

You said. we heard. we acted.

How consultation feedback shaped the revised Scout Moor II proposals.

June 2026





How consultation shaped Scout Moor II

Listening to local communities has been central to the evolution of Scout Moor II.

Feedback from local communities, stakeholders and consultees has influenced the scale, layout and mitigation strategy of the project.

While not every concern can be fully resolved, the engagement process has helped identify where meaningful changes could be made and where additional safeguards could be put in place.

As a result, the scheme has been reduced from **17 to 12 turbines** and redesigned to reduce impacts in key areas. Since the project was first introduced in November 2024, the proposals have evolved from up to **21 turbines to 12**, reflecting feedback received through consultation, engagement and ongoing technical assessment.

Alongside these changes, Cubico has strengthened its commitments to environmental mitigation and community benefits, including increasing the proposed Community Wealth Fund from £5,000/MW to £6,000/MW and introducing a revenue sharing principle.

17 → 12
Turbines

Changes at a glance

SCALE REDUCED

17 **12**
Turbines **Turbines**
Original Scheme Revised Scheme

17% less infrastructure required

5
Fewer
Turbines

VISUAL EFFECTS REDUCED



- Turbines removed from sensitive locations
- Layout refined through consultation and further survey work
- Reduced visibility from some viewpoints

PEAT IMPACTS REDUCED

28%

Less peat excavation

30%

of infrastructure on peat less than 30cm deep

Infrastructure located on:

Peat Depth	Original	Revised
0–30cm	23%	30%
30cm–1.0m	67%	63%
>1.0m	10%	6%

ACCESS AND RECREATION IMPACTS REDUCED



Reduced effects on key access routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders



Pennine Bridleway considered in design evolution



Long-term access improvements proposed as set out in the updated Outdoor Access Management & Enhancement Plan



GRID CONNECTION REVISED

Alternative route selected

- Avoids Edenfield and Waterfoot
- Reduced effects and disruption on local communities



COMMUNITY BENEFITS STRENGTHENED BEYOND GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE

Community Wealth Fund increased from

£5,000/MW to
£6,000/MW

Public consultation has fundamentally shaped Scout Moor II.

The result is a smaller, more carefully designed and more locally responsive proposal that reduces impacts in key areas while retaining substantial environmental and community commitments and contributing to energy security.

Listening at scale

Extensive engagement before and after submission helped shape the evolution of Scout Moor II.

Before the planning application was submitted, Cubico undertook an extensive programme of engagement across Rossendale and Rochdale, providing local residents, community groups, stakeholders and elected representatives with multiple opportunities to help shape the proposals.

This included public exhibitions, workshops, webinars, stakeholder meetings, online engagement and direct consultation with local organisations and interest groups.

Following submission of the application, the formal consultation process led by Rossendale and Rochdale Councils provided a further opportunity for residents, statutory consultees and local stakeholders to comment on the proposals and raise additional issues for consideration. More than 2,700 notification letters were issued to local residents and consultees as part of the statutory consultation process.

Together, this feedback has played an important role in refining the scheme, reducing impacts, strengthening mitigation measures and community commitments.

1. SHAPING THE PROJECT

Developer-Led Consultation
(Pre-Submission)

Extensive engagement with our local communities and stakeholders helped shape the evolving proposals.

9

Public Exhibitions
and Events

20,000+

Website
Visits

223+

Face-to-Face
Attendees

75,000+

Social Media
Reach

250+

Consultation
Responses

143

Stakeholder
Organisations
Engaged

20,000

Homes and
Businesses
Reached

213

Local Students
Engaged

This feedback directly informed the design evolution of the project, including changes to turbine locations, infrastructure layout, peatland impacts and community benefit proposals.

2. INDEPENDENT REVIEW

Local Authority Consultation
(Statutory Process)

Following submission, the application is reviewed by local planning authorities and specialist consultees.

2,700+

Neighbour Notification Letters
Issued By Rossendale and Rochdale
Borough Councils

45

Statutory and Non-Statutory
Consultees Engaged

~240

Formal Planning
Representations Received

The application is independently assessed by Rossendale Borough Council and Rochdale Borough Council, taking account of all representations and technical advice received.

This two-stage process ensures the project is shaped by local communities and rigorously reviewed by the relevant independent planning authorities and statutory consultees.

What we heard

Feedback from communities, stakeholders and consultees consistently focused on six key priorities.

Consultation identified six recurring themes which directly shaped the evolution of the proposals. Each of these issues informed design changes, mitigation measures and community commitments.



01 Reducing potential impacts on sensitive peatland

The scheme was redesigned to reduce impacts on sensitive peatland.

WHAT YOU SAID

- Concerns were raised about potential impacts on deep peat, carbon release and long-term peatland protection.

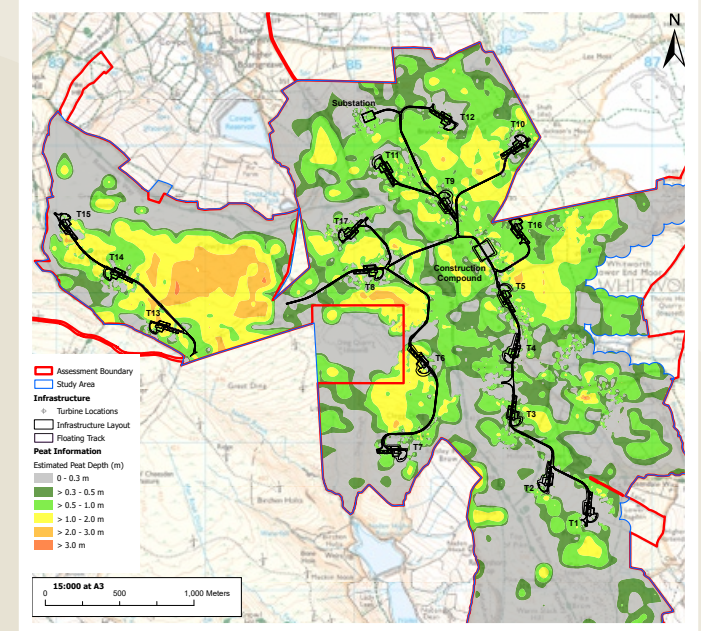
WHAT WE DID

- Reduced the overall project footprint.
- Removed turbines T5 and T13 from the deepest peat areas, and repositioned turbines T3, T6, T7 and T9, along with the on-site substation, to reduce impacts on peatland.
- Increased the proportion of infrastructure located on areas of less than 30cm of peat, avoiding areas of deeper peat in accordance with Natural England guidance.
- Reduced peat excavation volumes by 28%.

THE RESULT

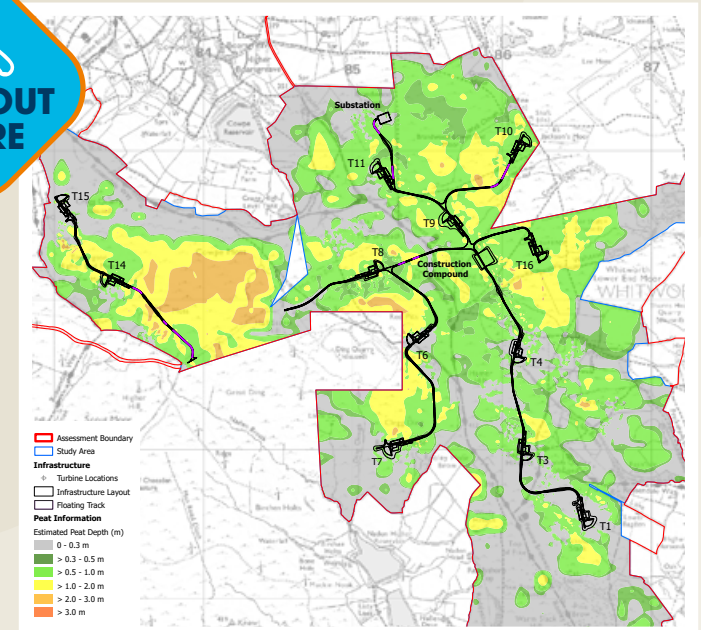
- The deepest peat areas have been protected.
- Substation location revised to reduce peat impacts.
- Reduced peat excavation volumes by 28%.

ORIGINAL SCHEME



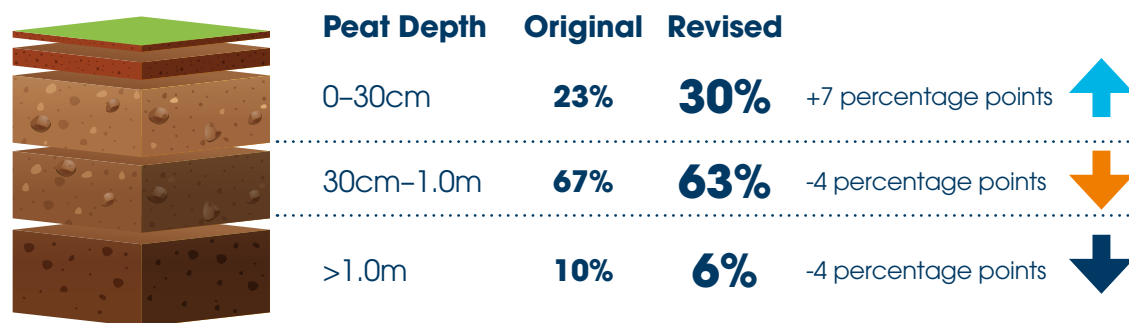
REVISED SCHEME

FIND OUT MORE

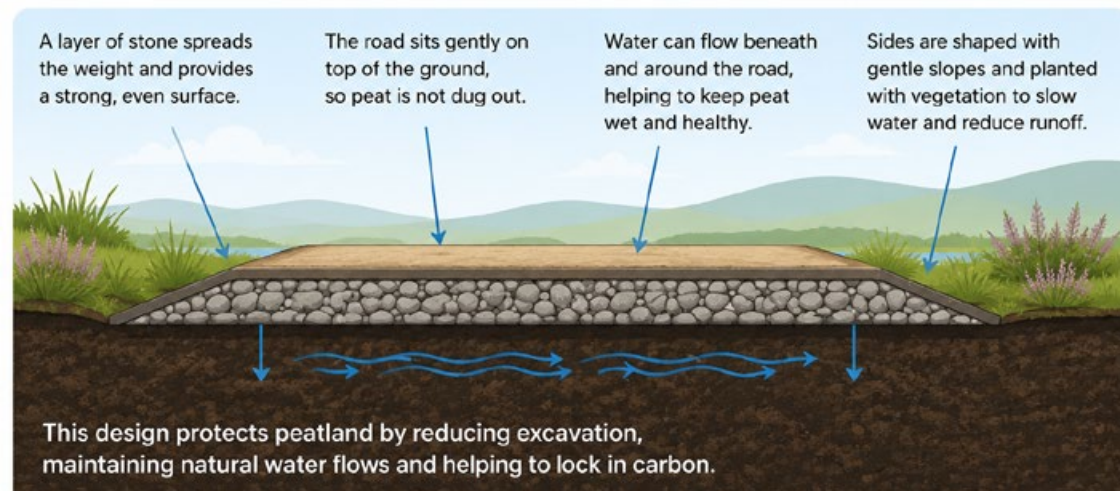


The result: Reduced impacts on peatland

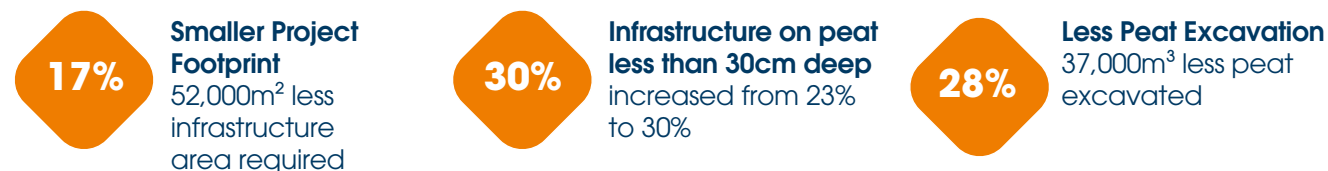
The revised layout moves more infrastructure onto shallower ground and reduces peat excavation, project footprint and watercourse interactions.



FLOATING ROADS: PROTECTING PEATLAND



KEY IMPROVEMENTS AT A GLANCE



51% Less Infrastructure on Deep Peat

Infrastructure on peat over 1 metre deep

Reduced from 31,746m² to 15,631m², meaning 51% less infrastructure is located on deeper peat areas.

18% More Peat Survey Data

Additional peat probing undertaken

Survey coverage increased from 9,734 to 11,485 probes, providing 18% more peat data to refine the design and target shallower ground.

33% Reduction in Average Peat Depth

Average peat depth beneath permanent hardstanding areas

Reduced from 50cm to 30cm, representing a 33% reduction in average peat depth across permanent hardstanding locations.



The revised design reduces the project footprint, minimises peat excavation and moves infrastructure onto shallower ground where possible.

Managing flood risk and surface water

The scheme has been carefully designed to respond to flood risk and surface water concerns

WHAT YOU SAID

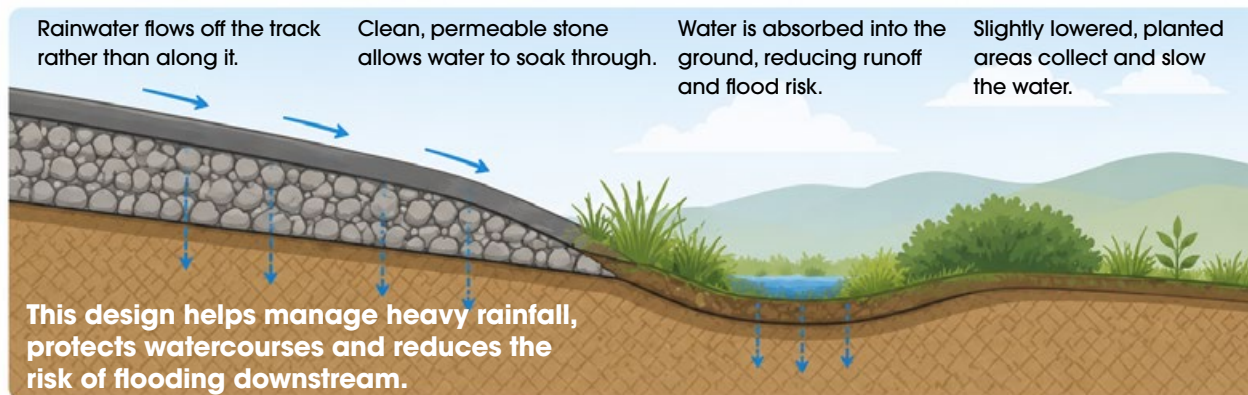
- Residents raised concerns that construction on the moor could increase surface water runoff and potentially worsen flooding in surrounding communities.

WHAT WE DID

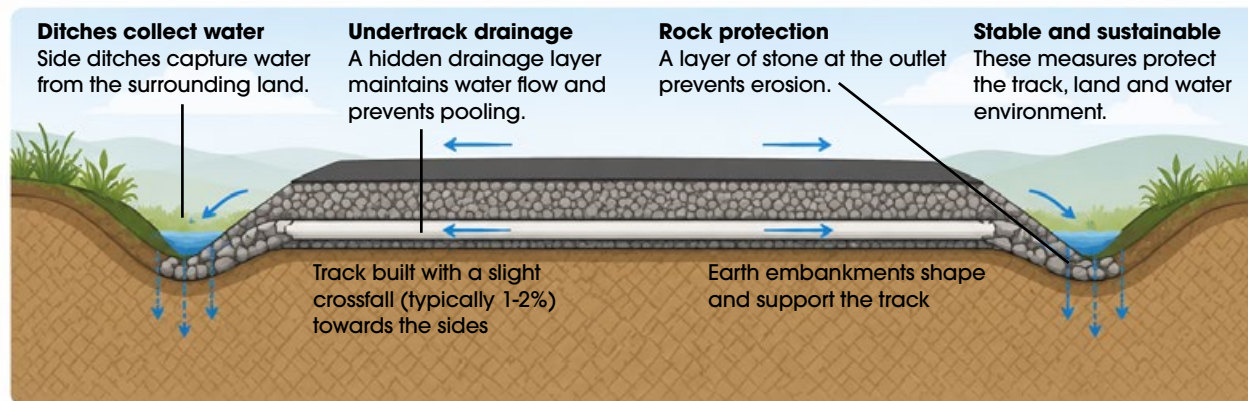
- Attenuation ponds, swales and drainage features have been included across the site to slow and temporarily store rainfall.
- Existing drainage catchments and flow routes have been maintained.
- Drainage has been designed to accommodate future climate change and more intense rainfall.
- Comprehensive peatland restoration will help the landscape retain water naturally.


FIND OUT MORE

SLOPED TRACKS: DRAINING WATER SAFELY Our access tracks are built on a gentle slope so rainwater can flow off the track naturally and slowly.



FLAT SECTIONS: MANAGING WATER FLOW On flatter ground, we use built-in drainage features to collect and control water, preventing erosion and protecting the land.



WHY THIS MATTERS



Helps prevent flooding in local communities



Keeps water flowing naturally across the moor



Protects the land from erosion and damage



Supports a healthy, resilient environment for the future



Designed for our landscape

02 Reducing visual effects

The revised layout was designed to reduce visual effects from key viewpoints and settlements.

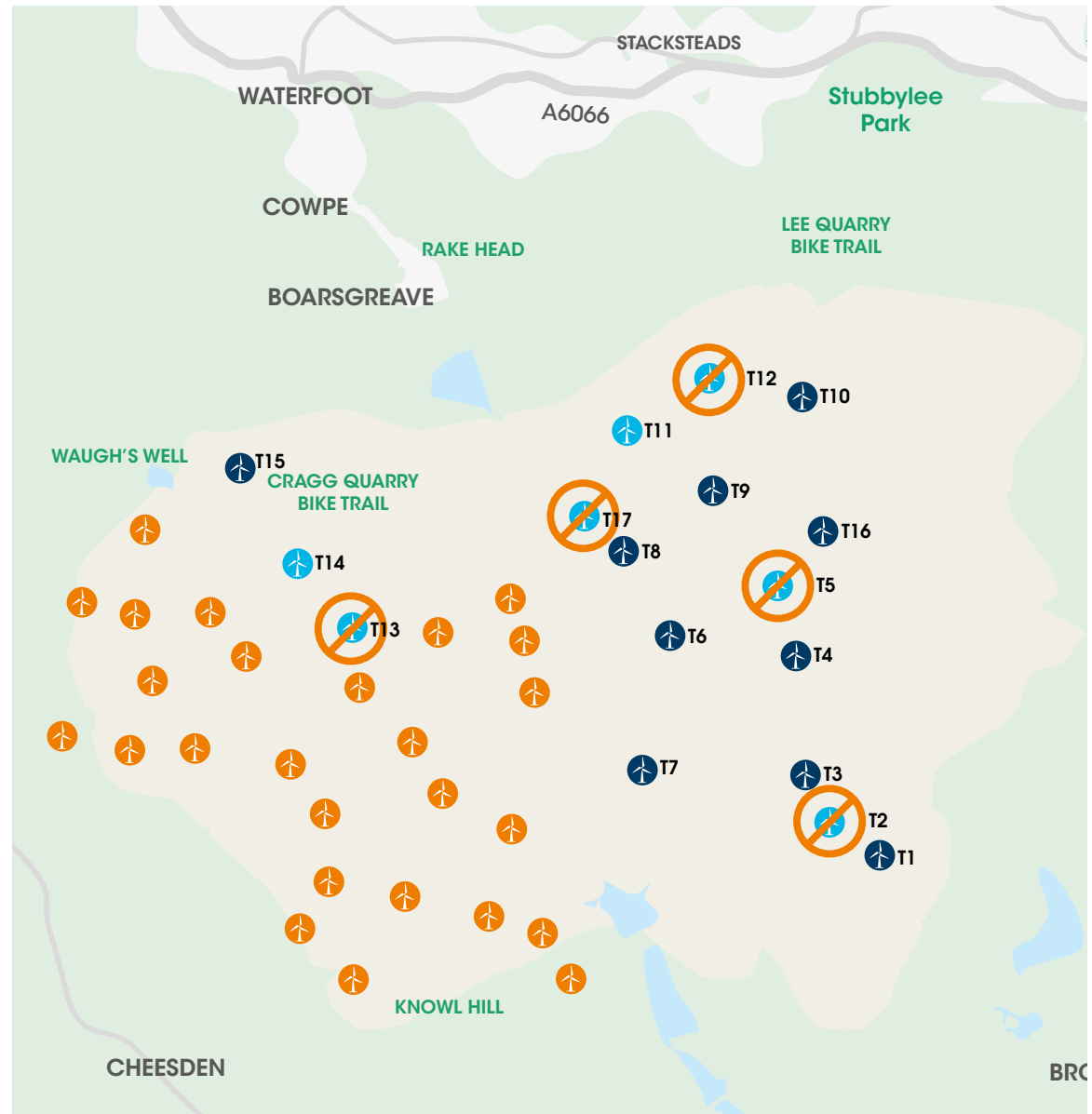
FIND OUT MORE

WHAT YOU SAID

- Concerns about potential skyline effects and cumulative visibility

WHAT WE DID

- The revised layout removes turbines from the most sensitive viewpoints and improves spacing between the remaining turbines.
- T12 and T17 removed to reduce visual effects from the north.
- T2 and T5 removed to reduce visual effects from the east and south-east.
- Wider turbine spacing reduces visual clustering and creates a simpler, more balanced layout.



Visual effects reduced

COWPE
45%
Reduction

ORIGINAL SCHEME



REVISED SCHEME



Through consultation and careful design, the scheme has been refined to reduce visual effects experienced by local communities and from heritage assets.

Visual effects reduced

WHITWORTH
29%
Reduction

ORIGINAL SCHEME



REVISED SCHEME



Through consultation and careful design, the scheme has been refined to reduce visual effects experienced by local communities and from heritage assets.

Visual effects reduced

**PRICKSHAW & BROADLEY
FOLD CONSERVATION AREA**

29%
Reduction

ORIGINAL SCHEME



REVISED SCHEME



Through consultation and careful design, the scheme has been refined to reduce visual effects experienced by local communities and from heritage assets.

03 Keeping the moor accessible and open

Protecting access to the moor was a consistent priority raised throughout consultation.



WHAT YOU SAID

- Residents and recreational users raised concerns about potential impacts on access to the moor, including the experience of walkers, horse riders and users of key routes.



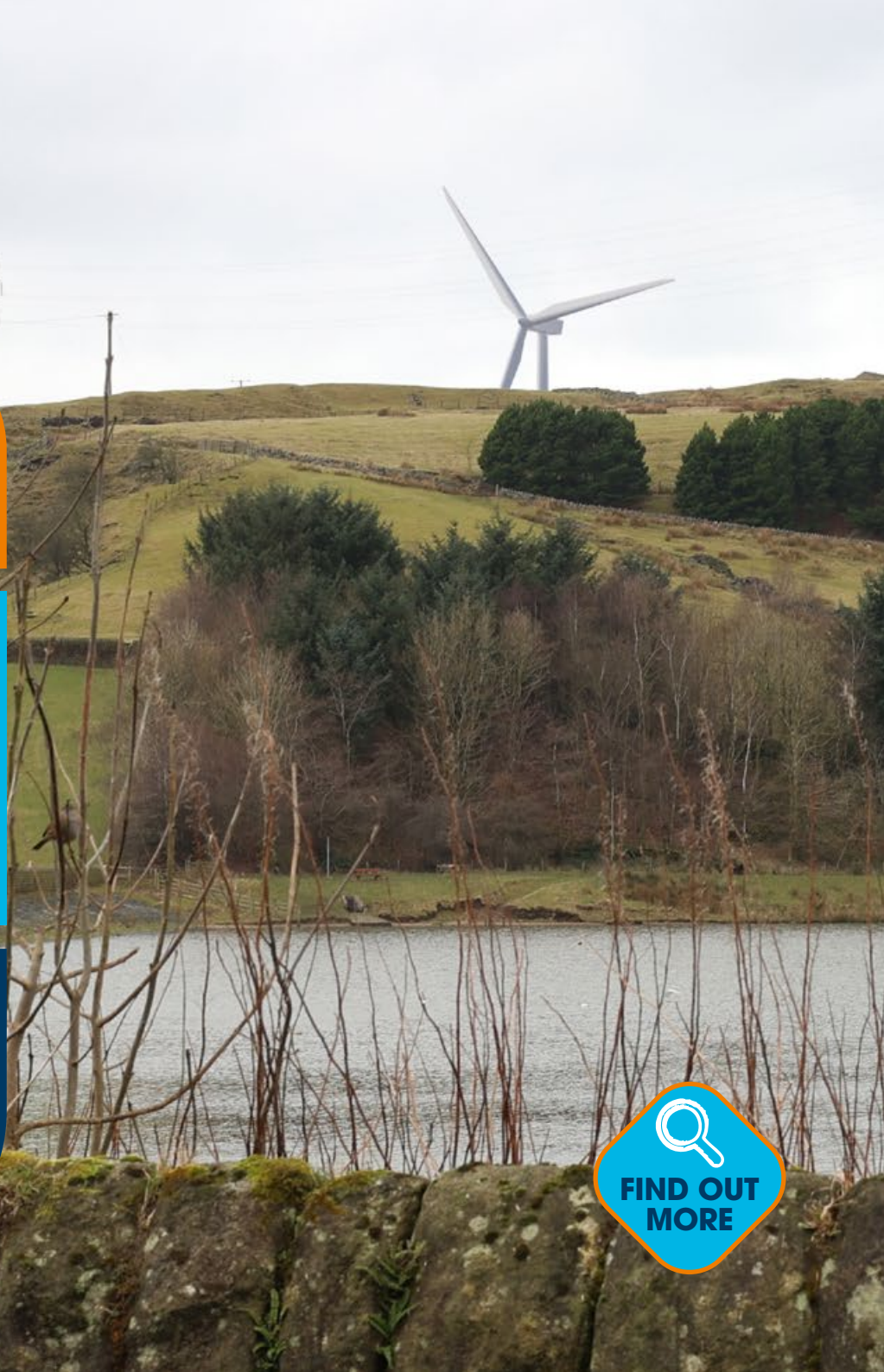
WHAT WE DID

- Removed T17 to increase separation from the Pennine Bridleway and Mary Towneley Loop
- Refined the layout to reduce turbine presence around Rooley Moor Road
- Reduced the number of turbines adjacent to Rooley Moor Road from 11 to 8



THE RESULT

- Turbines within 200m of the Pennine Bridleway reduced from 11 to 8
- Greater separation from Rooley Moor Road
- Improved openness across key recreational areas



FIND OUT MORE

Enhancing access, recreation and the moor

Our masterplan delivers long-term benefits for people, wildlife and the landscape.



10KM NEW MULTI-USER ROUTES

New and upgraded tracks for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.



BETTER LINKS BETWEEN LEE & CRAGG QUARRIES

Improved mountain bike connectivity through new links and trail enhancements.



IMPROVED GATEWAYS

Upgraded access points on Rooley Moor Road to better manage access while maintaining access for everyone.



NEW FENCING & ACCESS CONTROLS

New fencing, gates and barriers to deter illegal off-road vehicles and protect the moor.



BETTER VISITOR EXPERIENCE

New signage, interpretation and wayfinding to help people explore and enjoy the moor responsibly.



MORE ACCESSIBLE LAND

Replacement common land and enhanced connections create more open space for everyone.



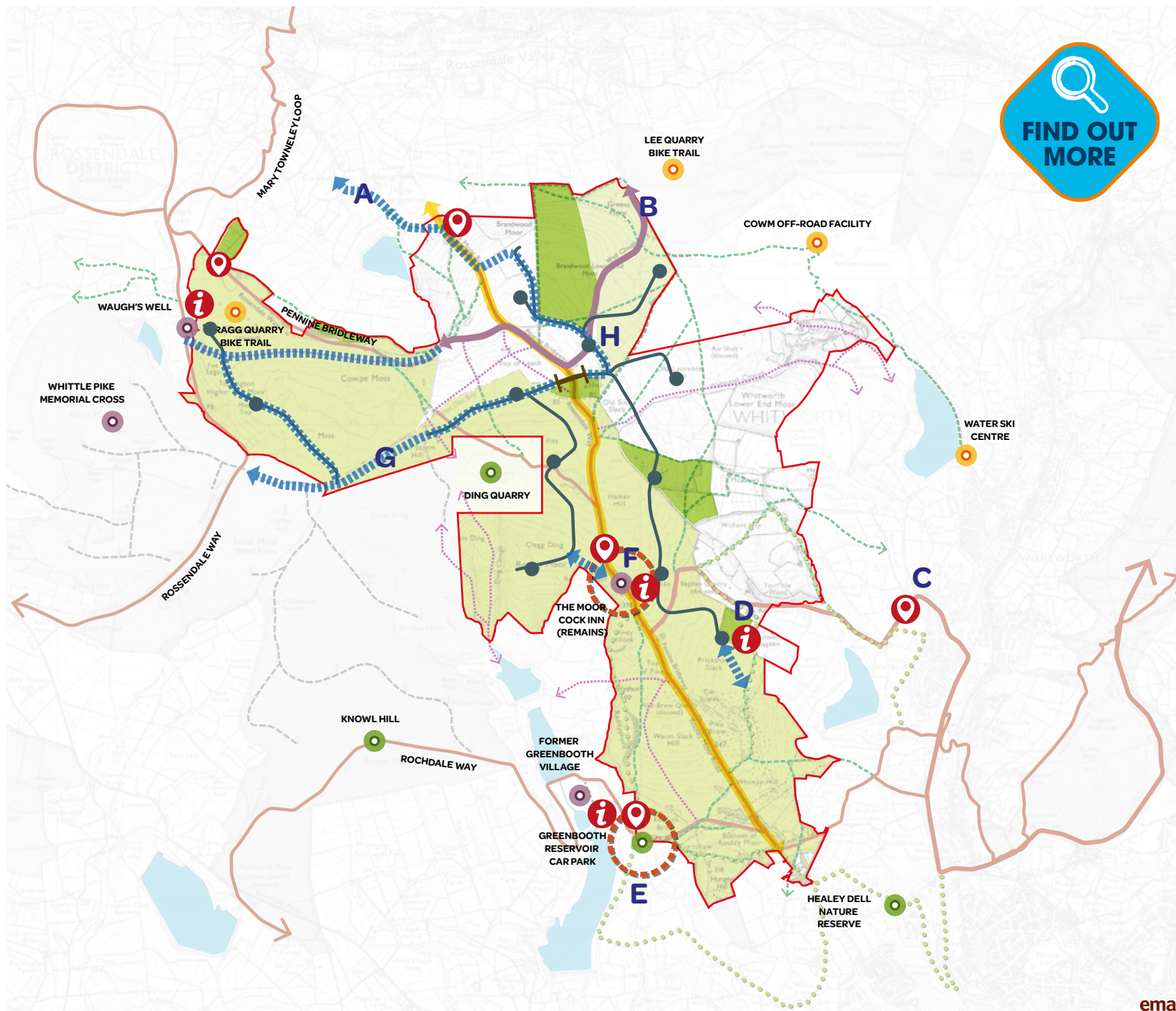
Map of public access routes

KEY

-  Scout Moor II Site Boundary
-  Existing turbine access track
-  Strategic PRoW / bridleway
-  Other PRoW
-  Heritage trail
-  Rooley Moor Road
-  Common Land
-  Heritage asset
-  Landscape / ecological asset
-  Leisure destination
-  Proposed wind turbine
-  Proposed turbine access track
-  Proposed Rooley Moor Road crossing

OPPORTUNITIES

-  Replacement Common Land
-  Potential enhanced / new multi-use links
-  Opportunity for new signage
-  Opportunity for interpretation board
-  Potential mountain bike trail enhancements
- A** Potential link between Boarsgreave and mountain bike trail
- B** Opportunity to enhance surfacing for mountain bike users
- C** Opportunity to improve waymarking to encourage use of Rossendale Way
- D** Potential learning zone (turbine technology / renewable energy)
- E** Potential improvements to Greenbooth Reservoir car park (resurfacing / signage / information boards)
- F** Potential seating area / replacement stone wall / interpretation boards around site of former pub
- G** Potential link between Rossendale Way and Rooley Moor Road
- H** Mountain bike trail diversion



04 Minimising local disruption

WHAT YOU SAID

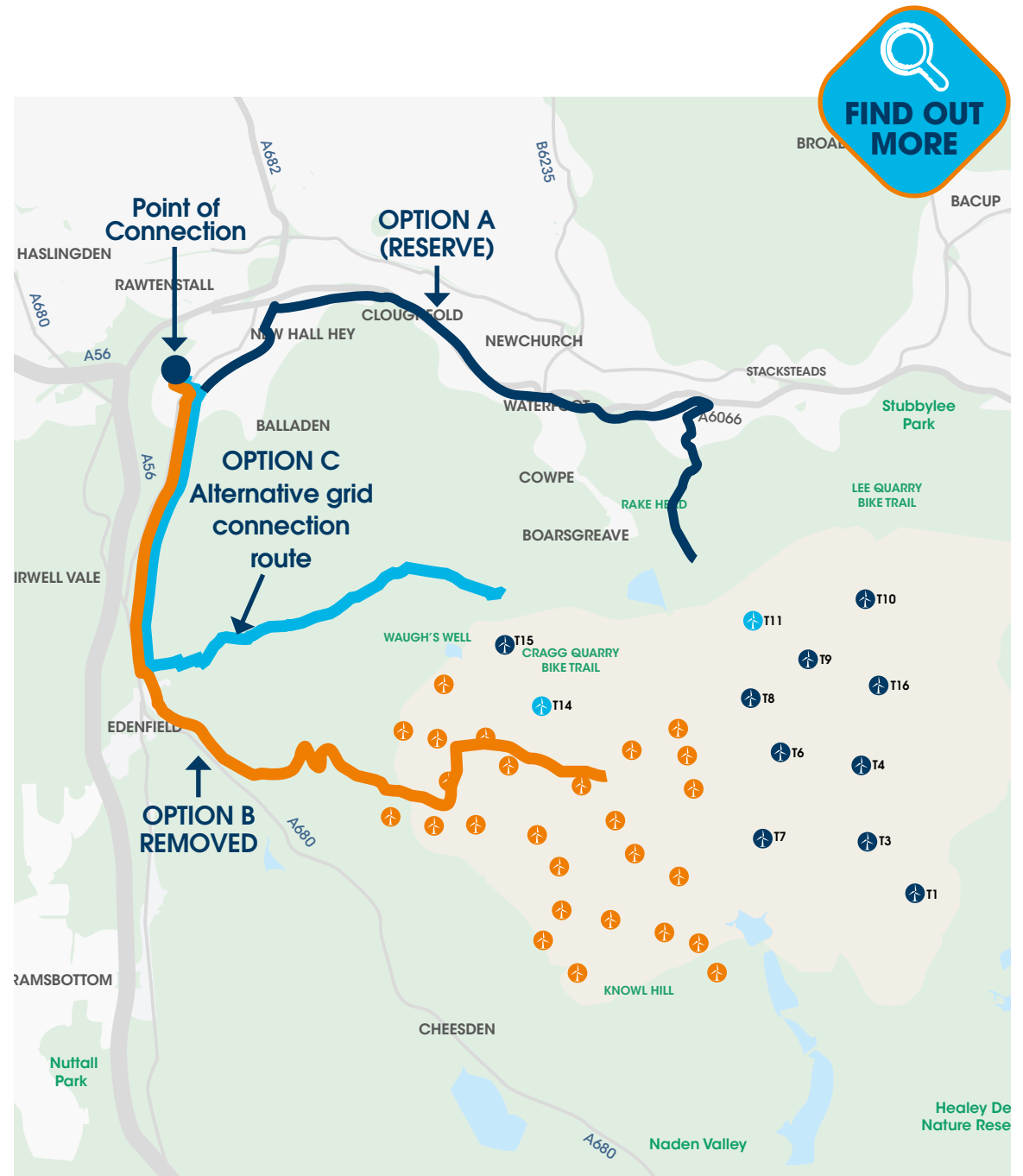
- Concerns focused on potential construction traffic effects and community disruption, particularly in Edenfield and Waterfoot.

WHAT WE DID

- Removed grid connection route (Option B) through Edenfield village
- Introduced alternative grid connection route (Option C) that reduces the amount of disruption on the public highway

THE RESULT

- Reduced disruption through Edenfield Village
- Reduced construction traffic and HGV movements
- Reduced disruption on local roads and nearby communities



05 Limiting effects on nearby homes

Residents raised concerns about potential noise, shadow flicker, residential visual amenity effects and the proximity of turbines to nearby homes.



WHAT YOU SAID

- Residents raised concerns about proximity, residential visual amenity, noise and shadow flicker.



WHAT WE DID

- Removed T2, T12 and T17, the turbines closest to nearby residential areas
- Updated the residential visual amenity, noise and shadow flicker assessments for the revised layout. Updated the noise assessment for the revised layout now reflects the new Assessment and Rating of Wind Turbine Noise guidance, which replaces ETSU-R-97.

THE RESULT

A smaller scheme, with reduced effects and controls in place to protect nearby homes.



REDUCED NOISE EFFECTS

A smaller scheme has reduced predicted noise effects at nearby homes.

Noise management controls will ensure recognised noise limits are met.



REDUCED SHADOW FLICKER EFFECTS

Properties potentially affected by shadow flicker have been reduced.

Operational turbine controls will ensure recognised shadow flicker limits are met.



IMPROVED SEPARATION FROM HOMES

Several turbines in closer proximity to residential areas were removed as part of the scheme redesign.



BUILT-IN PROTECTION FOR RESIDENTS

Noise management modes and automatic shadow flicker controls will be used where required to ensure effects remain within recognised thresholds.

06 Maximising local benefits

The Community Wealth Fund is being shaped by local people, for local people.



WHAT YOU SAID

Residents and stakeholders told us that community benefits should:

- Deliver lasting local value
- Support priorities identified by local communities
- Be independently managed and transparent
- Invest in projects that make a real difference

WHAT WE DID

- Commissioned Groundwork as an independent community partner
- Delivered workshops, drop-in events and an online survey
- Asked communities what they would invest in
- Used feedback to help shape the future Community Wealth Fund

THE RESULT

- **£6,000/MW COMMUNITY WEALTH FUND**
Increased from the original £5,000/MW proposal and 20% above the typical industry benchmark.
- **LOCAL PRIORITIES DRIVING INVESTMENT**
Residents identified priorities including youth services, community facilities, green spaces, transport and support for older people.
- **INDEPENDENT & COMMUNITY-LED**
An independent administrator and local representation will help guide investment decisions.
- **REVENUE SHARING PRINCIPLE**
A commitment that local communities should share in the long-term value created by the project.



Identified through community workshops, drop in events and survey responses led by Groundwork.



Why the revised scheme matters

If approved, Scout Moor II would become an important clean energy project for the North West.

Around

70MW

of clean, homegrown electricity,
subject to final turbine selection



Estimated

9.1 million MWh

of zero-carbon electricity over
a 40-year lifetime

Equivalent to powering around

84,500

typical UK homes each year.

Estimated annual greenhouse gas
emissions savings of around

102,000 tCO₂e

Estimated carbon payback period of

1.5 years

reduced from 1.8 years



Long-term
moorland
restoration
and peatland
enhancement



Locally shaped
Community
Wealth Fund

The project today is different because people engaged and we listened

- Public consultation has resulted in meaningful changes to Scout Moor II.
- The scheme has been reduced in scale, redesigned to reduce impacts and strengthened through additional mitigation and community benefit commitments.
- The Councils will now undertake a further consultation on the revised plans and additional environmental information, ensuring communities have another opportunity to consider the changes and make their views known.
- Engagement does not end with the planning application. Dialogue with communities and stakeholders will continue as the project progresses.



ENGAGEMENT DOES NOT STOP HERE: WE ARE COMMITTED FOR THE LONG TERM



1. CONTINUED LIAISON

Engagement will continue through the next stages of the project, with ongoing liaison with communities, stakeholders and consultees as the design progresses.



3. MONITORING AND REVIEW

The project team will continue to review technical evidence, monitoring requirements and mitigation measures, with further refinement where appropriate.



2. PROJECT UPDATES

Residents and interested organisations will continue to receive updates as assessments are completed, plans are refined and further information becomes available.



4. OPEN FEEDBACK CHANNELS

Feedback channels will remain open so that local views can continue to inform the project as it moves forward.

scoutmoor2.co.uk

Your views have shaped Scout Moor II.

Together, we're creating a project that delivers lasting benefits for local communities and the environment.