

Appendix D: CLS Strategy Individual Actions – Options and Reasonable Alternatives Assessment

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

Environmental Factor	SEA Objective	SEA Criteria Will the action:
Population, Human Health	To improve human health and community wellbeing.	Encourage employment opportunities within town centres or to areas in need of physical and social regeneration?
		Through new development impact on noise or light pollution in existing settlements?
		Impact on areas of public open space or recreational provision?
		Improve the public realm and provide additional public facilities and opportunities?
		Increase public awareness of the natural and historic environment?
		Encourage active travel and outdoor leisure?
		Promote an environment that is both sustainable and safe?
Cultural Heritage	To protect, conserve, and where appropriate enhance the historic environment	Have an impact on any designated built heritage areas, including listed buildings and their setting, Conservation Areas, gardens & designed landscapes, archaeological sites?
		Have an effect on non-designated areas of local built heritage interest, including Townscape Protection Areas?
		Incorporate high standards of appropriate design when located within or adjacent to the historic environment or conservation areas?
		Encourage and improve to cultural heritage assets throughout East Dunbartonshire?
Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	To protect, enhance, create and where necessary restore biodiversity and encourage habitat connectivity.	Directly or indirectly impact on designated sites of importance?
		Affect the connectivity of habitats?
		Seek to minimise any adverse impacts on valued biodiversity including non-protected and protected species?
		Address issues related to improved access to the wider environment and conflicts with biodiversity and habitat protection?
		Prevent the loss of biodiversity, flora and fauna?

Alternative Actions for Theme 3: Access and Services

Action C: Active Schools & Physical Education				
SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	CLS Strategy Preferred Alternative
Proposed Action C Alternative 1	+	X	X	
	<p>Proposed Action: Continue to actively support the current Active Schools programme.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: Continued support for the Active Schools programme will provide positive benefits to in terms of the promotion and encouragement for increased participation in physical activity. This could have secondary impacts in terms of increasing the health and wellbeing, particularly of young people in areas of deprivation, throughout East Dunbartonshire.</p>			
Proposed Action C Alternative 2 	++	X	X	
	<p>Proposed Action: Continue to actively support and improve the Active Schools programme by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring capacity and sustainability of Active Schools Co-ordinators - Maintaining strong links with Curriculum for Excellence - Continuing and strengthening pathways and partnerships with clubs - Continuing promotion of extra-curricular activities - Re-organising existing Physical Activity Forum to meet Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport (PEPAS) structure <p>Continue to support high quality physical education as part of the Curriculum for Excellence.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: Through support of and initiating improvements to the Active Schools Programme, it is likely that the resulting impact to population and community wellbeing will be significantly positive. It is likely that this action will extend its outreach to children of school-age to actively encourage increased sports participation and physical activity to help encourage improvements in the health and wellbeing of the Councils residents from a young age and promote active lifestyle changes throughout East Dunbartonshire. The addition of active improvement in this alternative will ensure that Active Schools programme will continually adapt its approaches in maintaining strong links with the</p>			

	Curriculum for Excellence and strengthen partnerships between schools, sports clubs and sports facilities throughout East Dunbartonshire.	
	<p>Cumulative Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>The overall cumulative impacts of this action would predominantly be related to population and human health factors and would result in a significant positive impact council-wide. Implementing the action within each school in East Dunbartonshire will provide a significant contribution to community wellbeing and human health predominantly through intended increases in physical activity participation levels.</p>	

Action D: Outdoor Learning				
SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	CLS Strategy Preferred Alternative
Proposed Action D Alternative 1	++	X	0/-	
	<p>Proposed Action:</p> <p>Establish Outdoor Learning Centre at Mugdock Country Park to further improve integration of outdoor learning with school curriculum.</p>			
	<p>Assessment Commentary:</p> <p>The overall impact of this action in delivering 'Outdoor Learning' is positive. It is anticipated that there will be significant positive impacts to East Dunbartonshire's community, in particular for young people, through the provision of facilities that will encourage learning and education opportunities concerning the environment.</p> <p>In terms of biodiversity, flora and fauna, integrating outdoor learning at Mugdock Country Park as part of the school curriculum the overall effect is likely to be neutral. However, 2/3 of Mugdock Country Park is designated as a SSSI and provides vital habitats for a range of species. The location in terms of breeding grounds and sensitivity of environment will need to be considered in the establishment of an Outdoor Learning Centre to ensure that they are not negatively impacted and their value does not deteriorate. The natural environment largely provides the setting for Mugdock Country Park and any development has the potential to result in a negative impact on the biodiversity value or the Park.</p> <p>Whilst Craigend Castle and Mugdock Castle, situated within the Mugdock Country Park boundary, are listed buildings, it is predicted that this action will not result in any</p>			

	<p>significant positive or negative impacts on cultural heritage value.</p> <p>Mitigation measures: For any proposed development of the outdoor learning facilities, it would be appropriate for additional ecological surveys to be carried out to determine the likely impacts on biodiversity value.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To protect and avoid any loss or disturbance of species and habitats and their connectivity. - For any requirement to remove vegetation or development which will result in the loss or fragmentation of habitats measures should be introduced to reinstate any lost habitats in an appropriate location and minimise where possible the removal of trees, vegetation or topsoil to minimise the impact of construction. <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: Establish Outdoor Learning Centre at Mugdock Country Park to further improve integration of outdoor learning with school curriculum incorporating high environmental design standards.</p>			
<p>Proposed Action D Alternative 2</p> 	<p>++</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>0/++</p>	
	<p>Proposed Action: Establish Outdoor Learning Centre at Mugdock Country Park to further improve integration of outdoor learning with school curriculum incorporating high environmental design standards.</p> <p>Outdoor learning spaces, including provision for early years, at new primary schools (see also Action 2D)</p>			

Assessment Commentary:

The overall impact of this action in delivering 'Outdoor Learning' is positive. It is anticipated that there will be significant positive impacts to East Dunbartonshire's community, in particular for young people, through the provision of facilities that will encourage learning and education opportunities concerning the environment.

In terms of biodiversity, flora and fauna, integrating outdoor learning at Mugdock Country Park as part of the school curriculum the overall effect is likely to be neutral. However, 2/3 of Mugdock Country Park is designated as a SSSI and provides vital habitats for a range of species. The location in terms of breeding grounds and sensitivity of environment will need to be considered in the establishment of an Outdoor Learning Centre to ensure that they are not negatively impacted and their value does not deteriorate. The natural environment largely provides the setting for Mugdock Country Park and the inclusion of appropriate mitigation and incorporating high environmental and design standards as a central part of this action could result in a positive impact on biodiversity value through enhancement measures.

Whilst Craigend Castle and Mugdock Castle, situated within the Mugdock Country Park boundary, are listed buildings, it is predicted that this action will not result in any significant positive or negative impacts on cultural heritage value.

Mitigation measures: For any proposed development of the outdoor learning facilities, it would be appropriate for additional ecological surveys to be carried out to determine the likely impacts on biodiversity value.

- To protect and avoid any loss or disturbance of species and habitats and their connectivity.
- For any requirement to remove vegetation or development which will result in the loss or fragmentation of habitats measures should be introduced to reinstate any lost habitats in an appropriate location and minimise where possible the removal of trees, vegetation or topsoil to minimise the impact of construction.

Cumulative Assessment Commentary:

The overall cumulative impacts of this action would predominantly be related to population and human health factors and would result in a positive impact council-wide. Implementation of this action and linking the learning and development opportunity within all schools in East Dunbartonshire will provide a positive contribution to community wellbeing and human health through the improved provision of facilities for learning and education regarding the natural environment.

Proposed Action D Alternative 3	++	X	X	
	Proposed Action: Improve existing outdoor learning provision in Kirkintilloch by promoting the service and working with schools.			
	Assessment Commentary: The overall impact of this action in delivering 'Outdoor Learning' is positive. It is anticipated that there will be significant positive impacts to East Dunbartonshire's communities, in particular for young people, through improved provision of outdoor learning facilities and encouraging links with school services.			

Action G: Provision in Main Villages				
SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	CLS Strategy Preferred Alternative
Proposed Action G Alternative 1 	+ +/+	+/-	0/-	
	Proposed Action: Improve provision and access to culture, leisure and sport in villages (Lennoxton, Milton of Campsie, Torrance and Twechar) through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of Outdoor / Green Gyms - Expanding outreach in these villages and investigate potential for partnership working between EDLC and community managed facilities in delivering culture, sport and leisure activities - Working with external groups/national organisations to deliver activities in areas such as local history and the arts - Continued support for Twechar Healthy Living Centre 			
	Assessment Commentary: It is likely that this action will have an overall positive impact in relation to population & human health and cultural heritage. By ensuring that rural communities within the main villages, who are generally further from culture, leisure and sport provision, have access to such facilities will have significant positive impacts for health and community wellbeing. Due to provision of green gyms through this action these physical activity resources will provide enhanced encouragement for wider participation of active pursuits as an alternative to formal sports facilities. Green gyms, as opposed to traditional play park facilities, are aimed at all ages, therefore present benefits to a wider range of			
				

people.

Furthermore, continuing to support the Twechar Healthy Living Centre is likely to result in additional positive impacts for population and human health through encouraging local communities to get involved in local projects and also provide employment opportunities.

This action is likely to present positive impacts in relation to the historic environment due to encouraging access to cultural heritage sites and the promotion of local history. This will encourage an increase in local economy from tourism. However, negative impacts may also be likely as a result of conflicts between the promotion and protection of designated sites and improved and increased access to these sites throughout East Dunbartonshire.

Improving provision of culture, leisure and sport facilities, such as green gyms, are likely to present some negative impacts to biodiversity, primarily due to increased access to facilities and open spaces. Several natural designations are present in or near to the main villages including green belt, Local Nature Conservation Sites (LNCS) for biodiversity and geodiversity, Gardens and Designed Landscapes and TPOs. Access to such facilities may conflict with these designated sites to some extent, with potential to deteriorate their value.

Mitigation measures:

For any proposed development of improved leisure or sport facilities and green gyms, it would be appropriate for additional ecological surveys to be carried out to determine the likely impacts.

- To protect and avoid any loss or disturbance of species and habitats and their connectivity.
- For any requirement to remove vegetation or development which will result in the loss or fragmentation of habitats measures should be introduced to reinstate any lost habitats in an appropriate location and minimise where possible the removal of trees, vegetation or topsoil to minimise the impact of construction.

Conserve and enhance the character, appearance and setting of the historic environment through appropriate siting and design of infrastructure or new facilities. Conserve historical features where possible.

	<p>Cumulative Assessment Commentary: The overall cumulative impacts of this action would predominantly be related to population and human health criteria and would result in a significant positive impact council-wide. By implementing this action it would result in a significant positive impact for East Dunbartonshire’s rural communities through increased provision or access to culture, leisure and sport facilities and opportunities which will provide a positive contribution to community wellbeing and human health.</p> <p>Without the inclusion of the noted mitigation above, this action may lead to significant adverse in relation to the natural and historic environment in terms of the location and placement of new facilities, including green gyms, being located on or in the vicinity of natural or historic environmental assets and the potential loss or disturbance to designated sites of importance and impacts on their setting.</p>	
<p>Proposed Action G Alternative 2</p>	<p>Proposed Action: No Reasonable alternatives identified.</p>	

Alternative Actions for Theme 4: Communication and Promotion

Action B: Leisure and Tourism Promotion				
SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	CLS Strategy Preferred Alternative
<p>Proposed Action B – 1</p> 	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	<p>X</p>	
<p>Proposed Action: Produce a revised Economic Development Strategy for East Dunbartonshire setting out a strategy for business, tourism and town centre development across the area.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: This action is operational in nature and the revised Economic Development Strategy will be subject to an individual SEA and therefore this action does not require further assessment as part of this Strategy.</p>				
<p>++</p>		<p>+/-</p>	<p>+/-</p>	

<p>Proposed Action B – 2 Alternative 1</p>	<p>Proposed Action: Work to promote and develop the leisure and tourism opportunities across East Dunbartonshire.</p>			
	<p>Assessment Commentary: The promotion and development of leisure and tourism opportunities across east Dunbartonshire has the potential to have a significant positive impact on population and human health through community wellbeing improvements through increased participation in recreational activities, leisure and arts facilities.</p> <p>Through this action there is potential for positive and negative impacts on the historic environment and biodiversity value through increased promotion, participation and access to important designated sites which provide a direct conflict between the use of and enjoyment of such assets and their continued protection, conservation and enhancement.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: Work to promote and develop the leisure and tourism opportunities across East Dunbartonshire in an inclusive and sustainable manner.</p>			
<p>Proposed Action B – 2 Alternative 2</p> 	<p>++</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	
	<p>Proposed Action: Work to promote and develop the leisure and tourism opportunities across East Dunbartonshire in an inclusive and sustainable manner.</p>			
	<p>Assessment Commentary: The promotion and development of leisure and tourism opportunities across east Dunbartonshire has the potential to have a significant positive impact on population and human health through community wellbeing improvements through increased participation in recreational activities, leisure and arts facilities. With the addition of the promotion and development of such opportunities in an inclusive and sustainable manner, it provides additional benefits in terms of all three environmental factors. These benefits include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increasing the scope of the action and Strategy from an equalities perspective and reaching as many people and groups as possible. ➤ Attempting to increase visitor number to historic and environmental sites and 			

	<p>attractors of importance in a sustainable manner to ensure that protection and conservation of such environmental assets is always at the forefront of consideration in order to avoid or mitigate any adverse effects envisaged through for example, increased visitor number.</p>			
<p>Proposed Action B – 3</p> 	X	X	X	
<p>Proposed Action B – 4 Alternative 1</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #90EE90; padding: 5px;">++</div> <div style="background-color: #FF0000; padding: 5px;">-</div> <div style="background-color: #FFD700; padding: 5px;">0/-</div> </div>			
	<p>Cumulative Assessment Commentary: The overall cumulative impacts related to this action are significantly positive in nature. Through the direct promotion and development of leisure and tourism opportunities in such an inclusive and sustainable manner it will result in significant cumulative impacts council-wide in relation to community wellbeing, cultural heritage and the areas biodiversity value through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The inclusive nature of the action and its intention to reach and positively impact all from a health and wellbeing aspect and participation levels in the arts, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities throughout East Dunbartonshire. ➤ Developing the leisure and tourism sector within East Dunbartonshire in a sustainable manner to safeguard and protect the areas rich natural and historic environment while also encouraging greater access to the areas assets, facilities and opportunities. 			
	<p>Proposed Action Alternative: Work with town centre communities to develop the night-time and weekend economy for workers, residents and visitors.</p> <p>Assessment Commentary: No significant environmental impacts have been identified as a result of this particular element of the action.</p>			
	<p>Proposed Action: Support improved facilities associated with the following East Dunbartonshire assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Antonine Wall (see Action 4C) - Forth and Clyde Canal (see Action 4D) - Campsie Fells - Long distance walking routes including the West Highland Way (See Action 4E), John Muir Way, Allander Way, River Kelvin Way, Strathkelvin Railway Path and Clyde Coast Path 			

	<p>Assessment Commentary: Significant positive impacts for population and human health are anticipated in terms of access to services and facilities near these natural and historic environmental assets. Conflicts may occur particularly regarding access to sites that are designated such as the Antonine Wall and the Forth and Clyde Canal. ‘Facilities’ will need to be in keeping with the setting of the assets listed in terms of building types, size, position on the site and the setting of the site. Consideration will need to be given to disruption to biodiversity, particularly on walking routes noted.</p> <p>SEA Suggested Alteration: Support improved facilities associated with the following assets incorporating high environmental and design standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Antonine Wall (see Action 4C) - Campsie Fells (see Action 4D) - Forth and Clyde Canal (see Action 4E) - Long distance walking routes including the West Highland Way (See Action 4E), John Muir Way, Allander Way, River Kelvin Way, Strathkelvin Railway Path and Clyde Coast Path 			
<p>Proposed Action B - 4 Alternative 2</p> 	<p>++</p>	<p>0/+</p>	<p>0/+</p>	
	<p>Proposed Action Alternative: Support improved facilities associated with the following assets incorporating high environmental and design standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Antonine Wall (see Action 4C) - Forth and Clyde Canal (see Action 4D) - Campsie Fells - Long distance walking routes including the West Highland Way (See Action 4E), John Muir Way, Allander Way, River Kelvin Way, Strathkelvin Railway Path and Clyde Coast Path <p>Assessment Commentary: Significant impacts for population and human health are anticipated in terms of access to services and facilities near these natural and historic environmental assets. By incorporating high environmental and design standards into this action it should remove or significantly reduce any conflict that may occur regarding improved facilities and increased access to such important assets.</p>			

	<p>Cumulative Assessment Commentary: This action will provide an overall significant positive impact from a cumulative perspective, due to the improved access, availability of facilities and access to the assets importance natural and historically designated assets stated above. Consideration to the potential impacts on these has been mitigated from an individual action level, however there is scope for additional positive impacts from cumulative perspective in terms the facilities and access such to such important assets for the district predominantly through the sensitive management, high design standards and environmental considerations on all facility improvements related to the stated sites and the implementation of this action council-wide.</p>			
<p>Proposed Action B - 5 Alternative 1</p> 	+	0/-	0/-	
	<p>Proposed Action: Promote festivals and events which attract leisure activity and through the operation of the festive promote the arts, sport and local identity (such as the Kirkintilloch Canal Festival, Local History Week and Thomas Muir Festival) and investigate new opportunities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Family and Local History Fair - Arts Festivals - Sporting events (using assets such as the Campsies, Mugdock Country Park and the Forth & Clyde Canal) 			
	<p>Assessment Commentary: Minor positive impacts are anticipated through the implementation of this action through increased promotion, participation and access for residents and tourists to arts, sports and leisure events and the utilisation of East Dunbartonshire’s natural and historic environment as the setting and draw for tourism purposes.</p> <p>Through increased access and visitor numbers there is however a possibility of adverse impacts on the natural and historic environmental assets used for such events and festivals including the Forth and Clyde Canal, Antonine Wall WHS, Mugdock Country Park and the Campsie Fells. These potential adverse impacts are likely to be minor in nature and through proper management, location of events and control measures over visitor number these effects could be avoided or reduced.</p>			

	<p>Cumulative Assessment Commentary: The overall cumulative impact in terms of this actions implementation are likely to be minor positive in nature predominantly due to the actions intended increase in participation levels for arts, sports and leisure events council-wide and the resulting positive impacts in relation to population and community wellbeing as a result.</p>	
<p>Proposed Action B - 5 Alternative 2</p>	<p>Proposed Action: No Reasonable alternatives identified.</p>	

Action F: West Highland Way				
SEA Environmental Factors 	Population & Human Health	Cultural Heritage	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	CLS Strategy Preferred Alternative
<p>Proposed Action E </p>	++	++/-	X	
<p>Proposed Action: Prepare plan with partners (taking cognisance of emerging refocused WHW Management Strategy) for improvements to the start of the West Highland Way in Milngavie to investigate and consider options to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve official starting point with measures such as new public art and surface/streetscape improvements - Improve connection between the starting point and railway station with Milngavie Information Centre - Maximise the attractiveness of Milngavie Station as an arrival point for walkers and other users for leisure and commuting purposes <p>Secure funding and implement measures in the agreed plan.</p>				

	<p>Assessment Commentary: Improving connections (in the form of signage, route upgrades etc) between the WHW and railway station and maximising the attractiveness of the Milngavie Station (with benefits for the WHW) are directly linked to the Local Transport Strategy and emerging Active Travel Strategy. This action is likely to have positive impacts for population and community identity due to proposed improvements to the actual and perceived setting for the WHW, as well as providing opportunities for the local community and others accessing Milngavie’s natural environment including for the WHW.</p> <p>This action has significant positive and minor negative aspects in relation to the historic environment due to Milngavie town centre and the surrounding area being designated as a Conservation Area and Townscape Protection Area. Any amendments to connections between the Railway Station and the starting point of the WHW in terms of streetscape improvements and access promotion will need to be in line with existing Local Plan 2 Policies and Supplementary Planning Guidance (including the emerging Local Development Plan which should be considered as a material consideration). However, negative impacts may also be likely as a result of conflicts between the promotion and protection of designated sites and improved and increased access to the WHW route.</p>	
	<p>Cumulative Assessment Commentary: The overall cumulative impacts through the implementation of this action are likely to be positive in nature particularly regarding population, community wellbeing and cultural heritage. The implementation of this action is intended to result in physical improvements to Milngavie Town Centre and in particular connections between the rail station, the beginning of the WHW and surrounding area. These improvements are likely to improve the public realm and provide a positive cumulative effect on population and community wellbeing while also positively impacting on the area by improving the existing Conservation Area and Townscape Protection Area from a cultural heritage perspective and the town as a whole.</p>	
<p>Proposed Action E Alternative</p>	<p>Proposed Action: No Reasonable alternatives identified.</p>	