The Story

Stage 1 feasibility looked at re-energising the site of a defunct 20kW turbine with a 1MW turbine (now the smallest new turbine available from large manufacturers). The work has considered constraints, such as MOD, fixed links, birds, and airports, and received a favourable initial planning opinion (as the site is considered to be re-energising as opposed to a new site).

Next steps: A 1-year bird survey will be required and other environmental impact assessments (EIA) for the project to go to planning. A continuation of the community consultation. MOU for the land lease and PPA for the private wire to leisure centres with Sefton Council. Technically and economically the project is strong, (great wind speeds and a private wire to the leisure centre and splash world).

Challenges & Risks

Signing the land lease & PPA (Sefton has worked closely with us to date and is keen for the project to succeed - the Leisure centre and splash world are their biggest CO2 emitters and a big cost, so they are motivated to see both reduced). Planning and public opposition – to date community consultation has been favourable and no vocal opposition has been noted.

Lessons Learned

Engage all stakeholders from the start. Try and build up a good core working group and include as many people in updates as possible to keep interest and participation strong.