# Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Determination

# Notice of the Determination that the proposed East Dunbartonshire Council Lennoxtown Masterplan will not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment

# **Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005**

As required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, East Dunbartonshire Council has reviewed the likely significance of the environmental effects of the proposed Lennoxtown Masterplan.

East Dunbartonshire Council has made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Lennoxtown Masterplan is not likely to result in significant environmental effects. The Masterplan will therefore not be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

#### **Neil Samson**

Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer

Place, Neighbourhood and Corporate Assets Land Planning and Development Southbank House Strathkelvin Place Kirkintilloch G66 1XQ

#### **Relevant Documents:**

- ➤ SEA Screening Determination Notification to Consultation Authorities on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016
- Screening Report submitted to Consultation Authorities on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016
- > Responses from the Consultation Authorities:
  - Covering Letter from Scottish Government SEA Gateway
  - Response from Historic Environment Scotland
  - Response from Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
  - Response from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)



Date: 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016

SEA Gateway Scottish Government Area 2 H (South) Victoria Quay Edinburgh EH6 6QQ PLACE, NEIGHBOURHOOD AND CORPORATE ASSETS
Land Planning and Development
Southbank House
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch

Telephone 0141 578 8600 Fax No: 0141 578 8575

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Dear Sirs,

# SEA Screening Determination East Dunbartonshire Council Lennoxtown Masterplan

I refer to your letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2016 outlining the responses from the Consultation Authorities to the Screening Report that was submitted on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016 in relation to the proposed East Dunbartonshire Council Lennoxtown Masterplan.

After reviewing the responses, the Consultation Authorities are in agreement with the Council that the Lennoxtown Masterplan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. On 11<sup>th</sup> August 2016 East Dunbartonshire Council made a determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 that the Lennoxtown Masterplan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Therefore, the document will not be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

A copy of the screening determination will be available for inspection during normal office hours at Southbank House, Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch, G66 1XQ and on the Council website at <a href="www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/s-e-a">www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/s-e-a</a>. An advert will also be placed in the local newspapers to publicise the screening determination.

In accordance with Section 10(1) of the Act, a copy of the screening determination is enclosed and I would be obliged if you could forward this onto the Consultation Authorities.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer on 0141 578 8615.

Yours faithfully,

**Neil Samson** 

**Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer** 

STEP 1 – DETAILS OF THE PLAN								
Responsible Authority:	East Dunbartonshire Council							
Title of the plan:	Lennoxtown Masterplan							
What prompted the plan: (e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	Lennoxtown is a Community Planning 'Place' location due to SIMD showing it as a primary area of deprivation in East Dunbartonshire making it a target area for attempts to reduce inequality and deprivation.  The Council were awarded 50% match funding from the Scottish Government Mainstreaming Charrette fund to carry out a charrette to involve the community in prioritising need for the area; this is the basis of the projects going into the Lennoxtown Masterplan, subject to consultation and identifying resources to implement.							
Plan subject: (e.g. transport)	Town Centre strategic action							
Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.  Based on Boxes 3 and 4, our view is that:	An SEA is required, as the environmental effects are likely to be significant: Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within  Section 5(3)  Section 5(4)  An SEA is not required, as the environmental effects are							
	unlikely to be significant: Please indicate below what Section of the 2005 Act this plan falls within  Section 5(3)  Section 5(4)							
Contact details:	Neil Samson Tel: 0141 578 8615 Email: Neil.Samson@eastdunbarton.gov.uk  Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Directorate East Dunbartonshire Council Southbank House Strathkelvin Place Kirkintilloch G66 1XQ							
Date:	12 <sup>th</sup> July 2016							

#### STEP 2 – CONTEXT AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

#### **Context of the Plan:**

The outcomes of the Masterplan will be fed into the Economic Development Strategy as the Masterplan aims to reduce inequality and increase town centre usage by making the town centre more attractive. This has a direct link to the Community Planning Partnership's - Local Outcome Improvement Plan as Lennoxtown is a 'Place' area, which has been identified as an area that requires focussed resources to improve economic and social outcomes. The Masterplan itself sits underneath the Local Development Plan, Local Transport Strategy, Active Travel Strategy and Open Space Strategy in the Council-wide strategic hierarchy as it focusses regeneration and social projects to the specific area of Lennoxtown, primarily in the town centre.

#### **Description of the Plan:**

The Masterplan will be based on a consultant's report provided after a town centre charrette took place in Lennoxtown. The report outlines a number of suggestions based on the views of Council Officers, Community Groups, and local residents that took part in the charrette. Suggested projects include:

- Main Street Public Realm Minor alterations in the road design along Main Street, and a few additional pedestrian crossing points through road design changes, and upgrades and additional use for existing community green spaces making them more attractive and functional for social space
- Making Connections additional active travel links connecting Strathkelvin Railway line to the town centre, as well as through the grounds of High Church, a review of existing public transport links to the town, and additional pedestrian signage.
- Making More of Land and Buildings developing the Campsie hall for wider use including use by community groups as well as the introduction of a café to draw tourists, use of the vacant old library site, additional hours/ uses for the hub, artwork on local buildings, encouraging town centre living, investigate the feasibility of a microhydro community project, and upgrades to the pitch at High Park.

### What are the key components of the plan?

The Masterplan will provide focused projects for Lennoxtown town centre. The projects will be in line with the Local Development Plan policy framework and for any projects that have additional planning considerations the guidance will be stated in the Masterplan; as will any links to other existing and pending Council strategies. These are however, not fully yet known at this early stage.

At this early stage, the only components which have been agreed for the Masterplan are the proposed objectives, along with initial project ideas identified through the charrette process. The Proposed Draft objectives are set out in Box 9 for the elements of the Masterplan which are to be Screened.

Have any of the components of the plan been considered in previous SEA work?

The intended outcomes of the Masterplan will be directly related to the Local Development Plan, Active Travel Strategy, Open Space Strategy and Local Transport Strategy which have all been subject to full SEA.

### terms vour

At this stage, the components known are the proposed objectives, along with response to Boxes 7 and initial project ideas identified through the charrette process. The objectives are

## 8 above, set out those components of the plan that are likely to require screening:

likely to require screening at this stage as they will be the strategic direction for the Masterplan. The Proposed Draft objectives are as follows:

- Provide a plan to improve the town centre facilities, services and appearances to address inequality and improve quality of life for residents.
- Identify actions which will relate to road design and crossings, green community space, active travel route options and employment and childcare related community services.

These objectives are the components likely to require screening at this stage in the assessment.

# STEP 3 – IDENTIFYING INTERACTIONS OF THE PLAN WITH THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSIDERING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF ANY INTERACTIONS (Error! Reference source not found.)

	Environmental Topic Areas							as				
Plan Components	Biodiversity, flora and fauna	Population and human health	Soil	Water	Air	Climatic factors	Material assets	Cultural heritage	Landscape	Inter-relationship issues	Explanation of Potential Environmental Effects	Explanation of Significance
Objective 1 Provide a plan to improve the town centre facilities, services and appearances to address inequality and improve quality of life for residents.	×	<b>✓</b>	×	×	<b>✓</b>	×	<b>✓</b>	×	×	×	the environment, particularly human health, biodiversity, a Proposed improvement to jumenity spaces and promotion	ovide minor positive impacts on in relation to population and air quality and material assets. junctions and road crossings, n of public transport and active the town centre and enhanced
Objective 2 Identify actions which will relate to road design and crossings, green community space, active travel route options and employment and childcare related community services.	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	×	×	<b>√</b>	×	<b>√</b>	×	×	×	essential services (each in line with existing Council str documents) will result in a number of minor po- environmental impacts all of which will be localised to Masterplan area. Potential improvements to the public facilities and services available within Lennoxtown are likely to result in minor positive impacts for the healt wellbeing of residents, workers and visitors to the area.	a number of minor positive which will be localised to the provements to the public realm, le within Lennoxtown are also live impacts for the health and

#### STEP 4 – STATEMENT OF THE FINDINGS OF THE SCREENING

Summary of interactions with the environment and statement of the findings of the Screening: (Including an outline of the likely significance of any interactions, positive or negative, and explanation of conclusion of the screening exercise.)

As outlined in the above initial components assessment (Box 10), there is a possibility that the Masterplan is likely to provide minor positive impacts on the environment, particularly in relation to population and human health, biodiversity, air quality and material assets.

Whilst it is anticipated that the Masterplan will have a positive impact, to an extent, through the implementation of various community-based projects, the overall environmental impacts of the Masterplan are unlikely to be significant. Therefore, it has been determined that, under Section 5(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, a full SEA is not required.

When completed send to: SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or to the SEA Gateway, Scottish Government, Area 2H (South), Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ.

#### **Local Government and Communities Directorate**

Planning and Architecture Division

T: 0131-244 7650 F: 0131-244 7555 E: <u>Johnathan.Whittlestone@gov.scot</u>

D: 2 August 2016



neil.samson@eastdunbarton.gov.uk



#### 01207 Screening - East Dunbartonshire Council - Lennoxtown Masterplan

Dear Neil,

With reference to the Screening document you submitted on 12 July 2016.

The Consultation Authorities have now considered your screening request as per Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. For convenience I have set out, in the table below, their individual views on whether there is a likelihood of significant environmental effects.

Please note, these are the views and opinions of the Consultation Authorities on the likelihood of significant environmental effects arising from the plan or programme and not a judgement on whether an SEA is required. It is therefore for the Responsible Authority to determine whether an SEA is required in the circumstances. I have attached the individual letters from the Consultation Authorities, outlining their views and opinions. Where possible the Consultation Authorities may have offered supplementary information and/or advice for you to consider, which you should find helpful.

CONSULTATION AUTHORITY	LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS
Historic Environment Scotland	No
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	No
Scottish Natural Heritage	No

OVERALL VIEW ON LIKELIHOOD OF SIGNIFICANT	No
ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS	

As the Consultation Authorities have now notified you of their views, you should now refer to the 2005 Act to consider your next step. You should of course take into account the advice offered by the Consultation Authorities.

You should note, as per Section 10 of the 2005 Act, within 28 days of your determination about whether an SEA is required or not, a copy of the determination and any related statement of reasons must be passed to the Consultation Authorities. This may be done via the SEA Gateway.

If you have any queries or would like me to clarify any points, please call me on 0131 244 7650.

Yours sincerely Johnathan Whittlestone SEA Gateway Officer

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ www.gov.scot

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Sent by e-mail

Mr Neil Samson East Dunbartonshire Council Southbank House Strathkelvin Place KIRKINTILLOCH G66 1XQ Longmore House Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Direct Line: 0131 668 8960 Switchboard: 0131 668 8600 andrew.stevenson2@hes.scot

Our ref: LDP/EDUN Our Case ID: 201601947 Your ref: 01207 – SCREENING

1 August 2016

Dear Mr Samson

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
East Dunbartonshire Council - Lennoxtown Masterplan
Screening Report

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 12 July 2016 regarding the above screening report. I have reviewed the screening report on behalf of Historic Environment Scotland in its role as a Consultation Authority under the above Act, in accordance with the requirements of Section 9(3). In doing so I have used the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of the effects on the environment. Please note that our view is based on our main area of interest for the historic environment.

My understanding from the screening report is that a Masterplan is to be prepared for Lennoxtown that aims to bring forward projects identified in a town centre charrette. These projects may include public realm improvements, active travel linkages as well as the consideration of community usage of land and buildings. I note that you consider that, as the Masterplan will be in line with the previously assessed Local Development Plan, Active Travel Strategy, Open Space Strategy and Local Transport Strategy, there are unlikely to be any significant environmental effects that have not previously been identified. In light of this and other information contained within the screening report I am content to agree that the Masterplan in itself is unlikely to have significant effects on the historic environment.

However, as you will be aware, it is the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council as the Responsible Authority to determine whether the masterplan requires an environmental assessment and to inform the Consultation Authorities accordingly.

I hope this response has been helpful to you. Please feel welcome to contact me should you wish to discuss my comments in further detail.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Stevenson

Senior Heritage Management Officer (SEA)

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH Scotlish Charity No. SC045925

VAT No. GB 221 8680 15



Our ref: PCS/148238 SG ref: SEA01207/SCR

Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Directorate
East Dunbartonshire Council
Southbank House
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If telephoning ask for: Nicki Dunn

2 August 2016

By email only to: sea.qateway@scotland.qsi.gov.uk

G66 1XQ

Dear Sir Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 Lennoxtown Masterplan - Screening Report

Thank you for your Screening Report consultation which SEPA received via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 we have considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment. Having reviewed the Screening Report, we consider that in respect of our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets (of which we have a specific interest in waste) and climatic factors) the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not likely, it is for the East Dunbartonshire Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received. If it is formally determined that SEA is required, you will be aware that the next stage requires the Responsible Authority to consult the Consultation Authorities on the proposed scope and level of detail to be included within the Environmental Report. This can be undertaken through preparation of a concise Scoping Report. We would encourage you to use the scoping process to focus the assessment on those SEA issues upon which there are likely to be significant environmental effects, to outline the baseline information you consider as most relevant and explain your proposed method of assessment. To assist with this process we have produced Standing Advice for Responsible Authorities on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Consultations.

We are committed to providing early and focused advice and supporting continuous engagement and would therefore welcome the opportunity to meet with you and discuss these issues prior to the formal consultation. Further information can be found in the <a href="Scottish Government SEA Guidance">Scottish Government SEA Guidance</a>. Should you wish to discuss this screening consultation please do not hesitate to contact me on 01698 839000 or via our SEA Gateway at <a href="sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk">sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk</a>.

Yours sincerely Nicki Dunn Senior Planning Officer

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Mr Neil Samson
Strategic Environmental Assessment Technical Officer
Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Directorate
East Dunbartonshire Council
Southbank House
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch
G66 1XQ

29 July 2016

Our ref: CNS/SEA/01207/CEA142098 Your Ref: 01207

Dear Mr Samson

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005: East Dunbartonshire Council – Lennoxtown Masterplan - Screening Determination

I refer to your screening consultation submitted on 12 July 2016 via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway in respect of the above plan.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, SNH has considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

We understand that the Masterplan will provide focused projects for Lennoxtown Town Centre in line with the Local Development Plan. We further understand that the outcomes will be directly related to the outcomes of the LDP, the Active Travel Strategy, Open Space Strategy and the Local Transport Strategy all of which have been subject to full SEA.

On this basis we agree that the above Plan is not likely to have significant environmental effects.

Please note that this consultation response provides a view solely on the potential for the plan or programme to have significant environmental effects. We cannot comment on whether or not the plan or programme meets other criteria determining the need for SEA as set out in the Act.

Should you wish to discuss this screening determination, please do not hesitate to contact our planning adviser Ann Marie Quinn on 0141 951 0810 or via SNH's SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@snh.gov.uk.



Yours sincerely [by email]

Lyndsey Kinnes Operations Manager

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