



Strategic Environmental Assessment - Screening

**Scottish Enterprise Grampian
Aberdeenshire Council
Aberdeen City Council**



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Part 1: Screening – Background

Introduction

Most plans¹ prepared by local authorities are formally required.² In addition, they contain some criteria or conditions which guide the way your local authority decides on applications. These criteria or conditions may be in the form of limits on the type of development or conditions to be met by applicant before permission is granted. When the plans are adopted, officers considering applications will refer to the guidelines in the adopted plans to decide whether or not an application meets all the criteria in the plan.³ Under the EU Directive 2001/42/EC, it is these categories of plans – the ones that are formally required and whose guidelines officers refer to in approving or refusing applications - that are screened.⁴ Under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the screening (or pre-screening) process is extended to cover plans that are neither formally required nor form the basis for approving development proposals.

The Act also recognises that some plans are likely to have either (i) no environmental effect; (ii) minimal environmental effects or (iii) significant environmental effects. To come to any of these conclusions, all plans will now have to be screened or pre-screened even if they will all not necessarily go through the full length of the SEA process. This is why every Service

¹ In this document any reference to plans refers to plans, programmes and strategies.

² They are required under legislative, regulatory and administrative provisions.

³ The criteria in these plans become the framework for future development consents. These criteria could include a requirement for an EIA or impose other conditions. A “development consent” is defined under the EU Directive 85/337 as “the decision of the competent authority or authorities, which entitles the developer to proceed with the project.” (See Regina vs. North Yorkshire County Council ex Parte Brown & Another).

⁴ The screening process aims to decide whether or not they are likely to have significant environmental effects.

should understand how to administer the screening process. An SEA handbook has already been prepared explaining the entire SEA processes. This screening manual provides guidance on the process of screening and pre-screening. This manual is based on the Scottish Screening template produced by SEA Gateway. It is also possible for an SEA to be carried out voluntarily. Guidance in this manual also covers the screening process for voluntary SEAs.

What is screening?

Screening takes place at the earliest stage in the strategic environmental assessment process, during which the decision is made as to whether a plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. Once it is determined that a plan is likely to have significant environmental effects, it will go through the full length of the SEA process discussed in the SEA handbook. Pre-screening carries almost the same meaning and process as screening⁵ except that it relates to slightly different plans considered to have either no environmental effects or minimal environmental effects.

Screening Requirement

In general, SEA is required for plans prepared by Responsible Authorities; or for plans that will be adopted through a legislative procedure. These plans must relate to issues of public character and be formally required.

The nature of the functions of local authorities is such that these general requirements affect all Services. The screening stage in the SEA process may be skipped or approached at different starting points depending upon whether plans affect sites designated for their international nature conservation importance or whether they relate to the following 11 sectors: agriculture, fisheries, forestry, energy industry, telecommunications, transport, tourism, town and country planning, waste management and water management. Consequently, there are now:-

⁵ Insofar as Schedule 1 criteria for determining significance apply to both screening and pre-screening.

1. Plans which skip the screening stage & start with scoping
2. Plans which require screening and
3. Plans which require pre-screening

1. Plans which skip screening and start with scoping

These are the 11 sectoral plans, which contain guidelines for EIA and which inform officers' decisions to allow or disallow developments. Alternatively, if these sectoral plans are determined to require Appropriate Assessment (AA) because of their effect on Natural 2000 sites, they will skip the screening stage of the SEA process and begin with scoping. This approach is taken because these types of plans are presumed to have significant environmental effects. Examples of such plans listed in the ODPM et al. (2005) A Practical Guide to Strategic Environmental Assessment. London: ODPM include:-

- Regional Strategic Plan
- Regional Economic Strategies
- Regional Transport Strategy
- Structure Plans
- Local Plans
- Subject Local Plans
- Local Transport Strategy
- Local Housing Strategies
- Mineral Plans
- Area Waste Plans
- Local Air Quality Action Plans
- Waste Local Plans
- Economic Development Strategy
- Offshore Windfarm Site Licensing Rounds
- Flood Defence Strategies

2. Plans which should be screened

Minor⁶ amendments, alteration or modifications of plans will require screening. Equally, plans affecting small areas at local levels and those that guide officers' decision to approve or refuse applications for developments fall under this category.

Examples of plans affecting small areas at local levels

- Area plans
- Neighbourhood action plans
- Masterplanning frameworks
- Master Plans

Other examples include **minor modifications** of the following plans

- Regional Strategic Plan
- Regional Economic Strategies
- Regional Transport Strategy
- Structure Plans
- Local Plans
- Subject Local Plans
- Local Transport Strategy
- Local Housing Strategies
- Mineral Plans
- Area Waste Plans
- Local Air Quality Action Plans
- Waste Local Plans
- Economic Development Strategy
- Offshore Windfarm Site Licensing Rounds
- Flood Defence Strategies



⁶ It has to be stressed that this is a very minor modification as opposed to a planned major plan amendment.

Examples of plans, which contain guidelines that inform officers' decisions to approve or refuse development applications, include the following:-

- Community Plans
- Strategic Plans
- Corporate Plan
- Service Plans
- Environmental Strategy
- Accommodation Policy
- Outdoor Access Strategy
- Green Space Strategy
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Environmental Strategy
- Protective Services Strategy
- Energy Strategy
- Environment Strategy And Policy
- Climate Change Policy
- Housing Investment Strategy and Policy
- Community Regeneration Strategies
- Energy Conservation Strategies
- Renewable Energy Strategy
- Sustainable Drainage Strategy
- Core Paths Plan
- Landscape Strategies
- Waste Management Strategies
- Supplementary Planning Guidance
- Local Biodiversity Action Plans
- Local Agenda 21 Strategy
- Nature Conservation Strategy
- Flood Prevention Strategy
- Urban Realm Strategy
- Conservation and Urban Policies
- Home Energy Conservation Act Strategy

3. Plans requiring pre-screening

Some plans may not be prepared because of any formal requirement. They may not even set the framework for future development consents. Under the EU Directive 2001/42/EC, these plans will not require SEA. Under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, these PPS will fall under the SEA Act. If these plans are likely to have significant effects on the environment, they will require screening. On the other hand, if they have minimal or no significant effects on the environment, they will require pre-screening. Examples of plans that could be pre-screened include the following:-

- Asset Management Plans
- Public Transport Policies
- Road Safety Plans
- Fuel Poverty Strategies
- Joint Community Care Plan
- Community Safety Plan
- Supporting People Strategic Plan
- Equality Plan
- Housing Business Plan
- Standard Tenant Delivery Plan
- Resources Strategy
- Housing Capital Policies
- Asset Management & Facilities policy
- Community Learning Development Strategy
- School Estate Management Strategy
- Accessibility strategy
- Diversity and race Equality Strategy
- Co-ordinated support plans
- Learning Disability Strategy
- Mental Health Services Strategy
- Homelessness strategy
- Private Sector Strategy Older people's strategy
- Cycling Strategy
- Non-statutory Planning Policy

4. Exemptions

Under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, only plans exempted from the SEA process will not be screened or pre-screened. At the moment, the only plan exempted is as follows:-

Plans relating to an individual school.
Table 1 below shows the summary of screening requirements as discussed.

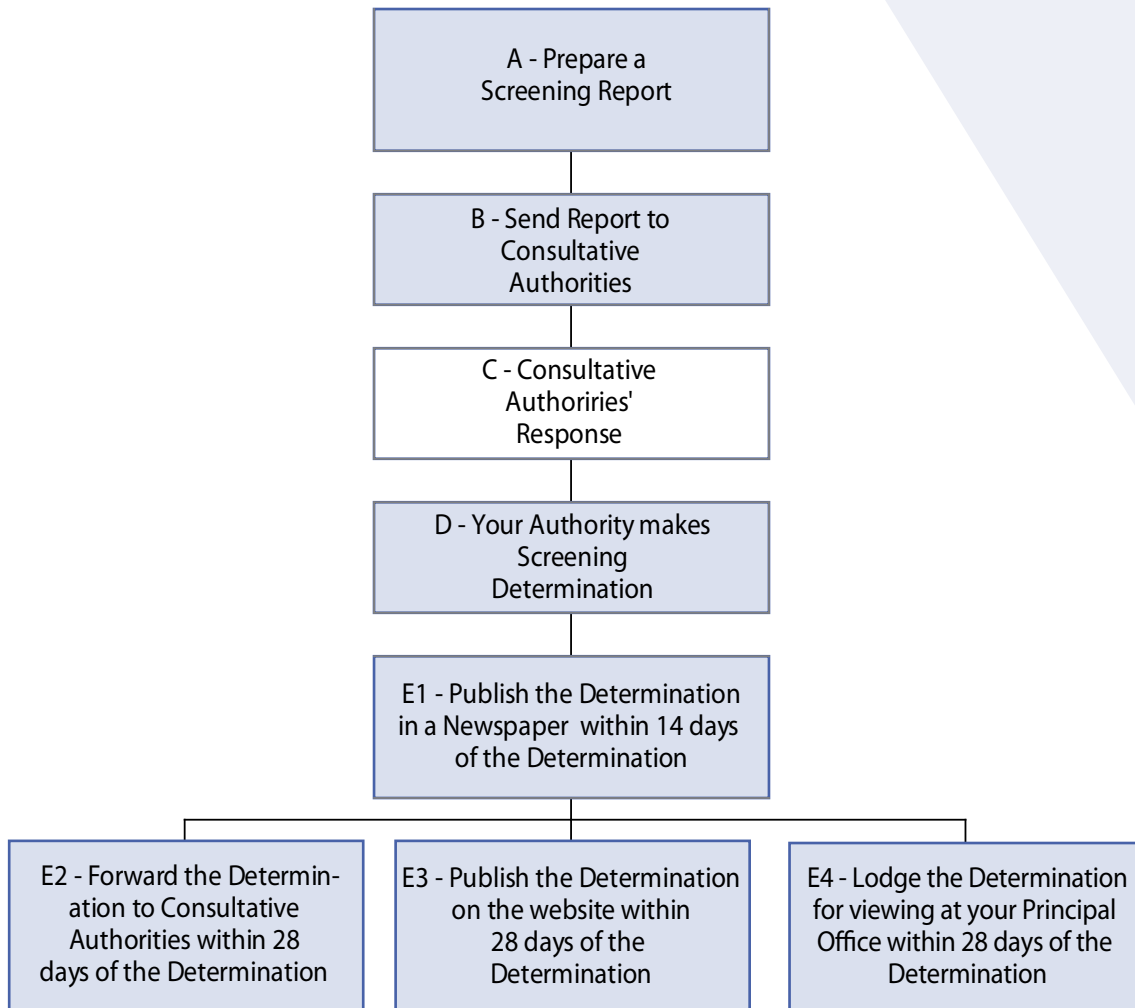
Tabl 1: Screening Actions

Types of Plans,	Are they formally required?	Do they set the framework via EIA type criteria?	Do they set the framework for	Are they likely to have significant effects?	Action Required
Affecting Natura 2000 Sites	Yes			Yes, Presumed	Scope
11 sectoral plans	Yes	Yes		Yes Presumed	Scope
Minor modification	Yes	Yes		Not Sure	Screen
Small Area plans at local level	Yes	Yes		Not Sure	Screen
Other PPS 1	Yes		Yes	Not Sure	Screen
Other PPS 2	No	No	No	Not Sure	Screen
Other PPS 2	No	No	No	No	Prescreen

Part 2: The Administration of the Screening Process

The following flow chart numbered A-E below shows how the screening process should be administered. It should be stressed that, because of screening determination and publication requirements, screening process does not end when you receive the consultative authorities' opinion on your screening report

The Screening Process



A. Prepare a Screening Report

Section 8 (3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires responsible authorities to apply 12 different criteria at Schedule 2 to determine whether or not the effects of plans have significant environmental effects. Of these criteria, 5 relate to the 'characteristics of plans' while 7 relate to the 'characteristics of the effects and affected area'. While the 5 criteria under the characteristics of plans enable you to carry out a qualitative assessment of the direction of effects, the 7 criteria under the characteristics of plans enables you to evaluate the effects already identified.

It has to be remembered that significant environment effects are not only negative. They are also positive. While negative environmental effects are mitigated, positive environmental effects are enhanced. The following section explains each of the criteria.

1. The Characteristics of the plans

The characteristics of the plans, having regard to, in particular to:-

1(a) the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;

This requirement deals with the kinds of influence the plan is intended to have on development on the ground and other activities, and whether officers will refer to it before making decisions on development consents. The requirement seeks to find out whether it is intended that the plan's aims will influence physical development and other activities.

- Does the plan, for instance, specify whether or how land or resources will be allocated?
- Does it, for example, specify the use to which any land or resources will be put?
- Does it specify the size of land or resources available for a particular use?

- Does the plan set any conditions under which the projects or activities envisaged would operate?
- Does the plan specify how resources will be allocated in operating projects or activities?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

Remember that you are not writing an environmental report at this stage. You are therefore not required to do a detailed assessment of effects of your plan on the environment. You are only appraising the plan against this criterion.

1(b) the degree to the plan influences other plans including those in a hierarchy?

This requirement deals with the influence the plan is intended to have on other plans and whether officers will make any references to it in preparing their Service-specific plans.

- Will your plan's vision, objectives, policies, proposals or strategies set any framework for other plans or programme above it, below it or at par with it?
- Will your plan constrain other plans? If the answer is yes, then your plan is likely to have significant effects. For example, in the hierarchy of plans in Aberdeenshire Council, the community plan influences the strategic plan down the hierarchy; as well as service plans and area plans further down the hierarchy. Similarly, the strategic plan influences the service plan and area plans the hierarchy. Also, the structure plan (NEST) influences many plans including the local plan and local transport strategy.

1(c) The relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;

This criterion seeks to determine whether plans propose to address issues of climate change, biodiversity, air quality, water, flooding, soil, health, demographic changes, crime, the fear of crime, recycling, waste disposal and management, landscape, cultural heritage, energy, and regeneration. It also tries to gauge the extent to which the plan wholly or partially promotes the environment and sustainable development. If the answer to any of these questions is yes, then the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

1(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan;

This requirement seeks to determine whether the plan (i) would solve or (ii) create some environmental problems. There may be some environmental problems, which are of concern to people in the region, city or local area. For this reason, some plans may be drawn up to deal with the problems identified in region, city or local area. If so, what are these problems? For example, a landscape strategy may be prepared to solve existing green space problems.

On the other hand the implementation of other plans may well create new problems or worsen an existing one. For example a local transport strategy could create air pollution problems much the same way as a new housing development could affect biodiversity. Could you foresee any environmental problems in implementing the plan?

1(e) the relevance of the plan for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans linked to waste management or water protection);

Your plan may, directly or indirectly, be affecting the terms of an EU Directive. For this reason, an assessment has to be made of the impacts of the relevant plan.

2. The Characteristics of the Effects & Area

The characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular to-

2(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects

Once the plan is determined to have significant environmental effects, the extent of that significant effect must be estimated. For example, a scale of 1-10 could be used to identify the likelihood that the significant environmental effects will occur. Also, it may be very useful if the length of time the effects are likely to last (i.e. hours, time of day, days, weeks, months, seasons and years) is estimated. Will the effects recur; and if so, how often? Determining how long the effects will last (i.e. for a long time or temporarily), and whether anything can be done about it, assists in measuring significance of environmental effects.

2(b) the cumulative nature of effects

Although the environmental effect of a plan may be insignificant, it may induce other effects. A plan's insignificant effects may well combine or react with other plans' insignificant effects to cause a significant effect. For example a road construction may induce the development of filling stations and settlements. These effects may combine to create significant environmental effects. Several developments, which systematically block parts of the access to a wider path networks can eventually block the entire access to the wider path network. Several on-going building works, a school located nearby, and a popular corner shop may together induce substantial traffic problems in an area. Will your plan give rise to any of these similar situations? If so, how?

2(c) the transboundary nature of effects

Although a plan may be drawn to affect a particular local or regional area, the effects may be felt outwith the area or region of the plan. Thus this provision intends to determine whether the effects of a plan will extend outwith the area covered by the plan. Will the plan have any effects on neighbouring cities, towns, settlements and countries? If this is the case, the environmental effects will be significant.

2(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);

Depending on the nature of a plan, its implementation could have some risks attached to it. Consideration is required of the nature of the perceived risks to health and the environment. Issues such as flooding, motor accidents, fire hazards, discharge of radioactive waste, breathing problems, attraction of crime or the perception of crime or cancer risks could be considered in this context. What other forms of risks can be associated with the implementation of the plan?

2(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);

How widespread are the effects of the plan? Will it be restricted to a small area in Aberdeen or Aberdeenshire? Will it spread to the whole of Aberdeen City or Aberdeenshire? Do you think it will have regional, Scotland-wide, UK-wide or EU-wide effects? Is it likely to affect large groups of people? If some population or population groups will be affected by the plan, what is your estimate of the size of this population or population group? For example, if traffic problems, air pollution or even flooding is possible, what kind of population figures is being considered? If the plan is an intervention in favour of a particular population or ethnic groups, what size is being looked at? If, for example, an economic development strategy is being developed, what are the multiplier effects on the population, if a regeneration plan is being drawn how many people will it bring into housing and jobs?

2(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:-

i	special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;
ii	exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or
iii	intensive land-use;

- Does the plan affect areas of special designation or areas of high cultural heritage?
- How are these areas valued in terms of tiering? NEST Policy 19, for example, uses the designations: "international, national, regional/local and everywhere else" to show how sites are valued. NEST Policy 26 similarly uses a four tier designation in policy areas for minerals, landfill, land raise, and wind farm applications.
- Are there known problems in the areas in terms of quality standards being exceeded?
- From trends and comparators, are there any indications that limits have been breached?
- How was the land, which your plan affects being used in the past?
- Was it so intensively used that any further proposal will adversely affect it?

2(g) the effects on areas or landscapes, which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

- Are there any internationally, EU-wide, nationally, regionally and locally recognised designated areas or landscapes affecting the plan?
- Which of the designations are predominant? The designation(s) in the area provide a measure of significant environmental effects. The greater the proportion of international or national designations the plan affects, the more significant the environmental effects will be.



B. Send the Screening Report to the consultation authorities

Before making a determination on the significance of environmental effects, a summary report must be sent to the SEA Gateway for consideration by the consultation authorities (SNH, HS and SEPA). When you are pre-screening a plan, you are required only to notify the consultation authorities. Thus your pre-screening process ends as soon as you send the SEA Gateway the pre-screening report.

This report has to give a reasoned justification of the conclusions you have reached in consideration of the 12 criteria explained in Section A.

A template, included at Appendix 1, has been developed to help you through this process and, once completed this should be e-mailed to the SEA Gateway at SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

C. Consultation Authorities' Response

When the consultation authorities receive your screening report, they will express their opinion on your screening report within 28 days of receiving your report. If your authority agrees with the consultation authorities on their screening opinion, your authority can proceed with the next stage.

However, where there is disagreement, your authority has to wait until the Scottish Ministers make a decision on the screening report.

D. Making a formal Screening Determination

1. When an SEA is required

When you receive the opinion of the consultation authorities on the screening report, your authority will now make a formal Screening Determination. This determination will be under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.⁷ The sample screening

determination at Appendix 2 can be used when SEA is required. When SEA is not required, the determination at Appendix 3 should be used.

2. When an SEA is not required but a voluntary SEA is undertaken

Your Service or authority may well decide to carry out an SEA voluntarily. If that is the case, the consultation authorities are not under any legal obligation to respond to your screening opinion within the 28 days. The formal determination at Appendices 6 and 7 could also be used.

E. Provide information on the Screening Determination

E1 Newspaper Advertisement

Within 14 days of making the formal Screening Determination your authority should publish the determination in a newspaper circulating in the area to which the plan relates. For example, the screening determination for a north-east-wide plan, such as the structure plan, can be advertised in the Press Journal. Aberdeen city-wide plan can be advertised in the City's version of the Press and Journal. Small area plans could be advertised in the local newspapers circulating in the areas such as Aberdeen Independent, Aberdeen Evening Express, The Buchan Observer, The Buchan Advertiser or Inverurie Herald. See Appendices 8 and 9 for sample adverts.

⁷ For plans started before 20 February 2006, the determination should be made under Regulation 13(1) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans (Scotland) Regulations 2004 rather than Section 8(1) of the



E2 Forwarding Screening Determination to Consultation Authorities

Your authority should, within 28 days of making the determination, forward a copy of the determination together with the supporting statement of reasons to the consultation authorities via the SEA Gateway. The supporting statement of reasons is based on the above 12 screening criteria. You will therefore arrive at your supporting statement of reasons after completing the screening template at Appendix 1. The relevant determination templates (Appendices 2 – 7) and covering letters (Appendices 10 - 11) could be used.

E3 Providing Information on the website

Your authority, within 28 days of making the determination, should publish the screening determination and the supporting statement of reasons on its website.

E4 Providing Information for Public Inspection

Within 28 days of your authority making the screening determination, it is also necessary to lodge the screening determination and the supporting statement of reasons at your principal office for the public to examine.



Appendix 1:SEA Template

SEA SCREENING REPORT – COVER NOTE

COVER NOTE – SECTION 1

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

COVER NOTE – SECTION 2

An SEA screening report is attached for the plan/programme entitled:-

The Responsible Authority is: -

ABERDEENSHIRE CCOUNCIL

COMPLETE SECTION 3 OR 4 OR 5

COVER NOTE – SECTION 3

Screening is required because the plan/programme falls under Section 5 (3) (c) or Section 8 (1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our view is that: -

An SEA is required because the plan/programme is likely to have significant environmental effects

or

An SEA is not required because the plan/programme is unlikely to have any significant environmental effects

COVER NOTE – SECTION 4

The plan/programme does not require an SEA under the regulations. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, because this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 28-day timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

COVER NOTE – SECTION 5

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

.....
.....

SEA SCREENING REPORT – COVER NOTE (Continued)

COVER NOTE – SECTION 6

Contact name

Job Title

Contact address

Contact tel no

Contact email

COVER NOTE – SECTION 7

Date



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SEA SCREENING REPORT – SECTION1, KEY FACTS

Responsible Authority	<input type="text"/>			
Title of Plan/Programme	<input type="text"/>			
Plan purpose	<input type="text"/>			
What prompted the plan(e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions)?	<input type="text"/>			
Plan subject(e.g. transport)	<input type="text"/>			
Period covered by plan	<input type="text"/>			
Frequency of plan updates	<input type="text"/>			
Plan area (e.g. sq kms)	<input type="text"/>			
Summary of nature/ content of plan	<input type="text"/>			
Are there any proposed plan objectives?	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
Copy of objectives attached	<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
Date	<input type="text"/>			



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SEA SCREENING REPORT – SECTION 2
CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Our determination regarding the likely significance of effects on the environment of [insert plan title] are set out in table 1

TABLE 1 - LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

TITLE OF PLAN/PROGRAMME		
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY		
Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (para numbers refer to Schedule 1 of the Regulations)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects
1(a) Will the plan set a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources?		
1(b) Will the plan influence other plans including those in a hierarchy?		
1(c) Does the plan have any relevance for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development?		
1(d) Are there some environmental problems relevant to the plan?		
1(e) Will the plan have any relevance for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans linked to waste management or water protection)?		



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Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (para numbers refer to Schedule 1 of the Regulations)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects
2(a) Will the environmental effects be significant when consideration is given to probability, duration, frequency and reversibility?		
2(b) Will the effects be cumulative in nature?		
2(c) Will the effects be transboundary in nature?		
2(d) Will the environmental effects be significant when consideration is given to the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)?		
2(e) Will the environmental effects be significant when consideration is given to the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)?		
2(f) Will the environmental effects be significant when consideration is given to the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to- special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or intensive land-use?		
2(g) Will the environmental effects be significant when consideration is given to the effects on areas or landscapes, which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status?		

TABLE 2 – SUMMARY

SUMMARY

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**SEA SCREENING REPORT – SECTION 3
SUMMARY RECORD OF COMMENTS FROM
THE CONSULTATION AUTHORITIES**

TABLE 3: SUMMARY RECORD OF COMMENTS FROM THE CONSULTATION AUTHORITIES

GUIDANCE NOTE

It is not required to include this section in the screening report. However, the Responsible Authority may find it useful for record purposes.

TITLE OF PLAN/PROGRAMME

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

DATE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM CONSULTATION AUTHORITIES

Consultation Authority	Views (if known at this stage)
Scottish Environment- Protection Agency	Significant environmental effects – YES/NO
	If YES, note SEA topic/issues here (e.g. soil and water)
Scottish Natural Heritage	Significant environmental effects – YES/NO
	If YES, note SEA topic/issues here (e.g. flora, fauna and biodiversity)
Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland)	Significant environmental effects – YES/NO
	If YES, note SEA topic/issues here (e.g. landscape and cultural heritage)

SEA SCREENING REPORT – SECTION 4

RECORD OF POST SCREENING ACTION

TABLE 4 - RECORD OF POST SCREENING ACTION

GUIDANCE NOTE

It is not required to include this section in the screening report. However, the Responsible Authority may find it useful for record purposes.

TITLE OF PLAN/PROGRAMME

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

1. Responsible Authority and Consultation Authorities in agreement – SEA <u>is</u> required Date of determination	<input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
2. Responsible Authority and Consultation Authorities in agreement – SEA <u>is not</u> required Date of determination	<input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
3. Responsible Authority and Consultation Authorities cannot reach agreement – referred to the Scottish Ministers for their determination Date referred to the Scottish Ministers	<input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
4. Scottish Ministers’ determination Date of determination	<input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>
5. Publicity requirements met (Regulation 15)	YES <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/> NO <input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>
6. Signature Date	<input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/> <input style="width: 90%; height: 25px;" type="text"/>



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Appendix 2: Screening Determination: SEA Required – Section 8(1)

(For plans starting from 20 February 2006)

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL/ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/SEG

[Named Strategic Action e.g. Local Plan alteration]

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

Screening Determination under Section 8(1)

Section 8 (1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires Local Authorities to determine if a plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG has determined, in consultation with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Scotland, that the [named strategic action] is likely to have significant effects and that a strategic environmental assessment is required.

An environmental report will be prepared alongside the [named strategic action]. The environmental report will identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effect on the environment of the implementing the [named strategic action] and its reasonable alternatives as by the 2005 Act

Signed.....

dd/mm/yyyy

SERVICE TITLE

Appendix 3: Screening Determination: SEA not Required- Section 8(1)

(For plans starting from 20 February 2006)

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL/ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/SEG

[Named Strategic Action e.g. Local Plan alteration]

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

Screening Determination under Section 8(1)

Section 8 (1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires Local Authorities to determine if a plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG has determined, in consultation with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Scotland, that the [named strategic action] is unlikely to have significant effects and that a strategic environmental assessment is not required. No environmental report will be prepared alongside the [named strategic action].

Signed.....

dd/mm/yyyy

SERVICE TITLE



Appendix 4: Screening Determination: Voluntary SEA – Section 8(1)

(For plans starting from 20 February 2006)

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL/ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/SEG

[Named Strategic Action e.g. Local Plan alteration]

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

Screening Determination under Section 8(1)

Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG has determined, in consultation with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Scotland, that the [named strategic action] is unlikely to have significant effects and that a strategic environmental assessment is required.

As a good practice, an environmental report will be prepared alongside the [named strategic action] voluntarily. The environmental report will identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effect on the environment of the implementing the [named strategic action] and its reasonable alternatives.

Signed.....

dd/mm/yyyy

SERVICE TITLE

Appendix 5: Advert Section 8(1)

NEWSPAPER

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL/ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/SEG

[Named Strategic Action e.g. Local Plan alteration]

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

Screening Determination under Section 8 (1)

[Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG] intends to prepare the [named strategic action]. In accordance with Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the [Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG] has determined, in agreement with the Consultation Authorities that the [named strategic action] is likely to have significant environmental effects and that a strategic environmental assessment is required.

By virtue of Section 10(2) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, a copy of the determination notice is hereby publicised. A copy of the determination, and any related statement of reasons, are available at [named location(s) e.g. Woodhill House, St Nicholas House] as well as on our websites for inspection by the public at all reasonable times.

document two

Appendix 6: Covering Letter- Section 8(1)

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL/ABERDEENSHIRE COUNCIL/SEG

[Named Strategic Action e.g. Local Plan alteration]

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005

Screening Determination under Section 8 (1)

Dear Sir,

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005

[Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG] intends to prepare the [named strategic action]. In accordance with Section 8 (1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the [Aberdeen City Council/Aberdeenshire Council/SEG] has determined, in agreement with the Consultation Authorities that the [named strategic action] is likely to have significant environmental effects.

By virtue of Section 10(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, a copy of the determination is enclosed for distribution to the Consultative Authorities.

If you require any further information, please contact [named officer] as per the above address.

Yours faithfully,

.....

[Named officer]

TITLE, SERVICE



Further information

For further information, please contact

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