

**South Ayrshire Council:  
Scoping Report for Environmental  
Assessment of Ayrshire Joint  
Structure Plan & South Ayrshire  
Local Plan Policies for Retention in  
LDP**

## South Ayrshire Council:

# Scoping Report for Environmental Assessment of Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan & South Ayrshire Local Plan Policies for Retention in LDP

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the environmental assessment of Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS). An SEA is being carried out for the South Ayrshire Council's Local Development Plan (LDP) in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005*.

South Ayrshire Council (SAC) is preparing a Local Development Plan (LDP) in accordance with the *Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006* and *National Planning Framework (NPF) 2*. The LDP will set out detailed policies and site specific proposals that will provide direction on the development of land use in the local authority area.

A previous scoping report was prepared and consulted on from August 2009, relating to the policy options contained within the Main Issues Report. That Scoping Report informed the preparation of an initial Environmental Report, which provided the environmental assessment of the Main Issues Report.

This SEA Scoping Report will set out sufficient information on the existing development plan policies applicable within South Ayrshire that will be retained for use in the LDP, in order to enable the consultation authorities (Historic Scotland, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, and Scottish Natural Heritage) to form a view on the scope, level of detail and consultation period that will be appropriate for the Addendum Environmental Report. The Addendum Environmental Report on the existing development plan policies to be retained will not constitute a separate Environmental Report, but will utilise existing methodology and baseline data from the MIR Environmental Report, to provide a complete assessment of the LDP.

Once the initial ER (and associated amendments) and the Addendum ER have all been consulted upon, a consolidated ER will be published alongside the proposed plan.

## 2 Key Facts

### 2.1 Key Facts

Table 2-1 below provides details of the key facts associated with the MIR.

**Table 2-1: Main Issues Report Key Facts**

| Key Facts                               | Detail   |
|---|--|
| <b>Responsible Authority</b>            | South Ayrshire Council, Planning   |
| <b>Title of Plan / Programme</b>        | Local Development Plan   |
| <b>What Prompted the Plan</b>           | The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 as amended by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 requires the production of a Local Development Plan.   |
| <b>Plan Subject</b>                     | Land Use Planning  |
| <b>Period Covered by Plan</b>           | 2010 - 2013  |
| <b>Frequency of Updates</b>             | 5 years  |
| <b>Plan Area</b>                        | South Ayrshire Council area  |
| <b>Plan Purpose and / or Objectives</b> | The Local Development Plan will be a land-use management document, providing a spatial management strategy in line with the Council's priorities.  |
| <b>Contact Point</b>                    | Local Development Plan Contact:<br>Neale McIlvanney,<br>South Ayrshire Council,<br>Burns House,<br>Burns Statue Square,<br>Ayr,<br>KA7 1UT<br>01292 616648<br><a href="mailto:Neale.McIlvanney@south-ayrshire.gov.uk">Neale.McIlvanney@south-ayrshire.gov.uk</a> |

## 3 Context

### 3.1 Local Development Plan

South Ayrshire Council approved the commencement of a Local Development Plan for South Ayrshire in March 2009. The Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan was established as being a useful information base and strategic spatial context to guide the development of the LDP. The LDP will provide a platform for the delivery of national, regional and local development priorities. The MIR will assess options for the delivery of these development priorities for inclusion in the LDP. Figure 3-1 provides an overview of the South Ayrshire Council area, including the South Ayrshire boundary within which the LDP is focused.

Visioning options for the LDP will not be finalised until the LDP is adopted in 2012/2013, however this aspect of development plan preparation is discussed in the Council's Main Issues Report, and the environmental Assessment published alongside the MIR considers environmental impacts of the vision options.

The LDP will concentrate on primarily increasing opportunities for business development, investment and employment, with an integral part of the strategy also to promote both social and environmental objectives. The LDP will aim to increase business, investment and employment by:

- Improving the viability and vitality of town centres through regeneration;
- Promoting an integrated transport strategy to allow regional, national and international linkage to, and within South Ayrshire;
- Promoting a spatial strategy to allow the South Ayrshire's rural economy to thrive;
- Promoting a strategy to retain and enhance Glasgow Prestwick International Airport as a key economic asset for the area;
- Promoting South Ayrshire's key economic assets (in addition to GPIA: tourism, timber production/processing, and port related development); and
- Developing an economically sustainable strategy for housing development.

The LDP would promote the importance of communities; protect, preserve and enhance natural and built heritage resources and seek to capitalise them as economic assets and promote a niche tourism market and rural diversification.

### 3.2 Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies

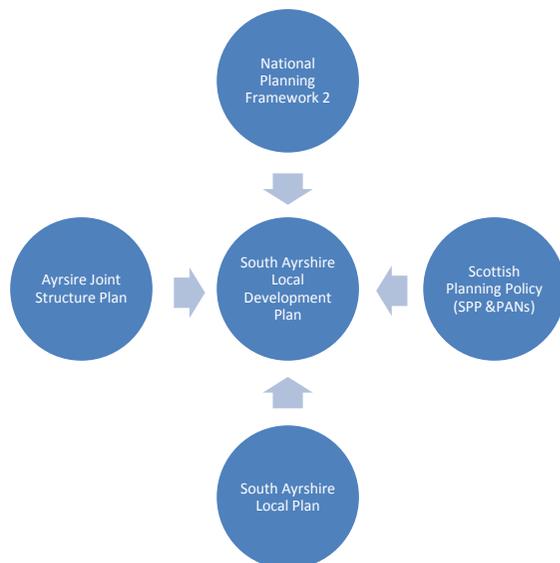
Schedule 3 of the *Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005* requires the Environmental Report to contain details of the relationship of the LDP with other PPSs, and that environmental protection objectives identified in PPSs relevant to the plan are taken into account during preparation of the Environmental Report.

The planning system within Scotland is currently undergoing a period of modernisation. *The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006* introduced a new planning system and requires local authorities to prepare Local Development Plans in place of the existing Local Plans and Strategic Development Planning Authorities to prepare Strategic Development Plans in place of Structure Plans. In addition the Scottish Government replaced the existing series of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) with a single, consolidated SPP, in February 2010.

Throughout the SEA process, any updates to planning policy as a result of the stage implementation of the *Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006* will be monitored and incorporated where necessary.

### 3.2.1 PPS Review

A full and comprehensive review of all PPSs relevant to the LDP will be carried out through the SEA process to establish the context within which the LDP needs to operate and to help determine environmental objectives applicable to the LDP. The PPS review will cover the International, National, Regional and Local levels. The relevant PPS to the LDP are set out in Appendix A. The sections below detail the PPSs of most relevance to the LDP, and the environmental implications of PPS on the LDP. Figure 3-2 provides a diagram of the relationship between the key PPS and the LDP. A more detailed policy appraisal will be included in the Interim Environmental Report (IER).



**Figure 3-2: Key Policy Integration**

#### National Planning Framework 2

The *National Planning Framework 2 (NPF2)* was approved in June 2009 by the Scottish Government. The NPF2 replaces the National Planning Framework as the strategy for Scotland’s development and should be taken into account in all development plan and development management decisions. The NPF2 guides Scotland’s development to 2030 supporting the central purpose of the Scottish Government of sustainable economic growth.

The NPF2 identifies a number of National Developments, a number of which are within the South Ayrshire area. These include:

- West of Scotland Strategic Rail Enhancements including new and upgraded infrastructure to improve national rail capacity in the West of Scotland;
- Strategic Airport Enhancements including improvements to surface transport access and enhancement of other infrastructure at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Prestwick and Aberdeen airports;

- Electricity Grid Reinforcements; and
- Central Scotland Green Network in the form of a strategic network of woodland and other habitats, active travel routes, greenspace links, watercourses and waterways, providing an enhanced setting for development and other land uses and improved opportunities for outdoor recreation and cultural activity.

### Scottish Planning Policy

Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) sets out a national policy framework for land use planning. It presents the Government's view of the purpose of planning and core principles of the planning system. It also describes objectives for key parts of the planning system, including development planning, and thematic policies which include (et alia); policies on economic development, renewable energy, natural heritage and the historic environment. The consolidated SPP was published in February 2010. A full list of SPPs and NPPGs relevant to the LDP is detailed in Appendix A.

### The Development Plan

#### *Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan*

*The Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan* was approved by the Scottish Ministers in 2007. The plan provides a strategic land use context and sets a shared vision for Ayrshire to 2025. It seeks to establish strong and vibrant communities, a sustainable and growing economy, a good quality life and healthy environment which together will make a positive contribution to the well being of Ayrshire, the wider Glasgow Region and Scotland as a whole. The plan identifies five key objectives:

- To stabilise the population in 2025 at current levels;
- To support measures that encourage economic development underpinned by a sustainable population;
- To seek improved accessibility both within and to opportunities outside, Ayrshire;
- To develop strong and vibrant communities by realising their potential for regeneration and growth and through the promotion of appropriate development for rural areas; and
- To safeguard and enhance the quality of the environment.

#### *South Ayrshire Council Local Plan*

*The South Ayrshire Local Plan* was adopted in 2007. The purpose of the plan is to provide the statutory land-use planning framework for the South Ayrshire Council area. The overall vision of the local plan is to provide a co-ordinated land use strategy which contributes to:

- A strong and diverse local economy;
- Meeting the needs and aspirations of South Ayrshire for housing, jobs, education and leisure; and
- Maintaining and enhancing through a sustainable approach, the high environmental quality of the area.

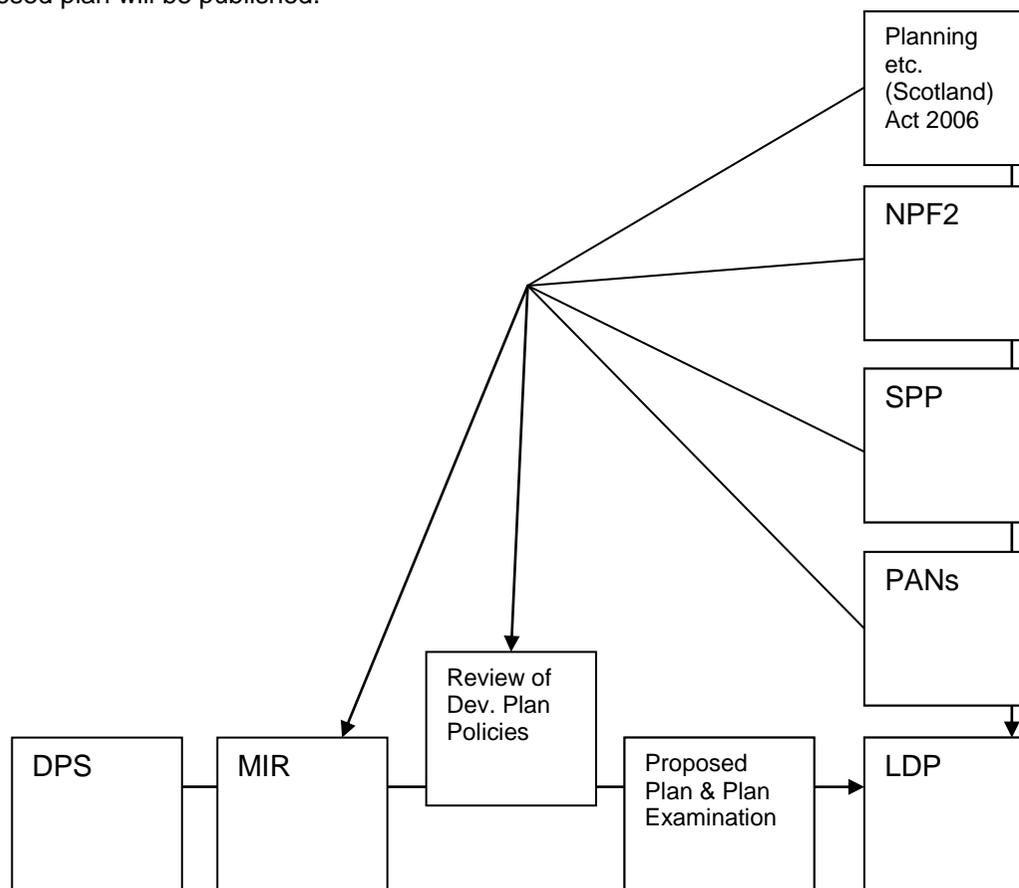
### Emerging Development Plan

The three Ayrshire Councils do not form part of a Strategic Development Plan Authority and so under the *Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006*, there is no requirement for a Strategic Development Plan to be produced for Ayrshire. As such the local authorities within Ayrshire will only produce Local Development

Plans. Therefore the emerging development plan for South Ayrshire Council consists solely of the *South Ayrshire Council Local Development Plan (LDP)*. Figure 3-3 provides a diagram of the new planning structure as it relates to South Ayrshire.

An initial document required as part of the process of preparing an LDP is the Development Plan Scheme, which was published by South Ayrshire Council in March 2009, and again in March 2010 (without alteration). This is intended to raise awareness and understanding of the Local Development Plan preparation process and set out a consultation strategy and timetable for plan preparation. The DPS should be updated on an annual basis to reflect alterations to the consultation strategy or timetable.

The MIR is the first stage in the LDP preparation and is a key document that will be used in the development of the proposed LDP. Following publication and consultation on the MIR, a proposed plan will be published.



**Figure 3-3: New Planning Structure**

### 3.2.2 Environmental Implications of PPS

The PPSs relevant to the LDP have a number of relevant environmental objectives as well as environmental considerations that will need to be taken into account during preparation of the LDP. These are set out below, reflecting the SEA environmental parameters, as established by the EU SEA Directive.

#### Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

Biodiversity is protected by the *EC (Habitats) Directive 1992/42/EEC*, which protects all species and habitats listed within its Annexes that make up Natura 2000 sites (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs)). The Directive requires that an Appropriate Assessment is undertaken for development that directly or indirectly affects an SAC or SPA. Within Scotland this is set out by the *Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004* which establishes a series of measures which are designed to conserve biodiversity and to protect and enhance the biological and geological heritage of Scotland. The *UK Biodiversity Action Plan (2006)* and *Scotland's Biodiversity: It's in Your Hands (2004)* outline strategies for the conservation of habitats and species within the UK and Scotland.

Locally, the *Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2001)* and the *Ayrshire Biodiversity Action Plan (2008)* sets out principles to safeguard priority habitats and species and sets targets for the extension and enhanced management of priority species and habitats. The South Ayrshire Local Plan aims to protect internationally and nationally designated biodiversity sites, as well as local sites, the coast and green spaces. In addition, *South Ayrshire's Wildlife Strategy (2002)* provides for the enhancement and protection of nature conservation sites.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should protect European and National sites from the adverse effects of development. An Appropriate Assessment may be required if development proposals potentially directly or indirectly effect a Natura 2000 site. *Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)* targets should be considered to ensure species and habitats are not adversely affected. Protected biodiversity sites should be considered when directing future development within South Ayrshire. Future development should avoid where possible any negative impacts on South Ayrshire's ecology and preferably seek to improve and enhance the biodiversity resources in the South Ayrshire Area.

#### Cultural Heritage

National planning guidance sets out policy aimed at protecting cultural heritage assets. The SPP identifies the importance of the conservation and management of the historic environment and highlights that planning authorities should adopt suitable policies to protect it. The *Scottish Historic Environment Policy* sets out the Scottish Government's policy on protecting the cultural heritage, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas and Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes.

Local Policy includes the *South Ayrshire Local Plan* which sets out policy to protect listed buildings and their settings, safeguard Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes, protect and encourage promotion of scheduled monuments and archaeological sites for recreational and educational purposes, and to preserve and enhance conservation areas.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should ensure that future development does not destroy or degrade areas of important cultural heritage value. It should also ensure that proposals are sensitively sited with regard to the cultural heritage of South Ayrshire.

## Water

The *Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)* is an overarching strategy for water management. Key requirements include that all inland and coastal waters achieve a good chemical and ecological status by 2015. The *Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003* aims to protect and ensure a reliable and high quality supply of water and protect marine and other waters. The *Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005* implement part of this Act and aim to put in place pollution protection measures and protect the water environment. The SPP sets out requirements for planning authorities to take into account the risk of flooding when allocating sites for development and making decisions about applications. New development should be free from significant flood risk from any source and should not increase the probability of flooding elsewhere.

The South Ayrshire Local Plan requires that new development does not introduce a potential new flood risk or exacerbate flooding elsewhere.

### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The quality of water courses, coastal waters and groundwater should be protected and enhanced. The LDP should not exacerbate flood risk and should where possible reduce flooding issues through the provision of well designed infrastructure in all new development within South Ayrshire.

## Soils and Geology

The *EU Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection (2006)* sets out threats to soils in Europe and aims to promote soil protection measures amongst member states. In addition, a Soil Framework Directive is proposed to put in place a statutory mechanism to address soil degradation. Within Scotland, the *Scottish Soil Framework Consultation Draft (2008)* aims to promote the sustainable management and protection of soils consistent with the economic, social and environmental needs of Scotland. It has a vision that soils are recognised as a vital part of economy, environment and heritage to be safeguarded for existing and future generations. The SPP protects prime quality agricultural land and identifies that it should not be eroded in a piecemeal way.

Locally, the Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy sets out South Ayrshire's Strategy for contaminated land inspections, and the *South Ayrshire Local Plan* identifies a presumption of protecting prime quality agricultural land.

### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should protect prime agricultural land and ensure that future development is sensitively sited to ensure that it does not degrade soil quality. In addition, areas of brownfield land should be taken into account during the decision making process.

## Landscape

The *European Landscape Convention* requires the sustainable protection and management of landscapes. Within Scotland, *Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Landscape Policy Framework 05/01* sets out SNH's approach to Scotland's landscape including commitments to caring for, assessing and monitoring the landscape and a more integrated approach to the planning and management of natural and historic aspects of our landscapes. The SPP seeks to protect the landscape and enhance the landscape setting of towns, via greenbelt policies.

The Ayrshire Landscape Assessment seeks to conserve, enhance, improve or restructure landscapes and identifies how landscape change can be accommodated within Ayrshire. Within South Ayrshire, Local Plan policy aims to protect Scenic Areas from landscape and visual impacts.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should ensure future development does not adversely affect the landscape setting of towns, sensitive landscapes and Scenic Areas and should ensure such future development is sensitively sited.

#### **Air Quality**

The *Air Quality Framework Directive (1996/62/EC)* sets principles for ambient air quality monitoring, assessment and management and includes four additional directives detailing limit values for specific pollutants. *The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2007* sets out air quality standards and objectives to be achieved for the main pollutants and a new policy framework for tackling fine particulates and potential new policy measures which could give further health benefits.

Within South Ayrshire the *Local Air Quality Management Updating and Screening Assessment Report 2009* assesses and reviews air quality within the South Ayrshire region to assess the compliance with standards and objectives for pollutants.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should seek to address air quality issues and aim to meet standards and objectives set by the Air Quality Strategy, as implemented by the *Air Quality Standards (Scotland) Regulations 2007*.

#### **Climatic Factors**

The *Kyoto Protocol (1997)* aims to limit and/or reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. It places limits on anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions with the aim to reduce emissions by at least 5% and ideally 8% below 1990 levels during 2008 to 2012. The protocol has been adopted by the European Union through the *European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) (2005)* which aims to deliver these commitments.

The UK's Kyoto Protocol target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below base year levels by 2008 to 2012 is delivered through the Climate Change: *"The UK Programme (UKCIP)" (2008)* with a national UK target of a 60% reduction in its carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. In addition, the Climate (Scotland) Act introduces a statutory target to reduce Scotland's greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 with an interim target of at least 34% by 2020, rising to 42%, if the EU commits to a 30% reduction, by 2020.

*"The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (2009)"* sets out plans to move the UK onto a low carbon footing and meet its targets of a 34% cut in emissions by 2020. The Renewable Energy Strategy (2009) sets out how the Government will deliver the UK target of getting 15% of all energy from renewables by 2020. The document *"Changing Our Ways: Scotland's Climate Change Programme (2006)"* sets out the steps being taken in Scotland now and in the near future, responding to the consequences of climate change.

The SPP sets out how the planning system should manage the process of encouraging, approving and implementing renewable energy proposals when preparing development plans and determining planning applications. Planning authorities should use the development plan process to support and encourage the continued

growth of all renewable technologies. Spatial policies should not be used to restrict development on sites where the technology can operate efficiently and environmental and other impacts can be addressed. Plans should however, use spatial policies to afford significant protection to areas designated for their national or international natural heritage value; green belts and those areas where further development would result in unacceptable cumulative impacts.

South Ayrshire Council's Climate Change Declaration aims to ensure that measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to future climate change scenarios are incorporated into plans, strategies and programmes. South Ayrshire Council produced a Local Authority Carbon Management Programme Strategy and Implementation Plan within which the Council set a target for themselves to reduce carbon emissions by 20% by 2013 from 2005/2006 baseline levels of 55,937 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should ensure that it contributes towards the Scottish Government's greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets through promoting renewable energy development, appropriate positioning of future development, and the promotion of walking and cycling and public transport opportunities as set out in the *Climate (Scotland) Bill (2009)*. The LDP also needs to ensure adequate land resources are made available for the development of renewable energy resources.

The LDP should also ensure that all future development is designed so as the risk of more frequent and severe flooding, as predicted in the climate change scenarios put forward in the *UK Climate Projections UKCP09 Report* are minimised.

#### **Noise**

*The European Directive for Assessment and Management of Environmental Noise 2002/49/EC*, more commonly referred to as the Environmental Noise Directive (END) has been enacted in Scotland through the *Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006*.

The 2006 Regulations implement the Directive's three main objectives that are:

- To determine the noise exposure of the population through noise mapping;
- To make information available on environmental noise to the public; and
- To establish Action Plans based on the mapping results, to reduce levels where necessary, and to preserve environmental noise quality where it is good.

The Scottish Noise Maps were created as a result of the Regulations and at present only cover the Prestwick Airport area and major trunk roads in South Ayrshire.

*PAN 56: Planning & Noise*, establishes Noise Exposure Categories (NECs) to help planning authorities determine applications for residential development on sites subjected to noise from road, rail, air, and "mixed" transportation noise. These categories range from the lowest noise level of A through to D which indicates a high level of environmental noise.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP preparation should identify areas which are designated as quiet areas and those subject to high levels of noise for consideration in allocating development sites. The LDP should aim to protect residents from high levels of environmental noise and aim to ensure that residents and sensitive receptors in South Ayrshire are not exposed to excessive levels of noise, with reference to the Noise Exposure Categories set out in PAN 56.

## Human Health

The SPP sets out objectives to protect and enhance open space and protect and support opportunities for sport and recreation. *Let's Make Scotland More Active* (2003) includes targets to achieve 50% of all adults aged over 16 and 80% of all children aged 16 and under meeting the minimum recommended levels of physical activity by 2022. In terms of accessibility, the *Land Reform (Scotland) Act (2003)* sets out a strategy for rights of access to land and requires Councils to adopt a Core Paths Plan for their area. South Ayrshire Council's Core Paths Plan is currently at the consultative draft stage and identifies important routes within South Ayrshire which meet community needs.

### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should aim to contribute to targets for minimum recommended levels of activity through recreational and other future development and encouraging Active Transport through walking and cycling. The National Physical Activity Strategy outlines 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. Currently 37% of girls, 2% of boys aged between 2 and 15, 67% of women and 56% of men aged between 16 and 74 in Scotland do not meeting these targets. The Scottish Government have set a target for physical activity levels in Scotland: by 2022 50% of adults and 80% of children will meet the current recommended levels. The LDP should look to help the residents of South Ayrshire meet these targets.

## Population

*The Scottish Economic Strategy (2007)* sets out how the Government will support businesses and individuals and how the Government and public services can create a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth. *The Framework for Economic Development in Scotland (2004)* includes principal objectives for economic growth, regional development, closing the opportunity gap and sustainable development in economic, social and environmental terms. The SPP expands on this and supports the role of planning in delivering the *Framework for Economic Development* setting out the importance of ensuring that the industrial and business land supply is kept up to date.

The SPP also addresses the need to create quality residential environments and guide development to the right places to deliver an adequate supply of housing land. It states that new housing should be guided to locations accessible by foot, cycle and public transport with consideration given to energy efficiency, landscape and waste collection.

Locally, South Ayrshire Council's Local Housing Strategy sets a number of strategic objectives aiming to provide sufficient affordable rented accommodation, to create safe attractive areas and sustainable rural communities. The South Ayrshire Community Plan aims to make South Ayrshire a better place to live and work by making it prosperous, healthy and caring, clean, attractive and safe, and by providing access to learning and skills opportunities.

*Scotland's National Transport Strategy (2006)* has an overall aim to improve journey times and connections with a reduction in emissions while improving the quality, accessibility and affordability of public transport. The link between planning and transport is specified in the SPP, which recognises the need for more sustainable choices and overall need for a reduction in travel. The assessment of development proposals should involve careful and appropriate location selection to avoid undesirable outcomes for the environment.

Local Policy includes South Ayrshire's Transport Strategy, Community Plan and Housing Strategy. South Ayrshire Council's Local Transport Strategy sets out transport projects and policies for the period up to 2014 and aims to encourage active transport and protect the environment from unacceptable effects of transport.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

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. It needs to encourage employment, business, leisure and tourism opportunities. The LDP should ensure the suitable positioning of development in relation to ease of access to public transport, as well as walking and cycling routes.

#### **Material Assets**

The Waste Framework Directive 2006/12/EC sets recycling standards and includes an obligation for EU Member States to develop national waste prevention programmes. At a national level, the *National Waste Strategy (1999)* outlines how Scotland can set about decreasing the amount of waste being landfilled and increase the amount being reused and recycled. *The National Waste Plan (2003)* is a keystone to implementing the strategy and brings together Area Waste Plans and sets out an action plan to reduce landfilled waste in line with EU targets and increased recycling, composting and energy from waste. The SPP requires planning authorities to encourage the provision for waste separation and kerbside collection of recyclable material in consideration of proposals for new housing.

*The Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway Area Waste Plan* sets commitments to maximise recycling of waste and minimise waste going to landfill and aims to reduce environmental impacts of waste production, improve resource efficiency and develop waste management systems. The plan aims to reduce landfill dependency from over 90% to 28% by 2020.

#### *Implications for the Local Development Plan*

The LDP should consider the use of recycled materials within new developments and include resource efficiency and control of waste. The LDP should take into account the waste hierarchy when planning for waste management, in particular the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) set out within the Area Waste Strategy. The LDP should integrate proposals with the Ayrshire Joint Strategic Waste Management Project Group in order to provide a network of waste infrastructure that serves South Ayrshire and surrounding areas in an environmentally sound and cost effective manner.

### **3.3 Current State of the Environment**

Within the SEA process, an early stage of the preparation is to review the current state of the environment within South Ayrshire in relation to the SEA parameters, required by Schedule 3 of the *Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005*.

The Environmental Report will provide a full and comprehensive environmental baseline report of the South Ayrshire area, with detailed GIS mapping used to provide figures of key environmental designations, include biodiversity sites and cultural heritage features. The baseline report will also incorporate the likely future state of the environment without the implementation of the LDP as a standard against which the effects of a PPS can be judged. For the purposes of the scoping report, a broad synopsis of baseline information has been collated. Figure 3-1 illustrates the main baseline features. Environmental implications arising from baseline issues that need to be taken into account within the LDP production have also been identified and key environmental issues have been outlined in Table 3-1.

| SEA Topic                              | Environmental Baseline Issues   | Implications for the LDP   | Baseline Data Required   | Sources   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| <b>Biodiversity, flora &amp; fauna</b> | <p>South Ayrshire contains two Special Protection Areas (SPAs), two Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and 17 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs).</p> <p>There are a number of non statutory designated sites including Important Bird Areas, and Wildlife Sites.</p> <p>Priority species have been identified including the Corncrake and Hen harrier.</p> | <p>Lendalfoot Hills Complex SAC and Merrick Kells SAC could be negatively impacted as a result of development.</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 should be carried out to determine the impact of the LDP on SPA's and SPC's.</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 that could be negatively impacted by development in proximity to them.</p> <p>Development may result in the loss or fragmentation of habitats with associated impacts on protected and priority species and sites throughout South Ayrshire.</p> | <p>European and Nationally Designated areas; SACs, SPAs and SSSIs.</p> <p>Non-Statutory Designated Sites; Wildlife Sites, Important Bird Areas, RSPB Reserves, Ornithological Sites, Scottish Wildlife Trust sites, Local Nature Reserves.</p> <p>Priority Species and Habitats.</p> | <p>Joint Nature Conservation Council (JNCC).</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).</p> <p>RSPB</p> <p>Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council.</p> |
| <b>Cultural Heritage</b>               | <p>South Ayrshire has a number of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes (see Figure 3-1).</p>  | <p>The LDP should protect South Ayrshire's 91 Scheduled Monuments.</p> <p>Development should not impact the 9 Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes within South Ayrshire.</p> <p>The LDP should protect local designated cultural heritage sites, including, listed buildings, and their setting from the adverse effects of development.</p>  | <p>Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes.</p> <p>Conservation Areas.</p> <p>Listed Buildings.</p> <p>Scheduled Ancient Monuments.</p>   | <p>Historic Scotland.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>PASTMAP.</p> <p>West of Scotland Archaeological Service.</p>  |
| <b>Water</b>                           | <p>Coastal areas and a number of rivers are at risk from flooding.</p> <p>The water quality of river water bodies ranges from moderate to good. There are some areas of poor water quality.</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.</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>Water Quality.</p> <p>Flood Risk.</p>   | <p>SEPA River Basin Management Plans Mapping.</p> <p>SEPA Indicative River and Coastal Flood Maps.</p>  |
| <b>Soils, Geology and Land Use</b>     | <p>There are 15 geologically important SSSIs within South Ayrshire</p>  | <p>The LDP 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>Local geology.</p> <p>Land use.</p>   | <p>Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey 2006.</p> <p>Soil and land capability for</p>   |

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|                         | <p>Coal is abundant in a number of areas.<br/>         Much of the agricultural land is of good quality.<br/>         There are 37 Vacant and Derelict Land sites in South Ayrshire.</p>   | <p>The LDP 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<br/>         The LDP should recognise that the area has 37 brownfield sites covering 114 ha before considering greenbelt development.</p>  | <p>Contaminated Land.<br/>         Soils.<br/>         Prime and Improved Agricultural Land.</p>              | <p>agriculture maps from Macaulay Institute 2002.</p>  |
| <b>Landscape</b>        | <p>Within South Ayrshire, 6 Scenic Areas have been identified (illustrated in Figure 3-1).</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.<br/>         Development should not deteriorate any of South Ayrshire's 16 different landscape character types.<br/>         The LDP should protect Green Belt land and always direct development towards Brownfield land in the first instance.<br/>         The LDP should seek to enhance landscapes, where possible.</p> | <p>Scenic Areas<br/>         Landscape Character Areas<br/>         Greenbelt data.</p>                       | <p>Scottish Natural Heritage.<br/>         South Ayrshire Council<br/>         Ayrshire Landscape Assessment – Land Use Consultants</p>                    |
| <b>Air Quality</b>      | <p>Areas of concern to local air quality include Maybole, Coylton and the Sandgate, Ayr in terms of PM<sub>10</sub> as a result of road traffic levels.</p>  | <p>The LDP should encourage active travel and the use of public transport to reduce requirements for the private vehicle.<br/>         The LDP should ensure that development is carried out so as to be accessible by public and active means of travel minimising the need for private car use.<br/>         The LDP needs take into account areas that may potentially breach EU standards for air quality when promoting areas for development.</p>  | <p>Local Air Quality.<br/>         Air Quality Management Areas.</p>  | <p>South Ayrshire Council.<br/>         National Air Emissions Inventory (NAEI).<br/>         UK Air Quality Archive.</p>                                  |
| <b>Climatic Factors</b> | <p>The main human influence on global climate is emissions of the greenhouse gases, particularly, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), methane and nitrous oxide.<br/>         South Ayrshire Council's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have reduced to 53,394 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> over the 2007/2008 period. Waste and street lighting emissions have increased and energy use and transport emissions have decreased from the 2005/2006 baseline.<br/>         Precipitation levels and frequency and strength of westerly winds have increased since the 1960s.</p> | <p>The LDP should encourage active travel and use of public transport to reduce transport related emissions.<br/>         Promote carbon efficient developments that utilise sustainable materials and building techniques.<br/>         Promote the use of renewable energy.<br/>         Promote development resilient to the effects of climate change.</p>   | <p>Climate Change Trends.<br/>         Flooding and Storm Events.<br/>         Local Climatic Conditions.</p> | <p>Online Handbook of Climatic Trends across Scotland, 2006 (SNIFFER).<br/>         UK Climate Impacts Programme.<br/>         South Ayrshire Council.</p> |

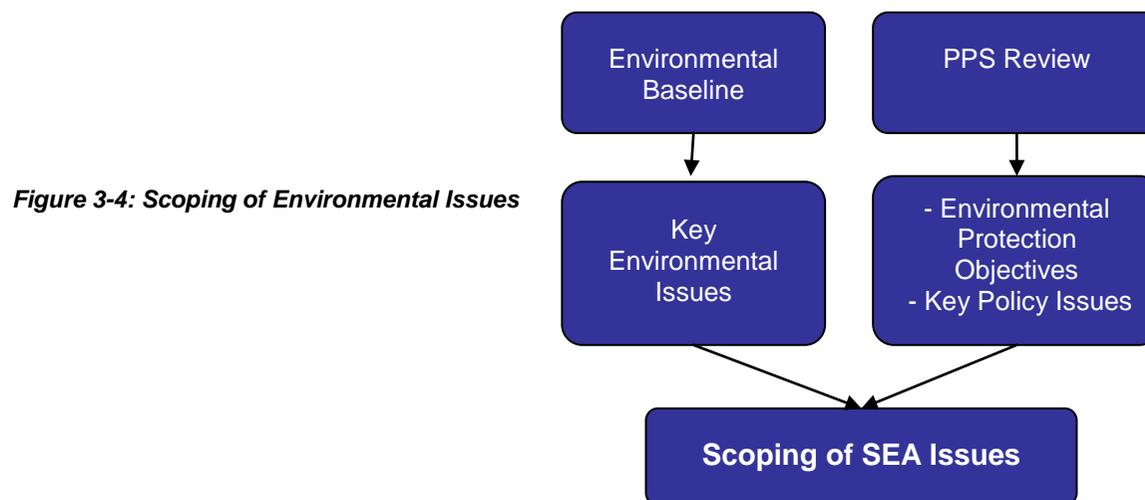
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| <b>Noise</b>           | <p>Road traffic is the most prevalent source of ambient noise, followed by aviation.</p> <p>Expansion of Prestwick Airport may lead to a greater noise impact.</p>   | <p>The LDP needs to recognise the noise issues within 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>   | <p>Noise sensitive areas, designated quiet areas, noise maps.</p> <p>Major transport related transport noise source data (Prestwick Airport).</p> | <p>South Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>Scottish Noise Mapping (Prestwick Airport).</p> <p>Transportation Summary Action Plan.</p>  |
| <b>Human Health</b>    | <p>10% of the population are not considered to be in good health.</p> <p>The percentage of people walking and cycling is slightly lower than the Scottish average.</p> <p>There are numerous recreational facilities which should be maintained.</p> <p>Fatalities resulting from road collisions are forecast to decline.</p>   | <p>The LDP 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 LDP should maintain and actively encourage the provision of accessible recreational facilities to all sections of the community so as to ensure South Ayrshire improves on its adult obesity rates of 25.3% in males and 26.6% in females.</p>  | <p>Accident Statistics.</p> <p>Life Expectancy.</p> <p>Activity Levels.</p> <p>Recreational Facilities.</p>                                       | <p>SCROL.</p> <p>NHS Health Scotland.</p> <p>Office of National Statistics.</p>   |
| <b>Population</b>      | <p>The 2001 Census indicates South Ayrshire population to be 112, 097, the population is forecast to decrease to 111,065 in 2013.</p> <p>There are localised areas of high unemployment such as Girvan and North Ayr.</p> <p>South Ayrshire's working age population is slightly lower than the Scottish average.</p>  | <p>The LDP 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 LDP needs to recognise the requirement for South Ayrshire's rural and aged population to have access to essential services</p> <p>The LDP should promote development that is appropriately located for easy access to public transport.</p> <p>The LDP 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 LDP should recognise the regeneration needs of deprived areas, particularly Maybole and Girvan.</p> | <p>Population Statistics.</p> <p>Economic Activity Statistics.</p>  | <p>General Register Office for Scotland.</p> <p>Census 2001 data.</p> <p>Office of National Statistics.</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council.</p>  |
| <b>Material Assets</b> | <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 which 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</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 LDP needs to take account of the BPEO and waste reduction targets set out in the AWMP.</p> <p>The LDP should recognise and help accommodate the infrastructure targets for waste facilities as identified in the</p>   | <p>Aggregate data.</p> <p>Infrastructure data.</p> <p>Waste and recycling data.</p>   | <p>Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway and Ayrshire Area Waste Plan.</p> <p>South Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>Dumfries and Galloway Council.</p> <p>East Ayrshire Council.</p> |

|  |  |   |  |   |
|--|--|---|--|---|
|  | <p>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>Currently 70% of C&amp;D waste is sent to landfill, with only 16% recycled or reused. This will need to improve to meet emerging targets.</p> <p>The Area Waste Plan identifies the Best Practicable Environmental Options for waste as being "Prevention, Reuse and Refurbishment, Recycling, Composting and Thermal Treatment" in that order of preference.</p> <p>There is currently capacity at Bradan and Penwhapple WTW's. Some network upgrades may be required for the larger or rural sites. From a wastewater point of view, larger existing works are most favourable (Meadowhead &amp; Girvan). Small/medium sized works could generally take up to about 50 units, as per the asset capacity tactical app. Smaller works and septic tanks, in some cases, only a few additional units.</p> | <p>AWMP so that South Ayrshire can make a significant contribution to implementing the BPEO set out in the Area Waste plan.</p> |  | <p>North Ayrshire Council.</p> <p>Scottish Enterprise Dumfries and Galloway.</p> <p>Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire.</p> |
|--|--|---|--|---|

**Table 3-1: Baseline Issues and Implications**

### 3.4 Scoping of Environmental Issues

Schedule 3 of the *Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005* requires consideration of whether the beneficial and adverse environmental effects of the LDP are likely to be significant and therefore need to be included within the scope of the environmental assessment. This process of scoping the SEA is shown within Figure 3-4. The environmental issues and objectives identified within the PPS review and initial environmental baseline assist in determining whether environmental parameters can be scoped out of the SEA process if they will not be affected by the implementation of the PPS. The role of the LDP is to direct development and land-use, and it is therefore considered that there is the potential for it to significantly affect the environment across a range of environmental media, as such all SEA parameters have been scoped in for the purposes of this study.



In relation to flood risk, if flooding is identified to be a problem within the South Ayrshire boundary, there is the potential that a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) would be required as outlined in Section 3 of SEPA’s Technical Flood Risk Guidance for Stakeholders.

The need for a detailed SFRA cannot be determined at this stage of the planning process as potential development sites have yet to be identified. An assessment as to the need for an SFRA will need to be made as and when potential development sites are identified and the findings reported in the IER.

## 4 Scope and Detail Proposed for the SEA

### 4.1 Introduction

This section sets out the methodology and level of detail proposed for the SEA. A number of guidance documents will be recognised in the preparation of the SEA and Environmental Report, these include:

- *Scottish Executive (2003) 'Environmental Assessment of Development Plans';*
- *Scottish Executive (2006) 'Strategic Environmental Assessment Toolkit' (and templates);*
- *Countryside Council for Wales, English Nature, Environmental Agency, RSPB (2004) 'Strategic Environmental Assessment and Biodiversity: Guidance for Practitioners';*
- *Department of Health (2007) 'Draft Guidance on Health in Strategic Environmental Assessment';*
- *Environment Agency (2007) 'Strategic Environmental Assessment and Climate Change';*
- *ODPM (2005) 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive'; and*
- *SNIFFER (2009) 'Practical Guidance for Practitioners on How to Take Account of Air, Water, and Soil.'*

How the production of the MIR and LDP will be fully integrated with the SEA process is illustrated in Figure 4-1 which illustrates the inter-relationship and key stages of the SEA and MIR/LDP production.

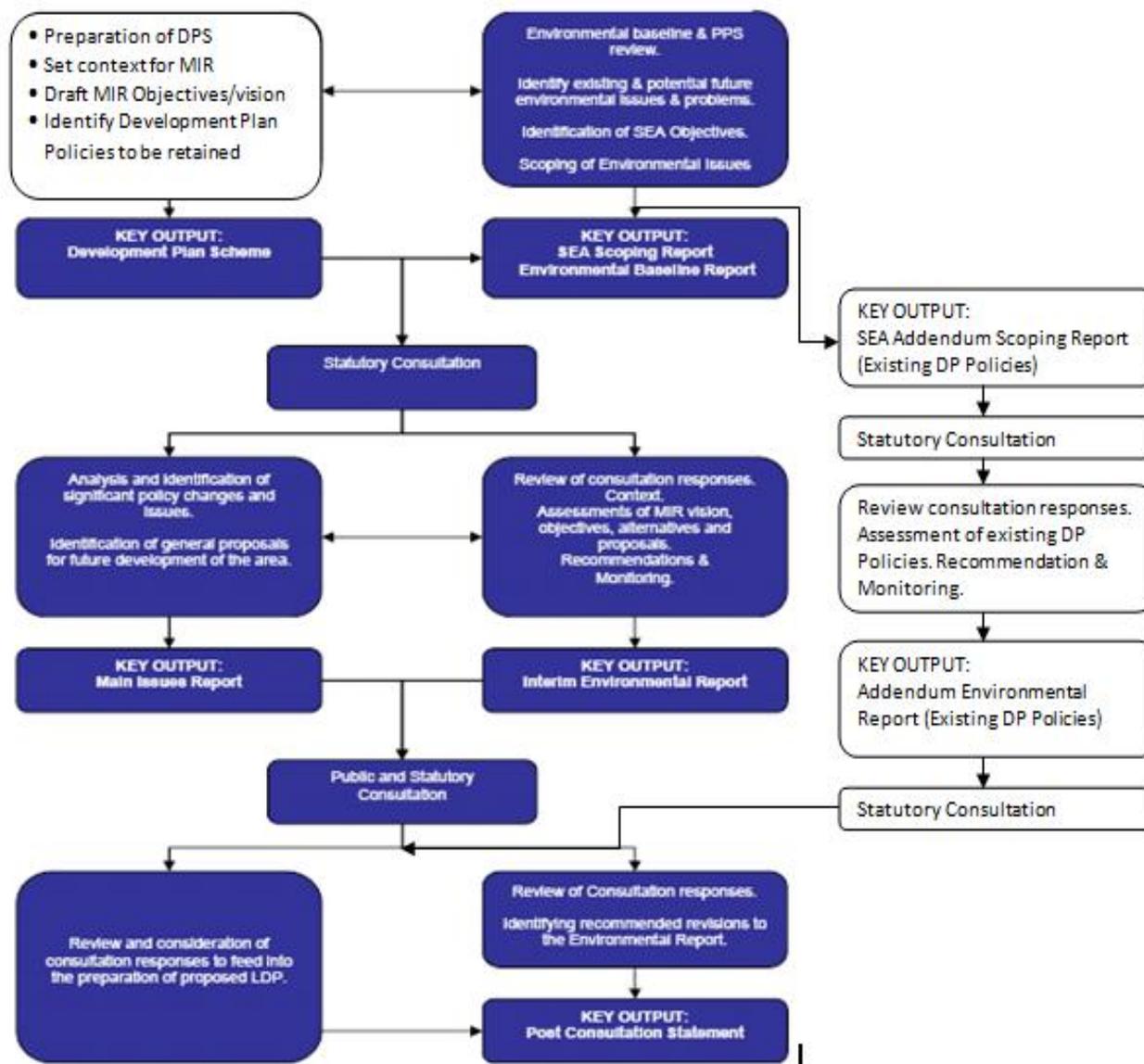
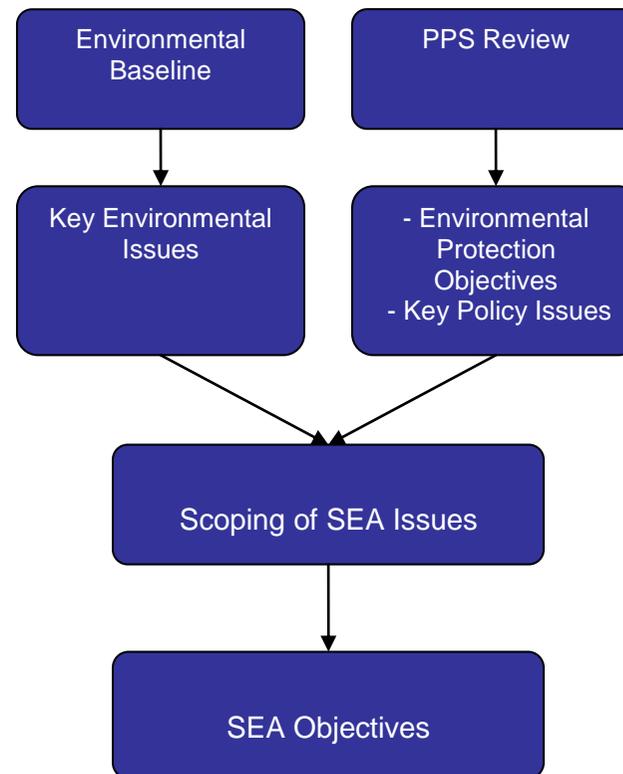


Figure 4-1: Key Stages of SEA and MIR Production

## 4.2 Development of SEA Objectives

Good practice guidance identifies that SEA Objectives are used to develop a systematic, rigorous and consistent framework against which to assess potential environmental impacts. As such, SEA Objectives have been developed to ensure that environmental issues are fully considered within the development of the LDP. SEA Objectives have been developed for all SEA parameters and have derived from appropriate environmental protection objectives identified from relevant PPS and environmental baseline issues, as identified within Section 3.2 and 3.3 respectively. Figure 4-2 provides a diagram that details the evolution process of the SEA Objectives.



**Figure 4-2: SEA Objectives Development**

Table 4-1 identifies the key issues and implications for the LDP identified from PPS and the initial environmental baseline, and the associated SEA Objectives that have been derived.

**Table 4-1: Development of SEA Objectives**

| SEA Topic                            | Key Policy Implications   | Key Baseline Implications   | SEA Objectives  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b> | <p>The LDP should protect European and national sites from the adverse effects of development. An Appropriate Assessment may be required if development proposals potentially directly or indirectly effect 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>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 as a result of development.</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 should be carried out on the impact of the LDP on SAC's and SPC's.</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 that could be negatively impacted by development in proximity to them.</p> <p>Development may result in the loss or fragmentation of habitats with associated impacts on protected and priority species and sites throughout South Ayrshire.</p> | <p>Ensure the integrity that all internationally designated sites within or in close proximity to the SAC area is preserved.</p> <p>To safeguard designated sites, habitats and priority species from loss and fragmentation.</p> <p>Biodiversity should be enhanced and protected in line with Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets.</p>               |
| <b>Cultural Heritage</b>             | <p>The LDP 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 LDP should protect South Ayrshire's 91 Scheduled Monuments.</p> <p>Development should not impact the 9 Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes within South Ayrshire.</p> <p>The LDP should protect local designated cultural heritage sites and their setting from the adverse effects of development.</p> <p>The LDP should protect listed building and their setting.</p>  | <p>Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development.</p>   |
| <b>Water</b>                         | <p>The quality of water courses, 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 LDP should not exacerbate flood risk within South Ayrshire through the provision of new development.</p> <p>Development within areas of flood risk should not occur unless adequate flood mitigation measures are put in place to safeguard new and existing development from existing flooding risks and potential future climate induced flooding.</p> | <p>Development within areas of flood risk should not occur unless adequate flood mitigation measures are put in place to safeguard new and existing development from existing flooding risks and potential future climate induced flooding.</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>Protect, and where necessary, enhance water quality to good chemical and ecological status by 2015 in line with the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Avoid any potential flood risk from or to any new development.</p> <p>Ensure that all new infrastructure is designed in such a way that it reduces flood risk through the provision of SUDS.</p> |
| <b>Soils, Geology and Land Use</b>   | <p>The LDP should constrain development that may degrade or sterilise prime agricultural land.</p> <p>The LDP should promote the development of brownfield and previously developed sites.</p>  | <p>The LDP 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 LDP should recognise the need to constrain development</p>  | <p>The LDP should promote use of vacant and derelict brownfield land over that of greenbelt.</p> <p>It should also safeguard areas of prime agricultural land and designated geological sites.</p>  |

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|                         | The LDP should promote the protection of designated sites of importance to geology.   | around South Ayrshire's 18 nationally important geological SSSI sites to ensure no degradation occurs to them or their settings<br><br>The LDP should recognise that the area has 37 brownfield sites covering 114 ha before considering greenbelt development.   |   |
| <b>Landscape</b>        | The LDP should ensure future development does not adversely affect the landscape setting of towns, sensitive landscapes and Scenic Areas and should ensure future development is sensitively sited.   | 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.<br><br>Development should not deteriorate any of South Ayrshire's 16 different landscape character types.<br><br>The LDP should protect Green Belt land and always direct development towards Brownfield land in the first instance.<br><br>The LDP should seek to enhance landscapes, where possible. | Protect and enhance and the area's landscape character and designated Scenic Areas.<br><br>Maintain and protect greenbelt areas in South Ayrshire.  |
| <b>Air Quality</b>      | The LDP should seek to address air quality issues and aim to meet standards and objectives set by the Air Quality Strategy.   | The LDP should encourage active travel and the use of public transport to reduce requirements for the private vehicle.<br><br>The LDP should ensure that development is carried out so as to be accessible by public and active means of travel minimising the need for private car use.<br><br>The LDP needs take into account areas that may potentially breach EU standards for air quality when promoting areas for development.  | Promote development in such a way that it avoids air quality standards being breached within SAC and adjoining areas.<br><br>Promote development in such a way as to alleviate air quality issues in those areas where air quality standards may be breached.<br><br>Promote the use and development of emission efficient modes of transport.                                  |
| <b>Climatic Factors</b> | The LDP 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. | The LDP should encourage active travel and use of public transport to reduce transport related emissions.<br><br>Promote carbon efficient developments that utilise sustainable materials and building techniques.<br><br>Promote the use of renewable energy.  | 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.<br><br>The LDP should promote the use of renewable energy, energy efficient development and increased use of public transport.<br><br>Promote development resilient to the effects of climate change. |
| <b>Noise</b>            | The LDP should ensure development is appropriately located to avoid the adverse effects of noise on sensitive receptors.  | The LDP 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).   | The LDP should avoid were possible the positioning of residential properties within and area with a noise level exceeding Noise Exposure Category C.<br><br>The LDP needs to establish and protect quiet areas, and avoid deterioration in the noise regime in noise sensitive areas.   |
| <b>Human Health</b>     | The LDP should aim to contribute to targets for minimum recommended levels of activity through recreational and   | The LDP should improve and promote walking and cycling opportunities within South Ayrshire as both walking and cycling  | To enhance and also protect human health and promote healthy living through improved active   |

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|                        | <p>other types of development and encouraging Active Transport through walking and cycling.</p> <p>The LDP should recognise that development needs to make a contribution 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>rates in South Ayrshire are below the Scottish national averages.</p> <p>The LDP should maintain and actively encourage the provision of accessible recreational facilities to all sections of the community so as to ensure South Ayrshire improves on its adult obesity rates of 25.3% in males and 26.6% in females.</p>   | <p>travel opportunities, particularly the quality of and availability to walk and cycle.</p> <p>Maintain and improve recreational facilities and promote access to health, social and recreational facilities.</p>  |
| <b>Population</b>      | <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, leisure and tourism opportunities.</p> <p>The LDP should ensure the suitable positioning of development in relation to ease of access to public transport, walking and cycling routes.</p> | <p>The LDP 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 LDP needs to recognise the requirement for South Ayrshire's rural and aged population to have access to essential services</p> <p>The LDP should promote development that is appropriately located for easy access to public transport.</p> <p>The LDP 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 LDP should recognise the regeneration needs of deprived areas, particularly Maybole and Girvan.</p> | <p>Improve the community environment and quality of life of residents.</p> <p>Maintain or enhance sustainable access to key services, amenities and employment particularly for rural communities.</p> <p>Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population.</p>   |
| <b>Material Assets</b> | <p>The LDP should consider the use of recycled materials within new developments and include resource efficiency and control of waste.</p> <p>The LDP should take into account BPEO targets set out within the Area Waste Strategy.</p>   | <p>The LDP should encourage active travel and the use of public transport to reduce requirements for the private vehicle.</p> <p>The LDP should ensure that development is carried out so as to be accessible by public and active means of travel minimising the need for private car use.</p> <p>The LDP needs take into account areas that may potentially breach EU standards for air quality when promoting areas for development.</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 principals of reduce, reuse and recycle, as set out in the Area Waste Plan BPEO.</p> <p>Promote the development of infrastructure to enable SAC to meet current waste reduction targets as identified in the Area Waste Plan.</p> |

### 4.3 SEA Objectives and Analytical Questions

When considering each SEA objective, it is useful to extract a directly applicable question which one can apply to a PPS to gauge its effect against that objective. This allows for the application of transparent and consistent appraisal criteria across all environmental media and for all PPSs within the LDP. The analytical questions that will be applied to the proposals in the LDP are illustrated in table 4-2.

**Table 4-2: SEA Objectives and Analytical Questions**

| SEA Topic                            | SEA Objective  | SEA Questions   |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b> | <p>Ensure the integrity that all internationally designated sites within or in close proximity to the SAC area is preserved.</p> <p>Safeguard designated sites, habitats and priority species from loss and fragmentation.</p> <p>Biodiversity should be enhanced and protected in line with Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets.</p>               | <p>Could a European designated site be negatively impacted in terms of either extent, or quality as a result of development</p> <p>Could the policy/proposal have a beneficial or negative effect on issues of habitat loss, fragmentation and disturbance?</p> <p>Could the policy/proposal have a direct or indirect impact on designated biodiversity sites, habitats or priority species including those within the LBAP?</p> |
| <b>Cultural Heritage</b>             | <p>Safeguard cultural heritage features and their settings through responsible design and positioning of development.</p>  | <p>Could the policy/proposal have a positive or negative effect on any features designated for their cultural heritage value such as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, conservation areas or any Archaeological Consultation Trigger Sites?</p>  |
| <b>Water</b>                         | <p>Protect, and where necessary, enhance water quality to good chemical and ecological status by 2015 in line with the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>Mitigate any potential flood risk from any new development.</p> <p>Ensure that all new infrastructure is designed in such a way that it reduces flood risk through the provision of SUDS.</p> | <p>Could the policy/proposal have a beneficial or negative impact upon water quality?</p> <p>Could the policy/proposal help to achieve the WFD target of all waters having "Good" quality by 2015?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal avoid areas of potential flood risk through appropriate siting of development?</p> <p>Could the proposal alleviate flood risk to existing developments?</p>                                    |
| <b>Soils, Geology and Land Use</b>   | <p>The MIR should promote use of vacant and derelict brownfield land over that of greenbelt.</p> <p>Safeguard areas of prime agricultural land and designated geological sites.</p>  | <p>Could the PPS have a negative or beneficial effect on protected/valued geological resources</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal utilise or encourage use of vacant and derelict land?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal have adverse effects on agricultural land or designated geological sites?</p>  |
| <b>Landscape</b>                     | <p>Protect and enhance and the area's landscape character and designated Scenic Areas.</p> <p>Maintain and protect greenbelt areas in South Ayrshire.</p>  | <p>Could the policy/proposal adversely affect designated Scenic Areas or the landscape character of an area?</p> <p>Will there be any land take for greenbelt areas as a result of the policy/proposal?</p>   |
| <b>Air Quality</b>                   | <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>  | <p>Does the policy/proposal have the potential to maintain or enhance air quality within South Ayrshire?</p> <p>Will the policy/proposal result in the exceedance of any of the National Air Quality Standards?</p> <p>Could the PPS result in increased exposure to air pollution?</p>   |

| SEA Topic               | SEA Objective   | SEA Questions  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Climatic Factors</b> | <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>  | <p>Could the policy/proposal make a positive contribution towards meeting national and local climate change targets through appropriate siting and design of development such as energy efficient housing and reduced need to travel?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal make a positive contribute towards renewable energy targets?</p>   |
| <b>Noise</b>            | <p>The MIR should avoid were possible the positioning of residential properties within and area with a noise level exceeding Noise Exposure Category C.</p> <p>The MIR needs to establish and protect quiet areas, and avoid deterioration in the noise regime in noise sensitive areas.</p>  | <p>Is the policy/proposal within close proximity to noise sensitive receptors and could the proposal result in increased noise levels?</p> <p>Will any environmentally sensitive areas be impacted upon as a result of development?</p>  |
| <b>Human Health</b>     | <p>To enhance and protect human health and promote healthy living through the promotion of more active travel behaviour, particularly walking and cycling.</p> <p>Maintain and improve recreational facilities and promote access to health, social and recreational facilities.</p>  | <p>Will the policy/proposal bring walking and cycling rates in line with the national average?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal facilitate healthy lifestyles and address safety concerns which may have health effects both physically and mentally e.g. due to noise and flooding?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal include development appropriately sited for access to health social and recreational facilities and open space?</p>  |
| <b>Population</b>       | <p>Improve the community environment and quality of life of residents.</p> <p>Maintain or enhance sustainable access to key services, amenities and employment particularly for rural communities.</p>  | <p>Could the policy/proposal enhance the community environment and improve quality of life?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal promote sustainable access to essential services and employment opportunities?</p>   |
|                         | <p>Promote economic growth to encourage retention of working age population.</p>  | <p>Does the policy/proposal promote economic growth through encouraging new business?</p>  |
| <b>Material Assets</b>  | <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 principals of reduce, reuse and recycle, as set out in the Area Waste Plan BPEO.</p> <p>Promote the development of infrastructure to enable SAC to meet current waste reduction targets as identified in the Area Waste Plan.</p> | <p>Could the policy/proposal promote sustainable design and construction?</p> <p>Does the policy/proposal have the potential to promote reuse and recycle of waste in the construction of new developments?</p> <p>Would the policy/proposal encourage the minimisation the production of waste for any new development?</p> <p>Could the policy/proposal make a positive contribution towards achieving all European, national, regional and local waste reduction and recycling targets?</p> |

## 5 Framework for Assessing Environmental Effects

### 5.1 Introduction

This section sets out the framework and methodology for assessing the environmental effects of the LDP. The Environmental Report will include full details of the influence the SEA has had on the development of the LDP, and is envisaged to include the following sections:

- Context;
- Environmental Baseline, Issues and Objectives;
- Assessment Methodology;
- Environmental Assessments;
- Alternatives / Mitigation and Residual Effects;
- Iterative Assessments;
- Cumulative Effects Assessment;
- Consultation;
- Monitoring Strategy;
- Programme; and
- Technical Appendices.

### 5.2 Compatibility Assessment

A compatibility matrix will be used for the assessment process, and alternatives will be proposed for any non-compatible objectives. Within the matrix, a tick will represent compatibility, a cross where they are incompatible and a question mark where there is uncertainty as to the compatibility.

Where conflict between the objectives is identified, ways to eliminate or minimise it will be identified and an alternative objective or vision will be recommended and adopted where appropriate within the LDP and the results recorded in the Environmental Report.

### 5.3 Environmental Assessment of Local Development Plan

The SEA will assess the likely significant effects of the LDP, including the vision, objectives and general policies and proposals. The assessment will be guided by the environmental objectives and analysis questions as identified within Section 4, and the environmental baseline which will accompany the environmental report.

The environmental assessment methodology involves the identification of the type (i.e. beneficial, neutral or adverse) and significance of effect. Significance is a function of the magnitude of an environmental effect combined with the sensitivity or importance of the environmental receptor. The significance of effects is assessed during the assessment process using the methodology within Table 5-1.

**Table 5-1: Significance of Effect**

| Significance               | Effects   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Major adverse</b>       | <p>The Plans Policies and Strategies (PPS) or development would moderately adversely affect (e.g. effects on the setting of Character of) an internationally important site.</p> <p>The PPS or development would risk severe effects (e.g. compromising the integrity of) on a regionally, nationally or internationally designated site.</p> <p>The PPS or development could moderately compromise the character of multiple regionally or nationally important sites.</p> <p>The PPS or development would severely worsen an issue considered important at the international or national level.</p> <p>The PPS or development would have moderate adverse effects on an environmental standard, benchmark or issue considered important at the national or international level.</p> |
| <b>Moderate adverse</b>    | <p>The PPS has the potential for severe adverse effects (e.g. fundamental impairment of the integrity of) on a locally important site.</p> <p>The PPS has the potential to have a moderate adverse effect on the setting of nationally important site but does not affect the overall integrity of that site.</p> <p>The PPS could have a moderate adverse effect on an environmental standard, benchmark or issue considered important at the regional level.</p> <p>The PPS could have moderate adverse effect on a regionally important site or issue.</p> <p>The PPS could cause cumulative effects that would have moderate effects on a related group of locally important sites or issues.</p>   |
| <b>Minor adverse</b>       | <p>The PPS or development could have minor or moderate effects to a locally important site or issue.</p> <p>The PPS or development could have minor effects on a regionally important site</p>  |
| <b>Neutral</b>             | <p>A development that is unlikely to affect the environmental quality of a site, standard, benchmark or issue.</p>  |
| <b>Minor beneficial</b>    | <p>The PPS or development would facilitate the minor or moderate restoration or enhancement of a locally important site.</p> <p>The PPS or development would facilitate the minor restoration or enhancement of regionally valued important site.</p>   |
| <b>Moderate beneficial</b> | <p>The PPS or development would have a minor benefit an area that presently fails to meets international standards or benchmarks.</p> <p>The PPS or development would moderately benefit an area that presently fails to meets national or regional standards or benchmarks to meet those standards in the future.</p> <p>The PPS or development would facilitate the moderate restoration or the enhancement of a site at of regional value.</p> <p>The PPS or development would facilitate the minor restoration or the enhancement of a site at of national or international value.</p>  |
| <b>Major beneficial</b>    | <p>The PPS or development would facilitate the moderate or severe restoration or the enhancement of a site of international value.</p> <p>The PPS or development would severely benefit an area that presently fails to meet international standards to a point that that it may meet those standards in the future.</p>  |

The environmental assessment will be presented as an appendix to the Environmental Report, set out within a matrix similar to that identified within Table 5-2. The assessment process will be undertaken using peer reviewed professional judgement and where appropriate, GIS mapping to inform decision making. In addition, best practice guidance will be utilised.

The matrix will include the SEA objective as well as the nature of the predicted impact. The nature of the impact will be described in terms of whether it is a positive or negative impact, the period over which effects occur (i.e. short term/long term), the spatial scale which may be affected (international, national, regional, and local) and whether the effect will have a direct or indirect influence. These considerations will be detailed within the assessment matrix justification text for each assessment.

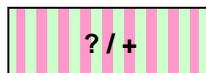
**Table 5-2: Example Assessment Matrix**

| SEA Objectives                                       | Significance  | Summary  |
|--|---|--|
| <b>EXAMPLE: Development proposal relating to Ayr</b> |   |  |
| Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna                          | --  | (Justification text inserted for each SEA Topic) |
| Cultural Heritage                                    | +   |  |
| Water  | ?   |  |
| Soils and Geology                                    | ? / +   |  |
| Landscape  | +   |  |
| Air Quality  | 0   |  |
| Climatic Factors                                     | --  |  |
| Noise  | 0   |  |
| Human Health   | +   |  |
| Population   | +   |  |
| Material Assets                                      | --  |  |
| <b>Summary</b>                                       |   | Inter – relationship between the SEA topics      |
| <b>Proposed Mitigation</b>                           | Reduction of adverse effects or recommendations for enhancement of benefits |  |

**Key:**

|                          |     |                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| <b>Major Benefit:</b>    | +++ | <b>Major Adverse:</b>    | --- |
| <b>Moderate Benefit:</b> | ++  | <b>Moderate Adverse:</b> | --  |
| <b>Minor Benefit:</b>    | +   | <b>Minor Adverse:</b>    | -   |
| <b>Neutral</b>           | 0   | <b>Uncertain:</b>        | ?   |

Uncertain Benefit:



Uncertain Adverse:



#### 5.4 Alternatives, Mitigation and Residual Effects

Where appropriate and achievable, the environmental assessments will make recommendations, identify mitigation measures and/or propose further alternatives to the LDP policies/proposals in order to reduce potential adverse effects or enhance those of a beneficial nature. This process will inform and potentially refine the components of the proposed plan and eventual LDP to reduce potential effects on the environment.

Remaining residual environmental effects after the consideration of recommendations, alternatives and mitigation measures will be taken forward to the cumulative assessment process.

#### 5.5 Cumulative Effects Assessment

Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires the consideration of secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects. The cumulative effects assessment identifies, describes and evaluates residual cumulative effects (including synergistic and secondary effects) on the environment in order for them to be avoided, minimised or enhanced as appropriate. Cumulative effects assessment determines the total effects on the environment as a result of the combined effects of LDP proposals/policies as well as other actions. There are a number of potential outcomes arising from cumulative effects assessment:

- **Secondary:** effects that are not a direct result of the LDP but occur away from the original effect, or as a result of a complex pathway;
- **Additive:** the sum of all effects, for example where individual proposals have a lesser effect, but when combined have a significant effect;
- **Neutralising:** effects that counteract each other to reduce overall effect;
- **Synergistic:** effects that interact to produce a greater effect than the sum of individual effects.

The cumulative effects assessment will be built from the results of the environmental assessment, from the beneficial effects and residual adverse effects of the LDP. The assessment will be based on the SEA environmental parameters, with cumulative effects on individual receptors identified where possible. The interrelationship between the environmental parameters will also be considered. The cumulative effects will be reported on a parameter basis, taking into account any mitigation which has been put forward and accepted for incorporation into the LDP.

## 6 Consultation

### 6.1 Scoping Consultation

The SEA Scoping Report will be issued to the Statutory Consultation Authorities (Historic Scotland, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)) via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway.

The first period of consultation will last over a five week period, and once complete, consultation responses will be reviewed and taken into account during the final preparation of the proposed plan and Addendum Environmental Report.

### 6.2 Addendum Environmental Report Consultation

The Addendum ER will be published in advance of the proposed plan so that a 6 week period of consultation can close, and consultation comments considered prior to the publication of the proposed plan. It is anticipated that the 6 week period of consultation will commence between December 2010 and January 2011. The Addendum ER will be made available to the public, as well as to the key agencies identified by South Ayrshire Council. The initial ER, Addendum ER and amendments to the initial ER will all be consolidated, and published alongside the proposed plan publication in spring 2011.

### 6.3 Post Consultation Report

The information gathered during the consultation period will be used to inform the preparation of the proposed LDP and Environmental Report. A Post-Consultation Report will be prepared after the Addendum ER has been published, and the period of consultation has been concluded. This report will identify the consultation responses received on both the initial and Addendum ER and report on recommended revisions for the revised Environmental Report.

### 6.4 Environmental Report and Post Adoption Environmental Statement

The Post Adoption Environmental Statement will be published within the 2 weeks of LDP adoption and will identify, review and record how the SEA has taken account of all consultation comments. It will also state how environmental considerations have been integrated into the LDP and the arrangements for monitoring the significant environmental effects of the plan.

## 7 Next Steps

### 7.1 Next Steps and Anticipated Milestones

Section 15 (3) of the *Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005* requires the views of consultation authorities to be taken into account within the SEA. It is proposed that the IER will be presented for public and statutory consultation during the same period as proposed for the MIR in February 2010. The Environmental Report will then be published for statutory and public consultation, taking into account consultation responses from the MIR, alongside the proposed LDP in February 2011.

The consultation period for the MIR and IER is likely to commence in February 2010, for a period of six weeks to allow for representations to be made in respect of the IER.

### 7.2 Anticipated LDP Milestones

| Date  | Anticipated Milestone  |
|---|--|
| 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2009                            | Issue of draft SEA Scoping Report to South Ayrshire Council.                     |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2009                            | Issue of final SEA Scoping Report to South Ayrshire Council and the SEA Gateway. |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> August – 05 <sup>th</sup> October 2009 | Scoping Report Consultation.   |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2009                            | Completion of Environmental Baseline for the SEA.                                |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2010                           | Issue of IER to South Ayrshire Council.  |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2010                             | 6 Week Consultation on IER and Main Issues Report.                               |
| April 2010  | Post Consultation Report Issued to South Ayrshire Council.                       |

Once the MIR has been published, the proposed LDP and accompanying Environmental Report will be prepared by South Ayrshire Council. It is anticipated that the proposed LDP will be issued in February 2011, with the adoption of the LDP during the winter of 2012.

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## Appendix A PPS Review

This Appendix sets out the PPS review. Table A1-1 provides a list of relevant PPS at an International, National, Regional and Local scale.

| Name of PPS                                    | Key Issues   | Implications for LDP  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>International</b>                           |  |   |
| EC (SEA) Directive 2001/42/EC                  | Defines the criteria under which an SEA must be conducted. Aims to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans with a view to promoting sustainable development by ensuring that an environmental assessment is carried out.  | States that an environmental assessment must be implemented for plans and programmes relating to town and county planning in accordance with Annexes I and II of the Directive 85/337/EEC.  |
| Kyoto Protocol 1997                            | Aims to limit/reduce emissions of greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol. Limits anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions with a view to reducing overall emissions by at least 5% and ideally 8% below 1990 levels during the commitment period 2008-2012.  | The LDP has a role to play in achieving these high level objectives through planning for movement networks and land use patterns, to aid a reduction in emissions.  |
| EC (Habitats) Directive 1992/42/EEC            | Requires the protection of species and habitats listed in the Directive's Annexes by the identification and classification of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) which along with Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Wild Birds Directive, make up the Natura 2000 sites.  | Requirement to protect these sites from loss or damage by development. Natura 2000 sites require Appropriate Assessment if development is either within, adjacent, or up to 10km from a European site and confirmation from Scottish Natural Heritage should be sought on this. |
| Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC           | A broad strategy for water management including a requirement for EU member states to ensure they achieve good ecological status for all surface and ground waters by 2015 and limit the quantity of groundwater abstraction to protect the ecology. River Basin Management Plans and consultation with the public are listed as the key means of achieving this.  | The LDP should ensure that adverse impacts on the water environment are avoided and support sustainable water management practises.   |
| Bathing Waters Directive (1976/160/EEC)        | The Bathing Water Directive's main objective is to protect human health and the environment from faecal pollution at bathing waters.   | When selecting potential sites for development, the LDP should consider the risks which may be posed to EC Bathing Waters within South Ayrshire.  |
| EC Directive 1996/62/EC, Air Quality Framework | Outlines the objectives for ambient air quality monitoring, assessment and management and includes four daughter directives detailing limit values for specific pollutants. The first (1999/30/EC) specifies limits for SO <sub>2</sub> , NO and NO <sub>x</sub> , particulate matter and lead. The second (2000/69/EC) addresses carbon monoxide and benzene. The third (2002/3/EC) relates to ozone and the fourth (2004/107/EC) deals with arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air. | Overall commitment to air quality should be taken into account in the LDP, particularly in terms of potential influence of land use decisions and the contribution to the transport sector.   |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| European Climate Change Programme (ECCP II) 2005                                | Aims to deliver the EU Kyoto Protocol commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 8% below 1990 levels by 2008- 2012.  | The LDP should commit to a contribution in the overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through appropriate location of development and provision of facilities to aid modal shift.  |
| EU Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution 2005                                      | Aims by 2020 to cut the annual number of premature deaths caused by air pollution related diseases by 40% from the 2000 level, reduce the area of forests and other ecosystems suffering damage from airborne pollutants and ground level ozone pollution.  | The LDP should recognise the effect of air pollution on human health and take steps to reduce emissions.  |
| EU Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection 2006                                   | Sets out the threats to soils in Europe and aims to promote soils protection measures amongst member states.  | The LDP should ensure that any development does not degrade the soil quality and should be sensitively sited and designed in accordance with this.  |
| European Landscape Convention   | The Convention notes that protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe is required and that sustainable management of these landscapes needs to be taken into account. Requires Member States to develop more comprehensive frameworks to protect and enhance landscapes.  | The LDP should reflect the aims of the Convention, by considering potential impacts of development proposals on designated and non designated landscapes, particularly in terms of potential loss of distinguishing features.         |
| <b>National</b>   |   |   |
| The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland 2007 | The strategy sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues, air quality standards and objectives to be achieved, a new policy framework for tackling fine particles and potential new policy measures which could give further health benefits.  | The LDP should contribute to achieving air quality standards and objectives and reduce health implications associated with pollutants.  |
| Securing the Future – delivering UK sustainable development strategy            | A framework for implementing sustainable development across the UK through 2020. It focuses on changing behaviours and leading by example when it comes to sustainable development. It focuses on using resources more efficiently, cutting problems at the source, innovations and new technology.   | The LDP should incorporate a commitment to sustainable development as far as possible.  |
| Choosing our Future: Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy                | Supports the UK sustainable Development strategy, focusing on Scotland's efforts and policies. Defines Scottish priorities for sustainable development with aims to mainstream sustainable development, measure progress more explicitly and strengthen accountability.   | A commitment to integrated sustainable development should be reflected in the LDP.  |
| Climate Change: The UK Programme 2006 (DEFRA, 2006)                             | Designed to deliver UK's Kyoto Protocol target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% below base year levels by 2008-2012. Assists UK in cutting CO2 emissions, with a goal of a 60% reduction by 2050. The programme considers CO2, methane, NO, and fluorinated gases. It sets out a strategy for energy supply (including renewable energy), transport measures, sustainable building, energy labels, land management practices, and the role of the public sector. | The LDP can contribute towards this by promoting renewable energy, seeking to encourage energy efficiency, promoting sustainable alternatives to the car and supporting recycling through design and positioning of new developments. |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Changing Our Ways: Scotland's Climate Change Programme 2006                  | Provides a framework for Scottish climate change action in devolved areas. States that Scotland is contributing to UK targets of a 12.5% reduction in greenhouse gases by 2008 – 2012 and a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions of 20% by 2010 and 60% by 2050. The Scottish government is committed to a consultation on the Scottish Climate Change Bill with a proposed emissions reduction target of 80% by 2050.  | The LDP can contribute to this aim by promoting renewable energy and sustainable housing for new developments and reducing the need for car use through promotion of modal shift.  |
| Climate Change (Scotland) Act, 2009  | The Act creates the statutory framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland by setting an interim 42 per cent reduction target for 2020, with the power for this to be varied based on expert advice, and an 80 per cent reduction target for 2050. To help ensure the delivery of these targets, this part of the Act also requires that the Scottish Ministers set annual targets, in secondary legislation, for Scottish emissions from 2010 to 2050.   | The LDP should aim to contribute to this target and reduce greenhouse gas emissions within South Ayrshire.   |
| Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009                                    | Includes specific measures for a more joined up and coordinated process to manage flood risk at a national and local level.  | Development Plans should cater for the framework of flood risk management that will develop in the near future to embed flood risk management within the planning system.  |
| The Future of Air Transport – White Paper and the Civil Aviation Bill (2003) | Sets out a strategic framework for the development of airport capacity in the United Kingdom over the next 30 years, against the background of wider developments in air transport. Policy framework sets out a strategic and sustainable approach to balancing the economic benefits of airport development, the social benefits of easier and more affordable air travel, and the environmental impacts that air travel generates; and ensures that airport development is properly linked in to our wider transport strategy and to our other transport networks. Supports growth of terminal and support facilities at Glasgow Prestwick, to facilitate increased passenger numbers, supports improved access to and from the airport. | The LDP should recognise implications relating to growth of Glasgow Prestwick Airport and improved access to and from the airport, as well as access to airports outside of Ayrshire.  |
| Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice                                     | Sets out objectives for the next 10 years and beyond. The key to our long-term welfare, in Europe and around the world, is 'sustainable development': finding ways of improving our quality of life without causing harm to the environment, future generations or the people of both the rich and developing world. Four areas of focus are to tackle climate change, protect nature and wildlife, address environmental and health issues and preserve natural resources and manage waste.   | Provides Local Authorities with 'best practice' guidance on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, air pollution, protection of biodiversity, the marine environment and soils, restoration of landscapes and waste prevention. The LDP should take these into account in its development. |
| Our Future Energy – Creating a Low Carbon Economy 2003                       | Environmental goals include the reduction of the UK's carbon dioxide emissions by 60% with real progress by 2020.  | Goals for sustainable travel options and aiding the reduction of waste in landfill through support of recycling should be specified in the LDP.  |
| Securing a Renewable Future: Scotland's Renewable Energy 2003                | Targets of generating 40% of Scotland's energy from renewable sources by 2020 which has more recently been superseded by a target of 50% within the same time period.  | The LDP should aim to support this target in future developments.  |
| Renewables Action Plan 2009  | Sets out a framework for action in the specific area of renewable energy in terms of identifying what needs to happen and when to achieve Scottish Government Renewable Energy Targets.  | The LDP should aim to support renewable energy targets.  |
| National Planning Framework 2  | Guides Scotland's spatial development to 2030, and sets out strategic development priorities to support the Scottish Government's central purpose of promoting sustainable economic growth. Promotes Government policy commitments of sustainable economic growth and climate change.  | The LDP should contribute towards development priorities and the Scottish Government's policy commitments.   |

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| 2009   |  |  |
| Scotland's National Transport Strategy 2006                                | Overall aims set out which include improvements to journey times and connections, a reduction in emissions and improving the quality, accessibility and affordability of public transport. Aims to promote the economic growth of the nation and in particular the regeneration of certain areas by an integrated transport strategy.                  | The suitable location and design of development should aid accessibility to public transport and promotion of modal shift and this should be taken into consideration in the LDP.  |
| The National Waste Plan 2003   | Brings together Area Waste plans and sets out an action plan to reduce landfilled waste in line with EU Targets and increasing recycling, composting and energy from waste. Underlying aims include reducing the environmental impacts of waste management and addressing current environmental injustices.  | Contribution towards the waste management targets is required through consideration of facilities for waste recycling, recovery and disposal.  |
| National Waste Strategy - Scotland, Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway (2003) | To contribute to the sustainable development of the Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway Waste Strategy Area by developing waste-management systems that will control waste generation, reduce the environmental impacts of waste production, improve resource efficiency, stimulate investment and maximise the economic opportunities arising from waste. | The LDP should take into consideration waste generation during the decision making process, and sets out the waste hierarchy that highlights the importance of the reduction, reuse and recycling of waste in line with the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BEPO).  |
| Let's Make Scotland More Active 2003                                       | Aims to ensure that the Scottish population becomes more active, setting the target of all adults accumulating at least 30 minutes of moderate exercise on most days of the week, and an hour for children. This will have marked health benefits for the Scottish population and contribute towards ridding Scotland of its 'sick man of Europe' tag. | The LDP can contribute towards the aims by helping to reduce the barriers to physical activity including a lack of, and poor access to, facilities. Promotion of sustainable transport such as walking or cycling helps to build physical activity into daily routines.  |
| Scotland's Economic Strategy 2007  | Includes a series of key aims to reflect priorities for economic growth, including learning skills and well being, supportive business environment, infrastructure development and place, effective government and equity.   | The LDP should incorporate the aims of this strategy during its development. Of particular relevance for the LDP is in regards to development with the Strategy's focus on investment – making connections across and with Scotland better, improving reliability and journey times, seeking to maximise the opportunities for employment, business, leisure and tourism; providing sustainable, integrated and cost effective public transport alternatives to the car. |
| Framework for Economic Development in Scotland 2004                        | Framework includes principal objectives for economic growth; regional development; closing the opportunity gap; and sustainable development - in economic, social and environmental terms.   | LDP should consider the objectives in the framework geared towards achieving good quality sustainable places and sustainable economic growth.  |
| Scottish Soil Framework Consultation Draft (2008)                          | The Framework has a main aim to promote the sustainable management and protection of soils consistent with the economic, social and environmental needs of Scotland. It has a vision is that soils are recognised as a vital part of our economy, environment and heritage to be safeguarded for existing and future generations in Scotland.          | The LDP should ensure that any development does not degrade the soil quality and should be sensitively sited and designed in accordance with this.   |
| Scotland's Biodiversity – It's In Your Hands 2004                          | Aims to promote a sense of responsibility and stewardship over Scotland's biodiversity, and aims to be a world leader in the field by 2030. Emphasises the importance for land use planners of considering the natural biodiversity and encourages planners to incorporate this into their design.   | Biodiversity conservation should be supported by the LDP and incorporated into the design of new developments.   |
| SEAS the Opportunity – a strategy for the long term sustainability of      | Identifies priorities for the marine and coastal environment and notes their special natural and cultural heritage value.  | The LDP should identify and seek to minimise the cumulative effects of developments on coastal and marine ecosystems.  |

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| Scotland's coasts and seas (2005)  |   |  |
| Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003  | Establishes rights of way across land and rights of communities to buy lands. It also imposes certain duties on local authorities in relation to access on and over land in their areas and, in particular, requires them to draw up and adopt a plan of core paths in their areas.   | The LDP should recognise the walk and pathways identified in the South Ayrshire Core Paths Plan and aim to improve access to these routes.   |
| The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997 | Prescribes the approach to be taken in planning for listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens.   | The LDP should ensure that listed buildings, conservation areas and designed landscapes and gardens are not adversely affected by new development.   |
| Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979                        | Gives legal protection to scheduled monuments and important archaeological areas.   | The LDP should ensure that scheduled monuments and archaeological areas are not adversely affected by new development.   |
| Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004                                    | Places a duty on public bodies in relation to the conservation of biodiversity and increases protection for Sites of Special Interest (SSSI).   | The LDP needs to protect biodiversity in accordance with this Act including avoidance of adverse impacts on sites, habitats and species of value as defined by the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and associated priority lists. |
| Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan   | Developed national strategies for the conservation of habitats and species in the UK. Includes action plans for the conservation of 391 species, 45 habitats and local biodiversity action plan targets.  | The LDP should seek to support targets identified in the UK and Scottish Biodiversity Action Plans for species and habitats likely to be affected.   |
| Scotland's Biodiversity: It's in Your Hands (2004)                         | Aims to promote a sense of responsibility and stewardship over Scotland's biodiversity, and aims to be a world leader in the field by 2030. Emphasises the importance for land use planners of considering the natural biodiversity and encourages planners to incorporate this into their design.  | Biodiversity conservation should be supported by the LDP and incorporated into the design of new developments.   |
| Water, Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act (2003)                | The Act sets out new arrangements for the protection of the water environment and changes how new connections to the public water and sewerage infrastructure are to be funded. The aim of WEWS is to protect and improve the ecological status of the water environment whilst also protecting the social and economic interests of those who depend on it.                        | The LDP must take into account the potential effect of its implementation on the ecological status of the water environment.   |
| The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005  | Regulations implement the obligations of section 20 of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003. They apply across the water environment to provide a holistic approach to pollution control and protection of the water environment. It sets out the process by which activities that have the potential to affect Scotland's water environment are regulated. | The LDP should ensure that no adverse effects to the quality of the waterbodies within and around the settlements occur with its implementation.   |
| Marine (Scotland) Act (2010)   | The Act looks to manage the demands on Scotland's marine environment (including renewable energy). The Act creates a framework to manage the growing and competing demands for the use of marine resources in the seas around Scotland, integrating environmental and socio-economic considerations to maximise economic growth within sustainable environmental limits.            | The LDP should ensure that no adverse effects to the marine environment.   |

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| River Basin Management Planning  | Sets out the proposed arrangements for each of Scotland's two River Basin Districts in line with WFD requirements. Ensures that statutory agencies, businesses, the public sector bodies and individuals work together to protect the water environment and address significant impacts.   | The MIR should recognise the proposed arrangements in the dBMPs.   |
| SPP                              | Sets out the Scottish Government's policy on land use planning to achieve sustainable economic growth, as well as the purpose of planning and core principles for the operation of the system and the objectives for key parts of the system. Replaces Scottish Government's SPP and NPPG series.  | The LDP should take into account the core principles and Scottish Government's policy to achieve sustainable economic growth.  |
| SPP (Economic Development)       | Supports the role of a flexible planning system in delivering sustainable economic growth and securing jobs. Planning should not be a barrier to economic growth and should ensure that the industrial and business land supply is kept up to date.  | Emphasis on sustainable economic development should be considered.   |
| SPP (Town Centres and Retailing) | Sets out principles for maintaining, improving and developing town centres while at the same time promoting a safe and attractive environment.   | The LDP should take account of the principles set out in this policy.  |
| SPP (Housing)                    | Advises on how the planning system can contribute to raising the rate of new house building and affordable housing by identifying a generous supply of land for the provision of a range of housing in the right places. The SPP seeks to enable the development of well designed, energy efficient, good quality housing in sustainable locations and allocate a generous supply of land to meet identified housing requirements across all tenures.  | The LDP should ensure that a generous supply of housing land is allocated at appropriate locations and that the principles of sustainable and proactive planning for residential development.  |
| SPP (Rural Development)          | Guidance to maintain and enhance the viability of rural areas, particularly existing rural communities. Help create opportunities for development in sustainable locations wherever appropriate. Generous supply of housing land applicable also in rural areas. Good transport linkage required.  | Promotion of sustainable development of housing and rural economic developments should be considered in the LDP where appropriate. The LDP should protect prime agricultural land.   |
| SPP (Coastal Planning)           | The importance of the coast is recognised and the guidelines provide a framework within which planning authorities can address the issues which arise in a complex and sensitive environment. The guidelines recognise that development plans can make an important contribution to achieving sustainable development and maintaining and enhancing biodiversity. Planning authorities should also be able to play a prominent role in coastal flora where the nature and scale of the issues require a more comprehensive approach than can be achieved through statutory planning procedures and mechanisms.   | The LDP should seek to minimise the effects of any development on the coastal areas within South Ayrshire and where possible enhance the biodiversity of these areas. The LDP should identify coastal areas that may be suitable for development, or not.  |
| SPP (Fish Farming)               | Planning authorities should support the development of new and modified fish farms in appropriate locations. Fish farms are likely to require land based facilities; where possible these facilities should be considered as part of the application for the fish farm. Opportunities for shared use of onshore facilities including jetties, piers and ancillary facilities should be promoted and, wherever possible, access to the foreshore for recreational purposes should not be impeded. Established anchorages and harbours should be safeguarded. The planning system should not duplicate other control regimes such as controlled activities regulation licences from SEPA or fish health, sea lice and containment regulation by Marine Scotland. Needs of local communities and other interests should also be taken into account alongside the economic benefits of the sustainable development of the fish farming industry and the operational needs of fish farms. The capacity of an area to accommodate fish farm development can be considered on a loch or voe wide basis. Other uses of the inshore area, such as recreational use, should also be taken into account when identifying potential development areas and sensitive areas in development plans and when determining planning applications. | Development plans should identify areas which are potentially suitable for new or modified fish farm development and sensitive areas which are unlikely to be appropriate for such development. In potential development areas fish farm development may be appropriate, subject to locational and environmental considerations. Sensitive areas are unlikely to be suitable for fish farm development unless adverse impacts can be adequately mitigated. When designating potential development areas and sensitive areas, planning authorities should take into account environmental impacts. Fish farming framework plans and supplementary guidance can give further details on design and environmental impact. |
| SPP (Historic Environment)       | Sets out the national planning policy in relation to the historic environment including listed buildings, conservation areas and historic gardens and designed landscapes. Development   | Protection of the historic environment should be of primary consideration in the LDP.  |

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|  | plans should provide the framework for the protection, conservation and enhancement of all elements of the historic environment to allow the assessment of the impact of proposed development on the historic environment and its setting.  |   |
| SPP (Landscape and Natural Heritage)   | Recognises importance of, not only landscapes, but biodiversity, ecosystems and habitats. Planning should prevent isolation, fragmentation or loss of habitats. Enhancement may be achieved through improving linkage and green networks, while maintaining distinctiveness.  | The obligations in regards to landscape and natural heritage should be taken into account in the LDP with recognition of the positive benefits of planning in regards to enhancement.   |
| SPP (Open Space and Physical Activity) | Emphasises the importance of quality open spaces and sets out national policy on provision and protection of open space within and on the edges of settlements and on sports and recreation facilities. This requires local authorities to prepare an open space strategy, and to protect and to support opportunities for sport and recreation.  | The LDP should protect and enhance open space and protect and support opportunities for sport and recreation.   |
| SPP (Green Belts)                      | Sets objectives of green belt policy and ways it should be enforced and used. Key objectives include; directing planned growth to most appropriate locations, and supporting regeneration, to protect and enhance character, landscape setting and identity of towns, to protect and give access to open space within and around towns.   | The LDP should protect the greenbelt and identify appropriate boundaries. The LDP should protect and enhance the character, landscape setting and identity of towns, and protect and give access to open space within and around towns.   |
| SPP (Transport)                        | Details the relationship between land use planning, transport and economic growth and recognises that more sustainable choices are required and the overall need for travel to be reduced. Assessment of development proposals involves careful and appropriate location selection to avoid undesirable outcomes for the environment.   | The LDP should take into account the need to travel through land allocations and settlement strategies so that a shift towards more environmentally sustainable modes of transport can be achieved.   |
| SPP (Renewable Energy)                 | Framework for planning to encourage, approve and implement renewable energy proposals with focus on fulfilling targets for renewable energy generation and emphasises importance of community engagement, steering development to appropriate sites and exploiting the potential benefits of renewable energy schemes whilst avoiding adverse impacts where possible.   | Development plans should support all scales of renewable energy development, provided they are appropriately located. They should optimise renewable energy use should be considered in the LDP.  |
| SPP (Flooding and Drainage)            | Sets out requirements for planning authorities to take into account the risk of flooding when allocating sites for development and making decisions about applications. Sets out a national risk framework and prescribes appropriate responses in accordance with varying levels of flood risk. Notes that proposals for development that rely on flood prevention measures should be viewed with caution. Sets out the expectation of development to provide SUDs.          | The LDP needs to consider the risk of flooding and any mitigation when considering sites for development. LDP must set out a requirement for the provision of SUDs within development proposals.  |
| SPP (Waste Management)                 | The SPP requires planning authorities to encourage the provision for waste separation and kerbside collection of recyclable material in consideration of proposals for new housing. The inclusion of waste handling in new domestic developments will also be supported by Building Standards while waste reduction at demolition and construction sites through protocols and site management should be supported.   | The LDP should encourage recycling of waste and use of recyclable materials in new development.   |
|  | The SPP gives advice on how development plans should handle mineral resources. The SPP advises on how a supply of mineral resources, identified by markets, should be retained and protected through the development plan; and how authorities should work together (and in consultation with communities) in identifying development plan sites. The SPP also advised on reallocating non-viable sites and appropriate after-uses. Advice is given on transporting minerals. | Planning authorities should have regard to the availability, quality, accessibility and requirement for mineral resources and ensure a supply of resources, where there is demand. Development plans should minimise significant negative impacts on local communities, the environment and other economic sectors, by encouraging sensitive working practices. Materials should be transported by rail, or coastal or inland shipping, rather than by road (where possible). |
| SPP (On-Shire Oil and Gas Extraction)  | The SPP aims to maximise the potential of Scotland's oil and gas reserves in an environmentally acceptable manner as part of a strategy for achieving safe, secure and indigenous energy supply. Planning authorities and licensed operators should work together to ensure that operational requirements and likely environmental impacts of development associated with   | Development plans for areas covered by PEDL licences should identify the factors that will be taken into account when deciding planning applications for wellheads and transmission infrastructure, such as disturbance and disruption from noise, potential pollution of land, air   |

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|  | extraction are understood. The SPP also explains how end products should be transported.  | and water, impact on communities and the economy, cumulative impact, impact on the natural heritage and historic environment, landscape and visual impact and transport impacts.  |
| SPP (Surface Coal Mining)  | Identifies how Local Authorities should make provision for coal extraction through the planning process, how local communities' interest should be protected and engaged in the process, how materials should be transported and after-use of sites.  | The LDP should cater for up-to-date search areas for coal extraction. LDP should protect local communities from significant adverse impacts of coal extraction.   |
| SPP (Communication s Infrastructure)                                 | The physical development of networks, particularly the siting and design of equipment, is a matter for the planning system in Scotland. The siting and design of electronic communications infrastructure, such as base stations for mobile phone networks, are the key issues to be addressed through the planning system.   | Local development plans and supplementary guidance should give a consistent basis for decisions on communications infrastructure by setting out the matters that will be taken into account in decision making.   |
| Scottish Historic Environment Policy (2008)                          | Sets out overall framework for the historic environment and notes particular challenges for the historic environment including the adverse effects of inappropriate development on conservation areas, delivery of renewable energy and short term visions for the development of places.   | The LDP should ensure that any planned development will not adversely affect the historic environment.  |
| SEPA Policy 55: Provision of Waste Water Drainage in Settlements     | Sets out SEPA's policy principles on the provision of waste water drainage within and outwith settlements served by a strategic sewerage system. Provides the policy principles and guidance to which SEPA will operate when it is consulted on a development proposal. It sets out how SEPA will approach discussions with developers, local authorities and Scottish Water to ensure whenever possible eventual connection to the public sewerage system and to support sustainable development of communities.   | The LDP should take into account the need for support of sustainable development of communities through appropriate waste water drainage for any allocations.   |
| SEPA Interim Position Statement on Planning and Flooding - July 2009 | Explains the role of SEAP as a key consultee on flood risk in land use planning. Sets out SEPA objective of capacity building within local authorities to improve expertise in dealing with flood risk. Sets out expectations of development plans in relation to flooding. Considers that the land use planning should have a close working relationship with their flood prevention, roads, building standards, and emergency planning functions to ensure a robust approach to managing flood risk. This will ensure that authorities can make informed decisions when exercising their planning functions. SEPA will take a more strategic role in seeking to influence or robustly secure these aspects of flood prevention. | Development plans should afford due weight to flood risk and thereby: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• promote flood risk avoidance in the first instance;</li> <li>• include development proposals that are free from significant flood risk and do not increase the probability of flooding elsewhere;</li> <li>• ensure that such proposals are robust in relation to climate change predictions; and,</li> <li>• detail how unavoidable impacts will be mitigated and delivered.</li> </ul> |
| SNH Landscape Policy Framework                                       | Sets out SNH's approach to Scotland's landscape including commitments to caring for, assessing and monitoring the landscape and a more integrated approach to the planning and management of natural and historic aspects of our landscapes.  | Development should be appropriately sited and designed in relation to the surrounding landscape.  |
| The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan 2009                               | Sets out plans to move the UK onto a low carbon footing and meet its targets of a 34 per cent cut in emissions by 2020.   | The LDP should aim to support emissions targets.  |
| The UK Renewable Energy Strategy 2009                                | Sets out how the Government will deliver the UK's target of getting 15% of all energy from renewables by 2020.  | The LDP should consider appropriate location of development to optimise renewable energy. The LDP should aim to support renewable energy targets.   |
| <b>Regional</b>  |   |   |
| Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan 2007                                   | Seeks to protect and promote the proper management of sites of nature conservation importance; provide for the enhancement and creation of habitats for wildlife; develop and protect a network of "green corridors" through the Council area and raise awareness of, and provide opportunities for involvement in, biodiversity conservation.  | The LDP should acknowledge the strategic policies and environmental objectives set out in the Structure Plan.   |
| South Ayrshire   | The local plan seeks to:  | The LDP should aim to conserve character and amenity of towns and   |

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| Local Plan 2007  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- conserve the character, appearance and general amenity of towns and villages by seeking to ensure a high standard of design for new developments, by maintaining areas of valuable open space and landscape quality and by protecting and enhancing areas of townscape value including conservation areas and listed buildings.</li> <li>- Preserve the landscape character generally and provide a setting for settlements; in particular to ensure the integrity of the landscape and environment of the Scenic Coast and Areas are maintained and enhanced.</li> <li>- protect, maintain and improve the amenity, natural heritage and recreational value of open space and the countryside generally and in particular to protect and enhance sites of scientific interest, wildlife sites, and habitats of value, good quality agricultural land and South Ayrshire's archaeological heritage.</li> </ul> | villages, preserve landscape character, protect, maintain and improve natural heritage and recreational value and protect and enhance sites of scientific interest, habitat value, agricultural land and archaeological heritage. |
| Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan – Safeguarding our Natural Environment (2001)                            | Sets out principles relevant to Biodiversity in South Ayrshire. Safeguards against reduction of priority species populations and net loss of area or quality of key habitats in Ayrshire. Identifies and records location and extent of key species and habitats in Ayrshire. Sets targets for the extension and enhanced management of priority species and habitats in Ayrshire. Raises awareness of biodiversity generally and encourage involvement across all sectors of the community. Sets up adequate monitoring systems so progress of the plan can be measured.   | The LDP should safeguard priority species and habitats, and ensure management of priority species and habitats.   |
| Ayrshire Biodiversity Action Plan The Conservation and Enhancement of Ayrshire's Biodiversity (2008)             | Sets out priorities for protecting habitats and species. Identifies action plans for a number of habitats and species. Prioritises policies and actions relevant to Ayrshire's habitats and species. Should be read in conjunction with the LBAP (2001).  | The LDP should safeguard priority species and habitats, and ensure management of priority species and habitats.   |
| South Ayrshire Wildlife Strategy (2002)  | <p>The Strategy seeks to ensure the most effective use of resources in terms of "on the ground" action to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and promote the proper management of sites of nature conservation importance.</li> <li>Provide for the enhancement and creation of habitats for wildlife.</li> <li>Develop and protect a network of "green corridors" through the Council area.</li> <li>Raise awareness of, and provide opportunities for involvement in, biodiversity conservation.</li> </ul>  | The LDP should protect and promote management of nature conservation sites, develop and protect green corridors and enhance and create habitats.  |
| South Ayrshire Council's Joint Community Care Plan (2001-2004)   | Aims to develop successful community care services for all groups. The Plan's values and principles include normalisation, choice, empowerment, equal opportunities, respect, quality, safeguard rights, partnership, equity, public accountability.  | The LDP should take into account the needs of all community groups, including the elderly and those with disabilities.  |
| South Ayrshire Council's Inspection Strategy for the identification and remediation of contaminated land October | Sets out South Ayrshire Council's strategy for contaminated land inspections, as required under the Contaminated Land (Scotland) Regulations 2000.  | The LDP should take into consideration areas identified as being contaminated during the decision making process.   |

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| 2001 Reviewed 2003  |  |  |
| Local Air Quality Management; Updating and Screening Assessment 2009 (South Ayrshire)       | The report forms the Updating and Screening Assessment (USA) of the second round of the Review and Assessment process. Local authorities are required to conduct a review and assessment of air quality in their area to assess compliance with the standards and objectives set out in the NAQS. The report concludes that concentrations of carbon monoxide, benzene, 1,3-butadiene, lead, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide are unlikely to exceed any of the respective NAQS objectives and that a detailed assessment is therefore not required for South Ayrshire. However, PM10 emissions from road traffic and other dust emitting activities may result in an exceedence of the stricter 2010 NAQS objectives. | The LDP should aim to meet these targets by minimising emissions where possible.   |
| South Ayrshire's Climate Change Declaration   | Seeks to contribute to the delivery of the UK and Scotland's Climate Change Programmes, which include:<br>- reduce greenhouse gas emissions;<br>- adapt to future climate change scenarios;<br>- set targets and actions, recording outcomes achieved in an annual statement; and<br>- ensure these measures are incorporated into plans, strategies and programmes.   | The LDP should incorporate the climate change targets and actions as set by the SAC.   |
| South Ayrshire Forestry Strategy  | This strategy aims to set the parameters for the protection and enhancement of South Ayrshire's forested areas. The environmental requirements include landscape, access and informal recreation and traffic objectives.   | The LDP should aim to protect South Ayrshire forestry resource.  |
| First Steps to Sustainability: An Environment Strategy for South Ayrshire (2003)            | The Strategy sets out appropriate indicators which address environmental and sustainable development issues, across all environmental sectors.<br>• Indicators fall into two categories – internal performance which is under the Council's direct control and external measures of community sustainability, which are strongly influenced by Council actions.<br>• Relevant external controls to the LTS include waste, pollution and biodiversity.  | The LDP should consider these indicators in future development.  |
| South Ayrshire Local Transport Strategy 2009 – 2014   | The LTS sets out a programme of transport projects for the period to 2014, the Council's transport policy and identifies longer term schemes beyond 2014. The LTS vision is that the transport system is efficient safe and reliable, supports sustainable economic growth, meets travel needs of all users and supports an active lifestyle, improves road safety, provides access without the need for private car, does not have an unacceptable effect on the local or global environment.   | The LDP should take into account transport policies and objectives within the LTS when directing future development within South Ayrshire.                             |
| A Catalyst for Change: The Regional Transport Strategy for the west of Scotland 2008 – 2021 | The strategy aims for a world class sustainable transport system that acts as a catalyst for an improved quality of life for all. Strategy objectives include improving safety and security, to promote and facilitate access for all and to protect the environment by minimising emissions and consumption of resources and energy by the transport system.  | The LDP should aim to minimise transport related emissions and the consumption of resources and energy.  |
| South Ayrshire Core Paths Plan  | Provides a basic framework of routes which meets community needs and minimises any potential conflict with land management operations.   | The LDP should encourage walking and cycling activities and encourage healthy lifestyles.  |
| South Ayrshire Housing Strategy   | Sets a number of strategic objectives including, to provide sufficient affordable rented accommodation, to provide sufficient private sector accommodation, to create safe attractive areas, sustainable rural communities, and to create thriving town centres.   | The LDP should aim to provide sufficient affordable housing, create safe and attractive areas and provide sufficient private sector accommodation for the plan period. |

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| <p>A Better Future Together South Ayrshire Community Plan 2006-2010</p> | <p>Aims to make South Ayrshire a better place to live and work by making it prosperous, healthy and caring, safe, learning and achieving and clean and attractive.</p>   | <p>The LDP should take on board these aims for future development plans, and should be compatible with the aims of the community plan.</p> |
| <p>Ayrshire Landscape Assessment 1998</p>                               | <p>The assessment develops guidelines on how landscapes can be conserved, enhanced, improved or restructured and how landscape change can be accommodated.</p>   | <p>The LDP should take these guidelines into account in the sensitive positioning of future development.</p>                               |
| <p>Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway Area Waste Plan</p>                  | <p>Sets out the delivery of the National Waste Strategy aims and objectives within an area plan ensuring the waste management system is developed in accordance with the BPEO and accords with principles of sustainable development and integrated waste management. By 2020, it is hoped that the plan can move from current reliance on 96% landfill disposal, to just 28% of total MSW arisings in the area.</p> | <p>The LDP should aim to reduce reliance on landfill within South Ayrshire and encourage sustainable and integrated waste management.</p>  |

**Table A1-1: PPS Review**