

SEA SCREENING REPORT (COVER NOTE)

PART 1

To: SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
or
SEA Gateway
Scottish Executive
Area 1 H (Bridge)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

PART 2

An SEA Screening Report is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

Clackmannanshire Sustainability Strategy

The Responsible Authority is:

Clackmannanshire Council

COMPLETE PART 3 or 4 or 5

PART 3

Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our view is that:

- 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 day timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

PART 5

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

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PART 6

Contact name

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Job Title

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PART 7

Signature



pp N Urquhart

(electronic
signature
is acceptable)

Date

9 July 2007

SEA SCREENING REPORT - KEY FACTS

Responsible Authority

Clackmannanshire Council

Title of PPS

Clackmannanshire Sustainability Strategy

Purpose of PPS

The Sustainability Strategy is a requirement of the Council's Service Plan, and is intended to demonstrate that the Council is discharging its duties in relation to Best Value and sustainable development, as required by the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

What prompted the PPS

(e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)

The PPS has been prompted by the requirements of the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 and is considered to represent best practice, although there is no specific statutory requirement for such a strategy. It will incorporate a Climate Change Plan, the production of which is a commitment into which all Scottish local authorities have entered by virtue of signing the Scottish Climate Change Declaration.

Subject

(e.g. transport)

Improving sustainability performance across all Council functions

Period covered by PPS

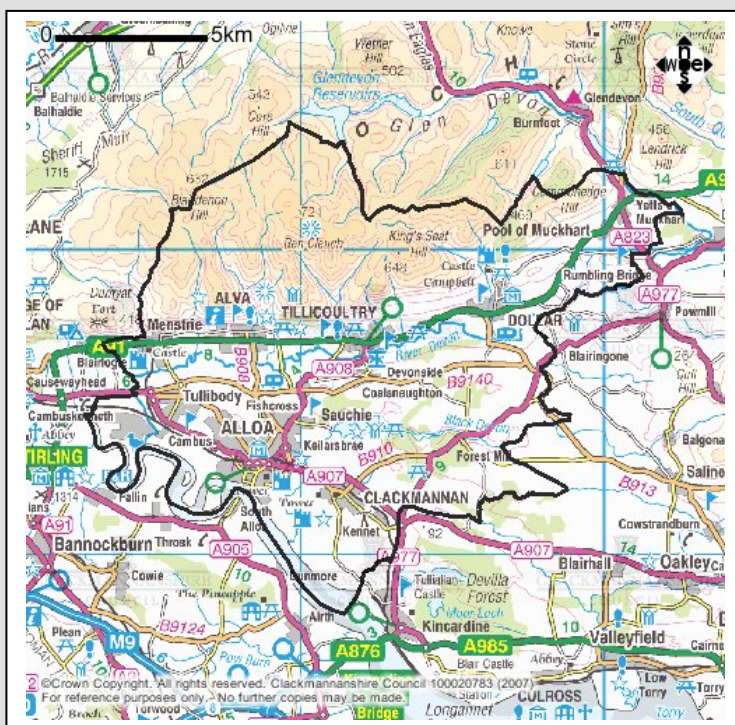
2007 - 2010

Frequency of updates

Every 3 years.

Area covered by PPS

(e.g. geographical area – it is good practice to attach a map)



**Summary of nature/
content of PPS**

The aim of the Strategy is to mainstream sustainability considerations into all of the Council's activities and to influence those living and working in the local authority area to take steps to behave more sustainably. The Strategy seeks to improve the organisation's sustainability and environmental performance as well as promoting sustainability within the community and influencing others to act more sustainably. The Strategy will include a range of policies which will influence the sustainability performance of other strategies and plans.

**Are there any proposed
PPS objectives?**

YES

NO

Copy of objectives attached

YES

NO

Date

9 July 2007

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Our determinations regarding the likely significance of effects on the environment of the Clackmannanshire Access Strategy is set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1 – LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

TITLE OF PPS Clackmannanshire Sustainability Strategy		
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY Clackmannanshire Council		
Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (1(a), 1(b) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
1(a) the degree to which the PPS sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	Yes	The Sustainability Strategy will include an Action Plan, setting out key projects to improve the Council's sustainability and environmental performance and timescales for achieving these improvements.
1(b) the degree to which the PPS influences other PPS including those in a hierarchy	Yes	The Sustainability Strategy will set clear sustainability criteria to be met by all the Council's strategies and plans in relation to sustainability and environmental performance. A set of sustainability indicators will enable progress to be measured towards meeting the Council's sustainability objectives and targets.

1(c) the relevance of the PPS for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	Yes	The Strategy will promote environmental performance through measuring progress towards given objectives and indicators, and by influencing other Council plans and strategies, such as the Development Plan, Local Transport Strategy and Procurement Strategy.
Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (1(d) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
1(d) environmental problems relevant to the PPS	Yes	A range of environmental problems specific to both the organisation and to the community within Clackmannanshire will be identified and possible solutions considered through the SEA process.
1(e) the relevance of the PPS for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, PPS linked to waste management or water protection)	Uncertain	The Strategy will not implement any Community legislation but will refer to such legislation – e.g. – Landfill Directive; Water Framework Directive.
2 (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	Uncertain	The main aim of the Strategy is to promote sustainable development and the environmental performance of the organisation. It is difficult at this stage to anticipate any conflicts in terms of sustainability and

		environmental policy that may arise as a result of the implementation of Strategy policies.
2 (b) the cumulative nature of the effects	Uncertain	It is difficult to anticipate the cumulative nature of any effects at this stage.
2 (c) transboundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other EU Member States)	No	There are not anticipated to be any transboundary effects.
2 (d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	No	The implementation of the Strategy is likely to have a beneficial impact upon human health.
Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (2(e), 2(f) etc refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
2 (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	No	The Strategy will have implications throughout Clackmannanshire, but is unlikely to have large scale environmental effects.

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (2(e), 2(f) etc refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
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 No No	It is not anticipated that the Strategy will have any direct negative significant environmental effects on any of these aspects.
2 (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status	No	It is not anticipated that the Strategy will have any direct negative significant environmental effects on these assets.

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A summary of our considerations of the significant environmental effects of the Clackmannanshire Access Strategy is given below.

TABLE 2 – SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The main aim of the Clackmannanshire Sustainability Strategy is to provide a framework to ensure that the Council is discharging its duty of Best Value in a way that contributes to sustainable development. The Strategy will incorporate indicators and targets which enable measurement of progress towards improved sustainability performance, and an Action Plan which provides details of projects which will deliver practical improvements and timescales for their implementation.

The Strategy seeks to influence other Council plans and strategies, and the actions of those outside the Council itself, in such a way that negative environmental effects will be reduced and positive environmental effects maximised. This can be brought about by actions such as promoting recycling, reducing energy waste, and encouraging less environmentally harmful means of travelling. In certain cases, proposals may lead to competing environmental costs or benefits and strategic environmental assessment will provide a tool to evaluate and measure the likely impacts in these cases, consider the least environmentally harmful course of action and consider the scope for mitigation.

The Strategy will have close links with other Council plans and strategies, some of which are subject to SEA. In these cases, consideration will be given to how the SEA process can be integrated and how aims and objectives can complement each other, providing scope for synergies in maximising sustainability and environmental performance, and eliminating or mitigating negative environmental effects where possible.

