

Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029

Determination report



**Clackmannanshire
Council**

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Comhairle Siorrachd
Chlach Mhanann

Screening determination for Clackmannanshire's Pollinator Strategy

This statement sets out the Council's determination under [Section 8\(1\) of the Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#) on whether or not a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required for the Clackmannanshire Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029.

SEA screening process

The Screening process involved consulting the following Consultation Authorities on whether the Pollinator Strategy is likely to have significant environmental effects:

- NatureScot
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

In addition to consulting the above bodies, the Council has also taken into account the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the Act in determining whether or not the Pollinator Strategy is likely to have significant environmental effects. The Council submitted a Screening Report to the Consultation Authorities on 14th of May 2024 and received all replies on 9th of July 2024. The responses are shown below:

Consultation Authorities	Likelihood of Significant Environmental Effects	Comments
NatureScot	No	In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, SNH has considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment. We agree that the above Plan is not likely to have significant environmental effects.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	No	In light of the information and reasoning set out within the screening report, we agree with your view that there unlikely to be significant environmental effects for the historic environment.
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	No	In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 we have reviewed the screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the Act. In regard to our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets and climatic factors) we agree with the conclusions of the screening report that the proposed PPS is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

The Consultation Authorities are in agreement with the Council that the Strategy is likely not to have significant environmental effects. The Pollinator Strategy will be considered to an appropriate level under the Climate Change Strategy SEA, Case number: 01879, therefore no components require additional screening at this stage in terms of proportionality and potential duplication. The Pollinator Strategy will incorporate insights from the Climate Change Strategy SEA process before receiving the Council's endorsement.

It has been determined by the Clackmannanshire Council, following advice from the Strategic Environmental Assessment Consultation Authorities that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for the Pollinator Strategy. The Council will now progress with the production of the Strategy.

Yours sincerely,

Nerxhana Tallushi

Climate Change and Energy Officer
Clackmannanshire Council
Email: ntallushi@clacks.gov.uk
Tel: 07309178825

Responsible Authority:	Clackmannanshire Council	
Title of the plan:	Clackmannanshire Council Pollinator Strategy 2024 – 2029	
What prompted the plan: (e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	<p>In response to the Scottish Government's acknowledgment of decline in populations, diversity and range of pollinator species and Clackmannanshire Council's unanimous motion to declare a Climate Emergency on August 19, 2021, the Council is actively pursuing the development of a Pollinator Strategy 2024 -2029.</p> <p>The strategy aligns with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Pollinator Strategy for Scotland 2017-2027 • Council's Interim Climate Change strategy • Council's unanimous decision to sign the Edinburgh Declaration on the 6th of October 2022 	
Plan subject: (e.g. transport)	Pollinators and pollinators' habitats	
<p>Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.</p> <p>Based on Boxes 3 and 4, our view is that:</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> An SEA is required, as the environmental effects are likely to be significant: Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Section 5(3) <input type="checkbox"/> Section 5(4) </p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> An SEA is <u>not</u> required, as the environmental effects are unlikely to be significant: Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Section 5(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 5(4) </p>	
Contact details:	Nerxhana Tallushi Climate Change & Energy Officer ntallushi@clacks.gov.uk Tel: 07309178825	Lisa Ford Countryside Ranger lford@clacks.gov.uk Tel: 07968161296
Date:	14/05/2024	

<p>Context of the Plan:</p>	<p>The Clackmannanshire Pollinator Strategy aligns with the National Strategy, outlining localized efforts to curb pollinator decline and bolster their diversity and population. Central to this strategy is the Pollinator Action Plan, a vital tool in achieving the council's goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>This plan establishes a roadmap for the Council and its partners to undertake actions benefiting pollinators, while simultaneously addressing broader objectives such as halting biodiversity loss and advancing towards a zero-carbon economy.</p> <p>By integrating biodiversity considerations into corporate strategies and operations, as mandated by the Edinburgh Declaration signed unanimously on October 6th, 2022, the plan ensures that all decisions account for their potential impact on local biodiversity, ultimately fostering healthier, wealthier, and happier communities.</p> <p>The aims of the strategy are to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the needs of pollinators are represented in policy and guidance; • Protect, increase and enhance the amount of pollinator habitat in Clackmannanshire to prevent extinctions; and improve the status of any locally threatened pollinator species; • Increase awareness of pollinators and their habitat needs across local residents, businesses and other landowners; • Increase the contribution of land under the ownership of, or managed by the Council to pollinator conservation; • Improve our knowledge and understanding of pollinators in our local area.
<p>Description of the Plan:</p>	<p>The Clackmannanshire Pollinator Strategy aims to cultivate a robust, thriving, and diverse population of pollinators within the region. By preserving and establishing crucial links in Scotland's pollinator habitats, the strategy supports the local and national distribution of these vital species. Its primary goal is to enhance awareness of pollinators and ensure that every department within the council integrates pollinator considerations into their operations, leading to an increase in the diversity and the abundance of pollinators .</p> <p>Aligned with Clackmannanshire's net zero target, the Strategy recognizes nature's capacity for emissions absorption and biodiversity's pivotal role in climate resilience. Additionally, the Pollinator Action Plan offers an opportunity to assess the management of council-owned land, identifying areas conducive to pollinator support that may also yield cost savings.</p> <p>Developed around five key objectives, the plan serves as a roadmap for achieving these goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Help raise awareness of the importance of pollinators; 2. Protect and enhance existing habitat for pollinators; 3. Create habitat for pollinators; 4. Contribute to the monitoring of pollinator populations; 5. Contribute to the delivery of Clackmannanshire's Climate Emergency Action Plan. <p>The strategy went through a thorough process of consultations between different stakeholders at national and local level to help shaping efficient programmes and actions to tackle the decline in pollinator populations. The Council plans to collaborate and support where relevant initiatives align with the aim of this strategy.</p>

<p>What are the key components of the plan?</p>	<p>The key components of the Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029 are likely to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Importance of pollinators Pollinators are an essential part of our Biodiversity and fundamentally linked to the wellbeing of the planet. In the UK we have over 4,000 pollinating species of insect that are responsible for the pollination of native plants and food crops. Losing pollinators will result in damage to plants and animals, agricultural yields, our economy and wellbeing. Total loss of pollinators could cost up to £440m a year, about 13% of UK income from farming. • Commitment from Clackmannanshire Council Clackmannanshire Council is dedicated to increasing local pollinator populations and connecting habitats, aligning with emission reduction targets outlined in the Interim Climate Change Strategy. This supports biodiversity and climate resilience efforts toward achieving net zero emissions. • The Pollinator Action Plan Consultees The Strategy underwent extensive consultations involving various stakeholders at both national and local levels to refine effective programs and actions aimed at addressing the decline in pollinator populations. The Council intends to collaborate and provide support for initiatives that align with the strategy goals. • Why do we need a Pollinator Plan? The Pollinator Strategy for Scotland and Clackmannanshire aims to address the decline of pollinator populations by implementing local actions to support their diversity and numbers, contributing to broader environmental and societal objectives including halting biodiversity loss and achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions. By aligning with national strategies and commitments like the Edinburgh Declaration, these plans strive to create resilient ecosystems and healthier, more prosperous communities. • Clackmannanshire’s Pollinator Strategy Vision The strategy will help raise awareness within people to understand that there is more need for areas to be left for wildlife and not to be ‘neat and tidy’. The section also lays out the main aims as to how the council will try to achieve this vision. • Clackmannanshire Pollinator Action Plan The action plan contains a set of actions across different Services in the Council to achieve the 5 key objectives. Feedback on these objectives will be reported to the Council’s Climate Emergency Board to allow for monitoring and as an opportunity to encourage further input and support for the Pollinator strategy. • Legislation and Strategies A list of legal frameworks that the strategy aligns with and contributes in achieving their scope.
<p>Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?</p>	<p>The Council is currently in the process of drafting the Environmental Report of Climate Change Strategy SEA. Drafting a Pollinator Strategy is an action under the Strategic Theme 4: Biodiversity, Carbon Sequestration and Agriculture. The Pollinator Strategy, Climate Change Strategy and the Environmental Report are expected to be out for consultation at the same time.</p>
<p>In terms of your response to Boxes 7 and 8 above, set out those components of the plan that are likely to require screening:</p>	<p>It is considered that only the Clackmannanshire’s Pollinator Strategy Vision and Clackmannanshire Pollinator Action Plan section of the Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029 requires screening as the other components of the strategy are for information only. However, the Pollinator Strategy will be considered to an appropriate level under the Climate Change Strategy SEA, therefore no components require additional screening at this stage in terms of proportionality and potential duplication.</p>

**Identifying interactions of the plan with the environment and
Considering the likely significance of any interactions (Error! Reference source not found.)**

Plan Components	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Population and human health	Soil	Water	Air	Climatic factors	Material assets	Cultural heritage	Landscape	Inter-relationship issues	Explanation of Potential Environmental Effects	Explanation of Significance
Clackmannanshire's Pollinator Strategy Vision	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	<p>The strategy envisions to raise awareness of the benefits of pollinators in our ecosystem.</p> <p>The strategy acknowledges that pollinators constitute a core part of achieving net zero such as through the emissions absorption potential of nature and biodiversity's role in climate resilience.</p>	<p>The implementation of this vision anticipates bringing positive impacts to the biodiversity. However, at this stage the strategy does not have any specific site assigned and the main action is to raise considerations of pollinators in future projects, which will require appropriate assessment.</p>
Clackmannanshire Pollinator Action Plan	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	<p>The actions proposed will protect, increase and enhance the amount of pollinator habitat in Clackmannanshire to help prevent extinctions; and improve the status of any locally threatened pollinator species.</p>	<p>Likely to have positive impacts on the environment. Embedding biodiversity considerations into corporate & service plans, policies, strategies and operations is required so that all decision-making takes account of the potential impacts on local biodiversity.</p> <p>However, at this stage the action plan does not have any specific sites assigned and the main action is to raise the considerations of pollinators in future projects, which will require appropriate assessment.</p>

<p>Summary of how environmental principles have been considered: (including an outline of how the guiding principles, as set out in section 13 of the Continuity Act, are relevant to the plan)</p>	<p>Clackmannanshire Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029 aligns with the environmental principles as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy aims to raise awareness on protecting the pollinator species and their habitats. Moreover, it ensures that pollinators’ needs are considered and protected in the delivery of the Council’s services and responsibilities. • The action plan aims to map the actual situation of pollinators’ species and their habitats in order to conduct an analysis on the actual threats. This will create a baseline from which to understand the needs of local pollinators and inform the Pollinator Action Plan.
<p>Summary of interactions with the environment and statement of the findings of the Screening: (Including an outline of the likely significance of any interactions, positive or negative, and explanation of conclusion of the screening exercise.)</p>	<p>The ongoing Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Climate Change Strategy will comprehensively evaluate the potential environmental impacts of various policies and projects, including the Pollinator Strategy.</p> <p>Positioned within a hierarchy of PPS, the Pollinator Strategy serves as a pivotal supporting document in advancing the council's objective of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions by providing a structured approach for implementing actions to benefit pollinators. Simultaneously, it contributes to halting biodiversity loss, fostering a zero-carbon economy, and fostering healthier, more prosperous communities.</p> <p>Given that the Pollinator Strategy, Climate Change Strategy, and Environmental Report are scheduled for simultaneous consultation, the Pollinator Strategy will incorporate insights from the Climate Change Strategy SEA process before receiving the Council's endorsement.</p>

When completed send to: SEA.gateway@gov.scot or to the SEA Gateway, Scottish Government, Area 2F (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6Q



Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005: 01891 Screening - Clackmannanshire Council - Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029 - NatureScot response - 21.5.24 Keith Dalgleish to: Scottish Government SEA Gateway:, SEA_GATEWAY, HS SEA Gateway:, Sea Gateway 21/05/2024 08:37

Cc: Nerxhana Tallushi

From: Keith Dalgleish <Keith.Dalgleish@nature.scot>

To: "Scottish Government SEA Gateway:" <sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>, SEA_GATEWAY <SEA_GATEWAY@nature.scot>, "HS SEA Gateway:"

<hssea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk>, Sea Gateway <sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk>

Cc: Nerxhana Tallushi <ntallushi@clacks.gov.uk>

History:

This message has been forwarded.

Dear SEA gateway

c.c. Scottish Government SEA Gateway: sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

SNH SEA Gateway: sea.gateway@snh.gov.uk

SEPA SEA Gateway: sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk

HS SEA Gateway: hssea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005: 01891 Screening - Clackmannanshire Council - Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029

Screening Determination

I refer to your screening consultation submitted on 14 May 2024 via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway in respect of the above plan.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, SNH has considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

We agree that the above Plan is not likely to have significant environmental effects.

Please note that this consultation response provides a view solely on the potential for the plan or programme to have significant environmental effects. We cannot comment on whether or not the plan or programme meets other criteria determining the need for SEA as set out in the Act.

Should you wish to discuss this screening determination, please do not hesitate to contact Keith Dalgleish at keith.dalgleish@nature.scot or via SEA_GATEWAY@nature.scot

Yours sincerely

Keith Dalgleish | Operations Officer - South

NatureScot | Elmwood Campus | Carslogie Road | Cupar | Fife | KY15 4JB

**Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba | Àrainn Elmwood | Rathad Carslogie | Cùbar | Fìobha | KY15 4JB
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By email to: sea_gateway@gov.scot

Nerxhana Tallushi
Climate Change & Energy Officer
Clackmannanshire Council

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

Enquiry Line: 0131-668-8716
Switchboard: 0131 668 8600
HMConsultations@hes.scot

Our case ID: 300073189
Your ref: 01891
11 June 2024

Dear Nerxhana Tallushi

[Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#)
[01891 - Screening - Clackmannanshire Council - Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029](#)

Screening Report

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 14 May 2024 about the above screening report. We have reviewed this report in our role as a Consultation Authority under the above Act, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(3). In doing so we have used the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of the effects on the environment.

Historic Environment Scotland's view

In light of the information and reasoning set out within the screening report, we **agree** with your view that there **unlikely to be significant environmental effects for the historic environment**.

Next steps

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires you as the Responsible Authority to determine whether an environmental assessment is required. You must then notify the Consultation Authorities within 28 days of making this determination. This may be done via the SEA Gateway (sea_gateway@gov.scot).

We hope our advice is helpful to you in making this determination. Please feel welcome to contact us if you have any questions about this response. The officer managing this case is Virginia Sharp who can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 8704 or by email on Virginia.Sharp@hes.scot.

Yours sincerely

Historic Environment Scotland



PCS-20001599 SEPA Response to SEA01891Sea Gateway to: SEA Gateway 27/05/2024
14:06
Cc: Nerxhana Tallushi
From: Sea Gateway <sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk>
To: SEA Gateway <sea.gateway@gov.scot>
Cc: Nerxhana Tallushi <ntallushi@clacks.gov.uk>
History:
This message has been forwarded.

Dear Nerxhana Tallushi,

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

SEA01891

Clackmannanshire Council Pollinator Strategy 2024-2029

Clackmannanshire Council

Thank you for consulting SEPA on this Screening Report by way of your email of 14 May 2024.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 we have reviewed the screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the Act. In regard to our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets and climatic factors) **we agree with the conclusions of the screening report** that the proposed PPS is **unlikely to have** significant environmental effects.

Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are unlikely, it is for the Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.

If you would like to discuss this consultation response, please do not hesitate to contact me by email or via our SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk.

I trust these comments are of assistance - please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Kind regards,

Silvia Cagnoni

Senior Planning Officer



For the future of our environment

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