

Environmental Report – Addendum No. 2 Non-Technical Summary

Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan

Proposed Plan
December 2011



Acknowledgements:

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Consultation and Next Steps

The Addendum has been prepared by Perth & Kinross Council and published alongside the Perth & Kinross Local Development Plan – Proposed Plan with the same period for representation as the Plan. Both documents were submitted to the Consultation Authorities on 30 January 2012, and opened to the public for the submission of representations from 30 January to 10 April 2012.

The documents are available to view on the Perth & Kinross Council web site at: www.pkc.gov.uk/ProposedLDP and in local offices and libraries.

If you are unable to access the documents via the internet, please write to the address below or telephone (01738) 475000.

Written representations on either or both documents and on the contribution of the SEA process to the development of the Local Development Plan are invited by **4pm** on the **10 April 2012**.

How and where can representations be submitted?

By Internet: complete the online form by going to: http://www.pkc.gov.uk/ProposedLDP

By Email to: DevelopmentPlan@pkc.gov.uk

By Post to: Local Development Plan Team

Planning & Regeneration
The Environment Service

Pullar House

35 Kinnoull Street

PERTH PH1 5GD

How will the findings of the SEA be considered in preparing the Plan?

Section 17 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that Perth & Kinross Council takes into account the findings of the Environmental Report and its Addendum in preparing the Local Development Plan. This section also requires the Council to take into account the findings of the consultation on the Local Development Plan in finalising it prior to adoption.

Following the adoption of the Plan, the Environmental Assessment Act requires the Council to provide the public and the Consultation Authorities (Historic Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage) with information on how environmental considerations and the consultation responses have been reflected in the Plan, and also future monitoring arrangements for the Plan's implementation.

In order to meet this requirement Perth & Kinross Council will prepare a Strategic Environmental Statement to accompany the completed Local Development Plan. It will outline how the Environmental Report and the Addendum informed the development of the Plan, including how opinions made on the Environmental Report have been taken into account in finalising the Plan. This will be called the 'Post Adoption Statement'.

What are the remaining key dates in the process?

The following table sets out the remaining key dates in the development of the Plan and its SEA.

Milestone	Anticipated Date	
Publication of the Proposed Plan and Addendum to the Environmental Report with a 10 week period for representations	30 January 2012	
Close of period for representations	10 April 2012	
Consideration of representations and potential modifications to the Plan	April 2012 – June 2013	
If modifications are not significant/ notifiable submit Plan to the Scottish Ministers for Examination	July/August 2013	
Examination	Late 2013 – Early 2014	
Receipt and consideration of Reporter's recommendations	Mid 2014	
Plan Adoption	December 2014	
Prepare and publish SEA Post Adoption Statement	January 2015	
Monitoring and review of the Plan	Ongoing 2015-2020	

1 Introduction

What is the purpose of the Addendum to the Environmental Report?

- 1.1 The results of the SEA for the Plan's Main Issues Report (MIR) were originally reported in the Environmental Report, which was published in October 2010. However, because MIRs do not contain all of the detailed information that makes up a Local Development Plan (LDP) it was thought that there was not enough detail in that document to allow for the assessment of the full environmental implications of implementing all parts of the LDP.
- 1.2 Therefore through discussions with the three Consultation Authorities (Historic Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage) it was agreed that an addendum to the Environmental Report would be produced to provide more detail in terms of the potential environmental impacts of the Plan's policies and also the mitigation and enhancement measures identified for individual site proposals. The opportunity was also taken in some instances to update baseline and other information previously contained in the original October 2010 Environmental Report, following comments received during the consultation period for that report.
- 1.3 The document is entitled Addendum No. 2 as a previous addendum to the Environmental Report was produced at the end of 2010 to update the consultation period dates due to the adverse weather conditions experienced at that time.

Non-Technical Summary

1.4 This non-technical summary provides a brief outline of the further detail contained in the Addendum on the findings of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Perth & Kinross Local Development Plan. The summary can be read on its own or as part of the full Environmental Report and its Addendum.

2 The Local Development Plan Proposed Plan

What is the LDP Proposed Plan?

- 2.1 Following consultation on the Main Issues Report and consideration of comments received to that document, the Council has progressed the Local Development Plan to the next stage in the process which is the production of a Proposed Plan. The Proposed Plan sets out how the Council aim to work towards achieving its vision for Perth and Kinross. It shows which land is being allocated to meet the areas development needs to 2024 and beyond and it sets out the planning policies that will be applied in promoting the sustainable growth of the area over this period.
- 2.2 The Plan contains a spatial strategy which explains the overall view as to where development should go and the principles behind the strategy. Future development sites have been identified along with details of the scale of development expected for each of those sites as well as specific developer requirements. The Plan contains a Policy Framework which explains what uses are acceptable in different areas, provides criteria against which proposals will be assessed through the Development Management process, and sets out the requirements for different types of development. Further detailed information and advice is then provided through Supplementary Guidance, both statutory and non statutory.
- 2.3 The Plan represents the Council's settled view in terms of the above matters and will be made available for a period of representations prior to being submitted to the Scottish Ministers for Examination purposes.

What are the Plan's Vision and Key Objectives?

- 2.4 The Local Development Plan provides a local context to the visions set out in the both the Strategic Development Plan and the Council's Corporate Plan. The Vision recognises the considerable strengths of the Perth and Kinross area and the many challenges it faces. The significant population growth in the area over recent years and the likelihood of this trend continuing has been recognised, as too is the need to: embrace this opportunity and ensure that the area's prosperity continues and improves; ensure that the benefits are more widely and fairly shared, and that the environment is protected and improved. The Plan's vision is of a Perth and Kinross that is dynamic, attractive and effective, and which protects its assets whilst welcoming population and economic growth.
- 2.5 Figure 2.1 below sets out the LDP Proposed Plan's Vision and Key Objectives for the Perth and Kinross area.

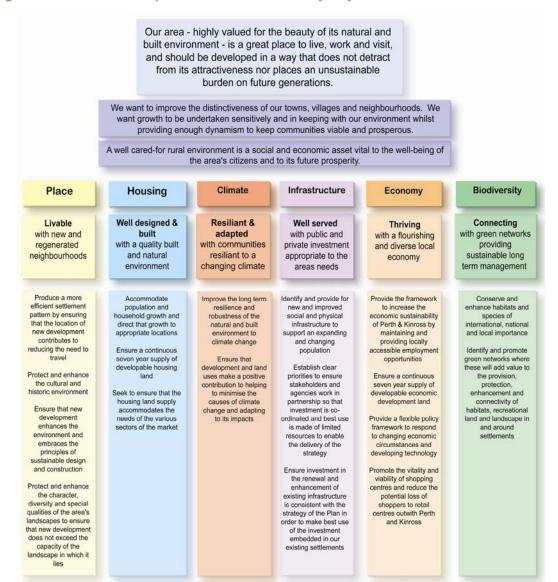


Figure 2.1: The LDP - Proposed Plan Vision and Key Objectives

- 2.6 The Plan's Spatial Strategy focuses the majority of that growth in Perth City and its Core area in order to build upon its key role as the hub of the area. It will seek to ensure that the growth in employment opportunities keeps pace with population growth so as to create the critical mass required to deliver improved retail, leisure and cultural facilities to serve the City and its hinterland. This will be complemented by development focused on the burghs of Kinross, Aberfeldy, Pitlochry, Crieff, Auchterarder and Blairgowrie, with increased prosperity in the smaller towns, villages and rural communities.
- 2.7 Perth and Kinross has a good mix of rural and urban environments and the Plan seeks to protect and enhance this variety, by encouraging improvements to the distinctiveness of the areas towns, villages and neighbourhoods, whilst ensuring that this growth is undertaken sensitively and in keeping with the environment; but at the same time providing enough dynamism to keep communities viable and prosperous.
- 2.8 The area's rural spaces are recognised as not just the source of food and other raw materials; they also supply and support the local tourism industry, various economic

- enterprises and a wide range of environmental assets. The Vision highlights that a well cared-for rural environment is a social and economic asset vital to everyone's well-being and future prosperity.
- 2.9 Finally, the importance of producing a Plan that will allow the area to adapt and prepare for future changes to our climate is also identified.

3 Effects of the Spatial Strategy

Assessment of the Spatial Strategy

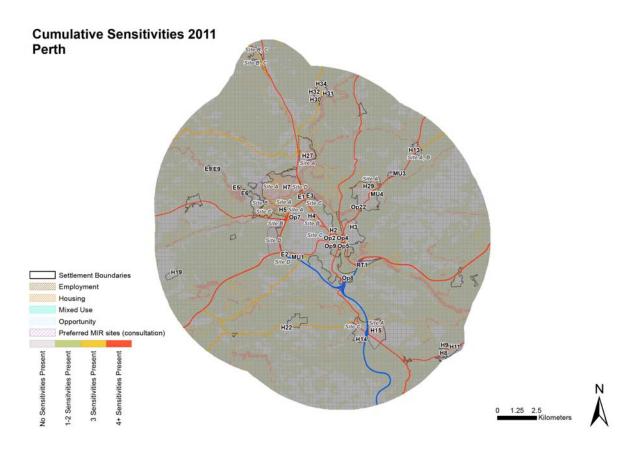
3.1 A strategic and cumulative assessment has been carried out at a settlement level for each of the settlements where future development has been promoted through the Proposed Plan. Those assessments have been grouped within the relevant housing market area as per the breakdown in the Plan.

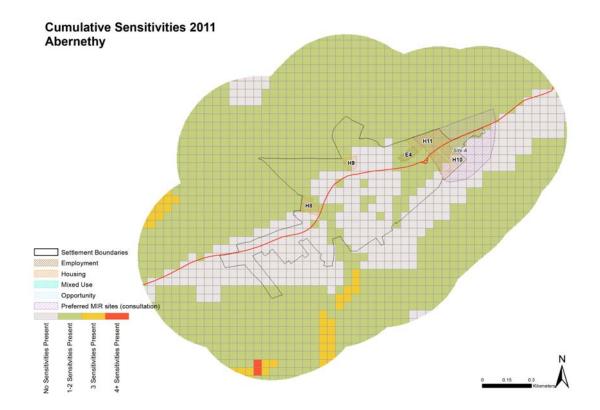
Perth Housing Market Area

3.2 Overall the assessment found that within the Perth HMA the key environmental sensitivities present are prime quality agricultural land (approx. 40%), the historic environment (approx. 15%), water and flooding (approx. 15%), biodiversity (approx. 10%) and landscape (approx. 5%).

Cumulative Strategic Sensitivities – Perth HMA

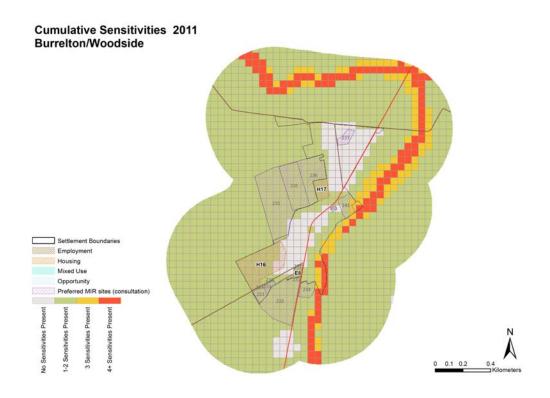
3.3 The assessment of the cumulative strategic sensitivities for the Perth Core Area identified that within the 8 km expansion area buffer (which also took in the non-Core settlements of Abernethy and Clathymore) the majority of the land (87%) is either free of or has 1 sensitivity present. The remaining 13% represents areas where 2-3 sensitivities (10%) or 4+ sensitivities (3%) are present.



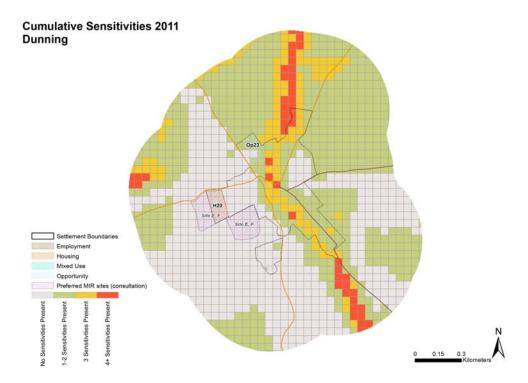


3.4 The assessment for the further settlements within the Perth HMA which were not covered by the original 8km assessment buffer showed that at:

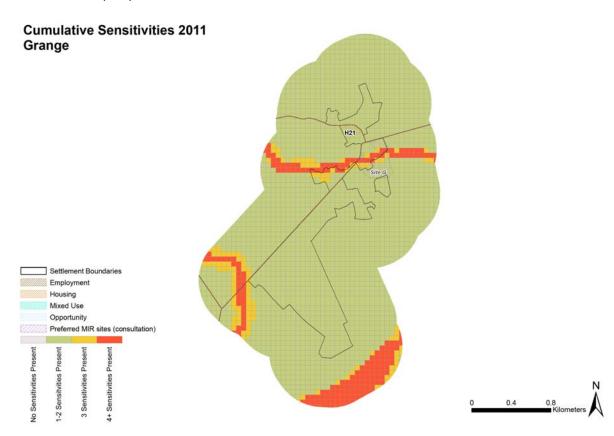
Burrelton – 87% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 13% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (6%) or 4+ sensitivities (7%)



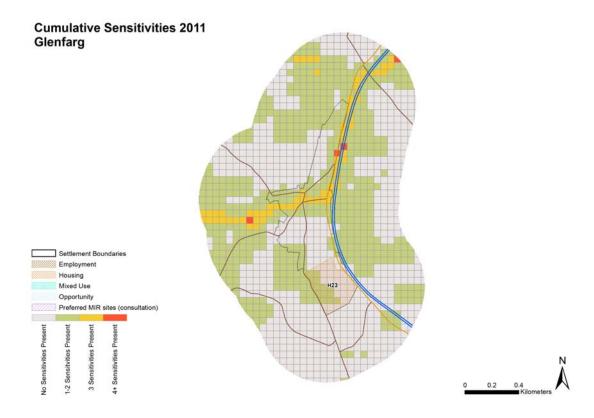
Dunning – 88% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 12% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (8%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%)



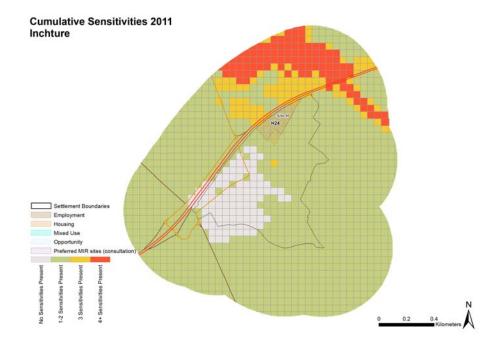
Errol/Grange – the majority of the land (87%) has 1-2 sensitivities present, and the remaining 13% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (5%) or 4+ sensitivities (8%)



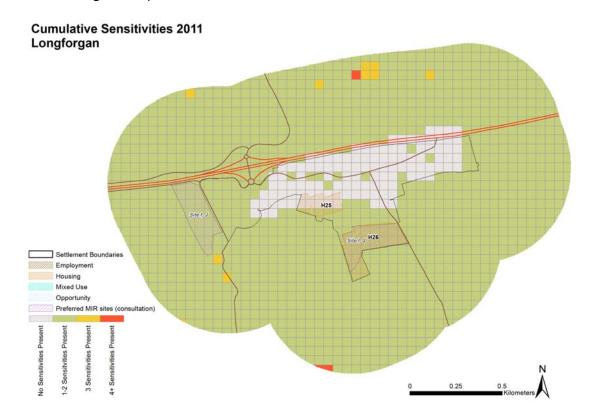
Glenfarg - 94% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 6% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities



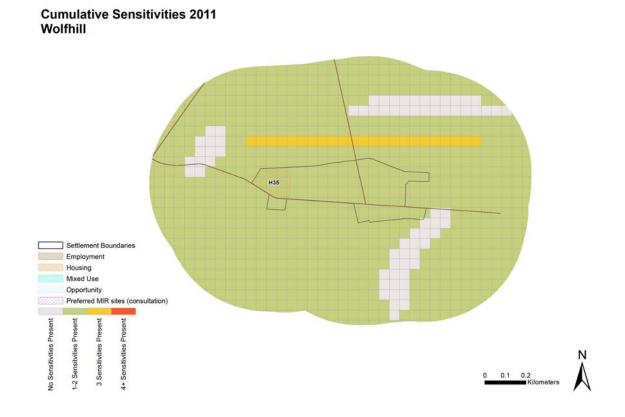
Inchture - 84% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 15% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (7%) or 4+ sensitivities (9%)



Longforgan - 99% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 1% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities



Wolfhill – 96% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 4% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities



Strategic Sensitivities - Perth HMA

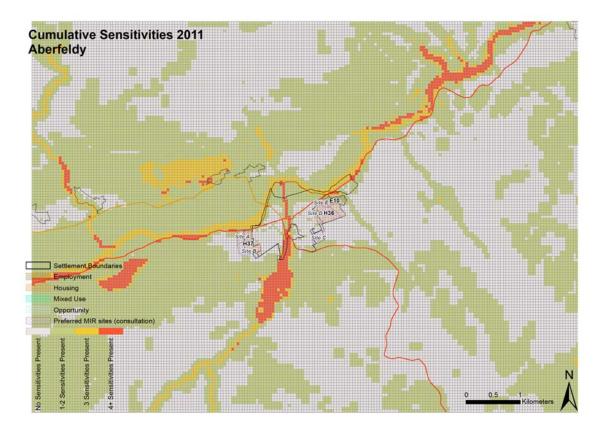
3.5 A further study of the type and extent of those sensitivities highlights that the key issues arising within the buffer for the Perth Core Area include prime quality agricultural land, surface water environments, the River Tay SAC and flooding. In terms of the additional settlements within the Perth HMA, the assessment identified that combined key issues arising within those areas as a result of development proposals are prime agricultural land and water quality, and to a lesser extent non-designated archaeology, flooding and protected species.

Highland Housing Market Area

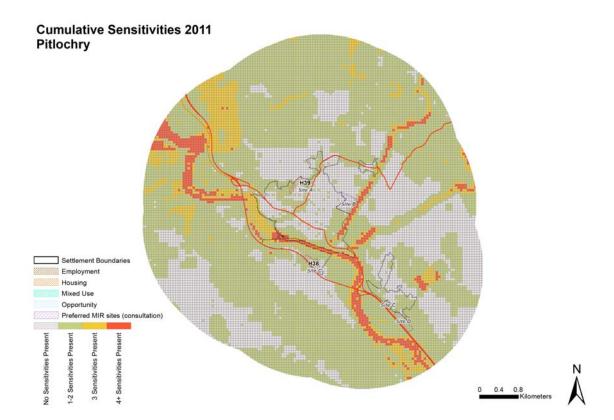
3.6 Overall the assessment found that within the Highland HMA the key environmental sensitivities present are biodiversity (approx. 40%), landscape (approx. 30%), water and flooding (approx. 10%) and the historic environment (approx. 10%).

Cumulative Strategic Sensitivities – Highland HMA

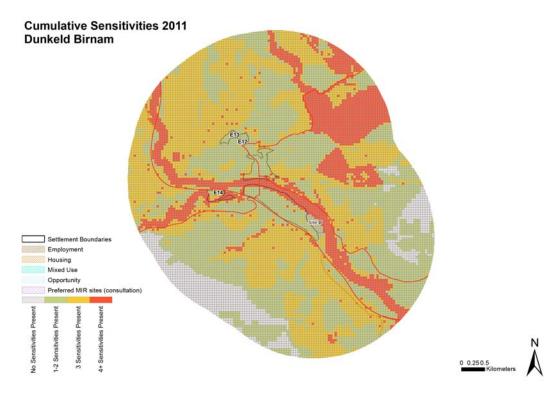
3.7 The assessment of the cumulative strategic sensitivities at Aberfeldy identified that within the 2.5 km expansion area buffer 88% of the land is either free from or has 1 sensitivity present. The remaining 12% represents areas where development could impact on 2-3 sensitivities (9%) or 4+ sensitivities (3%).



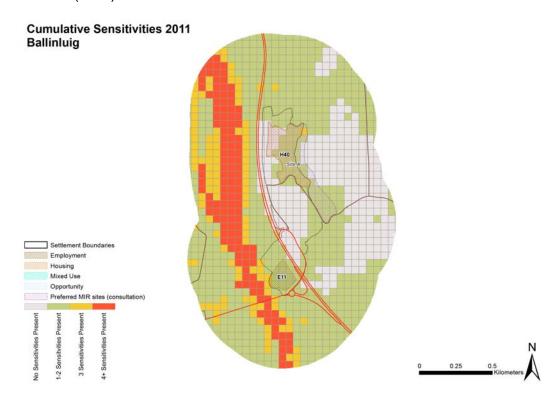
3.8 The assessment at Pitlochry identified that within the expansion area buffer two thirds (75%) of the land is either free from or 1 sensitivity is present. The remaining 25% represents areas where development could impact on 2-3 sensitivities (18%) or 4+ sensitivities (7%).



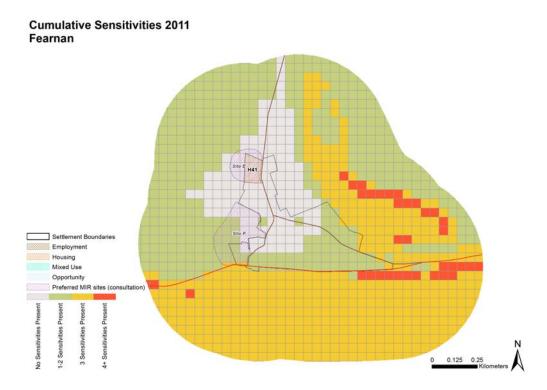
3.9 At Birnam and Dunkeld 37% of the land within the expansion buffer (which also includes the settlement Inver) is either free from or has 1 sensitivity present, and the remaining 63% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 2-3 sensitivities or 4+ sensitivities (29%), due to the presence of overlapping strategic constraints and various nationally protected sites within those areas.



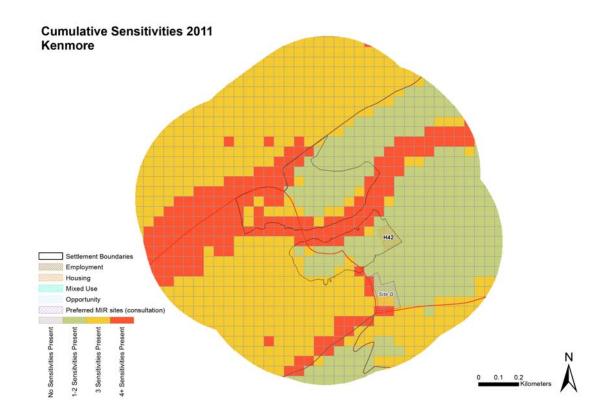
3.10 At the remaining settlements within the Highland HMA the assessment identified that at **Ballinluig** – 77% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 23% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (10%) or 4+ sensitivities (13%)



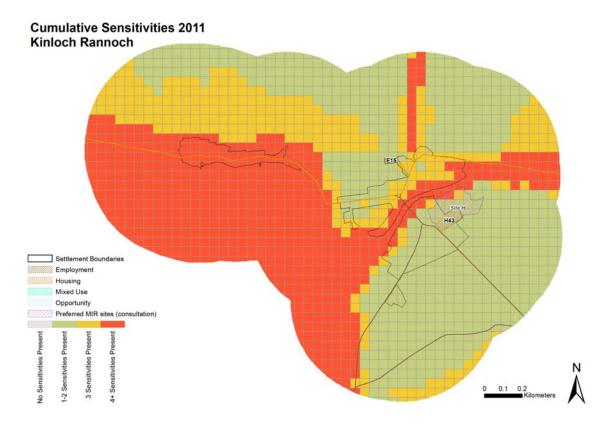
Fearnan - 53% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 47% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (43%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%)



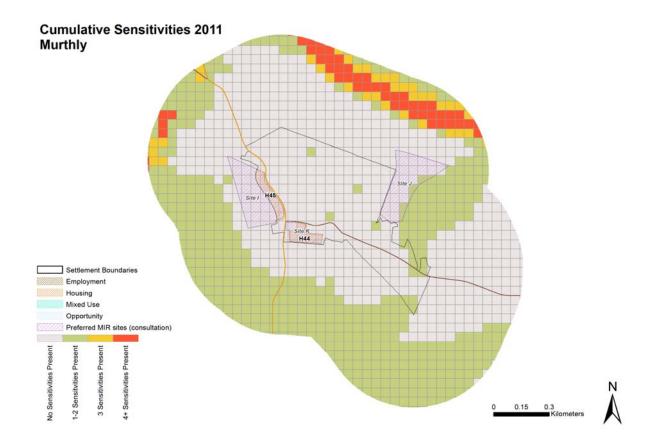
Kenmore – 31% of the land has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 69% represents areas where there are 3-4 (49%) and 4+ (19%) sensitivities present



Kinloch Rannoch – 42% of the land has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 58% represents areas where there are 3-4 (20%) and 4+ (38%) sensitivities present



Murthly – 93% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 7% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (3%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%)



Strategic Sensitivities – Highland HMA

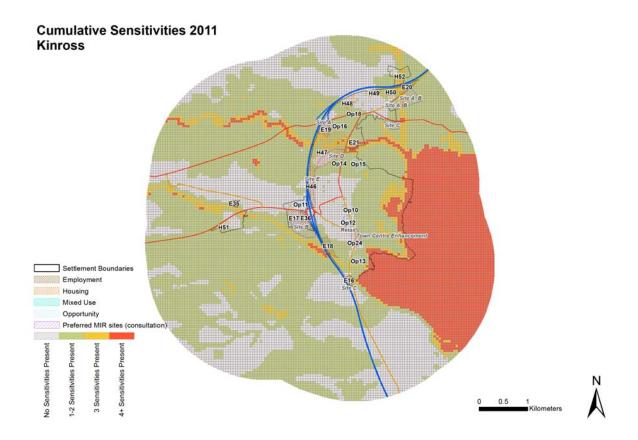
- 3.11 A further study of the type and extent of those sensitivities highlights that the key issues arising within the different Highland HMA expansion buffers include for:
 - Aberfeldy surface water areas, flooding and topography
 - Pitlochry protected sites and species, surface waters, the historic environment, woodland and topography constraints
 - Dunkeld/Birnam/Inver protected sites and species, the historic environment, and ancient woodland
- 3.12 In terms of the additional settlements within the Highland HMA, the assessment identified that combined key issues arising within those areas as a result of development proposals are designated sites (SSSI, SAC, NSA), protected species, non-designated archaeology, Gardens and Designed Landscape and Ancient/Semi Natural Woodland.

Kinross-shire Housing Market Area

3.13 Overall the assessment found that within the Kinross-shire HMA the key environmental sensitivities present are biodiversity (approx. 40%), landscape (approx. 30%), water and flooding (approx. 10%) and the historic environment (approx. 10%).

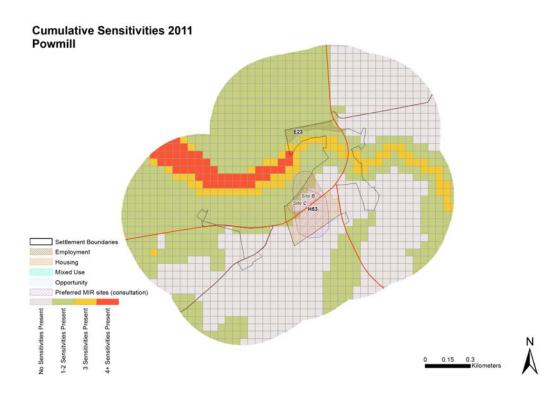
Cumulative Sensitivities - Kinross-shire HMA

3.14 The assessment of the cumulative strategic sensitivities at Kinross/Milnathort (which includes the settlements of Balado and Hattonburn) identified that within the 2.5 km expansion area buffer the majority of land (74%) is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present. The remaining 26% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 3-4 sensitivities (8%) or 4+ sensitivities (18%).

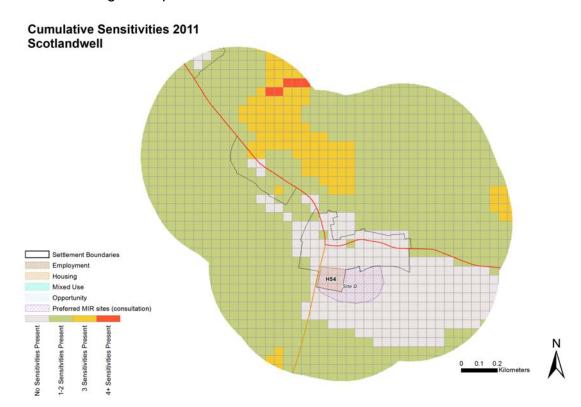


3.15 The assessment for the additional Kinross HMA settlements identified that at:

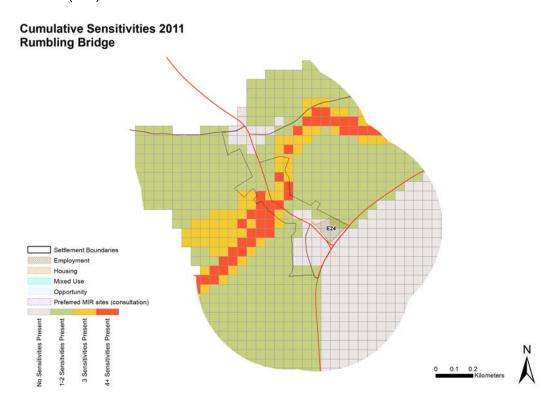
Powmill – 90% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 10% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (6%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%)



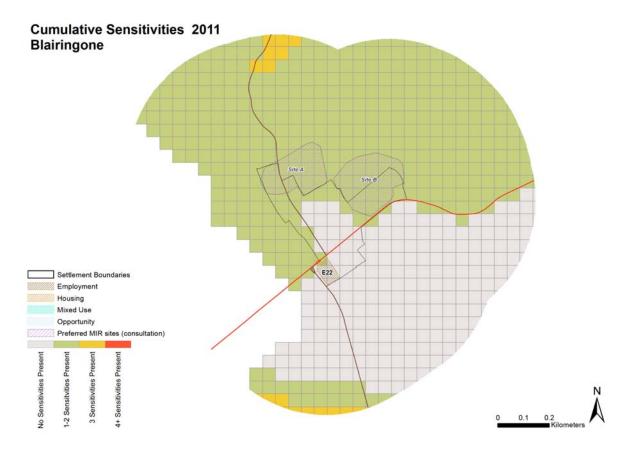
Scotlandwell – 91% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 9% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities



Rumbling Bridge – 88% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 12% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (8%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%)



Blairingone– 97% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 3% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities



Strategic Sensitivities – Kinross-shire HMA

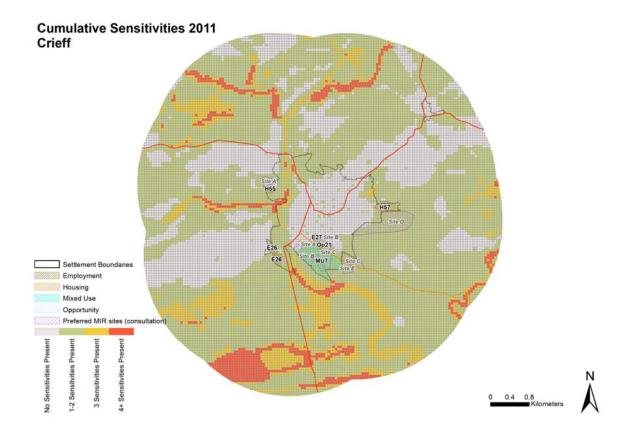
3.16 A further study of the type and extent of those sensitivities highlights that the key issues arising within the buffer at Kinross/Milnathort (including Hattonburn) as a result of the development proposals include water quality, flooding, prime quality agricultural land, the historic environment, designated sites (SPA/SSSI/Ramsar) and protected species in particular key bird populations. At the other settlements the combined key issues arising within the buffers as a result of the development proposals include: water quality, non-designated archaeology, flooding, prime quality agricultural land and landscape (AGLV).

Strathearn Housing Market Area

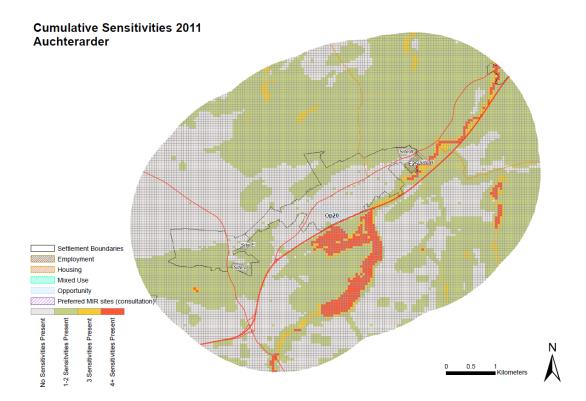
3.17 Overall the assessment found that within the Strathearn HMA the key environmental sensitivities present are biodiversity, landscape, water and flooding, prime quality agricultural land, and the historic environment; all with approximately 10% landcover.

Cumulative Sensitivities – Strathearn HMA

3.18 The assessment of the cumulative strategic sensitivities for Crieff identified that within the 2.5 km expansion area buffer, over three quarters of the area of land (78%) is either free of or had 1-2 sensitivities present. The remaining 22% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 3-4 sensitivities (14%) or 4+ sensitivities (8%).

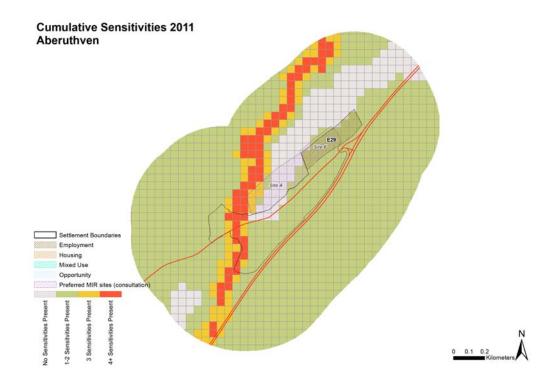


3.19 The assessment at Auchterarder identified that within the 2.5 km expansion area buffer 91% of the area of land is either free of or 1 sensitivity is present. The remaining 9% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 2-3 sensitivities (5%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%).

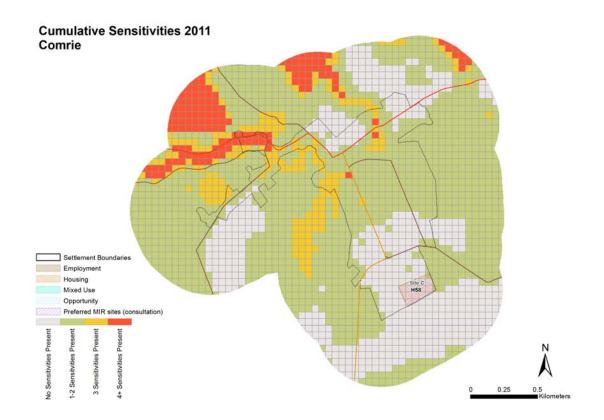


3.20 The assessment of the remaining landward settlements in the Strathearn HMA identified that at:

Aberuthven – 87% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 13% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (7%) or 4+ sensitivities (6%)



Comrie – 86% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 14% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (9%) or 4+ sensitivities (6%)



Strategic Sensitivities - Strathearn HMA

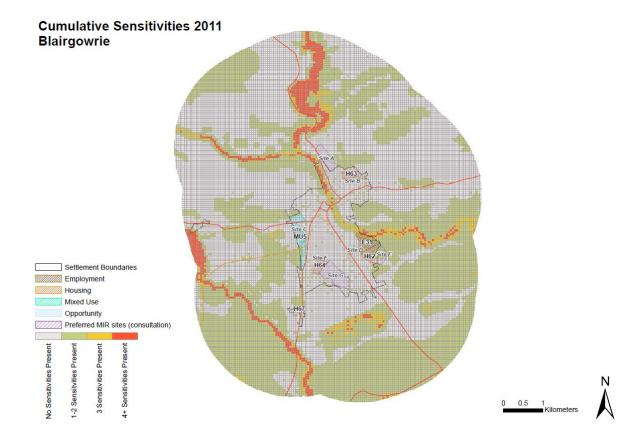
- **3.21** A further study of the type and extent of those sensitivities highlights that the key issues arising as a result of the development proposals within the buffers include for:
 - Crieff water quality and riparian areas, protected species, the historic environment and prime quality agricultural land
 - Auchterarder
 — water quality, flooding, the historic environment and prime quality agricultural land
- 3.22 At the other settlements in the HMA, the combined key issues arising within the buffer at Aberuthven as a result of the development proposals are water quality and prime agricultural land. No sensitivities were identified in terms of the development proposal at Comrie.

Strathmore and the Glens Housing Market Area

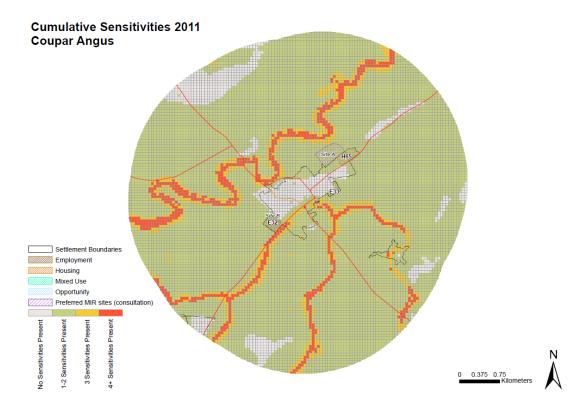
3.23 Overall the assessment found that within the Strathmore and the Glens HMA the key environmental sensitivities present are biodiversity (approx. 70%), prime quality agricultural land, water and flooding, and the historic environment, all with approximately 10% landcover.

Cumulative Sensitivities – Strathmore and the Glens HMA

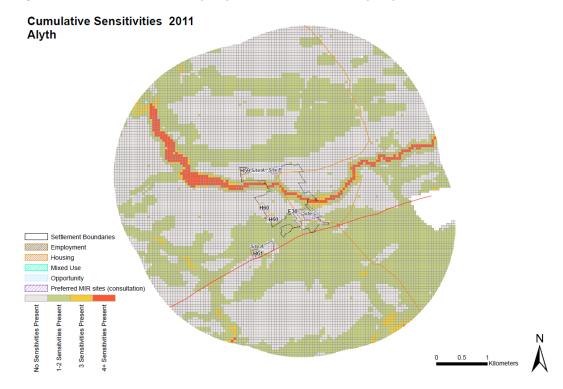
3.24 The assessment of the cumulative strategic sensitivities for Blairgowrie/Rattray (including the settlement of Carsie) showed that within the 2.5km expansion buffer 88% of the area is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present. The remaining 12% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 3-4 sensitivities (8%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%).



3.25 The assessment at Coupar Angus identified that within the 2.5km expansion buffer 77% of the area is either free of or has 1 sensitivity present. The remaining 23% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 2-3 sensitivities (18%) or 4+ sensitivities (5%).

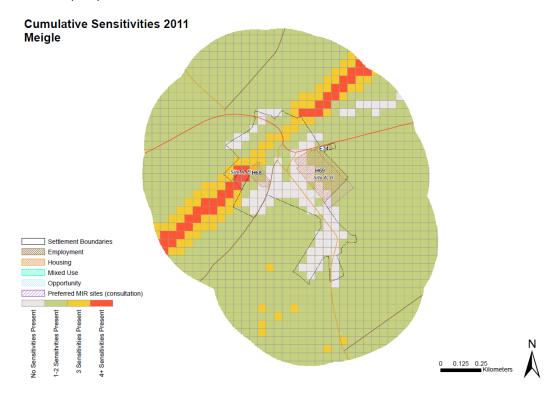


3.26 The assessment at Alyth (including the settlement of New Alyth) identified that with the 2.5km expansion area buffer 95% of the area is either free of or has 1 sensitivity present. The remaining 5% represents areas where development could potentially impact on 2-3 sensitivities (3%) or 4+ sensitivities (2%).

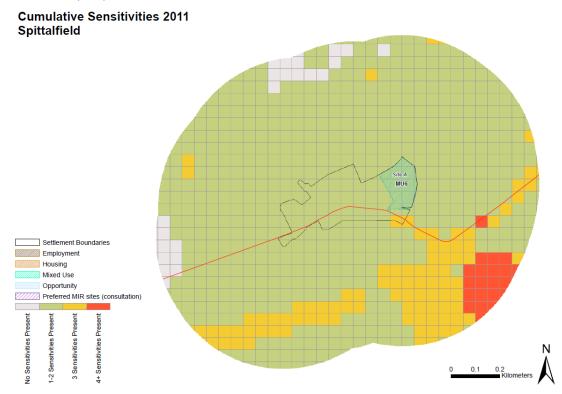


3.27 The assessment for the remaining landward settlements in the Strathmore and the Glens HMA identified that at:

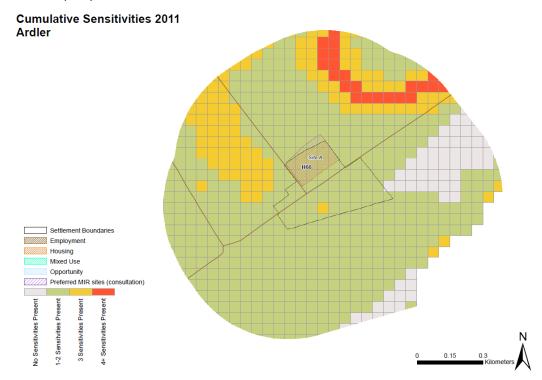
Meigle - 89% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 11% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (8%) or 4+ sensitivities (4%)



Spittalfield – 84% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 16% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (13%) or 4+ sensitivities (3%)

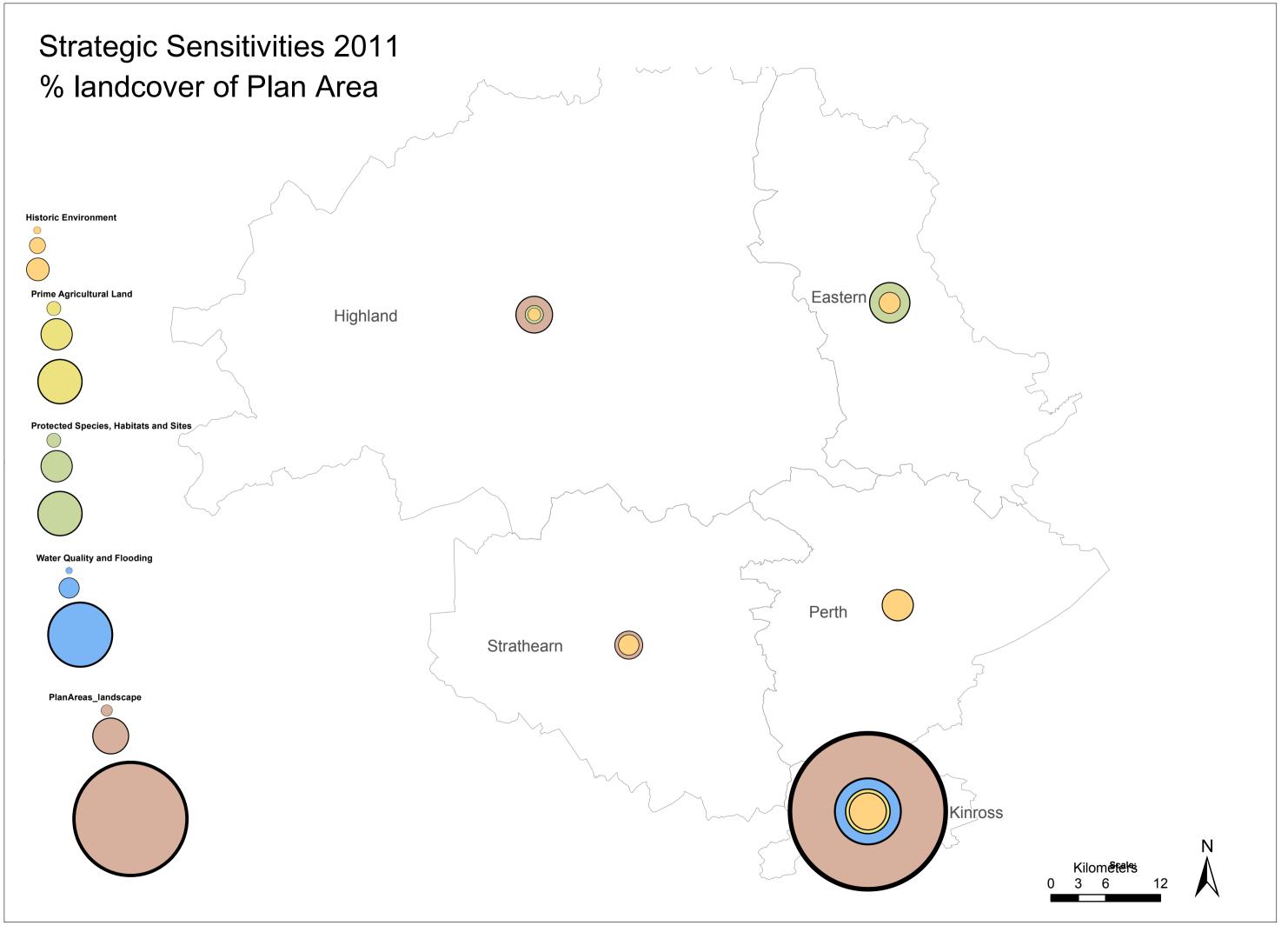


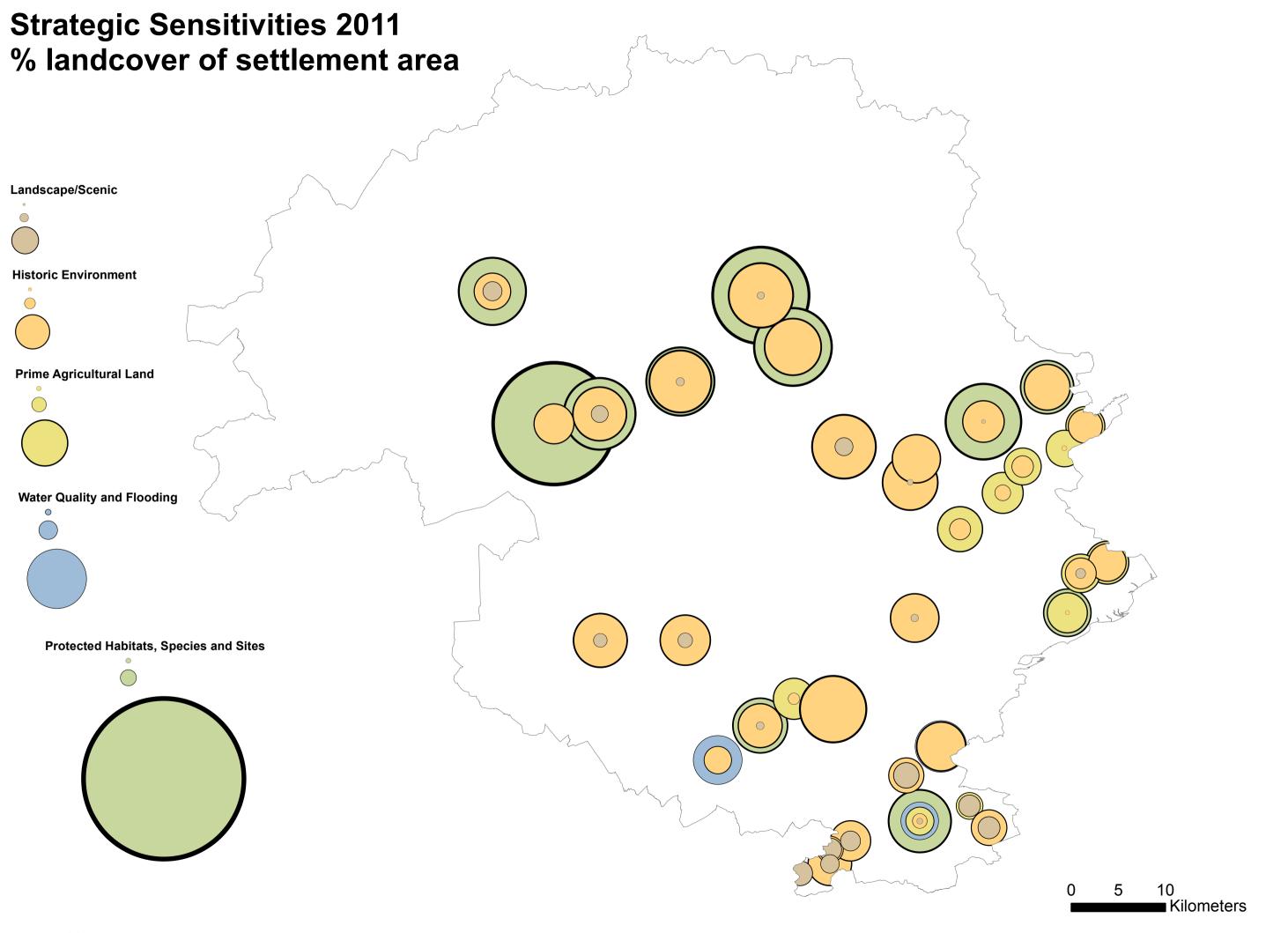
Ardler – 83% of the land is either free of or has 1-2 sensitivities present and the remaining 17% represents areas where there are 3-4 sensitivities (14%) or 4+ sensitivities (3%)



Strategic Sensitivities - Strathmore and the Glens HMA

- **3.28** A further study of the type and extent of those sensitivities highlights that the key issues arising within the buffers as a result of the development proposals include:
 - Blairgowrie/Rattray/Carsie prime quality agricultural land, designated sites (SAC and SSSI), water quality, flooding and the historic environment
 - ◆ Coupar Angus prime quality agricultural land, flooding and surface water areas
 - Alyth Water quality, designated sites (SAC), prime quality agricultural land and protected species
- 3.29 At the other settlements in the HMA the combined key issues arising within the buffer as a result of the development proposals include water quality, prime quality agricultural land, flooding, protected species, ancient/semi-natural woodlands and non-designated archaeology.







4 POLICY ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 This section of the Addendum provides a more detailed update to the summary of the findings from the analysis of potential LDP policy provided in the Environmental Report. It was not considered possible to assess the actual effect of the policy framework at the time of preparing the Environmental Report because the MIR did not contain any policies.
- 4.2 In order to keep the appraisal of policies structured and systematic, a matrix approach was used both in the carrying out of the assessments and in presenting the results. The methodology adopted resulted in the assessment of each of the Plan's policies against the 17 agreed SEA objectives. However, it is important to ensure that the assessment is not misrepresented as something more sophisticated than it actually is. The appraisal is based on a series of informed, professional judgements about the likely significant effects of policies and policy areas, using the best information available.

What was the outcome of the policy group's assessments?

4.3 Overall it is expected that the majority of the policy groups and the individual policies that sit within them will have significant positive effects, either individually or when delivered in combination with other policies in the LDP. In a number of instances the likely effects of policies were noted as being uncertain or unpredictable due to any potential impacts being largely dependent on the specific details of proposals, and how those policies are implemented through the Development Management process. In particular policies in the Economic Development, Retail and Commercial Development, Transport and Accessibility, Environmental Resources, and Environmental Protection and Public Safety groups were identified as having possible uncertain/unpredictable effects. However, in the event of potential significant effects being identified for specific proposals at planning application stage, it should be possible to avoid. Reduce and/or mitigate any such impacts through implementing the Plan's policy framework, and also in many instances provide appropriate enhancement measures.

Will any new supplementary guidance also be assessed?

4.4 Further detailed information and regulation for some of the policy topics will be provided at a future date through the production of supplementary guidance. Each supplementary guidance document will be subject to individual screening and assessment process for the requirement for an SEA.

5 MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT

- 5.1 Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act requires that measures are identified to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment as a result of implementing the Plan. Mitigation measures are an important part of SEA in that they offer an opportunity to not only address potential adverse effects of a plan, but also to make a plan even more positive than it may already be. As part of the environmental assessment of each of the alternatives consideration was given to the mitigation measures which would be necessary to offset any significant adverse impact on each of the SEA Objectives.
- 5.2 It was not considered possible at the time of preparing the SEA Environmental Report to include a list of specific mitigation and enhancement measures of a practical nature linked to sites due to the lack of a detailed policy framework having been developed for inclusion in the MIR, and the likelihood that many of the LDP policies could provide measures to help avoid, reduce or offset potential significant impacts.

What mitigation measures have been developed for the Plan?

- 5.3 The Plan's Development Strategy is founded on the principles of sustainable development, which are written into the vision and objectives of the strategy, this approach will help to ensure that adverse environmental effects during the implementation of the Local Development Plan (LDP) are minimised and beneficial effects maximised. The primary mitigation measure in the LDP will be the application of all relevant policies across the whole plan to all development proposals. Therefore, even if there is no specific reference to environmental protection policies in various sections of the plan, these policies will still apply and will be used by the Council in determining planning applications submitted to implement the allocated proposals.
- 5.4 Nonetheless, as part of the assessment process, mitigation measures have been identified that may be applied to offset significant adverse effects on the environment resulting from implementing the Plan. Mitigation measures are suggested and full details of the proposed mitigation measures and Council's responses will be presented in the Post Adoption Statement.
- Table 8.1 of the Addendum sets out a list of general mitigation and enhancement measures for each of the 17 SEA Objectives which are applicable to all proposals with the potential to impact on any of the individual SEA Objectives, and the specific mitigation and/or enhancement measures for the future development sites are provided in Appendix C to the Addendum.

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