

# Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

2017-2027

Consultative Draft

East Dunbartonshire  
Community Planning



Partnership

Strategic Environmental  
Assessment (SEA)



Environmental Report

### SEA Environmental Report: PART 1

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### SEA Environmental Report: PART 2

<b>A SEA Environmental Report is attached for:</b>	Local Outcome Improvement Plan
<b>The Responsible Authority is:</b>	East Dunbartonshire Council & Community Planning Partners

### SEA Environmental Report: PART 3

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## Non-Technical Summary

### Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

As part of the preparation of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), East Dunbartonshire Council carried out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The process of SEA is a systematic method for considering the likely environmental effects of this Plan. It aims to:

- Integrate environmental factors into the Plan preparation and decision-making
- Improve the Strategy and enhance environmental protection
- Increase public participation in decision making
- Facilitate the openness and transparency of decision-making

### Key SEA Stages

The key SEA stages carried out in the preparation of the LOIP were:

**Scoping:** This is the process by which details for the Environmental Report were determined. Through the Scoping Report the level of detail and the consultation period was determined for the Environmental Report and followed by a consultation with the appropriate Consultation Authorities: Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Historic Environment Scotland (HES) and the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA).

**Environmental Assessment:** The Environmental Report documents the environmental assessment of the LOIP. The assessments of the relevant components were carried out in parallel to the development of the Plan. This helped the plan-maker to refine the Plan in order to avoid or mitigate the negative environmental impacts and to further enhance the positive environmental impacts.

**Post-Adoption Statement:** The Post-Adoption Statement will demonstrate how the findings of the SEA have been taken into account in the adopted LOIP. In accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Post-Adoption Statement will highlight:

- How the environmental considerations have been incorporated into the LOIP;
- How the findings of the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- How opinions expressed, from both the Community and Consultation Authorities during the consultation of the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- The reasons for choosing the LOIP as adopted in light of other reasonable alternatives; and,
- The measures to be taken to monitor the significant effects of the implementation of the Plan.

The purpose of SEA is to inform the development process of the LOIP. The assessment identified, described and evaluated the likely significant negative and positive environmental effects of the LOIP, including any alternatives. This was beneficial in order to reduce, avoid or mitigate any potential environmental impact and further enhance any potential positive impacts. This Environmental Report presents the results of the SEA for the LOIP. It also establishes a monitoring framework and measures to mitigate any adverse impacts that may occur as a result of the strategic document.

### Key facts relating to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

**Responsible Authority**

East Dunbartonshire Council & Community Planning Partnership Board

<b>Title of PPS</b>	Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 – 2027
<b>Purpose of PPS</b>	<p>The Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) intends to set a focus of priority for East Dunbartonshire with a focus on the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regeneration – economic and employment</li> <li>• Children and young people – safe, healthy and ready to learn</li> <li>• Safer communities – community justice, community safety and anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• Health and wellbeing</li> <li>• Protection and care of our vulnerable groups.</li> </ul>
<b>What prompted the PPS</b>	Legislative provision as set out under Part 2 (Community Planning) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
<b>Subject</b>	Outcome improvement for East Dunbartonshire with a strong focus on reducing inequality and increasing community capacity and empowerment.
<b>Period covered</b>	2017 – 2027
<b>Frequency of updates</b>	Annual reviews and updates at the end of period covered
<b>Area covered by PPS</b>	East Dunbartonshire Council
<b>Summary of nature/ Content of the PPS</b>	<p>The content of the Plan include a vision for East Dunbartonshire which is as well as 6 high level and strategic outcomes. It is anticipated that the current outcomes of the LOIP will be refined. The drafted refined outcomes are as following, although it should be noted that these are subject to change following agreement with the planning partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Outcome 1: Economic Growth and Recovery</li> <li>• Local Outcome 2: Employment</li> <li>• Local Outcome 3: Children and Young People</li> <li>• Local Outcome 4: Safer and Stronger Communities</li> <li>• Local Outcome 5: Health and Well-being</li> <li>• Local Outcome 6: Older People and their Carers</li> </ul> <p>In addition to local outcomes, the LOIP includes 7 guiding principles that should be integrated across all work commitments and delivery of Council services in order to adhere to the Local Outcomes. These include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning for Place</li> <li>2. Sustainability</li> <li>3. Fair and equitable delivery of public services</li> <li>4. Prevention and early intervention</li> <li>5. Coproduction and engagement</li> <li>6. Evidence based strategic planning</li> <li>7. Best value.</li> </ol>
<b>Proposed/draft outcomes</b>	The vision, outcomes and guiding principles of the LOIP will be determined and agreed by the Community Planning Partners and the delivery outcome groups over the course of the production of each Plan. All reasonable alternatives will be considered and assessed as part of the SEA process.

### Context of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

The Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) will be written in response to a rigorous analysis of local needs across the entire East Dunbartonshire area in order to define outcomes. Each of these outcomes will be aligned to one of the 5 Strategic Objectives and 16 National Outcomes set out

within the National Performance Framework for Scotland. The LOIP aims to provide a framework for effective partnership working and maximisation of resources amongst the Community Planning Partnership, in order to influence and inform development, implementation and review of all other plans and strategic that may be produced within the period of the Plan (2017 – 2020) at East Dunbartonshire Council and the planning partners. It will update the current approach to account for demographic changes within the community as the local approach and translation of national outcomes. Considered as the 1<sup>st</sup> tier of all strategic planning in the authority, the vision and outcomes of the LOIP will underpin the overall vision and focus as well as help to shape other plans, policies, programmes, strategies, masterplans and commitments by the Council. The LOIP will be shaped by a vision to apply to the East Dunbartonshire area and a set of outcomes, and it is intended that the strategic approaches that will be taken to delivering the Plan include prevention and early intervention, coproduction and engagement, partnership and collaboration, and evidence based strategic planning.

### Environmental Baseline Data for East Dunbartonshire

The environmental baseline information for East Dunbartonshire has been identified in relation to each of the environmental factors (*Population and Human Health; Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna; Cultural Heritage; Landscape; Soil and Geology; Water Quality; Air Quality; Climatic Factors and Material Assets*). The information has been collated using a range of statistics and resources, including information from Scotland’s Environment Web, SNH, SEPA, Historic Environment Scotland, SNIFFER, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Government, National Records and Air Quality Scotland, as well as local information obtained from the different relevant Services within the Council. The baseline data has been updated if and when available data has become available in order to ensure that the data is as relevant as possible.

**Section 2.2** of the main report contains a full outline of the environmental baseline data for each of the environmental factors considered in SEA, including spatial representations of the main environmental constraints in East Dunbartonshire using Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

### Existing Environmental Problems

Reviewing the environmental baseline data for East Dunbartonshire helped to identify any existing environmental problems that would need to be taken into account during the preparing and implementation of the LOIP. The likely nature of the environment without a Plan to address local socio-economic disadvantages has also been described along with the implications of this for the Council, where appropriate.

The main challenges identified include:

- East Dunbartonshire has eight datazones which fall into the top 25% most deprived areas in Scotland located in Hillhead, Lennoxton, Auchinairn and Twechar as identified in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD). This is the main focus of the LOIP.
- There is a significant reliance on public transport and access to primary facilities, particularly in areas of deprivation and due to East Dunbartonshire’s ageing population.
- East Dunbartonshire has a range of local, national and international cultural heritage assets of value including the Antonine Wall UNESCO World Heritage Site and the Forth and Clyde Canal Scheduled Monument.
- The local area is key for tourism and is host to tourist attractors including the Campsie Fells and Kilpatrick Hills, Mugdock Country Park and West Highland Way in addition to the Antonine Wall and Forth and Clyde Canal. There is concern that increased access to the local environment can devalue these sites for tourism and the local economy.

- The local natural environment hosts a wide range of designated and non-designated environmental and ecological assets including protected and priority species and habitats.

## Assessment of Environmental Effects

The main function of the Environmental Report as part of the full SEA process is to suggest ways to improve the environmental performance of the plans and strategies through assessment of the environmental effects identified. An assessment of the Plan’s Vision, Local Outcomes and Guiding Principles was carried out initially which highlighted an overall positive effect on the environment with the potential for significant impacts, with a particular focus of effects for the Population and Human Health factor. The positive nature of the effects has been enhanced, where it was deemed appropriate, through the integration of SEA suggested alterations to the wording or focus of the individual Plan components. A summary of the findings are detailed below:

<b>Population and Human Health</b>	Overall positive effects, the potential for significant impacts, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhanced recreational and cultural opportunities in terms of improved open space and local natural environment encouraging greater access and use amongst communities and associated health and wellbeing benefits;</li> <li>• Better access to quality provisions and services at a local level; and,</li> <li>• Opportunities for local communities and individuals to become involved in local planning through greater engagement.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	Whilst it was identified through the assessments that a holistic approach to sustainability would potentially improve the setting of historical designations such as the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site and Garden and Designed Landscapes, landscape settings, and ensuring that the principle considers impacts to both the natural and built, including historic, environment, the overall impact of effects to these environmental factors was likely to be insignificant.
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	
<b>Soil and Geology</b>	
<b>Landscape</b>	
<b>Water Quality</b>	
<b>Air Quality</b>	The positive nature of the effects on this SEA criteria are due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of the LOIP, especially in urban areas, for pollutant management and carbon sequestration where poor air quality can be exacerbated by greater volumes of traffic; and,</li> <li>• Potential local level air quality improvements through localised interventions to deliver the outcomes.</li> </ul> The effects, overall, however are insignificant.
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	The positive nature of the effects included a holistic approach to managing and improving our local environment in a sustainable manner in order to reduce or prevent negative impacts to people and the environment due to issues such as flooding, poor air quality, waste and resource management, although the effects are insignificant overall.
<b>Material Assets</b>	

Sections 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7 provide full details of the assessments.

## Mitigation and Monitoring

Mitigation measures have been proposed through the environmental assessments and incorporated into the Strategy where necessary in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any potential adverse environmental impacts and enhance any uncertain, neutral, positive environmental impacts identified. The mitigation measures incorporate all environmental factors which were scoped into the assessment and will be the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council to implement in conjunction with key agencies and stakeholders.

The mitigation measures will form part of the Post-Adoption Statement for the LOIP, prepared as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Strategy, in accordance with Section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The environmental baseline data ([Section 2.2](#)) and the monitoring indications as part of the proposed monitoring framework ([Section 4](#)) will form the basis of future monitoring of the potential effects, predicted and unforeseen, of the LOIP on the local environment.

## Next Steps: Statutory Consultation

The next step for both the Environmental Report and the Local Outcome Improvement Plan is a 6 week consultation with the public and key agencies. All of the comments received will be taken into account and amendments may be made accordingly to both documents. Any significant changes to the Plan in relation to consultation responses may require further consideration in terms of environmental implications.

The statutory consultation for this Strategic Environmental Assessment document and corresponding LOIP is:

**11<sup>th</sup> September – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017**

If you would like to express your views on the Environmental Report, your comments should be submitted through email or post to the following:

Email: [sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)  
Post: Sustainability Policy  
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets  
East Dunbartonshire Council  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ



## Summary of Environmental Report

Following the Screening Determination for the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP), East Dunbartonshire Council is carrying out a full environmental assessment for the LOIP.

The LOIP intends to set a focus of priority for East Dunbartonshire with a focus on the following themes:

- Regeneration – economic and employment
- Children and young people – safe, healthy and ready to learn
- Safer communities – community justice, community safety and anti-social behaviour
- Health and wellbeing
- Protection and care of our vulnerable groups.

### Section 1: Key Facts

This section provides some key facts about the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) including a brief summary and the draft outcomes for each.

### Section 2: Strategic Action Context

This section provides an overview of the LOIP and the main issues it is likely to address. In addition, this section provides the draft environmental baseline data collected to be used to assess the Plan.

### Section 3: Scope & Level of Detail Proposed for Environmental Assessment

This section outlines how the SEA process incorporates the identification of reasonable alternatives; assessment methodology, scoping in and out of issues, SEA objectives and the mitigation and monitoring of information.

### Section 4: Next Steps

This section sets out the concluding stages proposed for the Environmental Report.

### Appendix A: Influence of key legislation & PPS

This appendix lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies that influence or are influenced by the LOIP.

### Appendix B: Consultation Responses to the Scoping Report

The appendix highlights the main issues raised by the Consultation authorities during the consultation of the Scoping Report and how they have been addressed.

## Section 1: Key Facts

### 1.1. Key Facts relating to the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

<b>Responsible Authority</b>	East Dunbartonshire Council & Community Planning Partnership Board
<b>Title of PPS</b>	Local Outcome Improvement Plan 2017 – 2027
<b>Purpose of PPS</b>	<p>The Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) intends to set a focus of priority for East Dunbartonshire with a focus on the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regeneration – economic and employment</li><li>• Children and young people – safe, healthy and ready to learn</li><li>• Safer communities – community justice, community safety and anti-social behaviour</li><li>• Health and wellbeing</li><li>• Protection and care of our vulnerable groups.</li></ul>
<b>What prompted the PPS</b>	Legislative provision as set out under Part 2 (Community Planning) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.
<b>Subject</b>	Outcome improvement for East Dunbartonshire with a strong focus on reducing inequality and increasing community capacity and empowerment.
<b>Period covered</b>	2017 – 2027
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<b>Proposed/draft outcomes</b>	The vision, outcomes and guiding principles of the LOIP will be determined and agreed by the Community Planning Partners and the delivery outcome groups over the course of the production of each Plan. All reasonable alternatives will be considered and assessed as part of the SEA process.

## Section 2: Strategic Action Context

### 2.1. Relationship with other Plans, Programmes and Strategies

There are a number of other strategies and plans internationally, nationally, regionally and locally that the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) needs to be integrated with. The following lists indicate the primary related legislation and **Figure 1** shows a diagrammatic representation, although it does not include every one of the plans listed. The template below is useful for demonstrating such relationships.

#### International

- Rio Declaration 1992
- Johannesburg Declaration 2002

#### National

- Local Government in Scotland 2003
- Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- Scottish Government National Outcomes

#### Regional

- Clydeplan

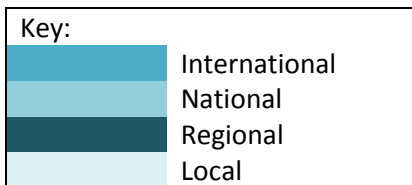
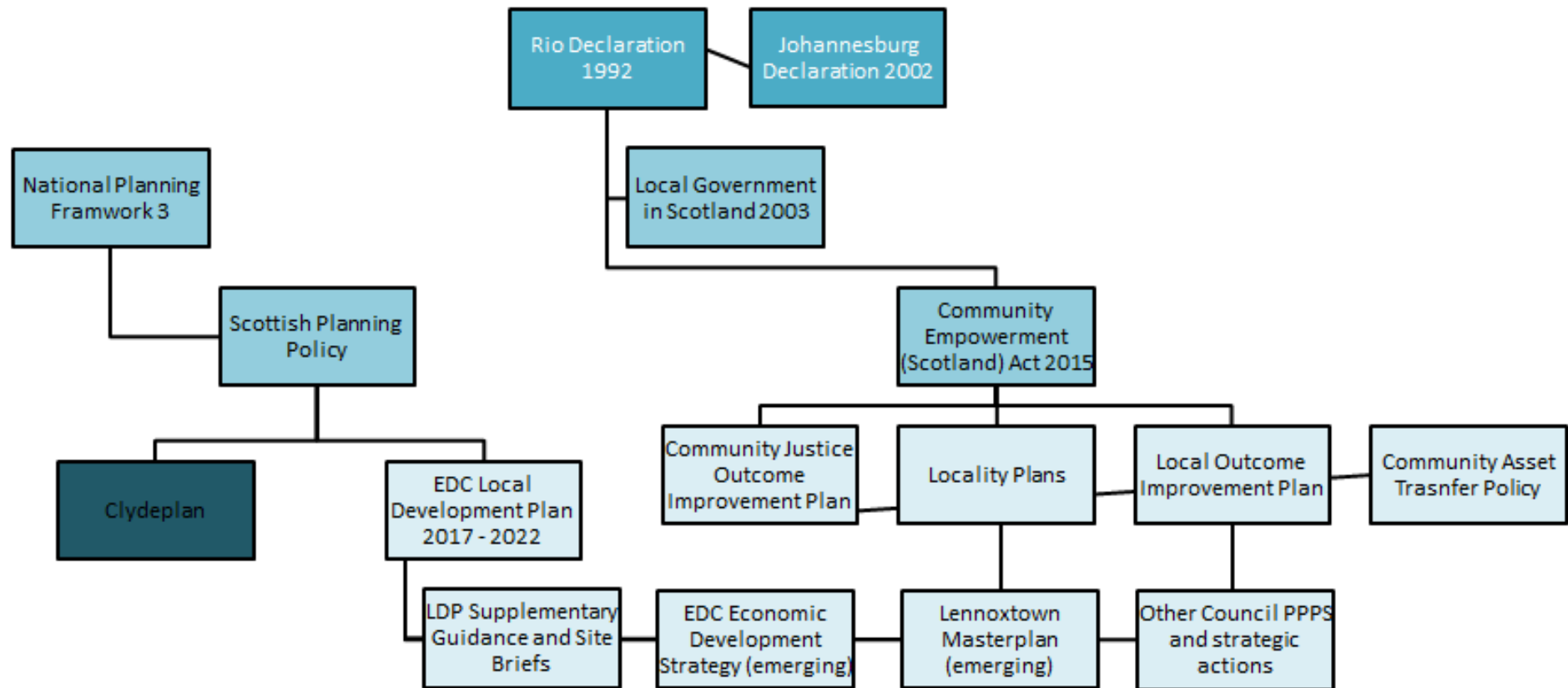
#### Local

- Local Development Plan 2017 – 2022
- Sustainability and Climate Change Framework
- Green Network Strategy 2016-2021
- Economic Development Strategy
- Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan
- Community Asset Transfer Policy
- Place Plans/Locality Plans
- All other Council and Community Planning Partnership PPPS and strategic actions

**2.1.1** Cross-boundary effects with neighbouring authorities will be considered through the integration of the LOIP and the consideration of Plans and Strategies produced by the neighbouring authorities.

**2.1.2** **Appendix A** lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies that influence or are influenced by the LOIP. This list includes documents that refer to international, European Community, and national environmental objectives; regional and local objectives. Their content, where appropriate, has been used to inform the environmental objectives for the SEA of the Plan.

Figure 1: Interrelationship of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan with Other Plans, Programmes and Strategies



2.1.3 The Environmental Protection Objectives that are contained within international, European, UK and Scottish legislation, as well as national guidance which are considered to be of the greatest relevance to the LOIP will be taken into account when preparing the Plans. These are set out in [Appendix A](#).

## 2.2 Baseline Environmental Data

2.2.1 The early stages of SEA, such as describing the baseline, identifying environmental problems/issues and analysing the links and relationships between other strategic actions, should be carried out concurrently and they should inform each other throughout the process. This approach has been adopted within this Scoping Report.

2.2.2 In order to measure the significant environmental effects of these Plans the current state of the environment must be known. East Dunbartonshire Council will gather sufficient information to provide the current state of the environment, or an Environmental Baseline, utilising GIS mapping where possible, to show the geographical location and scale of key environmental designations and assets. The potential effects (including, cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects) of the information contained within the Plans and their alternatives will be measured against this baseline.

2.2.3 For the purposes of this Scoping Report, a broad summary of baseline environmental information has been collated. [Table 1](#) below summarises the main baseline environmental features.

2.2.4 [Table 1](#) also contains the suggested overall objectives for the assessment. These have been developed taking into account the summary baseline data. The SEA Objectives will be used to assess the Plans and they will provide the basis for the development of the assessment questions and indicators in [Table 5](#).

Table 1: Proposed Environmental Baseline Data

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
<p><b>Population &amp; Human Health</b></p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire has a total population of 106,960 (2015); an increase of 0.2% in 2014. Population Projections forecast that the population of East Dunbartonshire will be 110,045 by 2039 (+5.0% compared to 2014).</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has an ageing population. This is highlighted through the population projections that by 2039 East Dunbartonshire’s 75+ population will be 17,933 (+103.8% from 2014), and a projected population change of +4.4% of under 16 age group in comparison to the 2014 population.</p> <p>Areas of Hillhead, Lennoxton and Auchinairn are in the most deprived 20% in Scotland (SIMD 2016).</p> <p>Generally the health of the residents of East Dunbartonshire is good with nearly 73% of the residents being generally healthy, in comparison to the average of Scotland (68%) according to the 2001 census. The level of residents found to be in general health status of ‘not good’ within East Dunbartonshire and Scotland was 8% and 10% respectively.</p> <p>In terms of walking and cycling to work in 2012/13, East Dunbartonshire had low rates of walking (5.1%) when compared with the Scottish national average (13.2%). Walking to work rates in East Dunbartonshire represent the 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest rates in Scotland against all other Council areas. There are similarly low levels of cycling to the Scottish national average (2.3%).</p> <p>The percentage of economically active people living in East Dunbartonshire has decreased between 2014 and 2015 by -0.6%; however, this percentage is still higher than both the Scottish and British national averages at 78.2%. Of this total in East</p>	<p>Population, health and employment statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– National Records for Scotland</li> <li>– 2011 Scottish Census</li> <li>– Nomis 2015 Local Authority Labour Market Profile</li> </ul> <p>SIMD 2016</p>	<p>To improve human health and community wellbeing</p>

## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	Dunbartonshire, 82.1% of economically active people are male and 74.5% female.		
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p>East Dunbartonshire has: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 UNESCO World Heritage Site; Antonine Wall. A buffer zone has been identified around the Wall to help protect its setting, in Supplementary Planning Guidance.</li> <li>• 43 Scheduled Ancient Monuments. In particular the Forth &amp; Clyde Canal is made up of a series of Scheduled Ancient Monuments.</li> <li>• 181 Listed Building, including five bridges, five mileposts, one horse trough and Milngavie Railway Station. The Luggie Water Aqueduct and Bridge, Kirkintilloch, is Category A.</li> <li>• 15 Conservation Areas (4 of which are designated as outstanding)</li> <li>• 21 Townscape Protection Areas</li> <li>• 3 sites recommended as having the potential for meeting national inventory standards as Gardens and Designed Landscapes. 30 such sites have also been identified as having local value.</li> <li>• There are no transport structures in the area identified in the Buildings at Risk Register.</li> <li>• 8 Buildings at Risk and 3 buildings previously at risk but undergoing restoration</li> </ul> <p>It is important to recognise and consider non-designated heritage assets as part of the assessment process.</p>	<p>Historic Environment Scotland</p> <p>Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – World Heritage Site Designation</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage</p> <p>Scottish Canals Heritage Strategy 2013-38</p> <p>Buildings at Risk register for Scotland</p>	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment

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Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
<p><b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b></p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire has: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</li> <li>• 2 Regional Scenic Areas</li> <li>• 77 Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) with biodiversity value (14 new ones proposed)</li> <li>• 34 LNCS with geodiversity value</li> <li>• 356 Tree Preservation Orders</li> <li>• 3 Local Nature Reserves (LNR) which include Merkland LNR, Lenzie Moss LNR and Kilmardinny Loch.</li> </ul> <p>There are a number of Protected Species identified in East Dunbartonshire (including those with former Species Action Plans, priority species and lesser priority species). This includes species such as Otters, Badgers and Water Vole.</p> <p>Several Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) have been identified in East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>Woodland in East Dunbartonshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Native woodland in East Dunbartonshire comprises 22.1% of the total woodland area (4.8% of the total land area).</li> <li>• 95ha of woodland is present on ancient woodlands, which makes up 34% of native woodland</li> <li>• The main native woodland types in East Dunbartonshire are lowland mixed deciduous woodland (34%), wet woodland (25%) and upland birchwoods (21%).</li> </ul> <p>EDC's Green Network Strategy details supporting local actions and</p>	<p>Priority Species and Habitats.</p> <p>Regionally and locally designated sites.</p> <p>Record areas and levels of planting</p> <p>Results of the review of LNCS and Important Wildlife Corridor designations detailed in EDC's Natural Environment Planning Guidance</p> <p>EDC Local Biodiversity Action Plan</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage</p> <p>Native Woodland Survey of Scotland report for East Dunbartonshire, October 2010</p> <p>SNH Protected Species data</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy 2016-2021</p>	<p>To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity</p>



## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	strategic green network assets and opportunities including the Campsie Fells, Glazert Valley, River Kelvin, Forth and Clyde Canal and Mugdock Country Park.		
<b>Soil and Geology</b>	<p>Despite three quarters of the land in East Dunbartonshire being utilised for agricultural processes, the district has a small percentage (5%) of prime agricultural soil.</p> <p>Currently East Dunbartonshire has not designated any areas of land as contaminated land as defined in the Environmental Protection Act 1990. However, a list of potential contaminated sites has been created based on previous land use. On this list 626 potentially contaminated sites (to varying degrees of contamination) have been identified.</p> <p>There are currently 30 Vacant and Derelict Land within East Dunbartonshire with a total area of 76 hectares.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire also has 1 RIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) at Clachan of Campsie. It has 36 sites representing geological diversity, and 34 are recommended as Local Geodiversity Sites (LGS).</p> <p>There are varying levels of identified peatland in East Dunbartonshire including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class 1, 3, 4 and 5 across the Campsie Fells</li> <li>• Class 3 predominantly in the Kilpatrick Hills</li> <li>• Areas of Class 1 and 5 including High Moss</li> <li>• Class 3, 4 and 5 around Lennox Forrest</li> <li>• Areas of Class 4 in Kirkintilloch, Torrance and Twechar</li> </ul>	<p>EDC Local Development Plan</p> <p>Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey 2016</p> <p>James Hutton Institute</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage</p> <p>British Geological Survey</p> <p>UKRIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site)</p> <p>SNH Carbon and Peatland Map 2016</p>	To protect and, where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets
<b>Landscape</b>	East Dunbartonshire's landscape is diverse in terms of character and land uses. The district is characterised by five main types of landscape character: Drumlin Foothills; Rolling Farmland; Broad Valley Lowland; Rugged Moorland Hills; and urban areas.	<p>British Geological Survey</p> <p>UKRIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site)</p>	To protect and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value

## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	<p>The topography of East Dunbartonshire is generally low lying, undulating land with the exception of the two Local Landscape Areas; the Campsie Fells and the Kilpatrick Hills to the North and West of the district respectively.</p> <p>There are several Local Landscape Areas (LLA) within East Dunbartonshire Council's boundary, including the Campsie Fells and Kilpatrick Hills.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a total of 973.46 hectares of urban open space; the greatest proportion of which is classified as semi-natural greenspace and Regional Greenspace.</p> <p>The green belt is a Development Plan policy which covers the East Dunbartonshire area, with the exception of the upland areas; its objectives include maintaining the character and distinctiveness of the areas settlements.</p>	<p>Glasgow &amp; Clyde Valley Landscape Character Assessment, 1999</p> <p>EDC Local Development Plan</p>	
<b>Water Quality</b>	<p>The main watercourses within East Dunbartonshire are the River Kelvin, Glazert Water, Allander Water, Luggie Water, Forth and Clyde Canal and Bothlin Burn. East Dunbartonshire also has two reservoirs in Milngavie and a number of other small dams in various locations throughout East Dunbartonshire, which are of significant value to the surrounding area.</p> <p>From the 2009-2015 River Basin Management Plan cycle, East Dunbartonshire had:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.52 km of good quality watercourses</li> <li>• 33.82 km of watercourses with good ecological potential</li> <li>• 16.01 km of moderate quality watercourses</li> <li>• 19.88 km of watercourses with moderate ecological potential</li> </ul>	<p>River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River Basin District 2015-2027</p> <p>Local water quality data</p> <p>Drinking water quality</p> <p>SEPA – RBMP Data</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council Local Biodiversity Action Plan</p>	<p>To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the ecological status of water bodies</p>

## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 48.19 km of watercourses with poor ecological potential</li> <li>• 17.32 km of poor quality watercourses</li> <li>• 28.31 km of watercourses with bad ecological potential</li> </ul> <p>All groundwater resources were also assessed in 2008 and found to be of good ecological status.</p> <p>*Flooding is discussed in Climatic Factors</p>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Air Quality</b></p>	<p>A significant concern for air quality in East Dunbartonshire is transport which is the main contributor of air pollutants such as NO<sub>2</sub> (nitrogen dioxide) and PM10 (particulates).</p> <p>The busiest routes that are of concern in relation to air quality within East Dunbartonshire are the A803 and B812 in Bishopbriggs; the A81 through Milngavie; and the A809 and A739 through Bearsden.</p> <p>There are currently two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) declared within East Dunbartonshire, Bishopbriggs and Bearsden Cross, both of which were declared an AQMA after several years of exceeding national NO<sub>2</sub> and PM10 objective levels.</p> <p>Bearsden Cross experienced a monthly average of 27 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of NO<sub>2</sub> (low) and 13 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of PM10 (low) in April 2017.</p> <p>Bishopbriggs experienced a monthly average of 19 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of NO<sub>2</sub> (low) and 15 µg/m<sup>3</sup> of PM10 (low) in April 2017.</p> <p>Whilst traffic levels across the Council area have been shown to be decreasing since 2009, which can be attributable to a number of factors including the promotion of sustainable travel and influencing economic factors, levels still remain relatively high (approx. 190,000</p>	<p>Air Quality statistics for major routes and settlements within east Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>Rail patronage and bus services and frequencies – see climatic factors below.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>National Air Emissions Inventory</p> <p>Scottish Government</p> <p>DEFRA</p> <p>Scottish Transport Bus and Coach Statistics No. 32, 2013</p> <p>Local Transport Strategy 2013 – 2017</p>	<p>To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality</p>

## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	vehicles).	Scottish Air Quality statistics	
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	<p>A significant source of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire is attributable to vehicular transport emissions, which contributes towards climate change, although the largest proportion of CO2 emissions is attributable to domestic emissions.</p> <p>Travel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The level of public transport access varies across the area. Kirkintilloch is served by bus services that provide access to towns and villages in East Dunbartonshire and adjacent local authorities such as Glasgow. However, there are areas that do not have services that are frequent or operate out-with peak travel periods and daytime hours.</li> <li>• Although rail patronage has increased by approximately 10% from the period 2012/13 to 2013/14, accessibility to such services means there is a significant reliance on car-based travel in the area.</li> <li>• The number of bus passenger journeys in Strathclyde and South West Scotland has decreased since 2007/08 to 2012/13, which equates to a decrease of 21%. The total distance travelled by buses 2007/08 to 2012/13 decreased by 17%. This can be attributable to a reduction in the number of services that operate or alterations to routes. This trend is reflected in trends across Scotland which has seen a decrease in 4% in bus and coach journeys between 2012 and 2013.</li> <li>• Traffic levels have decreased during recent years from the particularly high volumes experienced during the mid-2000s. This may be a result of the economic downturn.</li> <li>• In 2013, 86% of households in East Dunbartonshire had access to at least 1 car.</li> <li>• Glasgow is a key attraction for both employment and high education opportunities for the population of East Dunbartonshire which increases the need for travel.</li> </ul>	<p>Flood Risk Assessments.</p> <p>Flood defences.</p> <p>Emissions levels within East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>Flooding and storm information and events.</p> <p>Renewable energy potential.</p> <p>Scottish Government</p> <p>SEPA</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>UK Climate Impacts Programme</p> <p>Online Handbook of Climate Trends across Scotland 2006 (as updated) (SNIFFER Guidance)</p> <p>Scottish Household Survey 2013 (access to cars per household)</p> <p>Office of Rail Regulation (rail patronage by region,</p>	<p>To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets</p> <p>To reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risks</p>

## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	<p>CO2 emissions associated with the expenditure of energy from industrial/commercial (including agriculture) and domestic buildings accounts for 142.7 ktCO2 and 271.6 ktCO2 respectively in 2012. Such energy use has a significant impact on air quality.</p> <p>Flooding has been an issue in the Kelvin Valley for many years with the most recent flood events occurring in 1994 and 2005. The main areas of concern for potential flooding are the River Kelvin and its tributaries – the Allander, Glazert and Luggie Waters.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire only has one operating landfill (Inchbelle Quarry, Kirkintilloch) but is only used for the disposal of inert materials, mainly construction materials. All household and commercial municipal waste is transferred to landfills in North Lanarkshire. Therefore, there is minimal methane produced from landfill within East Dunbartonshire to impact on climate change.</p>	<p>2013/14)</p> <p>Scottish Transport Bus and Coach Statistics No. 32, 2013</p> <p>SEPA Flood map</p> <p>Scotland’s Climate Change Declaration 2013-14 Report (SSN; Keep Scotland Beautiful; EDC)</p> <p>'Local and Regional CO2 Emissions Estimates for 2005-2012', Department of Energy and Climate Change</p>	
<p><b>Material Assets</b></p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire is supplied by various levels of transport infrastructure, through well serviced rail networks, bus routes encompassing the whole district and the various road networks that link settlements within East Dunbartonshire together with providing routes out with the district.</p> <p>There are 54km of A class roads, 47 km of B class roads and 34km of C class roads. This amounts to 27% of the road network. There are 369 km of unclassified roads.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a network of Core Paths and public open spaces which provide opportunities for recreation. Some of these also provide active travel routes from residential areas to services and businesses.</p> <p>Studies into housing requirements have indicated that East</p>	<p>Transport and infrastructure data.</p> <p>Core Path Network and Rights of Way.</p> <p>Walking and cycle routes</p> <p>Public open spaces and accessibility.</p> <p>Scottish Government</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>Transport Scotland</p>	<p>To promote the sustainable use of community assets in East Dunbartonshire</p>

## Environmental Report

Environmental Receptor	Summary of baseline Environmental Data	Source of Data Collected	Proposed SEA Objectives
	Dunbartonshire has one of the highest net needs for affordable housing, compared to other Scottish Local Authorities. The Local Plan and emerging Local Development Plan identifies the location of new development proposals with potential for changes to transport infrastructure/routes.	SPT  Local Development Plan for large scale development proposals.	

## Natural and Historic Environment Assets and Constraints

### Legend

-  Flood Defences
-  Air Quality Management Area Buffer Zone - Bishopbriggs
-  Air Quality Management Area Buffer Zone - Bearsden
-  SEPA Flood Risk Area



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Figure 2: Flood Defences, Air Quality Management Areas and SEPA Flood Risk Area

## Natural and Historic Environment Assets and Constraints

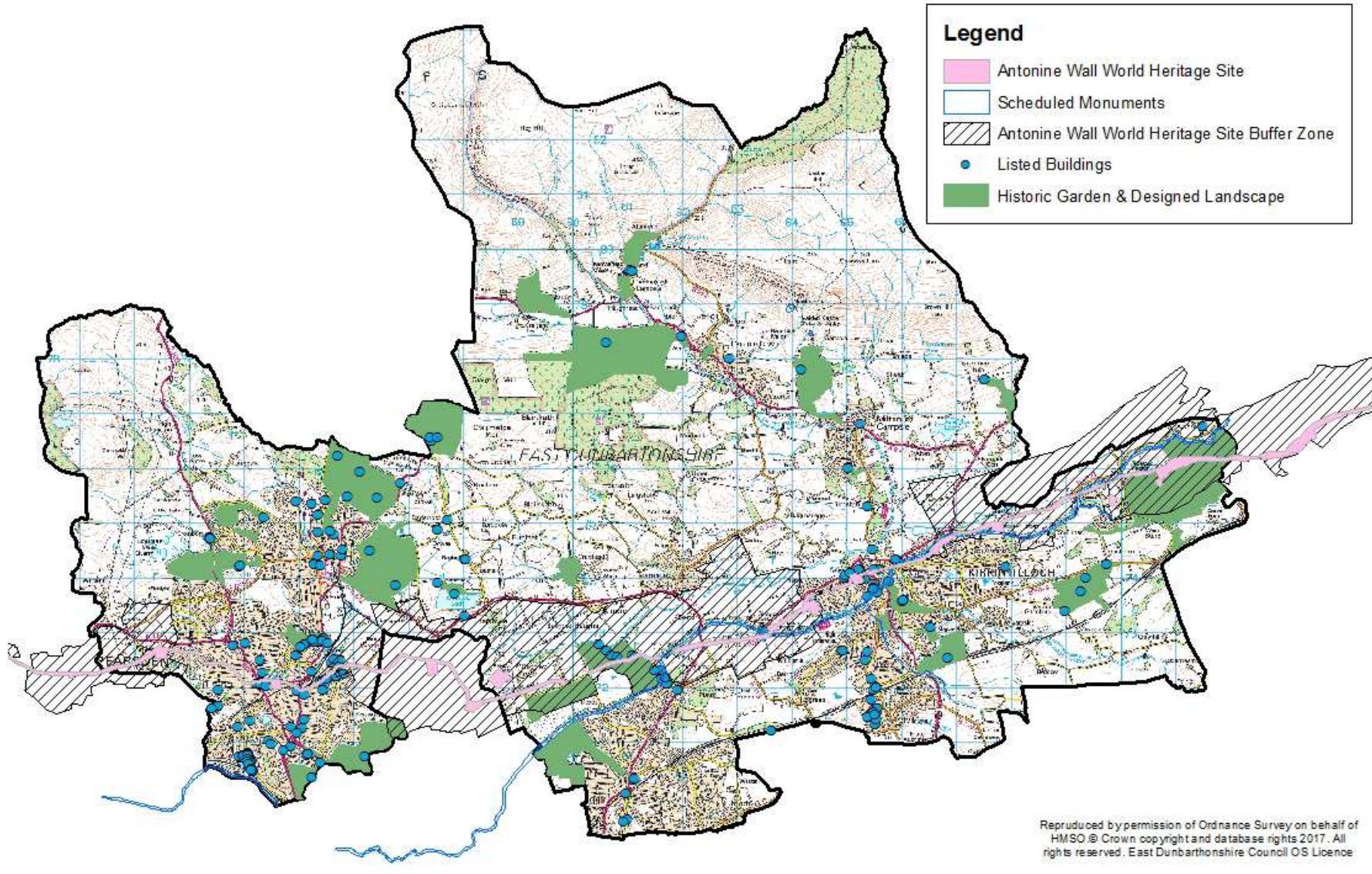


Figure 3: Antonine Wall World Heritage Site and Buffer Zone, Scheduled Monuments, Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes and Listed Buildings



## Natural and Historic Environment Assets and Constraints

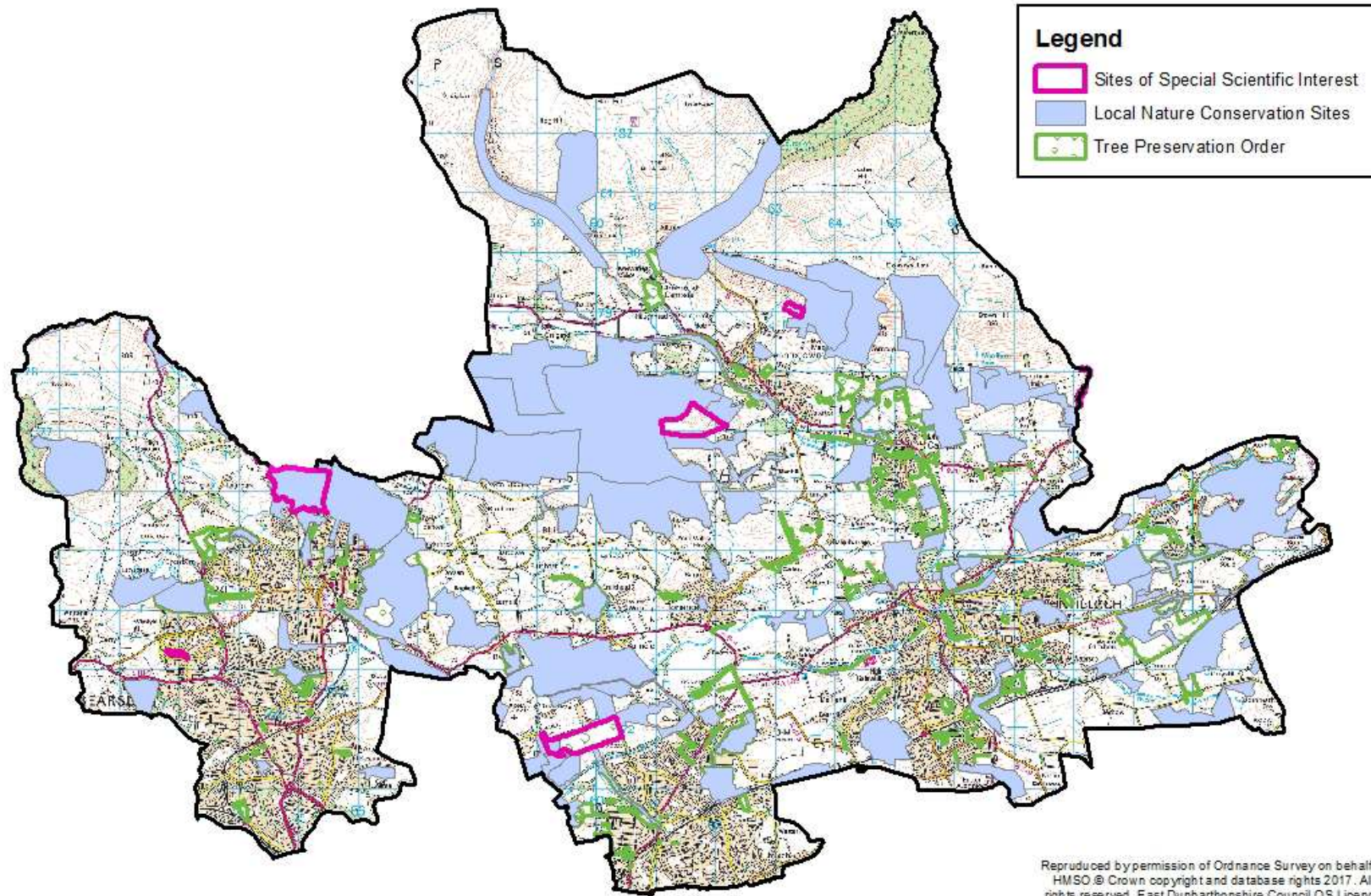


Figure 4: Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Local Nature Conservation Sites and Tree Preservation Orders

## Natural and Historic Environment Assets and Constraints

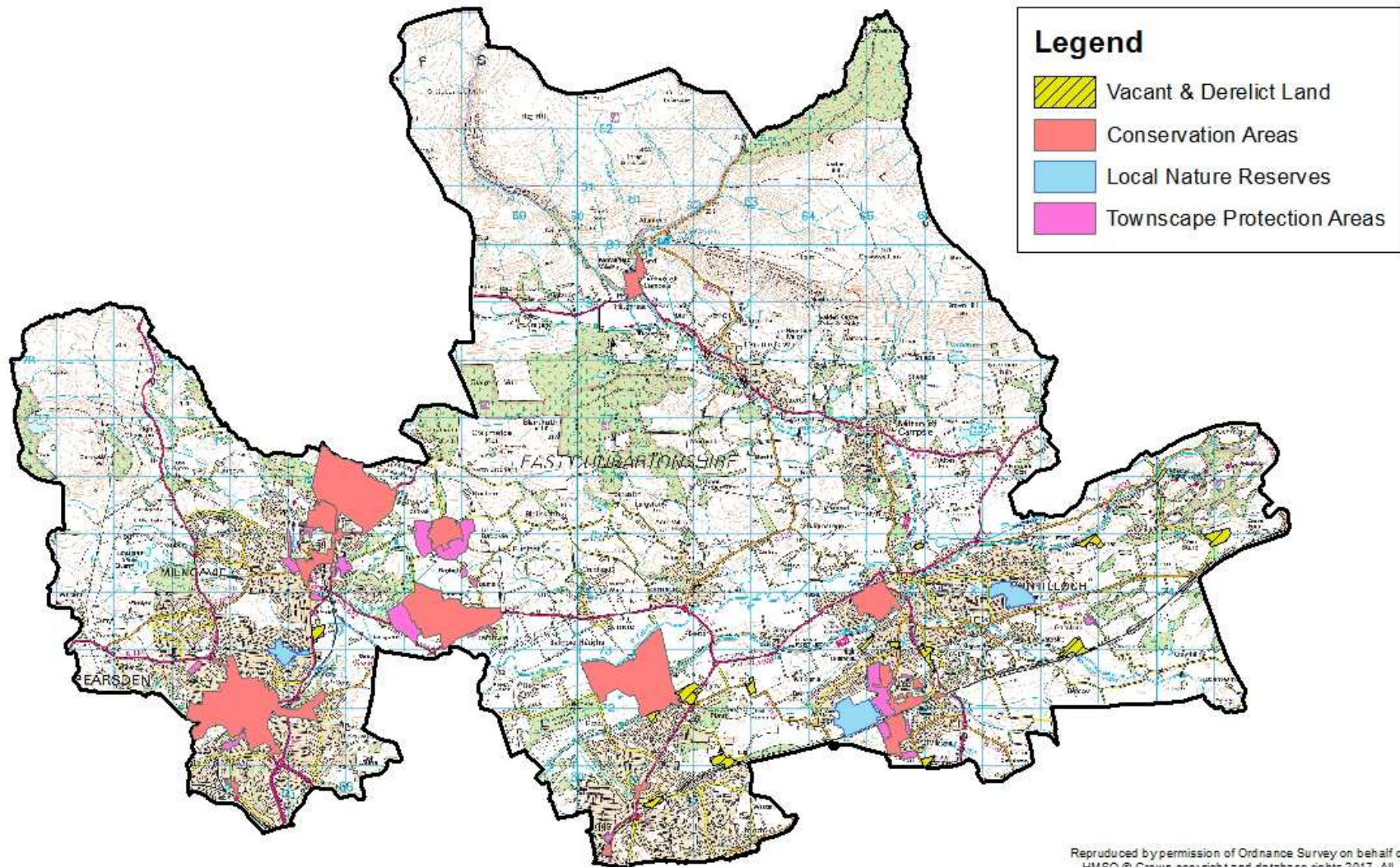


Figure 5: Vacant and Derelict Land, Conservation Areas, Townscape Protection Areas and Local Nature Reserves

## Natural and Historic Environment Assets and Constraints

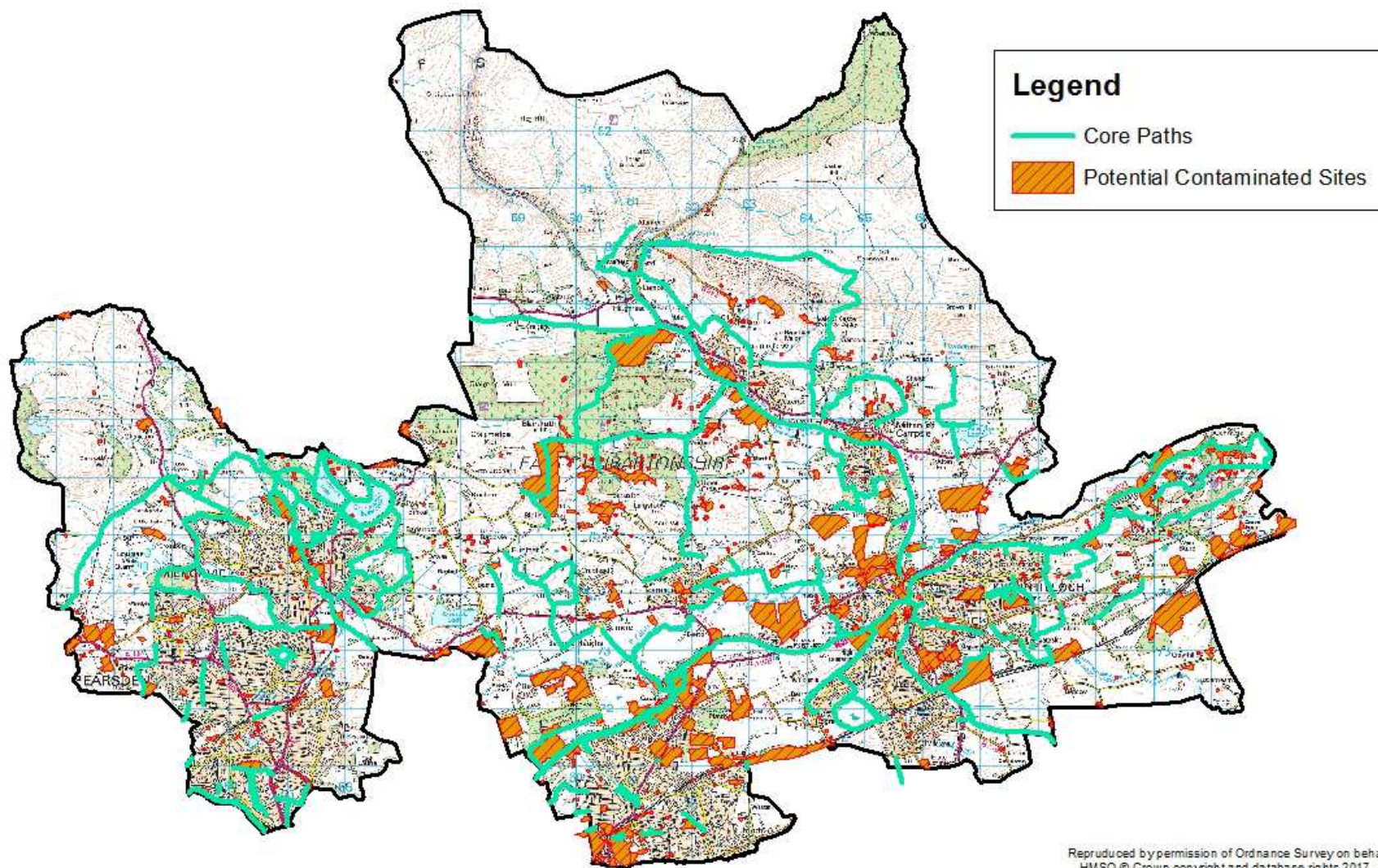


Figure 6: Core Paths and Potential Contaminated Sites

## 2.3 Environmental Issues<sup>1</sup> for the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

2.3.1 The purpose of this section is to explain how existing environmental issues will affect or be affected by the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, and whether this strategic action is likely to aggravate, reduce or otherwise affect existing environmental issues. The main environmental issues and problems facing East Dunbartonshire are outlined in **Table 2** below.

**Table 2: Environmental Issues**

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	The Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) intends to directly address issues related to East Dunbartonshire’s areas of deprivation and inequality. In particular, each Locality Plan relates to the three most deprived areas in East Dunbartonshire; Lennoxton, Hillhead & Harestanes and Auchinairn, as well as Twechar which experiences varying levels of inequality so will target a reduction in deprivation.
	Access to facilities and services, particularly in more rural locations such as Lennoxton and Twechar, is a potential issue that the LOIP will contribute towards addressing and improving access for communities in East Dunbartonshire.
	Community safety is an element of community planning that can be positively influenced through the implementation of outcomes to ensure communities experience a safe environment.
	Whilst the LOIP intends to address local issues for the whole of East Dunbartonshire, the area as a whole has varying levels of health inequalities. In particular, the areas of focus for the Locality Plans have higher levels of socio-economic inequality which alignment to the local outcomes will address and help to improve.
	Encouraging the involvement of the community in decision making has the potential to benefit health and wellbeing at a local level.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	There are a number of cultural heritage assets in East Dunbartonshire including the Antonine Wall (UNESCO World Heritage Site) and the Forth and Clyde Canal which require protection and management, but also contribute to East Dunbartonshire as a tourist destination.
	The historic environment is an important element for design, placemaking and regeneration which will need to be considered in relation to the LOIP.
	The condition, maintenance, access and education in the context of the historic environment are important elements which need to be explored through the LOIP.
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	East Dunbartonshire has a wide range of designated and non-designated sites, including those of ecological importance and protected species. This is seen through a number of Local Nature

<sup>1</sup> The term “environmental issues” is the name collectively given to air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape, material assets, population and human health as well as cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage) in the EU Directive 2001/42/EC. In practice they are referred to as “SEA topics”.

	<p>Conservation Sites and Important Wildlife Corridors, Tree Preservation Orders and Local Nature Reserves. East Dunbartonshire also has 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p>
	<p>River and canal corridors in East Dunbartonshire contribute significantly to wide ranging habitats and biodiversity. The natural environment plays a considerable role in healthy lives and the attractiveness of East Dunbartonshire as an economic and habitable centre.</p>
	<p>There are a number of open spaces within each settlement area that are vital for supporting biodiversity as well as supporting active lifestyles, leisure and recreation for people. However, there are issues related to accessibility that the LOIP can address.</p>
<b>Soil and Geology</b>	<p>There are a number of potentially contaminated land areas in East Dunbartonshire that will affect the attractiveness and usability of sites.</p>
	<p>There are several sites in East Dunbartonshire that have been identified as peatland.</p>
	<p>There are 36 sites identified as being geologically diverse, of which 34 have been assigned as Local Geodiversity Site (LGS). The area also hosts 1 RIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) and 1 SSSI of geological importance.</p>
<b>Landscape</b>	<p>East Dunbartonshire has a number of areas with high/moderate scenic value as well as specific landscape characters and settings across the Council area, including the Campsie Fells and Kilpatrick Hills.</p>
	<p>Landscape character, scenic value and particularly local distinctiveness are an area which can positively impact East Dunbartonshire's communities and contribute to health and wellbeing benefits.</p>
<b>Water Quality</b>	<p>There are a number of good/moderate quality watercourses in East Dunbartonshire including the Forth and Clyde Canal which is a Scheduled Monument. These assets require protection to which the LOIP can aim to address.</p>
<b>Air Quality</b>	<p>Unacceptably high levels of air pollution can be harmful to the environment and human health. East Dunbartonshire currently has two designated Air Quality Management Areas (Bishopbriggs and Bearsden Cross). These are managed through Air Quality Management Plans and the emerging Air Quality Strategy.</p>
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	<p>Domestic emissions account for the largest proportion of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire, although emissions from transport account for the largest proportion of NO<sub>2</sub> and PM10 emissions. This contributes to the effects of climate change which include changing temperatures and rainfall patterns, and increased incidences of extreme weather events.</p>
	<p>Climate change has a direct link to flood risk. The SEPA Flood Risk Map has identified several locations within the East Dunbartonshire Council area which could have significant impacts on communities.</p>

<b>Material Assets</b>	As a result of the spatial strategy of the new adopted Local Development Plan there is likely to be a rise in developments in East Dunbartonshire over the life of the Plan.
	There are a series of Core Path networks and open spaces in East Dunbartonshire which create recreational opportunities, promote active travel and provide a sense of community.
	The LOIP will contribute towards addressing and improving sustainable access for communities in East Dunbartonshire. This will be particularly important for public services, amenities and public open spaces utilising and promoting the active travel network throughout East Dunbartonshire.

## **2.4 Evolution of the Environment in the Absence of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan**

- 2.4.1** The SEA process is also required to assess the likely impact on the environment if the LOIP was not implemented.
- 2.4.2** Without a LOIP covering East Dunbartonshire, it is likely that an opportunity would be lost to focus the outcomes for all future Council actions, including Plans, Policies, Programmes, Strategies and Masterplans, with a shared vision and specific outcomes that respond to the area’s demographics and needs. In particular, the LOIP have the potential to provide significant benefits to local communities from a health and well-being perspective.
- 2.4.3** There is likely to be significant benefits from updating the existing Single Outcome Agreement to the LOIP with the potential for enhanced community wellbeing and social care with a more directed focus towards sustainable and economic growth, education and employment opportunities, increased tourism and investment and improved access and use of the local environment.

## Section 3: Assessment of Environmental Effects

### 3.1. Assessment Framework

- 3.1.1 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires the Environmental Report to assess and evaluate the likely significant impacts that the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) will have on the environment. It is essential to SEA that the assessment process and reporting of the findings are unbiased, robust, objective, transparent and ultimately easy to follow and understand.
- 3.1.2 The assessment will focus on the Vision, Local Outcomes and Guiding Principles of the LOIP in order for issues related to social and economic inequality to be addressed and improved in East Dunbartonshire. It should be noted that only the significant environmental impacts will be identified and assessed through the SEA process.
- 3.1.3 In addition to this, the assessment will evaluate the plan as a whole in terms of the potential cumulative effects (direct, indirect, secondary and synergistic) associated with the implementation of the Plan. **Table 3** gives an indication to each of the stages as part of the assessment framework.

**Table 3: Assessment framework**

Assessment Stage	Assessment Method
<b>LOIP Vision</b>	The SEA assessment questions and indicators will be used to establish whether the strategic approach in order to deliver the vision of the LOIP is compatible with the proposed SEA objectives. The preferred strategic approach will be justified and SEA findings taken into consideration.
<b>Local Outcomes</b>	The Local Outcomes, along with all reasonable alternatives, will be tested against the proposed SEA objectives for alignment and compliance. The findings of this assessment process will guide the refinement and improvement of the Local Outcomes throughout the development of the LOIP.
<b>Guiding Principles</b>	The Guiding Principles, along with all reasonable alternatives, will be tested against the proposed SEA objectives for alignment and compliance. The findings of this assessment process will guide the refinement and improvement of the Guiding Principles, which will be overarching principles to be integrated throughout the LOIP.

### 3.2. Assessment Methodology

3.2.1 The SEA Directive requires the environmental effects of ‘reasonable alternatives’ to the strategic document to be identified, described and assessed where appropriate. The East Dunbartonshire LOIP has been assessed against the list of environmental issues set out in Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

3.2.2 It also requires environmental assessments to consider the environmental objectives established at International, European Community and national levels that are relevant to the strategic document. During the Scoping stage of SEA, it was determined that the environmental issues likely to be significantly impacted by the LOIP were all of the environmental factors; therefore they were all scoped in to the assessment. The Consultation Authorities were in agreement with this level of scope, as expressed in their views following the consultation at the Scoping stage ([Appendix B](#)).

3.2.1 East Dunbartonshire Council has adopted a set of SEA Objectives and criteria questions for the environmental issues that were scoped into the assessment, shown in [Table 4](#), which were derived from other legislation and Strategies ([Appendix A](#)). The criteria questions are used to guide the assessments of all elements of the Plans.

**Table 4: SEA objectives**

Environmental Factor	SEA Objectives
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	To improve human health and community wellbeing
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity
<b>Soil and Geology</b>	To protect and, where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets
<b>Landscape</b>	To protect, enhance and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value
<b>Water Quality</b>	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the ecological status of water bodies
<b>Air Quality</b>	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets  To reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risks
<b>Material Assets</b>	To promote the sustainable use of community assets and natural resources in East Dunbartonshire

### 3.3 Alternatives

1.1.1. As the LOIP is driven by legislative requirements set out in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, there are no reasonable alternatives to the Plan itself, although



alternatives to the content of the LOIP including its vision, local outcomes and guiding principles will be considered and assessed in the Environmental Report.

- 3.3.2. The environmental assessment will also, where appropriate, propose further alternatives to the proposed vision, outcomes and guiding principles, as well as suggest changes to from an SEA perspective that will form part of the Plans. This will guide any required mitigation measures in order to reduce any potential negative/adverse impacts or to suggest enhancements to those receptors that provide potential positive impacts to East Dunbartonshire.

### 3.4 Assessment Findings


- 3.4.1 An environmental assessment has been undertaken for the proposed vision, local outcomes, and guiding principles for the Plans and has been assessed against the SEA Objectives and criteria, based on their predicted impact on the current environmental baseline. The assessment has been conducted using professional judgement and GIS analysis where appropriate.
- 3.4.2 The environmental assessments have been recorded in the form of a matrix identifying the environmental performance of each component against the SEA objectives and criteria. The environmental effects are recorded according to their nature (positive, neutral, negative, unknown or no significant effect). The significance of these effects is determined using a combination of the magnitude of the impact and the importance or sensitivity of the receiving environment.
- 3.4.3 Recommendations have been made where necessary so that environmental considerations are incorporated into the LOIP. The assessments also seek to enhance the environmental benefits and suggest recommendations to further enhance or protect the environment.
- 3.4.4 **Table 5, 7 and 8** provide a full assessment of the vision, local outcomes and guiding principles for the LOIP respectively. An assessment has been undertaken for each component, including all reasonable alternatives and recommendations considered, the key environmental factors are outlined including the influence of SEA on the development of the LOIP. In each case the SEA preferred option has been illustrated and commentary to support the reasoning and the options taken forward into the Plan have also been illustrated.
- 3.4.5 In cases where the assessed SEA preferred option has not been carried forward into the Plan as a preferred option the detailed non-environmental reasoning for this has been expanded upon within the assessment summary.

### 3.5 Assessment: Vision


- 3.5.1 The full assessments of the Vision, including all reasonable alternatives are contained within **Table 5**.

Table 5: Full assessment of the Vision of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

ASSESSMENT TABLE KEY			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	LOIP Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SEA Preferred Option
Vision 1 	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<p><b>Proposed Vision:</b> Working together to achieve the best with the people of East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This vision for the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) is anticipated to have a direct significant positive impact on <b>Population and Human Health</b> as it will give direction to the LOIP to focus on improving the lives of East Dunbartonshire’s communities. There is the potential that the significant impacts to this environmental factor will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions towards creating greater opportunities for employment;</li> <li>• A focus on education and skills progression, especially for young people;</li> <li>• Improvements to poor health and inequality with a focus on East Dunbartonshire’s areas of deprivation (Hillhead, Harestanes, Auchinairn, Lennoxton and Twechar); and,</li> <li>• Improvements to the quantity and quality of necessary local services.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst there is the potential for indirect and secondary impacts to the other environmental factors, the nature of this vision option is population and health focused; therefore there are no anticipated effects to the other factors to note at this stage.</p>										

Vision 2	++	?	+	?	+	?	+	+	+	
	<p><b>Proposed Vision:</b> East Dunbartonshire is a thriving, successful and sustainable place; a place where all people have the best opportunities to meet their potential and can enjoy a high quality local environment for health and well-being.</p> <p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> Similarly to Option 1, this option for a vision for the LOIP will have direct significant positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b> with potential impacts including greater opportunities to improve health and wellbeing, thus reducing inequalities throughout East Dunbartonshire, in terms of access to appropriate services and the wider environment such as open/green spaces for recreation and activity. In addition, people will be given better opportunities to further their own potential through education, skills, training and employment. By ensuring that appropriate provisions and actions are put in place to achieve this vision, the opportunities are more likely to create long-term benefits for local communities.</p> <p>By meeting this vision and the delivery of a place with ‘a high quality local environment’, the overall success of the LOIP has the potential to present minor positive impacts to <b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Landscape, Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Factors</b> in term of the following anticipated effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local improvements to open spaces including those with biodiversity and habitat value, enabling a more pleasant natural local environment and will help to create a more attractive environment for health and wellbeing primarily;</li> <li>• A reduction in high levels of pollutants as there is a drive towards promoting more sustainable living such as the use of sustainable modes of transport e.g. a shift from car to bus use and active travel;</li> <li>• Upgrading of vital local infrastructure such as paths, roads and street furniture as well as community assets like centres and play parks if necessary.</li> </ul> <p>At this stage, the nature of the effects on <b>Soil and Geology, Water Quality and Cultural Heritage</b> are unknown. However, given the range of designated geodiversity sites, major and minor waterbodies including the Forth and Clyde Canal Schedule Monument and historical asset sites in East Dunbartonshire the delivery of the LOIP will need to be considerate of its impact on these environmental factors.</p>									
Vision 3	++	X	X	X	X	X	?/+	?/+	?/+	
	<p><b>Proposed Vision:</b> East Dunbartonshire is a place where all people can prosper by improving equality and creating a thriving, successful and sustainable place.</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b></p>									

	<p>This alternative option for a vision for the LOIP will have direct significant positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b> with potential impacts including greater opportunities to improve health and wellbeing, in order to reduce levels of inequality across East Dunbartonshire and is likely to be as a result of improved access to appropriate services and the wider environment such as open/green spaces for recreation and activity. In addition, improving equality is likely to be due to better opportunities to further education, skills, training and employment. By ensuring that appropriate provisions and actions are put in place to achieve this vision, the opportunities are more likely to create long-term benefits for local communities that can be sustained. The benefits of ‘creating a thriving, successful and sustainable place’ also have the potential to encompass other elements of sustainability including a shift towards using more sustainable road network, active travel, the use of underutilised land such as those classified as vacant or derelict and potential implementation of low carbon technologies, where necessary, for example. Each of these potential elements could result in minor positive effects for <b>Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Assets</b> but will be dependent on scale, location and feasibility for such projects.</p>										
<p>Vision 4</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="392 627 1883 678"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; text-align: center;">++</td> <td style="text-align: center;">?</td> <td style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; text-align: center;">+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">?</td> <td style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; text-align: center;">+ / ++</td> <td style="text-align: center;">?</td> <td style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; text-align: center;">+</td> <td style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; text-align: center;">+</td> <td style="background-color: #4CAF50; color: white; text-align: center;">+</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Proposed Vision:</b> East Dunbartonshire is a thriving and successful place with strong, vibrant communities where people have a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet their needs.</p> <p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> Similarly to Option 2, this option for a vision for the LOIP will have direct significant positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b> with potential impacts due to a focus on creating communities that are able to thrive. This could have an impact on a reduction in poor health and wellbeing, thus reducing inequalities throughout East Dunbartonshire. This vision also has the potential to improve people’s access to appropriate services and the wider environment such as open/green spaces for recreation and activity. In addition, opportunities to further potential and meet individuals’ needs may be achieved through intervention focussed around education, skills development, training and employment opportunities. The delivery of this vision is likely to create long-term benefits for local communities.</p> <p>By meeting this vision and the delivery of a successful place with vibrant communities and accessible, sustainable services, the overall success of the LOIP has the potential to present minor positive impacts to <b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Landscape, Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Factors</b> with similar effects to those detailed in the assessment of Vision 2. However, there is the potential for significant effects to <b>Landscape</b> as the range of opportunities and services delivered through the LOIP and LPs to create a high quality environment at a local level can help to promote distinct and attractive village and town centres.</p>	++	?	+	?	+ / ++	?	+	+	+	
++	?	+	?	+ / ++	?	+	+	+			

	At this stage, the nature of the effects on <b>Soil and Geology, Water Quality and Cultural Heritage</b> are unknown. However, given the range of designated geodiversity sites, major and minor waterbodies including the Forth and Clyde Canal Schedule Monument and historical asset sites in East Dunbartonshire the delivery of the LOIP will need to be considerate of its impact on these environmental factors.	
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- 3.5.2. The Vision, and all reasonable alternatives, for implementing the LOIP for East Dunbartonshire have been considered through the SEA process. The outcome of the assessment is that Vision 4 (above) is the SEA preferred option. This vision provides a clear focus for the Council and other Community Planning Partners and will provide significant benefits to residents, workers and visitors to the area. Additional benefits are likely through this vision by encouraging the creation of vibrant successful communities throughout East Dunbartonshire while providing sustainable and accessible services for people's needs and ultimately maximising their quality of life. Vision 1 has been selected as the Plan preferred option by the Community Planning Team and the justification for this was provided below by the Council's Place and Business Development Manager.
- 3.5.3. There is a strong tradition of services working together in East Dunbartonshire which has delivered successful outcomes for the area. The people of East Dunbartonshire are healthier and safer; older people are supported through high standards of care whilst our rate of educational achievement continues to be one of the highest in Scotland. By understanding and working with communities over the next ten years to plan and deliver services, the partnership intends to make East Dunbartonshire a thriving and successful place, which includes achieving the principles set out in the Sustainability Guiding Principle and those which run through the LOIP.
- 3.5.4. The East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership continuously strives to understand the different needs of local communities in the area, supporting them to strengthen their own communities and involving them in the design and delivery of services. The nature of the vision is therefore broad and needs to embody and clearly state this intent. It embodies the priority for the partnership to strive to achieve the best for the population of East Dunbartonshire, and meets the various factors which options are tested against through the SEA process.
- 3.5.5. Sustainability is a strong theme covered in the LOIP, and is underpinned in its Guiding Principle 'Sustainability' and the sustainability charter. Sustainability will sit across all outcomes, supported by the Guiding principle. This makes a strong connection between the role and impact of the built and natural environment, in relation to the range of themes, issues and outcomes set out in this document set.
- 3.5.6. The partnership has agreed this guiding principle and it will be embedded within local outcome action plans and Place plans, supported through the charter for excellence as set out as part of the LOIP.

3.6. Assessment: Local Outcomes

3.6.1. The local outcomes and each of their ‘reasonable alternatives’ have been identified, described and assessed as part of the SEA process. **Tables 6** summarises the preferred option for each local outcome and highlights the main differences between the preferred alternatives and the other options.

3.6.2. Direct modifications have been made where necessary so that greater environmental considerations are incorporated into the final proposals for the LOIP.

Table 6: Summary assessment of the LOIP and LPs local outcomes

ASSESSMENT TABLE KEY			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	LOIP Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS									SEA Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
<b>Local Outcome 1 – Economic Growth and Recovery</b>										
Alternative 1	+/++	?/+	X	X	X	X	?/-	?/-	?/-	✓
<b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> East Dunbartonshire has a sustainable and resilient economy with busy town and village centres, a growing business base, and is an attractive place in which to invest.										


✓	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  This alternative for Economic Growth and Recovery is anticipated to present minor positive impacts directly for <b>Population and Human Health</b>, with the potential for significant effects. There is likely to be opportunities for greater business investment, from local, national and international companies, primarily in town centres which can help to generate local economic growth and job opportunities. This can further investment into an area, such as improvements to infrastructure, greenspaces and services. In addition, East Dunbartonshire’s position as an area with historical assets like the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site has the potential to increase East Dunbartonshire as a tourism destination and increase its economy from tourism related activities, therefore presenting potential minor positive impacts to <b>Culture Heritage</b>.</p> <p>Depending on the level of business investment in the area, there may be the potential for secondary negative impacts to <b>Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Assets</b> in terms of potential increase in traffic from deliveries, work journeys and customers which could result in an increase in vehicular-related air pollution, including the impacts of this on localised climate change, and impacts on current infrastructure.</p> <p><b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b>                  In order to address potential air quality, climatic factor and material asset adversities, the LOIP and Locality Plans should promote sustainable transport networks, adequate parking and park and ride facilities, where feasible.</p>									
	Alternative 2	+	?/+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> East Dunbartonshire has an expanding economy with a competitive and diverse business and retail base.</p> <p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  This option is likely to present similar impacts to <b>Population and Human Health and Cultural Heritage</b> to those described in the assessment for Alternative 1; however, the effects on the local economy and job opportunities is more likely to be minor without the potential for significant impacts as it focuses on expanding the current business and retail base to make it more competitive and diverse.</p>									
<b>Local Outcome 2 - Employment</b>										
Alternative 1	+/++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our people are equipped with knowledge, skills and training to enable them to progress to employment</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  This Employment alternative is anticipated to present minor positive impacts to <b>Population and Human Health</b>, with the potential for significant effects. Meeting this outcome will help to directly improve opportunities for employment across East Dunbartonshire by ensuring that local people are given the knowledge and guidance to access opportunities to further</p>									


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	develop their skills through training which in turn can open them up to greater chances of employment locally and further afield. This can have an overall positive impact on health and social wellbeing and local benefits of a circular economy.									
Alternative 2	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
✓	<b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our people are equipped with knowledge and skills for learning, life and work									✓
	<b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This alternative is likely to have similar positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b> as Alternative 1; however it is anticipated that the impacts of ensuring that individuals have the appropriate knowledge and skills for learning as a way to enter employment opportunities, further their education and expand on general life skills is likely to have additional significant positive impacts.									
<b>Local Outcome 3 – Children and Young People</b>										
Alternative 1	+/++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
✓	<b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our children and young people are safe, healthy and ready to learn									
	<b>Assessment Commentary:</b> Through the delivery of this outcome focussed primarily on children and young people in East Dunbartonshire, there is likely to be direct positive impacts to the <b>Population and Human Health</b> factor. The potential impacts include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physically and mentally healthier young people who are able to enjoy their local community for recreation in a manner that is safe and accessible;</li> <li>• The promotion of Council-area wide safety within and between East Dunbartonshire’s communities with a particular emphasis on crime and antisocial behaviour;</li> <li>• Opportunities for young people to engage fully with education with longer term encouragement for further education. This will assist children and young people to progress to employment.</li> </ul>									
	<b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b> It is suggested that the wording of this alternative be altered to be more robust and expand on the key areas of delivery expressed in the original wording: “Our children and young people <b>live in a safe and accessible environment where they are ready to learn, and physical and mental health and wellbeing is maximised</b> ”.									
Alternative 2	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our children and young people live in a safe and accessible environment where they are ready to learn, and physical and mental health and wellbeing is maximised.									✓



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	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> As with Alternative 1, this Local Outcome alternative will have similar direct minor positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b>, but the revised outcome also has the potential to result in significant positive effects in terms of the specific commitments towards the maximising of both physical and mental health and wellbeing, in addition to the provision of a safe and accessible environment.</p>									
Alternative 3	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Children and young people's health and wellbeing is improved by breaking the cycle of poverty, inequality and poor outcomes</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> It is anticipated that this alternative for the delivery of Children and Young People outcome will have minor positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b>. Specifically, the delivery of this outcome will contribute towards giving young people better opportunities to become more involved in aspects of life, such as education and employment in later life and physical activity and recreation, in order to ensure that they are less likely to experience the poverty cycle and related inequalities that may otherwise be experienced without intervention to improve overall health and wellbeing.</p>									
Alternative 4	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> East Dunbartonshire's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> It is anticipated that this alternative for the delivery of Children and Young People outcome will have minor positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b>. Specifically, the delivery of this outcome will contribute towards giving young people better opportunities to fulfil their potential, such as through education and employment in later life and physical activity and recreation, in order to ensure they have an enjoyable childhood. This has the potential to lead to benefits in adulthood.</p>									
<p><b>Local Outcome 4 – Safer and Stronger Communities</b></p>										
Alternative 1	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> East Dunbartonshire is a safe place in which to live, work and visit.</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This Local Outcome alternative is anticipated to have a direct significant positive impact on <b>Population and Human Health</b> and there is potential that these significant impacts will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The promotion of safety within and between East Dunbartonshire's communities with a particular emphasis on crime and antisocial behaviour.</li> <li>• Encouraging strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.</li> </ul>									

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The promotion of initiatives and continual improvements towards road safety throughout East Dunbartonshire.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst there is the limited potential for indirect and secondary impacts to the other environmental factors, the nature of this Local Outcome (alternative) is focussed on population and community safety; therefore there are no anticipated significant effects on the other factors.</p> <p><b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b> No direct modifications have been proposed for this outcome, however the previous Local Outcome for this subject within the SOA incorporated ‘...safe and sustainable environment...’ within the Outcome. This is not considered a reasonable alternative as it will not be this Outcome Delivery Groups role. Despite this it will be this Outcomes responsibility, along with all others, to adhere to the Sustainability Guiding Principle.</p>										
<p>Alternative 2</p>	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> No reasonable alternatives have been identified for this local outcome. A more sustainable approach to this Outcome will be captured within the Sustainability Guiding Principle as well as through Local Outcome 5 through the access to and use of a quality built and natural environment.</p>										
<p><b>Local Outcome 5 – Health and Wellbeing</b></p>											
<p>Alternative 1</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="371 775 1888 823"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #008000; color: white; text-align: center;">++</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our people and communities enjoy increased physical and mental health and wellbeing</p> <p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This Local Outcome alternative is anticipated to have a direct significant positive impact on <b>Population and Human Health</b> and there is potential that these significant impacts will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The promotion of healthy eating and physical activity to benefit people within all communities.</li> <li>The encouraged participation outdoor leisure activities to increase physical activity levels throughout East Dunbartonshire.</li> </ul> <p>Whilst there is the limited potential for indirect and secondary impacts to the other environmental factors, the nature of this Local Outcome (alternative) is focussed physical and mental health with no wider environmental benefits; therefore there are no anticipated significant effects on the other factors.</p> <p><b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b> “Our people <b>experience good</b> physical and mental health and wellbeing <b>with access to a quality built and natural</b></p>	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			

environment in which to lead healthier and more active lifestyles”.										
Alternative 2	++	X	+	X	+	X	+	+	+	
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our people experience good physical and mental health and wellbeing with access to a quality built and natural environment in which to lead healthier and more active lifestyles.</p> <p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> As with Alternative 1, this Local Outcome alternative will have similar direct significant positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b>. In addition, by emphasising ‘access to a quality built and natural environment’ it will further enhance the benefits in relation to <b>Population and Human Health</b>, while also positively impacting on other environmental factors, including <b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Landscape, Air Quality, Climatic Factors and Material Assets</b>. The additional positive impacts through this Local Outcome alternative, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The promotion of the importance of biodiversity and the natural environment for local communities and related health and wellbeing aspects which are in line with key parts of the preventative health agenda.</li> <li>• The encouragement of more active and healthier lifestyles will enhance health and wellbeing aspects while also encourage the use of more active travel alternatives for accessing essential amenities and services.</li> <li>• The support for a more active / sustainable transport network throughout East Dunbartonshire.</li> <li>• The protection and encouraged access to public open spaces for recreation and community based activities.</li> <li>• This Local Outcome alternative aligns with the Councils existing policy framework which includes for example, the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, Green network Strategy, Open Space Strategy and Active Travel Strategy.</li> </ul>									
	<p><b>Local Outcome 6 – Older People and their Carers</b></p>									
Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our more vulnerable citizens and their carers are able to maintain their independence for longer and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.</p>										

	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This Local Outcome alternative is anticipated to have a direct positive impact on <b>Population and Human Health</b> through the contribution to health and wellbeing within East Dunbartonshire communities.</p> <p>Whilst there is the limited potential for indirect and secondary impacts to the other environmental factors, the nature of this Local Outcome (alternative) is focussed on population and community safety; therefore there are no anticipated significant effects on the other factors.</p>									
	<p><b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b> “Our older population and our more vulnerable citizens are supported to maintain their independence and enjoy a high quality of life, and they, their families and carers benefit from effective care and support services”.</p>									
<p>Alternative 2</p> <p>✓</p>	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	<p>✓</p>
	<p><b>Proposed Local Outcome:</b> Our older population and our more vulnerable citizens are supported to maintain their independence and enjoy a high quality of life, and they, their families and carers benefit from effective care and support services.</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This Local Outcome alternative is anticipated to have a direct positive impact on <b>Population and Human Health</b> through the contribution to health and wellbeing within East Dunbartonshire communities with a particular emphasis on vulnerable citizens. This positive impact will be further enhanced through this alternative Local Outcome due to the commitment towards maintaining the independence of East Dunbartonshire’s older and more vulnerable citizens, while also ensuring a high quality of life.</p> <p>Whilst there is the limited potential for indirect and secondary impacts to the other environmental factors, the nature of this Local Outcome (alternative) is focussed on population and community safety; therefore there are no anticipated significant effects on the other factors.</p>									

3.6.3. The proposed local outcomes, and any reasonable alternatives, for the LOIP have been considered through the SEA process. The outcome of the assessment is that the revised Local Outcomes are both the SEA and Plan preferred options, with the exception of Local Outcome 3 (justification in [Section 3.9](#)). The preferred options that were carried forward into the Plan for the other Local Outcomes demonstrated wider environmental advantages, particularly in relation to the Population and Human Health topic area.

3.7. Assessment: Guiding Principles

3.7.1. An environmental assessment has been undertaken for the LOIP guiding principles and the reasonable alternatives against the SEA objectives. The environmental assessments have been recorded in the form of a matrix identifying the environmental performance of the alternatives.

3.7.2. Direct modifications to the guiding principles have been made where necessary so that greater environmental considerations are incorporated into the final proposals for the LOIP. This has been done through SEA suggested alterations.

3.7.3. Table 7 summarise the assessment ratings of each of the aims including reasonable alternatives, highlighting the preferred options from a SEA and LOIP perspective.

Table 7: Summary assessment of the guiding principles for the LOIP

ASSESSMENT TABLE KEY			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	LOIP Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS									SEA Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
<b>Guiding Principle 1 – Planning for Place</b>										
Alternative 1	+/++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓
<b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will target resources where they are most needed to reduce disadvantage caused by socio-economic inequality										

✓	<b>Assessment Commentary:</b> This alternative to the Planning for Place guiding principle is anticipated to have a direct positive impact on <b>Population and Human Health</b> with the potential for significant effects as it will ensure that, through the delivery of the LOIP and Locality Plans, that areas experiencing the most socio-economic inequality in East Dunbartonshire, such as Lennoxton, Twechar, Hillhead, Harestanes and Auchinairn, will receive focus for intervention in order to reduce the disadvantages that they experience. This can lead to health and wellbeing improvements, employment opportunities and, in general, a way of life with more advantages and opportunities.								
	<b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b> None at this stage.								
Alternative 2	<b>Assessment Commentary:</b> No reasonable alternatives have been identified for this guiding principle. This is due to the fact that the Planning for Place guiding principle reflects the overall purpose of the LOIP and Locality Plans set out within the Community Empowerment Act.								
<b>Guiding Principle 2 - Sustainability</b>									
Alternative 1	+ / ++	?	+ / ++	+	+	+	+	++	++
<b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will strive to ensure a better quality of life for everyone, for present and future generations, by recognising the needs of all; protecting our environment and building resilience to a changing climate; using our natural resources prudently; and considering the long term implications of our decisions									
<b>Assessment Commentary:</b> Incorporating this guiding principle in the delivery of the local outcomes will ensure that there is due consideration of Council and CPP actions on delivering opportunities to improve health and wellbeing within East Dunbartonshire’s communities by taking into account the various different needs of each locality whilst ensuring that actions protect the quality and value of the environment, which is likely to include biodiversity and habitats, peatland, geodiversity sites, natural designations, landscape features and waterbodies, where applicable. This is likely to have positive impacts to <b>Population and Human Health and Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b> with the potential for significant impacts and minor positive impacts on <b>Soil and Geology, Landscape and Water Quality</b> .  In addition, action to ensure that the negative effects of climate change are addressed, including utilising natural resources in a prudent manner, is anticipated to have direct significant positive impacts on the <b>Climatic Factors and Material Assets</b> factors. There may also be positive impacts to <b>Air Quality</b> in terms of demonstrating sustainable approaches to aspects such as transport to improve pollutant levels. There is likely to be overall better demonstrations towards sustainable approaches, in line with this guiding principle and the Council’s Sustainability and Climate Change Framework.  Whilst it does state that the delivery of the LOIP and LPs will emphasise ‘protecting our environment’ which could encompass									

	<p>historical assets too, this is not explicit and therefore at this stage in the assessment, it is unclear what the impacts to <b>Cultural Heritage</b> will be as a result of delivering outcomes with this guiding principle in mind.</p>									
	<p><b>SEA Suggested Mitigation / Alteration:</b>                  It is suggested that the guiding principle be refined to give a particular focus on the range of environments in East Dunbartonshire that should be protected, as well as make it more robust.</p> <p>'We will <b>create the conditions for a</b> better quality of life for East Dunbartonshire residents, by recognising their <b>health and wellbeing</b> needs <b>without compromising the quality of</b> our <b>built, natural and historic</b> environment. <b>In doing so we will build</b> resilience to a changing climate, <b>use</b> our natural resources prudently and <b>consider</b> the long term implications of our decisions <b>for present and future generations</b>'.</p>									
<p>Alternative 2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">✓</p>	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	++	++	<p style="font-size: 2em;">✓</p>
	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will create the conditions for a better quality of life for East Dunbartonshire residents, by recognising their health and wellbeing needs without compromising the quality of our built, natural and historic environment. In doing so we will build resilience to a changing climate, use our natural resources prudently and consider the long term implications of our decisions for present and future generations</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  This revised alternative is anticipated to present similar significant impacts to <b>Climatic Factors and Material Assets</b>, and minor positive impacts to <b>Air Quality, Landscape, Soil and Geology and Water Quality</b> as those described in the above assessment. However, this alternative is more likely to have significant positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b> as it will help to improve health and wellbeing within communities in order to give individuals greater opportunities for employment and education as well as create conditions for overall quality of life for the future. The impacts to <b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b> are also more likely to be significantly positive due to an emphasis on ensuring that actions to improve quality of life do not compromise the quality and value of East Dunbartonshire's natural environment including species and habitats.</p> <p>In addition, ensuring that elements of sustainability to protect historical assets in East Dunbartonshire, where appropriate, will demonstrate an active approach to ensuring that <b>Cultural Heritage</b> sites are considered in the delivery of the LOIP and LPs.</p>									
<p><b>Guiding Principle 3 – Fair and Equitable Delivery of Public Services</b></p>										
<p>Alternative 1</p>	+ / + +	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	<p style="font-size: 2em;">✓</p>
	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will plan and deliver services which account for the different needs of population groups</p>									



✓	who share a characteristic protected by the Equality Act									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  Delivering services to meet the needs of members of East Dunbartonshire’s community with needs identified in the Equality Act will have direct positive impacts to <b>Population and Human Health</b> in general as it will give the LOIP and LPs a chance to address poor health, inequality, lack of service provision, guidance for young people to maintain education and employment opportunities for example. There may also be the potential for significant positive impacts to this environmental factor specifically for those who align to the protected characteristics identified in the Equality Act.</p>									
Alternative 2	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  As this guiding principle is related to delivering services that represent the needs of the varied population in East Dunbartonshire, it has been determined by the LOIP and LPs lead and outcome delivery groups that there are no reasonable alternatives as the characteristics are set out in the Equality Act.</p>									
<b>Guiding Principle 4 – Prevention and Early Intervention</b>										
Alternative 1	+/+ +	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	✓
✓	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will direct resources with the aim of improving resilience and preventing or mitigating poorer outcomes.</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  This guiding principle is anticipated to have direct positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b> as integrating this principle through the delivery of the LOIP and LPs will help to improve community resilience in order to reduce inequalities through the adoption of a prevention programme of works. However, there may be some limitations from focusing resources on the communities or individuals where it is determined the most impact can be made as other people or communities may miss out on the benefits.</p>									
Alternative 2	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will allocate resources to support the aim of preventing poorer outcomes before they arise</p>									
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>                  As with Alternative 1, this guiding principle alternative will have similar direct positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b>. In addition, by specifically focussing on preventing poorer outcomes only will not encourage improvements in additional to prevention controls and therefore is less likely to have as wide spread or long-term impacts as the alternative 1.</p>									
<b>Guiding Principle 5 – Coproduction and Engagement</b>										
Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will identify the varying needs of each of our communities and through proactive engagement, develop necessary services</p>									



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	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> By identifying community needs and developing necessary services with a view to provide these through proactive engagement will present minor positive benefits to <b>Population and Human Health</b>. In particular, integrating this principle through the LOIP and LPs will actively encourage community engagement to assist in decision making for services that directly affect communities which will help to create empowered communities and individuals.</p>									
Alternative 2	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
✓	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principles:</b> We will continuously strive to understand the different needs of our communities, supporting them to strengthen their own communities and involving them in the design and delivery of services.</p>									✓
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> As with Alternative 1, this Local Outcome alternative will have similar direct positive impacts on <b>Population and Human Health</b>. However, by emphasising the need to support and strengthen communities and involve them in the design and delivery of services, as well as building their capacity to do so is more likely to result in significant positive impacts. This can result in greater community empowerment and encourage cultural changes with longer-term benefits amongst communities to enable action to meet their needs. This will align with the wider requirements of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.</p>									
<b>Guiding Principle 6 – Evidence-Based Strategic Planning</b>										
Alternative 1	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	
✓	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will share information and data to inform robust and transparent decision making, planning and evaluating our impact in partnership and implementing improvement practices.</p>									✓
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> Through the implementation of this guiding principle it is anticipated to have positive benefits for <b>all environmental factors</b>. The detail and significance of this guiding principle are uncertain at this stage. However, by ensuring that a strategic planning and evidence-based focus is placed on each community partner it will ensure full transparency with regards to decision-making. This will highlight the impacts of strategic decision-making and provide an opportunity for enhancement measures to be incorporated where necessary.</p>									
Alternative 2	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b> Given the nature of this guiding principle, it has been determined by the LOIP lead and outcome delivery groups that there are no reasonable alternatives to delivering 'Evidence-based Strategic Planning' throughout the Council.</p>									
<b>Guiding Principle 7 – Best Value</b>										
Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p><b>Proposed Guiding Principle:</b> We will endeavour to maintain an appropriate balance between the quality of the performance</p>									

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	<p>of our functions, the cost of that performance, and the cost to persons of any service provided. In maintaining that balance, the Partnership shall have regard to safety, efficiency, effectiveness and economy.</p>	
	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>            With the implementation of 'Best Value' within the Council, through this Guiding Principle, it is likely to result in minor positive benefits to <b>Population and Human Health</b>. This is mainly through the provision of high quality services and functions for local residents, workers and visitors to the area. This is further enhanced by the sustainability elements incorporated into the guiding principle in relation to providing high quality efficient functions while balancing this with the related costs to the population of the service provision.</p>	
<p>Alternative 2</p>	<p><b>Assessment Commentary:</b>            Given the nature of this guiding principle, it has been determined by the LOIP and LPs lead and outcome delivery groups that there are no reasonable, practicable alternatives to providing 'Best Value' throughout the Council.</p>	

- 3.7.4. Taking into account each of the SEA recommendations and alternatives for the proposed guiding principles, the conclusion of the assessment encouraged each of the SEA Preferred Options in relation to each of the guiding principles to be integrated into the LOIP as the preferred option, primarily due to the positive impact the alterations/alternatives have for human health and wellbeing. This highlights the influence and success of the SEA process through the integration of environmental considerations fully throughout its development.

### 3.8. Cumulative Impacts

- 3.8.1. Following the assessment of each of the components of the LOIP an assessment of the cumulative effects is carried out. Cumulative effects can arise from the combined effects of plans. They can also arise as a result of interaction between different components of a single plan. For example, where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect, or where several individual effects of the PPS have a combined effect.
- 3.8.2. It should be noted that, with the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures suggested in each of the individual local opportunities assessments, the effects for each of the environmental factors are likely to be neutralised and other effects could potentially become more positive in nature.
- 3.8.3. The cumulative, secondary and synergistic effects of the LOIP local outcomes and guiding principles on the East Dunbartonshire wide area have been determined as detailed below:
- 3.8.4. The cumulative nature of the effects on **Population and Human Health** are anticipated to be major positive. The positive nature of the actions on this SEA criteria are due to a number of factors including:
- Enhanced recreational and cultural opportunities in terms of improved open space and local natural environment encouraging greater access and use amongst communities and associated health and wellbeing benefits;
  - Better access to quality provisions and services at a local level; and,
  - Opportunities for local communities and individuals to become involved in local planning through greater engagement.
- 3.8.5. The cumulative nature of the effects on **Cultural Heritage, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Soil and Geology, Landscape and Water Quality** is likely to be insignificant overall. However the assessment of the Sustainability Guiding Principle identified minor positive impacts in terms of practicing a holistic approach to sustainability in order to potentially improve the setting of historical designations such as the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site and Garden and Designed Landscapes, landscape settings, and ensuring that the principle considers impacts to both the natural and built, including historic, environment.
- 3.8.6. Whilst the cumulative impact of **Climatic Factors and Material Assets** is insignificant overall, the assessments of the Sustainability Guiding Principle indicated direct major positive effects. The positive nature of the effects included a holistic approach to managing and improving our local environment in a sustainable manner in order to reduce or prevent negative impacts to people and the environment due to issues such as flooding, poor air quality, waste and resource management.
- 3.8.7. The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Air Quality** was seen to be insignificant. However, the assessment of the Sustainability Guiding Principle identified minor positive impacts. The positive nature of the effects on this SEA criteria are due to:
- The role of the LOIP, especially in urban areas, for pollutant management and carbon sequestration where poor air quality can be exacerbated by greater volumes of traffic; and,
  - Potential local level air quality improvements through localised interventions to deliver the outcomes.

### 3.9. Influence of SEA on the Local Outcome Improvement Plan

- 3.9.1. Through each of the assessments there have been notable examples of the positive influence of SEA on the development of the LOIP including the acceptance of the majority of the SEA suggested alterations as the Plan's preferred options. The overall influence of SEA is also demonstrated through the mutual agreement that the majority of the most positive rated options (SEA preferred option) for most of the Local Outcomes and all of the Guiding Principles were fed back to the Outcome Delivery Groups and an agreement was made to adopt these into the final draft of the LOIP.
- 3.9.2. However, the SEA preferred option for Local Outcome 3 was not adopted as the Plan preferred option. Therefore justification for this decision was requested and explained by the Chief Education Officer as the delivery lead for this Outcome. The reason for this decision was due to its relationship with the Integrated Children's Services Plan (ICSP), the delivery document for this Outcome. The ICSP has a clear focus on children's well-being. The well-being indicators will be used as a basis for developing the Plan and, therefore, this outcome (LO3) needs to be clear, easy to communicate to stakeholders and focus on well-being as a priority. Furthermore, the SEA preferred option for the Plan's vision was not adopted into the final Plan and the justification for this is fully detailed within section 3.5.3 to 3.5.6.
- 3.9.3. Mitigation measures have also been identified as part of the assessments where appropriate and discussed with the Outcome Delivery Groups in order to avoid adverse impacts, reduce the significance of the effects or enhance neutral or positive impacts. Mitigation has also taken the form of suggested alterations to the wording of the options considered.

### Section 4: Mitigation and Monitoring

#### 4.1 Mitigation Measures

- 4.1.1. Schedule 3 paragraph 7 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 require that the Environmental Report includes the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP).
- 4.1.2. Mitigation measures have been proposed and incorporated into each of the assessments, where necessary, in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any potential adverse environmental impacts and enhance any neutral or positive environmental impacts identified. For the assessment of the LOIP, mitigation has been incorporated into the assessments in the form of SEA suggested alterations which have led to more positive environmental ratings and their adoption as the Plan preferred option in the majority of cases.
- 4.1.3. As the Council's most strategic document it will inform vision of many lower-tier Council plans, policies, programmes, strategies and masterplans. Some of these have already been considered in accordance with the SEA Act, but any future documents will also be considered through the SEA process for their significance effects. As these lower-tier documents will act as the delivery mechanisms for the outcomes in the LOIP, this will present additional opportunities to integrate mitigation in the plans where it is necessary.

#### 4.2 Monitoring

- 4.2.1 Through Section 19 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, East Dunbartonshire Council is required to monitor significant environmental effects of the implementation of the LOIP. The monitoring should be implemented to enable the identification of any unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage to allow the appropriate remedial action to be implemented.
- 4.2.2 The specific measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the LOIP will form part of the Post-Adoption Statement, prepared as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of both documents in accordance with Section 18 of the Act. It is envisaged that the following indicators will be included within the monitoring framework.
- 4.2.3 Given the strategic nature of the LOIP, the proposed monitoring SEA framework (**Table 8**) will directly align with the monitoring framework for the LOIP, provided by each of the Outcome Delivery Groups. \*Gaps within the monitoring framework will be negotiated during the consultation process and finalised by the delivery outcome groups. The Framework will be finalised in the Post-Adoption Statement.

Table 8: Proposed SEA monitoring framework for the LOIP

	Indicator	Source	Frequency of Data Collection
Local Outcome 1	Footfall in our town centres	East Dunbartonshire Council	Annually
	Town Centre Vacancy Rates	East Dunbartonshire Council	Annually
	Business survival rates percentage for new start businesses 12 months after initial intervention	Business Gateway	Annually
	Total number of businesses supported to introduce environmentally sustainable practices	East Dunbartonshire Council Records	Annually
	Total Number of Social Enterprises operating in the area	East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action & Social Enterprise Scotland	Biennially
Local Outcome 2	Percentage of the population (aged 16 to 64 years) in receipt of out of work benefits	Department for Work and Pensions	Annually
	Participation rate of young people aged 16-19 in a positive destination after leaving school	Skills Development Scotland	Annually
	Employment Rate	Regional Employment Patterns in Scotland, Scottish Government Official Statistics	Annually
	Percentage of young people who have left care and are in a positive and sustained destination	Scottish Government Official Statistics	Annually
Local Outcome 3	% of (secondary) school pupils that meet physical activity target	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	% of (secondary) pupils who feel positive about their health	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care	Every 3 years

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		Partnership	
	% of (Secondary) school pupils who have never smoked cigarettes	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	% of (secondary) pupils who have never drunk alcohol	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	% of (secondary) pupils who have experienced bullying	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	Pregnancies among under 16 year olds	NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde	Annually
<b>Local Outcome 4</b>	Rate of Recorded Crimes and Offences per 10,000 Population	Recorded crime data collected by Scottish Government from Police Scotland	Annually
	Perception of Safety - % of adult residents in East Dunbartonshire stating that they feel 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' when home alone at night	Scottish Household Survey	Annually
	Perception of Safety - % of adult residents in East Dunbartonshire stating that they feel 'very safe' or 'fairly safe' when walking alone in the neighbourhood after dark	Scottish Household Survey	Annually
	Number of admissions to hospital for children (0-4 years) a consequence of unintentional injury	NHS Scotland	Annually
	Number of admissions to hospital for older adults (64 years +) as a consequence of unintentional injury	NHS Scotland	Annually
<b>Local Outcome 5</b>	% of adults who smoke	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	% of adults who are physically active in line with the national weekly recommendations	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years

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	% of adults who are overweight and obese with a BMI of 25+	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	% of adults who consume more than the weekly recommended units of alcohol	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
	% of adults who report having a positive perception of general mental or emotional wellbeing	East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership	Every 3 years
<b>Local Outcome 6</b>	Number of Wellbeing Assessments Completed in relation to Social Prescribing	Health Improvement Team	Every 6 months
	% of adults needing care receiving personal care at home or direct payments for personal care	Scottish Government	Annually
	Number of emergency admissions to hospital amongst over 75s (per 1,000 of the population)	NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde	Annually
<b>Area Wide</b>	% of people who agree with the statement 'I can influence decisions affecting my local area'	Scottish Household Survey	Annually
	% of people who rated their neighbourhood as a 'very good place to live'	Scottish Household Survey	Annually
	% of people who rated their strength of belonging to immediate neighbourhood as 'very strongly'	Scottish Household Survey	Annually
	% of children <sup>2</sup> living in poverty	Official Personal tax credit statistics	Annually

<sup>2</sup> All dependent children under the age of 20



## Section 5: Statutory Consultation and SEA Timetable

### 5.1 Statutory Consultation

5.1.1. The statutory consultation for this SEA document and corresponding Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) is:

**11<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017**

5.1.2. Responses should be submitted through email or post to the following addresses:

Email: [sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk)

Post: Sustainability Policy  
Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets  
East Dunbartonshire Council  
Southbank House  
Strathkelvin Place  
Kirkintilloch  
G66 1XQ

### 5.2 SEA Timetable

5.2.1. The SEA activities to date and approximate timetable for the LOIP for further SEA stages are summarised below (**Table 9**). The SEA process has aligned with the development stages for the Plan itself.

5.2.2. Please note that the anticipated timescales for the completion of further SEA stages and the Plan may require to be extended if contributions from the Outcome Delivery Groups are delayed or are reallocated due to failure of Partners to deliver them.

**Table 9: Consultation and SEA timetable**

Strategy Preparation Stages	SEA Stages	Timescale & Consultation Period, if required
Preliminary Assessment and Survey / Research work	Scoping Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collate and forecast baseline environmental information</li> <li>Adopt SEA environmental objectives and criteria</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April/May 2017 (research and draft)</li> <li>Scoping Report submitted to the SEA Gateway on 5th May 2017</li> <li>5 week period of Consultation with the Consultation Authorities.</li> </ul>
Prepare Draft Plan	Environmental Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess the plan's aims and vision</li> </ul>	May-July 2017

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess alternatives to the LOIP</li> <li>• Prepare Draft Environmental Report</li> </ul>	
Publish & Consult on Draft Plan	Publish & Consult on Draft Environmental Report	Consultation with the public and Consultation Authorities (minimum of 6 weeks) 11 <sup>th</sup> September – 23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2017
Adopt Plan	Produce Post-Adoption Statement and publish along with the adopted Finalised LOIP (approval in October 2017)	December 2017 – January 2018
Monitor & Review	Monitor and Review	On-going/Annual review

## **Section 6: Appendices**

**Appendix A:**

Relevant Policies, Plans, Programmes, Strategies, Legislation and Environmental Protection Objectives

**Appendix B:**

Consultation Responses to the Scoping Report

**Appendix C:**

SEA Assessment Criteria and Questions

**Appendix D:**

Development and Assessment of Reasonable Alternatives

**Appendix A: Relevant Policies, Plans, Programmes, Strategies, Legislation and Environmental Protection Objectives**

Please note that this appendix lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies that influence or are influenced by the Local Outcome Improvement Plans. Their content, where appropriate, has been used to inform the environmental objectives for the SEA of the Plan.

Relevant PPS and Legislation	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence or are influenced by the LOIP
<b>International</b>		
<p><b>Rio Declaration (1992)</b></p>	<p>The Declaration sets out 27 principles to enable the global community to work towards international agreements that respect the interests of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental system. The Declaration highlighted the necessity to protect and enhance the environment, economics and social aspects in both developed and developing countries.</p>	<p>The LOIP and each of the Locality Plans (LP) will demonstrate a commitment at a local level to realise economic, social and environmental wellbeing as much as possible for the residents and visitors of East Dunbartonshire.</p>
<p><b>Johannesburg Declaration (2002)</b></p>	<p>The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development. The 2002 Declaration built upon the principles established through the Rio Declaration and further developed principles of sustainable development and sought international commitment to these Sustainable Development Principles.</p>	<p>Within the LOIP, all outcomes and therefore the LP must include elements of sustainability in order to guide a commitment towards sustainable development.</p>
<b>National</b>		
<p><b>Local Government in Scotland Act 2003</b></p>	<p>This Act describes the way in which local authorities discharge their functions and about the local provision of certain public services; to give local authorities power to do things which they consider will advance well-being; to provide exemptions and reliefs from non-domestic rates in relation to certain lands and heritages; to confer power on the Scottish Ministers to combine certain lands and heritages for the purposes of assessing rateable value; to require local authorities to prepare, and endeavour to implement, a plan relating to the carrying out of their waste disposal and collection functions; to make new provision about the capital expenditure of those authorities and about the making</p>	<p>The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 set the statutory basis for community planning in which the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 stems from.</p>

	<p>of capital grants to them; to make some miscellaneous provisions connected with the functions of local authorities; and for connected purposes.</p>	
<p><b>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</b></p>	<p>The Community Empowerment Act will help to empower community bodies through the ownership of land and buildings, and by strengthening their voices in the decisions that matter to them. It will also improve outcomes for communities by improving the process of community planning, ensuring that local service providers work together even more closely with communities to meet the needs of the people who use them.</p> <p>The Act does a number of things including: extending the community right to buy, making it simpler for communities to take over public sector land and buildings, and strengthening the statutory base for community planning. Crucially it can help empower community bodies through the ownership of land and buildings and strengthening their voices in the decisions and services that matter to them.</p>	<p>The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 replaced Local Government in Scotland 2003 as the primary legislative provision for community planning. Part 2 Community Planning Section 6 specifically sets requirements for all local authorities to produce a LOIP by October 2017. Part 2 Community Planning Section 10 also sets requirements for all local authorities to produce Locality Plans for the socio-economically deprived areas within that authority.</p>
<p><b>National Planning Framework 3</b></p>	<p>The National Planning Framework 3 is the Scottish Government’s Strategy for the long term development of Scotland’s towns, cities and the countryside. It sets out key planning outcomes for Scotland:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A successful sustainable place – supporting economic growth, regeneration and the creation of well-designed places</li> <li>• A low carbon place – reducing our carbon emissions and adapting to climate change</li> <li>• A natural resilient place – helping to protect and enhance our natural cultural assets and facilitating their sustainable use</li> <li>• A connected place – supporting better transport and digital connectivity</li> </ul>	<p>Although the Local Development Plan primarily sets development at a local level for East Dunbartonshire, all future Council documents will need to align with the outcomes of the LOIP as the Council’s highest level document. In addition, the Locality Plans</p>
	<p>The consolidated SPP provides a shorter, clearer and more</p>	

<p><b>Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)</b></p>	<p>focused statement of national planning policy. The SPP and NPPG series has been replaced by a single SPP. As part of the commitment to proportionate and practical planning policies, the Scottish Government has rationalised national planning policy.</p> <p>The SPP sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ the Scottish Government's view of the purpose of planning,</li> <li>➤ the core principles for the operation of the system and the objectives for key parts of the system,</li> <li>➤ statutory guidance on sustainable development and planning under Section 3E of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006,</li> <li>➤ concise subject planning policies, including the implications for development planning and development management, and</li> <li>➤ The Scottish Government's expectations of the intended outcomes of the planning system.</li> </ul> <p>Alongside policy on development plans, development management, community engagement, sustainable development, climate change and sustainable economic growth, the SPP sets out policies related to the delivery of low carbon communities and natural heritage.</p>	<p>As above.</p>
<p><b>Scottish Government National Outcomes</b></p>	<p>Fifteen National Outcomes were set for the Scottish Government, and were updated in 2011. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe.</li> <li>➤ We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people.</li> <li>➤ We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation.</li> </ul>	<p>The LOIP should contribute towards each of the National Outcomes, where possible. The local outcomes that will be set out in the LOIP will align with Scotland's National Outcomes at a local level.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.</li> <li>➤ Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed.</li> <li>➤ We live longer, healthier lives.</li> <li>➤ We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society.</li> <li>➤ We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk.</li> <li>➤ We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger.</li> <li>➤ We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need.</li> <li>➤ We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others.</li> <li>➤ We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations.</li> <li>➤ We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity.</li> <li>➤ We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.</li> <li>➤ Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.</li> <li>➤ Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs.</li> </ul>	
<b>Regional</b>		
<p><b>Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan 2 (SDP2/Clydeplan)</b></p>	<p>The SDP together with the LDP forms the Development Plan in city region areas. It is prepared under Scottish Parliamentary Law, the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.</p>	<p>By setting the spatial vision for planning at a regional level and the planning outcomes it aims to achieve align with Scotland's national outcomes and helps to inform the local interpretation for planning. This will compliment community planning.</p>

	<p>The key aim of the SDP is to set out a long term Spatial Vision and related spatial development strategy. This will determine the future geography of development in the city region, with four planning outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• successful and sustainable places – supporting sustainable economic growth and regeneration and the creation of well-designed places;</li> <li>• low carbon places – reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change;</li> <li>• natural and resilient places – helping to protect and enhance the natural and cultural assets and facilitating their sustainable use; and</li> <li>• connected places – supporting better transport and digital connectivity.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Neighbouring Authority Strategic Actions</b></p>	<p>The neighbouring authorities to which this would relate include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ West Dunbartonshire Council</li> <li>➤ Stirling Council</li> <li>➤ North Lanarkshire Council and</li> <li>➤ Glasgow City Council</li> </ul> <p>This will include documents that could potentially impact on East Dunbartonshire, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Local Plan (Local Development Plans)</li> <li>➤ LOIP</li> <li>➤ Locality Plans</li> <li>➤ Economic Development Plans</li> </ul>	<p>The content of East Dunbartonshire’s neighbouring authorities’ strategic actions has the potential to influence the feasibility and outcomes of the LOIP and LP and should be taken into account where appropriate.</p>
<p><b>Local (East Dunbartonshire Council)</b></p>		



<p><b>Local Development Plan 2017 – 2022 (Including Supplementary Guidance and Site Briefs)</b></p>	<p>The LDP for East Dunbartonshire sets the framework for the growth and development of East Dunbartonshire up to 2022 and beyond and establishes a presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development as defined in Scottish Planning Policy.</p>	<p>The LOIP will set the vision and outcomes for future updates to the Local Development Plan. In addition, the emerging Locality Plans will need to adhere to the adopted LDP to ensure that community planning is in line with its policies and development spatial strategy.</p>
<p><b>Sustainability and Climate Change Framework</b></p>	<p>By 2020, East Dunbartonshire Council will demonstrate sustainability by delivering services in a way that protects and enhances the local and global natural environment while meeting social and economic needs, especially where those needs are greatest. By recognising and fostering the natural links between environmental, social and economic agendas, the Council will demonstrate forward-thinking, creative and joined-up ways of working which show that being greener is compatible with, and can often enhance the achievement of corporate and community benefits.</p>	<p>The content and requirements of the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework will need to be aligned with both the LOIP and LPs to ensure that sustainability principles are embedded at the highest level of the Council strategic hierarchy.</p>
<p><b>Community Justice Outcome Improvement Plan</b></p>	<p>The CJOIP will be applicable to the East Dunbartonshire Council area, and include the following partner organisations: Police Scotland, East Dunbartonshire Council, East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership, Scottish Prison Service, Skills Development Scotland, East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, Argyll, Bute and Dunbartonshire’ Criminal Justice Partnership and East Dunbartonshire Citizens Advice Bureau.</p> <p>The aims of the Plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities improve their understanding and participation in community justice.</li> <li>• Partners plan and deliver services in a more strategic and collaborative way.</li> <li>• Effective interventions are delivered to prevent and reduce the risk of further offending.</li> </ul>	<p>This Plan is directly linked with the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans as it will be the lead delivery mechanism for one of the designated Local Outcomes.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People have better access to the services they require, including welfare, health and wellbeing, housing and employability.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Community Asset Transfer Policy</b></p>	<p>The CAT Policy intends to define a set of rules and a procedure for dealing with community asset transfer requests under part 5 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 taking into account the requirements set out within the Asset Transfer (Procedure)(Scotland) Regulations 2016 and associated guidance that came into effect 23rd January 2017. Whilst the CAT Policy will demonstrate some links to East Dunbartonshire’s Council Corporate Asset Management Plan (CAMP), the Policy will not be directly governed by existing procedures within the CAMP as it will set out its own specific procedure related to the transfer of Council owned assets to community groups.</p>	<p>The CAT Policy will align with the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and there is scope that the Policy will have secondary impacts to promote or improve economic development, regeneration, public health, social wellbeing, environmental wellbeing and/or reduce inequalities and involve people experiencing socioeconomic disadvantage</p>
<p><b>Economic Development Strategy (emerging 2017)</b></p>	<p>This document is for anyone that lives, works in, or visits East Dunbartonshire. It demonstrates how the Community Planning Partnership is working towards a stronger, more resilient local economy and building upon our existing assets.</p> <p>The work carried out in East Dunbartonshire to drive economic growth is planned, implemented, and monitored by the East Dunbartonshire Economic Partnership (EDEP), which is a Local Outcome Delivery Group of the Community Planning Partnership. This group meets quarterly to ensure the objectives of this strategy are being met, and discuss what actions each partner is doing individually and as a group to meet them.</p>	<p>The emerging Economic Development Strategy for East Dunbartonshire will align with the economy outcome of the LOIP and therefore influence the overall outcome and intentions of each Locality Plan with a view to improving the local economy.</p>
<p><b>Lennoxtown Masterplan (emerging 2017)</b></p>	<p>The Masterplan will be based on a consultant’s report provided after a town centre charrette took place in Lennoxtown. The report outlines a number of suggestions based on the views of Council Officers, Community Groups, and local residents that took part in the charrette. Suggested projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main Street Public Realm – Minor alterations in the road design along Main Street, and a few additional pedestrian</li> </ul>	<p>The outcomes of the Masterplan will be fed into the Economic Development Strategy as the Masterplan aims to reduce inequality and increase town centre usage by making the town centre more attractive. This has a direct link to the Community Planning Partnership’s - Local Outcome Improvement Plan as Lennoxtown is a ‘Place’ area, which has been identified as an area that requires focussed resources to improve economic and</p>

	<p>crossing points through road design changes, and upgrades and additional use for existing community green spaces making them more attractive and functional for social space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making Connections – additional active travel links connecting Strathkelvin Railway line to the town centre, as well as through the grounds of High Church, a review of existing public transport links to the town, and additional pedestrian signage.</li> <li>• Making More of Land and Buildings – developing the Campsie hall for wider use including use by community groups as well as the introduction of a café to draw tourists, use of the vacant old library site, additional hours/ uses for the hub, artwork on local buildings, encouraging town centre living, investigate the feasibility of a micro-hydro community project, and upgrades to the pitch at High Park.</li> </ul>	<p>social outcomes. The Masterplan itself sits underneath the Local Development Plan, Local Transport Strategy, Active Travel Strategy and Open Space Strategy in the Council-wide strategic hierarchy as it focusses regeneration and social projects to the specific area of Lennoxton, primarily in the town centre.</p>
<p><b>Employability Action Group Strategy and Action Plan</b></p>	<p>The East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership provides the overarching Strategic Planning and Performance Framework that brings together local partners to address the range of complex social, community, physical, economic and wellbeing issues that face some of our communities. We have well established arrangements for community planning in East Dunbartonshire with a Board, Executive Group, 6 Local Outcome Delivery Groups and other satellite groups covering cross-cutting issues such as equality.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire’s Employability Action Group is the main strategic body for addressing the broad range of employability issues affecting people in East Dunbartonshire and as such, leads on existing Local Outcome 2 - <i>‘Our people are equipped with knowledge, skills and training to enable them to progress to employment’</i>.</p>	<p>This Strategy is directly linked with the Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans as it will be the lead delivery mechanism for one of the designated Local Outcomes.</p>

	<p>The approach to this Strategy is inherently linked to a broader framework of related plans, strategies and outcomes, both nationally and locally. Achieving these necessary links is essential if we are to continue to effectively tackle the wide range of issues our people face in relation to accessing and sustaining employability; reducing these issues and the negative impact they have on people’s lives.</p> <p>The Strategy ensures that the people of East Dunbartonshire have the necessary opportunities to gain and sustain meaningful employment. Through the production and implementation of the Strategy it is anticipated that the targeted priorities groups will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Leavers at risk of not entering a Positive Destination</li> <li>• Young People aged 18-25 years</li> <li>• People with Significant Barriers</li> <li>• Returners to the Labour Market and 50+ Workforce</li> <li>• Underemployed Workforce</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Open Space Strategy</b></p>	<p>The East Dunbartonshire Open Space Strategy (2015 – 2020) replaced the East Dunbartonshire Greenspace Audit and Strategy 2004. It sets the framework for current and future open space provision in the Council area, meeting the requirement of Scottish Planning Policy for local authorities to prepare an Open Space Audit and Strategy. It also contributes to the development of the Central Scotland Green Network, promoted in the National Planning Framework 3. The Strategy will be reviewed and updated every 5 years.</p>	<p>The Open Space Strategy (2015 – 2020) provides the Council’s Open Space Planning team with a viable and enforceable tool to define open space requirements and establish requirements for new open space from development proposals together with the scale and nature of any planning obligations and contribute to meeting the Vision, Local Outcomes and Guiding Principles of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.</p>
<p><b>Green Network Strategy</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the Green Network Strategy (GNS) is to define the existing strategic green network in East Dunbartonshire using GIS</p>	<p>The Green Network Strategy provides the Council with a viable and enforceable tool to define green network opportunities and</p>

	<p>mapping analysis to identify opportunities for the enhancement of the existing green network in both urban and rural locations. The opportunities mapping methodology will guide the identification of areas that are eligible for the expansion and/or enhancement of the green network in order to improve habitat connectivity, increase active travel provision and enhance access to open spaces, as well as health and wellbeing benefits and opportunities for adaptation to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>The Strategy presents local, EDC-wide and regional opportunities which include the enhancement of the green network between neighbouring authorities. In doing so, the Green Network Strategy helped to inform the emerging Local Development Plan Green Infrastructure and Green Network Supplementary Guidance and related planning obligations, as well as demonstrate synergies between both biodiversity and access. It also defines open space provision in East Dunbartonshire as an update to the Open Space Strategy 2015 – 2020. Although the Open Space Strategy will continue to set open space requirements and the Green Network Strategy should complement existing open space actions. The Green Network Strategy is also intended to help to raise awareness and an understanding of East Dunbartonshire’s green network for local communities and demonstrate how the green network can be of benefit in terms of education.</p>	<p>will establish requirements for new green network open opportunities from development proposals together with the scale and nature of any planning obligations and contribute to meeting the Vision, Local Outcomes and Guiding Principles of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.</p>
<p><b>Local Biodiversity Action Plan</b></p>	<p>The Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) 2016 – 2020 takes a strategic approach to protecting biodiversity across the East Dunbartonshire Council-wide area, including Mugdock Country Park (Stirling Council and the Joint Committee for the Park were involved in issues related to the Park). The LBAP recognises the importance of biodiversity at both a national and a local level. The production of a new LBAP replaced the Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Action Plan 2013 (East Dunbartonshire and West Dunbartonshire) for an updated, co-ordinated and targeted</p>	<p>The Local Biodiversity Action Plan provides the Council with a viable and enforceable tool to protect and enhance biodiversity throughout East Dunbartonshire and will establish requirements for biodiversity enhancements and mitigation measures from development proposals together with the scale and nature of any planning obligations and contribute to meeting the Vision, Local Outcomes and Guiding Principles of the Local Outcome Improvement Plan.</p>

	<p>approach to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.</p> <p>An ecosystem approach was taken in the development of the LBAP, focussing on Urban, Rural, Woodland and Freshwater ecosystems. Each Ecosystem Plan has its own set of objectives and provides information on associated priority habitats and lists the priority species. The actions within the plan tend to take a habitat focused approach to conserving biodiversity but some species that need an additional helping hand or that we need to gather further survey information for may also have specific actions.</p>	
<p><b>Local Transport Strategy</b></p>	<p>The LTS sets out the Council’s position in relation to transport policy. Transport affects how people choose to travel whether it is through walking or cycling to access key services or other modes of transport, commuting to work via public transport or by private car for retail purposes. It is important that the appropriate transport infrastructure is maintained and interventions delivered in order to promote economic growth, social inclusion and the health and well-being of our community.</p> <p>The transport objectives for the Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivering a safe transport network across all modes;</li> <li>• Improving the health and wellbeing of the community through promoting sustainable travel, attractive well designed streets and active travel routes throughout East Dunbartonshire</li> <li>• Enhancing the accessibility of services, facilities and businesses in East Dunbartonshire, which promotes social inclusion</li> <li>• Delivering reliable and efficient public transport services through close working with key transport partners and providers in order to achieve modal shift</li> <li>• Ensuring that existing roads and footways are maintained</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy and all related projects will contribute towards the delivery of the Community Planning Partnership’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans and work towards delivering national and regional government priorities at a local level.</p>

	<p>incorporating high environmental and design standards</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a transport network that supports both the local and wider region through delivering sustainable economic growth and travel, while conserving and enhancing the natural and historic environment where possible</li> <li>• Ensuring that the impacts from transportation on the environment and air quality are mitigated in order to work towards the targets set out in the Climate Change Act 2008.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Active Travel Strategy</b></p>	<p>This is the first Active Travel Strategy (ATS) for East Dunbartonshire. The ATS supplements the current Local Transport Strategy (LTS) 2013-2017 and sets a framework and evidence base for proposed programmes of active travel projects in East Dunbartonshire. The ATS is a strategy for increasing participation in active travel in East Dunbartonshire spanning five years and will complement and deliver on transport objectives and interventions within the current Local Transport Strategy and feed into the next LTS. The strategy sets out an action plan, accompanied by a map of proposed enhancements, outlining a range of coordinated projects which deliver multiple benefits and value for money for the area.</p>	<p>The Strategy and all related projects will contribute towards the delivery of the Community Planning Partnership’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans and work towards delivering national and regional government priorities at a local level.</p>
<p><b>Culture, Leisure and Sport Strategy</b></p>	<p>This is the first combined strategy for culture, leisure and sport in East Dunbartonshire. It sets out the direction for culture, leisure and sport for at least the next 5 years by establishing an overarching ambition for provision within the area. The ambition is realised through a series of long-term objectives and key priorities for action. The strategy is intended as a high level document which identifies strategic and overarching issues however it does identify through the Action Programme key areas of work and who is responsible for ensuring that this work is undertaken.</p>	<p>This Strategy pulls together national and local priorities in all of the areas that shape and overlap with culture, leisure and sport to produce a co-ordinated approach to provision. The Strategy and related projects will contribute towards the delivery of the Community Planning Partnership’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan and Locality Plans.</p>

Appendix B: Consultation Authority Responses to the Scoping Report

Historic Environment Scotland Comments	EDC Response and Action Taken
<b>Scope and Level of Detail</b>	
<p>It is our understanding that the Local Outcome Improvement Plan will set a focus of priority in East Dunbartonshire which form the first tier of strategic planning in the local authority. The Locality Plans will deliver the aims and outcomes of the LOIP at a local level, by identifying the needs of the local community. We note that the historic environment has been scoped into the assessment. On the basis of the information provided, we are content with this approach and are satisfied with the scope and level of detail proposed for the assessment, subject to the detailed comments provided subject to the detailed comments provided in Annex 1.</p>	<p>Comments noted and scoping in of Cultural Heritage confirmed.</p>
<b>Consultation period for the Environmental Report</b>	
<p>We are content with the proposed minimum consultation period of 6 weeks. Please note that, for administrative purposes, we consider that the consultation period commences on receipt of the relevant documents by the SEA Gateway.</p>	<p>Comments noted and consultation period timescales and procedures confirmed within ER.</p>
<b>Annex 1 – Detailed comments on the scope and the level of detail</b>	
<p>Table 1 – proposed environmental baseline data – cultural heritage We recommend that your environmental baseline for cultural heritage should also include non-designated heritage assets. It may also be helpful include the Buildings at Risk register (<a href="http://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/">http://www.buildingsatrisk.org.uk/</a>), a source of baseline data which may also suggest trends / issues / opportunities within the historic environment which could be relevant in this context.</p>	<p>Comments noted and baseline date altered to reflect this within ER.</p>
<p>Simply for information, Historic Environment Scotland is the successor body to Historic Scotland, and conservation areas are no longer defined as outstanding.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>Table 2 – Environmental Issues You may find it helpful to explore relevant environmental issues for the historic environment in the context of the LOIP and LPs in more detail, as this section currently focusses on tourism and high-profile heritage assets. For instance, you may wish to explore issues and opportunities around placemaking, regeneration, poor condition and maintenance, access and education in the context of the historic environment.</p>	<p>Comment noted – Additional issues have been included within Table 2 within the ER as a result.</p>
<p>Table 5 – Proposed SEA objectives, assessment questions and indicators Whilst we are content with the questions and indicators proposed for cultural heritage, we encourage you to consider expanding these to enable assessment of historic environment effects in relation to additional issues identified and the promotion of the historic environment’s</p>	<p>Comment noted and assessment questions/criteria amended to reflect this. However, we felt as though having access to and the use of a healthy historic environment would have impacts on Population and Human Health and have therefore</p>



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importance for the health and wellbeing of communities. A focussed consideration of the relevant environmental issues (see above) will assist with this.	reflected this through alterations to the Population and Human Health assessment criteria.
We note that you have included limited information on how you intend to record and report the assessment. We would be happy to provide advice on this aspect of the methodology as you develop it, if that would be helpful.	Comment noted – The assessment methodology and recording process is set out clearly within the ER in an easily understandable format to highlight the impacts identified and also where the SEA process has influenced the development and content of the LOIP.
<b>SEPA Comments</b>	<b>EDC Response and Action Taken</b>
<b>Legislative Requirements</b>	
As required under Section 15(2) of the Act, we have considered the document submitted and comment as follows in respect of the scope and level of detail to be included in the Environmental Report (ER). We are generally satisfied with the proposed scope and methodology of the assessment.	Comment noted.
<b>Appendix: Comments on the Scoping Consultation</b>	
We previously expressed the view 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. Whilst this remains our opinion we have reviewed the Scoping Report and can offer the following advice.	Comment noted.
<b>1. Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)</b>	
<b>1.1</b> As you undertake the full and comprehensive review of relevant PPSs as part of the SEA process we recommend you refer to our <a href="#">standing advice on SEA scoping</a> and topic specific guidance on air, soil, water, material assets and human health, available through our <a href="#">website</a> , which includes reference to other PPS which may be relevant to the plan.	Comment noted.
<b>1.2</b> Some of the PPS included have themselves been subject to SEA. Where this is the case you may find it useful to prepare a summary of the key SEA findings that may be relevant to the plan. This may assist you with data sources and environmental baseline information and also ensure the current SEA picks up environmental issues or mitigation actions which may have been identified elsewhere.	Comment noted.
<b>2. Baseline information and environmental problems</b>	
<b>2.1</b> Generally we are satisfied with the range of baseline information sources identified within Table 1 of the Scoping Report. We also consider that the environmental problems described in Table 2 highlight the main issues of relevance for the SEA topics within our remit. Our <a href="#">SEA topic guidance</a> includes references to other sources of data and issues you may find useful. Additional local information may also be	Comment noted.

available from our Access to Information unit at our Corporate Office (Telephone 01786 457700 or email <a href="mailto:dataenquiries@sepa.org.uk">dataenquiries@sepa.org.uk</a> ).	
<b>2.2</b> For information, we note that reference is made to The River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River Basin District 2009 – 2015. The second RBMP for the Scotland River Basin District 2015 – 2027 was recently published and is available on our <a href="#">website</a> .	Comment noted and sources of data amended within baseline data.
<b>3. Scoping in/out of environmental topics</b>	
<b>3.1</b> We note that in this instance all environmental topics have been scoped into the assessment. There may be opportunities to rationalise the topics during the course of the assessment if it becomes clear that no significant effects on a topic are likely.	Comment noted – areas where no significant effects have been identified have been recorded as such within the ER assessments.
<b>4. Alternatives</b>	
<b>4.1</b> We are satisfied with the approach to alternatives outlined in Section 3.3 of the report. These should be assessed as part of the SEA process and the findings of the assessment should inform the choice of the preferred option(s). This should be documented in the Environmental Report (ER).	Comment noted – All reasonable alternatives for each element of the LOIP have been assessed and have informed the decision-making process in terms of preferred options taken forward into the Plan. This process has been clearly documented within the ER.
<b>5. Methodology for assessing environmental effects</b>	
<b>5.1</b> We support the use of SEA objectives as assessment tools as they allow a systematic, rigorous and consistent framework with which to assess environmental effects. We are content with the proposed SEA objectives to be used in the assessment as set out in Table 5.	Comment noted.
<b>5.2</b> When it comes to setting out the results of the assessment in the ER please provide enough information to clearly justify the reasons for each of the assessments presented. It would also be helpful to set out assumptions that are made during the assessment and difficulties and limitations encountered.	Comment noted – assessment justification and reasoning provided within the ER.
<b>5.3</b> Including a commentary section any supporting matrices, for example, in order to state where necessary the reasons for the effects cited and the score given helps to fully explain the rationale behind the assessment results. This allows the Responsible Authority to be transparent and also allows the reader to understand the rationale behind the scores given.	Comment noted – Commentary section provided as part of all assessments.
<b>5.4</b> Where it is expected that other plans, programmes or strategies are better placed to undertake more detailed assessment of environmental effects this should be clearly set out in the ER.	Comment noted – Assessment of all the main components of the LOIP, including reasonable alternatives are contained within the ER.
<b>6. Mitigation and enhancement</b>	
<b>6.1</b> We would encourage you to use the assessment as a way to improve the environmental performance of individual aspects of the final option; hence we support	Comment noted and detailed within ER.

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proposals for enhancement of positive effects as well as mitigation of negative effects. It is useful to show the link between potential effects and proposed mitigation / enhancement measures in the assessment framework.	
<b>6.2</b> We would also encourage you to be very clear in the ER about mitigation measures which are proposed as a result of the assessment. These should follow the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate).	Comment noted – mitigation section outlined in ER.
<b>6.3</b> One of the most important ways to mitigate significant environmental effects identified through the assessment is to make changes to the plan itself so that significant effects are avoided. The ER should therefore identify any changes made to the plan as a result of the SEA.	Comment noted – Where modifications to the plans content have been suggested through the SEA process as mitigation, this has been clearly noted within the ER.
<b>6.4</b> Where the mitigation proposed does not relate to modification to the plan itself then it would be extremely helpful to set out the proposed mitigation measures in a way that clearly identifies: (1) the measures required, (2) when they would be required and (3) who will be required to implement them. The inclusion of a summary table in the ER such as that presented below will help to track progress on mitigation through the monitoring process.	Comment noted – Mitigation approach detailed within Section 4.
<b>7. Monitoring</b>	
<b>7.1</b> Although not specifically required at this stage, monitoring is a requirement of the Act and early consideration should be given to a monitoring approach particularly in the choice of indicators. It would be helpful, as proposed, if the ER included a description of the measures envisaged to monitor the significant environmental effects of the plan.	Comment noted and the monitoring framework for the LOIP is included within Section 4: Table 10 of the ER.
<b>8. Consultation period</b>	
<b>8.1</b> We are satisfied with the proposal for a six to eight week consultation period for the Environmental Report.	Comment noted and consultation period confirmed.
<b>9. Outcomes of the Scoping exercise</b>	
<b>9.1</b> We would find it helpful if the ER included a summary of the scoping outcomes and how comments from the Consultation Authorities were taken into account.	Comment noted and the scoping outcomes are contained within Appendix B.
<b>SNH Comments</b>	<b>EDC Response and Action Taken</b>
<b>Scope of assessment and level of detail</b>	
Subject to the specific comments set out below and in the annex to this letter, SNH is content with the scope and level of detail proposed for the environmental report.	Comment noted and level of scope confirmed within the ER.
<b>2.1 Relationship with other Plans, Programmes and Strategies</b>	
Given the overlap in the aspirations of the LOIP/LPs and the East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy 2016 – 2021, we recommend that this strategy is added to the list of other Plans, Projects and Strategies that the LOIP/LPs need to be integrated with.	Comment noted and amendment made.
<b>Table 1: Proposed Environmental Baseline Data</b>	
<b>Soil &amp; Geology/Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</b> The Carbon and Peatland map 2016 is a predictive tool that provides an indication of the likely presence of carbon rich	Comment noted and this data source has been included within the baseline data to inform the

<p>soils, deep peat and Priority peatland habitat - <a href="http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/advice-for-planners-and-developers/soils-and-development/cpp/">http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development/advice-for-planners-and-developers/soils-and-development/cpp/</a>. This map is now available for download as a GIS shape file from the Natural Spaces section of the SNH Information Service (renewable category). We recommend that this information is included as part of the environmental baseline data to help identify any potential impacts on carbon rich soils, deep peat and Priority peatland habitat from the LOIP/LPs.</p>	<p>assessment of the Plan.</p>
<p><b>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</b> We recommend that the existing strategic and local green network assets and opportunities identified in the East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy 2016 – 2021 are included in the environmental baseline for the assessment. This information should then be used to identify any potential impacts on these assets and opportunities for the LOIP and LPs to contribute to the aspirations of the green network strategy and vice versa.</p>	<p>Comment noted – Additions have been made to the biodiversity section of the baseline data, including reference to the strategic and local assets and opportunities.</p>
<p><b>European protected species</b> Please note that badgers and water voles are not European protected species - Badgers are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended) and water voles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). For further information on protected species, please see our website - <a href="http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/protected-species/which-and-how/">http://www.snh.gov.uk/protecting-scotlands-nature/protected-species/which-and-how/</a>.</p>	<p>Comment noted and baseline data adjusted accordingly.</p>
<p><b>Table 5: Proposed SEA Objectives, Assessment Questions and Criteria</b></p>	
<p>We recommend that the following additional indicator is used to assess the LOIP/LPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of natural heritage assets (see Table 1) affected (positive and negative) by projects in the LOIP and LPs.</li> </ul>	<p>Comment noted and additional indicator incorporated within the ER monitoring framework.</p>
<p>Following on from our comments above, this should also include consideration of impacts on the existing green network assets and opportunities identified in the East Dunbartonshire Green Network Strategy 2016 – 2021.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p><b>Consultation period for the Environmental Report</b></p>	
<p>We note that a minimum period of six to eight weeks is proposed for consultation on the Environmental Report and we are content with this timescale.</p>	<p>Comment noted and consultation period confirmed.</p>

Appendix C: SEA Assessment Criteria and Questions

Environmental Factor	SEA Objective	SEA Criteria – will the proposed options in the LOIP...?
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	1. To improve human health and community wellbeing.	Demonstrate the benefits of a healthy natural and historical environment on the health and wellbeing of communities?
		Promote a sustainable environment?
		Promote safety within and between communities?
		Contribute to reducing social, economic and environmental deprivation in East Dunbartonshire?
		Encourage active travel, outdoor leisure and ensure access to open / green space?
		Encourage local communities/volunteers to become involved in community based projects?
		Encourage greater local employment opportunities?
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	2. To protect, conserve, and where appropriate enhance the historic environment	Encourage visitors to cultural heritage assets in East Dunbartonshire?
		Continue to protect and conserve cultural heritage assets?
<b>Biodiversity Flora and Fauna</b>	3. To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity.	Promote the importance of biodiversity and the natural environment for local communities and health and wellbeing in East Dunbartonshire?
		Seek to reduce the negative impact on valued biodiversity including non-protected and protected species?
		Encourage habitat connectivity by decreasing the number of fragmented habitat networks?
		Encourage native planting, including hedgerows?
<b>Soil and Geology</b>	4. To maintain or improve soil quality, prevent any further degradation of soils and conserve recognised geodiversity assets.	Protect and improve areas of peatland?
		Seek to prevent and improve soil degradation and erosion?
		Result in improvements to or remediation of contaminated land to promote the community use of vacant and derelict land?
		Protect habitats and species that have Protected Species status?
<b>Landscape</b>	5. To protect and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value.	Promote and enhance local distinctiveness and scenic value in East Dunbartonshire?
		Protect and enhance landscape designations (e.g. the Campsie Fells, Local Landscape Areas, green belt)?
		Seek to improve habitat connectivity?
<b>Water Quality</b>	6. To protect and enhance the state of the water environment.	Seek to reduce any impacts on the ecological status of water bodies in East Dunbartonshire?
<b>Air Quality</b>	7. To maintain or improve air quality and reduce emissions of key pollutants.	Seek to manage air quality for health benefits to local communities?
		Promote the use of more active travel and public transport alternatives to private car use?
		Support measures to prevent the designation of additional AQMAs and reduce impacts on existing AQMAs throughout East Dunbartonshire?
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	8. To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets in order to reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risk.	Promote a change in culture and behaviour to ensure that the local communities are aware of the issues associated with climate change?
		Include mitigation and adaptation measures in light of a changing climate and local environment?
		Seek to protect, create or enhance natural resources such as trees, carbon rich soils and peatland for flood alleviation and carbon capture?
<b>Material Assets</b>	9. To promote the sustainable use of community assets and natural resources in East Dunbartonshire.	Result in improvements to or remediation of contaminated land to promote the community use of vacant and derelict land?
		Support a sustainable transport network?
		Protect and encourage access to public open spaces for recreation and community based activities?
		Support the implementation of low carbon technologies and the use of sustainable materials through design concepts?

**Appendix D: Development and Assessment of Reasonable Alternatives**

Within the table below, each key component of the LOIP (Vision, Local Outcomes and Guiding Principles) has been reviewed and all reasonable alternatives, including SEA suggested alterations/modifications, identified to meet the requirements of each element. Each option has then been subject to an environmental assessment to consider the likely impacts on the environment and an SEA preferred option (or best practicable environmental option) has been proposed as a result. This has been illustrated below and the full assessments and reasoning are documented within section 3.4 of the Environmental report.

Vision			
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
Working together to achieve the best with the people of East Dunbartonshire	East Dunbartonshire is a thriving, successful and sustainable place; a place where all people have the best opportunities to meet their potential and can enjoy a high quality local environment for health and well-being.	East Dunbartonshire is a place where all people can prosper by improving equality and creating a thriving, successful and sustainable place.	East Dunbartonshire is a thriving and successful place with strong, vibrant communities where people have a good quality of life and access to opportunities, choices and high quality services which are sustainable, accessible and meet their needs  ✓SEA Preferred Option
Local Outcomes			
Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
<b>LO 1: Economic Growth and Recovery</b> East Dunbartonshire has a sustainable and resilient economy with busy town and village centres, a growing business base, and is an attractive place in which to invest.  ✓SEA Preferred Option	East Dunbartonshire has an expanding economy with a competitive and diverse business and retail base.		
<b>LO 2: Employment</b> Our people are equipped with knowledge, skills and training to enable them to progress to employment.	Our people are equipped with knowledge and skills for learning, life and work.  ✓SEA Preferred Option		
<b>LO 3: Children and Young People</b> Our children and young people are safe, healthy and ready to learn.  ✓SEA Preferred Option	Our children and young people live in a safe and accessible environment where they are ready to learn, and physical and mental health and wellbeing is maximised.	Children and young people’s health and wellbeing is improved by breaking the cycle of poverty, inequality and poor outcomes.	East Dunbartonshire’s children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential.
<b>LO 4: Safer and Stronger Communities</b> East Dunbartonshire is a safe place in which to live, work and visit.  ✓SEA Preferred Option	No reasonable alternatives have been identified for this local outcome. A more sustainable approach to this Outcome will be captured within the Sustainability Guiding Principle as well as through Local Outcome 5 through the access to		

	and use of a quality built and natural environment.		
<p><b>LO 5: Health and Well-being</b> Our people and communities enjoy increased physical and mental health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Our people experience good physical and mental health and wellbeing with access to a quality built and natural environment in which to lead healthier and more active lifestyles.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>		
<p><b>LO 6: Older People and their Carers</b> Our more vulnerable citizens and their carers are able to maintain their independence for longer and are able to access appropriate support when they need it.</p>	<p>Our older population and our more vulnerable citizens are supported to maintain their independence and enjoy a high quality of life, and they, their families and carers benefit from effective care and support services.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>		
<b>Guiding Principles</b>			
<b>Option 1</b>	<b>Option 2</b>	<b>Option 3</b>	<b>Option 4</b>
<p><b>GP 1: Planning for Place</b> We will target resources where they are most needed to reduce disadvantage caused by socio-economic inequality.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>	<p>No reasonable alternatives have been identified for this guiding principle. This is due to the fact that the Planning for Place guiding principle reflects the overall purpose of the LOIP and Locality Plans set out within the Community Empowerment Act.</p>		
<p><b>GP 2: Sustainability</b> We will strive to ensure a better quality of life for everyone, for present and future generations, by recognising the needs of all; protecting our environment and building resilience to a changing climate; using our natural resources prudently; and considering the long term implications of our decisions.</p>	<p>We will create the conditions for a better quality of life for East Dunbartonshire residents, by recognising their health and wellbeing needs without compromising the quality of our built, natural and historic environment. In doing so we will build resilience to a changing climate, use our natural resources prudently and consider the long term implications of our decisions for present and future generations.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>		
<p><b>GP 3: Fair and Equitable Delivery of Public Services</b> We will plan and deliver services which account for the different needs of population groups who share a characteristic protected by the Equality</p>	<p>As this guiding principle is related to delivering services that represent the needs of the varied population in East Dunbartonshire, it has been determined by the LOIP and LPs lead and outcome delivery groups that there are no reasonable</p>		

<p>Act.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>	<p>alternatives as the characteristics are set out in the Equality Act.</p>		
<p><b>GP 4: Prevention and Early Intervention</b></p> <p>We will direct resources with the aim of improving resilience and preventing or mitigating poorer outcomes.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>	<p>We will allocate resources to support the aim of preventing poorer outcomes before they arise.</p>		
<p><b>GP 5: Coproduction and Engagement</b></p> <p>We will identify the varying needs of each of our communities and through proactive engagement, develop necessary services.</p>	<p>We will continuously strive to understand the different needs of our communities, supporting them to strengthen their own communities and involving them in the design and delivery of services.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>		
<p><b>GP 6: Evidence-based Strategic Planning</b></p> <p>We will share information and data to inform robust and transparent decision making, planning and evaluating our impact in partnership and implementing improvement practices.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>	<p>Given the nature of this guiding principle, it has been determined by the LOIP lead and outcome delivery groups that there are no reasonable alternatives to delivering 'Evidence-based Strategic Planning' throughout the Council.</p>		
<p><b>GP 7: Best Value</b></p> <p>We will endeavour to maintain an appropriate balance between the quality of the performance of our functions, the cost of that performance, and the cost to persons of any service provided. In maintaining that balance, the Partnership shall have regard to safety, efficiency, effectiveness and economy.</p> <p>✓SEA Preferred Option</p>	<p>Given the nature of this guiding principle, it has been determined by the LOIP and LPs lead and outcome delivery groups that there are no reasonable, practicable alternatives to providing 'Best Value' throughout the Council.</p>		