the proposed planning application being finalised and submitted.

4.1 Community and stakeholder mapping

This section details the key local stakeholders that the Applicant identified and consulted with during the pre-application community consultation process. Prior to the start of the consultation, the Applicant undertook desktop research to develop a comprehensive understanding of the key stakeholders to engage with during pre-application community consultation. This research involved identifying local stakeholders located around the site of the Proposed Development.

The stakeholder groups identified included:

- Members for West Tyrone District Electoral Area (DEA) of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
- MLAs and MP for the West Tyrone constituency
- Local residential properties within 1.5km of the site
- Community groups within a minimum radius of 5km from site.

4.2 Consultation

As set out in Section 3, the formal consultation began on 26 July 2024 when the PAN was issued to the LPA. A combination of methods was used to inform the community and stakeholders about the Proposed Development and, subsequently, to ascertain their views.

In line with the legislative requirements, any public notices included a statement advising that comments made to the Applicant were not representations to the determining authority (the LPA) and that if the Applicant submitted an application there would then be an opportunity to make representations on the application to the determining authority at a later stage.

4.2.1 Letter emailed to elected representatives – 26 July 2024

The Applicant wrote to the West Tyrone DEA members and MLAs and MP for the West Tyrone constituency, to advise them that the Applicant was investigating the potential for an energy storage development at the site location and would commence a number of consultation activities shortly - including setting up a dedicated project website and holding a public exhibition to gather people's feedback on the proposal.

The letter also invited these representatives to contact the Applicant if they wished to arrange a meeting to discuss the proposal. A copy of the letter can be found at **Appendix A**.

4.2.2 Project website – 30 July 2024

On 30 July 2024, a project website was launched at www.shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk containing information on the Proposed Development as well as contact details for the project team to facilitate direct engagement.

The project website remains live and will be updated when the planning submission is validated, to include links to all planning application documentation.

4.2.3 Newsletter emailed to elected representatives – 21 August 2024

On 21 August 2024 the Applicant emailed a copy of the newsletter found at **Appendix B**, advertising the upcoming public exhibition event, to the West Tyrone DEA members and MLAs and MP for the West Tyrone constituency.

4.2.4 Pre-exhibition advertising – 22 August 2024

The Applicant placed an advertisement which appeared in the Tyrone Constitution on the 22 August 2024 to help raise awareness of the upcoming public exhibition event. A copy of the advertisement can be found at **Appendix C**.

4.2.5 Community pre-exhibition newsletter mailing – 22 August 2024

On 22 August 2024 the Applicant sent a newsletter, advertising the upcoming public exhibition event, to 128 residential properties identified within 1.5km and 21 community groups within 5km of the Proposed Development. A copy of the newsletter can be found at **Appendix B**.

4.2.6 Public Exhibition – 4 September 2024

The public exhibition took place on 4 September 2024 between 4 and 8pm at St Patricks Hall, Dromore, Omagh, BT78, 3AH.

Approximately 12 people attended the public exhibition, and a copy of the information boards presented at the public exhibition can be found at **Appendix D**.

Figure 1 – public exhibition at St Patricks Hall, Dromore

All of the information provided on the information boards at the public exhibition was also available on the project website at www.shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk from the date of the exhibition on 4 September 2024.

For people without internet access, hard copies of the public exhibition material were made available upon request. No requests for hard copies were received.

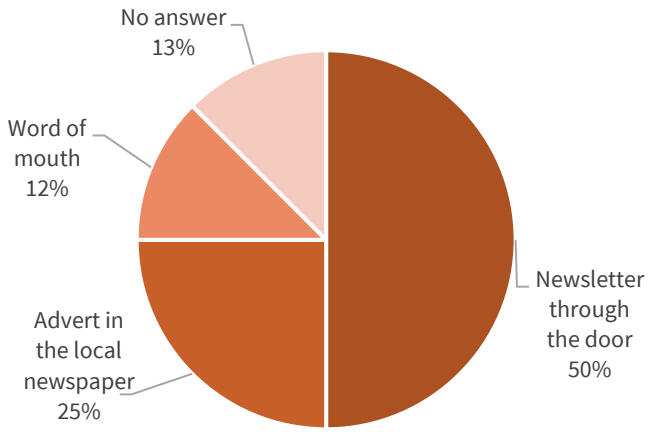
A comment form was provided at the public exhibition as well as online, to encourage feedback from people about renewable energy and energy storage in general and the project design specifically. The comment form was made available as a hard copy to submit at the public exhibition as well as on the project website where it could be submitted online, by email or by post. A copy of the comment form can be found at **Appendix E**.

The consultation period for feedback on the proposal ran from 4 September 2024 to 20 September 2024. A total of eight completed comment forms were received by the Applicant. A summary of the answers received to the closed questions on the comment form is provided in section 4.2.7.

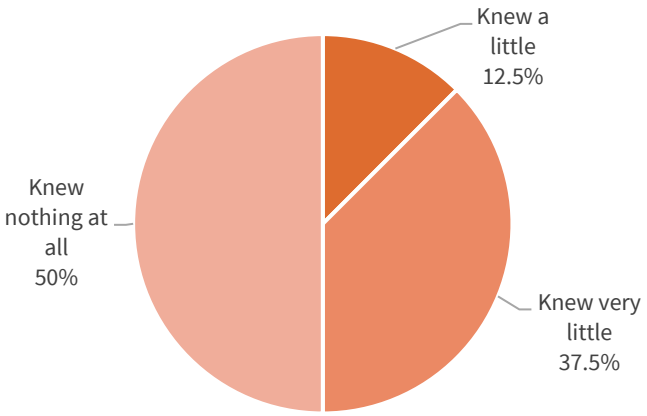
At all stages of the consultation process the Applicant set out clearly the purpose of the consultation and emphasised that comments made were not representations to the determining authority (the LPA) and that there would be the opportunity for representations to be made to the determining authority once the planning application was submitted.

4.2.7 Summary of responses to questions on submitted comment form – 8 respondents

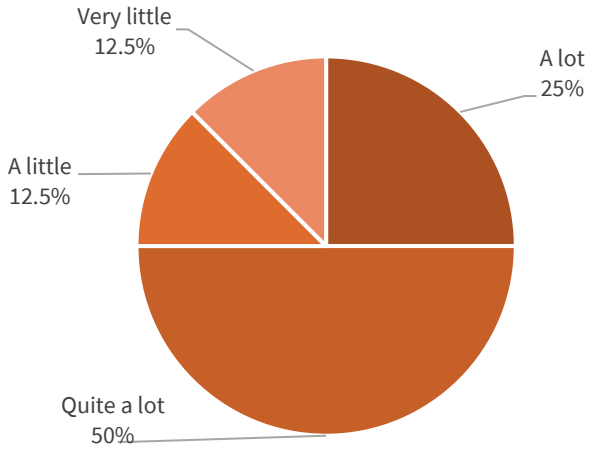
Q1.1 How did you find out about our public exhibition?



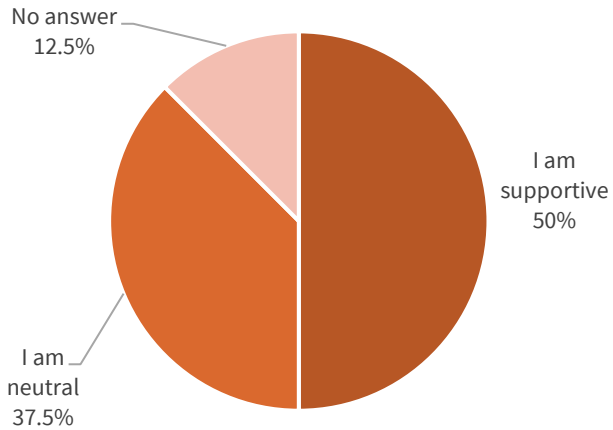
Q1.2 Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Shaneragh Energy Storage System?



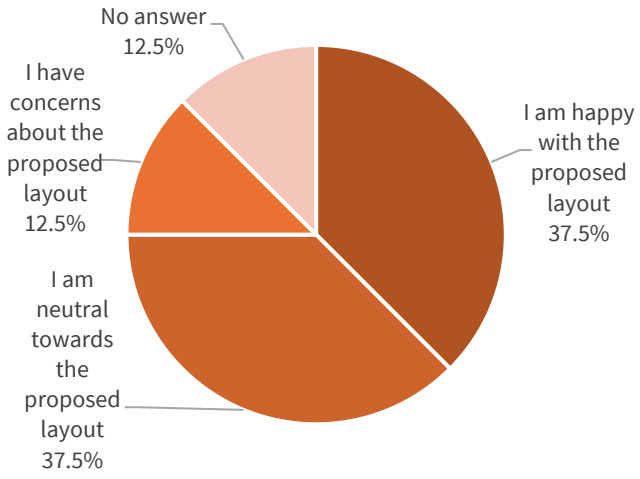
Q1.3 Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding about the proposed Shaneragh Energy Storage System?



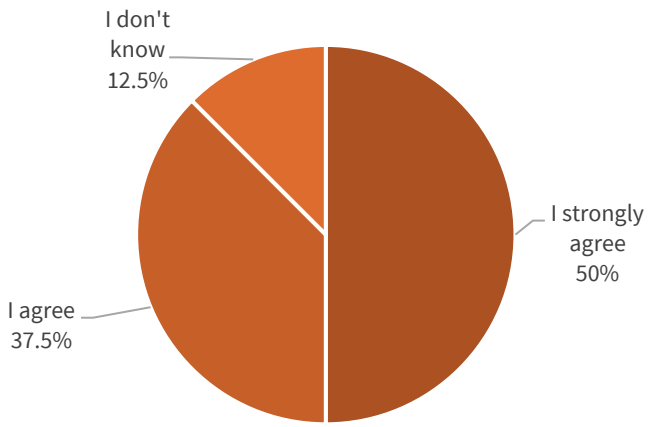
Q2.1 How do you feel in general about the Shaneragh Energy Storage System proposal?



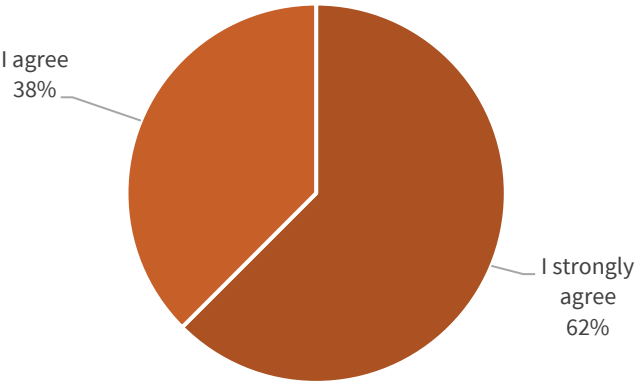
Q2.2 What do you think about the proposed preliminary design layout of Shaneragh Energy Storage System?



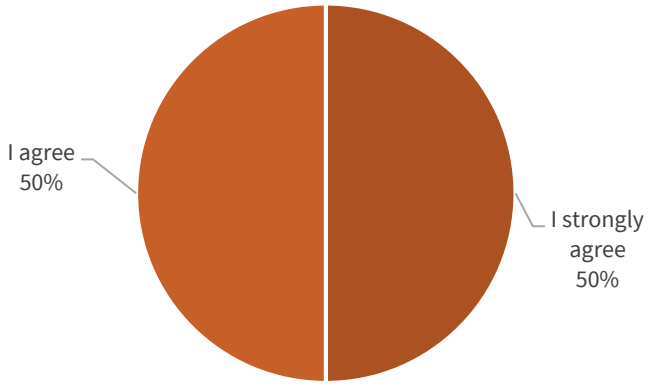
Q4.1 Do you agree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?



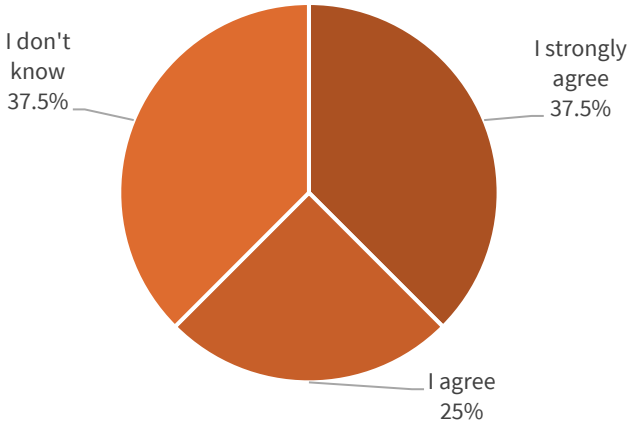
Q4.2 Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?



Q4.3. Do you agree that generating electricity from renewable sources will provide greater energy independence and security for Northern Ireland?



Q4.4 Do you agree that we need to develop energy storage projects to create a more stable and secure electricity system, supporting the rollout of zero carbon energy?



4.2.8 Meetings with elected representatives – 28 August and 4 September 24

On 28 August 2024, the Applicant met with a representative from the office of Mr Daniel McCrossan MLA, to discuss the preliminary project, answer any questions and listen to feedback. A copy of the presentation given by the Applicant at the meeting can be found at **Appendix F**.

On 4 September, the Applicant met with Mr Thomas Buchanan MLA, ahead of the public exhibition, at St Patricks Hall, Dromore to discuss the preliminary project, answer any questions and listen to feedback.

4.2.9 Other consultation responses

The Applicant also responded to any queries received in relation to the Proposed Development from the local community, stakeholders and statutory consultees throughout the pre-application period.

4.3 Summary of consultation

In summary, a range of engagement and communication activities were undertaken as part of the pre-application community consultation - reaching both local stakeholders as well as audiences in the wider area. This activity included:

- Letters to elected representatives;
- Advertisement for the public exhibition in the local press;
- Newsletter informing local residents and elected representatives about the public exhibition;
- Public exhibition; and
- Project website.

This form of pre-application community consultation is in accordance with The Planning (Development Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

All feedback received during the pre-application consultation period, through all consultation activities, has been considered by the Applicant throughout the design iteration and pre-planning stages of the Proposed Development. A summary of feedback, issues and concerns raised, together with the Applicant's response to each can be found in section 5.

5 Feedback and applicant's response

The Applicant believes in meaningful and effective consultation, to facilitate constructive dialogue with stakeholders and the community. All feedback received through the pre-application consultation activities has been considered, as part of the iterative design process.

The feedback received from during the pre-application phase of the Proposed Development, is summarised below together with the Applicant's response.

Sample of comments received	**Applicant's response to feedback**
Need for the development and benefit to local community *"We as local landowners do not benefit in anyway"*	The way in which we use, and generate, electricity is changing. Our electricity system is in a transitionary period to manage the increasingly complex supply and demand needs of the 21st Century, and battery energy storage systems provide an important role in this. Battery energy storage technology supports the variable generation of renewable energy technologies by playing an important balancing and grid stability role. Battery energy storage helps support the network operator by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and releasing electricity back to the grid network when demand exceeds generation. Battery energy storage is considered the fastest technology for responding to a sudden spike in demand or an abrupt loss of supply. Battery energy storage can also provide grid stability (frequency of the grid) services on a second-by-second basis as well as providing additional network capacity, particularly at times of network stress. Battery energy storage is essential to enabling and accelerating the rollout of zero carbon energy. Increasing its installed capacity will be vital to support Northern Ireland's net-zero emissions target and help to deliver a reliable, resilient, decarbonised electricity system for the future. Throughout the pre-application phase, the Applicant has been inviting feedback and ideas for local benefits

	and priority projects, from the local community that they would like to see supported or delivered in their community from the Proposed Development, should it receive consent. The Applicant looks forward to continuing these conversations throughout the determination phase.
Traffic and access *"Road very bad"* *"The road needs improvement and passing bay"*	A **Transport Statement** accompanies the planning application. The Statement was prepared in accordance with the Transport Assessment Guidance (2006) document published by Department for Infrastructure and has also taken account of other relevant national, regional and local policies. The assessment has considered the traffic generation associated with the peak month of the 18-month construction phase and concludes that the construction phase will not have a significant impact upon the surrounding highway network. A course of pre and post construction condition monitoring will be undertaken to ensure the Proposed Development does not result in an adverse impact on the road network. Given the rural nature of the site and proximity to the road network, specific restriction in vehicle arrivals times may not need to be implemented. Mud and debris on the road are regarded as one of the main environmental nuisances and safety problems arising from construction sites. A condition can be applied to ensure that the area around the site including the public highway is regularly and adequately swept to prevent any accumulation of dust and dirt. The assessment has considered the traffic generation associated with the operational phase of the development and concluded that the operational phase will have an insignificant impact upon the surrounding highway. The operational phase is anticipated to generate one vehicle trip per week for general maintenance.
Health and safety *"What are the risks associated with the proposal?"*	For the Applicant, safety is of the utmost importance. The Proposed Development has been developed to address and mitigate against the risk of fire ignition and propagation, in a number of ways.

	The proposed battery technology for the Proposed Development is anticipated to be lithium iron phosphate (LFP). LFP has better stability against thermal runaway at higher temperatures compared to some other battery chemistries. Batteries will be specified to be tested and certified to UL 9540A, demonstrating resistance to thermal runaway. A number of control measures will also be implemented to further reduce risk from fire. These include: • Equipment spacing – the design allows for adequate spacing between the battery storage enclosures to mitigate against the risk of fire spread. • Protection systems - comprising flammable gas detection and venting, fire detection and alarm, and an automatic fire suppression system. • Access to battery enclosure – all battery enclosures will be accessed via external doors only. • Access for emergency services – the design incorporates wide access routes through north and south corridors and through the centre, allowing the fire service to access the Proposed Development in the unlikely event of an incident. In addition, two access points are proposed to the compound from the highway. An **Indicative Fire Safety Management Plan** accompanies the planning application. If consented, a full Fire Safety Management Plan will be developed in liaison with all relevant parties including the local fire and rescue services.
<u>Acoustics</u> *"Will there be a noise impact from the project?"*	The main sources of sound from the Proposed Development would be from the cooling fans for the inverters housed within the PCS units, air conditioning for the battery enclosures and the transformers. The Proposed Development has been designed to comply with strict noise limits set by the LPA, to ensure residential properties are not affected. A detailed **Acoustic Assessment** has been carried out, in conjunction with the LPA's Environmental Health team.

	This assessment shows the acoustic impact of the Proposed Development has been undertaken in accordance with BS 4142:2014+A1:2019, WHO, and BS 8233. The results indicate that the sound emitted by the Proposed Development, operating in isolation and in a cumulative context, can be considered to have 'No Observed Effect Level' (NOEL) in terms of government policy and guidance provided within the NPSNI during the daytime and night-time.

6 Summary

The Applicant believes that consultation and effective communication is extremely important when developing an energy storage project.

The Applicant has engaged proactively on the Proposed Development in order to facilitate an early and constructive consultation process and used a variety of methods to communicate and engage with the local community, stakeholders and other interested parties in order to facilitate a strong public understanding of the potential impacts and benefits of the Proposed Development.

This PACC Report sets out the consultation in respect of a full planning application for the Proposed Development. It confirms that all necessary statutory pre-application consultation has been undertaken and shows that the Applicant engaged early with the local community to encourage a constructive consultation process.

Analysis of the comment forms from the public exhibition shows that 87.5% of respondents supported or were neutral to the Proposed Development, with no one opposed and 12.5% not answering the question.

There was limited feedback received in respect of the Proposed Development, however, where possible the Applicant has considered the feedback that was received as the design was refined and finalised.

The Applicant is committed to continuing the open dialogue it has established with the local community during pre-application community consultation and as the planning process continues, as outlined within this PACC Report.

The Proposed Development's website at www.shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk will be updated regularly to enable people to keep up to date with the latest news about the Proposed Development as it progresses. Once the planning application has been validated by the LPA, the Applicant will write to stakeholders and members of the community who have asked to be kept updated on the Proposed Development, to provide them with the planning reference number and contact details for the LPA's Planning Department, should they wish to submit a formal representation.

Appendices

Appendix A. Letter emailed to elected representatives – 26 July 2024

Appendix B. Community pre-exhibition newsletter mailing – 22 August 2024

Appendix C. Pre-exhibition advertising – 22 August 2024

Appendix D. Public exhibition information boards – 4 September 2024

Appendix E. Comment form – 4 September 2024

Appendix F. MLA presentation – 28 August 2024

Appendix A. Letter emailed to elected representatives – 26 July 2024

Renewable Energy Systems Limited
Willowbank Business Park, Millbrook, Larne
County Antrim BT40 2SF, United Kingdom
+44 (0)2828 440 580 | info@res-group.com

[redacted]

26th July 2024

Dear [redacted]

RE: Shaneragh Energy Storage System Proposal

I am writing to let you know that RES is exploring the potential for an energy storage project on land approximately 500m northwest of the Dromore substation, in the townland of Shannaragh, 4km northeast of Dromore, Co. Tyrone - please see enclosed plan.

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company and has been operating from offices in Larne since the early 1990s. At the forefront of the renewables industry for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 26GW of renewable energy projects across the globe including the development and construction of the 50MW Gorman Energy Storage facility in Co. Meath.

Energy storage helps support National Grid by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and releasing electricity back to the national grid network when demand exceeds generation, thus creating a more stable and secure electricity system. Increasing the installed capacity of energy storage is essential to enabling and accelerating the rollout of zero carbon energy to support the UK's net-zero emissions target.

At this early stage of the project, we have submitted a Proposal of Application Notice (PAN) to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. We are also undertaking a number of technical and environmental surveys to ensure that any potential impact from the development is appropriately assessed and mitigated. These detailed studies are due to be completed in the coming months ahead of preparing a planning application for submission later this year. A copy of the PAN is enclosed.

RES is committed to engaging early with the local community and key stakeholders to facilitate constructive consultation. Once we have received feedback on the PAN, we will begin a number of consultation activities, including setting up a dedicated project website and holding a public exhibition in order to gather people's feedback on the proposal.

We would welcome the opportunity to arrange a video or telephone call with you, should you wish to discuss the project further or ask any questions.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Peter Henry
Development Project Manager
E: peter.henry@res-group.com M: +44 7500 661671

Appendix B. Community pre-exhibition newsletter mailing – 22 August 2024

Shaneragh energy storage system

August 2024

Proposal

RES is exploring the potential for an energy storage system on land approximately 500m northwest of the Dromore substation, in the townland of Shannaragh, 4km northeast of Dromore, Co. Tyrone.

Initial surveys have informed a preliminary layout and design, and RES is now at the stage of consulting with the local community to get feedback on our early-stage proposal. The feedback will be taken into account, along with the results of site surveys and assessments, as we refine the design.

Technical and environmental surveys are ongoing to ensure any potential impact on the environment, landscape, heritage and local residents is appropriately assessed and mitigated.

Wednesday 4 September 2024
4pm to 8pm

St Patrick's Hall
Dromore, Omagh, BT78 3AH

Public exhibition

We are keen to engage with the local community and as part of our pre-application consultation we are holding a public exhibition in the local area to enable people to find out more about the proposal and provide us with their views.

Our people will be on hand to answer any questions and comment forms will be available to gather feedback.

All information provided at the public exhibition will also be available at **shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk** from 4 September 2024.

The public exhibition initiates a consultation period being run by RES to gather comments on the proposal. To participate, **please provide feedback on the preliminary design by Friday 20 September 2024.**

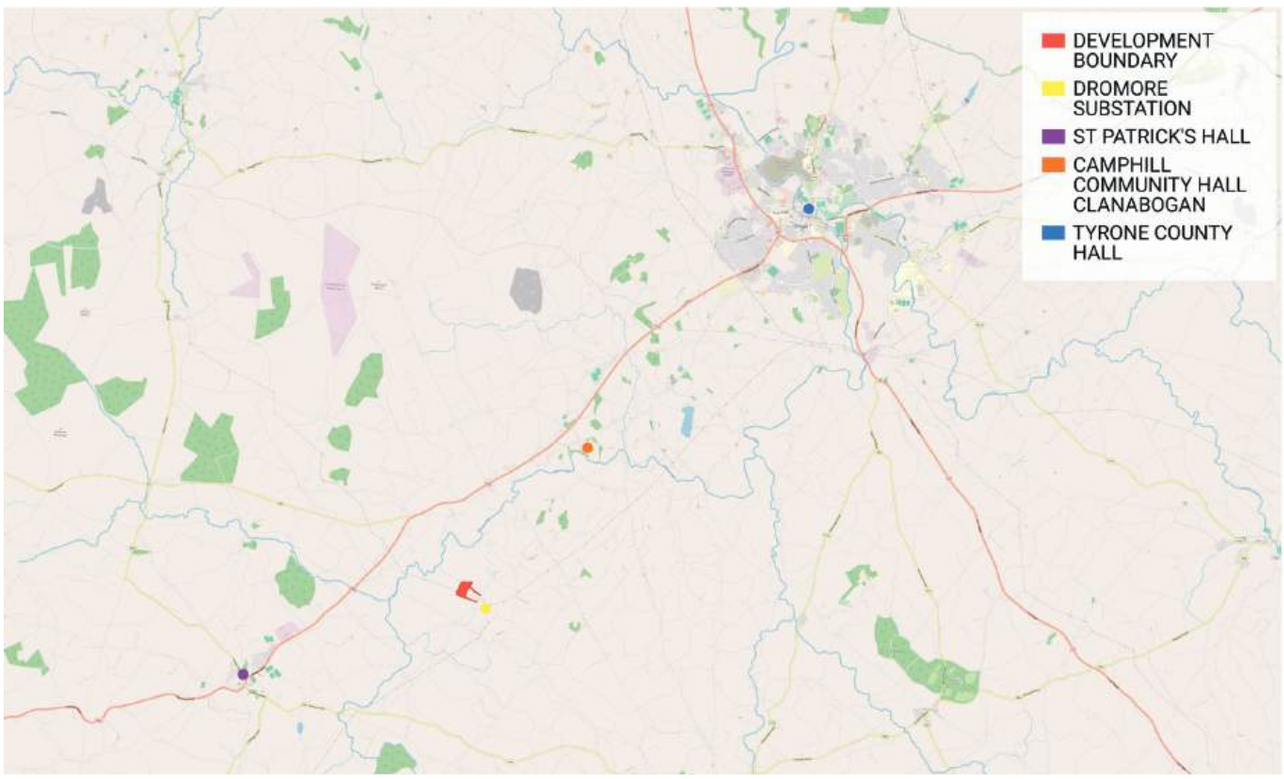
Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development. Comments forms will be available to complete and submit during the public exhibition. Forms will also be available on the website above from the day of the public exhibition and can submitted online or downloaded and submitted via email to carey.green@res-group.com. Hard copies can be sent by post to RES, Willowbank Business Park, Millbrook, Larne, Co. Antrim, BT40 2SF.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Fermanagh and Omagh District Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

Shaneragh energy storage system at a glance

The Shaneragh energy storage system would comprise a number of battery storage enclosures and associated infrastructure to provide up to 100MW of storage capacity. Shaneragh would support the grid network by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and releasing electricity back to the national grid network when demand exceeds generation. Electricity is not physically generated on site.

The Shaneragh project will be specifically designed to include planting of native trees, hedgerows and wildflower grass areas. These will not only reduce potential visibility of the scheme but also help to enhance biodiversity by providing wildlife corridors and vital resources for mammals, birds, and insect species.



About RES

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, working across 24 countries. An industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 26GW of renewable energy projects across the globe.

RES is the power behind a clean energy future where everyone has access to affordable zero carbon energy bringing together global experience, passion, and the innovation of its 4,500 people to transform the way energy is generated, stored and supplied.

Across the UK and Ireland, RES has developed over 700MW of energy storage projects including the development, construction and asset management of Scotland's first utility-scale battery storage facility, the 20MW Broxburn Energy Storage facility in Broxburn, West Lothian.

For more information on the proposal please visit our project website at **shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk**.

Peter Henry
Development Project Manager
peter.henry@res-group.com | 07500 661 671
RES, Willowbank Business Park, Millbrook, Larne, Co. Antrim, BT40 2SF.

If you require information in Braille, large text or audio, please let us know.

Appendix C. Pre-exhibition advertising – 22 August 2024

Group members at a trip out to Lough Salt outside Letterkenny, Co Donegal in 2013. SU4034CD24

Members enjoying a trip to Leitirmacaward in West Donegal. SU4434CD24

First Omagh Walking Group members visited Loughgall Park in 2018. SU4634CD24

Appendix D. Public exhibition information boards – 4 September 2024

Welcome to our Public Exhibition

Thank you for taking the time to attend this public exhibition.

We are seeking your views on the preliminary design for a battery energy storage proposal that we are exploring on land close to Dromore substation, approximately 4km northeast of Dromore, Co. Tyrone.

We consider pre-application consultation a crucial part of the energy storage development process and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders in order to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we will consider when developing and refining the design and delivery of the proposal.

A range of information is shared, including details of the site location, design layout, proposed infrastructure, likely delivery route and environmental considerations.

The public exhibition forms part of our pre-application consultation and is designed to give you the opportunity to:

- learn more about the proposal
- discuss any questions or views with our project team
- provide written feedback to RES on the proposal.

Please take time to read the information provided and talk to our project team about any questions that you may have.

All consultation feedback submitted to RES will be reviewed by the project team over the coming weeks as we continue the design process.

Image for illustrative purposes only

Shaneragh Energy Storage Proposal

shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk

power for good

The need for battery energy storage

Our energy system is in a transitionary period.

Ageing infrastructure is being replaced and greater flexibility introduced into our networks via technological advances, such as battery energy storage, to manage the increasingly complex supply and demand needs of the 21st Century.

Battery energy storage is crucial in enabling the rollout of zero carbon energy and supporting Northern Ireland's net-zero emissions target.

Renewable energy technologies are needed to replace electricity generation from fossil fuels, however, they can generate electricity intermittently depending on weather conditions, which can cause imbalances in the electricity network.

Battery energy storage works by storing energy at times when generation exceeds demand and then releases electricity back to the electricity network when demand exceeds generation.

Battery energy storage is also considered the fastest technology for responding to a sudden spike in demand or an abrupt loss of supply.

Image for illustrative purposes only

Shaneragh Energy Storage Proposal

shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk

res
power for good

Project Overview

The proposed Shaneragh Energy Storage site is located on land close to Dromore substation, approximately 4km northeast of Dromore, Co. Tyrone.

The site is not expected to exceed 6.5 hectares including the site tracks, landscaping and surface water management measures.

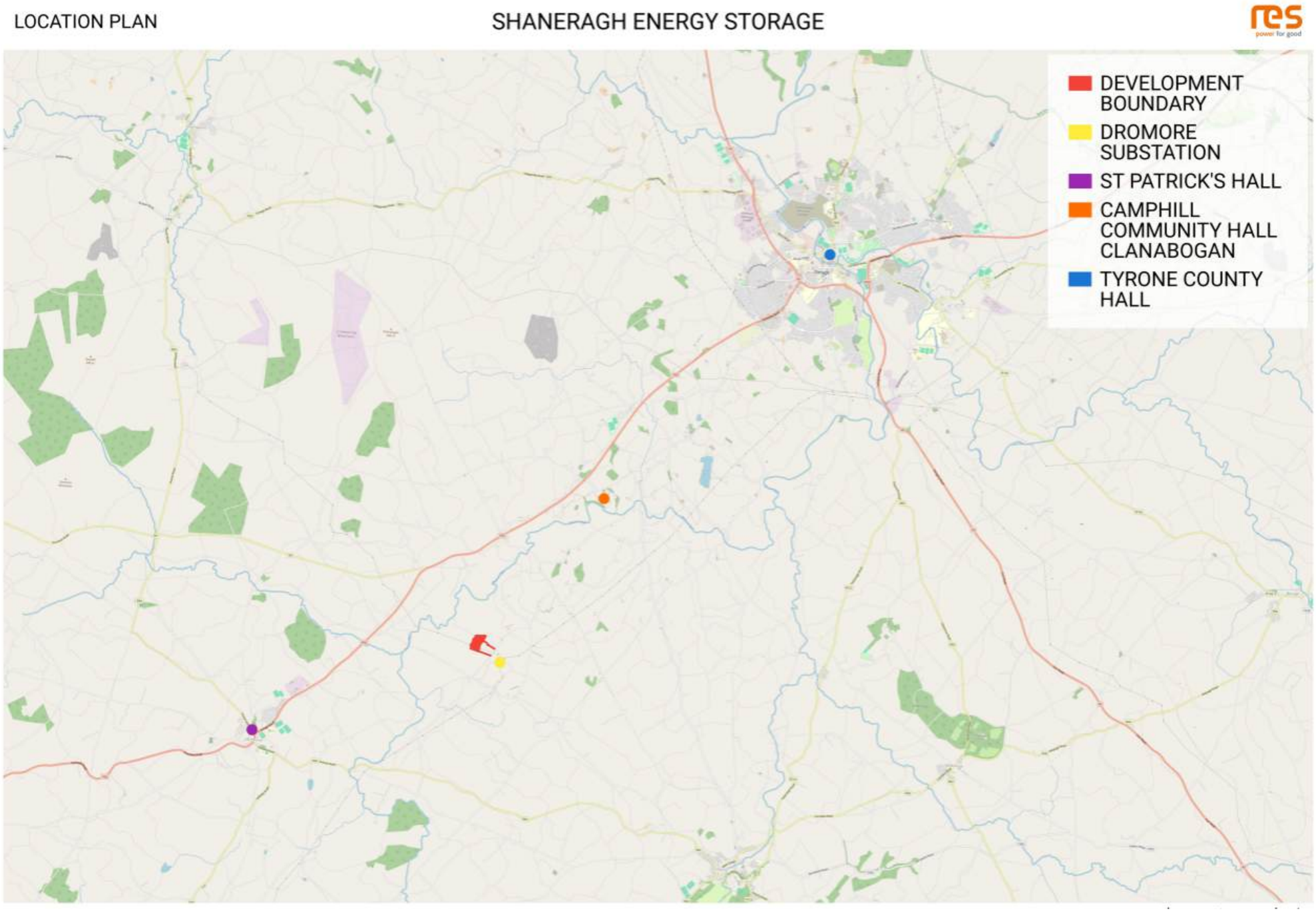
The site has been chosen due to its proximity to Dromore substation and as it lies outside of any international, national or local environmental designations.

If consented, the project would connect directly into the Dromore substation.

The Shaneragh proposal will provide up to 100MW of storage capacity. That's the equivalent of fully charging around 4,000 electric vehicles.

The planning application will be submitted to Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, and we currently expect to submit the application around Winter 2024.

Having undertaken initial site feasibility work we are now preparing for more detailed environmental and technical site survey work which will be carried out over the coming months to help inform the design.



We are still consulting on the development boundary and as such, it is subject to change.

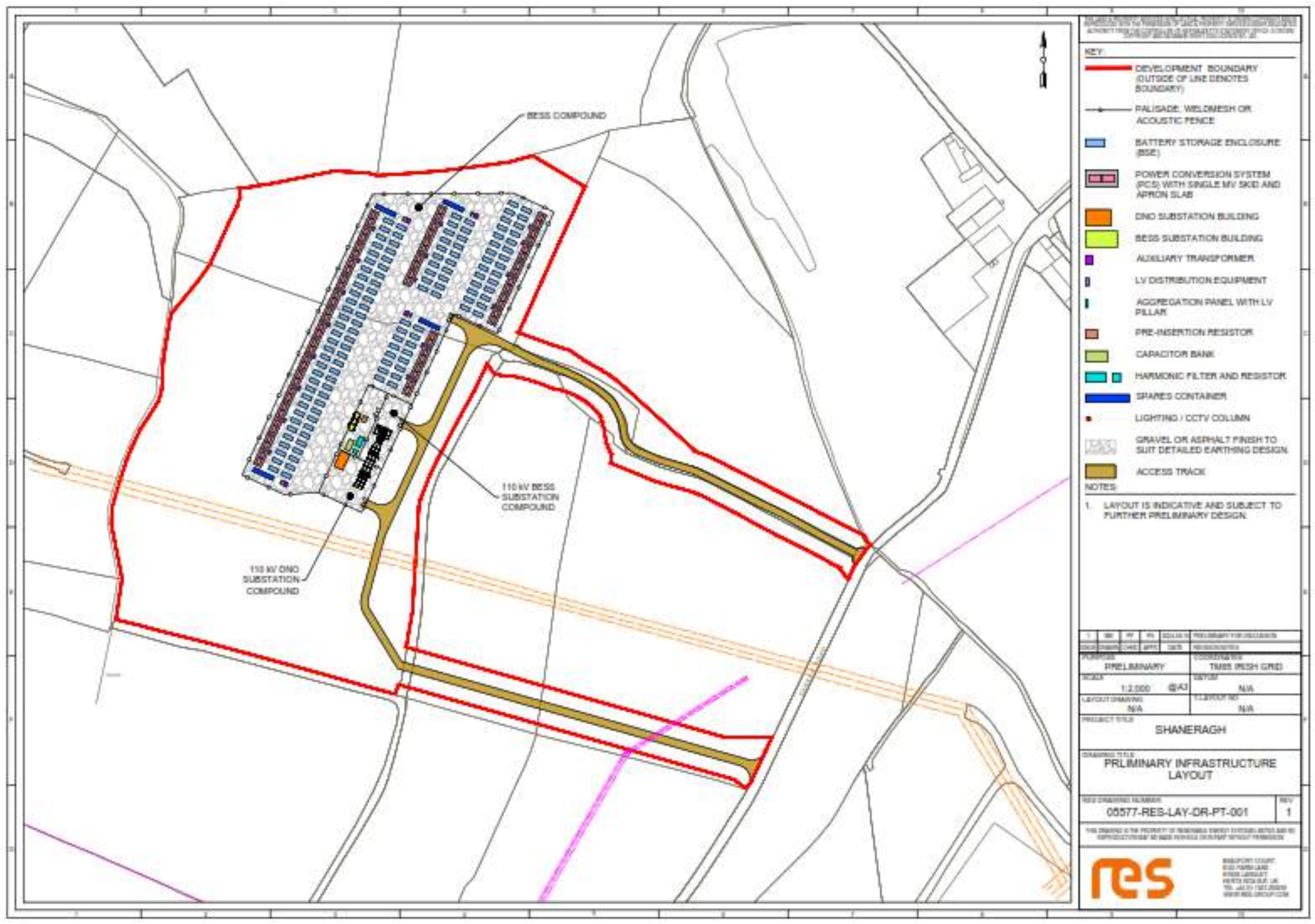
Shaneragh Energy Storage Proposal

shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk

power for good

Infrastructure and layout

The plan below shows the preliminary layout for the Shaneragh Energy Storage project.



The proposed system is a containerised scheme, involving proven Lithium iron phosphate (LFP) battery technology which RES has deployed at multiple projects around the world.

The site would comprise of approximately 128 battery containers. The typical overall size for both types of containers are approximately 6.1 metres long by 2.9 metres high.

The tallest infrastructure is expected to be the DNO substation which would have a maximum height of 7 metres.

The infrastructure would include:

- Battery enclosures
- Power Conversion Systems and Transformers
- DNO Substation & grid infrastructure
- BESS Substation
- Auxiliary Transformer
- Grid Compliance Equipment
- Grid Connection Infrastructure
- Security System
- Landscaping
- Drainage Scheme

Traffic and access

Component and material deliveries are a key phase in the construction of any battery energy storage project.

Safety is the key consideration and we will be undertaking a detailed analysis of the delivery route, as well as careful assessment of the site access points. The preferred access points and delivery route are shown on the map below.

Throughout the construction phase there will be a combination of HGVs (for the component and material deliveries) and cars/vans (for construction staff), on site. Typically, there is peak HGV movements during the first weeks of construction whilst car/van movements are expected to be constant throughout.

A Transport Statement will accompany the planning application, which outlines the overall framework for managing the safe movement of construction and delivery traffic. The Transport Statement will also itemise the estimated number of deliveries over an approximate 15-month construction period, if the project is consented, the indicative spread of vehicle movements during the construction phase and timing restrictions.

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Environmental considerations

RES will design the battery energy storage system so that it will fit sensitively in the surrounding landscape.

A number of surveys and assessments will be carried out to ensure any potential impact upon the environment, landscape, heritage and local residents is appropriately assessed and mitigated. Potential cumulative impacts, with other developments in the area, will also be assessed.

The assessments to be carried out will include:

Ecology

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal will present the main findings of a desk study and walkover survey, categorising baseline habitats and conditions and their nature conservation value and predicting any potential ecological impacts from the project.

Acoustics

Noise is an important consideration, and the battery energy storage system will be designed to comply with strict noise limits set by the determining authority should the project be granted consent. The scope of the acoustic assessment includes determining the baseline background sound levels and predicting sound levels from the project in order to assess the level of potential impact, in accordance with relevant planning guidance.

Flood risk & surface water management

Detailed design and flood modelling is being undertaken to minimise increased flood risk anywhere on or off site. A Flood Risk and Drainage Impact Assessment will accompany the planning application which will also set out any proposed surface water drainage solution.

Landscape

A Landscape and Visual Appraisal (LVA) considers the site and its surrounding context in both landscape and visual terms, to assess the potential effects of the proposed battery energy storage system upon landscape features, landscape character and visual amenity.

Heritage & Archaeology

This assessment sets out the cultural heritage baseline of the site as well as assessing the site's archaeological potential. It will assess the potential effects of the project on the cultural heritage resource, within the context of relevant legislation and planning policy, and determine, should any predicted adverse effects be identified, how these effects can be mitigated.

Image for illustrative purposes only

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Landscaping and biodiversity enhancement

The Shaneragh project is being specifically designed to include comprehensive landscaping measures to reduce potential visibility of the scheme.

A landscaping plan will form part of the planning application and will set out new planting measures to provide visual screening of the project.

We aim to retain all existing hedgerow and woodland, where possible, and could include new hedgerow, shrub and woodland planting. Planting may be atop soil bunds to provide additional height.

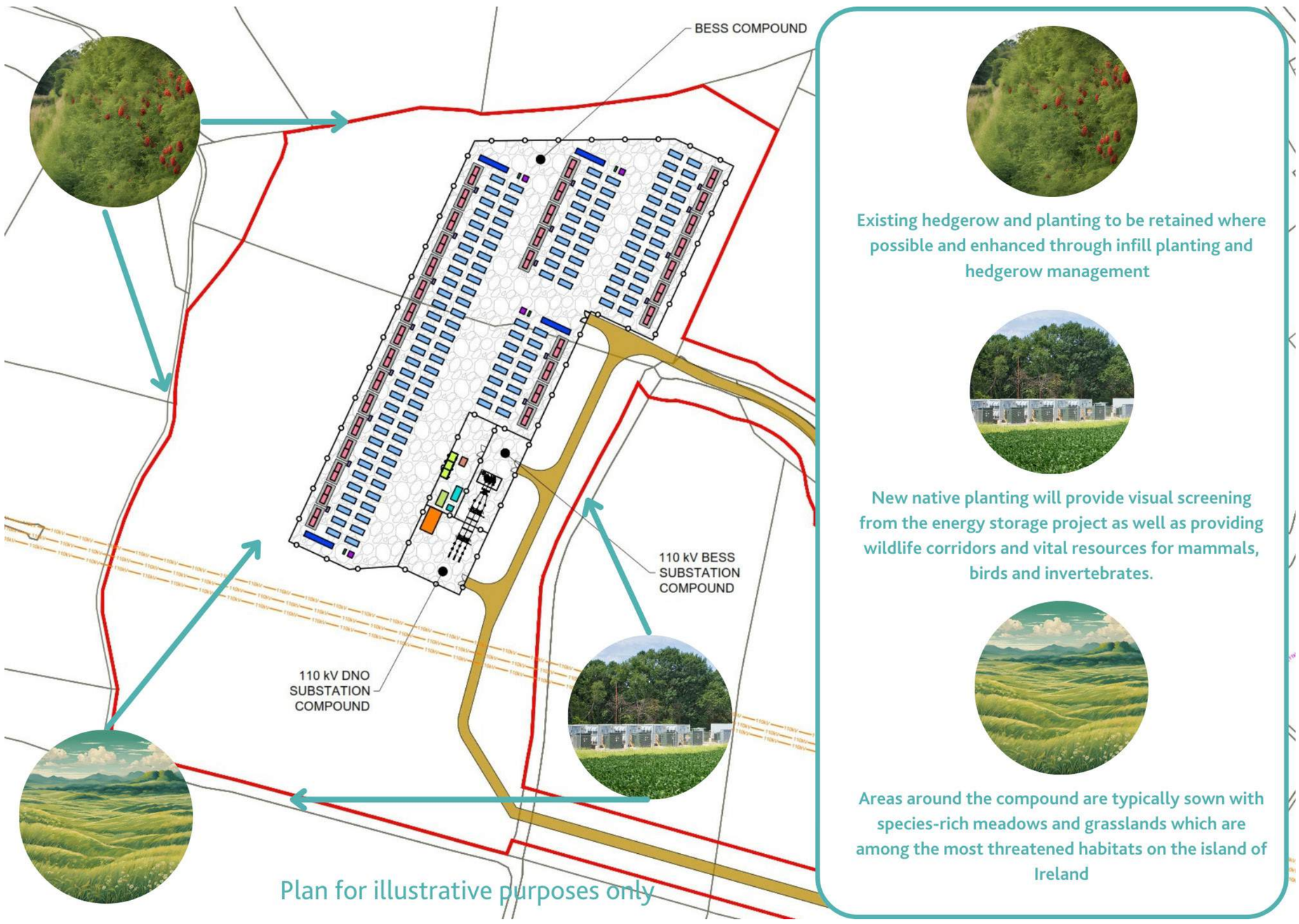
The landscaping plan will also provide information on the timings and aftercare regime for all planting.

Whilst there is currently no statutory targets for biodiversity protection, restoration or enhancement in Northern Ireland, for the Shaneragh proposal our goal is to deliver a biodiversity net gain as part of the development.

The creation of new hedgerow and woodland can provide wildlife corridors and vital resources for a range of wildlife.

Areas around the compound are typically sown with a wildflower meadow mix which can provide nectar-rich areas for pollinators. Riparian woodland planted around any surface water and drainage systems could deliver further biodiversity enhancements, providing good habitat for invertebrates that ultimately provide food for aquatic life.

Where appropriate we would also introduce measures such as bird, bat and reptile housing.



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Our approach to safety

At RES, safety is of the utmost importance.

Our ambition is to continue to lead the market in delivering best-in-class health and safety performance, as we simultaneously look to the future in developing a zero-harm culture.

Health and safety is woven into every aspect of RES' battery energy storage systems. The Shaneragh project will be developed to address and mitigate against the risk of fire ignition and propagation, in a number of ways.

Monitoring and Remote Access

Unlike electric cars and scooters, for example, RES-managed battery energy storage systems are constantly monitored from our 24/7/365 control centre in Glasgow. Some controls can also be safely operated remotely from our control centre, such as the shutting down of an individual battery rack or the entire battery energy storage system, if required.

Battery Selection

The proposed battery technology for the development is anticipated to be lithium iron phosphate (LFP). LFP has better stability against thermal runaway at higher temperatures compared to some other battery chemistries. All batteries must be tested and certified to an industry standard (UL9540A), demonstrating resistance to thermal runaway, and which ensures there is no likelihood of explosion, with any fire contained within the affected battery rack.

Equipment Spacing

The site will be developed to include adequate spacing between the battery storage enclosures (BSE) to mitigate against the risk of fire spread in the unlikely event of a fire within one BSE.

Protection Systems

Each BSE will have a dedicated fire protection system, comprising flammable gas detection and venting, fire detection and alarm, and an automatic fire suppression system.

Access to Battery Enclosure and for Emergency Services

All battery enclosures will be accessed via external doors only. The fenced compound will have a wide access route through north and south corridors and through the centre, allowing the fire service to access the site in the unlikely event of an incident. In addition, two site access points will be proposed to the energy storage compound.

A Fire Risk Statement will accompany any planning application.

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Have your say

We believe in meaningful and effective consultation.

The aims of our consultation process are to:

- Engage early with the local community to facilitate a constructive consultation process to help identify and understand concerns.
- Assist the local community in understanding the benefits and potential impacts of the proposed energy storage system.
- Add value and improve the quality of our proposal through meaningful and productive consultation.

Before we submit a planning application, we will create a Pre-Application Community Consultation Report (PACC) that documents the community engagement process and any steps we have taken to adapt our proposal.

At this stage we are inviting the local community to submit comments directly to RES. If an application is submitted there will be the opportunity to submit representations to the determining Planning Authority at that time.

We are keen to understand your views on the proposal and the information available at this exhibition.

Please take a few minutes to fill out a feedback form with your comments.

Shaneragh Energy Storage Proposal

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The world's largest independent renewable energy company

RES is the world's largest independent renewable energy company, working across 24 countries. An industry innovator for over 40 years, RES has delivered more than 26GW of renewable energy projects across the globe.

RES is the power behind a clean energy future where everyone has access to affordable zero carbon energy bringing together global experience, passion, and the innovation of its 4,500 people to transform the way energy is generated, stored and supplied.

Find out more at res-group.com

RES in Ireland

RES is a privately-owned company with a proud history across the island of Ireland.

From our Larne office we have been developing, constructing and operating energy projects since the early 1990s. This includes the development and construction of the Gorman Energy Storage System in Co. Meath and the Avonbeg and Gorey Energy Storage Systems in Co. Wexford.

RES has been working in the battery energy storage market for a decade and design safe storage projects using proven Lithium iron phosphate technology. Across the UK and Ireland, RES has developed over 700MW of battery energy storage projects, and we currently manage over 600MW of operational storage projects with 24/7/365 monitoring provided from our control centre in Glasgow

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Appendix E. Comment form – 4 September 2024

Shaneragh Energy Storage System Proposal
Comment Form

RES believes in meaningful and productive consultation, and we aim to engage early with the local community and key stakeholders to facilitate constructive consultation. This helps to identify issues and concerns, as well as benefits and opportunities, which we can then consider when developing the design of the proposal.
`

Feedback from the local community is important at this stage of our pre-application consultation when it can have a direct influence on the final design of the project, and we would be grateful if you could take the time to fill out this comment form with your feedback.

Please provide feedback by **Friday 20th September**. Comments will still be accepted after this date but may not be considered in relation to the design development.

Please note that comments submitted to RES at this time are not representations to the determining authority (Fermanagh and Omagh District Council). There will be an opportunity to submit representations to the determining authority should an application be made.

1 Shaneragh Energy Storage System Public Exhibition

1.1 How did you find out about our public exhibition?

- ☐ Newsletter through the door
- ☐ Advert in local newspaper
- ☐ Project website – **www.shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk**
- ☐ Word of mouth
- ☐ Other (please specify)

1.2 Before visiting the exhibition how would you describe your knowledge of the proposed Shaneragh Energy Storage System?

- ☐ Knew a lot
- ☐ Knew quite a lot
- ☐ Knew a little
- ☐ Knew very little
- ☐ Knew nothing at all

Shaneragh Energy Storage System Proposal
Comment Form

1.3 Having visited the exhibition, to what extent do you feel you have increased your understanding of the proposed Shaneragh Energy Storage System?

- ☐ A lot
- ☐ Quite a lot
- ☐ A little
- ☐ Very little
- ☐ Not at all

1.4 Do you have any suggestions for ways in which we could have improved our exhibition?

Shaneragh Energy Storage System Proposal
Comment Form

2 Shaneragh Energy Storage System Proposal

Your views on the Shaneragh Energy Storage System proposal – particularly the preliminary layout of the project where people's comments can have a direct influence – will be considered in relation to the design development of the project.

2.1 How do you feel in general about the Shaneragh Energy Storage System proposal?

☐ I am supportive

☐ I am neutral

☐ I am opposed

Further comments:

2.2 What do you think about the proposed preliminary layout of the Shaneragh Energy Storage System?

☐ I am happy with the proposed layout

☐ I am neutral towards the proposed layout

☐ I have concerns about the proposed layout (please provide further details below)

☐ I don't like energy storage systems in general

Further comments:

2.3 Please provide us with any further suggestions or comments regarding the proposed Shaneragh Energy Storage System.

3 Local Benefits

3.1 RES believe our projects should deliver meaningful local benefit.

We welcome feedback and ideas for local benefits and priority projects that you would like to see supported or delivered in your community from Shaneragh Energy Storage System, should it receive consent. Some examples from communities that we've worked with include:

- improvements to village halls,
- sports team sponsorship,
- funding for schools and local community groups
- community defibrillators
- improvements to local footpaths and/or signage.

If you have any suggestions for such benefits the project may be able to support, please let us know in the box below.

4 Climate Change, Energy Security and Renewables

The below section is optional and designed to help us understand people's thoughts on how renewables can help to tackle climate change and improve energy security.

4.1 Do you agree or disagree that we are facing a global climate change emergency?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.2 Do you agree or disagree that generating electricity from renewable sources, and reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, can help towards tackling the issue of climate change?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.3 Do you agree or disagree that generating electricity from renewable sources will provide greater energy independence and security for Northern Ireland?

- ☐ I strongly agree
- ☐ I agree
- ☐ I don't know
- ☐ I disagree
- ☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

4.4 Do you agree or disagree that we need to develop energy storage projects to create a more stable and secure electricity system, supporting the rollout of zero carbon energy?

☐ I strongly agree

☐ I agree

☐ I don't know

☐ I disagree

☐ I strongly disagree

Further comments:

5 Your details

Please provide your name and contact details below in order to authenticate this comments form. Providing this information gives context to your feedback, facilitates a better understanding of community views and priorities, and enables us to respond to any questions raised. However, if you are not comfortable providing us with your full contact details, please include your postcode as a minimum.

Your contact details will be treated by RES with the strictest of confidence, in line with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) 2018. We may at times share your contact details, in confidence, with third parties who we employ to help process your comments or update you on the project and by providing your details below you consent to this. You may write to RES at any time to ask that your contact details be removed from our records and from any third parties we work with.

Name	
Email	
Address	
Postcode*	

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please tick this box ☐

When you have completed the comment form, please hand it in at the welcome desk. Comment forms are also available to complete and submit online at www.shaneragh-energystorage.co.uk. Forms may also be sent by post to: RES, Willow Bank Business Park, Willlowbank Road, Millbrook, Larne, Co. Antrim, BT40 2SF.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this comment form, your feedback is important to us.

Appendix F. MLA presentation – 28 August 2024

Shaneragh BESS Proposal

RES at a glance

ACTIVITIES

- Develop
- Construct
- Services
- Digital

TECHNOLOGIES

- Wind
- Solar
- Storage
- T&D
- Green Hydrogen
- Biomass
- Hydro

RES is the world’s largest independent renewable energy company

Shaneragh Battery Energy Storage System Proposal

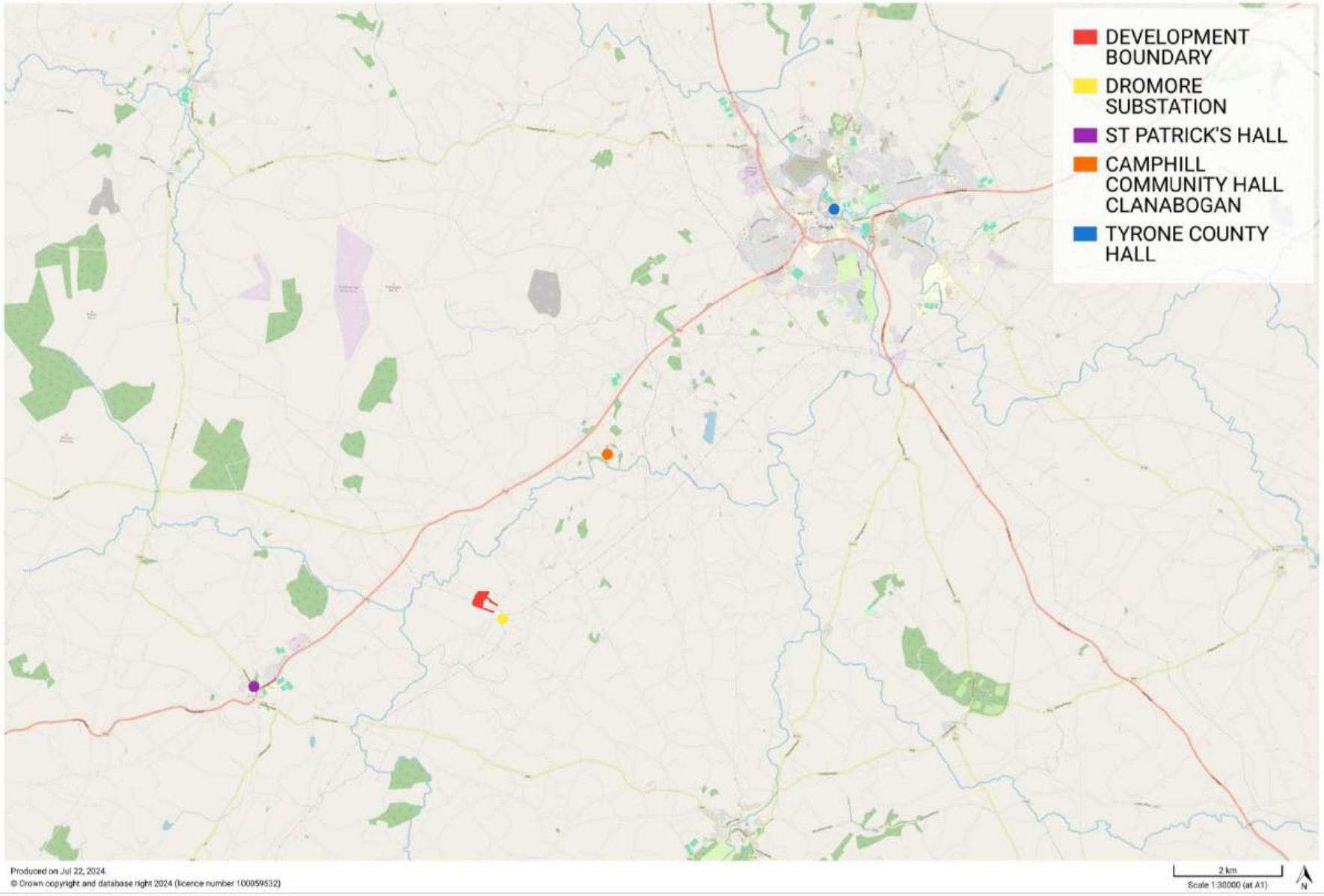
POWER FOR GOOD

www.res-group.com

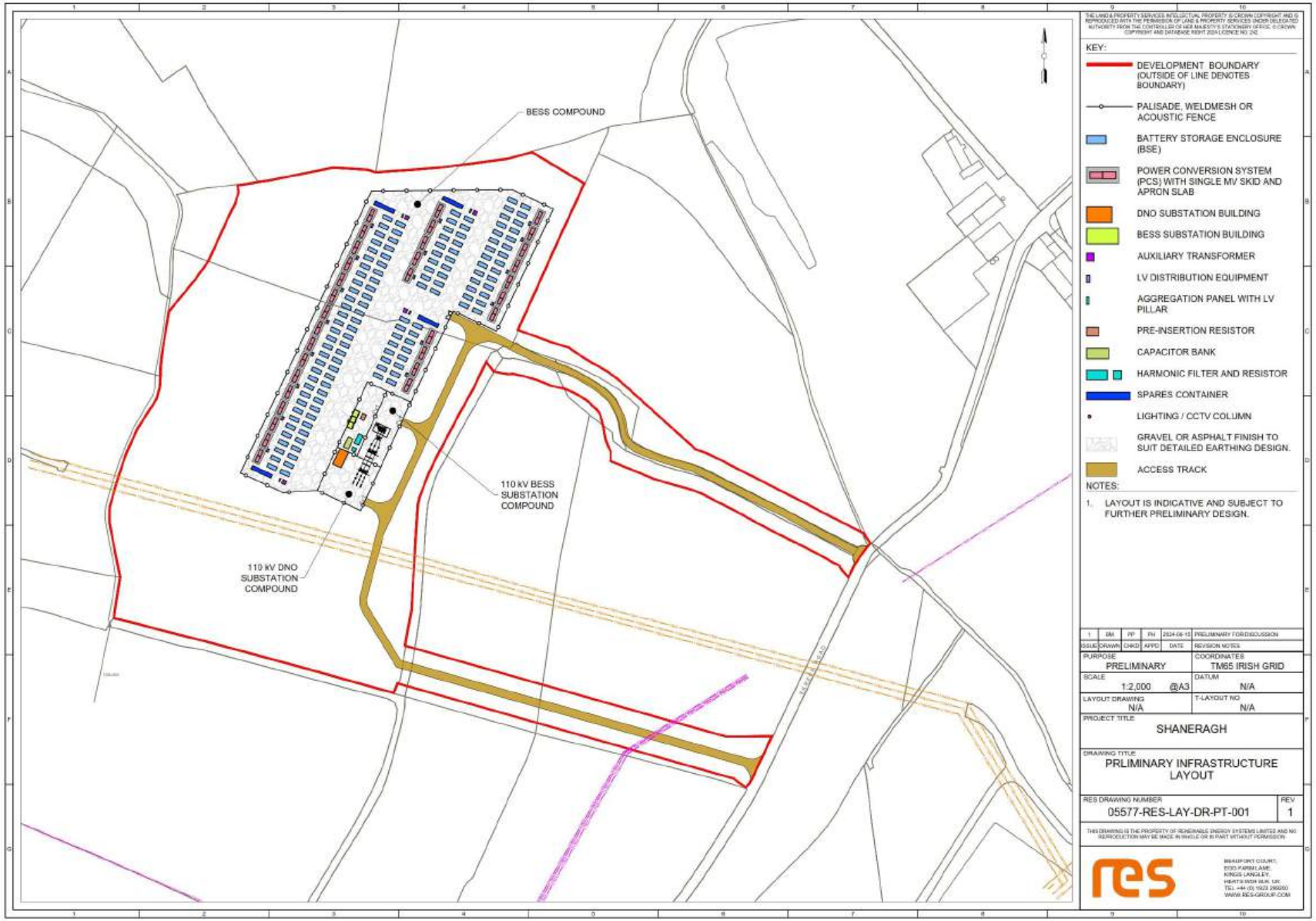
The need for energy storage

- Managing the increasingly complex supply and demand needs of the 21st Century.
- Crucial to enabling the rollout of zero carbon energy and supporting NI’s net-zero emissions target.
- Balancing energy demand and supply for the short or long term
- Fastest technology for responding to sudden spikes in demand or an abrupt loss of supply.

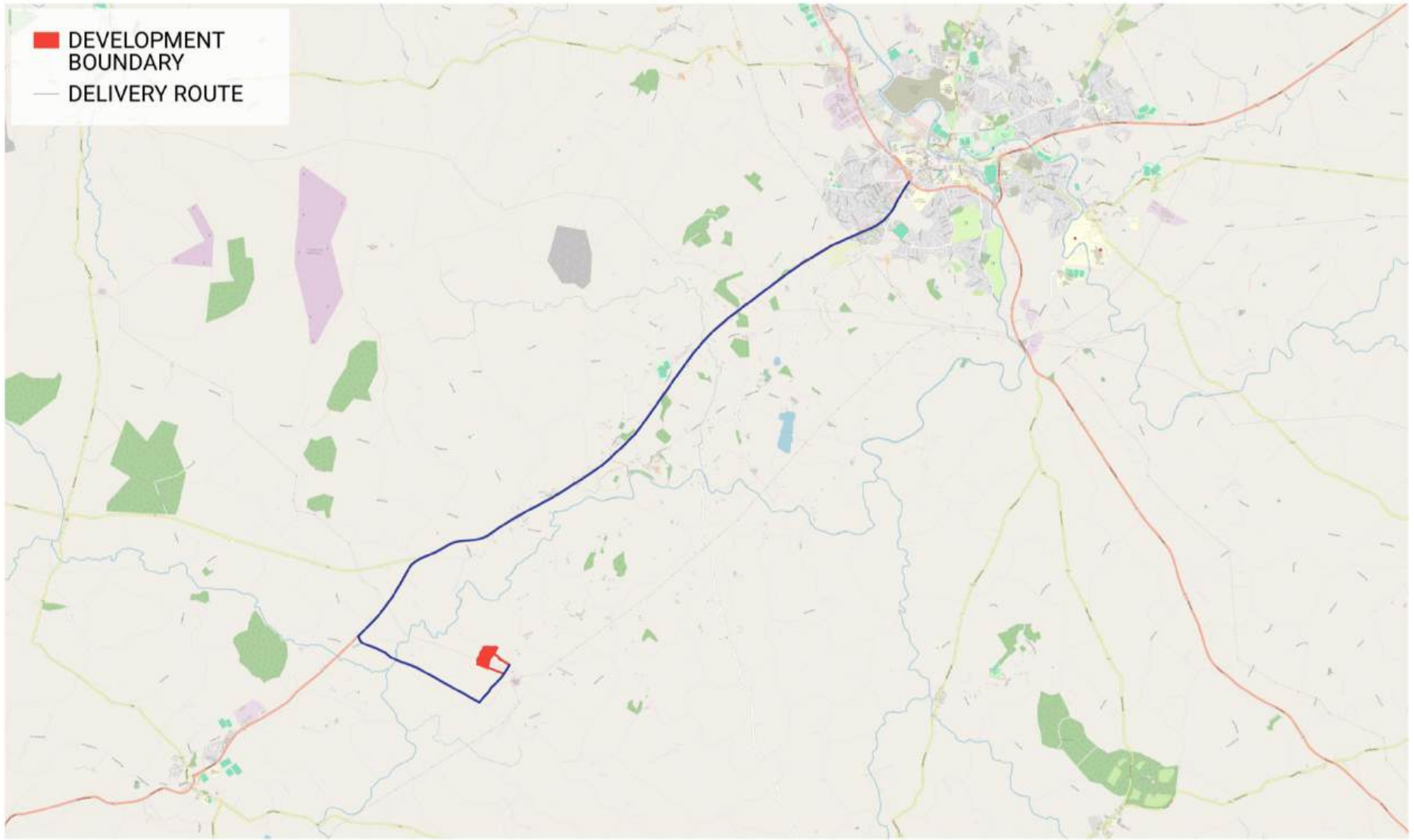
Project overview



Infrastructure and layout



Traffic and access

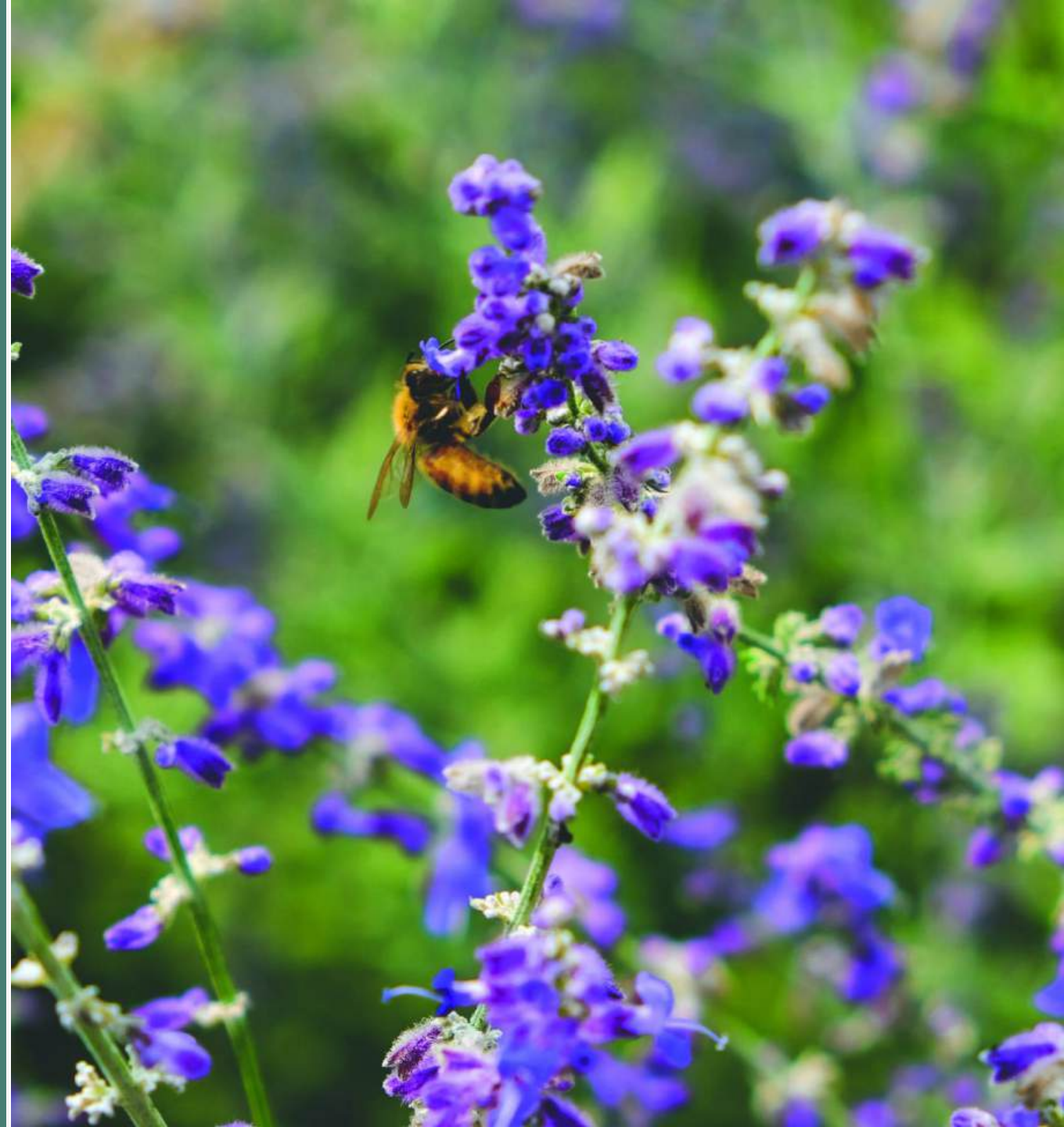


Environmental considerations

- Ecology
- Acoustics
- Flood risk and surface water management
- Landscape
- Heritage and archaeology

Landscaping and biodiversity enhancement

- Existing landscaping
- New landscaping
- Biodiversity enhancement



Our approach to safety

- Safety is of the utmost importance.
- Monitoring and remote access
- Battery selection
- Equipment spacing
- Protection systems
- Access to battery enclosure and for emergency services

Consultation

- Public exhibition
- Aims of our consultation process
- Feedback
- PACC Report