

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 strategy entitled:

Powering Aberdeen: Aberdeen’s Sustainable Energy Action Plan

The Responsible Authority is:

Aberdeen City Council (ACC)

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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.....
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SEA SCREENING REPORT (COVER NOTE)

PART 6

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PART 7

(Signature electronic signature is acceptable)	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>

SEA SCREENING REPORT - KEY FACTS

Responsible Authority	Aberdeen City Council
Title of PPS	Powering Aberdeen: Aberdeen's SEAP
Purpose of PPS	The SEAP is a key document that shows how Aberdeen City will reach its Covenant of Mayors (CoM) commitment by 2020 and beyond. It defines concrete emissions reduction and renewable energy measures, together with time frames and assigned responsibilities, which translate the long-term strategy into action.
What prompted the PPS (e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	Development of a SEAP is a commitment of CoM which ACC is a signatory of. The CoM is a European movement involving local and regional authorities, voluntarily committing to increasing energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources on their territories. By their commitment, Covenant signatories aim to meet and exceed the European Union 20% carbon dioxide (CO ₂) reduction objective by 2020. http://www.covenantofmayors.eu/index_en.html The SEAP also helps ensure compliance with Public Bodies Duties reporting as part of working towards attainment of the targets within the Climate Change Act 2009, aside from other topic specific statute.
Subject	The SEAP covers many subjects including emissions reduction and renewable energy, focusing upon areas/sectors that contribute the most emissions presently.
Period covered by PPS	2015-2030
Frequency of Updates	The SEAP is a flexible document which should be reviewed continuously. The CoM requires reporting every 2 years – including enhanced SEAP development and submission of a Monitoring Energy and Emissions Inventory (MEEI) which reports progress against the Baseline Energy and Emissions Inventory (BEEI). Annual reporting will be undertaken as part of SEAP governance. Interim progress could be reported as part of our Public Bodies Duties reporting, the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) and performance indicators which are undertaken on an annual basis, aside from any other avenues identified within the delivery model.

Area covered

Aberdeen City

Summary of nature/Content of PPS

The key parts of a SEAP, irrespective of scale, include:

- Baseline Energy and Emissions Inventory.
- Monitoring Energy and Emissions Inventory.
- Scenario modelling.
- List of actions/measures to be implemented to achieve the targets.
- Completed CoM templates.

The CoM provides comprehensive guidance on what is required of a SEAP to ensure approval. This is available within section 1.7 at:

http://www.covenantofmayors.eu/IMG/pdf/seap_guidelines_en-2.pdf

Are there any proposed PPS Objectives?

Yes No

Copy of PPS attached?

Yes No

Date

SCREENING REPORT

TABLE 1 – LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT

TITLE OF PPS

Powering Aberdeen: Aberdeen’s SEAP

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

Aberdeen City Council

<p>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)</p>	<p>Likely to have significant environmental effects? YES/NO</p>	<p>Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>The SEAP is likely to have significant positive effects on the environment through climate change mitigation measures and, reduction of emissions. Projects will cover the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency projects as well as planning, construction activity, transport, local electricity generation/production, local district heating/cooling, waste management, and behavioural change.</p> <p>The SEAP could also have significant negative effects on the environment for example through transport developments disrupting habitats, and potential development of wind and hydro power which can have a negative effect on birds and marine wildlife.</p>
<p>1(b) The degree to which the PPS influences other PPS including those in a hierarchy</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>This framework will influence multiple PPS’ including the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (SDP); • Aberdeen Local Development Plan (LDP); • Master-planning and development management accompanied by relevant supplementary guidance; • Smarter Aberdeen; • Smart Cities;

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Outcome Agreement (SOA); • Procurement flexible framework; • Community Planning Partnership; • Regional Deal; • North East SEAP; • As well as topic specific strategies covering waste, transport, air quality, energy consumption/generation, health and wellbeing, climate adaptation and mitigation, equality and diversity and digital connectivity. <p>The above list is not exhaustive but gives an indication of the cross-cutting agenda of the SEAP.</p>
1(c) The relevance of the PPS for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	YES	<p>This SEAP will promote sustainable development and devise positive actions from a range of stakeholders on the multiple themes it addresses. It is likely to have a significant effect on promoting sustainable development.</p>
1(d) Environmental problems relevant to the PPS	YES	<p>The SEAP could create environmental problems such as disruption to wildlife and habitats through potential developments including renewable energies.</p> <p>The PPS could also have significant positive impacts on environmental problems by reducing emissions, reducing climate risk and improving air quality.</p>
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	<p>The SEAP aligns to the requirements of many statutes including, but not limited to, the implementation of the following EU Directives and their accompanying Acts and Regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Europe 2020 – looking toward smart, inclusive, sustainable growth with targets of 20% reduction in emissions, 20% energy produced from renewables, 20% improvement in energy efficiency by 2020; • EU Cohesion Policy 2014-2020 which prioritises integrated sustainable urban development; • Energy Performance of Buildings Directive – 2002/91/EC – which sets energy performance standards for buildings; • EU Directives, 93/116/EC, 2009/28/EC, 2003/30/EC and 2006/32/EC – setting conditions for fuel consumption in vehicles, promotion of renewable energy, biofuels in transportation and energy end use efficiency and services; • 2030 Climate Energy Policy looking

		<p>towards secure energy provision and a low carbon economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Waste Framework Directive.
<p>Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment</p> <p>(1(a), 1(b) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)</p>	<p>Likely to have significant environmental effects?</p> <p>YES/NO</p>	<p>Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)</p>
2 (a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	NO	It is unlikely that the effects of the SEAP would have a significant and permanent effect on the environment. Potential projects such as hydro and wind energy would have an effect on the landscape and wildlife while also reducing emissions in the area. Any such projects will be assessed individually for their implications.
2 (b) The cumulative nature of the effects	YES	The cumulative nature of the effects could be significant when considering for example a potential offshore wind farm and other potential tidal and hydro power projects collectively.
2 (c) Transboundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other EU Member States)	YES	<p>This SEAP has significant potential transboundary effects as reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions contribute to the overall global emissions levels.</p> <p>Example potential transboundary effects of renewable energies include wind farms affecting birds migration routes, tidal power could affect seals of the Ythan Reserve and dolphins of the Moray Firth, to reducing commuting and the impact this will have on our neighbouring local authority, Aberdeenshire.</p>
2 (d) The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	NO	<p>This SEAP does not pose a significant risk to human health.</p> <p>Proposals in the SEAP could have a positive effect on human health through improved air quality and a more stable climate.</p>
2 (e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	NO	<p>The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects are not likely to be significant on the scale of the SEAP.</p> <p>Proposals within the SEAP could have wide ranging positive effects that extend beyond the city boundary.</p>
2 (f) The value and vulnerability of the area	YES	There is potential that projects arising from this SEAP could include offshore renewable energy.

<p>likely to be affected due to-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (iii) intensive land-use. 		<p>In this case areas of sensitivity would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berwick and North Northumberland Coast SAC due to the potential for a LSE on grey seals • Dornoch Firth and Morrich More SAC for harbour seal • Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC for harbour seal • Isle of May SAC for grey seal • River Dee SAC for Atlantic salmon. Atlantic salmon are also sensitive to barriers to migration and reductions in water quality. Whilst freshwater pearl mussel will not occur in the development site, impacts to Atlantic salmon could have subsequent impacts on the mussels due to the role of the salmon in the mussels' lifecycle. • Fowlsheugh SPA for Birds - guillemot, kittiwake, razorbill, fulmar and herring gull. • Montrose Basin SPA for Birds - dunlin, eider, greylag geese, knot, oystercatcher, pink-footed geese, redshank, Shelduck, wigeon • Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch SPA: Birds - common tern, eider, lapwing, little tern, pink-footed geese, redshank and sandwich tern. <p>Other projects may have effects on locally designated sites dependent upon what they propose. These designated sites are located as follows: http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/planning_environment/planning/environment/wac_naturalheritageareas.asp</p>
<p>2 (g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>Landscapes could be affected by this SEAP through development of certain projects but it is unlikely to have a significant impact on protected sites in Aberdeen City.</p>

SEA SCREENING REPORT

A summary of our considerations of the significant environmental effects of Aberdeen City SEAP

TABLE 2 – SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The actions/projects/interventions that will arise from the development of an Aberdeen SEAP will have social, economic and environmental impacts. All of which would need to be addressed through the scoping and implementation phases of each of the actions/projects/interventions. These cover a wide range of subjects including energy efficiency, waste, transport, renewable energy and construction.

There is potential for significant positive effects associated with reduced emissions and improved air quality, although there is recognition that each project will need to be reviewed in terms of their own positive/negative impacts. There may be significant effects that have the potential to affect landscapes, habitats and wildlife of Aberdeen. For these reasons an SEA is required.

A summary of our considerations of the significant environmental effects of Supplementary Guidance: Wind Turbine Development in Aberdeen City is given below.

TABLE 2 – SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

SUMMARY RECORD OF COMMENTS FROM CONSULTATION AUTHORITIES

GUIDANCE NOTE	
It is not a statutory requirement to include this section in the screening report. However, the Responsible Authority may find it useful for record purposes.	
TITLE OF PLAN, PROGRAMME OR STRATEGY	
Powering Aberdeen: Aberdeen’s SEAP	
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	
Aberdeen City Council	
DATE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM CONSULTATION AUTHORITIES	
tbc	
Consultation Authority	Views (if known at this stage)
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	Significant environmental effects – Yes/No
	If YES, note SEA topics/issues here (e.g. soil and water)
Scottish Natural Heritage	Significant environmental effects - Yes/No
	If YES, note SEA topics/issues here (e.g. flora, fauna and biodiversity)
The Scottish Ministers	Significant environmental effects – Yes/No

(Historic
Scotland)

If YES, note SEA topics/issues here (e.g. landscape and cultural heritage)

SEA SCREENING REPORT

TABLE 4 – RECORD OF POST SCREENING ACTION

GUIDANCE NOTE

It is not a requirement to include this section in the screening report. However, the Responsible Authority may find it useful for record purposes.

TITLE OF PLAN, PROGRAMME OR STRATEGY (PPS)

Powering Aberdeen: Aberdeen's SEAP

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

Aberdeen City Council

1
Responsible Authority and Consultation Authorities in agreement – PPS *is* likely to have significant environmental effects

Date of determination

2
Responsible Authority and Consultation Authorities in agreement – PPS *is not* likely to have significant environmental effects

Date of determination

3
Responsible Authority and Consultation Authorities cannot reach agreement – referred to the Scottish Ministers for their determination

Date referred to the Scottish Ministers

4
Scottish Ministers' determination

Date of determination

5
Publicity requirements met

6
Signature

Date

