

**Delayed Office Opening
for Employee Training**

*This office will be closed from
8.45 am - 11.00 am on the first
Thursday of each month.*



Planning & Development

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Our ref LDP2 SG

Date 16 August 2019

SEA Gateway team
2-J (South)
Victoria Quay
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Dear Sir or Madam

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
Screening Determination for Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan: Forest
& Woodland Strategy Supplementary Guidance**

This statement sets out the Council's determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 on whether or not a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required for the above Supplementary Guidance.

SEA Screening Procedure

The screening process involved consulting the following Consultation Authorities on whether the Supplementary Guidance is likely to have significant environmental effects:

- Historic Environment Scotland
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Natural Heritage

As well as consulting the above bodies, responsible authorities are required to take into account the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the Act when determining whether or not the Supplementary Guidance is likely to have significant environmental effects.

In this instance, the Council wrote to the Consultation Authorities on 27 June 2019 and the responses are summarised in the following table:

Consultation Authority	Comment	Likely to have significant environmental effects
Historic Environment Scotland	<p>Our understanding from the supplied screening report is that this strategy will support and guidance on Policy 38 of the Proposed Local Development Plan. We also note that the strategy will involve minor updates to the existing adopted strategy which was assessed in 2013 prior to its adoption. We note that it is the Council's consideration that as both the previous strategy and the LDP have been subject to full assessment, the updated strategy in itself is unlikely to lead to significant environmental effects. In light of this and the further information contained within the screening report we are content to agree that the strategy is unlikely to have significant effects on the historic environment.</p>	No
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	<p>We note that the screening report advises that the proposed supplementary guidance (SG) comprises of a minor update to the existing SG. The statement of findings also clarifies that the existing SG has been subject to full SEA already and required updates will only be minor and that as such will not result in any significant changes to the overall strategy, vision or objectives of the SG and resultant outputs.</p> <p>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 Forest and Woodland Strategy is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not likely, it is for the Perth and Kinross Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.</p> <p>Please note that although we do not consider that the Forest and Woodland Strategy will have significant strategic effects on the environment we do consider that it may have some effects. We would therefore welcome consultation on the draft proposals.</p>	No
Scottish Natural Heritage	<p>The screening report details the minor updates which are proposed to the existing Strategy. It states that the previous SEA is still relevant and provides a thorough and detailed environmental assessment of the guidance. We note that the overall strategy, vision and objectives will remain unchanged and the existing strategic framework will also be carried forward unchanged. We agree with your assessment that these revisions to the guidance as set out in the screening report are not likely to have significant environmental effects in respect of our main areas of interest.</p>	No

The Council has also considered the plan against the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the Act as part of the Screening Report, an analysis of which is attached.

Reasons for Determination

Having consulted the three consultation authorities, and having considered the criteria set out in the Act, the Council considers that the Forest & Woodland Strategy Supplementary Guidance is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

The Council has therefore determined that SEA is not required.

Yours faithfully

Andrew Ballantine
Planning Officer

Enc. Screening Report