



East Dunbartonshire **Sustainability and Climate Change** Framework 2016 – 2021

Strategic Environmental Assessment Environmental Report



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East Dunbartonshire Council

www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

SEA Environmental Report: PART 1

To: SEA.gateway@gov.scot

Or

SEA Gateway
Scottish Government
Area 2-J (South)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

SEA Environmental Report: PART 2

An SEA Scoping
Report is attached
for:

Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

The Responsible
Authority is:

East Dunbartonshire Council

SEA Environmental Report: PART 3

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Date	9 th June 2016

STRATEGIC
ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT:
**ENVIRONMENTAL
REPORT**

**Sustainability and Climate
Change Framework**



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Non –Technical Summary

The Non-Technical Summary introduces Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and summarises the contents of the full technical report.

Purpose of this Environmental Report and Key Facts

We (East Dunbartonshire Council) have written this Environmental Report (ER) for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. The process undertaken to prepare this report is called Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The reason for undertaking SEA is to improve the Framework and address all the effects that the Framework will have on the environment for its continued protection. Throughout this SEA process we have taken the views of others (including the public and key agencies) into account before coming to final decisions.

SEA should be applied to plans, programmes and strategies (PPS) produced by public bodies, including local authorities. The key stages of SEA are pre-screening, screening, scoping, environmental report and post-adoption statement. An explanation of these stages can be found below:

- 1. Pre-screening** of a PPS is done to show that a plan is not likely to have any effect on the environment, or if it has any effects at all, they will be minimal. After pre-screening, a PPS will not be subject to any further SEA. This stage does not apply to the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework.
- 2. Screening** of PPS is carried out to determine whether we should be doing an SEA for it. When a plan is likely to have significant (i.e. very bad, damaging, large or long-lasting) effects on the environment, we will do an SEA. The Framework progressed directly beyond this stage due to the fact that significant environmental effects were anticipated from the intended outcomes of the Framework.
- 3. Scoping** was undertaken for the SCCF where we set out how much information should be in the actual Environmental Report, how we plan to assess the effects of the different aspects of the Framework, and how long we will consult with others on the ER. We then consulted the Statutory Consultees on the contents of the Scoping Report, and their recommendations helped us to improve our approach.
- 4. Environmental Report** is the document used to assess the effects of a PPS on the environment, highlight how these effects could be addressed through a process called mitigation. We also describe how we will monitor any significant effects of the PPS on the environment.
- 5. Post-Adoption Statement** is a report we have to produce once we have taken into account and addressed concerns raised by those we have consulted with the ER. We will adopt the Framework and tell everyone about the difference the SEA process and the views of those we have consulted have made to the final plan. We do this through the Post-Adoption Statement.

Within **Section 5** of the main report the SEA activities we have carried out to date are detailed. **Appendix D** of the ER also includes a summary of the comments we received regarding the SEA Scoping Report for the Framework and what changes have been made to the ER as a result.

Description of the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

The Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) is intended to identify the key issues for sustainability in terms of environmental protection and enhancement, quality of life and health, climate change, waste reduction, community empowerment and employment opportunities. The Framework, which sets out the context and recommendations, will be developed first. This will then set the scene and context in which the priorities and actions which will be established in partnership with key stakeholders to form a 'Dynamic Action Programme'. The Action Plan is likely to be updated more frequently than the Framework to respond to changes within the Council. The content of the Framework will be underpinned by a set of measures and actions in order to achieve the change. This will be determined by a range of approaches including an evidence-based approach; education and empowerment; monitoring and reporting; and sharing best practice. A series of initial building blocks have been identified which will centre focus for the Framework.

The strategic framework of the SCCF has been fully assessed including all reasonable alternatives in order to incorporate environmental considerations throughout the Framework. The ER assessments include the strategic alternatives to delivering the outcomes of the Framework, vision, key objectives and strategic aims. In each case the SEA preferred options were identified in order to inform the decision-making process and provide the policy-makers with the best practicable environmental option. [Section 3, Appendix B and C](#) of the ER contain a detailed description of the content of the SCCF, and the different options and alternatives we considered while producing the Framework.

[Section 1.2 and Appendix A](#) of the ER contains a comprehensive list of all the relevant legislation, policies, plans, programmes, strategies which have a bearing on the SCCF.

State of the Environment in East Dunbartonshire

We have collected information on the key characteristics of the environment in East Dunbartonshire and have gathered statistics which give an up-to-date picture of the state of the environment throughout the Council area. We have identified a number of environmental problems in East Dunbartonshire, what might happen if the Framework wasn't produced and what the role of the Framework might be in addressing these problems. [Section 2](#) of the ER contains a full description of the State of the Environment within East Dunbartonshire, including statistics, targets and trends for all SEA related topics.

The main challenges facing East Dunbartonshire's environment, include:

- Multiple areas of deprivation throughout the district.
- An unsustainable economic position given the population decline and changing service needs of an ageing population.
- A rich and diverse cultural heritage which through the SCCF can play a significant role in protecting.
- How the Council deal with waste also affects our soils, water quality and impact climate change.
- Pressure on animal and plant life (biodiversity) through development.
- The burning of a lot of fuel to heat homes, businesses, Council facilities and to drive private vehicles. This is releasing more carbon dioxide into the air (as well as other pollutants) causing the areas carbon and ecological footprint to rise.

- Serious air quality problems throughout the area. This is only likely to worsen through higher levels of private car use and ownership compared to National averages
- Lack of local awareness of sustainability issues and the need to promote cultural and behavioural change particularly regarding energy use and carbon emissions.

Summary of SEA Findings

The main function of the SEA process is improving the environmental performance of the plans and strategies through assessment of the environmental effects identified. A summary of the findings can be found in the table below:

SEA Factors	Environmental Impacts of the Framework
<p style="text-align: center;">Population and Human Health</p>	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be major positive due to a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The active support for physical activity levels and community health improvements throughout East Dunbartonshire. ➤ Promotion and management of East Dunbartonshire’s built environment providing well-designed, safe and accessible places for residents, workers and visitors to the area. ➤ Encouraging community growing schemes, support for fair trade and inspiring community involvement in the local environment. ➤ Enhanced community wellbeing and promotion of healthy lifestyles through improved provision to encourage walking and cycling for improved access to open space and recreation as well as visiting and commuting to and from the area sustainably.
<p style="text-align: center;">Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be uncertain at this stage. A number of elements within the Framework were considered to be minor positive or minor negative in nature, due to the potential impacts on historic environmental assets by retrofitting sustainable and renewable technologies either within or on the surrounding grounds with both positive enhancements to their sustainability or negatively impacting on their setting, historic value or protected features.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</p>	<p>To overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be significantly positive in nature due to a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increased protection for local/native habitats and species and improved habitat connectivity. ➤ Prioritising developments which protect and enhance opportunities to contribute to the green network and linking areas of open space. ➤ Proposals within the SCCF for integrating sustainable technologies within Council building improvements, enhancing biodiversity levels. ➤ Protection and conservation of East Dunbartonshire’s biodiversity through the emerging Local Development Plan (including

	<p>Supplementary Guidance), Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Green Network Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Councils commitment to protect and restore areas of peatland with added benefits for biodiversity.
Soil and Geology	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be positive in nature due to the Councils commitment to protect and restore areas of peatland together with the avoidance of using peat-based compost when undertaking conservation and maintenance projects.</p>
Landscape	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be minor positive in nature due to the protection of landscape character of the districts settlements and surrounding areas.</p>
Water Quality	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be minor positive in nature due to a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The proposed reduction in pesticide use has the potential to benefit the biodiversity value and protect water quality by encouraging more natural products and reducing potential pollution. ➤ The introduction of water efficiency measures within Council buildings, which is intended to reduce pollution and improve water quality throughout the area.
Air Quality / Climatic Factors	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be significantly positive in nature due to a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A shift away from vehicular based travel through the promotion of public transport and walking and cycling which in turn will contribute to a reduction in air pollution and carbon emission levels. ➤ Increased education and promotion of the use of more sustainable forms of transport for schools and workplaces in East Dunbartonshire with expected long-term benefits. ➤ Reduced traffic levels and carbon emissions levels throughout East Dunbartonshire could impact on existing air pollution hotspots across the Council area (particularly Bishopbriggs A803 and Bearsden Cross A81). ➤ Potential use of renewable technology projects throughout East Dunbartonshire. ➤ Measures to introduce additional electric vehicles into the Council fleet and fuel-efficient driver training. ➤ The Councils commitment to protect and restore areas of peatland which will provide additional benefits in terms of performing a carbon storage function.
Material Assets	<p>The overall effects of the SCCF are considered to be significantly positive in nature due to a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improvement to the core path network and walking and cycling routes throughout East Dunbartonshire. ➤ Promoting positive changes to the current transport infrastructure which is primarily car-based to a more sustainable network that encourages active travel.

- | | |
|--|--|
| | ➤ Measures in relation to a reduction in waste generation and the use of more sustainable materials for infrastructure projects. |
|--|--|

Mitigation and Monitoring

Mitigation measures have been proposed and incorporated into the Framework where necessary in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any potential adverse environmental impacts and enhance any uncertain, neutral, positive environmental impacts identified. The mitigation measures incorporate all environmental factors which were scoped into the assessment and will be the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council to implement in conjunction with key agencies and stakeholders. SEA suggested alterations and mitigation measures for each stage of the Framework can be reviewed within [Appendix B and C](#).

The specific measures that are to be taken to monitor the environmental effects of the implementation of the SCCF will form part of the Post-Adoption Statement prepared as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Framework in accordance with Section 18 of the Act. The environmental baseline data [Section 2.1](#) and the monitoring indicators [Section 4.2](#) will form the basis of future monitoring of the potential effects that this Framework may have on East Dunbartonshire's environment.

Next Steps

The next step will be to consult on the Framework and this Environmental Report with the public and key agencies. All the comments received will be taken into account and amendments may be made accordingly to the Framework and ER. Any significant change to the Framework in relation to consultation responses may require further consideration in terms of environmental implications.

The Draft Framework and the Environmental Report may be subject to change as the Council proceed towards finalisation for submission to Scottish Ministers. You may disagree with some of the conclusions to date or consider that other reasonable alternatives should be considered. This ER has been prepared to inform this stage in the process and as the basis for consultation.

If you would like to express your views on the Environmental Report, your comments should be submitted through email or post to the following addresses:

Email: sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Address:

Sustainability Policy Team
Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Directorate
East Dunbartonshire Council
Southbank House
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch
G66 1XQ

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Section 1: Policy Context

1.1. Key Facts

Section 1: Key Facts	
Responsible Authority	East Dunbartonshire Council
Title of PPS	Sustainability and Climate Change Framework
Purpose of PPS	The purpose of the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework is to facilitate change within East Dunbartonshire Council that goes beyond statutory duties to ensure that the Council is a leader in responding to the challenges of climate change and sustainable development. The Framework intends to focus primarily on environmental concerns due to strong social and economic agendas elsewhere in the Council. However, to fully achieve the Council's sustainability ambition, coordination between environmental, social and economic factors will also be taken into consideration.
What prompted the PPS (e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	Driven by a number of legal instruments, economic incentives, policy directions and public demands including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 ➤ Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 ➤ Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme 2010 - 2015 ➤ Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014
Subject (e.g. transport)	Sustainable development and climate change.
Period covered by PPS	2016-2021
Frequency of updates	The Framework will be updated every 5 years. The Dynamic Action Plan will be updated more frequently to respond to current issues.
Area covered by PPS (e.g. geographical area – it is good practice to attach a map)	The whole of East Dunbartonshire Council district.
Summary of nature/ Content of the PPS	The Framework will identify the key issues for sustainability in terms of environmental protection and enhancement, quality of life and health, climate change, waste reduction, community empowerment and employment opportunities. The Framework, which will set the context and recommendations, will be developed first. This will then guide the setting of the context in which the priorities and actions which will be established in partnership with key stakeholders to form a 'Dynamic Action Programme'. The Action Plan is likely to be updated more frequently than the Framework to respond to changes within the Council. The content of the Framework will be underpinned by a set of measures and actions in order to achieve the change. This will be determined by a

	<p>range of approaches including an evidence-based approach; education and empowerment; monitoring and reporting; and sharing best practice. A series of initial building blocks have been identified which will centre focus for the Framework:</p> <p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reducing carbon emissions (climate change mitigation) ➤ Improving resilience to the impacts of climate change (adaptation) ➤ Reducing material use and waste generation ➤ Protection and enhancement of greenspace and habitats ➤ Reducing chemical use ➤ Reducing water use <p>Social and Economic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Health and wellbeing ➤ Achieving fairness and reducing inequalities ➤ Community safety ➤ Recreation and culture ➤ Community empowerment ➤ Support for local businesses ➤ Training and employment opportunities 			
Are there any proposed PPS objectives?	Yes		No	
Copy of objectives attached	Yes		No	
Date	9 th June 2016			

1.2. Relationship with other Plans, Programmes and Strategies

1.2.1. There are a number of other strategies and plans internationally, nationally, regionally and locally that the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework needs to be integrated with. These include:

International

- Rio Declaration (1992)
- Kyoto Protocol (1997)
- Johannesburg Declaration (2002)

European

- EU Climate and Energy Framework (2008 including updates)

National

- Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009

- UK Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme 2010-2015
- 'Climate Ready Scotland' – Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme
- Local Government in Scotland Act 2003
- Scottish Government National Outcomes
- Low Carbon Scotland 2013-2017
- National Planning Framework 3
- Scottish Planning Policy
- Scotland's Zero Waste Plan 2010
- The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014
- Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- Scotland's Climate Change Declaration 2007

Regional

- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan

Local

- East Dunbartonshire Single Outcome Agreement
- East Dunbartonshire Local Plan 2 and emerging Local Development Plan (Proposed Plan)
- East Dunbartonshire Sustainable Development Strategy 2004
- East Dunbartonshire Carbon Management Plan 2011-2015

1.2.2. Cross-boundary effects with neighbouring authorities will be considered, through the integration of the SCCF as well as the consideration of plans and strategies produced by the neighbouring authorities. However, it is not expected that the SCCF will require consideration of transboundary effects with neighbouring EU Member States.

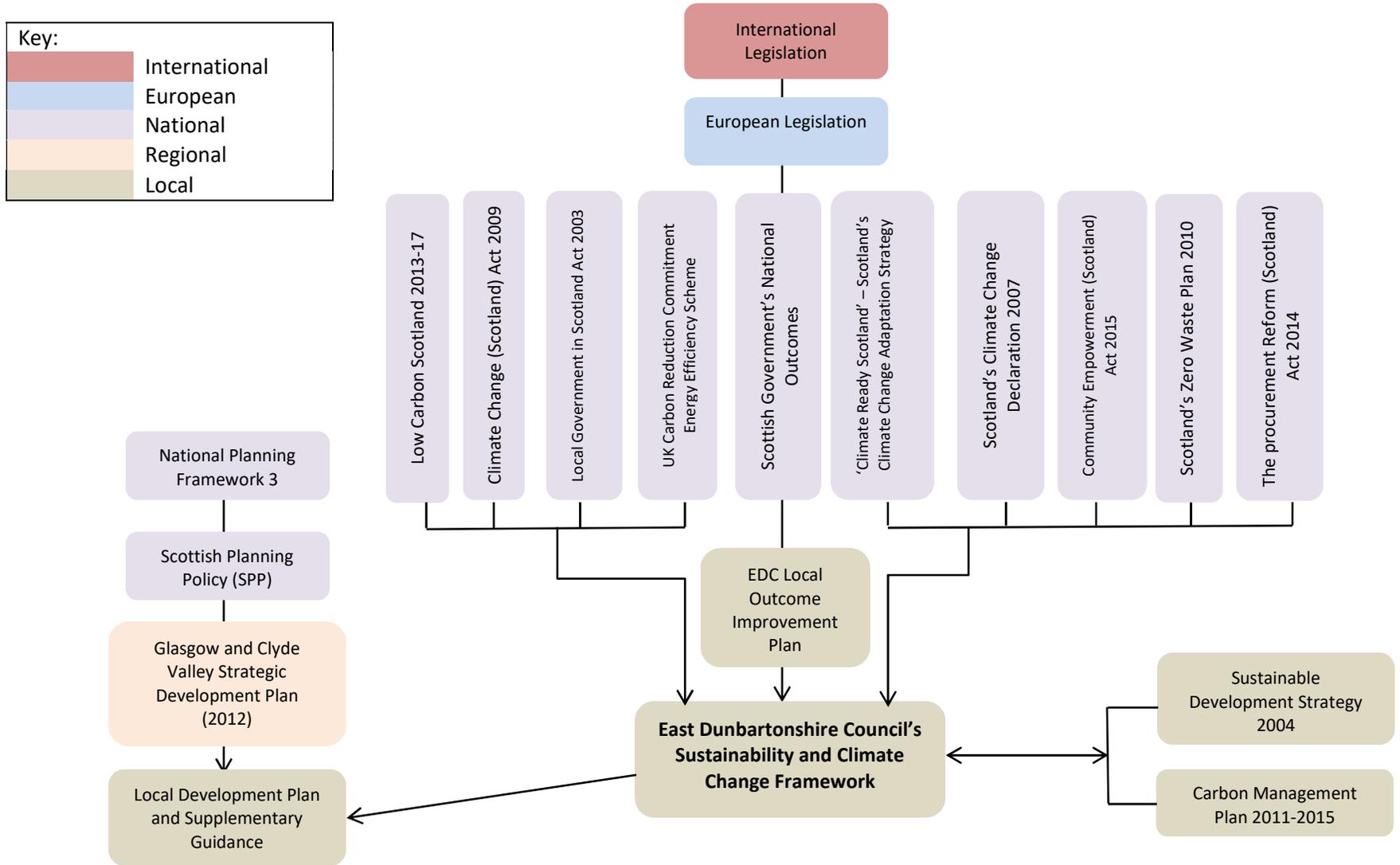
1.2.3. **Appendix 1** lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies that influence or are influenced by the SCCF. This list includes documents that refer to international, European community, and national environmental objectives; regional and local objectives. Their content, where appropriate, has been used to inform the environmental objectives for the SEA of the Framework.

1.3. Environmental Protection Objectives

1.3.1. The environmental objectives that are contained within International, European, UK and Scottish legislation, as well as national guidance, which are considered to be of the greatest relevance to the SCCF, will be taken into account when preparing the Framework. These are set out in **Appendix A**.

Figure 1: Interrelationship of the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework with Other Plans, Programmes and Strategies

This is a diagrammatic representation and as such does not include every one of the plans listed. The template below is useful for demonstrating such relationships.



Section 2: Environmental Context

2.1 Environmental Baseline Data

2.1.1. **Table 1** below summarises the main baseline environmental features, assets and the environmental implications for the preparation and development of the SCCF. The table also contains the SEA objectives used to assess the Framework and further sub-criteria used within the assessment tables.

Table 1: Environmental Baseline Data

POPULATION AND HUMAN HEALTH		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To improve human health and community wellbeing		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>East Dunbartonshire has a total population of 105,860 (2013); a decrease in population of approximately 3% since 2001. Population Projections forecast this trend to continue during the period between 2010 and 2035 with a reduction of 9.8% expected.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a decreasing and ageing population. This is highlighted through the population projections in 2010 that by 2035 East Dunbartonshire’s population will be 94,343 with a large increase in the 75+ age group and a projected decline of 22.8% of the under 16 age group in comparison to the 2010 population statistics. The number of people aged over 65 years old is forecast to increase by 11,000 people between 2010 and 2035.</p> <p>Areas of Hillhead and Lennoxton are within the top 15% most deprived SIMD data zones in Scotland.</p> <p>Generally the health of the residents of East Dunbartonshire is good with nearly 73% of the residents being generally healthy, in comparison to the average of Scotland (68%) according to the 2001 census. The level of residents found to be in general health status of ‘not good’ within East Dunbartonshire and Scotland was 8% and 10% respectively.</p> <p>In terms of walking and cycling to work in 2012/13, East Dunbartonshire had low rates of walking (5.1%) when compared with the Scottish national average (13.2%).</p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire hosts various areas within the top 15% of deprived areas in Scotland and is showing an increase in a non-economically active population and older people.</p> <p>An ageing population will be more susceptible to the negative impacts associated with climate change, particularly in terms of the associated health impacts, factors that will subject to a set of mitigation measures in the SCCF.</p> <p>It is likely that the SCCF will have a positive impact on health and wellbeing, with social aspects considered in balance with economic and environmental issues. This ideal extends to occupational health and safety within the Council.</p> <p>There is scope to encourage a change in culture and behaviour which will be beneficial to employees and the wider community. For example, the SCCF will contribute to improving the number of Council employees changing their travel and commuting habits to healthier, active modes such as walking and cycling.</p> <p>Green business opportunities should be encouraged through the SCCF, including both potential for new businesses and the promotion of sustainable delivery of goods and services. This will improve community empowerment and have a positive impact to the local economy.</p> <p>Community empowerment and engagement is key to improving performance on sustainability and climate change within the Council in order to benefit Council employees. The SCCF should also explore</p>	<p>General Register Office for Scotland</p> <p>Census 2001 – for health data</p> <p>Census 2011 data</p> <p>National Records of Scotland, October 2014</p> <p>Scottish Government</p> <p>Scottish Government SIMD data for East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics</p> <p>NOMIS (Economically active population & Average weekly wage)</p> <p>Scottish Household Survey (walking/ cycling to work) 2012/13</p>

<p>Walking to work rates in East Dunbartonshire represent the 2nd lowest rates in Scotland against all other Council areas. There are similarly low levels of cycling to the Scottish national average (2.3%).</p> <p>The percentage of economically active people living in East Dunbartonshire has decreased over recent years; however, this percentage is still higher than both the Scottish and British national averages.</p>	<p>opportunities to support and encourage community learning and development to raise awareness of sustainability and climate change priorities. This has the potential to result in improved perceived and actual quality of life and will have a potentially positive impact on their wellbeing. Working with schools is an example of where this would be effective.</p> <p>Following the approval of the Community Empowerment Bill, the SCCF should consider opportunities to support community growing schemes in the Council area. This is likely to have a positive effect to health and wellbeing.</p>	<p>Glasgow Centre for Population Health 2011. (Briefing Paper 28)</p>
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CULTURAL HERITAGE		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>East Dunbartonshire has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1 UNESCO World Heritage Site; Antonine Wall. A buffer zone has been identified around the Wall to help protect its setting. This is set out within the Antonine Wall Management Plan 2014-19 which was developed by Historic Scotland in partnership with East Dunbartonshire Council, Falkirk Council, North Lanarkshire Council, West Dunbartonshire Council and Glasgow Council. ➤ 43 Scheduled Monuments. In particular the Forth & Clyde Canal is made up of a series of Scheduled Monuments. ➤ 181 Listed Building, including five bridges, five mileposts, one horse trough and Milngavie Railway 	<p>The varied and rich historic built and natural environment in East Dunbartonshire should be considered. Any actions proposed in the Framework should maintain the protection and enhancement, where possible, of cultural heritage assets.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire’s cultural heritage serves as main tourist attractors and, as a result, encourages visitors to the area. The impact of visitors to the area on climate change and sustainable development.</p>	<p>Historic Environment Scotland</p> <p>Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation – World Heritage Site Designation</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage</p> <p>Scottish Canals Heritage Strategy 2013-38</p>

<p>Station. The Luggie Water Aqueduct and Bridge, Kirkintilloch, is Category A.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 15 Conservation Areas (4 of which are designated as outstanding) ➤ 21 Townscape Protection Areas ➤ 3 sites recommended as having the potential for meeting national inventory standards as Gardens and Designed Landscapes. 30 such sites have also been identified as having local value. ➤ A number of registered Buildings at Risk: <p><u>Baldernock</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Outbuilding <p><u>Bearsden</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Colquhouns of Garscadden Burial Enclosure <p><u>Bishopbriggs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cawder House Stables ➤ Huntershill House <p><u>Cadder</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Cadder Smithy <p><u>Kirkintilloch</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Broomhill Hospital, Outbuildings, Lodge and Cottages ➤ Old Aisle Cemetery Gatelodge ➤ 18A West High Street ➤ Former Kirkintilloch Town Hall <p><u>Lenzie</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Woodilee Hospital Administration Block <p><u>Lennoxtown</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Lennox Castle ➤ High Kirk of Campsie 		<p>Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland</p>
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BIODIVERSITY, FLORA AND FAUNA

PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity

Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>East Dunbartonshire has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) ➤ 2 Regional Scenic Areas ➤ There are networks of 110 Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) throughout East Dunbartonshire. There are 76 LNCS designated for their biodiversity value with the remainder being designated for their geodiversity value. ➤ 350 Tree Preservation Orders ➤ 3 Local Nature Reserves (LNR) which include Merkland LNR, Lenzie Moss LNR and Kilmardinny Loch. <p>There are a number of Protected Species identified in East Dunbartonshire (including those with former Species Action Plans, priority species and lesser priority species). This includes a number of European Protected Species such as Otters, Badgers and Water Vole.</p> <p>Several Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) have been identified in East Dunbartonshire such as Japanese Knotweed.</p> <p>The local habitats in East Dunbartonshire that have been prioritised under the previous iteration of the LBAP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Urban ➤ Rural 	<p>The SCCF should consider the likely impact of encouraging sustainability and measures to mitigate climate change on sites of high ecological importance in East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>The effects of climate change on biodiversity, including growth and availability of nutrients, as well as the effects on the vital ecosystem services should be considered in the development of the SCCF.</p> <p>Proposed actions in the SCCF will need to ensure that the Framework does not conflict with actions set in EDC's Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to greenspace enhancement and the potential to add value to existing biodiversity.</p> <p>The role of biodiversity and habitats for flood attenuation and its role as a carbon sink should be explored in the SCCF.</p> <p>The SCCF should show a commitment to the Council's Biodiversity Duty.</p> <p>Following the approval of the Community Empowerment Bill, the SCCF should consider opportunities to support community growing schemes in the Council area.</p> <p>Ground maintenance works have the potential to negatively impact on biodiversity and habitats without appropriate management. This particular strain of the Council can be influential to valued sites, and as such there is scope for the SCCF to influence actions e.g. sustainable use of pesticides/fertilisers.</p>	<p>Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Action Plan</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>Native Woodland Survey of Scotland report for East Dunbartonshire, October 2010</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council Local Development Plan Main Issues Report, 2013</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Woodland ➤ Wetland <p>Woodland in East Dunbartonshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Native woodland in East Dunbartonshire comprises 22.1% of the total woodland area (4.8% of the total land area). ➤ 95ha of woodland is present on ancient woodlands, which makes up 34% of native woodland ➤ The main native woodland types in East Dunbartonshire are lowland mixed deciduous woodland (34%), wet woodland (25%) and upland birchwoods (21%). 		
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SOIL AND GEOLOGY		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To protect and, where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>Despite three quarters of the land in East Dunbartonshire being utilised for agricultural processes, the district has a small percentage (5%) of prime agricultural soil.</p> <p>Currently East Dunbartonshire has not designated any areas of land as contaminated land as defined in the Environmental Protection Act 1990. However, a list of potential contaminated sites has been created based on previous land use. On this list 626 potentially contaminated sites (to varying degrees of contamination) have been identified.</p> <p>There are currently 25 sites of Vacant and Derelict Land within East Dunbartonshire with a total area of 59.98 hectares. The split of land type classification is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Urban Vacant land – 11 sites (18.1 ha) 	<p>Disturbance to peatland can result in the release of carbon into the atmosphere. The SCCF should reflect appropriate measures to prevent this during its development stages. The potential to support maintenance work of carbon rich soil stores in East Dunbartonshire should be considered.</p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>EDC Local Plan 2</p> <p>EDC Local Development Plan</p> <p>Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Register 2014</p> <p>James Hutton Institute</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage</p> <p>British Geological Survey</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Urban Derelict land – 9 sites (22.5 ha) ➤ Urban Vacant and Derelict land – 20 sites (40.6 ha) ➤ Rural derelict land – 5 sites (19.3 ha) <p>These and other Brownfield land locations within East Dunbartonshire may have potentially contaminated land, depending on their historic uses.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire also has 1 RIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site) at Clachan of Campsie. It also has 34 sites designated as Local Nature Conservation Sites for their geodiversity value.</p> <p>A number of different sites in East Dunbartonshire have been identified as having varying levels of soil carbon richness and peatland including the Campsie Fells and the Kilpatrick Hills.</p>		<p>UKRIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site)</p> <p>SNH Information Notice No.38 – Identification of carbon-rich soil mapping units (2012) – Scotland’s Soils</p>
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LANDSCAPE		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To protect and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>East Dunbartonshire’s landscape is diverse in terms of character and land uses. The district is characterised by five main types of landscape character: Drumlin Foothills; Rolling Farmland; Broad Valley Lowland; Rugged Moorland Hills; and urban areas.</p> <p>The topography of East Dunbartonshire is generally low lying, undulating land with the exception of two of the Local Landscape Areas; the Campsie Fells and the Kilpatrick Hills to the North and West of the district respectively.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a total of 973.46 hectares of urban open space; the greatest proportion of which is classified as semi-natural greenspace and Regional Greenspace.</p>	<p>Any actions discussed as part of the SCCF will need to consider any natural and historical designations within East Dunbartonshire in order to prevent future negative effects to the landscape setting, character and settlement distribution.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a strong local distinctiveness and genetic diversity that has the potential to be lost if actions do not aim to protect the landscape.</p> <p>Renewable energy is a vital action to address the climate change challenge. The SCCF should consider the effect of large scale renewable energy technologies, such as wind energy, on East Dunbartonshire’s landscape, in particular LLA.</p>	<p>EDC Local Plan 2</p> <p>British Geological Survey</p> <p>UKRIGS (Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Site)</p> <p>Glasgow & Clyde Valley Landscape Character Assessment, 1999</p>

<p>The green belt is defined in the Development Plan and covers the entire area of East Dunbartonshire, with the exception of the upland and urban areas; its objectives include maintaining the character and distinctiveness of the area's settlements.</p> <p>There is a number of Local Landscape Areas (LLA) within the East Dunbartonshire Council boundary area including the Campsie Fells and Kilpatrick Hills.</p>		
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WATER QUALITY		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the ecological status of waterbodies		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>The main watercourses within East Dunbartonshire are the River Kelvin, Glazert Water, Allander Water, Luggie Water, Forth and Clyde Canal and Bothlin Burn. East Dunbartonshire also has two reservoirs in Milngavie and a number of other small dams in various locations throughout East Dunbartonshire, which are of significant value to the surrounding area.</p> <p>From the 2009-2015 River Basin Management Plan cycle, East Dunbartonshire had:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 5.52 km of good quality watercourses ➤ 33.82 km of watercourses with good ecological potential ➤ 16.01 km of moderate quality watercourses 	<p>The requirements of the Water Framework Directive should be taken into account.</p> <p>The water in East Dunbartonshire is a vital resource. The management and control we have over this resource has major implications on a number of factors, including, water quality, climate change, biodiversity and human health.</p> <p>Water resources in East Dunbartonshire provide a variety of functions including transportation, habitats and recreation. The SCCF has the potential to identify its influence on sustainable water management to prevent a decline in their value and use.</p>	<p>SEPA – RBMP Data</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Action Plan/impending LBAP</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 19.88 km of watercourses with moderate ecological potential ➤ 48.19 km of watercourses with poor ecological potential ➤ 17.32 km of poor quality watercourses ➤ 28.31 km of watercourses with bad ecological potential <p>All groundwater resources were also assessed in 2008 and found to be of good ecological status.</p> <p><i>*Flooding is discussed in Climatic Factors</i></p>		
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AIR QUALITY		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>Emissions from transport has been identified as the main contributor of NO₂ and PM10 (particulates) pollution, specifically, in East Dunbartonshire. Domestic emissions are the main contributor of CO₂ emissions.</p> <p>The busiest routes that are of concern in relation to air quality within East Dunbartonshire are the A803 and B812 in Bishopbriggs; the A81 through Milngavie; and the A809 and A739 through Bearsden.</p> <p>There are currently two Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) declared within East Dunbartonshire, Bishopbriggs (2005) and Bearsden Cross (2011), both of which were declared an AQMA after several years of exceeding national</p>	<p>Contributing factors that can lead to increased emissions and result in air pollution, include transport (both private and public) and developments which generate traffic flows and general movement to and from areas.</p> <p>The SCCF has the opportunity to develop actions that can be delivered within Council services which may result in greater participation in sustainable transport methods, in partnership with the Local Transport Strategy, and the EDC Active Travel Strategy and Council Travel Plan. This would add value to and support current efforts such as the introduction of pool cars for use by Council employees.</p> <p>There are possible transboundary effects of air pollution to the neighbouring Local Authorities of Glasgow, West Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire and Stirling that should be taken into account.</p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>National Air Emissions Inventory</p> <p>Scottish Government</p> <p>DEFRA</p> <p>Scottish Transport Bus and Coach Statistics No. 32, 2013</p>

<p>NO₂ and PM10 objective levels.</p> <p>Whilst traffic levels across the Council area have been shown to be decreasing since 2009 from 125,356 (per 1000 vehicle miles) to 118,830 (per 1000 vehicle miles) in 2013, which can be attributable to a number of factors including the promotion of sustainable travel and influencing economic factors, levels still remain relatively high.</p> <p>Of the number of people in East Dunbartonshire who are of an economically-active age:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 6,454 people (9.5%) work or study at home ➤ 12,422 people (18.25%) use public transport (train, underground, metro, light rail, tram, bus, minibus or coach) to access work or place of study of distances of 5km to 30km+ ➤ 26,884 people (39.5%) drive a car or van to access work or place of study of distances of 5km to 30km+ ➤ 18,156 people (26.7%) access work or place of study by other means of transport of distances of 5km to 30km+ ➤ The 10 Council buildings with the highest work occupancy are Donaldson Street Place, Broomhill Industrial Estate, Lenzie Academy, Bearsden Academy, Douglas Academy, Turnbull High, Hilton Depot, Boclair Academy and the Kirkintilloch Health and Care Centre. A total of 1221 Council employees commute to their workplace; 756 employees (62%) travel up to 8km to work and 465 employees (38%) of employees travel over 8km to work. <p>The number of people travelling to work by car or van is approximately 4% more than those in the rest of Scotland. Many people living in East Dunbartonshire travel to their workplace in neighbouring authorities such as Glasgow.</p>	<p>Air quality in poor areas has the potential to be improved, and areas of good air quality have the potential to be further enhanced with the influence of the SCCF in terms of the management of climate change impacts.</p>	<p>Local Transport Strategy 2013 – 2017</p> <p>Scottish Census 2011</p> <p>Department for Transport-Traffic Counts</p> <p>Capita/East Dunbartonshire Council – Number of Commuters within Distance to Workplace</p>
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CLIMATIC FACTORS

PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets in order to reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risks.

Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>A significant source of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire is attributable to vehicular transport emissions, which contributes towards climate change, although the largest proportion of CO₂ emissions is attributable to domestic emissions.</p> <p>Travel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The level of public transport access varies across the area. Kirkintilloch is served by bus services that provide access to towns and villages in East Dunbartonshire and adjacent local authorities such as Glasgow. However, there are areas that do not have services that are frequent or operate out-with peak travel periods and daytime hours. ➤ Although rail patronage has increased by approximately 10% from the period 2012/13 to 2013/14, accessibility to such services means there is a significant reliance on car-based travel in the area. ➤ The number of bus passenger journeys in Strathclyde and South West Scotland has decreased since 2007/08 to 2012/13, which equates to a decrease of 21%. The total distance travelled by buses 2007/08 to 2012/13 decreased by 17%. This can be attributable to a reduction in the number of services that operate or alterations to routes. This trend is reflected in trends across Scotland which has seen a decrease in 4% in bus and coach journeys between 2012 and 2013. ➤ Traffic levels have decreased during recent years from the particularly high volumes experienced during the mid-2000s. This may be a result of the economic 	<p>There are many areas within East Dunbartonshire that are currently within Flood Risk Areas. Climate change is resulting in an increase of flash flooding events in Scotland which has significant negative effects socially, economically and environmentally.</p> <p>The current level of greenhouse gas emissions is anticipated to increase due to a range of factors such as traffic and energy use. The Framework should consider how, by implementing actions to reduce emissions generated by Council operations, it will be able to respond to this uncertainty and a changing climate, with an overall positive effect to the local environment.</p> <p>Facilitating changes to travel habitats will result in positive benefits for reducing/adapting to the effects of climate change.</p> <p>There is significant scope to develop and implement measures to reduce CO₂ emissions associated with energy expenditure in East Dunbartonshire Council buildings. The SCCF should also consider how in-Council services will be able to facilitate this change.</p> <p>The environmental implications for climatic factors that will result from the Open Space Strategy and the emerging LBAP, Active Travel Strategy and Green Network Strategy have the potential to influence the SCCF.</p> <p>In order to reduce the Council's carbon footprint all areas of the Council's work should be considered for potential improvements. This should include construction and building operations.</p>	<p>Scottish Government</p> <p>SEPA</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>UK Climate Impacts Programme</p> <p>Online Handbook of Climate Trends across Scotland 2006 (as updated) (SNIFFER Guidance)</p> <p>Scottish Household Survey 2013 (access to cars per household)</p> <p>Office of Rail Regulation (rail patronage by region, 2013/14)</p> <p>Scottish Transport Bus and Coach Statistics No. 32, 2013</p> <p>SEPA Flood map</p> <p>Scotland's Climate Change Declaration 2013-14 Report (SSN; Keep Scotland Beautiful);</p>

<p>downturn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In 2013, 86% of households in East Dunbartonshire had access to at least 1 car. ➤ Glasgow is a key attraction for both employment and high education opportunities for the population of East Dunbartonshire which increases the need for travel. ➤ See <i>Air Quality</i> for number of people who travel by car or van to access their place of work or study. <p>CO₂ emissions associated with the expenditure of energy from industrial/commercial (including agriculture) and domestic buildings accounts for 142.7 ktCO₂ and 271.6 ktCO₂ respectively in 2012. Such energy use has a significant impact on air quality.</p> <p>Flooding has been an issue in the Kelvin Valley for many years with the most recent flood events occurring in 1994 and 2005. The main areas of concern for potential flooding are the River Kelvin and its tributaries – the Allander, Glazert and Luggie Waters.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire no longer has any landfill sites accepting waste. Inchbelle Farm Landfill and Mavis Valley Landfill have ceased operation (although still due to agree a formalised Close, Restoration and Aftercare Plan). All household and commercial municipal waste is transferred to landfills in North Lanarkshire. Therefore, there is minimal methane produced from landfill within East Dunbartonshire to impact on climate change.</p> <p><u>East Dunbartonshire Council's corporate performance from Council estate functions</u></p> <p>Total greenhouse gas emissions were 26,321.1 tCO₂e in 2013-2014. This was attributable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Electricity – 16,632,312 kWh ➤ Gas – 28,0530698 kWh ➤ Street lighting – 7,143,350 kWh 		<p>EDC)</p> <p>'Local and Regional CO₂ Emissions Estimates for 2005-2012', Department of Energy and Climate Change</p> <p>SEPA Household waste WasteDataFlow data 2013</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Staff travel (commute) – not currently measurable ➤ Fleet – 2806.065 tCO₂e ➤ Business travel – 459.4 tCO₂e <p>East Dunbartonshire Council waste emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Landfill – 7287.321 tonnes ➤ Recycling – 528.003 tonnes ➤ Composting – 92.915 tonnes <p>EDC water consumption:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 283,223 m³ 		
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MATERIAL ASSETS		
PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVE: To promote the sustainable use of community assets and natural resources in East Dunbartonshire		
Summary of baseline environmental data	Environmental implications for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Source of baseline data
<p>East Dunbartonshire is supplied by various levels of transport infrastructure, through well serviced rail networks, bus routes encompassing the whole district and the various road networks that link settlements within East Dunbartonshire together with providing routes out with the district.</p> <p>There are 54km of A class roads, 47 km of B class roads and 34km of C class roads. This amounts to 27% of the road network. There are 369 km of unclassified roads.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a network of Core Paths and public open spaces which provide opportunities for recreation. Some of these also provide active travel routes from residential areas to services and businesses.</p> <p>Studies into housing requirements have indicated that East Dunbartonshire has one of the highest net needs for affordable housing, compared to other Scottish Local</p>	<p>Alterations and upgrades to infrastructure within the Council’s remit, such as transport and waste infrastructure, offer significant scope for the SCCF to suggest measures and options that will contribute to improving the Council’s sustainability and climate change performance. This should extend to considering the construction, operation and end-of-life of infrastructure e.g. roads.</p> <p>Natural resources in East Dunbartonshire should be used sustainability and at a limited rate to reduce pressures on resources. This could be achieved through improved procurement processes. This should include consideration of the life-cycle of resources e.g. ICT, fleet, procurement.</p> <p>The SCCF should explore potential opportunities to influence planning and developments. This could include design and procurement specifications based on zero-carbon and zero-waste principles.</p> <p>In order to meet and exceed waste reduction and recycling targets set for Scotland, the Council is presented with opportunities to incorporate</p>	<p>Scottish Government</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council</p> <p>Transport Scotland</p> <p>SPT</p> <p>Local Development Plan for large scale development proposals.</p> <p>Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire Council Transport and Access Officer</p>

<p>Authorities. The Local Plan and emerging Local Development Plan identifies the location of new development proposals with potential for changes to transport infrastructure/routes.</p> <p>There are 99 Right of Way paths in East Dunbartonshire of the highest classification. There are also 82 'other' Rights of Way which are classified as paths that have seized use, have been partially built on or overgrown.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has 8 'Scotways' Heritage Paths and 2 other Heritage Paths have been designated by East Dunbartonshire Council.</p> <p>Through the East Dunbartonshire Council area, there are a number of different cycleways including traffic-free routes, both off and on the National Cycle Network, and on-road routes that are not on the National Cycle Network. Many of these routes are regional/cross-boundary and provide links to Loch Lomond, Glasgow, Stirling and Edinburgh.</p> <p>Recycling/composting rates of household waste in East Dunbartonshire (2013 report) was 44.9%. Although this is above the total recycling rate for the whole of Scotland taking into account of 32 local authorities, it is not meeting the Zero Waste targets of recycling 50% of household waste by 2020.</p>	<p>options to achieve this through the SCCF.</p> <p>The various networks, such as Core Paths and cycle networks in East Dunbartonshire present a number of potential opportunities for encouraging active travel and reducing the associated emissions from commuting.</p> <p>The SCCF will demonstrate links with a number of the emerging Supplementary Guidance documents for the Local Development Plan. Each should be considered in the production of the other.</p> <p>In order to sustainably manage the various water resources in East Dunbartonshire, it is important that a sustainable approach to water usage within Council operations is taken and encouraged as agreed actions in the SCCF. This principle of sustainable water use should extend to operations and Council services that are responsible for water use in daily activities. However, the SCCF also should consider if there is scope to influence other factors such as planning, corporate asset management and the wider community to contribute to reducing water use e.g. opportunities to include rainwater harvesting in developments and new school provision, encouraging less water use domestically. This will meet the relevant revised Millennium Development Goals.</p>	<p>Sustrans</p>
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2.2 Environmental Issues¹ for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

2.2.1 The Environmental Report will identify the current environmental issues and problems that affect East Dunbartonshire, utilising the information that has been identified through an analysis of the baseline environmental data and potential implications, which are contained within section 2.1 of this Report. When undertaking the assessment of the SCCF, the Council will be able to predict whether the identified environmental problems and issues will worsen, stabilise or improve through the implementation of the Framework. The main environmental issues and problems facing East Dunbartonshire which are relevant to the Framework are outlined in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Environmental Issues Relevant¹ to the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Topic	Relevant Environmental Issues
Population and Human Health	Eight datazones within East Dunbartonshire fall into the top 25% most deprived areas in Scotland; these are located in Hillhead, Lennoxton, Auchinairn and Milngavie. In particular, some areas in Hillhead remain within the 5% most deprived areas in Scotland according to the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.
	There is a significant reliance on public transport and access to primary facilities such as town centres, retail parks, healthcare and leisure, as well as a reliance on vital services that are able to meet the needs of all communities in East Dunbartonshire. This is particularly important due to East Dunbartonshire's ageing population and existing areas of deprivation.
	East Dunbartonshire has a potentially unsustainable economic position due to population decline and different service needs.
	Current use and awareness of sustainability and climate change has scope to be improved through the SCCF. This, along with promoting cultural and behavioural changes will help to achieve the aims of the SCCF and encourage ownership within the local community to contribute to improving the sustainability performance in East Dunbartonshire.
Cultural Heritage	East Dunbartonshire has a varied and valued natural and historic cultural heritage, including the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site. In the development of the SCCF, the opportunities that will be identified should consider how they can ensure the protection of the historic environment and encourage sustainable use of East Dunbartonshire's heritage sites.

¹ The term "environmental issues" is the name collectively given to air, water, soil, biodiversity, climatic factors, landscape, material assets, population and human health as well as cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage) in the EU Directive 2001/42/EC. In practice they are referred to as "SEA topics".

	<p>East Dunbartonshire is host to tourist attractors across the whole of the Council-wide area such as the Antonine Wall Heritage Site, the Campsie Fells, West Highland Way and Mugdock Country Park. However, increased footfall to the main attractors can result in both positive impacts, such as stimulating the local economy, and negative impacts, such as increasing the negative effects of climate change.</p>
<p>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</p>	<p>The SCCF intends to play a significant role in developing East Dunbartonshire’s sustainable reuse and development agenda of which the historic environment is a key asset within this agenda in terms of the need for climate change adaptation and mitigation measures and the related effects (positive and negative) on the historic environment.</p> <p>East Dunbartonshire has a wide range of designated and non-designated sites, including those of ecological importance and protected species. This is seen through a number of Local Nature Conservation Sites and Important Wildlife Corridors, Tree Preservation Orders and Local Nature Reserves. East Dunbartonshire also has 6 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The management, enhancement and protection of these assets is essential.</p> <p>Biodiversity and greenspace enhancement are current priorities within the Council due to the Open Space Strategy and emerging LBAP. The integration of appropriate measures in the SCCF should support these priorities. This will be aided by balancing the economic, social and environmental factors of sustainability within the Framework.</p> <p>There is scope within the Framework to consider its role in environmental enhancement and managing ecosystem services including carbon storage, drainage and to alleviate flooding.</p>
<p>Soil and Geology</p>	<p>There are several sites in East Dunbartonshire that have been identified as peatland. Disturbance to peat has the potential to result in the release of carbon into the atmosphere which contributes to the negative effects of climate change. Consequently, it is vital that peatland is protected.</p>
<p>Landscape</p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire has varying degree of landscapes including the green belt, Local Landscape Areas such as the Campsie Fells/Kilpatrick Hills, and agricultural land. Ensuring that the landscapes are well-connected and protected in terms of retaining local distinctiveness, landscape character and settlement patterns throughout East Dunbartonshire should be considered.</p>
<p>Water Quality</p>	<p>There are a number of good/moderate quality watercourses in East Dunbartonshire including the Forth and Clyde Canal which is also a Scheduled Monument. These assets require protection in order to reduce, prevent or offset any adverse impacts to water quality.</p>

	<p>There are a number of sites within East Dunbartonshire’s landscape which are classified as wetland. Wetlands provide vital habitats for a number of species and ecosystem services but their quality is under pressure from external influences such as flooding, developments and climate change.</p>
<p>Air Quality</p>	<p>Unacceptably high levels of air pollution can be harmful to the environment and human health. East Dunbartonshire currently has two designated Air Quality Management Areas (Bishopbriggs and Bearsden Cross). These are managed primarily through Air Quality Management Plans and the emerging Air Quality Strategy, although the SCCF has the opportunity to contribute to improving poor air quality, with secondary impact in reducing the urban heating effect and the deterioration of ecosystem services.</p>
<p>Climatic Factors</p>	<p>Domestic emissions account for the largest proportion of carbon dioxide in East Dunbartonshire, although emissions from transport account for the largest proportion of NO₂ and PM10 emissions. This contributes to the effects of climate change which include changing temperatures and rainfall patterns, and increased incidences of extreme weather events. The SCCF will have a direct influence on encouraging the management and adaption to these effects by focusing on actions within the Council, including construction and building operations.</p> <p>Climate change has a direct link to flood risk. The SEPA Flood Risk Map has identified several locations within the East Dunbartonshire Council area which could have a significant impact on the value of East Dunbartonshire’s environment as well as a number of different social and economic impacts.</p>
<p>Material Assets</p>	<p>As a result of the spatial strategy of the impending Local Development Plan there is potential for a rise in developments in East Dunbartonshire over the life of the Plan. In addition to impact of developments including material use and waste, new developments are likely to require infrastructure improvements which have the potential to further contribute to the effects of climate change. As a result, the SCCF should consider such impacts on sustainability and climate change, as well as identify potential actions to influence planning.</p> <p>It is important that resources in East Dunbartonshire are both managed and procured sustainably. This includes reducing the volume of water used as part of Council operations is at the core of achieving sustainable development with benefits socially, economically and environmentally which can be achieved by changing behaviours and Council operations.</p> <p>Current recycling rates for East Dunbartonshire have scope to be significantly improved to meet and exceed Scottish Government targets. Overall, waste reduction should be encouraged to improve the sustainability and climate change performance in the Council across all Services.</p>

2.3 Evolution of the Environment in the Absence of the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

- 2.3.1 As part of the SEA process, it is important to assess the likely impact on the environment if the SCCF was not implemented.
- 2.3.2 Strategic documents such as the SCCF are a typical part of a local authority's approach to sustainability. By taking an organisation-wide overview and specifying (in the related Dynamic Action Plan) a series of bespoke actions that would not otherwise be delivered, the SCCF will bring commitment and co-ordination to a sustainability agenda that would otherwise be potentially subject to a lack of structure and buy-in. In terms of the most significant SEA topics, the evolution of the environment without the influence of the Framework includes:
- 2.3.3 **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna:** While the emerging Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Green Network Strategy will be the leading means of managing and protecting local species and habitats, the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework presents a significant opportunity to add value to this work by emphasising, and supporting, links to other aspects of sustainability, including the health & wellbeing agenda and climate change adaptation.
- 2.3.4 **Population and Human Health:** A fundamental aim of the sustainability agenda is to pursue environmental protection in a way that benefits people, including via health promotion. Various social and economic 'building blocks' – including health & wellbeing and reducing inequality – have been identified in the SCCF, and it is intended that these will, where possible, be incorporated into pro-environmental initiatives so that benefits are delivered to society in general and in particular to those who are most deprived and vulnerable.
- 2.3.5 **Soil and Geology:** While, as above, the SCCF will not be the leading means of protecting and enhancing local habitats and sites, it will promote and aim to add value to this work, seeking synergies between its own agendas and those of documents such as the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and the Green Network Strategy.
- 2.3.6 **Landscape:** While, as above, the SCCF will not be the leading means of protecting and enhancing local habitats and sites, it will promote and aim to add value to this work, seeking synergies between its own agendas and those of documents such as the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and the Green Network Strategy.
- 2.3.7 **Water Quality:** The proposed 'sustainability building blocks' for the SCCF include carbon reduction, climate change resilience and reduction in water use; it is anticipated that the actions stemming from these commitments will include green infrastructure initiatives (e.g. green roofs) and water efficiency measures (e.g. greywater recycling) in new and existing buildings. In both cases, these activities would help to reduce run-off of rainwater into local watercourses and would therefore promote local water quality.

- 2.3.8 **Air Quality and Climatic Factors:** Reducing carbon emissions is a headline aim of the SCCF; it is intended that the document will assess progress to date, identify key areas for action and provide a coherent strategy for improving performance. It is therefore anticipated that carbon emissions reduction will be more extensive and better co-ordinated than in the absence of the Framework; this will have benefits both for local air quality and wider climatic health.
- 2.3.9 **Material Assets:** In line with the 'Reducing material use and waste generation' building block, the SCCF will promote the sustainable use of materials, particularly in relation to the construction of new buildings. Without the influence of the Framework, it is likely that awareness and action would be significantly lower.
- 2.3.10 **Cultural Heritage:** Uncoordinated promotion of access to our historic environmental assets could result in degradation of East Dunbartonshire's built heritage and inadvertently harm the area's cultural offer and heritage. In the absence of the SCCF the adaptation and mitigation measures required to protect the historic environment will not be coordinated to the further detriment of the heritage assets.

Section 3: Assessment of Environmental Effects

3.1 Assessment Framework

3.1.1 There are a number of key assessment stages that have been identified for the SEA of the SCCF. Each of these stages required a tailored assessment method as detailed below:

Table 3: Assessment Framework

Assessment Area	Assessment Method
Strategic Direction	The SEA assessment questions and indicators were used to establish whether the strategic approach in order to deliver the vision of the SCCF is compatible with the proposed SEA objectives including the consideration of reasonable alternatives.
Ambition	The ambition for the Framework was developed by considering and assessing various alternative options against the SEA Objectives and set criteria.
Key Objectives	The key objectives of the Framework, and alternatives to them, were tested against the proposed SEA objectives for alignment and compliance. The outcomes of this assessment guided the refinement of the Framework objectives throughout their development.
Strategic Aims	The strategic aims and all reasonable alternative options were assessed against the SEA assessment questions, including those which are site-specific and / or area-wide.
Cumulative and Synergistic Impacts	Using the assessments of options outlined in the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework and with the use of GIS mapping, where appropriate, the cumulative effects of the Framework have been tested. Any impacts for neighbouring authorities have also been considered as part of the assessment process.

3.2 Assessment Methodology

3.2.1 The SEA legislation requires the environmental effects of 'reasonable alternatives' to the strategic document to be identified, described and assessed.

3.2.2 The East Dunbartonshire Sustainability and Climate Change Framework has been assessed against the list of environmental issues set out in Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

3.2.3 The SEA Directive requires environmental assessments to consider the environmental objectives established at International, European Community and national levels that are relevant to the strategic document. During the Scoping stage of SEA (including CA Scoping responses), it was determined that all environmental issues have the potential to be

impacted by the SCCF. The Consultation Authorities were in agreement with this level of scope, as expressed in their views following the consultation at the Scoping stage.

3.2.4 East Dunbartonshire Council has adopted a set of SEA Objectives for the environmental issues that were scoped into the assessment, shown in [Table 4](#), which were derived from other legislation and Strategies ([Appendix A](#)).

Table 4: SEA Objectives

Environmental Factor (Annex 1 of EC Directive)	SEA Objective
Population and Human Health	To improve human health and community wellbeing.
Cultural Heritage	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity.
Soil and Geology	To protect and, where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets.
Landscape	To protect, enhance and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value.
Water Quality	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the ecological status of water bodies.
Air Quality	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality
Climatic Factors	To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets in order to reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risks.
Material Assets	To promote the sustainable use of community assets and natural resources in East Dunbartonshire.

3.3 Alternatives

- 3.3.1 There were three reasonable alternatives which were identified in terms of how the intended Framework could be delivered, implemented and the proposed outcomes achieved. An Options Assessment was initially undertaken by the Councils Sustainability Policy Team in order to highlight the benefits and risks of each Option and to determine the preferred approach for the required outcomes of the Framework.
- 3.3.2 The alternative strategic options assessed include:
- A Framework for East Dunbartonshire Council, responding to the challenges of climate change and sustainable development.
 - Addressing issues of climate change and sustainable development within other Council policies.
 - No Framework / Continue with East Dunbartonshire Council's Sustainable Development Strategy (2004)
- 3.3.3 Reasonable alternatives within the Framework have also been considered, assessed against the SEA objectives / criteria and SEA preferred options identified. Reasonable alternatives have been identified in terms of the ambition, key objectives and strategic aims which form the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework.
- 3.3.4 The options that have been generated through the preparation of the Framework take account of stakeholder consultations and research on the content of the policy document, the current environmental baseline, relevant policy and strategy documents and are intended to represent approaches which are realistic, deliverable, consistent with other aspects of the Framework, and consistent with higher-level plans, policies and strategies. The assessment of these options and consultation responses has influenced the options taken forward within the Framework.

3.4 Assessment Findings

- 3.4.1 An environmental assessment has been undertaken for each identified Framework alternative and has been assessed against the SEA Objectives and set criteria, based on their predicted impact on the current environmental baseline. The assessment has been conducted using professional judgement and GIS analysis where appropriate.
- 3.4.2 The environmental assessments have been recorded in the form of a matrix identifying the environmental performance of each alternative against the SEA objectives and criteria. The environmental effects have been recorded according to their nature (positive, neutral, unknown or no significant effect). The significance of these effects are determined using a combination of the magnitude of the impact and the importance or sensitivity of the receiving environment. A full justification of each assessment is provided in the matrix.
- 3.4.3 The cumulative impact of each options proposed in the delivery of the SCCF has also been carried out and was an important addition into the overall assessment process in order to

identify the overall environmental effects of the Framework once implemented. The cumulative impacts of the Framework are detailed within section 3.9.

3.4.4 Recommendations have been made where necessary so that environmental considerations are incorporated into the SCCF. The assessments also seek to enhance the environmental benefits of the SCCF and accordingly suggest recommendations to further enhance or protect the environment relevant to each of the environmental factors.

3.4.5 There were no cases where the assessed SEA Preferred Option was not been carried forward into the Framework as a Preferred Option highlighting the fundamental positive nature of the Framework on the environment.

3.5 Assessment: Strategic Direction

3.5.1 The SEA legislation requires the environmental effects of ‘reasonable alternatives’ to the Framework to be identified, described and assessed. The following alternatives were considered as part of the SEA process.

Table 5: Alternatives: Strategic Direction

Alternatives Approaches	Strategic Direction: Outline and Implications
<p>A Framework for East Dunbartonshire Council, responding to the challenges of climate change and sustainable development</p>	<p>This approach will involve partnership working between the Sustainability Policy Team and other teams in the Council to facilitate a change primarily within the Council but with scope to inform improvements in the wider local context in order to provide a means of addressing the challenges associated with climate change and sustainable development. The Framework will give a particular focus to the environmental concerns of sustainability, but with opportunities to address the social and economic implications of sustainability alongside the effects of climate change with an appropriate degree of balance. This approach to delivering a SCCF will be more holistic with a greater opportunity for a wide range of benefits.</p>
<p>Addressing issues of climate change and sustainable development within other Council policies</p>	<p>Issues related to climate change and sustainability are often closely linked to a number of other Council policies that are either in production or already integrated, such as the Local Transport Strategy, Air Quality Strategy and Sustainable Development Strategy, where such challenges are considered. Although there is merit in incorporating measures to improve East Dunbartonshire’s sustainability performance and to reduce the effects of climate change into other policies, these topics would not be the main focus and the importance of it as a priority environmental issue would be weakened.</p>
<p>No Framework / Continue with East Dunbartonshire</p>	<p>East Dunbartonshire Council has previously produced a Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS) which provided a framework to promote</p>

**Council's Sustainable
Development Strategy
(2004)**

a strong local economy, ensure social wellbeing and protect the natural environment. The main priorities discussed within the SDS are comparable with those of the proposed SCCF. However, if East Dunbartonshire Council chooses to not produce a new framework and continue with the SDS, the opportunity to respond to address current climate change challenges and improve the Council's sustainability performance will be lost and it is likely that options discussed in the SDS will be irrelevant to East Dunbartonshire's changing economic and environmental state. It is also likely that there would be fewer opportunities to guide sustainable practices within Council services.

Assessment Table Key			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Table 6: Assessment of the Strategic Direction and Alternatives for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Strategic Direction Alternative 1 A Framework for East Dunbartonshire Council, responding to the challenges of climate change and sustainable development. 	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	
	<p>Assessment Commentary: Significant positive effects are anticipated through this strategic approach for all set environmental factors. These effects are predominantly through the production and implementation of a Framework with a local context which will be developed to address the much wider challenges associated with Climate Change and sustainability. The intention of the Framework is to balance the environmental, economic and social implications of sustainability along with the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Significant positive effects in relation to environmental factors are anticipated through various elements of this strategic alternative approach, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Creating healthier, more pleasant surroundings throughout East Dunbartonshire. ➤ Protecting the natural and historic environment to generate social and economic benefits and contribute towards reducing deprivation. ➤ Exploring the role of the historic environment with respect to sustainable reuse and development agenda, climate change adaptation and mitigation. ➤ Commitments towards climate change mitigation and the reduction of carbon emissions throughout Council-owned operations in terms of landfill procedures and protection of natural environmental assets for their role in reducing carbon emissions. ➤ The promotion of the health and wellbeing agenda and climate change adaptation elements to support the management and protection of local species and habitats. The Framework will significantly 									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
	<p>contribute to the protection and conservation of East Dunbartonshire’s biodiversity through the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Green Network Strategy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A reduction in congestion levels through promotion of viable sustainable alternatives to road and car based reliance. ➤ Potential improvements in air quality particularly in the vicinity to the areas existing AQMAs in Bishopbriggs and Bearsden. ➤ The commitments set out within the Framework will develop green infrastructure initiatives and water efficiency measures, retro-fitted to existing or incorporated in new Council buildings which are intended to reduce the run-off of rainwater into local watercourses and protect and improve water quality. ➤ The Framework is intended to reduce material use and the generation of waste through the implementation of sustainable construction methods and techniques employed throughout Council development projects. 									
<p>Strategic Direction Alternative 2 Addressing issues of climate change and sustainable development within other Council policies</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+/-	+	+/-	+	<p>Assessment Commentary: Through this strategic approach sustainability and climate change issues are intended to be addressed through other Council policy documents, including the Local Transport Strategy, emerging Air Quality Strategy, Local Development Plan, and Open Space Strategy and emerging Local Biodiversity Action Plan and emerging Green Network Strategy. The wider issues of sustainability and climate change are considered within other Council policy documents and where SEA is undertaken on these strategic policy documents climatic factors, air quality, energy use and the sustainable use of materials and natural resources are reviewed as part of the assessment process.</p> <p>With no single coordinated approach towards tackling sustainability and climate change provision within the Council the anticipated effects in relation to the majority of environmental factors are likely to be overall minor positive in terms of the set environmental factors. However, with an uncoordinated strategic approach linking the complex sustainability and climate change challenges is likely to reduce the positive effects and implementation effectiveness of the overall sustainability agenda and climate change adaptation of the Councils processes.</p>

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Strategic Direction Alternative 3 No Framework / Continue with East Dunbartonshire Council's Sustainable Development Strategy (2004)	-	?/-	?/+	?/+	?/+	?/-	-	--	?/-	
	<p>Assessment Commentary: This strategic alternative approach would result in the Framework not being developed and the Council continuing with the current Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS). The principles of sustainable development set out within the SDS are similar to the intended content of the Framework strategic alternative, however the SDS itself is out of date and the scope of the SDS is restricted and will not address the wider associated climate change challenges or be in line with the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. The opportunity to update and improve on the Council's sustainability performance will be lost if the Council chooses to retain the status quo and continue with the current Strategy.</p> <p>Through this alternative strategic direction there is potential for a number of negative environmental effects (a number of which are uncertain at this stage until Framework options are developed) particularly in relation to the outdated SDS and the lack of opportunity for the Strategy to contribute to the climate change and adaptation challenges. It is also likely that there would be fewer opportunities to guide sustainable practices within Council services. Given the current challenging economic environment, a full review and update of the SDS and could be integrated into the Council's cost savings decision-making processes in terms of the Council Transformation Agenda, Accommodation Strategies and all new development projects.</p>									

3.5.2 The Strategic Direction for implementing a Framework for East Dunbartonshire to respond to the challenges of climate change and sustainability was assessed and considered the SEA and Strategy Preferred Option due to the significant positive impacts on all relevant environmental factors noted above; a complete focus of this document to produce a Council-wide Framework shaping the organisations sustainability and climate change principles; and ensure appropriate linkages between the Framework and all other policy documents produced by the Council.

3.6 Assessment: Ambition

3.6.1 The 'reasonable alternatives' for the Framework's Ambition have been identified, described and assessed below. The full assessments of all reasonable alternatives including assessment commentary, mitigation and SEA suggested alterations are contained within **Appendix B. Table 7** outlines the various options identified, the SEA assessment ratings and the SEA and SCCF Preferred Options.

Assessment Table Key			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Table 7: Assessment of the Ambition and Alternatives for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Proposed Ambition 1	+	+	+	+ / 0	+ / 0	+	+	+	+ / 0	
<p>By 2020, East Dunbartonshire Council will demonstrate sustainability by delivering services in a way that meets social and economic needs, especially where those needs are greatest, while protecting and enhancing the local and global natural environment in line with legal requirements. By recognising and fostering the natural links between environmental, social and economic agendas, the Council will demonstrate forward-thinking, creative and joined-up ways of working which show that being greener is compatible with, and can often enhance the achievement of corporate and community benefits.</p>										
Proposed Ambition 2	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	 
<p>By 2020, East Dunbartonshire Council will demonstrate sustainability by delivering services in a way that protects and enhances the local and global natural environment while meeting social and economic needs, especially where those needs are greatest. By recognising and fostering the natural links between environmental, social and economic agendas, the Council will demonstrate forward-thinking, creative and joined-up ways of working which show that being greener is compatible with, and can often enhance the achievement of corporate and community benefits.</p>										

3.6.2 The SEA and Framework preferred option, illustrated above with SEA suggested alterations, was considered to be overall significantly positive in nature. Through this ambition the Framework will seek to deliver environmental, social and economic progress in a joined-up way. This SEA and Framework preferred alternative will provide additional protection

and enhancement of the natural and built environment of East Dunbartonshire which is not limited to the legally-required minimum. The ambition meets both the strategic direction set out for the Framework while also providing the most significant environmental benefits for East Dunbartonshire.

3.6.3 Implementation of the SEA and Framework preferred ambition is likely to result in multiple benefits in relation to the natural and historic environment with a particular emphasis on significant improvements on air quality levels, the sustainable management and use of energy within Council operations and increasing East Dunbartonshire’s resilience in relation to climate change through mitigation and adaptation.

3.7 Assessment: Key Objectives

3.7.1 An environmental assessment has been undertaken for the SCCF key objectives and reasonable alternatives against the SEA objectives. The environmental assessments have been recorded in the form of a matrix identifying the environmental performance of the alternative objectives. The full assessment tables including any re-assessments incorporating SEA recommendations, reasonable alternatives and SEA assessment commentary are provided within [Appendix B](#).

3.7.2 Recommendations have been made where necessary so that greater environmental considerations are incorporated into the SCCF. The SEA Preferred Option for each of the key objectives is illustrated below ([Table 8](#)) along with its assessment rating regarding the scoped environmental factors. Each of the SEA Preferred Options in relation to the Framework key objectives has also been integrated into the Framework as the SCCF Preferred Option which highlights the influence and success of the SEA process through the integration of environmental considerations fully throughout the Framework.

Assessment Table Key			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Table 8: Assessment of Key Objectives and Alternatives for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p>Proposed Key Objective 1 Alternative 1</p>	+	+	?/+	?	X	+	+	+	?/-	
<p>Zero Carbon: Reducing Carbon Emissions ('Climate Change Mitigation') <i>Use of fossil fuels releases carbon, forming a layer which traps heat and contributes to temperature rises with consequent changes in weather patterns, creating challenges for the survival and wellbeing of species. To mitigate climate change, carbon reduction will be pursued by applying the energy hierarchy (demand reduction, efficiency and use of renewables) in certain contexts, especially in relation to buildings and transport, where it is financially feasible to do so.</i></p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to read: <i>"Use of fossil fuels releases carbon, forming a layer which traps heat and contributes to temperature rises with consequent changes in weather patterns, creating challenges for the survival and wellbeing of species. To mitigate climate change, carbon reduction will be pursued by applying the energy hierarchy, especially in relation to buildings and transport. Efficient use of water resources will also be encouraged within Council-owned operations and in the wider community, to save carbon. Reduction of landfill and protection of the natural environment will also be recognised for their role in reducing carbon emissions."</i></p>										
<p>Proposed Key Objective 1 Alternative 2</p> 	++	+	++	+	X	++	+	++	++	
<p>Zero Carbon: Reducing Carbon Emissions ('Climate Change Mitigation') <i>Use of fossil fuels releases carbon, forming a layer which traps heat and contributes to temperature rises with consequent changes in weather patterns, creating challenges for the survival and wellbeing of species. To mitigate climate change, carbon reduction will be pursued by applying the energy hierarchy, especially in relation to buildings and transport. Efficient use of water resources will also be encouraged within Council-owned operations and in the wider community, to save carbon. Reduction of landfill and protection of the natural environment will also be recognised for their role in reducing carbon emissions.</i></p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Proposed Key Objective 2 Alternative 1	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	<p>Maximising Resilience to the Impacts of Climate Change ('Adaptation') <i>The delayed effect of carbon emissions on the climate means that, even if we reduce future emissions, changes in weather patterns are expected to increase due to carbon that has been released in the past, creating a need to adapt to inevitable climate change. Work will be undertaken to better understand the likely impacts arising from changes in weather patterns, and action to reduce risk and increase resilience to the anticipated future effects of climate change will be considered and action will be taken in contexts where service users are identified as being most vulnerable.</i></p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: <i>"Works which will be undertaken to better understand the likely impacts, on service providers, users and on the wider community, arising from changes in weather patterns and action will be taken ... Prioritisation of action will be based on contexts where service users are most vulnerable, and contexts where there is a direct link to existing organisational priorities, including biodiversity action planning, health promotion and flood risk management."</i></p>
Proposed Key Objective 2 Alternative 2 	++	+	++	+	X	++	++	++	++	

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Proposed Key Objective 3 Alternative 1	+	X	+	+	X	+	+	+	++	<p>Zero Waste: Reducing Material use and Waste Generation <i>The environment is adversely affected when materials are extracted and returned at the end of their lives; our patterns of material use and waste generation often exceed the capacity of natural cycles to accommodate them, causing habitat loss, threats to biodiversity, pollution, and waste of valuable and finite resources. In support of the ‘zero-waste Scotland’ agenda, the Council will provide recycling and composting services.</i></p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: <i>“...The Council will stimulate a reduction in the amount of materials being used and disposed of by supporting the ‘zero waste Scotland’ agenda, encouraging, in order: minimisation of unnecessary material use; re-using resources where possible; and recycling materials that cannot be re-used.”</i></p>
Proposed Key Objective 3 Alternative 2 	++	+	++	++	X	++	+	++	++	<p>Zero Waste: Reducing Material use and Waste Generation <i>The environment is adversely affected when materials are extracted and returned at the end of their lives; our patterns of material use and waste generation often exceed the capacity of natural cycles to accommodate them, causing habitat loss, threats to biodiversity, pollution, and waste of valuable and finite resources. The Council will stimulate a reduction in the amount of materials being used and disposed of by supporting the ‘zero waste Scotland’ agenda, encouraging, in order: minimisation of unnecessary material use; re-using resources where possible; and recycling materials that cannot be re-used.</i></p> 
Proposed Key Objective 4 Alternative 1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	<p>Reversing Biodiversity Decline <i>Biodiversity encompasses all living things; a biologically diverse environment is important in its own right and offers far-reaching benefits to society and the economy. Society has a responsibility to protect biodiversity from the increasing rate of loss that is occurring globally due to human activity. East Dunbartonshire has a rich and varied biodiversity, and the Council will protect and enhance the local natural environment to help to maximise</i></p>

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
	<p>the variety of native species and habitats on land under Council ownership and management, especially those species identified as priorities in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to broaden the scope of the Objective to the whole Council area, not limiting the positive impacts to only land owned and managed by the Council.</p>									
<p>Proposed Key Objective 4 Alternative 2</p> 	++	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	X	
<p>Proposed Key Objective 5 Alternative 1</p>	++	X	+/?	+/?	X	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	<p>Sustainable Materials <i>In addition to the amount (quantity) of resources we use, the type (quality) is an important consideration. Technological advances have produced substances which do not break down naturally when disposed of into land, air or the water system, and their resultant build-up disrupts ecosystems. The Council will seek to use materials that minimise environmental harm by ensuring that all chemicals we use are COSHH-approved. We will also address the legacy of industrial, commercial and agricultural contamination in our area by encouraging, and where necessary enforcing, remediation of affected land.</i></p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: “... ,including consideration of embodied energy and chemicals known to be harmful, especially in the construction and refurbishment of buildings.”</p>

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Proposed Key Objective 5 Alternative 2 	++	X	++	++	X	++	++	+	++	
<p>Sustainable Materials <i>In addition to the amount (quantity) of resources we use, the type (quality) is an important consideration. Technological advances have produced substances which do not break down naturally when disposed of into land, air or the water system, and their resultant build-up disrupts ecosystems. The Council will seek to use materials that minimise environmental harm, including consideration of embodied energy and chemicals known to be harmful, especially in the construction and refurbishment of buildings. We will also address the legacy of industrial, commercial and agricultural contamination in our area by encouraging, and where necessary enforcing, remediation of affected land.</i></p>										
Proposed Key Objective 6 Alternative 1	+	+	+/?	X	+	X	+/?	+/?	X	
<p>Maximising Opportunities to Promote health and Wellbeing <i>Reducing health inequalities and increasing physical and mental wellbeing are key priorities in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as is the related aim of promoting safety. Health and wellbeing are influenced by many factors, from basic physical requirements to higher-level needs such as culture and recreation. The Council will continue to promote health and wellbeing within the workforce and in the wider community and will do this in a way that is joined-up with environmental objectives.</i></p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: “... including active travel, provision of high quality greenspace and offender rehabilitation programmes that protect and enhance the environment.”</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Proposed Key Objective 6 Alternative 2 	++	+	++	X	+	X	+	++	X	
<p>Maximising Opportunities to Promote Health and Wellbeing <i>Reducing health inequalities and increasing physical and mental wellbeing are key priorities in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as is the related aim of promoting safety. Health and wellbeing are influenced by many factors, from basic physical requirements to higher-level needs such as culture and recreation. The Council will continue to promote health and wellbeing within the workforce and in the wider community and will do this in a way that is joined-up with environmental objectives including active travel, provision of high quality greenspace and offender rehabilitation programmes that protect and enhance the environment.</i></p>										
Proposed Key Objective 7 Alternative 1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
<p>Supporting Fairness and Reducing Inequality Locally and Globally <i>Equality of opportunity to access jobs, training and services is an important aspect of quality of life. The Sustainability and Climate Change Framework supports the strategic direction and long-term priority of the Single Outcome Agreement, which is “to reduce inequality between the most and least deprived communities”</i> Factors such as disability, ethnic origin, age, gender and geographical location can limit a person’s ability to realise their potential and fully contribute to society, and undermine opportunities to meet their own needs. Through the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, the Council will work to pursue equality of opportunity in ways that also promote environmental benefits, including addressing fuel poverty and stimulating green jobs and skill development.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: “... Global equalities will also be promoted, recognising the impact that we have on the wider world, especially the poorest countries, and ensuring that those we depend on are given a fair deal in return for the goods and services they provide us with.”</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p>Proposed Key Objective 7 Alternative 2</p> 	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	
<p>Supporting Fairness and Reducing Inequality Locally and Globally <i>Equality of opportunity to access jobs, training and services is an important aspect of quality of life. The Sustainability and Climate Change Framework supports the strategic direction and long-term priority of the LOIP, which is “to reduce inequality between the most and least deprived communities”</i> Factors such as disability, ethnic origin, age, gender and geographical location can limit a person’s ability to realise their potential and fully contribute to society, and undermine opportunities to meet their own needs. Through the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, the Council will work to pursue equality of opportunity in ways that also promote environmental benefits, including addressing fuel poverty and stimulating green jobs and skill development. Global equalities will also be promoted, recognising the impact that we have on the wider world, especially the poorest countries, and ensuring that those we depend on are given a fair deal in return for the goods and services they provide us with.</p>										
<p>Proposed Key Objective 8 Alternative 1</p>	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<p>Promoting Community Empowerment <i>To ensure that goods and services are tailored to the needs of the communities they are serving, and to engender a sense of control and involvement, it is important to engage communities in the design and delivery of services.</i> The Council will work directly with community groups to deliver on the Community Empowerment Act to strengthen local democracy by ensuring, as far as possible, that decisions on service priorities and design are shaped by the individuals and communities receiving the services.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: This option is likely to result in benefits from a population and human health perspective through the increased awareness of sustainability issues within Council service provision. However, it does not include a commitment to work with other public sector partners, which would limit the benefits.</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Proposed Key Objective 8 Alternative 2 	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Promoting Community Empowerment <i>To ensure that goods and services are tailored to the needs of the communities they are serving, and to engender a sense of control and involvement, it is important to engage communities in the design and delivery of services. The Council will work with other public sector partners and directly with community groups to deliver on the Change Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to strengthen local democracy by ensuring, as far as possible, that decisions on service priorities and design are shaped by the individuals and communities receiving the services.</i>										
Proposed Key Objective 9 Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	
Supporting Local Businesses <i>The Council will encourage the start-up and retention of successful local businesses through supportive policies, provision of infrastructure and sound purchasing decisions. As part of the Council's commitment to economic development, various services are provided to support new and existing local businesses. There is scope to further improve these services to better link them to environmental and social goals; the Council will encourage socially-responsible business models and adoption of circular economy principles across the business community.</i> SEA Suggested Alteration/Mitigation: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: "... and will lead by example by demonstrating efficiency in its day-to-day operations."										
Proposed Key Objective 9 Alternative 2 	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	++	++	
Supporting Local Businesses <i>The Council will encourage the start-up and retention of successful local businesses through supportive policies, provision of infrastructure and sound purchasing decisions. As part of the Council's commitment to economic development, various services are provided to support new and existing local businesses. There is scope to further improve these services to better link them to environmental and social goals; the Council will encourage socially-responsible business models and adoption of circular economy principles across the business</i>										

SEA Environmental Factors	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
	community and will lead by example by demonstrating efficiency in its day-to-day operations.									

3.8 Assessment: Strategic Aims

- 3.8.1 An environmental assessment has been undertaken for each of the SCCF strategic aims and all reasonable alternatives against the SEA objectives and criteria, based on their predicted impact on the current environmental baseline. Suggested alterations and mitigation measures have also been recommended where necessary and recorded within the assessment commentary sections [Appendix C](#).
- 3.8.2 **Table 9** summarises each of the individual assessments carried out for each of the preferred sets of strategic aims carried through into the SCCF, highlighting the main environmental implications and reasoning for the selection of an alternative as the SEA preferred options.

Assessment Table Key			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Table 9: Summary Assessments of the Strategic Aims for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
Natural Environment Strategic Aims	++	+	++	++	++	++	+	++	++
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Finalise and implement the Green Network Strategy and updated Local Biodiversity Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire, and produce a Community Food Growing Strategy ➤ Produce a Non-Native Species Policy ➤ Undertake peatland restoration and investigate the feasibility of producing a Peatland Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire ➤ Use the Local Development Plan, and related emerging Planning Guidance on the Natural Environment and Supplementary Guidance on Green Infrastructure/ Network, to: increase awareness of local habitats and species, the water environment and green infrastructure & network and to encourage developments that protect and enhance the local and nationally important natural and water environment and that deliver open space and green network opportunities to meet the needs of the development. ➤ Produce a Flood Risk Management Plan for East Dunbartonshire, support natural flood alleviation projects and increase the number of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in Open Space ➤ Undertake environmentally-sensitive practical conservation and maintenance by avoiding peat-based compost, investigating options for green waste re-use, stimulating use of play equipment from sustainably-sourced wood and avoiding spraying of chemicals in children’s areas ➤ Work with key partners and funders to identify other possible opportunities to conserve biodiversity and deliver high quality greenspace <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Natural Environment Strategic Aims will deliver significant positive impacts in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enhancement opportunities and protection for the Green Network, priority species and habitats and open spaces which are likely to have positive impact on all environmental factors. Through the implementation of the LDP, Green Network Strategy and LBAP there is likely to be significant positive effects through promotion of active 								

SEA Environmental Factors ➔	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>travel, healthy habits and an environment that is both sustainable and safe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conservation and maintenance of peat-based compost, sustainably sourcing materials and avoidance of chemical use is likely to provide positive impacts on population and health, soil and geology, climatic factors and material assets through the promotion of a safe, healthy and sustainable environment, protection of carbon-rich soils, investigation into green waste re-use options and the sustainable use of natural resources. The commitment to produce a Non-Native Species Policy and undertake peatland restoration will provide additional benefits, in terms of protecting and restoring areas that are biodiversity-rich and also play an important role in relation to soil and geology, hydrology and flood management, perform a valuable carbon storage function and provide crucial services to social wellbeing. ➤ Provision of Supplementary Planning Guidance in combination with the Local Development Plan to provide further benefits in relation to biodiversity value, population, water environment, climatic factors and material assets. ➤ An additional commitment supporting natural flood alleviation at a strategic and practical level to further enhance the delivery of benefits in relation to: biodiversity value; landscape protection; water quality; and climatic factors. ➤ Community Food Growing Strategy commitment would also further enhances the anticipated positive impacts through the support of community growing schemes and encourages community involvement in the local environment. 								
Sustainable Economic Growth Strategic Aims	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	+ / ?	++
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce an Economic Development Strategy which aligns the work of Council functions including land use planning, economic development, business support, waste management and sustainable development and contributes to a partnership-led approach to support delivery of a low carbon economy and sustainable economic growth in East Dunbartonshire, assisting delivery of the Council’s Public Bodies Duties ➤ Work towards delivery of the circular economy in East Dunbartonshire by exploring options for actions in the emerging Economic Development Strategy and through the work of the Council’s Waste Services function ➤ Communicate regularly with the local business community on sustainability <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Sustainable Economic Growth Strategic Aims will deliver certain positive impacts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regular communication and promotion with the local business community will increase awareness and 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>understanding of sustainability issues and also provide opportunities to demonstrate the relevant positive impacts for East Dunbartonshire’s local economy and communities. These effects are enhanced through the intention for cross-team working within the Council in relation to the promotion of green businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highlighting sustainability and developing a local circular economy within the emerging Economic Development Strategy will have multiple benefits in relation to the consideration of sustainable life-cycle of resources, integrating processes with the Councils waste strategy and moving towards resource efficient business practices. ➤ Partnership working to develop the Councils Economic Development Strategy will further enhance the impact on material assets through ensuring access to the relevant expertise, communication channels and practical services in the delivery of the sustainable waste management principles bringing forward the low carbon economy agenda and linking with the Council’s Public Bodies Duties. 								
<p>Mugdock Country Park</p> <p>Strategic Aims</p>	++	? / +/-	++	X	+	+	++	++	++
<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Further develop the sustainability of outdoor areas via path network improvements, a potential allotment site and consideration of more native planting and less pesticide use ➤ Explore opportunities for enabling more sustainable travel to the park ➤ Encourage the exploration and development of energy efficiency measures, renewables and other sustainable building features at Mugdock Castle, the Visitor Centre and the Stable Block ➤ Investigate the scope for renewables installations elsewhere in the Park ➤ Consider opportunities for green roofs and walls e.g. at Craigend Castle ➤ Further develop outdoor education opportunities, including delivery of the Forest Schools agenda ➤ Boost community involvement in the improvements of the Park <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims will deliver certain positive impacts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Encouragement of sustainable travel options to access the park which will have multiple benefits including health and wellbeing, biodiversity, air quality and material assets as it will encourage more active travel use while also reducing a reliance on vehicular travel and promote the use of the core path network within and surrounding the Country Park. A reduction in pesticide use has the potential to benefit the biodiversity value and the water environment by encouraging more natural practices and reducing the risk of diffuse pollution or surface water 									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>run-off.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The potential allocation of an allotment site and encouraging the delivery of the Forest Schools Agenda have the potential for additional positive impacts on population and health through the education initiative which will encourage a better understanding and awareness of biodiversity, particularly in relation to the Country Park local resource. Encouragement of community involvement in the Country Park improvements will increase the awareness of sustainability while also encouraging community participation in outdoor activities and community ownership providing further health and wellbeing benefits. Increased awareness and the introduction of more native planting will have additional positive impacts for biodiversity, landscape and material assets in terms of greater consideration of natural resources, protection of native habitats and species, improved habitat connectivity and the potential to contribute to the local distinctiveness of the area. ➤ The potential to install renewable and sustainable energy technologies within existing structures throughout the Country Park with significant positive impacts on climatic factors. Installation of such technologies could have significant impacts in terms of a reduction in energy use while also encouraging additional biodiversity benefits through green infrastructure improvements. Through these aims the impact on cultural heritage is uncertain due to Scheduled Ancient Monument and Category A listed building Mugdock Castle and Category C listed building Craigend Castle. Retrofitting sustainable and renewable technologies within these structures or within their surrounding areas has the potential to both positively enhance their sustainability or negatively impact on their setting and historic importance. Mitigation measures have been proposed to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any such impacts. 								
<p>Procurement Strategic Aims</p>	X	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	++
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will deliver on the Sustainable Procurement Duty and achieve the 10 steps to sustainable procurement by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensuring that our Sustainable Procurement Policy reflects the requirements of the Sustainable Procurement Duty and forthcoming guidance ➤ Using the PCS Tender system to introduce a more systematic approach to sustainable procurement, encompassing and building on existing systems 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Regularly convene the Community Benefits Forum to facilitate liaison and co-ordination on sustainable procurement within the Council and with key Community Planning Partners and Suppliers <p>Assessment Commentary: It is anticipated that the Procurement Strategic Aims will deliver certain positive impacts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The support for ‘green goods’ and services and increasing the consideration of life-cycles through the procurement of resources. It is anticipated that the Strategic Aims will deliver minor benefits for air quality, climatic factors and material assets through the support for ‘green goods’ and services and increasing the consideration of life-cycles through the procurement of resources. In committing to ensuring alignment with the Sustainable Procurement Duty, this Aims propose to further extend these benefits. ➤ Encouragement for the Council to have the environmental benefits and impacts on the same level of importance as social and economic considerations, including the following areas: construction methods and techniques, sustainable construction materials, waste management process and transport. In committing to ensuring alignment with the Sustainable Procurement Duty, these Aims will further extend these benefits. ➤ Additional liaison and co-ordination within the Council, key partners and suppliers which will further extend and evolve the sustainable procurement processes. 								
<p>Built Environment Strategic Aims</p>	++	+	X	X	X	+	++	++	++
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce Local Development Plan Supplementary Guidance on Design and Placemaking and on Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Technology ➤ Strengthen provisions for sustainability in future version of the CAMP ➤ Use the Primary School Improvement Programme Phase 2 as a particular focus for delivery ➤ Produce a Local Housing Strategy that includes commitments to sustainability, with a particular focus on energy efficiency and awareness-raising ➤ Consider and, where appropriate, implement new carbon reduction projects, in line with the Carbon Management Plan 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>Assessment Commentary: It is anticipated that the Built Environment Strategic Aims will deliver significant positive impacts on health, water quality, climatic factors and material assets through the following elements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promotion and management of the built environment through Supplementary Guidance on Design and Placemaking is anticipated to provide positive impacts on population and community wellbeing in terms of improving a sense of place and access to important social, cultural, environmental and civic facilities. Additional positive impacts on air quality are anticipated as more people will be encouraged to walk or cycle if the urban environment is well-designed, safe and accessible. ➤ A number of small and medium sized low and zero carbon technology developments related to housing, business and retail developments will collectively make a significant contribution to energy efficiency and therefore mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. Positive impact on climatic factors and material assets of infrastructure and buildings by making them more energy efficient. Uncertain impacts on the cultural heritage of listed buildings and Conservation Areas as the type of renewable technology varies and may require further mitigation at the design stage. It provides for a future increase in the standard levels required through building standards. The benefits associated with retrofitting heritage assets with sustainable technologies will contribute to climate change mitigation. However, there is also scope for delivery of the Framework to do more to encourage adaption to address the effects of climate change on the historic environment itself, and to promote the valuable role that retention and maintenance of historic environment assets can play in the sustainability agenda. ➤ The Council also has direct responsibility for promoting sustainability in its estate of approximately 250 sites (ranging from offices, schools and leisure centres to community halls and sports pavilions) and 3500 houses. Strengthening provision for sustainability within the Councils Corporate Asset Management Plan will result in positive impacts to health and wellbeing, climatic factors and material assets as a key component of the CAMP is a sustainability objective and project scoring criteria which reflects this. The CAMP commits to introducing renewable technologies in all new asset projects and retrofitting where budgets permit, as a minimum; the guidance document that accompanies the CAMP provide detail on sustainability in relation to the design, construction and operational phases of buildings, and the spend-to-save capital bidding process reflects the importance of sustainability. ➤ The focus on the next phase of the Primary School Improvement Plan and sustainability commitments within the 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	Local Housing Strategy will result in additional positive impacts to health and wellbeing , climatic factors and material assets by setting corporate carbon reduction targets, identifying energy use reductions in existing buildings as a key means to deliver reductions targets and also setting specific targets for energy efficiency measures in Council-owned properties.								
Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims	++	?/+	?/+ +	?/+	?/+	?/+	?/+ +	?/+	?/+
<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote sustainability through the Community Learning and Development Plan, with a particular focus on employability work, and through the wider work of the Community Planning Partnership ➤ Build environmental protection and enhancement more widely into the Place workstreams ➤ Maintain regular communications between Criminal Justice Supervisors, Neighbourhood Services and Development and Regeneration to ensure that sustainability is an ongoing consideration in criminal justice work <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>Conservation work and food growing are recognised as particularly valuable avenues for promoting Community capacity-building, delivering benefits in terms of health and wellbeing; biodiversity, flora & fauna; and climatic factors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The community growing agenda will build on existing work to promote community food growing through the preparation of a community Food Growing Strategy. The Strategy will establish demand for food growing across the area and identify appropriate opportunities to help meet this demand. ➤ Building environmental protection and enhancement more widely into the Place agenda will embrace the inherent links between ‘greening’ activity and social wellbeing. ➤ Raising awareness of the ways in which criminal justice can support sustainability, including those related to active travel routes, growing spaces and habitat creation and maintenance. The impacts of this element are uncertain at this time: however additional benefits are possible in terms health and wellbeing, biodiversity and air quality through the promotion of active travel alternatives; reduction in traffic congestion and resultant air quality improvements; support for community growing schemes; and the creation and protection of habitats and 									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>encouraged habitat connectivity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sustainable development is identified in the CLD Plan as a cross-cutting theme; the plan recognises the potential synergies between educational goals and the aims of projects that protect and enhance the environment. ➤ The Council has demonstrated good practice in promoting employability in ways that support environmental protection. Additional commitment regarding Place workstreams will contribute towards enhancing areas of deprivation while also reducing social, economic and environmental deprivation throughout East Dunbartonshire. 								
Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims	++	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	+
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Promote awareness and build capacity, within education centres, in relation to sustainability requirements within GTC standards ➤ Establish systems for monitoring and targeting our schools' participation in Eco-Schools Scotland and for encouraging sustainability to be routinely incorporated into school planning and reporting ➤ Create a formal communication mechanism between Education and other relevant Council services to allow dialogue on building fabric and services ➤ Enhance provisions for outdoor learning ➤ Produce a Dynamic Sustainability Communications Plan to allow more systematic promotion of sustainability to staff and the wider public ➤ Create and communicate organisational values through the Employee Learning and Development agenda <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>Due to the wide-ranging nature of issues the Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims set out within this section will deliver limited benefits in relation to the following factors population, air quality, climatic factors and material assets.</p> <p>Benefits are anticipated in terms of the Eco-Schools Scotland agenda, encouraging sustainability into school management, planning and reporting. These dedicated educational programmes focused on fair trade have also been developed for schools and nurseries, run by the East Dunbartonshire Fair Trade Steering Group.</p>								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>Introduction of appropriate communication mechanisms will be introduced to facilitate systematic dialogue between the Education Service and other relevant Council teams and services, particularly Facilities Management, on matters relating to building fabric and services including recycling, helping the Council to meet carbon reduction and recycling targets.</p> <p>Provisions for outdoor learning will be enhanced by the introduction of the Forest Schools Agenda to schools and nurseries; the aim of Forest Schools is to instill a deep appreciation of the natural world and to use it as a setting for cross-curricular learning.</p>								
<p>Finance</p> <p>Strategic Aims</p>	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will deliver on our Public Bodies Duties by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consider developing a policy on fossil fuel investment through savings, investment and borrowing, examining whether our investments are consistent with our statutory duties in relation to climate change mitigation and sustainable development ➤ Participating in any future pan-Council discussions on ethical investment policies <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>As set out with the SEA legislation, the Act does not apply to financial or budgetary-based policies or plans and as such the Strategic Commitments regarding Finance are not subject to the SEA process.</p>								
<p>Sustainable Transport and Travel</p> <p>Strategic Aims</p>	++	X	X	X	X	X	++	++	++
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Continue to deliver actions in the current Local Transport Strategy 2013-2017 and Active Travel Strategy 2015-2020 that facilitate the transition to more sustainable modes of transport ➤ Prepare and deliver a refreshed Local Transport Strategy in 2017 that is consistent with the findings of the Route Corridor Studies 2015 ensuring rigorous assessment of interventions in line with Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance ➤ Incorporate use of recycled materials into path creation more systematically and pursue other elements of 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<p>resource efficiency and sustainable sourcing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce a corporate travel planning document and achieve Cycle Friendly Employer status ➤ Continue fleet replacement until end of 2016/17 ➤ Introduce further electric vehicles, pending funding ➤ Consider fuel-efficient driver training <p>Assessment Commentary: The Transport and Travel section sets out the actions that the Council will take to stimulate a reduction in the environmental impacts of travel for Council business and in the wider community. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out in this alternative will deliver benefits in terms of: health and wellbeing; air quality; climatic factors; and material assets through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Modal shift towards active travel alternatives and promotion of resultant health benefits (promoted through Healthy Habits Projects including installation of signage for walking cycling routes). ➤ Modal shift towards active travel alternatives could contribute to improved air quality throughout East Dunbartonshire and improve health through a reduction in vehicle emission pollutants and particulate matter with a particular emphasis in the two areas within Bishopbriggs and Bearsden which are currently designated as Air Quality Management Areas, and potential area within Kirkintilloch which is under consideration. ➤ Cognisance been taken of the potential positive impacts of sustainable transport measures in terms of material use and waste generation. ➤ Delivery of travel hubs and interchange facilities along the A81, A803 and at rail stations ➤ Reduction in vehicular based travel (particularly single-car journeys) corporately through travel planning, promotion of car sharing, requirements for school travel plans, investigate pool bike possibilities, promotion of pool car scheme and using SMART working ethos to consider the need to travel at all. ➤ Reduction in road based congestion and resultant greenhouse gas emissions. ➤ Encouraged use of the Councils existing core path network through travel planning and increased awareness of the EDC Active Travel Strategy. ➤ Tackling corporate emissions levels through fleet replacement, introduction of additional electric vehicles, where possible, and the introduction of fuel-efficient driver training throughout the Council. 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity , Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
Corporate Support Functions Strategic Aims	+	X	X	X	X	X	+	++	++
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Produce a District Heating Strategy for East Dunbartonshire ➤ Consider the production of a Biomass Strategy for East Dunbartonshire ➤ Contribute to the revision of the Council’s Fairtrade Resolution ➤ Strategically develop the Council’s Green Office agenda ➤ Ensure that sustainability is appropriately represented in the LOIP ➤ Build sustainability into Leadership and senior management events, materials, meetings and communications ➤ Support the BIP and HGIOS process to ensure full support of SEA requirements for PPSs and full support of sustainability and climate change duties ➤ Identify significant climate change risks, where relevant, to incorporate into Risk Register ➤ Review and amend the Policy Development Framework, as necessary ➤ Use the PMO process to require the inclusion of sustainability in project management procedures ➤ Consider opportunities for reflecting sustainability and climate change within staff contracts and via other behaviour change initiatives <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out in this alternative will deliver benefits in terms of population and human health, air quality; climatic factors; and material assets through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Consideration and potential development of sustainable energy / renewable technology projects in relation to district heating projects and the use and implementation of biomass installations. ➤ Consideration and improvement of sustainable office practices throughout the Council. ➤ Incorporating sustainability and climate change at every level of the Councils strategic framework, risk register, project management procedures and policy development. 								

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Exploring opportunities to build further requirements into the Council's Policy Development Framework, to include responsibilities within staff contracts and to undertake other behaviour change initiatives – these strategic measures would help to engender commitment to all factors at both a formal and personal level. 								

3.9 Cumulative Impacts

- 3.9.1 An environmental assessment has been undertaken for each identified element of the Framework, including all reasonable alternatives which been assessed against the SEA Objectives and set criteria, based on their predicted impact on the current environmental baseline. The assessment has been conducted using professional judgement and GIS spatial analysis where appropriate.
- 3.9.2 The cumulative environmental effects were assessed once each individual assessment was undertaken. Cumulative effects arise, for instance where several developments or actions have minor impacts, but collectively result in a significant environmental effect. The significance of these effects relates to the same matrix point scale as used for the individual Framework assessments. A summary of the justification is provided below on the predicted cumulative effects for each of the environmental factors used to assess the SCCF.
- 3.9.3 It should be noted that, with the implementation and adoption of the proposed mitigation measures suggested in each of the individual assessments (**Appendix B** and **C**), the effects for each of the environmental factors has the potential to enhance the positive nature of anticipated effects.
- 3.9.4 The cumulative impact on **Population and Human Health** is considered to be overall major positive for the Framework. The positive nature of the Framework elements on this SEA criteria are due to a number of factors, including:
- Improved provision of education and awareness raising opportunities and facilities, particular for the younger generation and businesses in East Dunbartonshire.
 - The active support for physical activity levels and community health improvements throughout East Dunbartonshire.
 - Promotion and management of the East Dunbartonshire's built environment providing well-designed, safe and accessible places for residents, workers and visitors to the area.
 - Encouraging community growing schemes, support for fair trade and inspiring community empowerment.
 - An increase in active travel participation for both leisure journeys as well as for commuting, including linkages between the active travel network and public transport infrastructure. For example, action 1.16 will provide safe cycle storage in all town centres and train stations which will encourage longer distance journeys including for access to workplaces in neighbouring local authority areas.
 - Enhanced community wellbeing and promotion of healthy lifestyles through improved provision to encourage sustainable and active travel for improved sustainable access to open space and recreation as well as visiting and commuting to and from the area sustainably. A key example of this are included within the Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims and the proposed modal shift towards sustainable and active travel alternatives through the implementation of measures such as the delivery of travel hubs and interchange facilities along the A81, A803 and at rails stations
- 3.9.5 The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Cultural Heritage** is considered to be uncertain at this stage. A number of strategic aims within the framework were considered to

be minor positive or minor negative in nature, due to the potential impacts on historic environmental assets by retrofitting sustainable and renewable technologies either within or on the surrounding grounds with both positive enhancements to their sustainability or negatively impacting on their setting, historic value or protected features.

3.9.6 The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna** was seen to be potentially significantly positive particularly regarding the wide-ranging Strategic Aims and nature of the overall Framework. These impacts are predominantly due to the impact of the SCCF resulting in effects including:

- An increased protection and awareness raising for local/native habitats and species and improved habitat connectivity.
- Prioritising developments which protect and enhance green network opportunities.
- Proposed integration of green infrastructure improvements within the council estate.
- Protection and conservation of East Dunbartonshire's biodiversity through the emerging Local Development Plan (including Supplementary Guidance), Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Green Network Strategy.
- The commitment to undertake peatland restoration which will provide additional benefits of restoring areas that are biodiversity-rich.

3.1.6. The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Soil and Geology** was seen to be potentially significant positive for the Framework. The majority of the Framework assessments found that there was no significant impact on this criteria, however there are a number of commitments stated within the Natural Environment Strategic Aims which due to their potential positivity and Council-wide impacts on this SEA criteria will be further exacerbated due to a number of commitments including:

- A commitment to avoid peat-based compost throughout East Dunbartonshire when undertaking environmentally-sensitive practical conservation and maintenance.
- Further commitments to undertake peatland restoration projects and potentially produce a Peatland Action Plan for east Dunbartonshire.

3.1.7. The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Landscape** was seen to be minor positive for the Framework. Although some of the individual assessments indicated no significant impact the potential for positive impacts on the landscape due to potential protection of local distinctiveness and local character, the impact of these collectively are deemed to be cumulatively positive.

3.1.8. The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Water Quality** was seen to be minor positive in nature for the Framework. A large number of Framework assessments found that there was an insignificant impact on this criteria, however through a number of wide-ranging commitments within the Framework and their positive nature the positive cumulative impacts are likely due to:

- The proposed reduction in pesticide use has the potential to benefit the biodiversity value and water environment by encouraging more natural practices and reducing the risk of diffuse pollution or surface water run-off.
- The implementation of water efficiency measures within the Council estate which is intended to reduce run-off of rainwater into local watercourses and protect and improve their ecological status.

3.1.9. The overall cumulative environmental impact on **Air Quality and Climatic Factors** are seen to be significant positive for the Framework. The positive nature of the Key Objectives and Strategic Aims on this SEA criteria are due to a number of factors including:

- A modal shift away from vehicular based travel through the promotion of active travel alternatives which in turn will contribute to a reduction in air pollution and carbon emission levels.
- A number of the key Objectives and Strategic Aims will incorporate an element of education, raising awareness of and promotion of the use of more sustainable forms of transport infrastructure for schools and workplaces in East Dunbartonshire with potential long-term benefits.
- A cumulative reduction in traffic levels and resultant emissions levels throughout East Dunbartonshire could impact on existing Air Quality Management areas across the Council area and reduce the potential for future Areas to be declared.
- Consideration and development of sustainable energy/renewable technology projects throughout East Dunbartonshire in relation to district heating projects and the use and implementation of biomass installations.
- A number of Strategic Aims which contribute further to positive cumulative impacts across the Council refer to measures to introduce additional electric vehicles into the Council fleet and fuel-efficient driver training.
- The commitment for peatland protection and additional restoration projects will provide additional benefits in terms of performing a carbon storage function.

3.1.10. The overall cumulative impacts on **Material Assets** are seen to be significant positive for the Framework. The positive nature of the Framework on this SEA criteria are due to a number of factors including:

- The continual promotion and proposed improvement of safe, attractive and accessible core path network and active travel routes throughout East Dunbartonshire.
- Promoting positive changes to the current transport infrastructure which is primarily car-based to a more sustainable network that encourages active travel.
- The encouragement to integrate sustainable transport measures in relation to material use and waste generation.
- Improvement and implementation of sustainable offices practices.
- The development of Sustainable energy and protection of natural resources.

3.10 Influence of SEA on the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

3.10.1 Through the assessments of each element of the SCCF, there have been notable examples of the positive influence of SEA on the Framework whereby the SEA Preferred Options and SEA suggested alterations have been incorporated into the Framework, for example:

- **Strategic Direction** – The SEA preferred option taken forward as the approach for delivery the SCCF.
- **Ambition** – The SEA preferred option for the ambition was taken forward into the SCCF including SEA suggested alterations to improve the performance of the Ambition.
- **Key Objectives** – For each of the 9 Framework Key Objectives, the SEA suggested alterations were taken into account and incorporated into the Framework. The SEA preferred options for each Key Objective were also taken forward into the SCCF.
- **Strategic Aims** – All SEA preferred options for the Strategic Aims were incorporated into the SCCF, including 5 of the Strategic Aims integrating a significant amount of SEA alterations in order to improve their environmental performance.

3.10.3. Mitigation measures have also been identified and implemented in order to avoid adverse impacts, reduce their significance or enhance neutral or positive impacts identified. Mitigation has been integrated in different forms including suggested alterations and construction or project level mitigation for the delivery of Strategic Aims.

Section 4: Mitigation Measures and Monitoring

4.1 Mitigation Measures

4.1.1 Schedule 3 paragraph 7 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 require that the Environmental Report includes the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and, as fully as possible, offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework.

4.1.2 Mitigation measures have been proposed and incorporated into the Framework where necessary in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any potential adverse environmental impacts and enhance any uncertain, neutral, positive environmental impacts identified. The mitigation measures incorporate all environmental factors which were scoped into the assessment and will be the responsibility of East Dunbartonshire Council to implement in conjunction with key agencies and stakeholders. SEA suggested alterations and mitigation measures for each stage of the Framework can be reviewed within [Appendix B and C](#).

4.2 Monitoring

4.2.1 Through Section 19 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, East Dunbartonshire Council is required to monitor significant environmental effects of the implementation of the SCCF. The monitoring should be implemented as to enable the identification of any unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage to allow the appropriate remedial action to be implemented.

4.2.2 The specific measures that are to be taken to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the SCCF will form part of the Post-Adoption Statement prepared as soon as reasonably practicable after the adoption of the Framework in accordance with Section 18 of the Act. It is envisaged that the following indicators will be included within the monitoring framework:

Table 10: SEA Monitoring Programme for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Category	Indicators	Data Source
Population, Human Health	Changes in the deprivation levels in 15-20% SIMD areas.	SCROL
	% increase in overall walking and cycling rates in East Dunbartonshire.	EDC
	Number of Council employees changing their mode of travel to work towards sustainable alternatives.	EDC/Transport Scotland/SPT/Bus Operators
	Number of community growing opportunities created.	EDC
	Eco-school Awards achieved.	EDC
	Number of businesses benefited as a result of Strategic Aims within the SCCF.	EDC / Transport Scotland / SPT / Bus Operators
	% increase in sustainable business practices e.g. fair trading.	EDC
Cultural Heritage	Number of applications submitted and approved regarding the installation of sustainable and/or renewable technologies on historic environment assets.	EDC / Historic Environment Scotland
	Number of people who access heritage sites using active travel alternatives.	
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Changes to the presence of different species and habitats	EDC / SNH
	Number of biodiversity projects undertaken (in conjunction with the LBAP)	
	Ecosystem specific indicators, such as area of woodland habitats improved/changed and wetland habitats.	
Soil and Geology	Area of potentially contaminated land remediated.	SNH / EDC / James Hutton Institute
	Changes to number of vacant and derelict land sites in East Dunbartonshire	
	% of peatland improved/deteriorated.	

Landscape	Framework content in line with the Campsie's Action Plan.	SNH / EDC
	Changes in extent and quality of green belt resource.	EDC
Water Quality	Changes to the classification of water bodies in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.	SEPA
	Council reduction in pesticide / fertiliser use.	EDC / SEPA
Air Quality	% change in emissions levels in East Dunbartonshire (NO ₂ and PM10 levels are measured continuously within East Dunbartonshire. There are 4 monitoring stations in Bishopbriggs, Kirkintilloch, Bearsden and Milngavie. There are also 43 sites with monitoring tubes for NO ₂ around the EDC area)	SEPA / EDC / Scottish Government Air Quality Data
	Changes in pollutant levels within existing Air Quality Management Areas in Bishopbriggs and Bearsden.	EDC / SEPA
	Designation of any new Air Quality Management Areas within East Dunbartonshire.	EDC / SEPA
Climatic Factors	Greenhouse gas output trends for the Council and in East Dunbartonshire.	SEPA / EDC
	Changes in the extent to flooding in relation to SEPA Flood Mapping.	SEPA
	Number of renewable and/or sustainable energy technologies installed within EDC estate.	SEPA / EDC
	Area of peatland/carbon-rich soils improved or deteriorated in terms of carbon capture/storage.	SEPA
Material Assets	Sources of water supply, it's local capacity and reduction in water use.	EDC
	Council waste arisings and % recycled/composted.	EDC
	Monitoring of corridors where active travel routes have been provided to determine the impact on traffic levels.	EDC
	Access and use of public transport and active travel networks.	EDC / SPT / Transport Scotland / Bus Operators
	Number of purchase orders procuring sustainable resources.	
	Number of planning applications and developments supporting zero-carbon and zero-waste principles.	EDC

Section 5: Statutory Consultation and SEA Timetable

5.1 Statutory Consultation

5.1.1 The statutory consultation for the Environmental Report and corresponding Sustainability and Climate Change Framework is:

5th July 2016 – 16th August 2016

5.1.2 Responses to the SEA and Framework should be submitted through email or post to the following addresses:

Email: sustainability@eastdunbarton.gov.uk

Address:

Sustainability Policy Team
Place, Neighbourhood & Corporate Assets Directorate
East Dunbartonshire Council
Southbank House
Strathkelvin Place
Kirkintilloch
G66 1XQ

5.2 SEA Timetable

5.2.1 It is anticipated that the SEA process will align with the Strategy preparation stages. **Table 11** below illustrates this alignment and provides the anticipated timescales for each.

Table 11: SEA Timescale & Milestones

Plan Preparation Stages	SEA Stages	Anticipated Timescale & Consultation Period, if required
Preliminary Assessment and Survey / Research work	Scoping Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Collate and forecast baseline environmental information ➤ Adopt environmental objectives and criteria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Research and Develop Scoping Report – April/May 2015 ➤ Scoping Report submission 17th July 2015 ➤ Consultation with CA's - 5 week period
Prepare Draft SCCF	Environmental Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assess each element of the Framework 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Draft Environmental Report alongside the preparation of the

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Assess all reasonable alternatives to the Framework ➤ Prepare the Draft Environmental Report 	<p>SCCF</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Responses from the Consultation Authorities at the Scoping stage will be taken into account ➤ Drafting between August 2015 and May 2016 ➤ Finalisation of the Environmental Report and Framework in May 2016
Publish & Consult on Draft SCCF	Publish & Consult on Draft Environmental Report	Consultation with the public and CA's – 5 th July – 16 th August 2016
Adopt SCCF	Publish Post-Adoption Statement along with the adopted Finalised Draft PPS	Adoption of the SCCF and publication of the Post-Adoption Statement – TBC
Monitor & Review	Monitor and Review	Ongoing / Annual review

Appendix A: International, European Community, and National Environmental Protection Objectives; Regional and Local Objectives

Please note that this appendix lists key legislation, plans, programmes, policies and strategies that influence or are influenced by the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework. Their content, where appropriate, has been used to inform the environmental objectives for the SEA of the Framework.

Relevant PPS to the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework	Summary / Objectives or requirements	How objectives and requirements influence the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework
International		
Rio Declaration (1992)	The Declaration sets out 27 principles to enable the global community to work towards international agreements that respect the interests of all and protect the integrity of the global environmental and developmental system. The Declaration highlighted the necessity to protect and enhance the environment, economics and social aspects in both developed and developing countries. The Rio Declaration led to an international commitment to Agenda 21 which represented a global action on sustainable development.	The outcomes proposed for the SCCF will be in line with the principles set out in the Rio Declaration; through the Framework, the Council will aim to demonstrate that environmental protection and enhancement can be compatible with social and economic progress, both locally and globally.
Kyoto Protocol (1997)	The UK has committed itself to a 12.5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2008-2012. It has also set its own domestic target of a 20% reduction in carbon dioxide by 2010.	Carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the SCCF and work will be undertaken with an awareness of the international and UK targets that have been set.
Johannesburg Summit (2002)	<p>The World Summit on Sustainable Development was held in Johannesburg in 2002 to assess progress since Rio. The three key outcomes of the Summit include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A political declaration ➤ The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation and, ➤ Partnership initiatives. <p>The event included a number of commitments including those related to sustainable consumption and production, water and sanitation, and energy.</p>	As with the Rio Declaration, the commitments of the Johannesburg Summit will be embodied in the Framework, both in terms of intended outcomes and intended ways of working.
European		
EU Climate and Energy Framework (2008 and updates)	The original EU Climate and Energy Framework committed member states of the EU to a binding 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, a binding target for 20% of energy generation from renewable sources and a non-binding target for a 20% improvement in energy efficiency to be achieved by 2020 (20:20:20 targets).	As above, carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the SCCF; within this theme, the document will reflect the importance of both reduction in energy use and a switch to energy generation from renewable sources. These goals will be pursued through various means, including Planning Policy and Corporate Asset Management.

	<p>The Framework has been succeeded by the EU 2030 Framework for Climate and Energy Policies (2014). Its targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ an emissions reduction target of at least 40% on 1990 levels by 2030, binding on Member States; ➤ reform and strengthening of the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) with a cap declining by 2.2% annually from 2021 onwards (an increase on the 1.74% up to 2020); ➤ a renewable energy target of at least 27% by 2030, binding at EU level; ➤ a non-binding energy efficiency target of 27% by 2030 (to be reviewed in 2020 with a view to an increase to 30%); ➤ a 15% target for energy interconnections between member states by 2030 (binding only at EU level), and; ➤ a reliable and transparent governance system will be developed to help ensure that the EU meets its energy policy goals. 	
<p>The European Union Emissions Trading System (EU ETS) (2005)</p>	<p>The EU ETS sets a 'cap and trade' principle, designed to combat climate change within the EU by reducing industrial greenhouse gas emissions cost-effectively. Companies in the EU receive an allowance of emissions which they can sell or buy to other companies as required. The number of allowances is reduced over time so that total emissions fall. In 2020 emissions will be 21% lower than in 2005. By 2030, they will be 43% lower.</p>	<p>The Council participates in the UK Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme, which is aimed at organisations not covered by the EU ETS. The SCCF will incorporate this commitment by reflecting existing corporate energy reduction projects and stimulating further activities.</p>

National		
<p>UK Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme</p>	<p>The Scheme incentivises energy efficiency in order to cut emissions in large energy users in the public and private sectors in the UK. This Scheme covers the sectors not covered in the EU ETS. It is expected that the Scheme will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ reduce non-traded carbon emissions by 16 million tonnes by 2027 ➤ support the UK's objective to achieve an 80% reduction in UK carbon emissions by 2050 	<p>As above, the Council participates in the UK Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme and this will be reflected in the SCCF.</p>
<p>Local Government in Scotland Act 2003</p>	<p>The Local Government in Scotland Act was established in order to enable the delivery of public services which better meet the expectations of those who pay for and use them in terms of best value. The Act provides a number of different roles including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ a duty to secure Best Value in local government service provision; ➤ an extension of the Accounts Commission for Scotland's powers to 	<p>The Local Government in Scotland Act's duty of Best Value requires local authorities to contribute to sustainable development; the SCCF, in seeking systematic, Council-wide improvements in sustainability, will embody and contribute to this requirement.</p>

	<p>hold hearings and publish findings so that they cover issues relating to Best Value and Community Planning;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the provision of a Ministerial intervention power for continued or extraordinary statutory failure in Best Value or a significant misuse of the power of wellbeing; ➤ amendments to constraints on local authority trading activity, with the repeal of all existing legislation relating to compulsory competitive tendering; ➤ a statutory basis for public performance reporting and arrangements to improve accountability; ➤ a statutory basis for Community Planning to ensure long-term commitment to effective partnership working with communities and between local authorities and other key bodies and organisations; ➤ a power of well-being to enable local authorities to work in a more innovative and creative way in responding to the needs of their communities; and ➤ a vehicle to progress a number of miscellaneous provisions which relate to local government matters. 	
<p>Climate Change (Scotland) Act (2009)</p>	<p>The Climate Change (Scotland) Act commits the Scottish government to establishing a zero-carbon economy through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Within the Act, a number of targets were set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A 42% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 ➤ An 80% reduction in emissions by 2050 <p>The Act intends Local Authorities to adhere to the requirements and targets set in order to contribute to Scotland's emission reduction progress as well as reductions locally.</p>	<p>Carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the SCCF and work will be undertaken with an awareness of the domestic targets that have been set.</p>
<p>'Climate Ready Scotland' - Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme</p>	<p>The Programme addresses the impacts identified for Scotland in the UK Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA). It sets out the Scottish Ministers' objectives in relation to adaptation to climate change, and their proposals and policies for meeting those objectives. Aims include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ensuring a productive, healthy and diverse natural environment which is able to adapt to change, including promotion of green infrastructure and development of the ecosystem approach; and implementation of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy ➤ Ensuring well-managed, resilient infrastructure and buildings 	<p>Climate change adaptation will be another headline aim of the SCCF; this will be pursued in various ways, including through the Land Planning system and by seeking to add value to existing biodiversity and greenspace activities by emphasising and supporting their potential to provide resilience against the impacts of extreme weather events.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ providing access to the amenities and services we need; ➤ Ensuring strong, healthy, resilient communities which are well informed and prepared for a changing climate, including increased awareness of the importance of flood risk management 	
<p style="text-align: center;">Scottish Government National Outcomes (2007)</p>	<p>Fifteen National Outcomes were set for the Scottish Government, and were updated in 2011. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe. ➤ We realise our full economic potential with more and better employment opportunities for our people. ➤ We are better educated, more skilled and more successful, renowned for our research and innovation. ➤ Our young people are successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. ➤ Our children have the best start in life and are ready to succeed. ➤ We live longer, healthier lives. ➤ We have tackled the significant inequalities in Scottish society. ➤ We have improved the life chances for children, young people and families at risk. ➤ We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger. ➤ We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need. ➤ We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others. ➤ We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations. ➤ We take pride in a strong, fair and inclusive national identity. ➤ We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production. ➤ Our people are able to maintain their independence as they get older and are able to access appropriate support when they need it. ➤ Our public services are high quality, continually improving, efficient and responsive to local people's needs. 	<p>The SCCF should contribute towards each of the National Outcomes, where possible. The National Outcomes particularly relevant to the SCCF, although not limited to, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We live in well-designed, sustainable places where we are able to access the amenities and services we need. ➤ We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations. ➤ We reduce the local and global environmental impact of our consumption and production.
<p>Low Carbon Scotland- Meeting our Emissions Reduction Targets</p>	<p>'Low Carbon Scotland – Meeting our Emissions Reduction Targets 2013-27' is the second report on policies and proposals ('RPP2') that will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Scotland. It was designed to address the</p>	<p>As above, carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the SCCF; within this theme, the document will pursue carbon reduction in a variety of contexts, including reduction of energy use in buildings, local generation of renewable</p>

<p>2013-2027</p>	<p>duty placed on the Scottish Government by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 to provide policies and measures for addressing the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In support of targets set to reduce emissions 42% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050 compared to 1990 levels, Low Carbon Scotland focusses its vision on energy supply, homes and communities, business and the public sector, transport, rural land use and waste. Within the document, the benefits of a low carbon society are set out.</p>	<p>energy and recognising the ‘carbon sink’ role of habitats.</p>
<p>Conserve and Save: Energy Efficiency Action Plan (2010)</p>	<p>The Action Plan sets an ambitious energy efficiency agenda for Scotland across business, domestic and public sectors. It sets a framework and drives cost-effective action to meet the emissions reduction targets set by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009. The key actions set out include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ improve the energy efficiency of all our housing stock to meet the demands of the future; ➤ establish a single energy and resource efficiency service for Scottish businesses; ➤ develop a public sector that leads the way through exemplary energy performance and provides the blueprint for a low carbon Scotland; ➤ reduce our transport energy demand, transforming how we use our transport systems; ➤ promote infrastructure improvements, e.g. by developing a sustainable heat supply; and ➤ ensure that people are appropriately skilled to take up the opportunities. 	<p>As above, carbon reduction will be a headline aim of the SCCF, and energy efficiency will be recognised as a priority within this theme. The document will incorporate commitments relating to a variety reflect the importance of both reduction in energy use and a switch to energy generation from renewable sources. These goals will be pursued through various means, including Planning Policy and Corporate Asset Management.</p>
<p>Public Bodies Climate Change Duties: Putting Them Into Practice (2011)</p>	<p>The guidance sets out the requirements of public bodies, as outlined in Part 4 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 which places a duty on public bodies relating to climate change. The outcomes expected are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leading and contributing to the achievement of Scotland's ambitious climate emissions reduction targets. Scottish public bodies have a key role to play in championing climate change action and ensuring their own emissions are reduced as far as possible. ➤ Building a resilient Scotland prepared for the challenges of the changing climate. ➤ Ensuring that we meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, in line with the Government's Purpose in relation to sustainable economic growth. 	<p>Climate change mitigation and adaptation will be headline themes of the SCCF; the document will place a key emphasis on the public bodies duties conferred by the Climate Change (Scotland) Act and will identify carbon reduction and climate resilience as ‘sustainability building blocks’ which will be used as a basis for commitments and actions in various contexts across the Council.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Public bodies should focus on climate change outcomes which are appropriate to their own functions, circumstances and ways of working. 	
National Planning Framework 3	<p>The National Planning 3 is the Scottish Government’s Strategy for the long term development of Scotland’s towns, cities and the countryside. The NPF3 supports four main themes: <i>A successful, sustainable place; a low carbon place; a natural, resilient place; and a connect place</i>. It supports and sets out Scotland’s intention to ‘create high quality, diverse and sustainable places that promote well-being and attract investment’ and ‘achieve at least an 80% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050’.</p>	<p>Land Use Planning will be explicitly identified in the SCCF as a context in which sustainability will be pursued; the document will set out policy commitments which reflect those of the NP3.</p>
Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)	<p>The consolidated SPP provides a shorter, clearer and more focused statement of national planning policy. The SPP and NPPG series has been replaced by a single SPP. As part of the commitment to proportionate and practical planning policies, the Scottish Government has rationalised national planning policy.</p> <p>The SPP sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the Scottish Government's view of the purpose of planning, ➤ the core principles for the operation of the system and the objectives for key parts of the system, ➤ statutory guidance on sustainable development and planning under Section 3E of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, ➤ concise subject planning policies, including the implications for development planning and development management, and ➤ The Scottish Government's expectations of the intended outcomes of the planning system. ➤ Principal policies (sustainability and placemaking) ➤ A commitment to the four themes set out in the NPF3. <p>The SPP sets out requirements for development plans, development management, community engagement, sustainable development, climate change and sustainable economic growth, and low carbon communities.</p>	<p>As above, the SCCF will incorporate national planning policy principles relating to sustainability and will specify how these will be delivered locally.</p>
Climate Change Delivery Plan – Meeting Scotland’s Statutory Climate	<p>This guidance sets out how Scotland will achieve the emissions reduction targets in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act. In particular, it summarises key actions, measures and milestones across the <i>electricity demand and supply, heat demand and supply, transport, rural land use and waste</i> sectors.</p>	<p>As above, carbon reduction will be headline theme of the SCCF and will be pursued via commitments and actions in various contexts across the Council.</p>

Change Targets (2009)		
Sustainable Energy for All initiative (2011)	<p>The initiative intends to improve sustainable development through actions related to sustainable energy globally. The objectives set for the initiative include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Providing universal access to modern energy services; ➤ Doubling the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency; and ➤ Doubling the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix. 	As above, carbon reduction will be headline theme of the SCCF and will be pursued via commitments and actions in various contexts across the Council.
Climate Change: The UK Programme (2006)	<p>The updated UK Climate Change Programme (previous edition in 2000) sets out the UK Government's commitments to meeting climate change targets both internationally and at a domestic level in order to meet the 20% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2010 and a 60% reduction by 2050 targets as set in the 2000 Programme. It sets the role of individuals in adhering to the requirements associated with climate change and encourages individuals amongst a range of sectors to act. The Programme outlines the expectations expected:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Internationally ➤ Domestically ➤ In the energy supply sector ➤ In the business sector ➤ In the transport sector ➤ In the domestic sector ➤ In the public sector and local government ➤ In the agriculture, forestry and land management sector ➤ To encourage personal action 	As above, carbon reduction will be headline theme of the SCCF and will be pursued via commitments and actions in various contexts across the Council; this will include services which have an interface with the transport and business sectors.
The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (2008 and 2010)	<p>The Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD) was originally implemented in 2008 and recast in 2010. It outlines the requirements that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ energy performance certificates are to be included in all advertisements for the sale or rental of buildings ➤ EU countries must establish inspection schemes for heating and air conditioning systems or put in place measures with equivalent effect ➤ all new buildings must be nearly zero energy buildings by 31 December 2020 (public buildings by 31 December 2018) ➤ EU countries must set minimum energy performance requirements for new buildings, for the major renovation of buildings and for the replacement or retrofit of building elements (heating and cooling systems, roofs, walls, etc.) 	Where possible, the SCCF will support actions that will encourage zero carbon and zero energy principles for buildings. Consequently, the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive is of influence to the Framework and the SCCF will contribute to the Directive's requirements.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ EU countries have to draw up lists of national financial measures to improve the energy efficiency of buildings 	
<p>Scotland's Zero Waste Plan (2010)</p>	<p>Vision: This vision describes a Scotland where resource use is minimised, valuable resources are not disposed of in landfills, and most waste is sorted into separate streams for reprocessing, leaving only limited amounts of waste to go to residual waste treatment, including energy from waste facilities.</p> <p>Scotland's Zero Waste Plan will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Be where everyone – individuals, the public and business sectors - appreciates the environmental, social and economic value of resources, and how they can play their part in using resources efficiently; ➤ Reduce Scotland's impact on the environment, both locally and globally, by minimising the unnecessary use of primary materials, reusing resources where possible, and recycling and recovering value from materials when they reach the end of their life; ➤ Help to achieve the targets set in the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 of reducing Scotland's greenhouse gas emissions by 42% by 2020 and 80% by 2050; ➤ Contribute to sustainable economic growth by seizing the economic and environmental business and job opportunities of a zero waste approach. 	<p>EDC's SCCF will address waste issues for the Council and, in doing so, the Council will be able to develop actions that will contribute to meeting the targets set by the Zero Waste Plan at a local level.</p>
<p>The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014</p>	<p>The Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014 highlights the importance of procurement for economic recovery in Scotland. Within the Act, the importance of sustainable procurement processes within authorities is stressed in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Improve economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the authority's area; ➤ Facilitate the involvement of small and medium enterprises, third sector bodies and supported businesses in the process; and ➤ Promote innovation. 	<p>The Procurement Reform Act will influence the SCCF in terms of setting the requirements for East Dunbartonshire Council to address economic, social and environmental wellbeing for improvements. This is a direct link and focus of the Framework.</p>
<p>Scotland's Climate Change Declaration (2007)</p>	<p>Scotland's Climate Change Declaration was signed by all 32 local authorities in Scotland, committing them to responding to the challenge of climate change. The Declaration commits them to mitigate their impact on climate change and to adapt to predicted climate change impacts. It represents a commitment to</p>	<p>This is a commitment that the Council is already signed up to. However, the Framework will drive actions to improve the Council's climate change impact and its sustainability.</p>

	sustainable development. By signing the Declaration, local authorities must produce annual reports detailing their progress.	
National Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland (2007)	The National Air Quality Strategy (NAQS) acts as a framework for the UK in delivering actions to ensure good air quality and clean air. It highlights the benefits of improving air quality in order to contribute to climate change targets set and as a means of reducing emissions in the atmosphere.	Through the Framework's commitment to reducing carbon emissions, direct and indirect impacts to improving air quality will result. Therefore, the SCCF will demonstrate a commitment to the requirements of the National Air Quality Strategy by delivering improvements at a local level.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	<p>The Act provides a more sustainable and modern approach to flood risk management, suited to addressing the impacts of climate change. The Act will also create a more joined up and coordinated process to manage flood risk at a national and local level. Specific measures within the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A framework for coordination and cooperation between all organisations involved in flood risk management; ➤ Assessment of flood risk and preparation of flood risk management plans; ➤ New responsibilities for SEPA, Scottish Water and Local Authorities in relation to flood risk management; ➤ A revised, streamlined process for flood protection schemes; ➤ New methods to enable stakeholders and the public to contribute to managing flood risk, and; ➤ A single enforcement authority for the safe operation of Scotland's reservoirs. 	The Framework will address issues of climate change for the Council to ensure that effects are reduced, mitigated or adapted to. A key part of the climate change effect is flooding. The Framework will show a commitment to the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act through the implementation of actions to manage such effects.
Low Emission Strategy for Scotland (post-consultation)	<p>The Low Emission Strategy (LES) for Scotland underwent consultation prior to 10th April 2015, but it is planned to be finalised and implemented in 2015. The LES sets out a mission to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Protect and enhance health, wellbeing, environment, place-making and sustainable economic growth through improved air quality across Scotland. <p>It's vision is that <i>'Scotland's air quality is amongst the best in Europe'</i> and the objectives to achieve this are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Communication: A Scotland where all are well informed, engaged, and empowered to manage our air quality. ➤ Transport: A Scotland that reduces transport emissions through supporting the uptake of low emission fuels and technologies and promoting modal shift away from car. ➤ Climate Change: A Scotland that reduces greenhouse gas emissions 	The mission set by the Low Emission Strategy is aligned with the intended outcomes of the SCCF. The SCCF will demonstrate a commitment to low emissions at a local level and will have direct links to the actions to achieve low emissions and high air quality.

	<p>whilst delivering co-benefits for air quality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Health: A Scotland which protects its citizens from the harmful effects of poor air quality. ➤ Development: A Scotland where the implications for air quality form part of decision making on new development. ➤ Energy: A Scotland that achieves its renewable energy targets without compromising air quality. 	
<p>Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015</p>	<p>The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act has recently been approved to give community bodies new rights and public sector authority's new duties to boost community empowerment and engagement. The issues outlined in the Bill include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Community Right to Buy ➤ Taking over publicly owned land or buildings with the right to rent or buy ➤ 'Common Good' property ➤ Allotments ➤ Business rates 	<p>The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act has been taken into account in the primary stages of developing the SCCF in terms of community growing. The Council will consider how it will ensure that local demand for community growing and allotments are fully met, consequently showing a commitment to the Community Empowerment Act.</p>
<p>Scotland's Land Use Strategy 2016-2021</p>	<p>Vision – A Scotland where we fully recognise, understand and value the importance of our land resources, and where our plans and decisions about land use will deliver improved and enduring benefits, enhancing the wellbeing of our nation.</p> <p>Land Use Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Land based businesses working with nature to contribute more to Scotland's prosperity. ➤ Responsible stewardship of Scotland's natural resources delivering more benefits to Scotland's people. ➤ Urban and rural communities better connected to the land, with more people enjoying the land and positivity influencing land use. 	<p>The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 requires the national Land Use Strategy to be reviewed every five years and a revised document to be laid before the Scottish Parliament. Land use is driven by a wide range of considerations and change tends to happen slowly and for the longer term. The drivers of change include priorities of those who manage the land, market influence, the incentives and regulations which impact upon particular areas and the capacity of the local area. However what is always required is a consistent approach to policy and to decision making. Throughout the development of the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework the content of the consultation draft Strategy will need to be taken into account when considering policy direction and decision making.</p>
<p>Scottish Soil's Framework 2009</p>	<p>The vision is that soils are recognised as a vital part of our economy, environment and heritage, to be safeguarded for existing and future generations. The main aim of the Framework is to promote the sustainable management and protection of soils consistent with the economic, social and environmental needs of Scotland.</p>	<p>The Scottish soils Framework describes key pressures on soils, particularly climate change, relevant policies to combat those threats and identifies the future focus for soil protection. The SCCF will have to take the impact of climate change on soils into consideration during it's development and use the Soil's Framework for reference when considering soils protection and conservation throughout East Dunbartonshire.</p>

Regional		
<p>Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan (SDP)</p>	<p>The Scottish Ministers approved, with modifications, the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan on 29.5.12.</p> <p>The SDP together with the LDP forms the Development Plan in city region areas. It is prepared under Scottish Parliamentary Law, the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.</p> <p>The key aim of the SDP is to set out a long term Spatial Vision and related spatial development strategy. This will determine the future geography of development in the city region to 2035, which will support economic competitiveness & social cohesion, set within a sustainable environmental approach. It is about creating quality of place by focusing on the continued regeneration and transformation of the city region’s communities whilst securing positive action on its key asset, its natural environment. It seeks to minimise the development and carbon footprints of the city region, meet climate change emissions targets and above all, support a drive towards a sustainable low carbon economy.</p>	<p>The SDP provides the overall geographical framework for development in the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Region. The SCCF will set a guiding framework that will help to achieve the vision of the SDP, namely a sustainable environmental approach and a sustainable low carbon economy.</p>
<p>Clyde and Loch Lomond Flood Risk Management Plan (draft)</p>	<p>The draft Clyde and Loch Lomond Flood Risk Management Plan provides a short overview of the Local Plan District and the flood risk authorities involved (of which there are 16 local authorities that are completely within or overlapping the district boundary; Argyll and Bute Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, East Ayrshire Council, East Dunbartonshire Council, East Renfrewshire Council, Falkirk Council, Glasgow City Council, Inverclyde Council, North Ayrshire Council, North Lanarkshire Council, Renfrewshire Council, Scottish Borders Council, South Lanarkshire Council, Stirling Council, West Dunbartonshire Council and West Lothian Council).</p> <p>The Plan sets out actions for flood risk management within the Clyde and Loch Lomond District, which are summarised separately for each District. The overall objective of the Plan is to <i>reduce overall flood risk</i>. To achieve this general objective, a set of actions are outlined:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Self-help – individuals have the responsibility for protecting themselves and their property from flooding ➤ Awareness raising – SEPA and the responsible authorities have a duty 	<p>Although the Clyde and Loch Lomond Flood Risk Management Plan (C&LLFRMP) is currently at a consultation stage, the effects of the SCCF will have an effect to some extent since East Dunbartonshire lies within or overlapping the district boundary of the C&LLFRMP. The SCCF should consider how its actions can have a positive influence to meet the objectives of the C&LLFRMP. Giving the wide-range of the Flood Risk District, the SCCF will also need to understand the impact of actions within neighbouring authorities for East Dunbartonshire.</p>

	<p>to raise public awareness of flood risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Flood forecasting ➤ Emergency planning and response ➤ Watercourse maintenance/clearance and repair ➤ Maintenance/asset management <p>In addition to the general objective and actions for the management of floods in the Clyde and Loch Lomond district, Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVA) have been identified, each with a set of objectives and potential actions for the delivery of the Plan. PVA 11/04 Kilsyth to Bearsden – North of Glasgow City is relevant to the area of East Dunbartonshire.</p>	
<p>Neighbouring Authority Strategic Actions</p>	<p>The neighbouring authorities to which this would relate include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ West Dunbartonshire Council ➤ Stirling Council ➤ North Lanarkshire Council and ➤ Glasgow City Council <p>This will include documents that could potentially impact on East Dunbartonshire, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Local Plan (Local Development Plans) ➤ Sustainable Development Strategies ➤ Carbon Management Plans ➤ Climate Change Strategies 	<p>The SCCF will need to consider neighbouring authorities strategic plans in the development of the SCCF.</p>

Local (East Dunbartonshire Council)		
<p>EDC Community Planning Partnership - Single Outcome Agreement (2014-2017)</p>	<p>EDC Vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Working together to achieve the best with the people of East Dunbartonshire <p>Local Outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ East Dunbartonshire has an expanding economy with a competitive and diverse business and retail base ➤ Our people are equipped with knowledge, skills and training to enable 	<p>The delivery of the SCCF will contribute to the SOA for East Dunbartonshire. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ East Dunbartonshire has an expanding economy with a competitive and diverse business and retail base ➤ East Dunbartonshire is a safe and sustainable environment in which to live, work and visit ➤ Our people and communities enjoy increased physical and mental wellbeing and health inequalities are reduced

	<p>them to progress to employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Our children and young people are safe, healthy and ready to learn ➤ East Dunbartonshire is a safe and sustainable environment in which to live, work and visit ➤ Our people and communities enjoy increased physical and mental wellbeing and health inequalities are reduced ➤ Our older population are supported to enjoy a high quality of life and our more vulnerable citizens, their families and carers benefit from effective care and support services. 	
Local Plan 2 2011-2016	The Local Plan 2 is primarily concerned with the use and development of land in East Dunbartonshire. The Plan contributes towards sustainable development by providing clear guidance on what developments will be acceptable and where they will be permitted.	The SCCF will provide a guiding framework for the Council to deliver best practice in terms of sustainable development and for reducing the impacts of climate change. It should be a consideration in developments in East Dunbartonshire and the Council should be able to use the Framework to guide sustainable development and mitigation measures.
Local Development Plan 2016-2021	The emerging LDP for East Dunbartonshire sets the framework for the growth and development of East Dunbartonshire up to 2025 and beyond and establishes a presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development as defined in Scottish Planning Policy (2014).	As above- the emerging LDP is currently material consideration.
East Dunbartonshire Sustainable Development Strategy (2004)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To promote a strong local economy ➤ To ensure the social wellbeing of everyone in the community ➤ To protect the natural environment <p>The Sustainable Development Strategy for East Dunbartonshire will be replaced by the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework.</p>	The SCCF will explicitly echo the requirements of the Sustainable Development Strategy. In particular, the SCCF should show its commitment to the sustainable use of the natural environment to ensure that it is protected. Once implement, the SCCF will replace the Sustainable Development Strategy and will provide a holistic approach to sustainable development and climate change.
East Dunbartonshire Council Scotland's Climate Change Declaration reports	East Dunbartonshire Council signed up to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration in 2007 which means that the Council is committed to reducing its own carbon emissions. It reports annually to Keep Scotland Beautiful to detail their performance.	The SCCF will focus on improving the Council's sustainability and climate change agenda. The Framework and the Declaration Reports both demonstrate East Dunbartonshire Council's commitment to addressing the effects of climate change.
East Dunbartonshire Council Carbon Management Plan 2011-2015	<p>The Carbon Management Plan for East Dunbartonshire Council was developed in 2011 and represents the Council's actions to ensure that by 2015, East Dunbartonshire Council will reduce its carbon emissions by 25% from the 2006/07 baseline via several strategic and practical measures. The objectives of the Plan include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Clear long-term strategic direction (with an understanding of the relative contributions of energy efficiency and use of on-site renewables) and robust, detailed actions 	The requirements of the Carbon Management Plan to reduce carbon emissions within Council operations should feed directly into the Framework. The Framework will also, where possible, build upon the targets and requirements of the CMP and will complement the revised CMP once it has been implemented.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mainstreaming of responsibility, via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Localised carbon targets with associated carbon and financial budgets ○ Requirements for carbon impact assessments of plans, policies and proposals ○ Systematic Council-wide communications ➤ A monitoring system that reflects the true costs of carbon, incentivising carbon savings and enabling spend-to-save projects ➤ Strong governance and accountability, via: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The creation of a Carbon Management Monitoring Group involving cross-Council representation, to allow better implementation and monitoring of actions and fuller recognition and accounting of existing carbon reduction initiatives. ○ A data-collection regime that allows quarterly collection of data on at least 75% of the carbon emissions in the scope of this plan ○ Issue of detailed reports annually to the Strategic Management Team and Committee. <p>The Carbon Management Plan is currently being revised – the updated Plan will replace the 2011 Plan.</p>	
<p>East Dunbartonshire Council Business Improvement Plans 2014 - 2017</p>	<p>The Business and Improvement Planning Framework enables each of our Directorates to set out their own strategic priorities and identify contributions to the delivery of the local strategic outcomes. Each Directorate has an Improvement Plan which sets out how it will seek to continue to improve its performance and how and when these improvements will be monitored and reported.</p>	<p>The Framework will guide improvements in terms of energy, climate change and sustainability performance which will be able to be fed into the Business Improvement Plans. Actions within the SCCF will address current issues for each Service and Directorate and will therefore support improvements to each.</p>

Appendix B – Ambition and Key Objectives – Options and Reasonable Alternative Assessments

Environmental Factor (Annex 1 of EC Directive)	SEA Objective
Population and Human Health	To improve human health and community wellbeing.
Cultural Heritage	To protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the historic environment.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To protect, enhance, create and where necessary restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity.
Soil and Geology	To protect and, where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets.
Landscape	To protect, enhance and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value.
Water Quality	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the ecological status of water bodies.
Air Quality	To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality
Climatic Factors	To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets.
	To reduce overall flood risk by ensuring new development is not at flood risk and it doesn't add to the risk elsewhere. For areas already at flood risk secure management measures.
Material Assets	To promote the sustainable use of community assets and natural resources in East Dunbartonshire.

Assessment Table Key			
++	Major Positive	✓	SEA Preferred Option
+	Minor Positive		
0	Neutral	✓	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
X	No Significant Effect		
-	Minor Negative		
--	Major Negative		
?	Uncertain		

Alternative Ambition's for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<u>Ambition Alternative 1</u>	+/-0	+	+	+/-0	+/-0	+	+	+	+/-0	
<p>Ambition Alternative 1: By 2020, East Dunbartonshire Council will demonstrate sustainability by delivering services in a way that meets social and economic needs, especially where those needs are greatest, while protecting and enhancing the local and global natural environment in line with legal requirements. By recognising and fostering the natural links between environmental, social and economic agendas, the Council will demonstrate forward-thinking, creative and joined-up ways of working which show that being greener is compatible with, and can often enhance, the achievement of corporate and community benefits.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option alludes to the fact that economic and social needs will be given prominence within the Framework over environmental concerns. This alternative ambition also indicates that the Framework will commit to environmental protection in line with minimum legal requirements which directs the Framework towards the minimum protection possible for the environment. There is no ambition to go beyond this level of protection for the environment which reduces the positive impacts and potential benefits for all the environmental factors. The impact of this alternative ambition for the Framework would significantly affect the ability to promote an environment that is both sustainable, safe and demonstrate the health and wellbeing benefits for communities of East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the 1st sentence of Alternative Ambition 1 could be altered to read: “By 2020, East Dunbartonshire Council will demonstrate sustainability by delivering services in a way that protects and enhances the local and global natural environment while meeting social and economic needs, especially where those needs are greatest.”</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p><u>Ambition Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	++	
<p>Ambition Alternative 2: By 2020, East Dunbartonshire Council will demonstrate sustainability by delivering services in a way that protects and enhances the local and global natural environment while meeting social and economic needs, especially where those needs are greatest. By recognising and fostering the natural links between environmental, social and economic agendas, the Council will demonstrate forward-thinking, creative and joined-up ways of working which show that being greener is compatible with, and can often enhance, the achievement of corporate and community benefits.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option seeks to deliver environmental, social and economic progress in a joined-up way. This alternative ambition for the Framework will provide additional protection and enhancement of the natural and built environment of East Dunbartonshire which is not limited to the legally-required action. This alternative significantly enhances the potential environmental benefits of the Framework, including the provision of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A healthy sustainable environment for East Dunbartonshire’s communities. - Increased awareness and understanding of sustainability. - Enhanced protection of natural resources and assets. - Climate change mitigation and adaptation and a reduction of carbon emissions throughout Council-owned operations. 										

Alternative Key Objectives for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p><u>Key Objective 1</u> <u>Alternative 1</u></p>	+	+	?/+	?	X	+	+	+	?/-	
<p>Zero Carbon: Reducing Carbon Emissions ('Climate Change Mitigation') <i>Use of fossil fuels releases carbon, forming a layer which traps heat and contributes to temperature rises with consequent changes in weather patterns, creating challenges for the survival and wellbeing of species. To mitigate climate change, carbon reduction will be pursued by applying the energy hierarchy (demand reduction, efficiency and use of renewables) in certain contexts, especially in relation to buildings and transport, where it is financially feasible to do so.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option ensures that carbon reduction is pursued in the areas where emissions are relatively high and where there is scope for change. Targeting buildings and transport involves measures such as high levels of thermal insulation, renewables installations and active travel incentives, which are key ways of reducing the amount and type of fuel used in everyday settings, and setting a requirement of financial feasibility increases the ease and speed with which these measures will be delivered. However, the requirement of financial feasibility means that the measures supported by this option are confined to those for which any required investment will be paid back over a short timescale e.g. within the same financial year; this poses significant limitations, as sustainability measures, while often economically efficient, can require medium- or long-term payback periods. This option also lacks focus on reducing landfilling and protecting/enhancing natural habitats, which are known to contribute to carbon reduction.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the</p>										

	<p>Framework, the key objective could be altered to read: <i>“Use of fossil fuels releases carbon, forming a layer which traps heat and contributes to temperature rises with consequent changes in weather patterns, creating challenges for the survival and wellbeing of species. To mitigate climate change, carbon reduction will be pursued by applying the energy hierarchy, especially in relation to buildings and transport. Efficient use of water resources will also be encouraged within Council-owned operations and in the wider community, to save carbon. Reduction of landfill and protection of the natural environment will also be recognised for their role in reducing carbon emissions.”</i></p>									
<p><u>Key Objective 1</u> <u>Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	+	++	+	X	++	+	++	++	
<p>Zero Carbon: Reducing Carbon Emissions (‘Climate Change Mitigation’) <i>Use of fossil fuels releases carbon, forming a layer which traps heat and contributes to temperature rises with consequent changes in weather patterns, creating challenges for the survival and wellbeing of species. To mitigate climate change, carbon reduction will be pursued by applying the energy hierarchy, especially in relation to buildings and transport. Efficient use of water resources will also be encouraged within Council-owned operations and in the wider community, to save carbon. Reduction of landfill and protection of the natural environment will also be recognised for their role in reducing carbon emissions.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option focuses on key contexts in which carbon emissions are released. Health and wellbeing are promoted via active lifestyles and reduction in private car use, which also has benefits for air quality; biodiversity preservation and enhancement is also incorporated, and the role of waste reduction is recognised and fostered. While this option does not present as ambitious an agenda as Option 3, it works within the parameters of current budgets and incorporates an element of financial flexibility in relation to Option 1; this option therefore represents a relatively ambitious yet realistic means of working towards zero carbon.</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p><u>Key Objective 2</u> <u>Alternative 1</u></p>	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	
<p>Maximising Resilience to the Impacts of Climate Change ('Adaptation') <i>The delayed effect of carbon emissions on the climate means that, even if we reduce future emissions, changes in weather patterns are expected to increase due to carbon that has been released in the past, creating a need to adapt to inevitable climate change. Work will be undertaken to better understand the likely impacts arising from changes in weather patterns, and action to reduce risk and increase resilience to the anticipated future effects of climate change will be considered and action will be taken in contexts where service users are identified as being most vulnerable.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative ensures that climate change-related risks to service user are identified so that decisions can be made as to the need for intervention. While this alternative is a relatively low-cost approach that seeks to address any identified serious risks to service users, it misses an opportunity to deliver benefits to the wider community in a way that protects and enhances biodiversity, landscape, water quality, air quality and climatic factors to significant degree.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: <i>“Works which will be undertaken to better understand the likely impacts, on service providers, users and on the wider community, arising from changes in weather patterns and action will be taken ... Prioritisation of action will be based on contexts where service users are most vulnerable, and contexts where there is a direct link to existing organisational priorities, including biodiversity action planning, health promotion and flood risk management.”</i></p>										

Key Objective 2 <u>Alternative 2</u> 	++	+	++	+	X	++	++	++	++	
	<p>Maximising Resilience to the Impacts of Climate Change ('Adaptation') <i>The delayed effect of carbon emissions on the climate means that, even if we reduce future emissions, changes in weather patterns are expected to increase due to carbon that has been released in the past, creating a need to adapt to inevitable climate change. Work will be undertaken to better understand the likely impacts, on service providers and users and on the wider community, arising from changes in weather patterns, and action will be taken to reduce risk and increase resilience to the anticipated future effects of climate change. Prioritisation of action will be based on contexts where service users are most vulnerable, and contexts where there is a direct link to existing organisational priorities, including biodiversity action planning, health promotion and flood risk management.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative takes a more proactive approach by pursuing wider community benefits, and positive impacts in relation to biodiversity, landscape, water quality, air quality and climatic factors, by employing green infrastructure measures and linking with the Action set out in the Green Network Strategy, Local Biodiversity Action Plan and emerging Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. This alternative Objective works within the parameters of resource availability and therefore represents a relatively ambitious yet realistic means of working towards zero carbon.</p>									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Key Objective 3 <u>Alternative 1</u>	+	X	+	+	X	+	+	+	++	
<p>Zero Waste: Reducing Material use and Waste Generation <i>The environment is adversely affected when materials are extracted and returned at the end of their lives; our patterns of material use and waste generation often exceed the capacity of natural cycles to accommodate them, causing habitat loss, threats to biodiversity, pollution, and waste of valuable and finite resources. In support of the</i></p>										

	<p>'zero-waste Scotland' agenda, the Council will provide recycling and composting services.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative ensures that the Council meets its legislative requirements in relation to waste management. This alternative Objective offers positive impacts in relation to material assets, health, biodiversity, soil and geology, landscape, water quality, air quality and climatic factors through the implementation of zero-waste principles. However, the positive impacts of this alternative are limited by employing an end-of-pipe approach instead of providing the opportunity to tackle the waste problem at source.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: "...The Council will stimulate a reduction in the amount of materials being used and disposed of by supporting the 'zero waste Scotland' agenda, encouraging, in order: minimisation of unnecessary material use; re-using resources where possible; and recycling materials that cannot be re-used."</p>									
<p><u>Key Objective 3</u> <u>Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	+	++	++	X	++	+	++	++	
<p>Zero Waste: Reducing Material use and Waste Generation <i>The environment is adversely affected when materials are extracted and returned at the end of their lives; our patterns of material use and waste generation often exceed the capacity of natural cycles to accommodate them, causing habitat loss, threats to biodiversity, pollution, and waste of valuable and finite resources.</i> The Council will stimulate a reduction in the amount of materials being used and disposed of by supporting the 'zero waste Scotland' agenda, encouraging, in order: minimisation of unnecessary material use; re-using resources where possible; and recycling materials that cannot be re-used.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative seeks to go beyond the legal minimum requirements by highlighting the waste hierarchy and prioritising the options that sit above recycling services in the hierarchy. In addition to significant positive impacts in relation to material assets, this alternative is also likely to result in significant benefits in relation to health,</p>										

	biodiversity, soil and geology, landscape, water quality and climatic factors. This alternative represents a relatively ambitious approach, going beyond the legal minimum to promote the most environmentally-beneficial approach. Additional benefits and opportunities in relation to the historic environment are anticipated through climate change adaptation measures and the sustainable reuse of existing traditional / historic buildings and their fabric.	
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SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<u>Key Objective 4</u> <u>Alternative 1</u>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	
<p>Reversing Biodiversity Decline <i>Biodiversity encompasses all living things; a biologically diverse environment is important in its own right and offers far-reaching benefits to society and the economy. Society has a responsibility to protect biodiversity from the increasing rate of loss that is occurring globally due to human activity. East Dunbartonshire has a rich and varied biodiversity, and the Council will protect and enhance the local natural environment to help to maximise the variety of native species and habitats on land under Council ownership and management, especially those species identified as priorities in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative provides additional protection and enhancement opportunities in relation to biodiversity value and landscape character. This alternative will provide positive impacts in terms of residents and visitors health, cultural heritage, soil and geology, water quality, air quality and climatic factors. The positive impacts identified through this objective will be limited in terms of their significance through the focus of the objective only concerning land under Council ownership and management. This limitation directly avoids the opportunity to extend these benefits to non-Council land throughout East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to broaden the scope of the Objective to the whole Council area, not limiting the positive impacts to only land owned and managed by the Council.</p>										

<p><u>Key Objective 4</u> <u>Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	+	++	++	++	++	++	++	X	
<p>Reversing Biodiversity Decline <i>Biodiversity encompasses all living things; a biologically diverse environment is important in its own right and offers far-reaching benefits to society and the economy. Society has a responsibility to protect biodiversity from the increasing rate of loss that is occurring globally due to human activity. East Dunbartonshire has a rich and varied biodiversity, and the Council will protect and enhance the local natural environment to help to maximise the variety of native species and habitats in East Dunbartonshire, especially those identified as priorities in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative provides significant additional protection and enhancement opportunities in relation to biodiversity value and landscape character. This alternative will also provide further positive impacts in terms of residents and visitors health, cultural heritage, soil and geology, water quality, air quality and climatic factors. The positive impacts identified through this objective have the opportunity to be wide-ranging through the removal of the limitation to include only land Council-owned or managed and incorporate the whole of East Dunbartonshire under the same level of protection and enhancement measures in relation to biodiversity value which will represent a more ambitious approach for the Council.</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p><u>Key Objective 5</u> <u>Alternative 1</u></p>	++	X	+/?	+/?	X	+/?	+/?	+/?	+/?	
<p>Sustainable Materials <i>In addition to the amount (quantity) of resources we use, the type (quality) is an important consideration. Technological advances have produced substances which do not break down naturally when disposed of into land, air or the water system, and their resultant build-up disrupts ecosystems. The Council will seek to use materials that minimise environmental harm by ensuring that all chemicals we use are COSHH-approved. We will also address the legacy of industrial, commercial and agricultural contamination in our area by encouraging, and where necessary enforcing, remediation of affected land.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option commits the Council to a level of action that would comply with legislative requirements; this offers significant benefits for population and human health but could also positively impact on biodiversity, soil and geology, water quality, air quality, climatic factors and material assets. However, these effects will be uncertain as the extent of the Objective is limited to meeting the legislative standards and does not extend to the context of building construction and refurbishment.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: “... ,including consideration of embodied energy and chemicals known to be harmful, especially in the construction and refurbishment of buildings.”</p>										

Key Objective 5 <u>Alternative 2</u> 	++	X	++	++	X	++	++	+	++	
	<p>Sustainable Materials <i>In addition to the amount (quantity) of resources we use, the type (quality) is an important consideration. Technological advances have produced substances which do not break down naturally when disposed of into land, air or the water system, and their resultant build-up disrupts ecosystems. The Council will seek to use materials that minimise environmental harm, including consideration of embodied energy and chemicals known to be harmful, especially in the construction and refurbishment of buildings. We will also address the legacy of industrial, commercial and agricultural contamination in our area by encouraging, and where necessary enforcing, remediation of affected land.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option goes beyond simply complying with legislation by specifying key contexts in which sustainable material use will be pursued. This Objective will now have particularly significant impacts in relation to population and human health through protection processes although will also significantly benefit biodiversity, soil and geology, water quality, air quality and material assets. This alternative represents an achievable and realistic option for the Council to implement and aspire to through the life of the Framework.</p>									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Key Objective 6 <u>Alternative 1</u>	+	+	+/?	X	+	X	+/?	+/?	X	
<p>Maximising Opportunities to Promote health and Wellbeing <i>Reducing health inequalities and increasing physical and mental wellbeing are key priorities in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as is the related aim of promoting safety. Health and wellbeing are influenced by many factors, from basic physical requirements to higher-level needs such as culture and recreation. The Council will continue to promote health and wellbeing within the workforce and in the wider community and will do this in a way that is joined-up with environmental objectives.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary:</p>										

	<p>This option commits to health and wellbeing promotion via environmental protection which offers particular benefits for population and human health and also has the potential to create positive impacts in terms of biodiversity value, landscape character and protection, air quality and climatic factors. However, in not specifying contexts or delivery vehicles of such benefits, there is less certainty that benefits will be realised in practice through this alternative.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: "... including active travel, provision of high quality greenspace and offender rehabilitation programmes that protect and enhance the environment."</p>									
<p><u>Key Objective 6</u> <u>Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	+	++	X	+	X	++	++	X	
<p>Maximising Opportunities to Promote Health and Wellbeing <i>Reducing health inequalities and increasing physical and mental wellbeing are key priorities in the Local Outcome Improvement Plan, as is the related aim of promoting safety. Health and wellbeing are influenced by many factors, from basic physical requirements to higher-level needs such as culture and recreation. The Council will continue to promote health and wellbeing within the workforce and in the wider community and will do this in a way that is joined-up with environmental objectives including active travel, provision of high quality greenspace and offender rehabilitation programmes that protect and enhance the environment.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option commits to health and wellbeing promotion via environmental protection which offers significant benefits for population and human health and also has potential to create high level positive impacts in terms of biodiversity, landscape, air quality and climatic factors through specific elements including active travel promotion and the creation of high quality greenspace provision. Unlike Option 1, this approach specifies projects and delivery vehicles which provide a more achievable approach as it focuses on actions which the Council directly controls or manages.</p>										

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p><u>Key Objective 7</u> <u>Alternative 1</u></p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
<p>Supporting Fairness and Reducing Inequality Locally and Globally <i>Equality of opportunity to access jobs, training and services is an important aspect of quality of life. The Sustainability and Climate Change Framework supports the strategic direction and long-term priority of the Single Outcome Agreement, which is “to reduce inequality between the most and least deprived communities”</i> Factors such as disability, ethnic origin, age, gender and geographical location can limit a person’s ability to realise their potential and fully contribute to society, and undermine opportunities to meet their own needs. Through the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, the Council will work to pursue equality of opportunity in ways that also promote environmental benefits, including addressing fuel poverty and stimulating green jobs and skill development.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option commits to pursuing equality in ways that promote the environmental agenda; in addition to positive impacts on population and human health, this would also have benefits in terms of climatic factors (by focusing on fuel poverty) and, in seeking to promote green jobs and skills development, which covers a wide range of issues, it also potentially has benefits on all other environmental dimensions. However, in not including a wider global focus, all of the above benefits would be limited to a local level only and therefore reduce their significance.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: “... Global equalities will also be promoted, recognising the impact that we have on the wider world, especially the poorest countries, and ensuring that those we depend on are given a fair deal in return for the goods and services they provide us with.”</p>										

Key Objective 7 <u>Alternative 2</u> 	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	
	<p>Supporting Fairness and Reducing Inequality Locally and Globally <i>Equality of opportunity to access jobs, training and services is an important aspect of quality of life. The Sustainability and Climate Change Framework supports the strategic direction and long-term priority of the LOIP, which is “to reduce inequality between the most and least deprived communities”</i> Factors such as disability, ethnic origin, age, gender and geographical location can limit a person’s ability to realise their potential and fully contribute to society, and undermine opportunities to meet their own needs. Through the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework, the Council will work to pursue equality of opportunity in ways that also promote environmental benefits, including addressing fuel poverty and stimulating green jobs and skill development. Global equalities will also be promoted, recognising the impact that we have on the wider world, especially the poorest countries, and ensuring that those we depend on are given a fair deal in return for the goods and services they provide us with.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option commits to pursuing equality in ways that promote the overall sustainability and environmental agenda; in addition to significant positive impacts on population and human health, this would also have major benefits in terms of climatic factors (by focusing on fuel poverty) and, in seeking to promote green jobs and skills development, which covers a wide range of issues, it also potentially has benefits on all other environmental dimensions. Through the inclusion of a global focus, all of the above benefits would be achieved on a much wider scale and specifically increase the significant in terms of population and human health and climatic factors.</p>									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
Key Objective 8 <u>Alternative 1</u>	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<p>Promoting Community Empowerment <i>To ensure that goods and services are tailored to the needs of the communities they are serving, and to engender a sense of control and involvement, it is important to engage communities in the design and delivery of services. The Council will work directly with community groups to deliver on the Community Empowerment Act to strengthen</i></p>										

	<p>local democracy by ensuring, as far as possible, that decisions on service priorities and design are shaped by the individuals and communities receiving the services.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option is likely to result in benefits from a population and human health perspective through the increased awareness of sustainability issues within Council service provision. However, it does not include a commitment to work with other public sector partners, which would limit the benefits.</p>									
<p><u>Key Objective 8</u> <u>Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<p>Promoting Community Empowerment <i>To ensure that goods and services are tailored to the needs of the communities they are serving, and to engender a sense of control and involvement, it is important to engage communities in the design and delivery of services. The Council will work with other public sector partners and directly with community groups to deliver on the Change Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to strengthen local democracy by ensuring, as far as possible, that decisions on service priorities and design are shaped by the individuals and communities receiving the services.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option is likely to result in significant benefits for population and human health through an increased awareness of sustainability issues and the opportunity for increased contribution to Council decision-making processes. Unlike Option 1, this option includes a commitment to work with other public sector partners, which would help to ensure that delivery of benefits is successful and wide-ranging which represents a more pragmatic approach.</p>									

SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Soil & Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	SCCF Preferred Alternative Option
<p><u>Key Objective 9</u> <u>Alternative 1</u></p>	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	
<p>Supporting Local Businesses <i>The Council will encourage the start-up and retention of successful local businesses through supportive policies, provision of infrastructure and sound purchasing decisions. As part of the Council’s commitment to economic development, various services are provided to support new and existing local businesses. There is scope to further improve these services to better link them to environmental and social goals; the Council will encourage socially-responsible business models and adoption of circular economy principles across the business community.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This option aims to promote local economic development in a way that protects and enhances the environment; in doing so, it will deliver limited benefits in terms of population and human health, climatic factors and material assets through sustainability awareness raising and promotion of more sustainable practices. A commitment is made to awareness-raising and promotion of sustainable business practices; this will further the agenda but does not guarantee that benefits will be delivered.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the key objective could be altered to include: “... and will lead by example by demonstrating efficiency in its day-to-day operations.”</p>										

<p><u>Key Objective 9</u> <u>Alternative 2</u></p> 	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	++	++	
	<p>Supporting Local Businesses <i>The Council will encourage the start-up and retention of successful local businesses through supportive policies, provision of infrastructure and sound purchasing decisions. As part of the Council’s commitment to economic development, various services are provided to support new and existing local businesses. There is scope to further improve these services to better link them to environmental and social goals; the Council will encourage socially-responsible business models and adoption of circular economy principles across the business community and will lead by example by demonstrating efficiency in its day-to-day operations.</i></p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative aims to promote local economic development in a way that protects and enhances the environment; in doing so, it will deliver significant benefits in terms of population and human health through promotion and increased awareness of a sustainable and safe environment, as well as positive impacts in terms of climatic factors and material assets through the commitment to in-house action by way of demonstration in relation to sustainable practices. These elements go beyond that proposed within Alternative 1 which is the reasoning behind the decision-making for this to be implemented as the Framework and SEA-preferred options.</p>									

Appendix C: Strategic Aims – Options and Reasonable Alternative Assessments

Environmental Factor (Annex 1)	SEA Objective	SEA Criteria Will the proposal:
Population & Human Health	1. To improve human health and community wellbeing.	Demonstrate the benefits of a healthy environment on the health and wellbeing of communities?
		Promote an environment that is both sustainable and safe?
		Contribute to reducing social, economic and environmental deprivation in East Dunbartonshire?
		Reduce health-related illnesses?
		Encourage active travel and healthy travel habits?
		Increase awareness and understanding of sustainability?
		Act as an educational resource for local schools?
		Demonstrate positive impacts for the local economy?
		Encourage local businesses to be more sustainable in their practices?
		Encourage behavioural changes within the Council and across all communities?
		Inspire community empowerment?
		Provide quality services to meet local needs and demands?
		Support community growing schemes?
		Encourage and support fair trading?
Cultural Heritage	2. To protect, conserve, and where appropriate enhance the historic environment	Is it likely to protect listed buildings within the area?
		Is it likely to have impacts on the setting of Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monument and Listed Buildings?
		Is it likely to affect the UNESCO World Heritage Site or its setting?
		Is it likely to have any impact on archaeological resources in the area?
		Does it protect archaeological resources in the area?
Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	3. To protect, enhance, create and, where necessary, restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity.	Promote the importance of biodiversity for the local environment in East Dunbartonshire?
		Seek to minimise and reduce the negative impact of climate change on valued biodiversity including non-protected and protected species?
		Maximise the role of biodiversity to support climate change management?
		Prevent the loss of biodiversity, flora and fauna?
Contribute to improved ecosystems?		

		Seek to contribute to sustainable management of woodland and forestry in East Dunbartonshire?
		Encourage public use and perception of an enhanced natural environment?
		Support current efforts within the Council in relation to biodiversity and greenspace enhancement?
		Support East Dunbartonshire Council's Biodiversity Duty?
Soil & Geology	4. To protect and, where appropriate, use high quality and sensitive soils in a sustainable manner and conserve recognised geodiversity assets.	Protect and improve areas of peatland?
		Seek to prevent and improve soil degradation and erosion?
		Result in improvements to areas of contaminated land?
		Protect and enhance sites of geodiversity importance?
		Seek to upgrade Vacant and Derelict Land for the use as valued greenspace?
Landscape	5. To protect and, where appropriate, restore landscape character, local distinctiveness and scenic value.	Contribute to and enhance local distinctiveness in East Dunbartonshire?
		Protect and enhance landscape designations (e.g. the Campsie Fells, green belt)?
		Seek to improve habitat connectivity?
		Improve access to and quality of the green belt?
Water Quality	6. To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance the ecological status of water bodies.	Seek to contribute to enhancing the ecological status of water bodies in East Dunbartonshire?
		Prevent future decline of wetland habitats?
		Support measures to reduce the effects of run-off pollution on water quality?
Air Quality	7. To prevent deterioration and, where possible, enhance air quality.	Promote a reduction of emissions in the air?
		Reduce the impact of transport on air quality in East Dunbartonshire?
		Contribute to the improvement of current designated AQMAs?
		Support the prevention of additional AQMA designations?
		Contribute to the management and improvements of ecosystem services?

Climatic Factors	8. To contribute towards the reduction of Scottish greenhouse gas outputs in line with Government targets in order to reduce or prevent the overall effects of climate change including those related to flood risk.	Promote a change in culture and behaviour to ensure that the Council responds to the effects of climate change?
		Promote surface-water and flood risk management?
		Include adaptation measures in light of a changing climate and local environment?
		Seek to protect, create or enhance natural resources such as trees, carbon rich soils and peatland?
		Seek to maximise the use of renewable and/or sustainable energy technologies within Council premises?
Material Assets	9. To promote the sustainable use of community assets and natural resources in East Dunbartonshire.	Consider the sustainable use and protection of natural resources?
		Reduce the use of water?
		Support the delivery of 'green' goods and services?
		Consider the life-cycle and procurement of resources?
		Encourage enhancements to current transport infrastructure to a more sustainable network?
		Support EDC's Active Travel Strategy?
Support zero-carbon and zero-waste principles to influence planning and developments as part of other plans, policies or strategies at EDC?		

Assessment Table Key	
++	Major Positive
+	Minor Positive
0	Neutral
X	No Significant Effect
-	Minor Negative
--	Major Negative
?	Uncertain

Alternative Strategic Aims for the Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

Natural Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
Natural Environment Strategic Aims Alternative 1	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	++	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise and implement a Green Network Strategy and updated Local Biodiversity Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire Use the Local Development Plan to foster preservation and enhancement of local habitats and species and to encourage developments that are sympathetic to the local and global environment and to the needs of their communities Undertake environmentally-sensitive practical conservation and maintenance by avoiding peat-based compost, investigating options for green waste re-use, stimulating use of play equipment from sustainably-sourced wood and avoiding spraying of chemicals in children’s areas Further develop internal working arrangements to ensure that policies, guidance and commitments are delivered on and that further opportunities are explored Work together to identify other possible opportunities for further developing the sustainability of biodiversity and greenspace delivery work <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Natural Environment section is to conserve and enhance greenspace and biodiversity in East Dunbartonshire. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out in this Alternative will deliver certain positive impacts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The enhancement opportunities and provision of protection for East Dunbartonshire’s Green Network, priority species and habitats and open spaces throughout the district are likely to have positive impact on all environmental factors. Through the implementation of the LDP, Green Network Strategy and LBAP (all of which 									

Natural Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>have been subject to their own SEA) there is likely to be significant positive effects through promotion of active travel and healthy habits and promotion of an environment that is both sustainable and safe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim relating to the conservation and maintenance of peat-based compost, sustainably sourcing materials for play equipment and avoidance of chemical use in certain areas is likely to provide positive impacts on population and health, soil and geology, climatic factors and material assets through promotion of a safe, healthy and sustainable environment, protection of carbon-rich soils, investigation into green waste re-use options and the sustainable use of natural resources. <p>The positive nature of these aims could be further enhanced with a few amendments and additional commitments in terms of extension of the Development Plan aim, specific reference to non-native species, peatland restoration and natural flood alleviation.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, the strategic aims could be altered to read:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise and implement the Green Network Strategy and updated Local Biodiversity Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire, and produce a Community Food Growing Strategy Produce a Non-Native Species Policy Undertake peatland restoration and investigate the feasibility of producing a Peatland Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire Use the Local Development Plan, and related emerging Planning Guidance on the Natural Environment and Supplementary Guidance on Green Infrastructure/ Network, to: increase awareness of local habitats and species, the water environment and green infrastructure & network and to encourage developments that protect and enhance the local and nationally important natural and water environment and that deliver open 									

Natural Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>space and green network opportunities to meet the needs of the development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a Flood Risk Management Plan for East Dunbartonshire, support natural flood alleviation projects and increase the number of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in Open Space • Undertake environmentally-sensitive practical conservation and maintenance by avoiding peat-based compost, investigating options for green waste re-use, stimulating use of play equipment from sustainably-sourced wood and avoiding spraying of chemicals in children’s areas • Work with key partners and funders to identify other possible opportunities to conserve biodiversity and deliver high quality greenspace 									
<p>Natural Environment Strategic Aims Alternative 2</p> 	++	+	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise and implement the Green Network Strategy and updated Local Biodiversity Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire, and produce a Community Food Growing Strategy • Produce a Non-Native Species Policy • Undertake peatland restoration and investigate the feasibility of producing a Peatland Action Plan for East Dunbartonshire • Use the Local Development Plan, and related emerging Planning Guidance on the Natural Environment and Supplementary Guidance on Green Infrastructure/ Network, to: increase awareness of local habitats and species, the water environment and green infrastructure & network and to encourage developments that protect and enhance the local and nationally important natural and water environment and that deliver open space and green network opportunities to meet the needs of the development. • Produce a Flood Risk Management Plan for East Dunbartonshire, support natural flood alleviation projects and increase the number of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in Open Space • Undertake environmentally-sensitive practical conservation and maintenance by avoiding peat-based compost, investigating options for green waste re-use, stimulating use of play equipment from sustainably-sourced wood and avoiding spraying of chemicals in children’s areas 

Natural Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with key partners and funders to identify other possible opportunities to conserve biodiversity and deliver high quality greenspace <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Natural Environment section is to conserve and enhance greenspace and biodiversity in East Dunbartonshire. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out within this Alternative will include all the benefits highlighted within Alternative 1 with the following improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By incorporating Supplementary Planning Guidance and Planning Guidance in combination with the Local Development Plan aim it will provide further benefits in relation to biodiversity value, population, water environment, climatic factors and material assets through increased awareness of local habitats and species, prioritising developments which will protect and enhance green network and green infrastructure opportunities, provision of open space and water environment. The significant positive impacts of these Natural Environment Strategic Aims is further enhanced by the inclusion of commitments to produce a Non-Native Species Policy and undertake peatland restoration which will provide additional benefits in terms of protecting and restoring areas that are biodiversity-rich and also play an important role in relation to soil and geology, hydrology and flood management, perform a valuable carbon storage function and provide crucial services to social wellbeing. An additional commitment relating to natural flood alleviation at a strategic and practical level would further enhance the delivery of benefits in relation to: biodiversity value; landscape protection; water quality; and climatic factors. The inclusion of a commitment to produce a Community Food Growing Strategy would also further enhance the anticipated positive impacts through the inspiration of community empowerment, further support of community growing schemes and encourage community involvement in their local environment. 									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Sustainable Economic Growth Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Sustainable Economic Growth Strategic Aims Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	+/?	+	
<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce an Economic Development Strategy which includes sustainability as a key theme and sets a specific commitment to locally developing the circular economy agenda, in partnership with Waste Strategy • Communicate regularly with the local business community on sustainability • Support these measures by establishing systematic communications on green business between the Sustainability Policy Team and other relevant teams, including the Land Planning Policy Team and the Business and Tourism Team <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Sustainable Economic Growth section is to promote local economic development in a way that protects and enhances the environment. It is anticipated that the strategic aim set out in this Alternative will deliver certain positive impacts through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular communication and promotion of sustainability issues with the local business community which will increase awareness and understanding of sustainability issues and also provide opportunities to demonstrate the relevant positive impacts for East Dunbartonshire’s local economy and communities. These effects are enhanced through the intention for cross-team working within the Council in relation to the promotion of green businesses. • Highlighting sustainability and developing a local circular economy within the emerging Economic Development Strategy will have multiple benefits in relation to the consideration of sustainable life-cycle of resources, integrating processes with the Councils waste strategy and moving towards resource efficient business practices. 										

Sustainable Economic Growth Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
Sustainable Economic Growth Strategic Aims Alternative 2	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	+/?	++	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce an Economic Development Strategy which aligns the work of Council functions including land use planning, economic development, business support, waste management and sustainable development and contributes to a partnership-led approach to support delivery of a low carbon economy and sustainable economic growth in East Dunbartonshire, assisting delivery of the Council’s Public Bodies Duties • Work towards delivery of the circular economy in East Dunbartonshire by exploring options for actions in the emerging Economic Development Strategy and through the work of the Council’s Waste Services function • Communicate regularly with the local business community on sustainability <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Sustainable Economic Growth section is to promote local economic development in a way that protects and enhances the environment. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out within this Alternative will include all the benefits highlighted within Alternative 1 with the following improvements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasising the importance of partnership working between Council functions/services in the development of the Economic Development Strategy which will further enhance the impact on material assets through ensuring access to the relevant expertise, communication channels and practical services in the delivery of the sustainable waste management principles bringing forward the low carbon economy agenda and linking with the Council’s Public Bodies Duties. 									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims Alternative 1	+	? / + / -	+	X	+	X	+	+	++	
<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek to improve the sustainability of building design and operation, using Craigend Castle as a showcase • Boost the contribution to sustainability of outdoor areas • Seek funding for innovative transport schemes • Stimulate public awareness <p>Assessment Commentary: Aims to investigate innovative transport schemes to access the Country Park have the potential to encourage more sustainable travel options to access the park which will have multiple benefits which will link directly with the sustainable improvements to outdoor areas. The positive nature of these improvements will include health and wellbeing, biodiversity, air quality and material assets as it will encourage more sustainable travel alternatives and active travel use while also reducing a reliance on vehicular travel and encourage the use of the core path network within and surrounding the Country Park.</p> <p>Encourage community involvement in the Country Park improvements which will increase the awareness of sustainability while also encouraging community participation in outdoor activities and community ownership which could provide further health and wellbeing benefits. Increased awareness will have additional positive impacts for biodiversity, landscape and material assets in terms of greater consideration of natural resources, protection of native habitats and species, improved habitat connectivity and the potential to contribute to the local distinctiveness of the area.</p> <p>Through these aims there is potential for positive impacts in relation to climatic factors through the potential to install renewable and sustainable energy technologies within existing structures throughout the Country Park. This is limited within the current aim as it only references one structure as a showcase. Installation of such technologies could have a positive impact in terms of a reduction in energy use while also enhancing the structures overall sustainability and</p>										

Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>longevity. Through these aims the impact on cultural heritage is uncertain due to Craigend Castle being Category C listed building of local importance. Retrofitting sustainable and renewable technologies within this structure or within its surrounding area could negatively impact on its setting and historic importance. Mitigation measures have been proposed to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any such impacts.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, significant amendments and additional strategic aims could be implemented to read:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop the sustainability of outdoor areas via path network improvements, a potential allotment site and consideration of more native planting and less pesticide use • Explore opportunities for enabling more sustainable travel to the park • Encourage the exploration and development of energy efficiency measures, renewables and other sustainable building features at Mugdock Castle, the Visitor Centre and the Stable Block • Investigate the scope for renewables installations elsewhere in the Park • Consider opportunities for green roofs and walls e.g. at Craigend Castle • Further develop outdoor education opportunities, including delivery of the Forest Schools agenda • Boost community involvement in the improvements of the Park <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures: Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimise and monitor any ground disturbance and incorporate design measures in order for required infrastructure improvements and maintenance to be carried out in a sensitive and sustainable manner to avoid or minimise any impacts on the historic environmental assets or their setting. 									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
	++	? / + / -	++	X	+	+	++	++	++	
 Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims Alternative 2	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop the sustainability of outdoor areas via path network improvements, a potential allotment site and consideration of more native planting and less pesticide use • Explore opportunities for enabling more sustainable travel to the park • Encourage the exploration and development of energy efficiency measures, renewables and other sustainable building features at Mugdock Castle, the Visitor Centre and the Stable Block • Investigate the scope for renewables installations elsewhere in the Park • Consider opportunities for green roofs and walls e.g. at Craigend Castle • Further develop outdoor education opportunities, including delivery of the Forest Schools agenda • Boost community involvement in the improvements of the Park <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Mugdock Country Park section is to extend the environmental benefits of the Park in a way that promotes economic self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Aims to encourage more sustainable travel options to access the park will have multiple benefits which will link directly with the proposed path improvements, consideration of native planting and the allocation of a site for allotments use. The positive nature of these improvements will include health and wellbeing, biodiversity, air quality and material assets as it will encourage more sustainable travel alternatives and active travel use while also reducing a reliance on vehicular travel (which the method of travel used by the vast majority of visitors) and encourage the use of the core path network within and surrounding the Country Park. The proposed reduction in pesticide use has the potential to benefit the biodiversity value and the water environment by encouraging more natural practices and reducing the risk of diffuse pollution or surface water run-off.</p>									

Mugdock Country Park Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>The potential allocation of an allotment site and encouraging the delivery of the Forest Schools Agenda have the potential for additional positive impacts on population and health as it will drive forward the education initiative which will encourage a better understanding and awareness of biodiversity, particularly in relation to the Country Park local resource and supplement any other environmental education schemes in East Dunbartonshire. This along with the encouragement of community involvement in the Country Park improvements will increase the awareness of sustainability while also encouraging community participation in outdoor activities and community ownership which could provide further health and wellbeing benefits. Increased awareness and the introduction of more native planting will have additional positive impacts for biodiversity, landscape and material assets in terms of greater consideration of natural resources, protection of native habitats and species, improved habitat connectivity and the potential to contribute to the local distinctiveness of the area.</p> <p>Through these aims there is potential for significant positive impacts in relation to climatic factors through the potential to install renewable and sustainable energy technologies within existing structures throughout the Country Park. Installation of such technologies could have significant impacts in terms of a reduction in energy use while also encouraging additional biodiversity benefits through green infrastructure improvements. Through these aims the impact on cultural heritage is uncertain due to Scheduled Ancient Monument and Category A listed building Mugdock Castle and Category C listed building Craigend Castle. Retrofitting sustainable and renewable technologies within these structures or within their surrounding areas has the potential to both positively enhance their sustainability or negatively impact on their setting and historic importance. Mitigation measures have been proposed to avoid, reduce, mitigate or offset any such impacts.</p> <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures: Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimise and monitor any ground disturbance and incorporate design measures in order for renewable technologies, sustainability infrastructure improvements and maintenance to be carried out in a sensitive and sustainable manner to avoid or minimise any impacts on the historic environmental assets or their setting. 									

Procurement Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
Procurement Strategic Aims Alternative 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	
<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the PCS Tender system to introduce a more systematic approach to sustainable procurement, encompassing and building on existing systems • Establish a formal mechanism for regular communication between the Corporate Procurement Team and other key groups including the Sustainability Policy Team, Finance and the Council’s suppliers <p>Assessment Commentary: The Council’s Corporate Procurement function governs purchasing across Council services; in targeting such a wide variety of activities and in encouraging cradle-to-grave consideration of impacts, it is anticipated that the Strategic Aims set out in this alternative will deliver minor benefits in terms of air quality, climatic factors and material assets in relation to accessing and sourcing sustainable resources.</p> <p>The intention of the Procurement section is to promote purchasing of goods and services in a way that reduces environmental impacts and delivers community benefits. The Council’s Corporate Procurement function governs purchasing across Council services; in targeting such a wide variety of activities and in encouraging cradle-to-grave consideration of impacts, it is anticipated that the Strategic Aims set out in this alternative will deliver benefits through the support for ‘green goods’ and services and increasing the consideration of life-cycles through the procurement of resources. In committing to ensuring alignment with the Sustainable Procurement Duty, this alternative proposes to further extend these benefits.</p>										

Procurement Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
Procurement Strategic Aims Alternative 2	X	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	++	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will deliver on the Sustainable Procurement Duty and achieve the 10 steps to sustainable procurement by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring that our Sustainable Procurement Policy reflects the requirements of the Sustainable Procurement Duty and forthcoming guidance • Using the PCS Tender system to introduce a more systematic approach to sustainable procurement, encompassing and building on existing systems • Regularly convene the Community Benefits Forum to facilitate liaison and co-ordination on sustainable procurement within the Council and with key Community Planning Partners and Suppliers <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Procurement alternative is to promote purchasing of goods and services in a way that reduces environmental impacts and delivers community benefits. The Council's Corporate Procurement function governs purchasing across Council services; in targeting such a wide variety of activities and in encouraging cradle-to-grave consideration of impacts, it is anticipated that the Strategic Aims set out in this alternative will deliver benefits through the support for 'green goods' and services and increasing the consideration of life-cycles through the procurement of resources. These Aims will encourage the Council to have the environmental benefits and impacts on the same level of importance as social and economic considerations, including the following areas: construction methods and techniques, sustainable construction materials, waste management process and transport. In committing to ensuring alignment with the Sustainable Procurement Duty, this alternative proposes to further extend these benefits along with those highlighted within alternative 1. This alternative also offers additional liaison and co-ordination within the Council, key partners and suppliers which will further extend and evolve the sustainable procurement processes.</p>									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Built Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Built Environment Strategic Aims Alternative 1	+	?	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the CAMP to strengthen provisions for sustainability • Create formal mechanisms for collaboration between relevant teams to oversee delivery of CAMP commitments • Use the Primary School Improvement Programme Phase 2 as a particular focus for delivery • Produce a Local Housing Strategy that includes commitments to sustainability, with a particular focus on energy efficiency and awareness-raising <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Built Environment section is to progress the achievement of sustainability in relation to the development and maintenance of buildings in East Dunbartonshire, with a particular focus on carbon emissions. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out in this section will deliver benefits in terms of: health; water quality; climatic factors; material assets.</p> <p>In addition to the influence of the land use planning system and buildings standards, the Council also has direct responsibility for promoting sustainability in its estate of approximately 250 sites (ranging from offices, schools and leisure centres to community halls and sports pavilions) and 3500 houses. The aim to strengthen provisions for sustainability within the Councils Corporate Asset Management Plan will result in positive impacts to health and wellbeing, climatic factors and material assets as a key component of the CAMP is a sustainability objective and project scoring criteria which reflects this. The CAMP commits to introducing renewable technologies in all new asset projects and retrofitting where budgets permit, as a minimum; the guidance document that accompanies the CAMP provide detail on sustainability in relation to the design, construction and operational phases of buildings, and the spend-to-save capital bidding process reflects the importance of sustainability.</p> <p>The focus on the next phase of the Primary School Improvement Plan and sustainability commitments within the Local</p>									

Built Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>Housing Strategy will result in additional positive impacts to health and wellbeing, climatic factors and material assets by setting corporate carbon reduction targets, identifying energy use reductions in existing buildings as a key means to deliver reductions targets and also setting specific targets for energy efficiency measures in Council-owned properties.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, significant amendments and additional strategic aims could be implemented to read:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce Local Development Plan Supplementary Guidance on Design and Placemaking and on Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Technology • Strengthen provisions for sustainability in future version of the CAMP • Use the Primary School Improvement Programme Phase 2 as a particular focus for delivery • Produce a Local Housing Strategy that includes commitments to sustainability, with a particular focus on energy efficiency and awareness-raising • Consider and, where appropriate, implement new carbon reduction projects, in line with the Carbon Management Plan <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures: Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimise and monitor any ground disturbance and incorporate design measures in order for required infrastructure improvements and maintenance to be carried out in a sensitive and sustainable manner to avoid or minimise any impacts on the historic environmental assets or their setting. 									

Built Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
Built Environment Strategic Aims Alternative 2	++	+	X	X	X	+	++	++	++	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce Local Development Plan Supplementary Guidance on Design and Placemaking and on Renewable Energy and Low-Carbon Technology • Strengthen provisions for sustainability in future version of the CAMP • Use the Primary School Improvement Programme Phase 2 as a particular focus for delivery • Produce a Local Housing Strategy that includes commitments to sustainability, with a particular focus on energy efficiency and awareness-raising • Consider and, where appropriate, implement new carbon reduction projects, in line with the Carbon Management Plan <p>Assessment Commentary: The intention of the Built Environment section is to progress the achievement of sustainability in relation to the development and maintenance of buildings in East Dunbartonshire, with a particular focus on carbon emissions. This alternative extends the opportunities for delivering these benefits highlighted above (within Alternative 1) by including two additional measures: Supplementary Guidance on Design and Placemaking, and the Council’s Carbon Management Plan. It is intended that these documents will promote and manage a range of activities across a variety of contexts resulting the following additional benefits.</p> <p>Direct positive benefits are anticipated in relation to the promotion and management of the built environment through Supplementary Guidance on Design and Placememaking on population and community wellbeing in terms of improving a sense of place and access to important social, cultural, environmental and civic facilities. There may also be a positive impact on air quality as more people will be encouraged to walk or cycle if the urban environment is well-designed, safe and accessible.</p>									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Built Environment Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
	<p>Additional direct positive benefits are anticipated in relation to the promotion and implementation of carbon reduction projects in line with the Carbon Management Plan and implementation of renewable and low-carbon technologies through LDP Supplementary Guidance of the built environment. A number of small and medium sized low and zero carbon technology developments related to housing, business and retail developments will collectively make a significant contribution to energy efficiency and therefore mitigate greenhouse gas emissions. It will have the positive impact on climatic factors and material assets of infrastructure and buildings by making them more energy efficient. Uncertain impacts on the cultural heritage of listed buildings and Conservation Areas as the type of renewable technology varies and may require further mitigation at the design stage. It provides for a future increase in the standard levels required through building standards. The benefits associated with retrofitting heritage assets with sustainable technologies will contribute to climate change mitigation. However, there is also scope for delivery of the Framework to do more to encourage adaption to address the effects of climate change on the historic environment itself, and to promote the valuable role that retention and maintenance of historic environment assets can play in the sustainability agenda.</p>									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Alternative 1	+	? / +	? / ++	? / +	? / +	? / +	? / ++	? / +	? / +	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build environmental protection and enhancement more widely into the Place workstreams • Establish regular communications between the Sustainability Policy Team and Criminal Justice Supervisors to ensure that sustainability is an ongoing consideration in Criminal Justice work. <p>Assessment Commentary: This chapter focuses on the current and future areas of Council activity dedicated specifically to community capacity-building, and considers the ways in which this agenda links to other key SCCF objectives. Conservation work and food growing are recognised as particularly valuable avenues for promoting Community capacity-building, delivering benefits in terms of health and wellbeing; biodiversity, flora & fauna; and climatic factors.</p> <p>In terms of wider community capacity-building, these aims intend to deliver on the Councils requirements under the Community Empowerment Act by continuing to promote the links between social wellbeing and environmental protection through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community growing agenda will build on existing work to promote community food growing through the preparation, in consultation with communities across East Dunbartonshire, of a community Food Growing Strategy (the SEA process will be applied to this Strategy individually). The Strategy will establish demand for food growing across the area and identify appropriate opportunities to help meet this demand. • Building environmental protection and enhancement more widely into the Place agenda, to embrace the inherent links between 'greening' activity and social wellbeing; this will include the promotion of existing good practice, especially from the local area, via existing channels such as the Hillhead Forum and Lennoxton Champions Group. The impacts of this element in particular are uncertain at this stage; however the potential for additional positive impacts are likely and will be determined by the scale, location and significance of the projects in 									

Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>question.</p> <p>The Criminal Justice service is well-placed to respond to opportunities as they arise; Community Payback Work Supervisors will continue to have regular communications with Council Directorates to ensure an understanding and ongoing awareness of the ways in which criminal justice can support sustainability, and to allow opportunities – including those related to active travel routes, growing spaces and habitat creation and maintenance - to be highlighted and acted on when they arise. The impacts of this element are uncertain at this time: however additional benefits are possible in terms health and wellbeing, biodiversity and air quality due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the promotion of active travel alternatives • reduction in traffic congestion and resultant air quality improvements • support for community growing schemes • the creation and protection of habitats and encouraged habitat connectivity <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimise and monitor any ground disturbance and incorporate design measures in order for required infrastructure improvements and maintenance to be carried out in a sensitive and sustainable manner to avoid or minimise any impacts on the historic environmental assets or their setting. <p>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional surveys to determine level and type of species/habitats that will be potentially impacted from the intended outcomes such as bat surveys/extended habitat surveys etc. - Any infrastructure changes/improvements should aim to retain features of ecological value within the design. The highest priorities for protection such as woodland, riparian habitats, ponds, wetlands etc. should be considered and any impact prevented. <p>Soil and Geology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further surveys of peatland/carbon rich soils should be carried out to determine that construction activities to 									

SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR											
Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option	
	<p>achieve outcomes will not devalue protected soil.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implement soil erosion prevention measures outlined in good practice guidance where necessary. <p>Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of high environmental and design standards that maintain existing landscape distinctiveness and will be consistent with the Local Development Plan. <p>Water Quality and Climatic Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control and treatment of surface runoff. - Adoption of best practices to prevent/minimise adverse impacts to drainage. - Further Flood Risk Assessments to determine extend of flood risk in the area and the implementation of flood risk management measures, if required. - Use of construction SUDS and adoption of best practices to avoid pollution of watercourses. <p>Material Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reuse of materials where appropriate/sustainable use of resources. - Waste Management Plan implemented to reduce the impact of waste. 										
Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Alternative 2	++	? / +	? / ++	? / +	? / +	? / +	? / ++	? / +	? / +	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote sustainability through the Community Learning and Development Plan, with a particular focus on employability work, and through the wider work of the Community Planning Partnership • Build environmental protection and enhancement more widely into the Place workstreams • Maintain regular communications between Criminal Justice Supervisors, Neighbourhood Services and Development and Regeneration to ensure that sustainability is an ongoing consideration in criminal justice work <p>Assessment Commentary:</p>	

Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>This alternative seeks to extend the delivery of the potential benefits highlighted within alternative 1 by focusing on the employability agenda as an area with specific opportunities, and by committing to extending this work across the work of the Council's Community Planning Partners. Sustainable development is identified in the CLD Plan as a cross-cutting theme; the plan recognises the potential synergies between educational goals and the aims of projects that protect and enhance the environment.</p> <p>The Council has demonstrated good practice in promoting employability in ways that support environmental protection; the Post+ programme uses outdoor learning to boost the wellbeing of young people with disabilities, and the Positive Achievements programme won an RSPB Nature in Scotland Award in 2015 for a conservation initiative run for disadvantaged young people in partnership with the Forestry Commission Scotland. The CLD Plan sits within the wider context of the 'Place' approach which is at the heart of the work that the Council and Community Planning Partners carry out with East Dunbartonshire's most deprived communities. Piloted in Hillhead in 2011, the Place agenda has now been extended to Lennoxton and Auchinairn; work will be taken forward via a Joint Resourcing Plan and Local Plans for each Place area. This additional aim will contribute towards enhancing areas of deprivation while also reducing social, economic and environmental deprivation throughout East Dunbartonshire.</p> <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Cultural Heritage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimise and monitor any ground disturbance and incorporate design measures in order for required infrastructure improvements and maintenance to be carried out in a sensitive and sustainable manner to avoid or minimise any impacts on the historic environmental assets or their setting. <p>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional surveys to determine level and type of species/habitats that will be potentially impacted from the intended outcomes such as bat surveys/extended habitat surveys etc. - Any infrastructure changes/improvements should aim to retain features of ecological value within the design. The highest priorities for protection such as woodland, riparian habitats, ponds, wetlands etc. should be considered 									

Community Capacity-Building Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>and any impact prevented.</p> <p>Soil and Geology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further surveys of peatland/carbon rich soils should be carried out to determine that construction activities to achieve outcomes will not devalue protected soil. - Implement soil erosion prevention measures outlined in good practice guidance where necessary. <p>Landscape</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integration of high environmental and design standards that maintain existing landscape distinctiveness and will be consistent with the Local Development Plan. <p>Water Quality and Climatic Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Control and treatment of surface runoff. - Adoption of best practices to prevent/minimise adverse impacts to drainage. - Further Flood Risk Assessments to determine extend of flood risk in the area and the implementation of flood risk management measures, if required. - Use of construction SUDS and adoption of best practices to avoid pollution of watercourses. <p>Material Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reuse of materials where appropriate/sustainable use of resources. - Waste Management Plan implemented to reduce the impact of waste. 									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish systems for monitoring and targeting our schools’ participation in Eco-Schools Scotland and for encouraging sustainability to be routinely incorporated into school planning and reporting • Create a formal communication mechanism between Education and other relevant Council services to allow dialogue on building fabric and services • Promote sustainability through the Community Learning and Development Plan • Produce a Dynamic Sustainability Communications Plan to allow more systematic promotion of sustainability to staff and the wider public • Create and communicate organisational values through the Employee Learning and Development agenda <p>Assessment Commentary: The purpose of the chapter on Education for Sustainable Development is to set out the measures that will be taken to encourage pro-sustainability attitudes and behaviour through the Council’s dedicated education, training and communications services delivered through schools, staff development and corporate communications activity. It is anticipated that, due to the wide-ranging nature of issues that it is expected would be covered in each context, the aims set out within this section will deliver limited benefits in relation to the following factors population, air quality, climatic factors and material assets.</p> <p>The impact of these aims are likely to be minimal in nature, however there will be benefits in terms of the Eco-Schools Scotland agenda, encouraging sustainability into school management, planning and reporting. These dedicated educational programmes focused on fair trade have also been developed for schools and nurseries, run by the East Dunbartonshire Fair Trade Steering Group. Schools will also be encouraged to report on sustainability progress via their annual Standards and Quality Reports, and a strategic steer will be provided in future updates of the Curriculum for</p>									

Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>Excellence Strategic Plans. This will be supported by promoting Eco-Schools Scotland’s recently-updated resources and by introducing a system for monitoring participation in East Dunbartonshire’s schools and highlighting areas for action.</p> <p>A formal communication mechanism will be introduced to facilitate systematic dialogue between the Education Service and other relevant Council teams and services, particularly Facilities Management, on matters relating to building fabric and services including recycling, helping the Council to meet carbon reduction and recycling targets.</p> <p>In terms of awareness-raising in Council staff, the Council’s HR service offers an important role. The People Development Team within HR leads the employee learning and development agenda and has various opportunities to promote understanding of sustainability across the workforce, creating and communicating organisational values. This will be done in various ways, including via induction training and the introduction of an e-learning module on sustainability.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration:</p> <p>In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, significant amendments and additional strategic commitment could be implemented to read:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote awareness and build capacity, within education centres, in relation to sustainability requirements within GTC standards • Establish systems for monitoring and targeting our schools’ participation in Eco-Schools Scotland and for encouraging sustainability to be routinely incorporated into school planning and reporting • Create a formal communication mechanism between Education and other relevant Council services to allow dialogue on building fabric and services • Enhance provisions for outdoor learning • Produce a Dynamic Sustainability Communications Plan to allow more systematic promotion of sustainability to staff and the wider public 									

SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR										
Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and communicate organisational values through the Employee Learning and Development agenda 									
Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims Alternative 2 	++	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	
<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote awareness and build capacity, within education centres, in relation to sustainability requirements within GTC standards Establish systems for monitoring and targeting our schools' participation in Eco-Schools Scotland and for encouraging sustainability to be routinely incorporated into school planning and reporting Create a formal communication mechanism between Education and other relevant Council services to allow dialogue on building fabric and services Enhance provisions for outdoor learning Produce a Dynamic Sustainability Communications Plan to allow more systematic promotion of sustainability to staff and the wider public Create and communicate organisational values through the Employee Learning and Development agenda <p>Assessment Commentary: This alternative further develops the commitments set out in alternative 1 through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional support to deliver the GTC standards as it is anticipated that linking to a recognised, national scheme will lend credibility to the agenda and will encourage improved standards. Enhancing provision for outdoor education in East Dunbartonshire's schools is supported by a dedicated Outdoor Education Officer employed by the Council, whose role includes provision of Grounds for Learning training for teachers. The Mugdock Country Park Rangers also provide a valuable outdoor education service both in Mugdock Park and, where possible, in settings local to schools. Provisions for outdoor learning will be enhanced by the 										

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Education of Sustainable Development Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
	introduction of the Forest Schools Agenda to schools and nurseries; the aim of Forest Schools is to instill a deep appreciation of the natural world and to use it as a setting for cross-curricular learning.									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Finance Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Finance Strategic Aims										
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will deliver on our Public Bodies Duties by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider developing a policy on fossil fuel investment through savings, investment and borrowing, examining whether our investments are consistent with our statutory duties in relation to climate change mitigation and sustainable development • Participating in any future pan-Council discussions on ethical investment policies <p>Assessment Commentary: As set out with the SEA legislation, the Act does not apply to financial or budgetary-based policies or plans and as such the Strategic Commitments regarding Finance are not subject to the SEA process.</p>									

	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									
Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims Alternative 1	++	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and deliver on a revised Local Transport Strategy that prioritises active travel • Incorporate use of recycled materials more systematically • Produce a corporate travel planning document • Continue fleet replacement until end of 2016/17 • Introduce further electric vehicles, pending funding • Consider fuel-efficient driver training <p>Assessment Commentary: The Transport and Travel section sets out the actions that the Council will take to stimulate a reduction in the environmental impacts of travel for Council business and in the wider community. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out in this alternative will deliver benefits in terms of: health and wellbeing; air quality; climatic factors; and material assets through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modal shift towards active travel alternatives and promotion of resultant health benefits (promoted through Healthy Habits Projects including installation of signage for walking cycling routes) • Modal shift towards active travel alternatives could contribute to improved air quality throughout East Dunbartonshire and improve health through a reduction in vehicle emission pollutants and particulate matter with a particular emphasis in the two areas within Bishopbriggs and Bearsden which are currently designated as Air Quality Management Areas, and potential area within Kirkinitiloch which is under consideration. • Cognisance been taken of the potential positive impacts of sustainable transport measures in terms of material use and waste generation; Ultitrec, a 100% recycled material using road planings, is regularly used in path network upgrades throughout East Dunbartonshire including the Allander Walkway 									

Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in vehicular based travel (particularly single-car journeys) corporately through travel planning, promotion of car sharing, requirements for school travel plans, investigate pool bike possibilities, promotion of pool car scheme and using SMART working ethos to consider the need to travel at all. Reduction in road based congestion and resultant greenhouse gas emissions Encouraged use of the Councils existing core path network through travel planning Tackling corporate emissions levels through fleet replacement, introduction of additional electric vehicles, where possible, and the introduction of fuel-efficient driver training throughout the Council. <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: In order to further improve the environmental and sustainability performance of the Council through the Framework, significant amendments and additional strategic commitments could be implemented to read:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to deliver actions in the current Local Transport Strategy 2013-2017 and Active Travel Strategy 2015-2020 that facilitate the transition to more sustainable modes of transport Prepare and deliver a refreshed Local Transport Strategy in 2017 that is consistent with the findings of the Route Corridor Studies 2015 ensuring rigorous assessment of interventions in line with Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance Incorporate use of recycled materials into path creation more systematically and pursue other elements of resource efficiency and sustainable sourcing Produce a corporate travel planning document and achieve Cycle Friendly Employer status Continue fleet replacement until end of 2016/17 Introduce further electric vehicles, pending funding Consider fuel-efficient driver training 									

SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR										
Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
	<p>Proposed Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Population and Human Health and Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased awareness in the population of existing environmental sensitivities and problems. - Increased promotion of active travel alternatives throughout East Dunbartonshire. <p>Material Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting management of material resources in a sustainable manner to reduce waste. 									
<p>Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims Alternative 2</p> 	++	X	X	X	X	X	++	++	++	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to deliver actions in the current Local Transport Strategy 2013-2017 and Active Travel Strategy 2015-2020 that facilitate the transition to more sustainable modes of transport • Prepare and deliver a refreshed Local Transport Strategy in 2017 that is consistent with the findings of the Route Corridor Studies 2015 ensuring rigorous assessment of interventions in line with Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance • Incorporate use of recycled materials into path creation more systematically and pursue other elements of resource efficiency and sustainable sourcing. • Produce a corporate travel planning document and achieve Cycle Friendly Employer status • Continue fleet replacement until end of 2016/17 • Introduce further electric vehicles, pending funding • Consider fuel-efficient driver training <p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>This alternative proposes to further the extent to which the benefits (outlined within alternative 1) are delivered; this is done firstly by highlighting the Route Corridor Studies 2015 as a basis for decision-making, and secondly by committing to participation in an external, recognised scheme for corporate cycling provision. In both cases, it is anticipated that</p>									

Sustainable Transport and Travel Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
	<p>reference to impartial, professional advice will improve standards and lead to further enhanced positive impacts in relation to health and wellbeing, air quality, climatic factors and material assets through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modal shift towards active travel alternatives and resultant health benefits • Delivery of travel hubs and interchange facilities along the A81, A803 and at rail stations • Reduction in vehicular based travel throughout East Dunbartonshire • Reduction in road based congestion and resultant greenhouse gas emissions • Awareness raising of the EDC Active Travel Strategy and promotion of the Councils existing core path network through travel planning <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Population and Human Health and Air Quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased awareness in the population of existing environmental sensitivities and problems. - Increased promotion of active travel alternatives throughout East Dunbartonshire. <p>Material Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promoting management of material resources in a sustainable manner to reduce waste. 									

Corporate Support Functions Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR									Preferred Option
	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	
Corporate Support Functions Strategic Aims Alternative 1	+	X	X	X	X	X	+	++	++	
	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims: In addition to continuing our good practice, we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Produce a District Heating Strategy for East Dunbartonshire • Consider the production of a Biomass Strategy for East Dunbartonshire • Contribute to the revision of the Council’s Fairtrade Resolution • Strategically develop the Council’s Green Office agenda • Ensure that sustainability is appropriately represented in the LOIP • Build sustainability into Leadership and senior management events, materials, meetings and communications • Support the BIP and HGIOS process to ensure full support of SEA requirements for PPSs and full support of sustainability and climate change duties • Identify significant climate change risks, where relevant, to incorporate into Risk Register • Review and amend the Policy Development Framework, as necessary • Use the PMO process to require the inclusion of sustainability in project management procedures • Consider opportunities for reflecting sustainability and climate change within staff contracts and via other behaviour change initiatives <p>Assessment Commentary: The purpose of the Corporate Support Functions section is to set out the supporting activities that will be provided centrally by the Council to progress sustainability across the organisation. It is anticipated that the strategic aims set out in this alternative will deliver benefits in terms of: population and human health, air quality; climatic factors; and material assets through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consideration and potential development of sustainable energy / renewable technology projects throughout East Dunbartonshire in relation to district heating projects and the use and implementation of biomass 									

SEA ENVIRONMENTAL FACTOR										
Corporate Support Functions Strategic Aims Reasonable Alternatives	Population and Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Soil and Geology	Landscape	Water Quality	Air Quality	Climatic Factors	Material Assets	Preferred Option
	<p>installations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration and improvement of sustainable office practices throughout the Council. • Incorporating sustainability and climate change at every level of the Councils strategic framework, risk register (preparing a range of indicators to measure the delivery of related priorities), project management procedures and policy development. • Exploring opportunities to build further requirements into the Council’s Policy Development Framework, to include responsibilities within staff contracts and to undertake other behaviour change initiatives – these strategic measures would help to engender commitment to all factors at both a formal and personal level. <p>Proposed Mitigation Measures:</p> <p>Material Assets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote management of material resources in a sustainable manner to reduce waste. 									
Corporate Support Functions Strategic Aims Alternative 2	<p>Proposed Strategic Aims:</p> <p>No reasonable alternatives proposed for this Strategic Aim.</p>									

Appendix D: Consultation Authority Scoping Responses and Council Actions

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND		
ISSUE	COMMENT	HOW HAS THIS BEEN ADDRESSED IN THE ASSESSMENT?
Scope and Level of Detail	It is my understanding that East Dunbartonshire Council's Sustainability and Climate Change Framework (SCCF) will identify priority areas within the Council to improve sustainability and climate change performance (mitigation and adaptation) and will also consider ways to promote sustainability in the wider community.	Comment noted.
	<i>Table 3</i> indicates that the historic environment (under cultural heritage) has been scoped out of the assessment, because you do not consider significant effects to be likely. I note that the discussion of environmental issues relevant to the SCCF (<i>Table 2</i>), does not explore specific links between relevant historic environment issues and the likely content and outcomes of the SCCF. These would include the mutually valuable role which the historic environment can play in a sustainable reuse and development agenda, the need for climate change adaption in the historic environment, and the potential impacts (positive and negative) of adaption and mitigation measures on the historic environment. Further information on the historic environment and climate change is available here: http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/climatechange .	Comment noted – Additional information has been incorporated into the <i>Table 2</i> within the ER to incorporate potential historic environmental issues related to the SCCF.

	<p>In scoping the historic environment out, you have placed emphasis on the protection and management of historic environment assets provided by other plans, and have made particular reference to the Antonine Wall Management Plan (for information, this document is owned by all Antonine Wall Partners, including East Dunbartonshire Council). However, the majority of heritage assets do not have a management plan in place, and the scoping report does not detail which other plans you consider are relevant in this context. Consequently, I am uncertain how far these could have an influence on the likelihood of significant positive or negative effects from the SCCF on the historic environment, particularly as the objectives of the framework have not yet been defined.</p>	<p>Comment noted – As a result Cultural heritage has been scoped into the assessment process for the SCCF.</p>
	<p>I note that in scoping environmental topics into the assessment, you have taken a precautionary approach, whilst seeking to keep the assessment proportionate. On the basis of the information provided, I am not persuaded that significant effects on the historic environment are not likely. In view of this, I recommend that you scope the historic environment into your assessment on a precautionary basis, and keep this under review as the Framework and its objectives are developed.</p>	<p>Comment noted – As a result Cultural heritage has been scoped into the assessment process for the SCCF.</p>
	<p>To ensure that the assessment is best placed to identify potential effects and opportunities for the historic environment, the SEA objectives, assessment questions and indicators should focus on the key links between sustainability, climate change and the historic environment. I would be happy to comment on draft objectives, questions and indicators for the historic environment, should you decide to scope this topic into the assessment.</p>	<p>Comment noted – As a result the SEA Objective along with relevant assessment questions and indicators have been incorporated for the historic environment.</p>
<p>Consultation Period for the Environmental Report</p>	<p><i>Table 6: Proposed Timescales and Milestones</i> indicates that there will be a minimum consultation period of six weeks for the draft Environmental Report, and I am content with this timescale. Please note that, for administrative purposes, Historic Scotland consider that the consultation period commences on receipt of the relevant documents by the SEA Gateway.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>

SEPA		
ISSUE	COMMENT	HOW HAS THIS BEEN ADDRESSED IN THE ASSESSMENT?
Relationship with other Plans, Policies and Strategies (PPS)	We consider that the list of PPS included in section 2.1 includes most of the PPS we would expect to see listed however you may also want to consider including the Scottish Soils Framework and Scotland's Land Use Strategy. The Scottish Soils Framework describes key pressures on soils, particularly climate change, relevant policies to combat those threats and identifies the future focus for soil protection. The Land Use Strategy takes a strategic approach to the challenges facing land use in Scotland and provides a set of principles for sustainable land use to guide policy and decision making.	Comment noted – The policy documents referred to in this comment have been integrated into the list of key legislation and policy documentation which influence or are influenced by the SCCF.
Baseline data and Environmental problems	We consider that the environmental baseline data and problems describes generally highlight the main issues of relevance for the SEA topics within our remit. You may also want to consider including baseline information on any existing potential heat generators within East Dunbartonshire by using the National Heat Map.	Comment noted – This information will be utilised when carrying out the assessment of the Framework. The Councils emerging District Heating Strategy will also use the National heat map as a useful indicator of heat generating potential for future projects and also expand upon the current data to produce heat mapping for East Dunbartonshire.
Alternatives	We are satisfied with the alternatives outlined. These should be assessed as part of the SEA process and the findings of the assessment should inform the choice of the preferred option this should be documented in the Environmental Report.	Comment noted.
Scoping in/out of environmental topics	It is noted that all the environmental factors are to be scoped into the assessment apart from cultural heritage. We would agree with this approach.	Comment noted However due to consultation with Historic Environment Scotland Cultural Heritage has now been included within the scope of the assessment for the SCCF.
Methodology for assessing environmental effects	We support the use of SEA objectives as assessment tools as they allow a systematic, rigorous and consistent framework with which to assess environmental effects. We welcome the including of draft assessment	Comment noted – There will be multiple references within the Framework to District Heating potential

	<p>questions supporting zero-carbon and zero-waste principles. When assessing whether the framework supports zero-carbon principles consideration should be given as to whether the framework encourages the use of heat maps to maximise opportunities for the use of waste heat in new developments.</p> <p>When it comes to setting out the results of the assessment in the Environmental Report please provide enough information to clearly justify the reasons for each of the assessments presented.</p>	<p>and the use of heat mapping as a tool to achieve such projects. The Council is also in the initial stages of producing a District Heating Strategy for the district.</p>
<p>Mitigation and Enhancement</p>	<p>It is noted that the proposed mitigation measures will follow the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate).</p> <p>We would encourage you to use the assessment as a way to improve the environmental performance of individual aspects of the final option; hence we support proposals for enhancement of positive effects as well as mitigation of negative effects.</p> <p>One of the most important ways to mitigate significant environmental effects identified through the assessment is to make changes to the plan itself so that significant effects are avoided. The Environmental Report should therefore identify any changes made to the plan as a result of the SEA.</p>	<p>Comment noted – A section of the ER has been produced which outlines the areas of the Framework which have been influenced by the SEA process.</p>
<p>Monitoring</p>	<p>Although not specifically required at this stage, monitoring is a requirement of the Act and early consideration should be given to a monitoring approach particularly in the choice of indicators. It would be helpful if the Environmental Report included a description of the measures envisaged to monitor the significant environmental effects of the plan.</p>	<p>Comment noted – A Monitoring Framework will be incorporated into the ER for the Framework including specific monitoring indicators for each environmental factor.</p>
<p>Consultation Period</p>	<p>We are satisfied with the proposal for a minimum of a six to eight weeks consultation period for the Environmental Report.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>

SNH		
ISSUE	COMMENT	HOW HAS THIS BEEN ADDRESSED IN THE ASSESSMENT?
Scope of Assessment and Level of Detail	We are content with the scope and level of detail proposed for the Environmental Report.	Comment noted.
Consultation Period for the Environmental Report	We note a minimum period of six to eight weeks for consultation on the Environmental Report and we are content with this proposed period.	Comment noted.
Alternatives	Although we cannot comment in detail on the options considered, we are broadly content with the alternatives contained within the Scoping Report and have no further comments to make.	Comment noted.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Objectives	The SEA objectives appear satisfactory. We would however seek that SEA objectives align with wider national active travel objectives. Draft Population and Human Health indicators may wish to consider ‘% increase in overall walking and cycling rates in East Dunbartonshire’, rather than just limited to council employees	Comment noted – The SEA Objectives, assessment criteria and question have taken into consideration the active travel and sustainable transport elements of national policy.
Draft Assessment Matrix	We would recommend that the Draft Assessment Matrix presented in Appendix 2 includes mitigation where potential negative environmental effects or other conflicts are likely.	Comment noted – SEA suggested alteration to the Framework content along with mitigation measures have been incorporated within the full assessment appendices.