



Sutherland Spaceport



Highlands and Islands Enterprise  
Iomairt na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean

# ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL AMENITY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will identify, predict and evaluate potential significant effects on landscape resource and on key visual receptors. The proposed development would be located within an area of open sweeping moorland which has framed inland views and a sense of remoteness with limited obvious human influence and presence. Key considerations include potential effects on the following key receptors:

- Eriboll East and Whiten Head Special Landscape Area (SLA)
  - SLAs are non-statutory designations applied by the local planning authority to define areas of high landscape importance within their administrative boundary;
- Kyle of Tongue National Scenic Area (NSA)
  - NSAs are designated on the basis of their outstanding scenic value and national importance. Scotland's planning system safeguards the special qualities of NSAs;
- Ben Hope and Ben Loyal Wild Land Area (WLA)
  - WLAs are the most extensive areas of wildness, as defined by SNH. Although not a statutory designation, WLAs are considered nationally important;
- The distinctive regional landscape character; and
- The visual amenity of key visual receptors, including tourists/road users of the North Coast 500/A838.

The cultural heritage assessment will consider the potential effects of the proposed development on cultural heritage assets (archaeology and built heritage). Key considerations will include potential effects on the following assets:

- Tongue House Gardens and Designed Landscape (GDL)
  - GDLs are landscapes of national importance;
- Listed Buildings including the ruins of Moine House Category C Listed Building which is the closest Listed Building to the site.

## LANDSCAPE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE DESIGNATIONS AND PROPOSED LVIA VIEWPOINT LOCATIONS

