

SCREENING REPORT

STEP 1 – DETAILS OF THE PLAN

Responsible Authority:

Perth & Kinross council

Title of the plan:

Gypsy / Traveller Site Standards Guidance Note.

What prompted the plan:

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

Policy 21 of the adopted Local Development Plan 2 (2019) (LDP2) sets out the criteria for new Gypsy/Traveller sites. The policy contains the note that "Additional Guidance will be prepared on Gypsy/Traveller sites".

Plan subject:

(e.g. transport)

New permanent Gypsy / Traveller residential or transit sites

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:

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Date:

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STEP 2 – CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

Context of the Plan:

Policy 21 of the adopted LPD2 sets out the criteria for new Gypsy/Traveller sites. Proposals for new sites are stated to supported subject to the listed criteria. It is stated as a note in LDP2 that additional guidance will be prepared. It is understood that more clarity is needed for Gypsy/Travellers as to what the expectations are when proposing a new site. This guidance is intended to clarify when planning permission is required and what information will help satisfy the requirements of policy 21.

Description of the Plan:

The guidance provides initial information on when planning permission, building permits and caravan licences are required. Further detail is then provided on each of the criteria. This is provided for both permanent residential sites and transit sites which have more temporary usage. The guidance applies to the whole of the Perth & Kinross planning authority area. This is non-statutory guidance and will need to be updated as national planning policy comes forward or may be superseded if national guidance is produced. It has been produced in consultation with the travelling community.

What are the key components of the plan?

Introduction and Requirements
Site Standards
-Number and Nature of Pitches
-Physical Character
- Neighbouring Land Uses
-Essential Services
-Access and Traffic
-Safe Environment
-Generators

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

Policy 21 was assessed for as part of the LDP2 SEA. The conclusion reached was that policy was expected to have an overall positive effect on the SEA topics, specifically with reference to population, human health, and material assets concerned with minimising and reducing waste. The effect on townscape setting is uncertain however, it is likely that if development occurs on brownfield sites then the reuse will be a positive effect and add to the protection of the setting of a settlement. There aren't expected to be any effects on waterbody status, soils or climatic factors.

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

Box 9.

**STEP 3 – IDENTIFYING INTERACTIONS OF THE PLAN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND
CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY INTERACTIONS (Box 10)**

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		
Introduction / requirements	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	✓	x	x	Potential for effects with regards population, human health and water by clarifying existing requirements regarding planning permission, building warrants By making the process clear for traditional sites this promotes retention of intangible cultural heritage	Negligible positive effect, as these are only stating existing requirements.
Number/nature of pitches	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	By setting out requirements for space ensures a safe environment.	Negligible positive effect as these requirements are likely to be desired by applicants anyway.
Physical Character	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	✓	✓	x	Potential for improvement to existing applications by emphasising landscaping requirements	Neutral effect identified as sites will be required to fit in with their surroundings. The LDP2 SEA for policy 21 noted that the effect on townscape would be largely location dependent.
Neighbouring Land Uses & Generators	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Potential for positive effects by avoiding noise concerns and promoting privacy and safety in location.	Negligible positive effect, as this largely reflects site preferences
Essential Services	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓	x	x	x	x	Potential for positive climate and health effects by promoting sustainable access to services. Water supply, drainage requirements also addressed	Negligible positive effect as this largely reflects requirements already in place in LDP2.

Access and Traffic & Safe Environment	x	✓	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	This addresses safety with potential positive effects	Negligible positive effect as just expanding on the existing criteria
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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.)

The Gypsy/Traveller Sites Planning Guidance simplifies expectations of the Planning Authority when assessing proposals. It sets out in more detail the criteria in policy 21 which has already been assessed as part of the SEA for higher plans namely LDP2. This greater detail conforms to that policy and others in LDP2 which have already been assessed. There is likely to be limited beneficial effects but this largely arises from applicants being more easily to navigate the requirements of LDP2 policies rather than an effect of the guidance itself. .

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

Completion guidance (Please delete before submission)

Link to SEA Guidance: <http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2013/08/3355>

Box 1	<p>Name of the organisation that is responsible for the plan.</p> <p>Note: The responsible Authority is any person, body or office holder exercising functions of a public Character. Where more than one authority is responsible for a plan they should reach an agreement as to who is responsible for the SEA. Where an agreement cannot be reached, the Scottish Ministers can make the determination (Extract from SEA Guidance: Glossary (Page 50)).</p>
Box 2	<p>Name of the plan.</p> <p>Note: The 2005 Act applies to plans which relate to matters of a public character. The term 'plan' within guidance also covers policy, programme and strategy (Extract from SEA Guidance: Glossary (Page 50)).</p>
Box 3	<p>In terms of screening, knowing why a plan is being produced is one of the key components in understanding whether the plan falls into Section 5(3) or 5(4) of the 2005 Act.</p>
Box 4	<p>The 2005 Act outlines the sectors as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town & country planning and land use.</p>
Box 5	<p>As well as briefly describing what the plan is intended to do and how it will achieve it, it is important to outline whether the plan sits within a hierarchy and its relationships with other plans and policies.</p> <p>Schedule 2 part 1 of the 2005 Act details criteria relating to a plan setting a framework for projects and other activities, and influencing other plans including those in a hierarchy.</p> <p>In terms of screening for likely environmental effects, knowing the context of a plan and where it will sit in a hierarchy of other plans is a key component in understanding the likely scope and remit of the plan and where the most appropriate assessment should take place. The description of the context should build on the information provided for Box 3 and contain sufficient information to allow those reading the screening report to understand the role of the plan in the wider policy context. Brief descriptive information such the relationship of the plan with overarching policy, links with other plans, and the influence on and from overarching ambitions or objectives should be considerations. This type of information can help paint a clear screening picture and whether an SEA of the plan is suitable in the circumstances.</p>
Box 6	<p>The description of the plan being screened has to contain sufficient information to allow those reading the notification to understand the objectives of the plan and how the Responsible Authority aims to deliver them. This may differ between spatial plans, policy based plans and aspirational plans (or a mix of these). The description should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The focus and direction of the plans – Including the 'powers' it will have,

	<p>the direction, status and importance it may bring, the ‘targets’ it will set, the legislation it will initiate, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Its spatial scope - i.e. will it be nationally, regionally or locally focused, will there be specific area, location or boundary outlined. • Its temporal scope – i.e. will it be introduced for a set period of time before the next iteration? • The individual components of the plan – Including policy areas and plan components that it will cover (e.g. the sectors covered in a plan, specific technologies that will be considered, any new restrictions to be introduced, or measures that could be considered intrinsic mitigations). • Any new powers the plan may be given or may give to other activities • The vision, objectives and aims of the plan where these are clear. <p>It may also prove helpful to include other information in a summary, such as whether the plan is expected to improve or strengthen the current approach, the reason the plan is being prepared, who it would apply to and the timescale for delivery. This type of information should build upon that provided for Box 5 and can help paint a clear picture of whether screening is suitable in the circumstances.</p>
Box 7	<p>Information included in this section should clearly set out the components of the plan (e.g. policy areas covered or the relevant likely sections of the plan) and allow the reader to see which components of the plan are being considered in the screening process.</p>
Box 8	<p>Are you confident that all significant environmental effects arising from this plan have already been covered in earlier SEA work?</p> <p>Most plans sit in a wider policy hierarchy, influenced by and/or influencing other plans and policies within the hierarchy. In many cases, previous SEA work is likely to have been undertaken on other plans and policies, and these may be of relevance to the consideration of the likelihood of significant environment effects associated with the development of the plan.</p> <p>These assessments may have considered components of the plan, and in some cases, there may be the possibility of screening out certain components of a plan as these have been previously assessed (e.g. through SEA of an overarching policy, or assessment of a previous plan that includes several components duplicated within the current plan). It is essential to have full confidence that components have been previously assessed, to an appropriate level, prior to its removal from further consideration. Even a small deviation from previously assessed policy, changes in the sensitivity or knowledge of environmental receptors affected, and length of time since assessment are likely to result in the need for new assessment.</p> <p>Information included in this section should clearly identify the plan components and refer to the previous assessment work undertaken to demonstrate that they have been ‘captured’ in the SEA process in accordance with the requirements of the 2005 Act and the satisfaction of the Consultation Authorities.</p>

Box 9	Based upon the content of Boxes 7 and 8, this section should identify the components of the plan that require screening. These components can then be taken forward into the next section of the screening process.
Box 10	<p>Is the plan, and its components, likely to have potential interactions with the environment, either direct or indirectly?</p> <p>The next step in this approach is identifying the potential for interactions of the plan with the environment. A table such as that provided could aid in identifying the likely interactions of the policy and its components against each of the environmental topic areas set out in Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act. This step is aimed at helping Responsible Authorities to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the 2005 Act and transparency in reaching their conclusions of the screening process.</p> <p>Note that the Responsible Authority should refer to and, where appropriate, address the criteria outlined within Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act in determining the likely significance of effects on the environment. Therefore, it is recommended that the Responsible Authority consider the probability, duration, frequency, reversibility, magnitude and spatial extent of any potential effects; the cumulative and transboundary nature of effects; the value and vulnerability of the area(s) likely to be affected; and risk to human health and the environment; amongst others. Further explanation of the criteria detail in Sections 1(a) – 1(e) and 2(a) – 2(g) is provided in the Scottish Government’s SEA Guidance (Section 3.3: Making a Screening Determination, Available at http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2013/08/3355/3).</p> <p>Note the 2005 Act does not distinguish between positive and negative environmental effects and either, if significant, could trigger an SEA.</p>
Box 11	<p>Upon consideration of the previous sections, a Responsible Authority should make a finding on whether there is the likelihood of significant environmental effects associated with adoption of the plan.</p> <p>The information in this section should provide a summary of the likely interactions of the plan with the environment, and conclude whether the Responsible Authority consider that an SEA is required or not.</p> <p>If likely significant effects are identified by a Responsible Authority, then an SEA must be undertaken and the decision to do this advertised. The information presented at screening and Consultation Authority views on this can also help to inform the next stage of the SEA process (Scoping). Similarly, if no significant effects are identified a determination to that effect must be undertaken and then advertised.</p>