

## CAPACITY AND EXCESS PROVISION

1. It may be thought that excess capacity has no adverse impact but the figures for constraint payments to wind farm generators detailed below shows the **adverse effects of excess capacity** between 2013 and 2023.

2. The table shows constraint payments between **2013 and 2023**. These have increased every year except 2016 and 2021 (where unusually poor conditions for wind power generation led to sharp falls in energy generated by renewables). The rate is the amount paid per KWH. It varies on a daily basis and affects the headline figure for cost. I have no idea how that figure is calculated.

YEAR	COST	CAPACITY	RATE
2023	303,408,874	4,265,957	71
2022	227,048,475	3,897,178	58
2021	142,922,632	2,342,145	61
2020	274,161,002	3,696,019	74
2019	139,115,025	1,941,177	72
2018	124,649,106	1,724,187	72
2017	108,247,860	1,542,865	70
2016	81,861,075	1,134,627	72
2015	90,738,134	1,276,264	71
2014	53,261,058	659,350	81
2013	32,707,351	369,817	86

3. The figures for **2023** are the **highest recorded** in terms of money paid (**£300 million**), capacity constrained off (**over 4.2 million MWH**) and the number of schemes involved (**107**). **The cumulative amount paid** is a staggering **£1,595,385,922** and the **total capacity** constrained off is nearly **23million MWH**

4. This waste of money and the extra costs falling on consumers are undesirable but **SG's obsession** with windfarms makes them blind to the obvious. Further windfarms are being encouraged when they will inevitably cause constraint payments to rise.

5. This scenario arises almost entirely from **over-provision of capacity in Scotland** so are **adverse effects of all Scottish schemes**. **SG** (and developers) dispute this but in his **PLI** report on **Pauls Hill II** David Bullya clarified the position (**at 5.49**)

**SWM regards the cost of constraint payments to be a negative socio-economic effect of any windfarm development that ought to be weighed against its benefits. I agree that this is a material consideration.**

6. The cost is currently met by consumers **throughout the UK** but if Scotland becomes independent **the whole cost would fall on Scottish consumers**.