

**Spittal to Loch Buidhe to Beauly 400 kV  
OHL Connection  
Environmental Impact Assessment  
Volume 5 | Technical Appendix**

**Appendix 12.6 | Heritage  
Setting Assessment Tables**

**July 2025**



## **VOLUME 5: APPENDIX 12.6 - HERITAGE SETTING ASSESSMENT TABLES**

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## HERITAGE SETTING ASSESSMENT TABLES

### Introduction

- 1.1.1 Presented here are detailed setting assessment tables developed for those assets identified during the sieving exercise, as having the potential for impacts resulting from changes in setting (see **Volume 5, Appendix 12.1: Scope and Method of Assessment, Section 1.5**).
- 1.1.2 The assets may be assessed within a geographically associated group or as individual assets, as appropriate for the assets' setting or potential significance of effect. The cultural significance, magnitude of impact and significance of effect, are all presented in line with the below table (see **Volume 5, Appendix 12.1: Scope and Method of Assessment, Section 1.8**):

Significance of Effect		Cultural Significance of Receptor/Receiving Environment				
Magnitude of Impact		High	Medium	Low	Negligible / Low	Negligible
	High	Major	Major / Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Negligible
	Medium	Major / Moderate	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Minor / Negligible	Negligible
	Low	Moderate / Minor	Minor	Minor	Minor / Negligible	Negligible
	Negligible / Low	Minor	Minor / Negligible	Minor / Negligible	Minor / Negligible	Negligible
	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

- 1.1.3 The 'Statement of Effect' section, at the base of each assessment table, confers two findings from the assessment (see **Volume 5, Appendix 12.1: Scope and Method of Assessment**, paragraph 1.5.15-20):
- the anticipated effect on the asset, based on the cultural significance and assessed magnitude of impact; and
  - an appraisal of whether the reported adverse effect for an asset significantly adversely impacts the 'integrity' of its setting.<sup>1</sup>
- 1.1.4 The associated illustrations and visuals can be found in Volume 5, Appendix 12.8: Cultural Heritage Visualisations (also see **Volume 3, Figure 12.6: Cultural Heritage 3D Visualisations Locators** and **Volume 3, 12.7: Cultural Heritage Photomontages / Wireframes Locator Maps**):
- the 'Figures' section is associated with **12.8.1: Wireframes and Photomontages**; and
  - the 'Plates' section is associated with **12.8.2: 3D Renders**.
- 1.1.5 Presented here are the assessment tables for Section A, B, C, D and E.

<sup>1</sup> Not applicable for non-designated assets.

## SECTION A

### Scheduled Monuments

#### Major Projected Effect

Buolacrabher		
SM445 chambered cairn 1550 m S of Buolacrabher SM5224 chambered cairn 1350 m SSW of Buolacrabher SM6014 settlement 1170 m S of Buolacrabher		3 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-04, CHVP-05, CHVP-06	Plates: 3DVP-030—179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, and 185 3DVP-031—186, 187, 188, 189, 190, and 191 3DVP-032—192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, and 199	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> c.131 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect Major</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM445 chambered cairn 1550 m S of Buolacrabher consists of a heel-shaped chambered cairn of Neolithic/Bronze Age date. Measures 17 m N-S by 21 m E-W. It is indicated by the tops of 5 stone slabs which protrude through the cairn. The scheduled area measures 45 m in diameter to include the chambered cairn and the area around in which traces of activities associated with the building and use of the cairn may survive.</p> <p>SM5224 chambered cairn 1350 m SSW of Buolacrabher consists of the remains of a chambered cairn of Neolithic/Bronze Age date. It is 14.6 m in diameter with a number of stone slabs protruding through the turf at the centre. The cairn is crossed by a modern sheep shelter. There is evidence for thick peat growth around this cairn and it is probable that much of the cairn and chamber remain in situ. The scheduled area measures 45 m in diameter to include the chambered cairn and the area around in which traces of activities associated with the building and use of the cairn may survive.</p> <p>SM6014 settlement 1170 m S of Buolacrabher consists of a prehistoric settlement of two hut circles and associated traced of cultivation. The SW hut measure 5.5 m in diameter and 0.2 m high. The E hut measures 7 m in diameter and 2-2.5 m high. There are two clearance cairns immediately N of the huts and the area around and between the cairns is flat and appears to have been cultivated. The scheduled area measures 85 m E-W by 80 m N-S, to include the hut circles and cairns and an area around in which traces of activities associated with these structures may survive.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The three Scheduled Monuments are in close proximity to each other and are situated along the Burn of Houstry. Intervisibility between the assets over the water is important in understanding the relationship between water, the living, and the dead in the prehistoric era. These assets are part of a wider prehistoric landscape that follows the Burn of Houstry and extends across Dunbeath Water.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these three monuments is primarily derived from their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to understanding of prehistoric settlement and agriculture, as well as prehistoric mortuary rituals and burial practices. The sites all have a degree of intact physical remains present, along with the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.</p> <p>Their setting value is derived from the proximal location of settlement and mortuary features, and their association to the wider prehistoric landscape of the area and link to the Burn of Houstry.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The siting of these assets is defined by their relative locations near the Burn of Houstry that cuts north between SM445 and SM5224 on the western bank and SM6014 on the eastern bank. A single-track road runs N-S to the immediate east of SM6014. The landscape is shallowly undulating moorland with a wide viewshed. A sheep shelter stands atop SM445. To the NE of the group are some scattered settlements, cultivated fields, and approximately 1.5 km NE, a windfarm. To the south there is the hamlet of Badnagie. Along the Burn of Houstry valley to the north and south there are other prehistoric assets. Views to these assets from SM445, SM5224, and SM6014 may be considered key views.</p> <p>The proximity of all three assets to the Burn of Houstry may contribute to the understanding of the relationship that water has with the prehistoric living and dead. This could aid insight into prehistoric domestic life, as well as mortuary beliefs.</p> <p>Due to the proximity of SM445, SM5224, and SM6014 there is an intrinsic visual link. Views from the settlement to the cairns may contribute to understandings of connections with mortuary monumentality. Views beyond to the south and west also contribute to the value of the assets through understanding the relationships and visual accessibility of the wider prehistoric occupation and mortuary landscape, including those occupation and cairns located further south along the burn. Further there is an alignment connection between SM445 and SM457 to the NE.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to a major degree to their significance, with a medium/high sensitivity to change, given their place within the wider prehistoric network set within the wider landscape, with the setting potentially illuminating prehistoric domestic life and agriculture, as well as mortuary connections and beliefs.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure close to the south of the asset group (c.131 m), eroding the relationship to the wider prehistoric landscape and adding substantive modern infrastructure to the near view south and between the asset group and the prehistoric settlement at Badnagie.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the three assets of SM445, SM5224, and SM6014 will undergo a change to the setting. This results from the Proposed Development passing close to the south of the asset group, eroding the relationship to the wider prehistoric landscape and adding substantive modern infrastructure to the near-view looking south along the burn/river valley, and between the asset group and the prehistoric settlement at Badnagie. While there is an existing presence of modern transmission infrastructure to the south and other modernisations in the landscape such as post-medieval and modern field arrangements to the south and north, settlements to the south and north, and a windfarm approximately 1.5 km to the NE, the Proposed Development encroaches much closer and noticeably alters the character of the existing immediate landscape. The proximity of the Proposed Development would erode the near setting and prominently backdrop views between the assets in the group, from SM457 to SM445, and to the wider prehistoric landscape, while maintaining the spatial and visual connection of the grouping.</p> <p>The assets of SM445, SM5224, and SM6014 will thus be subject to a change to their setting, altering the ability to experience and impeding the ability to appreciate the assets, while maintaining the fundamental connections and landscape understanding. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Medium.</p> <p>Noting the above-described Medium magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore assessed to be Major.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

<b>Caen</b>		
SM432 long cairn 530 m NW of Caen, Helmsdale SM1771 long cairn 460 m NNW of Caen SM1841 hut circles and souterrain 982 m, 1035 m and 1083 m NNW of Caen		3 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-28, CHVP-29	Plates: 3DVP-105—574, 575, 576, 577, 578 and 579 3DVP-106—580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, and 587 3DVP-107—588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593 and 594 3DVP-110—616, 617, 618, 619, 620 and 621 3DVP-111—622, 623, 624, 625, 626, and 627	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 146 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Major

<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM432 long cairn 530 m NW of Caen, Helmsdale consists of a long cairn.</p> <p>SM1771 long cairn 460 m NNW of Caen consists of a prehistoric, chambered cairn measuring 41 m in length and 7-9 m in width. The remain of a ruined field wall associated with a nearby depopulated settlement extend from either end of the cairn.</p> <p>SM1841 hut circles and souterrain 982 m, 1035 m and 1083 m NNW of Caen consists of the remains of three roundhouses and a souterrain dating to Late Bronze Age or Iron age. The most northerly house measures 4 m diameter and 1.5 m high. The footings of three post-medieval buildings, the largest 12.5 m by 3 m, lie adjacent to this roundhouse and have disturbed western section. The second roundhouse is 59 m to the south and measures 1.7 m high and 9 m in diameter. The southernmost roundhouse lies 102 m SW and measures 10 m in diameter and 0.75 m high. The entrance to the souterrain is visible within the internal wall of this roundhouse, and the passage runs under and extends beyond the walls of the roundhouse.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The three Scheduled Monuments are located in close proximity along the Caen Burn at the confluence and turn of the River Helmsdale. They are part of a wider prehistoric valleyscape, with the intervisibility and proximity of the three assets working to draw significance from each other specifically.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these three monuments is derived from their setting, as well as their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to understanding of prehistoric settlement, economy, land use, and agriculture, as well as prehistoric mortuary rituals and burial practices. SM1841 is noted by HES to be a particularly good example of settlements that retain their field characteristics and are associated with a wider cluster of prehistoric remains and later settlement. The sites all have a degree of intact physical remains present, along with the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location in a shallow moorland valley that slopes towards the confluence of the River Helmsdale along the route of the Caen Burn that runs north as the river turns west. The area is rural with some scattered settlement and pastoral fields. The A897 and existing overhead lines (c.1.7 km south, spanning the river north of Helmsdale) disrupt the relationship that the prehistoric landscape has with the River Helmsdale, and a railway run on the southern bank of the River Helmsdale. The immediate setting of the three assets nearby water sources and within a wider prehistoric landscape contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture and land use, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements and mortuary monuments had with each other. The placement of the three assets within a wider prehistoric landscape means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance of both the Caen Vally and the River Helmsdale, which are known to be extremely rich.</p> <p>Due to the proximity between SM432, SM1771, and SM1841, there is the potential for key views between these assets. Further views extend to connect the upper Caen valley and along the River Helmsdale both west and south to the coastal inlet.</p> <p>Setting can thus be seen as a major contributor to the cultural significance of the assets, with a high sensitivity to change, given the intentional siting to connect and associate the assets with the landscape of the Caen Burn Valley and River Helmsdale Valley, as well as the coastal inlet.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of transmission infrastructure into the Caen valley and within 146 m of the assets. Passing immediately south of the grouping and severing the views south along the River Helmsdale and present within views to the assets from within the valley.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development and prominent presence within the Caen valley, the setting of the three assets of SM432, SM1771, and SM1841 will be impacted by the introduction of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development introduces substantial infrastructure in the Caen Valley and encroaches upon the boundaries of the assets, disrupting and eroding the visual relationship of the three assets to each other and of wider prehistoric landscape as the Proposed Development spans the River Helmsdale. While there are already modern elements and infrastructure, such as the residential buildings, railway and road, and the landscape and monument connections remain intact, the Proposed Development will substantively intrude upon the immediate setting, interrupt the key views between the assets in the group, in association with the River, Helmsdale, Caen Valley and coastal inlet, and to the wider prehistoric landscape, as well as materially altering the landscape character. Thus, affecting the ability to experience and appreciate the assets in context. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Medium. Noting the above-described Medium magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore assessed to be Major.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p>



	Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.
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Marrel		
SM13647 Caen Burn West, 935 m WNW of Caen SM1770 long cairn and round cairn 470 m and 490 m W of Caen		2 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations Summary:		
Figure: CHVP-30, CHVP-31	Plates: 3DVP-112—628, 629, 630, 631, 632, and 633 3DVP-13—634, 635, 636, 637, 638 and 639	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 49 m S
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Major
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM13647 Caen Burn West comprises the remains of a trapezoidal Neolithic cairn, 44 m in length, 17 m in width and 1 m high, 935 m WNW of Caen. The cairn has been disturbed and is missing a lot of stone from the centre.</p> <p>SM1770 comprises the remains of a Neolithic long cairn, a Bronze Age round cairn and a potential Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age roundhouse, located 470 m and 490 m W of Caen. The long cairn is trapezoidal, with exposed stone, the round cairn presents as a small mound of earth and stone, and the round house survives as a small upstanding structure defined by a penannular bank of turf and stone.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance. These are also connected to the Caen monument group (SM432, SM1771, and SM1841) and partially share the Caen valley setting.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement and ritual sites within the region, and the interplay between the two. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of both SM13647 and SM1778 can be defined by their relative locations on a level terrace on a hillside, overlooking the Strath of Kildonan. The modern A897 road is present c. 163 m south of SM13647 and c. 55 m south of SM1770. Beyond this road is the River Helmsdale located 180 m south from SM13647 and 287 m south from SM1770.</p> <p>Key views are most likely towards and along the River Helmsdale, as well as towards the coastal outlet, as well as the confluence and connection to the Caen Valley.</p> <p>The wider landscape for both these assets is comprised of a rural landscape, with small settlements within it to the south and south-east, whilst to the north and west are valley settlements, surrounded by high hills and moorland.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.49 m to the north of these assets.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern infrastructure into views towards and from the assets, as well as to asset clusters along the river valley to the west and to the river itself. However, the Proposed Development would not materially alter the ability to understand the assets as sited, although the effect on the ability to appreciate and experience them in context and relation to the River Helmsdale and Caen Burn, and the valley as a prehistoric landscape, will be notably harmed by the presence of the Proposed Development. Views west along the River Helmsdale would be preserved, however.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, the setting can be considered to contribute to the to the cultural significance to a major degree and has a high sensitivity to change. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Medium magnitude of impact upon the assets' cultural significance, resulting in a Major effect overall. The siting and archaeological value of the assets is maintained, while the landscape character is materially altered by the Proposed Development, with prominent infrastructure eroding the connective views and partitioning the landscape.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Major effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations.	

	Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.
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Rinsary		
SM3473 homestead, Rinsary 500m WNW of, Berriedale		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP_20	Plates: 3DVP-73—399 3DVP-74—406 3DVP-75—407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, and 413 3DVP-77—421 3DVP-78—434	Distance from Proposed Development: 9 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Major
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM3473 is a prehistoric homestead. The monument consists of the remains of a double ditched enclosure, situated on a knoll in arable land. Within the enclosure there are traces of a ring-groove hut circle. This may have been a palisaded enclosure which is unique in this area of Scotland.</p> <p>The homestead is located on a south facing gradual slope in the low foothills above the Berriedale Water, a local watercourse originating in the uplands to the north and draining into the Moray Firth some 1.6 km to the south-east of the monument. SM3473 is one of a series of prehistoric settlement sites dotted across the length of the Berriedale Water valley. The nearest of these associated monuments are SM577 Rinsary broch, to the east and SM3475 Tulach Bad a'Choilich hut circles, SM3477 Tulach Bad a'Choilich broch, to the west and SM3559/SM3537 Cnoc Fionn hut circles to the south.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage value of the monument is derived from its historic and archaeological value, helping to inform prehistoric settlement type and location within north-east Scotland. Given the monuments location within open farmland and visual relationship to associated prehistoric settlement sites along the Berriedale Water, its setting makes a notable contribution to its historic value and legibility in the surrounding prehistoric landscape.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The historic setting of this asset is defined by its relationship to the Langwell Berriedale Water and the associated prehistoric settlement sites along its length.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' historic setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape views from the monument along the length of the Berriedale Water;</li> <li>• Local views from the monument over the surrounding pasture fields;</li> <li>• Views south-east from the monument to SM577;</li> <li>• Views south from the monument to SM3537 and SM3559;</li> <li>• Views west from the monument to SM3475 and SM3477; and</li> <li>• The return views to SM3473 from these associated prehistoric settlement sites.</li> </ul> <p>The historic setting of the monument has been altered by Medieval and Post-Medieval farming activity in and the Berriedale Water. The surrounding landscape has evolved throughout the Medieval and Post-Medieval period with the introduction of new field boundaries, farming regimes and the introduction of Plantation Forest within the nearby Langwell Estate. Despite this, the rural character of the landscape and the Berriedale Water valley has been retained and as such, the setting of the monument continues to make a moderate contribution to heritage significance, with a low/medium sensitivity to change.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would add to the existing transmission infrastructure within the Berriedale Water valley. The additional transmission infrastructure would run parallel with the existing array, enclosing the site on the northside.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is prominently located 9 m west of the monument, where two Towers (N108 and N109) are required in close proximity given the topography and extended span length to cross the valley. It follows a south-west to north-east aligned corridor that straddles the foothills of Cnoc Bad Asgaraidh to the south-west, before crossing the Langwell Water/Berriedale Water and continuing into the uplands to the north-east.</p> <p>The Berriedale valley contains an existing alignment of OHL Towers, which the Proposed Development will follow, offset from the existing alignment by c.160 m. There is no other large scale electrical infrastructure in and around the monument.</p>	



<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, with a medium sensitivity to changes in setting, within the Berriedale valley and the surrounding hillsides.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be located in very close proximity to SM3473, substantially changing the immediate character of the area around the monument, as well as eroding key historic views to and from the asset and impacting the legibility of the settlement site and its relationships to associated prehistoric occupation.</p> <p>The presence of the existing overhead lines has already eroded views between the monument and SM3473 Rinsary broch. The Proposed Development would further erode these views, enclosing the asset and prominently positioning towers close by.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would erode views to the monument from associated assets to the south-west and along the Berriedale Water, with OHL towers in and around SM3473 thereby reducing its legibility in the landscape.</p> <p>Whilst in close proximity to the monument, direct physical impacts would be avoided, and the archaeological value of the site would be maintained.</p> <p>Based on the above, a Medium magnitude of impact is predicted, resulting in the ability to experience and appreciate the asset in context being further eroded, in line with and the loss of legibility in the surrounding historic landscape.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Dunbeath Water: Central		
SM438 long cairn and round cairn, Cairn Liath SM443 chambered cairn, burial cist and standing stone, Cnoc na Maranaich SM5163 chambered cairn 400 m WNW of Loedebest SM5191 cairn 500 m SSE of Loedebest SM5254 prehistoric settlement and post medieval enclosure 1400 m WSW of Loedebest		5 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations Summary		
Figure: CHVP-07, CHVP-13, CHVP-14	Plates: 3DVP-33—200, 201, 202, 203 and 204 3DVP-39—232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, and 238 3DVP-42—250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, and 256 3DVP-43—257, 258, 259, 260 and 261 3DVP-44—262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267 and 268	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 180 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Major
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM438 long cairn and round cairn, Cairn Liath comprises a prehistoric long cairn and round cairn. The longer cairn measures 58 m by 18.3 m wide and is orientated WSW-ENE. The second cairn measures 13.4 m in diameter; this cairn has been extensively robbed out, though three upright stones remain.  SM443 chambered cairn, burial cist and standing stone, Cnoc na Maranaich comprises a chambered cairn, a burial cist and a standing stone. The chambered cairn is 19 m in diameter and 2 m high. It is surmounted by four modern cairns, and an old sheep shelter is present on the NE side. The standing stone measures 2.6 m, and consists of a slab of rectangular cross section, pointed at the top. The burial cist is located 75 m SSE of the chambered cairn, with a 1.2 m by 0.9 m capping stone.  SM5163 comprises a chambered cairn, 13 m in diameter and 0.5 m high, located 400 m WNW of Loedebest. There are five pointed slabs in the centre, which measure 0.7 m high.  SM5191 comprises a cairn with a cist in the centre, 5 m in diameter and 0.6 m in height, located 500 m SSE of Loedebest. The cist in the centre is formed by three stone slabs and measures 0.9 m E-W by 0.4 m wide and 0.2 m deep.	

	<p>SM5254 comprises three prehistoric hut circles, along with evidence for associated cultivation, 1.4 km WSW of Loedebest. The largest of these hut circles measure 9.5 m in diameter, 2 m in width and 0.5 m in height. The remains of a post medieval enclosure are also present.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement and ritual sites within the region, the interplay between the two, and their potential continued occupation into the post-medieval period. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets can be defined by their relative locations along the river valley of Dunbeath Water and their relationship to it and each other. The majority of assets are located on the bottom of the river valley, however assets SM5254 and SM443 are slightly set back, located on a sloping moorland. Key views from these assets would include views to and from each other, along with views over, up and down the river valley, and where relevant their entry axial alignments. The wider landscape of both these assets is comprised of a rural, hilly upland landscape, with a number of other prehistoric assets located to the north-west and south-east. Little modern infrastructure is present, with the exception of private access roads.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the primary cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to a major degree to the understanding of these assets, and the cultural significance of the asset, with a medium/high sensitivity to changes in setting. The assets remain part of a contiguous and connected multi-occupation landscape focused on the river valley and the surrounding areas, which have seen repeat usage over time.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.180m to the south-east of these assets. This brings transmission infrastructure far closer and more prominent in relation to partitioning the connective landscape along Dunbeath Water valley, than the existing OHL c.1.6 km further southeast, and is positioned prominently running E-W through a dense archaeological area.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces transmission infrastructure within the asset's settings and into key views looking from the north to the south along Dunbeath Water. The introduction of this development will be introducing new modern transmission infrastructure in an area where there appears to be little beyond the existing OHL c.1.6 km southeast and therefore will be altering the baseline condition of the assets setting, by acting to disrupt and erode the connective nature of the valley landscape.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered medium. As a result of the erosion of the landscape character and disruption of key views within the extensive connected prehistoric settlement landscape, the ability to appreciate and experience the setting can be seen to be modestly impacted. Thus, the Proposed Development would result in a Medium magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Major effect overall.</p> <p>SM5254, however, is notably set back from the group and primarily connects to the upper valley area, and thus, is likely to result in a lower level of impact. The prominence of the Proposed Development is lessened, and while the landscape character is eroded, it has less of an impact upon the ability to experience and appreciate the asset's setting. Therefore, a Low impact is anticipated.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p>

	<p>Given the siting and connections to the upper river valley primarily, SM5254 appears less impacted than the rest of the group, likely resulting in a Minor adverse effect. This is to be considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>
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#### Moderate Projected Effect

Balcraggie Lodge		
SM5230 settlement 700 m N of Balcraggie Lodge SM5150 settlements 1100 m NNE of Achorn Bridge		2 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-15	Plates: 3DVP-45—296, 270, 271, 272, 273 and 274 3DVP-47—280, 281, 282, 283, and 284	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 0</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM5230 comprises a small post medieval settlement located on a low terrace on the banks of the Dunbeath Water. The settlement consists of two long buildings, a kiln house with enclosure, rigs and a clearance cairn. The fireplace and chimney in the gable end of one of the buildings may suggest a late abandonment of the site. This settlement is not marked on Roy's map of 1747-52 but may be 'Clashraven' of a 1789 sasine.</p> <p>The settlement is surrounded by field systems associated with post medieval and modern farms. There may be contemporary links between this settlement and nearby Lodebest settlement (SM5152) to the northwest.</p> <p>SM5150 comprises a prehistoric settlement and a post-medieval settlement located either side of the Allt Clais Raoin, 1.1 km NNE of Achorn Bridge. The prehistoric settlement consists of four cairns, the largest of which measures 4 m by 3 m and 1 m high, and two potential hut circles. The post-medieval settlement includes a kiln barn and two rectangular buildings. A number of stone dykes are located between the two settlements.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, the designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>The cultural significance primarily derives from the archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of post medieval settlement sites within the region. Especially when investigating the highland clearances. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of SM5152 can be defined by its location on the banks of the Dunbeath Water, its relation to the valley and connective views to assets within the prehistoric occupation and activity, along it. SM5152 is located on the bottom of the river valley with key views northwest and southeast toward contemporary settlements and the coast, as well as wider views over, up and down the river. Similarly, SM5150 is roughly opposite, to the NW, and occupies the area at the top of the valley edge.</p> <p>The wider landscape is comprised of a rural, hilly upland landscape, with contemporary settlements located to the northwest on both sides of the river. Little modern infrastructure is present, with the exception of private access roads.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monuments is their archaeological value, setting can be considered to contribute to the to the cultural significance to a moderate degree and has a medium sensitivity to change. This is because of their siting within the landscape and links to nearby assets and natural features and retained key views and visibility between other assets and the river valley.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of prominent transmission infrastructure, which would oversail the northwestern edge of SM5152's scheduled monument area as well as introducing towers on either side of the valley at a distance c.150 m.</p>	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would be substantively dominant over SM5152, in close proximity to SM5150, and present in key views looking up and down Dunbeath Water, noticeably altering the nature of the landscape setting.</p> <p>Views between the assets and to the connected nature of the river valley are notable contributors to their cultural significance, the erosion of which, as a result of spanning the valley and prominent placement of the Proposed Development, does not materially remove those connections, but substantively alters the experience and context of the area, intruding</p>	

	<p>upon the appreciation of the setting. This relationship to the river valley and associated assets contributes notably to the sensitivity of the assets.</p> <p>It is therefore considered that the above-described changes to setting amount to a medium magnitude of impact to the cultural significance of the asset, resulting in a moderate effect.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate adverse effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

<b>Dunbeath Water: South</b>		
SM3521 four hut circles 300 m SSE of Balcraggie Lodge SM511 broch 200 m NW of Achorn SM512 prehistoric and post medieval settlement 400 m ENE of Achorn Bridge SM522 broch 135 m WNW of Balantrath		4 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b> High		
Figure: CHVP-16, CHVP-17, CHVP-18	Plates: 3DVP-53—312, 313, 314, 315 and 316 3DVP-51—302, 303, 304, 305, 306 and 307 3DVP-50—296, 297, 298, 299, 300 and 301 3DVP-49—290, 291, 292, 293, 294 and 295	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 53 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Moderate
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM3521 comprises the remains of four hut circles, located 300 m SSE of Balcraggie Lodge.</p> <p>SM511 comprises a broch, consisting of a large mound of earth and stone, 30 m N-S by 27 m E-W and 3.5 m in height, located 200 m NW of Achorn.</p> <p>SM512 comprises a prehistoric settlement overlain by a post-medieval settlement, located 400 m ENE of Achorn Bridge. The prehistoric settlement includes four hut circles from 10-12 m in diameter, and an oblong structure. The post-medieval settlement is located to the west of the prehistoric settlement, and comprises a long house, 36 m by 5 m, with five rooms, believed to have had several phases of occupation. A later house is present on top of the long house, 15 m by 5 m, with two rooms.</p> <p>SM522 comprises a broch, consisting of a large mound of earth and stone, 23 m by NW-SE by 15 m NE-SW and 3 m high, located 135 m WNW of Balantrath. Two rectangular structures and traces of a ditch are evident.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement and defensive sites within the region, and the interplay between the two. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets can be defined by their relative locations within the river valley of Dunbeath water. SM522 is located on a rocky outcrop, whilst SM512 is located on the flank of a rise on the south edge of the gorge of Anchor Burn. The other two assets are located in fields which slope down north towards the Achorn Burn. Key views from SM511 and SM512 will include views to and from each other, along with views across and up and down the Achorn Burn. Key views for</p>	

	<p>SM3521 and SM522 include views to and from each other, along with views across and up and down the Dunbeath Water.</p> <p>The wider landscape for these assets is comprised of a rural, hilly landscape with small settlements and infrastructure scattered within it. A number of dwellings are located nearby, including Achorn House, c.127 m south-east from SM511, whilst other dwellings and buildings are scattered down Achorn Road, to the south-east. The modern road of Achorn road is located immediately to the south of SM3521, and modern OHL towers are located alongside this road. Other prehistoric assets are also scattered within the wider landscape.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to a moderate degree to the cultural significance of SM511 and SM522, with a lessened contribution is attributed to SM3521 and SM512. The assets remain part of a contiguous and connected multi-occupation landscape focused on the river valley and the surrounding areas, which have seen repeat usage over time.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.53 m to the north and west of these assets, with an existing OHL located c.1.1 km southeast.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces transmission infrastructure into the immediate vicinity of the assets' setting and will be within the key views looking north from SM511 from SM512 and will be visible in the background of this view. Although, towers are not placed to directly backdrop SM511 from SM512 when viewed from SM522.</p> <p>The Proposed Development will be prominent within the landscape and key views looking north up the river from SM3521 and SM522. The introduction of this development will be introducing new, near proximity, modern infrastructure in an area where there is little present, and therefore will be altering the baseline of the assets setting, wider landscape character and erode the wider landscape connectivity. Therefore, the ability to appreciate and experience the assets will undergo a modest degradation, while not materially altering the ability to understand them.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered low/medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Medium magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Moderate effect overall.</p> <p>SM3521 and SM512, however, has a lesser setting contribution and less prominent key views, and thus, is likely to result in a Low magnitude of impact. The prominence of the Proposed Development remains, and while the landscape character is eroded, it has less of an impact upon the ability to experience and appreciate the assets' setting. Therefore, a Low impact is anticipated.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The settlement areas of SM3251 and SM512, appear less impacted than the brochs in the group, likely resulting in a Minor adverse effect. This is to be considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Loch Stemster / Loch Rangag		
SM419 chambered cairn 755 m SW of, Loch Stemster, Achkinloch SM420 stone setting SW of, Loch Stemster, Achkinloch SM555 broch, Greysteil Castle, Loch Rangag		3 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-01	Plates: 3DVP-19—116, 117, 118, 119 and 120 3DVP-18—110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115 and 115-1 3DVP-20—121, 122, 123, 124, 125 and 126	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 373 m E/W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM419, chambered cairn comprises the remains of an Orkney-Cromarty type chambered cairn, circa 755 m SW of Loch Stemster. Comprising stone and turf, and dated to the Neolithic period, the cairn is located on a small knoll overlooking Loch Stemster. It is 24 m in diameter and 1.7 m high. Three large edge set slabs near the centre of the cairn likely represent the remains of multiple chambers leading off the main east-west aligned chamber. SM419 has a potential relationship with SM420.</p> <p>SM420 stone setting is a horse-shoe shaped group of stones to the SW of Loch Stemster. The setting measures 225ft in length by 100ft in width, and dates to the Neolithic period. There are believed to have originally been circa 60 stones within this setting, but a third of these have been removed. The stones are an average height of 1.5 m and are set apart by an average of 2.4 m. Their broad faces face towards each other. SM420 has a potential relationship with SM419.</p> <p>SM555 broch, Greysteil Castle, Loch Rangag comprises the remains of a partially excavated Iron Age broch, located on an artificial peninsula on the east side of Loch Rangag. It is visible as a turf covered mound, measuring 20 m in diameter and 4 m in height.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric ritual and defensive sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM419 and SM420 are located within an area of upland moor a minimum of c.167 m south of Loch Stemster. A modern access track passes to the west of SM420, and a small watercourse passes to the east. Views are possible from these assets towards the loch and between one another, thought views to the west (including towards SM555), are curtailed by an intervening ridge.</p> <p>The following aspects of the setting of SM419 and SM420 contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loch Stemster and its associated watercourses, which would have influenced the asset's siting and provided a key resource base;</li> <li>the upland topography, which may have been strategic, offering a level of protection as well as enabling views across the Loch, approaches to the monument site, and its watercourses;</li> <li>view west along the axial alignment of the cairn (SM419); and</li> <li>view NNE (along SM420) to ridgeline as potential edge of the 'framed' basin on western side of the loch.</li> </ul> <p>SM555 is located on the shore of the Loch Rangag, with the A9 passing 110 m to the east. Views are possible to the north, south and west over the loch, but are curtailed to the east (including towards SM419 and SM420) by an intervening ridge.</p> <p>The following aspects of the setting of SM555 contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loch Rangag, which would have influenced the asset's siting and provided a key resource base; and</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the upland topography, which may have been strategic, offering a level of protection as well as enabling views across the Loch.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of the asset does make a contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of this asset remains its archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.373 m from these assets.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern transmission infrastructure into views towards and from the assets. However, the Proposed Development will only be visible to the west of these assets, leaving views in all other directions unaltered. In addition, the Proposed Development will not detract from the views/intervisibility between SM419 and SM420, or the views from those assets over the Loch, maintaining the legibility of those associations. The assets' setting is already partly characterised by modern infrastructure, and the ridge the assets surmount will serve to reduce the prominence of the Proposed Development within the landscape. The Proposed Development would not materially alter the ability to understand the assets, however the ability to appreciate and experience SM419 and SM420 is slightly diminished.</p> <p>In specific relation to SM555, the greater proximity of the development and its addition to the existing overhead wirelines in outward views would heighten the presence of modern infrastructure within the asset's setting to some extent. The proposed Development would also be apparent in inward views towards the broch over the loch. Again, the assets' setting is already partly characterised by modern infrastructure, and outward views from the asset over the loch would not be affected. The Proposed Development would not alter the ability to understand or appreciate SM555, and it would have a slight effect on the experience of it in certain views.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, setting can be considered to contribute to the to the cultural significance to a moderate degree, with their sensitivity to change is considered high. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon SM420 resulting in a Moderate effect, while for SM419, and SM555, the impact would be lessened resulting in a Minor effect.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon SM420 would be considered Significant, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>However, given the primary focus to the west and siting on the Lochside (SM555) and the eroded, but unobstructed, axial alignment to the west of Loch Stemster (SM419), a Minor effect should be considered on the lower-end of moderate. Therefore, this is to be considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Allt Cille Pheadair part 3		
SM290 hut circles & chambered cairns 700 m E of Kilphedir SM1870 broch 540 m ENE of, Kilphedir, Helmsdale SM1884 souterrain 40 m SW of Salscraggie Lodge SM2809 hut circles & field system 150m-600 m E of Kilphedir SM2814 hut circle 740 m ESE of Kilphedir		5 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-102—547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556 and 557 3DVP-104—560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572 and 573 3DVP-108—595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602 and 603 3VP-109—604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609 and 610	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.4 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Moderate
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM290 hut circles &amp; chambered cairns 700 m E of Kilphedir consists of hut circles and chambered cairns.</p> <p>SM1870 broch 540 m ENE of, Kilphedir, Helmsdale consists of a broch with outer defensive ditch. The internal walls survive to a height of c.1 m with an entrance in the NW of the asset, and windows or a second asset to the SE.</p> <p>SM1884 souterrain 40 m SW of Salscraggie Lodge consists of a souterrain infilled many years ago with masonry surviving underground. The subterranean passage is 6.7 m long, 1 m wide, and 1.4 m high. It is accessed by 6 steps down. Inside the souterrain was found a human arm bone and the remains of 3 querns. The scheduled area is 40 m in diameter and includes the souterrain, a possible hut circle, and an area around which traces of activities associated with the construction and use of the souterrain may survive.</p> <p>SM2809 hut circles &amp; field system 150 m-600 m E of Kilphedir consists of hut circles and a field system.</p> <p>SM2814 hut circle 740 m ESE of Kilphedir consists of a hut circle.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The five Scheduled Monuments are part of a wider Allt Cille Pheadair grouping. These monuments contribute to the prehistoric valley landscape that follows the Allt Cille Pheadair. SM290, SM1870, SM1884, SM2809, and SM2814 are in the lower part of the valley overlooking the confluence with the River Helmsdale This is a slightly different setting to the rest of those within the wider group.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these five monuments is primarily derived from their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains and materiality, which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. The significance of the monuments is enhanced by their setting and association with the wider landscape of later prehistoric settlement, including parts one and two of the Allt Cille Pheadair grouping, as well as view east and west down the river valley. There are above-ground remains present for SM1884. Without a field survey it is unknown whether some form of physical remains present at the other four assets, but there is nevertheless the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present at all assets.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their siting on a hillside moorland overlooking the confluence of the river tributary between the River Helmsdale and Allt Cille Pheadair. Uphill to the north stand the remaining eight monuments that form part one and two of this group. Together, these assets comprise the prehistoric landscape of the tributary valley. While this asset grouping also acts as the primary accessible settlement site in the river valley, the visible and controlling node as the river turns west from the SE approach. The setting is rural with some scattered settlement and pastoral fields. The A897 and existing overhead lines disrupt the relationship that the prehistoric landscape has with the River Helmsdale, and modern wood and wire fencing partitions the prehistoric landscape into fields (although the visual relationship between all the assets remains). The immediate setting of the five assets nearby water sources and within a wider prehistoric landscape contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture and land use, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements had with each other. The placement of the five assets within a wider prehistoric occupation within a nodal riverine network extending north into the upland hinterlands, and east to the Caen Burn occupation, means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to a major (broch and cairn) and moderate (settlements) degree to their significance as they are indicative of the riverine exploitation and settlement activity of coastal occupation in the period, with the setting allowing an explanation for their purpose and use, alongside the connectivity of valley settlements.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure into the views south and east across and along the valley from the assets.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the five assets of SM290, SM1870, SM1884, SM2809, and SM2814 will have a Slight impact from the introduction of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development will be visible when looking east towards the Caen Burn and bend of the River Helmsdale and may have glimpsed views south from the assets and introduce modern infrastructure to the viewshed. This will have a slight impact on key views along the river valley to the east. However, the immediate setting of the assets will not be impacted. The relationship to other assets in the immediate prehistoric landscape will not be disrupted, however, the Proposed Development crossing at the Caen Burn will be disrupted.</p> <p>Although the Proposed Development may be visible, it will not impact the immediate setting of the assets but may disrupt their relationship with the wider prehistoric valley landscape. This grouping is comprised of high cultural significance assets, with a moderate/high sensitivity to changes in setting. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low, given the slight effect the Proposed Development is likely to have on the ability to appreciate and experience the assets.</p> <p>Noting the above-described Low magnitude of impact, the resultant effect for SM1870 is therefore assessed to be Moderate, while the lessened impact means the rest of the group will be subject to a Minor effect.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon SM1870 would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>However, the rest of the group (SM290, SM2809, SM2814 and SM1884) is considered to derive the majority of their setting value from the association with the burn and interconnectedness, distinct from the long-range views of the broch. Therefore, the reported Minor effect should be considered <b>Not Significant</b> for these assets, within the context of EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Bridge of Badnagie		
SM425 chambered cairn 610 m NNW of Bridge of Badnagie SM5089 broch 180 m NE of Greentulloch SM5186 settlement 400 m NW of Bridge of Badnagie SM5304 standing stone 600 m N of Bridge of Badnagie		4 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-10, CHVP-11, CHVP-12	Plates: 3DVP-37—221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226 and 227 3DVP-38—228, 229, 230 and 231 3DVP-41—244, 245, 246, 247, 248 and 249 3DVP-36—215, 216, 217, 218, 219 and 220	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 458 m SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Moderate
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM425 chambered cairn 610 m NNW of Bridge of Badnagie consists of the remains of a Neolithic or Bronze Age chambered cairn which include traces of a round cairn and seven upright stones which indicate the plan of internal chambers. The scheduled are measures 45 m in diameter, to	

	<p>include the chambered cairn and an area around in which traces of activities associated with its construction and use will survive.</p> <p>SM5089 broch 180 m NE of Greentulloch comprises of a broch incorporated into a mound. The broch is estimated to be about 17 m in diameter. The mound is about 23 m in diameter and 1.5 m high. The scheduled area measures 65 m SW-NE by 50 m SE-NW, to include the broch, the outer mound and an area around in which traces of activities associated with the building and occupation of the broch may survive. It excludes the roofless long house to the SE.</p> <p>SM5186 settlement 400 m NW of Bridge of Badnagie consist of a prehistoric settlement consisting of a number of hut circles on a natural shelf above the east bank of the Burn of Houstry. There may also be a well-preserved souterrain. The scheduled area measures 170 m NW-SE by 45 m NE-SW, to include the hut circles, enclosure and an area around in which traces of activities associated with the construction and use of the hut circles may survive.</p> <p>SM5304 standing stone 600 m N of Bridge of Badnagie consists of a prehistoric standing stone. The stone is 1.6 m high, 1.5 m wide, and 0.6 m thick and has packing stones at its base. The scheduled area is 20 m in diameter including the standing stone and an area around in which traces of activities associated with its erection may survive.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>All four of these Scheduled Monuments are located on the grassy planes leading down to the Burn of Houstry in the west. Their proximity means that they likely had some form of relationship when in use and intervisibility between the assets is important. They are part of the wider prehistoric landscape along the valley, with a possible connection to the assets located north along the burn and occupation to the west.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these four monuments is derived from their setting, as well as their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric settlement, farming practices, and domestic life, as well as prehistoric ritual beliefs. The sites all have a degree of intact physical remains present, along with the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.</p> <p>Prominence and potential co-location of features of later periods and associations with assets to the north and west contextualise the setting within the wider landscape.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their relative locations on a grassy plane shallowly sloping towards the Burn of Houstry in the west. The plane is a patchwork of pastoral grazing land and moorland. A single-track road bisects the group from north to south. The village of Badnagie is approximately 300 m to the south of the group. There is a wide viewshed across the plane from all assets.</p> <p>SM5186 and SM425 are situated on the eastern bank of the Burn of Houstry. The proximity to this water source may contribute to the understanding of the relationship that the living and the dead had with water in the prehistoric period. This could illuminate prehistoric domestic and agricultural life, as well as prehistoric mortuary beliefs.</p> <p>SM5304 and SM5089 are situated uphill from SM5186 and SM425, perhaps suggesting that the broch and standing stone have an authoritative spatial relationship with SM5186 and SM425. This setting may contribute to understanding as it can aid understanding into prehistoric use of space.</p> <p>Intervisibility between the assets within the group as well as north beyond to mortuary and broch monuments along the Burn of Houstry, as well as west over Dunbeath Water should be considered key views, with regards to the association of a multi-phase presence during the development of a prehistoric occupation and mortuary landscape took place.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure, enclosing ¾ of the asset grouping with the existing OHL infrastructure from the north (c.458 m) and interrupting intra-connective views.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the four assets: SM425, SM5089, SM5186, and SM5304 will be impacted by the introduction of the further transmission infrastructure, a notable increase, further changing to the landscape character. The Proposed Development will be visible from the west to the north of these assets introducing modern infrastructure to the setting and disrupting the potential connectivity of monuments to the north while remaining prominent in views west. However, the immediate setting will remain mostly intact.</p> <p>This is because the Proposed Development will further introduce modern infrastructure to the wider connected landscape, enclosing three of the assets between the existing OHL that currently divides the grouping in the south and the Proposed Development, disrupting the appreciation and experience of the immediate setting and the potential visual connections to the north and west.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute some (SM5186) and to a moderate degree (SM425, SM5089, and SM5304) to their significance, with a medium/high sensitivity to change. The setting potentially extends the understanding and development of prehistoric domestic and agricultural life, land use,</p>

	<p>and mortuary beliefs, as well as the co-location of subsequent period features. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low, given the ability to experience and appreciate the relationships would suffer a slight impact.</p> <p>Noting the above-described Low magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore also assessed to be Moderate. However, the impact is lesser for SM5186 and is assessed as Minor.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The identified Minor effect upon the SM5186 would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

<b>Lothburn Prehistoric Assets</b>		
SM13627 prehistoric settlement, Carn nan Uaigh SM1775 two standing stones, Carradh nan Clach SM1778 standing stone, Clach Mhic Mhios, Glen Loth 4000 m N of Lothbeg Bridge		3 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-32	Plates: 3DVP-117 – 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, and 656 3DVP-118 – 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, and 663 3DVP-119 – 664, 665, 666, 667, and 668	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 194 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Moderate
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM13627 prehistoric settlement, Carn nan Uaigh comprises the upstanding remains of a historic settlement, possibly Early Medieval in date. It consists of two aisled buildings (wags) set 10m apart, each defined by low turf banks and with pairs of edge-set slabs in their interiors.</p> <p>SM1775 two standing stones, Carradh nan Clach comprises two NNE-SSW facing standing stones, located on top of a bank above the confluence of two burns. The stones are set 6.4 m apart, the most easterly measuring 1.2 m high by 0.9 m wide, the westerly measuring 1.2 m high by 0.3 m wide.</p> <p>SM1778 standing stone, Clach Mhic Mhios, comprises a standing stone, 11 inches high and 4 inches wide at its broadest. It is made of red sandstone and faces ESW and WNW.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric settlement and ritual sites within the region, and the interplay between the two. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>These assets are all located within Glen Loth, the narrow valley of the Loth Burn, defined to the west by the peaks of Druim Dearg and Beinn Dhorain, and to the east by those of Creag Riasgain and Beinn Mhealaich, all characterised by upland moor and forestry plantation. The road from Lothbeg to Kildonan broadly follows the course of the burn, to the west. SM1775, the most southerly of the assets, is located on top of a low hill, overlooking the confluence of the Sletdale Burn and Loth Burn, with a small road bridge to the east.</p> <p>The following aspects of the setting of these assets contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the location of the assets within Glen Loth (Highland Special Landscape Area: 09. Loch Fleet, Loch Brora and Glen Loth);</li> <li>the solstitial and celestial alignment in association with the ridgelines to the south;</li> <li>the Loth Burn and its associated valley, which influenced the siting of all of these assets (as much by topographic constraint as by design in this region), and provided the key resource base for local communities;</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the confluence of Sletdale Burn and Loth Burn, probably influenced the siting of SM1775 specifically, perhaps reflecting an association with water and veneration of natural place; and</li> <li>the Loth Burn tributary to the immediate north of SM1778 specifically, perhaps also reflecting an association with water.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of these assets does make a major contribution to their cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience them. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, although elevated to major for SM1778, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of these assets remains their archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.194 m to the west of these assets.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern transmission infrastructure into views towards and from the assets, bringing substantive infrastructure into Glen Loth, and in close proximity to the assets, materially altering the landscape character and ability to experience and appreciate the asset in context. However, the Proposed Development would not alter the ability to understand the assets, rather have a notable effect on the experience of them in certain views as well as within the valley as a whole.</p> <p>Design input has removed the cresting of infrastructure above ridgelines at key locations when viewed from Clach Mhic Mhios, south, to ensure the maintenance of solstitial and celestial attributions. The respect of the ridgeline appears to be the dominant contribution of setting, which will be maintained. Although the above described potential for material landscape character change resulting from the introduction of large-scale transmission infrastructure to Glen Loth, can be seen to substantively affect the ability to experience the asset in context, in parallel with a modest/moderate impact to the ability to appreciate the asset.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, with their sensitivity to change considered medium/high. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Medium impact for SM 1778, and Low magnitude of impact upon SM1775 and SM13627.</p> <p>The reported impact is reflective of the materiality of the assets and key views suffering marginal effects, while the landscape character of Glen Loth, and thus the wider setting and ability to appreciate and experience the assets in context, is substantively altered.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Langwell Water		
SM13631 hut circle complex 250 m NW of Langwell Tulloch broch, Tural Rock SM3440 broch, Tulloch Tural, 500 m WNW of Tural Rock, Langwell SM3441 broch, Langwell Tulloch, 400 m SE of Tural Rock SM524 broch, Borgue Langwell, outworks and later settlement, Berriedale SM525 homestead 150 m NW of broch, Borgue Langwell, Berriedale		5 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations Summary:		
Figure: CHVP-22, CHVP-23, CHVP-24, CHVP-26	Plates: 3DVP-80 – 439, 440, 441, 442, and 443 3DVP-085 – 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, and 456 3DVP-087 – 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, and 467 3DVP-089 – 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, and 478 3DVP-090 – 479, 480, 481, 482, and 483	Distance from Proposed Development: 61 m E/W
Cultural Significance: High	Magnitude of Impact: Low	Projected Effect: Moderate
Summary of Asset	SM13631 hut circle complex 250 m NW of Langwell Tulloch broch, Tural Rock, comprises three conjoined roundhouses/hut circles, located 250 m NW of Langwell Tulloch broch. All are circular and survive as low stone and turf walls up to 3 m wide and 1.5 m high.  SM3440 Broch, Tulloch Tural comprises a broch, 2 m high by 14 m wide, with a ditch and bank on the eastern side, located 500 m WNW of Tural Rock, Langwell.	



	<p>SM3441 Broch, Langwell Tulloch comprises the remains of a broch, 28 m by 32 m, with the outer wall visible on the southern side, located 400 m SE of Tural Rock.</p> <p>SM524 broch, Borgue Langwell, comprises the remains of a broch, measuring 17 m across, as well as the remains of associated outer structures and the foundations of post-medieval buildings.</p> <p>SM525 homestead 150 m NW of broch, Borgue Langwell, Berriedale comprises a circular enclosure, 9 m across and 2 m wide, along with a curving oblong structure (wag) measuring 15 m by 4 m internally, located 150 m NW of Borgue Langwell Broch.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance. Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement and defensive sites within the region, and the interplay between the two. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets can be defined by their relative locations within the river valley of Langwell Water. The closest asset in this group to the river is SM3441 and is located 35 m to the north-east. Key views were most likely contracted up and down the river valley,</p> <p>The wider landscape for both these assets is comprised of a rural, hilly landscape with small settlements and infrastructure scattered within it. Modern OHL towers, wirelines and the A9 road are present to the south, with Langwell House located c. 1.5 km to the east, and the small settlement of Berriedale located c. 2 km to the east.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to a moderate degree to the understanding of these assets, given the focus of settlement and monumentalism around the Langwell Water valley.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.61 m to the west and east of these assets, on the north and south side of the existing OHL.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces additional transmission infrastructure, which will be within the asset's settings and key views. Whilst there is an existing OHL already within these assets setting, this development will be located between the assets, with the assets of SM3441, SM524, SM525, SM13631 located to the south-east of the OHL, and the assets of SM3440 and SM423 located to the north-west. This development will therefore be present in views from the assets of SM3441, SM524, SM525, SM13631 towards the assets of SM3440 and SM423, as well as associated non-designated settlement areas. An increase in the infrastructure and further disruption of the connective landscape along Langwell Water, will result in a further change in setting that continues to erode the ability to appreciate and experience the assets in context.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, and their sensitivity to changes in setting is considered medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Moderate effect overall. The additional infrastructure serves to crowd the valley crossing, and while the connections are largely maintained, the proximity of the Proposed Development compromises the immediate setting.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Langwell Water – Chambered Cairn		
SM423 chambered cairn 570 m E of, Langwell, Cnoc Bad Asgaraidh		1 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-25	Plates: 3DVP-88 – 468, 469, 470, 471, and 472	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 292 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM423 chambered cairn 570 m E of, Langwell, Cnoc Bad Asgaraidh comprises a chambered cairn, 16 m E-W by 12 m N-S, with the chamber exposed at the eastern end, located 570 m E of Langwell.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a Scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance. Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric mortuary sites within the region, and the interplay with nearby sites. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>The setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of SM423 can be defined by the relative location along the river valley upland of Langwell Water and the key view east along the water to the inlet confluence. Further key views were most likely contracted up and down the river valley and across to Berriedale Water valley,</p> <p>The wider landscape for this asset is comprised of a rural, hilly landscape with small settlements and infrastructure scattered within it. Modern OHL towers, wirelines and the A9 road are present to the south, with Langwell House located c. 1.5 km to the east, and the small settlement of Berriedale located c. 2 km to the east.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of this monument is the archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to a major degree to the understanding, demonstrating the connection and constructs of prominence for mortuary monumentality.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.292 m to the east of these assets, on the north side of the existing OHL.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces additional transmission infrastructure, will be within the asset's settings and key views, eroding the eastward view along Langwell water with prominent cabling present, and tower infrastructure running further north, isolating the asset and the connection to the nearby sites. Whilst there is an existing OHL already within this setting, an increase in the infrastructure further disrupts the connective landscape and key view along Langwell Water and extends the erosion of the ability to appreciate and experience the asset.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, with the sensitivity to change considered low/medium, primarily focused on the eastwards view along Langwell Water. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Moderate effect overall.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and</p>	

	experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.
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Upper Borgue		
SM424 chambered cairn 550 m SW of Clais-Cairn SM502 standing stone 410 m SSE of Upper Borgue SM596 broch, Upper Borgue		3 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-19	Plates: 3DVP-064 – 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, and 340 3DVP-065 – 341, 342, 342, 344, and 345 3DVP-066 – 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, and 353 3DVP-067 – 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, and 359 3DVP-068 – 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, and 366	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 322 m W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Moderate
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM424 chambered cairn 550 m SW of Clais-Cairn comprises a low stone chambered cairn. Traces of a chamber are evident in the centre, alongside thin horizontal slabs, and there is also the potential for portal stones to be present. The cairn measures 17.5 m N-S by 15 m E-W, and the north side survives to a maximum height of 1.6 m.</p> <p>SM502 standing stone 410 m SSE of Upper Borgue comprises a tall standing stone, 3.8 m high, 1.7 m broad, 1 m wide and 0.5 m thick. It faces E by S and W by N.</p> <p>SM596 broch, Upper Borgue a large mound with an accompanying outer wall. The mound measures 25 m by 26 m and is 4.5 m high. A broad bank is believed to have been a defensive wall, located 6.4 m from the base of the mound. The remains of two potential associated buildings are located between the broch and the wall.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric ritual and defensive sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of SM502 can be defined by its relative location on the top of the moor at Borgue, whilst SM596's setting can be defined by their relative location at the top of a natural hillock. Both assets occupy a prominent position within the landscape, and most likely have key views to and from each other, along with views to SM424. Further, they both appear to relate as either a navigation node, or defensive location, relating to the movement and pathing of people along the coastal route. SM502 is considered to relate to two non-designated standing stones (MHG32405 and 13502), known as 'the shepherd and his dogs'.</p> <p>The setting of SM424 can be defined by its location on a slope facing east, next to the small watercourse of Alt na Buaidhe. Key views are to the south, towards the sea, and to the west towards SM502 and SM596.</p> <p>The wider area for both these assets is comprised of a rural landscape with small modern buildings and infrastructure scattered within it. Modern OHL towers, wirelines and the A9 road are present to the south, whilst the north is comprised of open moorland.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to a major degree to the understanding of these assets, with a medium/high sensitivity to change.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.322m to the east of these assets.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The introduction of the Proposed Development prominently positions transmission infrastructure closer to the assets, intruding upon the asset's setting and within key views to and from asset SM424 and between 'the shepherd and his dogs', further splitting the perceived catchment/basin. Views from SM502 to and from SM596 will remain uninterrupted, but with the proposed development backdropping and in proximity, although design input has avoided any sightline interruption, the ability to appreciate and experience the assets will be slightly diminished.	

	As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered medium/high. For the aforementioned reasons, and the nature of the change introduced by the Proposed Development, would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Moderate effect overall.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effects upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

#### Minor Projected Effect

Bridge of Rhemullen		
SM574 broch 450 m NW of Bridge of Rhemullen SM5088 broch 180 m SW of Bridge of Rhemullen SM546 broch, Dunbeath		3 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-046—275, 276, 277, 278 and 279 3DVP-048—285, 286, 287, 288 and 289 3DVP-052—308, 309, 310 and 311	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 824 m S
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM574 Bridge of Rhemullen, broch 450 m NW of consists of a broch with a closely associated settlement. The remains include a level-topped mound 19 m in diameter and 1.3 m high. The broch is in the centre of a larger mound 49 m NW-SE by 41 m NE-SW that seems to have faint traces of a settlement upon it. The remains of a post medieval house are included in the schedule to provide protection.</p> <p>SM5088 Bridge of Rhemullen, broch 180 m SW of consists of a broch with a closely associated settlement. The remains include a level-topped mound 20 m in diameter and 1.6 m high. The broch is on a larger mound measuring 50 m N-S by 40 m E-W, enclosed by an early modern field wall. On the surface of the larger mound is a number of small circular stone-walled buildings which are indicative of an extensive settlement that originated when the broch was occupied but probably continued long after the broch's abandonment.</p> <p>SM546 Dun Beath, broch, Dunbeath, a broch site now enclosed in a stone wall enclosure, previously excavated, the remains vary from 1-4 m in height, and c.10 m width.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The three Scheduled Monuments are situated in close proximity along an axial alignment running NNW-SSE and have intervisibility between the three. They are part of the wider prehistoric landscape that extends from the Dunbeath Water and follows the Burn of Houstry and Allt an Learanaich.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these three monuments is derived from their setting, as well as their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric settlement and domestic life. SM5088 is noted by HES to be a particularly well-preserved site and neither the broch nor longer-lasting settlement have been explored. While SM546 is seen to be overgrown with trees and poorly excavated, leading to a poor state of preservation. These assets can aid in the understanding of reuse and association of defensive architecture after its primary use has ceased in Caithness. The sites all have a degree of intact physical remains present, along with the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their relative locations near the Burn of Houstry to the east, Allt an Learanaich to the west, and Dunbeath Water to the south, aligned along the inlet of Dunbeath Water. Between the two northern assets sits a post medieval residential building with associated outbuilding. Immediately south of the grouping there are modern and post medieval farm and residential buildings. These follow the single-track road to the northeast to the centre of the hamlet of Badnagie. There is less modern development to the north. There is a wide viewshed across the plane from all assets, and views of other prehistoric features in the area may contribute to the wider prehistoric landscape in the Burn of Houstry Valley. The overlooking view of the burn can be considered a key view.</p> <p>The axial alignment, oriented to the coastal inlet, should be considered key, along with the expansive vies up and down the coast and narrower focus on the watercourses that surround the assets.</p> <p>Setting should be seen to contribute to a moderate degree to the heritage significance of the asset group, with a medium sensitivity to change, given their connectivity, alignment, defensive and controlling prominence and viewscape for the area.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure into the near view arching to the north from east to west from the Burn of Houstry and Dunbeath Water. Tower locations have been designed to not appear along the axial alignment extending from the asset grouping to the NNW.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the assets SM546, SM574 and SM5088 will result in a change. The Proposed Development will be visible from the west to the north of these assets, introducing modern transmission infrastructure to the northern aspect of the setting and enclosing SM574 and SM5088 between the Proposed Development and existing OHL, as well as interrupting key views of the burn. However, the Proposed Development will not disrupt key views <i>between</i> the three assets, nor will it impact the immediate setting of the assets focussed on the southern expanse of the waterways, which already see and existing OHL dividing SM546 from the group. The Proposed Development also avoids placing a tower along the axial alignment, although the wires will be present.</p> <p>This is because whilst the Proposed Development will introduce modern infrastructure to the sightline to the north, enclose two assets and interrupt key views to the burn, the immediate setting and alignment is not disrupted. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low, with the ability to experience and appreciate the assets suffering only marginal effects.</p> <p>Noting the above-described Low magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore assessed to be Minor.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Settlement, Loedebest		
SM5152 Settlement, Loedebest		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-040—239, 240, 241, 242 and 243	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 202 m SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM5152 comprises a deserted post-medieval settlement with associated arable fields that likely dates to at least the later sixteenth century. The settlement is recorded in charters of 1619 ('Lodubiste') and 1624 and is marked on Roy's map of 1747-1752 as 'Lodbas'. The foundations of multiple buildings including long houses, kiln barns and a number of enclosures remain. The settlement is surrounded by field systems associated with post-medieval and modern farms. The settlement is also located in within an area of high prehistoric archaeology.</p>	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of post medieval settlement sites within the region. Especially when investigating the highland clearances. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset can be defined by its location on the banks of the Dunbeath Water and its relation to it. The asset is located on the bottom of the river valley with key views southwest toward contemporary settlements as well as wider views over, up and down the river.</p> <p>The wider landscape of the asset is comprised of a rural, hilly upland landscape, with contemporary settlements located to the southwest on the opposite bank of the river (SM5189) and to the southeast towards the coast (SM5230). Little modern infrastructure is present, with the exception of private access roads. The nearest dwelling is Achorn House, located c. 988 km to the south.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monument is its archaeological and historic value, setting can be considered to contribute to the understanding of the asset. This is because its siting in the landscape necessitates the connection to contemporary features and the wider river valley, as well as the control of the natural environment, and has retained key views and visibility between associated contemporary assets and the river valley.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of the transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.202 m to the south-east of the assets.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be visible in key views south down the river valley toward the coast and present within interconnected views to contemporary assets.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, with a low sensitivity to change. The Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the asset.</p> <p>This is due to the introduction of modern infrastructure into the valley and within key views southeast to the coast. This would sever visual links with nearby Balcraggie Lodge settlement to the southeast (SM5230). As such, this is anticipated to introduce an adverse impact to the character of the area and adversely impact the setting of the asset, resulting in a slight depreciation of the ability to experience and appreciate the asset.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>



Allt a'Bhurg, broch, Ord of Caithness		
SM515 broch, Allt a'Bhurg, Ord of Caithness		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-103–555, 556, 557, 558, and 559	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 1.8 km S</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM515 comprises a prehistoric broch located at the confluence of two watercourses, close to the coast. The asset is situated in an area of relatively flat coastal land with little modern development nearby.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a scheduled monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance. Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric sites within the region. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	The setting of this asset can be defined by its location on the coast and its relationship to nearby watercourses. The asset is situated in an area of relatively flat ground with expansive views east over the North Sea as well as wider 360 views over the landscape and north along Ousdale Burn. The wider landscape of the asset is comprised of an undisturbed rural, landscape, the only evidence of modern infrastructure being an existing OHL passing to the west, a farm and associated field systems to the north at Ousdale, the A9 which passes to the west and forestry plantation bounding the road. The nearest settlement is Helmsdale, located approximately 5 km to the south. Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of this monument is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of this asset. This is because it has remained in situ, in its original position in the landscape and has retained key 360 views. Asset has an evocative and remote setting and is widely promoted and visited.	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of overhead cabling to the north, west and south of the asset located at a minimum distance of approximately 1.8 km. This would likely be visible in key views north along Ousdale Burn, behind an existing OHL.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The potential alignment would take the new line to the north of the existing OHL where it crosses Ousdale Burn. Although this has potential to introduce a slight cumulative impact to setting, it is situated at such a distance that it is not anticipated that the Proposed Development will significantly intrude upon key views or impact understanding of the asset. The Proposed Development would result in a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact upon the asset.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations. The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.	

Brochs, Knockglass		
SM561 Broch E of Knockglass SM582 Broch 180m E of Spittal Farm		2 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-002—6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 3DVP-006—38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 and 45	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 1 km W</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM561 comprises a conical grass-covered mound 4 m high and containing ruins of a broch. It is 40 m in diameter from E-W by 30 m transversely. It has been broken into for a short distance on NE. SM582 comprises a grassy mound evidently covering the ruins of a probable broch. It is about 30 m in diameter and 2 m high. The top shows a depression about 12 m in diameter and 1.5 m in depth.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As scheduled Monuments, the designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>The cultural significance primarily derives from the archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a contribution to our understanding of Iron Age settlement sites within the region.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of SM561 and SM582 can be defined by their location on the southeastern minor slope gradient towards Loch of Toftingall and the Burn of Acharole to the southeast. SM582 also has strategic views east towards Loch Watten. However, these views have been diminished due to modern changes to the landscape and the degradation of the assets, most notably Spittal Mains Quarry abutting the southern side of SM582.</p> <p>The wider landscape is a relatively flat agricultural landscape with upland far to the west. Although rural, modern infrastructure is present, with the A9 situated west of both assets and Spittal village to the west. A quarry also inhabits the landscape, though whether it can be seen from SM561 is unclear. Approximately 2km south of SM561 is an existing windfarm. This disrupts the views from both assets towards the Burn of Acharole.</p> <p>Other prehistoric assets can be seen from the both sites, positioning themselves within a seemingly connected open settlement and funerary landscape, with surface quarries and river/loch/burn-side exploitation.</p> <p>Modern agricultural and plantation land use, alongside existing energy and transmission infrastructure erode the panoramic open views stills possible for the assets. Although they are both seen to be in a diminished state, as large grass-covered mounds, the ability to understand their place in the connected landscape is largely maintained, while their prominence is significantly reduced.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monuments is their archaeological value, setting can be considered to contribute to the significance of the asset. This is because of their siting within the landscape, open views and association to nearby assets and natural features, and retained views and visibility with other assets.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure further to the east of the existing OHL that runs roughly alongside the east of the A9. This may further erode views to the east.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce additional modern infrastructure to the east disrupting views from SM582 and SM561 towards Lochs Watten and Toftingall, and associated features in the landscape. However, due to the pre-existence of modern infrastructure within that wider viewshed and diminished prominence, this is will likely result in a slight adverse impact overall.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to have a high sensitivity to changes that will affect its cultural heritage significance, and the impact is considered to be Low, resulting in a minor adverse effect.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

<b>Allt Cille Pheadair part 1</b>		
SM2811 hut circles & field system 1260 m NNE of Kilphedir SM2812 hut circle 1260 m NE of Kilphedir SM2841 hut circles & clearance cairns, Allt Cille Pheadair		3 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-094—496, 497, 498, 499 and 500 3DVP-095—501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506 and 507 3DVP-096—508, 509, 510, 511, 512 and 513	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.6 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor

<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2811 hut circles &amp; field system 1260 m NNE of Kilphedir consists of hut circles and a field system.</p> <p>SM2812 hut circle 1260 m NE of Kilphedir consists of a preserved circular earthwork.</p> <p>SM2841 hut circles &amp; clearance cairns, Allt Cille Pheadair consists of hut circles and clearance cairns.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The three Scheduled Monuments are part of a wider Allt Cille Pheadair grouping. These monuments contribute to of the prehistoric valley landscape that follows the Allt Cille Pheadair. SM2811, SM2812, and SM2841 are in the upper section of this valley, the steep slopes and elevated siting providing a slightly different setting to that further south.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these three monuments is derived primarily from their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains and materiality, which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. Although, the significance of the monuments is enhanced by their settings' association with the wider landscape of later prehistoric settlement, including parts two and three of the Allt Cille Pheadair grouping.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location at the top of a hillside moorland that slopes towards the River Helmsdale along the route of the Allt Cille Pheadair that runs perpendicular the river. Further down the slope to the south sit the remaining ten assets that form part of this group. Together, these assets comprise the prehistoric occupation and monumental landscape of the mid-upper valley. The setting is rural with some scattered settlement and pastoral fields. The A897 and existing overhead lines disrupt the relationship that the prehistoric landscape has with the River Helmsdale, and modern wood and wire fencing partitions the prehistoric landscape (although the visual relationship between all the assets remains). The immediate setting of the three assets nearby water sources and within a wider prehistoric landscape contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture and land use, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements had with each other. Their placement within a prehistoric landscape means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to their significance as they maintain as the upland elements of the tributary occupation of the Allt Cille Pheadair, with the setting further elucidating an understanding of their purpose and use.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure into the views south across the valley from the assets.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity and visual accessibility, the setting of the three assets of SM2811, SM2812, and SM2841 will have a Slight impact from the introduction of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development may be visible from the assets at certain points across the valley to the south and introduce modern infrastructure to the viewshed. However, this will have negligible impact to any key views and the distance from the line means that the immediate setting of the assets will not be impacted. The relationship to other assets in the prehistoric landscape will not be disrupted.</p> <p>Although the Proposed Development may be visible, it will not impact the immediate setting of the assets nor disrupt their relationship with the wider prehistoric landscape. As such, the magnitude of change has been assessed as Negligible/Low.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Allt Cille Pheadair part 2		
SM1871 hut circle 800 m NNE of, Kilphedir, Helmsdale SM1872 hut circle and souterrain 450 m NNE of Kilphedir SM2807 hut circles & field system 750 m NNE of Kilphedir SM2808 hut circle 480 m NNE of Kilphedir SM2810 hut circle 830 m NNE of Kilphedir		5 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-27	Plates: 3DVP-097 – 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, and 519 3DVP-098 – 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, and 526 3DVP-099 – 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, and 532 3DVP-100 – 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, and 539 3DVP-101 – 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, and 546	Distance from Proposed Development: 2.5 km NW
Cultural Significance: High	Magnitude of Impact: Negligible / Low	Projected Effect: Minor
Summary of Asset	<p>SM1871 hut circle 800 m NNE of, Kilphedir, Helmsdale consists of a hut circle.</p> <p>SM1872 hut circle and souterrain 450 m NNE of Kilphedir consist of a prehistoric hut circle and earth house/souterrain. The hut circle is set on a terrace above and to the east of the Allt Cille Pheadair. It has walls surviving up to 1.5 m high and measures about 14 m in diameter. The souterrain is about 10 m long and 1 m wide. The above-ground elements of the modern post and wire fence crossing the NW part of the area are excluded from scheduling.</p> <p>SM2807 hut circles &amp; field system 750 m NNE of Kilphedir consists of hut circles and a field system.</p> <p>SM2808 hut circle 480 m NNE of Kilphedir consists of a hut circle.</p> <p>SM2810 hut circle 830 m NNE of Kilphedir consists of a hut circle.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The five Scheduled Monuments are part of a wider Allt Cille Pheadair grouping. These monuments contribute to the prehistoric valley landscape that follows the Allt Cille Pheadair. SM1871, SM1872, SM2807, SM2808, and SM2810 are in the middle section of this valley.</p>	
Summary of Heritage Significance	The heritage significance of these five monuments is primarily derived from their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains and materiality which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. The significance of the monuments is enhanced by their association with the wider landscape of later prehistoric settlement area (the northern upland and southern valley side of the Rive Helmsdale), including parts one and three of the Allt Cille Pheadair grouping. There are above-ground remains present for SM1872.	
Setting Contribution	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location on a hillside moorland that slopes towards the River Helmsdale, this part of the group straddling the Allt Cille Pheadair that runs perpendicular the river. Uphill stand the three monuments that form part one of this group and downhill stand the remaining five monuments that make up part three. Together, these assets comprise the prehistoric landscape of the tributary valley. The setting is rural with some scattered settlement and pastoral fields along the Helmsdale River valley. The A897 and existing overhead lines disrupt the relationship that the prehistoric landscape has with the River Helmsdale, and modern wood and wire fencing partitions the prehistoric landscape into fields (although the visual relationship between all the assets remains). The immediate setting of the five assets nearby water sources and within a wider prehistoric landscape contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture and land use, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements had with each other and the tributary. The placement of the five assets within a prehistoric landscape means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to their significance as they maintain as the mid-level elements of the tributary occupation of the Allt Cille Pheadair, with the setting allowing an explanation for their purpose and use. Therefore, the setting can be seen to contribute to their heritage significance.</p>	
Anticipated Change to Setting	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure into the views south and east across and along the valley from the assets.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The setting of the asset group: SM1871, SM1872, SM2807, SM2808, and SM2810 will have a Slight impact from the introduction of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development may be visible from the assets and introduce modern infrastructure to the viewshed as the topography south of the river allows. However, this will not impact any key views and the distance from the line means that the immediate setting of the assets will not be impacted. The relationship to other assets in the prehistoric landscape will not be disrupted.</p> <p>Although the Proposed Development may be visible, it will not impact the immediate setting of the assets nor disrupt their relationship with the wider prehistoric landscape. As such, the magnitude of change has been assessed as Negligible/Low.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Burg Ruaidh, or Borgue Roy, broch, Berriedale Water		
SM526, broch, Burg Ruaidh, or Borgue Roy, Berriedale Water		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-062 – 325, 326, 327, and 328	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.2 km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM526 broch, Burg Ruaidh, or Borgue Roy, Berriedale Water Stemster consists of the remains of a broch and associated archaeology. The broch stands 3.5 m high and is approximately 16 m internal diameter. Around the broch are traces of other structures, including an outer enclosure wall, field walls, and a tumble-down structure most probably made of stone taken from the broch.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM526 is derived from setting, as well as its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric defensive and domestic structures. A degree of intact physical remains are present at SM526, but there is the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM526 is located at the top of shallow valley that leads into Berriedale Water, sited to view Down the Berriedale Water valley to the southwest and turning inland to the northwest, controlling the space and connecting the occupational presence, while also potentially connecting east to the Dunbeath Water valley zone. The valley around SM526 is heathland and there are few signs of modern infrastructure. The placement of SM526 gives long views southward down the Berriedale Water valley, where the existing OHL is present along the coast. The river would have been a key approach up the valley and a view of this may give some insight into the purpose of SM526 as a broch.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the key views southwest, northwest and east from SM526 may contribute to the understanding of the asset as a defensive and domestic structure.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.1.2 km to the east, on the near side of the existing OHL (c.2.5 km).	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The setting of SM526 has a medium/high sensitivity to changes in setting potentially introduced by the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development is likely to introduce a slight change to setting, by further eroding the wider landscape to the east and south by adding further transmission infrastructure. The Proposed Development draws modern transmission infrastructure nearer in the south and disrupts the view to Dunbeath at the Achorn Burn crossing, but does not disrupt the key connections to the Berriedale Water valley</p> <p>Additionally, the asset's location within undulating topography limits views towards the Proposed Development which is located at a distance in the landscape. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible/Low, with limited affect on the ability to experience or appreciate the asset.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Cor Tulloch, prehistoric settlement		
SM543 prehistoric settlement, Cor Tulloch		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-021—127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132 and 133 3DVP-046—279	Distance from Proposed Development: 1.7 km W
Cultural Significance: High	Magnitude of Impact: Negligible / Low	Projected Effect: Minor
Summary of Asset	SM543 prehistoric settlement, Cor Tulloch consists of a prehistoric settlement which survives as a turf-covered mound of stones that are the remains of three structures, in which traces of activities associated with the construction and occupation of the settlement will survive.	
Summary of Heritage Significance	The heritage significance of SM543 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic life, as noted by HES.	
Setting Contribution	<p>SM543 is located inland along the Burn of Houstry. Approximately 260 m to the south is a second prehistoric asset (SM585) a broch, a defensive structure likely associated and demonstrating the longevity of the site selection. Clear visuals of the wider landscape contribute heritage significance of SM543. On the eastern side of the burn where SM543 sits, the landscape views extend towards the Burn of Latheronwheel and a stone setting; to the south is further extensive prehistoric occupation zone along the Burn of Houstry; to the west is the extensive multi-period occupation of the Dunbeath Water valley. Approximately 230 m to the east is the Boulfruch windfarm. The turbines can be seen clearly from the asset, giving a sense of encroaching, although plantation trees surrounding the turbines partially screen them, as well as ground-level infrastructure. Additionally, the existing OHL is visible to the east/southeast.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, key views east, west and south from SM543 towards the other assets within the prehistoric landscape contribute to the understanding of the asset as a domestic settlement in a wider landscape.</p>	
Anticipated Change to Setting	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.1.7 km to the south, on the near side of the existing OHL.	
Summary of Impact	SM543's setting is considered to contribute some to the cultural heritage significance, with a low/medium sensitivity to changes in setting. Given the existing conditions, the Proposed Development is likely to introduce a moderate change to setting, by further eroding the wider landscape, by adding further transmission infrastructure. The proposed development adds further disruption to the eastern view and closely backdrops known sites south along the Burn of Houstry, crossing the burn closer than existing infrastructure; while to the west the Proposed Development will be prominent in the mid-distance and erode the visual association with known prehistoric sites in the Dunbeath Water valley zone. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible/Low, with no material influence on the ability to experience or appreciate the asset.	
Statement of Effect	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Dunbeath Water: West		
SM600 prehistoric settlement 1300 m NE of Wag Hill SM603 prehistoric settlement 1050 m NNW of Wag Hill		2 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations Summary:		
Figure: CHVP-08, CHVP-09	Plates: 3DVP-034—205, 206, 207, 208 and 209 3DVP-035—210, 211, 212, 213 and 214	Distance from Proposed Development: 2.5 km W
Cultural Significance: High	Magnitude of Impact: Negligible / Low	Projected Effect: Minor
Summary of Asset	SM600 comprises five rectangular houses, six small oval shielings and eight other irregular foundations, located 1.3 km NE of Wag Hill. The buildings vary in size and condition, possibly suggesting a long period of occupation. The settlement may represent a 'cottar town', destroyed during the 18 <sup>th</sup> and 19 <sup>th</sup> century clearances.	



	SM603 comprises the remains of three to four galleried dwellings, along with the remains of an adjoining sheepfold, located 1.05 km NNW of Wag Hill. The dwellings are rectangular in plan, with rounded ends, and the best-preserved measures 7 m long by 1.8 m wide.
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets can be defined by their relative locations next to their respective water courses, within the river valley of the Dunbeath Water. SM603 is located to the south of the Wag Burn, with two hills located to the south-east and south-west; whilst SM600 is located 71 m south of Dunbeath Water. Key views will most likely have included views across, up and down the Dunbeath Water, and towards each other.</p> <p>The wider landscape of both these assets is comprised of a rural, hilly upland landscape, with a number of other prehistoric assets located to the east and south-east. Little modern infrastructure is present, with the exception of private access roads. The nearest dwelling is Achorn House, located c. 3.2 km to the south-east from SM600.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets. This is because they have retained key views and visibility between one another and the river valley.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.2.5 km to the southeast of these assets, on the near side of existing infrastructure (c.1.5 km further south).
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces transmission infrastructure spanning Dunbeath Water c. 2.6 km to the southeast, not within the assets' immediate settlement settings, but rather within their wider landscape, along Dunbeath Water towards the coast. Key views will remain largely uninterrupted, with views Southeast along the Water having closer transmission infrastructure crossing the valley, and the surrounding rural landscape which contributes to the assets setting will be left intact.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, with setting contributing some towards cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered Low. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Lothbeg Bridge, long cairn		
SM1808 long cairn 210 m ESE of Lothbeg Bridge		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-119—664, 665, 666, 667 and 668	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 2.6 km E</b>
<b>Cultural Significance: High</b>	<b>Magnitude of Impact: Negligible / Low</b>	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM1808 comprises a prehistoric funerary monument – a long cairn, situated in an area of relatively flat coastal land near the settlement of Lothbeg. The asset is located adjacent to Loth Burn with key views up and down the river valley and east toward the coast.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric sites within the region. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset can be defined by its location on the coast and its relationship to nearby watercourses. The asset is situated in an area of relatively flat ground with expansive views east over the North Sea as well as wider 360 views over the landscape and north along Loth Burn.</p> <p>The wider landscape of the asset is comprised of an undisturbed rural, landscape, the only evidence of modern infrastructure being the small settlement of Lothbeg, the coastal railway and A9 all located to the south and forestry plantation to the north.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of this monument is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of this asset. This is because it has remained in situ, in its original position in the landscape and has retained key 360 views.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of overhead cabling to the north, west and south of the asset located at a minimum distance of approximately 2.6 km.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Glimpsed views may be visible in key views north along Loth Burn however, this is not anticipated to impact the experience, appreciation or understanding of the asset or intrude upon its rural, coastal context.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would result in a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact upon the assets. The key contributing archaeological value to the assets' cultural significance, the key contributing aspects of setting to the assets' cultural significance, the ability to understand and appreciate the assets, and all key views towards and from it, will be preserved.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Minera		
SM457 standing stone 470 m S of Minera SM568 broch 90 m SSE of Minera SM6015 hut circles 330 m SSE of 370 m ESE of and 270 m E of Minera		3 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-03	Plates: 3DVP-024—145, 146, 147, 148, 149 and 150 3DVP-025—151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156 and 157 3DVP-028—169, 170, 171, 172, 173 and 174	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 511 m N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM457 comprises a standing stone located within moorland circa 470 m S of Minera. It measures 2.4 m high by 0.7 m wide. The top is pointed and faces E-W, and the base is packed with loose stone.</p> <p>SM568 comprises a broch, visible as a turf covered mound with an entrance passage, located 90 m SSE of Minera. It is 24 m in diameter by 3 m high. The outer face of the broch is near to the foot of the mound to the NW, and it is located on a lower mound containing the remains of a potential settlement.</p> <p>SM6015 comprises the remains of seven of hut circles and a number of clearance cairns split into three concentrations located 330 m SSE, 370 m ESE, and 270 m E of Minera.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement and ritual sites within the region, and the interplay between the two. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of all three of these assets can be defined by their relative locations within a large rural moorland landscape; whilst SM547 is located within open moorland, SM568 is located within a walled field, with SM6015 spread between both the field and moorland. A post-medieval old school is also present 31 m to the north-west of SM457 with has a visual relationship to SM445 to the SW, and a similar building is located c.54 m to the north of SM568. To the west, (c. 60 m) there is a modern road which bounds the walled field and open moorland; this splits further north, and curves across the north of these assets as well. A small watercourse is always located to the west of these assets, whilst further to the north (c.500 m), is the small windfarm of Boulfruch.</p>	

	<p>All three assets are visible to each other and have wide panoramic views to and from their respective positions. Views towards the assets from the south however, are blocked due to a small rise in topography. The wider landscape for all these assets is comprised of large, rural landscape, with small, scattered settlements within it. In the distance towards the west the hills range of Cnoc na Maranais are visible.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.511 m to the south of these assets, on the near side of the existing OHL.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce transmission infrastructure closer than that already existing in the landscape. Whilst the Development will be within the assets' settings and will be visible from these assets as well, however the development will only be present within views from the assets looking to the south. The key views between them will remain intact and undisturbed, although the Burn of Houstry connective landscape will be disrupted.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, with a moderate/major setting contribution, though their sensitivity to change is considered low/medium.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, with limited potential to compromise the ability to experience or appreciate the asset.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Broch and post-medieval farmstead 300m SSW of, Berriedale, Rinsary,		
SM577 broch and post-medieval farmstead 300 m SSW of, Rinsary Berriedale		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-078 – 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, and 434	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 646 m E</b>
<b>Cultural Significance: High</b>	<b>Magnitude of Impact: Low</b>	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM577 broch and post-medieval farmstead 300 m SSW of, Rinsary, Berriedale consists of the remains of a broch and the surrounding remains of a post-medieval farmstead. The broch survives as a 16 m high mound, the only stonework visible is to the east.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM577 is derived from its setting, as well as form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of Iron Age defensive structures as well as post-medieval domestic and agricultural structures. A degree of intact physical remains are present at SM577, but there is the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	SM577 is situated in a prominent location on the edge of the Berriedale Water valley overlooking the river as it snakes inland to the northwest and to the south towards the confluence with Langwell Water and the sea. The immediate setting sees the prehistoric feature now largely overgrown, and sited within a post-medieval farmstead. Berriedale church is approximately 350 m to the east. Northwest up Berriedale Water is a prehistoric landscape that SM577 is a part of, although an existing OHL severs the view upstream, where the Proposed Development would also seek to span the river on the north side. There is a likely visual connection along the river forming a connected prehistoric landscape, noted designated sites connected are: the Tualach Bad a'Chailich group (SM3475, 3477), Rinsary homestead, 500m WNW of Berriedale (SM4373) and the Cnoc Fionn group (SM3559, SM3537). Combining to control and oversee the Berriedale Water and surrounding landscape, to potentially include the occupation of the Langwell Water valley.	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.646 m to the northwest on the far side of the existing OHL, with increased tower infrastructure before spanning Berriedale Water.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>SM577 is considered to have a moderate contribution to cultural significance, with a medium/high sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The introduction of the Proposed Development may further disrupt and erode key views between SM577 and the prehistoric landscape upstream. However, the connection of SM577 to the other known designated will not fundamentally be altered, even though excess transmission infrastructure will subsequently be present, including west towards Langwell Water valley. The connection to SM3473 will be specifically compromised by the location of a tower in close proximity. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low.</p> <p>Noting the above-described Low magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore assessed to be Minor, with a marginal influence on the ability to experience or appreciate the asset.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Broch, prehistoric and post-medieval settlements, Tiantulloch		
SM585 broch, prehistoric and post-medieval settlements, Tiantulloch		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-021—133 3DVP-022—134, 135, 136, 137, 138 and 139	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.4 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible/Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM585 broch, prehistoric and post-medieval settlements, Tiantulloch, consists of the remains of a prehistoric broch with closely associated remains of other contemporary and post-medieval buildings. Due to the proximity of the post-medieval building to the broch, the prehistoric elements could not be scheduled without the inclusion of the post medieval building. The broch was 17 m in diameter and survives to 3 m high, the broch mound sitting atop a larger mound. There appears to be a prehistoric outbuilding associated.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM585 is derived from its setting, as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of Iron Age defensive and domestic structures.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM585 is situated in a prominent location east of the Burn of Houstry. Approximately 260 m to the north is a prehistoric settlement (SM543) and approximately 575 m to the southeast is another group of prehistoric assets. Further south is the remainder of the Burn of Houstry prehistoric landscape, of which SM585 forms a part.</p> <p>Clear visuals along the valley landscape contribute heritage significance of SM585, in consort with wider visual connection west to Dunbeath Water occupation and east to the Burn of Latheornwheel. On the eastern side of the burn where SM585 sits, the landscape is of an agricultural character. A collection of farm buildings stand 125 m to the north and a farmyard with trees is 250 m to the south of SM585. Approximately 190 m to the east is a windfarm. The turbines can be seen from the asset, although present plantation surrounding the turbines visually block them as well as long-range southeasterly views from SM585.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.1.4 km to the southeast across Cromarty Firth, on the near side of the existing OHL.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM585's setting has some contribution, and is considered to have a medium/high sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. Visual accessibility of the Proposed Development is likely obstructed by temporary plantation and modern structures in the farm and turbines to the southeast. However, the Proposed Development crossing of the Burn of Houstry in the south, introduces a disruption to views down the valley closer than any existing infrastructure previously has, and further, brings transmission infrastructure into prominence looking west towards the Dunbeath Water occupation, and further erodes the views east to Latheronwheel where an existing OHL is already present. Nevertheless, this will not greatly detract from the ability to experience, appreciate or understand the setting. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible/Low.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

### Negligible Projected Effect

Deserted settlement and souterrain, Achalipster		
SM3666 deserted settlement and souterrain, Achalipster		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-013—84, 85, 86, 87 and 88	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.8 km SW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM3666 Achalipster, deserted settlement and souterrain, consists of a deserted nineteenth century settlement that was likely built upon an phase of settlement as the souterrain is considered Iron Age.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM3666 is primarily derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of nineteenth-century domestic and agricultural activities and extend to earlier (prehistoric) development sequences within Scotland. a significant degree of upstanding remains are present at SM3666.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM3666 is located on flat, open landscape with a 360 degree viewshed. The surrounding land is pastoral and covered with long grasses and shrubs. Approximately 400 m to the west is Strath Burn, although drainage channels and streams are prominent across the landscape. The proximity to this water may contribute to the understanding about extended development sequences. To the southeast is prominent modern infrastructure including a road and beyond that (approximately 850 m southeast) is a wind farm. This dominates the southeast, although there are other windfarms approximately 3.6 km to the northeast and 4.7 km to the west.</p> <p>The setting contribution is limited and related primarily to the siting of the asset, the associated landform and connection to an earlier phase of development, which may aid understanding of settlement site selection in the wider landscape as well as the associations with use and disuse of such settlements. Extended views across the area are of limited if any value to the heritage significance beyond observable approaches or connection to the exploited land.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.4.8 km west, on the near side of the Loch of Toftingall.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The setting of the SM3666 will not be impacted beyond the introduction of additional, closer, transmission infrastructure in the mid-distance as a result of the Proposed Development, and it will be of a sufficient distance to not detract from the immediate setting of the site despite drawing the transmission infrastructure marginally closer to the asset than the existing OHL. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Broch, Ballachly, 360 m S of, Stemster		
SM520 broch, Ballachly, 360 m S of, Stemster		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-017—105, 106, 107, 108 and 109	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.5 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM520 broch, Ballachly, 360 m S of, Stemster consists of the remains of a broch, a turf-covered mound, from which a few large stones protrude, about 23 m in overall diameter. It has been encircled by a wide ditch, almost entirely ploughed away.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM520 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric defensive and domestic structures. A degree of intact physical remains are present at SM520, but there is the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.	



<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM520 is within a lightly sloped plain that's predominantly shrubs and grasses used for pastoral grazing. There is modern infrastructure within the landscape, most notably the existing OHL approximately 5 km to the west on the nearside of the A9, and the Halsary windfarm to the northwest. The viewscape of the assets is primarily looking downslope to the lowland in an arc from N-S looking east including views towards Loch Stemster. This viewscape permits understanding of the siting of the asset.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the wide views to the east from SM520 contribute to the understanding of the asset as a defensive and domestic structure.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.1.5 km to the west, on the near side of the existing OHL.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM520 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. However, given the existing conditions present, the Proposed Development is likely to introduce a negligible change to setting, through limited further erosion of the views east to the wider landscape wider landscape by adding further transmission infrastructure on the near side of the existing OHL. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Berriedale Water		
SM422 cairn, 250 m NNW of Berriedale Water, Millery SM447 cairn, Dun Burn, 200 m NE of An Dun Broch SM518 broch, An Dun, Berriedale SM3476 hut circles & enclosure on S bank of Allt-Ardachaidh, Berriedale		4 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-069 – 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, and 373 3DVP-070 – 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, and 380 3DVP-071 – 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, and 386 3DVP-072 – 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, and 393	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.3km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM422 cairn, 250 m NNW of Berriedale Water, Millery consists of a burial cairn dating from the Late Neolithic to the Bronze Age. It is visible as a roughly circular mound of earth and stone standing 1.4 m high. It is approximately 14 m in diameter. A few metres to the NW is the remains of a hut circle measuring 4 m in diameter. The scheduling covers the immediate surroundings (34 m in diameter) to cover the area on which the hut circle and any evidence relating to the monument's construction, use, and abandonment are thought to survive.</p> <p>SM447 cairn, Dun Burn, 200 m NE of An Dun Broch consists of a burial cairn thought to date from the Late Neolithic to the Bronze Age. The cairn survives as an almost circular mound of earth and stone measuring 18.5 m in diameter and standing 2.5 m high. The scheduled area is circular, measuring 40 m in diameter. The scheduling includes the remains described above and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use and abandonment is expected to survive.</p> <p>SM518 broch, An Dun, Berriedale Berriedale consists of a broch dating from the Iron Age. The broch measure 14 m in diameter and sits on a hillock rising 5 m above the surrounding hillside, standing near 1 m in height. The broch and hillock are surrounded by a ditch almost 5 m wide and 1.8 m deep with evidence for up to three other ditches in the NW. The scheduled area is 100 m in diameter to include all remains described above, as well as surviving evidence for the broch's construction and use.</p> <p>SM3476 hut circles &amp; enclosure on S bank of Allt-Ardachaidh, Berriedale of hut circles and an enclosure.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>All four Scheduled Monuments are situated on a hill between Dun Burn and Berriedale water. This position defines the setting of these assets, serving as prominent features up and down the Berriedale valley. They are part of the wider prehistoric landscape of the Berriedale valley and have</p>	



	<p>a spatial relationship with the route of the water and the other assets in the landscape. However, the monumentality and specific location of the assets within the Berriedale Water group means that their setting and situation is different from others within the valley given the focus on the inland upper valley.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these four monuments is primarily derived from their siting along the bends of the Berriedale Water, as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains and materiality which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric Caithness. SM3476 can contribute to knowledge about domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. SM422 and SM447 can make significant additions to knowledge and understanding of the design and construction of burial monuments and the nature of belief systems and burial practices. SM518 may contribute significant understanding to the function, use, and development of brochs and is a well-preserved example of this building type.</p> <p>The significance of the monuments is enhanced by their association with the locational, communicable and navigational aspects of the wider landscape of later prehistoric settlement. There are above-ground remains present for all four assets as well as the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present at all assets.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location on a hillside moor above Berriedale Water. They all stand at prominent locations on the west side of the valley. There is very little infrastructure and no modern field systems in the immediate area. Downstream there are several prehistoric assets which may be intervisible with the Berriedale Water group.</p> <p>The location of the broch (SM518) at the top of the hill where two valleys converge indicates the utility of the placement, overseeing and acting to control movement. This would have been a strategic position to see down the two valleys that may have been part of the broch's intended viewshed, as well as being a location in which the broch could be viewed prominently from multiple approaches to the area. Therefore, key views would include views from the broch to and from the valleys below, as well as wider to the coast and elevated approaches to the area.</p> <p>The location of the cairns (SM422, SM447) atop a ridge with open views over the surrounding moorland contributes to their significance. The ability to view the cairns from their surroundings places them as intentionally prominent for those traversing the valley. Intervisibility between the cairns, and between the cairns and prehistoric assets within the surrounding area aids their understanding as part of a wider prehistoric landscape.</p> <p>The rural setting of the hut circle and enclosure (SM3476) contributes to its significance as the assets were agricultural settlements, meaning that the currently rural nature of the surroundings would help to contextualise their purpose.</p> <p>The immediate setting of the four assets sees them indicate a prehistoric occupation over multiple phases that sought to utilise and control the river valley. The setting may aid an understanding of prehistoric agriculture, land use, defence, and mortuary beliefs, as well as the relationship that different prehistoric occupations had with each other. The placement of the four assets within a prehistoric landscape means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance.</p> <p>Due to the siting along the Berriedale Water, SM518, SM422, SM447, and SM3476 there is the potential for connective views between these assets.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to their significance as it remains contextualised in relation to the river valley and out over the coastal lowlands to the south. Although the Existing OHL is already visually present within the landscape and disrupting the wider visualscape.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure into the views south and east across and along the valley from the assets.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the four assets of SM518, SM422, SM447, and SM3476 will be impacted by the introduction of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development may be visible alongside the existing OHL, from the assets and introduce additional modern infrastructure to the viewshed looking south and east along the valley side opposite the grouping, and towards the coastal lowlands. However, this will not impact any key views and the distance from the line means that the immediate setting of the assets will not be impacted, having only the limited potential to backdrop from certain perspectives. The relationship to other assets in the prehistoric landscape will not be disrupted.</p> <p>Although the Proposed Development may be visible alongside the existing OHL, it will not impact the key views of the assets nor disrupt their relationship with the wider prehistoric landscape. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Cnoc Fionn		
SM3537 hut circle 250 m SSW of Cnoc Fionn SM3559 hut circle 250 m SW of Cnoc Fionn		2 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-21	Plates: 3DVP-076 – 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, and 420 3DVP-077 – 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, and 428	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 158 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM3537 hut circle 250 m SSW of Cnoc Fionn consists of a hut circle.</p> <p>SM3559 hut circle 250 m SW of Cnoc Fionn consists of a hut circle.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The two Scheduled Monuments are situated within close proximity and have a very similar setting. Moreover, they are both hut circles in a wider prehistoric landscape tracking the Berrisdale River valley. It is likely that they shared a spatial relationship when inhabited. Even if they did not, they are likely to be affected by the Proposed Development in a similar way.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these two monuments is primarily derived from their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to understanding of prehistoric land use and domestic life. Their siting as an occupation site along the River Berrisdale valley, presumes an association with the wider presence of features along the valley sides as a connected network along Berriedale Water.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location on the top on the Berriedale Water valley, in which these and several other prehistoric assets (including those in the Tulach Bad a'Choilich and Berriedale water groups) form a connected prehistoric landscape along the Berriedale Water valley. The two assets are surrounded by a varied rural landscape, with post medieval agricultural fields to the southeast, moorland to the west, and a tree-lined valley falling away to the northeast until it reaches the river of Berriedale Water. There is very little modern development, although there is an existing OHL to the south (c.150 m beyond the Proposed Development) and a network of single-track roads sits within the moorland to the west, the closest road leading from the nearby asset SM3477 in the northwest to a farm in the southeast.</p> <p>The immediate setting of the two assets within a wider prehistoric landscape, with specific views up and down the valley, contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture, land use, and domestic life, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements had with each other. The placement of the two assets within a prehistoric landscape means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to their significance as they sit within a wider connective landscape of the Berriedale Water valley, permitting understanding of occupation with such a construct.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure, in close proximity to the south (c.158 m) on the near side of the existing OHL.</p>	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the two assets of SM3537 and SM3559 will see a further erosion of views south along the river valley. This is because, the Proposed Development will draw modern elements closer to the immediate setting, with the existing OHL already disrupting key views between the group and prehistoric assets to the east, such as SM577 and along the Water to the south. Though the visual relationship that SM3537 and SM3559 have to the assets in the prehistoric landscape is not impacted with regards to the north.</p> <p>The assets of SM3537 and SM3559 will thus be subject to a marginal change to their setting. This is because whilst the relationship to the southeastern assets in the prehistoric landscape and the relationship to Berriedale Water is further eroded, the relationship to the assets to the north and the specific associations are not disrupted. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Dirlot Castle		
SM5897 Dirlot Castle		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP_14	Plates: 3DVP-014 – 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, and 94	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 5.3 km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM5897 Dirlot Castle consists of the remains of a medieval castle which may date from the fifteenth century and occupies a steep sided rock outcrop on the west bank of the River Thurso.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of SM5897 is derived from its setting, as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of medieval defensive and domestic structures and their associated technology, material culture, and settlement evolution.</p> <p>The monument is of national importance as a small medieval castle of considerable strength. Although not itself mentioned in charters, the associated lands of which passed to Odo alias Y Makky by Royal charter in 1499. In addition to its historical importance, it may preserve archaeological evidence with the potential to increase our understanding of defensive architecture, technology and construction methods, settlement evolution and material culture during the medieval and early post-medieval period, as noted by HES.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	SM5897 is defined by its location on the western bank of the River Thurso and it is this immediate location which provides significant setting contributions to the heritage value of SM5897. The sheer drops on all sides provide a naturally defensible landscape. The position on the river may have allowed for easy access to water as well as a means of transportation. The wider landscape is comprised of heathland with very little modern infrastructure. There are plantations to the northwest and a windfarm to the northeast. Wide ranging panoramic views from the position of SM5897 may be considered valuable in understanding the siting and visual relationship with prominence and control.	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.5.3 km to the east on the far side of both the A9 and the existing OHL.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM5897 is considered to have sensitivity to changes that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The Proposed Development is c. 5 km east of the asset and is located on the far side of the existing OHL running along the A9. While there may be a degree of intervisibility, the Proposed Development is unlikely to disrupt long-distance views to the east in a material way. Additionally, there is no anticipation of disruption to the relationship between SM5897 and its immediate setting, or key views associated with the River Thurso or immediate surroundings. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Eldrable		
SM1863 broch, Eldrable		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plate: 3DVP-109—611, 612, 613, 614 and 615	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.6 km N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1863 is the remains of an Iron Age broch. The asset comprises of a mass of drystone masonry standing at over 1.5 m tall. Both the outer and inner faces of the broch are still visible. Evidence of external buildings including a possible rampart and ditch are visible on its north and west sides.</p> <p>The asset has been disturbed by a later wall which runs east – west across the site and a track which crosses some of its outer features in the west. Evidence of later rig and furrow cultivation is present on the site, which appears to overlie evidence of earlier agricultural activity associated with the broch.</p>	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived primarily from its archaeological interest and the contribution study and future research can make to our understanding of the character, development and use of Iron Age settlement sites, and the nature of later prehistoric society.</p> <p>The setting of this monument also contributes towards its significance. As described in more detail below. It's intentional siting at the head of a fertile strip of land and easy access to upland grazing is a key defining feature of this monument in terms of how it is understood and appreciated.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location on a knoll on the west bank of the Eldrable burn, near its confluence with the River Helmsdale. As a defensible structure, the position of this asset was strategic, and the asset was situated to take advantage of its location at the head of an area of fertile land. This allows for extensive views over its immediate environs within the river valley. As settlement of an agropastoral community, the broch has an association both with the fertile floodplain along the River Helmsdale valley and the high summer pastures found in all directions including over the river to the north and along the Eldrable Burn to the south. Multiple contemporary features have been identified within the valley in which this asset is located, part of a wider prehistoric landscape following the course of the River Helmsdale. As such, the broch derives significance from its association with other nearby prehistoric assets such as Kilphedir broch (SM1870), located across the River Helmsdale, to the northeast, with which there is clear intervisibility.</p> <p>Modern infrastructure is also part of the monuments setting, including the A4897 and railway line that run along the Helmsdale valley and the plantations located on nearby hills to the west. As such, the broch exists and is already partially interpreted within a modern context. However, two key aspects of the monument's current setting can be highlighted that contribute to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its immediate setting at the head of a stretch of fertile land; and</li> <li>• Its association with the nearby contemporaneous Kilphedir broch.</li> </ul> <p>To an important though lesser degree the broch's relation with upland pastures also contribute to how the monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest points would be located approximately 1.6 km south of the asset and 2.9 km to the east.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development is located to the east, southeast and south of this asset. Views to the south along the Eldrable Burn will be largely screened by higher ground and those to the east would only be partial. The views eastwards would also include an existing road and railway within the river valley.</p> <p>As a defensive structure, panoramic views from this asset over its environs are of importance and key views to and from the broch to nearby contemporary assets (located in the northeast and east) would have been historically significant.</p> <p>However, as outlined above, it is not anticipated that the OHL will interrupt any key views to or from the asset. The Proposed Development may be visible in the background of views to other prehistoric assets in the east. However, these views would be glimpsed (if visible at all) and are not anticipated to detract from the ability to understand, appreciate or experience Eldrable Broch.</p> <p>The resultant magnitude of this change is considered to be Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible Effect is to be considered a <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

<b>Cairn on Backlass Hill, Gallow Hillock</b>		
SM450 cairn on Backlass Hill, Gallow Hillock		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-003—14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.4 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM450 cairn on Backlass Hill, Gallow Hillock consists of a prehistoric cairn visible as a grass covered mound. It is circular, approximately 22 m in diameter, and 1.2 m in height. It may have been used as a gallows hill in the Middle Ages.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM450 is derived primarily from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric ritual and funerary practices: it is likely to contain at least one central burial as well as secondary burials dug into the mound. A mound of this size should also cover an area of prehistoric land surface, which would have the potential to enhance considerably our understanding of prehistoric environmental conditions.
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM450 is situated in a flat, post-medieval agricultural landscape punctuated by small clusters of trees and shrubbery. Approximately 1.1 km southwest is a much larger plantation. The plantation and enclosed fields in the landscape have eroded the long views, including those to other prehistoric assets. Modern infrastructure is visible in all directions from SM450, most notably the village of Watten approximately 3.3 km northeast, the existing OHL c.4 km east and a windfarm approximately 3 km southwest. The landscape is much changed from the prehistoric period, when it was initially used as a cairn, and from the medieval period when it may have been used as a prominent location for a gallows.</p> <p>The value contribution of setting lies in the connected nature of the wider prehistoric mortuary landscape, connecting the communities and acting as navigational/place markers in the landscape. The relevant prominence of this cairn may be seen also in the potential reuse as a medieval gallows, sited to be visually accessible to certain persons.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the rural setting and maintaining prominence of the extant SM450 can contribute to this value.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.1.4 km west, on the near side of the Loch of Toftingall.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>SM450 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM450 will have a Slight impact from the Proposed Development as whilst the modern characteristics have already been introduced by the existing OHL and development of settlements within the landscapes and the windfarm to the southwest, the introduction of the Proposed Development could further change the characteristic of the landscape by bringing the transmission infrastructure much closer than already exists. However, given the existing conditions, the introduction of the Proposed Development will result in a slight change to setting.</p> <p>SM450 will thus be subject to a slight adverse change to its setting. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Stone circle, Guidebest, Latheronwheel Burn		
SM453 stone circle, Guidebest, Latheronwheel Burn		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-02	Plates: 3DVP-023—140, 141, 142, 143 and 144	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 877 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM453 stone circle, Guidebest, Latheronwheel Burn comprises a prehistoric stone circle approximately 50 m across and of 8 stones (one fallen and broken). There are other stones in the immediate area that may have once formed part of the setting.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM453 is derived from its setting as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains, which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric beliefs and ritual practices.	



<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM453 is within a shallow valley that is part of a wider prehistoric landscape. Immediately to the west is the Burn of Latheronwheel, its placement contributing to common understandings of the prehistoric relationships between water and the ritual monumentality. This immediate setting, as well as the potential inter-connectivity with the wider prehistoric monumental landscape, in addition to the known settlement activity such as that around Houstry, which may yet be connected through ritual interaction.</p> <p>Along the burn to the south is a stretch of trees, and up to 400 m either side of the burn is arable land, including the land which SM453 is on. Approximately 350 m to the east and west of SM453 are two roads and beyond that on either side is heathland. Some scattered settlements dot the sides of the roads. There is some modern infrastructure that can be seen from SM453, most notably the Proposed Developments that crest the hill approximately 1 km to the west.</p> <p>Overall, the setting of SM453 can both be seen to contribute to heritage value, in regards to the siting and connection to the Burn, alongside the mid-range connection to the wider occupied landscape.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.877 m west, on across the Burn of Latheronwheel, and immediately beyond the existing OHL.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>SM453 is considered to have a sensitivity to changes to setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM453 will have a slight impact from the Proposed Development as additional modern infrastructure is being introduced in a similar location to existing infrastructure furthering the disruption of connections to the west, while the immediate setting of the burn remains intact.</p> <p>SM453 will thus be subject to a slight adverse change to its setting. This is because the Proposed Development does not remove the immediate setting of the burn, but does further the disruption of existing infrastructure. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Standing stones 450m WNW of and 620 m NW of Halsary		
SM5301 Halsary, standing stones 450 m WNW of and 620 m NW of		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-011—68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 610 m W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM5301 standing stones 450 m WNW of and 620 m NW of Halsary consists of two standing stones set in thick peat. The two standing stones which have been left in clearings in a forestry plantation. The S stone is a grey schistose slab, now split vertically into three portions and leaning slightly to the SE. It faces NW-SE and measures 1.4 m high by 0.8 m to 1 m broad and 0.4 m thick. The stone sits in a hollow about 0.3 m deep and a number of packing stones are visible around the base.</p> <p>The N stone is about 0.6 m high, 0.7 m broad and 0.3 m thick. This stone is set in a low and ill-defined mound. The two areas to be scheduled measure 10 m in diameter, to include the stones and areas around both stones in which traces of activities associated with their erection may survive</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of SM5301 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric ritual beliefs. These monuments are of national importance for their potential contribution to an understanding of prehistoric ritual beliefs. The stones are set in thick peat and significant archaeological remains may survive in the area around the base of both stones. as noted by HES.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM5301 is located within Halsary windfarm in a flat plain of felling remnant. Modern infrastructure, including wind turbines, the A9, and an existing OHL, dominate in external views all around. The introduction of these modern elements has vastly changed the characteristic of the landscape and substantively removed any heritage value that setting may have contributed.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure within 610 m to the east, enclosing the assets between the existing OHL on the A9 and the Proposed Development.</p>	



<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM5301 is considered to have limited sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM5301 is already substantially compromised. However, the Proposed Development furthers the erosion by enclosing the assets to the east with additional transmission infrastructure. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible, given the limited ability to further impact the setting of the assets.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Negligible effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations. The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.

<b>Kildonan</b>		
SM2772 enclosure, Kildonan Church Graveyard		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plate 3DVP-091—484, 485, 486, 487, and 488 3DVP-092—489	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 5.8 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2772 comprises the graveyard and an enclosure (undated) within the grounds of St Donnan's Church. The church (LB7188) which is still in use today dates to 1786 but stands on the site of its earlier predecessors. The earliest church on the site likely dates to the time of St Donnan who died in 617 however, its name is all that remains of the earlier building. The former medieval church on the site was demolished when the current church was built.</p> <p>The church and graveyard are located just north of the River Helmsdale within the river valley with the uplands of Beinn Dubhain/Creag Scalabsdale to the north and the uplands of Chloire Mhor to the south. The graveyard is located in distinctly rural landscape surrounded by pasture fields and farmsteads. The historic road to Helmsdale is located in close proximity and follows along the lowland river valley.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this monument is derived primarily from its historic, architectural and archaeological value. The church and graveyard have served the rural community of the River Helmsdale valley for centuries and its rural setting within this landscape makes a contribution to its historic function and role in the local community. The buried remains carry the research potential to inform population character and health if excavated at some future date. The church and graveyard also derive some communal value from its ongoing ecclesiastical use. The graveyard is still visited by the descendants of those interred.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location within the River Helmsdale valley and position beside the A897, the historic road connecting the rural settlement within the valley to the coastal settlement at Helmsdale.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views towards the church from the surrounding transport routes and farmsteads. Key historic views towards the church are from along the eastern approach from Helmsdale along the A897, with the church and graveyard accessed via a north to south aligned track leading from a farmstead to the north of the church. The approach to the church from the north along the access track is also of particular importance.</li> <li>Views from the church over the local rural landscape. Key historic views from the church and graveyard are to the north, along the access track from the church towards the farmstead and the A897. The entrance to the graveyard and church are to the east of the asset and visitors face east, south-east and north-east when leaving the site. These views take in the surrounding pasture fields, the river valley and the eastward section of the A897 and the northern uplands.</li> <li>A sense of tranquillity and peacefulness for visitors to the church and graveyard.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the landscape around the River Helmsdale and surrounding lowlands has evolved throughout the Medieval and post-medieval period the overall character of the land has remained rural with sparse settlement, a dispersed population and little in the way of large-scale infrastructure to obscure views. As such, the setting of the monument would continue to make a notable contribution to its historic value and cultural significance.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce new transmission infrastructure into distant landscape views to the south-east, with transmission infrastructure visible crossing the river valley from the southern uplands and extending into the northern uplands. The OHL towers would be c. 5.8 km from the asset.</p>	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change within the River Helmsdale valley and the rural periphery of the church and graveyard. Local views would not be affected, but long-distance views would be eroded.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located 6 km to the south-east at its nearest point, following a south-west to north-east aligned corridor that straddles Choire Mhor in the southern uplands, cuts across the River Helmsdale valley near Marrel and continuing into the northern uplands towards Berriedale and Dunbeath.</p> <p>The River Helmsdale valley around the monument is relatively free of large-scale electrical infrastructure barring a south-west to north-east aligned row of OHL towers 1 km to the north-west of the church and graveyard. These OHL towers extend from the uplands to the south before crossing the river valley north-west of the asset. A wind farm in the hills of Cnoc a Chrubaich Mhoir, located in the southern uplands is not visible from the asset. Views to the south-east along the length of the river valley and surrounding uplands do not contain any large-scale electrical infrastructure.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be clearly visible in long distance views to the south-east. Local views towards the church and graveyard from the nearby farmstead and main approaches along the A897 would be unaffected.</p> <p>Local views form the church and graveyard along the northern access and approach via the A897 would be unaffected. Local views over the surrounding farmland and along the length of the river valley would also be unaffected. Given the distance to the Proposed Development any sense of tranquillity and peacefulness for visitors to the site is unlikely to be eroded.</p> <p>Any impacts would result from a slight erosion of long-distance views south-east along the river valley. These views do not contribute greatly to setting.</p> <p>Based on the above, there would be a negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development. The legibility of the asset as well as its role in supporting the religious and social life of the local rural community would be maintained as would key views that contribute to setting. The Proposed Development would not erode the experience of visitors to the church and graveyard to any notable extent. The archaeological value of the asset would be unchanged.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Langwell Castle		
SM3437 Langwell Castle or Achastle		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plate 3DVP-081—444, 445, 446, and 447 3DVP-082—448 3DVP-083—449 3DVP-084—450	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM3437 comprises a ruinous castle (also called Achastle), located to the south-east of Langwell House, within the Langwell Estate. Ruins comprise of a large, rectangular keep, flanked by a deep ditch that stood between the waters of Berriedale and Langwell. Castle is listed as ruined in 1726, although exact dates of occupation and dissolution are unknown.</p> <p>The castle is located to the west of the confluence of the Langwell Water and Berriedale Water, close to the historic coastal road and the nearby coastline, located 0.5 km to the east. The castle sits on the eastern slopes of low foothills within an area of woodland. The small hamlet of Berriedale is located a short distance to the east on the eastern bank of the Berriedale Water. The 14<sup>th</sup> century Berriedale Castle is located on the coast nearby. Both Langwell Castle and Berriedale Castle were owned by the Sutherlands for at least part of their history.</p> <p>SM3437 is recorded on Roy's Map of the Highlands dated to 1750 along with the newer estate buildings at Langwell. The current settlement at Berriedale is not recorded although a series of hamlets/farmsteads/townships are recorded along the lengths of the Langwell Water and Berriedale Water. SM3438 Berriedale Castle is depicted on the coast nearby.</p> <p>The First Edition OS records the Langwell Estate, the ruined castle and the settlement at Berriedale in much the same condition as found today.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The cultural significance of the monument is derived from its historic and archaeological value, helping to inform Medieval elite settlement and control in north-east Scotland. The current setting of the castle within and surrounded by screening woodland limits the contribution that setting makes to the assets historic value and wider heritage significance.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The historic setting of this asset is defined by its relationship to the Langwell Water and Berriedale Water, the historic coastal road and the nearby Berriedale Castle, located 0.5 km to the east. The above all contribute to appreciation of the strategic positioning of the castle in its landscape setting.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' historic setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views south across the Langwell Water valley to the historic coastal road.</li> <li>Views south-east along the Berriedale Water and towards SM3438 Berriedale Castle and the coastline</li> <li>Views towards the castle from along the historic coastal road, specially from the southern approach, the fording of the Langwell and Berriedale Waters and the approach from the north.</li> </ul> <p>The historic setting of the monument has been altered by post-medieval activity in and around the Langwell Estate. The landscape along the Langwell Water and monument has evolved throughout the Medieval and Post-Medieval period the introduction of estate buildings and farmland. The introduction of Plantation Forest and other tree planting within the estate has altered key views meaning that in its current state historic views to and from the former castle are heavily restricted.</p> <p>Should the surrounding trees be felled or lost through some other means then these historic views would be reopened and aspects of its setting, as defined above, would make a much substantive contribution to heritage significance.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would add to the existing transmission infrastructure within the Langwell Water valley. The additional transmission infrastructure would mirror the existing array.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located 1. km north-west of the monument, following a south-west to north-east aligned corridor that straddles the foothills of Cnoc Bad Asgaraidh to the south-west, before crossing the Langwell Water and Berriedale Water and continuing into the uplands to the north-east.</p> <p>The Langwell Water and Berriedale Water valley contains an existing alignment of transmission infrastructure, which the Proposed Development will follow. There is no other large-scale transmission infrastructure in and around the monument.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, which with external screening in place, has limited sensitivity to changes in setting. However, should this screening be removed or lost the castle site would be sensitive to change within the Langwell Water and Berriedale Water valleys and the surrounding landscape.</p> <p>Should this screening be lost and historic views to and from the monument opened up then the Proposed Development would be clearly visible in local views from the monument, specifically in views north and north-west along the Berriedale Water valley. These views do not contribute greatly to setting. The key views south and south-east, towards the coastal road and coast would not be affected.</p> <p>In views towards the monument, the Proposed Development would be seen to the west of Langwell House and crossing the Berriedale Water when approaching from the north along the A9. Whilst backdropping the monument the Proposed Development would not detract from the appreciation of the asset or lessen our understanding of its key relationships. Views from Berriedale itself and the A9 south of Berriedale would not be affected.</p> <p>There would be a negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development. The legibility of the relationships to nearby associated assets and landscape features would be maintained.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Langwell Plantation		
SM3436 souterrain, Langwell Plantation		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-086—457, 458, 459, 460, and 461	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 286 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM3436 comprises a prehistoric souterrain. Located near the gamekeepers' house on the Langwell Estate, the souterrain is described as an 'earth-house' built with boulders and roofed by flagstones. The visible remains of the asset are almost completely destroyed.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The cultural significance of the monument is derived from its historic and archaeological value, helping to inform prehistoric settlement type and location within north-east Scotland. Given the disturbance of the monument by plantation forest, the setting of the monument and its landscape relationships to associated monuments and landscape features are of particular value.</p> <p>The souterrain is located within an area of felled plantation forest, with upstanding forest located immediately to the west. The monument is positioned on a low foothill north of the Langwell Water watercourse, and the river valley. The monument is one of several associated prehistoric settlement and funerary sites located on the northern and southern slopes of the river valley, with a series of Brochs, hut circles, field systems and funerary cairns nearby. The most important of these in terms of spatial relationship to the monument are SM525 Borgue Langwell homestead and SM524 Borgue Langwell Broch, both of which are located on the southern slopes of the river valley opposite SM3436.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The historic setting of this asset is defined by its location within the Langwell Water valley and its relationship to other prehistoric assets within the valley and on the slopes above it.</p> <p>significance:</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' historic setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Views east and west along the length of the Langwell Water valley.</li> <li>Views south across the valley towards the nearest associated prehistoric assets.</li> <li>Local views over the surrounding rural landscape.</li> </ul> <p>The historic setting of the monument has been altered by post-medieval activity in and around the Langwell Estate. The landscape along the Langwell Water and monument has evolved throughout the Medieval and Post-Medieval period with the introduction of estate buildings and farmland. The introduction of Plantation Forest and other tree planting within the estate has altered key views. Despite this, many of the key views are still visible and the key relationships still legible.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would add to the existing transmission infrastructure within the Langwell Water valley. The additional transmission infrastructure would mirror the existing array.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located 286 m north-west of the monument, following a south-west to north-east aligned corridor that straddles the foothills of Cnoc Bad Asgaraidh to the south-west, before crossing the Langwell Water valley and continuing into the uplands to the north-east.</p> <p>The Langwell Water valley contains an existing alignment of transmission infrastructure, which the Proposed Development will follow. There is no other large scale transmission infrastructure in and around the monument.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a High cultural significance asset, sensitive to change within the Langwell Water valley and the surrounding hillsides.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be clearly visible in local views to the north and north-west into the nearby low foothills. The views do not contribute greatly to the setting of the monument. The proximity of the OHL towers would not greatly alter the experience of any visitors to the site.</p> <p>Key local views along the length of the Langwell Water valley and south towards the nearest associated assets would not be affected.</p> <p>There would be a negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development. The legibility of the relationships to nearby associated assets and the Langwell Water would be maintained.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Broch 220 m NNE of Nether Banks		
SM609 broch 220 m NNE of Nether Banks		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-004—22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.7 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM609 broch 220 m NNE of Nether Banks consists of the remains of a broch which is visible as a turf covered mound approximately 3 m tall. A number of large boulders at the base of the mound may be the remains of an outer wall.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM609 is derived from its setting, as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of the nature of settlement and defensive architecture in the Iron Age, as noted by HES.
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	SM609 is located between the B870 160 m to the west and Wick River 140 m to the east. 270 m to the north is the village of Watten. SM609 is on the edge of a stream (or drainage ditch that may have once been a stream) that runs into Wick River. This positioning along the water may aid understanding as to defensive and domestic Iron Age structures. There are further prehistoric assets southwards down Scouthal Burn and Strath Burn. The land is flat directly surrounding SM609, although slopes upwards to a low peak approximately 3 km west, potentially limiting visual access to the Proposed Development. There is modern infrastructure visible from SM609, most notable the village of Watten and associated infrastructure, as well as two windfarms 3.5 km southeast and 5.3 km south respectively.  The siting of the Broch along the Wick River Valley is likely to derive value from the connections along the burns to the south as well as across loch Watten and the surrounding flat land area.
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.4.7 km to the west on the near side of the existing OHL, and the Loch of Toftingall.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM609 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The Proposed Development is unlikely to be prominent from the asset given the sloping topography to the west, but even so, the Proposed Development will not disrupt the relationship between SM609 and the wider prehistoric landscape along the connected waterways and across to Loch Watten and the lowland area surrounding the broch. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations.  The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.

Standing stone by Latheron to Thurso Road, 750 m N of Rangag		
SM473 standing stone by Latheron to Thurso Road, 750 m N of Rangag MHG1268 Standing Stone, Rhianacoil		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-015—95, 96, 97, 98 and 99 3DVP-016—100, 101, 102, 103 and 104	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 232 m W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM473 standing stone by Latheron to Thurso Road, 750m N of Rangag consists of a four-sided stone pillar, about 0.9 m square, standing to a height of 2.7 m above ground level. It seems to face E, and is tilted slightly towards the W. On its S face, near the W edge and about 0.9 m above ground level, are some raised markings which have the appearance of sculpture but are probably natural.  MHG1268 Standing Stone, Rhianacoil, is a standing stone 1.7 m high, roughly quadrangular in section, measuring 0.7 m by 0.5, and pointed upwards. It faces WNW-ENE. On the SE angle about 17ins from the top, a rounded disc-like protuberance about 4ins in diameter has been formed by the hollowing of the surface above and on one side and by a shallow groove across the edge beneath it. Except that the protuberance is on the SW angle, and it would seem to be fortuitous and not intentionally sculptured.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM473 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric landscape and ritual beliefs. The monolith remains with potential for an inscribed relief present at SM473, and a connection to a second stone to the east (MHG1268) may be valuable for their connected views and intervisibility.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	SM473 is within a flat plain that's predominantly shrubs and grasses used for pastoral grazing. To its northeast is a small plantation where a second stone is located to the east (MHG1268) and there are trees dotting the landscape near to the A9. The existing OHL runs N-S c.300 m east, with the Proposed Development set beyond. Most notably SM473 is within 10m of a farmyard to south and approximately 40 m to the A9 to the west. A windfarm c.3.4km to the north can be clearly seen. Despite the modern intrusions, SM473 still retains value from its setting as a result of its prominence and being part of a wider connective prehistoric landscape.	



<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure within 232 m to the west, on the near side of both the A9 and the existing OHL. Tower 40 has been designed to not be sited to interrupt the intervisibility between the two assets, but overhead lines will be present.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM473 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance, alongside a grouped connection with MHG1268. However, given the existing conditions present, the Proposed Development is likely to introduce a negligible change to setting, through limited further erosion of the wider landscape by adding further transmission infrastructure and avoiding severing the direct visual link to the second stone located to the east (MHG1268). As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations. The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.

Chapel & The Clow, Scouthal Burn,		
SM721 chapel & The Clow, Scouthal Burn,		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-007—46, 47, 48, 49 and 50 3DVP-009—58	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.6 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM721 chapel & The Clow, Scouthal Burn consists of the remains of a chapel and associated graveyard. The chapel was described as ruinous in the eighteenth century and was used a burial place only of strangers and unbaptised children. In the vicinity of the chapel are four ruined buildings.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM721 is derived from its setting, as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of medieval and post-medieval ecclesiastical and mortuary practices.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM721 sits in a bend of the Southal Burn on its eastern bank. SM721 itself is located within a fall in the land and isolating itself visually from the higher land surrounding it. There is little surrounding modern infrastructure apart from the road on the opposite bank and the telegraph wire which runs parallel to it.</p> <p>The remoteness of SM721 can aid understanding to its later function as a burial ground for strangers and unbaptised children as post-medieval Christian mortuary belief separated such peoples from the community burials on consecrated ground within the village. Similarly, the burial ground being surrounded on two sides by water may contribute to understanding of unorthodox mortuary beliefs about water preventing the restless dead.</p> <p>SM721 should be seen in association with SM13634 and SM13632. Although, not of the same period, these sites form a cluster of monuments along the Burn of Acharole with a deliberate relationship with the routeway along the Burn and over the wider flatter ground on either side.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the position of SM721 in a remote location next to the routeway and enclosing water may significantly contribute to understandings of medieval and post-medieval mortuary beliefs.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.3.6 km to the west on the near side of the existing OHL, and the Loch of Toftingall.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM721 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The Proposed Development may be seen in the distance to the west on the near side of Loch Toftingall, bringing transmission infrastructure much closer than previously. However, it would not remove the relationship that SM721 has with its immediate setting, nor interrupt the relationship with the routeway, water or nearby occupation. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations. The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.	



Brochs, Scouthal Burn		
SM13632 broch, Carn A' Chladha SM13634 broch, Bail A' Chairn		2 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-007—48 3DVP-008—51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56 and 57 3DVP-009—58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63 and 64	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.2 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM13632 broch, Carn A' Chladha is a substantial stone-built roundhouse visible as a grassy turf mound and measuring 3 m high by 21 m in diameter.</p> <p>SM13634 broch, Bail A' Chairn is a substantial stone-built roundhouse, visible as an oval mound and measuring 5.5 m high by 4 m wide. It has the remains of a slight ditch and bank, and internal details include doorways, upright flagstone partitions, intramural stairways and recesses.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of both of these assets can be defined by their relative locations within rural fields, within a large, flat rural landscape. Both are located near a small rural road, with SM13634 set slightly back (c. 70 m south-east) from the road, whilst SM13662 is located on the side of the road. A stone building is located 11m to the north-east of SM13634. A small watercourse also runs to the east of these two assets, located c. 72 m from SM13632 and c. 191 m from SM13632.</p> <p>Both of these assets have panoramic views in all directions, with little interruption, and key views would include views to and from each other towards each other, as well as a later-formed relationship to SM721 chapel and buried ground, located further southwest down Scouthal Burn.</p> <p>The wider landscape for both these assets is comprised of a large, rural landscape, with small, scattered settlements within it. Three windfarms are present and visible within the wider landscape, with two located to the east and south-east, and the remainder being located to the west.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.3.2 km to the west of these assets, on the near side of the existing OHL, and the Loch of Toftingall.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development may introduce additional visibility of transmission infrastructure to the west and southwest, although the Proposed Development will not disrupt the key views associated with the Scouthal Burn, to the northeast, nor erode the understanding that the setting gives these assets.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered Low. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Negligible effect overall. The key contributing archaeological value to the assets' cultural significance, the key contributing aspects of setting to the assets' cultural significance, the ability to understand and appreciate the assets, and all key views towards and from them will be preserved.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Broch to E of Bunellich, Smerral		
SM581 broch to E of Bunellich, Smerral,		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-029—175, 176, 177, and 178	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.3 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM581 broch to E of Bunellich, Smerral, consists of a broch that survives as a large mound approximately 25 m across and 3 m high. It appears to be substantially undisturbed.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM581 is derived from its setting, as well as the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of Iron Age defensive and domestic structures.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM581 is situated halfway up the slope of a narrow valley of the Burn of Latheronwheel, approximately 320 m to the east. Upstream approximately 1280 m to the north is a prehistoric stone circle (SM453) which may be included in the visual network of the Broch. Downstream the valley extends beyond the settlement of Latheronwheel to the sea. The proximity of SM453 to the burn and its mouth to the sea may contribute to understandings of Iron Age domestic and defensive structures.</p> <p>The valley is arable land, and this extends to the wider landscape, facilitating an open viewshed from the Broch, which may act to connect visually to the Burns of Houstry and Latheron. Modern infrastructure can be seen from SM581, including settlements, roads, and farm buildings in close proximity, as well as an existing OHL running to the northwest, partitioning the connection with the Burn of Houstry.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.1.3 km to the west on the far side of the existing OHL.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM581 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM581 is sensitive to changes in setting potentially introduced by the Proposed Development. The introduction Development may be seen to further erode the views north and west, as it will run behind (to the north of) the existing OHL infrastructure, so will only marginally change the character of the setting. Moreover, it will not disrupt the relationship with the Burn of Latheronwheel. Nor is it anticipated that the connection to the Burns of Houstry or Latheron will be diminished. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Cairn & hut circles 1070 m S of Strath		
SM3520 cairn & hut circles 1070 m S of Strath		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-010—65, 66 and 67	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 6.1 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM3520 cairn & hut circles 1070 m S of Strath consists of a cairn, mounds and 10 hut circles.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM3520 is derived primarily from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains, which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural activities, as well as mortuary practices. It is possible the cairn acts as a navigational/communicable node within the landscape to monumentalise the settlement.	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM3520 is defined by its location on flat, open landscape with a 360 degree viewshed. The land to the south, east, and west is now pastoral and covered with long grasses and shrubs. Some scattered settlements can be seen to the north and south. Approximately 400 m to the west is Strath Burn, although the relationship between the burn and SM3520 has been disrupted by field fences and the road that runs against the western edge of SM3520. Nevertheless, the proximity and placement near to this water source likely contributes to the understanding of the relationship between them. This could illuminate prehistoric domestic and agricultural life, as well as prehistoric mortuary beliefs. One windfarm approximately 1.9 km away can be clearly seen to the south and a second windfarm approximately 6 km away can be seen on the shallow rise of the hill to the west. A third windfarm is approximately 1.5 km to the east, but this may be hidden over the crest of the hill.</p> <p>The prominence of lithic mortuary monumentality in the relatively flat landscape and the association to the water of Strath Burn and the potential associates feature along the water, inscribes value in the setting, although long-/mid-distance views contribute less. The focus is the immediate surrounding, Burn association and close navigational movement, while there is already substantive presence of modern infrastructure in the wider landscape. Neither the existing nor Proposed Development disrupt the immediate setting.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, its setting can be seen to contribute to its significance by increasing the site prominence in the landscape and connecting the occupational and mortuary associations of the component features to the landscape, with the setting potentially illuminating prehistoric domestic and agricultural life, land use, and mortuary beliefs.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.6.1 km west, on the near side of the Loch of Toftingall.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The setting of SM3520 will have a marginal impact from the Proposed Development, although the Proposed Development is of a sufficient distance to not detract from the immediate setting of the site and only introduce further modern infrastructure into mid-long-distance views. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

<b>Tulach Bad a'Choilich</b>		
SM3475 hut circles, settlement and cairns 400 m ENE of Tulach Bad a'Choilich SM3477 broch 670 m NW of Tulach Bad a'Choilich, Cnoc Fionn		2 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-073—394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, and 340 3DVP-074—401, 402, 403, 404, 405, and 406	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 525 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM3475 comprises the remains of a minimum of six prehistoric hut circles or enclosures, two later rectangular foundations, traces of field walling and a scatter of field clearance cairns. The hut circles are round/oval and measure between 8 m and 13 m across. Five of the hut circles are concentrated together adjacent to the field clearance cairns, whilst the sixth hut circle is located further to the north; the latter is bracketed by two later rectangular foundations.</p> <p>SM3477 comprises the ruins of a broch, located 670 m NW of Cnoc Fionn. It consists of a large earth and stone mound measuring 19 m E-W by 15 m N-S and standing 3 m high. The remains of another earth and stone bank is present to the south, measuring 1.7 m wide and 0.4 m high.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement and defensive sites within the region, and the interplay between the two. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of both of these assets can be defined by their relative locations within a river valley, next to the river of Berridale Water. SM3475 is located on the shoulder of a hill, with key views most likely looking out over the Berridale Water, located c. 166 m to the west of the asset, whilst SM3477 is within a small clearing, located 82 m to the west of the Berridale Water.</p> <p>Keys views from both are most likely to have been focused across the river, and towards each other, along with views up and down the Berridale Water. The wider landscape for both these assets is comprised of a large, hilly landscape, with Beinn nan Coireag to the north-east; Meall na Caorach to the north; and Cnoc Bad Asgaraidh to the south-west.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.525 m to the south of these assets, on the near side of the existing OHL as it spans Berriedale Burn.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development will be to within the asset's settings; however, due to the surrounding topography, a large majority of the development will be blocked from visibility beyond the Berriedale Water valley. The development also leaves the key views between the two assets uninterrupted, further reducing the harm to these assets setting. Views southeast along the Burn see additional transmission infrastructure added on the near side of the existing OHL crossing the burn.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered low/medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Listed Buildings

### Minor Projected Effect

Berriedale Church Of Scotland and Burial Ground		
LB7926 Berriedale Church Of Scotland and Burial Ground		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-079—435, 436, 437, and 438	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB7926 comprises a standard Parliamentary T-plan church c.1826 with later alterations. Nearby stands a drystone walled burial ground with 19th and 20th century tombs. Church on or near site of earlier mission chapel.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a category B Listed Building, the heritage significance of the asset is derived primarily from its historic and architectural potential. However, the asset also derives significance from its setting as a point of congregation in the community. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity. Setting is discussed further below.	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset can be defined by its location on the east coast, within the small settlement of Berriedale. The church itself is situated on top of a rise in the landscape which elevates the building in prominence over its surrounding and allowing views east to sea as well wider views as over its constituency. The church is located within rural farmland, bounded in the north by a small local road and in the east by the A9.</p> <p>The wider landscape of the asset is comprised of largely rural landscape, with small, scattered settlements within it. In the distance towards the south the Berriedale Water is visible.</p> <p>From its location on the top of a rise, the asset has wide panoramic views of the landscape, this would have been an important factor in the assets function as a place of congregation. The asset is visible from the settlement of Berriedale however, its setting has been changed by the presence of existing modern infrastructure such as the A9 directly abutting the churchyard and an existing OHL located at close distance to the north.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monument is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets. This is because it has remained in situ and retained key views with local settlements.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.1 km to the west of the asset. The Proposed Development is located immediately beyond to the north of an existing OHL making the combined infrastructure more prominent but focused together.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce further modern infrastructure into the wider landscape.</p> <p>In particular, the development located to the west, may intrude on the wider setting of the church. This location was likely strategically positioned on top of a hill to be seen by the local community as a place of congregation and worship. The Proposed Development would introduce towers within this key view and may backdrop the church on route approaches, and in views looking north. Additionally, the Proposed Development is located alongside an existing OHL which may further elevate its visual intrusion on the landscape.</p> <p>However, the setting of this asset has already been altered, this can be seen by the presence of modern infrastructure present at a much closer distance than the Proposed Development. This is evidenced by the A9 which abuts the churchyard and an existing OHL which almost over sails the church to the north. The Proposed Development by comparison would be located at approximately 1 km to the west and as such may be visible in wider views from Berriedale to the church but would not interrupt the key view to the asset. Therefore, the key view between the church and the community will remain intact and undisturbed.</p> <p>Additionally, the Proposed Development located at a distance is not anticipated to disturb the sense of peace or tranquillity afforded by the church, nor will it interfere with its historic or architectural value.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

*Negligible/No Projected Effect*

Achingale Mill		
LB14976 Achingale Mill		1 x Category A Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-005—30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36 and 37	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.6 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	Early mid-19th century two-storey mill. Asset is disused but internal fittings are in situ, including the wheel. Described as "One of the best Caithness mills" by John Hume in 1977.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived from its architectural interest as well as its setting in the landscape, and particularly its relationship with the river.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is largely defined by its location on the Scouthhal Burn that powered the mill. It is situated within largely flat and open agricultural land which has remained relatively unchanged since the mill was in use. Though no longer functional, the mill lead channel that was diverted from the main stream at the weir some 800m to the south survives, as does the Millton cottage between the weir and the mill itself. These surrounding features have an important interrelationship with the mill and are an integral element of its setting. The wider setting of agricultural estates whose grain would have been processed here, also provides historic context.</p> <p>In summary, this water powered mill is intentionally located next to water sources. It is thus intimately connected with its riverside setting which makes a substantial contribution to the way in which the mill is understood and appreciated. To a lesser, but nonetheless important, degree, the wider historical setting, including the association the mill has with the estate landscape and other historic buildings and features also contributes to how this mill is understood and appreciated.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of overhead cabling, which at its closest point would be located approximately 4.6 km to the west of the asset.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The relatively flat and open Caithness landscape means that although located some almost 5 km away, the Proposed Development may be visible from the asset as a distant feature. However, this change does not interrupt its immediate setting on the river including the weir and mill lead.</p> <p>The Proposed Development will be visible in views to the west that would bring about a slight change in its wider setting. However, the considerable intervening distance and the fact that the mill would still be legible within a wider agricultural landscape, does reduce this impact.</p> <p>The above-described changes to setting would marginally detract from the way in which this asset is appreciated or experienced. It is therefore considered that this change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Helmsdale Bridge		
LB7193 Helmsdale Bridge over River Helmsdale		1 x Category A Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plate: 3DVP-114—640, 641, 642, 643, and 644 3DVP-115—645	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.9 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	Twin arched bridge designed by Thomas Telford in 1808-11. The bridge consists of two dressed rubble arches; triangular cutwaters and detailed end buttresses with later additions of cast iron railings and lamp standards.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived in large part from its historical and architectural interest, but it also derives significance from its setting.	



<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The bridge is situated on the western edge of Helmsdale, spanning the River Helmsdale close to its outlet into the Moray Firth. The asset's immediate setting is defined by its association with the river, the historic transport routes and the historical associations and ongoing relationship it has with Helmsdale. The bridge's wider setting includes its historic association with the broader Helmsdale valley landscape to the northwest and the harbour/estuarine environment to the southeast.</p> <p>It can be viewed from multiple locations within Helmsdale and views of the asset from the east (such as from the modern bridge carrying A9 traffic) incorporate long-range picturesque views along the river valley. Views from the bridge over its immediate environs also encompass long-range vistas to the west as well as east towards the harbour and Moray Firth.</p> <p>The historic context of the bridge has also undergone substantial changes since the time of its construction, including the development of the town itself and the construction a new bridge to the southeast, which is now the main route via the A9 into Helmsdale. An existing OHL is also located to the west within the Helmsdale valley which interrupts the scenic vista of the river valley when viewed from the bridge and in the background when viewing the bridge from the east.</p> <p>The bridge's immediate setting, including its riverine context and association with historic routes into Helmsdale is linked to its historic function, which it still serves today, and makes a substantial contribution to the way in which the mill is understood and appreciated. To a lesser, but nonetheless important, degree, the wider historical setting also contributes to how the structure is understood and appreciated.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 1.9 km to the northwest of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The path of the Proposed Development means that views of the towers from the bridge to the southwest and west are partially screened by higher ground. This means that visibility would be limited to the portion of OHL that is located to the north and northwest of the asset along the valley. Views of the Proposed Development would also be at a considerable distance of approximately 2 km within views that already include an existing OHL, located just 650 m from the bridge.</p> <p>As the asset is located within the town of Helmsdale, it is already appreciated and understood within a context of existing infrastructure. It is likely therefore that the Proposed Development would cause only very limited changes to its setting. As such, it is considered that this predicted change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

<b>Stemster House</b>		
LB589 Stemster House		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-001—1, 2, 3, 4 and 5	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.5 km N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	Mid-later 19th century 5- bay house which appears in present form on 1st edition OS (1872). House probably incorporates an earlier dwelling which is contained within its centre portion.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived primarily from its architectural and historical interest as an example of a Georgian country house. To a lesser extent, the asset also derives significance from its setting.	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>Stemster House is situated on a southwest facing hillside at around 90 metres above sea level above Loch Scarmclate. The surrounding landuse is largely open and dominated by arable and pasture fields as it was at the time of the house's construction.</p> <p>The house is south-facing and mostly screened on all sides by woodland, with one small opening in the cover to the south which allows views over the immediate environs. The first edition OS shows that the house was intentionally screened by trees since its construction.</p> <p>The immediate landscape in which the house is located has remained relatively unchanged since it's construction. However, the wider landscape of Caithness has changed since it's construction. Notably, a railway line has been erected that passes through the nearby village of Sibster, as well as the development of multiple roads such as the A882.</p> <p>In summary, views to and from the asset are limited and do not substantially contribute to how this building is appreciated or understood. Though the wider landscape has seen some modern development, the largely unchanged rural surroundings are however important and contribute to this monument's cultural significance by providing historic context.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 4.5 km to the southwest of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The location of this building in the relatively flat and open Caithness landscape means that the Proposed Development, located over 4 km the southwest and south may be visible in distant views from the asset. However, due to the thick tree screening, visibility of the development would be limited, if visible at all.</p> <p>Additionally, although the asset has mostly retained its original setting, the introduction of modern development has already altered the wider setting of the asset aspects of which would be visible at a much closer distance than the Proposed Development. As such, the Proposed Development would not substantially alter the way in which the building is understood and appreciated and therefore introduces only a very limited change, that can be described as a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

<b>Ousdale Bridge over the Ousdale Burn</b>		
LB8001 Ousdale Bridge over the Ousdale Burn		1 x Listed Buildings category C
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-093—490, 491, 492, 493, 494, and 495	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 257 m S</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Low	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> No Impact	<b>Projected Effect: No Effect</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB8001 Ousdale Bridge over the Ousdale Burn consists of a bridge built in c.1815. It is Listed for its architectural and historic association, now bypassed by the new section of the A9.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of LB8001 is primarily derived from its historic and architectural value, which can contribute to understanding of the architectural and engineering styles of the early nineteenth century, especially that of Thomas Telford with whom the bridge is attributed.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>LB8001 spans the Ousdale Burn at the top of a valley basin. To the west is a narrow valley surrounded by an upland heath with some plantation. To the east is small wood, beyond which is A9. The A9 is largely screened by the wood. LB8001 is in a rural landscape that is largely unchanged since its construction and has limited modern infrastructure near it besides the A9 diversion and visible telegraph poles.</p> <p>Setting contributes only marginally to the cultural significance of the asset, and is limited to immediate surroundings of the Ousdale Burn, placing the asset in a largely unchanged context spanning the Burn and being replaced by the bypass.</p> <p>Overall, the main contributing value of the asset is its architectural and historical value, the setting is largely unchanged and may contribute to the asset's heritage significance only as it relates to the spanning of the Burn.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.257 m north crossing the Ousdale Burn upstream c.450 m.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The Proposed Development will have no impact on the setting of LB8001 as although it further introduces a modern element to the landscape enclosing from the north, this does not affect the setting contribution to the assets' value which lies in the immediate surrounding of the bridge's span over the Ousdale Burn. It will not remove the cultural significance of the asset. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as No Impact.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified No Effect is considered Not Significant in terms of EIA regulations. The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.

## Garden Designed Landscapes

### *Negligible/No Projected Effect*

Dunbeath Castle		
GDL00150 Dunbeath Castle		1 x Garden Designed Landscape  4 x Category A Listed Buildings  3 x Category B Listed Buildings
Associated Listed Buildings within the GDL:		
Category A		
LB7936 Dunbeath Castle		
LB7936 Northern Walled Garden, Dunbeath Castle		
LB7936 Southern Walled Garden, Dunbeath Castle		
LB7936 Pavilion, Northern Walled Garden, Dunbeath Castle		
Category B		
LB7938 Dunbeath Castle Gate Lodge and Gate Piers		
LB7937 Stable Court, Dunbeath Castle		
LB7939 Dunbeath Castle Dovecote		
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-054—317 3DVP-055—318 3DVP-056—319 3DVP-057—320 3DVP-058—321 3DVP-059—322 3DVP-060—323 3DVP-061—324	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.1 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible

<p><b>Summary of Asset</b></p>	<p>GDL00150 Dunbeath Castle consists of a late 17<sup>th</sup> to early 18<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape located on a clifftop setting to the south of the historic settlement of Dunbeath and east of the A9, the historic coastal road running along the north-east coast of Scotland.</p> <p>Dunbeath is likely to have been a defensive settlement since the prehistoric period and into the early medieval period. The castle dates from the Medieval, with the earliest reference dating to the 14<sup>th</sup> century and a grant of land to John de Barcley. The castle building and defensive site evolved throughout the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> century with the building rebuilt and modified and encircled by a moat. In 1610 George Sinclair sold the lands and barony of Dunbeath to Lord Forbes. James VI granted the barony by a charter of 1619 to Alexander, son of Lord Forbes. The Dunbeath Estate was subsequently sold back to the Sinclair family in 1624. The castle was extensively rebuilt in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>The designed landscape around the castle was laid out in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century with a formal avenue leading from the main coastal road to the castle. The Doocot was built at the northern end of this avenue. This early iteration of the GDL is depicted on Roy's Map of the Highlands c. 1750. Roy's Map depicts the policy around Dunbeath Castle, with farmsteads to the south and north-east, and the main focus of settlement at Dunbeath to the north across Dunbeath Water.</p> <p>The Sinclair family carried out further changes to the castle and policy in the 1850s and 1880s.</p> <p>The First Edition OS depicts the GDL close to its current form, with the formal gardens, stables and northern lodge all depicted. The Medieval avenue is shown as a linear tree lined approach leading from the lodge to the castle. The northern edge of the GDL is depicted as woodland providing some screening from the coastal road. A thin band of trees extends from the main core of the woodland along the southern edge of the GDL and connects to the stable block, before extending south-east to screen off the formal gardens. The castle itself would have been visible on southern and northern approaches along the coastal road. Field systems are shown to the south and north of the policy, with smaller land parcels to the west of the coastal road. Areas of pasture/rough grassland make up the surrounding land.</p> <p>The castle and estate exchanged hands several times in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the Avery family buying the castle in 1977, undertaking a substantial renovation program. Dunbeath is now owned by the Dunbeath Partnership.</p> <p>It is worth noting that the current A9 bypasses the old historic coastal road to the castle, with the northern lodge now offset from the A9 by c. 150 m.</p> <p>The GDL sits within a thin strip of land measuring 1 km south-east to north-west, taking in land from the coastal cliffs to the main coastal road.</p> <p>Grouping rationale</p> <p>LB7936 Dunbeath Castle and the formal avenue represent remnants of the Medieval and early Post-Medieval policy, with the remaining listed buildings representative of the improvements from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Together, these structures inform the development of the GDL from the Late Medieval period. As such, these assets are discussed together within the GDL00150 group.</p>
<p><b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b></p>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (outstanding):</p> <p>Dunbeath Castle has outstanding Historical value as a well-documented and classic formal 17th/early 18th century landscape which has retained its integrity.</p> <p>Architectural value (outstanding):</p> <p>Dunbeath has outstanding Architectural value as the designed landscape provides the setting for a Category A, listed building with other listed buildings and structures. The core of Dunbeath Castle dates from the 15th century, with later additions and alterations. The main phase of remodeling is by D. &amp; J. Bryce, c 1881. The castle has a symmetrical northeast front, unusual for Bryce and probably influenced by the strong, axial, approach drive. To the north of the Castle, two Walled Gardens flank the approach drive. That on the south side of the drive incorporates various carved stones, including a 17th century chimney piece, while the one to the north houses a late 19th century laundry, a single storey 5-bay wide building of rubble with tooled dressings.</p>

	<p>The Stable Court is a late 19th/early 20th century, 2-storey, U-plan range opening onto a walled courtyard. The Gate Lodge is an L-plan single-storey building over a basement with a semi-circular porch in the re-entrant angle rising as a round tower with a conical roof. The Doocot is an 18th century plain, rubble building. Other minor architectural components include Rockery Garden Walls, the perimeter field walls and the embankment steps leading to the Walled Gardens.</p> <p>The main drive is the key feature of the designed landscape, forming the major design axis, some 800 m long. It extends southwards from the lodge to the Castle forecourt along an even gradient, achieved by a deep cutting and embankment.</p> <p>Scenic value (outstanding):</p> <p>Dunbeath Castle and its designed landscape are of outstanding Scenic value, as they comprise a dramatic landmark on the bleak coastal cliffs of Caithness. The Castle sits dramatically on a cliff-top promontory. The Castle's clifftop location commands views along the Caithness coast and across the North Sea. The designed landscape is laid out within an earlier pattern of flat, regular, fields. These fields with their associated walls, hedgerows and shelter belts comprise the immediate setting of the Dunbeath designed landscape and form an important landscape context. The open space and dominance of the sky on this coastal area means that the Castle is highlighted in the landscape, which is particularly emphasised by the clarity of the northern, coastal light. In addition, the improved grass parks appear as bright pockets of grassland which further emphasise the designed landscape character.</p> <p>Archaeological value (high):</p> <p>Dunbeath Castle occupies an ancient defensive site of archaeological interest and is of high Archaeological potential.</p> <p>Artistic value (high):</p> <p>The designed landscape of Dunbeath Castle has high value as a Work of Art on account of the skillfully contrived and dramatic approach that complements the Castle and responds to the topographic setting. The designed landscape of Dunbeath Castle has high value as a Work of Art on account of the skillfully contrived and dramatic approach that complements the Castle and responds to the topographic setting.</p> <p>Horticultural value (high)</p> <p>The woodland of the GDL act as shelter belts, enclosing the paddocks and Walled Gardens, so that wind/salt tolerant species predominate. Consequently, sycamore and whitebeam are the major species with some beech, larch and ash.</p> <p>The restored Walled Garden, the daffodil collection and the woodland framework give the site high Horticultural value in an exposed coastal location. In 1985 the garden was re-established with a framework of eight compartments accessed by a network of grassed paths. The compartments are planted with vegetables, fruit, ornamental shrubs and herbaceous plants. The central path was retained and the herbaceous borders lining it were replanted with its 19th century, mirror image, planting scheme.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (some):</p> <p>The woodlands, uncultivated ground and cliffs at Dunbeath Castle provide some Nature Conservation value.</p>
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<p><b>Setting Contribution</b></p>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its coastal location and its historic relationship to the nearby coastal road.</p> <p>Key landscape views towards the castle and GDL are from north along the coastal road, with the castle and wooded policy standing out in contrast to the surrounding farmland and pasture, and against the coastal backdrop of the North Sea/Moray Firth. Views towards the castle and GDL are also noteworthy from the nearby settlement of Dunbeath, north of the Dunbeath Water. Views from the southern approach on the A9 are more obscured by topography and trees.</p> <p>From within the GDL, key views are towards the castle from the northern lodge. The approach drive from the north-west lies in a deep cutting and is lined by tree belts which channel views to focus on the Castle. On this approach, 'key-hole' views of the Castle gradually give way to a full view of the north façade. Key views from the castle are along the coastline and coastal road, and north-west along the main avenue and over the formal gardens.</p> <p>The rural landscape surrounding the GDL is largely unaltered since its inception, with the exception of some realignment of field systems, an expansion to the nearby settlements of Dunbeath, associated improvements to the local road network and the introduction of overhead electrical and phone lines. As such, the setting of the GDL continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, archaeological, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<p><b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b></p>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to the introduction of infrastructure along the coastline that has the potential to erode key views towards the GDL from the A9 or views from the castle along the formal avenue and over the nearby coastal road.</p> <p>Views towards the GDL from the northern approach on the A9 already contain short wooden electrical poles lining the A9 and OHL towers along upland coastal margins west of the A9 and 600 m west of the GDL, at their closest point.</p> <p>Outward views from within the GDL are largely screened except from the castle and northern walled garden. Where outward views are possible OHL towers are visible in the upland coastal margins west of the A9 and 600 m west of the GDL, at their closest point. Views north and south along the coastline contain little modern infrastructure</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure into the uplands, to the west of the existing OHL towers that run parallel to the A9. The existing OHL towers are c. 600 m west of the northern edge of the GDL. The Proposed Development would sit c. 2.1 km west of this point, at their closest.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL from the northern approach on the A9 and from the settlement of Dunbeath would largely be unaffected, with the OHL towers visible in the periphery of these views to the west, of the GDL. The castle and policy would still stand in contrast to the surrounding rural farmland and the coastal backdrop.</p> <p>Key views within the GDL, between its major architectural components would largely be unaffected. Views from the castle along the coastline would also be largely unaffected. Views from the castle, looking north-west along the formal avenue and outwith the GDL would be eroded by the introduction of the Proposed Development, although the relationship to the nearby coastal road and surrounding farmland would still be perfectly legible.</p>



<p><b>Summary of Impact</b></p>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the key internal views over the formal gardens and between the main architectural elements of the GDL would also be unaffected.</p> <p>Key local views outwards from the GDL, are from Dunbeath Castle, taking in the surrounding coastline, the settlement of Dunbeath to the north-east and the main coastal road north of the GDL. These views would be unaffected by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Key scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, are from along the A9 approaching the GDL from the north-east. These local views would also largely be unaffected.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL and would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape north of the GDL. These views already contain electrical infrastructure in the form of OHL towers. The Proposed Development would add further OHL towers into these views at greater distance from the GDL.</p> <p>A Negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. The remaining historic, archaeological architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible adverse effect to cultural significance.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Effect</b></p>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Significant Non-Designated Assets

### Minor Projected Effect

'The Dogs'		
MHG32405 Possible standing stone, the dogs MHG13502 Shepherd and his dogs		Group of significant non-designated assets
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-065—341, 342, 343, 344 and 345 3DVP-066—346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352 and 353	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 344 m S
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	"The Dogs" comprises a grouping of two prehistoric standing stones located in a linear alignment with SM502 the 'Shepherd', in the uplands to the southwest of Ramsbraigs. These assets date to the Bronze Age, named locally as 'The Shepherd and his dogs'.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As non-designated heritage assets, the individual features within this cluster are considered to be of low cultural significance however, as a group, a significant non-designated value can be assigned. This is due to their prominence in the landscape and association with SM502.</p> <p>Due to the linear arrangement in the landscape the two 'Dogs' near the scheduled monument might have connected views. This relationship suggests they are potentially significant non-designated assets that for an integral element within a prehistoric landscape in the area. While the smaller stones' condition is worse than the scheduled monument (MHG13502, which is on its side), they may have value as a connected group and have important interconnected views. They are also located close to Upper Brogue Broch SM596</p> <p>The cultural significance of this group primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric monuments within the region.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the group can be defined by its location within a rural upland landscape to the southeast of Ramsbraigs and northeast of the Berriedale Water. This area is an interface between the uplands to the west and lowlands on the coast to the east. As a grouping, the 'Shepherd' (SM502) and his 'Dogs' (MHG32405 and MHG13502) create a linear alignment with intervisibility between the three standing stones.</p> <p>The landscape has retained its rural setting with limited modern infrastructure in the immediate vicinity however, the existing OHL is located c.310 m of the southernmost standing stone (MHG32405) backdropping the axial alignment. Also, within the wider landscape changes in land use comprise post-medieval field systems, and modern development such as the small settlement of Ramsbraigs to the northeast.</p> <p>The location of the grouping in the uplands, have been an important aspect of setting for the settlement, elevating the assets and allowing expansive views within the landscape and potential navigable prominence to travellers.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the grouping is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to the understanding of these assets.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure, with cables crossing the inferred axial alignment to the north of MHG32405.	

<p><b>Summary of Impact</b></p>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the grouping will undergo changes to setting as a result of the introduction of the Proposed Development. This is due to the close proximity of the development, eroding the immediate setting and interrupting the axial alignment of the assets.</p> <p>As non-designated assets, the value of the grouping is derived primarily from their archaeological significance and association with nearby standing stone SM502. As such, they form part of a larger prehistoric landscape with setting making up a secondary value. The existing OHL is located c.310 m of the southernmost standing stone (MHG32405) backdropping the axial alignment.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would oversail standing stone MHG32405 in the south of the alignment. The main contributor to setting for these two non-designated assets is their visual link with SM502. The introduction of the Proposed Development, although oversailing one asset will not sever these key visual links although it may backdrop views from SM502 to MHG32405.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Effect</b></p>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p>

## SECTION B

### Scheduled Monuments

#### Major Projected Effect

Little Torboll Prehistoric Landscape: North		
SM1861 Fort 1000 m NE of Eiden, East Kinnauld SM1862 Broch NE of East Kinnauld School		2 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-138—762, 763, 764, 765, and 766 3DVP-139—767, 768, 769, 770, and 771	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 133 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> High	<b>Projected Effect: Major</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1861 comprises a fort, consisting of an inner enclosure with outworks, located 1 km NE of Eiden. The inner enclosure measures 37 m NE-SW by 29 m NW-SE, and the walls are c.90 cm thick.</p> <p>SM1862 comprises the remains of a broch 9.5 m in diameter, with a 4.1 m thick wall and evidence for a mural gallery to the north.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric defensive sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets can be defined by their relative locations on a commanding bluff, with impressive and extensive views in all directions, with key sightlines along the uplands east, south to the coast and to the floodplain / valley floor. The modern road of the A839 is located c. 106 m to the south, beyond which is a train line (c.199 m S) as well as the River Fleet (c. 328 m S). Modern infrastructure and scattered buildings are within the area and are clearly visible. Key views are most likely between each other, and over, up and down the river valley of the River Fleet.</p> <p>The wider landscape, beyond the valley, for both these assets is comprised of a rural, hilly moorland with small settlements and infrastructure scattered within it. The nearby village of Pittentrail is located 1.3 km to the north-west, and a small settlement, Morvich, is present c. 1.6 km to the south-east.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to a major degree to the understanding of these assets, given the intrinsic prominence and intentional viewshed and sightlines.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.133 m to the south-east of these assets, enclosing the assets between transmission infrastructure. Tower N263 is also positioned in the direct sightline extending southeast from SM1862.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces transmission infrastructure that serves to enclose the assets within OHL alignments and will be within these assets setting due to their proximity and prominence within views across the upland, towards the coast, and across the floodplain. Due to the high elevation of these assets setting, they will be visible in key views to the east. The introduction of this modern infrastructure, on top of the already present modern infrastructure within the setting, could potentially overpower the rest of the setting, and dominate	

	<p>views. Specifically, Tower N263 necessarily is sited prominently in the view southeast down the valley to the coast from the Broch SM1862, even after design input.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered medium/high. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a High magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Major effect overall. While the key views and prominence may yet be accessed, the ability to appreciate and experience the assets, is notably compromised.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of a severely diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained alongside the ability to understand the assets in context.</p>

#### Minor Projected Effect

Killin		
SM1794 chambered cairn Killin		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure CHVP-34	Plates: 3DVP- 123—685, 686, 687, 688, 689, and 690 3DVP-124—691	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 526 m N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1794 chambered cairn, Killin, which is also known as Allt Nam Ban, comprises the remains of a Neolithic chambered cairn. Though it hasn't been excavated or surveyed in recent years, it was originally described as a chambered cairn of Orkney Cromarty type with a Camster type chamber.</p> <p>The cairn lies in a thin birch wood gently sloping down to the eastern shore of Loch Brora and close to the left bank of the burn at 70 m AOD.</p> <p>The mound is made up of small, rounded boulders forming an oval shaped monument. When first recorded in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, prior to significant disturbance and removal of many cairn stones, the monument measured 16 m long. The maximum height of the cairn measured in 1961 was 1.7 m. The chamber has three compartments, with a total length of 4.6 m.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived both from its archaeological interest and its setting. The former derives from the potential for future investigation of its buried archaeology. Through the study of its physical form, sequence of construction and depositional history, future research can contribute to our understanding of burial practices, belief systems and the nature of Neolithic society in this area of Scotland and further afield.</p> <p>The setting of the cairn within a wider prehistoric landscape, with associations to a number of nearby sites and extensive inward and outward views, contributes to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p> <p>The asset, including its setting, also contributes to a broader understanding of the placing of such funerary monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance placed on death and burial in prehistoric times.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The chambered cairn's setting is defined by its Lochside location within scrubland, with key views to the west and southwest, following the course of Loch Brora. It also lies adjacent to the Allt Nam Ban stream draining the higher ground above</p> <p>Established research has demonstrated that Neolithic and Bronze Age funerary monuments – such as chambered tombs - were deliberately positioned in relation to landscape features and other prehistoric monuments and are often interpreted as landscape markers, places that were designed to be seen and see from.</p> <p>Key aspects of the asset's setting that help understand the placing of such funerary monuments within the landscape include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its physical context: the cairn's association with the loch, natural features in the landscape (incl. potentially Carrol Rock) and the streams flowing down from the uplands;</li> <li>• Views to and from the asset; and</li> <li>• Its association with other contemporary monuments around the loch and further afield.</li> </ul> <p>The Killin chambered cairn has a close association with two likely late Neolithic monuments to the northwest, including the Allt A' Mhuilinn Chambered Cairn (MHG11002) and the late Neolithic Ascoile Henge (SM3288), located 4.7 km and 3.7 km away respectively. Though there is no intervisibility between these monuments, they occupy similar positions on the eastern edge of the Brora basin and all three would be visible from raised ground on the western side of the loch. It is also possible that some of the other numerous prehistoric assets, including some of the numerous hut circles and field systems around the loch shore, could have their origins in the late Neolithic and Bronze Age, while views from Carrol Broch (SM1846) may also be considered to contribute value, even if they are likely secondary.</p> <p>The landscape in which the monument is located has seen notable development in the post-medieval and modern periods including the introduction of a road to its immediate west, a small OHL that oversails and some forestry planting in the vicinity. Modern infrastructure is also present within the Loch Brora area, including an existing transmission infrastructure that cross the Brora River to the northwest and southeast of the loch, though these are not visible from the monument itself.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 526 m south of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development is located to the south and southwest of the asset and would be clearly visible within key views following the course of Loch Brora, but does not impact the relationship to the Loch, natural features or to the burn running east (Allt nam Ban).</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located to the southwest of the monument and therefore does not detract significantly from its relationship with neighbouring Neolithic sites located to the northwest and would not be visible in views from the monument to the northwest. There is, however, likely to be some limited visibility of the Proposed Development from the western side of the loch in views towards the monument, within which two other Neolithic monuments are visible. These views (including from Carrol broch (SM1846)) along with views south from the monument are considered secondary to the focus on the burn (Allt nam Ban) and overall connection to the loch.</p> <p>It is considered that this impact upon lesser key views would detract from the way in which the monument is appreciated and experienced. This impact is limited by the prior existence of modern infrastructure in the area, though the scale and proximity of the Proposed Development would nevertheless be a notable addition. The resultant magnitude of this impact is considered to be Low.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset it is assigned a High cultural significance, to the cultural significance to a moderate degree, with a low/medium sensitivity to change. Noting the above-described Low magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore Minor.</p>



<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor Effect is to be considered a <b>Not Significant</b> Effect in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>
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<b>Brae Monuments</b>		
SM1830 two hut circles 120 m and 200 m ESE of Brae Cottage SM1840 broch, Strath Carnaig W of Mound Junction, Brae		2 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-144—798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, and 804 3DVP-145—805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, and 811	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 371 m N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1830 two hut circles 120 m and 200 m ESE of Brae Cottage consists of the remains of two later prehistoric houses, the northernmost hut circle measuring 18 m in diameter and the southernmost hut circle measuring 15.5 m in diameter. Both measures approximately 1 m high. Possible elements of a field boundary have been recorded next to the walls of the southern hut circle.</p> <p>SM1840 broch, Strath Carnaig W of Mound Junction, Brae consists of a broch.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The two Scheduled Monuments are within a wide and shallow valley, either side of two streams (Allt Lochan tain Bhuidhe and Abhainn an t-Stratha Chàrnaig). It is possible that they would have had a relationship when still in use, and visual connection between the assets should be prioritised alongside maintaining views up and downstream.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these two monuments is primarily derived from their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains and materiality, which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric settlement, defence, and land use. SM1830 can contribute to knowledge about domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. SM1840 can make contribute significant understanding to the function, use, and development of brochs.</p> <p>The significance of the monuments is enhanced by their association with the wider landscape of later prehistoric settlement following the course of Abhainn an t-Stratha Chàrnaig.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location within an area of gently sloping ground towards a moorland floodplain, straddling the junction between Abhainn an t-Stratha Chàrnaig and Allt Lochan tain Bhuidhe. The existing transmission infrastructure cuts from east to west on the southern slopes of the valley. The immediate setting of the two assets nearby water sources and within a wider prehistoric settlement landscape that also includes aspects of post-medieval occupation, contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture and land use, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements had as an active network within the upland-lowland valley landscape. Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their archaeological value, their setting can be seen to contribute to their significance given their prominence and association with dispersed prehistoric occupation along the watercourses, with the setting allowing an explanation for their purpose and use. Therefore, the setting can be seen to contribute to their heritage significance.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure immediately south of the assets, beyond the existing OHL infrastructure.</p>	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	Due to the position of the Proposed Development south of the assets along a similar alignment to existing infrastructure, the setting of the two assets of SM1830 and SM1840 will be subject to slight change in setting from the introduction of the Proposed Development. This is because the Proposed Development will be visible from the assets and may introduce an additive effect, increasing the presence of modern infrastructure in the area downstream. However, the Proposed Development is not anticipated to impact the ability to interpret the asset, nor will it disrupt the assets' relationship to each other. The relationship to other assets in the prehistoric landscape will not be further disrupted. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible/Low.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations.  The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.

Carrol Broch		
SM1846 broch, Carrol 600 m SSW of, Loch Brora		1 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-129—715, 716, 717, 718, 719, and 720	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 486 m SS
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM1846 broch, Carrol 600 m SSW of, Loch Brora consists of a broch, measuring between 9.3 m and 9.4 m internal diameter and surviving to an average height of 3 m has been excavated.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of the scheduled monument is primarily derived from the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains, which may significantly contribute to understanding of prominence, domestic/defensive settlements and the relationships with waterways.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location on the side of a moorland hill above wide floodplain valley. SM1846 currently sits within modern plantation, presently limiting views from its position to the surrounding prehistoric landscape. The placement upon the Allt Coire Aghaisgeig, to the west of Loch Brora contribute to the understanding of resource exploitation on the border of two landscapes: moorland and floodplain. Further, the placement of SM1846 on the border of two landscapes can contribute to understanding of land control and defence. The prominent placement on the tributary waterway at the head of the loch infers a siting for strategic control of the River Brora and the wide viewshed from the broch easterly across the plain, southerly down the River Brora and to a lesser extent northerly up Loch Brora, would be key in the defensive function of the broch. Although, the plantation surrounding SM1846 somewhat decontextualises the broch from its setting as the visual relationship between the asset and its setting, is temporarily disrupted, the placement is clear.</p> <p>The wider area includes significant modern development along the coast to the south including the existing OHL spanning the River Brora. There are some other prehistoric assets that suggest SM1846 forms part of a larger prehistoric landscape, perhaps adding to the collective significance of the landscape, including being sited with a sightline towards SM1794 (chambered Cairn), but more importantly the likely contemporary Iron Age site MHG10805 (broch, sited immediately north of Tower N216).</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of the asset is the archaeological value, setting can be seen to contribute to a moderate/major degree to the significance through prominence, site</p>	

	connectivity and the wide viewshed concerning the River and Loch Brora, with the setting allowing an explanation for purpose and use.
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure, in close proximity to the north (c.486 m) following the spanning of loch Brora. This will interrupt view north and along the loch, as well as placing transmission infrastructure on both the north and south of the asset, as well as between the asset and MHG10805.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	Due to the proximity to the Proposed Development, a sense of encroachment from the north can be anticipated, introducing modern transmission infrastructure that will disrupt views over the northern segments of Loch Brora. However, the majority of the visual sphere is unobstructed by the Proposed Development and the associations with key defensive or observational sightlines remain intact, while connective views to settlement on the eastern valleyside, and to monuments SM1794 and MHG10805 are eroded. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Duchary		
SM1854 fort, Duchary Rock		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-136 – 753, 754, 755, and 756	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1854 is the remains of a fort, likely dating to the Iron Age. It occupies a steep ridge in the landscape with substantial stone walls visible to the north and south. This is a good example of an Iron Age fort which occupies a strategic position in the landscape.</p> <p>This monument is of national importance as a significant Iron Age site and for its ability to further the understanding of prehistoric, defended sites in Sutherland.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The monument is of national importance because it has an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of Iron Age society in Sutherland and the function, use and development of forts and other defended sites in the north of Scotland more broadly and further afield.</p> <p>Its significance is derived primarily from its architectural and archaeological interest and the potential for future research. Architecturally, the outer works of the fort are impressive, formed by substantial stone walls which add to the strong natural defenses of Duchary Rock. Features such as wall facings, door checks and building joints are visible, and the site demonstrates how naturally defensive locations were chosen and augmented to create defended settlements.</p> <p>Archaeologically there remains potential for scientific survey and excavations to further understand the character, use and development of this fort.</p> <p>As described in more detail below, the monument also derives value from its strategic and spectacular setting as a prominent hill-top fort, including its association with other Iron Age settlement to the north and northeast and key views over its surroundings.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its dramatic clifftop position and its association with nearby Iron Age sites. Its location atop a rocky spur high up on the southwest flank of Strath Brora, overlooking the gentler lower slopes along both sides of the loch is a key part of its setting, as is its relationship with the moorland grazing areas immediately to the west and more distant uplands. Within the fort's vicinity, later</p>	

	<p>prehistoric settlement sites cluster in two groups along the lower lying western shore of the loch, one immediately to the east and northeast at Leadoch, and the second between 1.1 km and 1.6 km to the north at Carrol. A third concentration of settlement sites are visible from the fort looking northeast on the opposite side of the loch eastern loch edge and higher ground behind it. This includes numerous hut circles and undated enclosures, and two possible brochs - one at Leadoch (Canmore Id:6458) and one below An Dubh-lochan (MHG10805). A convincing Iron Age broch – Carrol Broch (SM1846) – is located at Carrol. Though Carrol Broch is not visible from the fort itself, the high point on Duchary Rock immediately adjacent to the fort affords commanding views over the Broch.</p> <p>As a fort, its siting was strategic, designed to take advantage of the natural protection afforded by the cliffs and provide a safe retreat during times of threat. The expansive views it afforded across the loch and downstream along the river Brora and south towards the coast would have also been important to its occupiers.</p> <p>Modern infrastructure is also part of the asset's setting including an existing OHL located 1.5km to the southeast and housing development in low-lying areas to the east where towns and villages such as Brora are located. Modern forestry plantations also line the loch shores and nearby hills and windfarms are visible on higher ground to the west.</p> <p>As such, the fort exists and is already partially interpreted within a modern context. However, two key aspects of the monument's current setting can be highlighted that contribute to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its association with, and views over the loch. The fort's elevated position was chosen intentionally to provide good vantage point over its surroundings; and</li> <li>• Its relation to, and intervisibility with the adjacent Iron Age settlements around the Loch which likely formed part of the same broadly contemporaneous settlement landscape.</li> </ul>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 2 km northwest of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development is located following a corridor from north to southwest of the asset. Higher ground to the west of the fort restricts visibility in this direction but the Proposed Development will be visible from the asset to the north, northeast and northwest. This includes key views northwards over the loch. As a defensive structure located on a prominent ridge, all long-range views from this asset over its environs are of importance, including those over the loch and later prehistoric settlement landscape at Carrol and on the eastern shore of the loch, within which Proposed Development would be visible. The introduction of an OHL into this view would therefore bring about a change to this aspect of its setting.</p> <p>This change would, however, be limited by the fact that the Proposed Development would be located over 2.5 km away from the fort. In addition, the Proposed Development would not intrude upon the fort's immediate setting, nor would it detract from its association with the adjacent later prehistoric landscape at Leadoch. It is considered that these changes would generate a marginal and limited impact upon how the fort is understood, experienced and appreciated, although the northern spanning of Loch Brora does materially alter the landscape character.</p> <p>The resultant magnitude of this impact is therefore assessed to be Low.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Little Torboll Prehistoric Landscape: South		
SM1772 cairn & chambered cairn, Carn Liath, 1200 m WNW of Torboll SM1782 cairn, hut circles, field system, Creag an Amalaidh SM1809 cairns, hut circles & clearance cairns 400 m E of Morvich Lodge SM1819 cairn 1450 m WSW of Torboll Farm SM1822 two hut circles and clearance cairns 800 m NW of Loch a'Bhiocair SM1851 hut circles & field system, Creag an Amalaidh, 270 m NNE of Achinail		6 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-40	Plates: 3DVP-141—778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, and 784 3DVP-142—785, 786, 787, 788, and 789 3DVP-143—790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, and 797 3DVP-146—812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, and 818 3DVP-147—819, 820, 821, 822, and 823 3DVP-148—824, 825, 826, 827, and 828	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 468 m SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1772 comprises a cairn &amp; chambered cairn 1.2 km WNW of Torboll. The round chambered cairn has a diameter of 19m and an average height of 2.3 m, with a well-defined passage and chamber.</p> <p>SM1782 comprises a cairn, hut circles and field system. The cairn is sub-oval in form, measures 21 m in length and consists of stone rubble. The five stone walled huts are located within an associated field system, along with two indeterminate structures.</p> <p>SM1809 comprises two cairns, each containing a cist, a small number of mounds, four huts and numerous stone clearance heaps, located 400 m E of Morvich Lodge.</p> <p>SM1819 comprises a cairn measuring 17.3 m N-S by 16.6 m and 2 m high, located 1.45 km WSW of Torboll Farm. A kerb of large boulders, 0.3 m in average height and 0.4-0.6 m in length, is present around the base of the cairn.</p> <p>SM1822 comprises two hut circles, one 12 m in diameter, the other 8.5 m in diameter, located 800m NW of Loch a'Bhiocair. Both have south-facing entrances, with numerous scattered stone clearance heaps nearby.</p> <p>SM1851 comprises four stone walled huts and an associated field system, located 270 m NNE of Achinailare.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of later prehistoric settlement sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets can be defined by their relative locations on the side of a number of hills, within a moorland. The River Fleet flows in between these assets, with SM1809, SM1861, SM1862 and SM1822 located on the north-eastern side of the river, and the remaining assets located on the south-western side of the river. Loch Fleet is also located to the south and south-east of these assets. Key views for these assets include views towards the south, over Loch Fleet and views to and across the River Fleet; and views toward SM1819 from the east.</p> <p>The wider landscape for these assets is comprised of a rural, hilly moorland with small settlements and infrastructure scattered within it. The nearby village of Pittentrail is located 2.1 km to the north-west.</p>	

	Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of these monuments is their archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets.
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.468 m to the north-west of these assets. The presence of two convergent existing OHLs is already present in the landscape enclosing some of this asset grouping.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development introduces transmission infrastructure on the near (southern) side of the existing OHL at East Kinnauld as it spans the Fleet valley. The Proposed Development will be within these assets setting due to their proximity. Due to the high elevation of these assets setting, the development will be visible in key views to the west and north-west. However, due to the presence of modern infrastructure already within the landscape, and the topography, the visibility of the development will be reduced.</p> <p>During fieldwork, it was determined that the topography of the terrain in which the assets are situated is undulating and as such, views between assets and towards the Proposed Development are limited. Views of the development are likely to be at a distance and are not anticipated to interfere with the ability to interpret the assets.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered Medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall. The key contributing archaeological value to the assets' cultural significance, the key contributing aspects of setting to the assets' cultural significance, the ability to understand and appreciate the assets, and all key views towards and from them will be preserved.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

#### *Negligible Projected Effect*

<b>Achnagarron</b>		
SM1762 two standing stones NE of Achnagarron SM1827 settlement 380 m WNW of Glenelg, Achnagarron		2 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-133—735, 736, 737, 738, 739, and 740 3DVP-134—741, 742, 743, 744, 745, and 746 3DVP-135—747, 748, 749, 750, 751, and 752	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.3 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1762 two standing stones NE of Achnagarron comprises of two prehistoric standing stones.</p> <p>SM1827 settlement 380 m WNW of Glenelg, Achnagarron comprises of the remains of four (possibly five) roundhouses and elements on an associated field system, probably dating to the Bronze Age. The roundhouses measure between 8 m and 13 m in diameter with stony banks up to 0.6 m in height and 3 m in width. There is also a scatter of small cairns up to 5 m in diameter and 5 m in height, within which the fragmentary remains of field banks are visible.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The two scheduled monuments are situated in close proximity with each other and share a similar setting within the prehistoric landscape. It is likely that they would have had a spatial relationship to each other, and intervisibility between them is an important contributor to their understanding.</p>	



<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of these two monuments is derived from their setting, in addition to the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. The significance of the monuments is enhanced by their association with the wider landscape of later prehistoric settlement. The sites all have a degree of intact physical remains present, along with the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their location substantively inland from the coast, on top of a small, moorland hill within an undulating landscape. The setting is rural, with patches of post-medieval and modern agricultural fields and occasional pockets of modern settlement in amongst an upland landscape. The assets themselves are located nearby two minor modern roads and a handful of buildings, some of which are screened by vegetation, though there is very little modern infrastructural development. There are wide, panoramic views of the surrounding landscape, including potential visibility of other prehistoric assets (SM1853, SM1838, and SM1849). The semi-agricultural setting contributes to the heritage significance of the assets as it may help to contextualise their original purpose. Their placement within a prehistoric landscape (primarily to the south at the River Fleet valley/inlet), means that they both contribute to and gain meaning from a broader, collective significance. Views towards the River Fleet valley and its associated burns can be considered key.</p> <p>Their setting contribution can be seen to contribute to their significance as they are positioned as an inland occupation zone, likely associated to the coastal and river occupation zones to the south, with the setting allowing an explanation for their purpose and use.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would potentially result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure into the long-distance (3.3 km) views south of the assets.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The setting of the two assets SM1762 and SM1827 will have a Slight impact from the introduction of the Proposed Development. The Proposed Development may be visible from the assets in long distance views when looking south and introduce modern infrastructure to the wider viewshed. However, this will not impact any key views and the distance from the line means that the primary, immediate setting of the assets will not be impacted. The relationship to other assets in the prehistoric landscape will not be disrupted.</p> <p>Although the Proposed Development may be visible, it will not impact the immediate setting of the assets nor disrupt their relationship with the wider prehistoric landscape. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Blairmore		
SM1838 hut circles & field system, Blairmore		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-137—757, 758, 759, 760, and 761	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.1 km N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	The scheduled monument SM1838 consists of three stone-walled huts and a field system located on a heather covered rounded hilltop.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived both from its archaeological interest and its setting. The former derives from the potential for future investigation of its buried archaeology.</p> <p>Through the study of its physical form, sequence of construction and depositional history, future research can contribute to our understanding of Late Prehistoric/Early Historic society in this part of Scotland and further afield.</p> <p>The setting of the hut circles and in particular its close association to its hilly surroundings and other nearby assets, contributes to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the hut circles is defined by its hilly environment, its relationship with other monuments in its vicinity and across the wider Late Prehistoric to Early Historic landscape.</p> <p>It is situated on top of a rounded heather covered hill at 180 m AOD on the western edge of a large area of raised ground made up of similar rounded hills and moorland that is bounded by the Strath Brora and Golspie uplands in the east and north respectively and the Fleet Valley to the south. The monument overlooks this hilly terrain and also affords wide vistas over the lower lying basin to the west now the location of numerous dispersed settlements within the parish of Rogart. Small streams drain the hillside, flowing westward into the basin before joining larger tributaries, which in turn join the Fleet Valley 3 km to the southwest. The Blairmore hut circles also look down on the hilly moorland to the north and east across Loch Salachaidh and the Allt Loch an t-Salachaidh which flows into a series of small lochs.</p> <p>This north of Scotland is well known for its extensive Later Prehistoric/Early Historic landscapes, consisting of field systems, hut circles, burnt mounds and burial cairns among other site types. The area around Rogart is a good example of this with settlement remains on every hillside. The two closest associated monument groups to the Blairmore hut circles are an extensive area of clearance mounds, lynchets and field boundaries, beginning 220 m to the south, and a cluster of hut circles, clearance cairns and burnt mounds 220 m to the northeast at Achork. The closest part of the Achork group consists of three burnt mounds.</p> <p>Though we cannot be certain that these adjacent sites were built at the same time, it seems likely that there would have been overlap in occupation phases between them. Moreover, even when abandoned or ruinous they would likely have still been part of the landscape encountered and understood by the inhabitants of later settlements.</p> <p>The surrounding landscape has seen notable development in the post-medieval and modern periods including settlement in the Rogart basin. Modern infrastructure within the monument's vicinity includes an overhead electricity transmission line located just 520m to the southeast and a track road which rounds the hillside from west to east.</p> <p>and other modern infrastructure to the assets immediate environment, such as</p> <p>In summary, we can highlight two key aspects of the monuments setting that contribute substantially to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its association with, and views over, its hilly environs, including the Rogart Basin, the Allt Loch an t-Salachaidh watershed. It is likely the hilltop location was chosen intentionally to provide good vantage point for the settlement over its surroundings; and</li> <li>• Its relation to, and intervisibility with, the adjacent field systems and burnt mounds likely to form part of the same broad settlement landscape.</li> </ul> <p>To a lesser degree we can highlight views towards the more distant uplands and the Strath Brora and Fleet valleys to the north and south respectively.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 2.1 km south of the asset.</p>

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would be built as a linear feature located northeast to southwest of the asset. Due to the asset's elevated position and wide views, the Proposed Development is likely to be visible.</p> <p>However, the key aspects of setting that contribute to this asset's cultural significance are found within its immediate vicinity. The Proposed Development, located at a distance to the northeast, east and southeast, will be visible within views between these associated monuments but this will be at a distance of over 2 km, with an existing OHL in the foreground. It is considered that that this change will therefore be very limited and unlikely to alter the ability to appreciate or experience the asset.</p> <p>Although the development may be visible in long range views to the northeast, east and southeast, this will be partially screened by higher ground and will be viewed at such a distance that it is unlikely to significantly alter the ability to appreciate or experience the asset. The resultant magnitude of this impact is therefore considered to be Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Carrol Fish Farm		
SM13617 fish farm 430 m SE, 410 m SSE, 660 m and 890 m SSW of Carrol		1 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-130—721, 722, 723, 724, 725, and 726	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 537 m SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM13617 fish farm 430 m SE, 410 m SSE, 660 m and 890 m SSW of Carrol consists of a late nineteenth century fish farm that contains three earthwork remains of artificial ponds with feeder and collector lades, along with the footings of a rectangular building. The scheduled area is in four parts to include the remains and an area around them within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use, and abandonment is expected to survive.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of the monuments is primarily derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to understanding of historic relationships with waterways as a key resource.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset is defined by the location on the hillside on the western side of Strath Brora. SM13617 is a series of four artificial ponds that begin to the west of the hillside plantation and ends at the east of the plantation as the Allt Coire Aghaisgeig runs into the River Brora to the east.</p> <p>The setting is limited to the Allt Coire Aghaisgeig and connection to contemporary 19<sup>th</sup> century settlement, as SM13617 was functional as a fish farm between 1878 and 1921.</p> <p>Overall, the main contributing value of this asset is the archaeological value, with the setting being a marginal component, extending only to the burn where they have remained in the original location, with the setting allowing a contextualisation for their purpose and use.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure, in close proximity to the north (c.537 m) following the spanning of loch Brora. This will interrupt view north and along the loch, as well as placing transmission infrastructure on both the north and south of the asset.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the experience of the assets will be impacted as a result on introducing modern transmission infrastructure to the wider landscape. However, the fundamentals of the setting will remain unaltered. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Old Parish Church and churchyard, Clynekirkton		
SM10484 Old Parish Church and churchyard, Clynekirkton		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-131 – 727, 728, 729, and 730	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.2 km S
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The monument is comprised of a parish church, its associated enclosed graveyard and a freestanding watchtower situated on a prominent mound. The church as it stands today was constructed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century and survives as an upstanding ruin with no roof. The manse and walled garden, which borders the graveyard to the south, was remodelled in 1840 and it is likely that the present churchyard was built around the same date.</p> <p>The present church contains a datestone of 1775 however, it is likely that there has been activity on the site since the Medieval period. The discovery of two Class I Pictish symbol stones and the head of a rectangular cross-slab, possibly relating to the Early Christian chapel at 'Kille of Clyne' support this early origin.</p> <p>With dwindling community numbers, the church was eventually closed in 1906 and parts of the building were demolished. The church ruin still stands to headwall height and a significant number of table-top graveslabs and funerary monuments survive in the churchyard.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The monument is of national importance as a well-preserved church with the archaeological and historical potential to contribute to an understanding of a multi-period ecclesiastical site, from the early Christian or early Medieval period up to the post-Reformation era.</p> <p>The monument is of historical importance because its development reflects the history of the parish, which is supplemented by the availability of documentary sources. The funerary monuments also possess significant architectural value.</p> <p>As a church, this monument also derives value from its immediate setting, including its historic associations with the manse and walled garden as well as its wider setting as a focal point for highland communities and as a place of congregation.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The church and burial ground are situated at the foot of Socach Hill around 45 m above sea level. The asset is within agricultural land that slopes gently down to the coast about 2 km to the east. The town of Brora is located 2.2 km to the southeast, where the river of the same name drains joins the sea.</p> <p>The siting of this church, with likely early Christian origins, nestled on the west bank of the Clyne Burn as it the mid-point between West Clyne, East Clyne and Clynelish, is also an important aspect of its setting. As a church, it was a focal point and acted as a place of congregation in the local landscape.</p> <p>The monument's historic association with the surrounding communities and over some distance is also demonstrated by the drove or 'coffin' road leading west up a very rough steep incline past the West</p>	

	<p>Clyne crofts, before turning in a northwest direction along the eastern side of Loch Brora and culminating at Oldtown and Strathbrora. Cregan a' Chorp (Gaelic = body stone), is a boulder beside this track, which used to be a resting place for funerals on their way to Clynekirkton graveyard.</p> <p>The church and burial ground's immediate setting is defined both by its physical situation against the steep hillside and river as well as its interrelation with other buildings and structures in its vicinity. This includes the manse situated immediately to the south and its walled garden (LB575) and the Coffin Road which curves around the enclosed graveyard before heading off southwards to Brora.</p> <p>Long distance views from the monument are restricted to the west and north by Sochach hill but those along the coffin road and are an important feature of its setting. The church also commands good views of the lower lying coastal plain, which are only partially screened by trees on the southeastern portion of its boundary. Views towards the church and its associated features from all directions were of course as, if not more important.</p> <p>On a general level, the historic character of the surrounding area remains intact. There have, however, been some notable changes since the church's construction in the 18<sup>th</sup> century, including the growth of Brora and the development of road networks. In its immediate environs, an OHL runs southwest to northeast along the east facing slope of Socach Hill, the closest portion of which is located only 160 m to the northwest of the monument across the line of the Coffin Road.</p> <p>Though its setting, including its relationship with the Coffin Road, has already been somewhat altered by the siting of an overhead power line, the monument's immediate and wider setting remain an important part of how it is understood and appreciated and as such make a substantial contribution to its cultural significance. Its immediate relationship with other historic and landscape features is one key aspect of this as is its historical setting at the junction of the different communities and its prominent positioning against the steep hillside. Views along the various trackways that led to the church were key to its value in the past and remain so today.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 2.2 km to the northwest of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The closest portion of the Proposed Development is approximately 2.3 km northwest of the asset, across rough and uneven hill land. As this is located at a distance and obscured by Socach Hill, views in this direction from the asset are unlikely. Furthermore, views towards the southwest, west and northwest already feature an existing OHL situated on the east face of Socach Hill, which is located behind the church at a much closer distance than the Proposed Development. The alignment of the Proposed Development, however, between the church and some of the crofting communities known to be connected to it, means that it will have a slight impact upon the wider setting of the asset.</p> <p>Noting the fact that the monument is already understood and appreciated in the context of an existing OHL, and the fact that it will not be visible from the asset itself, it is thought that the Proposed Development will only introduce very limited changes to the monument's setting. As such, it is considered that this predicted change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact. As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to have a High cultural significance. Considering the above-described Negligible magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore also considered to be Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh		
SM1849 hut circles & field system, Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-127 – 704, 705, 706, 707, and 708	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.1 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1849 consists of a settlement of six hut circles and a well-preserved, field system. The huts consist of ruined oval shaped stone walled enclosures, the largest of which measures 15m in diameter. Walls survive to a maximum height of 1 m. The field system comprises cultivation plots defined by stone clearance heaps, low field walls and lynchets</p> <p>There is evidence for later use of the site as one of the hut walls appears to have been modified and utilised, probably as a sheepfold.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived both from its archaeological interest and its setting. The former derives from the potential for future investigation of its buried archaeology. Through the study of its physical form, sequence of construction and depositional history, future research can contribute to our understanding of later prehistory/early medieval society in this part of Scotland and further afield.</p> <p>The setting of the hut circles and in particular its close association to its hilly surroundings and other nearby assets, contributes to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>This monument is situated at around 215 m AOD and spread out over 350 m x 130 m along the southeast side of Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh, close to its summit. Its setting of this asset is defined by its elevated position on a broad expanse of moorland and its close association with other likely contemporaneous, or near-contemporaneous settlements and the wider Late Prehistoric/Early Historic landscape. Due to its location on a slight incline, the asset has wide, panoramic views over its environs, though views from the monument to the northwest are screened by the broad hilltop.</p> <p>Numerous upland streams drain the northern part of the hill into the Brora River, the closest part of which is 1.7 km to the northwest of the hut circles. Closer to the hut circles (and likely offering the settlement's year-round source of freshwater) on the southeastern and southern slopes of Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh, is the drainage system of the small loch known as the Loch a'Choin-duinn. The loch and its streams also form the beginning of the Allt Clais a'Chait watercourse, that drains into lower lying pastures to the southwest. These lower altitude areas that today are established stock grazing fields would have offered contrasting seasonal resources, pastures and crop growing potential for the farmers of Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh.</p> <p>The uplands of the Loch Horn range rising to heights of over 400 m AOD just 2.5 km the west of the hut circles would also have provided a different suite of resources with larger lochs, abundant freshwater and mountain resources together with good summer grazing.</p> <p>Nearby associated settlement sites on the same side of Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh, that make up a key part of the monument's setting include a single hut circle located 210m to the north (Canmore ID 5823), a second cluster of six hut circles just 80 m to the northeast (Canmore ID 5809) and a burnt mound 200 m to the east (Canmore ID 5808). The positioning of the three hut circle sites on the same contour elevated above the burnt mound and slightly below and a large flat moorland plateau is a key part of their setting.</p> <p>Further hut circle sites are also known all around the lower lying parts of the moorland surrounding Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh, and nearby hillsides.</p> <p>Though we cannot be certain that the adjacent and nearby sites were built and inhabited at precisely the same time, it seems likely that there would have been an overlap in occupation phases between them. Moreover, even when abandoned or ruinous they would likely have still been part of the landscape encountered and understood by the inhabitants of later settlements.</p>	



	<p>Modern infrastructure within the monument's vicinity includes an overhead electricity transmission line, the closest part of which is just 600m to the southeast and the Kilbraur Wind Farm, whose turbines are prominent in views from the hut circles to the northeast, the closest of which is located just 1.3 km to the east. Recently built access roads to the wind farm are located just 340 m from the hut circles.</p> <p>In summary, two key aspects of the monuments setting can be said to contribute substantially to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its association with, and views over, its immediate moorland and hilly environs, including the adjacent plateau and lower lying areas. It is likely its elevated position was chosen intentionally to provide good vantage point for the settlement over its surroundings; and</li> <li>• Its relation to, and intervisibility with, the adjacent hut circles and burnt mounds likely to form part of the same broad settlement landscape.</li> </ul> <p>To a lesser degree, the hut circles association with and views towards the more distant uplands around Loch Horn, as well as the Brora valley to the southeast and north respectively, are part of its wider setting and also contribute to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 4.1 km southeast of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would be built as a linear feature located northeast to southwest of the asset. Due to the asset's elevated position, the Proposed Development is likely to be visible in some long-range views.</p> <p>Though such long-range views are considered part of the monuments setting, the most important aspects of its setting that contribute in a substantive way to this asset's cultural significance are found within its more immediate surroundings.</p> <p>The Proposed Development, located at a distance to the northeast, east and southeast, may be visible as a distant feature in the background of key views such as those from the asset to the burnt mound to its east, and from the asset over Loch a'Choin-duinn and its associated watercourses to the southeast. This will, however, be at least partly obscured by topography and only visible at a distance of over 4km. Furthermore, views in an easterly direction will also feature an existing OHL and windfarm in the foreground. It is considered that that this change will therefore be very limited and unlikely to alter the ability to appreciate or experience the asset.</p> <p>The resultant magnitude of this impact is considered to be Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Dremergid		
SM1853 hut circles and field system, Dremergid		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-128 – 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, and 714	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.5km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>This monument is of national importance as the well-preserved remains of two hut circles, an enclosure and a field system.</p> <p>SM1853 is a complex of five hut circles, an enclosure and a field system flanking the ridge to the north of Dremergid. It is likely to have been built in the Bronze Age or Iron Age, though examples are known to have been occupied in the Medieval period. The largest hut circle measures 13 m in diameter and still survives at a height of 1 m.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived both from its archaeological interest and its setting. The former derives from the potential for future investigation of its buried archaeology. Through the study of its physical form, sequence of construction and depositional history, future research can contribute to our understanding of later prehistoric/early medieval society in this part of Scotland and further afield.</p> <p>The setting of the hut circles and in particular their close association to the hilly surroundings and other nearby assets, contributes to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location on the south face of a ridge within a broad expanse of open undulating moorland. Due to its elevated position, the asset has long-range views over its environs. Its siting between the watersheds of two major rivers - the Strath Brora to the north and the Fleet to the south - is a key feature of this assets setting. The Dremergid hut circles have clear views over numerous streams and small lochs within its vicinity as well as higher ground in more distant views. As a farming settlement its siting close to a variety of valley bottom and upland resources was also important as was the access to water. Adjacent and likely closely associated settlement sites that make up a key part of the monument's setting include two burnt mounds located 15 m to the east and 150 m to the south (Canmore ID 5873 and 5874) and a further hut circle and clearance cairns (Canmore ID 5887), 200 m to the northeast. Numerous other settlement evidence including hut circles, field systems and burnt mounds – much of which is likely to be Bronze Age in origin – is found over the broader hilly moorland between the Brora and the Fleet. Amongst these are other hill and ridge top settlements and field systems such as the four hut circles at Achnagarron (SM1827) 1.3 km to the southwest and the six hut circles at Cnoc an Ruidhean Chruaidh (SM1849) 2.2 km to the northeast.</p> <p>Though we cannot be certain that the adjacent and nearby sites were built and inhabited at precisely the same time, it seems likely that there would have been an overlap in occupation phases between them. Moreover, even when abandoned or ruinous they would likely have still been part of the landscape encountered and understood by the inhabitants of later settlements.</p> <p>In addition to modern farming development and forestry plantation, existing infrastructure within the monument's wider setting includes an OHL located 2 km to the southeast and the Kilbraur Wind Farm, 3.8 km to the east. A small road is present, rounding the ridge from west to east as well as a larger road (connecting to the A839) which is present in key views south from the asset.</p> <p>In summary, it is considered that the monument exists and is already partially interpreted within a modern context. However, two key aspects of the monuments setting can be highlighted that contribute to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its association with, and views over, its immediate moorland and hilly environs. It is likely its elevated position was chosen intentionally to provide good vantage point for the settlement over its surroundings; and</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Its relation to, and intervisibility with, the adjacent hut circles and burnt mounds likely to form part of the same broad settlement landscape.</li> </ul> <p>To a lesser degree the hut circles association with and views towards the more distant uplands and its general association with the later prehistoric and early medieval landscape are part of its wider setting and contributes to how it is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 4.5 km southeast of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would be built as a linear feature located northeast to southwest of the asset. Due to the asset's elevated position, the Proposed Development is likely to be visible in some long-range views.</p> <p>Though such long-range views are considered part of the monuments setting, the most important aspects of its setting that contribute in a substantive way to this asset's cultural significance are found within its more immediate surroundings.</p> <p>The Proposed Development, located at a distance to the northeast, east and southeast, may be visible as a distant feature in the background of key views over its immediate moorland and hilly environs and within views over nearby hut circle settlements to the east.</p> <p>This will, however, be at least partly obscured by topography and be viewed at a distance of over 4 km. Furthermore, views in an easterly direction will also feature an existing OHL and windfarm in the foreground. It is considered that that this change will therefore be very limited and unlikely to alter the ability to appreciate or experience the asset.</p> <p>The resultant magnitude of this change is considered to be Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Kilbraur		
SM13646 broch 135 m SSW of Kilbraur		2 x Scheduled Monuments
SM1793 hut circle & clearance cairns 270 m SW of Kilbraur		
Designations Summary:		
Figure: CHVP-33	Plates: 3DVP-120 – 669, 670, 671, 672, and 673 3DVP-121 – 674, 675, 676, 677, and 678	Distance from Proposed Development: 3.4 km N
Cultural Significance: High	Magnitude of Impact: Negligible	Projected Effect: Negligible
Summary of Asset	SM13646 broch 135 m SSW of Kilbraur comprises the remains of a broch, visible as a grass-covered mound, with surviving walling, associated banks and ditches.  SM1793 hut circle & clearance cairns 270 m SW of Kilbraur comprises the remains of a small clearly defined hut circle, 5.1 m in internal diameter, with a SE-oriented entrance. A series of nearby mounds relate to field clearance associated with a minor contemporary field system.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As Scheduled Monuments, these designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric settlement sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the assets also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>These assets are located on a knoll overlooking the valley of the River Brora. The river itself is located c.421 m to the north-east of the assets, and minor tributaries pass to the north and south of the assets, at the base of the knoll. Wide ranging views are possible from the asset, along the river valley in either direction.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' setting contributes to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the River Brora and its tributaries, which would have influenced the asset's siting and provided a key resource base; and</li> <li>the elevated topography, which would have offered a level of protection as well as enabling views along the river in either direction and potentially the administration of its use.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of the asset does make a contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of this asset remains its archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.3.4 km to the south of the assets.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern transmission infrastructure into distant views towards and from the assets. However, it would not materially affect the ability to appreciate the asset, and these views are already partly characterised by existing modern infrastructure, and this, combined with the intervening distance, diminishes the contribution of those views to the assets' cultural significance. The Proposed Development would not alter the ability to understand, appreciate or experience the assets.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered Low. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Lettie's Grave		
SM13619 square cairns, Lettie's Grave		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-36	Plates: 3DVP-132 – 731, 732, 733, and 734	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 6.4 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible

<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>Monument comprises of three, square burial cairns likely Late Iron Age to Early Medieval in date, located on a level terrace overlooking the River Lettie. The cairns are visible as three stone settings, situated in a rough triangle.</p> <p>This monument is of national importance as a rare example of Early Medieval burial practices in Scotland.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>This monument is of national importance because it is a well-preserved, rare group of a particular type of funerary site. It can make a significant contribution to our understanding of the past, particularly the design and construction of burial monuments, and the nature of burial practices and their significance in Early Historic society.</p> <p>The best-preserved cairn is an impressive monument that retains its field characteristics, and the three cairns form an integral group of burial monuments.</p> <p>The monument primarily draws significance from its archaeological interest - namely the potential for future investigation of its physical form and depositional history. To a lesser, though still important degree, the setting of the three mounds contributes to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p> <p>The asset, including its setting, also contributes to a broader understanding of the placing of such funerary monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance placed on death and burial in early historic times.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The cairns are situated on a level bracken-covered terrace overlooking the River Lettie above a modern track which runs up the northeast side of the Abhainn Leataidh.</p> <p>The landscape in which the monument is located is rural and there is relatively little modern development within the area (with the exception of the trackway).</p> <p>Although no other contemporary assets are known within the vicinity of the mounds, there are a number of undated hut circles and agricultural features in the vicinity that may be contemporaneous and at a general level the mounds can be considered part of a former Iron Age/early historic settlement and farming landscape.</p> <p>Their location on a terrace overlooking the Lettie would have been intentional and reflects the river's importance as a resource, routeway and landscape feature that had meaning in the past. The monument's immediate riverine setting including key views from to the west and south across the Lettie River valley are therefore important elements that facilitate our understanding, appreciation and experience of the site.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure approximately 6.4 km east of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to its location between two hills, the asset is mostly screened by higher ground, making clear views of the Proposed Development limited to a short extent bow between high terrain positions. Additional screening is present as woodland which is located at the south- east end of the terrace, thus further limiting potential views of the Proposed Development. As such, any visibility would be at a distance and there would be no change to key views west and south across the valley.</p> <p>As the Proposed Development would be located over 6 km away, it would have no impact upon the mounds' association with other nearby heritage assets.</p> <p>Considering the distance and the limited visibility, the introduction of the Proposed Development will not detract significantly from the ability to understand, appreciate or experience the asset. As such, it is considered that this predicted change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Listed Buildings

### Negligible Projected Effect

Ben Bhraigaidh		
LB7063 Ben Bhraigaidh Monument to First Duke of Sutherland		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-35, CHVP-38	Plates: 3DVP-140 – 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, and 777	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.7 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	A colossal statue, standing at around 33 meters tall, built in 1837 to commemorate the First Duke of Sutherland. Its construction involved an incredible feat of civil engineering for the time, and it is visible from a wide area of both land and sea. The quarry which provided the sandstone for the plinth can be seen near the monument.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived from its historic interest and its function as prominent landmark. It derives much of its historic interest as a monument to a powerful landowner and politician involved in the Highland clearances. It is a testimony to civil engineering as well as the ability to raise the funds and labour required for such a large undertaking. The monument is located on the eminence of Ben Bhraggie some 360m above sea level to the NW of Golspie on the E coast of Sutherland. The asset's strategic position allows it to dominate the skyline and be visible from miles around.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>This monument was intentionally located on top of Ben Bhraggie to enable it to be viewed from the surrounding areas. A key view of this asset is from the nearby town of Golspie, where the asset can be seen to dominate the skyline to the west. Additionally, views outwards from the summit of Ben Bhraggie are also of importance.</p> <p>Though the asset has retained its original setting within the rural mountainside, the wider landscape of Sutherland has changed considerably over the years. Key changes including the development of the town of Golspie, construction of the railway and A9, and the OHL's along the east coast.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 3.7 km to the northwest of the asset.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The location of this monument on top of Ben Bhraggie means that the Proposed Development, located to the west may be visible from the asset. However, it will be viewed at a distance of over 3 km at a much lower altitude than the asset, lessening its visibility.</p> <p>Although the asset has mostly retained much of its immediate historic setting, the wider landscape of Sutherland has changed since its construction. As such, any views of the Proposed Development from the asset would be viewed within an existing context of modern infrastructure.</p> <p>Furthermore, this asset as a commemorative statue was designed to be viewed from its local area and as such, derives more significance from views towards the statue than views away from it. It will not be visible in views from the coastline in and around Golspie.</p> <p>As such, the Proposed Development is not anticipated to substantially change how this monument is understood and appreciated and therefore, introduces only a very limited change. It is considered that this predicted change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	



Gordonbush Lodge		
LB584 Gordonbush Lodge		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-122 – 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, and 684	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.4 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	Large, 2-storey Shooting Lodge constructed in 1871. House is of an unusual construction and consist of grey rubble, tooled ashlar dressings, a projecting gabled porch, wide canted bay window, a polygonal turret, a veranda and a steep facetted slate roof.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived primarily from its historical and architectural interest. however, it may draw additional significance from its setting within the rural landscape.</p> <p>The building is located in a remote valley near Loch Brora, strategically positioned to facilitate hunting. The building is screened on all sides by dense tree cover.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset would have historically been defined by its location within a rural landscape, giving it an attractive quality as hunting lodge. Due to its remote location, the asset has retained most of this historic setting.</p> <p>Historically, the lodge was screened by dense tree cover, as it is today, meaning that views are localised within its grounds. As such, significance is drawn from its immediate setting within the landscape, rather than more distant views to or from the asset.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 2.4 km to the south of the asset.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The lodge is located in an area of dense tree cover, as such it is unlikely that the Proposed Development will be visible from the Listed Building. If visible, the Proposed Development would be viewed at a distance, towards the southern end of Loch Brora, a view which is already interrupted by a modern road.</p> <p>The changes to setting outlined above would not detract from the way in which this asset is appreciated or understood. It is therefore considered that this change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

## Garden Designed Landscapes

### *Negligible projected Effect*

Dunrobin Castle	
GDL00160 Dunrobin Castle	1 x Garden Designed Landscape
Associated Listed Buildings:	3 x Category A Listed Building
Category A	21 x Category B Listed Buildings

<p>LB7044 Dunrobin Castle</p> <p>LB7045 Dunrobin Castle Walled Garden</p> <p>LB7045 Dunrobin Castle Garden Pavilion (Museum)</p> <p>Category B</p> <p>LB7052 Dunrobin Castle North Entrance</p> <p>LB7052 Dunrobin Castle Stables</p> <p>LB7052 Dunrobin Castle Carriage House</p> <p>LB7052 Dunrobin Castle North Entrance Lodge</p> <p>LB7053 Dunrobin Castle, Private Burial Ground</p> <p>LB7047 Dunrobin Castle Dovecot</p> <p>LB7048 Dunrobin Castle, Duchess Harriett Memorial</p> <p>LB7049 Dunrobin Castle, Flagstaff Lodge</p> <p>LB7049 Dunrobin Castle Gate Piers</p> <p>LB7046 Dunrobin Castle Dairy Cottage</p> <p>LB7046 Dunrobin Castle Former Miling Parlour</p> <p>LB7055 Dunrobin Castle Tower Lodge</p> <p>LB7011 Golspie, 1 review Park</p> <p>LB7011 Golspie, 2 Review Park</p> <p>LB7054 Dunrobin Castle Station, Waiting Room</p> <p>LB7051 Dunrobin Castle Monument, 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Sutherland</p> <p>LB7056 Dunrobin Mains, Dunrobin Farmhouse and Keepers Cottage</p> <p>LB7058 Dunrobin Castle Kennels</p> <p>LB7059 Dunrobin Mains, Fisherman's Bothy/Rod Room</p> <p>LB7057 Dunrobin, Old Barn Cottages</p> <p>LB7026 Uppat, James Loch Memorial</p> <p>Category C</p> <p>LB7050 Dunrobin Castle Ice House</p> <p>LB7062 Sportman's Walk Cottage, Dunrobin</p> <p>Associated Scheduled Monuments:</p> <p>SM90060 Broch, Carn Liath, 6400 m ENE of Golspie</p> <p>SM1859 broch, Dunrobin Wood, 600 m NW of Dunrobin Mains</p> <p>SM1887 homestead 800 m SSE of Uppat</p>		<p>2 x Category C Listed Buildings</p> <p>3 x Scheduled Monuments</p>
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-37, CHVP-39	Plates: N/A	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 3.9km SE</b>
<b>Cultural Significance: High</b>	<b>Magnitude of Impact: Negligible</b>	<b>Projected Effect: Negligible</b>

<p><b>Summary of Asset</b></p>	<p>The GDL records a designed landscape centered on Dunrobin Castle, originally dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Dunrobin has been associated with the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland for much of its history. The castle and associated policies have undergone substantial alteration and development throughout their existence. A designed landscape of gardens is recorded from at least the 1600s. The modern layout of the designed landscape is largely informed by the design influence of Charles Barry in the mid-1800s.</p> <p>The castle and GDL are located on the coast, to the north of the Dornoch Firth. The settlement of Golspie is located to the west of the GDL. The castle and policy are located beside the modern A9 and just north of the historic coastal road as depicted on the Roy Military Survey of Scotland, 1747-1755 (Roy's Map of the Highlands) c. 1750.</p> <p>The uplands of Ben Horn and Beinn Lunndaigh are located to the north and north-west of the GDL respectively.</p> <p>The GDL consist of Dunrobin Castle, with its associated formal gardens, private burial ground, formal approaches and avenues, as well as estate buildings. The wider GDL beyond the castle and immediate gardens and parkland takes in the Mains with associated Kennels and accommodations, a railway station, cottages and a series of memorials. The most significant of which is LB7051, the monument to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Duke of Sutherland, located beside the northern avenue and railway station.</p> <p>The GDL also contains evidence of prehistoric settlement, with the three scheduled monuments within the GDL, all relating to Brochs or homesteads.</p> <p>Whilst outside of the Dunrobin Castle GDL, LB7063, a monument to the First Duke of Sutherland is located on the summit of Ben Bhraigaidh, 3.6 km west of Dunrobin Castle. This monument is heavily associated with Dunrobin Castle, the Dukes of Sutherland and the wide landscape around the Dornoch Firth.</p> <p>Roy's Map of the Highlands, dated c.1750, shows the castle and policy in little detail, but does record the castle positioned by the main coastal road, located immediately to the south of the castle and main gardens. A tree line avenue is recorded extending from the castle to the north towards the modern Mains, although no structures associated with the Mains are recorded on Roy's Map. The village of Golspie is drawn to the west of the Golspie Burn, with farmsteads/townships to the east, within the lowland agricultural zone close to the coastal road.</p> <p>Most of the improvements to the Castle and within the policies were undertaken for the 2nd Duke and his Duchess, with additions to the Castle in 1845 to provide a Royal Suite for the visit of Queen Victoria. The Castle was improved in the Scottish Baronial style, and formal gardens, including a rose garden, were laid out at this time. The 3rd Duke succeeded in 1861 and continued the improvements to the estates, reclaiming land, building new roads and supporting the construction of the northern railways.</p> <p>The First Edition OS depicts the GDL close to its current form, depicting the Castle, and main gardens to the south, with the main northern and western avenues in place along with associated gates and lodges. The main estate buildings are depicted although the burial ground LB7053 is not drawn. The parkland and woodland, with associated paths and walkways are drawn along the southern section of the policy, with the Mains and farmland to the north of the north lodge and railway line. Beyond this is plantation forest in the low uplands with upland moor to the north at greater elevation. The First Edition OS depicts the main coastal road now running north of the north lodge, in the position of the modern A9.</p> <p>During World War I, Dunrobin was used as an auxiliary naval hospital. Fire broke out in the Castle and destroyed part of it. After the war Sir Robert Lorimer was commissioned to carry out the repairs and alterations. The most notable external changes are to the two towers and several turrets.</p> <p>After the 5th Duke's death in 1966, the Dukedom passed to a descendant of the 2nd son of the 1st Duke and the Duchess-Countess; the 6th Duke of Sutherland lives at Mertoun in Borders Region. The Earldom passed to the 5th Duke's niece, Mrs Elizabeth Janson, who is Countess of Sutherland in her own right. From 1965 - 1972 Dunrobin Castle was run as a non-profitmaking school. It has been open to the public since 1973, and a flat is kept for the Countess's use. From 1984-87 proposals have been under discussion for leasing part of the Castle and an area of the grounds to a Swiss holiday development company.</p>
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<p><b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b></p>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (outstanding):</p> <p>Dunrobin is one of the oldest inhabited castles in Scotland and its associations with the Earls and Dukes of Sutherland give it outstanding Historical value.</p> <p>Architectural value (outstanding):</p> <p>Dunrobin Castle and the Walled Garden are listed A and there are many other interesting architectural features, giving it outstanding Architectural value. Dunrobin Castle is a large turretted mansion, dating from the 13th century, quadrupled in size from 1835- 50 and repaired in 1920 following fire. It is listed A and incorporates a 14th century square tower and 17th century tower and wing. The 17th century Garden Pavilion and Walled Garden, listed A, were built for the 16th Earl. The six acres of garden below the Castle were formally laid out as recorded by Sir Robert Gordon in c.1600 with flowers, fruit, vegetables and herbs. The Castle itself sits above the gardens and has fine views of the layout of the parterres. On the east side of the garden is the large rose garden, reputed to be designed in the form of a Scottish Targue or shield with the central fountain representing its spike. The Garden Pavilion is a square, two-storey building, now used as a museum. The mid-19th century, two-storey, cottage ornee Dairy Cottage is listed B. Flagstaff Lodge and Gatepiers, Tower Lodge, the Station, Golspie Bridge, the Stables, the Mains and the Kennels are all listed B. The mid 18th century Doocot contains around 500 nesting boxes and a potence and it is also listed B. The Monument to the 2nd Duke of 1866 is listed B; the 1872 Memorial to Duchess Harriet is a Gothic Eleanor Cross style memorial enclosing a bronze bust by Noble; also listed B. The Foundation Stone was laid by Queen Victoria. The late 18th century Ice House is listed C. The Private Burial Ground, listed B, was designed in c.1920 possibly by Lorimer and incorporates a statue from Trentham Park by Barry. There are several other estate buildings within the policies including the Gardener's Cottage and the former gardener's bothy. There are several pieces of ornamentation including a sundial dated 1616 and a sacrificial altar presented to Duchess Millicent in France.</p> <p>The main north/south avenue has been replanted over the years and remains as a strong landscape feature. A second avenue leads east to the private burial ground; known as 'Lady's Walk', this avenue once linked to the former shore road. The pier was a main access point in earlier times and the gates on this approach were a gift from the Duke of Westminster in 1894.</p> <p>Scenic value (outstanding):</p> <p>The designed landscape makes a major contribution to the surrounding scenery. The main coastal road north to Helmsdale and Wick, the A9, passes through the estate to the north of the Castle. The railway line runs parallel to and slightly to the north of the A9, and there is a private station at Dunrobin.</p> <p>The Castle itself is set on a rocky terrace above the shore overlooking the extensive formal garden and with fine views out across the Moray Firth. The designed landscape is enclosed by the extensive area of Dunrobin Wood which clothes the slopes and hills to the west and north of the policies.</p> <p>The castle woodland around the castle is visible on the eastern approach along the A9 from Carn Liath, standing in contrast to the surrounding farmland of the coastal lowlands, the coastal waters to the south and the upland moors to the north. The wooded core of the policy is also prominent in views from Golspie, backdropping views to the east from the main high street and upon exiting the village.</p> <p>From the wider landscape, the GDL is visible from the beaches and coastal settlement to the south along the Dornoch Firth, with the wooded GDL and wider estate standing out and contrasting with the coastal lowlands and upland moor which backdrops the estate.</p> <p>The castle and GDL are also prominent in coastal views from LB7063, a monument to the First Duke of Sutherland is located on the summit of Ben Bhraigaidh, 3.6 km west of Dunrobin Castle.</p> <p>Artistic value (outstanding):</p>
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	<p>The layout of the formal gardens and designed landscape at Dunrobin gives it outstanding value as a Work of Art.</p> <p>Horticultural value (some):</p> <p>The collection of plant material and specimen trees at Dunrobin gives it some Horticultural value. The main areas of woodland were planted after 1829. Most of the estate woodlands are planted with coniferous trees; however, the policy woodlands have been maintained with at least a deciduous edge for amenity purposes. Oak and beech over 200 years old line the main road, and sycamore, beech, lime and chestnut edge the woodlands. The younger plantations are mainly of Sitka spruce.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (high):</p> <p>The older woodlands and shoreline habitats provide Dunrobin with high Nature Conservation value. There is a geological SSSI along the shore to the east of the designed landscape.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its relationship to the Dornoch Firth as well as the coastal road and settlements running between Dornoch and Helmsdale.</p> <p>Key historic views from within the GDL are from the castle south over the gardens and coastal waters beyond, as well as east to west along the immediate coastline. Views north from the castle take in the formal avenue to the northern gates and railway station, with the Mains and wooded uplands of Dunrobin Woods beyond. Views east along the western avenue take in the western gates and Flagstaff Lodge, with the uplands of Ben Bhraggie backdropping the gates. LB7063, the First Duke of Sutherland is located on the summit of Ben Bhragaidh and is prominent in these views west outwith the GDL, particularly on the approach to Flagstaff Lodge. Views within the GDL within the parkland and woodland are largely screened.</p> <p>Key local views towards the GDL, from beyond its boundary are from the east, around Carn Liath, with the castle and wooded core visible in these views. Views east from the main High Street in Golspie take in the wooded core of the GDL. Views along the A9, leaving Golspie take in the two main formal gateways and lodges to the north and west of the GDL.</p> <p>Key views from the wider landscape, towards the GDL are from LB7063 and from the main coastal road and settlements south of the GDL along the Dornoch Firth. The views take in the castle and wooded core of the GDL, in relation to the coastal waters of the firth and the uplands which backdrop the GDL.</p> <p>The GDL and its immediate rural periphery have remained largely unaltered since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, with the exception of some improvements to the local road network and a wider expansion of the settlement of Golspie. As such, the setting of the GDL, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change that would erode key views outward from within the GDL, as well as from key viewpoints in the wider landscape. The most prominent of the external views from within the GDL are those capturing the uplands of Ben Bhragaidh and the monument to the First Duke of Sutherland. These views are most significant from the approach to western gate and Flagstaff Lodge, with visitors leaving the GDL taking in the monument in the distant uplands. Key views from the wider landscape are those from south of the GDL from the coastal approach road and coastal settlements along the Dornoch Firth.</p> <p>The landscape baseline around the GDL and valley basin contains an existing alignment of OHL towers running south-west to north-east immediately north of the GDL in the low foothills north of Golspie and north of Dunrobin Woods. These towers sit below the uplands of Ben Bhraggie/Beinn Lunndaigh and Cagar Feosaig/Ben Horn. The uplands of Ben Horn also contain wind turbines. C 6.5 km north of the GDL.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the north-west and north of the GDL, with OHL towers aligned south-west to north-east crossing the uplands of Beinn Lunndaigh, north of Loch Lunnaidh, crossing the Golspie Burn and continuing onto Ben Horn, south of the existing operational wind farm.</p>

	<p>The location of the Proposed Development means that only views within the GDL to the west, as well as external views from the wide landscape south of the GDL are at risk of impact.</p> <p>From within the GDL, views west from the western lodge, towards LB7063 would not contain the Proposed Development and views of the monument to the First Duke would be unaffected. Views along the northern avenue to LB7056 Dunrobin Mains would also not be affected.</p> <p>Wider landscape views from the south along the Dornoch Firth coastal road and from beaches such as those at Embo, would take in the Proposed Development in the uplands west of the GDL, atop Beinn Lunndaigh. Views of the LB7063 and the GDL will not be eroded by the new OHL towers, with the towers located 3.8 km north of the monument and more than 6 km north of the castle and GDL core. In the distant uplands of Ben Horn the Proposed Development would not backdrop the GDL or disrupt its wider landscape setting in relation to the coastline or the contrast with the upland moors which backdrop the policy.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues within the GDL and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key local views outwards from the GDL, namely towards the Dornoch Firth and westward, towards the uplands of Ben Bhraggie/Beinn Lunndaigh, would also be unaffected.</p> <p>Key local views and scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, namely those along the High Street of Golspie and on the eastern approach from Brora, along the A9, would also not be eroded.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views when approaching the GDL from the south along the A9 and from the coastal beaches and settlements around Embo, where the Proposed Development would be partially visible in the uplands of Beinn Lunndaigh, north of Loch Lunnaidh, crossing the Golspie Burn and continuing onto Ben Horn.</p> <p>A Negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible effect to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Significant Non-Designated Assets

### Minor Projected Effect

Brora Cluster		
MHG30343 Cup marked stone - Clyne MHG30347 Standing stone - Clyne		Group of significant non-designated assets
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-125 – 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, and 697 3DVP-126 – 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, and 703	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 91m N</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>



<b>Summary of Asset</b>	The Brora Cluster grouping comprises two prehistoric assets, a cup-marked stone and standing stone located to the east of Loch Brora. These assets date to the Neolithic – Bronze Age.
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As non-designated heritage assets, the individual features within this cluster are considered to be of low cultural significance however, as a group, a significant non-designated value can be assigned. This is due to their prominence in the landscape and contribution to the prehistoric character of this area.</p> <p>The cup marked stone, and standing stone may have value from interconnected views as they are topographically linked in the landscape. Their prominence within the landscape along with their contribution to the prehistoric landscape in the area makes them potentially significant non-designated assets. Their overall setting is defined by the long-distance views to Loch Brora to the west and short distance views to the burns and river valleys leading to Loch Brora.</p> <p>The cultural significance of this group primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric monumentality and rock art sites within the region.</p> <p>To an extent, the setting of the assets also contribute to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the group can be defined by its location within a rural upland landscape to the northeast of Loch Brora. Key views comprise short-distance views between the assets and along the burns and river valleys leading to Loch Brora as well as prominence in a navigable landscape. Intervisibility between contemporary assets on the loch are also of importance.</p> <p>The landscape has retained its rural setting with limited modern infrastructure in the immediate vicinity, however within the wider landscape post-medieval field systems, an existing OHL and modern development can be seen such as the settlement of Brora to the southeast.</p> <p>The location of the grouping in the uplands, close to Loch Brora would have been an important aspect of setting for connections to settlement, elevating the assets and allowing expansive views in the landscape.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the grouping is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of these assets. This is because they have remained in situ, prominent and connected to the Loch Brora occupation, contributing to the prehistoric landscape of the area.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure within c. 91 m, to the south of the grouping. Additionally, an access track is to be erected between the assets.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the grouping will undergo changes to setting as a result of the introduction of the Proposed Development. This is due to the close proximity of the development, eroding the immediate setting and visual prominence, and interrupting views west and south.</p> <p>As non-designated assets, the cultural significance of the grouping is derived primarily from their archaeological significance and association with nearby settlement activity. As such, they form part of a larger prehistoric landscape with setting making up a secondary value.</p> <p>The closest aspect of the Proposed Development to the assets is an access track, proposed to run between the two assets. After construction, this is unlikely to significantly impact setting as there are no upstanding components to the track and visual links between the assets are maintained.</p> <p>The OHL portion of the Proposed Development is located c.75 m to the south of the assets, this will be visible within short-distance views to nearby watercourses as well as within views to Loch Brora. Although views north are unchanged, all other views will include the Proposed Development in the immediate view south or tracking the view east or west. This may also limit the ability to identify the assets at a distance due to visual interruption by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall. The assets will retain the connected views and</p>

	prominent location, as well as the connection to the Loch Brora settlement area, even though compromised somewhat by the introduction of the Proposed Development, this has limited material impact on the cultural significance of the grouping.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered Not Significant, within the context of the EIA regulations.

## SECTION C

### Scheduled Monuments

#### Moderate Projected Effect

Invershin Farm part 4		
SM1791 standing stone 220 m ENE of Invershin Farm		1 x Scheduled Monument
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-51	Plates: 3DVP-151 – 837, 838, 839 and 840	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 298 m N</b>
<b>Cultural Significance: High</b>	<b>Magnitude of Impact: Low</b>	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM1791 comprises a quadrangular standing stone facing north-south and measuring 1.6 m in height above ground, 0.7 m in breadth at its base, and 0.4 m in thickness. A further hog-backed stone, 1.5 m in length and 0.1 to 0.2 m in thickness, protrudes from the ground to a height of 0.3 m, circa 1.3 m to the S.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric ritual landscapes and monumentality within the region. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>The setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The asset is located on the floodplain to the east of the Kyle of Sutherland. Circa 80 m east of the asset is the A837, east of which are the A836 and the railway. Beyond this, the land rises steeply to the northeast / east towards a high point of 237 m AOD at Cnoc Breac. The slope largely comprises plantation forestry.</p> <p>The modern farms at Invershin and Invershin Castle are located on the floodplain to the west of the asset, beyond which is the confluence of the Kyle of Sutherland and the River Shin, c.200 m west of the asset. West of this, the western floodplain is bounded by a modern NW-SE oriented road, beyond which the land rises steeply to form the forested slopes of Creag a' Choineachen, known as Carbisdale Wood.</p> <p>The asset stands in comparative isolation on the floodplain, though there is a number of other prehistoric Scheduled Monuments located across the slopes of Cnoc Breac to the east and northeast. This primarily includes multiple settlement sites further upslope, which appear to follow a dispersed linear arrangement along the circa 115 m AOD contour. An existing overhead power line passes NW-SE across the eastern floodplain, west of the asset, to Inveran Power Station to the north.</p> <p>The following aspects of the asset's setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the confluence of the Kyle of Sutherland and its major tributary, the River Shin, which may have formed the focus of veneration;</li> <li>the surrounding floodplain, which contrasts with the settlement landscape further upslope; and</li> <li>the other surrounding prehistoric settlement sites, all of which comprised aspects of the same former prehistoric landscape (albeit there is a lack of intervisibility between them and the asset), defining the contextual legibility of the wider landscape.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of the asset does make a moderate contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of this asset remains its archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.298 m to the south of the asset. This places additional infrastructure alongside the existing OHL crossing the Kyle of Sutherland, and considerations for the special arrangements.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce prominent additional modern infrastructure into views towards and from the asset. Historically, there may have been clear intervisibility between the asset and the River Shin - Kyle of Sutherland confluence, and between the asset and the	

	<p>other prehistoric assets within its vicinity. However, these views now contain existing modern infrastructure, including roads, houses, OHL towers mature boundary vegetation and forestry planting, such that such views, and the asset's setting, are already characterised by such modern inclusions. The Proposed Development would not be inconsistent with this character. It would not alter the ability to understand or appreciate the asset, and it would have only a minimal effect on the experience of the asset.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, though its sensitivity to change is considered low/medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Moderate effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

#### Minor Projected Effect

Invershin Farm part 1		
SM5470 settlement and burnt mound 1200 m E of Invershin Farm		1 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-154 – 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, and 858 3DVP-155 – 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, and 865	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 122 m S
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM5470 settlement and burnt mound 1200 m E of Invershin Farm comprises a hut circle and a burnt mound located 1.2 km E of the Proposed Development. It is located within two forestry clearings on a SW facing hill, with the hut circle to the north and the burnt mound just below it to the south-east. The two are separated by a berm of forestry.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric settlement sites within the region. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The asset is located within two small clearings in a modern forestry plantation. A small watercourse flows in proximity to the burnt mound, and into Henman's Burn. The wider landscape comprises agricultural fields, interspersed with dispersed buildings and modern roads. More widely, the Kyle of Sutherland is located 1.3 km to the west of the asset, and there are a further four prehistoric Scheduled Monuments within the surrounding landscape, comprising three settlement sites and a standing stone, all located between c. 220 m and c.1.5 km to the north of the asset. Historically, there is likely to have been intervisibility between the hut circle and the burnt mound, but this is no longer the case due to the intervening forestry.</p> <p>Currently, the only aspects of the asset's setting considered to contribute to its cultural significance comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the adjacent watercourse. There is a documented association between burnt mounds and sources of water, and the juxtaposition of the burnt mound with the watercourse therefore provides a degree of context for the former. The watercourse may equally have influenced the siting of the hut circle, with its provision of drinking water and other riverine resources; and</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the other surrounding prehistoric settlement sites, all of which comprise aspects of the former prehistoric landscape.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of this asset does make some level of contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects, neither of which would be affected. The main contributor to the cultural significance of the asset remains its archaeological value, which would also not be affected.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.60 m to the south of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern infrastructure into views towards and from the asset. At present the site and intervisibility with surrounding settlement and monumentality is hampered by the plantation, although it is not anticipated that the Proposed Development would materially partition the connected landscape, despite the material change in character, adding a further large transmission line.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, though its sensitivity to change is considered Low. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Minor effect overall. The key contributing archaeological value to the asset's cultural significance, the key contributing aspects of setting to the asset's cultural significance, and the ability to understand and appreciate the asset would all be preserved.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Invershin Farm part 2		
SM5497 settlement and burnt mound 500 m E of Invershin Farm		1 x Scheduled Monument
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: CHVP-41	Plates: 3DVP-152 – 841, 842, 843, 844, and 845 3DVP-153 – 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, and 851	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 73 m N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM5497 settlement and burnt mound 500 m E of Invershin Farm comprises the remains of a hut circle, a burnt mound and a cairn on a west-facing hill slope, c. 500 m E of the Proposed Development.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric settlement sites, land organisation and the association between settlements and burnt mounds within the region. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	The asset is located on the lower valley slopes to the east of the Kyle of Sutherland, at an elevation of circa 50 m AOD. The land rises steeply to the northeast / east towards a high point of 237 m AOD at Cnoc Breac. The slope largely comprises plantation forestry, being the southeastern end of Shin Forest.	

	<p>A number of minor tributaries issue from the slopes and flow westwards through the forest and into the Kyle of Sutherland, c. 600 m west of the asset. These include Allt Na Ciste Duibhe to the north of the asset, and Henman's Burn and its tributary to the south of the asset. A further, small un-named tributary emerges immediately north of the asset.</p> <p>To the west of the asset is the railway, west of which are the A836 and A837, c.60 m west of the asset. The Kyle of Sutherland passes N-S to the west of these modern roads, with its principal tributary, the River Shin, to the north. To either side of the Kyle of Sutherland is a wide berm of lowland floodplain with small, dispersed settlements including Invershin, Inveran and Culrain. West of the Kyle of Sutherland, this floodplain is bounded by a modern NW-SE oriented road, beyond which the land rises steeply again to form the forested slopes of Creag a' Choineachen, known as Carbisdale Wood.</p> <p>There are a number of other prehistoric Scheduled Monuments located across the slopes of Cnoc Breac. This includes multiple further settlement sites further upslope to the north and east; these appear to follow a dispersed linear arrangement along the circa 115 m AOD contour. There is also a standing stone on the floodplain to the west of the A836 / A837 intersection. An existing overhead power line passes NW-SE across the eastern floodplain, west of the asset, before heading E at Inveran Power Station and passing to the north of the asset towards Cnoc Breac.</p> <p>The following aspects of the asset's setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Kyle of Sutherland, its major tributary, the River Shin, its minor west-flowing tributaries, and its surrounding floodplain, which would have influenced the siting of the asset, and provided the principal resource base for the resident prehistoric communities;</li> <li>the sloping topography associated with Cnoc Breac, which elevated the communities above the floodplain (while retaining proximity thereto) providing a supplemental resource base; and</li> <li>the other surrounding prehistoric settlement sites, all of which comprised aspects of the same former prehistoric landscape.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of the asset does make a moderate (marginally elevated for the cairn) contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of this asset remains its archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.73 m to the north of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern infrastructure enclosing the asset between the new and existing transmission infrastructure, and into views towards and from the asset. Historically, there may have been clear intervisibility between the asset and the River Shin - Kyle of Sutherland confluence, and between the asset and the four other prehistoric assets within its vicinity. However, these views now contain existing modern infrastructure, including roads, houses, OHL towers and forestry planting, such that such views, and the asset's setting, are already characterised by such modern inclusions. The Proposed Development would not be inconsistent with this character. It would not alter the ability to understand or appreciate the asset, and it would have only a minimal effect on the experience of the asset.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, with a moderate contribution from setting, and its sensitivity to change is considered low/medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Minor effect overall. The key contributing archaeological value to the asset's cultural significance, the key contributing aspects of setting to the asset's cultural significance, the ability to understand and appreciate the asset, and all key views towards and from it will be preserved.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>



*Negligible Projected Effect*

Invershin Farm part 3		
SM5498 settlement 600 m E of Invershin Primary School		1 x Scheduled Monument
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-150 – 833, 834, 835, and 836	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 96 m N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM5498 comprises an extensive area of prehistoric settlement, including the remains of three hut circles and associated farming features, lynchets, field walls and clearance heaps.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric settlement landscapes within the region, and associated agricultural management practices. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The asset is located on the lower valley slopes, c.500 m east of the River Shin, NE of its confluence with the Kyle of Sutherland, at an elevation of circa 100 m AOD. The land rises steeply to the northeast / east towards a high point of 237 m AOD at Cnoc Breac. The slope largely comprises plantation forestry, being the southeastern end of Shin Forest. A number of minor tributaries issue from the slopes and flow westwards through the forest and into the Kyle of Sutherland. In particular, these include Allt Na Ciste Duibhe to the immediate south of the asset.</p> <p>To the west of the asset is the A386, west of which is the railway. The River Shin passes N-S to the west of this modern road, to join the Kyle of Sutherland south of Shin Bridge. To either side of the River Shin is a wide berm of lowland floodplain focussed around Inveran; this area contains numerous modern structures including Invershin Hall and Inveran Power Station. West of the River Shin, the A387 passes W-E defining the southern extent of Inveran Wood, south of which is the northern part of the Kyle of Sutherland and, on the opposite banks, the slopes of Creag an Duine Charaich.</p> <p>There are a number of other prehistoric Scheduled Monuments located across the slopes of Cnoc Breac. This includes multiple further settlement sites further upslope to the south and southeast; these appear to follow a dispersed linear arrangement along the circa 115 m AOD contour. There is also a standing stone on the floodplain to the southwest of the A836 / A837 intersection. An existing overhead power line heads W-E from Inveran Power Station, passing immediately north of the asset and on towards Cnoc Breac.</p> <p>The following aspects of the asset's setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allt Na Ciste Duibhe watercourse, around which the asset's numerous hut circles are arranged, which clearly influenced the siting of the asset, and which provided a key resource base for the resident prehistoric communities;</li> <li>• the River Shin, the Kyle of Sutherland and their surrounding floodplains, which would also have provided a key resource base;</li> <li>• the sloping topography associated with Cnoc Breac, which elevated the communities above the floodplain (while retaining proximity thereto) providing a supplemental resource base; and</li> <li>• the other surrounding prehistoric settlement sites, all of which comprised aspects of the same former prehistoric landscape.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of the asset does make a contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of this asset remains its archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>	

<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.96 m to the south of the hub of the asset, with the southern portion within the Proposed Development LOD and within 150 m of two towers. An existing OHL already crosses in the northern portion of the asset, serving to somewhat enclose the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern infrastructure into views towards and from the asset. Historically, there may have been clear intervisibility between the asset and the River Shin - Kyle of Sutherland confluence, and between the asset and the other prehistoric assets within its vicinity. However, these views now contain existing modern infrastructure, including roads, houses, OHL towers and forestry planting, such that such views, and the asset's setting, are already characterised by such modern inclusions. The Proposed Development would not be inconsistent with this character. It would not alter the ability to understand or appreciate the asset, and it would have only a minimal effect on the experience of the asset.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, though its sensitivity to change is considered Low. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Invershin Farm part 5		
SM5462 settlement 760 m NE of and 750 m ENE of Invershin Primary School		1 x Scheduled Monument
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-149 – 829, 830, 831, and 832	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.1 km N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM5462 comprises the remains of several prehistoric round houses and associated field systems, circa 760 m NE and 750 m ENE of Invershin Primary School. Concentrated within two separate forestry clearings, the north-west group of features comprises the remains of 2 stone-walled houses, an associated field system, and numerous cairns and lynchets. The south-east group of features comprises a single house and evidence for former cultivation.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric settlement, ritual and mortuary landscapes within the region. As a focus of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The asset is located on the lower valley slopes c.115 m east of the River Shin, NE of its confluence with the Kyle of Sutherland, at an elevation of circa 80 m AOD. The land rises steeply to the east towards a high point of 237 m AOD at Cnoc Breac. The slope largely comprises plantation forestry, being the southeastern end of Shin Forest, though the uppermost reaches, and the high ground to the north, comprise moorland. A minor tributary issues from the slope immediately north of the asset and flows westwards into the River Shin. Beyond this to the north and northeast are the moorland peaks surrounding Loch Laro.</p> <p>To the west of the asset, the valley narrows markedly, and the slope steepens; the A386 passes immediately west of the asset, beyond which pass the railway, the River Shin and, on the western banks, the B846. To the southwest of the asset is a focus of modern built form and infrastructure on the floodplain around Inveran, including Inveran Power Station, Invershin Hall and Shin Bridge. West of the</p>	

	<p>River Shin, are the lower south-eastern slopes of Cnoc Ceann Nam Bad, within Shin Forest. To the south of this is the northern part of the Kyle of Sutherland and the slopes of Creag an Duine Charaich.</p> <p>There is a number of other prehistoric Scheduled Monuments located across the surrounding slopes. This includes multiple further settlement sites to the south, and a smaller concentration to the north at Cnoc na Moine Duibhe. An existing overhead power line heads W-E from Inveran Power Station to the south of the asset, and another passes SW-NE to the north of the asset.</p> <p>The following aspects of the asset's setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the River Shin and its tributary, which would have influenced the asset's siting and provided a key resource base;</li> <li>the steep, narrow river valley topography, which may have been strategic, offering a level of protection as well as enabling views along the river in either direction and potentially the administration of use of this natural communications pinch point; and</li> <li>the other surrounding prehistoric settlement sites, all of which comprised aspects of the same former prehistoric landscape.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of the asset does make a contribution to its cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience it. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of this asset remains its archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.1.1 km to the south of the asset. This is set beyond the existing OHL running E-W c.180 m south.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern infrastructure into views towards and from the asset. (Pre-)historically, there may have been clear intervisibility between the asset and the River Shin - Kyle of Sutherland confluence, and between the asset and the other prehistoric assets within its vicinity. However, these views now contain existing modern infrastructure, including roads (including the A836), the railway line, houses, OHL towers, mature vegetation and forestry planting, such that such views, and the asset's setting, are already characterised by such modern inclusions. The Proposed Development would not be inconsistent with this character. It would not alter the ability to understand or appreciate the asset, and it would have only a minimal effect on the experience of the asset.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, though its sensitivity to change is considered Low. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Listed Buildings

### Moderate Projected Effect

Carbisdale Castle and South Gateway		
LB7165 Carbisdale Castle and South Gateway		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designation Summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-158 – 876, 877, 878, 879, 880 3DVP-159– 881	<b>Distance from Development:</b> 1.1 km SE

		3DVP-160– 882	
<b>Cultural Significance: Medium</b>		<b>Magnitude of Impact: Medium</b>	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>An early 20<sup>th</sup> century Baronial mansion, by John Robertson of Inverness. Architects W.S. Weatherly and F.E. Jones designed the house for a dowager Duchess of Sutherland, was sold in 1933 and purchased by the Norwegian head of the Christian Salvesen dynasty, the shipping and whaling company of Leith. The castle was subsequently used as a royal palace refuge for the Norwegian royal family during the second World War. After the war, Carbisdale Castle operated as a youth hostel before being sold into private hands.</p> <p>Built c. 1907, bullfaced coursed grey rubble with contrasting polished sandstone dressings. A large entrance court which is enclosed by the house to the east and south, and by a retaining wall to the north and west. The principal entrance is in the north, and there is a high square clock tower at a northwest angle. Round bullfaced diminutive turrets with crenelated parapet flank entrance to the court, and a pair of wrought-iron carriage gates and a small wrought-iron pedestrian gate. Interiorly, there is a large entrance hall with ornate Baroque chimneypiece and a wide staircase with Tudor balustrade, Jacobean plaster ceiling in the library, an Adamesque first floor drawing room, and finely panelled doors, moulded doorcases, and plaster ceilings throughout.</p> <p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS maps do not account for Carbisdale Castle, but do reference the nearby Culrain Mill, Culrain Manse, and Culrain Lodge to the south which still appear in some form on contemporary maps. The 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS map presents the area in which Carbisdale was to be eventually built as dense woodland, making no mention of the Battle of Carbisdale that was fought in the surrounding area c. 1650. Carbisdale Castle and the area of Carbisdale Battlefield does appear on the OS 1-inch 1923-1930 edition of the map, with Culrain rail station to the south and Invershin rail station across the viaduct to the east. Much of the landscape has been retained, and views from Carbisdale look over the surrounding woodland to the west, and over the Kyle of Sutherland River valley to the north-east. The Castle retains a good view toward the Shin Railway Viaduct in the south-east, which would have been relatively new at the time of the Castles' construction.</p> <p>The castle is situated within the Inventoried Battlefield site of the Battle of Carbisdale, surrounded by Carbisdale Wood on the west bank of the Kyle of Sutherland and approximately 481 m northwest of the Shin Railway Viaduct LB279.</p>		
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The significance of Carbisdale Castle and South Gateway is derived from its historic, architectural and archaeological value, with the asset contributing to our understanding of early 20th century architecture as well as the sites development and expansion beyond the older residence of Culrain Lodge.</p>		
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is primarily defined by the elevated position located to overlook the estuary crossing and maintain panoramic views covering the Kyle of Sutherland. Prominence in the landscape appears paramount, ensuring visibility of the grand asset on the approaches along the east coast, heading both north and south, rather than forming a defensive or observational/commanding function, but architecturally emulating them. This has subsequently been somewhat undermined with the construction of the Dornoch Firth Bridge (opened 1991), limiting the likely observers of the statement of wealth.</p> <p>This siting also serves to connect the castle to the Battle of Carbisdale in 1650. The internal designs of the estate further accentuate this connection The Proposed Development by tracking approach routeways, while maintaining a distinct separation and curated landscaping with pathing to further observation points of the Kyle.</p> <p>Overall, the setting of the assets does make a moderate contribution to the cultural significance and ability to understand, appreciate and experience them. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of these assets remains their archaeological value, historic associations and form, which would not be impacted.</p>		
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The proposed Development introduces additional transmission infrastructure to the wider landscape, alongside existing to the east, but newly spanning the Kyle of Sutherland c.590 m north of Carbisdale Castle and wrapping round in front (to the south) of Creag a' Choineachan, before turning to run south.</p>		

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would compromise views from east, north and south facing aspects, with the southeast view along the Kyle of Sutherland towards Bonar Bridge materially unchanged. The prominence of the asset will remain unaffected, although the previously open backdrop will now be somewhat compromised by the presence of the Proposed Development. There are already modern elements present in the wider environment, but the backdropping introduced would likely result in a change to the experience of Carbisdale Castle as a prominent feature, however this is limited given the unaffected siting and architecture, and masking of the Proposed Development within the topography. The approaches see the Proposed Development in lowland below the assets and not cresting above Creag a' Choineachan, in combination with the existing OHL that is present between the approach road and Carbisdale Castle.</p> <p>The internal design of the assets remains intact, although noted views out from the grounds from curated observation points and upper floors will have new or additional transmission infrastructure in the near view as a result of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>As a Category B listed building, the assets are considered to be of Medium cultural significance, with this asset having sensitivity to changes in setting, given the structure was specifically built and constructed to be prominent and visible, with views over the kyle of Sutherland. The introduction of the Proposed Development would therefore be seen to slightly degrade the ability to appreciate and experience the asset, without detracting from the ability to understand it. For the aforementioned reasons, the impact on setting may be considered limited.</p> <p>This Listed Building is considered to have a low/medium sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The introduction of the Proposed Development is assessed to have introduced transmission infrastructure in views looking north from the asset. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as medium. The resultant effect is therefore assessed to be Moderate.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

#### Minor Projected Effect

Lydsurach Croft house		
LB52528 Lydsurach Croft house		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-156 – 866, 867, 868, 869, and 870	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.3 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>An unaltered single storey and attic, former croft house probably constructed around 1850-1870 and inhabited until the 1950's. After which it was used as an agricultural store and bothy.</p> <p>Constructed of local rubble stone with a red corrugated iron roof. The building survives largely as it was built, with no electricity, running water or sewage system. The last period of decoration appears to have been in the 1930s.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived in large part from its historical and architectural value and is one of only a handful of croft houses surviving in a good state of preservation. It has retained its setting within a former crofting settlement. The building is located on a hill in a sparse and open landscape and retains exceptional views across the Dornoch Firth and to the surrounding Highland landscape.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>Lydsurach Crofthouse is remotely situated on a steep southwest facing hillside of heather and rough grassland at around 300 metres above sea level. It was intentional located within in a sheltered dip in the landscape ensuring the croft remains largely hidden in its immediate setting. It does however have exceptional views across the Dornoch Firth and to the surrounding Highland landscape.</p> <p>The first edition OS map shows a collection of similar crofthouses, outbuildings and livestock enclosures across the wider landscape. Where these survive they are generally only as rubble foundations or a few courses of wall. Immediately to the north of the crofthouse is the foundations of what was probably its longhouse predecessor. There are also remains of walled enclosures likely used for livestock.</p> <p>The historic homes and buildings of previous neighbouring crofters are largely no longer extent, the remnants of these buildings show that historical development of the wider setting.</p> <p>Its immediate setting has changed since its original construction as the other buildings associated with the croft house appear now in various states of ruination or just as foundations in the landscape. Similarly, the wider landscape has changed from a much more populous one with many crofts to a more sparsely inhabited one.</p> <p>Although the other parts of the crofting settlement that this building was part of have not survived to the same degree, the asset retains an intrinsic interrelation with its immediate setting.</p> <p>In summary, both its immediate and wider setting can be said to contribute substantially to way in which this building, and the wider social history of historic crofting community in the Highlands, is understood and appreciated.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	Although located at a distance of 1.5 km, there is likely to be clear sight of the Proposed Development from the croft house.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The remote siting and lack of infrastructure, to the north and west, surrounding the immediate environs of the asset, means that the visibility of the Proposed Development (as suggested by the ZTV) may change the rural character of the landscape, with only the existing OHL running 1.4 km southeast and the modernisation of settlement around Invershin. The above-described changes to setting are likely to marginally detract from the way in which this asset is appreciated or understood. It is therefore considered that this change would amount to a Low magnitude of impact.</p> <p>This Category B Listed Building is considered to have moderate value derived from the setting. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low. The resultant effect is therefore assessed to be Minor.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

#### Negligible Projected Effect

Shin Viaduct over Kyle of Sutherland		
LB279 Shin Viaduct over Kyle of Sutherland		1 x Category A Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DPV-157 – 871, 872, 873, 874, and 875	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.2 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB279 comprises a grade A listed iron-truss bridge designed by Joseph Mitchell and Murdoch Paterson in 1867 for The Sutherland Railway. Bridge spans the Kyle of Sutherland at Invershin.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a listed building, this designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Its cultural significance primarily derives from its historical and architectural value as part of The Sutherland Railway, erected in the 19th century. This, along with setting contributes to the understanding and appreciation of the asset.</p>	



<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset can be defined by its location spanning the Kyle of Sutherland. The asset is located within the area of Invershin with retained historic views from north and south on approach to the bridge.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of this monument is its historic and material value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of this asset. This is because it has remained in situ, in its original position in the landscape.</p> <p>For LB279, the surrounding area has undergone modernisation with the introduction of a road – the A836 immediately north and the settlement of Culrain to the south. As such, its historic setting has already been altered.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of overhead cabling to the north, west and south of the asset located at a minimum distance of 1.km. This would likely be visible on in the background of approaches to the bridge from north and south.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>As a grade A Listed Building, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, though its sensitivity to change is considered Low. Although the Proposed Development is likely visible within key views on approach to the bridge, it is located at a distance and within an existing modern context, and has limited scope to impact the experience, appreciation or understanding of the asset.</p> <p>As such, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Negligible effect overall as the key contributing historical and material value to the assets cultural significance, the key contributing aspects of setting to the assets cultural significance and the ability to understand and appreciate the asset will be preserved.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Strathcarron Braelangwell Lodge		
LB7179 Strathcarron Braelangwell Lodge		1 x Category C Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-162 – 893, 894 and 895	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.9 km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Low	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB7179 comprises a mid-18 <sup>th</sup> /early 19 <sup>th</sup> century shooting lodge located on the northern banks of the River Carron. Datestone inscribed William M of Ross 1748 with various alterations in 1809 and 1812 by James Smith.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a category C Listed Building, the heritage significance of the asset is derived primarily from its historic and architectural potential. However, HES identifies the asset as "the picturesque summer residence of Sir Charles Ross of Balnagown". As such, the buildings rural setting does play a contributing role to its value and cultural heritage significance, this is discussed further below.	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset can be defined by its location on the north bank of the River Carron, the building is confined within the river valley with views along the valley to the east and west.</p> <p>Immediately to the north of the building, there is a modern road which follows the northern bank River Carron as well as a small building on the adjacent side of the road, likely of post-medieval to modern date.</p> <p>The asset has wide views east and west along the river valley as well as limited views south from the building to the river along the flat valley basin. The building itself is screened on all sides by trees with a small visual gap in foliage directing views from the house, south to the river.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the building is its material and historical value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of the asset. This is because it has retained its relationship to as well as key views along the river valley.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.3.9 km to the east of the asset, crossing the River Carron valley, c.2.9 km closer than the existing OHL along the western edge of the Kyle of Sutherland.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce further modern infrastructure into the wider landscape.</p> <p>Whilst the Development will be present within the assets wider setting, it is only visible in views from the asset looking east down the river valley. Although views from the building along the river valley are of importance, these are likely to be restricted by existing topography, tree cover and modern infrastructure.</p> <p>The development therefore may be visible at a distance in the view east from the asset, however, the immediate views of the river to the south of the building will be retained. Additionally, as the development is located at a distance, it is unlikely that the rural setting within the river valley from which the asset derives significance will be impacted.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Battlefields

### Minor Effect

Battle of Carbisdale		
BTL19 Battle of Carbisdale		1 x Inventoried Battlefield
Designation summary		
Figure: CHVP-42, CHVP-43	Plates: 3DVP-161 – 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, and 892	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 0 m</b>
<b>Cultural Significance: High</b>	<b>Magnitude of Impact: Low</b>	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The Battle of Carbisdale was fought on 27 April AD 1650, between a Royalist force commanded by James Graham, 1st Marquis of Montrose, and a Scottish Covenanter army led by Colonel Archibald Strachan. Montrose was heavily defeated. Carbisdale was his last battle in support of the Royalist cause, and he was executed shortly after. Carbisdale also signifies the end of internal struggles within Scotland during the Wars of the Three Kingdoms, as the Covenanters' agreement with Charles II brings them into open conflict with Oliver Cromwell rather than Royalists in Scotland.</p> <p>The landscape of the battlefield is defined as the following key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The low passage between the river and the high ground to the north, where Montrose entered onto the flood plain; also taking into account the peak where Carbisdale Castle now sits, and the southern craggy portion known as Creag a' Choineachan.</li> <li>The eastern side of the battlefield runs along the western bank of the Kyle of Sutherland, where it is reported that troops were drowned trying to make their escape.</li> <li>The southern limit of the battlefield includes the low ground where Strachan's men advanced to the south of Balinoe; as well as the high ground toward the west which possibly provided another line of advance for Strachan's men.</li> <li>The western limit of the battlefield includes the slope at the west edge of the flood plain and the woodland to the northwest, where Montrose's men fled, and joins with the northern boundary at the mouth of the Culrain Burn.</li> </ul> <p>Terrain and Present Condition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The battlefield is centered on the low lying plain west of the Kyle of Sutherland.</li> <li>Montrose chose the north as his access point in order to observe Strachan's approach from the south across the plain.</li> <li>The battlefield is now almost entirely given over to grazing, separated into large fields by fences. The mixed deciduous woodland in the northwest may retain some of the character of the landscape as it was in 1650.</li> <li>The village of Culrain is a mix of later 19th and early 20th c. dwellings, now visible in the area. Other housing developments are very limited.</li> <li>Possible field fortifications are relatively clear in the field south of Culrain Village Hall, and to the north of the hall is the area the main camp likely would have been erected.</li> </ul> <p>Carbisdale Castle LB7165 is situated within the inventoried battlefield area, as is Culrain Mains LB7168. Carbisdale Wood surrounds the north, Hilton Wood surrounds the west, and Viewfield Wood surrounds the south. Invershin Farm SM5497 is approximately 1km northeast.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The significance of Carbisdale Battlefield is derived from its contribution to our understanding of battlefield strategy and conflicts during the post-medieval period in Scotland, in particular the military strategies of the Wars of the Three Kingdoms and the consequences thereafter. Its historic and archaeological value contribute to its cultural significance.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The Setting of the asset is defined by its relationship to the Kyle of Sutherland and its west bank between the mouths of the River Carron to the south and the confluence of the River Shin and Kyle of Sutherland to the north, taking in the , battlefield site around Culrain, Carbisdale Castle, the wooded slopes of Creag a' Choineachan/Creag an Duine Charaich and the main northerly and southerly approaches of the troops.</p> <p>Key historic views along the west bank of the Kyle of Sutherland are from the southern lowland approach around Invercharron House, from the northern lowland approach around the ruinous Invershin Castle,</p>	

	<p>from Culrain to the north-west taking in the wooded uplands in which Royalist troops retreated, and from Culrain to the north-east, taking in the Kyle of Sutherland across which Royalist troops fled.</p> <p>Wider landscape views towards the battlefield site are from the eastern banks of the Kyle of Sutherland, with stretches of the A836 to the north of Bonar Bridge and around Invershin affording excellent views across the battlefield site and key points of action.</p> <p>The rural character of the battlefield site is largely unaltered since the conflict. Changes to the battlefield site are largely post-medieval and Victorian, with the realignment of field systems, a modest expansion of settlement around Culrain and the introduction of Carbisdale Castle into the battlefield site. Twentieth century additions include the introduction of an array of OHL towers through the designated battlefield site, aligned south to north and running through the lowland zone west of the Kyle of Sutherland and below the uplands of Creag a' Choineachan/Creag an Duine Charaich. Given the rural character of the battlefield site and surrounding landscape and the legibility of the key troop movements within the landscape, the setting of this Inventory Battlefield Site, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to the historic value of the asset and therefore its cultural significance, although the sensitivity to change is considered low/medium.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Inventory Battlefield Site is a high cultural significance asset sensitive to change within the Kyle of Sutherland valley and particularly to the introduction of infrastructure along the western lowland agricultural belt between the River Carron and the Kyle of Sutherland/River Oykel.</p> <p>The Inventory Battlefield Site contains existing OHL towers, running south to north from Invercharron, along the western edge of the Kyle of Sutherland, running close to Balinoe and Culrain before turning to the north-east to cross the Kyle of Sutherland to the south of Carbisdale Castle and north of the Shin railway viaduct.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure into the uplands west of the battlefield site, with OHL towers fording the River Carron, 3.75 km west of Invercharron, before continuing north atop Creag an Duine Charaich and turning to the north-east to ford the Kyle of Sutherland 0.7 km north of Carbisdale Castle.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The planned infrastructure does not enter within the Inventory battlefield site but would be visible in the uplands to the west of the asset in wider landscape views from the east bank of the Kyle of Sutherland along the A836. The Proposed Development would not erode understanding or appreciation of the battlefield site or the key movements of troops/points of action that contribute to the assets historic value. The southern approach of the Scottish Covenant Army would still be legible as would the main focus of conflict within the lowland agricultural strip around Culrain. The retreat of the Royalist troops into the wooded uplands around Creag a' Choineachan would retain its legibility as would their attempted escape across the Kyle of Sutherland.</p> <p>From the western bank of the Kyle of Sutherland the battlefield would retain its legibility from the southern approach and at the main focus of the conflict around Culrain. When viewed from the north, outside of the designated site, north of Carbisdale Castle, the OHL towers and OH lines would be visible as they cross the route of the Royalist approach. However, the introduction of OHL towers within the woods to the west of the lowland approach and along the eastern bank of the Kyle would not be of sufficient detriment to impede the understanding or appreciation of this aspect of the conflict.</p> <p>Based upon the above, a low impact to the setting of the asset is predicted, resulting in a Minor adverse effect to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## SECTION D

### Scheduled Monuments

#### Major Projected Effect

Balnacrae		
SM2396 chambered cairn, Balnacrae		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DPV-172 – 933, 934, 935, 936, and 937	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 49 m NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> High	<b>Projected Effect: Major</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2396 comprises the remains of a Neolithic chambered cairn of the Orkney Cromarty type. It survives as a group of large, upstanding stones which define the chamber and an entrance, surrounded by a slight scarp denoting the original extent of the cairn. Most of the outer cairn stones have been lost.</p> <p>The chamber of the cairn is defined by several long stones aligned northeast to southwest, some of which are upright, others leaning or slumped. At its northeast end, there are two portal stones which access the chamber from a passage.</p> <p>The cairn is located in the upland moor around Meall a Ghuail and the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, north of the River Peffery valley. The funerary monument is one of several designated prehistoric settlement and funerary monuments, as well as non-designated assets around the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, with the most notable of these being SM4728 Firth View settlement, SM10495 Strath Sgitheach settlement and SM2312 chambered cairn, all located c. 3 km to the south-west.</p> <p>This asset is of national significance as a prehistoric burial monument and significant for its contribution to the understanding of burial practices and belief systems in the Neolithic and into the Bronze Age.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this monument is derived primarily from its form and functional value, of which setting and the relationship to associated prehistoric assets in the wider environment makes a notable contribution. Significance is also derived from its material remains as well and the potential for in situ archaeological deposits and finds.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location within the uplands around Meall a Ghuail and the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, with the River Peffery valley to the south.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' setting contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its key relationships are to surrounding Neolithic to Late Prehistoric ritual, funerary and settlement sites in and around the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, the most significant of these are to SM4728 Firth View settlement and SM10495 Strath Sgitheach settlement. Key historic views from the asset would have been along the Sgitheach watercourse to associated assets.</li> <li>• Secondary long distance historic views from the monument are to the south and east, along the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse towards the Cromarty Firth.</li> <li>• The rural character of the upland landscape in the immediate environs of the monument.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the landscape around the River Peffery valley and surrounding uplands has evolved and been modified since the Neolithic and Late Prehistoric periods, with the introduction of upland pasture, field systems and plantation forest, the overall character of the land has remained rural with little in the way of large-scale infrastructure to obscure views. As such, the setting of the monument continues to make a major contribution to its cultural significance.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce new transmission infrastructure into the uplands around Meall a Ghuail and the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, with towers dominant in local views south, south-west and north-east from SM2396 as well as in views north-west, towards SM2396 along the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located within a south-west to north-east aligned corridor 49 m to the south of SM2396 at its closest point, north of and running parallel with the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse.</p> <p>The uplands north of the River Peffery valley are free of large-scale transmission infrastructure in the form of OHL towers or wind turbines. There is no extant large infrastructure in and around the Meall a Ghuail and the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, with a high sensitivity to changes in setting, along the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse and the surrounding uplands.</p> <p>Key historic views from the monument along the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse would be heavily eroded, with views towards the nearby settlement sites of SM4728 Firth View settlement and SM10495 Strath Sgitheach settlement bisected by a series of OHL towers. Secondary historic views to the south, east and the Cromarty Firth including towards current Plantation land towards and along the River Sgitheach, which is cut across by the Proposed Development. In this event, the Proposed Development would introduce OHL towers in close proximity to the monument and largely obscure these key views to the firth. Secondary distant landscape views to the south-west and the hills of Knockfarrel would also be eroded by the presence of new OHL towers.</p> <p>The experience and appreciation of the asset would also be heavily impacted with a series of towers in very close proximity and the 'buzz' of the transmission infrastructure likely to detract from the original rural character of the site.</p> <p>Local views towards the monument from SM4728 Firth View settlement and SM10495 Strath Sgitheach settlement would be obscured by the Proposed Development. Wider landscape views to the south-west and the River Peffery valley, specifically the hills of Knockfarrel would also be impacted and eroded.</p> <p>Based on the above there would be a high magnitude of impact arising from erosion of key local views east, towards SM4278 and SM10495, and the introduction of large infrastructure in such close proximity severely impacting the visibility and prominence of the asset. Prominent erosion of wider landscape views is also expected, resulting in a Major adverse effect overall. The material and archaeological value of the monument would be unchanged, but the ability to appreciate and experience the asset will be substantially eroded, while the ability to understand the asset in context may also be slightly diminished.</p>



<p><b>Statement of Effect</b></p>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The effect would have the potential to impact upon the ability to understand, appreciate and experience the asset, and may therefore adversely impact the integrity of the asset's setting.</p>
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*Moderate Projected Effect*

Abhainn/Strath Sgitheach settlements		
SM10495 settlement NW of Cnoc a'Mhuilinn, Strath Sgitheach SM4728 settlement 1300 m NW of Firth View		2 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-46	Plates: 3DVP-173 – 938, 939, 940, 941, and 942	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 260 m SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM10495 settlement NW of Cnoc a'Mhuilinn, Strath Sgitheach comprises the remains of an extensive prehistoric settlement on a SE-facing slope, containing at least eight hut circles, field clearance cairns, and three cup-marked boulders. The scheduled area is an irregular figure-of-eight shape, measuring a maximum of 640 m NE to SW by a maximum 260 m.</p> <p>SM4728 settlement 1300 m NW of Firth View comprises a group of four hut circles and an area around them containing evidence of agricultural activity. The area measures a maximum of 290 m NE-SW by a maximum of 175 m.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The two scheduled monuments are situated within close proximity to each other, share a very similar setting, and are likely to be impacted by the Proposed Development in the same way. Additionally, these scheduled monuments have a shared value based on their association with the ridgeline settlement activity.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these two monuments is derived from their setting, in addition to the form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains, which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural activities, as well as prehistoric land use. Regarding SM10495, the association of a settlement with a number of cup-marked boulders is unusual, although the significance of this is not yet understood. The sites all have a degree of intact physical remains present, along with the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets is defined by their relative locations on ridgeline plateau moorland between upland in the north and the Cromarty Firth to the south, at the western head of an extensive occupation site, bounded on the SW by a plantation and the Abhainn Sgitheach approximately 300 m to the south.</p> <p>There would be wide expansive views to the surrounding landscape towards Cromarty Firth in the SE, permitting views over all approaches from the south. Downslope to the SE are agricultural fields and some plantation. Between the fields and Cromarty Firth is the town of Dingwall. Upslope to the NW is open moorland. Although the landscape has been substantially changed since prehistory the rural setting nevertheless contributes to the experience of presence, leaving the accessible landscape essentially intact. Similarly, the proximity to waterways, including Abhainn Sgitheach, would have made the sites of the assets suitable for settlement. Key views would include the southern panoramic views towards Cromarty Firth.</p> <p>The proximity of SM10495 and SM4728 and their occupation association, combines with key views south and their returned prominence instils modest value to these assets within the wider prehistoric landscape.</p> <p>Overall, value contributions for these assets are drawn from both their archaeological value and from their setting, to a moderate degree, allowing access to the understanding of their purpose and use, with a medium sensitivity to change.</p>	

<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure C. 260 m north of the settlement activity, placing it within the immediate setting.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the two assets of SM10495 and SM4728 will undergo a change to the setting resulting from the introduction of the Proposed Development. This is due to the Proposed Development passing to the North of the assets and potentially oversailing the associated settlement area to the east, eroding the immediate and intra-occupation setting and landscape character, leading to a diminishing of the ability to experience and appreciate the assets in context. There are also substantive modern elements and infrastructure within the wider viewscape that alters the setting, while maintaining the base elements. These comprise post-medieval and modern field arrangements to the SE, plantations to the SW, and the town of Dingwall on the shore of Cromarty Firth. Nevertheless, the Proposed Development would disrupt the immediate setting and be present in the key views south to the Cromarty Firth. The assets of SM10495 and SM4728 will thus be subject to a substantive change to their setting.</p> <p>This group of Scheduled Monuments are considered to have a medium sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect their cultural heritage significance. The introduction of the Proposed Development is therefore considered to introduce a Low magnitude of impact, given the primacy of the archaeological value contribution.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Three chambered cairns NE and NNE of Easter Ballone Farm, Boath		
SM6644 three chambered cairns NE and NNE of Easter Ballone Farm, Boath		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-45	Plates: 3DVP-166 – 908, 909, 910, and 911 3DVP-167 – 912, 913, 914, and 915 3DVP-168 – 916, 917, 918, and 919	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 857 m NE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM6644 Boath, three chambered cairns NE and NNE of Easter Ballone Farm consists of the remains of three chambered cairns of neolithic date.</p> <p>The first and southernmost of these chambered cairns, known as Balnagrotchen, may have been a short-horned cairn and has a polygonal burial chamber. It lies on the edge of a field on a terrace to the northeast of the farm. Repeated ploughing has largely removed the cairn material, and the monument now appears to be square in plan.</p> <p>The second, middle, cairn, known as Cairn Liatha, is a long-horned cairn orientated NE-SW that has been extensively robbed and now measures 60 m SSW-NNE by 16 m NNW-SSE. It lies due north of the first cairn, across the road. The third, northernmost, cairn lies to the northeast of Cairn Liatha and is a short-horned cairn with a polygonal burial chamber. It measures approximately 30 m E-W by 46 m.</p> <p>The area to be scheduled is in three parts. At the southernmost cairn a circular area 60 m in diameter, excluding the above-ground elements of the pylon which stands on the cairn; at the middle cairn an irregular area measuring a maximum of 95 m ENE-WSW by 70 m, ending just short of the fenceline on the west side of the cairn, and at the northernmost cairn an irregular area measuring a maximum of 90 m N-S by 70 m E-W, bounded on the east by a fenceline and on the NW and SW by tracks.</p>	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of SM6644 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of the range and development of prehistoric funerary architecture and ritual activity.</p> <p>These three chambered cairns are each of national importance as a small group of Neolithic burial monuments belonging to Henshall's Orkney-Cromarty group. They gain added importance from the fact that they form a small close group of apparently varied constructional detail, offering the opportunity for comparative study which could contribute to the understanding of the range and development of prehistoric funerary architecture and ritual activity., as noted by HES.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM6644 are within a mixed agricultural and plantation landscape. Two of the three cairns are in the same field to the north, whilst one is in a field to the south across a road. This has disrupted the relationship between the three cairns as the trees that line the road have blocked intervisibility. The group lie on high ground set to the southeast of the confluence of Allt na Seasgairch and Allt a'Mhullinn, south of the River Avern.</p> <p>SM6644 is within a flat, wide-basined valley where the surrounding hills meet to the northwest as the River Avern enters Loch Morie. The position in the middle of this flat valley with wide viewsheds may contribute to understanding of neolithic monumentality, sited in a prominent manner connecting the River Avern valley and the Black Water, as well as being nodal points to be seen when approaching from the south along Allt Leacach. There is little modern infrastructure visible other than the road and a windfarm visible approximately 3.1 km to the southwest on the crest of the hill.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of transmission infrastructure c.857 m to the west across Allt na Seasgaich, in the foreground of existing Novar and Novar Extension windfarm cresting above the hills.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Setting provides a moderate contribution to group cultural significance. SM6644 is considered to have a medium sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM6644 is sensitive to changes in setting potentially introduced by the Proposed Development, adding new and different infrastructure to the landscape. The Proposed Development may be seen from SM6644, introducing transmission infrastructure prominently into views west along the southern approach, towards the low hills south of Meall Mor, and disrupting the views to the River Avon / Loch Morie confluence, where the Proposed Development spans the river valley and tracks east of the elevation. However, the Proposed Development will only be backdropping the near surroundings of the assets and the base of the valley. Therefore, it's likely that the Proposed Development would be partial absorbed into the wider views of the assets while maintaining the immediate surroundings and will result in an adverse change to setting; further encroachment east would worsen this impact. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Low, given the limited impact to the ability to experience and appreciate the assets in context.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

Heights of Brae		
SM2312 chambered cairn, Heights of Brae		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-47	Plates: 3DVP-175 – 948, 949, 950, 951 and 952	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.5 km S
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Moderate
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2312 comprises the remains of a Neolithic chambered cairn of Orkney Cromarty type. It survives as a group of upstanding stones, surrounded by a slight bank. The stones represent the internal structural components of the monument whilst much of the outer cairn stones have been lost. Four large stones comprise a burial chamber located to the south and the presence of additional large stones suggest a second chamber to the north. The entrance, recorded in the past was likely located to the east of the south chamber.</p> <p>The cairn is located in the upland moor around Cnoc nah-Uamha and the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, north of the River Peffery valley. The funerary monument is one of several designated prehistoric settlement and funerary monuments, as well as non-designated assets around Cnoc nah-Uamha and the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, with the most notable of these being SM4728 Firth View settlement, SM10495 Strath Sgitheach settlement, both located 900 m to the north, as well as SM1672 Cnoc Farill Fort and SM13765 Henge, both located in the hills above the south bank of the River Peffery.</p> <p>This asset is of national significance as a prehistoric burial monument and significant for its contribution to the understanding of burial practices and belief systems in the Neolithic and into the Bronze Age.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this monument is derived primarily from its historic value, of which setting and the relationship to associated prehistoric assets in the wider historic environment makes a notable contribution. Significance is also derived from its material remains and the potential for in situ archaeological deposits and finds.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location within the uplands around Cnoc nah-Uamha, with the River Peffery valley to the south and the Strath Sgitheach to the north.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' setting contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Its key relationships are to surrounding Neolithic to Late Prehistoric ritual, funerary and settlement sites in and around the Peffery valley, the most significant of these are to SM2396 Balnacrae cairn, SM4728 Firth View settlement, SM1672 Cnoc Farill Fort and SM13765 Henge. Key views from the asset would have been over the River Peffery valley to the south and over the Cromarty Firth to the south-east, taking in the key areas of prehistoric settlement along the river valley and the hills overlooking the valley.</li> <li>• Secondary views from the monument are to the north towards the nearby settlement site of SM4278 and SM10495. Key views towards the asset are from the uplands south of the River Peffery valley, taking in the prehistoric settlement assets around Cnoc nah-Uamha and the Strath Sgitheach.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the landscape around the River Peffery valley and surrounding uplands has evolved and been modified since the Neolithic and Late Prehistoric periods, with the introduction of upland pasture, field systems and plantation forest, the overall character of the land has remained rural with little in the way of large-scale infrastructure to obscure views. As such, the setting of the monument continues to make a moderate contribution to its historic value and cultural significance.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce new transmission infrastructure into the uplands around Cnoc nah-Uamha and the Strath Sgitheach, with towers visible local views north from SM2312, including the view towards SM2396, as well as in long distance landscape views north, towards SM2312 from the uplands south of the River Peffery valley.</p>	

	<p>The Proposed Development is located within a within a south-west to north-east aligned corridor 1.5 km to the north of the SM2312 and north of the Abhainn Sgitheach watercourse, within the uplands of Cnìoch Mhor and Cnoc nan Each.</p> <p>The uplands north of the River Peffery valley are free of large- transmission infrastructure in the form of towers or wind turbines. The River Peffery valley itself does however contain arrays of transmission infrastructure towers to the east of Knockfarrel around Dingwall and running on in a north-east direction parallel to the north bank of the Cromarty Firth.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, with a medium sensitivity to changes in setting, along the River Peffery valley and the surrounding uplands.</p> <p>Key historic views from the monument to the south and south-east towards the River Peffery valley and the Cromarty Firth would not be eroded by the Proposed Development and the relationship to associated assets around Cnoc Farril SM6172 would be unaffected. The experience of visiting the monument would not be altered to any notable extent for visitors to the cairn.</p> <p>Secondary local views to SM4278 and SM10495, a pair of prehistoric settlement sites located 900m to the north of the monument would be eroded and new infrastructure would be introduced in close proximity, backdropping these settlement sites. It should be noted however, that these settlement sites are currently screened by plantation forest and no intervisibility is currently possible. Intervisibility would only be possible as and when this forest is felled or lost. Even when visible, the relationship between these assets would still be legible in the landscape despite the presence of the proposed OHL towers. Views NE towards SM2396 would be entirely disrupted, with the Proposed Development obscuring the cairn by placing a tower (S129) directly in front.</p> <p>Wider landscape views towards the monument from around SM1672 Cnoc Farril Fort and SM13765 Henge, both located in the hills above the south bank of the River Peffery, would be eroded by the introduction of new infrastructure in close proximity to associated prehistoric assets. However, direct views to SM2312 would not be obscured and the relationship between these prehistoric assets would still be legible.</p> <p>Based on the above and, assuming the loss of plantation forest around SM4278 and SM10495, and the opening up of these historic views, there would be a slight impact arising from erosion of local views towards SM4278 and SM10495. Some erosion of wider landscape views around Cnoc Farril SM1672 is also expected, resulting in a Moderate adverse effect overall. The siting, material and archaeological value of the monument would be unchanged, while a limited adverse ability to appreciate and experience the asset would result.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>



*Minor Projected Effect*

Achilty		
SM1667 henge, Achilty, Contin		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-186 – 986, 987, 998 and 989	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.2 km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>This asset comprises the remains of a henge, a form of ritual monument dating to the late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age (around 3000 BCE -1500 BCE). It is circular, measuring about 9.5m in diameter within a ditch and external bank. The ditch is about 6 m broad and broken by an entrance causeway on the east-southeast, while the surrounding bank is continuous with no entrance gap. The monument lies on level ground close to the eastern shore of Loch Achilty, at about 30 m above sea level.</p> <p>The monument is mentioned in the New Statistical Account of Scotland as 'one of those circles formed of stone'. This suggests that the monument may have at one time had associated upstanding stones that remained into the 18<sup>th</sup> century. However, there is evidence that the monument has been disturbed (both in antiquity and in modern times) and it now presents as a low-lying feature, only distinguishable by floral changes.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived primarily from its archaeological interest and the contribution study and future research can make to our understanding of the character, development and use of ritual sites, and the nature of late Neolithic and early Bronze Age society in this area of Scotland and further afield.</p> <p>This importance is demonstrated by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The henge is an important indicator of prehistoric activity in this region of Scotland, during the late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods.</li> <li>• The monument retains structural attributes which make a significant contribution to our understanding or appreciation of the past. The monument survives as an earthwork structure.</li> <li>• The monument is a rare example of a henge with a continuous outer bank. This may indicate modification of the monument in prehistory.</li> <li>• The monument is a particularly good example of a henge monument and is therefore an important representative of this monument type.</li> <li>• Further research and investigation of the surviving buried remains have the potential to explain the precise chronology of this monument. Such a chronological explanation may help to inform our understanding of the development of similar prehistoric sites across Scotland.</li> <li>• The monument makes a significant contribution to our understanding of the prehistoric landscape as a component of a larger complex of related, contemporary sites, reflecting settlement, agriculture, commemoration and ritual activity around the Beaully and Cromarty Firths.</li> </ul> <p>The setting of the henge, both within this wider late prehistoric landscape and its more immediate landscape context on the shore of Loch Achilty, also contributes significantly to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The immediate setting of the Henge is defined by its wet, low-lying location, on the eastern shore of Loch Achilty. Steep hills surround the loch on its southern, western and northern edges, with an open flood plain to the north and east of the henge, between the loch and the Blackwater River. Key views include those across the loch and south-eastwards along the stream that joins the Blackwater River 1.7 km.</p> <p>Its wider setting includes its relationship to the broader landscape in the north of the Beaully Firth where 10 other henge monuments are also found. Within this, the Henge is part of a more localised group of six</p>	

	<p>located between the Beauly and Cromarty Firths including, including Knockfarrel (scheduled monument reference SM13745, Canmore reference 374610), Culbokie (scheduled monument reference SM1668, Canmore ID 12776), Conon Bridge (scheduled monument reference SM1666, Canmore ID 12781), Logieside (scheduled monument reference SM3403, Canmore ID 12843) and Castle Hill, Muir of Ord (scheduled monument reference SM1665, Canmore ID 12670).</p> <p>Although there is no intervisibility between these henges - and Achilty is somewhat of a western outlier (Knockfarrel is the closest, 7 km to the east) – at the very least their clustering indicates a concentration of activity in the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age. At a general level, their relative proximity to each other can provide insights into the broader contemporary landscape during prehistory, the social organisation of communities and their activities and the division of land. It is likely that late prehistoric populations would have understood them as a group of monuments with related meaning and significance.</p> <p>The positioning of each of these monuments within their immediate landscape is also an important part of their setting. Researchers indicate that their location would have been carefully planned to take advantage of natural features, routeways, views and natural resources. The Henge's low-lying environment on the edge of a floodplain bounded by steep hills and overlooking the loch is therefore a key part of what enables this monument to be understood and appreciated.</p> <p>The landscape in which the monument is located has changed substantially since the Bronze Age, most notably with the introduction of intensive agriculture in the post medieval and modern periods, the development of farms and houses alongside modern infrastructure including roads and overhead cabling within the vicinity of the monument. In summary, both the immediate and wider setting can be said to make a significant contribution to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience this monument.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure approximately 2.2 km east of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development is located between the henge and its closest associated henge at Knockfarrel. However, as this landscape is already dissected by existing modern infrastructure including roads, settlements and overhead lines, it is unlikely to alter the way in which the relationship between these prehistoric sites is understood or appreciated.</p> <p>Tree covered hills mean the Proposed Development will not be visible in key views from the monument across the loch or to the east where it is closest. There may be partial visibility from the monument looking southeast along the Blackwater River floodplain to the east of Tor Achilty, though the Proposed Development would be present as a distant feature over 2.5 km away. Modern roads and other development would also be visible within this same view.</p> <p>In summary, there may be some limited impact upon key views from the monument, but these are unlikely to alter the way in which the asset is understood. The intrusion of further modern infrastructure into these views may detract from the appreciation and experience of the monument within its landscape context but it is thought this would not be to a significant degree. As such, it is considered that this predicted change would amount to a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Knock Farril		
SM1672 fort, Knock Farril		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure CHVP-19	Plates: 3DVP-179 – 964, 965, 966, 967, 968 and 969	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.4 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>Monument comprises of the vitrified remains of an Iron Age – Early Medieval hillfort. The fort is lozenge-shaped in plan, it measures about 118 m from NE to SW by 30 m transversely (0.33 ha) and contains two sub-rectangular look-out posts which overlook the northeast and southwest approaches.</p> <p>The monument is of national importance as an example of a vitrified hillfort with unique survival of two look-out posts.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The national importance of this scheduled monument is derived from its archaeological interest and the contribution its study and future research can make to our understanding of the character, development and use of hillforts, and the nature of Iron Age and Early Historic society in this area of Scotland and further afield. As a rare, vitrified hillfort with unusual 'lookout' structures, the monument has the potential to provide valuable information on defensive architecture.</p> <p>However, as described in more detail below the monument also derives a substantial amount of value from its strategic setting as a prominent hill-top fort, including its association with and key views over its low-lying and upland surroundings.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The monument's setting is defined by its location on the northeastern end of the Knock Farril ridge. The prominent narrow ridge is the highest point of raised land bounded by the River Conon to the south and the Peffer to the north. The fort affords extensive views in all directions include east over Dingwall and the Cromarty Firth, southwest to Strathpeffer and across the valley to the uplands on its northern and northwestern sides. The ridge itself is covered in grass and bracken upland grazing, with portions of its northern slopes planted with trees. The low-lying areas of the Peffer and Conon River valleys are under a mix of arable and pasture with much of the upland to the west under forestry.</p> <p>The fort would have been used both as a look out post and likely as a defensive refuge for people and their animals during times of social and political unrest. It is likely the monument was associated with field systems and farms in the lower lying valley bottoms and gentler hillslopes. Key views include those over these fertile low-lying areas and those across the northern side of the Peffer Valley, where a number of prehistoric settlements locations are known, such as Strath Sgitheach, 4 km to the north (SM10495). The importance of views over the surrounding area is further emphasised by the remains of two sub-rectangular structures overlooking the northeast and southwest approaches.</p> <p>As a defensive structure, the association this fort has with its hinterland makes a substantial contribution to way in which this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced. Views towards the asset from its local and more distant surroundings are also a key feature of its setting. Some additional importance can be placed upon key views to the southwest where the fort entrance is thought to be located.</p> <p>The landscape in which the monument is located has changed substantially since the Iron Age/Early Historic period, most notably with the introduction of intensive agriculture in the post medieval and modern periods, the development of farms and modern towns such as Strathpeffer and Dingwall alongside modern infrastructure including roads and railways.</p> <p>In summary, both the immediate and wider setting can be said to make a significant contribution to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience this monument.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 3.4 km west of the asset.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Although the Proposed Development is located at a distance to the north, west and south of the asset, due to its long-ranging views in all directions, it is likely to be visible. In particular, the Proposed Development would feature within key views to the southwest and be visible without obstruction. Additionally, the development may be visible in the background of interconnected views with SM10495. This would alter one of its key views. However, as described above, the monument's setting includes contemporary settlements and modern infrastructure.</p> <p>Due to the high visibility of the Proposed Development from the asset, an adverse change in the setting of the asset is predicted which may impact the ability to understand, appreciate and experience the asset. However, considering the existing modern context, this change is thought to amount to a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Loch Kinellan, crannog		
SM3987 crannog, Loch Kinellan		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-184 – 980, 981, 982, 983, 984 and 985	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 634 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM3987 crannog, Loch Kinellan consists of an artificial island in Loch Kinellan, near the southern shore, is an irregular ellipse in shape, measuring approximately 64 m by 43 m, with a barrier of stones around its perimeter. There is a second barrier at the west end, about 4.6 m from the perimetric barrier. Excavations were carried out from 1914 to 1916 which showed that, structurally, the island appears to consist of three main series of layers, the base being of logs.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of SM3987 is primarily derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and defensive settlements.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM3987 is defined by its location in the middle of Loch Kinellan. The asset derives value from this Loch setting, being crucial to maintaining vigil over approaches including access to the settlement and contributing to the rationale for selection and taskscape of the site.</p> <p>The town of Strathpeffer is less than 400m to the northeast of SM3987, but this is likely screened by trees. The entire north shore of Loch Kinellan is lined with trees that stretch to the hill to the northwest. A single row of trees lines the southern bank, shielding SM3987 from views of the access track the skirts the edge of Loch Kinellan and of the farmland and buildings to the south. A corridor is open to the southwest through which the hills beyond can be seen. Over the crest of the first set of hills a windfarm can be seen approximately 7.3 km to the southwest.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the location of SM3987 upon Loch Kinellan is vital to understanding its historic function and contributes to its significance as it may aid understanding as to the construction and occupation of crannogs. The Loch setting is however, integral to the interpretation and value of the asset.</p>	

<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of transmission infrastructure c.634 m west, visible across Loch Kinnellan between upland areas that bound the loch north and south.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>SM3987 is considered to have sensitivity to changes to setting that will affect its cultural significance. The setting of the SM3987 will be subject to a slight adverse impact from the Proposed Development as the introduction of the Proposed Development to the immediate west of the Loch will compromise views beyond the water, without disrupting the immediate setting of SM3987.</p> <p>SM3987 will thus be subject to a slight adverse change to its setting. This is because the Proposed Development does not disrupt the immediate spatial relationship to the wider Loch but does introduce transmission infrastructure to the views beyond. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible/Low.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

*Negligible/No Projected Effect*

Carn na Buaile		
SM11056 fort, Carn na Buaile		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-188 – 989, 990 and 991	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.5 km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The monument consists of a multi-period hill-top fort, located in coniferous woodland on the summit of Carn na Buaile. The fort is oval in plan, defined by ruinous stone walling, and steep slopes and measuring 27 m by 16.5 m. The interior of the fort is featureless with the exception of a collapsed shepherds' cairn. A stone rampart encloses the eastern, less steep side of the hilltop.</p> <p>The fort was likely built in the Bronze Age with periods of further occupation from the Iron Age to present day.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>This monument is of national importance as the remains of a multi-period fort which has the potential to provide valuable information on defensive architecture, as well as the nature of settlement and economy, from a number of different periods. It also derives value from its strategic setting as a prominent hill-top fort with a wide view-shed.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The fort is located within a conifer plantation on the northern side of Strathconon, some 4km to the west of Contin. It is situated at the west end of a prominent spur near the top of a west-facing slope. The craggy natural slopes to the west are up to 8 m high with a steep gradient that forms a natural defense.</p> <p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location on the summit of Carn na Buaile above the Conon River valley, which would have afforded its occupiers long-range views in all directions.</p> <p>The asset is located uphill from the River Conon and was likely strategically positioned to survey the river valley. Archaeological investigation shows that the stone walls of the fort are best preserved in the east, where it defends the easiest approach. As such, views to the east would have been strategically important in history for defensive purposes.</p>	

	Although its setting would have been historically significant, today, the asset is surrounded by dense coniferous woodland all sides. This acts to screen the asset and limit views toward and away from the fort.
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure approximately 4.5 km west of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development is located at a distance of over 5km and obscured by both topography and woodland. Views of the Proposed Development from the asset are unlikely.</p> <p>Considering the distance and the lack of visibility, the introduction of the Proposed Development is unlikely to alter the ability to understand or appreciate the asset. As such, it is considered that this predicted change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Clachan Corrach		
SM2466 chambered cairn, Clachan Corrach		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP- 189 – 992, 993, 994, 995, 996 and 997	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.7 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2466 comprises the remains of a Neolithic chambered cairn of the Orkney Cromarty type. It survives as a group of upstanding stones that define a chamber to the west and a passage to the east.</p> <p>The cairn is located within an area of plantation woodland to the west of Loch Ussie, on the western slope of low foothills. The River Conon valley and the Black Water are located to the south, south-west and west, with associated funerary monuments located along the length of the Black Water. This asset is of national significance as a prehistoric funerary monument and significant for its contribution to the understanding of settlement and burial practices within the north-east of Scotland.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this monument is derived primarily from its historic value, of which setting and the relationship to associated prehistoric assets in the wider historic environment, currently makes only a small contribution due to the asset's location within plantation woodland and its limited external views. The contribution of its setting would make a notable contribution of this woodland was felled or otherwise lost. Significance is also derived from its material remains as well and the potential for in situ archaeological deposits and finds.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The historic setting of this asset is defined by its relationship with the River Conan valley and the Black Water with its associated Prehistoric ritual, funerary and settlement sites along its alignment and adjacent to Loch Achilty.</p> <p>Should the woodland around the asset be felled or lost, and historic views reopened, the following aspects of the assets' historic setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local views west towards SM2397 Preas Mairi chambered cairn</li> </ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local views over the surrounding rural fieldscape</li> <li>Wider Landscape views along the length of the Black Water</li> <li>Wider Landscape views south-west to the River Conan</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the landscape around the River Conan valley and surrounding lowlands has evolved and been modified since the Neolithic and Late Prehistoric periods, with the introduction of small scale post-medieval settlement, lowland agriculture and associated field system and copse/plantation woodland, the overall character of the land has remained rural with little in the way of large-scale infrastructure to obscure views. As such, the setting of the monument would continue to make a notable contribution to its historic value and cultural significance.</p> <p>The lowland zone around the Black Water is currently free of large-scale electrical infrastructure, with the nearest array of OHL towers located to the south of the River Conan and Loch Achonachie, some 2.2 km south of the monument.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce new transmission infrastructure into the immediate rural periphery of the monument with transmission infrastructure prominent in local views west towards the Black Water.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located within a south-west to north-east aligned corridor 1.7 km to the west of SM2466 cutting across the Black Water and nearby farmland.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change within the Black Water and River Conan valleys. The assets sensitivity to change is largely dependent on the felling or loss of the copse woodland surrounding the monument and the opening up of wider landscape views.</p> <p>With the copse woodland that surrounds the asset in place, the Proposed Development would likely be screened and no impacts to setting are predicted.</p> <p>With the copse woodland around the monument in place, setting makes a much smaller contribution to heritage significance, with views restricted to the surrounding woods and, in winter months with reduced foliage the nearby farmland.</p> <p>With the current copse woodland in place the Proposed Development is unlikely to be visible. The Proposed Development would be clearly visible should the copse woodland be felled or otherwise lost.</p> <p>Should the copse woodland be felled or otherwise lost, wider landscape views would be opened, and the Proposed Development would be clearly visible in long distance views west. Historic views along the length of the Black Water to the west would be eroded, although the watercourse would still be visible. These are general landscape views and there are no key views to specific associated monuments that would be obscured or lost. Views from the monument south towards the River Conan would be largely unaffected with the Proposed Development appearing in the periphery of these views.</p> <p>Historic views towards the monument on the approach from Loch Achilty would be partially eroded with OHL towers in the forefront of views to the cairn but not directly obscuring views of the monument. Views from the south, on the approach from the River Conan would be unaffected.</p> <p>The experience of visiting the monument would not be greatly affected, with or without the existing copse woodland in place.</p> <p>Based on the above, even in the worst-case scenario of the current screening being lost, there would be a Negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development, due to the legibility of wider landscape relationships being maintained and no obstruction in views between associated monuments. The archaeological value of the monument would be unchanged.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Cromarty Firth		
SM1668 henge 155 m W of Teanagarin Cottage SM3145 chambered cairn 80 m NE of Auchencairn, Mulchaich SM3655 dun 400 m E of Drummondreach SM4579 dun, Carn Mor		4 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: N/A	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 8.3 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM1668 henge 155 m W of Teanagarin Cottage consists of a henge. It is currently used as a refuse dump for excess gorse and tree branches by local farms.</p> <p>SM3145 chambered cairn 80 m NE of Auchencairn, Mulchaich consists of a chambered cairn dating from the late Neolithic to the early Bronze Age. The cairn is visible as a mound with exposed kerbs, the inner of which is cup-marked with 15 cups. The scheduled area includes the remains above as well as the area around it within which evidence relating to the monument's construction, use, and abandonment is expected to survive.</p> <p>SM3655 dun 400 m E of Drummondreach consists of a dun with outer defences of the edge of a steep drop to a burn. The scheduled area is 120 m W-E and 90 m S-N to include the dun, its outer defences and an area around in which traces of activities associated with the construction and occupation of the dun may survive.</p> <p>SM4579 dun, Carn Mor consists of a circular dun measuring 18 m across internally. The dun is defended by two ramparts with a medieval ditch. The scheduled area measures 120 m in diameter.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>These four Scheduled Monuments comprise the prehistoric landscape south of the tidal mouth of the River Conon.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these four monuments is derived from their setting, as well as their form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to understanding of prehistoric land use, domestic life, and defence, as well as mortuary beliefs. SM4579 is noted by HES to be a fine example of an Iron Age fortification, and the cup marks on SM3145 is noted to be unusual. SM3145, SM3655, and SM4579 have a degree of intact physical remains present but it is unknown whether SM1668 does.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The immediate setting of the four assets within a wider prehistoric landscape contributes to the significance of these assets as it can aid understanding of prehistoric agriculture, domestic life, defence, and mortuary beliefs, as well as the relationship that prehistoric settlements had with each other. The Dun features, henge and cairn, may be seen to share effective viewsheds, though a requirement for prominence, although the exact siting and rationale may be seen as different. Between them expressions of accessibility of the landscape, communicating to peoples within may be attributed to the henge and cairn, while a domineering effect on prominence may be associated to the defensive Dun monuments. Although both express 'control' over the wider landscape.</p> <p>There are clear views across Cromarty Firth to the urban area of Dingwall. SM3655 and SM4579 are located within plantations and so are presently hindered. SM1668 and SM3145 are located within post-medieval to modern agricultural fields near roads with views over the firth and across the wider landscape. As a henge and a cairn, the ability to view these assets and their placement for specific views outward was key to their monumentality and can contribute to their understanding.</p> <p>Overall, their setting can be seen to contribute to their significance as their prominence and siting allows an explanation for their purpose and use.</p>	

<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure along upland areas across the Cromarty Firth (c.8.3 km).
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The setting of the four assets of SM1668, SM3145, SM3655, and SM4579 will have a Negligible impact from the Proposed Development as between it and the assets is existing modern infrastructure. This will not materially change the character of the landscape looking to the northwest from the assets. Although the Proposed Development will introduce additional infrastructure to some mid-long-distant views along the Strath Sgitheach ridgeline.</p> <p>The assets of SM1668, SM3145, SM3655, and SM4579 will thus be subject to a negligible change to their setting. This is because the Proposed Development will not materially change the character of the landscape but will further introduce modern infrastructure at the mid-long-distance in a semi-prominent location. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Urquhart, Old Parish Church		
SM5696 Old Parish Church, Urquhart		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: N/A	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 7.5 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> No Impact	<b>Projected Effect:</b> No Effect
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM5696 Old Parish Church, Urquhart consists of a former parish church of Urquhart which is dedicated to Saint Maelruba. On the grounds of a former church that was built at its location because St Maelruba was thought to have died there in 721. The present church is situated in an extended burial ground looking north to the Cromarty Firth.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM5696 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of the Proposed Development of religious grounds and the parish as well as the possibility of understanding early medieval burial. The monument is of national importance because it is a post-medieval church which, if medieval documentary sources and local traditions are taken into consideration, links the site of the parish church of Urquhart with the martyrdom of St Maelrubha and the erection of a wooden church on the spot in AD 721. The present building is likely to overlie the site of one or more earlier Medieval churches and as such it provides evidence and has the potential to produce further evidence through excavation, for ecclesiastical architecture, early Christian history, burial practices, parish development and material culture. as HES notes.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	SM5696 is situated near to the Cromarty Firth in an extended burial ground overlooks the neck of the Cromarty Firth to the north. The view northwest across the Cromarty Firth is noted by HES to be a key view.	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.7 km to the north across Cromarty Firth, on the far side of the existing OHL, but on an elevated area.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	SM5696 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM5696 is sensitive to changes in setting potentially introduced by the Proposed Development. However, given the existing conditions present, the Proposed Development will	

	be present in the long distance with only glimpsed view accessibility if identifiable at all. Given the changes in land use and modernisation present in the Cromarty Firth, it is not anticipated that the Proposed Development would further change the setting of the asset. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as No Impact.
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified No Effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Listed Buildings

### Minor Projected Effect

Ardross Castle		
LB15031 Ardross Castle		1 x Category A Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-53	Plates: 3DVP-164 – 901, 902, 903, 904 and 905	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 4.4 km E</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB15031 comprises a large Category A listed building in Scottish Baronial style which incorporates an earlier house. It was designed by Alexander Ross for Alexander Matheson in 1880-81 and built of Tarradale Red sandstone. The gabled and turreted building has a five-storey tower at the east end, above the entrance. The building is situated within a late 19th century designed landscape and country estate with the castle located at its centre.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a category A Listed Building, the heritage significance of the asset is derived from both historic and architectural potential and its setting. The asset has the potential to significantly contribute to understanding of the management of an estate landscape and of those who owned it.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset can be defined by its location in Ardross GDL which is located within the larger River Alness valley. The GDL extends for nearly 5 km along the river valley in which the castle is located at the centre.</p> <p>The GDL comprises of the castle and associated ancillary buildings such as a stable block, laundry, icehouse as well as designed features such as formal gardens and terraces, gazebo and entrance gates.</p> <p>Key views from the castle are east to west across the formal gardens and south over the river valley below. From the castle terrace panoramic view extends west over the hills of Strath Mor and southwards, over the wooded river valley, to parkland on the valley slopes. Near landscape views take in Cnoc Crask, with more distant landscape views taking in Ben Wyvis beyond.</p> <p>The rural landscape surrounding the castle is largely unaltered since its inception, with the exception of some realignment of field systems, an expansion of the local road network and the introduction of some electrical infrastructure into the surrounding landscape. Notably, Novar windfarm is located approximately 6 km to the north of the asset.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monument is its historical value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of the asset, with the sensitivity to changes in setting considered high. This is because it has retained original context and setting within the GDL as well as its key views over the surrounding parkland.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of the overhead cabling a maximum of c.4.4 km to the southwest of the asset.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce further modern infrastructure into the wider landscape, located c. 4.4 km to the southwest.</p> <p>The key aspects of setting, namely views east to west across the formal gardens and south over the river valley below would be unaffected by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Key local views outwards from the castle terrace extend south across the River Alness valley and south-west to the uplands around Strath Mor. The views to Strath Mor already contain electrical infrastructure in the form of wind turbines at Novar Wind Farm. The Proposed Development would add to this infrastructure in the wider upland landscape, with the potential for management felling to increase the visibility.</p> <p>Key scenic views towards the castle from outwith the GDL, are from the east around LB15031, looking west along the River Alness valley. These views contain OHL towers in close proximity to the river valley and in closer proximity than Ardross Castle. The Proposed Development would introduce OHL towers at some distance further west than Ardross Castle and would not backdrop views of the castle.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the castle and would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape and into scenic views facing west along the River Alness valley, although the potential to impact the understanding, appreciation or experience of the asset, is limited.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact the asset, resulting in a Minor effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered Not Significant, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Coul House		
LB1769 Coul House		1 x Category A Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-49	Plates: 3DVP-190 – 998, 999, 1000, 1001 and 1002	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 447 m W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible / Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	Villa, constructed in 1821 with further alterations made in 1860. This was the former mansion of the Mackenzies of Coul. Described as "An elegant mansion". (c. 1858). Two earlier manor houses were known to have been sited here. The grand interior includes ornate plaster ceilings in the dining and drawing rooms. The house is located within its own estate grounds though some modern development within the western portion.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived primarily from its historical and architectural value. However, it may draw additional significance from its setting within the landscape, particularly its estate grounds including a formal garden, and its historical associations with the village of Contin.</p> <p>In 1837 described the manor was described as handsome and commodious" and "surrounding grounds. Tastefully laid out, garden of ... superior style "An elegant mansion, the seat of Sir George Mackenzie, Bart". (c. 1858).</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	The immediate setting of this post-medieval manor house is defined by the estate grounds that surround it. Associated assets within the grounds include a large walled garden to the southeast (MHG43983), and The Mains of Coul to the south (LB1771), where a farmstead, coach house, cottage and stables were arranged around a central courtyard. Parkland (MHG43984) and wooded hillside surround the manor house to the north and northeast and enclosed arable fields extend to the lower lying southern	

	<p>side. A mill laid (Canmore ID 105496) traceable on the first edition OS for approximately 3km, survives well in places today. Beginning in Torachilty Forest, the laid contours around the hill to the north of Contin and crosses fields before entering a stone culvert and running around the east side of Coul House and onto the former threshing mill at the Mains of Coul farmstead. East (MHG7860, West (MHG7861/LB1770) and Middle Lodge marked the various gates into the estate. Though views beyond its immediate surroundings are restricted by woodland, the house being designed to be viewed by only those invited to see it, the historic core of the village of Contin, on the southwest edge of the estate also forms part of the house's setting through historic association.</p> <p>As the seat of a prominent local family, the house was historically associated to its wider setting on the slopes of the Blackwater valley. Through design, however, key views to and from the house itself are restricted to the lawns and parkland that immediately surround it.</p> <p>Since the construction of Coul House, the village of Contin has grown to the northeast in the direction of the house and the residential development, Woodland Park, is now located on what was part of the estate parkland.</p> <p>The immediate setting of Coul House comprising the estate grounds and the village of Contin contributes substantially to the ability to understand and appreciate this asset, providing vital historic links to its historic function and social value in the past. Though there have been some changes to this setting over time, including the loss of some of its historic features including the parkland, the original threshing mill and some of the mill laid, the overall structure of the estate remains intact. Its wider setting also contributes to its cultural significance, but to a lesser degree and it is important to note that the house does not have any notable direct visual associations with the landscape beyond its estate. The first edition OS maps clearly show the house was enclosed within a woodland and parkland planting scheme that intentionally restricted visual access to this private manor house.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 447 m to the east of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>It is not anticipated that the Proposed Development will be visible from Coul House or from the gardens that surround it. However, the Proposed Development is located within the asset's parkland setting, between the East and mid Lodge. This change will cause a long-term separation of the house from the eastern portion of its estate.</p> <p>This change is however considered to be lessened both by the heavily wooded environment and lack of intervisibility between the centre of the estate and the Proposed Development. The centre of the estate is understood here to be defined by the area immediately surrounding the house, the Mains of Coul and the walled garden.</p> <p>The above-described anticipated changes to setting would detract to a limited degree from the way in which this asset is appreciated or understood. It is therefore considered that this change would amount to a Negligible/Low magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>



Mains of Coul		
LB1771 Mains of Coul		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-191 – 1003, 1004, 1005, 1006, 1007 and 1008	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 559 m W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB1780 comprises a two storey 12-bay farm square c. 1795.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a category B Listed Building, the heritage significance of the asset is derived primarily from its historic and architectural potential. However, as a historic farm the buildings rural setting does play a contributing role to its value and cultural heritage significance, this is discussed further below.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset can be defined by its location within an area of flat, fertile ground to the northeast of the Alltan Dubh. The asset historically functioned as a farmstead and so this location and rural setting is of significance to its cultural heritage value.</p> <p>The asset is located to the northeast of the settlement of Contin with views over agricultural land expanding to the uplands in the south. The asset located on a slight rise in the land, overlooks Fairburn GDL at a distance in the south. Views to the west, east and north are screened by topography and trees.</p> <p>Due to its location close to the settlement of Contin, the setting of the asset although mainly rural has been altered by the presence of modern infrastructure such as a small road (c.50 m to the south) as well as an area of landscaped hedges to the south and Contin to the southwest.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the building is its material and historical value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of the asset. This is because it has retained its rural setting and views to the surrounding area.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.559 m to the east of the asset. Due to the route of the OHL, the line bounds the asset in the north, east and south, passing within views to the south and southeast.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce further modern infrastructure into the wider landscape.</p> <p>Whilst the Development will be present within the assets wider setting, it is only visible in views from the asset looking east-southeast and south, this is due to heavy topography and tree screening in the north and northeast.</p> <p>The asset derives some significance from its rural setting, as well as views over agricultural land and to Fairburn GDL in the south. It is anticipated that the Proposed Development would be visible within wider views of the landscape as well as encroach on key views south sweeping southwest to cross both the Allt an Dubh and River Conon.</p> <p>Due to its function as a farm building, the primary views from the asset are likely to be over its immediate surroundings, designed garden and associated agricultural land. The development located at a distance is not anticipated to erode these views. However, the development will be visible in views to the southeast and south towards Fairburn GDL. As such, it may intrude on secondary views over the wider landscape, especially as the line cuts directly in front of Fairburn GDL, severing and eroding this long-range view.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall.</p>	

<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>
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Strathcarron Cawdearg		
LB7180 Strathcarron Cawdearg		1 x Category C Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-163 – 896, 897, 898, 899 and 900	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 612 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Low	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB7180 comprises a single storey and attic house c. 1820. The building is a representative example of Strathcarron croft dwellings. Corrugated iron roofs replace former thatch.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a category C Listed Building, the heritage significance of the asset is derived primarily from its historic and architectural potential. However, HES identifies the asset as a "representative example of Strathcarron croft dwellings." As such, the buildings rural setting does play a contributing role to its value and cultural heritage significance, this is discussed further below.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset can be defined by its location on the north bank of the River Carron, the building is confined within the river valley with expansive views along the valley to the east and west.</p> <p>To the south of the building, there is a modern road (c.100 m) which follows the northern bank of the River Carron. The surrounding landscape within the river valley is punctuated with small farmsteads and post-medieval buildings, most not listed.</p> <p>The asset has wide views east and west along the river valley as well as views south from the building to the river along the flat valley basin. The building itself is located within a small farmstead surrounded by pastoral land with post-medieval field systems visible. A small watercourse, Allt an Tartair is located at close distance (c.90 m) to the east of the asset.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the building is its material and historical value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of the asset. This is because it has retained its rural setting within the river valley and relationship with the land.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.612 m to the west of the asset, crossing the River Carron valley.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce modern transmission infrastructure into the wider landscape to the west of the asset, altering the rural crofting environ.</p> <p>Whilst the Proposed Development will be present within the assets wider setting, it is only visible in views from the asset looking west along the river valley. Although views from the building along the river valley are of importance, these are likely to be restricted by existing topography, tree cover and modern infrastructure.</p> <p>The development therefore may be visible at a distance in the view west from the asset, however, the immediate views of the river to the south of the building will be retained. Additionally, as the development is located at a distance, it is unlikely that the rural setting within the river valley from which the asset derives significance will be impacted substantively, although the character of the crofting landscape will undergo change.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

#### *Negligible Projected Effect*

<b>Fyrish Monument</b>		
LB369 Fyrish Monument		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DPV-169 – 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, and 926	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The Fyrish Monument is a late 18th century picturesque monument built atop CnoC Fyrish (453 m AOD) in the uplands above the north shore of the Cromarty Firth.</p> <p>The monument forms a line of nine random rubble circular piers, with the central four piers linked by pointed headed arches, giving the impression of a ruined folly.</p> <p>The monument is a noted visitor attraction for walkers and visited daily to see the monument and its commanding views over the Cromarty Firth.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The asset derives significance from its historic, architectural and communal value. Specifically, the monument represents the gates of Negapatam, the scene of one of Hector Munros victories whilst serving in India. In addition, the monument is a noted local landmark and visitor attraction.</p>	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The historic setting of monument is defined by its relationship to Novar GDL as well as the communities of Alness and Evanton and the Cromarty Firth.</p> <p>Key views towards the monument are from the east gates and formal approach to Novar House and from the house and walled gardens. The monument is also appreciated and contributes to local views from the A9 between Alness and Evanton as well as from along the B817, the historic coastal road connecting these two villages. The monument is visible from wider views along the north shore of the firth, but its form is not identifiable and it is not easily spotted atop Cnoc Fyirish.</p> <p>Key views from the monument are to the south and south-east along the length of the Cromarty Firth. Visitors to the monument approach from the east and west along walking trails up Cnoc Fyirish. The uplands of Cnoc Ceislein are located to the north of the monument but are not framed by the approach or views from the monument which direct the gaze out onto the Firth.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.4 km to the west of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce further modern infrastructure into the wider landscape, with an existing OHL running to the south through Novar GDL.</p> <p>Whilst the Development will be present within the assets wider setting, it is only visible in views from the asset looking west. Although panoramic views do contribute to the assets setting, the main value of the asset is the view towards it from the east such as from Novar GDL, Alness and Evanton and the Cromarty Firth.</p> <p>The development may be visible in the west to visitors on the walking trail to and from the monument, however these are considered secondary views and not part of the designed views from the monument. As such, the development would be absorbed into the wider setting and is not anticipated to impact the ability to interpret the asset. Due to topographic screening, it is not anticipated that the Proposed Development would be visible in key views of the asset from the east and as such, its primary views would be retained.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

<b>Macdonald Memorial</b>		
LB24513 Macdonald Memorial		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-180 – 970, 971, 972, and 973	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 5.9 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	Tall Scottish Baronial tower constructed by James Sandford Kay in 1907. Memorial stands in centre of burial ground on Mitchell Hill and is a landmark erected to memory of Major-General Sir Hector Archibald Macdonald. The tower was used as a lookout post during World War II.	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this Listed Building is derived primarily from its historical and architectural interest. However, it also derives significance from its setting within a cemetery.</p> <p>The building is located within Mitchell Hill Cemetery, on top of a hill within the town of Dingwall. The cemetery is screened by trees on all sides and the tower, located within its centre, dominates the skyline. The tower serves as an important architectural landmark for the town of Dingwall and can be seen for miles around.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location within Mitchell Hill Cemetery, built as a landmark to Major-General Sir Hector Archibald Macdonald. It was constructed to draw the eye and be viewed as a site of remembrance.</p> <p>Historically and as it remains today, the cemetery is screened by woodland on all sides, with the densest tree cover located on the north, northeast and west sides. However, the height of this building means that it towers above the treeline and can be seen for miles around. From the top of the tower, views stretch across Dingwall and its environs as well as the Cromarty Firth.</p> <p>As such, this asset derives significance from its setting within the graveyard as well as its long-ranging views over its environs.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure, which at its closest point would be located approximately 5.9km to the northwest of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The asset is located on the top of a hill and derives significance from its long-ranging views over its environs. As such the Proposed Development (located to the west of the asset) may be visible from the Listed Building.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located c. 6 km from the asset and if visible will be observed at a considerable distance. It is therefore unlikely to significantly alter the tower's setting. This is due to the presence of existing modern infrastructure such as Dingwall town, nearby roads and railway as well as existing OHL's in the immediate landscape, located at a much closer distance.</p> <p>Additionally, the Proposed Development to the west, will not impact the immediate setting of the asset within the cemetery or its visibility from the town of Dingwall. As a memorial, these views would have been historically significant and will remain unchanged.</p> <p>The above-described changes to setting would not substantially detract from the way in which this asset is appreciated or understood. It is therefore considered that this change would amount to a Negligible magnitude of impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Garden Designed Landscapes

### Negligible Projected Effect

Ardross Castle	
GDL00023 Ardross Castle	1 x GDL
Associated Listed Buildings within the GDL:	
Category A	1 x Category A Listed Building
LB15031 Ardross Castle, Terrace and Gate Piers	2 x Category C Listed Buildings
Category C	
LB15034 Ardross Glensax (Former Ardross school and schoolhouse)	
LB15032 Ardross Castle, East Lodge	

Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-44	Plates: 3DVP-164 – 901, 902, 903, 904 and 905 3DVP-165 – 906 and 907	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.9 km NE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>GDL00023 Ardross Castle GDL is a late 19<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape and country estate with the Category A Ardross Castle and formal gardens at its core. The GDL runs west to east for nearly 5 km, along the length of the River Alness, taking in land north and south of the river. The central core of the GDL and Ardross Castle are located to the north of the river, south of the main country road running from Alness along the length of the River Alness valley to Strath Rusadale to the north-west. Beyond the main house and walled gardens, the GDL contains additional estate buildings, stable block and a kennel, icehouse and lodge and main gates. The GDL also contains the Mains of Ardross, located north of road to Alness. Along the length of this road and to the east of the main core of the GDL is the former schoolhouse and Ardross Castle East Lodge. The public road leading from Easter Ardross to Strath Rusdale forms the main approach to Ardross Castle. Crossing a bridge over the Tollie Burn, the entrance drive proper leads through the east entrance gate, to the castle. The entrance drive, initially straight, curves gently through informal parkland and woodland before reaching a forecourt on the Castle's east façade. North of this, access roads extend to the stableblock, the walled kitchen garden and to the public road at Mains of Ardross.</p> <p>The first Duke of Sutherland bought Ardross in the late 1700s and built a hunting lodge. In 1845, the second Duke sold the estate to Sir Alexander Matheson, a founder of Matheson &amp; Co. which traded in tea and opium, and was a merchant bank with branches in India and China. Having amassed his fortune, he bought Ardross in 1839.</p> <p>Over the next thirty years the estate lands were improved along with the housing of estate workers. The architect Alexander Ross (1834-1925) was commissioned to re-design Ardross Castle in the Scots Baronial style. The new Ardross Castle was completed by 1881. The Category A Ardross Castle is discussed in detail within Table 2.3 below.</p> <p>During this period Matheson laid out pleasure grounds said to extend to 700 acres 'with the Alness River winding its way through the middle of them. These walks along the Alness River and Tollie Burn, gave access on both banks for fishing and incorporated scenic views, pools and waterfalls. Flower gardens lay to the west of the castle, between the castle and the kitchen garden. Below the terraces to the east of the castle were shrubberies and broad lawns, set with an oval pond and fountain enclosed by iron railings. Ornamental tree planting started in the 1840s and continued through the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Elsewhere on the estate 2020ha (5,000 acres) of plantation were laid out.</p> <p>The estate was sold in 1898 to C. W. Dyson Perrins. Dyson Perrins continued Matheson's scheme of estate improvements. The East Lodge was built by Ross and MacBeth (1898) and the pinetum extended. A major addition was the extension of the formal garden for the east front.</p> <p>In 1983, new owners acquired the estate and began to restore the gardens. The formal garden, walled garden, shrubberies and lawns were brought back into good management. Additional specimen trees were planted and woodlands extended. A programme to restore and refurbish the estate buildings and Castle was started.</p> <p><b>Grouping rationale</b></p> <p>LB15031 Ardross Castle, its gardens and gate piers form the core and main focus of the GDL. The remaining listed buildings within the GDL inform the wider designed landscape and estate. As such, these assets are discussed together within the GDL00023 group.</p>	



<p><b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b></p>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (high):</p> <p>The history of Ardross and its owners is well-recorded. It helps us understand the social and economic life within the River Alness valley, highlighting contemporary fashion and taste.</p> <p>Archaeological value (some):</p> <p>There are several sites of archaeological interest</p> <p>Scenic value (outstanding):</p> <p>The estate designed landscape makes a major contribution to the scenic quality of the River Alness valley. The Ardross Castle policies extend along the valley, creating a parkland landscape character from Inchlumpie Wood to Dalneich Bridge. The farmed and wooded landscape contrasts markedly with the moorland on the slopes of Cnoc Céislein, Cnoc Gille Mo Bhrianaig and Bendeallt. Cnoc Duaig, Cnoc nam Flann and Cnoc Tarsin are situated to the north of the approach road leading to Ardross Castle grounds. The parklands extend along both banks of the River Alness, and are separated visually from each other by the thickly wooded banks of the river. Although many of the 19th century roundels and scatters of individual parkland trees, which ornamented the parkland were lost following the Second World War, the parkland still retains its essential character. To the south of the castle there is a turf maze, built at the bottom of the south facing slope above the river Averon. This is classical unicursal maze 3 0m in diameter constructed in 1999 to celebrate the Millennium.</p> <p>Architectural value (outstanding):</p> <p>The castle, its ancillary buildings, estate buildings and formal gardens with its range of structures and ornaments, give the site outstanding architectural value.</p> <p>Ardross Castle, in Scottish Baronial style, incorporates an earlier house. It was designed by Alexander Ross for Alexander Matheson in 1880-81 and built of Tarradale Red sandstone. The gabled and turreted building has a five-storey tower at the east end, above the entrance. The formal garden comprises terraces. The later 19th century upper terrace was built during Matheson's ownership with balustrades by J. M. Blashfield. The lower terraces were added as part of a formal garden designed by Edward White in around 1909 with matching balustrading installed by James Pulham &amp; Sons (Dingwall 2016, <a href="http://www.pulham.org">www.pulham.org</a>). They incorporate curved stone steps with intricately worked balustrades and statues pre-cast in Pulham cement. A castellated gazebo at the southeast angle of the upper terrace is made of sandstone similar to that of the castle. The stable block with internal courtyard, now restored, is contemporary with the castle. A full range of ancillary service buildings includes a laundry, icehouse and, adjacent to the River Averon, a remote hydro-electric generator house, installed by Perrins. The east entrance gate consists of central carriage gates with a matching pair of pedestrian gates. The octagonal gate piers support a pair of heraldic beasts, the pomegranate and hounds, of the Perrins family crest. Beyond Easter Ardross is the East Lodge ('The Pillars'), designed by Ross &amp; MacBeth in 1898, with two adjoining pairs of octagonal gate piers of tooled ashlar and a screen wall. The Mains of Ardross, to the north of the castle, is a notable agricultural complex in the estate style. Lealty House, situated within the south parklands acts as an eyecatcher, as seen from the gardens.</p> <p>Other architectural features within the original policies include suspension bridges over the river (only one survives) and the Matheson family graveyard, southeast of the castle, near the confluence of the Tollie Burn and River Averon.</p> <p>Horticultural value (high):</p> <p>The fine collection of trees, the walled garden and the sylvicultural tradition give this site high horticultural value.</p> <p>Ornamental trees are concentrated in the vicinity of the Castle, the densest plantings being between the Castle and the Walled Garden. There were two main phases of planting in c 1850 and c 1900. Notable specimens include massive Douglas fir, silver fir, Wellingtonia, sitka spruce and grey poplar. The variety of species at Ardross is significant: ten species of fir (Abies), five species of spruce (Picea), seven varieties of false cypress (Chamaecyparis), monkey puzzle, Thujaopsis, hemlocks, western red cedar, lime, maples and several other genera are represented. Set within</p>
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	<p>Lealty Park on the south bank of the Avern, is a pinetum (11.5ha/28 acres), interspersed with areas of sheltered rough grazing.</p> <p>The woodlands, situated along the River Avern and the Tollie Burn, are mixed woods containing stands of conifers or ornamental broadleaves, some of which were planted experimentally. They include significant areas of semi-natural woodland, some of which pre-date the designed landscape.</p> <p>Nature conservation (high):</p> <p>The variety of habitats formed by the woodlands, parks, rivers and pastures, give this site high value for nature conservation. The riparian woodlands and grasslands along the River Avern are of especially high quality.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its location within the River Alness valley. The GDL extends from the East lodge, near to Easter Ardross, running for nearly 5 km west along the River Alness Valley. Key views towards the GDL are facing west along the main approach road from LB15032 Ardross Castle, East Lodge. This east to west access along the main country road and along the length of the River Alness valley form the central design axes of the policy. Once at the main castle gates internal and external views are screened by ornamental trees are concentrated in the vicinity of the Castle. Views of the castle and views outwith the GDL do not open up until at the castle itself.</p> <p>Key views from the GDL are from the castle and formal gardens. From the castle key views are east to west across the formal gardens and south over the river valley below. From the castle terrace panoramic view extends west over the hills of Strath Mor and southwards, over the wooded river valley, to parkland on the valley slopes. Near landscape views take in Cnoc Crask, with more distant landscape views taking in Ben Wyvis beyond.</p> <p>The rural landscape surrounding the GDL is largely unaltered since its inception, with the exception of some realignment of field systems, an expansion of the local road network and the introduction of some electrical infrastructure into the surrounding landscape. As such, the setting of the GDL, within the River Alness valley, makes a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change along and within the River Alness valley, particularly the introduction of infrastructure across the river valley and along the ridge line south of the castle, along the southern boundary of the GDL, close to Lealty House.</p> <p>Views from the eastern edge of the GDL along the river valley towards Ardross Castle already contain electrical infrastructure in the form of overhead lines and the wind turbines of Novar Wind Farms, located in the uplands 5 km south-west of the Ardross Castle. Views from the castle and terraces also take in the turbines of the Novar Wind Farms to the south-west.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure into the River Alness valley to the west of the GDL. Infrastructure would be introduced into long distance views west along the river valley from the eastern edge of the GDL around the east lodge, with the OHL towers visible along the south bank of the river and backdropping the GDL where it crosses the River Alness close to Loch Morie. The Proposed Development would largely be screened from outward facing views within the GDL itself, except for views from the castle and its main terraces. From here, the Proposed Development would introduce infrastructure into local views around the river valley, closer to the castle and GDL than the more distant turbines of the Novar Wind Farms. OHL towers would be visible to the south-west in front of the Novar Wind Farm turbines and west along the river valley. However, it is worth noting that the OHL towers are located some 5 km distant from the GDL, where they cross the river valley itself.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would erode scenic views along the River Alness valley from the eastern edge of the GDL, which take in the Ardross Castle GDL, the river valley and the upland moorlands outwith the designed landscape of the GDL. The Proposed Development would also erode key views along the River Alness valley from the castle itself.</p>

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the key internal views over the formal gardens and between the main architectural elements of the GDL would be unaffected.</p> <p>Key local views outwards from the GDL, are south across the River Alness valley and south-west to the uplands around Strath Mor. The views to Strath Mor already contain electrical infrastructure in the form of wind turbines at Novar Wind Farm. The Proposed Development would add to this infrastructure in the wider upland landscape.</p> <p>Key scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, are from the east around LB15032, looking west along the River Alness valley and over the GDL. These views contain OHL towers in close proximity to the river valley and in closer proximity than the core of the GDL at Ardross Castle. The Proposed Development would introduce OHL towers at some distance further west than Ardross Castle and would not backdrop views of the castle or GDL.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL and would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape from the GDL and into scenic views facing west along the River Alness valley. A negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. The remaining historic, archaeological architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible adverse effect to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Novar		
GDL00303 Novar Associated Listed Buildings: Category B LB338 Novar House and walled gardens LB341 Novar House entrance gates (East) LB7905 Novar House entrance gates (West) Category C LB340 Novar Stables LB339 Novar, Water Baillie's House		1 x Garden Designed Landscape 3 x Category B Listed Buildings 2 x Category C Listed Buildings
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-170 – 927, 928, 929, and 930 3DVP-171 – 931 and 932	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.4 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>Novar is a late 18<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape and country estate built around the Category B Novar House and walled gardens. The estate was owned by the Munro's, a historically significant landowner in the north-east of Scotland, with the GDL established by Sir Hector Munro, a military officer, politician and landowner.</p> <p>Beyond the main house and walled gardens, the GDL contains additional houses, stables, kennel buildings, icehouse, the Mains of Novar and farmsteads. There are two formal approaches to the GDL. The western approach has a Category B gate which leads visitors along a formal tree lined avenue to the main house and the Mains of Novar. The eastern approach has a Category B gate and leads visitors along a short drive into the network of estate roads and paths within the GDL. Both gates are accessed via the B817 to the south of the house, which was the historic main coastal road from Dingwall along the north shore of the Cromarty Firth.</p>	

	<p>Whilst located outside of the GDL, LB369 Fyrish Monument is a key reference point in the wider landscape from the GDL. LB369 is located atop, Cnoc Fyrish, to the north of the GDL within the wider Novar Estate, which takes in the upland plantation and rough pasture to the north, east and west of the GDL.</p> <p>The GDL was developed in three main periods; 1768-1805, the late 19th century, and the 1950s.</p> <p>Novar House and gardens are depicted on Roy's Military Survey Map of 1747-55. Novar House was built c. 1720 by John Munro on the site of an earlier house. The key components of the GDL were created by Colonel, later General, Sir Hector Munro of Novar, in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. Sir Hector Munro served extensively in India and led the Company Army at the Battle of Buxar (Baksar or Bhaksar in northeast India) in 1764. Victory ensured a private fortune that secured his material position for the rest of his life.</p> <p>Sir Hector Munro died without any legitimate heirs and the property reverted to Jean's family as she had by now been married to General Sir Ronald Ferguson of Raith, Kirkcaldy. In the late 19th century, many of the existing exotic trees and shrubs were planted in the grounds.</p> <p>Arthur Munro Ferguson made major improvements to the gardens in the 1950s. He designed and developed a water garden around the slaughterhouse and privy, planted gardens to the west of the house and constructed a garden wall with statuary niches. He constructed a lake fed by the Allt Duilleag in the southern parkland.</p> <p>The GDL is visible from along the northern bank of the Cromarty Firth between Evanton and to the east of Alness along the A9. Views of the GDL are also possible from the Black Isle to the south of the Cromarty Firth.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL has outstanding architectural and scenic interest for its range of buildings, and extensive planting and parklands. There is outstanding historic interest in its direct association with Munro and the expansion of the British empire in later 18<sup>th</sup> century India, which is reflected in the physical dimensions of the designed landscape with further evidence from surviving estate plans.</p> <p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (high):</p> <p>Novar has outstanding Historical value due to its good documentary evidence and surviving physical fabric. The association with Munro and his activities in India is reflected in the place names and monuments of the designed landscape, the extent of planting, and historical records relating to the development of the designed landscape.</p> <p>Archaeological value (some):</p> <p>Novar is of some Archaeological interest as evidenced by the survival within the boundary of a prehistoric burial mound (SM5002) and other recorded sites in the National Record for the Historic Environment.</p> <p>Scenic value (outstanding):</p> <p>Novar's woodlands, parks, mansion house and follies are visually important in views over from the Black Isle and the A9. Novar is of outstanding Scenic value.</p> <p>In the 18th century scheme, parkland extended on both sides of the East Drive. That to the east was divided into a series of five rows of enclosures regularly laid out into rectangular compartments. Those directly along the slope from Novar House were planted with geometric-shaped tree clumps. West of the East Drive, the parkland extended over south-facing slopes below Novar House. It was expansive and contained numerous geometric-shaped clumps of trees; squares, circles, triangles, crescents, ovals and diamonds using, for most clumps, single species.</p> <p>The current east parks are arable (2001), and as a result several of the dividing shelter belts have become fragmented. The west parks (The Lawn, Temple Park and Firish New Park) are permanent grassland with a strong parkland character. The parkland has seen little change, although some clumps have been removed, and others have lost trees. This results in a more informal landscape character. There are many impressive parkland specimens due to their maturity and size. Species include lime, Scots pine, sycamore, beech, horse chestnut and oak.</p>

	<p>Novar designed landscape is sheltered by hillside plantations to the west and north. These comprise commercial conifer plantations with stands of Scots Pine and old semi-natural woodland.</p> <p>Architectural value (outstanding):</p> <p>A number of significant architectural features are integral to the design layout and original in their design. Thereby Novar is of outstanding Architectural value.</p> <p>Novar House, built originally for John Munro of Novar in 1720, was altered in 1770, 1897 and 1956. It is south facing, U-shaped in plan and harled with ashlar and rendered finishes. The house is two-storeys with dormer windows, and service wings extending to the north. These flank a courtyard, enclosed on its northern side by a high wall with a central gateway. The landscape is ornamented with a series of follies. The most prominent is the Fyrish Monument, located to the north of the Inventory boundary, on the summit of Cnoc Fyrish. This landmark, a mock ruin, consists of nine massive circular columns built of mortared rubble, the centre four columns being linked by pointed arches, above which the wall finishes in a series of squat battlements.</p> <p>Horticultural value (high):</p> <p>Novar has high Horticultural value for its tree-collection, its long history of commercial timber production and the ornamental and productive Walled Garden.</p> <p>The parklands are surrounded by, or subdivided by, woodland belts containing exotic species. These belts also border the plantations on the west side of the policies. A tree survey (1980) identified many significant specimens including eight giant fir (<i>Abies grandis</i>) over 48 m (160ft) high, five Douglas fir between 45 m and 51 m (150 ft-170 ft), three Sitka spruce over 39 m (130 ft), larch and Wellingtonia over 30 m (100 ft). In addition, a survey identified cedar, Ginkgo (<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>), Monkey puzzle (<i>Araucaria araucana</i>), katsura (<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>) and a tulip tree (<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>).</p> <p>Nature conservation (high):</p> <p>The range and variety of woodland, parkland, meadow, garden and wetland habitats gives Novar high Nature Conservation value.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the Novar GDL is defined by its relationship to the wider Novar Estate and associated monuments, to the B817 and A9, the main historic coastal road along the north shore of the Cromarty Firth, to the nearby settlements of Alness and Evanton and the relationship to the nearby Cromarty Firth.</p> <p>Novar House stands at the center of a series of enclosed parklands which ascend Cnoc an Deilignidh. The parklands are sheltered to the north, east and west by plantations. This landscape framework directs long-distance views southeastwards over the lower parklands, across the Cromarty Firth to the Black Isle. The designed landscape has a series of follies, which highlight major views. Most notable is the Fyrish Monument, a local landmark (outside the inventory boundary) which can be seen from many miles away. Views into the Novar parklands can be gained from the B817, which was previously the coaching road, the A9.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL are along the stretch between Evanton and Alness, inclusive of the A9 just east of Alness. These views take in the parkland and core of the GDL. Views outside of this stretch, along the A9 and from the Black Isle largely take in the woodland plantation of the upland estate, with the actual designed landscape and parklands of the GDL difficult to identify.</p> <p>Estate maps demonstrate that the general layout and extent of the designed landscape remains unchanged. Although the management of some areas of 'parkland' has altered, the general configuration of tree belts and drives has survived.</p> <p>Given the above, the setting of the GDL continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change within the uplands to the north of GDL, around Cnoc Fyrish and Cnoc Ceislein, as well as to the introduction of infrastructure within the immediate periphery of the GDL, across the stretch of land between Evanton and Alness.</p> <p>The landscape baseline around the GDL already contains row of OHL towers to the north of the Novar policy in the lowlands below Cnoc Fyrish. This row of OHL towers run north-east to south-west between Alness and Evanton.</p>

	<p>From within the GDL these existing OHL towers are largely screened by parkland and woodland as well as planting north of the walled gardens. The OHL towers are not clearly visible from Novar House, the walled gardens or along the main formal avenues approaching the house. The OHL towers also do not interfere with key views towards the Fyrish Monument from the main gates, its avenues or from the main house. The existing OHL towers are not readily visible from the main stretch of road between Evanton and Alness but are visible from wider landscape views, particularly south of the Cromarty Firth on the Black Isle, where the OHL towers backdrop the GDL, sitting within the plantation forest belt below the uplands of Cnoc Fyrish and Cnoc Ceislein</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the west and north of the GDL, within the uplands west of Evanton, before crossing the River Glass valley and running atop Strath Mor, north of Cnoc Ceislein, and entering the River Alness valley.</p> <p>The introduction of this infrastructure would not erode key views within the GDL or from the GDL towards Cnoc Fyrish and the Fyrish Monument.</p> <p>Within the local landscape, views towards the GDL would not be affected between Evanton and Alness. Wider landscape views from the Black Isle, would not see the new OHL towers to the rear of Cnoc Ceislein, or Cnoc Fyrish. The OHL towers would be visible in the uplands west of the River Glass valley, but at some distance from the GDL.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues within the GDL and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key local views outwards from the GDL, namely those towards LB369 Fyrish Monument, views towards the surrounding farmland and plantation of the estate and south towards the Cromarty Firth would be unaffected.</p> <p>Key local views and scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, namely those from the settlement of Evanton and Alness, and the road network between these two villages, would also be unaffected.</p> <p>Any impact to setting and scenic value would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views when viewed from the east and south, namely, west facing views from the lowland estate towards the River Glass valley and Swordale Hill and north facing views from the Black Isle. The Proposed Development would not directly obscure the GDL, nor would it backdrop the GDL in views to the uplands to the north of the Novar policy. However, the OHL towers would be visible in the uplands west of the River Glass valley.</p> <p>These wider landscape views already contain electrical infrastructure on the form of OHL towers and the Proposed Development would be adding to number of OHL towers in this landscape baseline on the periphery of the GDL.</p> <p>A Negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible adverse effect to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Significant Non-Designated Assets

### Minor Projected Effects

Strath Sgitheach		
MHG8904	MHG8903	Group of significant non-designated assets
MHG8902	MHG63217	
MHG63219	MHG63220	



MHG8902	MHG62693	
MHG62694	MHG62695	
MHG62696	MHG62697	
MHG62698	MHG62699	
MHG63114	MHG63116	
MHG63161	MHG63172	
MHG63175	MHG63187	
MHG632181	MHG63245	
MHG8925	MHG8926	
Canmore 12924	Canmore 369777	
Canmore 369792	Canmore 36978	
Canmore 369778	Canmore 369790	
Canmore 369791	Canmore 369784	
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DPV-220 – 1118, 1119, 1120, 1121, 1122, and 1123	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 0 m
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	The Strath Sgitheach grouping represents a density of prehistoric settlement and mortuary assets located to the northwest of the Cromarty Firth along a ridgeline. The group comprises hut circles and cup and ring marked stones dating from the Neolithic to Iron Age, indicative of a wider settlement area.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As non-designated heritage assets, the individual features within this cluster are considered to be of lesser cultural significance, however, as a group, they may be considered significant non-designated assets, with a significance derived from the collective importance of the assets in relation to each other, elevating their value. This is due to their contribution to the prehistoric landscape character of this area by forming a significant density of potentially multi-use and multi-period settlement and mortuary areas, in association with Designated assets: settlement (SM10495), settlement (SM4728) and chambered cairn (SM2396).</p> <p>The cultural significance of this group primarily derives from its archaeological value. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the group can be defined by its location within a large rural moorland landscape. The settlement area is located strategically between the lowlands around the Cromarty Firth and the uplands to the west with a small water course, Abhainn Sgitheach located at a close distance to the east, set upon the ridgeline with peatland to the north on the plateau.</p> <p>Within this area there are three Scheduled Monuments, two prehistoric settlements (SM10495, SM4728) and one chambered cairn (SM2396). These assets make up part of the setting of this prehistoric landscape and are associated with the non-designated grouping.</p> <p>The landscape has retained its rural setting with limited modern infrastructure in the immediate vicinity however, within the wider landscape post-medieval field systems, existing OHL's and modern development can be seen as well as a consented windfarm – Abhainn Dubh windfarm located to the northeast.</p> <p>The location of the grouping on a rise in moorland, close to a watercourse would have been an important aspect of setting for the settlement. As would intra-settlement connected views to Scheduled Monuments in the southwest.</p>	

	Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the grouping is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to the understanding of these assets. This is because they have remained as a contiguous grouping with unaltered connectivity along the ridgeline, contributing to the prehistoric landscape of the area.
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure to the west and north of the grouping, oversailing in some areas along the ridgeline and peat flat.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to their proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the grouping will undergo changes to setting as a result of the introduction of the Proposed Development to the immediate setting of the settlement group. This includes the direct interaction with group assets and the oversailing of parts of the settlement areas, eroding the immediate and intra-occupation setting.</p> <p>As non-designated assets, the cultural significance of the grouping is derived primarily from their archaeological significance and association with nearby Scheduled Monuments. As such, they form part of a larger prehistoric landscape with setting making up a secondary value. The introduction of the development will be prominent and visible in the immediate landscape notably eroding amenity of the area, being present within the settlement asset group, however it is not anticipated to interrupt key views to and from the Scheduled Monuments, nor materially change the understanding of the group. Additionally, the majority of the group assets are not individually valuable, and the Proposed Development has the potential to remove a small portion of the grouped asset, having limited impact upon the settings value as a group.</p> <p>There are substantive modern elements of infrastructure within the wider viewscape that have already altered the setting of the assets such as post-medieval field systems, forestry plantations, existing OHLs, proposed windfarms and larger settlements such as Dingwall on the shore of Cromarty Firth. Although the wider views beyond the ridgeline are less important contributors for the asset group.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the assets, resulting in a Minor effect overall. The key contributing aspects of setting to the assets' cultural significance, the ability to understand and appreciate the assets, and all intra-settlement key views, are largely maintained, although prominently backdropped by the Proposed Development.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b> , within the context of the EIA regulations.

## SECTION E

### Scheduled Monuments

#### Major Projected Effect

Dun Mor		
SM4979 fort, Dun Mor		1 x Scheduled Monuments
Designations Summary		
Figure: CHVP-54	Plates: 3DPV-212 – 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, 1101 and 1102	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 404 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Medium	<b>Projected Effect: Major</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM4979 fort, Dun Mor comprises a sub-oval Iron Age fort, with a partially collapsed wall.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a Scheduled Monument, this asset is considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>The cultural significance primarily derives from the archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric defensive sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>The setting of these monuments also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this fort in the rocky uplands, allows for wide-ranging views across the surrounding area. The landscape to the north, east and west primarily comprises moorland and forestry plantation, with small modern settlements and agricultural fields across the lowlands to the south. The River Beaully flows to the south-east, fed by numerous other minor watercourses, and Loch nam Bonnach and Loch nan Eun are located a comparatively short distance to the north and north-west respectively.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' setting contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the elevated upland location and topography, which formed an intentional aspect of the assets' siting and design as defensive features and, potentially, seats of authority;</li> <li>the surrounding watercourses, including the Breakachy Burn, River Beaully, and lochs, the use of which for communications, transport and trade, the assets were likely designed to administer/exploit;</li> <li>connection to the dense settlement area located to the NNE; and</li> <li>the assets themselves; the inter-visibility between nearby fort sites may have been strategic/intentional, particularly between SM2422, SM5212 and SM2424, providing further context for understanding their siting and function.</li> </ul> <p>Overall, the setting of this asset does make a major contribution to the cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience them. The extent of this contribution is comparatively modest, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of these assets remains their archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.404 m to the west of these assets.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development to the north and west of the asset would introduce modern infrastructure into views to and from the Farley Prehistoric assets grouping, which, while it would not alter the ability to understand the asset, would adversely change the ability to appreciate and experience the asset. The extent to which the appreciation and experience of the asset would change is limited when viewing the fort in association to the lowlands, however, by the fact that there are already modern elements present within their setting and in associated inward and outward views, such that the Proposed Development would not be entirely inconsistent with the existing character of the surrounding landscape and thus the assets' setting; existing modern elements include post-medieval and modern field systems and dispersed modern settlements and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>Where the disruption of the setting is acute, is the presence of the Proposed Development in the surrounding uplands, within the associated settlement area, and entering and spanning the Breakachy Burn valley, eroding views to the north-west and west along its length, which alongside the proximity, substantively alters the character of the landscape.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monuments, the asset is considered to be of High cultural significance, including a medium/high sensitivity to changes in setting. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Medium magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Major effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Major effect upon the asset would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>

#### *Moderate Projected Effect*

Farley prehistoric assets		
SM2422 fort, Dun Garbhlaich, Kilmorack SM2424 fort, Dun a Chliabhain SM5212 fort, Dun Fhamhair		3 x Scheduled Monuments
<b>Designations Summary:</b>		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-208 – 1068, 1069, 1070, 1071, 1072, 1073, 1074, and 1075 3DVP-209 – 1076, 1077, 1078, 1079, 1080, 1081, 1082, and 1083 3DVP-210 – 1084, 1085, 1086, 1087, 1088, 1089, 1090, and 1091	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 109 m E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Moderate</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2422 fort, Dun Garbhlaich, Kilmorack comprises a fort, located on a rocky summit of an isolated crag. It is roughly D-shaped and measures 35 m E to W by 28 m. It is thought to be of late prehistoric or Pictish origin.</p> <p>SM2424 fort, Dun a Chliabhain comprises a sub-oval fort, located on a steep and rocky eminence. It measures 23.5 m by 14.6 m and has a surrounding stone wall measuring up to 3.6 m thick.</p> <p>SM5212 fort, Dun Fhamhair comprises the remains of a sub-oval fort dated to the Iron Age and measuring 43 m N-S by 35 m within a wall up to 3.5 m across. It also has a long rampart measuring 55 m, and a ditch.</p>	

<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As scheduled Monuments, these three designated cultural heritage assets are considered to be of national importance.</p> <p>Their cultural significance primarily derives from their archaeological value. Future professional investigation would have the potential to make a substantive contribution to our understanding of prehistoric defensive sites within the region. As foci of activity, there is also the potential for further unknown archaeological remains to survive in proximity.</p> <p>The setting of these monuments also contributes to their cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of these assets comprises a rocky upland landscape, allowing wide-ranging views across the surrounding area, controlling the lowland basin. The landscape to the north, east and west primarily comprises moorland and forestry plantation, with small modern settlements and agricultural fields across the lowlands to the south. The River Beaully flows to the south-east, fed by numerous other minor watercourses, and Loch nam Bonnach and Loch nan Eun are located a comparatively short distance to the north and north-west respectively.</p> <p>The following aspects of the assets' setting contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the elevated upland location and topography, which formed an intentional aspect of the assets' siting and design as defensive features and, potentially, seats of authority;</li> <li>the surrounding watercourses, including the River Beaully, and lochs, the use of which for communications, transport and trade, the assets were likely designed to administer/exploit; and</li> <li>the assets themselves; the inter-visibility between certain of the assets may have been strategic/intentional, particularly between SM2422, SM5212 and SM2424, providing further context for understanding their siting and function.</li> </ul> <p>SM2422, also appears to be connected to a potential settlement terrace to the south, which would contribute a key view between the area and the asset.</p> <p>Overall, the setting of these assets does make a contribution to their cultural significance and to the ability to understand, appreciate and experience them. The extent of this contribution is major, however, and is limited to the aforementioned aspects. The main contributor to the cultural significance of these assets remains their archaeological value, which would not be impacted.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c.109 m to the west of these assets.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development to the north-west of the assets would introduce additional modern infrastructure into views to and from them, which, while it would not alter the ability to understand or appreciate the assets, would change the experience. The extent to which the experience of the assets would change is limited, however, by the fact that there are already modern elements present within their setting and in associated inward and outward views, such that the Proposed Development would not be entirely inconsistent with the existing character of the surrounding landscape and thus the assets' setting; existing modern elements include post-medieval and modern field systems and dispersed modern settlements and associated infrastructure. For SM2422 however, the proximity and backdropping from the nearby forts as well as the settlement terrace due south creates an acute impact on the setting and experience of the site.</p> <p>As Scheduled Monuments, the assets are considered to be of High cultural significance, though their sensitivity to change is considered low/medium. For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon SM2422, resulting in a Moderate effect, while for SM5212 and SM2424 a Minor adverse effect is anticipated.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Moderate effect upon SM2422 would be considered <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations, given the proximity and backdropping of the Proposed Development.</p>

	<p>The identified Minor effect upon SM5212 and SM2424 would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations, given the Proposed Development will be present in the west, leaving the primary spheres of influence to the east and south largely undisturbed, with limited experiential impact.</p> <p>Whilst the changes in setting introduced as a result of the Proposed Development, are reported as a significant adverse effect to cultural significance, as a result of diminished ability to appreciate and experience the assets, it is anticipated that the integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained.</p>
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#### Minor Projected Effect

Urchany		
SM13523 barrow, Urchany		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-53	Plates: 3DVP-211 – 1092, 1093, 1094, and 1095	Distance from Proposed Development: 917 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>A prehistoric burial monument likely dating to the Bronze Age. The monument appears to be a bowl barrow with an external ditch and bank. This is a rare form of burial in Scotland and is more commonly associated with ritual landscapes in Wessex. The monument survives as a prominent, circular grass-covered mound.</p> <p>The central mound likely contains multiple burials. There is evidence of later activity which has disturbed the outer bank as well as the addition of a later causeway which crosses the ditch on the west side of the barrow.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The monument is of national importance as a prehistoric burial mound with an inherent potential to make a significant addition to our understanding of the past, particularly the design and construction of burial monuments, the nature of burial practices, and their significance in Bronze Age and later society. The Urchany barrow is particularly important as it appears to be a well-preserved, rare type of burial monument - a bowl barrow with its distinctive field characteristics - a type of barrow more commonly associated with ritual and funerary landscapes in Wessex.</p> <p>The monument primarily draws significance from its archaeological interest - namely the potential for future investigation of its physical form and depositional history. To a lesser, though still important degree, the setting of the bowl barrow within a wider prehistoric landscape, with clear associations to a number of nearby sites and extensive inward and outward views, contributes to how this monument is understood, appreciated and experienced.</p> <p>The asset, including its setting, also contributes to a broader understanding of the placing of such funerary monuments within the landscape and the meaning and importance placed on death and burial in prehistoric times.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this monument is defined by its location on a large glacial drumlin at the head of a glen between two water courses, Allt Liath and Breakachy Burn and commands extensive views to the southwest, southeast and northeast. There is little modern development within its vicinity apart from one small track road passing to the west.</p> <p>Its setting is also defined by its interrelationship with other components of the prehistoric landscape, most important of which is the concentration of cup mark stone sites in the immediate vicinity, including Urchany 2 (MHG62224), Urchany 3 (MHG62225) and Urchany 5 (MHG63178) located 110 m to the north, Urchany 4 (MHG62226) 120 m to the south, and Urchany 1 (MHG2650) and Urchany 6 (MHG62227) 470 m and 570 m to the northeast, respectively.</p>	



	<p>Slightly further to the east between 800 m and 1.4 km from the Urchany bowl barrow and along the same northern edge of the Breakachy Burn, there is a concentration of possible prehistoric burial cairns and field systems, including some which are likely contemporaneous with the bowl barrow.</p> <p>As such the bowl barrow is part of a wider prehistoric landscape and interrelationships between these different components, including views and access routes between them, is a key part of understanding and appreciating all of them as a whole landscape and each individual asset. The intentional siting of the bowl barrow in a prominent position at the head of a glen, looking down on two rivers and within view of other funerary monuments, is a key part of its setting.</p> <p>The asset's relationship with the adjacent watercourses is another key aspect of its setting as Bronze Age barrows are known to concentrate along river valleys. Similarly, there is a documented association between barrows and prominent high points along valley edges. In summary, it is clear the monument's immediate and wider setting remain an important part of how it is understood and appreciated and as such make a substantial contribution to its cultural significance.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure approximately 917 km south-east of the asset.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would be visible in views from the monument to the northeast and east, but is likely screened by higher ground in views to the southeast. At a general level, where visible, the Proposed Development would introduce a modern aspect to the setting of the asset.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would be located within the cluster of field systems and possible burial cairns located between 800m and 1.4 km to the east and therefore substantially alter key outward and inward views between the monument and these associated prehistoric assets (e.g. the burial cairn MHG62128). The Proposed Development would also be visible in the background of key views of the nearby rock art sites Urchany 1 and Urchany 6, located to the east of the monument.</p> <p>The Proposed Development may be visible in the background of views south from the monument to the rock art site Urchany 4 (MHG62226).</p> <p>The Proposed Development would intrude within views eastwards from the monument along the Breakachy Burn valley with which the monument has a close association. The Proposed Development would not, however, detract from the monument's association with the Allt Liath watercourse to its west nor its relationship with the cluster of three rock art sites immediately to its north.</p> <p>The Proposed Development may also be visible in longer distance views from elevated locations toward the monument.</p> <p>In summary, the addition of overhead cabling described above would bring about limited change to the immediate setting of the monument including its association with rock art sites within its vicinity and the portions of the river valleys which it directly looks over. It would, however, bring about a notable change within its wider setting including key views to the east. It is considered that the overhead line would intrude upon and obscure visual associations between the asset and its geomorphological (river valley edge) and prehistoric context, and therefore slightly impeded the ability to appreciate and experience the asset in context.</p> <p>However, considering that the monument derives its cultural significance in large part from its archaeological interest and the potential for future excavations, the resultant magnitude of this impact would be limited to a Low magnitude overall.</p> <p>As a Scheduled Monument, the asset it is considered to have a High cultural significance, setting can be considered to contribute to the to the cultural significance to a major degree, including a medium/high sensitivity to changes in setting. Considering the above-described Low magnitude of impact, the resultant effect is therefore considered to be Minor.</p>

<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered Not <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>
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#### *Negligible Projected Effect*

<b>Belladrum</b>		
SM2435 chambered cairns, Belladrum		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-219 – 1115, 1116, and 1117	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.3 km SE
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2435 comprises of two early Bronze Age burial cairns of the Clava type. The main cairn survives as a low, grassy mound whereas the second survives as a curvilinear stone bank. The second cairn is in a fragmentary and its type cannot be securely identified, however its remains indicate that it is a chambered cairn and therefore may date to the Neolithic period.</p> <p>The cairn is located within a small patch of copse woodland in a lowland zone west of the Dounie Burn and south of the River Beaully. The uplands of Phoinneas Hill are located to the east and Tor Mor to the west.</p> <p>The cairn is one of several Neolithic to Late Prehistoric funerary monuments located in the lowland zone south of the River Beaully around the Dounie Burn and the Bruiach Burn, the most notable of which is SM3194 chambered cairn, Belladrum Home Farm located 500 m to the south along the Dounie Burn.</p> <p>This asset is of national significance as a prehistoric funerary monument and significant for its contribution to the understanding of settlement and burial practices within the north-east of Scotland.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this monument is derived primarily from its historic value, of which setting and the relationship to associated prehistoric assets in the wider historic environment, currently makes only a small contribution due to the asset's location within copse woodland and its limited external views. The contribution of its setting would make a notable contribution of this woodland was felled or otherwise lost. Significance is also derived from its material remains as well and the potential for in situ archaeological deposits and finds.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its relationship with the River Beaully valley and the lowland zone around the Dounie Burn.</p> <p>Should the woodland around the asset be felled or lost, and notable views reopened, the following aspects of the assets' setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local views towards SM3194 chambered cairn, Belladrum Home Farm</li> <li>• Local views over the surrounding rural fieldscape</li> <li>• Wider Landscape views along the length of the Dounie Burn</li> <li>• Wider Landscape views north to the Beaully River</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the landscape around the River Beaully valley and surrounding lowlands has evolved and been modified since the Neolithic and Late Prehistoric periods, with the introduction of small scale post-medieval settlement, lowland agriculture and associated field system and copse woodland, the overall character of the land has remained rural with little in the way of large-scale infrastructure to obscure</p>	

	views. As such, the setting of the monument would continue to make a notable contribution to its cultural significance.
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce additional transmission infrastructure into uplands to the west and north-west of the monument.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located within a south-east to north-west aligned corridor 3.3 km to the west of the fort cutting across the uplands of Tor Mor and the River Beaully valley before turning north-east into the uplands of the Unchany and Farley Forest.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change around the Dounie Burn and River Beaully valley.</p> <p>The River Beaully valley is currently home to several overhead lines, with alignments of OHL towers extending east and west from the substation at West Balblair, 2.5 km north of the monument. These transmission infrastructure alignments cut across the River Beaully south of Beaully, with the eastern arm running south of the river and the western arm running north of the river, and north of Tor Mor, following the river valley to the southwest, so in combination with the present landscape character with the distance and relative interceding topography, the Proposed Development would be visible in glimpsed views at distance from the asset.</p> <p>With the copse woodland that surrounds the asset in place, the Proposed Development would be largely screened throughout the year in views from the monument. Some limited visibility may exist in winter months between gaps in the trees. With the copse woodland in place there are no external views towards the monument.</p> <p>Views north to the River Beaully and south along the Dounie Burn would be unaffected. Views to SM3194 and the associated funerary monuments in the lowland zone would also be unaffected. Views towards the monument from associated assets would not be affected.</p> <p>Based on the above, there would be a negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Castle Spynie, broch		
SM4653 broch, Castle Spynie		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: N/A	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 6 km NW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM4653 broch, Castle Spynie consists of the remains of an Iron Age broch, measuring 19.5 m in diameter within a wall measuring 4 m wide and 1 m high. Below the northeast side of the broch is an outer defence consisting of a line of boulders and a ditch, and to the southwest is a further defensive ditch.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM4653 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of Iron Age domestic and defensive buildings and it is of particular interest because of the survival of outer defensive works, which utilise natural rock outcrops, as noted by HES. A degree of intact physical remains are present at SM4653, though there is the potential for further unknown surviving archaeology to be present.	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM4653 is at the crest of a hill overlooking the River Beaully and across the flat valley below. To the east and south are taller rises, but to the southwest, west, and northwest SM4653 has a broad view over the flat valley to the hills beyond. To the north are long-range views to the mouth of the River Beaully. These broad views are important in understanding the location of the broch as a tactical position. The valley floor is greatly changed from the Iron Age, with sizable settlements and estate landscape punctuating a post-medieval field systems as the River Beaully snakes between them. However, it is the ability to see long distances from SM4653 that is important rather than what can be seen.</p> <p>The immediate setting of SM4653 is on a wooded hillside that contains a handful of other prehistoric assets. There may have been a relationship between SM4653 and these assets when SM4653 was occupied so intervisibility may be important.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the immediate setting of SM4653 on top of a hill can contribute to this value. Therefore, the setting can be seen to contribute to their heritage significance.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.6 km north-west, beyond existing OHLs.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>SM4653 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. The setting of the SM4653 will have a Negligible impact from the Proposed Development. Whilst the Proposed Development may introduce additional modern infrastructure to the landscape it does not erode or further disrupt long distance views from SM4653, it's prominence in the landscape, nor does it disrupt the relationship between SM4653 and nearby prehistoric assets.</p> <p>SM4653 will thus be subject to a negligible change to its setting. This is because the Proposed Development adds further modern transmission infrastructure to long-distance views from the asset, however the impact is marginal given the existing condition. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Dun Mor		
SM2423 fort, Dun Mor, Ballindoun		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-217 – 1110, 1111, and 1112	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 5.2 km W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM2423 comprises the remains of a vitrified Early Bronze Age fort. The characteristics of this asset are difficult to determine however, it appears to have comprised a "citadel" on the higher SW end of the crag with a "bailey" occupying the rest of the table to the NE. The remains suggest that the 'bailey' formed the original fort and the 'citadel' with outer defences was secondary.</p> <p>The fort is located in the uplands of Phoineas Hill within plantation forest. Pheoneas Hill is located to the south of the River Beaully valley and to the south-west of the Beaully Firth. The fort is one of several Late Prehisgtoric to Early Medieval monuments within and in the hills above the River Beaully valley, the most notable of which are SM4729 Phioneas Hill enclosure, SM3195 Corff House fort, SM3107 Dun Mor fort SM5212 Dun Fhamhair fort, and SM2422 Dun Garbhlaich fort.</p> <p>This asset is of national significance as a prehistoric fort and significant for its contribution to the understanding of settlement and high-status settlement within the north-east of Scotland.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of this monument is derived primarily from its historic value, of which setting and the relationship to associated prehistoric assets in the wider historic environment, currently makes only a small contribution due to the asset's location within copse woodland and its limited external views. The contribution of its setting would make a notable contribution of this woodland was felled or otherwise lost. Significance is also derived from its material remains as well and the potential for in situ archaeological deposits and finds.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The historic setting of this asset is defined by its location within the uplands of Phoineas Hill and its relationship with the River Beaully valley and Beaully Firth.</p> <p>Should the woodland around the asset be felled or lost, and historic views reopened, the following aspects of the assets' historic setting contribute to its cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local views within the Pheoneas Hills to associated fort SM4729</li> <li>Long distance views north to associated assets SM3195 Corff House fort, SM3107 Dun Mor fort SM5212 Dun Fhamhair fort, and SM2422 Dun Garbhlaich fort.</li> <li>Wider Landscape views along the River Beaully Valley</li> <li>Wider Landscape views to the Beaully Firth</li> <li>Wider Landscape views to the uplands of the Urchany and Farley Forest, to the north of the River Beaully valley</li> </ul> <p>Whilst the landscape around the River Beaully valley and surrounding uplands has evolved and been modified since the Neolithic and Late Prehistoric periods, with the introduction of small scale post-medieval settlement, lowland agriculture and associated field system and upland plantation forest, the overall character of the land has remained rural with little in the way of large-scale infrastructure to obscure views. As such, the setting of the monument would continue to make a notable contribution to its historic value and cultural significance.</p> <p>With the copse woodland around the monument in place, setting makes a much smaller contribution to heritage significance, with views restricted to the immediate uplands of Phioneas Hill around the monument and snatched glimpses to the north and north-west between gaps in the trees.</p>	

<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would introduce additional transmission infrastructure into uplands to the west and north-west of the monument.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is located within a south-east to north-west aligned corridor 5.2 km to the west of the fort cutting across Tor Mor and the River Beaully before turning north-east into the uplands of the Urchany and Farley Forest.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change within the River Beaully valley and the surrounding uplands.</p> <p>The River Beaully valley is currently home to several overhead lines, with alignments of OHL towers extending east and west from the substation at West Balblair, 3.2 km north-west of the monument. These pylon alignments cut across the River Beaully south of Beaully, with the eastern arm running south of the river and the western arm running north of the river, and north of Tor Mor, following the river valley to the south-west.</p> <p>With the copse woodland that surrounds the asset in place, the Proposed Development would be largely screened throughout the year in views from the monument. Some limited visibility may exist in winter months between gaps in the trees. Limited external views north and north-east across the River Beaully valley are present through gaps in the trees, with these views most open during winter months. With the copse woodland in place there are no external views towards the monument.</p> <p>Views north and north-east towards the firth would be unaffected. Views to the forts within the uplands of Buachaille Breige and the Urchany Farley Forest (SM4979 and SM2422) would be partially eroded. However, it is worth noting that the Proposed Development would not directly block or obscure views to these assets, but rather backdrop these forts at significant distance.</p> <p>Views towards the monument from associated assets would not be affected.</p> <p>Based on the above, there would be a negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development, with any impact arising from the introduction of new infrastructure into the rural uplands of Buachaille Breige and the Urchany Farley Forest at distance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>



Moated Enclosure - Achnasoul		
SM13629 Medieval earthwork 440m SSE of Achnasoul		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-205 – 1058, 1059, 1060, and 1061	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.6 km SW
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>SM13629 comprises a moated enclosure of probable medieval date. It is visible as a large earthwork comprising a ditch and concentric internal and external banks, which together enclose a sub-circular area measuring around 43m northwest-southeast by 39m northeast-southwest. A raised mound, levelled area and the footings of two buildings are visible within the interior. The enclosure lies at around 70m above sea level, in a hollow bowl overlooked by higher ground to the north.</p> <p>The ditch defining the enclosure measures 4m to 5m in width and 1.5m in depth and is broken by two causeways on the northwest and southeast. The outer bank is complete and varies in height, reaching a maximum of 2m, while the inner bank is more fragmentary and is better preserved on the south. Internally, the raised mound lies in the northern part of the enclosed area and measures around 25m at its base, reaching a maximum height of 2m. The summit is encircled by a fragmentary bank, which encloses an area of around 11m diameter. A levelled area to the south of this mound contains the footings of two buildings.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>As a scheduled Monument, the designated cultural heritage asset is considered to be of national importance. The monument represents a rare survival of a moated homestead of medieval date. The cultural significance primarily derives from the archaeological value. There is no evidence that the site has been excavated or significantly disturbed. Waterlogging suggests a high potential for well-preserved, archaeologically significant deposits within the monument. Such deposits have an inherent potential to inform our understanding of the environment within which the monument was constructed, inhabited and finally abandoned.</p> <p>The lands of Achnasoul are mentioned in historical sources, which indicate they were under royal control in the 15th and 16th centuries; they are mentioned in the Exchequer Rolls and were awarded as part of a charter of lands by James V in 1542.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of SM13629 can be defined by its location within Achnasole Wood, through which the River Orrin flows E-W to the south. The asset is located at the bottom of this river valley, with key views west and northeast up and down the valley respectively, and an important relationship with the River Orrin itself.</p> <p>The wider landscape is predominately forested, though between the river and asset is modern development and associated access road. An existing overhead line crosses River Orrin to the west, disrupting the view from the asset up the valley. Due to the surrounding forest, it is likely that key views are only visible seasonally when leaf cover is minimal.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monument is its archaeological value, setting can be considered to contribute to the significance of the asset. This is because of their siting within the landscape and links to the river valley and associated key views.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the addition of transmission infrastructure c.1.6 km to the south-west, beyond the existing OHL c.150 m west of the asset.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	The Proposed Development would be screened by an existing overhead line. It is therefore considered that the above-described changes to setting amount to a negligible magnitude of impact.	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Enclosure 900 m ESE of Phoineas House, Phoineas Hill		
SM4729 enclosure 900 m ESE of Phoineas House, Phoineas Hill		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-218 – 1113 and 1114	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 5.1 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM4729 enclosure 900 m ESE of Phoineas House, Phoineas Hill the remains of an enclosure measuring 120 m NE- SW by 80 m transversely, formed by building a wall across the accessible SW approach to a promontory. It is likely that the enclosure dates to the prehistoric period. The wall has been constructed from massive boulders forming the outer face and extends for a length of 35 m. An upright stone 1.8 m high lies on the south side of the entrance. The area to be scheduled measures 140 m NE-SW by 100 m transversely, to include the enclosed area, the wall, and an area around the enclosed area in which traces of activity associated with its use will survive.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	The heritage significance of SM4729 is derived from its form, function, and potential for <i>in situ</i> archaeological remains which may significantly contribute to our understanding of prehistoric domestic and agricultural practices. The monument is of national importance as an unusual and distinctive form of enclosure, which has the potential to enhance considerably our understanding of early settlement, as noted by HES.	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>SM4729 is on a raised promontory overlooking the River Beaully and across the flat valley below. Uphill to the east and south are taller rises with potential for associated remains, but to the southwest, west, and northwest SM4729 has a broad view over the river basin from inlet to Aigas, including possible valued sightlines to other prominent high spots in the hills beyond. To the north are long-range views to the mouth of the River Beaully. The valley floor is greatly changed from prehistory, with substantial transmission infrastructure extending from the existing Beaully substation at Balblair, sizable settlements and estate landscape punctuating post-medieval field systems as the River Beaully snakes between them. The immediate setting of SM4653 is within a mixed wood and plantation hillside.</p> <p>SM4729 is part of a wider prehistoric landscape upon this hill. Approximately 230 m to the north is a prehistoric fort that may be related to SM4729. While visual connection to the river basin and possible sightlines to promontory site also contribute.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of this asset is its archaeological value, the immediate setting of SM4729 within a prehistoric landscape contributes to the understanding of the asset and furthers the association with different aspects of prehistoric settlement siting and connectivity.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.5.1 km west, beyond existing OHLs.	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>SM4729 is considered to have sensitivity to changes in setting that will affect its cultural heritage significance. However, given the existing conditions present, the Proposed Development is likely to introduce a negligible change to setting, by marginally eroding the wider landscape by adding further transmission infrastructure to distance views west and northwest, beyond the primary setting focus.</p> <p>As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as Negligible.</p>	
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>	

Preas Mairi		
SM2397 chambered cairn, Preas Mairi		1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-192 – 1009, 1010, 1011, 1012, 1013, and 1014	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 726 m W
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	SM2397 comprises the remains of a Neolithic rectangular chambered cairn of the Orkney Cromarty type. It survives as a small group of upstanding chamber stones. Most of the cairn has been removed.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The cairn is located in a slightly elevated position within a thin strip of copse woodland to the south of the Coul House hotel, within a lowland zone close to the Black Water and its confluence with the River Conon. Loch Achilty is located to the north-east within this lowland zone. The funerary monument is one of several designated ritual and funerary monuments along the length and in the hills above the River Conon and Black Water valleys.</p> <p>This asset is of national significance as a prehistoric burial monument and significant for its contribution to the understanding of burial practices and belief systems in the Neolithic and into the Bronze Age.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of this asset is defined by its location within the Black Water valley and in proximity to the nearby River Conon valley and Loch Achilty.</p> <p>Should the woodland around the asset be felled or lost, and historic views reopened, the following aspects of the assets' historic setting contribute to their cultural significance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local views south and west over the Black Water</li> <li>Local views north-west towards Loch Achilty</li> <li>Local views along the length of the Black Water, which is aligned north-west to south-east</li> <li>Views over the local rural fieldscape around the monument</li> </ul> <p>The cultural significance of this monument is derived primarily from its archaeological value, of which setting and the relationship to associated prehistoric assets in the wider environment, currently makes a moderate contribution due to the changes in landscape character. Significance is also derived from its material remains as well and the potential for in situ archaeological deposits and finds.</p> <p>Whilst the landscape around the Black Water valley and surrounding uplands has evolved and been modified since the Neolithic and Late Prehistoric periods, with the introduction of small scale post-medieval settlement, lowland agriculture and associated field system and copse woodland, with limited large-scale infrastructure.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development is located within a south-west to north-east aligned corridor 726 m to the south and east of SM2397 cutting across the Black Water and nearby farmland.</p> <p>The lowland zone around the Black Water is currently free of large-scale transmission infrastructure, with the nearest array of towers located to the south of the River Conon and Loch Achonachie, some 2.2 km south of the monument.</p>	
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The monument is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change within the Black Water and River Conon valleys.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new transmission infrastructure into the immediate rural periphery of the monument with OHL towers present in local views south and east over farmland and towards the Black Water.</p> <p>With the copse woodland that surrounds the asset in place, the Proposed Development would, in winter months, be visible in views towards the Black Water and erode these views to a marginal extent.</p>	

	<p>Views across the Black Water to the south and south-east would be marginally eroded, although the watercourse would still be visible. These are general landscape views and there are no key views to specific associated monuments that would be obscured or lost. Views to the west and north-west along the length of the Black Water and towards Achilty would be unaffected.</p> <p>Views towards the monument on the approach from Loch Achilty would be partially eroded with transmission infrastructure backdropping the cairn, but not directly obscuring views of the monument. Views from the south, or the approach align the Black Water valley would be similarly eroded.</p> <p>The experience and appreciation of the monument would be negligibly affected as a result of the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Based on the above, there would be a negligible magnitude of impact from the Proposed Development, with any impact arising from the introduction of new infrastructure into the rural landscape around the monument and the erosion of wider landscape views. Although these are limited by the existing changes in the landscape and topography in the area, limiting the prominence of the transmission infrastructure.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Listed Buildings

### Negligible/No Projected Effect

Seaforth Monument, Brahan		
LB14027 Seaforth Monument, Brahan		1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-198 – 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027 and 1028	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.5 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	LB14027 comprises a hexagonal ashlar column monument, mounted on a hexagonal base with seven steps. The monument is dated 1823 and commemorates Caroline Mackenzie, younger daughter of last Earl of Seaforth, who was killed in pony carriage accident near the spot.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	As a category B Listed Building, the heritage significance of the asset is derived primarily from its historic and architectural potential. However, the asset is a monument erected by the last Earl of Seaforth and as such, it has settings value in relation to nearby Brahan Estate, the seat of the earl.	

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the asset can be defined by its location in the west of Brahan GDL. It is located to the north of the River Conon, between the modern A835 and the older western approach to Brahan Estate.</p> <p>The setting of the monument to the side of the western approach is of significance as it marks the location of the accident which took the life of the Earl of Seaforth's daughter. As such, the setting of the monument is important to understanding the value of the asset.</p> <p>The monument itself is screened by trees in the west, north and east and is viewable only from the western approach into Brahan estate. The monument itself is elevated by seven steps and has views south over the western edge of Brahan GDL as well as east and west along the River Conon valley.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the monument is its historical value, the setting can be considered to help contribute to the understanding of the asset. This is because it has retained original placement and key views along the river valley.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure a maximum of c. 2.5 km to the west of the asset.
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The introduction of the Proposed Development would introduce further modern infrastructure into the wider landscape, located c. 2.6 km to the west.</p> <p>As a monument, the asset was designed to be viewed as a memorial, as such, its setting is limited to its immediate surroundings and location on the outskirts of Brahan Estate as well as its relation to the GDL. Key views from the asset are over the western edge of this GDL and south towards the River Conon. Due to its location, just outside the west entrance to Brahan Estate, the asset is heavily screened by woodland on three sides which further emphasises views south to the river.</p> <p>As the Proposed Development is located at distance to the west of the asset, it may be visible in the distance, but it is not anticipated to intrude on key views south over Brahan GDL or towards the river. The development would not be visible in views north from Brahan western approach when viewing the monument. As such, these key views to and from the monument would be retained.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Negligible magnitude of impact the asset, resulting in a Negligible effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Highfield House		
LB14033 Dower House, Highfield House LB14034 East Lodge, Highfield House		2 x Listed Buildings category B
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-206 – 1062, 1063 and 1064 3DVP-207 – 1065, 1066 and 1067	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 4.9 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> No Impact	<b>Projected Effect:</b> No Effect

<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>LB14033 Dower House, Highfield House consists of a picturesque single storey U-plan cottage, built c.1830 with mid-nineteenth century alterations. It was once part of the extensive Highfield Estate.</p> <p>LB14034 East Lodge, Highfield House consists of a picturesque T-plan single storey gate lodge built in 1867. It was the gate lodge to the former Highfield House.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>The two Listed Buildings are within the historic lands of Highfield House. Despite the estate no longer being in existence, the assets are part of the same post-manorial landscape.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The heritage significance of these two designated assets is primarily derived from their historical associations and architectural value, which can contribute to understanding of the aesthetic values of the previous centuries and the history of those who lived on the estate.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The assets are situated within the flat basin of a valley, the surrounding countryside dominated by agricultural farmland. The A862 run near to the assets, entering Muir of Ord approximately 500 m south of the assets. Logie Burn skirts to the north of LB14033. A number of settlements and farm buildings scatter the surrounding landscape, including a dense concentration to the immediate northwest of LB14033, although many of these are screened by vegetation.</p> <p>LB14033 is sheltered by trees on all sides, shielding it from sight of A862 and the single-track lane leading from the A-road to the north of the assets. Conversely, LB14034 can be seen from the A862 which contributes to understanding of the function of the building as a gate lodge.</p> <p>As the Highfield Estate is no longer in existence, the assets have lost a significant part of their contextual setting, which also now contains closer transmission infrastructure. However, their proximity to each other as some of the last remnants of the estate contributes to the understanding of their original setting. Their pseudo-isolated rural location within the former estate, is the contributing setting value for the assets.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main contributing value of these assets is their architectural and historical value, their setting in relation to each other aids in the understanding of their original setting.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure c.4.9 km to the west beyond both existing OHLs.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The setting of the two assets of LB14033 and LB14034 will have no impact resulting from the introduction of the Proposed Development, as there will be will no change the immediate setting nor their relationship to each other or the former estate. As such, the magnitude of impact has been assessed as No Impact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified No Effect is considered <b>Not Significant</b> in terms of EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Garden Designed Landscapes

### Minor Projected Effect

Castle Leod	
GDL00094 Castle Leod	1 x Garden Designed Landscape
Associated Listed Buildings:	1 x Category A Listed Building
Category A	1 x Category B Listed Buildings
LB7826 Castle Leod	



Category B LB7827 Castle Leod gate Lodge, Gate Piers and Gates		
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-176 – 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, and 958 3DVP-177 – 959	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 834 m E</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The GDL records a designed landscape centered on Castle Leod, a 16<sup>th</sup> century tower house with later alterations.</p> <p>Castle Leod lies 1 km north-east of Strathpeffer, directly north of the A834 Dingwall to Strathpeffer road. The Highland Railway forms the north boundary of the designed landscape. The Peffery Burn forms the eastern boundary and the parklands extend westwards to the lower slopes of Cnoc Aulaidh and Torr.</p> <p>The GDL is aligned north to south adjacent to and parallel to the Peffery Burn, measuring 1.3 km north to south and 0.5 km wide.</p> <p>The lands around Castle Leod, were acquired by the MacKenzies in the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. The Mackenzies are a notable local family in the north-east of Scotland, and held the titles of the Earl of Cromartie from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>Castle Leod is an L-plan, five-storey, tower house dating from c 1480, with additions dated to 1616. Later 19<sup>th</sup> century additions include a two-storey wing to the tower house, completed in the Scottish Baronial style.</p> <p>Few changes were made to the Castle or formal landscape, which surrounded it during the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Castle built on a mound, stood on the lower slopes of the Peffery Valley. Beneath it, to its east, was a walled garden, orchard and associated buildings and to the west was a park with a shelter belt of ash extending around the west and southwest sides of the Castle. The principal landscape feature was a formal grass ride, lined by a triple avenue and centered on a north-south axis with the Castle. During this period the main drive approached from the east, crossing over the Peffery Burn which formed the eastern parkland boundary.</p> <p>Roy's Map of the Highlands, dated to c. 1750 shows the castle and policy in little detail, besides recording areas of woodland within the GDL.</p> <p>In 1849 Anne Hay MacKenzie (1829-88) married George Granville Sutherland-Leveson-Gower, Marquis of Stafford and shortly afterwards inherited the Tarbat Estates. She became the Duchess of Sutherland and, in her own right, Countess of Cromartie, Viscountess of Tarbat, Baroness Castlehaven and Baroness MacLeod of MacLeod. The marriage released capital for investment in the Cromartie estates, although they were encumbered by large debts incurred in the 1820-30s, which could not be serviced from estate revenue. Interest in the development and improvement of property led to numerous estate buildings being constructed in the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>The mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century was a significant period of landscape development. It is probably during this period that the Walled Garden, Orchard and associated buildings east of the Castle were cleared, in order to create an informal and picturesque setting for the Castle. Extensive parkland was established and woodlands throughout the policies included many exotic trees. The Main Drive, which had been routed along the earlier formal ride south of the Castle in the early 1800s, was altered to lead in a wide sweep up to the Castle. Early 19<sup>th</sup> century topographical illustrations of Castle Leod indicate that during this period, the Castle mound was modified so as to create the existing irregular terrace below the Castle.</p> <p>The First Edition OS records many of these improvements, with the castle, terracing and summer house depicted along with the main tree lined formal avenue leading from the south lodge, fronting onto the main road to Strathpeffer. Various estate buildings are recorded to the north of the castle within woodland. Farmland is shown surrounding the policy to the south and east, with rough upland moor on the slopes of Torr Bealaigh to the west (now plantation forest).</p>	

	Further developments to the designed landscape have been the introduction of a cricket ground, over 100 years ago, and associated pavilions, built in the 20th century, within the southeastern corner of the parkland. Highland Games have been held there since the 19th century.
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (high):</p> <p>The continuity of control and involvement of the MacKenzie family and Earls of Cromartie for over 400 years and prominent role of some of its members, together with the archival history of the Cromartie estates gives the site outstanding Historical value.</p> <p>Archaeological value (high):</p> <p>The potential interest of a Pictish settlement site, standing stones and the medieval Castle with associated landscape, give the site high Archaeological value.</p> <p>Architectural value (high):</p> <p>The age and architectural quality of Castle Leod as an extended 16th/17th century tower house gives the site high Architectural value.</p> <p>Castle Leod is an L-plan, five-storey, tower house dating from c 1480, with additions dated to 1616. Later 19th century additions include a two-storey wing to the tower house, completed in the Scottish Baronial style.</p> <p>The Gate Lodge, Gate Piers and Gates were built c 1840. The Gate Lodge is a single-storey T-plan building of coursed rubble and ashlar dressings with a symmetrical east facade and exaggerated finialed skewputs at the gables.</p> <p>The Keepers Cottage is occupied, but the adjacent kennels are disused. The stables occupying lower ground is in residential use. South-west of the Castle is a small graveyard with rubble gate piers.</p> <p>The Main Drive is accessed directly from the A834. It comprises a formal 17th century avenue made up of double and triple rows of lime and sycamore, which lead directly to the Castle. The North Drive leads from the village of Achterneed into the north part of the designed landscape. It crosses the Peffery Burn then leads along the valley north-west towards higher ground.</p> <p>Scenic value (high):</p> <p>The picturesque landscape composition and the site's contribution to the long-established tourist area of Strathpeffer give this site high Scenic value. The designed landscape extends across the lower northern slopes and floor of the River Peffery valley. It contributes greatly to the landscape character of the area being highly prominent, from both the A834, the Highland Railway and wider landscape vista captured from Knock Farril. The extensive woodland of the GDL provides a distinctive contrast to the surrounding farmland and upland moor and plantation that backdrops the River Peffery valley to the north.</p> <p>Views from the Castle to the south are quite extensive but with limited external views to other parts of the landscape due to the level of tree planting and the age of these trees.</p> <p>Artistic value (some):</p> <p>The considered siting of the Castle, in particular its relationship to the surrounding woodlands gives it some value as a Work of Art.</p> <p>Horticultural value (outstanding):</p> <p>The tree collection, which includes significant specimens and ancient specimen trees gives this site outstanding Horticultural value. The Main Drive divides the parklands into the East and West Parklands. The East Parks are grazed and contain many fine, mature, specimen trees including a 16th century sweet chestnut (<i>Castanea sativa</i>), and limes (<i>Tilia europaea</i>), Douglas fir and oaks. The woodlands are predominantly ornamental and contain many exotic broadleaves and specimen conifers, several of notable size. These include massive sequoias (<i>Sequoiadendron giganteum</i> and <i>Sequoia sempervirens</i>), Douglas firs (<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>), firs and spruce (<i>Abies procera</i> and <i>Picea sitchensis</i>). There are also Monkey puzzles (<i>Araucaria araucana</i>), cedars (<i>Cedrus deodara</i></p>

	<p>and Cedrus atlantica), limes (Tilia europaea), maples (Acer cappadocicum and Acer pseudoplatanus), horse chestnuts, beech and elm (Ulmus glabra). There is a Spanish Chestnut which was planted in honour of Mary Queen of Scots in 1552. Other trees date mainly from the 1850s.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (some):</p> <p>The combination of woodland, parkland and wetland habitats, gives this site some Nature Conservation value.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its relationship to the River Peffery valley, the Peffery Burn and the surrounding rural landscape.</p> <p>Key historic views from the GDL are south along the main formal avenue to the south lodge and outward beyond the policy. External views elsewhere, to the east, north and west are limited by the extensive woodland within the policy.</p> <p>Key historic views of the GDL are from along the A834. From the wider landscape scenic views from Knock Farril take in the River Peffery valley, the settlement of Strathpeffer, the GDL and the upland wilderness which backdrops both the GDL and Strathpeffer.</p> <p>The GDL and its immediate rural periphery have remained largely unaltered since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, with the exception of some improvements to the local road network and a wider expansion of the settlement of Strathpeffer. As such, the setting of the GDL, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change that would erode views of the GDL from key viewpoints in the wider landscape, chief amongst these being the local scenic spot atop Knock Farril. This is both a significant scenic viewpoint for tourists today but also associated with the historic pleasure walks from the Spa Town of Strathpeffer.</p> <p>The landscape baseline around the GDL and valley basin contains little in the way of modern infrastructure. The wider landscape contains wind turbines 10 km to the south-west of Knock Farril, which are visible from this scenic spot. An array of OHL towers is visible in views east, north of Dingwall, from this same spot.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the north-west of the GDL, with OHL towers aligned north-east to south-west crossing the uplands of Craeg Ulladail, Spanning the Peffery Burn and continuing across the uplands of Druim a Chuilein.</p> <p>From within the GDL the lack of external views to the north would mean that the Development is not a factor and would not alter this aspect of Setting.</p> <p>Within the wider landscape, views towards the GDL from Knock Farril would contain OHL towers in the uplands above and to the rear of the GDL. The Proposed Development would not directly impinge into views of the GDL but would backdrop the asset and introduce electrical infrastructure into views where no modern infrastructure was previously present.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues within the GDL and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key local views outwards from the GDL, namely those south towards the A834 and to the surrounding farmland would be unaffected.</p> <p>Key local views and scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, namely those along the A834 and from the settlement of Strathpeffer would also be unaffected.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views when viewed from the uplands south of the GDL, namely the key scenic viewpoint of Knock Farril. The Proposed Development, whilst not directly obscuring the GDL, would backdrop the policy, cutting across the wooded uplands of Craeg Ulladail, the valley of the Peffery Burn and the uplands of Druim a Chuilein. The Proposed Development would erode the landscape relationship with the Peffery Burn valley as well as eroding the scenic value of the GDL, bringing infrastructure into a landscape largely free of infrastructure and eroding the distinctive contrast</p>

	<p>between the wooded GDL and upland moor and plantation that backdrops the River Peffery valley to the north.</p> <p>A Low impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted, having a slight adverse impact to the ability to appreciate and experience the asset. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Low impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Minor adverse effect to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations, given the impact is limited to external views towards the GDL from scenic viewpoints, wherein the GDL is a minor component of the value of the view.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

The Spa Gardens, Strathpeffer		
<p>GDL00370 The Spa Gardens, Strathpeffer</p> <p>Associated Listed Buildings:</p> <p>Category B</p> <p>LB7836 Strathpeffer Spa Pavillion</p> <p>LB7833 Strathpeffer Pump Room</p> <p>LB7857 Strathpeffer Episcopal Church of St Anne</p>		<p>1 x Garden Designed Landscape</p> <p>3 x Category B Listed Buildings</p>
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-48	Plates: 3DVP-181 – 974, 975, 976, 977, and 978 3DVP-182 – 979	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.8 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Minor
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The GDL is a 19<sup>th</sup> century pleasure ground, being an integral component of the Spa town and tourist attraction of Strathpeffer.</p> <p>The GDL is located on the southern edge of the settlement, within a valley basin, below Blackmuir Wood to the south and the uplands of Ceag Ulladail to the north, with the main settlement of Strathpeffer abutting the GDL to the north and east. The GDL measures 0.35 km north-east to south-west and is 0.1 km wide.</p> <p>The lands of Strathpeffer belonged to the Cromartie Estate, owned by the Earls of Cromartie, the MacKenzies, who were and are a prominent local family in north-east Scotland, major landowners and owner of nearby Castle Leod (see GDL00094).</p> <p>Building on the local reputation and restorative powers of the local waters, by the mid-1800s the Cromartie Estate began to turn its attention to attracting visitors. The 1850s saw plans for the building of a harled Poor's House and a stone house over the Upper Well, wooden bridges over the burn and gravelled walks through the adjacent plantations. By this time there were three wells, the Upper Well being within the gardens. The walks were constructed in 1853 and the plantation was enclosed with a wire fence.</p> <p>The 1860s saw the promotion of the Spa in earnest. The Spa was the catalyst for the development of the settlement at Strathpeffer and the landscape of the Strath itself. A new Pump Room and Bath House were installed, along with a Well-Keeper's House, shops, post office and Postmaster's house.</p> <p>The 1880s saw the further expansion including new Ladies Baths and experimental peat baths. A fourth well, named Lady Cromartie's Well or the Challis Spring, was exploited in 1889. Strathpeffer Spa Pavilion was built 1879-81. It was designed to be the social focus of the Spa, as opposed to the medical and curative centre at the Upper Pump Room. It provided a refreshment room, tearoom, billiard table and games room. The central concert hall was overlooked by a gallery, which housed a reading room, and the whole building was surrounded by a covered veranda. An octagonal Bandstand (removed when the main road frontage was fenced in, c 1908), stood at the entrance to the complex, in view of the town centre.</p> <p>The Second Edition OS depicts the Spa Gardens in detail, showing the Pavillion, Pump Room and Church along with a series of auxiliary buildings. Bowling greens and a curling pond are recorded to the south of the Pavillion. The eastern edge of the GDL, is depicted as open fields affording good views into the town and clear views of the Ben Wyvis Hotel.</p>	

	<p>From early on in the planning and promotion of the Spa, the pleasure grounds and drives were recognized as important aspects of the town's promotion. The Spa Gardens were considered integral with the Spa itself. Gunn recalled in 1889 that the Strathpeffer estate had been 'exceedingly bare of Wood, and with no Hedges' when he had started in post. He was responsible for extensive planting and woodland improvement throughout Strath Peffer as far as Castle Leod. A major feature was a walk made in 1888 for visitors to reach the summit of Ord Hill and admire the views. In 1898-1900, a pleasure drive was made through Blackmuir Wood, a 93ha (230 acres) pinewood planted c 1820, by way of the Knock Farril vitrified Fort. Other walks, furnished with rustic rain-shelters, were laid out through the Kinettas Plantation, Ord Hill. A tennis/croquet terrace behind the Pavilion (1882) provided recreation within the gardens. A four-rink curling pond (1890) was followed, in 1904, by a Bowling Green incorporated into an eastward extension to the gardens. These facilities all necessitated terracing the hillside with stone-retaining walls. In 1908 the Spa Syndicate Limited acquired the rights to the Spa wells. The Spa facilities were run on more commercial lines, thus the gardens were enclosed and an entrance fee charged. Park Farm Road, which led through the middle of the gardens, from north to south, was removed, and the garden paths adjusted to accommodate this and further changes. Summer entertainments were important to the venture, so the Curling Rink was converted into tennis courts and curling moved to the Jubilee Pond. A major change in 1909 was replacing the 1870s Pump Room with the present Upper Pump Room. In 1949 the gardens were sold to the owner of the Ben Wyvis Hotel. Subsequently, the Spa manager's house was demolished, the fountain pool infilled, and the tennis court area redeveloped for curling. Management of the gardens was abandoned due to costs, in 1970. The Highland Council now owns the gardens.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (high): The gardens are an important aspect of the development of Strathpeffer Spa as a premier health resort. They are interesting for their associated social and economic history, and constitute an unusual example of a specific type of pleasure grounds.</p> <p>Architectural value (high): The Spa Gardens are a prominent feature in the Strathpeffer townscape and are integral to the picturesque landscape character of the town. The Spa Pavilion, designed by Joass in 1879, was subsequently altered and extended. It is harled with applied timber framing. The Pump Room, (originally known as the Upper Pump Room) built in 1909, is constructed of rubble masonry with dressed quoins and margins. It has a complex slate roof and a verandah on its north-eastern elevation. Other architectural features within the gardens include retaining walls, steps and ramps associated with the garden terraces and the Band House and a number of small pavilions associated with recreational facilities. The main entrance from the public road leads into a yard between the Upper Pump Room and the Pavilion. From here, a drive leads between two Wellingtonias, to climb uphill to the Curling Rink terrace, the Band House and the rear of the Pavilion. A network of informal footpaths leads through the gardens at different levels along the hillside.</p> <p>Scenic value (high): The Spa Gardens have high Scenic value due to their important contribution to the townscape, as well as the overall landscape character of Strath Peffer itself. Views out from the gardens extend into the town.</p> <p>Artistic value (high): The design of the picturesque pleasure grounds skilfully integrates a variety of amenity requirements on a comparatively small site. Its picturesque character is significant in the Strathpeffer townscape and essential to the locality.</p> <p>Horticultural value (high): The collection of exotic specimen trees gives this site high Horticultural value. Some notable specimen conifers remain, including Wellingtonias, deodar cedars, Douglas and noble firs planted c 1870-80. The earliest surviving planting is from c 1850 and includes some large deciduous specimens, notably beech, oak and sycamore. Later plantings included lime, horse chestnut, Norway maple, copper beech, poplar and many Lawson cypress. Laurel and Rhododendron are surviving shrubs, although there is some snowberry and remnants of more recent shrub planting, including cornus, fuschia and lilac.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (some): The Spa Gardens provide a variety of wildlife habitats, particularly birds. This gives the site some Nature Conservation value.</p>

<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its relationship to the Spa town of Strathpeffer and the valley basin the Spa Gardens and Spa town sit within.</p> <p>Key historic views from the GDL are internal to the Spa Gardens and the valley basin containing the associated Spa Town. External views beyond the valley basin are limited due to topography and woodland and do not contribute greatly to the Setting of the GDL.</p> <p>Key historic views of the GDL from the wider landscape are along the route of the pleasure walks to Ord Hill and Knock Farril. Ord Hill is located on the upland slopes north of the Spa Town. Knock Farril is located in the uplands above the River Peffery valley, to the east of the Spa Town.</p> <p>The historic core of Strathpeffer, taking in the GDL and Conservation Area is largely unaltered since its inception, with the exception of some improvements to the local road network and a wider expansion of the settlement to the north of the Conservation Area. As such, the setting of the GDL, within the valley basin, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to changes in setting that would erode views of the GDL from key viewpoints in the wider landscape, chief amongst these being the local scenic spot atop Knock Farril. This is both a significant scenic viewpoint for tourists today but also associated with the historic pleasure walks from the GDL and Spa Town.</p> <p>The landscape baseline around the GDL and valley basin contains little in the way of modern infrastructure. The wider landscape contains wind turbines 10 km to the south-west of Knock Farril, which are visible from this scenic spot. An array of OHL towers is visible in views east, north of Dingwall, from this same spot.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the west and north of the GDL, with OHL towers aligned north to south to the west of Loch Kinellan, 1.8 km from the GDL, before turning to the north-east and crossing the uplands of Craeg Ulladail, 2 km north-west of the Spa Gardens.</p> <p>From within the GDL the lack of external views beyond the valley basin mean that the Proposed Development is not a factor and would not alter this aspect of setting.</p> <p>Within the local landscape, views towards the GDL from Knock Farril would contain OHL towers in the uplands above and to the rear of the GDL and Spa Town. The Proposed Development would not directly impinge into views of the GDL but would backdrop the asset and introduce electrical infrastructure into views where no modern infrastructure was previously present.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues within the GDL and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key local views outwards from the GDL, namely those to the associated Spa Town and Conservation Area of Strathpeffer would also be unaffected.</p> <p>Key local views and scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, namely those from the settlement of Strathpeffer would also be unaffected.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views when viewed from the uplands south of the GDL, namely the key scenic viewpoint of Knock Farril. The Proposed Development, whilst not directly obscuring the GDL or Conservation Area, would backdrop the Spa Town, cutting across the wooded uplands of Craeg Ulladail. The Proposed Development would erode key historic views from Kock Farril to the GDL and Spa Town, with the walk to Kock Farril a planned route from the GDL. The Proposed Development would also erode the scenic value of the GDL, bringing OHL towers into an upland landscape largely free of infrastructure and eroding the distinctive contrast between the Spa Town, River Peffery valley and the wooded uplands to the north.</p> <p>A Low impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted, with a slight adverse effect on the ability to appreciate the asset. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Low impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Minor adverse effect to cultural significance. In the case of the Spa Garden GDL the key aspects of setting for the GDL, pertain to the relationship and views between the GDL and the Spa Town, being unaffected. Impacts to setting arose from the erosion of a single historic view, while the scenic value of the Peffery valley, from which the majority of scenic value is derived, remaining intact.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered Significant, within the context of the EIA regulations, given the impact is limited to external views towards the GDL from scenic viewpoints, wherein the GDL is a minor component of the value of the view.</p>



	The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.
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Fairburn Estate		
GDL00174 Fairburn Associated Listed Buildings within the GDL: Category A LB14030 Fairburn Tower Category B LB14031 Fairburn House		1 x Garden Designed Landscape 1 x Category A Listed Building 1 x Category B Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-52	Plates: 3DVP-199 – 1029, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1033, 1034, 1035, and 1036 3DVP-200 – 1037, 1038, 1039, 1040, and 1041 3DVP-201 – 1042 3DVP-202 – 1043 3DVP-203 – 1044, 1045, 1046, 1047, 1048, and 1049	<b>Distance from Proposed Development: 0 m</b>
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>GDL00174 Fairpark consists of a late 18th to early 19th century designed landscape located west of Muir of Ord, south of the River Conon valley and north of the River Orrin. The policy is located within the eastern half of the policy, and on a low foothill above the River Conon, with the uplands of Bein an Rubha Riabhaich to the south and southwest.</p> <p>The name Fairburn was taken from the 16th century tower house (LB14030) located in the eastern half of the policy, which was a Mackenzie stronghold. The Mackenzies were a noted family and important landowner in north-east Scotland from the late Medieval period onwards.</p> <p>In around 1800 the Mackenzies built Muirton House, subsequently demolished by John Stirling who bought the estate in 1827. Fairburn House (LB14031) was built by Stirling to replace Muirton House and is the core of the current GDL.</p> <p>The 16th century tower house with small formal estate is depicted on Roy's Map of the Highlands, c. 1750. The map shows a small formal estate surrounding the castle with tree lined avenues leading north to the River Canon valley and farmland and south to the River Orrin, which is itself dotted with farmsteads/townships along its banks.</p> <p>The First Edition OS depicts the GDL in close to its current form, with Muirton House still standing.</p> <p>The GDL measures 3.8 km east to west and c. 1.29 km north to south, taking in farmland close to the River Conon valley and woodland/parkland along the River Orrin and the low foothills ascending to Bein an Rubha Riabhaich.</p> <p>The First Edition OS depicts Muirton Mains to the north of the present Fairburn House, connected to the wooded parklands around Fairburn House by a country road. This same country road divides the GDL into two, running west to east from Fairburn House to the small settlement of Marybank and associated cottages. The majority of the GDL is south of this road and contains Mains of Fairburn and Fairburn Tower (labelled a ruin). A mill is depicted within the GDL next to the River Orrin. Muirton House itself is depicted within its own woodland and parkland policy, with formal gardens to the south of the house and a nearby kennels.</p> <p>The Second Edition OS now records Fairburn House with some improvements to its private wooded and parkland policy, as well as improvements across the wider policy of the GDL. Fairburn House and its private woodland/parkland policy contains a number of paths and walks within the trees. The wider GDL is largely left over to farmland and plantation forest, with a series of Mains and fields. The main entrance into the GDL is via the main country road from Marybank. The tree lined approach to Fairburn Tower</p>	

	<p>depicted in Roy's map of 1750 is now depicted more pragmatically as a farm track connecting the Easter Mains of Fairburn and Tower Mains.</p> <p><u>Grouping rationale</u></p> <p>LB14030 Fairburn Tower and LB14031 Fairburn House inform the shifting historic cores of the Fairburn estate and late 19th century GDL. As such, these assets are discussed together within the GDL00068 group.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (some):</p> <p>Fairburn has some Historical value although there is limited evidence of its development.</p> <p>Architectural value (high):</p> <p>The policies are of high Architectural value as they provide the setting to buildings recognised for their special architectural or historic interest.</p> <p>Fairburn House (LB14031) was designed by Wardrop &amp; Reid between 1877-78 and built in the Scottish Baronial style in Tarradale stone. The walled garden was laid out by John Stirling c.1874. It extends over some one and a half acres. Lean-to glasshouses, with a central conservatory, lined an inner face of the north wall. Under this glass, fruit and flowers were grown, whilst pot plants were grown in the conservatory. Fairburn Tower (LB14030) is a 16<sup>th</sup> century tower house, with early 17th century additions. It stands on a hilltop ridge overlooking the Strathconon and Orri valleys. It was restored in 2020-22. The stable-block is also by Wardrop &amp; Reid; it has been converted into homes for the staff in the nursing home. The curling pond, built in 1886, still has its original stones and the necessary facilities required, including floodlights. An icehouse, situated near the Curling Pond, is now overgrown. The walled garden and ancillary buildings were built c.1880. Other buildings and estate offices include a Fire Station, Gardener's Cottage, Butler's Cottage, two kennels and a sawmill. Just outwith the GDL, Aultgowrie Lodge (LB14032) stands on the south drive on the River Orrin and was also designed by Wardrop &amp; Reid in 1877. The family burial ground is enclosed by iron railings and is situated to the north of the south drive near Aultgowrie Lodge.</p> <p>Scenic value (outstanding):</p> <p>The woodland canopy and open parkland of the designed landscape make an outstanding contribution to the surrounding scenery. There are extensive views north across Strathconon to Ben Wyvis. Views of the mature woodland canopy of the GDL and the open pasture of the park are significant in the wider landscape especially from the River Conan valley and north of the valley around the A835/A834 Junction at Contin/Cunndainn and Jamestown.</p> <p>Horticultural value (outstanding)</p> <p>The range and size of the conifers in the woodland garden provide Fairburn House with outstanding Horticultural value. Fairburn is famous for its trees and, in particular, for conifers planted by John Stirling in the 1870s around Fairburn House and its gardens. Although the majority of the trees are amenity planting, some have always been considered as a commercial crop. Some of the finest trees grow around the burial ground; in particular some tall grand firs, a <i>Calocedrus decurrens</i>, a 175 ft tall <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>, and a large <i>Wellingtonia (Sequoiadendron giganteum)</i>. A small pinetum was planted along the drive and includes many interesting <i>Chamaecyparis</i> varieties including a large <i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> 'Pendula'. The pinetum is underplanted with species rhododendrons. Other specimen trees were planted in the old garden and along the drive. The garden extends to the river and alongside the spectacular Orrin Falls. The formal gardens around the house are partly evident, with overgrown hedges, grass terraces and paths. On the west side of the house, a path, lined with yew trees, leads to the site of a rock garden which was laid out by the grandmother of Mr Stirling. There are several interesting trees including one enormous <i>Picea sitchensis</i> planted in 1874, which has a large skirt reaching down to the ground, and three large Monkey puzzles. Double white Narcissus and pheasant eye are established in the understorey in large numbers.</p> <p>The policy woodlands extend to the west of the house and were originally planted c.1800. The outlying mature and semi-mature commercial woodlands on the higher ground were felled in World War I and II. Sections of the policy woodlands were replanted in 1920 mainly with Scots pine but the majority of the</p>

	<p>woodlands were not planted until after World War II under a Forestry Commission Dedication Scheme, with Scots pine and Sitka spruce, although there are some small pockets of oak, ash and beech.</p> <p>Artistic value (little):</p> <p>The designed landscape at Fairburn has a little value as a Work of Art.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (little):</p> <p>The woodland flora provides a little Nature Conservation interest.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its location between the River Conan valley to the north, the River Orrin to the south and the uplands of Bein an Rubha Riabhaich to the south and southwest. The rural agricultural zone between the River Orrin and River Canon also informs setting.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL are from the River Canon valley and north of the valley around the A835/A834 Junction at Contin/Cunndainn and Jamestown. Views of the mature woodland canopy of the GDL and the open pasture of the park are significant from these locations, standing in contrast to the farmland of the River Conan valley and the uplands backdropping the GDL.</p> <p>Key views within the GDL are largely confined to Fairburn House and its private wooded policy. There are very limited external views from around Fairburn House due to the level of screening. Views from Fairburn Tower take in the Strathconon and Orrin valleys to the north and south. Within the wider parkland key views are over the immediate rural periphery of the GDL.</p> <p>The rural landscape surrounding the GDL is largely unaltered since its inception, with the exception of some realignment of field systems, and improvements to the local road network. Wider landscape views take in electrical and phone lines. As such, the setting of the GDL, between the River Canon and Orrin valleys, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to changes in setting adjacent to and within the River Conan and Orrin valleys, as well as to the introduction of infrastructure that would erode key views of the surrounding woodlands. The GDL is also sensitive to change within the uplands of Bein an Rubha Riabhaich that backdrop the GDL.</p> <p>Views towards the GDL from south of the River Canon valley and north of the valley around the A835/A834 Junction at Contin/Cunndainn and Jamestown contain existing electrical infrastructure in the form of overhead lines and wind turbines. OHL towers cut across the north-east section of the GDL and cross in front of Fairburn House within these views. The turbines of Fairburn Wind Farm are located in the uplands atop Bein an Rubha Riabhaich.</p> <p>External views of note from within the GDL include views north from Fairburn Tower. These views take in the River Canon valley and include the existing OHL towers within the GDL, positioned in close proximity to the tower house to the north and east.</p> <p>As noted above there are no external views of note from Fairburn House and its private parkland and wooded policy.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the south-west of the GDL immediately abutting the policy and placing OHL towers in the low foothills of Bein an Rubha Riabhaich. OHL towers would extend north-east from this position across the River Canon valley, crossing the A835 and A834 near to Contin/Connadainn and Jamestown.</p> <p>The introduction of this infrastructure would erode key scenic views towards the GDL from the River Canon valley and around Contin/Connadainn and Jamestown, reducing the landscape significance of the wooded policy with OHL towers crossing in front of and backdropping the GDL. The presence of towers to the rear of the GDL would also erode the contrast between the wooded estate and the barren uplands moors of Bein an Rubha Riabhaich.</p> <p>Views within the GDL would be largely unaffected, with the woodland around Fairburn House blocking views south-west to the Proposed Development. Views north from Fairburn Tower over the River Conan valley would largely be unaffected as would local views towards the River Orrin. It is worth noting however, that the Proposed Development would introduce OHL towers into views south, with OHL towers located in the uplands of Cul Mor south of the River Orrin valley.</p>

<p><b>Summary of Impact</b></p>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues around Fairburn House and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key internal views from the wider GDL are from Fairburn Tower across the surrounding farmland, north towards the. Key local views outwards from the GDL, are from Fairburn Tower, north towards the River Conan valley and south towards the River Orrin, taking in the uplands of Cul Beag beyond. These views would be unaffected by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Key local views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, are from along the main approach to Fairburn House, along the east to west aligned country road leading from Marybank. These local views would also largely be unaffected, being screened by trees lining the country road and the woodland of the GDL.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL and wider scenic views would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views from north of the River Conan valley around the A835/A834 Junction at Contin/Cunndainn and Jamestown. The Proposed Development, whilst not directly obscuring the GDL, would backdrop the policy, cutting across the wooded uplands to the south-west of the policy. These views already contain electrical infrastructure in the form of OHL towers, cutting across the GDL on a north-west to south-east alignment as well as wind turbines atop Bein an Rubha Riabhaich. The Proposed Development would add further OHL towers into these views in close proximity to the GDL. The Proposed Development would further erode the landscape contrast between the wooded policy and river valley and the surrounding barren uplands of Bein an Rubha Riabhaich. Scenic views of the wooded policy would also be eroded.</p> <p>A Low impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted, with a slight adverse effect on the ability to experience and appreciate the asset. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Low impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Minor adverse effect to cultural significance.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Effect</b></p>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered Not <b>Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations. This is due to the presence of the Proposed Development in open views across the Conan valley north and south (c.1 km to 3 km) beyond the Rivers Conan and, while views northeast towards the Cromarty Firth and southeast towards the River Beaully remain intact.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

*Negligible Projected Effect*

Beaufort Castle GDL		
GDL00052 Beaufort Castle Associated Listed Buildings: Category A LB8068 Beaufort Castle Category B LB8069 Beaufort Castle, East Lodge and Gate Piers LB8071 Beaufort Castle, Gardeners Cottage LB8072 Beaufort Castle Walled Garden Category C LB8070 Beaufort Castle, West Lodge LB47970 Beaufort Castle, The Coach House, including ancillary structure		1 x Garden Designed Landscape 1 x Category A Listed Building 3 x Category B Listed Buildings 2 x Category C Listed Buildings
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-213 – 1103, 1104, and 1105 3DVP-214 – 1106 and 1107 3DVP-215 – 1108 3DVP-216 – 1109	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 1.5 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The GDL records a designed landscape centered on Beaufort Castle. Dounie Castle stood at Beaufort from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. The current Beaufort Castle dates to 1880 along with the 19<sup>th</sup> century landscape park and pleasure grounds. The current GDL itself incorporates elements of an earlier 17<sup>th</sup> century estate.</p> <p>Beaufort Castle lies on the south bank of the River Beaully, 3 km south-west of the historic Medieval priory and associated settlement at Beaully, and 0.7 km north of the village of Kiltarlity. The A833 runs north to south along the eastern edge of the policy.</p> <p>The GDL measures 2.5 km east to west, and 1 km north to south, with the GDL bound to the north by the River Beaully, but otherwise located within a rural landscape of farmland, woodland and country roads.</p> <p>Beaufort Castle is a residence of the Lovat family of Clan Fraser and the Lords of Lovat. The original Dounie Castle was besieged in the 12<sup>th</sup> century and was subsequently destroyed by Oliver Cromwell in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>Simon Fraser, (c. 1667-1747), 'The Fox', succeeded his father as 11th Lord Lovat in 1699. An ardent Jacobite, the Lovats had their land forfeited following the loss at Culloden, and Dounie Castle was burnt and raised.</p> <p>Lovat's heir, raised 4,000 clansmen and fought for King George in Portugal and at Quebec, thereby earning the return of his estates in 1774.</p> <p>Roy's Map of the Highlands dated to 1750 depicts Dounie Castle with a small formal estate, with woodland to the east along the line of the Dounie Burn. A military road is depicted running east to west along the southern edge of the estate, connecting the estate to Inverness.</p> <p>The lands were passed on to Thomas Fraser of Strichen in 1815. He invested in the estates by planting, fencing and building estate houses. He was created a peer in 1837 and thereafter the ancient Scots title of Lovat was returned to him. He commissioned William Burn to extend and alter the house in 1839.</p> <p>In 1880 Simon Fraser, 13th Lord Lovat (d.1887) commissioned J M Wardrop (1824-82) to design the existing Beaufort Castle. near to the remains of Dounie Castle, commanding extensive views over the Airds of Lovat.</p> <p>The Second Edition OS depicts the Beaufort designed landscape close to its current form, with the castle and main estate buildings all present and the main avenues and pathways drawn as they currently survive. Beaufort Castle sites within open parkland with woodland to the east, west and south. Views towards the river to the north are obscured by woodland. The Second Edition OS depicts the East and</p>	

	<p>West Lodges, which are the main formal approaches to the castle. The West Lodge is located to the south-west of Beaufort Castle close to Home Farm. East Lodge is located beside the current A833.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (some):</p> <p>A series of defensive buildings has been constructed and rebuilt at Beaufort since the 12th century. The long association with the Frasers of Lovat is significant, and further research would reveal the site's historical value.</p> <p>Architectural value (high):</p> <p>The designed landscape provides the integral setting for the Castle, which together with other estate buildings, walled gardens and landscape layout give the site high Architectural value.</p> <p>Beaufort Castle designed by J M Wardrop in 1880, probably includes an earlier building. The drawing room wing and entrance hall were altered and restored in 1937 by Reginald Fairlie after a fire. It is Baronial in style and built of tooled red ashlar with polished ashlar dressings.</p> <p>The Home Farm, to the south-west of the Castle, is a south-facing 'E' plan steading with a bellcote and is mainly single-storey. The West Lodge is an early 19th century cottage, altered in the late 19th century with gabled domes. The East Lodge is c 1840, a T-plan gate lodge of coursed rubble with tooled sandstone dressings. With crowstepped gables, oriel windows and finials, the gate lodge incorporates two pairs of square ashlar gate piers.</p> <p>The Walled Garden, early-mid 18th century, has rubble walls and is rectangular with curved brick-lined walls. It is some 300 m in length from east-west.</p> <p>By the mid-19th century there were a series of Summer Houses laid out within the pleasure grounds.</p> <p>Scenic value (high):</p> <p>The scale of the designed landscape and its dominance in the Aird/Beaully Firth, give it high Scenic value. The policies are important scenically as they contribute to the local landscape character.</p> <p>There are few views to the Castle from the surrounding landscape as woodlands and belts of trees enclose the parkland. However, views of the wooded estate are important to the local landscape character when contrasted against the surrounding farmland and the River Beaully.</p> <p>Artistic value (some):</p> <p>The landscape park, set amidst large woodlands with the River Beaully, form a romantic setting for the Castle. The site thereby has some value as a Work of Art.</p> <p>Horticultural value (high):</p> <p>Beaufort Castle's collection of trees, mostly planted in the 19th century, gives the site high horticultural value.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (high):</p> <p>The expansive woodlands, long-established riverside woodlands and parklands provide a range of habitats, giving the site high Nature Conservation value.</p>



<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The Castle stands on a slightly elevated rise on the south side of the River Beaully with parkland extending to its south-west and east. To its east, it overlooks the junction of the Dounie Burn with the Bruiach Burn which becomes the Belladrum Burn, and issues into the Beaully.</p> <p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its relationship to the River Beaully, the Dounie Burn and the surrounding farmland.</p> <p>Key historic views from the GDL are largely internal, with limited external views beyond the wooded policy. The main formal approaches are from the east and west lodges, with the castle itself, even on these approaches largely screened until on the final approach. Once on the final approach to the castle the key views are facing north, towards the castle and River Beaully, although the river itself is not visible.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL, from the exterior of the policy are all relatively local, with wider landscape views obscured by topography and surrounding woodland. Views on the A833 approaching Kiltarlity from the south take in the wooded GDL against the uplands to the north. Beyond this, views of the GDL are largely restricted to the immediate country roads and fields.</p> <p>The GDL and its immediate rural periphery have remained largely unaltered since the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, with the exception of some improvements to the local road network and a wider expansion of the settlement of Kiltarlity. As such, the setting of the GDL, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change in and around the River Beaully valley and the farmland immediately surrounding the GDL.</p> <p>The landscape baseline around the GDL contains a substation and array of OHL towers to the north, some 1.6 km distant. These towers extend to the west across the River Beaully towards the uplands of Torr Mor where they are visible from around the GDL.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the west and north-west of the GDL, with new OHL towers introduced around Tor Morr before continuing north-west across the River Beaully and turning north towards the upland moors of Cnoc Dubh between Loch nan Eun and Loch nam Bonnach.</p> <p>From within the GDL the lack of external views to the west and north would limit any views of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Within the wider landscape, views towards the GDL from the southern approach on the A833 would have additional infrastructure to the north-west of the GDL. However, views of the GDL and the relationship between the GDL, the River Beaully and the immediate rural farmland on the periphery of the GDL would be unaffected.</p>
<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues within the GDL and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key local views outwards from the GDL, namely towards the River Beaully, the Dounie Burn and the surrounding farmland would also be unaffected. Key local views and scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL would also not be eroded.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views when approaching the GDL from the south along the A833.</p> <p>A Negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible effect to cultural significance.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Belladrum Estate GDL		
GDL00415 Belladrum Estate Associated Listed Buildings: Category B LB8084 Phoinneas House LB8098 Belladrum Lodge LB8074 Belladrum Gazebo LB8095 Belladrum Steading LB8094 Belladrum Walled Garden LB8094 Belladrum Gardeners Cottage LB8075 Belladrum, The Temple LB8096 1 Belladrum Farm Cottages LB8096 2 Belladrum Farm Cottages LB8096 3 Belladrum Farm Cottages LB8096 4 Belladrum Farm Cottages LB8096 5 Belladrum Farm Cottages LB8096 6 Belladrum Farm Cottages Category C LB8085 Phoinneas, Former Stables and Steading Range LB8097 Belladrum Farm Henhouse Associated Scheduled Monuments: SM3194 Chambered cairn WNW of Belladrum Home Farm		1 x Garden Designed Landscape 13 x Category B Listed Buildings 2 x Category C Listed Buildings 1 x Scheduled Monument
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-221 – 1124 and 1125 3DVP-222 – 1126 3DVP-223 – 1127 3DVP-224 – 1128 3DVP-225 - 1129	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 3.4 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>The GDL records a 19<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape formally centered around the new demolished Belladrum House. The current GDL is focused around the Category B Phoinneas House and steading positioned at the western end of a formal tree lined avenue, fronting on to the current A833. This road is the historic route to Inverness. At the southern edge of the GDL is a second focal point of the current GDL, the Category B Belladrum Steading with lodge and formal avenue, associated gardens, cottages and estate buildings. It is within this southern half of the GDL that the former Belladrum House stood.</p> <p>The GDL is aligned north-east to south-west and is 2.8 km long and 1 km wide. The GDL is located to the south and east of the A833, South of the River Beauly south of the nearby Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052). The Dounie Burn runs through the Belladrum policy to the west of the demolished Belladrum House and LB8095 Belladrum Steading.</p> <p>Roys Map of the Highlands dated to 1750 depicts Dounie Castle within the Beaufort Castle GDL (GDL00052), north of the extant Belladrum estate. No estate is shown east of the Dounie Burn and Belladrum is not named.</p> <p>As with Beaufort Castle, Belladrum House was formerly owned by the Lovat family of Clan Fraser and the Lords of Lovat. From them it came into the ownership of the Frasers of Belladrum. In the 1820s, the Belladrum Frasers sold their estates to merchants by the name of Stewart.</p> <p>Belladrum House was built c. 1835 and remodelled 1858 along with its formal gardens and key designed elements. The estate in turn sold in 1857 to James Merry of Belladrum. MP for the Burghs of Falkirk, and an ironmaster from Glasgow. Davina Merry, the mother of the current owner, was the last of the name of Merry to own Belladrum.</p> <p>The First Edition OS depicts the Belladrum Estate in detail. Belladrum House is depicted as an imposing country house surrounded by Italian garden. To the west of the main house are further terraced gardens with an elaborate circular fountain located adjacent to the Dounie Burn. Belladrum House sits within a</p>	

	<p>designed parkland, extending west across the Dounie Burn. To the south of the main house sits a farm with its own formal gardens (consisting of LB8094, 8095 and 8096). A main avenue leads north-east from the house, winding to the north-east and a formal gated entrance with lodge (LB8098). The formal entrance and lodge are within woodland, which separates Belladrum House and its parkland from the wider estate to the north. It is within this northern section that Phoinneas House is located (LB8084) along with its associated stables and steading (LB8085). A separate avenue runs north from Phoinneas House, winding to the west and its own formal entrance with lodge. This northern section of the policy appears to be more agricultural in nature rather than a designed parkland. The entire policy is located west of Phoinneas Hill and Black Wood, with the GDL sat within a low belt of agricultural land between the hill and the River Beaully.</p> <p>The Second Edition OS map shows little change from the above.</p> <p>In 1977, Belladrum was sold and split up. In 1987 a new owner repurchased Phoinneas House, which had become the main house on the estate since the demolition of Belladrum House in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.</p>
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes:</p> <p>Historical value (some):</p> <p>The association with the Frasers of Lovat and the relationship to the nearby Beaufort GDL is significant, and further research would reveal the site's historical value.</p> <p>The estate also appears to have been attacked as part of the Jacobite uprising of 1745, with Phoinneas House recorded as having been set ablaze. This is in response to the role of the Lovats in supporting the 1745 uprising, Simon Fraser, (circa 1667-1747), 'The Fox', succeeded his father as 11th Lord Lovat in 1699. An ardent Jacobite, the Lovats had their land forfeited following the loss at Culloden, and Dounie Castle within Beaufort Castle GDL was burnt and raised.</p> <p>Within the GDL is a Late Neolithic to Bronze Age chambered cairn, located west of the Dounie Burn. This is one of several prehistoric funerary monuments within the River Beaully valley. Adjacent to the GDL are a series of Late Prehistoric settlement sites within the Phoinneas Hills and Black Wood.</p> <p>Architectural value (some):</p> <p>The core component of the GDL, the now demolished Belladrum House, has been lost after its demolition in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Only some steps, a few ruins remain and elements of the terraced gardens remain. However, Phoinneas House, is still present within the GDL along with a series of estate buildings and lodges.</p> <p>LB8084 Phoinneas House records a late 18<sup>th</sup> century, two-storey, H shaped house, harled and with ashlar dressing.</p> <p>LB8085 Phoinneas Former Stables and Steading Range was built in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and records a nine-bay building with central courtyard, outer and centre bays.</p> <p>LB8098 Belladrum Lodge records a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century single-storey gate lodge, associated with the main formal approach to Belladrum House. Belladrum House and the lodge were designed by D Bryce.</p> <p>LB8095 Belladrum Steading records an early 19<sup>th</sup> century two-storey, 11 bay steading with central tower. Adjacent to the steading is a late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century walled garden and gardener's cottage. Beside the steading are a series of early 20<sup>th</sup> century cottages (LB8096). Within a patch of copse woodland beside the walled garden is LB8075 Belladrum, The Temple, which records an early 20<sup>th</sup> century octagonal chapel built by Mrs Merry of Belladrum. The chapel is no longer in use as an ecclesiastical building.</p> <p>Many of the avenues and pathways of the original 19<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape are still in use.</p> <p>Scenic value (high):</p> <p>The scale of the designed landscape and its dominance in views along the River Beaully and A833 give it high Scenic value. The policies are important scenically as they contribute to the local landscape character, especially when contrasted against the plantation forest of Black Wood which backdrops the estate in many views when approaching from the north-east along the A833. The GDL is less visible in the landscape on views from the south when approaching via the A833 or from the west of the estate around the village of Kiltarlity.</p>

	<p>There are few views to the interior of the GDL, within only the farmland, parkland and woodland of the wider estate visible from the outwith the policy. However, views of the wooded estate are important to the local landscape character when contrasted against the surrounding farmland, woodland and the River Beauly.</p> <p>Artistic value (little):</p> <p>The landscape park, set along the Doulie has a little artistic merit.</p> <p>Horticultural value (some):</p> <p>The estates collection of trees, mostly planted in the 19th century, gives the site high horticultural value.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (some):</p> <p>The expansive woodlands, long-established riverside woodlands beside the Dounie Burn and parklands provide a range of habitats, giving the site some Nature Conservation value.</p>
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its internal relationships and local views towards the Dounie Burn, the A833, the nearby GDL of Beaufort Castle (to the north-east) and the uplands of Black Wood, located to the south of the GDL. External long-distance views do not contribute greatly to setting, with most long-distance views screened by the woodland planted within the core of the GDL and around its periphery. the Dounie Burn and the surrounding farmland.</p> <p>The demolished Belladrum House was positioned within open parkland with designed views west towards the Dounie Burn, north-east along the main avenue to the lodge fronting onto the A833 and south towards Belladrum Farm and the wooded uplands of Black Wood. Phoinneas House is positioned in open fields with designed views north towards the stables and steading and north-east towards the main avenue to the lodge fronting onto the A833. Key historic views from the GDL are largely internal, and from the man houses of Belladrum House and Phoinneas Lodge. Belladrum House is now largely demolished but its ruins and the remains of the terraced formal gardens allow its landscape setting and key views to be understood. Whilst the use of the main buildings within the GDL may have changed since their construction, the relationships between them and the main avenues and paths connecting them remain largely intact. The few external views of note, towards the Dounie Burn, towards the A833 and the Beaufort GDL and towards the uplands of Black Wood are still legible in the landscape due to the lack of significant development around the Belladrum estate.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL, from the exterior of the policy are all relatively local, with wider landscape views obscured by topography and surrounding woodland. Views on the westbound approach of the A833 from Kirkhill take in the wooded GDL which sit in contrast to the surrounding farmland and the uplands of Black Wood the north. Beyond this, views of the GDL are largely restricted to the immediate country roads and fields surrounding the estate.</p> <p>The demolition of Belladrum House as the chief focal point of the GDL has been the major point of change since its mid-19<sup>th</sup> century construction. However, the surviving elements of the GDL and its immediate rural periphery have remained largely unaltered, with the exception of some improvements to the local road network and a wider expansion of the settlement of Kiltarlity to the west. As such, the setting of the GDL, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>

<p><b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b></p>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change in and around the Dounie Burn, the immediate rural periphery of the GDL and the uplands of Black Wood/ Pheineas Hill.</p> <p>The landscape baseline around the GDL contains little in the way of modern electrical infrastructure beyond local wooden power and telecommunication poles. There is a distant array of OHL towers located 3.5 km to the west of the GDL, aligned south-west to north-east and running below the hills of Tor Mor, just east of the River Beauly. A second array of OHL towers run on a similar alignment to the west of Torr Mor and the River Beauly.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure to the west and north-west of the GDL, with new OHL towers introduced around Tor Morr before continuing north-west across the River Beauly and turning north towards the upland moors of Cnoc Dubh between Loch nan Eun and Loch nam Bonnach.</p> <p>From within the GDL the lack of external views to the west and north would limit any views of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Within the wider landscape, views towards the GDL from the eastern approach on the A833 would be unaffected. Views along the southern approach on the A833 would have additional infrastructure to the west and north-west of the GDL. However, views of the GDL and the relationship between the GDL, the Dounie Burn and the immediate rural farmland on the periphery of the GDL would be unaffected.</p>
<p><b>Summary of Impact</b></p>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues within the GDL and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key local views outwards from the GDL, namely towards and across the Dounie Burn, towards the A833 and towards the uplands of the Black Woods would not be affected to any meaningful extent. Key local views and scenic views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL would also not be eroded.</p> <p>Any impact to the setting of the GDL would arise from the introduction of OHL towers into wider landscape views when approaching the GDL from the south along the A833.</p> <p>A Negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible effect to cultural significance.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Effect</b></p>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and it's setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

Brahan Estate		
GDL00068 Brahan Associated Listed Buildings within the GDL: Category B LB14026 Brahan Mains Square LB14027 Brahan, Seaforth Monument Category C LB14025 Brahan West Entrance Gate Piers and Gates		1 x Garden Designed Landscape 1 x Listed Buildings Category B Listed Building 1 x Category C Listed Building
Designations summary		
Figure: CHVP-50, CHVP-51	Plates: 3DVP-193 – 1015, 1016, 1017, 1018, and 1019 3DVP-194 – 1020 3DVP-195 – 1021 3DVP-196 – 1022 3DVP-197 – 1023 3DVP-198 – 1024, 1025, 1026, 1027, and 1028	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 2.5 km E
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> High	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Negligible	<b>Projected Effect:</b> Negligible
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	<p>GDL00068 Brahan consists of a 17<sup>th</sup> century designed landscape located south-west of Dingwall, north of the River Conon valley and south of the A835 carriageway, connecting the estate to Dingwall and the wider transport network. The settlement of Maryburgh is located at the eastern edge of the policy.</p> <p>The GDL was built for the Seaford family, a branch of the Mackenzie family, who were a noted family and important landowner in north-east Scotland from the late Medieval period onwards.</p> <p>The core of the GDL is the now demolished Brahan Castle (built c. 600 CE), with the castle and GDL improved throughout the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The castle itself was demolished in 1952, at which time the stables were converted to a residence and the architectural core of the GDL shifted to LB14026 Brahan Mains Square.</p> <p>The GDL measures 4.8 km east to west and c. 1.8 km north to south, taking in land from the mouth of River Conon valley, nestling between the river valley to the south and the uplands of Loch Ussie to the north.</p> <p>The GDL includes a series of north to south, east to west aligned formal avenues and pathways radiating out from the demolished Brahan Castle as well as areas of formal gardens, woodland and parkland. Brahan Castle and the 18<sup>th</sup> century GDL are documented on Roy's Map of the Highlands, 1750, with the subsequent 19<sup>th</sup> century improvements depicted on the First Edition OS.</p> <p>The First Edition OS depicts Brahan Castle with a main formal tree lined avenue extending from the castle east and connecting to a formal garden. An estate road runs at right angles from this avenue, leading to a north lodge. The Mains (LB14026) is located just to the north of the castle, with an estate road leading to the west lodge (LB14027) and Lady Mckenzie's Monument (LB14027). The two lodges served as the main access points into the policy from the A835. The First Edition OS also depicts the site of a former chapel to the south-west of the castle, close to the River Conan, as well as estate cottages, kennels and estate buildings.</p> <p>Grouping rationale</p> <p>LB14026 Brahan Mains and the now demolished Brahan Castle form the main historic core of the GDL. The remaining listed buildings within the GDL inform the wider designed landscape and estate. As such, these assets are discussed together within the GDL00068 group.</p>	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>The GDL derives significance from the following key attributes as described by HES:</p> <p>Historical value (outstanding):</p> <p>Brahan was the seat of the Seaforth branch of the Mackenzie family and thus has outstanding Historical value.</p>	



	<p>Architectural value (high):</p> <p>The parkland was originally laid out in the 17<sup>th</sup> century by the 1st Earl. Much of the formal landscape shown on Roy's plan remains and forms the structural layout. Extensive avenues used to divide the park into four quarters, and in c.1820 shelterbelts were planted which cut across the quarters, further subdividing them. Two long avenues originally stretched to the north and south of the Castle. In the one to the north, oaks have been replaced with a mixture of lime, sycamore and Norway maple. The lower portion of the southern avenue has been removed and the rest of it is marked by one or two old oaks. The avenues to the east and west are less well defined as some trees have been incorporated into the woodland shelterbelts, others removed, and some have been replanted.</p> <p>The castle has been demolished but the designed landscape provides a setting for B and C listed architectural features and has high Architectural value.</p> <p>LB14025: The West Entrance gate piers and gates, listed category C, were built in the early 19th century. The West Lodge was built in the 19th century and has suffered from the major road improvements of the A835 from Maryburgh to Moy Bridge.</p> <p>LB14026: Brahan Mains Square, listed category B, was built between 1787-88 by David Aitkin.</p> <p>LB14027: The Seaforth Monument, listed category B, was built in 1823 and is dedicated to the Hon. Caroline Mackenzie.</p> <p>The North Lodge was built in the 19th century. The Gamekeeper's Lodge and Kennels were built in the 19th century and are still in use.</p> <p>Scenic value (outstanding):</p> <p>The woodland canopy and the open parkland are highly significant in the surrounding upland scenery. The surrounding landscape in the valley is mainly farmed except at the east end where the town of Maryburgh is beginning to encroach into the park. Upland scenery rises on all sides, except to the east above the Conon valley. The open landscape allows undisturbed views east to the Black Isle, south across to the Aird, and west along the Conon River to Strathconon. The parkland, bordered by the mature canopy of the shelterbelt, is highly significant in the landscape of the Conon valley.</p> <p>Artistic Interest (some):</p> <p>The policies of Brahan have some value as a Work of Art in their present form; the focal point of the formal design was removed when the castle was demolished.</p> <p>Horticultural value (some):</p> <p>There are over 610 ha of woodland on the Brahan estate. Brahan Hill has been planted up since the late 17<sup>th</sup> century / early 18<sup>th</sup> century as shown on General Roy's plan and there are still old oak stumps in it. It is now planted with conifers, mainly Norway and Sitka spruce and Douglas fir of between 60-70 years old. Some of the smaller woods have been replanted with oak, ash, poplar and Nothofagus (Southern beech) as part of a joint experiment with the Forestry Commission. The shelterbelts to the south and along the river are mainly hardwoods, particularly beech and oak, but there are also some magnificent old Scots pine, all planted c.1800.</p> <p>Known as the Dell, the garden lies to the south of the Mains and extends along the course of the Brahan Burn. In the 19th century the water in the stream was increased by a supply taken from Loch Ussie which lies to the north of Brahan Wood. A knoll lying on the east bank of the burn is surrounded by a double circle of fine beech and enclosed by a thicket of Rhododendron ponticum. On it stands the burial ground of the last Lord Seaforth and nearby are the graves of the family dogs.</p> <p>The extensive formal gardens around the Castle have disappeared and only the flat lawns remain.</p> <p>The collection of trees from the late 18th century and the early 20th century plantings give some value to the site.</p> <p>Many of the shrubs which were established in the Dell in the 19th century have gone.</p> <p>Nature Conservation (some):</p> <p>The 'ancient' woodland on Brahan Hill and the other old shelterbelt plantings provide habitats for a wide range of woodland flora, giving the policies some Nature Conservation value</p>
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<p><b>Setting Contribution</b></p>	<p>The setting of the GDL is defined by its location above the River Conan valley and its surrounding farmland.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL are from south of the River Conan, taking in the river valley, the designed landscape and the wooded uplands which backdrop the policy. From south of the river the designed landscape can be appreciated, when contrasted with the surrounding farmland and the wild, wooded uplands to the north. Other views of note towards the GDL are from along the A835 from Maryburgh, where the estate farmland, parklands and woodlands can be visited, although the main internal design features are screened in these views. This route takes road users past North Lodge, west lodge and the Seaforth Monument.</p> <p>Key views from within the GDL are largely aligned east to west along the formal avenues and paths, taking in the length of the formal tree lined avenue around Brahan Castle and views along the estate road to the west lodge. Key outward views are from the demolished castle south over parkland towards and along the river valley.</p> <p>The rural landscape surrounding the GDL is largely unaltered since its inception, with the exception of some realignment of field systems, an expansion to the nearby settlements of Maryburgh and Conon Bridge, associated improvements to the local road network and the introduction of overhead electrical and phone lines. As such, the setting of the GDL, above the River Conan valley, continues to make a positive and notable contribution to cultural significance alongside the key historic, architectural, scenic, artistic, horticultural and conservation values outlined above.</p>
<p><b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b></p>	<p>The GDL is a high cultural significance asset, sensitive to change adjacent to and within the River Conan valley as well as the introduction of infrastructure across into the upland landscape north of the GDL and into farmland south of the GDL.</p> <p>Views towards the GDL from south of the river already contain electrical infrastructure in the form of overhead lines which cross the River Conan and enter the south-east section of the GDL. Views from the castle and terraces also take in the turbines of the Novar Wind Farms to the south-west.</p> <p>Outward views from within the GDL are largely screened except from around the former castle, the southern parkland abutting the River Conan and in snatched views between trees on the approach to the western lodge. From here there are clear views south and south-west which take in views over the surrounding farmland south of the river and GDL00174 Fairburn. These views take in existing electrical infrastructure in the form of OHL towers which run through Fairburn GDL and turbines in the uplands to the rear of Fairburn GDL.</p> <p>The Proposed Development would introduce new infrastructure into the River Conan valley to the west and south-west of the GDL. Infrastructure would be introduced 5.6 km to the south-west of the historic core of the GDL, with OHL towers located to the south-west of Fairburn GDL, and north of the nearby wind farm. To the west OHL towers would be introduced along the river valley, some 5.5 km from the historic core of the GDL.</p> <p>Key views towards the GDL from south of river would largely be unaffected, with the OHL towers visible in the periphery of these views to the west, with the GDL, the surrounding farmland and uplands to the rear unobscured.</p> <p>Long distance views from within the GDL to the south-west, would be eroded, with the Proposed Development adding to the existing OHL towers and turbines in distance views towards Fairburn GDL. It is worth noting however, that key local views over the river valley and the nearby farmland would be unobscured. Distance views west along the river valley from the west lodge and the southern parklands would also be eroded, although again, it is worth noting that local views along the river and over surrounding farmland would be unaffected.</p>

<p><b>Summary of Impact</b></p>	<p>The key aspects of setting relating to the GDL, namely the internal views along the main paths and avenues around the demolished Brahan Castle and extant Brahan Mains and between its key architectural elements would be unaffected. Key internal views from the wider GDL are along the western approach to West Lodge and south over the parklands close to the River Conan valley. These views would be unaffected by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Key local views towards the GDL from outwith the GDL, are from along the main approach to the Brahans estate travelling west along the A835 from Maryburgh, travelling east along the A835 from Wester Moy and from farmland south of the River Conan. These views would be unaffected by the Proposed Development.</p> <p>A Negligible impact to the setting and scenic value of the GDL is predicted. Any impact would be as a result of long distance, wider landscape views to the south-west from within the GDL. These views are only really captured from a small section of the GDL around the parkland south of the former Brahan Castle. The remaining historic, architectural, artistic, horticultural and conservation values that contribute to the cultural significance of the GDL would be unaffected. A Negligible impact to setting and scenic value would result in a Negligible effect to cultural significance.</p>
<p><b>Statement of Effect</b></p>	<p>The identified Negligible effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p> <p>The integrity of the asset and its setting would be adequately retained despite the introduction of the Proposed Development.</p>

## Significant Non-Designated Assets

### Minor Projected Impact

An Dun Fort		
MHG60939 An Dun Fort		1 x Significant non-designated asset
Designations summary		
Figure: N/A	Plates: 3DVP-204 – 1050, 1051, 1052, 1053, 1054, 1055, 1056, and 1057	<b>Distance from Proposed Development:</b> 146 m N
<b>Cultural Significance:</b> Medium	<b>Magnitude of Impact:</b> Low	<b>Projected Effect: Minor</b>
<b>Summary of Asset</b>	An Dun fort comprises a Roman type fort, situated on a ridge-like summit about 182 m high which rises from the right bank of the Orrin about half a mile northwest of Cornhill. The fort, although upstanding has been damaged by a modern fence and forestry plantation.	
<b>Summary of Heritage Significance</b>	<p>A significant non-designated value can be assigned to this asset due to its upstanding nature and visibility within the landscape. The asset contributes to the prehistoric landscape of the area.</p> <p>The fort, although ruinous, has retained its basal shape and many stones are in their original position. Key views across the landscape include the area in which the Proposed Development is situated, controlling the routeway and the confluence between the Rivers Orrin and Allt Golbrhre.</p> <p>The cultural significance of this asset primarily derives from its archaeological value. There is potential to further understanding of promontory-located fort sites within the region.</p> <p>To a lesser extent, the setting of the asset also contributes to its cultural significance, and this is discussed further below.</p>	
<b>Setting Contribution</b>	<p>The setting of the fort can be defined by its location above the River Orrin on a defensible area of high ground. This location would have been strategically chosen to facilitate the assets function as a fort. As such, key views from the asset are panoramic with emphasis on views north and northeast over the River Orrin and towards the lowlands, controlling the routeway and the confluence between the Rivers Orrin and Allt Golbrhre.</p> <p>The wider area in which the fort is located is predominantly rural moorland with existing modern context in its immediate surrounding. Key views to the lowlands in the north and east comprise existing modern transmission infrastructure to the northeast, and later land use changes such as Fairburn GDL, OHLs, post-medieval field systems, roads and settlements such as Arcan and Muir of Ord.</p> <p>Overall, whilst the main cultural heritage significance of the fort is its archaeological value, the setting can be considered to contribute to the understanding of the asset. This is because it has remained in situ, maintaining its key views with the river valley and surrounding landscape.</p>	
<b>Anticipated Change to Setting</b>	The Proposed Development would result in the introduction of additional transmission infrastructure to the immediate south and west of the asset, enclosing the asset at mid-range with the existing OHL located to the northeast.	

<b>Summary of Impact</b>	<p>Due to its proximity to the Proposed Development, the setting of the asset will undergo changes to setting as a result of the introduction of the additional transmission infrastructure.</p> <p>As a non-designated asset, the cultural significance of the fort is derived primarily from its archaeological significance however, the fort forms part of a larger connected landscape, in which setting contributes a secondary value. Although the fort is present within the landscape and retains key views to the routeways and watercourses, these have been already eroded by modern activity.</p> <p>There are substantive modern elements of infrastructure within the wider viewscape of the asset that have already altered its setting such as post-medieval field systems, forestry plantations, existing OHLs, a GDL and settlements such as Arcan and Muir of Ord. Although there is an existing OHL located to the north of the fort (crossing through Fairburn GDL), this is located at a lower AOD and as such, does not prominently feature in key views north over the lowlands.</p> <p>The Proposed Development will be prominent in views south and west from the fort over the surrounding uplands however, key views between the fort, the River Orrin valley and north over lowlands will be preserved, through modern plantation.</p> <p>For the aforementioned reasons, the Proposed Development would result in a Low magnitude of impact upon the asset, resulting in a Minor effect overall.</p>
<b>Statement of Effect</b>	<p>The identified Minor effect upon the assets would be considered <b>Not Significant</b>, within the context of the EIA regulations.</p>