Patrimoine Mondiale et énergie renouvelable au Royaume Uni

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Introduction

- Covering principally wind turbines
- Need to remember that other schemes are occurring:
 - Solar
 - Hydro
 - Biomass
- Dealing principally with England
- Other parts of UK Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland have own similar spatial planning systems

Westmill community project, Watchfield



How many turbines in the UK?

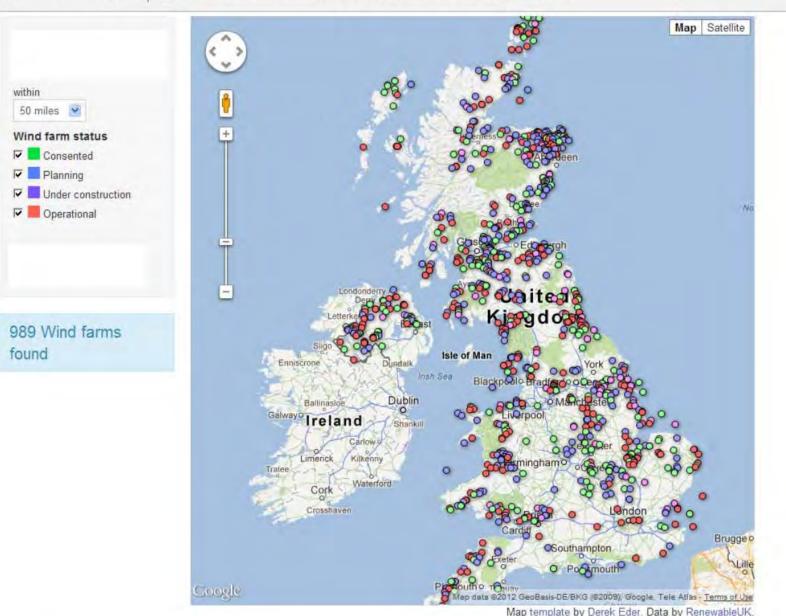
• As of mid-January 2017, 7,198 turbines

- Total installed capacity of just under 14.5 gigawatts
 - 9,359 megawatts on shore
 5,098 megawatts off shore

• Operate at about 30% efficiency over each year







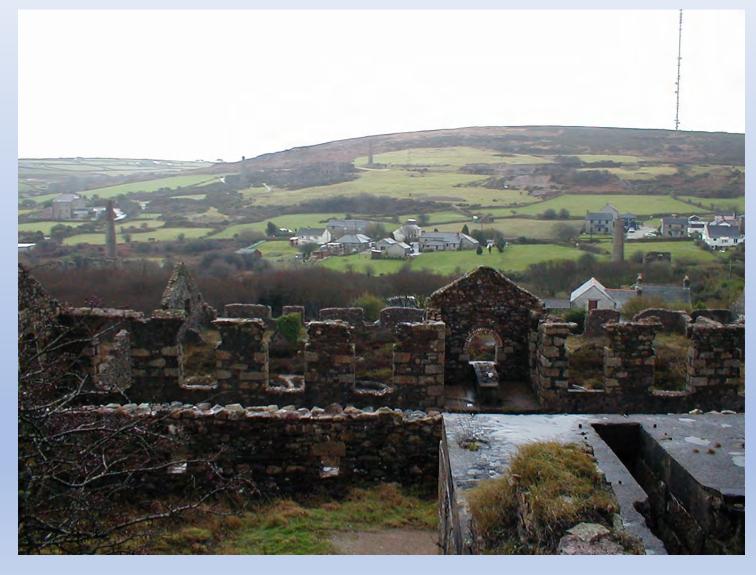
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Frontiers of the Roman Empire



Cornwall & West Devon Mining Landscape





Potential adverse impacts on heritage of wind turbines and wind farms

- Direct damage, particularly to archaeological sites, of turbines
- Adverse visual impact of turbines on heritage sites and important landscapes
- Impacts, direct and visual, of ancillary structures related to wind farms e.g.
 - Power cables through sensitive landscapes or heritage areas
 - Potential adverse impacts of poorly sited transformer stations etc
- These can occur with both onshore and offshore wind farms but biggest threat comes from onshore wind farms

Government policies on energy and spatial planning

- Governments for many years encouraged renewable energy through spatial planning system and through subsidies
- Onshore wind farms tend to be very unpopular, particularly with rural communities
- Government recognised this in June 2015
- Subsidy regime for onshore wind farms removed
- Consent for onshore wind farms can only be granted with agreement of local communities
- Consequence likely to be that most new wind farms are offshore

Spatial Planning strategic aim

Spatial planning policy to achieve sustainable development. Defined as having three legs:

- Economic contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy
- Social supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities
- Environmental contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment

Decisions, taken mostly locally, have to balance these needs

Decisions on infrastructure taken centrally

Key Policy Documents

- National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)
- Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)
- Not legislation, but advice from government
- Has standing in planning system but can be overruled in individual cases

NPPF priorities for natural heritage

The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

 protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;

• recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;

• minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible;

• preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and

• remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

NPPF priorities for cultural heritage

Positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats.

Heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance.

In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

• the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;

• the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;

• the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and

• opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

Managing to protect significance

- Planning applications affecting heritage assets must take into account their significance (for World Heritage properties = Outstanding Universal Value)
- The more important the significance, the more important it is to protect it.
- Substantial harm to assets of the highest significance, including World Heritage properties, should be wholly exceptional

Would normally not expect damaging development within a World Heritage property, National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Scheduled Ancient Monument, Grade I Historic Park or Garden, Grade I and II* Listed Building

Definition of Setting

The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral. (Historic England 2015)

Setting



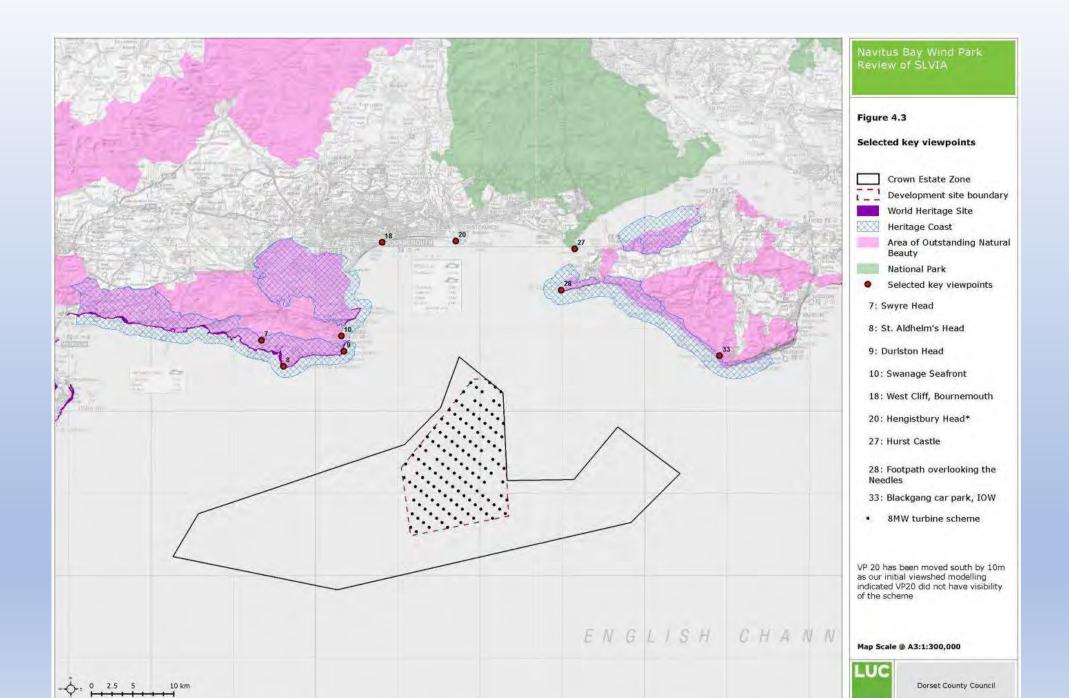


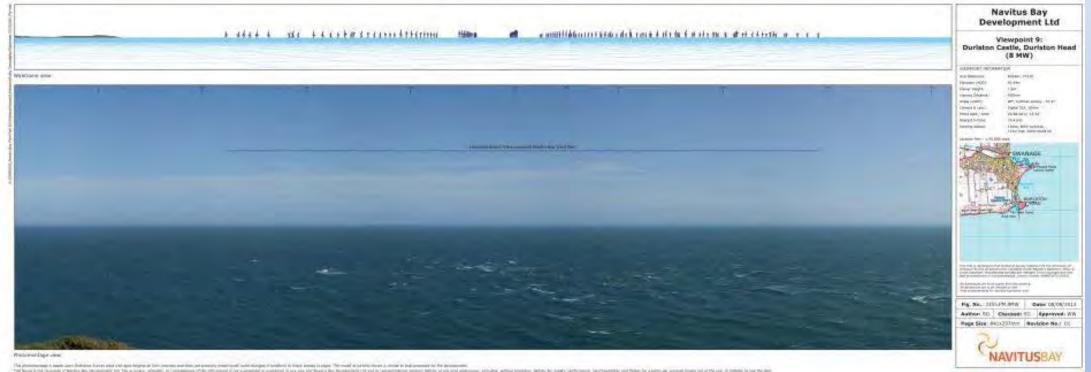
Planning Practice Guidance on wind farms and heritage

As the significance of a heritage asset derives not only from its physical presence, but also from its setting, careful consideration should be given to the impact of wind turbines on such assets. Depending on their scale, design and prominence a wind turbine within the setting of a heritage asset may cause substantial harm to the significance of the asset.

Where are we now?

- So far no major disasters.
- Pressure for onshore wind has dropped
- Most likely problems will come from offshore wind farms
- Local plans contain policies to protect most vulnerable World Heritage properties





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IUCN advice on the impact of Navitus Bay

The Project is likely to have some adverse impacts on the underlying geomorphological processes in the setting of the property that are essential for the long-term maintenance of its OUV, Furthermore, the Project will have a significant impact on the natural setting of the property, in that it would adversely impact on important views from the property,This is likely to significantly impact on visitors' experience and appreciation of the property in its wider natural setting

