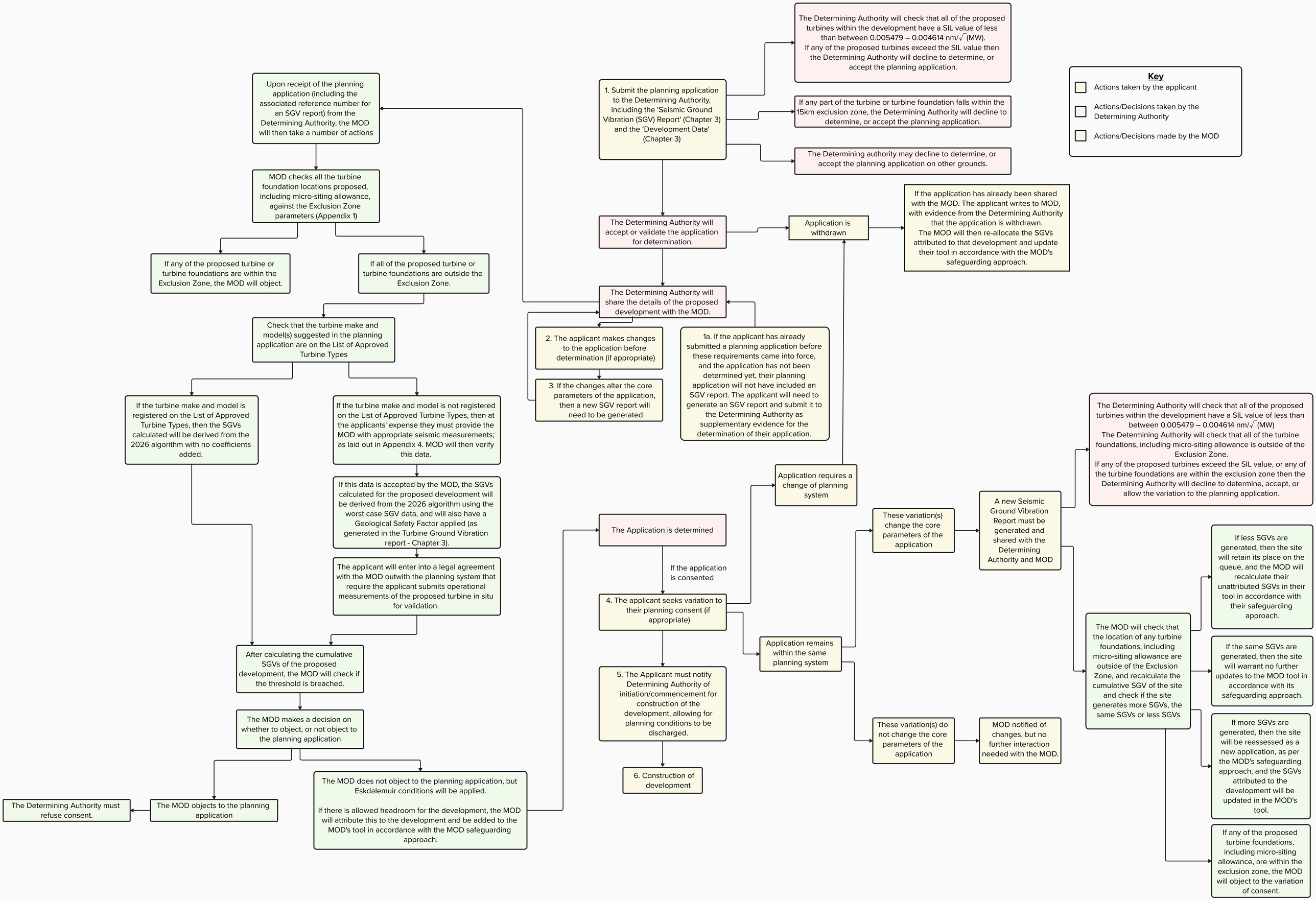
Key
Actions taken by the applicant
Actions/Decisions taken by the Determining Authority
Actions/Decisions made by the MOD
1. Submit the planning application to the Determining Authority, including the 'Seismic Ground Vibration (SGV) Report' (Chapter 3) and the 'Development Data' (Chapter 3)
The Determining Authority will check that all of the proposed turbines within the development have a SIL value of less than between 0.005479 – 0.004614 nm/√ (MW).
If any of the proposed turbines exceed the SIL value then the Determining Authority will decline to determine, or accept the planning application.
If any part of the turbine or turbine foundation falls within the 15km exclusion zone, the Determining Authority will decline to determine, or accept the planning application.
The Determining authority may decline to determine, or accept the planning application on other grounds.
The Determining Authority will accept or validate the application for determination.
Application is withdrawn
If the application has already been shared with the MOD. The applicant writes to MOD, with evidence from the Determining Authority that the application is withdrawn.
The MOD will then re-allocate the SGVs attributed to that development and update their tool in accordance with the MOD's safeguarding approach.
The Determining Authority will share the details of the proposed development with the MOD.
2. The applicant makes changes to the application before determination (if appropriate)
3. If the changes alter the core parameters of the application, then a new SGV report will need to be generated
1a. If the applicant has already submitted a planning application before these requirements came into force, and the application has not been determined yet, their planning application will not have included an SGV report. The applicant will need to generate an SGV report and submit it to the Determining Authority as supplementary evidence for the determination of their application.
Upon receipt of the planning application (including the associated reference number for an SGV report) from the Determining Authority, the MOD will then take a number of actions
MOD checks all the turbine foundation locations proposed, including micro-siting allowance, against the Exclusion Zone parameters (Appendix 1)
If any of the proposed turbine or turbine foundations are within the Exclusion Zone, the MOD will object.
If all of the proposed turbine or turbine foundations are outside the Exclusion Zone.
Check that the turbine make and model(s) suggested in the planning application are on the List of Approved Turbine Types
If the turbine make and model is registered on the List of Approved Turbine Types, then the SGVs calculated will be derived from the 2026 algorithm with no coefficients added.
If the turbine make and model is not registered on the List of Approved Turbine Types, then at the applicants' expense they must provide the MOD with appropriate seismic measurements; as laid out in Appendix 4. MOD will then verify this data.
If this data is accepted by the MOD, the SGVs calculated for the proposed development will be derived from the 2026 algorithm using the worst case SGV data, and will also have a Geological Safety Factor applied (as generated in the Turbine Ground Vibration report - Chapter 3).
The applicant will enter into a legal agreement with the MOD outwith the planning system that require the applicant submits operational measurements of the proposed turbine in situ for validation.
After calculating the cumulative SGVs of the proposed development, the MOD will check if the threshold is breached.
The MOD makes a decision on whether to object, or not object to the planning application
The MOD objects to the planning application
The Determining Authority must refuse consent.
The MOD does not object to the planning application, but Eskdalemuir conditions will be applied.
If there is allowed headroom for the development, the MOD will attribute this to the development and be added to the MOD's tool in accordance with the MOD safeguarding approach.
The Application is determined
If the application is consented
4. The applicant seeks variation to their planning consent (if appropriate)
Application requires a change of planning system
Application remains within the same planning system
5. The Applicant must notify Determining Authority of initiation/commencement for construction of the development, allowing for planning conditions to be discharged.
6. Construction of development
These variation(s) change the core parameters of the application
A new Seismic Ground Vibration Report must be generated and shared with the Determining Authority and MOD
The Determining Authority will check that all of the proposed turbines within the development have a SIL value of less than between 0.005479 – 0.004614 nm/√ (MW)
The Determining Authority will check that all of the turbine foundations, including micro-siting allowance is outside of the Exclusion Zone.
If any of the proposed turbines exceed the SIL value, or any of the turbine foundations are within the exclusion zone then the Determining Authority will decline to determine, accept, or allow the variation to the planning application.
These variation(s) do not change the core parameters of the application
MOD notified of changes, but no further interaction needed with the MOD.
The MOD will check that the location of any turbine foundations, including micro-siting allowance are outside of the Exclusion Zone, and recalculate the cumulative SGV of the site and check if the site generates more SGVs, the same SGVs or less SGVs
If less SGVs are generated, then the site will retain its place on the queue, and the MOD will recalculate their unattributed SGVs in their tool in accordance with their safeguarding approach.
If the same SGVs are generated, then the site will warrant no further updates to the MOD tool in accordance with its safeguarding approach.
If more SGVs are generated, then the site will be reassessed as a new application, as per the MOD's safeguarding approach, and the SGVs attributed to the development will be updated in the MOD's tool.
If any of the proposed turbine foundations, including micro-siting allowance, are within the exclusion zone, the MOD will object to the variation of consent.