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3 July 2014

Dear Graham

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
Perth and Kinross Council – Local Landscape Areas
Supplementary Guidance
Screening Report

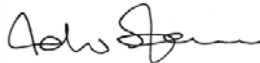
Thank you for consulting Historic Scotland on the screening report for Perth and Kinross Council's Local Landscape Areas Supplementary Guidance received by the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway on 5 June 2014. I have reviewed the screening report on behalf of Historic Scotland in its role as a Consultation Authority under the above Act, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(3). 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 our view is based on our main area of interest for the historic environment.

I understand from the screening report that the guidance gives advice on how development can comply with Policy ER6 of the adopted Local Development Plan. I note that the Council considers that, as this policy has been previously assessed as part of the SEA of the LDP significant effects on the historic environment are unlikely in relation to this element of the guidance. I also note that an intention of the guidance is to designate Local Landscape Areas (LLAs). While the designation of these sites has not been specifically assessed at the higher level it can be considered that the development of the policy implies the identification of areas to which the policy will apply. While individual assessments of identified Local Landscape Areas would offer a finer grain of assessment it is likely that any findings in relation to the historic environment would not differ greatly from the those of the policy for managing these landscapes. In terms of significant effects of the guidance the screening report appears contradictory in parts in relation to this, most notably when discussing cumulative effects. For example, the screening report notes that the designation of LLAs is likely to result in a number of effects that cumulatively over time could be considered significant. However, the screening report then goes on to note that none of these are significant. Notwithstanding this I am satisfied that significant effects over and above those identified the assessment of Policy ER6 are unlikely and am therefore content to agree that the guidance in itself is unlikely to have significant effects on the historic environment.

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

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Stevenson
Senior Heritage Management Officer (SEA)