



## Climate Change Impact Assessment – Full Assessment

### Background

A Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) must be completed at the beginning of a new project, policy or programme. This allows climate positive action to be considered from the start, may be used as a tool for decision making processes and ensures we are taking the appropriate steps to mitigate climate change and align with the council's target to reach net zero by 2045. The CCIA Screening Questions and/or full CCIA may be included in the environmental section of committee reports. Outcomes must be monitored and reported to ensure projects are in line with climate change targets.

In January 2020 the SIC acknowledged the Climate Emergency and the Climate Change Programme was set up to meet Scottish Government targets. The Climate Change Strategy Team was developed and in December 2023 the council approved the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.

**SIC Climate Change Strategy:** [sic-climate-change-strategy-2023-2027 \(shetland.gov.uk\)](https://www.shetland.gov.uk/sic-climate-change-strategy-2023-2027)

**SIC Climate Change Action Plan:** [sic-climate-change-action-plan \(shetland.gov.uk\)](https://www.shetland.gov.uk/sic-climate-change-action-plan)



### Completion of CCIA's

A CCIA helps the council to determine if a project, policy, programme, change plan, business plan, service plan or redesign will have a positive, neutral or negative impact on the climate.

If you require help, guidance or advice when completing the CCIA, please contact the Climate Change Strategy Team at [climatechange@shetland.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@shetland.gov.uk)

Please submit all CCIA's to [climatechange@shetland.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@shetland.gov.uk)

**Disclaimer: A Climate Change Impact Assessment (CCIA) does not replace the statutory requirement for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) or Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) for larger proposals, and for which systematic processes are already in place.**

Environmental Impact Assessment:  
[Environmental Impact Assessment - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/environmental-impact-assessment)

Strategic Environmental Assessment:  
[Strategic Environmental Assessment \(SEA\) - Shetland Islands Council Interact](https://www.shetland.gov.uk/strategic-environmental-assessment-sea)

(UK Government) An EIA should be completed when a local planning authority is deciding whether to grant planning permission for a project, which is likely to have significant effects on the environment. Please contact planning before applying for planning permission.

(Scottish Government) The SEA is a detailed assessment of the likely effects that a public plan will have on the environment if implemented. Complete the SEA pre-screening process to determine if a full assessment is needed. The Scottish Government will respond with info on next steps.



**Section 1 – Impact Assessment Information**

<b>Has an EIA or SEA already been completed or planned to be completed for the project, policy or programme? Please mark 'X' in the appropriate 'yes' or 'no' box.</b>			
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Additional Information:</b>
<b>EIA</b> Environmental Impact Assessment		X	The Planning Service, following a scoping request (2005/007/SCR), has confirmed that an EIA is not required for this development.
<b>SEA</b> Strategic Environmental Assessment		X	Mineral extraction and quarrying is mentioned in the “Material Assets” topic of the Environmental Baseline appendix of the SEA for the SPP’s Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. However, quarries are not considered in the Assessments section of this SEA.

**Section 2 – Project, Policy or Programme Details**

This section requires key information about the proposal, who the main contact is, a brief summary of the proposal and the key objectives to allow a better understanding and explanation of what the project involves. Please complete the table below.

<b>Author:</b>	Neil Hutcheson	<b>Date:</b>	08 November 2025
<b>Email Address:</b>	neil.hutcheson@shetland.gov.uk		
<b>Service:</b>	Roads	<b>Department:</b>	Infrastructure
<b>Title of Project, Policy or Programme:</b>	Scord Quarry Extension		
<b>Brief Summary of the Project, Policy or Programme:</b>			
<p>The Council wishes to extend its current planning permission to quarry stone from Scord Quarry for approximately a further 20 years. In addition, it is proposed that as part of the quarry plans the A970 would be realigned to remove the existing hairpin bend as the road drops towards Scalloway close to the quarry. The Council’s Roads Service is submitting a planning application to further extend the permission for the quarry. A second planning application will be submitted in due course, when the quarry is no longer viable, to realign the A970. The proposed works are to the north-east of the existing quarry area with an extension of some 4.9 hectares (ha) into the southern end of Outnabreck Hill.</p> <p>Quarrying activities have been ongoing at the Scord since 1932. The Council wishes to ensure that the future quarrying plans are developed to facilitate restoration of the whole site in the longer term that is within the existing quarry area and also within the extension area. It is intended that a final landform will be created which best fits with the surrounding natural environment.</p> <p>Quarrying stone will deliver the eventual earthworks for the road. Therefore, the quantities of stone required will determine when the new road alignment will be achieved. The existing line of the road would remain in place to facilitate local access and access to the viewpoint.</p> <p>At the end of the proposed extension period the need for stone from this source will be reviewed and if a requirement is identified, a further planning application will be made or alternatively the quarry will be fully restored.</p>			
<b>Key Objectives of the Project, Policy or Programme:</b>			
<p>The objectives are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to ensure a secure supply of required materials (rock, road aggregates and asphalt) it is essential that the quarry is extended or another quarry opened. SIC</li> </ul>			



does not wish to open another quarry because an extension at Scord provides the opportunity to restore the existing site, because the quarry supplies high quality materials and because SIC has invested in the machinery and plant in the quarry;

- the retention of asphalt production by the Council would prevent a private monopoly, and unfair competition in the supply of this essential construction material;
- to improve the existing road alignment at the Scord Bend; and
- to ensure that the proposals are progressed in a way which best safeguards the local environment and reduces impacts to local communities.

### Section 3 – Assessment Questions

This section includes a range of questions covering different themes and topics. Please consider both positive and negative impacts when answering the questions. The purpose is to gather as much information as possible, if you are unsure please contact a member of our team who can provide guidance. **Please mark ‘X’ in the appropriate ‘yes’ or ‘no’ box and provide further details if required.**

<b><u>Energy Use and Efficiency</u></b>		
The purpose of this section is to gather more information on energy use and efficiency. This section is particularly relevant if the proposal involves building changes of use or purpose, new building projects, construction work, refurbishment or retrofitting.		
1. Does the proposal increase energy use?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:  It does not increase energy use from the current situation, as it is a continuation of the same.		
2. Does the project, policy or programme rely on fossil fuels for energy?	<b>Yes X</b>	<b>No</b>
If yes, please provide further details:  The asphalt batching plant requires kerosene for the burner which heats the bitumen binder prior to it being mixed with the aggregates. However, the production of asphalt and therefore the use of kerosene will continue at the current rate. The extension will not result in an increase in production. The other fixed plant in the quarry, including crushers, screens and conveyors, are powered by electricity which sourced from Lerwick Power Station. This is soon to be replaced by “greener” electricity from the national grid including the Viking Windfarm.		
3. Does the project, policy or programme involve construction work? i.e. refurbishment or new build	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No X</b>
4. Does the proposal help improve the energy efficiency of a building or its equipment,	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No X</b>



appliances? i.e. insulation works, new windows or energy saving lights		
5. Does the proposal promote and/or maximise opportunities from renewable energy? i.e. installation of solar panels or heat pumps	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
6. Does the activity support the development of a local skilled workforce in energy efficiency? i.e. upskilling or job opportunities	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>

**Transport**

The purpose of this section is to gather and collect more info on travel and transport to assess whether a project may increase, reduce or have no impact on carbon emissions. Increased use of fossil fuel reliant transport increases carbon emissions, resulting in a negative impact on the environment.

7. Does the proposal have an impact on the frequency and use of transport? i.e. will journey times, mileage or distance change	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
8. Does the activity impact on the type of fuel used for transport? i.e. petrol, diesel, electric	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
9. Will there be a relocation to a different working base or regular travel to a specific site? i.e. regular commuting out with usual working base	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
10. Is there opportunity for staff to work hybrid or remotely to reduce transport use and travel?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
11. Will there be an impact on public transport provision? i.e. bus or ferry timetable changes	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
12. As part of the proposal, has electric vehicles, car sharing or active travel been considered where possible?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
Please provide further details:		

**Procurement**

The purpose of this section is to identify if equipment, goods, plant, services, products etc. can be procured locally or sourced more sustainably.

13. Does the activity require the procurement of new goods, plant, services, products or equipment?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
---	------------	-----------------------



If yes, during the proposal have you considered the following key questions?

- Is the item easy to fix?
- Does the item have recyclable parts?
- How is the product sourced?

Please provide more details:

14. Does the project use locally sourced products or local suppliers?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
15. Does the procurement increase emissions?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>

If yes, please provide more details:  
No, there will be no increase in the rate of production.

**Circular Economy**  
The purpose of this section is to determine whether any products or goods purchased for the new project policy or programme can be reused or recycled after initial use.

16. Does the proposal require the use of single-use products or equipment?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b> – the asphalt and aggregates produced by the quarry and topsoil could be re-cycled/re-used at the end of a projects design life
17. Is there opportunity in the project to prolong the use of products, equipment or assets?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b> – the useful life of the quarry would be extended avoiding the financially and environmentally expensive relocation of the quarry to a new site.	<b>No</b>
18. Can products or equipment be repaired, reused or recycled?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
19. Can equipment be shared or redistributed after use?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b> – the quarry's products are used by the Council and the private sector.	<b>No</b>



<b>Waste</b>		
The purpose of this section is to identify if more waste will be produced as a result of the project. This section will be particularly relevant to any projects or proposals which include demolition, construction, increased water use, food waste or waste.		
20. Will the proposal increase the volume of waste?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
21. Does the activity promote sustainable waste and recycling practices?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If no, please provide further details: Not the role of a roadstone and asphalt producer to promote these practices. However, the Roads Service does recycle aggregates and asphalts that are excavated or planed off existing carriageways constructed as part of previous works.		
22. Does the project, policy or programme increase food waste?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
23. Does the activity increase the quality and quantity of compostable materials?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
24. Are there financial opportunities from the generation of waste?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
If yes, please provide further details: Savings for the Roads Service through the re-use of aggregates and asphalt planings. Aggregate levy also saved as it only applies to quarried materials and not to recycled materials.		
25. Does the activity reduce the amount of litter generated?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>

<b>Just Transition</b>		
The purpose of this section is to identify if the project may positively or negatively impact on a just transition. A just transition is both the outcome – a fairer, environmentally sustainable future for all – and the process that must be undertaken in partnership with those impacted by the transition to net zero. The benefits of a transition should be shared widely, without unfairly burdening those who are least able to pay or benefitting those most well-off.		
26. Does the proposal support the improvement of health and wellbeing through sustainable practices? i.e. active travel and access to nature	<b>Yes</b>  X – not directly but materials are used in the construction of active travel paths etc.	<b>No</b>



27. Does the proposal reduce the pressure of the cost-of-living crisis? i.e. food or fuel poverty	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
<p>If yes, please provide further details: The proposal retains jobs in Shetland that would be lost if the quarry was to come to the end of its operational phase. A Council operated quarry also ensures that the cost of quarry materials in Shetland is not inflated excessively.</p> <p>Has an Equalities Impact Assessment (EQIA) been completed or planned?</p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>More information on the SIC's EQIA at: <a href="#">Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) - Shetland Islands Council Interact</a></p>		
28. Has the proposal included community consultation? i.e. has this been discussed with community members	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
29. Does the project, policy or programme support opportunities for employees to complete training or upskilling?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
30. Does the proposal improve community access to council services? i.e. increased access to transport or social care	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
31. Does the activity support places affected by the transition to net zero? i.e. empowering local communities and economies	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		

**Environment**

The purpose of this section is to consider the natural environment and how a project or plan may have a positive, negative or neutral impact on this. This helps us to gather more info on land and nature.

32. Will the proposal result in any pollution of the local environment? i.e. air, water, land, noise or visual	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
<p>If yes, please provide more details: No increase in production, SEPA already monitor particulate emissions from crushers etc. and suspended solids in the rainwater run-off downstream of the</p>		



settlement lagoon. All the crushers and screens are already fully enclosed to minimise dust emissions and noise.		
33. Does the proposal make the natural environment more sustainable? Does it include adjustments (adaptation) and preparation (resilience) measures for climate change? i.e. planting trees, peatland restoration  Please see video below for more info: <a href="#">Climate Yarns: Shetland's Climate Hazards and Risks</a>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide more details: No, but it avoids having to re-locate a Council quarry and asphalt plant to a new location and greater impact on the natural environment as a result.		
34. Does the proposal have any changes in land use or outdoor spaces? i.e. does it change, restore or damage land, such as new building/construction works, re-wilding	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
If yes, please provide more details: Change from hill grazing (grassland) to active quarry face and quarry floor with haul roads etc. Will be reinstated at the end of its useful life in accordance with the environmental restoration plan produced by the Council's environmental consultant at the time of the last extension in 2005.		
35. Does the proposal increase the public's access to nature? i.e. through developing infrastructure to support active travel, trails, nature or outdoor activities.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
36. Does the activity increase long term natural carbon storage? i.e. carbon storage in woodland, peatland, wetland or marine vegetation	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
37. Does the proposal consider nature or green spaces in the design and layout of public spaces, infrastructure or buildings?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b> – in the environmental restoration plan to be put into effect at the end of quarry production.	<b>No</b>

**Biodiversity**

The purpose of this section is to consider if a project will impact on biodiversity and species in their natural habitat.

38. Does the proposal disturb ecosystems or wildlife?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		



<p>Hill grazing land typical of the area, a common habitat found throughout Shetland. The Council's Planning Service were made aware of this by the scoping request and decided that an EIA was not required.</p>		
39. Does the activity impact on nature conservation efforts in Shetland? i.e. will the activity impact on any tree planting sites	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b> – tree planting will eventually form part of the quarry's restoration.
40. Does the proposal impact on a protected species? i.e. Edmondston's chickweed, red-necked phalarope or puffins	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
41. Does the activity increase the quality/quantity of habitats across Shetland?	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b> – in due course when the disused quarry has been restored.	<b>No</b>
42. Does the activity improve biodiversity data collection?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>

**Adaptation**

This section considers the process of adjusting to the effects of climate change.

43. Does the activity have an impact on the risk of flooding due to changes in land use? i.e. SUDs drainage, removal of ditches, cutting a silage park.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
<p>If yes, please provide further details: No, designed to ensure drainage, settlement lagoon etc. copes with greater area to be drained.</p>		
44. Does the activity impact on the resilience of our supply chains? i.e. changes to suppliers, procurement processes, transport networks	<b>Yes</b> <b>X</b>	<b>No</b>
<p>Please provide further details: It would increase the resilience of our supply chain through making sure we have access to materials when we need them and also we will be resilient to increases in cost for materials.</p>		
45. Does the proposal make Shetland more susceptible to the impacts of climate change? i.e. impact on critical services such as energy supply, roads, transport or water supply	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
<p>If yes, please provide further details:</p>		



<b>Resilience</b>		
This section considers the preparation measures for climate change action.		
46. Will the activity impact on the resilience of council assets, infrastructure, operations, service plans, delivery, policies or practices to the impacts of climate change?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
If yes, please provide further details:		
47. Does the activity support our health and influence the resilience of communities to the impacts of climate change? i.e. exercise, reduced air pollution, alleviation of anxiety, more comfortable environment	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
48. Does the activity support emergency responders to respond effectively to the increased pressures of a changing climate? i.e. flooding, major storms, wildfires, new pests and diseases etc. <a href="#">Climate Yarns: Shetland's Climate Hazards and Risks</a>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
49. Does the project, policy or programme increase community access to public services?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>
50. Does the proposal increase the awareness of the impacts of climate change to enable people to adapt to future extreme weather events?	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b> <b>X</b>

*Section 4 – Assessment Submission Approval*

Thank you for completing the Climate Change Impact Assessment, if we can help or assist any further please contact us at [climatechange@shetland.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@shetland.gov.uk)

Please ensure the completed CCIA is authorised and approved below by your team leader or executive manager before submitting to the Climate Change Strategy Team at [climatechange@shetland.gov.uk](mailto:climatechange@shetland.gov.uk)

<b>To be completed, authorised and approved by Team Leader or Executive Manager:</b>			
Name:	Neil Hutcheson	Job Title:	Executive Manager
Service:	Roads	Department:	Infrastructure
Email address:	neil.hutcheson@shetland.gov.uk	Date:	08 November 2025

*Section 5 – Outcome of the CCIA*



**This section will be completed by the Climate Change Strategy Team.**

The outcome of the full Climate Change Impact Assessment is as follows:

<b>Outcome:</b>	<b>'X' marked in selected box:</b>	<b>Justification and feedback:</b>
The project, policy or programme has a positive impact on the climate		
The project, policy or programme has a neutral impact on the climate	X	<p>Extending the quarry allows a continuation of works that is already taking place, in an area that is already being used for this purpose. Materials from quarries are essential for construction works. If we were to source these materials from elsewhere it would cost the council more and would result in increased emissions overall (Scope 3 emissions for SIC) to get the materials to the required site. If SIC did not operate the quarry there would be less control over the sustainable practices of quarrying. There would also be less control over restoration works as the quarry reaches end of life.</p> <p>We have put that this is neutral climate impact, although it could be seen as borderline positive, as the alternative could result in more emissions overall and be worse for the environment.</p>
The project, policy or programme has a negative impact on the climate		

Reviewed and signed by:	C.Ferguson – Climate Change Strategy
Date:	10.12.25