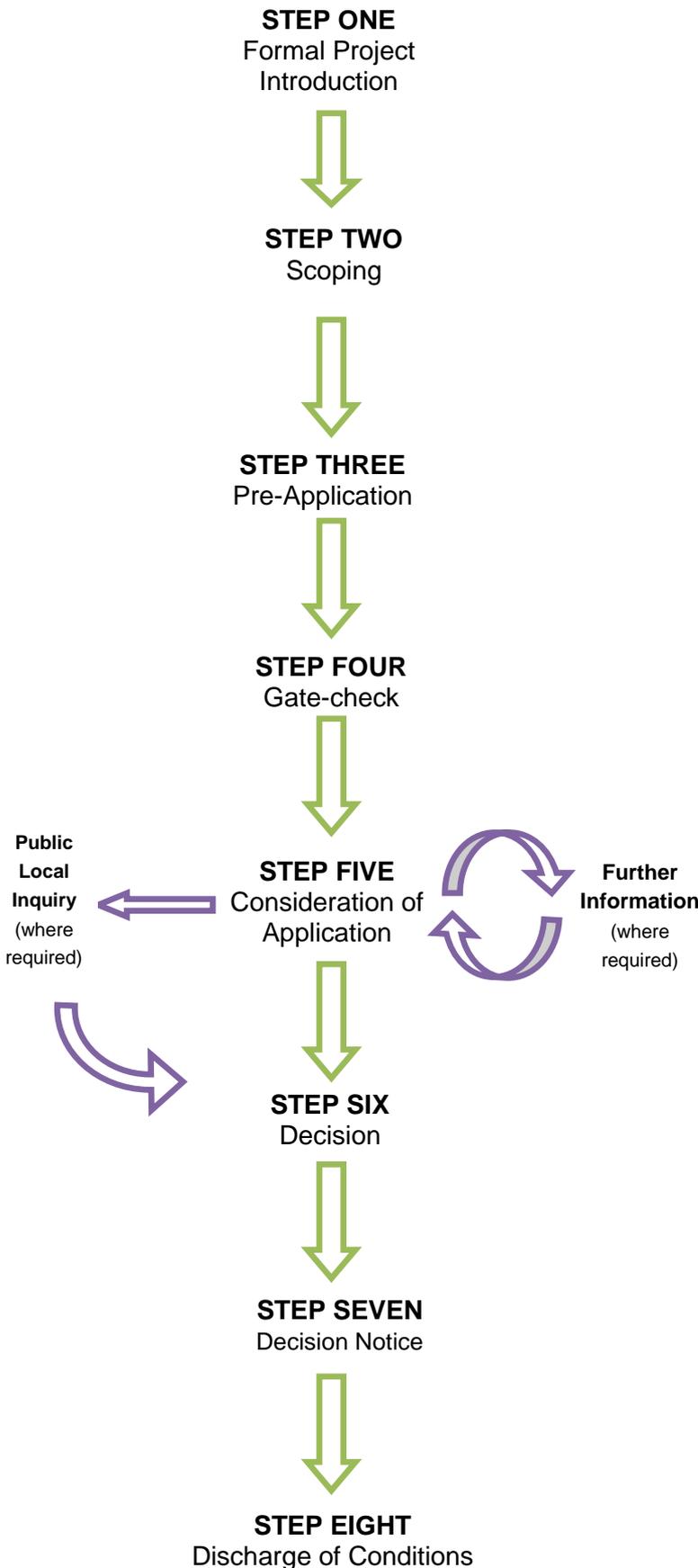


**APPLICATION PROCESS FOR PROJECTS
WHICH ARE EIA APPLICATIONS UNDER S37
OF THE ELECTRICITY ACT**

This process chart does not cover the work undertaken in respect of routing and other steps (including consultation with statutory consultees and early public)



STEP ONE – Formal Project Introduction

At this point timescales would be set down and agreed between the applicant, Scottish Government and statutory consultees

TIMEFRAME: Case Dependent

STEP TWO – Scoping

Where the applicant submits a Scoping Report to the Scottish Government Energy Consents and Deployment Unit (ECDU) the ECDU will consult on this document and the resulting Scoping Opinion scopes in, and out, what should be included in the applicant's upcoming Environmental Statement (ES).

TIMEFRAME: 21 days to issue consultation, 21 day consultation period, 21 days to finalise document and issue.

STEP THREE – Pre-Application

Based on the Scoping Opinion, the applicant may be re-engaging with statutory consultees and relevant stakeholders prior to finalisation of the ES.

TIMEFRAME: Case Dependent

STEP FOUR – Gate-Check

Approximately 6 weeks prior to submission the applicant will provide a brief document to the ECDU summarising their interactions with the consultees and any iterations in design or approach. If a meeting between the developer, ECDU and statutory consultees is deemed useful at this stage, this will be arranged. Such a meeting is not anticipated to be necessary for every application. Administrative issues in relation to consultee lists and proposed submission dates will be finalised.

TIMEFRAME: 1-2 weeks

STEP FIVE – Consideration of Application

Application is accepted and consultation period begins.

TIMEFRAME: 28 day consultation period for consultees and members of the public. Two month consultation period for Planning Authority.

Further Information: Additional or further information may be submitted at the applicant's discretion. If additional or further environmental information is provided, this will trigger a further consultation period. In addition, should consultees report that they consider the information provided by the applicant is incomplete or deficient, the applicant can submit further information. This information is subject to further consultation.

TIMEFRAME: A further 28 day consultation period for all parties

Public Local Inquiry: Should the Planning Authority object to the application, a Public Inquiry may be called to consider the proposal, at the discretion of Ministers.

TIMEFRAME: Variable and dependent on case-specific issues. Between 9-12 months.

STEP SIX – Decision

Decision taken by Scottish Ministers considering all information provided by applicant; consultation responses received; representations from members of the public; all relevant policy, planning and legal obligations and report of the Public Inquiry, if one has been held.

TIMEFRAME: Variable and dependent on complexity of the case. Between 9-12 weeks.

STEP SEVEN – Decision Notice

Once a decision is made the applicant places a notice in the press advising members of the public of the decision.

STEP EIGHT – Discharge of Conditions

Should consent be granted the applicant must adhere to the conditions of any consent and, where applicable, fulfil certain obligations before construction can proceed and during operation.