

4 SEA Objectives, Indicators and Targets

4.1 Development of SEA Objectives

The SEA objectives were formulated from a review of the relevant PPS in relation to their implications for the MIR, along with a study of the state of the environment and environmental issues within South Ayrshire.

Appendix A provides a comprehensive review of the stages involved in the development of the SEA objectives.

Relating to the SEA objectives are analytical questions that have been developed to aid the environmental assessment process. The objectives and their questions were initially developed at the Scoping phase and refined in response to Consultation Authority comments where required.

Figure 4-1 below demonstrates progressive development of the SEA objectives.

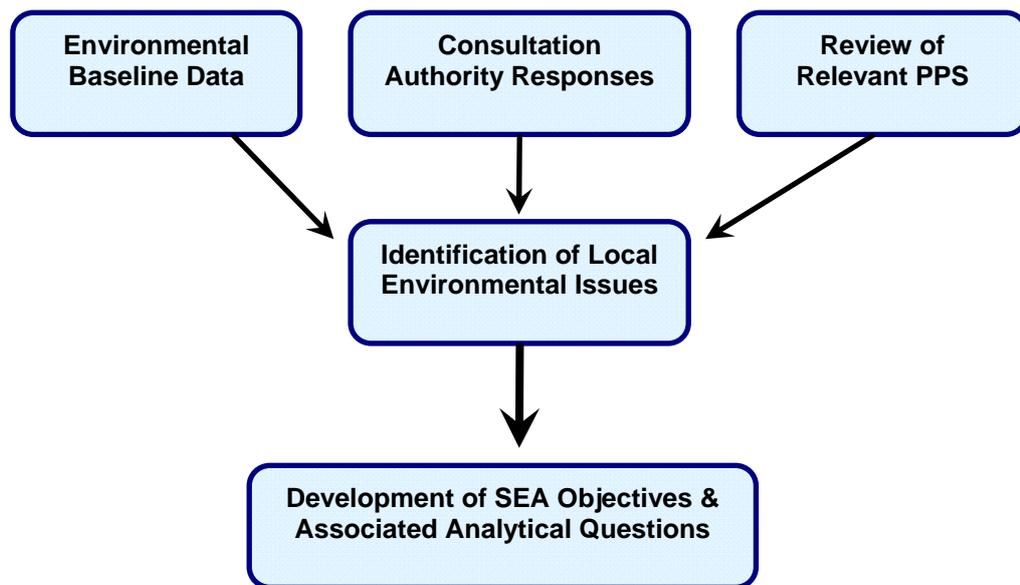


Figure 4-1: Stages of the SEA Objectives Development

Table 4-1 identifies the key issues and implications for the MIR, identified from PPS and the initial environmental baseline and the resultant formulation of the SEA environmental objectives.

Table 4-1: SEA Objectives Development

SEA Topic	Key Policy Implications	Key Baseline Implications	SEA Objectives
<p>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</p>	<p>The MIR should protect European and National sites from the adverse effects of development. An Appropriate Assessment may be required where a development is proposed to be sited within, in close proximity to, or likely to affect the interests of, a Natura 2000 site.</p> <p>Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets should be considered to ensure species and habitats are not adversely affected.</p> <p>Protective measures for European species outlined in Articles 12 and 13 of the Habitats Directive should be adhered to.</p> <p>Protected biodiversity sites should be considered when directing future development within South Ayrshire.</p>	<p>Lendalfoot Hills Complex SAC and Merrick Kells SAC could be adversely impacted because of development. An Appropriate Assessment may be required if development is proposed to be sited within, in close proximity to, or likely to affect the interests of, this SAC.</p> <p>Development may result in the loss or fragmentation of Ailsa Craig SPA and Glen App and the Galloway Moors SPA. An Appropriate Assessment may be required if development is proposed to be sited within, in close proximity to, or likely to affect the interests of, this SAC.</p> <p>Development should not adversely affect the potential designation of Galloway and South Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere Reserve.</p> <p>There are 16 nationally designated SSSI sites within South Ayrshire. These could be negatively impacted by development in close proximity.</p> <p>Development may result in the loss or fragmentation of habitats with associated impacts on European protected and priority species and sites throughout South Ayrshire.</p>	<p>Ensure that the integrity of all internationally designated sites within or in close proximity to the South Ayrshire Council (SAC) area is preserved.</p> <p>Safeguard national and local designated sites and habitats (particularly hedgerows and woodland) from loss and / or fragmentation.</p> <p>Biodiversity should be enhanced & protected in line with Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) targets including protection of European protected and priority species from loss and / or fragmentation.</p>
<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>The MIR should ensure that future development proposals are sensitively sited with regard to the cultural heritage of South Ayrshire in such a way as to avoid degradation to the setting or condition of that site.</p>	<p>The MIR should protect South Ayrshire's 91 Scheduled Monuments.</p> <p>The MIR should protect Listed Buildings and their setting.</p> <p>Development should not affect the 9 Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes within South Ayrshire.</p> <p>The MIR should protect local designated cultural heritage sites and their setting from the adverse effects of development.</p>	<p>Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development.</p>
<p>Water</p>	<p>The quality of water courses, bathing and coastal waters and groundwater should be protected and enhanced to ensure a "Good" ecological status, or similar objective, by 2015 as set out by the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>The MIR should avoid areas of flood risk in the first instance when considering locations for development.</p> <p>Development within areas of flood risk should not occur unless adequate flood mitigation measures are put in place in line with SPP7: Planning and Flooding, to safeguard new</p>	<p>Water quality should be protected and enhanced where appropriate in line with targets that all water bodies are of "good" ecological status, or similar objective, by 2015 as set out by the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>A development which requires additional flood alleviation or prevention measures to address flood risk from any source, is likely to be acceptable only outside or adjoining the boundary of 'medium to high' risk areas in line with SPP7.</p> <p>Consideration of the direct and indirect effects of flooding including</p>	<p>Protect, and where necessary, enhance water quality to good chemical & ecological status by 2015 in line with the Water Framework Directive (WFD).</p> <p>Avoid areas of flood risk in the first instance and then ensure mitigation against any potential flood risk from new development.</p>

SEA Topic	Key Policy Implications	Key Baseline Implications	SEA Objectives
	<p>and existing development from existing flooding risks and potential future climate induced flooding.</p> <p>Recognition should also be given to the effects that flooding could have on human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.</p>	<p>those to human health, the wider environment and cultural heritage (to be discussed in the respective SEA topic categories).</p>	<p>Ensure that all new infrastructures are designed in such a way that it reduces flood risk through the provision of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS).</p>
<p>Soils & Geology</p>	<p>The MIR should constrain development that may degrade or sterilise prime agricultural land.</p> <p>The MIR should promote the development of brownfield and previously developed sites.</p> <p>The MIR should promote the protection of designated sites of importance to geology.</p>	<p>The MIR should account for South Ayrshire’s areas of Class 2 and Class 3 prime agricultural land surrounding Ayr, and to the North of the South Ayrshire area</p> <p>The MIR should recognise the need to constrain development around South Ayrshire’s 18 nationally important geological SSSI sites to ensure no degradation occurs to them or their settings</p> <p>The MIR should recognise that the area has 37 brownfield sites covering 114 ha before considering greenbelt development.</p>	<p>The MIR should promote use of vacant & derelict brownfield land over that of greenbelt.</p> <p>Safeguard areas of prime agricultural land and designated geological sites.</p>
<p>Landscape</p>	<p>The MIR should ensure future development maintains or enhances the landscape setting of towns, sensitive landscapes and Scenic Areas. It should also ensure future development is sensitively sited in relation to the landscape avoiding adverse effects.</p>	<p>Development should be located on appropriate sites avoiding adverse impacts on South Ayrshire’s five Scenic Areas of the Heads of Ayr, Carrick Hills, Merrick Kells, Coastal Areas and Glenn App and the Galloway Moors. These landscapes should be maintained and, where possible, enhanced through the MIR.</p> <p>Development should not deteriorate any of South Ayrshire’s 16 different landscape character types. Where possible, these landscape character types should be enhanced.</p> <p>The MIR should protect Green Belt land and always direct development towards Brownfield land in the first instance.</p>	<p>Protect and enhance & the area’s landscape character and designated Scenic Areas.</p> <p>Maintain and protect greenbelt areas in South Ayrshire.</p>
<p>Air Quality</p>	<p>The MIR should seek to address air quality issues and aim to meet standards and objectives set by the Air Quality Strategy.</p>	<p>The MIR should encourage active travel and the use of public transport to reduce requirements for the private vehicle.</p> <p>The MIR should ensure that development is carried out to be accessible by public and active means of travel minimising the need for private car use.</p> <p>The MIR needs take into account areas that may potentially breach EU standards for air quality when promoting areas for development.</p>	<p>Promote development in such a way that avoids air quality standards being breached within SAC and adjoining areas.</p> <p>Promote development in such a way as to alleviate air quality issues in those areas where air quality standards may be breached.</p>

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Climatic Factors	The MIR should ensure that it contributes towards the Scottish Government's greenhouse gas emissions reduction target through renewable energy development, appropriate positioning of future development, and the promotion of walking and cycling and public transport opportunities.	<p>The MIR should encourage active travel and use of public transport to reduce transport related emissions.</p> <p>Promote carbon efficient developments that utilise sustainable materials and building techniques.</p> <p>Promote the use of renewable energy.</p>	<p>Contribute towards the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in line with Scottish Government targets of 80% by 2050 with interim targets of 34% by 2020 and 18% by 2013.</p> <p>Promote development resilient to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>The MIR should promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport.</p>
Noise	The MIR should ensure development is appropriately located to avoid the adverse effects of noise on sensitive receptors.	The MIR needs to recognise the noise issues within the council area as an issue for positioning and promoting development particularly Prestwick Airport and areas where road traffic or any combination of noise sources can result in background noise higher than Category C levels (63 to 72 dB from 0700 – 2300 and 57 to 66 dB from 2300 – 0700).	<p>The MIR should avoid where possible the positioning of residential properties within areas with a noise level exceeding Noise Exposure Category C.</p> <p>The MIR needs to establish & protect quiet areas, & avoid deterioration in the noise regime in noise sensitive areas.</p>
Human Health	<p>The MIR should aim to contribute to targets for minimum recommended levels of activity through recreational and other types of development and encouraging Active Transport through walking and cycling.</p> <p>The MIR should promote development that contributes to meeting Scottish Government targets that adults should accumulate at least thirty minutes of moderate intensity activity on most days of the week, with children undertaking at least one hour most days.</p>	<p>The MIR should improve and promote walking and cycling opportunities within South Ayrshire as both walking and cycling rates in South Ayrshire are below the Scottish national averages.</p> <p>The MIR should maintain and actively encourage the provision of accessible recreational facilities to all sections of the community to ensure South Ayrshire improves on its adult obesity rates of 25.3% in males and 26.6% in females.</p>	<p>To enhance and protect human health & promote healthy living through improved active travel opportunities, particularly the quality of and, availability to, walk & cycle.</p> <p>Maintain and improve recreational facilities and promote access to health, social and recreational facilities.</p>
Population	<p>Housing development proposals should be guided to locations accessible by foot, cycle and public transport with consideration given to energy efficiency, landscape and waste collection issues.</p> <p>Proposals should also encourage employment, business,</p>	<p>The MIR should encourage sustainable economic growth to retain South Ayrshire's working age population, which has fallen to 111,670 since the 2001 census level of 112,097.</p> <p>The MIR needs to recognise the requirement for South Ayrshire's rural and aged population to have access to essential services</p>	<p>Improve the community environment & quality of life of residents.</p> <p>Maintain or enhance sustainable access to key services, amenities & employment particularly for rural</p>

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	<p>leisure and tourism opportunities.</p> <p>The MIR should ensure the suitable positioning of development in relation to ease of access to public transport, walking and cycling routes.</p>	<p>The MIR should promote development that is appropriately located for easy access to public transport.</p> <p>The MIR could support the promotion of public transport use connecting the main population centres of Ayr, Troon, Prestwick, Girvan and Maybole to promote economic activity in areas of deprivation.</p> <p>The MIR should recognise the regeneration needs of deprived areas, particularly Maybole and Girvan.</p>	<p>communities.</p> <p>Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population.</p>
<p>Material Assets</p>	<p>Sustainable transport modes and access should be promoted.</p> <p>The LDP should ensure that areas important for the production of materials for construction and energy generation are protected from development.</p> <p>The MIR needs to take account of the BPEO and waste reduction targets set out in the AWMP.</p> <p>The MIR should recognise and help accommodate the infrastructure targets for waste facilities as identified in the AWMP so that South Ayrshire can make a significant contribution to implementing the BPEO set out in the Area Waste plan.</p> <p>The MIR and subsequent LDP should take account of the need to support sustainable development of communities through the appropriate siting of development in relation to waste water drainage facilities. Connection to public sewerage and waste water systems should be assured for new development.</p>	<p>South Ayrshire Council has a wealth of mineral resources important for construction including hard and soft rock minerals and aggregates, it also has a large amount of forestry that also has a potential use in the renewable energy sector.</p> <p>Use of fuel resources is currently higher than the national average due to reliance on private transport.</p> <p>Major transport infrastructure includes strategic road, rail, bus and cycling and walking networks. Major roads include the A70, A77 and A71.</p> <p>MSW Recycling rates are increasing from a target of 30% to 60% in 2020 and 70% in 2050.</p>	<p>The LDP should ensure that areas important for the production of materials for construction and energy generation are protected from development.</p> <p>Promote sustainable and efficient use of natural resources in the construction of existing and future developments.</p> <p>Ensure that waste management in South Ayrshire is based on the principles of reduce, reuse and recycle, as set out in the Area Waste Plan Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO).</p> <p>Ensure there is adequate sewerage and drainage infrastructure in place to support new development.</p>

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