

# Other environmental considerations

## RES will design Westport Battery Energy Storage System so that it will fit sensitively in the surrounding landscape.

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

The assessments being carried out include:

### Ecology

An Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) will present the main findings of a desk study and surveys, categorising baseline habitats and conditions, and their nature conservation value. The EclA will go on to predict and evaluate any potential ecological impacts from the project.

Wintering Bird Surveys have been undertaken over the past few months and the results of which will also be reported in the EclA.

### Acoustics

Noise is an important consideration, and the BESS will be designed to comply with strict noise limits set by the determining authority should the project be granted consent. Detailed two-way discussions have been undertaken with the East Ayrshire Councils Environmental Health Officer and a noise methodology has been agreed.

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

Following detailed design and modelling, the site is considered to be at low risk of flooding from all sources. Therefore any development will have a minimal impact on flood risk elsewhere.

The Westport proposal will include an attenuation pond, which will restrict surface water discharge into Trabboch Burn, and ensure that the flood risk impact elsewhere is negligible.

### Landscape

A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will accompany the planning application. This considers the site and its surrounding context in both landscape and visual terms, to assess the potential effects and impact 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 has assessed the potential effects of the project on the cultural heritage resource, within the context of relevant legislation and planning policy.

Information obtained from a review of the site history and on-site surveys has indicated that there is very little evidence of important heritage or archaeological findings or settings on the site.

### Arboricultural

A root protection plan and a tree constraints plan have been completed to allow the development to be designed around the root protection zones.

## Westport Battery Energy Storage Proposal

[westport-energystorage.co.uk](http://westport-energystorage.co.uk)

