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If telephoning ask for:
Diarmuid O'Connor

25 September 2014

By email only to: sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Madam

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 Screening - Clackmannanshire council - Local transport strategy 2015 to 2019 Screening Report

Thank you for your Screening Report consultation which SEPA received via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 10 September 2014.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 we have considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment. 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 amended Local Transport Strategy (LTS) is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not likely, it is for the Clackmannanshire Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.

We note from the consultation material that it is outlined that the updated LTS will only include minor amendments to the previous strategy. We further note that the existing SEA which accompanied the previous LTS will be published along side the new LTS and a statement to this effect will be included in the new LTS.

If it is formally determined that SEA *is* required, you will be aware that the next stage requires the Responsible Authority to consult the Consultation Authorities on the proposed scope and level of detail to be included within the Environmental Report. This can be undertaken through preparation of a concise Scoping Report. We would encourage you to use the scoping process to focus the assessment on those SEA issues upon which there are likely to be significant environmental effects, to outline the baseline information you consider as most relevant and explain your proposed method of assessment. To assist with this process we have produced Standing Advice for Responsible Authorities on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Consultations, which is available from www.sepa.org.uk/planning.

Should you wish to discuss this screening consultation please do not hesitate to contact me on 01698-839341 or via our SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Diarmuid O'Connor
Senior Planning Officer

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