

# **Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination**

## **Notice of the Determination that the proposed East Dunbartonshire Council Play Park Audit and Action Plan will not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment**

### **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 Play Park Audit and Action Plan.

East Dunbartonshire Council has made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Play Park Audit and Action Plan is not likely to result in significant environmental effects. The Masterplan will therefore not be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

#### **Lauren Hollas**

#### **Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer**

Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets

Land Planning and Development

Southbank House

Strathkelvin Place

Kirkintilloch

G66 1XQ

#### **Relevant Documents:**

- SEA Screening Determination Notification to Consultation Authorities on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017
- Screening Report submitted to Consultation Authorities on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017
- Responses from the Consultation Authorities:
  - Covering Letter from Scottish Government SEA Gateway
  - Response from Historic Environment Scotland
  - Response from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
  - Response from Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

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

**PLACE, NEIGHBOURHOOD AND  
CORPORATE ASSETS**

**Land Planning and Development**  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ

Telephone 0141 578 8600  
Fax No: 0141 578 8575

Dear Sirs,

**SEA Screening Determination  
East Dunbartonshire Council Play Park Audit and Action Plan**

I refer to your letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017 outlining the responses from the Consultation Authorities to the Screening Report that was submitted on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017 in relation to the proposed East Dunbartonshire Council Play Park Audit and Action Plan.

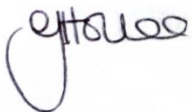
After reviewing the responses, the Consultation Authorities are in agreement with the Council that the Play Park Audit and Action Plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017 East Dunbartonshire Council made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Play Park Audit and Action Plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Therefore, the document will not be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

A copy of the screening determination will be available for inspection during normal office hours at Southbank House, Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XQ and on the Council website at [www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/s-e-a](http://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/s-e-a). An advert will also be placed in the local newspapers 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.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer on 0141 578 8615.

Yours faithfully,



**Lauren Hollas**  
**Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer**

# **SCREENING REPORT**

## STEP 1 – DETAILS OF THE PLAN

**Responsible Authority:**

East Dunbartonshire Council

**Title of the plan:**

Play Park Audit and Action Plan

**What prompted the plan:**

(e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)

Whilst East Dunbartonshire Council has an Open Space Strategy, developed in response to Scottish Planning Policy requirements, which included assessments on Council-owned resources and recommendations for improvements, the Strategy did not assess open spaces under 0.2 hectares and play parks that were not within major open spaces. Therefore, the Play Park Audit and Action Plan will address these gaps.

**Plan subject:**

(e.g. transport)

Play park and open space provision

**Screening** is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Based on Boxes 3 and 4, our view is that:

**An SEA is required, as the environmental effects are likely to be significant:** Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

**An SEA is not required, as the environmental effects are unlikely to be significant:** Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

**Contact details:**

Lauren Hollas  
Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer  
Sustainability Policy Team  
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ

**Date:**

29<sup>th</sup> May 2017

## STEP 2 – CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

### Context of the Plan:

East Dunbartonshire does not currently have a Strategy that looks specifically at Play Parks. East Dunbartonshire Council's Open Space Strategy included assessments on Council-owned play park resources and open space, but did not take into account play areas that were smaller than 0.2 hectares or those within large open spaces. Therefore the Play Park Audit and Action Plan will address these gaps and complement the findings of the Open Space Strategy in order to help improve play areas and open spaces for residents and visitors in East Dunbartonshire. The Play Park Audit and Action Plan will sit alongside the Open Space Strategy, taking into account more strategic documents such as the Local Development Plan. It'll also link with the Council's Culture, Leisure and Sport Strategy and Sports Pitches Strategy.

The Audit and Action Plan will include further accurate assessment of accessibility through the use of GAP analysis which will feed into baseline data for the next iteration of the Open Space Strategy. The Audit datasheets and maps produced from this work will be used within the Council's Asset Management Systems as an operational aid to provide an update of the play resource and identify any in-house or external works.

### Description of the Plan:

The key aim of the Play Area audit and Strategy is to provide a current audit of the play resource within East Dunbartonshire and to identify and prioritise key upgrading and development works on a short, medium and long term basis, supported by robust formal assessment.

#### Draft Plan objectives:

1. To review all databases and Dunlop reports for all EDC maintained play parks held in-house, along with information from the Council's Open Space Strategy and budgets allocated for play park development and upgrading.
2. To establish a comprehensive assessment tool for play park quality and quantity, and to conduct an audit to obtain quality scorings for all parks. Compatibility with data to be incorporated with the Council's IT Grounds Maintenance System will be expected.
3. To assess, on completion of the quality/quantity work, accessibility to LAP, LEAP and NEAPs in each settlement in accordance with the standard set out in Table 9 of the Open Space Strategy. The accessibility maps of the aforementioned document (Figure 5) should be reviewed to embody the findings of a gap analysis and network analysis that should be carried out to give an accurate and realistic view of accessibility.
4. To write a Play Area Action Plan that reports on play park quality and identifies an appropriate programme of works based on need, quality of existing equipment and availability of funds. The Action Plan will include maps and provision of GIS data (and exact locations of equipment). This will be provided in a format compatible with the Council's ARCGIS system, and will be easily transferred to the Council's Asset Greenspace Management system (GMS – requires excel data sheet and GIS shapefile with individual polygons and separate markers for each piece of equipment, safety surfacing and play park furniture and fencing/gates).

**What are the key components of the plan?**

At this stage in the Plan's development the components that are available are a set of draft objectives, as detailed in the description of the Plan above.

**Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?**

None of the components have been considered in previous SEA work.

**In terms of your response to Boxes 7 and 8 above, set out those components of the plan that are likely to require screening:**

The Plan Objectives are likely to require Screening at this stage.

**STEP 3 – IDENTIFYING INTERACTIONS OF THE PLAN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND  
CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY INTERACTIONS (Error! Reference source not found.)**

Plan Components	Environmental Topic Areas										Explanation of Potential Environmental Effects	Explanation of Significance
	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Population and human health	Soil	Water	Air	Climatic factors	Material assets	Cultural heritage	Landscape	Inter-relationship issues		
<p><b>Draft Objective 1:</b> To review all databases and Dunlop reports for all EDC maintained play parks held in-house, along with information from the Council’s Open Space Strategy and budgets allocated for play park development and upgrading.</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<p>The review of existing database on Council managed play parks is likely to be an operational procedure to help inform the Action Plan and therefore is unlikely to present environmental effects.</p>	<p>It is unlikely that these components will have any significant effects.</p>
<p><b>Draft Objective 2:</b> To establish a comprehensive assessment tool for play park quality and quantity, and to conduct an audit to obtain quality scorings for all parks. Compatibility with data to be incorporated with the Council’s IT Grounds Maintenance System will be expected.</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<p>The establishment of an assessment tool to assess play park quality and quantity, as well as the scoring of the Play Parks through an audit is unlikely to have an impact on any of the environmental factors at this stage, but will be used to inform the Action Plan.</p>	

<p><b>Draft Objective 3:</b> To assess, on completion of the quality/quantity work, accessibility to LAP, LEAP and NEAPs in each settlement in accordance with the standard set out in Table 9 of the Open Space Strategy. The accessibility maps of the aforementioned document (Figure 5) should be reviewed to embody the findings of a gap analysis and network analysis that should be carried out to give an accurate and realistic view of accessibility.</p>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	<p>Whilst the Audit will help to inform accessibility to LAP, LEAP and NEAPs in each settlement area, as outlined in the Open Space Strategy, the direct impact on this component on each of the environmental factors is likely to be negligible.</p>	
<p><b>Draft Objective 4:</b> To write a Play Area Action Plan that reports on play park quality and identifies an appropriate programme of works based on need, quality of existing equipment and availability of funds. The Action Plan will include maps and provision of GIS data (and exact locations of equipment). This will be provided in a format compatible with the Council's ARCGIS system, and will be easily transferred to the Council's Asset Greenspace Management system (GMS – requires excel data sheet and GIS shapefile with individual polygons and separate markers for each piece of equipment, safety surfacing and play park furniture and fencing/gates).</p>	?/ ✓	✓	?/ ✓	?/ ✓	x	x	✓	?/ ✓	x	✓	<p>The Action Plan has the potential to result in medium and long-term quality and quantity improvements to East Dunbartonshire's play park stock, which can have benefits for local communities in terms of giving them access to play provision and therefore will help to address health and social inequalities (Population and Human Health) and result in infrastructure changes, including the potential for waste and use of resources, and improvements to play provision such as benches</p>	<p>Although it has been identified that there may be minor positive impacts to Population and Human Health as well as positive and negative impacts to Material Assets, it is unlikely that the effects of this component will be significant. The effects are likely to be minor/minimal and fairly localised.</p>



												and play equipment (Material Assets).	
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**STEP 4 – STATEMENT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SCREENING**

**Summary of interactions with the environment and statement of the findings of the Screening:**

(Including an outline of the likely significance of any interactions, positive or negative, and explanation of conclusion of the screening exercise.)

As outlined in the above initial components assessment (Box 10), there is a possibility that the Play Park Action Plan is likely to provide minor positive impacts on the environment, particularly in relation to Population and Human Health and Material Assets. However, the Audit element of this strategic action is unlikely to result in any environmental impacts. Any potential impacts will be countered by following the British Standards of Construction with regards to work around trees, tree roots and woodland areas, and the Play Park Audit and Action Plan will align with the requirements of East Dunbartonshire Council’s Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Open Space Strategy.

Whilst it is anticipated that the Plan will have a positive impact, to an extent, through the implementation of various quality and quantity improvement measures for play parks, the overall environmental impacts of the Plan are unlikely to be significant. Therefore, it has been determined that, under Section 5(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, a full SEA is not required.

When completed send to: [SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk) or to the SEA Gateway, Scottish Government, Area 2H (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

Local Government and Communities Directorate  
Planning and Architecture Division

T: 0131-244 7650 F: 0131-244 7555  
E: [Johnathan.Whittlestone@gov.scot](mailto:Johnathan.Whittlestone@gov.scot)  
D: 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017



Lauren Hollas  
Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer  
Sustainability Policy Team  
Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets  
East Dunbartonshire Council  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ



### 01278 Screening - East Dunbartonshire Council - Play Park Audit and Action Plan

Dear Lauren,

With reference to the Screening document you submitted on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

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 Environment Scotland	No
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	No
Scottish Natural Heritage	No
<b>OVERALL VIEW ON LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS</b>	<b>No</b>

As the Consultation Authorities have now notified you of their views, you should now refer to the 2005 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 2005 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.

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

Yours sincerely

Johnathan Whittlestone  
SEA Gateway Officer

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ  
[www.gov.scot](http://www.gov.scot)

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HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT  
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD  
EACHDRAIDHEIL  
ALBA

By email to: [sea.gateway@gov.scot](mailto:sea.gateway@gov.scot)

Ms Lauren Hollas  
Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets  
East Dunbartonshire Council  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ

Longmore House  
Salisbury Place  
Edinburgh  
EH9 1SH

Enquiry Line: 0131-668-8716  
Switchboard: 0131 668 8600  
[HMConsultations@hes.scot](mailto:HMConsultations@hes.scot)

Our ref: AMN/23/106  
Our case ID: 300021082  
Your ref: 01278 Screening

20 June 2017

Dear Ms Hollas

[Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#)  
[East Dunbartonshire Council - Play Park Audit and Action Plan](#)  
[Screening Report](#)

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 30 May 2017 about the above screening report. We have reviewed the screening report in our role as a Consultation Authority under the above Act, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(3). In doing so we have used the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of the effects on the environment. Please note that our view is based on main area of interest for the historic environment.

We understand that the Play Park Audit and Action Plan will focus on providing an audit of the play resource within East Dunbartonshire and on identifying and prioritising key upgrading and development works on a short, medium and long term basis, supported by robust formal assessment. You consider that, whilst there may be some minor positive environmental effects, these will not be significant. On the basis of the information provided, we are content to agree that significant effects on the historic environment are not likely.

However, as you will be aware, it is the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the guidance requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly.

We hope this is helpful. Please contact us if you have any questions about this response. The officer managing this case is Virginia Sharp who can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 8704 or by email on [Virginia.Sharp@hes.scot](mailto:Virginia.Sharp@hes.scot).

Yours sincerely

**Historic Environment Scotland**

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH  
Scottish Charity No. SC045925  
VAT No. GB 221 8680 15



## Scottish Natural Heritage

All of nature for all of Scotland

By email only to: [sea.gateway@scotland.osi.gov.uk](mailto:sea.gateway@scotland.osi.gov.uk)

Lauren Hollas  
Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer  
Sustainability Policy Team  
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ

22 June 2017  
Our ref: CNS/SEA/SSEA/01278-EDC

Dear Lauren

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005: Play Park Audit and Action Plan East  
Dunbartonshire Council  
Screening Determination**

Thank you for your screening report submitted on 2 June 2017 via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway in respect of the above plan.

SNH has considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act.

In terms of our interests, we agree that the above Plan is not likely to have significant environmental effects.

Please note that this consultation response provides a view solely on the potential for the plan or programme to have significant environmental effects. We cannot comment on whether or not the plan or programme meets other criteria determining the need for SEA as set out in the Act.

Should you wish to discuss this screening determination, please do not hesitate to contact Natalie Cozzolino on 0141 951 4488 or via SNH's SEA Gateway at [sea.gateway@snh.gov.uk](mailto:sea.gateway@snh.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Lyndsey Kinnes  
Operations Manager  
Strathclyde and Ayrshire



Scottish Natural Heritage, Caspian House, 2 Mariner Court, 8 South Avenue, Clydebank, G81 2NR  
Tel 0141 951 4488 Fax 0141 951 8948 [www.snh.org.uk](http://www.snh.org.uk)

Our ref: PCS/153350  
SG ref: SEA01278/SCR

Lauren Hollas  
Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer  
Sustainability Policy Team  
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets  
Southbank House  
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If telephoning ask for:

Simon Watt

By email only to: [SEA\\_Gateway@gov.scot](mailto:SEA_Gateway@gov.scot)

05 June 2017

Dear Madam

### **01278 Screening - East Dunbartonshire Council - Play Park Audit and Action Plan - Screening Report**

Thank you for your Screening Report consultation which SEPA received via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 02 June 2017.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 we have 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, we consider that in respect of our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets (of which we have a specific interest in waste) and climatic factors) the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not 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. This can be undertaken through preparation of a concise Scoping Report. We would encourage you to use the scoping process to focus the assessment on those SEA issues upon which there are likely to be significant environmental effects, to outline the baseline information you consider as most relevant and explain your proposed method of assessment. To assist with this process we have produced [SEA topic guidance](#) for those issues which fall within our remit. Further information on scoping can be found in the [Scottish Government SEA Guidance](#) (sections 3.4 to 3.8 in particular).

We are committed to providing early and focused advice and supporting continuous engagement and therefore if it is determined that SEA is required we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and discuss these issues prior to the formal consultation.

Should you wish to discuss this screening consultation please do not hesitate to contact me on 01698 839 000 or via our SEA Gateway at [sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk](mailto:sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Simon Watt  
Senior Planning Officer  
Planning Service

Ecopy: [sea.gateway@hes.scot](mailto:sea.gateway@hes.scot); [sea\\_gateway@snh.gov.uk](mailto:sea_gateway@snh.gov.uk)