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Silvermines Hydro

www.silvermineshydro.ie

Welcome to the third edition of the Silvermines Hydro Project newsletter.

What You Told Us

- ◆ Water, Drainage and the Environment
- ◆ Wildlife, Habitats and Biodiversity
- ◆ Landscape, Views and Recreation
- ◆ Construction Activity, Traffic and Access
- ◆ Noise, Vibration and Ground Conditions

Newsletter Issue 3: June 2026



What You Told Us

Thank you to everyone who engaged with the Silvermines Hydro Project. We appreciate the time taken to meet the project team, ask questions and share your views.

This newsletter summarises the feedback received during the pre-application consultation process. These topics reflect the priorities identified by the community and have been formally acknowledged as key areas of community interest. The feedback will be considered as we move from the concept design stage to the detailed design stage.

Your feedback focused on three main areas:

1 Impact on Public Amenities, Tourism and the Wider Community

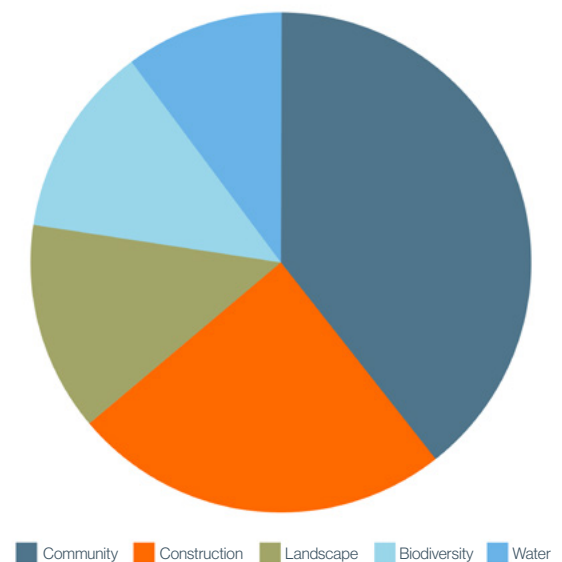
As a community you spoke positively about the opportunities the project could bring to the area, including tourism, education, recreation and celebrating the mining heritage. At the same time, protecting the character of the village and surrounding landscape was highlighted as a priority.



Key topics included:

- ◆ Respecting the character of the village and surrounding countryside
- ◆ Minimising impacts on residents and local businesses
- ◆ Maintaining local amenities and recreational opportunities
- ◆ Ensuring ongoing community engagement as the project develops
- ◆ Developing a community benefit fund to support local heritage, education, tourism and recreation initiatives

Topics of Concern



2 Environmental Protection and Landscape

Protecting the local environment was one of the most important issues you raised during our discussions. Concerns focused on potential impacts on water sources, biodiversity, wildlife and protected habitats.

Water, Drainage and the Environment

The importance of protecting local streams, rivers, springs and water supplies throughout the development of the project was strongly emphasised.

Key topics included:

- ◆ Flood protection for surrounding lands
- ◆ Management of existing watercourses
- ◆ Water quality and environmental monitoring
- ◆ Consideration of historic mining areas and materials

Wildlife, Habitats and Biodiversity

You highlighted the importance of protecting local habitats, biodiversity and wildlife.

Key topics included:

- ◆ Minimising impacts on sensitive environmental areas during construction and operation
- ◆ Appropriate restoration and compensation measures for areas affected by the upper reservoir development

Landscape, Views and Recreation

The landscape surrounding Silvermines was a frequently discussed topic.

Key topics included:

- ◆ Protecting scenic views and local amenities
- ◆ The visual impact of the project
- ◆ Landscaping, planting and screening proposals

3 Construction Impacts

You raised practical concerns about how construction activity on the project site and connecting to the grid could affect day-to-day quality of life. Feedback focused on increased traffic, road safety, noise, blasting and working hours.



Construction Activity, Traffic and Access

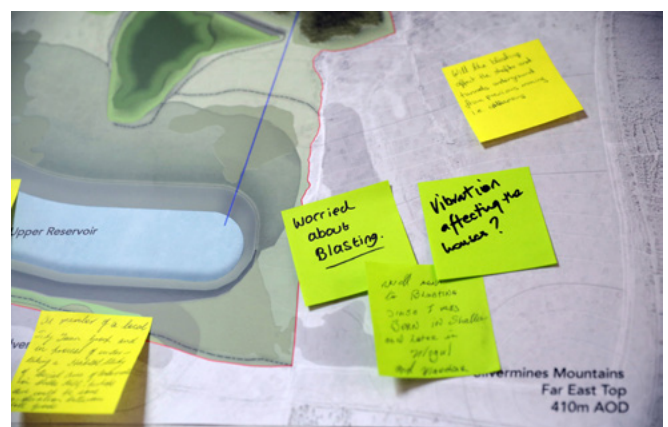
Key topics included:

- ◆ Increased traffic, vehicle movements and access
- ◆ Road safety within the village
- ◆ Construction working hours
- ◆ The condition and management of local roads
- ◆ Traffic management for grid connection works

Noise, Vibration and Ground Conditions

Key topics included:

- ◆ Construction noise and activity levels
- ◆ Blasting and vibration management
- ◆ Protection of nearby homes and properties
- ◆ Ground stability and engineering safety



Your Comments Are Helping to Shape the Final Design

Your contribution to the pre-application consultation process has been invaluable and is actively influencing the project's development.

Our team of engineers, planners, and environmental specialists have been fully briefed on the issues raised and are now progressing detailed design proposals to address them. We are aiming to complete this work by the end of the year, when we will hold a final public exhibition to present this detailed design before the planning application is submitted. You will have another opportunity to comment on the proposals at this 'final design' stage.

Alongside this ongoing work, ecological studies are being carried out on water, biodiversity, drainage and environmental management. The results will help shape the project's design and identify measures to avoid or minimise impacts wherever possible. Where impacts cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation and compensation measures will be implemented.

Construction planning and traffic management are key parts of the ongoing design process. Studies are assessing access routes, traffic, noise, vibration and ground conditions to inform a detailed construction management plan aimed at minimising disruption to residents, businesses and the wider community as much as possible.

Consultation on the concept design stage of the project has now closed. We look forward to sharing the final design details with you later in the year.



Energy Diversity & Security



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