



Strategic Environmental Assessment

Post Adoption Statement

Local Development Plan

2015 - 2020

September 2016

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If you want this information in a different format or language, phone 0303 123 1015 or email equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Cover note

Part 1	
To:	SEA.gateway@gov.scot or SEA Gateway Scottish Government Area 2H (South) Victoria Quay Edinburgh EH6 6QQ
Part 2	
A post-adoption SEA statement is attached for the Plan, Programme or Strategy (PPS) entitled:	
	<input type="text" value="Local Development Plan"/>
The Responsible Authority is:	
	<input type="text" value="South Lanarkshire Council"/>
Part 3	
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Date	<input type="text" value="15 September 2016"/>

Post-adoption SEA statement for:

Local Development Plan

Adopted on:

29th June 2015

The Responsible Authority is:

South Lanarkshire Council

**Post-adoption SEA Statement
Introduction**

This document (referred to here as the post-adoption SEA statement) has been prepared in accordance with Section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

**Post-adoption SEA Statement
Availability of Documents**

Website

The full Local Development Plan, as adopted, along with the Environmental Report, Environmental Report Annex and Post-adoption SEA Statement is available on South Lanarkshire Council's website at:

www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk

Office Address

The Local Development Plan, as adopted, along with the Environmental Report, Environmental Report Annex and Post-adoption SEA Statement may also be inspected free of charge (or a copy obtained for a reasonable charge) from:

Contact name, address and telephone number

Laura Gaddis
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Community and Enterprise Resources
South Lanarkshire Council
Montrose House
154 Montrose Street
Hamilton
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Times at which the documents may be inspected or a copy obtained

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Key facts about the Local Development Plan

Responsible Authority

South Lanarkshire Council

Title of Policy, Plan or Strategy

South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (SLLDP)

Purpose of the Local Development Plan

The purpose of the SLLDP is to set out policies and spatial framework for the assessment of future developments in South Lanarkshire based on a comprehensive assessment of economic, environmental, social and other material constraints.

What prompted the Local Development Plan

(for example, a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)

Local Authorities are required to prepare and update local development plans for their area under the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006. This SLLDP replaces the South Lanarkshire Local Plan adopted in March 2009.

Subject

(for example, transport, town planning)

The SLLDP provides planning policy and guidance for all land use issues within South Lanarkshire, with the specific exception of minerals development.

Period covered

The SLLDP covers the period from 2015 to 2020.

Frequency of updates

The SLLDP will be reviewed and updated in accordance with statutory timescales for development planning that require reviews every five years.

Area of the Local Development Plan

(for example, geographical area)

The SLLDP is Council wide and not restricted to specific towns or areas. It, therefore, covers an area of 1,772km².

Summary of nature/content of the Local Development Plan

The SLLDP sets out policies and spatial framework, supported by supplementary guidance, for the assessment of future developments in South Lanarkshire.

Date adopted

29th June 2015

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Date

15 September 2016

Strategic Environmental Assessment process

The South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan has been subject to a process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), as required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. This has included the following activities:

- Taking into account the views of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland) regarding the scope and level of detail appropriate for the Environmental Report and Environmental Report Annex.
- Preparing an Environmental Report and an Environmental Report Annex on the likely significant effects on the environment of the draft SLLDP which included consideration of:
 - the baseline data relating to the current state of the environment;
 - links between the SLLDP and other relevant strategies, policies, plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives;
 - existing environmental problems affecting the SLLDP;
 - the plan's likely significant effects on the environment (positive and negative);
 - measures envisaged for the prevention, reduction and offsetting of any significant adverse effects;
 - an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives chosen;
 - monitoring measures to ensure that any unforeseen environmental effects will be identified allowing for appropriate remedial action to be taken.
- Consulting on the Environmental Report and the Environmental Report Annex.
- Taking into account the Environmental Report, the Environmental Report Annex and the results of consultation in making final decisions regarding the SLLDP.
- Submitting a Final Updated Environmental Report to Ministers which takes account of all recommendations from the Reporter and the Consultation Authorities following consultation on the Environmental Report Annex.
- Committing to monitoring the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the SLLDP. This will also identify any unforeseen adverse significant environmental effects and enable the Council to take appropriate remedial action.

Considerations taken into account

Table 1 sets out:

- the environmental problems identified in the Environmental Report and explains how these have been taken into account in the preparation of the adopted version of the SLLDP;
- the significant negative effects identified in the Environmental Report and whether/how these have been dealt with in the adopted version of the SLLDP;

Table 1: Issues identified in the Environmental Report (Section 4)

Environmental considerations and findings from the Environmental Report	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
Population and human health		
<p>General health indicators across South Lanarkshire are below the national average, particularly in social, economic and environmentally deprived communities. There are differences across South Lanarkshire in mortality rates, with clear links between poor health, poverty and deprivation, with life expectancy lower in deprived areas.</p>	Yes	<p>The vision and spatial strategy of the Plan are designed to ensure the right type of development is in the right place to make South Lanarkshire more sustainable and promote the area as a place in which to invest, live, visit and work. Improvements to the economy and the sustainability of the area will, over time, improve the environment and quality of life of residents, workers and visitors. The Plan's focus on regeneration will improve and enhance deprived urban and rural communities.</p>
Biodiversity, flora and fauna		
<p>South Lanarkshire has a wide range of habitats. However, most suffer from historical fragmentation and decline. The main environmental pressures affecting biodiversity include invasive, non-native species and inappropriate development insensitive to the natural environment.</p>	Yes	<p>Biodiversity issues are considered within Policy 14 and Policy 15 of the SLLDP. These are supported by Supplementary Guidance, particularly SG9 – Natural and Historic Environment. Policy NHE20 is an overarching policy covering all aspects of biodiversity.</p>
Soil (including geology)		
<p>South Lanarkshire suffers from a general loss and fragmentation of sensitive, agriculturally important and carbon-rich soils. There has been a slight increase in vacant and derelict land, whilst new development can result in a loss of agricultural and important soils.</p>	Yes	<p>The hierarchy of destinations within Policy 15 of the SLLDP identifies prime agricultural land and peatland as areas which require to be protected. Further policy guidance is contained within SG9 – Natural and Historic Environment. SG1 Sustainable Development and Climate Change has a policy on vacant and derelict land.</p>

Environmental considerations and findings from the Environmental Report	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
Water		
The quality of the water environment is improving across South Lanarkshire, with the number of pollution incidents declining. There is an increase in river flow rates along with an increasing risk from localised flooding.	Yes	Policy 17 – Water Environment and Flooding within the SLLDP requires the protection and enhancement of the water environment and the reduction of flood risk. SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change also includes specific policies on flooding and the water environment.
Climatic factors		
The climate in South Lanarkshire is changing with a rise in the average annual temperature, wetter summers, cooler winters and less frost and snowfall. These climatic shifts along with more extreme weather events will have a dramatic impact on South Lanarkshire’s environment as well as the population. The main greenhouse gas emitted in South Lanarkshire is CO ₂ deriving from transport, industry and domestic sources. In order to mitigate against climate change both the cause and consequence must be addressed.	Yes	Climate change is a crosscutting theme through all the policies in the SLLDP, as shown in Figure 3.1 Vision and Spatial Strategy. The spatial strategy aims to get the right kind of development in the right place and is intended to minimise the need for travel which will assist in the reduction of CO ₂ emissions. In addition, the SLLDP contains a specific policy on climate change (Policy 2) and SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change, includes specific policies relating to climate change issues ranging from sustainable developments to minimising waste.
Air (including noise and nuisance)		
Air quality across South Lanarkshire is generally good, however, there are some areas where air quality exceeds national limits set to protect human health. Atmospheric pollutants released within South Lanarkshire also contribute to long range pollutants that affect habitats and individual species.	Yes	Policy 4 Development Management and Placemaking ensures there is no significant adverse effects on air quality (particularly in and around Air Quality Management Areas). Further policy advice is included in SG1 - Sustainable Development and Climate Change.
Landscape		
South Lanarkshire’s landscape is characterised by its diverse range of land use and cover, dominated by the Lowther Hills and the Clyde Valley. The diversity of landscape across the area is a key feature of South Lanarkshire, with areas of dense population, where development poses a risk to the landscape and local characteristics, including the green belt, recreational and greenspace networks.	Yes	Policy 4 Development Management and Placemaking within the SLLDP requires that there is no significant adverse impact on landscape character from development. The Landscape Character Assessment is a supporting document to the SLLDP. In addition, Policy 15 Natural and Historic Environment identifies Special Landscape Areas. The effects of development on the qualities of these areas require to be assessed to minimise impact. The SG contains more detailed policy on landscape.

Environmental considerations and findings from the Environmental Report	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
Material Assets		
South Lanarkshire offers a wide variety of recreational activities, with many areas well serviced by both recreational greenspace and built facilities, whilst public access to the wider environment is provided through facilities such as the Core Path network and key cycle routes. Waste generation across South Lanarkshire is steadily increasing along with the level of recycling.	Yes	The SLLDP contains policies on the green network and greenspace, waste, travel and transport, including the Core Paths network and cycle routes. More detail is given in SG8 -Green Network and Greenspace and in SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change.
Cultural heritage		
The historic and built heritage of South Lanarkshire is complex and varied from medieval burghs through to the World Heritage Site of New Lanark. There are numerous castles and listed buildings, particularly in the medieval burghs and numerous buried archaeological assets. Pressures on historic assets come mainly from development, altering the physical or environmental setting of the historical assets.	Yes	Policy 15 of the SLLDP includes a hierarchy of environmental designations. This is supported by detailed policies in SG9 – Natural and Historic Environment. The Development Management and Placemaking Policy 4, requires no significant adverse impact on the built heritage.

Table 2 sets out:

- the measures for prevention, reduction and offsetting of significant effects identified in the Environmental Report and the Environmental Report Annex plus any revised measures considered and integrated into the adopted version of the SLLDP

Table 2: Mitigation measures identified in the Environmental Report (Table 10) and Annex

Mitigation measure	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
Main issues Report		
Vision: The location of proposed development areas should take into account local air quality issues.	Yes	Policy 4 Development Management and Placemaking will ensure there are no significant adverse effects on air quality, particularly in and around Air Quality Management Areas. Further policy advice is included in SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change.

Mitigation measure	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
<p>Spatial Strategy: Air quality is a major consideration for development within main urban settlements, in terms of both location of development and the potential transport needs. The SLLDP should consider reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in conjunction with tackling air quality pollutants. The revision of settlement boundaries should aim to minimise impacts on the landscape by removing or reducing irregular settlement boundaries.</p>	Yes	Policy 4 Development Management and Placemaking will ensure there are no significant adverse effects on air quality, particularly in and around Air Quality Management Areas. Further policy advice is included in SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change. Potential landscape impacts were considered during the revision of settlement boundaries.
<p>Green Belt The use of Green Belt land for development should be restricted to reduce the loss of such areas.</p>	Yes	The SLLDP prioritises development on brownfield land.
<p>Rural areas: Development across rural areas should be restricted to promote sustainable communities rather than creating further isolation.</p>	Yes	Policy 3 Green Belt and Rural Area of SLLDP addressed this issue.
<p>Renewable energy: The policy on renewables should include descriptive assessment on the potential impacts on landscape and historical settings.</p>	Yes	Policy 19 of the SLLDP relates to renewable energy. Detailed policy and guidance is included in SG10 Renewable Energy. This provides considerable guidance of the impact on landscape and the setting of the historical environment. The SG Renewable Energy was subject to separate SEA.
<p>Traffic growth: Traffic is recognised as the main contributor to local air quality issues and noise but is also important for economic growth. The SLLDP should therefore consider the future demands on transport, promoting the wider use of electric vehicles and other modes of active and public transport. All new dwellings should facilitate electrical charging points.</p>	Yes	SG1 Sustainable Development and Climate Change includes detailed guidance on electric vehicles and the use of public transport. This includes details on electric vehicle charging requirements for new developments.
Sites assessment		
<p>Many of the potential development sites are too small to offer the potential for generating heat/ energy through community-based renewables, therefore, efficiency measures and the use of renewable energy sources, should be promoted on a site by site basis and for individual dwellings where appropriate.</p>	Yes	Policy 2 Sustainable Development and Climate Change and Policy 4 Development Management and Placemaking and their associated Supplementary Guidance aim to ensure that all developments will address the issues of sustainable developments and are designed to be as carbon neutral as possible.

Mitigation measure	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
The demand for travel is a major issue with many of the potential development sites situated either in rural locations or in areas where access to public transport is limited. The use of active travel through the core path network or enhancing the public transport network should be encouraged	Yes	The assessment process removed the less sustainable sites and only included sites in the SLLDP that had access to public transport links or had existing good road and rail links. Connections to the public transport and core paths networks were factors considered and influenced what sites ultimately included in the SLLDP as development opportunities.
Settlement identity is important for communities and therefore any potential development that spans across neighbouring communities should be restricted to maintain individual community identity.	Yes	The principal focus of Policy 3 Green Belt and Rural Area is to specifically prevent coalescence of settlements.
Potential development sites that potentially affect designated habitats or other sensitive habitat areas should be discouraged with Green Network and greenspace promoted to soften local landscape issues and promote both recreational use and habitat expansion.	Yes	Policy 15 Natural and Historic Environment protects designated habitats from inappropriate development. Policy 14 Green Network and Greenspace promotes the protection and enhancement of the green network and greenspaces.
Appropriate Assessments will need to be conducted for potential sites that may affect designated sites and/or the designated features.	Yes	The SLLDP was subject to a Habitats Regulations Appraisal. Most policies and proposals were screened out on the basis that they are not likely to have any significant effects on any Natura sites. A small number of policies contain proposals where mitigation measures were required to ensure no likelihood of significant effects on the Clyde Valley Woods SAC or Coalburn Moss SAC. One policy (Policy 12 Housing Land) with a number of associated proposals was identified as likely to have a significant effect on the Westwater SPA. Following an appropriate assessment, it was concluded that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the Natura site from the implementation of this Policy or its associated proposals.
Sites that have been identified as flood risk areas should be discouraged or mitigation measures should be promoted where appropriate or where flooding remains a risk development should be discouraged.	Yes	Flooding and flood risk was a major factor taken into account in the assessment of sites. The sites included in the SLLDP were those not in the floodplain areas or those that have a high risk of flooding.

Mitigation measure	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
Developments close to riverbanks should be discouraged as these will significantly affect the quality and status of the water environment.	Yes	The site assessment process took account of the water environment and no developments were identified that impacted on riverbanks.
The potential for increased vehicle use is of concern particularly across the rural development sites. Consideration should be given to local air quality sensitive areas and the potential contribution such development(s) could have particularly where numerous development sites have been identified.	Yes	The assessment process removed the less sustainable sites and only included sites in the SLLDP that had access to public transport links or had existing good rail and road links. Connections to the public transport and core paths networks were factors taken account of and influenced what sites ultimately included in the SLLDP as development opportunities.
Minimise the risk of introducing sensitive receptors to areas that are already identified as having a significant air or noise issue. This could result in the need to declare a noise or air quality management area.	Yes	The sites included in the SLLDP were assessed against the Air Quality Management Areas already identified and took account of potential new Air Quality Management Areas. In terms of noise, there were no noise areas declared at the time of the assessment, however, the SLLDP now contains policies and supplementary guidance to address this in the future. (SG4 Development Management and Placemaking and SG1 Sustainable Development and Climate Change).
Several sites have been identified within, or close to, conservation areas. Therefore the development should only be promoted if it does not distract from the historical setting of the area.	Yes	Potential impact on Conservation Areas from development proposals was considered in the site assessment process. Where an adverse impact was identified, sites were not considered appropriate for release and were excluded from the SLLDP.
Sites within the buffer zone of New Lanark which have an adverse effect on the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site shall be discouraged.	Yes	Potential impacts on the New Lanarkshire World Heritage Site were considered within the site assessment process. One site was included in the SLLDP as a development opportunity with appropriate mitigation included to minimise the potential impact. This will be delivered through the development management process.
Promote the use of vacant and derelict land.	Yes	The assessment process prioritised the use of brownfield land and the majority of sites released were on previously used land.
Due to the size of many potential developments consideration should be given to localised landscape issues, particularly in areas with several potential sites. The incorporation of greenspace and	Yes	All the large developments released were either development framework sites or residential masterplan sites. These require a masterplan approach so that factors such as landscaping and green network provision

Mitigation measure	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
habitat expansion can be used in mitigating against visual issues.		are taken into consideration when planning the development.

Table 3 sets out the significant positive effects identified in the Environmental Report and whether/how these have been dealt with in the adopted version of the SLLDP.

Table 3: Enhancement measures identified in the Environmental Report (Table 10)

Enhancement measure	Integrated into the SLLDP (yes/no)	How the issue has been integrated/taken into account or reason for not being taken into account
<p>Vision: Promote exposure to the wider countryside and encourage the encroachment of such habitats into development areas. There could be the opportunity to promote the wider protection of historic features within South Lanarkshire.</p>	Yes	The vision takes account of the importance of the environment and this is further addressed through the SLLDP's themes, objectives and spatial strategy.
<p>Spatial Strategy: The Spatial Strategy would benefit from including the provision of recreational needs and the inclusion of other strategies such as core path, leisure or transport strategies. There is the potential for Supplementary Guidance to be developed that meets the needs for improving recreational provision and incorporating both greenspace and natural environment through both new and existing developments</p>	Yes	Supplementary Guidance has been produced to address this issue: SG4 Development Management and Placemaking and SG8 Green Network and Greenspace.
<p>Affordable housing: The fitting of renewable technology should be promoted across all housing developments within South Lanarkshire. The development of renewable housing should not distract from the need to include functional greenspace to provide recreational provision and soften the local landscape.</p>	Yes	Policy 2 Climate Change and SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change encourages the use of low and zero carbon energy generating technologies within all buildings, where appropriate. SG8 Green Network and Greenspace encourages all new developments to include greenspace provision.
<p>Renewable energy: The use of renewables should be promoted across all dwellings, with the type of technology used assessed on a site by site basis.</p>	Yes	Policy 2 Climate Change and SG1 – Sustainable Development and Climate Change encourages the use of low and zero carbon energy generating technologies within all buildings, where appropriate.

Considering opinions expressed during consultation

Table 4 sets out how the responses to the consultation of the Environmental Report Annex have been taken into account through the preparation of the adopted version of the SLLDP.

Table 4: Taking account of consultation responses

Summary of comments	How the comment was taken into consideration
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	
<p>General Comments In general we are satisfied that an adequate assessment of the plan has been carried out. It is noted from the assessment of potential development sites that “sites identified as flood risk areas should be discouraged or mitigation measures promoted where appropriate...” as stated in our scoping response the principle of avoidance should be taken into account when considering potential mitigation measures.</p>	Noted.
<p>It is noted that the proposed mitigation for a number of sites identified as being within the 1:200 fluvial flood area is potentially reducing the site boundary to minimise flooding. We welcome the approach of avoiding development in the 1:200 year flood plain. There are however some sites listed in appendix 4 which have been identified as being at potential risk of flooding (HM/82/001, HM/82/007, HM/89/001 and EK/72/001) where no mitigation measures have been put forward. We would expect appropriate mitigation measure to be put forward for these sites to avoid the risk of flooding.</p>	<p>Noted. Recommendations for mitigation measures relating to flood risk was set out for all sites where this was identified as an issue. In respect of HM/82/001, HM/82/007 and HM/89/001 these sites have not been taken forward as development sites due to flooding and landscape setting issues as identified through SEA. Similarly, EK/72/001 has not been taken forward due to flooding issues.</p>
The Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland)	
<p>General Comments We are content that the comments we provided on the first Environmental Report (ER) have been taken into account during the preparation of the ER Annex. The ER Annex provides a clear explanation of the changes that have occurred between the first ER and the production of this ER Annex and sets out how the SEA process has continued to influence the development of both the spatial and policy elements of the emerging LDP.</p>	Noted.
<p>The Non Technical Summary (NTS) gives a good account of the findings of the ER Annex and the further changes that have been made to the emerging plan as a result of the findings of the first ER.</p>	Noted.
<p>We are pleased to note that the key findings from the first ER such as the requirement to improve to linkages between the sites being taken forward, environmental assets and promoting sustainable economic development across the community, have been addressed through the ER Annex. In particular we welcome that the suggestion we made through consultation on the first ER in relation to how the historic environment could play a part in this, has been considered through integration of consideration for the historic environment in both the proposed spatial and land use policy elements of the emerging plan. For example Policy 3: Green Belt and Rural Area recognises that there are instances where the sustainable reuse and conversion of traditional buildings can allow for some development to happen sustainably and appropriately within green belt and rural areas. Appendix 1 was also very helpful in demonstrating how comments on the first ER had been taken on board in the ER Annex.</p>	Noted. We appreciate your comments.

Summary of comments	How the comment was taken into consideration
<p>We also note that the NTS highlights that the predicted significant environmental effects of the plan are likely overall to have strong positive impact on the local community and the environment, but that there are some aspects of the assessment that highlight mitigation and enhancement measures for consideration, including potential for some negative significant effects on the historic environment. We welcome that Section 6 of the ER Annex includes a commitment to implementing a Monitoring framework so that the negative impacts and mitigation identified in the course of the assessment can be addressed. The Action Programme is also a good way to integrate the findings and mitigation measures arising as a result of the assessment with the delivery of the plan.</p>	<p>Noted. Monitoring will take place through both the biennial updates of the South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report and the SLLDP Action Programme.</p>
<p>Potential negative impacts recorded for historic environment features e.g. Douglas Gardens Conservation Area in vicinity of proposed allocations e.g. Bothwell Road HM/82/012 or potential impacts on the setting of the New Lanark World Heritage Sites and Falls of Clyde Garden and Designed Landscape at site CL/35/001 Kirkfieldbank site could contain commitments to implement mitigation measures for the historic environment within the recommendations column. We have provided some more detailed comments with respect to this for site CL/35/001 in an Annex.</p>	<p>Noted. Planning applications have been submitted and approved for retail and housing for site HM/82/012 and for housing at site CL/35/001. Environmental effects were considered through this process.</p>
<p>Where there are some uncertainties regarding the impact of the plan on the historic environment, it would be useful if the SEA Post Adoption Statement could include a clear commitment to delivering any recommendations that are part of this plan and fall from this process as it is implemented.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Annex Kirkfieldbank Byretown Road CL/35/001 ER Annex Annex 4 has correctly recorded negative impacts on the setting of the New Lanark World Heritage Site and also the Falls of Clyde designed Landscape.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>As noted above Section 6 of the ER Annex sets out a commitment to have a monitoring framework and Action Programme as part of ensuring that those significant environmental impacts identified in the course of the SEA process are mitigated. As the Council has now granted planning consent in principle perhaps you could consider taking forward recommendations for this site within your Action Programme (or Developer Requirements) including a commitment to consult with Historic Scotland as a 'Delivery Organisation'?</p>	<p>The site is not included as part of the Action Programme because planning consent has already been granted and the site is not considered a proposal in the LDP. Individual housing sites are not considered separately. Monitoring of the site will be carried out under the housing land audit process. Planning consent for the site included the following condition which addressed Historic Scotland and New Lanark Trust's objections to the development:</p> <p>"That the further application required under the terms of Condition 2 above, shall be accompanied by a Design Statement which shall set out the design principles, justify the design solution and show how the proposals responds to the wider context of the area as well as the</p>
<p>Wording in the 'Recommendations' column could recommend that any further application for Planning Permission should include documentation to address fully the likely impact of the development on the New Lanark World Heritage Site and the Falls of Clyde designed landscape. This should include a detailed landscape and visual assessment which will enable detailed proposals to be judged against the sensitivities of the area, including an assessment of views from the New Lanark World Heritage Site and the likely impact on its outstanding universal value.</p>	
<p>Any proposed layout should be carefully considered to ensure that the impacts on the World Heritage Site are kept to a minimum and mitigated where appropriate. Our preference is for development to be restricted to the lower portion of the site.</p>	

Summary of comments	How the comment was taken into consideration
	characteristics of the site. The design statement shall be accompanied by a detailed Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment that will relate proposals to the surrounding areas and in particular shall take cognisance of the New Lanark World Heritage Site and buffer zone, the New Lanark Conservation Area and the Falls of Clyde Designed Landscape”.
Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)	
We have reviewed the ER annex and are generally in agreement with the Council’s view that the LDP should result in positive effects across the range of environmental issues. Nonetheless, we offer the following comments for your consideration.	Noted.
Identification of environmental issues/key trends We have previously commented on this issue at the MIR stage and have nothing further to add.	Noted.
Assessment of likely significant effects <i>Appendix 4 – Re-assessment of potential development sites</i> We welcome the changes made to the assessments in light of our comments at the MIR stage.	Noted.
Since publication of the ER, we have been in regular discussion with the Council regarding the Habitats Regulations Appraisal for the LDP. This has included discussion on whether or not certain proposed development sites would have a likely significant effect on Natura 2000 sites (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas). You may find our comments on these matters helpful in further refining the assessment. If you would like copies of this information, please contact us at the Hamilton office.	Noted.
<i>Appendix 5 – Full assessment of sites brought forward following ER consultation</i> <u>EK/71/020 Langlands Extension</u> : This site is identified as having “major SEA issues” in respect of biodiversity. It would be helpful if these were described in the assessment comments.	This proposed site is adjacent to Langlands Moss. The site is not being progressed due to environmental issues.
<i>Appendix 7 – Assessment of Policies and Supplementary Guidance of the LDP</i> While we are generally in agreement with the assessment of the LDP policies and supplementary guidance, we offer the following specific comments:	Noted.
Table 5, Policy 4: The summary assessment text for the ‘biodiversity’ topic appears to be repeated for the ‘climatic factors’ topic.	Thank you for bringing these to our attention. This is an administrative error which have now been corrected and reflected in Table 4 of the Final Updated Environmental Report.
Table 5/Appendix 7: It would be worth checking that Table 5 and Appendix 7 are reporting findings that are consistent with each other. We note, for example, that Table 5 reports no significant effect from Policy 11 on biodiversity, natural resources/material assets and landscape. Appendix 7 however reports minor positive, major positive and minor positive effects respectfully for these.	
<i>Cumulative/Synergistic Effects</i> Table 6 details the results of the assessment of cumulative impacts. Where mixed effects are predicted, it would be helpful if the anticipated negative aspects of these were described.	Although these have been described in Table 6, the wording has been changed to make these more explicit. The changes are

Summary of comments	How the comment was taken into consideration
	shown in Section 5 of the Final Updated Environmental Report.
<p>Mitigation Measures <i>Appendix 4</i> You may wish to revisit Appendix 4 to ensure that all mitigation measures are identified. For example, we note that there are several sites with 'major SEA issues' in respect of landscape. In a number of cases, no mitigation for this is identified (e.g. CL/53/006, EK/71/020, CL/46/001). If no mitigation is possible, this should be recorded.</p>	<p>General mitigation measures with regards to landscape issues were assigned in a text box at the end of Appendix 7. We have replaced this with separate narrative to give it more emphasis to ensure it is not overlooked. This is included in Section 4 of the Final Updated Environmental Report.</p>
<p>Monitoring We note that a monitoring plan is being developed and that this will be linked to the State of the Environment Report. We are supportive of the intention to undertake annual monitoring and would be pleased to offer comment on the draft action plan prior to its finalisation. As mentioned in our response to the ER, we hold some data that may be useful in monitoring the effects of the LDP</p>	<p>Noted. We will consult with SNH on our draft Action Programme and also in the development of the 2015 update of the State of the Environment Report.</p>
<p>Miscellaneous comments Paragraph 1.7: We recommend that this is reworded to more accurately reflect the findings of the HRA – that is, and subject to our comments elsewhere on this matter, that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura 2000 site.</p>	<p>Noted. The Final Updated Environmental Report has been amended with the appropriate wording as suggested.</p>

No further comments relating to the Environmental Report were received during consultation on the proposed SLLDP.

Reasons for choosing the SLLDP as adopted, in light of other reasonable alternatives

At the Main Issues stage of developing the SLLDP, South Lanarkshire Council considered four alternatives. It took the view that preparing the SLLDP was required by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 as its previous Local Plan was out of date. The SEA identified that the continuation of the South Lanarkshire Local Plan was not possible due to legislative changes and the Council was required to prepare a new style Local Development Plan. The assessment concluded that the development of a SLLDP that generates sustainable growth against a low carbon economy was preferred as it would build on the legacy items inherited from the then adopted Local Plan. It was further considered that this alternative would conform to the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan and Scottish Planning Policy. The assessment concluded that appropriate land use for development was key to promoting the best environmental outcome for the SLLDP, reducing the need to travel, particularly private vehicle use, promoting appropriate regeneration within existing communities and development of areas such as brownfield sites.

Undertaking an SEA alongside the development of the SLLDP provided an opportunity to identify the key environmental issues affecting the area and ensuring these were taken account of as the Plan was developed.

Monitoring significant environmental effects in implementing the Plan

Monitoring of the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan will take place in order to identify any unforeseen adverse effects and to take appropriate remedial action. This is in line with Section 19 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Monitoring will take place following the adoption of the SLLDP and will use the SEA indicators. In the monitoring of the Plan it may be appropriate to review the baseline data and the effectiveness of measures proposed for prevention, reduction, and offsetting of significant environmental effects. This will be done as part of the monitoring framework set up for the SLLDP in conjunction with the Council's other monitoring commitments, including the biennial State of the Environment Report.

The monitoring of the SEA and the SLLDP will be undertaken in-house using information gathered from a range of sources, including the statutory Consultation Authorities. The baseline data against which the effectiveness of the guidance will be measured is set out in Table 5.

Table 5: SLLDP SEA monitoring framework

SEA Topic: Population and human health	
SEA Objectives: To improve human health and community wellbeing and promote access to the wider environment	
Indicator	Source
% of persons economically active	SLC: SoE Report
% of working age population out of work	SLC: SoE Report
Unemployment levels (by electoral ward)	SLC: SoE Report
% of residents feeling 'safe' or 'fairly safe' outside in the area after dark	SLC: SoE Report
% of SIMD in lowest IMD health domain	SG
SEA Topic: Biodiversity, flora and fauna	
SEA Objective: To protect, promote, improve and enhance biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity	
Indicator	Source
% of qualifying species in SPA in 'favourable maintained' condition	SNH, SLC: SoE Report
% of qualifying interests in SACs in 'favourable maintained' condition	SNH, SLC: SoE Report
% of SSSIs in 'favourable maintained' condition or 'unfavourable' recovering condition	SNH, SLC: SoE Report
Change in area (ha) of designated biodiversity sites	SNH, SLC: SoE Report
Hectareage and % of woodland types	FCS, SLC: SoE Report
Hectareage of lowland/intermediate raised bog inventory sites	SNH, SLC: SoE Report
SEA Topic: Soil	
SEA Objective: To protect high quality and sensitive soils	
Indicator	Source
No. of geologically designated SSSIs	SNH, SLC: SoE Report
Area of land classifications 1 - 7	SG, SLC; SoE Report
No. of developments on prime agricultural land	SLC
SEA Topic: Water	
SEA Objective: To protect and where possible enhance the status of the water environment	
Indicator	Source
No. of new developments located within Flood Zones 2 and 3	SEPA, SLC
No. of properties at risk in Potentially Vulnerable Areas	SLC: SoE Report
No. of flooding incidents	SLC: SoE Report
% of new infrastructure developments incorporating SUDS	SLC

% of waterbodies achieving high or good WFD status		SEPA, SLC: SoE Report	
SEA Topic: Air, noise, light and nuisance			
SEA Objectives: To prevent the deterioration of air quality and minimise noise and light pollution			
Indicator		Source	
No. of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)		SLC: SoE Report	
Annual average concentration of NO ²		SLC: SoE Report	
Annual average concentration of PM ¹⁰		SLC: SoE Report	
% of people experiencing traffic congestion		SLC: SoE Report	
% of noise nuisance complaints		SLC: SoE Report	
SEA Topic: Climatic factors			
SEA Objectives: Reduce the causes and effects of climate change, promoting sustainable communities			
Indicator		Source	
Change in CO ₂ emission estimates		DECC, SLC: SoE Report	
Change in average gas consumption		DECC, SLC: SoE Report	
Change in total electricity consumption		DECC, SLC: SoE Report	
Change in road transport energy consumption		DECC, SLC: SoE Report	
Level of overall renewable energy generating capacity		SLC: SoE Report	
SEA Topic: Cultural heritage			
SEA Objective: To protect and where appropriate enhance the built and historic environment			
Indicator		Source	
No. of applications for listed building and scheduled monument consent		HES, SLC: SoE Report	
No. developments affecting gardens, designed landscapes and battlefields		HES, SLC: SoE Report	
No. of developments within or affecting conservation areas		HES, SLC: SoE Report	
No. of developments within or affecting the setting of New Lanark World Heritage Site		HES, SLC: SoE Report	
No. of developments within or affecting archaeological sites		HES, SLC: SoE Report	
SEA Topic: Material assets			
SEA Objective: To promote the sustainable use of natural resources and material assets			
Indicator		Source	
No. of vacant and derelict land sites		SLC: SoE Report	
Hectarage of vacant and derelict land		SLC: SoE Report	
Reuse/take-up of vacant and derelict land (ha)		SLC	
Hectarage of greenspace		SLC: SoE Report	
Length of cycle routes and cycle paths		SLC: SoE Report	
No. of public built facilities		SLC: SoE Report	
SEA Topic: Landscape and townscape			
SEA Objective: Protect and enhance the landscape and townscape			
Indicator		Responsibility/Source	
No. of Special Landscape Areas		SLC: SoE Report	
Change in area of green belt		SLC: SoE Report	
Key to acronyms			
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change	FCS	Forestry Commission Scotland
HES	Historic Environment Scotland	SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SG	Scottish Government	SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency	SLC	South Lanarkshire Council

Concluding the Post Adoption SEA Statement

The South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan has undergone a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to determine its environmental effects. The SEA demonstrated that the SLLDP should result in positive effects across a wide range of environmental issues, particularly through consideration of the sustainable location of development, the protection and enhancement of natural and historic environment, climatic factors, flood risk management, the protection of prime quality agricultural land, landscape and waste minimisation. Where these refinements had a locational dimension they were incorporated into the modified Preferred Spatial Strategy as presented in the Main Issues Report.

The SEA demonstrates that the preferred alternative for the SLLDP should provide protection for the environment at the same time as ensuring development encourages growth within South Lanarkshire and still meets the needs of its population. Where potential negative or positive effects were identified, the assessment identified mitigation measures to reduce and offset any significant adverse effects on the environment and enhancement measures, as appropriate.

We consider that the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan fulfils its purpose by providing a clear framework to direct our activities in an environmentally sustainable way, incorporating wider environmental issues as far as reasonably possible.

Throughout the SEA process, the Consultation Authorities have confirmed their agreement with the overall assessment approach adopted with no requirement highlighted for further modification of the SLLDP following assessment of the Environmental Report and the Environment Report Annex. No comments were received from the general public or other stakeholders on the Environmental Reports during the public consultation periods. All comments received on the SLLDP itself have been considered and, where appropriate have been taken account of in the adopted Plan.

Between November 2013 and October 2014, the SLLDP was subject to examination and the Reporter's report was received in October 2014. The Examination Report made a number of changes to the wording of the text and policies within the SLLDP. It also removed some sites and introduced others. The sites that were added to the SLLDP have been subject to SEA. The majority of these changes are minor wording changes which have no implications for the SEA carried out and reported in the Environmental Report and the Environmental Report Annex. The main exception was Policy 19 (previously wind energy), which the Reporter recommended be changed to a new policy which covers all renewable energy developments. The title of this policy was renamed 'Renewable Energy'. New statutory Supplementary Guidance for Renewable Energy Developments was prepared and adopted in March 2016. This was subject to separate SEA. A Final Updated Environmental Report was prepared to take account of all recommendations from the Reporter and the Consultation Authorities following consultation on the Environment Report Annex. This final report was submitted to Scottish Ministers in April 2015. A copy of the Final Updated Report is attached for information.

The South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan was formally approved by the Planning Committee of South Lanarkshire Council in March 2015 and adopted on 29th June 2015.