



Shetland Islands Council

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# Shetland's Partnership Plan - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

## **Strategic Environmental Assessment Post-adoption Statement**

**November 2018**

## Cover Note

### Part 1

**To:** [SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)  
or  
SEA Gateway  
Scottish Government  
Area 1 H (Bridge)  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

### Part 2

A SEA Post-adoption Statement is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

Shetland's Partnership Plan 2018-2028 (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan)

The Responsible Authority is:

Shetland Islands Council on behalf of the Shetland Partnership

### Part 3

Please tick the appropriate box

☒

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

☐

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 or

☐

The PPS does not require an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, as this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 5 week timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

## Part 4

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## Part 5

Signature  
(*electronic  
signature is  
acceptable*)

Brendan Hall

Date

1 November 2018

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## Introduction

### Shetland's Partnership Plan - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

Shetland's Partnership Plan (SPP) is the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) for Shetland and has been prepared by the Shetland Community Planning Partnership. Preparation of a LOIP by the Community Planning Partnership is a statutory requirement of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

The Community Planning Partnership ('the Shetland Partnership') is made up of a range of public sector partners, partner organisations and community representatives. The LOIP is a partnership plan outlining how these partners will work together to tackle inequalities in Shetland. It identifies a shared vision, priorities and targets for all partners in Shetland.

### What is Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

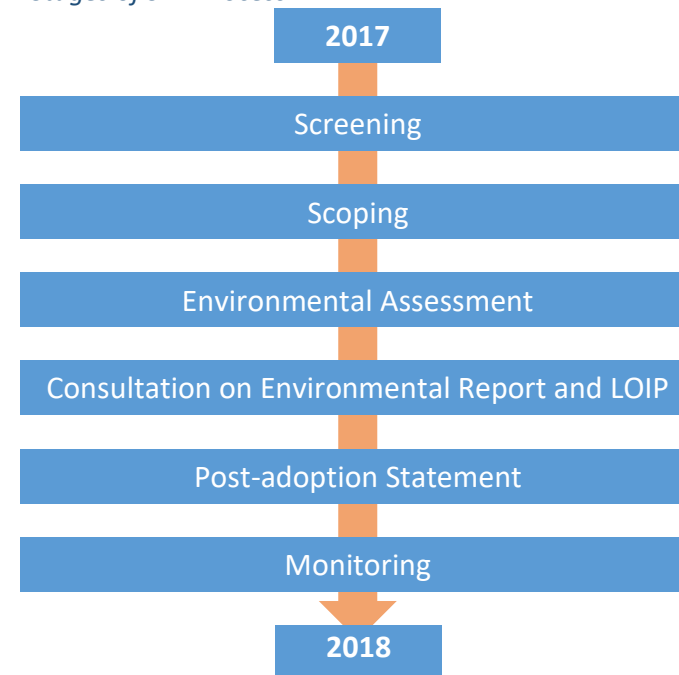
As part of the preparation of the SPP the Shetland Partnership is required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). SEA is a systematic method for considering the likely environmental effects of certain Plans, Programmes or Strategies (PPS). SEA is a means to judge the likely impact of a public plan on the environment and to seek ways to minimise that effect, if it is likely to be significant. When undertaken in an effective and proportionate way SEA can help to address environmental problems, or enhance positive or beneficial effects of plans. It can provide opportunities for the

public to understand the environmental issues and engage positively with the assessment process. It can be a practical tool, setting out how environmental effects are to be dealt with when the plan is being implemented.

### What is a Post-adoption Statement?

Once a plan has been adopted, the Responsible Authority must prepare a SEA Statement or 'Post-adoption Statement'. The key stages in the SEA process are outlined in **Figure 1** below.

*Figure 1 – Stages of SEA Process*



## Key Facts about Shetland's Partnership Plan 2018-2028

<b>Responsible Authority</b>	Shetland Islands Council on behalf of the Shetland Community Planning Partnership (CPP)
<b>Title of Plan</b>	Shetland's Partnership Plan – Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)
<b>Purpose of the Plan</b>	<p>SPP is a partnership plan for the community and all community planning partners. The plan should reflect the CPP's priorities for improving outcomes and tackling inequalities in Shetland. The SPP will provide a shared vision and priorities for all partners and should cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local outcomes to which priority is to be given by the community planning partnership;</li> <li>• a description of the proposed improvement in the outcomes;</li> <li>• the period within which the proposed improvement is to be achieved; and,</li> <li>• a description of the needs and circumstances of persons residing in the areas of the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to which the plan relates.</li> </ul>
<b>What Prompted the Plan?</b>	Section 6(1) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (CEA) requires each Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to produce and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP).
<b>Subject</b>	Community planning to improve outcomes for people in Shetland
<b>Summary of the nature/content of the Plan</b>	<p>SPP identifies key priorities, outcomes and targets for the Shetland Partnership in tackling inequalities in Shetland over a 10 year period. The structure for the Plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared vision</li> <li>• 4 shared priorities and outcomes</li> <li>• Locality Planning</li> <li>• Delivery</li> </ul>
<b>Period covered</b>	2018-2028
<b>Frequency of updates</b>	The plan will be reviewed annually to update the outcomes with a wider review every 3 years to update the medium term outcomes and activities. A full review will be undertaken after 10 years.
<b>Area covered by Plan</b>	The SPP will cover the land area of the Shetland Islands, 1,468km <sup>2</sup> .
<b>Map</b>	Included on the following page
<b>Date Adopted</b>	All 14 statutory partners signed off the Plan in July 2018

## Map of Plan Area

Figure 2 – Land area covered by SPP



## SEA of Shetland's Partnership Plan

Shetland's Partnership Plan 2018-2028 has been subject to environmental assessment as required under the Environment Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. During this process we have:

- taken into account the views of Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), and Historic Environment Scotland (HES) on the scope and detail of the Environmental Report;
- prepared an Environmental Report on the Partnership Plan's likely significant effects on the environment, which included consideration of:
  - the environmental baseline
  - the relationship of the Plan to other plans and programmes
  - the likely evolution of the environment without the Partnership Plan
  - the Partnership Plan's likely significant effects on the environment
  - mitigation measures envisaged for protection, reduction and off-setting of significant adverse effects
  - alternatives to the proposed options
  - measures to monitor the performance of the Plan and to identify any unforeseen environmental effects that may arise;
- consulted on the Environmental Report and Draft Partnership Plan;
- used the results of the environmental report and consultation responses to inform the preparation of the Partnership Plan;
- committed to monitoring the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the Partnership Plan, identify any unforeseen environmental effects and to take appropriate remedial action and enhancement.

A summary of SEA activity to date may be found in **Table 1**.

Table 1 – summary of SEA activity to date

SEA Activity	Date Carried out	Comment
Screening	June-July 2017	Submitted to Gateway 4 July 2017
Determination	August 2017	Advertised in Paper 11 August 2017
Scoping – consultation period and level of detail	September- October 2017	Submitted 1 November 2017, responses received 4 December 2017
Developing vision and priorities for Partnership Plan	June-December 2017	
Relationship with other PPS and environmental objectives	September- October 2017	
Environmental Baseline established	September- December 2017	
Environmental Assessment undertaken	November-December 2017	
Environmental Report Produced	December 2017	
Consultation on Partnership Plan and Environmental Report	15 December 2017- 7 March 2018	Advertised 18 December 2017
Analysis of responses	February-March 2018	Responses received from Consultation Authorities 26 February 2018 (no other responses received)
Revisions to Partnership Plan and re-assessment of Plan against environmental objectives	March – May 2018	
Adoption of Shetland's Partnership Plan	July 2018	All 14 statutory partners signed-off the Plan



## How the Environmental Report has been taken into account

Shetland's Partnership Plan has been subject to SEA in order to consider the potential impact of the Plan on the environment and to improve the Plan's environmental performance.

The priorities, outcomes and targets in the Partnership Plan were developed through an iterative process using both Strategic Environmental Assessment and an Integrated Impact Assessment. This assessed the Plan in terms of social, economic, environmental and rurality impacts. The findings of these assessments, which were documented and published in the Integrated Impact Assessment and Environmental Report, have been used to inform and influence the final content of the Partnership Plan.

The initial assessment was undertaken on the Draft Partnership Plan to help assess the preferred options and reasonable alternatives and quality assure the process. The Environmental

Report was submitted to the Consultation Authorities and advertised for public comment alongside the Partnership Plan

Where there were any potential adverse effects identified on the environment or opportunities identified to make more positive impacts these were used to make changes to the Plan. Overall there were no significant adverse impacts identified and a number of potentially positive ones.

The Plan was revised post consultation and re-assessed for SEA purposes. Again, no significant effects were identified

**Table 2** provides a Summary of the comments received from the Consultation Authorities on the Environmental Report and Partnership Plan. These comments have been taken into account in the adopted Partnership Plan.

Table 2 – Summary of consultation responses

Consultation Authority	Comment	Response to Comment
<b>Historic Environment Scotland</b>	<p>We welcome the clear, concise presentation of the Environmental Report, and we are broadly content to agree with the findings in relation to the historic environment.</p> <p>You have proposed to use the Buildings at Risk Register as a monitoring indicator for effects on the historic environment. Whilst this may be helpful in identifying some effects of depopulation and economic changes, we recommend that you also consider using other indicators which are more closely linked to the Place priority objectives and predicted effects. For instance, you could use the Place Standard Tool to monitor effects on the historic environment (e.g. the Place Standard Average Scores for Streets and Spaces and Identity and Belonging). You could also consider utilising existing monitoring regimes, such as that in place for the LDP, to monitor land use effects related to the identified likely increase in residential and industrial development.</p>	Note the benefit of monitoring the Place Standard scores (this will be carried out as part of the wider SPP) and linking to the LDP monitoring in relation to the Partnership.
<b>Scottish Environment Protection Agency</b>	We are satisfied that an adequate assessment of the plan has been undertaken and overall would agree with the findings of the Environmental Report. We note that our comments provided at scoping stage have been taken into account.	No change required
<b>Scottish Natural Heritage</b>	The insertion of a new target on lowering emissions and desire for development of a low carbon economy is the only mitigation arising directly from the proposed LOIP. We welcome these additions to the LOIP, as tackling emissions that contribute to climate change should be beneficial for both people and nature in the longer term. However unfortunately they do not address other negative impacts identified as part of the SEA, such as those on biodiversity and landscape caused by potential additional development pressures. Instead the SEA relies upon the Local Development Plan to address such potential impacts. This reinforces our previous advice that assessment of the impacts of potential development pressure arising from the LOIP is best done once specific detail is known, in the SEA for other plans, programmes or strategies that contain the detail of the proposed development.	No change required

## Monitoring

It is a requirement of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the significant effects of implementing a plan or program are monitored. This environmental monitoring will form part of the monitoring framework for Shetland's Partnership Plan.

The Act does not require bespoke monitoring arrangements or timelines to be set out for SEA. Furthermore SEA monitoring should be based around the significant environmental effects identified during the assessment. As no major significant negative effects have been identified there are no specific monitoring arrangements in this regard.

A set of indicators for monitoring the overall environmental effects of delivering Shetland's Partnership Plan have been developed to monitor:

- if Shetland's Partnerships Plan is contributing to achievement of the SEA objectives;
- that mitigation measures are performing as well as can be expected or require modifying; and,
- whether any remedial measures are necessary to mitigate adverse significant effects which have not been identified previously.

Monitoring indicators can be viewed in **Table 3** and are based on figures in the Environmental Baseline. These Indicators will be used by the Shetland Partnership as part of the wider monitoring and delivery of the Plan. These indicators and a wider review of the

Environmental baseline will also inform the reviewing and updating of targets in the Plan over the 10 year period and the development of the three year delivery plans.

*Table 3 – SEA Monitoring Indicators*

SEA Topic	Indicators
Climatic Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carbon Dioxide Emissions (<i>Figure 12, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waterbodies in Shetland classified as being in good or high condition (<i>Figure 14, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>
Material Assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Heat Demand (<i>Table 10, Appendix 4</i>)</li> <li>• Household Waste (<i>Figure 26, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>
Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSSIs, SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites in <i>Unfavourable</i> condition (<i>Table 23, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>
Landscape, Seascape and Cultural Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Buildings At Risk Register (<i>Figures 46 and 47, Appendix 4</i>)</li> <li>• National Scenic Area Special Qualities (<i>page 68, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>
Population & Human Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population by age (<i>Figure 50, Appendix 4</i>)</li> <li>• Early Mortality (<i>Figure 57, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (If available) Percentage of blanket bog showing dominant erosion features (<i>page 28, Appendix 4</i>)</li> </ul>