

SEA SCREENING REPORT (COVER NOTE)

PART 1

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

PART 2

An SEA Screening Report is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

Dundee Public Open Space Strategy

The Responsible Authority is:

Dundee City Council

COMPLETE PART 3 or 4 or 5

PART 3

Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our view is that:

- an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects *or*
- an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects *or*
- an SEA is not required** because the PPS is unlikely to have significant environmental effects

PART 4

- The PPS does not require an SEA under the Act. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, because this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 28 day timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

PART 5

- None of the above apply. We have prepared this screening report because:
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PART 6

Contact name

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Job Title

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Contact address

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PART 7

Signature
(electronic
signature
is acceptable)

Bryan Harris

Date

20/07/07

SEA SCREENING REPORT - KEY FACTS

Responsible Authority	Dundee City Council
Title of PPS	Dundee Public Open Space Strategy
Purpose of PPS	To provide a series of strategic guidelines and specific actions designed improve co-ordination of the management of public open space within Dundee.
What prompted the PPS (e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	The Strategy will be a legal requirement as proposed in the SPP11 legislation.
Subject (e.g. transport)	Public Open Space
Period covered by PPS	2008-2011
Frequency of updates	3 yearly
Area covered by PPS (e.g. geographical area – it is good practice to attach a map)	Dundee City Council Area
Summary of nature content of PPS	The plan sets out a vision for the management of Dundee's Public Open spaces through suggested actions and through the co-ordination of a number of service delivery providers.
Are there any proposed PPS objectives?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Copy of objectives attached	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Date	18/07/07

SEA SCREENING REPORT

Our determinations regarding the likely significance of effects on the environment of Dundee's Public Open Space Strategy is set out in Table 1.

TABLE 1 – LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

TITLE OF PPS		
Dundee Public Open Space Strategy		
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY		
Dundee City Council		
Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (1(a), 1(b) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
1(a) the degree to which the PPS sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	YES	The plan sets out a vision for the management of Dundee's Public Open spaces through suggested actions and through the co-ordination of a number of service delivery providers.
1(b) the degree to which the PPS influences other PPS including those in a hierarchy	YES	The plan cross references a number of other strategies. Most importantly the Strategy links in to the Dundee Partnership for the Environment Strategy and the Draft Tree and Woodland Strategy. In this respect the POS Strategy can be considered part of a hierarchy below the DPE strategy.
1(c) the relevance of the PPS for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	Yes	The program is of high relevance in this area as it aims to link in the economic, social and environmental strands of sustainable development.

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (1(d) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
1(d) environmental problems relevant to the PPS	YES	The issues of distribution, quality and usage of greenspace are all relevant factors. There are also issues relating to biodiversity, resource usage and sustainable transport.
1(e) the relevance of the PPS for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, PPS linked to waste management or water protection)	YES	The plan is less relevant to waste management but might have some benefits for water protection through protection and enhancement of river corridor areas.
2 (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	YES	The impacts will lead to gradual but ongoing improvement. As the program is concerned with environmental enhancement it is unlikely there would be benefits achieved through reversal.
2 (b) the cumulative nature of the effects	YES	A number of small scale actions throughout the City which should lead to transitional change.
2 (c) transboundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other EU Member States)	YES	Some increase in woodland cover on the margins of the City.
2 (d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	YES	Human health and the environment should both be improved as a result of improved greenspace networks.

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (2(e), 2(f) etc refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
2 (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	Yes	The actions will mainly be confined to areas of existing greenspace within Dundee. These changes will lead to benefits for people living in the vicinity though the impact of individual actions will be small scale.
2 (f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to- (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use.	Yes	i) Non designated sites and greenspaces but of local significance within Dundee ii) N/A iii) N/A
2 (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status	Yes	There will be some further enhancement of this value

SEA SCREENING REPORT

A summary of our considerations of the significant environmental effects of Dundee's Public Open Space Strategy is given below.

TABLE 2 – SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Strategy involves co-ordination of a number of small scale actions throughout the City which should lead to transitional change. It is envisaged that the impacts for the environment will all be of a positive nature and should result in enhanced biodiversity, public access and improved standards of environmental management.

The actions will mainly be confined to areas of existing greenspace within Dundee. These changes will lead to benefits for people living in the vicinity though the impact of individual actions will be small scale.

The actions within the strategy are cross cutting in their nature and through the process of partnership development should result in Council Departments and external agencies working more closely to improve the environmental quality of public open space.

DUNDEE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

Draft Aims and Objectives

AIM 1: Encourage healthy lifestyles by creating and promoting for recreation, relaxation and fun for people of all ages and abilities

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide an appropriate and equitable distribution of public open space throughout Dundee which meets the needs of residents, people who work in the City, tourists and visitors of all ages and abilities.
2. Continue to improve local provision of public open space which meets the needs of local people and accounts for the distinctiveness of local areas in Dundee
3. Continue to improve and enhance city-wide public open space which provides opportunities for informal and formal recreation for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities
4. Develop and promote the role and use of allotment gardens
5. Encourage the use of public open spaces for appropriate events and outdoor activities
6. Encourage the responsible use and enjoyment of parks and public open spaces

AIM 2: Enhance the quality of urban environment by providing a network of diverse, attractive and inspiring green spaces which add colour and life to the city

OBJECTIVES:

1. Continue to enhance and retain amenity open space in residential areas, employment areas and along road corridors.
2. Continue to protect and enhance the value of Dundee's natural heritage for the educational and recreational benefit of local communities.
3. Continue to enhance and protect the distribution and diversity of trees and woodlands throughout the City.
4. Promote the use of public art and develop existing historic interest where appropriate within public open spaces.
5. Promote and improve understanding of the environment through environmental education and outdoor activities.
6. Provide appropriate signs, interpretation and information within public open spaces for residents, visitors and tourists to promote responsible use, increase awareness and add interest.

AIM 3: Provide safe and, where appropriate, accessible public open spaces which meet the needs of local communities, both now and in the future

OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide clean and safe public open spaces.
2. Develop a network of safe paths and routes through and to open spaces for recreational walking, cycling and horse-riding, that are integrated with commuter routes.
3. Promote sustainable integrated transport links to parks.
4. Account for the needs of people with disabilities in the provision and improvement of public open spaces for recreation.

5. Provide public open spaces, and the facilities within them, that are financially accessible to all.
6. Increase and support local participation in public open space to encourage a sense of local ownership and stewardship.

AIM 4: Contribute to the economic prosperity of Dundee by helping to attract investment and tourism and delivering a quality service that is cost-effective, efficient and provides Best Value for citizens of Dundee.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Contribute to the economic prosperity of Dundee by encouraging inward investment through the provision of a quality urban environment
2. Contribute to enhancing the image of the City making it more attractive to visitors and tourists
3. Seek to retain an appropriate distribution of public open spaces with existing or potential value for recreation, nature conservation and / or visual amenity
4. Continue to develop and improve strategic planning for public open space in Dundee.
5. Deliver Best Value to the citizens of Dundee through the efficient and effective use of all Council resources and the delivery of a quality service.
6. Strengthen inter-departmental co-ordination on public open space.
7. Maintain, strengthen and develop partnerships between the private, public and voluntary sectors to benefit public open space.