



**Strategic Environmental Assessment  
Screening Report and Determination**

**Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy  
2017 - 2022**

September 2016

## Cover note

### Part 1

To: SEA.gateway@gov.scot  
or  
SEA Gateway  
Scottish Government  
Area 2H South  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

### Part 2

**An SEA Screening Report is attached for the Plan, entitled:**

Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy

**The responsible Authority is:**

South Lanarkshire Council

### Complete part 3 or 4 or 5

### Part 3

**Please tick the appropriate box**

**an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects ***or***

**an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects ***or***

**an SEA is not required** because the PPS is unlikely to have significant environmental effects

### Part 4

The PPS does not require an SEA under the Act. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, because this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 28 days timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed

### Part 5

None of the above apply.  
We have prepared this screening report because:

**Part 6**

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**Part 7**

<b>Signature</b> (electronic signature is acceptable)	
<b>Date</b>	9 August 2016

# SEA Screening Report

South Lanarkshire Council has undertaken screening for the proposed Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy with regard to the requirements of section 9 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The Screening Report has been submitted to the Scottish Government's SEA Gateway, setting out the views of South Lanarkshire Council on the likelihood of significant environmental effects for the proposed guidance and the potential for requiring an SEA.

## 1. Key facts

### Responsible authority

South Lanarkshire Council

### Title of Plan

Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy

### Purpose of Plan

The Strategy will set out the Council's approach to sustainable development and climate change. The proposed vision of the Strategy is: 'People live and work sustainably in South Lanarkshire while respecting and enjoying the benefits of a high quality environment'.

The Strategy will enable the Council to continue to meet its statutory requirements relating to sustainable development and climate change as set out by the Local Government (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009.

### What prompted the Plan

The current South Lanarkshire Sustainable Development Strategy will come to an end in March 2017. This is to be replaced with a new five year strategy - Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy which will make the connections between sustainable development and climate change more explicit.

### Plan subject

Sustainable Development and Climate Change

### Period covered by the Plan

April 2017 to March 2022.

### Frequency of updates

An action plan will accompany the Strategy. The action plan will be reviewed and updated annually. The Strategy itself will be subject to a mid-term review in 2019/2020.

## Area covered by the Plan

The Strategy will cover the whole geographical area of South Lanarkshire (1,772 km<sup>2</sup>).

## Summary of nature/content of the Plan

It is anticipated that the new Strategy will closely follow the structure and content of the current Sustainable Development Strategy.

It is currently proposed that the new Strategy will have three themes with eight strategic outcomes. These are:

**Theme 1 - Sustainable Council:** Considers the Council's own impact on the environment and what we and our partners will do to minimise it.

### Outcomes:

- The Council's carbon emissions are managed and reduced.
- The Council is environmentally responsible in the procurement, use and disposal of resources.
- Climate change duties are further embedded in the delivery of Council services and its collaborations with partners on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**Theme 2 – Sustainable Environment:** Considers what the Council is doing to protect, enhance and respect the quality of the natural environment contributing to the health and wellbeing of local communities.

### Outcomes:

- South Lanarkshire's natural environment is protected, enhanced and respected.
- South Lanarkshire's enhanced environments provide health and wellbeing benefits to local communities.

**Theme 3 – Sustainable Communities:** Considers how the Council's services will help provide places for people to live and work in an environmentally responsible way and be better prepared for a low carbon Scotland.

### Outcomes:

- Homes and buildings are energy efficient, environmentally sustainable and fuel poverty is minimised.
- The Council contributes to the reduction of Scotland's carbon emissions and how it adapts to climate change impacts, through implementation of its strategies, plans and policies.
- Local communities are supported in taking action to be more environmentally responsible.

## Date

9 August 2016

## 2. Consideration of the likely significant environmental effects

Our determinations regarding the likely significance of effects of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy on the environment of South Lanarkshire are set out below. The screening was undertaken with reference to the criteria in Schedule 2 of the 2005 Act.

<b>Title of plan/programme/strategy</b>		
Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy		
<b>Responsible Authority</b>		
South Lanarkshire Council		
<b>Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (para numbers refer to Schedule 2 of the Act)</b>	<b>Likely to have significant environmental effects? (Yes/No)</b>	<b>Summary of significant environmental effects (positive and negative)</b>
<b>The characteristics of plans and programmes</b>		
1(a): The degree to which the Strategy sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	Yes	<b>Positive effects</b> The Strategy will continue to set the framework for Council services in their consideration of sustainable development and action to combat climate change.
1(b): The degree to which the Strategy influences other PPS including those in a hierarchy	Yes	<b>Positive effects</b> The Strategy will support the delivery of the South Lanarkshire Community Plan and the Council Plan, 'Connect', both of which have undergone SEA. It will continue to strongly influence other strategies, plans and policies in the hierarchy in the same way as the current Sustainable Development Strategy, which has also undergone SEA. The new Strategy will take cognisance of any relevant findings from these assessments.
1 (c): The relevance of the Strategy for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	Yes	<b>Positive effects</b> The Strategy will continue to promote SEAs across the strategic planning processes of the Council and with our partners. It will continue to promote sustainable development within service delivery and activities and actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
1(d): Environmental problems relevant to the Strategy	No	None identified.

1(e): The relevance of the Strategy for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. PPS linked to waste management or water protection)	No	None identified.
<b>Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected</b>		
2(a): The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	No	These have been considered in the SEA of the current Strategy. No additional significant effects identified.
2(b): The cumulative nature of the effects	No	These have been considered in the SEA of the current Strategy. No additional significant effects identified.
2(c): Trans-boundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other EU Member States)	No	None identified.
2(d): The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	No	None identified.
2(e): The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	No	It will only apply to the geographical area of South Lanarkshire.
2(f): The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land use.	No	These have been considered in the SEA of the current Strategy. No additional significant effects identified.
2(g): The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status	No	It is not anticipated to identify any additional effects other than those assessed within the SEA of the current Sustainable Development Strategy. There are no landscapes in South Lanarkshire which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

### **3. Summary of environmental effects**

The current Sustainable Development Strategy has promoted and fostered a positive culture of environmental awareness and actions throughout the Council and with our partners. The new Strategy is intended to build on this progress and to further develop the Council's approach to sustainable development and to address the challenges and opportunities of climate change.

It is proposed that the new Strategy will closely follow the structure and content of the current Strategy, as this approach has proved to be successful in delivering positive outcomes in terms of sustainable development and climate change.

The current Sustainable Development Strategy was subject to a full SEA (SEA\00580). It closely aligns to the Council Plan 'Connect' (SEA\00572) and to the Community Plan (SEA\00489), and sits directly beneath these Plans which have both undergone SEA in their own right

The Council does not consider that new significant environmental effects will be identified through the preparation and implementation of the proposed Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy. Any new effects are anticipated to be as a result of further augmentation of existing approaches and will be minor and positive in nature. Should potential additional effects be identified, appropriate enhancement or mitigation measures will be considered within the Strategy. The new Strategy will have due regard to the Consultation Authorities comments received during consultation on the Environmental Report for the current Sustainable Development Strategy. Due regard will also be taken of the identified mitigation and enhancement measures as set out in the SEA Post Adoption Statement of the Sustainable Development Strategy and of the findings from the SEAs of the Community and Council Plans.

It is considered that no additional effects from the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy will be evident and, therefore, effects will not be significant, cumulative or trans-boundary in nature, with no additional risk identified to human health, the natural or historic and/or the wider environment.

In light of this the Council seeks the views of the Consultation Authorities on the requirement for SEA on the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy. If SEA is considered necessary, the Council would appreciate views as to the extent of future assessment.



## Record of comments from consultation authorities

### Title of plan, programme or strategy

Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy

### Responsible authority

South Lanarkshire Council

### Summary of consultation authority comments

#### Historic Environment Scotland

Date comments received	Significant environmental effects	If Yes, note SEA topics/ issues here
31 August 2016	No	My understanding is that this Strategy sets out the Council's approach to sustainable development and climate change and will replace the existing Sustainable Development Strategy. I note that it is the Council's view that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects as a result of the strategy that have not been previously identified and assessed as part of the SEA process of the previous strategy and plans associated with the replacement strategy (Council Plan, Community Plan). I also note that the new Strategy will act upon existing mitigation and enhancement actions from these previous SEAs. In light of this and the information contained within the screening report I am content to agree that the strategy in itself is unlikely to have significant effects on the historic environment.

#### Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Date comments received	Significant environmental effects	If Yes, note SEA topics/ issues here
31 August 2016	No	Having reviewed the Screening Report, we consider that in respect of our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets (of which we have a specific interest in waste) and climatic factors) the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

## Scottish Natural Heritage

Date comments received	Significant environmental effects	If Yes, note SEA topics/ issues here
31 August 2016	No	Section 2 of the screening report identifies that significant positive effects are anticipated. We would note that SEA is required for any plans likely to have a significant effect on the environment, regardless of whether these are positive or negative. However, we also note that the Council considers that it is unlikely that <i>new</i> significant environmental effects will be identified beyond those which have previously been identified and assessed through the SEA of other related plans and strategies, including the current Sustainable Development Strategy. In view of the above and the information contained in the screening report, and in terms of our interests, we agree that the Strategy is not likely to have significant environmental effects.

## Record of determination and post screening action

### Title of plan, programme or strategy

Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy

### Responsible authority

South Lanarkshire Council

### Record of determination

In accordance with section 9(1) of the 2005 Act South Lanarkshire Council submitted for consultation a screening report summarising its views as to whether the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy will have significant environmental effects. In formally determining whether an SEA is required, the Council has taken into account the views of the Consultation Authorities. South Lanarkshire Council and the Consultation Authorities are in agreement that the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy is **unlikely** to have significant environmental effects.

Formal determination	Statement of reason	Date
The Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy is unlikely to have significant environmental effects and therefore an SEA will not be undertaken	No additional significant environmental impacts are likely to arise as result of the Strategy beyond those already identified and assessed through the SEA of the current Sustainable Development Strategy for South Lanarkshire.	15 September 2016

### Publicity requirements for the determination

In accordance with section 10(1) of the 2005 Act, within 28 days of the determination having been made, the Council will send a copy of the formal determination and related statement of reasons (prepared in accordance with section 8(2)(b)) to the Consultation Authorities.

Have the above requirements been undertaken?

**Yes**

In accordance with section 10(2) of the 2005 Act, within 14 days of the determination having been made, the Council will make available to the public a copy of the determination and related documents (this must include; a copy publicly available at the principal office, a copy displayed on the Council's website and a notice secured in at least one newspaper circulated in the area relating to the PPS).

Have the above requirements been undertaken?

**Yes**

**Lindsay Freeland**  
**Chief Executive**

15 September 2016