

## FOI response – due diligence

Each application to ScotWind was/is subject to scrutiny of the Lead Applicant and their Project Partners. Project Partners were each defined as providing either a Wind Farm Delivery Responsibility, Funding and/or Capability and Experience role in the application. Please see ScotWind Leasing Offer Document Section 2 'Definitions' for an explanation of each role.

The Lead Applicant was required to provide a table which identified all of the organisations involved in the application and their roles within it. This table required the full name, registered office and company number of each Project Partner. Please see ScotWind Leasing Guidance Notes page 12, Question A9.

### **Statements of Commitment**

Each Project Partner was required to provide a Statement of Commitment at Board-level or equivalent which confirm that 'neither the company/organisation nor any office holder or person with powers of representation, decision or control within the company/organisation have at any time been convicted of any offence of the kind we specify' (ScotWind Leasing Guidance Notes page 47).

The Commitments were required from all Project Partners regarding their general commitment to the application, and depending on the role of the Project Partner, further commitments were required regarding Funding and/or Capability and Experience

A template commitment letter is provided in the ScotWind Leasing Guidance Notes Section 12 'Form of Commitments to be given in Part G' and 'Template Letter Appendix 1 – Reputational confirmation' on page 51 lists the types of unlawful conduct that would present reputational risk to Crown Estate Scotland.

Failure to provide a compliant Statement of Commitment by any Project Partner resulted in the application being unsuccessful.

### **Developer Financial Resources**

Each Project Partner defined as a Funding Organisation was required to demonstrate either adequate financial strength or an ability to secure funding.

Financial strength could be demonstrated by one of:

- Operating profit from continuing operations
- Dun & Bradstreet rating methodology
- Cash reserves and/or undrawn down but committed financing facilities

Ability to secure finding could be demonstrated by providing evidence of up to five relevant similar projects for which the Funding Organisation had secured funding in the last ten years.

The ScotWind Leasing Guidance Notes, Section 10 provide detailed explanation of the requirements of Funding Organisations and where any Funding Organisation failed to adequately demonstrate financial resources, the application was unsuccessful.

### **Capability & Experience**

Each application was required to demonstrate prior experience and current and planned future capability of the Lead Applicant/Project Partners in up to five categories:

- Health & Safety
- Environment
- Project Delivery
- Technical Expertise
- Quality Assurance & Quality Control

The ScotWind Leasing Guidance Notes Section 8 provide detailed explanation of the information required from applicants to demonstrate that they met satisfactory levels of experience and capability. Where satisfactory levels of capability and experience were not achieved, the application was unsuccessful.

We have provided the ScotWind Leasing Offer Document and Guidance Notes, as issued to potential applicants to ScotWind in April 2021 and trust that this information demonstrates the diligence applied to evaluations of ScotWind applications.