

LKE 1 Non- technical Summary

The proposal of a pullet rearing unit for Elrig Eggs Ltd., at Low Killantrae is a new feature to the existing business, primarily based on free range eggs. Consequently the infrastructure will be new and the site location, Low Killantrae is approx. 1 mile from the existing farm. Although once an independent farm this presently is a farmstead used solely for private habitation with associated fields. The proposal is to have two new parallel buildings providing a total placement of 64,000 birds in the fullness of time but initially working on capacities of 24,000 birds / house.

Construction of both houses will be consistent with best practice, designed to be well insulated in both walls and roof. This not only helps to retain heat and create a stable environment, especially for young birds, but capable of temperature and humidity adjustment by use of ventilation fans. High insulation also helps avoid condensation which prevents the generation of ammonia.

All normal air inlets are passive side mounted.

Exhausted air is primarily through gable end fans and these generate the negative pressure to allow fresh air entry.

All air movement is computer controlled to maximise bird welfare and fan operation is minimised to generate air quality conditions but minimise draughts.

Heat supplied to the houses to maintain temperature will primarily be provided by two new wood chip fired boilers. The heat input will progressively reduce as the birds develop.

Electricity will be primary supplied from the mains network.

Day old chicks will be introduced onto the multi-tiered system, provided with manure belts that remove manure from the house several times a week. Consequently conditions that 'could' generate ammonia production is minimised through this level of cleansing. Then full the manure trailers will transfer manure to Elrig farm for storage and ultimate disposal.

Towards the end of the development cycle, birds will be on a fully littered floor and this will be cleaned out once the pullets have left. After approx. 16 weeks all birds will be transferred to the main egg producing unit at Elrig Farm.

In the longer term it is hoped to have production cycles increased and allow excess capacity to not only serve the egg production unit but also provide birds for onward transfer to other farms.