

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination

Notice of the Determination that the proposed East Dunbartonshire Council: Open Space Strategy will require to go through the Strategic Environmental Assessment process

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

As required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, East Dunbartonshire Council has reviewed the likely significance of the environmental effects of the proposed Open Space Strategy.

East Dunbartonshire Council has made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Open Space Strategy is likely to result in significant environmental effects. The Open Space Strategy will therefore be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Keith Scrimgeour
Roads and Neighbourhood Services Manager
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF

Relevant Documents:

- SEA Screening Determination Notification to Consultation Authorities on 15th October 2012
- Screening Report submitted to Consultation Authorities on 2nd November 2009
- Responses from the Consultation Authorities:
 - Covering Letter from Scottish Government SEA Gateway
 - Response from Historic Scotland
 - Response from Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
 - Response from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

Date: 15th October 2012

SEA Gateway
Scottish Government
Area 2 H (South)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

**DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
Roads and Neighbourhood Services**

Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF

Telephone 0141 578 8600
Fax No: 0141 578 8575

Dear Sirs,

**SEA Screening Determination
East Dunbartonshire Council: Open Space Strategy (formerly referred to in the Screening
Report as East Dunbartonshire's Greenspace Strategy)**

I refer to your letter dated 25 November 2009 outlining the responses from the Consultation Authorities to the screening report that was submitted on 2 November 2009 in relation to the proposed East Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace / Open Space Strategy.

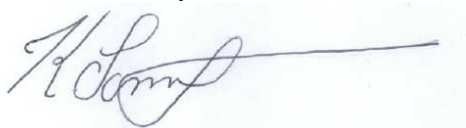
Please note that there has been a significant delay in the production process of the Strategy (hereinafter referred to as the Open Space Strategy) due to the departure of the Lead Officer who was responsible for its development. The Council is now in a position to restart the process of producing the Strategy and would like to progress the work over the next 12 months. Therefore, the Consultation Authorities are in agreement with the Council that the Guidance Notes are likely to have significant environmental effects. On 10th October 2012 East Dunbartonshire Council made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Open Space Strategy is likely to have significant environmental effects. Therefore, the Strategy will be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment and an environmental report will be prepared alongside the document.

A copy of the screening determination will be available for inspection during normal office hours at Broomhill Depot, Kilsyth Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 1TF and on the Council website at www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk. An advert will also be placed in the Kirkintilloch Herald to publicise the screening determination.

In accordance with Section 10(1) of the Act, a copy of the screening determination is enclosed and I would be obliged if you could forward this onto the Consultation Authorities. Please note the title of the PPS has been amended to reflect the name change of the Strategy document.

If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact Neil Samson on 0141 578 8615.

Yours faithfully,



Keith Scrimgeour
Roads and Neighbourhood Services Manager

STRATEGIC
ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT:
**SCREENING
REPORT**

**East Dunbartonshire Open
Space Strategy**



East Dunbartonshire Council

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

SEA Screening Report: PART 1

To: SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

or

SEA Gateway
Scottish Government
Area 2 H (South)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

SEA Screening Report: PART 2

An SEA Screening Report is attached for:

East Dunbartonshire Open Space Strategy (formerly known as Greenspace Strategy in the Original SEA screening report submitted on 2 November 2009)

The Responsible Authority is:

East Dunbartonshire Council

[Complete PART 3 or 4 where appropriate](#)

SEA Screening Report: PART 3

Screening is required because the PPS falls under Section 5(3)(c) or Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our view is that: -
(Tick (✓) the appropriate section)

An SEA is required because the PPS is likely to have significant environmental effects




An SEA is not required because the PPS is unlikely to have any significant environmental effects

SEA Screening Report: PART 4

The PPS does not require an SEA under the Act. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, because this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 28 day timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

SEA Screening Report: PART 5

Contact Details

Contact Name	Keith Scrimgeour
Job Title	Development Co-ordinator, Greenspace
Contact Address	East Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace Broomhill Industrial Estate Kilsyth Road Kirkintilloch G66 1TF
Contact Telephone Number	0141 574 5646
Contact Email	Keith.scrimgeour@eastdunbarton.gov.uk
Signature (electronic signature is acceptable)	
Date	28 th October 2009

SEA Screening Report: PART 6

Screening Report – Key Facts

Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
Title of PPS	East Dunbartonshire's Open Space Strategy
Purpose of PPS	<p>The purpose of the Open Space Strategy is to set out a vision for new and improved space which is appropriate to local circumstances.</p> <p>In accordance with Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) 11 – Open Space and Physical Activity the Greenspace Strategy will address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deficiencies in different types of open space provision• Safeguard valued open space• Guide the allocation of resources for investment• Justify seeking contributions from developers• Consider how to best meet the needs and aspirations of community values <p>The Open Space Strategy will consist of quantitative and qualitative analysis of urban greenspace in the form of a Strategy and Action Plan.</p>
What prompted the PPS (e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	<p>The Strategy is an update of the original Strategy launched in 2005. The Scottish Government requires Local Authorities to undertake an Open Space Audit and prepare an Open Space / Greenspace Strategy for their area and review it on a 5-year cycle.</p>
Subject (e.g. transport)	Greenspace
Period covered by PPS	2013 - 2018
Frequency of updates	The Strategy will be updated every 5 years and the action plan will be reviewed annually.
Area covered by PPS (e.g. geographical area – it is good practice to attach a map)	The Open Space Strategy will cover the whole East Dunbartonshire Council area.
Summary of nature/	Review of existing Greenspace Strategy including quantitative and

Content of the PPS	qualitative audit of greenspace, strategy framework, and 5 year action plan.			
Are there any proposed PPS objectives?	Yes	✓	No	
Copy of objectives attached	Yes	✓	No	
Date	28 th October 2009			

SEA Screening Report: PART 7

Considering the Likely Significance of Effects on the Environment

Title of PPS	East Dunbartonshire's Open Space Strategy
Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
<p>Our determination regarding the likely significance of effects on the environment of East Dunbartonshire's Open Space Strategy is set out in the table below.</p>	

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (paragraph numbers refer to Schedule 2 of the Act)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? (Yes / No)	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
1(a) the degree to which the PPS sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	Yes	The Strategy sets out a vision for East Dunbartonshire's greenspaces through suggested actions and through the co-ordination of a number of service delivery providers.
1(b) the degree to which the PPS influences other PPS including those in a hierarchy	Yes	The Strategy cross references a number of other strategic actions including the EDC Local Plan, Dunbartonshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan, Urban Woodland Strategy and the Joint Health Improvement Plan. Most importantly the Strategy links to the Single Outcome Agreement and the EDC Corporate

		Development Plan.
1(c) the relevance of the PPS for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	Yes	The Strategy will link with and promote the economic, social and environmental strands of the sustainable development agenda so it will be of high relevance.
1(d) environmental problems relevant to the PPS	Yes	The issues of distribution, quality and usage are all relevant factors. There are also issues relating to biodiversity, resource usage and sustainable transport alternatives.
1(e) the relevance of the PPS for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, PPS linked to waste management or water protection)	No	The Strategy is unlikely to have a significant effect on the implementation of Community legislation. The Strategy will not address waste management issues and will not directly address water resource protection, although this is an integral part of good management of greenspaces and there will be some benefits through good practices and the enhancement of river corridors.
2 (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	Yes	The Strategy will be concerned with the improved management and enhanced biodiversity of greenspaces within East Dunbartonshire so the impact will be a gradual, ongoing improvement and enhancement. It is unlikely there would be benefits achieved through reversal.
2 (b) the cumulative nature of the effects	Yes	The number of greenspaces being improved through small scale actions will have a positive, cumulative effect

		<p>on people's awareness and usage of greenspaces with associated benefits across East Dunbartonshire. A close fit with other strategic actions will avoid duplication, raise awareness of potential improvements and identify key stakeholders.</p>
<p>2 (c) transboundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other EU Member States)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The Strategy is unlikely to have transboundary effects on other EU Member States.</p>
<p>2 (d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Human health and the environment will both result in positive effects through the improvement of greenspaces. There is the potential for accidents due to increased numbers of people attending events and volunteering but this is minimised through thorough Risk Assessment and Appropriate Assessments.</p>
<p>2 (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The potential effects are likely to be localised in existing greenspace throughout the East Dunbartonshire area. East Dunbartonshire has a population of approximately 108,000. The majority of the population is situated within the main settlements of Bearsden, Milngavie, Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch and Lenzie. The changes as a result of the Strategy will be beneficial for local residents though the impact of the improvements is likely to be small scale. However, the Antonine Wall has World Heritage Status and there is the potential for the Campsie Fells to be considered for Regional Park status. Discussions regarding proposals for either of these sites may involve other bordering local authorities.</p>

<p>2 (f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use. 	<p>No</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Sites of importance are designated through various documents including: the recent Local Nature Conservation Site (LNCS) review, the inventory of Designed Landscapes and the Local Plan. This will open up opportunities for wider appreciation. Non-designated sites and greenspaces which are of local significance within East Dunbartonshire will be afforded greater protection through the Strategy. (ii) Areas that are vulnerable to pressure from exceeding visitor capacity will be managed carefully through management plans. (iii) N/A
<p>2 (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status will be recognised through the Strategy and will be acknowledged and enhanced as appropriate.</p>

SEA Screening Report: PART 8

Summary of the PPS

East Dunbartonshire's Open Space Strategy will build on the actions undertaken in the original Greenspace Strategy and take into account current thinking on quality greenspace developed since 2005 to deliver, through partnership, greenspaces that are 'fit for purpose' increasing the quality of life of the residents of East Dunbartonshire.

In summary, East Dunbartonshire Council (Roads and Neighbourhood Services) understands that the Strategy will require an SEA. The Consultation Authorities are requested to consider the information provided in this screening request to determine the likely significance of effects on the environment. The application of Sea to the development of the Strategy will help to identify and enhance environmental improvement opportunities and to avoid or mitigate any potential negative impacts.

Proposed Objectives for Open Space Strategy

The themes in the existing strategy will be used as a baseline for developing the objectives for the revised strategy:

- Establish effective, co-ordinated partnership working for the delivery of high quality greenspace.
- Provide a network of well designed multi-functional, clean, safe and accessible greenspaces that are well resourced and managed and meet the needs and aspirations of the community.
- Encourage a sense of 'ownership' and involve local communities in the planning and management of greenspaces through meaningful community engagements.
- Extend functionality and maximise the greenspace resource.
- Raise awareness of greenspaces through education, interpretation, signage and events.

Directorate for the Built Environment

SEA Gateway, 2-H Bridge Car Park Mail point 13, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

T: 0131-244 7650 F: 0131-244 7555

Date : 25 November 2009

Keith Scrimgeour
Development Co-ordinator, Greenspace
East Dunbartonshire Council
Greenspace
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF



00460 Screening - East dunbartonshire council - Greenspace strategy

Dear Keith

With reference to the Screening document you submitted on 2 November 2009.

The Consultation Authorities have now considered your screening request as per Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. For convenience I have set out, in the table below, their individual views on whether there is a likelihood of significant environmental effects.

Please note, these are the views and opinions of the Consultation Authorities on the likelihood of significant environmental effects arising from the plan or programme and not a judgement on whether an SEA is required. It is therefore for the Responsible Authority to determine whether an SEA is required in the circumstances. I have attached the individual letters from the Consultation Authorities, outlining their views and opinions. Where possible the Consultation Authorities may have offered supplementary information and/or advice for you to consider, which you should find helpful.

CONSULTATION AUTHORITY	LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS
Historic Scotland	No
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Yes
Scottish Natural Heritage	Yes
OVERALL VIEW ON LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS	Yes

As the Consultation Authorities have now notified you of their views, you should now refer to the Act to consider your next step. You should of course take into account the advice offered by the Consultation Authorities.

You should note, as per Section 10 of the Act, within 28 days of your determination about whether an SEA is required or not, a copy of the determination and any related statement of reasons must be passed to the Consultation Authorities. This may be done via the SEA Gateway.

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
www.scotland.gov.uk



If you have any queries or would like me to clarify any points, please call me on 0131 244 7650.

Yours sincerely

Elaine McCall
SEA Gateway Officer



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Kilsyth Road
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HSSEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Our ref: AMN/23/454 AM

25 November 2009

Dear Mr Scrimgeour

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
East Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace Strategy - Screening Report**

Thank you for consulting Historic Scotland on the screening report for East Dunbartonshire Council's Greenspace Strategy, received by the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway on 2 November 2009. I have reviewed the screening report on behalf of Historic Scotland in its role as a Consultation Authority in accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. In doing so I have used the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of the effects on the environment. Please note that this view is based on our main area of interest for the historic environment.

My understanding from the screening report is that the Greenspace Strategy will set out a strategic framework to improve awareness of greenspaces, building upon the actions undertaken in the previous strategy. As noted in the screening report, it is likely that these will largely be positive effects, for example, through recognition of historic environment features within greenspaces and the greater protection afforded to undesignated sites. However, while I anticipate that there may be positive benefits at the local level I consider that strategically significant effects for the historic environment are unlikely.

However, as you will be aware, it is the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the strategy requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly. Should you determine that an environmental assessment of the strategy is required, I draw your attention to the information requirements set out in Schedule 3 of the Act and to the Scottish Government SEA Tool Kit (available at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/13104943/0>).



Please note that this response is solely in the context of the SEA Act and our role as a Consultation Authority. Please do not hesitate to me on 0131 668 8924 should you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. McKenzie".

Alasdair McKenzie
Strategic Environmental Assessment Team Leader

Our Ref: PCS104152/scr/LM
SG Ref: SEA00460

Keith Scrimgeour
Development Co-ordinator, Greenspace
East Dunbartonshire Council
Greenspace
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF

By email: sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

25 November 2009

Dear Keith,

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
East Dunbartonshire's Greenspace Strategy – Screening Report**

I refer to your screening consultation submitted on 2 November 2009 via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway in respect of the above programme

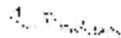
In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act, 2005, SEPA has considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

Having reviewed the Screening Report, SEPA considers that in respect of its main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health and climatic factors) the plan is likely to have positive significant strategic environmental effects. Although SEPA is of the view that significant environmental effects are likely, it is for East Dunbartonshire Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.

If it is formally determined that SEA *is* required, you will be aware that the next stage requires the Responsible Authority to consult the Consultation Authorities on the proposed scope and level of detail to be included within the Environmental Report. The Consultation Authorities typically expect to receive a concise Scoping Report at this stage. Further information about this stage and what should be included in a Scoping Report can be found in Chapter 5 of the Scottish SEA Tool Kit available from www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/13104943/45.

Should you wish to discuss this screening consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01355 574 302 or via SEPA's SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk

Yours sincerely,



Lorna Maclean
Senior Planning Officer (SEA)

Chairman
David Sigsworth

Chief Executive
Dr Campbell Gemmill

SEPA Corporate Office
Erskine Court, Castle Business Park, Stirling FK9 4TR
tel 01786 457700 fax 01786 446885
www.sepa.org.uk



Scottish Natural Heritage
All of nature for all of Scotland

Mr Keith Scrimgeour
East Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Rd
KIRKINTILLOCH
G66 1TF

10 November 2009
Our Ref: NAT/URB/ED
SG Ref: SEA 00460

Dear Mr Scrimgeour

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005
EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE GREENSPACE STRATEGY
SCREENING DETERMINATION**

I refer to your screening consultation regarding the above plan, received at the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 2 November 2009. In accordance with Section 9(3) of the above Act, SNH have considered the screening report using the criteria in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

SNH agree the above Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects, and does require an assessment in accordance with the Act. Our comments against the criteria, in the Annex to this letter, can also be regarded as our initial input to the scoping stage.

Please note that this consultation response provides a view solely on the potential for the strategy to have significant environmental effects. SNH cannot comment on other criteria determining the need for SEA as set out in the Act (e.g. "required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provision", or "sets the framework for development consents").

Should you wish to discuss this screening determination, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Everett at the above address or via SNH's SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@snh.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

ARTHUR KELLER
Operations Manager
Strathclyde & Ayrshire

Encls

Cc: SEA Gateways in Scottish Government, SEPA, Historic Scotland, SNH



C202547
Scottish Natural Heritage, Caspian House, 2 Mariner Court, Clydebank, G81 2NR
Tel: 0141 951 4488 Fax: 0141 951 8948 www.snh.org.uk

Annex

SCHEDULE 2

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Schedule 2 Criteria	Section 8(1) determination - Are significant environmental effects likely? (<i>Responsible Authority's assessment</i>)	SNH's Assessment under Section 9(3) (Yes/No/Unknown)	SNH's Comments And Additional Information
1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:			
(a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;	Yes	Yes	
(b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	Yes	Yes	The Strategy is also likely to influence aspects of East Dunbartonshire Council's Access Strategy, and Core Paths Plan.
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	Yes	Yes	
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme;	Yes	Yes	
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection);	No	Yes	No European nature conservation sites (SPAs, SACs) in or adjoining East Dunbartonshire. However, greenspace works under the Strategy could be relevant with regard to positive or negative effects on: - links between nature conservation features (Habitats Regulations Part II) - European Protected Species (possibly bats, otters, and great crested newts) (Habitats Regulations Part III) - aquatic feature condition under the Water Framework Directive
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to -			
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	Yes	Yes	

(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	Yes	Yes	
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects (<i>in UK international cases</i>);	No	No	
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example due to accidents);	No	No	Although species and habitats might be disturbed or damaged through greenspace works, the net effect on them is likely to be significantly positive.
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical areas and size of the population likely to be affected);	No	No	Agree that main environmental effects (including enhanced recreational access) would be generally restricted to within the greenspaces. Also, greenspaces are already established at a higher level by the Local Plan.
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:	No	Yes	
i. special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;			Likely that value of local natural heritage sites would be enhanced and some vulnerabilities reduced. i.e. positive effects.
ii. exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or			
iii. intensive land-use; and			
(g) the effects on areas or landscapes that have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	Yes	Yes	To the extent that Mugdock Country Park falls within the Strategy, there could be effects on Mugdock Wood SSSI. Effects on other SSSIs are less likely.