Perth and Kinross Council

Circular Economy Strategy

SEA Post-Adoption Statement

March 2026

Cover Note

SEA Post-Adoption Statement: PART 1	
1.1	An SEA Post-Adoption Statement is attached for the Perth and Kinross Council Circular Economy Strategy.
1.2	The Responsible Authority is Perth & Kinross Council.

SEA Post-Adoption Statement: PART 2		
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Date	25th March 2026	

SEA Post-Adoption Statement: PART 3

INTRODUCTION

The Perth and Kinross Circular Economy Strategy and Action Plan 2026 – 2031 adopted by Perth and Kinross Council on 18th February 2026 outlines the Council's vision and strategic approach towards sustainable consumption, production, and resource management for the next 5 years.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

This document (referred to as the post-adoption SEA statement) has been prepared in accordance with Section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The Perth and Kinross Circular Economy Strategy (CES) has been subject to a process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), as required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. This has included the following activities:

- Taking into account the views of the Consultation Authorities regarding the scope and level of detail that was appropriate for the Environmental Report.

- Preparing an Environmental Report on the likely significant effects on the environment of the draft Plan which included consideration of:

  - The baseline data relating to the current state of the environment;
  - Links between the strategic action with other relevant policies, plans, programmes, strategies and environmental objectives;
  - Existing environmental problems affecting the strategic action;
  - The strategic action's likely significant effects on the environment (positive and negative);
  - The mitigation measures envisaged;
  - Monitoring measures to ensure that any unforeseen environmental effects will be identified allowing for appropriate remedial action to be taken.

- Consulting on the Environmental Report.

- Taking into account the Environmental Report and the results of consultation in making final decisions regarding the strategic action.

- Committing to monitoring the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the plan to identify any unforeseen adverse significant environmental effects and to taking appropriate remedial action. The key findings are incorporated into the following sections.

SEA Post-Adoption Statement

This Post Adoption Statement demonstrates how the findings of the SEA have been considered in the adopted Perth and Kinross Council Circular Economy Strategy (CES). In accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Post-Adoption Statement will demonstrate:

- The integration of environmental considerations into the CES;
- How the findings of the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- How opinions expressed, from the Consultation Authorities, during the consultation of the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- The reasons for choosing the CES as adopted in light of other reasonable alternatives; and,
- The measures to be taken to monitor the significant effects of the implementation of the CES.

The post-adoption statement is organised as follows:

Section 1 - Key facts. Outlines the CES remit and the enabling legislation.

Section 2 - Environmental considerations. Details how environmental considerations have been integrated into the CES and notes how the environmental problems identified in the Scoping and Environmental Reports have been addressed.

Section 3 - Consideration of Alternatives. Details the methods adopted to develop the CES.

Section 4 - Consultation. Sets out the responses received from the Consultation Authorities and other interested parties, which are of relevance to the SEA Environmental Report. It states the actions taken as a result of the responses received from the Consultation Authorities.

Section 5 - Monitoring. Details the monitoring required to ensure compliance with the CES.

Section 6 - Conclusion. Summarises how the SEA process has informed the development of the CES.

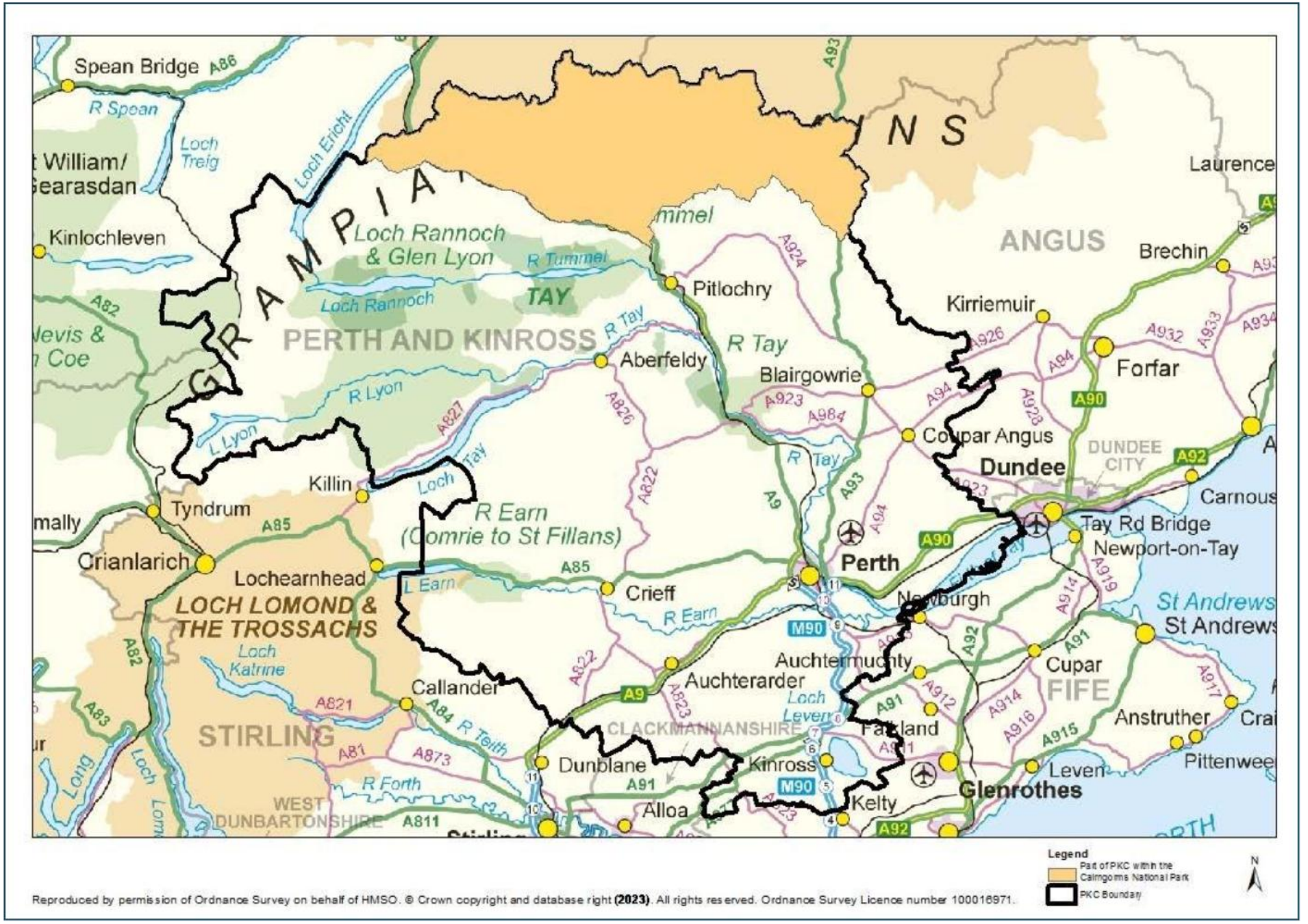
Section 1 - Key facts

Name of Responsible Authority	Perth and Kinross Council
Title of Plan, Programme or Strategy (PPS)	Perth and Kinross Circular Economy Strategy
Purpose of PPS	Through the establishment of the Circular Economy (Scotland) Act 2024 and the publishing of Scotland's Circular Economy and Waste route map to 2030 in December 2024, the Scottish Government has demonstrated its commitment to a circular economy based on sustainable consumption, production, and resource management. Perth and Kinross Council policy and strategy needs to reflect this new legislative and national policy framework. The existing Perth and Kinross Council Waste Management Plan 2010 - 2025 expired at the end of 2025, and in recognition of the national focus on the circular economy, the opportunity has been taken to incorporate and include the functions of the waste management plan within the scope of a wider circular economy strategy for Perth and Kinross. This will ensure that the Council is aligned to legislation and government policy and will provide a fresh impetus for further service improvement, including the provision of new services and a greater emphasis on public engagement and behaviour change.
What promoted the PPS (legislative, regulatory, or administrative provision)	Prompted by an action identified in the approved Perth and Kinross Climate Strategy and Action Plan to develop a Perth and Kinross Waste and Circular Economy Strategy.
Subject	Waste Management
Period covered	2026 - 2031
Frequency of updates	To mitigate and support the impacts of future uncertainly on the Council's Circular Economy Strategy, annual reviews will take place to ensure plans remain relevant and responsive.
Contact Point	For any enquiries relating to the Environmental Report and Strategy contact: Angela Harris – aharris@pkc.gov.uk
Website Address	A copy of the Environmental Report and accompanying appendices can be accessed via the Council's SEA web page
Area covered by PPS	Perth and Kinross Council Area. See Map 1.

Summary of nature/ content of the PPS	The Circular Economy Strategy and accompanying Action Plan sets the vision for waste reduction and management within the wider scope of a circular economy - to build communities where everyone understands how to use resources responsibly and reduce waste. The strategy focuses on delivering action against a number of strategic priorities and objectives, with focus across 4 delivery areas. Each delivery area will be examined for how it currently contributes to delivering the circular economy in Perth and Kinross, the opportunities and challenges this presents, and setting, monitoring and reporting actions to implement this. **Strategic Priorities and Objectives:** **Priority 1. Reduce and Reuse** • Work with our residents and businesses to change patterns of production, consumption and disposal • Improve circularity of the Tayside Food System to promote local, healthy eating and reduce food waste and food poverty • Reduce textile waste • Ensure Council services, including schools, model best practice to lead by example. **Priority 2. Modernise Recycling** • Modernise household recycling and reuse services to maximise performance and meet evolving needs, in a fair and inclusive way • Support businesses and commercial premises to reduce waste and maximise recycling. **Priority 3. Decarbonise Disposal** • Understand the best environmental outcomes for specific wastes • Ensure there is an appropriate capacity to manage waste • Improve environmental outcomes for waste through innovation • Support the incentivisation of decarbonising waste. **Priority 4. Strengthening the Circular Economy** • Set the strategic direction and act as a regional catalyst for change

	• Grow the enabling environment to support and attract circular businesses • Encourage circular construction practices • Coordinate action across cross-cutting areas and robustly monitor, evaluate and report progress. **Priority 5. Behaviour Change** • Encourage consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours • Demonstrate how people can save money by engaging in reuse and repair activities • Highlight the environmental and financial impact of poor waste management practices and behaviours.

Map 1: Area covered by the Perth and Kinross Circular Economy Strategy



Section 2 - Environmental Considerations

This chapter highlights how environmental considerations have been integrated into the final CES.

2.1 Significant environmental effects identified in relation to implementing the CES

No significant **negative** environmental effects were identified in relation to the environmental problems highlighted at the scoping/environmental report stages (as detailed in Table 2). Risks associated with minor negative impacts were generally short-term and easily mitigable, with the overall positive effects of the strategy far outweighing any risks.

Twenty-four significant **positive** environmental effects (across the SEA topics of Climatic factors and Material assets) were identified in relation to implementing the CES, and the CES Strategy and Action Plan has been further developed to address this.

2.2 Integration of Environmental Considerations in the Circular Economy Strategy

Table 2 highlights how the environmental considerations identified in the Scoping and Environmental Reports have been addressed through the CES.

Table 1: Implementing Environmental Considerations

SEA topic	Environmental Considerations from Scoping/Environmental Reports	Incorporating Environmental Considerations
Biodiversity, Flora, and Fauna	• There are a significant number and range of locally and internationally important natural heritage assets across Perth and Kinross which must be protected, and where possible enhanced.	The CES is likely to have a positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna, as the strategy vision advocates for decision making that supports the environment and protects nature. Implementing the proposed CES objectives is anticipated to contribute towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions locally.

	• Nature based tourism contributes greatly to the local economy. • Many habitats, particularly montane (mountain) habitats, are at risk from Climate Change and could disappear if temperatures increase significantly. • 25% of woodland cover is native woodland species.	**CES Objective 4.1 'Set the strategic direction and act as a regional catalyst for change'** is anticipated to: • protect, maintain, and enhance biodiversity through raising public awareness of resource conservation linked to climate and biodiversity goals. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.
Population and Human Health	• Perth and Kinross has a large rural population (67%). • The population of Perth and Kinross is predicted to increase. • Life expectancy is also increasing across Perth and Kinross, with implications for an ageing population. • Approximately 20% of population live in poverty, with child poverty showing an increasing trend. • Resident satisfaction with street cleanliness and local refuse collection is worsening, with rubbish and fouling identified as problematic.	Implementing the CES will have a positive impact on population and human health by helping to relieve pressure that a growing population will have on waste operations and infrastructure and contributing towards more efficient waste collection and disposal solutions, particularly in rural areas. This, along with action to address littering and fly-tipping, will assist in improving resident satisfaction with street cleanliness and refuse collection. Acting on food waste, the CES will also contribute towards reducing food poverty. In particular, the following CES objectives are anticipated to provide positive benefits to human health: **CES Objective 1.2 'Improve circularity of the Tayside Food System to promote local, healthy eating and reduce food waste and food poverty'** - creating conditions to improve health and reduce health inequalities by:

		• increasing access to affordable, nutritious local food that will directly improve physical health • reducing food poverty contributing to reducing health inequalities • promoting healthier eating habits helping to lower risks of diet-related diseases • strengthening community resilience and social cohesion through local food networks and increasing education and awareness around healthy diets. **CES Objective 3.4 'Support the incentivisation of decarbonising waste'** and **CES Objective 5.1 'Empower consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours'** - protecting and improving human health and wellbeing through improving the quality of the living environment of people and communities by: • contributing towards public health improvements through reduced waste and pollution creating cleaner environments. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.
Soil	• A large part of Perth and Kinross is covered by Prime Quality Agricultural Land and other nationally important carbon rich soils and peatland. There is potential for irreversible loss of soil through development, contamination,	The CES is likely to have a positive impact in relation to reducing activities which risk pollution, disruption, and degradation of soils, helping to safeguard and improve soil quality locally. Reducing and/or eliminating the extraction of peat for horticultural use will have a positive impact for biodiversity and climate.

	compaction, or erosion. The Area's most important soils should be protected from development and enhanced and restored (where appropriate).	In particular, the following CES objectives are anticipated to provide positive benefits to soils: **CES Objective 1.2 'Improve circularity of the Tayside Food System to promote local, healthy eating and reduce food waste and food poverty'** - safeguarding and improving soil quality, quantity and function (particularly high value agricultural land and carbon-rich soils) by: • increased composting of food waste returning organic matter to soils, improving fertility and structure • reduced reliance on chemical fertilisers lowering soil contamination risk • encouraging regenerative farming practices that protect carbon-rich soils and prevent erosion • creating long-term soil health improvements by supporting sustainable agriculture and food security • increasing awareness of soil stewardship through local food initiatives • enhanced carbon sequestration potential, contributing to climate mitigation. **CES Objective 5.1 'Encourage consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours'** - safeguarding and improving soil quality, quantity and function (particularly high value agricultural land and carbon-rich soils) by:

		• helping to preserve soils, habitats, and ecosystem services by reduced extraction and consumption of primary natural resources as a result of prioritising waste prevention, reuse, repair, remanufacturing, refurbishing, and high-quality recycling.
Water	Over 60% of the surface waters within Perth and Kinross achieved moderate to high water quality status in 2020. However, there are rivers in the north, northwest, east and south of the Council Area which achieved poor or bad water quality status.	The CES is likely to contribute to an improvement in relation to the water environment, with limiting production and disposal of goods and products anticipated to improve sustainable water use through limiting unnecessary water-intensive processes. Levels of water pollution are likely to fall due to an expected decrease in residual waste arisings (and therefore disposal) as well as a fall in demand for material extraction and product manufacturing, all of which contribute to water pollution risks. In particular, the following CES objectives are anticipated to provide positive benefits to water: **CES Objective 1.3 'Reduce textile waste' and CES Objective 5.1 'Encourage consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours'** - limiting water pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems by: • reduced water and chemical use and consumption associated with the textile industry through prioritising waste prevention, reuse, repair, remanufacturing, refurbishing, and high-quality recycling. **CES Objective 4.4 'Coordinate action across cross-cutting areas and robustly monitor, evaluate and report progress'** - ensuring the

		sustainable use of water resources through the promotion of more sustainable management of natural resources by: • working with partners to develop and integrate resource efficiency measures across the water sector, leading to reduced duplication and waste. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.
Air	• Air pollutant levels for Particulate Matter (PM10) and Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) within the area have improved in recent years, although NO2 levels are increasing for Atholl Street in Perth.	The CES is likely to contribute to an improvement in air quality from less pollution as a result of reduced material extraction, manufacturing, and disposal. This in turn is likely to reduce emissions of key pollutants as well as nuisance such as odour and noise. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.
Climatic Factors	• Agriculture accounts for 31% of net CO_2 emissions of all net areawide greenhouse gas emissions and remains the main source of methane and nitrous oxide emissions • Waste, industry and public sector emissions collectively account for 10% of net area-wide greenhouse gas emissions.	The CES is likely to have a **significant positive impact** towards improving environmental impact in relation to climatic factors. Reducing food waste throughout the farm to fork supply chain is likely to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with food. Circular economy principles aim to reduce the use of virgin material and high energy intensive production. There is potential for increased greenhouse gas emissions from energy and resource use associated with maintaining and repairing existing products, and in the processing of recyclate into secondary materials.

		In particular, the following CES objectives are anticipated to provide significant positive benefits to climatic factors by avoiding new Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and reducing GHG emissions in order to meet Scotland CO2 emissions reduction target of net zero by 2045: **CES Objective 1.1 'Work with our residents and businesses to change patterns of production, consumption and disposal':** • reducing GHG emissions by cutting waste generation and lowering the need for energy-intensive disposal methods (such as incineration) • encouraging businesses to adopt low-carbon production processes and sustainable practices, reducing unnecessary manufacturing and helping to prevent emissions associated with raw material extraction and logistics • community-level initiatives (repair, reuse, and recycling) leading to reduced emissions from transport and waste handling • systemic reductions in emissions by shifting towards a circular economy that prioritises resource efficiency and low-carbon supply chains • reduced raw mineral extraction through reduced demand for imported goods and long-distance transportation, lowering embedded emissions across supply chains and the lifecycle of goods • supporting a cultural and economic shift toward sustainable practices to ensure long-term reductions in carbon emissions.

		CES Objective 1.2 'Improve circularity of the Tayside Food System to promote local, healthy eating and reduce food waste and food poverty': • lowering pressure on waste management infrastructure by reducing food waste • less reliance on energy-intensive waste disposal (e.g., incineration) conserves energy resources • supporting efficient use of existing material assets by minimising unnecessary strain • composting and soil improvement enhancing natural flood resilience - reducing reliance on engineered flood protection • promoting circular resource use leading to reduced demand for new infrastructure • strengthening local food systems - making them more resilient to climate-related disruptions. **CES Objective 1.3 'Reduce textile waste':** • lower landfill and incineration emissions (methane and CO_2 during decomposition) from less textile waste in landfill • reducing waste directly reduces incineration related CO_2 and other pollutants • reduced waste creating fewer emissions from collection, transport, and processing of textiles

		• reduced virgin textile production leading to less highly carbon-intensive textile manufacturing (cotton, polyester, dyeing, finishing) • increased reuse/recycling reduces demand for new production – reducing waste and upstream emissions • lower supply chain emissions from less production causing fewer raw materials extracted, processed, and transported globally. • reduced water and chemical use in production indirectly cutting energy-related emissions. **CES Objective 3.4 'Support the incentivisation of decarbonising waste':** • significant GHG reduction from avoiding methane emissions in landfill • high potential for renewable energy generation via anaerobic digestion and biogas • major reduction in CO_2 from incineration by prioritising recycling and reuse • strong contribution to Scotland's net zero target through material recovery and circular economy practices • incentivising decarbonisation by accelerating adoption of low-carbon technologies and reducing landfill methane • encouraging behavioural change as incentives encourage households and businesses to reduce waste • high innovation stimulus in low-carbon waste technologies and infrastructure

		• supporting economic benefits through green jobs and supply chain decarbonisation. **CES Objective 4.4 'Coordinate action across cross-cutting areas and robustly monitor, evaluate and report progress':** • promoting better coordination across circular economy themes (materials, waste, procurement, design, infrastructure) to help reduce duplication, gaps and inefficiencies - directly lowers avoidable emissions • robust monitoring, evaluation and reporting improving the ability to track emissions related performance, identify hotspots and intervene early - directly preventing unnecessary emissions growth • providing accountability and enabling timely corrective measures accelerates progress toward net zero • transparent reporting that builds trust and drives continuous improvement, indirectly driving further emissions reduction • strong coordination supporting consistent behaviour and actions across sectors, improving uptake of low-carbon approaches (e.g., reuse systems, repair, low-emission logistics) • encouraging stakeholder collaboration and knowledge sharing, leading to innovative solutions • improving public confidence and engagement, which can influence behavioural change and investment in low-carbon technologies

		• strengthened governance and policy coherence making long-term decarbonisation strategies more resilient. **CES Objective 5.1 'Encourage consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours':** • reducing greenhouse gas emissions by cutting demand for highly carbon-intensive virgin material extraction, processing, and manufacturing • repairing, reusing, and remanufacturing extending product lifetimes - reducing the need for new production and associated fossil fuel use. • circular practices driving eco-design and efficiency improvements - reducing operational emissions during product use and promote low-carbon supply chains • buying less new goods and increasing local repair helps lower transport-related GHG emissions when combined with clean logistics strategies. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.
Material Assets	• 44% of household waste is currently disposed of via landfill • 6% of collected organic waste is from food and drink waste • Incorrect disposal of waste by fly tipping is an increasing problem.	The CES is likely to have a **significant positive impact** towards improving the environmental effects on material assets. The CES will build on the Council's successful existing Residual Waste Contract Award to provide a long-term solution for the ban on landfilling of municipal waste. It will also encourage greater use of local recycling facilities and reuse of construction and demolition

		material onsite, as well as greater levels of reprocessing. It will also promote measures to reduce food waste and reduce levels of litter and fly-tipping, so materials are kept in use for longer. The CES is aligned with the ongoing Asset Management Review of Waste and Recycling Infrastructure to establish investment requirements to support a sustainable (monetary & carbon) operational asset base. Measures will be promoted to incorporate sustainable design and construction for durability, repair and upgradability so products and materials are kept in use for as long as possible. In particular, the following CES objectives are anticipated to provide **significant positive** benefits towards reducing 'leakage' of material to landfill or energy recovery or as litter and reducing the use and promoting more sustainable management of natural resources. **CES Objective 1.1 'Work with our residents and businesses to change patterns of production, consumption and disposal':** • by reducing the amount of material sent to landfill or energy recovery • promoting reuse, repair, and recycling - helping conserve finite material assets (such as metals, minerals, and timber) through reduced use of raw materials, ensuring more materials remain in circulation rather than becoming waste • businesses adopting circular practices significantly cutting resource inputs in manufacturing - leading to immediate reductions in material consumption

		• systemic shift toward a circular economy embedding resource efficiency into supply chains and consumer behaviour - reducing dependency on virgin materials and lowering environmental degradation from extraction • community engagement programs and business incentives leading to immediate reductions in litter and fly-tipping. **CES Objective 2.1 'Modernise household recycling and reuse services to maximise performance and meet evolving needs':** • reduced leakage as a result of increased waste collection efficiency and coverage • providing reuse hubs and better segregation facilities • minimising litter through improved infrastructure and public engagement • encouraging community participation in waste prevention and reuse • supporting circular economy principles by reducing reliance on landfill and incineration. **CES Objective 2.2 'Support businesses and commercial premises to reduce waste and maximise recycling':** • reducing waste and maximising recycling directly cuts the amount of material going to landfill or energy recovery and lowers litter risk

		• encouraging a circular economy mindset across supply chains and customers leads to reductions in leakage beyond individual businesses. **CES Objective 3.3 'Improve environmental outcomes for waste through innovation':** • innovation through advanced sorting and recycling technologies will directly reduce landfill disposal and litter • innovative waste solutions directly reduce leakage by improving recycling systems, introducing closed-loop processes, and minimising residual waste • promoting innovative circular economy practices and reducing overall waste generation lowers the risk of litter and leakage throughout the supply chain. **CES Objective 4.1 'Set the strategic direction and act as a regional catalyst for change':** • embedding resource efficiency in regional policy ensures systematic reduction in raw material use • strategic waste diversion and reuse directly reduces demand for virgin resources • integration of sustainable procurement standards in council-led projects acts as a catalyst for circular economy adoption across businesses and communities • influences regional supply chains to adopt resource-efficient practices

		• promotes innovation in sustainable materials and low-carbon technologies • raises public awareness of resource conservation linked to climate and biodiversity goals. **CES Objective 4.2 'Grow the enabling environment to support and attract circular businesses':** • circular businesses directly reducing waste sent to landfill and energy recovery through reuse, repair, and recycling • lower litter generation due to improved product life cycles and repair services • systemic adoption of circular economy principles significantly cutting material leakage across supply chains and communities • aligning economic incentives with zero-waste goals • promoting innovation in material recovery and circular supply chains. **CES Objective 4.3 'Encourage circular construction practices':** • circular construction practices keeping materials in use and reducing landfill and litter • significant reduction in landfill disposal by prioritising reuse, repair, and recycling of goods and materials • lower material leakage as litter through extended product life and better recovery systems

		• decreased reliance on energy recovery (incineration) by diverting materials back into production loops • improved resource efficiency reducing waste generation at source • system-wide changes in supply chains leads to sustained reduction in leakage • enhanced circular economy infrastructure (collection, sorting, remanufacturing) reduces systemic leakage. **CES Objective 4.4 'Coordinate action across cross-cutting areas and robustly monitor, evaluate and report progress':** • coordination ensures that resource efficiency measures are integrated across sectors (energy, water, land use), reducing duplication and waste • monitoring and reporting provide transparency and accountability, helping identify areas of overuse and enables corrective action • encourages systemic adoption of circular economy principles and sustainable supply chains • builds stakeholder confidence and drives behavioural change toward resource conservation • strengthens governance and policy coherence, embedding sustainability into long-term planning and investment decisions. **CES Objective 5.1 'Encourage consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours':**

		• reduced environmental pressures associated with materials extraction (e.g., landscape disturbance, water abstraction, and pollution) • circular practices drive eco-design (durability, modularity, recycled content, material substitution), sustainable procurement, and service-based models (sharing/product-as-a-service) to reduce material intensity across value chains – improving resource productivity, conserving critical raw materials, and stimulating markets for secondary materials, all of which support sustainable resource management. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.
Cultural Heritage and the Historic Environment	There are a significant number of cultural heritage assets across Perth and Kinross which must be protected from development, and where possible enhanced. The historic character of the environment is important to quality of life and sense of identity, and it is a vital contributor to the economy through the attraction of visitors. If not managed properly, increased visitor numbers and activities can harm the environment around	The CES is likely to contribute to a positive improvement for cultural heritage and the historic environment through more efficient and sustainable waste management practices, helping to reduce impacts from waste and pollution. In particular, the following CES objectives are anticipated to contribute towards promoting or enabling the retention, maintenance and sustainable use or re-use of historic buildings and infrastructure and making the historic environment more climate resilient and reducing emissions from the historic environment:

	heritage sites. This includes pollution, habitat destruction, and increased waste.	**CES Objective 1.1 'Work with our residents and businesses to change patterns of production, consumption and disposal'** and **CES Objective 1.4 'Ensure Council services, including schools, model best practice to lead by example'** and **CES Objective 5.1 'Encourage consumers and organisations to adopt circular behaviours':** • Council services modelling best practice in historic premises • Adaptive reuse and green energy integration in Council owned assets setting a strong precedent • Sustainability culture indirectly supporting heritage conservation by encouraging resource efficiency and localism • Reinforcing a narrative valuing existing assets and enabling resilience measures • Aligning climate action with cultural heritage objectives that amplifies benefits across sectors. • Safeguarding historic environments, structures and cultural assets maintains historic structures supports resource conservation and improves climate resilience • Enhancing climate resilience and aligning heritage protection with decarbonisation goals. **CES Objective 4.4 'Encourage circular construction practices':**

		• Embedding heritage considerations into waste and climate strategies - reducing landfill pressure, encouraging adaptive reuse of historic buildings and lowering emissions • Circular behaviours help retain historic buildings by reducing demand for demolition and new construction • Repair, reuse, and refurbishment culture extends building lifetimes and preserve cultural and historical value • Circular practices cut embodied carbon by avoiding the emissions linked to new builds • Adaptive reuse and sensitive retrofitting improve energy efficiency without compromising heritage integrity • Embedding reuse and low carbon retrofitting in development aligns heritage protection with climate and decarbonisation goals • Preserved historic environments strengthen cultural identity, enhance tourism, and support Scotland's net zero ambitions. The CES monitoring framework will ensure that significant impacts as outlined are reduced or prevented, along with the integration of any mitigation measures proposed in the SEA Environmental Report.

Section 3 - Consideration of Alternatives

3.1 Consideration of Alternatives in the Circular Economy Strategy

Part 2, Section 14(2) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires Perth & Kinross Council, as the responsible authority, to identify, describe and evaluate within the Environmental Report the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Circular Economy Strategy and any reasonable alternatives to the Strategy, considering its objectives and geographical scope.

3.2. Reasonable Alternatives to the CES

The rapidly evolving national circular economy agenda is such that national targets for both household recycling and the strengthening of the circular economy have yet to be set. The recycling co-design process currently running until the end of 2026 will establish a framework for future recycling measures, shaping a future statutory household Code of Practice and aid in meeting local statutory recycling and reuse household waste targets from 2030, set from 2027 onwards. The first national circular economy strategy is due to be developed in 2026, with circular economy targets being set by 2027. Both sets of targets are due to be 'set and delivered through a joint action focused improvement programme between Scottish and Local Government'.

With the waste management plan due to expire at the end of 2025, and in recognition of the extended national focus on the circular economy, the opportunity has been taken to incorporate and include the functions of the waste management plan within the scope of a wider circular economy strategy for Perth and Kinross Council. This will ensure that the Council is aligned to legislation and government policy and will provide a fresh impetus for further service improvement, including the provision of new services and a greater emphasis on public engagement and behaviour change.

In view of the above, it is considered that the only real reasonable alternative that could be assessed would be a 'do nothing' approach. As this is not an option if Perth and Kinross is to play its part in helping Scotland achieve its vision 'to deliver a fully circular economy in Scotland by 2045, driven by responsible consumption, responsible production, and maximising value from waste and energy', it was concluded that other reasonable alternatives were not appropriate for consideration.

Section 4 - Consultation

4.1 Draft Circular Economy Strategy Public Consultation

Public consultation is an important part of the SEA process. The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that the public are given an 'early and effective' opportunity to participate in the process.

A draft Perth and Kinross Circular Economy Strategy was prepared in August 2025. Public consultation of the draft was undertaken for 7 weeks between September and October 2025. In conjunction with the draft strategy consultation, a SEA scoping report was also prepared and consulted on with both the public and the SEA Consultation Authorities (CAs). The scoping report consultation period ran from 25th August to 29th September 2025. The scoping report enabled the CAs to form a view on the scope and level of detail that would be appropriate for the Environmental Report, as well as the consultation period proposed. Responses from the CAs, together with responses from the public consultation were noted and where applicable addressed in the Environmental Report.

4.2 Environmental Report Consultation Responses

The Environmental Report, which provided details of the likely environmental effects of the CES, was published for consultation with the CAs from 5th January 2026 to 30th January 2026. The consultation on the Environmental Report provided an opportunity to respond to the findings of the report and influence the finalised draft of the CES.

Table 3 sets out the responses received from the CAs which are of relevance to the SEA Environmental Report. It states the actions taken as a result of the responses received from the Consultation Authorities.

Table 3: Consultation Responses

Environmental Report Section	Consultation Response	Incorporating Consultation Response
SEPA		
No comments received from the SEPA Waste policy team.		
NatureScot		

ASSESSMENT	The assessment of reasonable alternatives only considers the optimum or do-nothing approach, we are content that in this instance this would be appropriate.	Noted.
MITIGATION - CES strategic priority 1	**Biodiversity:** Proposed mitigation includes maintain habitat corridors, restoration programmes. We recommend looking for opportunities to enhance nature corridors and form nature networks. Temporary effects include native planting; planting should be in appropriate locations. **Soils:** Mitigation includes correct composting practices to avoid pests/odours, we recommend reference to INNS within the mitigation to raise awareness and stop spread. **Water:** Promotion of rain gardens and sustainable drainage systems would also reduce water use and pollution.	Noted and agreed.

MITIGATION - CES strategic priority 4	**Biodiversity:** We welcome the emphasis on addressing climate change and integrating biodiversity into circular economy practices.	Noted.
MONITORING	We note that a monitoring and reporting framework will be developed as part of the Post Adoption Statement. Monitoring will draw on the list of indicators and reporting will be annually alongside the CES progress report, we welcome this approach.	Noted.
Historic Environment Scotland		
No comments received.		

Section 5 - Monitoring

5.1. Monitoring Framework

The Environmental Report contained a draft monitoring programme, which set out the proposals for monitoring the effects of the CES. This allowed the Consultation Authorities (CAs) to provide comments and suggestions regarding the monitoring proposals which were taken into action when establishing the final monitoring framework. The final monitoring framework has been integrated below, incorporated comments from the CAs.

Table 3: CES Monitoring

Indicators	Data source
Biodiversity, Flora, and Fauna	
• % of designated protected nature sites features (SAC, SPA, SSSI, RAMSAR) within Perth and Kinross classified as being of favourable condition • % of designated protected montane nature sites features (SAC, SPA, SSSI, RAMSAR) within Perth and Kinross classified as being of favourable condition	SEPA Protected Nature Sites NatureScot Sitelink website
• % woodland cover of total land area of Perth and Kinross and % of this that is native woodland species	SEPA Scotland's Environment – National Forest Inventory Protected Nature Sites NatureScot Ancient Woodland Inventory
• Achievement of Tayside Biodiversity Action Plan targets	Perth and Kinross Council
• Designated sites in favourable condition	NatureScot Sitelink website
Population and Human Health	
• % of Perth and Kinross data zones ranked in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) as being in the 40%, 20% and 15% most deprived	Scottish Government Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD)
• Life expectancy rates in years for females and males in Perth and Kinross	National Records of Scotland (2024) Life

	Expectancy in Scotland 2021-2023
• % of children under 16 were living in relatively low-income families	UK Government, Department for Work and Pensions Children in low income families: local area statistics
• % of all households identified as workless	Office for National Statistics Workless Households
• % adults earning less than the real living wage	Office for National Statistics Number and proportion of employee jobs with hourly pay below the living wage
• Number of listed community food growing sites	Perth and Kinross Council Growing spaces data
• Number of local larders providing food support through free and reduced-price food	Perth and Kinross Council Community larders data
• Street Cleanliness score and % resident satisfaction with street cleanliness	Improvement Service Local Government Benchmarking Framework
• % of residents satisfied with local refuse collection	
• % of residents surveyed perceiving issues with rubbish and fouling	Scottish Government Scottish Household Survey
• % of residents satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live	
• Number of fly-tipping reports made to Perth and Kinross Council	Perth and Kinross Council Waste Management data
• Resident satisfaction with local green or blue space	Scottish Government Scottish Household Survey
Soil	
• Total Ha of Nationally Important Soils (by Class) in Perth and Kinross to be in favourable / functioning condition	Carbon and peatland 2016 map - Scotland's soils SEPA
• Total Ha of Prime Quality Agricultural Land	National scale land capability for agriculture - Scotland's soils SEPA

Water	
• Annual average household water consumption	Environmental Information Request Scottish Water
• % of surface waters in Perth and Kinross classified as good water quality status and above *(split by chemical and ecological quality)*	SEPA Water Classification Hub
• % Water-dependent designated Protected Nature Sites (SAC, SPA, SSSI, RAMSAR) in favourable condition	SEPA Protected Nature Sites Application
Air	
• % change in tCO2e of waste emissions in Perth and Kinross	SEPA Household Waste Data
• % change in monitored air quality achieving annual mean concentration for Nitrogen dioxide (NO2) and Particulate Matter (PM10)	Air Quality in Scotland Site data
• Number of noise and odour complaints to Perth and Kinross Council	Perth and Kinross Council Environmental Health data
Climatic Factors	
• Carbon impact per person (TCO2e) from household waste in Perth and Kinross	SEPA Household Waste Data
Total combined greenhouse gas emissions for Perth and Kinross *(split by Carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide):* • % share of the total Carbon dioxide emissions for Perth and Kinross *(split by transport; land use, land use change and forestry; agriculture; domestic; commercial; waste management; industry; and public sector)* • % share of the total methane emissions for Perth and Kinross *(split by transport; land use, land use change and forestry; agriculture; domestic; commercial; waste management; industry; and public sector)* • % share of the total nitrous oxide emissions for Perth and Kinross *(split by transport; land use, land use change and forestry; agriculture; domestic;*	Department for Energy Security & Net Zero UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics

commercial; waste management; industry; and public sector)	
Material Assets	
• % of surface waters in River Tay Catchment Area classified as good water quality status and above *(split by chemical and ecological quality)*	SEPA Water Classification Hub
• % of household waste sent to landfill	SEPA Household Waste Data
• Number of fly-tipping reports made to Perth and Kinross Council	Perth and Kinross Council
• Tonnes of household waste generated per person in Perth and Kinross	SEPA Household Waste Data
• % of household waste recycled in Perth and Kinross	SEPA Household Waste Data
• Tonnes of organic household waste *(% split by garden, food and drink)* collected by Perth and Kinross Council	SEPA Household Waste Data
• Tonnes of business waste generated in Perth and Kinross *(% split by Household and similar wastes, Wood wastes, Vegetal wastes, Mixed and undifferentiated wastes, and Common sludges)*	SEPA Business Waste Data
Cultural Heritage and the Historic Environment	
To be developed from ideas below: • *% of historic buildings retained rather than demolished per year* • *Number and % of historic buildings repurposed for new uses* • *% of historic assets in "good" or "stable" condition* • *Tonnes of construction and demolition waste avoided through retention*	Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust Perth and Kinross Historic Environment Record
To be developed from ideas below: • *% of historic buildings benefiting from nature-based resilience measures (e.g., tree planting for shading, permeable surfaces, rain gardens)* • *% of historic assets with climate adaptation plans*	SEPA Flood Maps

Section 6 - Conclusion

6.1. The Influence of SEA on the Circular Economy Strategy

The Strategic Environmental Assessment process has been a useful and informative tool in assisting with the development of the Circular Economy Strategy (CES) and for highlighting the environmental issues and benefits associated with the CES. It has been beneficial in confirming that the Strategy, overall, will have a positive effect on the receiving environment. The assessment process, highlighted throughout the Environmental Report and Appendices, illustrates where the SEA has influenced the decision-making process and impacted on the Vision, Key Objectives and Strategic Priorities taken forward into the Strategy itself.

The views of the Consultation Authorities at all stages of the SEA process have been incorporated into the final version of the Environmental Report and integrated into the adopted Perth and Kinross Council Circular Economy Strategy. As part of the public consultation, responses received have been noted and where relevant, incorporated into the approved CES. In particular, greater emphasis has been given to the importance of agricultural related action in achieving a circular economy, and the need for a fifth strategic priority around behaviour change.