

Appendix 6 SEA Objectives & Relationship with Baseline Data

SEA Topic	SEA Objectives	Baseline Data & Issues Under Consideration	Potential SEA Indicators
Biodiversity, flora & fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect and enhance the woodland environment in urban and rural settings, to improve the biodiversity of urban woodlands and enhance and protect the habitats within and adjacent to designated sites such as SSSIs; namely Kinnoull Hill, Birks of Aberfeldy and Den of Alyth, the River TAY SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC and SPA, and sites included in the Ancient Woodland Inventory, and to protect and improve the condition for species identified in the European Habitats Directive, UK legislation and biodiversity action plans. • To maintain biodiversity with adjacent woodlands taking account of their importance by appropriate management and improving biodiversity within urban woods by habitat improvement to improve opportunities for the movement of different species into these areas. 	<p>Monitoring results of the removal of non-native species.</p> <p>Monitoring of the condition of woodland and tree health.</p>	<p>Liaising with SNH on the results of site condition monitoring for SSSIs. Liaison with Forestry Commission Scotland.</p> <p>Liaising with other woodland owners on management of adjacent sites.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>

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Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council woodlands will be maintained to provide safe, welcoming opportunities for access and recreation for local residents and visitors to the area, with links to urban and rural paths promoting the Perth & Kinross Core Paths Plan and local path networks. • Woodlands will be maintained to forge increased links with communities to increase their understanding of the natural environment. 	<p>Customer use through user surveys and comments received through the Customer Services Centre.</p> <p>Completed programme of tree works for access, public safety and the protection of property.</p>	<p>Discussion with communities on the use of their woodlands and developing roles for communities in the management of their woodlands.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>
Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands will be managed and promoted for physical exercise and mental health as individual sites and as a suite of suitable locations. • Woodlands will provide places of retreat with cleaner air and reduced noise in urban settings. 	<p>Increased use of woodland measured by surveys.</p>	<p>Liaison with NHS Tayside, Live Active Leisure and other organisations to promote the use of woods to promote health.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>

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Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodlands will be managed on the principle of the Alternative to Clearfell system (ACT), which will maintain soils <i>in situ</i>, which is particularly important in areas of long-term cover where the soils have built up a soil flora, fauna and fungi beneficial to a range of organisms. • Permanent tree cover will reduce the erosion of soils by wind and rain. 	Monitoring of the condition of woodlands.	<p>Liaison with SEPA as required.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tree cover contributes to the improvement of water quality and diversity in riparian habitats. • The Council's woodlands and habitats they support help to mitigate the effects of flooding by providing storage for and uptake of water and help to reduce rapid run-off. 	Monitoring of the condition of woodlands.	<p>Liaison with SEPA as required.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In urban areas, trees will act as a barrier to suspended solids like exhaust fumes and dust, to provide healthier air for breathing, and provide cooler air in warm weather through evapotranspiration. • Trees help to reduce exposure from strong winds and the effect of the Council's benefit for properties 	Monitoring of the condition of woodlands.	<p>Liaison with SEPA as required.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>

	in Perth is significant.		
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Climatic Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees will intake carbon dioxide and convert this and store it as plant tissue to lock up quantities of this greenhouse gas. Carbon sequestration will be retained through the ATC system, allowing fallen timber to rot naturally or removed from site as a crop and replaced as a fresh crop, to prevent rapid release of gas to the atmosphere 	Monitoring of the condition of woodlands.	<p>Liaison with SEPA as required. Liaison with Forestry Commission Scotland.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Forest Plan will bring the Council's woodland assets together to be managed in a consistent, sustainable manner. The asset will provide a small produce of timber for local use, and the asset as a whole will contribute to Perth & Kinross as an attractive area in which to conduct business. 	Monitoring Council's asset management plan.	<p>Liaison with the Council's Economic Development Team.</p> <p>Liaison with Forestry Commission Scotland.</p> <p>State of the Environment Report.</p>

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Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All woods have meaning for local communities and are an important part of their heritage, and they will be maintained to meet their needs. • Woods of national importance such as the Birks of Aberfeldy and Kinnoull Hill and sites with significant tree cover such as Perth's North Inch and South Inch will be managed to celebrate the woodland heritage for the identity of the local authority area and as an important focus for tourism and such initiatives as the Perthshire Big Tree Country. 	Explore initiatives with Forestry Commission Scotland, Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust and Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust.	State of the Environment Report.
Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's woods and trees provide an important setting in the urban and rural setting, particularly in such areas as around the River Tay in Perth. Management of the asset through an ATC system will allow this enhancement to continue. • Landscape will be enhanced by ensuring woodland structure and species provide the best possible cover. Assessments will be carried out before tree planting or removal takes place to ensure this. 	Monitoring of the condition of woodlands.	Liaison with Forestry Commission Scotland. State of the Environment Report.

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Interrelationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectiveness of the Forest Plan. 	Reports to the Council.	Liaison with Forestry Commission Scotland and other statutory bodies.