

# MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

## Planning Statement Update – updates required following Planning Policy Wales 12

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Image of an offshore wind farm

**MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT**

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**Prepared for:**

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## MONA OFFSHORE WIND PROJECT

### Glossary

Term	Meaning
Applicant	Mona Offshore Wind Limited.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	An order made under the Planning Act 2008 granting development consent for one or more Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP).
Mona Offshore Wind Project	The Mona Offshore Wind Project is comprised of both the generation assets, offshore and onshore transmission assets, and associated activities.
The Planning Inspectorate	The agency responsible for operating the planning process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

### Acronyms

Acronym	Description
DCO	Development Consent Order
PPW	Planning Policy Wales

# 1 PLANNING POLICY UPDATE – UPDATES REQUIRED FOLLOWING PLANNING POLICY 12

## 1.1.1 Introduction

1.1.1.1 Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 11 (PPW11) was superseded by PPW Edition 12 (PPW12) on 7 February 2024. An earlier change was made to chapter 6 of PPW11 relating to environmental and biodiversity measures and these changes came into effect in October 2023. The Mona Offshore Wind Project Development Consent Order (DCO) application has considered the updates to chapter 6, however it does not take account the other changes to PWW12 given the limited timeframe between PWW12 being published and DCO application being submitted.

1.1.1.2 The Application Letter (APP-001) and the Planning Statement (APP-186) proposed that an update would be provided in relation to PPW12 post submission of the application.

1.1.1.3 This note is submitted as an update to the Planning Statement (APP-186) in order to address any changes within PPW12 relevant to the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

## 1.1.2 PPW12 Publication

1.1.2.1 As set out in the letter from the Welsh Government’s Minister for Climate Change to Local Authority Heads of Planning on 11 October 2023, an updated Chapter 6 of PPW11 was published with immediate effect.

1.1.2.2 There was no formal press release or Minister’s letter issued when PPW12 was published on 7 February 2024, but it is understood that PPW12 sought to formally incorporate the changes to Chapter 6 published in October 2023 and other (predominantly minor) policy amendments exclusive of Chapter 6.

1.1.2.3 PPW12 still strongly supports the development of renewable capacity: it retains text from PPW11 which states that the planning system plays a key role in tackling the risks of climate change (paragraph 3.33) and the decarbonisation of the energy system (paragraph 3.30). PPW12 also retains the emphasis from PPW11 on renewable and low carbon energy generation to increase energy security (paragraph 5.7.7) and that wind energy plays an important part in Wales’s future renewable energy production (paragraph 5.9.16). New text has been added to paragraph 3.32 to refer to the Welsh Government’s Net Zero Wales Carbon Budget 2 Plan and the role of PPW12 in achieving future carbon budgets and the targets for 2030 and 2050.

1.1.2.4 The only other substantial updates to policy wording within PPW12 are in paragraph 4.1.1 which relate to transport. It is not considered that any of the new wording in this paragraph is of direct relevance to the Mona Offshore Wind Project.

## 1.1.3 Amendments to PPW paragraphs referred to within the Planning Statement (Document Reference APP-186)

1.1.3.1 The Planning Statement (APP-186) has been reviewed and a comparison undertaken between paragraph references included from PPW11 against paragraph references in PPW12.

1.1.3.2 As stated above, substantial changes to policy wording between PPW11 and PPW12 are broadly limited to Chapter 6. As these changes were published in October 2023,

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the Planning Statement (APP-186) and other documents in the Mona Offshore Wind Project DCO application have taken account of them and is in accordance with them.

- 1.1.3.3 There are a number of changes to paragraph numbers referred to in the Planning Statement (APP-186) which are now different in PPW12. These are detailed in Table 1.1 below.

**Table 1.1: Summary of paragraph number updates between PPW11 and PPW12**

<b>PPW11 Paragraph Number (as referred to in the Planning Statement)</b>	<b>PPW12 Paragraph Number(s)</b>	<b>Does the change in the PPW12 Paragraph Number affect the Planning Statement</b>
Paragraph 6.2.5	'Deleted' – Text now included within Paragraph 6.2.11 and 6.2.13	No
Paragraph 6.3.20	Paragraph 6.3.19	No
Paragraph 6.4.16	Paragraph 6.4.23	No
Paragraph 6.4.17	Paragraph 6.4.23	No
Paragraph 6.4.18	Paragraph 6.4.29	No
Paragraph 6.4.22	Paragraph 6.4.35	No
Paragraph 6.4.21	'Deleted' – Text now included within Paragraph 6.4.15	No