

## PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REPORT

Muttonhole Road BESS

Applicant: Advance Grid Solutions Limited

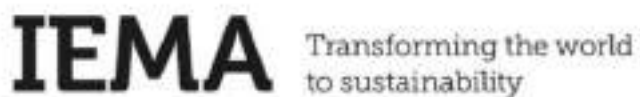
Version 1.0

EXPERTISE | KNOWLEDGE | SUPPORT

## Document Version Control

### Revision Control Table

Issue	Date	Change	Prepared	Approved
1.0	03/2025	PAC Report	BG	BL



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## Document Abbreviations

Abbreviation	
PAC	Pre-Application Consultation
ECU	Energy Consents Unit
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
SLC	South Lanarkshire Council
AGS	Advanced Grid Solutions Limited
Cogeo	Cogeo Planning & Environmental Services Ltd

## Document Attachments

Document Title	Description
Appendix PAC1	Email Introduction to Councillors
Appendix PAC2	Public Consultation Advertisement Flyers
Appendix PAC3	Public Consultation Newspaper Articles
Appendix PAC4	Event 1 Display Boards
Appendix PAC5	Event 2 Display Boards
Appendix PAC6	Feedback Forms
Appendix PAC7	Summary of Feedback Responses

## 1. INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. PAC Report

This Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report has been prepared as part of a Planning Application submitted to the Energy Consents Units (ECU) for a 500MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and other ancillary infrastructure on land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ. This application is subject to the Section 36 consenting process due to the generating capacity exceeding 50MW<sup>1</sup>. Whilst the Scottish Ministers/ECU will determine the application, South Lanarkshire Council (SLC) will be a statutory consultee.

This statement details the pre-application engagement activities that were carried out as part of this development, providing an overview of the feedback received during the consultation period and how this influenced the final development proposed.

This PAC report has been prepared by Cogeo Planning and Environmental Services (referred to as Cogeo) on behalf of the applicant Advanced Grid Solutions Limited (herein referred to as "the Applicant", AGS).

### 1.2. Applicant Information

AGS is a division of Advance Construction (Scotland) Ltd, one of Scotland's largest family-owned groundworks and civil engineering businesses with expertise in solar, battery and wind projects across the UK. AGS have around 2,500MW currently in progress for delivery throughout the UK, including a 1,000MW transmission-connected BESS project.

### 1.3. Project Details

Development consists of a 500MW BESS, proposed to store and release energy to the grid during variances in supply and demand. As the energy supply in the UK begins to rely more on renewable energy technologies (i.e. wind and solar) there is an increased need for BESS developments to maintain a consistent supply. The proposed BESS will store this electricity, transferring it back into the local distribution network when required by National Grid. As a grid balancing project, the proposal is regarded as Essential Infrastructure, helping to deliver wider targets for lower greenhouse gas emissions and increased renewable energy generation.

Proposed alongside the BESS is a series of ancillary works and infrastructure, consisting of:

- 226x battery units;
- 113x power conversion system (PCS) units;
- 2x auxiliary transformers and 2x firewalls;
- 1x substation building;
- Palisade fencing surrounding transformer area;
- Construction compound;
- Security perimeter fencing;

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<sup>1</sup> Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 applies to proposals for the construction, extension or operation of an onshore electricity generating station whose capacity exceeds 50MW. Electricity Act 1989:  
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1989/29/section/36>

- Cut and fill;
- Access track;
- Emergency access track;
- Internal roads;
- Gravel hardstanding;
- CCTV and lighting columns;
- Drainage infrastructure;
- Planting scheme and Biodiversity Enhancements.

## 2. PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION REQUIREMENTS

### 2.1. Section 36 Development Pre-Application Consultation Requirements

Due to the generating capacity exceeding 50MW, this application falls within Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989. Unlike Major Developments<sup>2</sup>, there are no statutory pre-application consultation procedures for Section 36 and Section 37 applications under the Electricity Act. However, it is considered good practice to engage with communities or groups who are likely to be affected by the development proposal. Table 2.1 details the minimum pre-application consultation expectations on applicants as detailed in the ECU Good Practice Guidance<sup>3</sup>.

**Table 2.1 Pre-Application Consultation Requirements and Expectations**

Requirement	Expectation
Pre-application consultation events	<p>The applicant is expected to hold at least two public consultation events prior to submitting the application. The final public event should be held at least 14 days after the first public event. The public events are to give members of the public the opportunity to make comments to the applicant as regards the proposed development.</p> <p>At the final public event, the applicant should provide feedback to members of the public in respect of comments received by the applicant as regards the proposed development.</p>
Notice of the pre-application consultation events	<p>At least seven days before holding a public event, the applicant should publish on the applicant's website and in a local newspaper circulating in the locality in which the proposed development is situated a notice containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a description of, and the location of, the proposed development;</li> <li>– details as to where further information may be obtained concerning the proposed development;</li> <li>– the date and place of the public event;</li> <li>– a statement explaining how, and by when, persons wishing to make comments to the applicant relating to the proposal may do so; and</li> <li>– a statement that comments made to the applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers and if the applicant submits an application there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the Scottish Ministers.</li> </ul>
Details of the pre-application consultation events	<p>The applicant should provide the following details at the public event and publish these details on the applicant's website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– a description of the development to be carried out;</li> <li>– a plan showing the outline of the site at which the development is to be carried out and sufficient to identify that site; and</li> <li>– details as to how the applicant may be contacted and corresponded with.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Major Developments generate between 20MW and 49.9MW as per Hierarchy of Development (Scotland) 5/2009

<sup>3</sup> Energy Consents Unit - Good Practice Guidance for Applications under Section 36 and 37 of the Electricity Act 1989: <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2022/02/good-practice-guidance-applications-under-sections-36-37-electricity-act-1989/documents/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022/govscot%3Adocument/energy-consents-unit-good-practice-guidance-applications-under-section-36-37-electricity-act-1989-february-2022.pdf>

Requirement	Expectation
Content of public event and pre-application consultation report	<p>The applicant is expected to prepare a pre-application consultation report ("PAC Report") setting out what has been done to accord with the guidance set out above. The PAC Report should be submitted with the application. The PAC Report should contain the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– the dates on which and places where public events were held;</li> <li>– a description of any additional steps taken by the applicant to consult with members of the public regarding the development;</li> <li>– a list of bodies, groups and organisations who were consulted by the applicant and a description of how they were consulted;</li> <li>– a description of any materials sent to consultees and materials provided to those attending public events;</li> <li>– copies of any visual presentation shown or displayed at a public event, and photographs of any display boards or models at public events;</li> <li>– confirmation as to whether consultees and attendees at public events were informed that pre-application consultation does not remove the right or the potential need to comment on the final application once it is made to the Scottish Ministers;</li> <li>– a summary of the written responses to consultations and views raised at public events, including an indication of the number of written responses received and the number of persons who attended the public events;</li> <li>– an explanation of how the applicant took account of views raised during the pre-application consultation process; and</li> <li>– an explanation of how members of the public were given feedback on the applicant's consideration of the views raised during the pre-application consultation process.</li> </ul>



### 3. PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

#### 3.1. Community Consultation Overview

As per best practice guidance, two in-person public consultation events were held for the Muttonhole Road BESS proposal. Details of the events are listed below:

- Event 1: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 between 3pm – 7pm at Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre.
- Event 2: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 between 3pm – 7pm at Whitehill Centre.
- An online consultation hub was made available throughout the process to allow the public and communities to ask questions or comment on the development proposal.

Table 3.1 details the key dates and activities that took place with regards to the community consultation process.

**Table 3.1 Programme of Consultation Activities**

Activity	Date
Online community consultation page made live	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
E-mails to local councillors and community groups to open engagement	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
E-mail from member of public received	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
E-mail response issued to the member of public	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2024
Contacting Councillors via email to notify them of the events	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2025
Flyer Drop to Residences (1 leaflet to cover both events)	9 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Newspaper Notice (Hamilton Advertiser)	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Public Event 1	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Newspaper Notice (Hamilton Advertiser)	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2025
Public Event 2	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2025

#### 3.2. Accessible Webpage Hosting for Online Comments

A dedicated webpage<sup>4</sup> was launched to allow members of the local community to comment and ask questions about the proposal. The webpage went live on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2024 and remains open for public feedback. As per best practice guidance, the webpage contains the following information:

- a description of the development to be carried out;
- a plan showing the outline of the site at which the development is to be carried out and sufficient to identify that site; and
- details as to how the applicant may be contacted and corresponded with.
- a statement that comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the planning authority and if the prospective applicant submits an application there will be an opportunity to make representations on that application to the planning authority.

##### 3.2.1. Direct Online Engagement

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<sup>4</sup> Muttonhole Road BESS Consultation Hub: (<https://www.cogeo.co.uk/muttonhole-road-battery-energy-storage>)

Upon setup of the online community consultation page, an introductory e-mail was sent to a number of consultees to open engagement on the proposed development. These included:

- Local Councillors in Ward 18 Hamilton West and Earnock<sup>5</sup>
- Blantyre Community Council
- Meikle Earnock Community Connections

Furthermore, ahead of the community consultation events, Cogeo/AGS contacted various Councillors and Community Councils in the local area requesting to meet to discuss the project. Appendix PAC1 contains the emails that were sent, though no responses were received.

### 3.3. Neighbour Notification Letter Drop

The applicant sought to deliver letters to all residential properties within the ML3 8 postcode to notify neighbours of the development proposed. Within the letter, the applicant provided information about themselves, details of the proposal as well as information on the community event.

One flyer was distributed for both events to residential properties between 9<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025. A copy of the leaflet is attached as Appendix PAC2.

### 3.4. Publication of Notice in Local Press

The publication of application notices within local press is a standard requirement of PAC, with the content of the notice stipulated within guidance. The content of the notice adheres to best practice guidance detailed in Table 2.1.

The notice was published in the local newspaper, Hamilton Advertiser, on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025 ahead of the first event and on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 ahead of the second event. Appendix PAC3 attached details the newspaper articles published in the local press.

### 3.5. Public Engagement Events

As detailed, two in-person public consultation events were held.

The events were held in different venues due to availability, however, both events were located within close proximity of the development site. Cogeo were available at the event to answer any planning-related questions, working to alleviate any concerns by providing further detail or clarification on matters, and to gather feedback from the communities on the proposal sought. With the first public consultation event held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025 (3pm – 7pm) at Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre, and the second public consultation event held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 (3pm – 7pm) at Whitehill Centre, the requirement of the exhibitions being held 14 days apart were met. Timings of the events were chosen to ensure accessibility to all, covering a large span of the afternoon/evening for workers to attend.

Figure 3.1 shows the layout of both public exhibitions where information boards were provided for visitors to read, review and ask questions to the planners (see Appendix PAC4 and Appendix PAC5 for display boards). Visitors could

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<sup>5</sup> <https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/info/200236/politicians/933/councillors/2>

also complete feedback forms either onsite during the exhibition or via the dedicated website/email address after the event. The forms are attached as Appendix PAC6.

During the first public consultation event, a total of 5 people attended including local councillors, an MSP and local residents. One member of the public attended the second event.



Figure 3.1 Photograph from Event 1 showing the display board layout

### 3.6. Responses Received

Public comments were lodged in a number of ways following the consultations undertaken. Representations received are split into categories in the following section for review.

#### 3.6.1. Online Engagement

Following the website going live, one response was received from a member of the public regarding potential health implications to nearby residents. Cogeo responded directly to this party detailing that there are no known health implications associated with BESS developments, and that Cogeo were in the process of conducting a BS4142 Noise Impact Assessment to ensure minimal disturbance to amenity. Whilst no further correspondence was received, the submitted NIA addresses amenity considerations.

#### 3.6.2. In-Person Events

The key concerns raised in discussions at the first event are detailed below:

- Fire Safety
- Noise
- Community Benefits
- Construction traffic routing and access

The concerns raised in the discussion from the second event are detailed below:

- Fire Safety
- Construction Timescales
- Traffic on Roads

Following the formal consultation events, Cogeo made contact with the residents who requested further information be sent to them. This information included details on the fire suppression system, suitable fire safety buffers and water storage tanks onsite.

### 3.6.3. Feedback Forms

During the first event, one feedback form was completed and submitted in-person at the event. No responses were received via the webpage.

No feedback form was completed by the person attending the second event.

Appendix PAC7 provides a summary of the response received; personal data has been removed for data protection purposes.

The feedback received was positive, with the main concern highlighting the need for road/pavement cleaning in nearby residential areas during the construction period. A further query was raised over the location of the community events; however these locations were suggested to us by SLC due to their proximity to the site. Due to the timing of the events, the suggestion of the second event being changed to Fairhill was not possible as details had already been circulated of the event held in Whitehill.

## 4. ALTERATIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT

Since the launch of the community consultation webpage, the design has been modified to accommodate changes proposed by the client. Feedback received during the consultation period did not necessitate any further design modifications. The design presented at the in-person events incorporated the changes required by the Applicant, with the main changes including the:

- Relocation of BESS substation and transformer; and
- Addition of secondary access point for emergency vehicular access.

At the two in person events, concerns were raised by various parties over fire safety. With this in mind, an outline Battery Safety Management Plan has been included within the Planning Statement to address the concerns raised. Furthermore, detailed indicative vehicular information has been provided within the Transport chapter of the statement presented to allay initial concerns over the delivery of the BESS scheme. Whilst the overall layout and design of the development has not been modified following community engagement, Cogeo have provided additional information for certain aspects of the proposal for completeness for public review.

## 5. CONCLUSION

Section 36 Applications are not required to undertake community engagement; however, it is considered best practice to do so.

Through the launch of the online community consultation hub and the two in-person events, members of the public were invited to engage with Cogeo to address any concerns/queries prior to the submission of the planning application. Local Councillors of SLC, MSPs and members of the public attended the events and engaged with team members of Cogeo. Comments received through the community consultation process have been reviewed and accounted for within the finalised application presented to the ECU and SLC for review.

Comments were made regarding potential health implications, noise pollution, fire safety and construction traffic. As stated, there are no known health implications associated with a BESS, and any risks to amenity have been mitigated as far as possible through suitable measures (e.g. landscaping, biodiversity enhancements, drainage systems), as detailed in the Planning Statement. A Noise Impact Assessment has also been undertaken, with results presented within the Planning Statement submitted. Additional health and safety measures have been incorporated into the final design, including a firewall proposed between the battery units and two exit points in the event of an emergency. A detailed transport assessment has been undertaken and is submitted as part of the full application. Given evident concerns raised in relation to fire safety, an outline Battery Safety Management Plan has been included in the planning statement for consideration. The application submitted to the ECU for consideration comprehensively addresses the potential impacts posed by the proposed Muttonhole Road BESS development, covering all topics discussed during the PAC phase.

## Appendix PAC1

### Email Introduction to Councillors

## Appendix PAC1

### Email Introduction to Councillors

Email dated Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

Cogeo/AGS would like to bring to your attention our proposal for a 500MW Battery Energy Storage System on land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.

We intend to carry out two in-person community consultation events and would like to invite you to attend and find out more about the proposal. Details for both events are presented below:

#### **Event 1**

- Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre, 121 Hillhouse Rd, Hamilton ML3 9TX on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February between 3pm and 7pm.

#### **Event 2**

- Whitehill Centre, 9 Hunter Rd, Hamilton ML3 0LH on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March between 3pm and 7pm.

Please refer to our dedicated online consultation page for further information in the meantime:

<https://www.cogeo.co.uk/muttonhole-road-battery-energy-storage>

Should you wish to discuss the project in more detail and cannot attend the above events, we would be more than happy to arrange a call.

Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you require any additional information or clarity.

Kind regards,

Cogeo Planning & Environmental Services





## Appendix PAC2

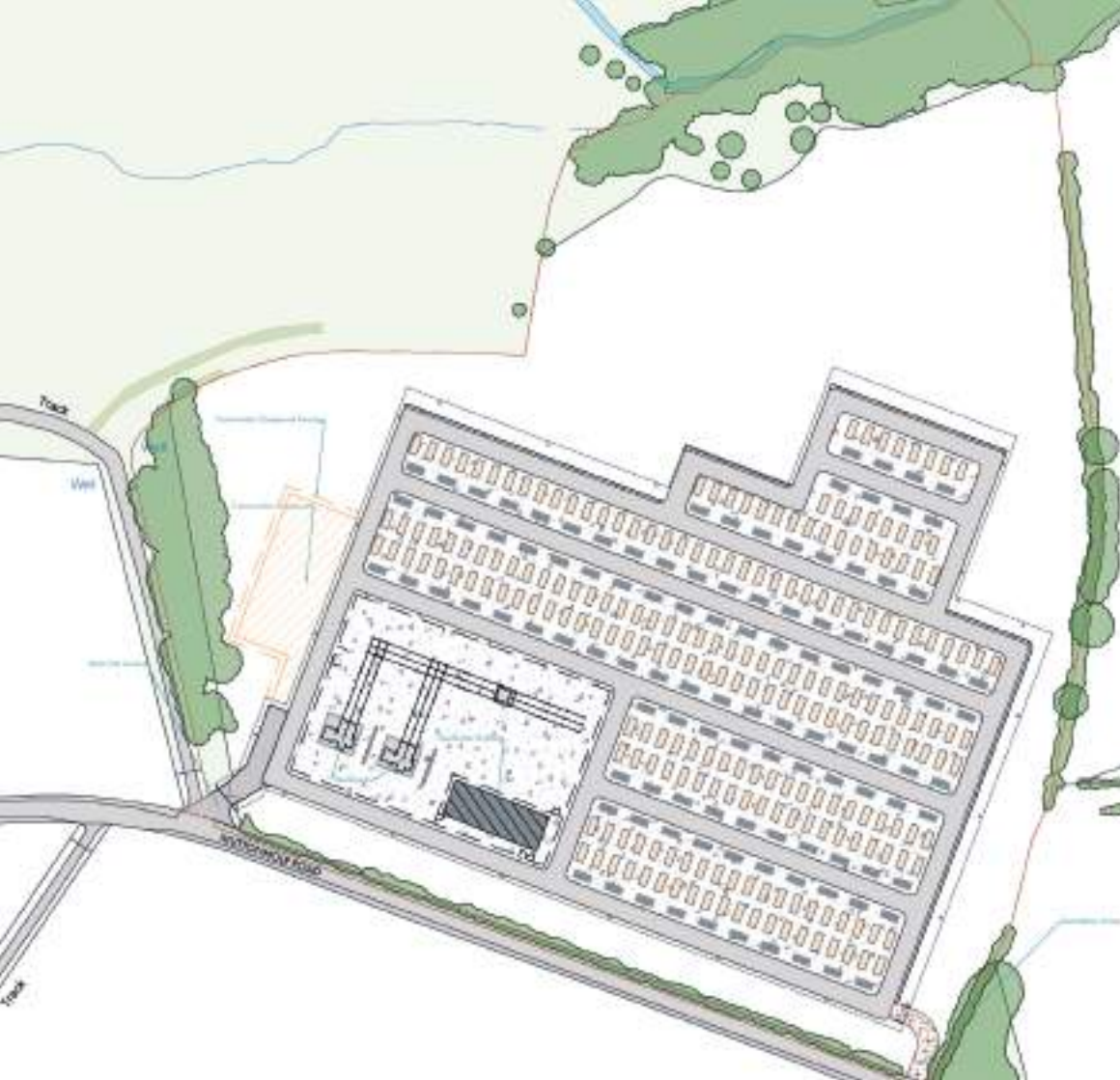
### Public Consultation Advertisement Flyers



**Muttonhole Road  
Battery Energy Storage System**  
Community Consultation Events  
17th February 2025 & 3rd March 2025

Contact us at: [enquiries@cogeo.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cogeo.co.uk) or [www.cogeo.co.uk](http://www.cogeo.co.uk)

**COGEO**   
planning and environmental expertise



## Muttonhole Road Battery Energy Storage System

Community Consultation Events

### WHY?

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Services Ltd. is working in association with Advance Grid Solutions Limited (AGS) on the development of a battery energy storage system (BESS) with a capacity of 500MW on the land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.

### EVENT 1

#### WHERE & WHEN?

Hillhouse & Earnock Community Centre,  
121 Hillhouse Rd, Hamilton, ML3 9TX.  
Monday 17th February, between 3pm & 7pm

#### DEADLINE FOR COMMENT

Friday 28th February, 2025

### EVENT 2

#### WHERE & WHEN?

Whitehill Centre, 9 Hunter Rd, Hamilton ML3 0LH  
Monday 3rd March 2025, between 3pm & 7pm

#### DEADLINE FOR COMMENT

Friday 14th March, 2025

### SCAN THE QR CODE

This will take you to our dedicated webpage where you can dive into comprehensive project details and share your valuable feedback.

Scan Me



Please note comments are only for the design team at this stage and are not comments to the Scottish Ministers. An opportunity to comment on the Planning Application directly to the deciding authority will arise when the Planning Application is submitted and live. Your opinion matters.



**ADVANCE**  
GRID SOLUTIONS

**COGEO**  
planning and environmental expertise

## Appendix PAC3

### Public Consultation Newspaper Articles

## Community Consultation Event

### Muttonhole Road BESS

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Services Ltd. is working in association with Advance Grid Solutions Ltd. on the development of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure on land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.

## Where and when?

Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre,  
121 Hillhouse Road, Hamilton, ML3 9TX

**Monday 17th February, between 3pm - 7pm**

The proposed development seeks permission for a 500MW BESS plus ancillary infrastructure, located on land north of Muttonhole Road.

In October 2023, a screening opinion request was submitted to the Scottish Ministers (with South Lanarkshire Council as a statutory consultee) for the proposed development which determined that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was not required. Given the generating capacity exceeds 50MW, the application is classed as a 'Section 36 application' with two public consultation events recommended to gather feedback and opinions from local residents.

Exhibition boards will be available to view at the community consultation event, with feedback forms available to allow views to be provided. The development team will also be on hand to answer any questions.



**Scan here** for consultation material, detailing the proposed development, which is available to view on our dedicated web page where you can dive into comprehensive project details and share your valuable feedback with us.

**Deadline for comment: Friday 28th February. Your opinion matters.**

Please note, comments made to the prospective applicant do not constitute representations to the Scottish Ministers. Opportunity will be available to make representations following formal submission of the future planning application.

## Community Consultation Event 2

### Muttonhole Road BESS

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Services Ltd. is working in association with Advance Grid Solutions Ltd. on the development of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure on land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.

## Event 2 - Where and when?

Whitehill Centre, 9 Hunter Road, Hamilton, ML3 0LH  
**Monday 3rd March 2025, between 3pm and 7pm**

The proposed development seeks permission for a BESS with a generating capacity of 500MW, plus ancillary infrastructure, located on land to the north of Muttonhole Road.

In October 2023, a screening opinion request was submitted to the Scottish Ministers (with South Lanarkshire Council as a statutory consultee) for the proposed development which determined that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was not required.

Given the generating capacity exceeds 50MW, the application is classed as a 'Section 36 application' with two public consultation events required to gather feedback and opinions from local residents. The first event took place on 17th February 2025.

Exhibition boards will be available to view at this second community consultation event, with feedback forms available to allow views to be provided. The development team will also be on hand at the event to answer any questions.



**Scan here** for consultation material, detailing the proposed development, which is available to view on our dedicated web page where you can dive into comprehensive project details and share your valuable feedback with us.

**Deadline for comment: Friday 14th March. Your opinion matters.**

Please note, comments made to the prospective applicant do not constitute representations to the Scottish Ministers. Opportunity to make representations will arise following formal submission of the future planning application.

## Appendix PAC4

### Event 1 Display Boards



# PROJECT INTRODUCTION

## WHAT IS THIS EVENT?

**Advanced Grid Solutions Limited (AGS) is in the process of applying for planning permission to build a 500MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) on land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.**

With the generating capacity of the proposed development exceeding 50 megawatts (MW), the proposal is classified as a 'Section 36 major development' and will be determined by the Scottish Ministers with South Lanarkshire Council as a statutory consultee. Ahead of submitting the full Planning Application and in line with good practice guidance, AGS are opting to undertake two in-person public consultation events for the proposal.

The purpose of this event is for AGS to present details of the project to the local community, for any questions to be asked to the project team and for the locals to provide feedback on the proposal. In the lead up to this event, leaflets about the project have been circulated to nearby properties and an advert appeared in The Hamilton Advertiser with one weeks notice.

## WHO ARE ADVANCED GRID SOLUTIONS LIMITED?

Advance Grid Solutions is a division of Advance Construction (Scotland) Ltd, one of Scotland's largest family-owned groundworks and civil engineering businesses with expert engineering experience in solar, battery and wind projects across the UK.

Our various projects cross over battery storage, solar and wind power, with around 2,500MW currently in progress for delivery, including a 1,000MW transmission-connected Battery Storage Project. Battery energy storage is crucial in our transition to a more innovative renewable energy sector as well as responding to the urgent need to improve energy security and grid resilience.

Battery storage offers flexibility and control over energy consumption with less reliance on the National Grid.

## WHO ARE COGEO?

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Services Ltd. was established in 2017. As a planning consultancy with a reputable record for thorough and comprehensive support, our goal is to provide expertise, knowledge and guidance to all clients through the differing stages of development.

By creating a smarter plan for each project, we select the skills and services required to overcome whatever planning challenge may arise through the lifetime of a planning proposal. Consisting of a vast range of specialists who work together daily, we take care of managing the entire process from inception to finish, believing that Communication, Collaboration and Clarity are the best approach to successful outcomes.

## SIMILAR PROJECTS

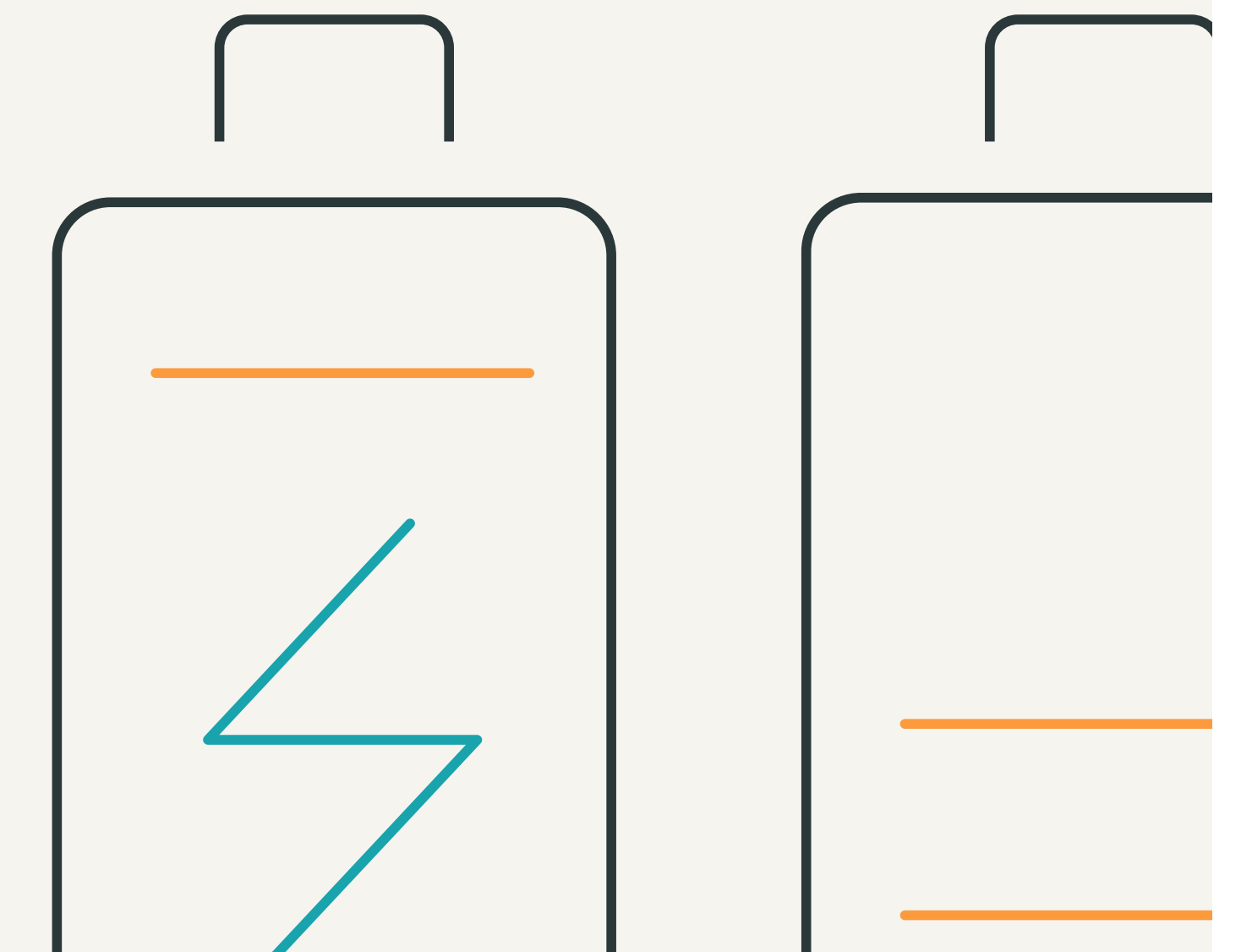
### HALLYBURTON 100MW BESS

This application for a 100MW BESS site was submitted to the ECU in July 2025 and is currently going through the determination process.

### BRAIDFIELD 100MW BESS

Cogeo completed the Heritage Impact Assessment for this BESS proposal, located within the buffer zone of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site. The full application was submitted to the ECU in December 2024.

  
**CASE STUDY**  
CAMILLA BATTERY  
STORAGE FACILITY, FIFE





# SITE DETAILS

## SITE DETAILS

Proposed is a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to be stored in multiple 40ft shipping containers situated on steel frames approximately 1ft above ground level, with a capacity of 500MW.

Situated north of Muttonhole Road, the site is outlined on vacant farmland within the rural green belt of South Lanarkshire. With suitable access via Muttonhole Road, northwest of the A723, this site displays the environmental and technical characteristics required to accommodate the proposal.



### PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT

A Screening Opinion request was submitted to the Energy Consents Units (ECU) in October 2023. A response was issued in June 2024 determining that the application does not require a formal Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The site was redesigned after the screening opinion was received to account for fire safety regulations, this included increased spacing between battery units, fire safety walls and adding in a secondary access point.

## WHAT IS BESS?

BESS are developments that store electricity at times of high generation and low demand via rechargeable batteries, which then release this energy back into the grid at times of high demand.

As electricity generation in the UK begins to rely more heavily on the intermittent generation of various renewable energy technologies (wind and solar), there is an increased need to store and release energy when there are variances in supply and demand. Battery storage developments are becoming more common across the UK to negate the need for fossil fuelled energy sources.

The BESS will help provide energy security by storing excess energy to feed directly into the local distribution network, working towards offsetting the requirement for fossil-fuelled sources of power. The drive for this development is the increasing need for renewable generation uptake to diversify the energy mix, working towards nationwide Net Zero targets for 2050.

Developments such as that proposed will play a vital role in achieving such targets and provide a level of energy security that renewable developments alone cannot achieve.

## BESS FAQs

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF BESS?

BESS (Battery Energy Storage Systems) are groups of batteries connected both to a power generation plant as well as to the grid. They store excess electricity, ready to feed back into the grid at peak demand time or whenever required.

### ARE THEY EFFECTIVE?

BESS are one of the most efficient technologies in the chain of electrical production. They allow the avoidance of waste and allow full use of the potential of renewable sources, such as wind or solar. With technological advances in the last decade, the amount of energy that is possible to be stored has increased by 50%.

### DO THEY POLLUTE?

Storage systems are incredibly sustainable, with the lithium-ion batteries they use being recyclable.

### ARE BESS SAFE?

BESS units are located within purpose built containers that are connected to the general power grid. These containers are fitted with specialised security measures which enable them to be supervised remotely. By doing this, their operation can be continually monitored and action can be taken if any risk is identified.

### WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF BESS?

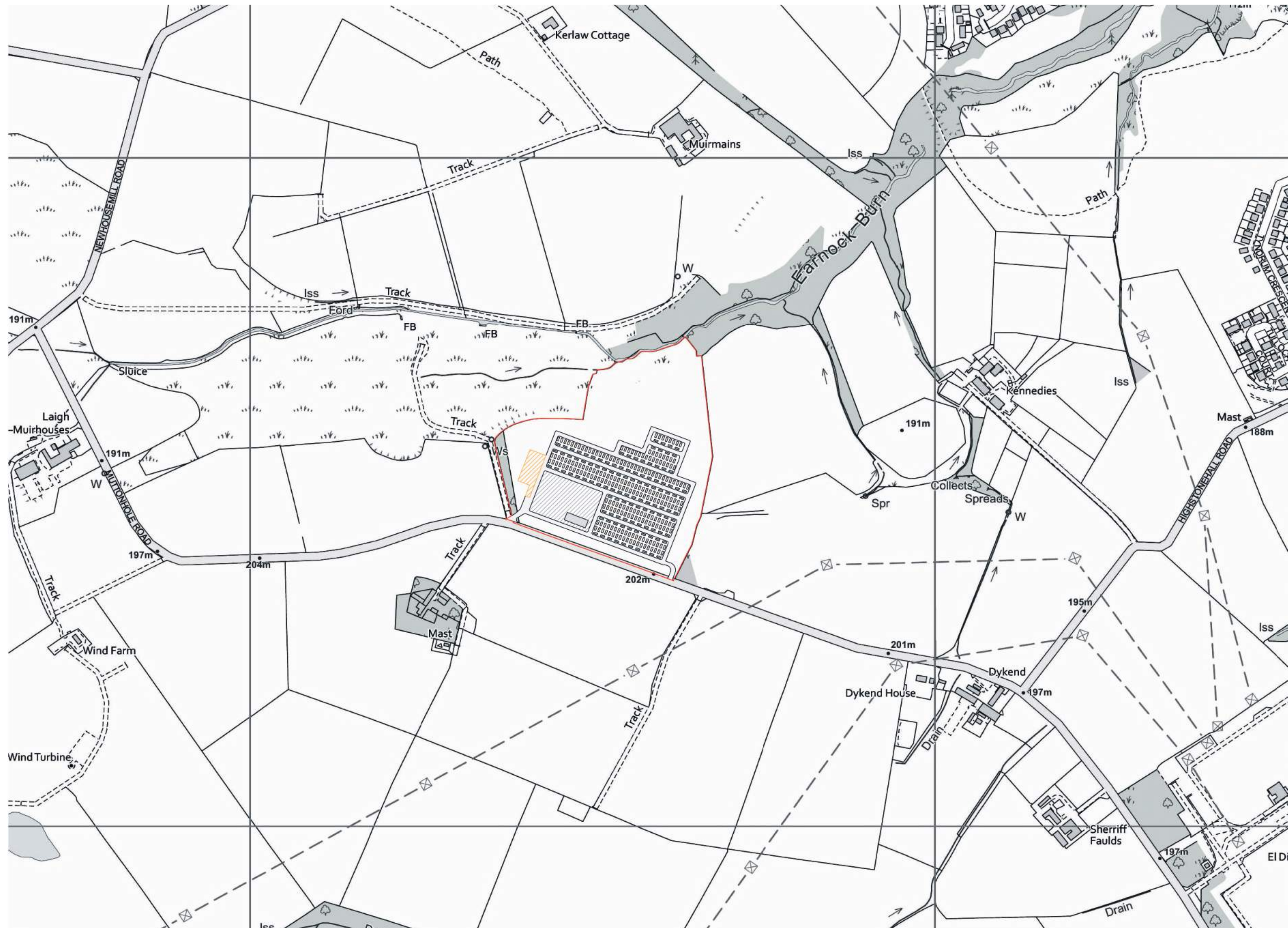
There are a number of benefits, for example retaining a supply of clean energy that would otherwise be lost. As well as ensuring the grid is a reliable, uninterrupted and secure energy source.

### ARE THE BATTERIES NOISY?

The batteries themselves do not emit any noise, however the process required to cool them (particularly during charging and discharging) needs both fans and chillers which generate noise. Noise analysis is carried out during the assessment phase of any potential development prior to a planning application being submitted, to ensure minimal disruption, with mitigation built into the site design.



# SITE LOCATION PLAN



- Development Boundary
- BESS Units
- Power Conversion System
- Substation Building
- Road
- Transformers and Electrical Infrastructure
- Construction Compound

**Map Details**  
Location plan showing the proposed battery energy storage system development site at Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.

Scale: 1:1,250 @ A1

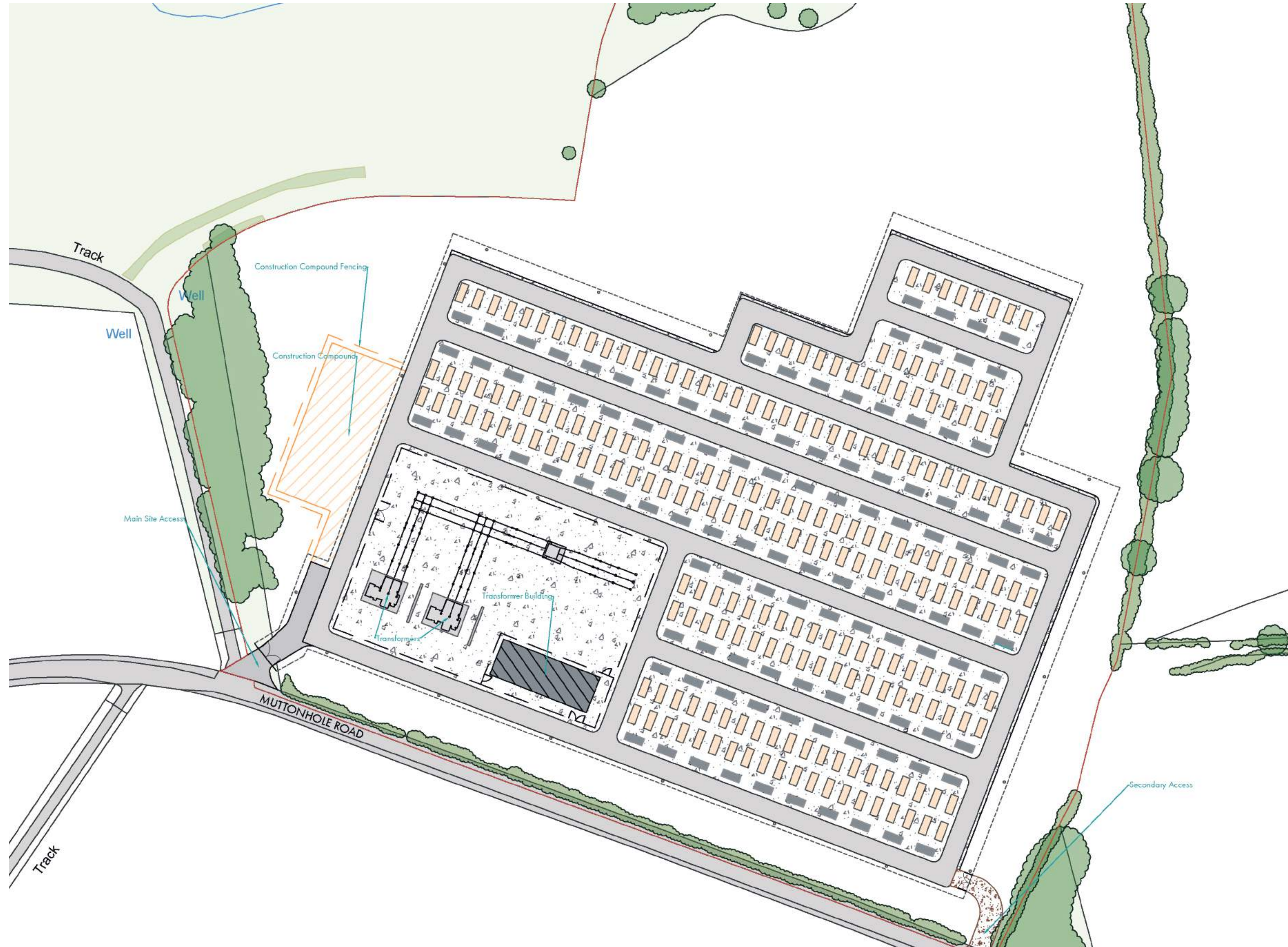


Client name: Advanced Grid Solutions Limited  
Site Name: Muttonhole Road BESS  
Drawing Reference: COG511/APP/026/a  
Date: 24/01/25

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OS Mapping licence Number: 100022432



# SITE PLAN

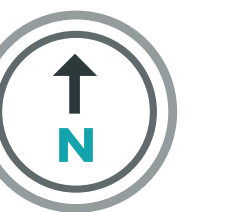


- Development Boundary
- Battery Storage Units
- Power Conversion System
- Substation Building
- Fire Wall
- CCTV and Lighting Column
- Perimeter Fencing
- Palisade Fencing
- Roads
- Gravel Hardstanding
- Existing Tree
- Existing Hedge

## Drawing Details

Site Plan illustrating the Muttonhole Road BESS Development. The full application boundary is presented.

Scale: 1:1,250 @ A3



Client name	Advanced Grid Solutions Limited
Site Name	Muttonhole Road BESS
Drawing Reference	COG511/APP/025/a
Date	14/11/24

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# VISUALISATION 1



## ENVA NEWHOUSEMILL ROAD

Distance to Development:

**1.0km**

Viewpoint Coordinates:

**E267351 N:653602**

Viewpoint Elevation:

**202m AOD**

Date Photograph Taken:

**07/02/24**

Time Photograph Taken:

**14.25**

Camera:

**Sony A7 Full-frame sensor with  
no cropping**

Camera Lens:

**Fixed 50mm**

Camera Height:

**1.5m**

Included Angle:

**39.6°**



# VISUALISATION 2



## KENNEDIES FARM

Distance to Development:

**0.57km**

Viewpoint Coordinates:

**E:269247 N:653475**

Viewpoint Elevation:

**192m AOD**

Date Photograph Taken:

**07/02/24**

Time Photograph Taken:

**14.53**

Camera:

**Sony A7 Full-frame sensor with  
no cropping**

Camera Lens:

**Fixed 50mm**

Camera Height:

**1.5m**

Included Angle:

**39.6°**



# NEXT STEPS

Please find our indicative timescales set out below for the submission of the Muttonhole Road BESS planning application. These timescales are subject to change and any known changes will be highlighted at the second community event in March 2025.



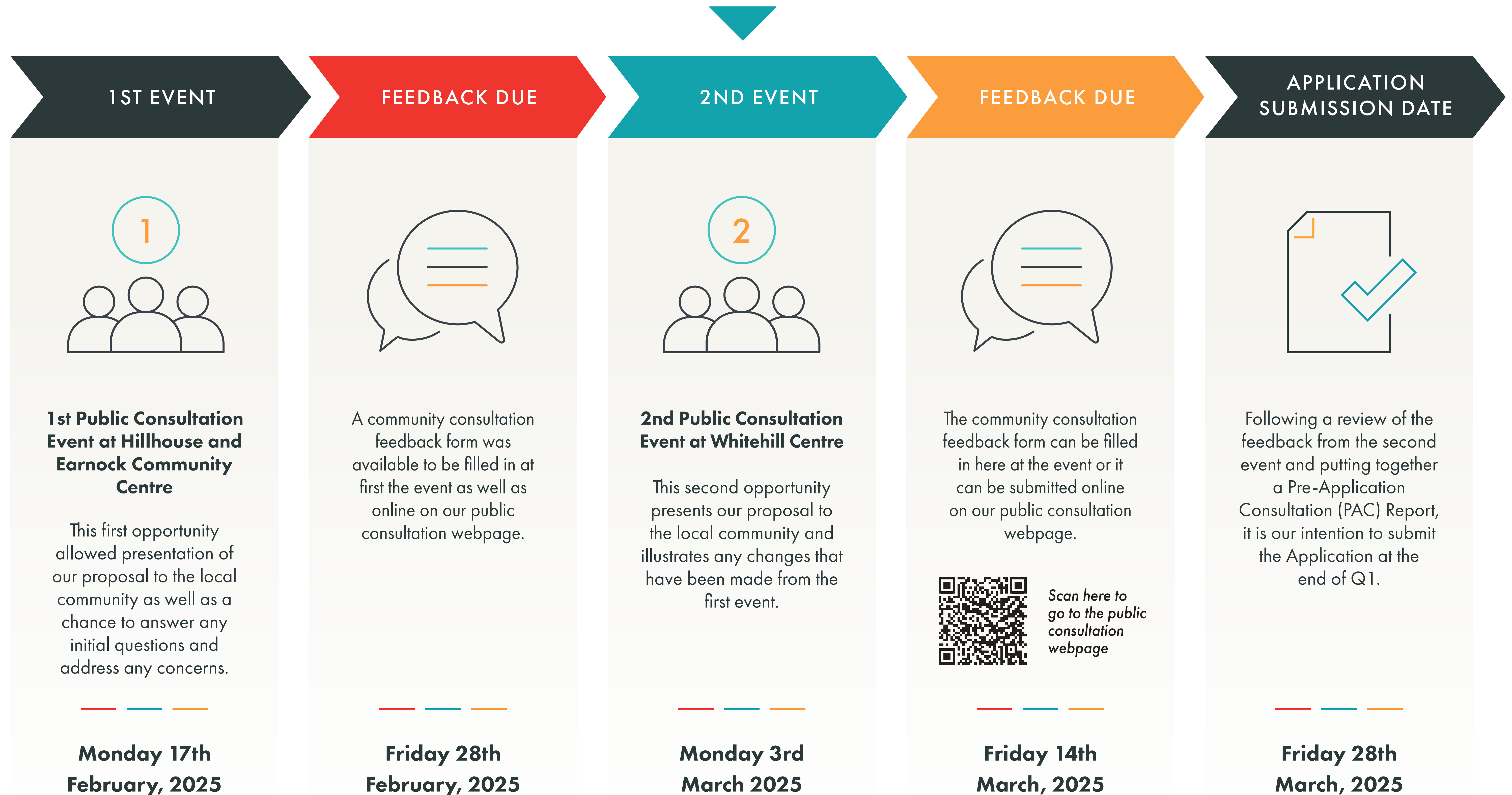
## Appendix PAC5

### Event 2 Display Boards



# NEXT STEPS

Please find our indicative timescales set out below for the submission of the Muttonhole Road BESS planning application.



## Appendix PAC6

### Feedback Forms

1. Do you agree with the proposal and the scheme as presented to you today? (Please circle your answer)
  - Strongly agree
  - Agree
  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
  - Neutral
2. Do you feel the proposal and the need for development has been adequately explained to you? (Please circle your answer)
  - Strongly agree
  - Agree
  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
  - Neutral
3. Is there anything you are concerned about and/or would like to see addressed before the full application is submitted? (Please explain)
4. Do you have any ideas on how to spend the community benefit fund? (Please detail and explain)



5. Have you found this consultation event useful? (Please circle your answer)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Neutral

6. Please provide any additional comments you would like to make:

☐

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please ensure you include your email address above and tick this box.

Please return feedback by **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**, to Cogeo, 272 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4JR or by email to [enquiries@cogeo.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cogeo.co.uk)

## PERSONAL DETAILS (PLEASE PRINT)

Name:

Email:

Address:

Postcode:

## DISCLAIMER

Please note all fields are optional.

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Service Ltd. is conducting this public consultation activity on behalf of Bluestone Energy Ltd. We only collect personal information, such as your name, address, telephone number and email address, when you provide it to us. Your personal data will be treated in the strictest confidence and only shared within the Bluestone Energy Ltd. planning team. It will be used for specific purposes in relation to the development of the proposal. Your identifiable personal data will not be used for any other purposes without your consent.

Your personal data will be stored securely until completion of the project, after which this information will be deleted. It will not be forwarded to any third parties without your consent. You can contact us at any time to request the deletion of your information. Please contact us at [enquiries@cogeo.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cogeo.co.uk). Further information on our Privacy Policy can be found at <https://www.cogeo.co.uk/privacy>.



## Community Consultation Feedback Form – Muttonhole Road BESS Event 2

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Services Ltd. are developing proposals on behalf of Advance Grid Solutions Ltd. for a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a generating capacity of 500MW on land north of Muttonhole Road, Hamilton, ML3 8RJ.

The information displayed in the exhibition boards can be viewed at <https://www.cogeo.co.uk/muttonhole-road-battery-energy-storage> which will be kept up to date as the project progresses.

It would be appreciated if you could complete the form in full to ensure a complete understanding of your response.

We value your feedback and would be grateful if you could complete the following questions.

1. Did you attend the first even on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025? (Please circle your answer)
  - Yes
  - No
2. Do you agree with the proposal and the scheme as presented to you today? (Please circle your answer)
  - Strongly agree
  - Agree
  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
  - Neutral
3. Across the two events, do you feel the proposal and the need for development have been adequately explained to you? (Please circle your answer)
  - Strongly agree
  - Agree
  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
  - Neutral
4. Concerns raised at the first event focussed on fire risk, do you feel this concern has been eased?  
(In order to adhere to fire safety regulations, there will be both fans and chillers to cool batteries. The containers are also fitted with security measures to allow continuous monitoring and therefore action can be taken if any type of risk is identified).
5. Is there anything you are still concerned about and/or would like to see addressed before the full application is submitted? (Please explain)



6. Do you have any ideas on how to spend the community benefit fund? (Please detail and explain)

7. Have you found this consultation event useful? (Please circle your answer)

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Neutral

8. Please provide any additional comments you would like to make:

☐

If you would like to be kept up to date with the project, please ensure you include your email address above and tick this box.

Please return feedback by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**, to **Cogeo, 272 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4JR** or by email to [enquiries@cogeo.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@cogeo.co.uk)

**PERSONAL DETAILS (PLEASE PRINT)**

Name:

Email:

Address:

Postcode:

**DISCLAIMER**

Please note all fields are optional.

Cogeo Planning and Environmental Service Ltd. is conducting this public consultation activity on behalf of Bluestone Energy Ltd. We only collect personal information, such as your name, address, telephone number and email address, when you provide it to us. Your personal data will be treated in the strictest confidence and only shared within the Bluestone Energy Ltd. planning team. It will be used for specific purposes in relation to the development of the proposal. Your identifiable personal data will not be used for any other purposes without your consent.

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## Appendix PAC7

### Summary of Feedback Responses

Event 1 - 17/02/2025

	Do you agree with the proposal and the scheme as outlined?	Do you feel the proposal and the need for development has been adequately explained to you?	Is there anything you are concerned about and/or would like to see addressed before the application is submitted?	Do you have any ideas on how to spend the community benefit fund?	Have you found this consultation event useful?	Please provide any additional comments you would like to make.
Person 1	Agree	Strongly Agree	1. Cleaning roadways and pavements in housing areas during construction. 2. Why consultation event was not held in Fairhill as well as Hillhouse instead of Whitehill.	Move war memorial from Auchintibber to Crematorium.	Agree	N/A