

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination

**Notice of the Determination that the proposed
Economic Recovery Plan for East Dunbartonshire will not require to
go through the
Strategic Environmental Assessment process**

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

As required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, East Dunbartonshire Council has reviewed the likely significance of the environmental effects of the proposed Economic Recovery Plan for East Dunbartonshire.

East Dunbartonshire Council has made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Strategy is unlikely to result in significant environmental effects. The Parking Strategy for East Dunbartonshire will therefore not be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Lauren Hollas

Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer

Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets

Land Planning and Development

Broomhill Industrial Estate

Kilsyth Road

Kirkintilloch

G66 1TP

Relevant Documents:

- SEA Screening Determination Notification to Consultation Authorities on 6th January 2020
- Screening Report submitted to Consultation Authorities on 20th November 2019
- Responses from the Consultation Authorities:
 - Covering Letter from Scottish Government SEA Gateway
 - Response from Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
 - Response from Historic Environment Scotland
 - Response from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)

Date: 31st August 2020

SEA Gateway
Scottish Government
Area 2 H (South)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

**PLACE, NEIGHBOURHOOD AND
CORPORATE ASSETS**
Land Planning and Development
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TP

Telephone 0141 578 8600
Fax No: 0141 578 8575

Dear Sirs,

**SEA Screening Determination
An Economic Recovery Plan for East Dunbartonshire**

I refer to your letter dated 10th August 2020 outlining the responses from the Consultation Authorities to the Screening Report that was submitted on 13th July 2020 in relation to the proposed Parking Strategy for East Dunbartonshire.

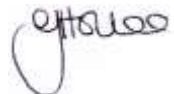
The Consultation Authorities are in agreement with the Council that the Policy is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. On 31st August 2020 East Dunbartonshire Council made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Economic Recovery Plan for East Dunbartonshire will not have significant environmental effects. Therefore, no further stages of SEA will be required.

A copy of the screening determination will be available for inspection during normal office hours at Broomhill Industrial Estate, Kilsyth Road, Kirkintilloch, G66 1TP and on the Council website at www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/S-E-A. An advert will also be placed in the Kirkintilloch Herald and Milngavie and Bearsden Herald to publicise the screening determination.

In accordance with Section 10(1) of the Act, a copy of the screening determination is enclosed and I would be obliged if you could forward this onto the Consultation Authorities.

If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact Lauren Hollas (SEA Officer) on 0141 578 8532.

Yours faithfully,



Lauren Hollas
Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer

SCREENING REPORT

STEP 1 DETAILS OF THE PLAN

Responsible Authority:

East Dunbartonshire Council

Title of the plan:

Economic Recovery Plan

What prompted the plan:

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

The development of an Economic Recovery Plan has been prompted by impacts associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, including both an economic and health crisis. As a result, East Dunbartonshire Council will set out how it is responding to the pandemic and adopting national measures to ease the pressure on businesses and employees.

Plan subject:

(e.g. transport)

Economic recovery/development

Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Based on Boxes 3 and 4, our view is that:

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

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

An SEA is not required, as the environmental effects are unlikely to be significant: Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within

Section 5(3)

Section 5(4)

Contact details:

Lauren Hollas
Sustainability Policy Team
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF

Date:

13th July 2020

STEP 2 CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

Context of the Plan:

The Economic Recovery Plan (ERP) will set out the actions that East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) and its partners are currently undertaking to support the local economy through the Covid-19 crisis. It will also set out new actions for delivery in the medium-long term. The Plan will be relevant to Council employees, the voluntary sector groups/organisations, East Dunbartonshire residents, those who are working, studying or volunteering in the local authority area and visitors to the area.

Description of the Plan:

The Plan focuses on five key issues:

1. Businesses facing financial hardship – we need to help businesses to access financial support.
2. Easing lockdown restrictions – we need to support the reopening of businesses.
3. Job security – we need to support people who have had their employment affected.
4. Local investment – we need to prioritise the right projects to help our communities and economy to recover.
5. Changes to the economy and business practices – we need to support businesses to embrace new modes of operation which have developed in response to lockdown conditions, and plan for sustainable and inclusive economic development in the future.

Overall the ERP will play an important role in updating the next iteration of the Economic Development Strategy (EDS) and will influence the development of the forthcoming Circular Economy Strategy (CES). It is anticipated that the content of the ERP, particularly the new actions proposed, will be iterated in both the updated and new CES, where appropriate.

What are the key components of the plan?

In addition to the 5 key areas above, the components of the ERP include a number of actions in support of each of these areas. These are listed in Step 3.

Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?

There are a number of components of the ERP that have been considered as part of previous SEA work. This includes relevant actions have been brought forward from Council PPPS including the Economic Development Strategy (EDS), Local Development Plan (LDP), Town Centre Strategies, City Deal, Place Plans and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP). Furthermore, there are a number of initiatives outlined within Section 5 which have been informed by a number of practices carried out by the Council and its partners as well as actions within the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) and existing Carbon Management Plan (CMP). It is intended that the content of the ERP will inform any updated PPS where appropriate including the updated EDS, emerging Circular Economy Strategy (CES) and updated CMP. These will be subject to SEA and, as a result, any relevant components set out in the ERP will be considered as part of future SEA work.

In terms of your response to Boxes 7 and 8 above, set out those components of the plan

It is considered that each of the key issues will require screening. In particular, as Section 5 is likely to propose new ambitions, the options explored within this Section will also be included in the screening assessment.

that are likely to require
screening:

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**STEP 3 IDENTIFYING INTERACTIONS OF THE PLAN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND
CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY INTERACTIONS (Error! Reference source not found.)**

Plan Components	Environmental Topic Areas										Explanation of Potential Environmental Effects	Explanation of Significance
	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Population and human health	Soil	Water	Air	Climatic factors	Material assets	Cultural heritage	Landscape	Inter-relationship issues		
<p>Key Issue 1: Business facing financial hardship – we need to help business to access financial support, including business grants and loans, and business support</p> <p>Key Issue 2: Easing lockdown restrictions – we need to support the reopening of businesses, including support for businesses who are already open or those who will</p>	✘	✔	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘	✘	<p>The actions that are proposed to be contained within the ERP to support these key issues reflect operational activities predominantly that are carried out by the Council and its partners to support businesses and self-employed people financially as well as support businesses and employees to access work, undergo their work with new working practices and support employment in general across the authority area where Covid-19 has directly resulted in negative impacts to people’s employment status or access to skills training. These will directly have an impact on Population and Human Health.</p>	<p>It is likely that the actions will give support and opportunities for those requiring them to support business operations and employability within East Dunbartonshire, which could result in a positive impact on the local economy as well as health and wellbeing. The proposals reflect service provisions provided by the Council and its partners the operational nature of the options are likely to present neutral effects on the local environment. It should also be noted that relevant actions have been brought forward from relevant Council PPS including the Economic Development Strategy (EDS) and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), of which were previously subject to SEA, and it is intended that</p>

reopen, encouraging residents to shop locally and support for tourism													the content of the ERP will inform any updated PPS where appropriate.
Key Issue 3: Job security – we need to support people who have had their employment affected. This includes options to support those affected by redundancies, recruitment, skills development, debt advice, new working practices and travel to work													
Key Issue 4: Local investment – we need to prioritise the right projects to help our communities and economy to recover, including opportunities to improve community facilities, support regeneration plans, delivery Place Plans, support construction	?	✓	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	✘	Investment in community facilities through the delivery of community facilities and projects will assist in maintaining economic confidence and momentum, promote recovery, support business and help identify available jobs, both directly and indirectly. The resumption of the construction industry will also help promote economic recovery locally. In general the main impacts will be in relation to Population and Human Health.	It is anticipated that the effects will be predominantly positive for Population and Human Health as a result of prioritising local projects and investments at a local level, in particular to the economy and people’s health and wellbeing. At this stage in the ERP’s development, the specific actions within the City Deal project, Town Centre Strategies, Kirkintilloch Masterplan and Place Plans, are not detailed and therefore it is unclear as

<p>and development, and other town centre focussed projects</p>											<p>However it is possible that plans for regeneration, development and the delivery of Place Plans will present impacts to the other environmental factors, although without specific detail of the actions associated the effects are uncertain at this stage. These will primarily be informed by City Deal, the delivery of East Dunbartonshire's Town Centre Strategies, the Kirkintilloch Masterplan and projects set out in the Twechar, Hillhead & Harestanes, Lennoxton and Auchinairn Place Plans.</p>	<p>to what extent the effects to other environmental factors will be. However, each of the aforementioned documents will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have been assessed as part of an existing PPS SEA process - be subject to an individual SEA - be assessed through the SEA updates for each of the PPS as and when this is required. <p>Section 4, along with Sections 1 – 3, will not set a framework for development projects within East Dunbartonshire; this will be influenced by other PPS as previously mentioned.</p>
<p>Key Issue 5: Changes to the economy and business practices – we need to support businesses to embrace new modes of operation which have developed in response to lockdown conditions, and plan for sustainable and inclusive economic development in the future (options</p>	✓	✓	?	✗	✓	✓	✓	?	✗	✓	<p>In response to both the economic impact of the recent pandemic and the intensifying climate crisis, Section 5 of the ERP focusses on ways in which we will renew our efforts to ensuring sustainable economic growth, with a particular emphasis on adaptation to a more sustainable model. As such, the ERP will seek options to recover from the economic impacts of the pandemic and ensure environmental resilience towards a zero waste and circular-economy in the future. It is anticipated that options will be related to social</p>	<p>Although Section 5 of the ERP explores ambitious options to realise a more sustainable and inclusive economy in East Dunbartonshire the intention is that these options will be taken forward through other strategies. Specifically, the Active Travel Strategy (ATS), Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) Action Plan, Economic Development Strategy (EDS), Annual Procurement Strategy, Community Benefits Strategy, Climate Change Mitigation Strategy (CCMS) and the Circular Economy Strategy (CES. The other actions are operational in</p>

supporting Key Issue 5 detailed below)											<p>distancing measures and opportunities to explore new ways of operating and diversification, local supply chains, changes to working practices including the role of technology and remote working, decreased travel opportunities and access to the outdoors, use of resources and an increased local consumption economy.</p> <p>The environmental effects are anticipated to be in relation to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and Human Health, Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Assets, as well as uncertain impacts to Water Quality and Cultural Heritage.</p>	<p>nature e.g. looking at how businesses can be supported to accommodate home working, new skills opportunities, responding to the way customers shop, encouraging a local economy/supply chains and a clear approach to supporting Just Transition. All of these options are also likely to be embed in other Strategies such as CES, CCMS and SCCF).</p> <p>Consequently, the effects of the options set out in the ERP are not likely to be significant although there is the potential that resulting actions that will be contained in subsequent PPS will result in significant effects. However these will be captured in existing or future SEA work.</p>
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STEP 4 STATEMENT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SCREENING

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.)

It is anticipated that the Economic Recovery Plan will identify opportunities to target economic recovery at a local level which is likely to present short, medium and long-term benefits to the local economy, business, employment and wellbeing as well as opportunities to explore green recovery in line with wider sustainability ambitions. However it has been determined that, due to the influence of other PPPS which have been subject to the SEA process in previous work or emerging PPPS which will be subject to SEA in the future, a full SEA is not required to be carried out in relation to the Economic Recovery Plan. It is imperative that new opportunities not previously assessed or delivered through existing work are captured through future SEA work.

When completed send to: SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or to the SEA Gateway, Scottish Government, Area 2H (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

Local Government and Communities Directorate

Planning and Architecture Division

T: 0131-244 7242

E: SEA.Gateway@gov.scot

Lauren Hollas

Sustainability Policy Team
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintollock
G66 1TF

01579 - Screening - East Dunbartonshire Council - Economic Recovery Plan

10 August 2020

Dear Lauren,

With reference to the Screening document you submitted on 13 July 2020.

The Consultation Authorities have now considered your screening request as per **Section 9(3)** of the **Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005**. I have attached the individual letters from the Consultation Authorities, outlining their views and opinions.

Please note, these are the views and opinions of the Consultation Authorities on the likelihood of significant environmental effects arising from the plan or programme and not a judgement on whether an SEA is required. It is therefore for the Responsible Authority to determine whether an SEA is required in the circumstances. Where possible the Consultation Authorities may have offered supplementary information and/or advice for you to consider, which you should find helpful.

As the Consultation Authorities have now notified you of their views, you should now refer to the 2005 Act to consider your next step. You should of course take into account the advice offered by the Consultation Authorities.

You should note, as per Section 10 of the 2005 Act, that within 28 days of your determination about whether an SEA is required or not, a copy of the determination and any related statement of reasons must be passed to the Consultation Authorities. This may be done via the SEA Gateway.

If you have any queries or would like me to clarify any points, please call me on 0131 244 7242.

Kind regards,

Antonia Georgieva
Environmental Assessment and Policy Officer



Our ref: PCS/172193
SG ref: SEA01579/SCR

If telephoning ask for:
Nicki Dunn

17 July 2020

Lauren Hollas
Sustainability Policy Team
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF

By email only to: SEA_Gateway@gov.scot

Dear Madam

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
East Dunbartonshire Council Economic Recovery Plan - Screening Report**

Thank you for your Screening Report consultation which SEPA received via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 13 July 2020.

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 plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not likely, it is for the East Dunbartonshire Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.

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 [SEA topic guidance](#) for those issues which fall within our remit. Further information on scoping can be found in the [Scottish Government SEA Guidance](#) (sections 3.4 to 3.8 in particular).

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

Yours faithfully

Nicki Dunn
Senior Planning Officer

Ecoby: sea.gateway@hes.scot; SEA_GATEWAY@nature.scot

In line with government guidance a number of SEPA's SW planning service are now home working. Please do not leave telephone messages but email planning.sw@sepa.org.uk, not individual email addresses, and we will respond where possible by email.

Please note that due to revised working arrangements because of the Covid -19 (Corona virus) outbreak we may take longer to respond to your email than usual.



HISTORIC
ENVIRONMENT
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD
EACHDRAIDHEIL
ALBA

By email to: sea.gateway@gov.scot

Ms Lauren Hollas
Sustainability Policy Team
East Dunbartonshire Council
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintilloch
G66 1TF

Longmore House
Salisbury Place
Edinburgh
EH9 1SH

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

Our case ID: 300045563
Your ref: 01579 Screening
10 August 2020

Dear Ms Hollas

[Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#)
[01579 - East Dunbartonshire Council - Economic Recovery Plan](#)

Screening Report

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 13 July 2020 about the above screening report. We have reviewed the screening 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 are content to agree with your view that there are **unlikely to be significant environmental effects** for the historic environment.

Historic Environment Scotland's comments

We understand that the Economic Recovery Plan will set out the council's response to the Covid-19 pandemic and how it intends to support economic recovery in the area. The components of the plan include financial support, easing of the lockdown, addressing job security, investing locally and supporting business through the changes to business operations as a result of the crisis. We note that you consider that, as much of this content will be informed by other PPPS that have been subject to SEA, significant environmental effects as a result of the plan itself are unlikely. As noted above we are content to agree with this view.

Specifically in relation to Key Issue 5 we note that you consider that, while the options set out in the ERP are unlikely to give rise to significant effects, there remains the potential for actions resulting from these options to result in such effects. We therefore welcome

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH
Scottish Charity No. SC045925
VAT No. GB 221 8680 15



Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba
nature.scot

Lauren Hollas
Sustainability Policy Team
Broomhill Industrial Estate
Kilsyth Road
Kirkintollock
G66 1TF

Sent via: sea.gateway@gov.scot

Date: 07 August 2020
Our ref: 01579

Dear Lauren,

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 – Economic Recovery Plan (ERP) – East
Dunbartonshire Council – Screening Report**

I refer to your screening report submitted on 13 July 2020 via the SEA Gateway in relation to the above Plan. In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, we have reviewed it in relation to our remit.

We note that the Economic Recovery Plan (ERP) will identify economic recovery opportunities at a local level in relation to the economy, business, employment, wellbeing and a green recovery. Based on the conclusions of the screening report, we agree that the above Plan is not likely to have significant effects with regards to our remit as all aspects of the ERP have been subject to, or will be subject to, SEA through other PPS.

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

We hope you find these comments useful. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of our response please do not hesitate to contact Katie Bain at katie.bain@nature.scot or on 07593 981207.

Yours sincerely,

Lyndsey Kinnes
Operations Manager

Scottish Natural Heritage, Caspian House, 2 Mariner Court,
Clydebank Business Park, Clydebank G81 2NR
Tel: 0131 314 6750 www.nature.scot

Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba, Taigh Caspian, 2 Cùirt a' Mharaiche,
Pàirc Gnothachais Bhruach Chluaidh, Bruach Chluaidh G81 2NR
Fòn: 0131 314 6750 www.nature.scot