

### 9.1 Consultation Requirements

The SEA Act requires the plan-makers to provide evidence of consultation with relevant parties and demonstrate how the results of consultation have been taken into account during the plan development.

It is important that relevant authorities and the general public are given an early and effective opportunity within an appropriate timeframe to express their option on the MIR and its accompanying Environmental Report before their publication.

### 9.2 Consultation to Date

Community engagement is central to the new planning system and the LDP. Early and full community consultation is recognised to be a key part of modernising the planning system. To assist in this process, South Ayrshire Council has created a Local Planning Forum to engage with the public on policy development and consider the function of the planning service.

The forum comprises approximately 80 members drawn from the local community and who represent a cross-section of interests including; local civic, environmental and commercial interest groups; and professional bodies who engage in the planning service and the wider public. They aim to meet around three times a year with 20 to 30 members of the Forum invited to each meeting.

Further community engagement has included a request from the Council for interested parties to submit potential development sites for possible inclusion in the LDP. Feedback from this consultation exercise as well as advice from technical consultees was used in the process of developing land use maps and policy options for the Main Issues Report.

In terms of the SEA, the Scoping Report was submitted to the statutory consultation authorities on the 31 August 2009. Consultation ran for a period of six weeks, with comments received on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009. The consultation responses are outlined in Appendix B of this Report and comments made have been taken into consideration throughout the development of the Environmental Report and when undertaking the environmental assessments.

The following section sets out information regarding public and statutory consultation on this Environmental Report and the Main Issues Report including details of where the documents can be viewed and contact details for responses.

### 9.3 How to Comment on the Environmental Report

Comments will be considered between:

1 <sup>st</sup> April to 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2010
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Comments can be made by letter or email to:

**Neale McIlvanney**

Senior Local Plans Officer  
Planning & Enterprise,  
South Ayrshire Council,  
Burns House,  
Burns Statue Square,  
Ayr,  
KA7 1UT

Tel: 01292 616648

Email: [Neale.McIlvanney@south-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Neale.McIlvanney@south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Copies of the Environmental Report and the MIR will be made available to view free of charge:

- Online at <http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/>;
- South Ayrshire Council Offices;
- Local Libraries; and,
- Ayr Town Hall.

Copies will also be made available at cost through South Ayrshire Council Planning Service in Ayr (see above address).

Once consultation has ended, comments will be collated and assessed. These will be published within a consultation document along with responses to comments. Following this, the LDP will be formulated and subsequent amendments to the Environmental Report made to take into consideration updates included within the LDP.