

SEA SCOPING REPORT COVER NOTE

Dumfries & Galloway Council
Local Development Plan

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An SEA scoping report is attached for the plan/programme entitled:
Dumfries & Galloway Local Development Plan

The Responsible Authority is: Dumfries & Galloway Council

The Local Development Plan falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the
Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland)
Act 2005

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SEA SCOPING REPORT - KEY FACTS

Responsible Authority

Dumfries & Galloway Council

Title of Plan/Programme

Dumfries & Galloway Local Development Plan (LDP)

What prompted the plan?

- The need to review and, as appropriate, update the current Structure Plan approved in 1999 and the 4 Local Plans adopted in 2006; and also
- the requirements of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and its associated town and Country (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008.

Plan subject

The LDP is a development plan which should be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Scottish planning system. It is concerned with the pattern and character of landuse in D&G over the period 2013 until 2023.

Period covered by plan

2013 -2023

Frequency of plan updates

The LDP is to be reviewed every 5 years in line with requirements of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006.

Plan area

The LDP will cover the entire Dumfries & Galloway Council area: c. 6,400 sq kms (this includes the area of Dumfries & Galloway down to the Low Water Mark)

Purpose of the plan / plan objectives

In fulfilling the requirements for a development plan to cover the Dumfries & Galloway area as required by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and the associated 2008 development planning Regulations the LDP will set out;

- an overall landuse vision and spatial strategy for the Dumfries & Galloway area;
 - planning policies and proposals to support the vision and strategy;
 - planning strategies, policies, and proposals for the development or regeneration or conservation of local areas and to assist with the orderly and timeous bringing forward of land for development or regeneration, all in support of the spatial strategy; and
 - a framework of planning policies, based on, inter alia, support for the strategy for the management of development applications.
- and in doing all of these should;
- contribute to sustainable development.

DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY COUNCIL (DGC) LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (LDP)

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) - SCOPING REPORT

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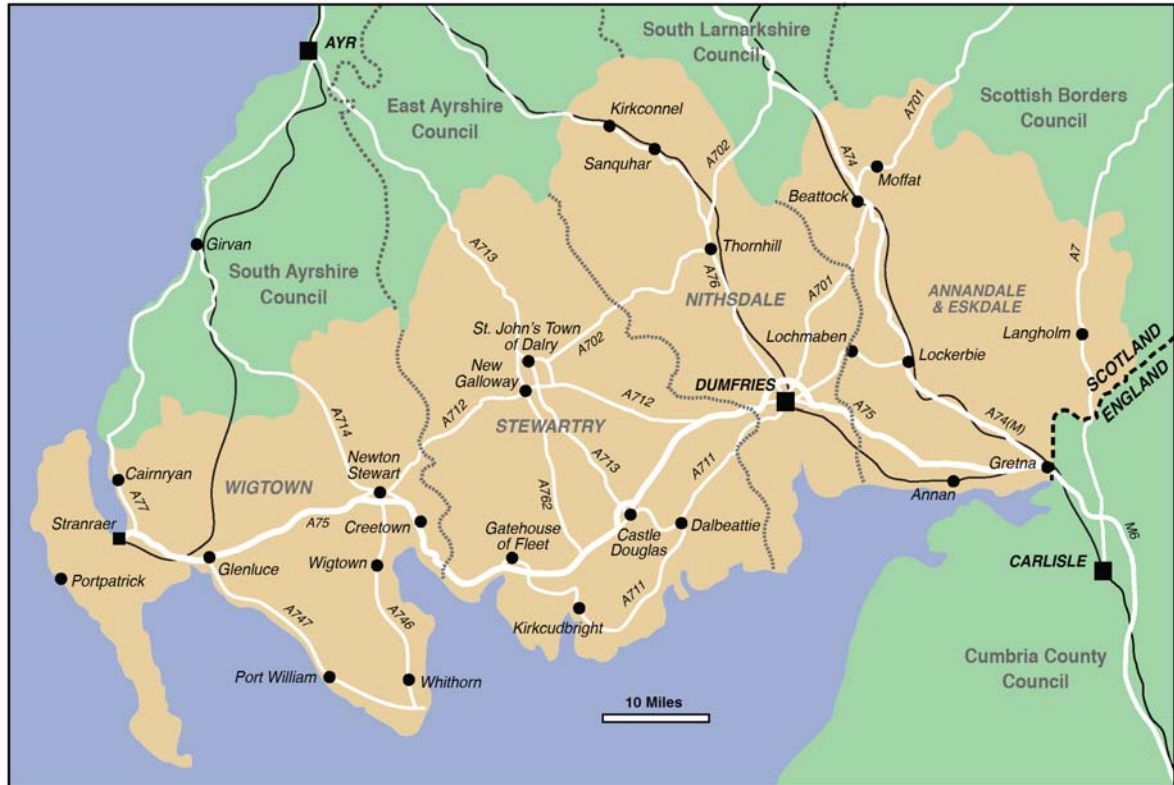
Acronyms used in this Scoping Report

Borders Forest Trust	BFT
Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	DEFRA
Development Plan Scheme	DPS
Dumfries & Galloway Council	DGC
Dumfries & Galloway	D&G
Dumfries and Galloway Environmental Resources Centre	DGERC
Environmental Report	ER
Geographic Information Systems	GIS
General Register Office for Scotland	GROS
Housing Needs and Demand Assessment	HNDA
Local Development Plan	LDP
Historic Scotland	HS
Main Issues Report	MIR
National Trust for Scotland	NTS
Office for National Statistics	NOMIS
Plans programmes and strategies	PPS
Proposed Plan	PP
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	RSPB
Scottish Census Results Online	SCROL
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency	SEPA
Scottish Natural Heritage	SNH
Strategic Environmental Assessment	SEA
Supplementary Planning Guidance	SPG
Scottish Public Health Observatory	ScotPHO
Scottish Wildlife Trust	SWT
Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust	WWT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Dumfries & Galloway Council (DGC) is undertaking preparation of a Local Development Plan (LDP) for the whole of its area.

Map 1: Dumfries & Galloway



Introduction to Dumfries & Galloway

1.2 Dumfries and Galloway (D&G) is the third largest region in Scotland. Its land area covers about 6,400 square kms. In 2001 the area had a population of c.148,000. The area is in a central position within the UK. To the north and east is the rest of Scotland, to the south is the north of England, and to the west is Northern Ireland. The Loch Ryan ports in the west and Gretna in the east are therefore key gateways of national and international significance.

1.3 D&G is a rural area with farming and forestry the dominant landuses. The settlement pattern is one of small settlements spread across a large area. Over a quarter of the population live more than 30 minutes drive from a large town and most people live in small communities of 4,000 or less or in the countryside. The biggest town is Dumfries with a population of about 37,000, followed by Stranraer with around 10,500 and Annan with over 8,000.

1.4 The population of the area has remained relatively steady over many years, but for the projection period until 2031 the underlying demographic characteristics indicate a slight decline in the overall figure. There is a declining birth rate and an average age for the population of 42, compared to the Scottish average of 38.

SEA

1.5 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 (referred to in this report as "the 2005 Act") requires local authorities to assess the environmental impact of certain plans, programmes and strategies (PPS) which they prepare. The mechanism through which this is achieved is Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The aim of SEA is to provide for the full and transparent consideration of environmental issues within plan development processes.

1.6 Under the 2005 Act SEA is a requirement for PPS relating to a number of sectors including Town and Country Planning. DGC considers that SEA is required for the proposed Dumfries & Galloway LDP.

1.7 The 2005 Act sets out the requirements for environmental assessment. An environmental assessment is:

- the preparation of an environmental report;
- the carrying out of consultations; and
- the taking into account of the environmental report and the result of the consultations in decision-making.

1.8 This SEA Scoping Report has been prepared in accordance with Section 15 of the 2005 Act and made use of the guidance provided in the Scottish Executive SEA Toolkit and Templates. (The Council acknowledges with thanks that it has also made use of Scoping Report documents originally prepared by Scottish Borders Council.)

1.9 The 2005 Act identifies nine environmental issues to be used during the SEA process. These are:

- biodiversity, fauna and flora
- population and human health
- soil
- water
- air
- climatic factors
- material assets
- cultural heritage, and
- landscape

The interactions between these issues should also be considered.

1.10 The Council considers that an environmental assessment and ER and other actions in accordance with Part 2 of the 2005 Act are required for this LDP. The Process to be undertaken for the Strategic Environmental Assessment is shown in the LDP and SEA Stages diagram on page 5. ¹

1.11 The overall aim of undertaking SEA for the LDP will be to ensure that all significant environmental effects are considered as an integral part of the process towards adoption of the D&G LDP. DGC has published

¹ This diagram is an adaptation from the diagram for the process as published in March 2009 in the Council's Development Plan Scheme (DPS).

a Development Plan Scheme (DPS) indicating a formal start to the process in March 2009. In the DPS it is anticipated that the LDP will be Adopted in 2013.

1.12 An essential element of the SEA process involves consulting with the public and the designated Consultation Authorities, viz. Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Historic Scotland (HS), at various stages throughout the process. A key stage of the SEA process is the preparation of this Scoping report. The Council is required to consult the 3 Consultation Authorities on this document.

This Scoping Report

1.13 The purpose of this Scoping Report is to set out sufficient information on the D&G LDP to enable the Consultation Authorities to form a view on the proposed consultation periods and scope/level of detail that will be appropriate for the Environmental Report (ER).

1.14 From the work on this Scoping Report and other experience it is apparent that it could be beneficial if the current level of analysis and coordination in respect of certain areas of baseline data relevant for this LDP were to be improved. This will be developed during the preparation of the Monitoring Statement which is to be published alongside the MIR. This necessary process will also support appropriate baseline data for the ER.

1.15 SEA of previous development plans in D&G has not been required and is therefore not available as background for assessment of the LDP. In view of this consideration it is expected that the SEA process set out in this Scoping Report will be informed and improved by taking into account ongoing experience.

1.16 SEA is a significant process and will be an important element in the preparation of the D&G LDP. Observation of the experience of SEA for other PPS is that it often appears complex and as a consequence discourages public involvement. It is acknowledged that an LDP which provides a planning vision, spatial strategy, policies and land allocations across D&G is in itself a complex plan. This Scoping Report for the D&G LDP tries to keep its specification for the assessment as straightforward and comprehensible as possible whilst at the same time fulfilling the requirements of the 2005 Act.

2. BACKGROUND TO DGC LDP

2.1 DGC is undertaking preparation of an LDP for the whole of its area. This is in response to:

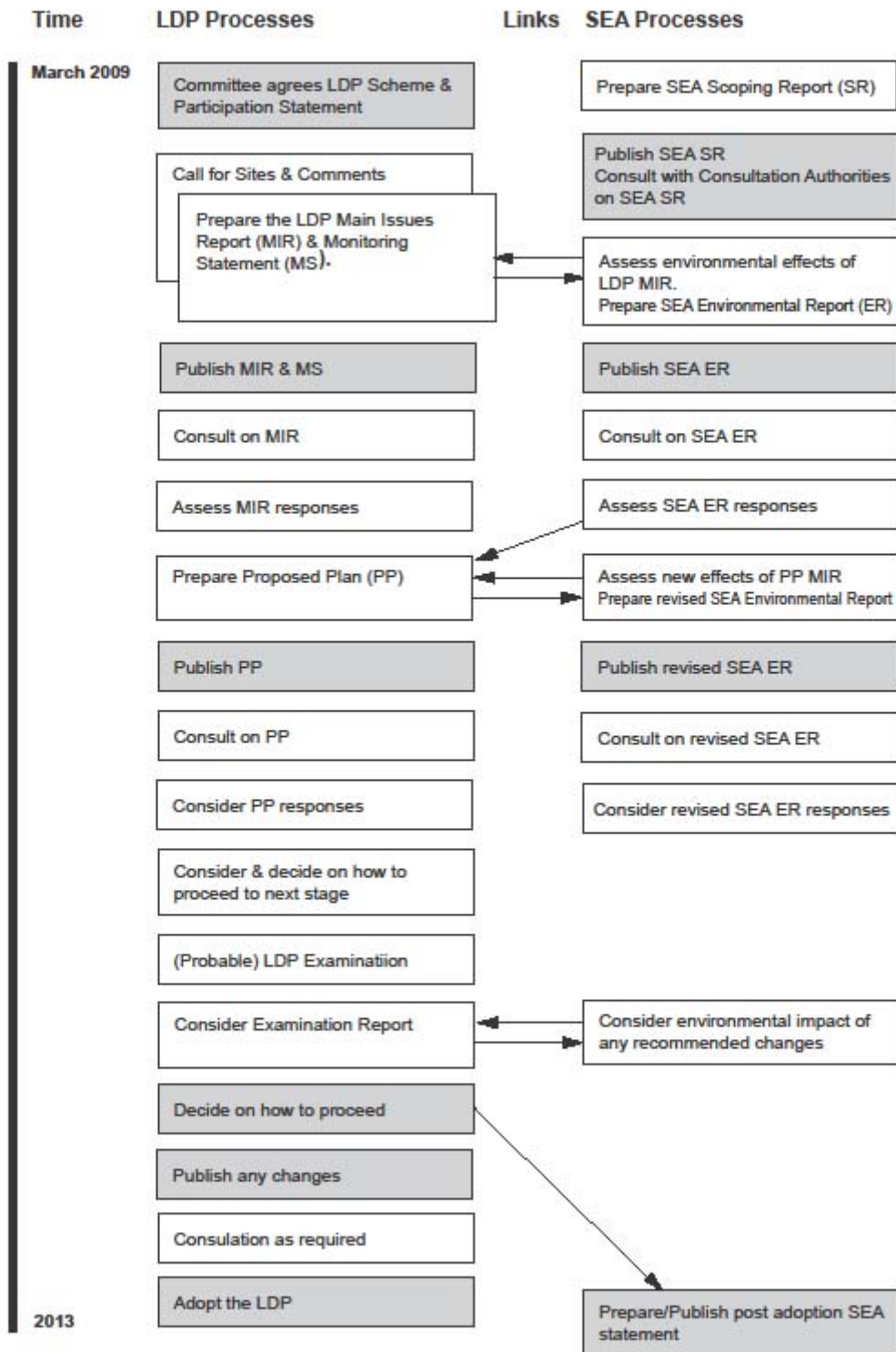
- the need to review and, as appropriate, update the current Structure Plan approved in 1999 and the 4 Local Plans adopted in 2006; and
- the requirements of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and its associated Town and Country (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008.

2.2 The LDP will include a review of housing and employment land policy issues and allocations. It is intended to provide continuity with the current development plan and will replace it once the LDP is adopted.

The LDP will set out:

- an overall development vision and spatial strategy for the Dumfries & Galloway area;
 - planning policies and proposals to support the vision and strategy;
 - planning strategies, policies, and proposals for the development or regeneration or conservation of local areas and to assist with the orderly and timeous bringing forward of land for development or regeneration, all in support of the spatial strategy; and
 - a framework of planning policies, based on, inter alia, support for the strategy, for the management of development applications;
- and in doing all of these should;
- contribute to sustainable development.

Diagram 1: LDP and SEA Stages



3.0 SCOPE OF THE LDP

3.1 The D&G LDP will review and replace the current Development Plan. It will also review, and as appropriate replace, associated Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG). The Development Plan provides comprehensive coverage through a region-wide Structure Plan and 4 Local Plans. A principal focus for the LDP will be the identification of land for new housing development, but this will be in the context of a broader vision for the region and the regional spatial strategy for its achievement.

Subject of the LDP

3.2 The LDP is a development plan which should be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Scottish planning system. It is concerned with the pattern and character of land use in D&G over the period 2013 until 2025. The spatial strategy should encapsulate the headline changes that the plan seeks to achieve. It should provide a locational strategy for new development up to year 12 from plan approval (2025), and a broad indication of the scale and direction of growth up to year 20 (2033). It should be based on a vision of what the area could be like in 20 years time.

3.3 The LDP must consider information relating to all forms of possible development in the area over its period of interest. It should include a broad statement of the planning authority's views as to how the development of the land could and should occur and as to the matters which might be expected to affect that development. These should include:

- (a) the principal physical, economic, social and environmental characteristics of the area,
- (b) the principal purposes for which the land is used,
- (c) the size, composition and distribution of the population of the area,
- (d) the infrastructure of the area (including communications, transport and drainage systems and systems for the supply of water and energy),
- (e) how that infrastructure is used, and
- (f) any change which the planning authority think may occur in relation to any of the matters mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (e).

3.4 The LDP could include consideration of the current position and anticipated or desired change in:

- Economic Development
- Town Centres and Retailing
- Housing (as supported by the Dumfries & Galloway Housing Needs and Demand Assessment)
- Rural Development
- Coastal Planning
- Historic Environment
- Landscape and Natural Heritage
- Open Space and Physical Activity
- Transport
- Renewable Energy

- Flooding and Drainage
- Waste Management
- Minerals
- Telecommunications

LDP Matters:

3.5 The population of Dumfries & Galloway in 2006 was estimated at c.148,000. If current trends continue, this is expected to fall to c.144,000 by 2031. Over the same period the population structure is expected to age. There would be fewer persons of school and working age and more elderly people. This would raise issues in relation to development of the economy and the related capacity to look after the population and the physical environment. These are not issues which the LDP could or would seek to directly control. However, it is expected that the vision for the LDP will be for the development of a more balanced population structure. Over the short term, the achievement of this could mean some increase in population.

3.6 Even though the baseline population trends over the period until 2031 would mean a small decline, the number of households is expected to grow by 6,660 from nearly 67,000 in 2006 to almost 73,500. If the LDP vision accepts current trends, or envisages a decrease in the rate of population decline, or wishes a net increase in the number of people, there will be additional households.

3.7 In broad terms the LDP will intend to make its land allocations in accordance with the geographic distribution of the population. In more detail, account will be taken of housing market areas as evidenced by the Housing Needs and Demand Assessment (HNDA) currently being prepared for the Council. Consideration will be given as to how allocations could assist with the spatial strategy of the LDP in support of its overall objectives and vision.

3.8 In addition to housing land allocations, the LDP will seek to apply policy and make allocations for other associated and supporting uses, including open space, social facilities and employment.

Consideration of Alternatives in the LDP

3.9 As a normal part of the process of preparing the LDP there should be consideration of possible alternatives for any particular conclusion. The highest level objectives for the LDP are already set. There are no reasonable alternatives to these highest level objectives to consider in this Plan.

One of the high level objectives is the establishment of an LDP vision for the area. This will be developed from other high level documents including the National Planning Framework, the Dumfries & Galloway Community Plan, and the Dumfries & Galloway Single Outcome Agreement. It is anticipated that the strategic vision will also be based on a recognition of the fundamental importance of the rural environment to the nature and economy of Dumfries & Galloway. The strategic vision is in effect the highest level local objective for the LDP. Whilst this will be open to representation comment at the MIR stage, it is intended to be broad and inclusive in character and it is not proposed to look for and assess alternatives to it.

3.10 A second high level objective for the LDP is a spatial strategy. It should encapsulate the headline changes of the vision. It will be generated for the MIR and will be assessed alongside reasonable alternatives. The spatial strategy alternatives to be reviewed will be generated during the preparation of the MIR.

3.11 The LDP spatial strategy and its alternatives could be constructed from one or more of the following potential strategy elements listed below. It should be noted that this list is indicative and not exhaustive.

- Policy support for development at all possible locations in order to provide widespread support for all communities, including those in rural areas;
- Development in selected settlements in order to take advantage of existing infrastructure capacity and to provide critical mass for a programme of infrastructure investment. Restriction on development in locations which would undermine the strategy;
- Strategic policy support for Dumfries as the principal settlement serving Dumfries & Galloway. Restriction on development in locations which would undermine this strategy;
- Strategic policy support for the Dumfries/Annan/Lockerbie triangle as a lure and appropriate spatial focus for incoming employment-related investment. There should be support for utilisation of land and cultural heritage assets as the foundation for the local economy in other areas;
- Policy support to develop the gateway role of locations on main transport routes. This approach would intend to benefit these locations but should also encourage visitors into the wider area so as to optimise the overall benefits from tourism;
- Development of new single/standalone settlements as part of an overall Settlement Strategy.
- Strategic policy support for tourism in coastal areas which should be protected from developments which have a major visual impact. Support for tourism elsewhere but with a policy acceptance of the possibility of windfarm developments as a use of the land resource and contribution to Scotland's renewable energy supply.
- Policy support for the management of environmental resources for vitality and productivity over the medium and longer term for the benefit of the region. Policy support for the taking of short term benefits only when the medium and longer term prospects are not prejudiced or there is exceptional justification.
- Acceptance of current population trends, or support (in terms of LDP policy) for the development of a more balanced population structure for the long term.

3.12 It is considered that the assessment of alternatives at the level of broad spatial strategy establishes the approach which the LDP should develop in its allocation of sites. The general policies will intend to support the recommended strategy. Given that these policies will also carry forward the wider context it is the case that much of what they say could also be contained in alternative approaches. Alternative wording or emphasis could also be considered in relation to policies. Nonetheless, it follows that the

scope for reasonable alternatives is constrained in the consideration of sites. Therefore, although the generation of alternatives for the larger settlements may be a useful tool as part of an iterative plan making process, it is considered that there would not be a benefit in the formalisation of alternatives for all settlements: In the preparation of the MIR all reasonable candidate sites for settlements for which Inset Maps are to be prepared will be considered. The compendium of sites presented as part of the MIR will provide a range of possibilities. This will be the base from which the conclusions of the PP will be developed. It is in this way alternatives to the specific provisions of the PP will be considered.

4.0 CONTEXT FOR SEA OF DGC LDP

The Development Plan

4.1 The LDP will review, and, as appropriate, update the current development plan. The current D&G Structure Plan was approved by the Scottish Ministers in 1999 when SEA was not a requirement. The 4 Local Plans in the area were adopted in 2006. They were all prepared under the same process and to the same environmental standard. Three were adopted before the date when there was a requirement to comply with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes (Scotland) Regulations 2004. The fourth was granted exemption from the Regulations by the Scottish Ministers.

4.2 The physical environment of D&G is its principal asset and it is the Council's view that the Structure Plan and 4 Local Plans were prepared with sensitivity to environmental issues. However, thus far there has not been any formal and comprehensive environmental assessment process relative to any of the Plans which go to make up the current Development Plan. Therefore, there is no development plan SEA available to form a background to this LDP.

Relationship with other plans and programmes

4.3 In D&G, SEA has been carried out for the Regional Transport Strategy, the D&G Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP), and the Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan. A list of the relevant PPS (including international and national PPS), and the main factors in them which relate to this LDP, is included in Appendix 1.

4.4 A review of other relevant plans programmes and strategies (PPS) is an essential component of SEA. The aim of the review is to:

- identify matters that are significant and could influence the development of the LDP;
- establish links between other PPSs and the emerging LDP;
- identify key national and regional priorities that need to be taken into consideration; and
- identify any objectives and indicators relevant to the LDP in other PPS that could be used to inform the SEA process.

Environmental Baseline

4.5 Consideration of environmental information about the objects and anticipated impacts of the LDP is part of the LDP process. It is expected that the same data should be relevant for the SEA of this LDP. Whereas ongoing data collection is ideally the start for monitoring the development plan it is recognised that more will need to be done by way of analysis and coordination. The results will be presented in the Monitoring Report published at the same time as the MIR. It is expected that much of the same information will be able to serve as baseline information for SEA. Environmental baseline information will be collated taking account of the SEA issues.

4.6 Table 1 lists the types of baseline information that will be used to help with the environmental assessment. This list will be refined and further baseline information may also be used in the assessment. A list of the data used will be included in the Environmental Report.

4.7 Considerable information about the environment is already held as part of the DGC GIS. It is anticipated that this will be used to assist in both the development and environmental assessment of the LDP.

Table 1: Baseline Information

SEA Issue	Data Description	Data Source
BIODIVERSITY, FLORA AND FAUNA		
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Number and size of SSSI's	SNH DGC Geographic Information System (GIS)
Local Nature Reserves	Number and size of Local Nature Reserves	SNH DGC GIS
National Nature Reserves	Number and size of National Nature Reserves	SNH DGC GIS
RAMSAR sites	Number and size of RAMSAR sites	SNH DGC GIS
Special Protection Areas	Number and size of SPAs	SNH DGC GIS
Special Areas of Conservation	Number and size of SACs	SNH DGC GIS
Tree Preservation Orders	Number and location of TPOs	DGC – Environmental Planning
Woodland and Forestry	Woodland and forestry maps and data	Forestry Commission DGC – Biodiversity Officer DGC GIS
Non-statutory reserves	Number and size of reserves	RSPB, SWT, NTS, WWT, BFT (and any other organisations identified)
Local Wildlife Sites	Number and size of sites	DGERC DGC GIS
Biosphere reserve	Information on D&G Biosphere Reserves	SNH
Notified species in favourable conditions	Data on the condition of local species	SNH DGC – Biodiversity Officer
Notified habitats in favourable conditions	Data on the condition of local habitats	SNH DGC – Biodiversity Officer
Cockle stock assessment	Survey of cockle grounds	Solway Shellfish Management Association Fisheries Research Services DGC – Countryside Officer
POPULATION AND HUMAN HEALTH		
Population figures	D&G Small Area Population Estimates	DGC Briefing Notes – Statistician, Development Planning NOMIS (Official labour market statistics)

SEA Issue	Data Description	Data Source
Age structure	D&G Small Area Population Estimates	DGC Briefing Notes – Statistician, Development Planning NOMIS
Household characteristics and composition	D&G Household Estimates	DGC Briefing Notes – Statistician, Development Planning NOMIS
Changes / trends in demography	D&G Population Projections 2006-2031	DGC Briefing Notes – Statistician, Development Planning NOMIS
Migration:	Net migration to/from Scottish administrative areas	GROS DGC
Life expectancy	Health and Wellbeing Profiles	Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO)
Mortality by cause	Health and Wellbeing Profiles	Scottish Public Health Observatory (ScotPHO)
Deprivation	Benefits Data	DGC NOMIS
Number of people affected by: Ambient noise levels; Domestic Noise Levels	Noise Complaints requiring further investigation	Audit Scotland DGC – Environmental Health
Access to open space	DGC Open Space Audit	DGC
Visits to outdoors	Main destination of visits to the outdoors	SNH D&G Tourist Board DGC Biodiversity Officer
Recreation in forests	Recreation opportunities in forests	Forestry Commission
Walking / cycling modal splits	Travel to work or education in D&G	Scottish Household Survey Local Transport Strategy
SOIL		
Soil Types	Digital Soils Information;	Macaulay Institute
Soil Quality	State and threats to Scotland's soil resource	Scottish Government data SEPA
Contaminated land	Information on D&G contaminated land	DGC – Contaminated Land Officer
Soil erosion	State of Scotland's farmed environment; Soil damage	SNH The Macaulay Institute
Coastal erosion	Areas of coastal erosion	DGC – DGC Shoreline Management Plan
WATER		
Water body classification	D&G water body Classification	SEPA – Draft River Basin Management Plan for the Solway Tweed River Basin District
% Water bodies with good ecological status or above	D&G Water bodies with good ecological status or above	SEPA – Draft River Basin Management Plan for the Solway Tweed River Basin District

SEA Issue	Data Description	Data Source
Water use (by sector, including leakage), availability and proportions recycled	D&G Water use	SEPA – Draft River Basin Management Plan for the Solway Tweed River Basin District DGC – Strategic Planning
SuDS	Extent of use of SuDS in new development	<i>Detailed information for this topic is not available at present. The potential to obtain such information will be investigated for the SEA assessment.</i>
Flood plains / main flooding areas	Areas shown on SEPA's 2 nd Generation Indicative River and Coastal Flood Map (Scotland)	SEPA
AIR		
Air Quality Management	Number / extent of air quality management areas	DGC – Environmental Health
Key air pollutants	Levels of key air pollutants by sector and per capita	SEPA DGC – Environmental Health DGC Air Quality Progress Report 2009 (to be completed)
CLIMATIC FACTORS		
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) emissions by sector/ per capita	Emissions of carbon dioxide for D&G	DEFRA
Greenhouse Gases	Levels of greenhouse gas emissions	SEPA – Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory
Levels of car ownership	D&G Comparative Household Profile	SCROL
Precipitation	Local precipitation levels	Met Office
Temperature	Local temperature levels	Met Office
Electricity and gas use	Electricity and Gas use in D&G	Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)
Generated Renewable Energy	Electricity generated from renewable energy sources	DGC – Strategic Planning
Renewable Energy Planning Consents	Number of planning consents given for renewable energy projects	DGC – Strategic Planning; Acolaid
Sustainable building technology	Number of new developments incorporating sustainable building techniques	DGC – Building Standards
Public transport patronage	Use of public transport	SCROL
MATERIAL ASSETS		
Minerals	Number / extent of mineral extraction sites	British Geological Survey
Coal Authority Consultation Zones	Number / extent of zones	DGC GIS

SEA Issue	Data Description	Data Source
Waste disposed of in landfill	Quantity of waste sent to local landfill sites	SEPA DGC – Waste Officer
Facilities available to deal with waste	Waste Facilities in D&G inc. Recycling Centres and Points	DGC – Waste Officer
Percent of waste recycled or reused	D&G waste data	SEPA DGC – Waste Officer DGC GIS
Recycling rates	D&G recycling rates	SEPA DGC – Waste Officer
Vacant and Derelict sites	Number of sites and area on vacant and derelict land register	Scottish Government - Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey Site Register DGC
Settlements	Number and size of settlements	DGC – Strategic Planning
Re-use of built environment	Number of listed buildings re-used	<i>Detailed information for this topic is not available at present. The potential to obtain such information will be investigated for the SEA assessment.</i>
CULTURAL HERITAGE		
Archaeological sites	Number of local Archaeological sites	DGC – Archaeology Officer
Archaeology records	Archaeological site data	DGC – Archaeology Officer
Listed buildings	Category: A , B , C	DGC – Conservation Officer
Conservation Areas	Number of Conservation Areas	DGC – Conservation Officer
Archaeologically Sensitive Areas	Number of local archaeologically sensitive areas	DGC GIS – Archaeological Survey
Listed Building Demolition	Number and outcome of applications received for Listed Building demolition	DGC – Conservation Officer
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Number and outcome of applications for Scheduled Monument Consent	Historic Scotland DGC - Conservation Officer
Development Plan policy relating to historic environment condition	Number of planning applications rejected for not complying with Development Plan policy relating to historic environment	<i>Detailed information for this topic is not available at present. The potential to obtain such information will be investigated for the SEA assessment.</i>
Gardens and Designed landscape applications	Number and outcomes of planning applications that affect gardens and designed landscapes	<i>Detailed information for this topic is not available at present. The potential to obtain such information will be investigated for the SEA assessment.</i>
Listed Building Consents	Number and outcome of Listed Building Consent applications	DGC - Acolaid (Computer software program used for Development management in DGC)

SEA Issue	Data Description	Data Source
Buildings at Risk Register and archaeological sites at risk	Number of buildings and archaeological sites at risk	Buildings at Risk Register DGC – Conservation Officer DGC – Archaeology Officer
Art and community facilities	Number of art and community facilities	DGC Website www.dumgal.gov.uk/ DGC LDP Survey 2009
LANDSCAPE		
Landscape Character	D&G Landscape Assessment	SNH DGC - Landscape Officer
Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Inventory of Gardens (Historic) and Designed Landscapes	SNH DGC GIS
Non-inventory designed landscapes	List of Non-Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes	DGC GIS Garden History Society
National Scenic Areas	Size, number and locations of NSAs	SNH DGC GIS DGC - National Scenic Area Officer
Regional Scenic Areas	Size, number and locations of RSAs	DGC GIS

Scoping of SEA Issues

4.8 Based on the objectives of the LDP and the extensive and varied environment of D&G, the Council considers that it could not exclude any environmental issue for the SEA of its LDP. It does not seek to scope out any environmental issue. The assessment will therefore include consideration of the following SEA issues which are all scoped in:

- Biodiversity, fauna and flora;
- Population and human health;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage;
- Landscape; and

There will also be consideration of the inter-relationship between these factors and cumulative impacts

Environmental Issues

4.9 The extent of environmental information with relevant analysis for D&G available at the time of this Scoping Report is regarded by the Council as sound but requiring further coordination and analysis for this LDP. It provides a basis from which to move and to prepare this Scoping Report and initiate work on this LDP and its SEA.

4.10 Environmental problems at an area-wide level that have been identified are as follows:

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna: Decline in biodiversity in region; lack of information on European protected species and on biodiversity in general; impacts of climate change on biodiversity;
- Population and human health: Predicted population decline, ageing population, health inequalities;
- Water and soil: Protection of prime agricultural land and careful management of changes in land use. Scotland wide issues of erosion, climate change affecting organic content;
- Material assets: The general trend of increasing waste generation is not consistent with sustainability. Scotland wide issues of poor building maintenance;
- Air: No significant problems. Air quality in the region is generally of a high quality in terms of national air quality objectives;
- Climatic factors: Flood risk in many areas. SEPA's State of Scotland's Environment 2006 identifies climate change as Scotland's most significant environmental problem; and
- Cultural heritage and landscape: Scotland wide issues of neglect of buildings, impacts on historic site settings and landscape character disruption due to major developments and infrastructure.

SEA Objectives for DGC LDP

4.11 Following initial consideration of:

- the SEA issues;

- existing baseline information;
- the LDP's objectives,

4.12 SEA Objectives at 3 levels of assessment for the LDP have been derived. These are shown in Table 2. It is anticipated that these will be refined as part of the interaction between SEA and the developing LDP. The refined objectives will be used in the assessment for the ER.

Table2: SEA objectives for the LDP

SEA Issue	Strategy level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP	Development management policy level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP	Land allocations level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through strategy recognise, and integrate, the beneficial role of biodiversity and natural systems and processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy protect and, where possible, support the enhancement of species and habitats and the links between them. * Through development management policy protect and, where possible, support the enhancement or creation of spaces important for biodiversity. * Through development management policy provide respect for natural processes and systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through land allocations avoid damage to, and where possible provide protection or enhancement for, species and habitats and the links between them. * Through land allocations avoid damage to spaces which are important for biodiversity: Where possible, provide protection or enhancement for such spaces: Where possible support the creation of new ones. * Through land allocations provide respect for natural processes and systems.
Population and Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through strategy recognise, and integrate, the value of the quality of Dumfries and Galloway as a safe and healthy place to live, work and visit. * Through strategy provide support for the development of a more balanced population structure. * Through strategy support development locations which help improve accessibility to jobs/employment, education, public services and recreation opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy support development that facilitates healthy lifestyles. * Through development management policy support development that addresses safety concerns. * Through development management policy support development that minimises conflict with environmental health concerns. * Through development management policy support the creation and / or retention of quality open space for community use. * Through development management policy protect and enhance public accessibility to open space and the wider landscape. * Through development management policy provide support for the provision of recreation space. * Through development management policy support the development of sites for development which respect community identity. * Through development management policies support sites which help improve accessibility to jobs/employment, education, public services and recreation opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through land allocations facilitate healthy lifestyles. * Through land allocations support the addressing of safety concerns. * In land allocations support the minimisation of conflict with environmental health concerns. * Through land allocations support the creation and / or retention of quality open space for community use. * Through the allocation of sites protect and, where possible, enhance public accessibility to open space and the wider landscape. * Through land allocations support the provision of recreation space. * Through land allocations respect community identity. * Through land allocations help improve accessibility to jobs/employment, education, public services and recreation opportunities. * Through land allocations identify sites for a mix of housing types and tenures, including homes for families and affordable housing. * Through land allocations identify sites to accommodate the anticipated ageing of the population, in-migration, and increase in households.

SEA Issue	Strategy level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP	Development management policy level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP	Land allocations level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through strategy recognise, and integrate, the value of soil quality for the overall well-being of the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy support the avoidance or minimisation of the adverse impacts of development on soil quality. * Through development management policy support the avoidance or minimisation of soil loss or destabilisation resulting from development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * In land allocations avoid or minimise the adverse impacts of development on soil quality. * In land allocations avoid or minimise soil loss or destabilisation resulting from development.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through strategy recognise, and integrate, the value of a high quality water environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy support the objectives of the Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan for the Dumfries & Galloway area. * Through development management policy avoid adding to flood risk and support opportunities to reduce flood risk. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through land allocations support the objectives of the Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan for the Dumfries & Galloway area. * Through land allocations avoid adding to flood risk and support opportunities to reduce flood risk.
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through strategy recognise, and integrate, support for the maintenance of a high level of air quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy protect or, if practical and appropriate, support the improvement of local air quality. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through land allocations avoid detriment to or, if practical and appropriate, improve, local air quality.
Climatic Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through strategy secure a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions * Through strategy secure a reduction in vulnerability to the effects of climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy support reduction in the need to travel. * Through development management policy support an increase in the opportunities for more sustainable travel. * Through development management policy support locations and detailed designs which enable reduced greenhouse gas emissions. * Through development management policy support sustainable production of energy. * Through development management policy support the efficient use of energy. * Through development management policy support the ability of households and communities to utilise and generate renewable energy. * Through development management policy support avoidance of flood sensitive development in flood risk areas. * Through development management policies and land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through land allocations seek to minimise the need to travel. * Through land allocations seek to optimise the opportunities for more sustainable travel. * Through land allocations identify locations which enable reduced greenhouse gas emissions. * Through land allocations provide support for the ability of households and communities to utilise and generate renewable energy. * Through land allocations avoid flood areas for flood sensitive development. * Through land allocations support development design which intends to be resilient to the effects of climate change.

SEA Issue	Strategy level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP	Development management policy level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP	Land allocations level SEA Objectives for D&G LDP
		allocations support development design which intends to be resilient to the effects of climate change.	
Material Assets	* Through strategy recognise the value of material assets (including natural resources and infrastructure) and integrate their efficient use for future years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through development management policy support the regeneration of derelict, vacant or contaminated land. * Through development management policy support the avoidance of blighting mineral assets. * Through development management policy support the sustainable management of waste according to the waste hierarchy. * Through development management policy support the optimum use of development infrastructure, viz. transport, utilities and services. * Through development management policy support the efficient use of land and buildings. * Through development management policy support development which in relation to its purpose has high design quality, and is robust and resilient. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through land allocations support the regeneration of derelict, vacant or contaminated land. * Through land allocations avoid blighting mineral assets. * Through land allocations seek to support the optimum use of development infrastructure, viz. transport, utilities and services. * Through land allocations support the efficient use of land and buildings.
Cultural Heritage	Through strategy recognise the value of, and integrate, the rich and diverse cultural and historic built environment and archaeological assets in D&G.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through management of development policy protect, conserve and, where appropriate, provide for the enhancement of the historic environment and other elements of built cultural heritage. * Through development management policy provide respect for the pattern and form of development, and the landscape and historic setting of settlements. * Through management of development policy protect archaeological sites and the historic environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through the allocation of sites respect the pattern and form of development, and the landscape and historic setting of settlements. * Through the identification of sites avoid damage to archaeological sites and the historic environment.
Landscape	Through strategy recognise the importance of the natural landscape, and integrate its protection or, as appropriate, enhancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through management of development policy protect and, where appropriate, provide for the enhancement or restoration of good quality landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value. * Through development management policy protect and, where appropriate, provide for the enhancement of the landscape settings of settlements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Through the allocation of sites provide for protection and, where appropriate, enhancement of the landscape settings of settlements

5.0 HOW ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WILL BE ASSESSED

Overview:

5.1 There is no well established model for SEA of an LDP with the plan structure, comprehensive environmental coverage, and spatial extent as that of D&G. Scoping for SEA assessment of the potential LDP environmental impacts has involved the design of an SEA approach tailored to the particular characteristics of the plan.

5.2 An issue of potential uncertainty for the SEA of development plans is that the objective sought by each process is very similar. For this reason there could be a difficulty in their working well together. However, on the basis that SEA is focussed on making the process transparent and the development plan is about the outcome, they can work in a complementary manner.

5.3 In order to avoid duplication of assessment the 2005 Act requires that the level at which the SEA is carried out is appropriate to the level of the plan with which it is dealing. However, the LDP for Dumfries & Galloway intends to set the spatial strategy for the region as a whole and the interpretation and application of this strategy to specific areas. It is considered that the SEA assessment and Environmental Report should be carried out during the preparation of the MIR. In the MIR there should be an assessment of:

- the spatial strategy, and alternatives;
- the policies intended to support the recommended strategy; and
- a compendium of sites providing a range of possibilities for the interpretation and application of the strategy and policies and from which the conclusions of the PP will be developed.

5.4 Following publication of the MIR and the SEA Environmental Report there will be a period of consultation. The responses to this will be considered and will feed into the process of drawing the conclusions for the PP. Development of the PP will be accompanied by a review of the environmental assessment. Publication of the PP will be accompanied by the publication of a revised Environmental Report. In order that it is administratively possible to take consideration of SEA responses at this stage, all such responses will also be treated as responses to the Proposed Plan, unless respondents choose otherwise.

D&G LDP SEA Approach

5.5 The Environmental Report with the MIR will identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the LDP as a whole. The process by which this will be achieved comprises three inter-related assessment strands:

- (a) strategy and alternative strategies;
- (b) policy; and
- (c) candidate land allocations.

5.6 In this LDP, individual policies are understood as forming elements which combine to support the strategy. Taken together in the PP, land allocations should form the local application of the preferred strategy. This will be achieved through the allocation of particular policies to specific localities.

5.7 In the preparation of the LDP the opportunity will be taken to renew, as appropriate, current SPG. New SPG may be prepared. Areas of future SPG may also be identified. Assessment of the strategy, policies and allocations of the LDP for these areas of SPG will as far as is practicable be at a level sufficient to address significant environmental issues.

SEA Levels and Stages:

5.8 SEA assessment for the MIR will be carried out at 3 levels. The first level will be assessment of the recommended spatial strategy and alternatives to it. These are each intended to help achieve the objectives of the LDP and realise its strategic vision. The assessment is against the SEA objectives developed for this level (see column 2 in Table 2) and will use baseline environmental information. The ER will be published along with the LDP MIR.

5.9 The second level of assessment will be a more detailed assessment of the LDP policies which make up the recommended strategy. This is assessed against the SEA objectives (see column 3 in Table 2) developed for this level and will use baseline environmental information.

5.10 The third level is assessment of a compendium of candidate sites for inclusion in the PP. In the first instance these will be characterised in terms of their general attributes as individual sites. They will then be assessed against SEA objectives developed for this level (see column 4 in Table 2) and will use baseline environmental information.

5.11 At the next, PP, stage of the LDP it is anticipated that there should be a revised Environmental Report. The MIR should have identified all reasonable alternatives, thus making it less likely that new sites will come up in the PP. It is anticipated that the PP stage should not introduce any significantly different or controversial elements. However, there may still be issues or proposals (including new sites) which have come forward following the MIR and for which a revised ER would need to provide an assessment. This could also include a refined assessment of site specific policies and allocations which have already been assessed at the MIR stage. The assessment would be against SEA objectives developed for this stage following the Environmental Report and will use baseline environmental information.

Strategy, Policies and Candidate Sites:

5.12 The generation of the spatial strategy, policies and sites of the LDP is an iterative process which has at its heart the consideration of social,

economic, and environmental issues. This is consistent with the requirement for SEA.

5.13 The iterative nature of the LDP preparation at its strategic, policy and sites levels will ensure that in association with the SEA process environmental issues will be given thorough consideration. SEA mechanisms will include:

- Consultation with relevant professional officers within the Council covering the full range of environmental topics;
- Consultation with relevant external bodies including, but not limited to SEPA, SNH and HS; and
- Consultation with relevant voluntary and community groups.

This will support robustness of the LDP at each of the assessment levels.

5.14 The strategy, policies and candidate sites contained in the MIR will be assessed against the SEA objectives using matrices similar to those presented in Tables 3-8 below.

5.15 All the SEA issues remain scoped in for each of the assessment levels. This is to ensure that localised issues can be identified on a site specific basis.

5.16 The matrices have three main purposes:

1. providing a transparent means of recording the potential environmental impacts of strategy, policies and land allocations;
2. providing a basis for identifying and recording any mitigation which may be required at implementation stage; and
3. providing the basis for consideration of the potential cumulative and interrelated impacts of the LDP as a whole.

5.17 In addition to this, the matrices will be used as a tool for engaging others (including policy makers, development management, and environmental professionals) in the assessment process. This will help to ensure a connected process moving from the strategy to the policies to the candidate site allocations. The findings of these assessments will be summarised using matrices similar to those presented below on pages 30 - 33.

Consideration of Reasonable Alternatives:

5.18 The 2005 Act requires consideration of reasonable alternatives to the plan within the Environmental Report. The ER should identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing;

- the plan or programme; and
- reasonable alternatives to the plan, taking into account its objectives and the geographical scope.

5.19 Consideration of alternatives could be at the level of the means by which the objectives of the LDP could be met by different approaches.

However, the highest level objectives of the LDP are set by the legislative requirements. Therefore, it is not possible to consider alternatives to them.

5.20 One of the main objectives is the establishment of a strategic vision for Dumfries & Galloway. This will be developed and articulated at an early stage as part of the LDP. This is developed from other high level documents including the National Planning Framework, the Dumfries & Galloway Community Plan, and the Dumfries & Galloway Single Outcome Agreement. It is anticipated that the strategic vision will also be based on a recognition of the fundamental importance of the rural environment to the nature and economy of Dumfries & Galloway.

5.21 Given the context for the identification of the LDP strategic vision and its position within the LDP, it is considered that for SEA the generation and assessment of alternatives would not be productive.

5.23 Support for the strategic vision will be provided through the LDP by its spatial strategy. This will be generated for the MIR. Consideration of alternatives will be part of this process. These have not yet been developed, but it is intended that the same set of alternatives be assessed for SEA. Given the similarity in the objectives of the two processes this is taken as an acceptable approach. The ER will describe the environmental impacts of alternative spatial strategies intended to address the LDP objectives, in particular, the strategic vision. The SEA assessment of the alternatives will be of their anticipated impacts against SEA objectives and relative to the baseline position. This should take into account the potential for minimising, or mitigating, negative environmental impacts whilst optimising environmental benefits, including regeneration opportunities.

5.24 The LDP spatial strategy and its alternatives for SEA could be constructed from one or more of the potential strategy elements listed in paragraph 3.11 above. It should be noted that this list is indicative and not exhaustive.

5.25 It is considered that the assessment of alternatives at the level of broad spatial strategy establishes the approach which the LDP should develop in its allocation of sites. The general policies will intend to support the recommended strategy. Given that these policies will also carry forward the wider context it is the case that much of what they say could also be contained in alternative approaches. Nonetheless, it follows that the scope for reasonable alternatives is constrained in the consideration of sites. The generation of alternatives for the larger settlements may a useful tool. If this is justified for the LDP there should be an environmental assessment reported in the revised Environmental Report with the PP. Other than for these possible cases, it is considered that there would not be a benefit in the formalisation of alternatives for settlements: In the preparation of the MIR all reasonable candidate sites

will be assessed for the SEA ER. The compendium of sites presented as part of the MIR will provide a range of possibilities. This will be the base from which the conclusions of the PP will be developed. It is in this way alternatives to the specific provisions of the PP will be assessed.

Table 3: Questions to Assist with the Assessment of Environmental Impacts

Q1. Environmental effect?		
	Yes	Y
	No	N
	Uncertain	?
	Unknown	¿
Q2. Type?		
	Direct	D
	Cumulative	C
	Synergistic	S
Q3. Direction?		
	Positive	+
	Both	±
	Negative	-
	Uncertain	?
	Unknown	¿
	None	X
Q4. Scale?		
	Significant	●●
	Notable	●
	Minor	○
	Unknown	?
	Uncertain	¿
	Nil	X
Q5. Response?		
	Avoid	Av
	Mitigate	Mi
	Off-set	Os
	Improve	Im
	Alternative	Al
	None possible	Np
Q6. Response Cost		
	High	2
	Medium	1
	Low	0
	Unknown	?
	Uncertain	¿
	None	X

Table 4: Example of Part of SEA Assessment Matrix for D&G LDP - Strategy Level Assessment

LDP Strategy Element	SEA LDP Strategy Objective	Relevant Baseline Indicator	Assessment: impact of element on objective	Commentary	Appropriate Assessment	Mitigation
Policy support for development at all possible locations	* Through strategy recognise, and integrate, the beneficial role of biodiversity and natural systems and processes	Overall area and number of protected sites; SEPA flood maps; Coastal erosion zones.	1. ? 2. DCS 3. - 4. ? 5. Av 6. ?	Uncoordinated and unregulated development may lead to direct or cumulative effect e.g. increase flood risk. Relies on other policies to avoid detriment to the environment.	Does not involve any specific negative impact but relies on other policies to avoid detriment to the environment.	
Support for Dumfries as the principal settlement serving D&G and restrict development in locations which would undermine this strategy	* Through strategy recognise the value of material assets (including natural resources and infrastructure) and integrate their efficient use for future years.	Number of sites and area on vacant and derelict land register; Number of listed buildings re-used	1. Y 2. DCS 3. + 4. ● 5. Np 6. X	Larger settlements such as Dumfries have the largest amounts of brownfield / vacant land thus directing development here would optimise the sustainable use of resources.		

Table 5: Example of Part of SEA Assessment Matrix for D&G LDP - Policy Level Assessment

LDP Policy Element	SEA LDP Policy Objective	Relevant Baseline Indicator	Assessment: impact of element on objective	Commentary	Appropriate Assessment	Mitigation
Development which will have an adverse effect on potential SPA, SAC or Ramsar site will not be permitted.	* Through strategy recognise, and integrate, the beneficial role of biodiversity and natural systems and processes	Overall area and number of protected sites;				
The retention, preservation and / or re-use of listed building will be supported.	* Through management of development policy protect, conserve and, where appropriate, provide for the enhancement of the historic environment and other elements of built cultural heritage.	Number and outcome of applications received for Listed Building demolition; Number of listed building re-used		Preserves historic environment; makes use of existing resources		

Table 6: Example of Part of SEA Assessment Matrix for D&G LDP - Land Allocation Level Assessment

LDP Land Allocation	SEA LDP Land Allocation Objective	Assessment criteria	Assessment: impact of element on objective	Commentary	Appropriate Assessment	Mitigation
Site 24a, X Road, X-town: Housing	* Through land allocations identify sites for a mix of housing types and tenures, including homes for families and affordable housing.	No. of units proposed? What type of housing is proposed? What is the percentage of affordable housing proposed?				
Site 33b, Y Road, Y-town: Retail	* Through development management policy avoid adding to flood risk and support opportunities to reduce flood risk.	Is the candidate site within an area on the SEPA Flood map? If so, what is the flood risk? = <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • less than 1:1000 (0.01%) • less than 1:200 (0.05%) • less than 1:100 Is there any evidence of past flooding events? Will development on the candidate site increase the probability of flooding on the site and / or elsewhere in the area?				

Table 7: Part of Matrix Summary for Assessment of Strategy

	LDP Strategy Elements				Comments
SEA Objectives	A	B	C	...	
1					
2					
3					
4					
*					

Table 8: Matrix Summary Scoring Scheme

Scoring Scheme	
Positive	
Small positive	
About neutral	
Small negative	
Negative	

6.0 NEXT STEPS

6.1 The overall SEA process has been shown on page 9. The SEA process for the LDP will continue to be undertaken in line with this diagram.

6.2 This Scoping Report is now to be considered by the Consultation Authorities who should provide any response they may have within 5 weeks. Any responses will be considered as possible amendments to the terms and requirements of this Scoping Report.

6.3 The preparation of the LDP formally commenced in March 2009 with the publication of the Development Plan Scheme. It is intended that the MIR and associated SEA Environmental Report be published in 2010. It is anticipated that a revised SEA Environmental Report will be produced with the PP by September 2011. The public consultation period on the SEA Environmental Report at each stage will be a minimum period of 8 weeks. This is unlikely to be extended unless special circumstances are seen to apply.

Appendix 1: Table of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies

INTERNATIONAL		
Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Council of Europe (2000) <i>European Landscape Convention</i>	Landscape	Aims to promote protection, management and planning of all landscapes and to organise European co-operation on landscape issues.
Council of Europe (1979) <i>Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Ensures conservation and protection of wild plant and animal species and their natural habitats.
European Union (2009) Draft Directive on <i>The Promotion of the Use of Energy from Renewable Resources</i>	Climatic factors	Targets for increasing the use of energy consumption from renewable resources to 20% by 2020.
European Union (2006) <i>European Strategy for Sustainable Development</i>	Inter-relationships / sustainable development	Identifies key priorities for sustainable development
European Union (2005) <i>European Climate Change Programme II</i>	Climatic Factors	Aims to reduce emissions and achieve sequestration
European Union (2005) <i>Thematic Strategy for Soil protection</i>	Soil	Aims to maintain and protect soil quality
European Union (2002) <i>6th Environmental Action Plan of the European Community</i>	Interrelationships / sustainable development	Encourages integration of environmental issues across all sectors of policy
European Union (2000) <i>Directive 2000/60/EC Water Framework Directive</i>	Water	Requirement to achieve good ecological status by 2015; Links to Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan
European Union (1999) <i>Directive 99/31/EC Landfill Directive</i>	Material assets	Sets targets for reducing waste to landfill
European Union (1996) <i>Directive 1996/62 EC: Ambient Air Quality and Management</i>	Air	Establishes standards for air quality and sets limits for various pollutants
European Union (1992) <i>Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Preservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment, including the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora promote the maintenance of biodiversity, taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements,

INTERNATIONAL

Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
European Union (1979) <i>Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Framework for the conservation and management of, and human interactions with, wild birds in Europe.
Ramsar Convention (amended 1987) <i>Convention on Wetlands of International Importance 1971</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
United Nations (1997) <i>Kyoto Protocol</i>	Climatic Factors	Sets international targets and mechanisms for addressing climate change

NATIONAL		
Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act (2007)	Biodiversity	To make provisions in relation to: fish farms and shellfish farms; to the parasite <i>Gyrodactylus salaris</i> ; salmon and freshwater fisheries and sea fisheries.
Climate Change (Scotland) Bill (2008)	Climatic Factors; Material Assets	Sets targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions; makes provisions on: mitigation and adaptation to climate change, energy efficiency and reduction and recycling of waste.
DECC (2009) Draft <i>Renewable Energy Strategy</i>	Climatic factors	Seeks to increase the use of renewable energy in the UK, as part of the overall strategy for tackling climate change and to meet the UK share of the EU target to generate 20% of the EU's energy from renewable sources by 2020.
DEFRA (2005) <i>One future different paths – UK shared framework for sustainable development</i>	Interrelations / sustainable development	Sets principles for sustainable development
DEFRA (2007) <i>Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</i>	Air	Seeks to improve and protect ambient air quality and protect human health and the environment without unacceptable economic or social costs; Promotes policies that improve local air quality.
Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	SEA / ALL	Requires Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for relevant plans, programmes and strategies.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Bill (2009)	Water	To make provisions on: assessment and management of flood risks (implementing Directive 2007/60/EC); local authorities' and SEPA's functions in flood risk management.
Historic Scotland (2008) <i>Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP)</i>	Cultural Heritage	Sets out policies for the historic environment, provides greater policy direction for Historic Scotland and provides a framework to inform work of organisations with a role and interest in managing the historic environment (including local authorities).
Housing (Scotland) Act 2006	Population and Human Health	To make provision about housing standards.
Land Reform (Scotland) Act (2003)	Population and Human	Establishes a right to be on land for recreational, educational and certain other purposes and a right to cross land (responsibly). Requires local authorities to draw

NATIONAL		
Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
	Health; Material assets	up and adopt a Core Path Plan. Also confers a right for rural communities to buy land which is being sold with which they have a connection.
Marine (Scotland) Bill (2009)	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	To make provisions in relation to the Scottish marine area, including marine plans, licensing of marine activities and the protection of the area and its wildlife.
National Performance Framework (NPF)	Inter-relationships / sustainable development	Defines priorities for Scotland, including mainstreaming sustainable development
Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act (2004)	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Duty to further conservation of biodiversity; Requirement for formulation of the LDP.
Planning etc (Scotland) Act (2006)	Planning	Reform of the Scottish planning system; Provides framework for preparation of LDP.
Scottish Government (2009) <i>National Planning Framework 2 for Scotland</i>	Planning	Guides nationally important land use planning. For D&G highlights need to: strengthen key ports and strategic transport corridors between Ireland and the continent. Proximity to Cumbria and Ireland offers substantial business opportunities, particularly tourism and leisure. Potential for developing area's strengths in forestry and quality produce and as a place to live and work.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy Pt1	Planning	The purpose of planning and core principles for operation; objectives for development planning, development management and enforcement. States that development plans should address the spatial implications of economic, social and environmental change.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Coastal Planning</i> p18	Biodiversity, fauna and flora; Water; Landscape	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect designated nature conservation sites from inappropriate development; • make provisions to identify areas of risk of coastal flooding.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Economic Development</i> pp10-11	Material assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support sustainable economic growth.

NATIONAL

Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Flooding and Drainage</i> pp35-39	Water	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • take flood risk into account.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Historic Environment</i> pp20-21	Cultural Heritage	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide a framework for the protection, conservation and enhancement of all elements of the historic environment to allow the assessment of the impact of proposed development on the historic environment and its setting; • encourage accommodation of new uses that are compatible with the fabric, setting and character of the historic environment.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Housing</i> pp13-17	Population and Human Health	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase housing supply and allocating effective sites whilst enabling well designed, energy efficient, good quality housing in sustainable locations.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Landscape and Natural Heritage</i> pp21-25	Biodiversity, fauna and flora; Landscape	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage opportunities for enjoyment and understanding of natural heritage • encourage positive change whilst maintaining and enhancing landscape's distinctive character.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Open Space and Physical Activity</i> pp25-27	Population and Human Health	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support, protect and enhance open space and opportunities for sport and recreation.
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Renewable Energy</i> pp32-35	Climatic Factors; Material assets	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aim to increase amount of electricity generated from renewable sources in response to climate change • support development of diverse range renewable energy infrastructure
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Rural Development</i> pp17-18	Planning	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage development in rural areas which support prosperous and sustainable communities whilst protecting and enhancing environmental quality.

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Transport</i> pp28-32	Climatic Factors; Material assets	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • aim to reduce carbon emissions from transport. • provide for strategic network infrastructure and sustainable services
Scottish Government (2009) Scottish Planning Policy <i>Waste Management</i> pp39-40	Material assets	Statement of Scottish Government planning policy that expects to provide a policy context and to inform the terms of the LDP, in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage sustainable approach to waste management.
Scottish Government (2008) PAN39 <i>Farm and Forestry Buildings</i>	Cultural heritage	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN39 sets out general advice on the siting and design of farm and forestry buildings to stimulate planning authorities to prepare both clear development plan policies and, where appropriate, local siting and design guidance. In turn this should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage new development which is located and designed with respect for the character of rural areas;
Scottish Government (2008) PAN43 <i>Golf Courses and Associated Development</i>	Biodiversity, flora and fauna; Cultural heritage; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN43 sets out need for policies addressing development issues with golf courses, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • preferences for landscape protection and enhancement, conservation and habitat management for existing and new courses; • safeguarding existing landscape character and natural heritage interests; • safeguarding historic buildings, archaeological sites and designed landscapes.
Scottish Government (2008) PAN65 <i>Planning and Open Space</i>	Population and human health; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN65 gives advice on the role of the planning system in protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and providing high quality new spaces.
Scottish Government (2008) PAN84 <i>Reducing Carbon Emissions in New Developments</i>	Climatic Factors	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN84 states that a key role of the planning system is to support a move towards low and zero carbon development.
Scottish Government (2008) <i>Rural</i>	Planning	Sets priorities for EU funded rural development

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
<i>Development Programme for Scotland 2007-2013</i>		
Scottish Government (2006) PAN78 <i>Inclusive Design</i>	Population and human health	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN78 aims to promote equality by improving the design of places so that they can be used by everyone - regardless of age, gender or disability.
Scottish Government (2006) <i>National Transport Strategy</i>	Air; Climatic Factors; Material assets	Sets out key strategic outcomes: Improve journey times and connections, to tackle congestion and the lack of integration; Reduce emissions, to tackle the issues of climate change, air quality and health improvement; and Improve quality, accessibility and affordability, to give people a choice of public transport; Aims to provide an efficient transport system, including reducing the need to travel LDP should contribute to meeting the objectives of this through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving air quality • Improving transport infrastructure and interchanges; Connecting rural and disadvantaged communities
Scottish Government (2006) PAN51 <i>Planning, Environmental Protection and Regulation</i>	ALL	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN51 supports the existing policy on the role of the planning system in relation to the environmental protection regimes.
Scottish Government (2006) PAN79 <i>Water and Drainage</i>	Water	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN79 provides advice on good practice in relation to the provision of water and drainage in a planning context.
Scottish Government (2005) <i>Building a Better Scotland –Infrastructure Investment Plan</i>	Material assets	Sets out delivery plan for investment across Scotland
Scottish Government (2005) PAN44 <i>Fitting new Housing Development into</i>	Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i>

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
<i>the Landscape</i>		PAN44 offers suggestions to help planners, developers and local communities achieve residential developments which are in harmony with their landscape setting
Scottish Government (2005) PAN74 <i>Affordable Housing</i>	Population and human health	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN74 sets out how the planning system can support the commitment to increase the supply of affordable housing e.g. by indicating the scale and general location of any shortage of affordable housing and allocating sufficient land to meet the requirement.
Scottish Government (2005) PAN72 <i>Housing in the Countryside</i>	Cultural heritage; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN72 aims to create more opportunities for good quality rural housing which respects Scottish landscapes and building traditions.
Scottish Government (2005) PAN75 <i>Planning for Transport</i>	Population and human health	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN75 promotes integrated transport, aiming to create an accessible Scotland which has a safe, reliable and sustainable transport system
Scottish Government (2004) PAN71 <i>Conservation Area Management</i>	Cultural Heritage	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN71 complements existing national policy and provides further advice on the management of conservation areas. It identifies good practice for managing change, sets out a checklist for appraising conservation areas.
Scottish Government (2004) PAN69 <i>Planning and Building Standards Advice on Flooding</i>	Water; Climatic Factors	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN69 sets out responsibilities of local authorities and developers in ensuring that future built development is not located in areas with a significant risk of flooding; provides background information on the factors which contribute to flooding, including the influence of climate change.
Scottish Government (2004) <i>Scotland's Biodiversity: It's in your hands</i> (Scotland's Biodiversity Strategy)	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Sets out aim of halting biodiversity loss by 2010 and of Scotland being recognised as a world leader in biodiversity by 2030.
Scottish Government (2003) PAN68	Cultural	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant</i>

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
<i>Design Statements</i>	Heritage	<i>information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN68 advises that Design Statements should consider and set out principles which determine the design and layout of development proposals, especially for listed building applications or in sensitive sites, such as conservation areas.
Scottish Government (2003) PAN67 <i>Housing Quality</i>	Cultural heritage	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN67 explains how Designing Places (which sets out the aspirations for design and the role of the planning system in delivering them) should be applied to new housing. Role of planning process should be to ensure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the design of new housing reflects a full understanding of its context • the design of new housing reinforces local and Scottish identity • new housing is integrated into the movement and settlement patterns of the wider area
Scottish Government (2003) <i>Securing a renewable future: Scotland's renewable energy</i>	Material assets	Sets national targets for renewable energy.
Scottish Government (2002) PAN64 <i>Reclamation of Surface Mineral Workings</i>	Soil; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN64 states that a key aim of policy is to ensure that land worked for minerals is reclaimed as soon as possible after working has ceased - to achieve this, need to ensure satisfactory reclamation procedures are in place to bring land back to an acceptable condition.
Scottish Government (2002) PAN45 <i>Renewable Energy Technologies</i> Planning for Micro Renewables: Annex to Renewable Energy Technologies (2006)	Climatic factors	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN45 covers the characteristics of the main types of electricity generation developments, using renewable energy resources, likely to be deployed in Scotland. Updates information and advice on the technologies, the significant planning issues likely to arise and how these can be addressed (inc. implications for the rural economy). Annex explains how the planning system can support the micro-renewables industry in the rollout of the technology.

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Scottish Government (2002) PAN63 <i>Waste Management Planning</i>	Material assets	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN63 provides advice on a sustainable approach and change of emphasis from waste disposal to integrated waste management
Scottish Government (2001) PAN61 <i>Planning and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems</i>	Water	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN61 requires that local plans set out the planning authority's expectations in relation to the use of SUDS.
Scottish Government (2001) PAN62 <i>Radio Telecommunications</i>	Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN62 provides advice on the process of site selection and design and illustrates how equipment can be sensitively installed.
Scottish Government (2000) PAN33 <i>Development of Contaminated Land</i>	Soil	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN33 sets out the implications of the contaminated land regime for the planning system; the development of contaminated land; approach to contaminated land in development plans; determination of planning applications when the site is or may be contaminated.
Scottish Government (2000) PAN60 <i>Planning for Natural Heritage</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN60 demonstrates how development and planning can contribute to conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of the natural environment; Advice on how development and the planning system can contribute to the conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of the natural environment; encourages planning authorities to be positive and creative in addressing natural heritage issues
Scottish Government (1999) PAN56 <i>Planning for Noise</i>	Population and human health	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN56 sets out the role of the planning system in preventing and limiting the adverse effects of noise without prejudicing investment in enterprise, development and transport.

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Scottish Government (1998) PAN53 <i>Classifying the Coast for Planning</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora; Water; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN53 sets out a practical framework within which planning authorities can classify the coast as a basis for the promotion and control of development; sets out the criteria for deciding whether the coast should be regarded as developed, undeveloped or remote.
Scottish Government (1998) PAN58 <i>Environmental Impact Assessment</i>	ALL	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN58 relates to EIA for development projects authorised under planning legislation.
Scottish Government (1996) PAN50 <i>Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings</i> Annex A: Control of Noise at Surface Mineral Workings Annex B: Control of Dust at Surface Mineral Workings Annex C: Control of Traffic at Surface Mineral Workings Annex D: Control of Blasting at Surface Mineral Workings Reclamation of Surface Mineral Workings	Soil; Water; Landscape	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN50 provides advice on the more significant environmental effects arising from mineral working operations
Scottish Government (1994) PAN42 <i>Archaeology</i>	Cultural Heritage	<i>PANs provide Scottish Government advice on good practice and relevant information. Provides context for the LDP.</i> PAN42 includes advice on the handling of archaeological matters within the planning process.
SEPA (2006) <i>Bathing Waters Report</i>	Population and human health; Water	Water quality monitoring results.
SEPA (2006) <i>Position Statement to</i>	Water	Outlines SEPA's position on river engineering activities. They provide a basis for

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
<i>support the implementation of the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005: Culverting Of Watercourses</i>		Interpreting SEPA's objectives under the Controlled Activity Regulations (CAR), and a basis for interpreting and implementing SEPA's good practice guidance.
SEPA (2006) <i>Policy No. 55 on Provision of Waste Water Drainage in Settlements</i>	Water	Sets out SEPA's policy principles and guidance on the provision of waste water drainage within and outwith settlements served by a strategic sewerage system.
SEPA (2006) <i>State of the Environment Report</i>	Inter-relationships	Provides an overview of environmental trends, impacts and the overall quality of Scotland's environment.
SEPA (2003) <i>Policy No. 19 on Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland</i>	Water	Aims to provide a sustainable future for Scotland's groundwater resources by protecting legitimate uses of groundwater and providing a common SEPA framework.
SEPA/ Scottish Government (2003) <i>National Waste Plan</i>	Material assets	Confirms targets for reducing waste.
SEPA (2000) <i>Policy No. 41 Development at Risk of Flooding</i>	Water	Contains principles to be followed by SEPA and planning authorities regarding advice and consultation on flood risk issues; intends to enable planning authorities and SEPA to work together effectively on planning matters, particularly in the assessment of planning applications for development where there is considered to be a flood risk.
SEPA (1998) <i>Policy No. 26 on the Culverting of Watercourses</i>	Water	Sets out the environmental issues associated with culverting and presents a consistent and pragmatic approach to associated work.
SEPA <i>Technical Floodrisk Guidance for Stakeholders</i>	Water	Provides guidance on flooding issues.
Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations (2005)	Water	Establishing arrangements and mechanisms for implementation of the EC Directive; aims to protect the water environment whilst also supporting social and economic interests of those who depend on it. This may be a consideration in assessment of sites.
Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act (2003)	Water	Requirement to produce River Basin Management Plans. Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR). The Council is identified as a Responsible body for water management.
Sustainable Development Commission Scotland (due Nov. 2009) <i>3rd Assessment</i>	ALL	Report from the Scottish Government's independent advisory body on sustainable development whose key role is to scrutinize the Government's delivery of

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
<i>of Government</i>		sustainable development polices through an annual assessment. Includes a set of challenges for Government on issues which the SDC believe must be tackled in order to make progress towards sustainable development.

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
DGC (forthcoming) <i>Carbon Management Plan</i>	Climatic Factors	Expects to inform the development of the LDP.
DGC (to be commissioned) <i>Forestry Study</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	Will inform eventual Forestry Strategy, including biodiversity considerations and expects to inform the development of the LDP.
DGC (to be commissioned) <i>Open Space Audit</i>	Population and Human Health	Quantity and Quality assessment of Open Space; will inform eventual Open Space Strategy; expects to inform the development of the LDP.
DGC (to be commissioned) <i>Renewable Energy Study</i>	Climatic Factors	Will inform eventual Renewable Energy Strategy and expects to inform the development of the LDP.
DGC (2009) <i>Community Plan 2009-2012</i>	Inter-relationships / sustainable development	Sets priorities for the Community Planning Partnership and provides context for preparing the LDP.
DGC (2009) <i>Draft Dumfries and Galloway Local Transport Strategy</i>	Population and Human Health; Climatic Factors	Not yet available To promote economic growth, social inclusion, health and protection of the environment through a safe, integrated, effective and efficient transport system. <i>Policies and proposals contained in this to be included, as appropriate, in the LDP.</i>
DGC (2009) <i>Dumfries and Galloway Core Paths Plan</i>	Population and Human Health; Material assets	Land Reform Act requires DGC to put together a basic framework of paths that will serve the needs of residents and visitors throughout the region; Land Reform Act requires DGC to put together a basic framework of paths that will serve the needs of residents and visitors throughout the region. <i>Policies and proposals contained in this to be considered for inclusion, as appropriate, in LDP.</i>
DGC (2008) <i>Dumfries & Galloway Local Biodiversity Action Plan</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora	To ensure biodiversity in D&G is conserved, enhanced and re-created at the landscape and seascape scale. <i>Provides part of the context for the LDP and a number of other requirements.</i>
DGC (2008) <i>Regional Economic Strategy 2008-2013</i>	Inter-relationships / Sustainable	Discusses issues faced by the region's economy and agrees a series of focused actions to address these and deliver beneficial change to economic well-being.

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
	development	
DGC (2008) Supplementary Planning Guidance 3.2 - 3.4: <i>Small Building Groups</i> (Annandale & Eskdale; Stewartry; Wigtown)	Population and Human Health	Provides for limited housing development to meet demand for new houses in the countryside whilst supporting existing rural services and facilities. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) <i>Annandale & Eskdale; Nithsdale; Stewartry; Wigtown Adopted Local Plans</i>	Planning	Complete Local Plan spatial coverage of Dumfries & Galloway. Sets out the site specific detail and more local policies and proposals. These are to be reviewed and replaced by the LDP. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance 3.1: <i>Small Building Groups</i> (Nithsdale)	Population and Human Health	Provides for limited housing development to meet demand for new houses in the countryside whilst supporting existing rural services and facilities. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance 4.2: <i>Managing Waste in Housing and Commercial Developments</i>	Material assets	Guidance on incorporation of waste management facilities into new developments – encouraging well designed provision for waste storage, recovery and collection; enabling waste reduction and material separation at source. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance 7.1, 7.2: <i>Housing Development in Remote and Depopulated Areas</i> (Stewartry; Wigtown)	Population and Human Health; Material assets	Encouraging re-population of remote areas in order to strengthen existing communities; Encouraging re-use of existing buildings. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance 8: <i>Flooding</i>	Water; Climatic Factors	Preventing new developments from being at risk of flooding; <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance: <i>East Stewartry Coast National Scenic Area Management Plan</i>	Landscape	Describes scenic qualities and landscape character and sets out a vision for the future of the East Stewartry Coast National Scenic Area. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning	Landscape	Describes scenic qualities and landscape character and sets out a vision for the

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Plan, programme or strategy	Relevant SEA Issue	Key considerations
Guidance: <i>Fleet Valley National Scenic Area Management Plan</i>		future of the Fleet Valley National Scenic Area. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance: <i>Nith Estuary National Scenic Area Management Plan</i>	Landscape	Describes scenic qualities and landscape character and sets out a vision for the future of the Nith Estuary National Scenic Area. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance2: <i>Design Guidance for the Built Environment</i>	Cultural Heritage	Encourages appropriate development having regard to the location and surroundings. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance5: <i>Telecommunication Development</i>	Landscape	Encourages sensitive siting and design of telecommunication infrastructure. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (2006) Supplementary Planning Guidance 1: <i>Open Space in New Residential Developments</i>	Population and Human Health; Landscape	Sets out the standard for provision of open space when considering planning applications for new residential developments; Sets out the standard for provision of open space – can provide landscape area improving visual setting of new development. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (1999) <i>Dumfries & Galloway Structure Plan</i>	Planning	Sets out the strategic policy framework for Dumfries & Galloway. This is to be reviewed and replaced by the LDP. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
DGC (1995) <i>Dumfries & Galloway Landscape Assessment</i>	Landscape	Provides a detailed assessment of the landscape character of Dumfries and Galloway, considers the likely pressures and opportunities for change in the landscape, assesses the sensitivity of the landscape to change and includes guidelines indicating how landscape character may be conserved, enhanced or restructured as appropriate.
DGC <i>Local Housing Strategy 2004-2009</i>	Population and Human Health	Assessment of housing needs, identifying shortfalls in affordable housing / sets priority areas
DGC <i>Single Outcome Agreement 2008-2011</i>	Interrelationships /	Identifies region's key characteristics and sets out areas for improvement in delivering public services.

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	sustainable development	<i>Policies and proposals contained in this to be considered for inclusion in the LDP.</i>
SEPA (2009) <i>Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan</i>	Biodiversity, fauna and flora; Water	Sets out vision for the water environment until 2027 (actions needed to produce environmental improvements during the next six years and over the longer term). <i>Terms of this plan should inform the terms of the LDP.</i>
SEPA (2003) <i>Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway Area Waste Plan</i>	Material assets	Provides a framework for waste management services in Dumfries & Galloway. <i>Seeks to clarify current policy position to be reviewed and replaced by LDP and associated SPG.</i>
South West of Scotland Transport Partnership (SWESTRANS) (2008) <i>Regional Transport Strategy</i>	Population and Human Health; Climatic Factors; Material assets	Sets out transport vision in SW Scotland: the connectivity required to sustain and enhance economy and communities, whilst minimising environmental impact of transport; Promotes maintenance and improvement of transport infrastructure and services throughout the area.

