



## **Post Adoption SEA Statement**

**The Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005**

**Perth & Kinross Local Development Plan Nov 2019**

<b>Plan</b>	Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan
<b>Responsible Authority</b>	Perth & Kinross Council
<b>Contact</b>	Bea Nichol
<b>Job Title</b>	Planning Officer, Corporate & Democratic Services
<b>Contact Address</b>	Pullar House, 35 Kinnoull Street, Perth PH1 5GD
<b>Date</b>	August 2020

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This Post-Adoption Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Statement has been prepared by Perth & Kinross Council in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. This statement presents a summary of the responses received from the public consultation carried out as part of the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 SEA. It also provides a summary as to how the findings from the SEA and public consultation have been taken into account in preparing the Local Development Plan.

1.2 It explains:

- how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Local Development Plan;
- how the Environmental Report has been taken into account in the preparation of the Local Development Plan;
- how opinions expressed in response to the consultations on the Main Issues Report and the Environmental Report have been taken into account in the preparation of the Local Development Plan;
- the reasons for choosing the Local Development Plan, as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives; and
- the measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of implementation of the Local Development Plan.

1.3 More specifically:

- Section 2 provides an overview of the SEA process.
- Section 3 describes how the consultation process was undertaken during the preparation of both the Local Development Plan and the Environmental Report (in accordance with Section 18(3) (a) and (b) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005). It also sets out the findings from consultation on the Environmental Report and explains how these were taken into account (Section 18(3) (c) and (d) of the 2005 Act).
- Section 4 summarises the reasons for selecting the final, adopted version of the Local Development Plan in the light of other reasonable alternatives (Section 18(3) (e) of the 2005 Act).
- Section 5 clarifies the approach to monitoring the environmental effects of the adopted Local Development Plan (Section 18(3) (f) of the 2005 Act).

## **2. OVERVIEW OF THE SEA PROCESS**

- 2.1 The SEA formed an integral part of the process of preparing the Local Development Plan. The process has ensured the integration of environmental considerations into development of the Local Development Plan through assessment at its key stages. In addition, the framework against which the Local Development Plan was appraised comprised 17 environmental objectives and a number of assessment questions. At least one objective was developed for each SEA topic to ensure all necessary topics were addressed.
- 2.2 Other factors taken into account in developing the environmental objectives included the baseline data and the scope of the appraisal identified for each environmental topic. The appraisal framework against which the Local Development Plan was assessed, therefore, reflected environmental considerations. It also provided a means of appraising the performance of the Local Development Plan in a consistent manner, enabling its potential effects to be identified and mitigated where possible, and enhancements recommended. The appraisal was an iterative process. Its findings have been integral to refining the Local Development Plan's proposals.
- The first stage involved developing the framework for undertaking the appraisal. The framework and evidence base were presented in a Scoping Report for consultation with stakeholders including the statutory consultees (Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and NatureScot). The Scoping Report was prepared on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 and used 17 objectives as the basis for the assessment of the environmental issues appropriate to the Plan.
  - The second stage involved undertaking the assessment itself. This involved identifying and evaluating the impacts of the different options open, including any preferred option(s). Mitigation measures for alleviating adverse impacts were also proposed at this stage and potential indicators for monitoring the Plan's implementation were proposed.
  - The third stage involved documenting the assessment and preparing the Environmental Report. In this case, iterations of the Environmental Report were refined as the Main Issues Report emerged.
  - The fourth stage involved consulting on the Proposed Plan and the Environmental Report.
  - The final stage involves monitoring the adopted Local Development Plan including its environmental impacts.
- 2.3 Integral to the appraisal process was the development of mitigation measures that can be used to avoid, reduce or offset any potential adverse effects of the proposals outlined in the Main Issues Report. Opportunities were also sought to improve and enhance the Local Development Plan to benefit environmental and other sustainability receptors. Each of the topic appraisal sections included a mitigation and enhancement section identifying measures for both that were suggested through the process. As the Main Issues Report was being drafted, there was an iterative assessment process, resulting in changes being made to the proposals outlined in the Main Issues Report and ultimately the Local Development Plan. Several changes were made by the Environmental Report at later stages in the development of the Plan. The drafting of the Main Issues Report and the preparation of the Environmental Report were carried out in parallel. Mitigation and enhancement measures proposed through the Environmental Report were considered on a rolling basis where possible.

### 3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 This section describes the consultation process that was undertaken during the preparation of both the Local Development Plan and the Environmental Report. Four responses were received and section four of this report contains an overview of the types of issues that were raised and how they were taken into account.

#### Public consultation within the SEA process

- 3.2 Public consultation is an important part of the SEA process. The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that the public are given an 'early and effective' opportunity to participate in the process. Public consultation was carried out on the Environmental Report in conjunction with the Main Issues Report from the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 until 16<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (12 weeks). Public meetings were also held at the following locations in early 2016:

DATE	EVENT TIME	AREA	VENUE
Thursday 14 January	3-8pm	Highland Aberfeldy	Aberfeldy Town Hall
Saturday 16 January	11am – 3pm	Kinross	LLCC
Saturday 23 January	11am-3pm	Strathmore Blairgowrie	Blairgowrie Town Hall
Thursday 28 January	3-8pm	Perth	Perth Concert Hall
Saturday 30 January	11am-3pm	Strathearn Crieff	Strathearn Community Campus
Saturday 20 February	11am-3pm	Highland Aberfeldy	The Birks Cinema
Tuesday 23 February	3-8pm	Kinross	LLCC
Tuesday 23 February	7-9pm	PAS Community Council training	Strathearn Community Campus, Crieff
Thursday 25 February	4-8pm	Strathmore Blairgowrie	Blairgowrie Community Campus
Saturday 27 February	11am-3pm	Perth	Perth Concert Hall

Online Surgeries	
Date	Time
Wednesday 3 February 2016	4-6pm
Tuesday 15 March 2016	4-6pm

## **Consultation with the Consultation Authorities**

- 3.3 Policy makers are also required to involve the statutory Consultation Authorities at key stages, and to publish the Environmental Report alongside a draft of the plan, programme or strategy, to allow for public comment on both. Meetings with the Consultation Authorities to discuss and agree on the scope of and approach to the SEA in detail were also held at key stages throughout the process.

## **The consultation responses**

- 3.4 There were only four representation letters on the SEA: three from the Consultation Authorities and one from a member of the public (A Godfrey). The three Consultation Authorities provided detailed responses for several sites and these have been resolved through the Schedule 4 responses provided by the Council and in the Examination Report by DPEA. In general terms:
- SEPA made representations regarding flooding issues which were resolved through additional Developer Requirements added into the site specific sections. In the case of Ballinluig, this resulted in the removal of the site.
  - NatureScot were generally concerned with ancient and semi natural woodlands and again these were dealt through providing additional site specific requirements.
  - Historic Environment Scotland was generally supportive of the SEA.
  - A Godfrey's points were concerned with the housing site to the south of Luncarty MU27 and again these were dealt with in some detail by the Examination. As this site has already received planning consent, Schedule 4 provided detailed information on the conditions attached to this permission that mitigate these environmental issues.

## **4. ALTERNATIVES**

- 4.1 In line with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the SEA Directive, the likely significant effects of reasonable alternatives to the Local Development Plan have been assessed, taking into account the limitations of the strategy already set out and already environmentally assessed by TAYplan. The development of alternatives was concurrent with the development of the Local Development Plan.
- 4.2 At all stages, the Local Development Plan must be consistent with the Strategic Development Plan, in this case TAYplan which was jointly prepared by Angus, Dundee, Fife and Perth & Kinross Councils. In practice, this meant that the LDP2 Main Issues Report would need to twin-track the Strategic Development Plan. However, to ensure there were no difficulties with consistency, the LDP stages followed a stage behind TAYplan.
- 4.3 Early in the SEA process, it was apparent that there was scope for the Local Development Plan to generate a range of environmental effects, depending on its final content. However, it was clear that the scope for alternatives would be limited to those that remained consistent with TAYplan.
- 4.4 Although no significantly adverse environmental impacts were identified, the SEA of the Main Issues Report raised a number of minor site specific environmental issues that could be addressed by adjusting requirements when developing the site in question. Many recommendations were made on mitigation and enhancement. These were incorporated into the Plan as it was drafted and finalised.
- 4.5 In broad terms, the consultation authorities welcomed the approach to addressing the common concerns raised and supported the iteration between the SEA process and the preparation of the Main Issues Report. This enabled an appropriate level of environmental weighting to be brought through when finalising the Plan.

### **At the Main Issues Report (MIR) stage:**

- 4.6 The MIR considered the Main Issues within Perth and Kinross. This included issues such as housing numbers, the settlement boundary policy and the green belt policy. The MIR suggested ways in which these issues could be addressed highlighting both preferred options and alternatives. These have been assessed using a matrix based approach, a summary of which is presented below.
- 4.7 For each of the sites proposed, the Council completed a site assessment to establish its environmental impact. This was used to inform site selection. The preferred and alternative site options were then assessed in a comparative matrix to allow for a cumulative assessment. This has allowed recommendations to be made highlighting the preferred option, looking specifically at environmental impact, for each settlement.
- 4.8 For the Proposed Plan, all the policies put forward were assessed, again using a matrix based approach, and an updated appendix was produced showing the assessment of all the proposed sites within the Perth and Kinross area.

- 4.9 At Examination, consultation responses that provided evidence of environmental impacts that had not been identified during earlier assessments were acknowledged by providing a response in the Schedule 4 reports and where appropriate, the Council proposed mitigations or an alternative approach for the DPEA to assess. The SEA therefore continued to inform the plan with the DPEA recommending modifications to take account of concerns that had been raised through the SEA process.



## 5. MONITORING

- 5.1 This section sets out the measures to be taken to monitor the significant environmental and other effects of the implementation of the Local Development Plan and to enable appropriate action to be taken on adverse effects. The monitoring process will focus on the significant environmental effects (both positive and negative) that are predicted through the Environmental Report. Effects that will be monitored include those:
- that are likely to breach international or national legislation, guidelines or standards;
  - that could potentially result in irreversible damage, with the aim being to identify such trends before the long-term damage is caused; and
  - where there is uncertainty linked to the prediction and, therefore, monitoring is needed to determine whether the prediction was correct and if further mitigation may be needed in the future.
- 5.2 The monitoring process will draw as far as possible upon existing monitoring programmes. It will be carried out concurrently with monitoring in respect of the LDP Delivery Programme.
- 5.3 A review of the monitoring of the implementation of the Local Development Plan will be undertaken to coincide with reviews of the Plan. This will enable a sufficient body of data to be developed that can be used to monitor trends and performance over a number of years.
- 5.4 If monitoring highlights any unforeseen adverse effects, or adverse effects that are more significant than predicted, the Council will take remedial action in consultation with stakeholders and the consultation authorities. Remedial actions could be taken through monitoring reports and may involve:
- identifying the effect in question and whether or not the effect is likely to result in lasting significant harm;
  - the relevant decision maker taking relevant action under the appropriate regulatory regime or;
  - discussing with those responsible means of arresting the adverse effects or;
  - if the activity cannot be stopped or effects reversed, further measures to mitigate and potentially compensate for the damage could be considered. For example, a revision to a masterplan to include additional mitigation measures for incorporation into a later phase of development;
  - reviewing the need for a policy revision, a change to the Plan or new or improved monitoring indicators/measures; and
  - updating the evidence base and commissioning further research if necessary.
- 5.5 The Monitoring Framework below is based around the Environmental Report's Objectives and includes the following elements:
- the potentially significant effect that may need to be monitored;
  - a potential monitoring measure/indicator; and
  - the potential data source and frequency of monitoring, where known.

- 5.6 Where appropriate monitoring will make use of information that will be reported as part of the monitoring of the Local Development Plan. However, there remain some effects for which suitable monitoring indicators have yet to be identified leaving some gaps which will need to be filled when suitable indicators become available. Also, some of the monitoring is likely to yield useful data over a longer term of perhaps 20-30 years, meaning that indicators will need to be monitored over the course of several LDPs.
- 5.7 The monitoring framework that follows in Table 1 is reproduced from the LDP2 Environmental Report Addendum (December 2017). This contains a detailed explanation of each indicator including its current position; its relevance to the LDP; how it relates to the SEA objectives and the principles of Sustainable Development; and how it links to both local and national outcomes. There is also an explanation of where and how the data is sourced and how often it is updated. It is expected that as monitoring progresses, new and improved monitoring indicators and measures will be developed in discussion with the Consultation Authorities, and the LDP monitoring report will outline any changes in this respect.

**Table 1: Monitoring Framework**

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Conserve and enhance the diversity of species and habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- % area of land designated for the protection of habitats and species in favourable condition</li> <li>- % of Biological or Mixed SSSI features in favourable condition</li> <li>- Abundance of terrestrial breeding birds</li> <li>-Woodland Cover and Diversity</li> <li>- % of priority BAP habitat coverage in P&amp;K</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NatureScot</li> <li>NatureScot</li> <li>BTO/JNCC/RSPB</li> <li>Forestry and Land Scotland</li> <li>NatureScot</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NatureScot /PKC</li> <li>NatureScot /PKC</li> <li>BTO/JNCC/RSPB/PKC</li> <li>Forestry and Land Scotland/PKC</li> <li>NatureScot /PKC</li> </ul>
Population	Accommodate population and household growth and direct that growth to appropriate locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No. of years effective housing supply in each Housing Market Area</li> <li>- Level of affordable housing provision across HMAs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PKC – Planning &amp; Development</li> <li>PKC - Housing &amp; Environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PKC</li> <li>PKC</li> </ul>

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
Human Health	Improve the quality of life for communities in Perth and Kinross	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- % resident population that travel to work/school by a) private motor vehicle, by public transport, or c) on foot or cycle</li> <li>- % of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services</li> <li>- % of households within 200m of an open space</li> <li>- Area of greenspace</li> <li>- % of residents surveyed who are satisfied with their neighbourhoods</li> <li>- % of data zones ranked in the most deprived areas</li> <li>- % of households within 500m of a signposted draft Core Path Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PKC – Facilities Management</li> <li>Scottish Household Survey</li> <li>PKC</li> <li>PKC</li> <li>Scottish Household Survey</li> <li>SIMD; GROS</li> <li>PKC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PKC</li> <li>Scottish Government/PKC</li> <li>PKC</li> <li>PKC</li> <li>Scottish Government/PKC</li> <li>GROS/PKC</li> <li>PKC</li> </ul>

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
	Maximise the health and wellbeing of the population through improved environmental quality	-Life expectancy at birth rate (male and female)  -Mortality rate from coronary heart disease under the age of 75 (per 100,000 population)	GROS  ISDS	GROS/PKC  ISDS/PKC
Soil	Maintain, protect and where necessary enhance the fundamental qualities and productive capacities of soils and protect carbon rich soils	% area of Geological SSSIs in favourable condition  No. of planning applications approved for development of prime agricultural land  % change in the area of land recorded as vacant and derelict land  % area of “potentially” contaminated land  Total area of brownfield land rehabilitated	NatureScot  PKC - Planning & Development  PKC/Scottish Vacant & Derelict Land Study  PKC  PKC/ Scottish Vacant & Derelict Land Study	NatureScot /PKC  PKC  PKC/Scottish Government  PKC  PKC/Scottish Government

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
Water	Protect and where possible enhance the water environment	% of waterbodies at good status	SEPA	SEPA/PKC
		% of groundwater area failing to meet quality standards	SPEA	SEPA/PKC
		Mean daily peak river flows	SEPA	SEPA/PKC
	Safeguard the functional floodplain and avoid flood risk	% area of land in P&K at medium to high risk of flooding which is developed	SEPA/PKC – Planning & Development	PKC
Air	Protect and enhance air quality	Mean annual levels of key air pollutants	PKC – Housing & Environment	PKC
		No. of days air quality exceeds legislative limits in AQMA	PKC – Housing & Environment	PKC
	Direct development to sustainable locations which help to reduce journey lengths and the need to travel	% resident population that travel to work/school by a) private motor vehicle, b) public transport, or c) on foot or cycle	PKC – Facilities Management	PKC

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
Climatic Factors	Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases	% carbon released by sector (road transport, industry, and domestic sources)	DEFRA/BERR	DEFRA/BERR/PKC
		Total domestic energy consumption per capita (kWh)	BERR	BERR/PKC
		Total domestic electric gas consumption per capita	DECC	DECC/PKC
		Number of new building reaching the gold or platinum sustainability requirement annually.	PKC – Housing & Environment	PKC
	Reduce the area's vulnerability to the effects of climate change through identifying appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures	Installed capacity of renewable energy schemes within the area	PKC	PKC
		% area of land in P&K at medium to high risk of flooding which is developed	SEPA/PKC – Planning & Development	PKC
		Annual precipitation rates	SEPA	SEPA/PKC

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
Material Assets	Minimise waste per head of population to meet Zero Waste Plan Objectives	Total municipal waste arising	SEPA	SEPA/PKC
		% of household waste collected and treated by recycling, composting, energy from waste and landfilling	SEPA	SEPA/PKC
		Location and no. of waste treatment facilities	SEPA	SEPA/PKC
	Maximise the sustainable use/re-use of material assets (land and buildings)	Total area of land stock that is vacant and derelict	PKC/ Scottish Vacant & Derelict Land Study	PKC/Scottish Government
		Amount of new development undertaken on greenfield compared to brownfield land considering the amount of brownfield land available.	PKC/ Scottish Vacant & Derelict Land Study	PKC/Scottish Government
	Promote and ensure high standards of sustainable design and construction	Number of new building reaching the gold or platinum sustainability requirement annually.	PKC – Housing & Environment	PKC
		% of households within 200m of open space	PKC	PKC
		Total energy consumption per capita (kWh)	BERR	BERR/PKC



SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
Cultural Heritage	Protect and enhance, where appropriate, the historic environment	No. of and area covered by Conservation Areas  % change of listed buildings and SMs at risk  No. of planning approvals with Listed Building Consent or Conservation Area Consent.	PKC/Historic Environment Scotland  Historic Environment Scotland  PKC/Historic Environment Scotland	PKC/Historic Environment Scotland  PKC/Historic Environment Scotland  PKC/Historic Environment Scotland
Landscape	Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of the area's landscapes to ensure new development does not exceed the capacity of the landscape to accommodate it	% area of woodland cover  % change in land cover categories  Change in no. of national designated landscape areas  % change in areas of wild land	Forestry and Land Scotland  James Hutton Institute  NatureScot  PKC/ NatureScot	Forestry and Land Scotland/PKC  James Hutton Institute/PKC  NatureScot /PKC  PKC/ NatureScot

SEA Topic	Objective	Indicator	Data Sources	Responsibility for Monitoring
	Protect and enhance townscape character and respect the existing pattern, form and setting of settlements	Changes to existing settlement boundaries	PKC – Planning & Development	PKC

