

**POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT – COVER NOTE**

**PART 1**

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or

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**PART 2**

**A post-adoption SEA statement is attached for the PPS entitled:**

Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance

**The Responsible Authority is:**

The Highland Council

**PART 3**

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**Signature & date**

*Gillian Webster*

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011

## POST - ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT

### Post-adoption SEA statement for:

Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance

### Adopted on:

16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Planning, Environment and Development Committee

### Responsible Authority:

The Highland Council

## POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT INTRODUCTION

This document (referred to here as the post-adoption SEA statement) has been prepared in accordance with Section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

## POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

### WEBSITE

The full PPS as adopted, along with the Environmental Report and post-adoption SEA Statement are available on the Responsible Authority's website at:

<http://www.highland.gov.uk/yourenvironment/planning/developmentplans/localplans/ManagingWasteinNewDevelopmentsSupplementaryGuidance.htm>

### OFFICE ADDRESS

The PPS, as adopted, along with the Environmental Report and post-adoption SEA Statement may also be inspected free of charge (or a copy obtained for a reasonable charge) at the principal office of the Responsible Authority:

### Contact name, address and telephone number

Gillian Webster, Planning & Development Service, The Highland Council, Council Offices, Glenurquhart, Inverness, IV3 5NX – 01463 702264

### Times at which the documents may be inspected or a copy obtained:

9am – 5pm (Monday to Friday)

**POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT  
KEY FACTS**

<b>Name of Responsible Authority</b>	The Highland Council
<b>Title of PPS</b>	Managing Waste in New Developments: Supplementary Guidance
<b>Purpose of PPS</b>	To outline the Council's requirements for waste management facilities in all new developments.
<b>What prompted the PPS</b> (e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	Targets outlined in Scottish Government's 'Zero Waste' agenda and the EU Landfill Directive have emphasised the need to significantly reduce landfilling and increase the recycling and reuse of waste.
<b>Subject (e.g. transport)</b>	Waste Management/ Planning
<b>Period covered</b>	2011 onwards
<b>Frequency of updates</b>	As required
<b>Area of PPS</b> (e.g. geographical area)	The Highland Council administrative area except that controlled by the Cairngorms National Park.
<b>Summary of nature/content of PPS</b>	The aims of the PPS are to help to implement the Council's Waste Management strategy; provide guidance for developers and to contribute to sustainable development. It outlines the 'waste hierarchy' – the overarching principle for new development and provides the detailed standards that will be applied for waste management in new developments
<b>Date Adopted</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> March 2011
<b>Contact name &amp; job title</b> <b>Address, email, telephone number</b>	Gillian Webster Graduate Planner The Highland Council Glenurquhart Road Inverness, IV3 5NX <a href="mailto:gillian.webster@highland.gov.uk">gillian.webster@highland.gov.uk</a> 01463 702264
<b>Date</b>	23rd May 2011

## 1. Strategic Environmental Assessment Process

Managing Waste in New Developments: Supplementary Guidance has been subject to a process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), as required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. This has included the following activities:

- Taking into account the views of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland) regarding the scope and level of detail that was appropriate for the Environmental Report
- Preparing an Environmental Report on the likely significant effects on the environment of the draft PPS which included consideration of:
  - the baseline data relating to the current state of the environment;
  - links between the PPS and other relevant strategies, policies, plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives;
  - existing environmental problems affecting the PPS;
  - the plan's likely significant effects on the environment (positive and negative);
  - measures envisaged for the prevention, reduction and offsetting of any significant adverse effects;
  - an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives chosen;
  - monitoring measures to ensure that any unforeseen environmental effects will be identified allowing for appropriate remedial action to be taken.
- Consulting on the Environmental Report
- Taking into account the Environmental Report and the results of consultation in making final decisions regarding the PPS
- Committing to monitoring the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the PPS. This will also identify any unforeseen adverse significant environmental effects and to enable taking appropriate remedial action.

## **2. How Environmental Considerations Have Been Integrated Into The Guidance And How The Environmental Report Has Been Taken Into Account**

The table on the following pages outlines:

- Environmental problems identified in the Environmental Report and how these have been taken into account in the PPS
- Negative effects identified in the Environmental Report and how these have been dealt with in the guidance
- Measures for prevention, reduction and offsetting of significant adverse effects identified in the Environmental Report plus any revised measures considered later and explain how these have been integrated into the guidance
- Positive effects identified in the Environmental Report and how these have been integrated into the guidance

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS AND FINDINGS FROM ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT	INTEGRATED INTO PLAN (YES/NO)	HOW INTEGRATED/TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT OR REASON FOR NOT BEING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT
Protect and enhance human health	YES	On the whole, waste management has at best a small impact on human health however the guidance will deliver recycling facilities within all new developments which, alongside other measures, will decrease the amount and type of waste going to landfill providing a benefit to human health through a reduction in the prevalence of odour (i.e. if Scottish Government targets are achieved this figure will be 5% by 2025).
Avoid impact to and enhance water environment	YES	The guidance will ensure recycling facilities are provided as standard across all new developments. Over the long term it is anticipated that this will result in a reduction in the amount of waste that is landfilled which represents a significant reduction in the risk of contaminants entering the water environment.
Maintain air quality	YES	The promotion of recycling that will be delivered through implementation of the guidance may result in a reduction in landfilled waste producing contaminants.
Climate change	YES	Contaminants released from landfilled waste, such as methane, can be significant potent greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. A Defra study indicated that municipal solid waste comprises 27% of the UK's methane emissions – over a significant time period and in conjunction with other policies, the guidance will aim to address this through reducing landfilled waste.
Minimise waste	YES	The main focus of the guidance is to minimise waste and as the measures outlined become widespread across new developments it is anticipated production of waste will decrease, in line with the waste hierarchy.
Maintain soil quality	YES	The guidance will reduce the risk of soil contamination through ensuring proper storage of waste in new developments and reducing the

		amount of landfilled waste, which can also contaminate soil.
<b>List of Significantly Negative Effects identified in the Environmental Report</b>		
None identified	N/A	N/A
<b>Measures for prevention, reduction and offsetting of significant adverse effects identified in the Environmental Report plus any revised measures considered</b>		
As no significantly adverse effects were identified, this section is not applicable		
<b>List of Significantly Positive effects identified in the Environmental Report</b>		
Minimising waste	YES	The guidance will support the minimisation of waste production by ensuring facilities for recycling are built into all new developments across the Highlands ( this will include provision of householder facilities aswell as centrally located recycling facilities). This positive effect will increase over time and will be maximised in conjunction with other policies outlined in the Highland wide Local Development Plan and the Council's waste management strategy. Both documents encourage development of additional waste management facilities, including energy from waste, in vessel composting and materials recycling facilities – this will help support achieving government targets and ensure that over the long term only remedial waste is sent to landfill
Reduce contamination, safeguard soil quantity and quality	YES	It is unlikely that the guidance will ensure the re-use of brownfield or reduce the removal of good quality soil from sites. However it is considered that in the long term there will be a positive impact terms of a reduced risk of soil contamination that arises from the operation of landfill sites.
Avoid impact to and where possible enhance the water environment	YES	There will a small positive impact to the water environment in the short term which should increase over the longer term as waste management facilities become integrated within new developments. This is due to a reducing risk of seepage from landfill into water bodies. This positive effect will also significantly increased in conjunction with measures implemented as part of the Council' s wider waste management strategy and in conjunction with policies contained in the Highland wide Local Development Plan – for example allocations are made for energy from waste plant throughout Highlands which will also result in a reduction in the amount of was going to landfill.

**TABLE 2: How opinions of expressed during the consultation have been taken into account**

<b>CONSULTEE / RESPONDENT</b>	<b>SUMMARY OF COMMENTS</b>	<b>HOW THE COMMENT WAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN MAKING THE DECISION TO ADOPT THE FINAL PPS</b>
<p><b>Scottish Environment Protection Agency</b></p>	<p>Outlined at Scoping stage that all aspects of the guidance which could have significant effects should be assessed, however the guidance has been assessed as a whole. This reduces the ability to investigate the effects of individual aspects of the guidance, and as a result remove any negative effects or provide enhancement.</p> <p>Welcome the clear justification provided for the assessments</p> <p>Consider that the assessment of the guidance over-estimates the positive effects it could have on the environment. Do not consider, for example, that the guidance by itself will have long term significantly positive effects on the water and air environment.</p> <p>Do not consider that the alternative proposal, which is essentially to rely on the policies within local development plans and regulatory control, is having any negative effect on waste minimisation</p>	<p>It is accepted that the guidance could have benefited from a detailed assessment of each aspect. Given that no negative effects are likely as a result of the guidance, it was not felt necessary to produce a revised ER to provide individual assessment. However this comment will be taken into consideration for future SEA work.</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted – the ER outlines that the positive effects on the environment are likely to occur as a result of implementation of the guidance in conjunction with other measures (namely those outlined in the Council’s Waste Management Strategy)</p> <p>Whilst current policies do not have any negative effect on waste minimisation, there are no specific policies with regard to waste management in <i>new developments</i>. This could potentially result in an inconsistent approach being applied across Highland. Furthermore, the Highland wide LDP make specific reference to supplementary guidance to provide detail on the provision of waste management in new developments.</p>
<p><b>The Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland)</b></p>	<p>As the Historic Environment was screened out the ER, Historic Scotland had no comments with regard to the report or its findings</p>	<p>Noted</p>



<b>Scottish Natural Heritage</b>	Note that comments made at scoping stage have been addressed.	Noted
	Agree with the conclusions drawn in the preferred approach matrix of the ER with regard to landscape and natural heritage aspects	Noted
	SNH are happy to support the development and delivery of the PPS	Noted

*No responses to the Environmental Report other than those from the consultation authorities were received*

## **Reasons for choosing Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives**

The Environmental Report examined two scenarios:

1. Preferred Approach – Prepare Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance
2. Alternative Approach – Do Nothing

The preferred approach, adoption of the guidance, has the potential to have a significantly positive impact on the environment over the long term as it contains a number of measures which will encourage recycling and reduce the amount of landfilled waste. This has the potential to provide additional benefits to the environment in terms of a reduced risk of soil or water contamination and improved air quality over the long term.

The Alternative Approach would essentially mean the relying on existing development plan policy. As noted earlier, whilst this is not currently having any negative effect on waste minimisation, it does not specifically make provision for dealing with waste management in *new developments*. Moreover, within the existing policy context, the Highland wide Local Development Plan specifically refers to supplementary guidance as outlining the Council's requirements for waste management facilities within new developments. Therefore we were under obligation to produce such guidance. Notwithstanding this requirement, the production of supplementary guidance will ensure a consistent approach to waste management can be applied across Highland which would not happen without specific guidance.

Furthermore the guidance will ensure that recycling facilities are pro-actively incorporated as part of all new development in Highland. Over the longer term it is hoped this will translate to a higher rate of recycling and thus, a reduction in the amount of waste sent to landfill allowing the Council the best chance of meeting the rigorous targets outlined within Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan as well as those within the EU Landfill Directive.

## Measures that are to be taken to monitor significant environmental effects of the implementation of Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance

Monitoring of Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance will take place in order to aid in the identification of any unforeseen adverse effects and to take appropriate remedial action. This is in line with Section 19 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

Monitoring will take place following the adoption of the guidance and will use the SEA indicators.

SEA Topic	What the guidance seeks to achieve	Monitoring Indicator	Responsible for Data Collation	Publication of Monitoring	Remedial Action
Human Health	Reduction in odour associated with waste management	Odour nuisance	Scottish Government		Review guidance and priorities and principles
Water environment	Improve Water Quality	Number of rivers "C" classification or below	SEPA	Annually	Review guidance and priorities and principles.
Air Quality	Number of Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in Highland	None at present	<a href="http://www.scottishairquality.co.uk/">http://www.scottishairquality.co.uk/</a>		Review guidance and priorities and principles.
Climate Change	Reduce air pollution to levels that do not damage natural systems, including contribution to climate change.	Carbon Footprint – 11.73-11.99 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> per capita	Stockholm Environment Institute. <i>Taken from the report "A Right Climate for Change", (2007) Local Footprints Project and Stockholm Environmental Institute.</i>  Scottish Climate Change Bill; <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Climate-Change/16327/Climate-Change-Bill">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Climate-Change/16327/Climate-Change-Bill</a>	Annually	Review guidance and priorities and principles.
Waste	Minimise waste and re-use or recover it by recycling, composting or energy recovery.	Waste into landfill: The proportion of waste in Highland being put into landfill. % of recycling/composting.	Highland Council & SEPA	Quarterly	Review guidance and priorities and principles

Soil	Reduction in soil contamination	Number of sites of Contaminated land in Highland Area of Contaminated Land (ha) in Highland	Highland Council	Ongoing	Review guidance and priorities and principles
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**Concluding Remarks**

It is considered that the SEA process has added value to the adopted Managing Waste in New Developments: Interim Guidance, particularly in terms of highlighting anticipated positive effects. The guidance and its associated SEA documents will be made available online and at Highland Council Headquarters in due course.