


## Appendix 1

### Relevant plans, programmes and strategies (PPS) and environmental protective objectives, and their relationship with the Highland wide Local Development Plan

Name of PPS / Environmental protection objective	Objective/Requirements of Plan/Programme	How it affects, or is affected by HwLDP in terms of SEA issues* at Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
<b>International</b>		
EC Directive on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive (2001/42/EC)	The objective of this Directive is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Aims to identify and mitigate significant environment effects arising from certain plans and programmes.	The Directive requires that an SEA be carried out on every Local Plan and an Environmental Report produced.
European Climate Change Programme (2005)	The European Commission's main instrument to discuss and prepare the further development of the European Union's climate policy. To identify and develop all the necessary elements on an EU strategy to deliver the EU Kyoto Protocol commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 8% below 1990 levels by 2008-2012.	The Local Plan should promote choice and raise awareness of the need for change; encourage the development of renewables, and aim to reduce the need to travel. The Council will promote active and public transport, and housing site allocations will mostly be located in existing settlements to make use of existing facilities and services in order to reduce CO2 transport related emissions.
EC Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the Field of Water Policy Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	The Water Framework Directive is designed to integrate the way we manage water bodies across Europe. It aims to protect and enhance our water environment, promote sustainable water consumption, reduce water pollution and lessen the effects of floods and droughts.	The Strategic Environment Assessment of each site will identify whether the area is at risk from coastal or fluvial flooding according to the SEPA 1 in 200 year flood map contours. In terms of conserving water the Local Plan will make reference to the guidance in The Council's Designing for Sustainability in the Highlands.
EU Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The main aim of this Directive is to provide a common basis for tackling the noise problem across the EU.	The Local Plan should take account of the implications of policies on noise levels. In terms

	Provides a strategic approach to controlling environmental noise. It requires Strategic Noise Maps to be drawn along major roads, major railways and major airports. Action plans also have to be prepared to manage noise issues.	of proposed new development and infrastructure the Plan should ensure that buffer zones are provided where noise may be an issue.
European Commission White Paper: European Transport Policy for 2010 (2001)	<p>Outlines what has been achieved to date at the EU and member state level, and what the key targets are for the future.</p> <p>Series of principles presented, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Revitalise the railways</li> <li>- Improve quality in the road transport sector</li> <li>- Balance growth in air transport and the environment</li> <li>- Improve road safety</li> <li>- Policy on effective road charging</li> <li>- Develop high quality urban transport</li> </ul> <p>Develop medium and long term environmental objectives for a sustainable transport system.</p>	The Local Plan is being developed within the framework for transport provided at the EU level and will take account of the principles detailed within this document.
The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	Principles of international commitment to sustainable development reaffirmed. Aims to strengthen and improve Government at all levels to fulfil commitment to sustainable development.	The Local Plan will take into consideration the principles of sustainable development and seek to reflect these within the overarching objectives of the strategy and individual projects.
Agenda 21(1992)	<p>Agenda 21 underlines the growing awareness of the need to adopt a balanced and integrated approach to environment and development issues.</p> <p>Agenda 21 contains a broad range of qualitative objectives that relate to sustainable development. These include a requirement for countries to adopt integrated strategies to ensure compliance with legislation relating to sustainable development, to promote the use of renewable energy systems and to build public environmental awareness.</p>	The Local Plan will reflect the principles of sustainable development, and will make reference to the Council's Renewable Energy Strategy and the development policy planning guidance – Planning for Sustainability in the Highlands.
EC Directive On Public Access to Environmental Information (2003/4/EC)	Enforces the right of the public to view environmental information held by public authorities.	The Highland Council is required to ensure that all environmental information relating to the Local Plan is made available to the general public.
The Lisbon Agenda Established 2000	A ten year European strategy designed to spur economic growth throughout the EU. Targets are wide ranging and ambitious. They include achieving 3% average economic growth, 70% employment and the creation of 20 million jobs across Europe by 2010.	Promoting innovation and regional investment in the Local Plan area can encourage economic growth in the region in alignment with the goals set out in the Lisbon Agenda.
UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. 'The Aarhus Convention'	Acknowledges the need for public participation in environmental issues and grants the public rights to access to justice and information on the environment.	Public involvement in the formulation of the Local Plan should be actively facilitated. Consultations should incorporate the views and suggestions of local residents, business groups, council representatives and

Adopted June 1998		government.
The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	International commitment to maintaining the world's biodiversity. Three main goals established – the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources. Requirement for each country who has signed the declaration to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.	Adequate consideration of impacts affecting biodiversity with support for more detailed assessment at the local level where appropriate will be recommended.
European Protected Species, Development Sites and the Planning System, Interim guidance for local authorities on licensing arrangements (2001) (SNH)	This guidance clarifies the licensing arrangements which currently apply in cases where European protected species are present on any site which is the subject of a development proposal.	Any instances of protected European species should be highlighted in the Local Plan should they be within a proposed development site, and licence requirements should be clearly stated in the Developer Requirements text.
The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat 'The Ramsar Convention' Adopted February 1971	An international treaty that provides the framework for national and international co-operation for the conservation of wetlands primarily to provide a habitat for birds.	The Local Plan must recognise the legal status of any 'Ramsar' protected site and reflect its ecological importance in its biodiversity objectives.
EU Soil Thematic Strategy (Consultation stage)	The emerging Soil Strategy aims to reduce soil pollution, erosion, compaction and sealing of soil. It also aims to protect the role of soil in storing CO <sub>2</sub> , avoiding water pollution and preserving biodiversity. Protection of the sustainable production of food and renewable resources is a further aim.	The Strategy highlights soil protection as an issue and implicates soil degradation as a forthcoming issue in relation to land use.
European Landscape Convention (2000)	Promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organises European co-operation on landscape issues.	The Convention directs the way in which European designated landscapes issues should be taken into consideration.
Energy Services Directive	This requires each member state to introduce a mandatory target for the annual amount of energy to be saved in the public sector attributable to energy services, energy efficiency programmes and other energy efficiency measures. Article five of the directive requires the public sector to fulfill an exemplary role, including the purchase of equipment and vehicles based on a list of energy-specific product specifications. The directive, currently out for consultation, is expected to be implemented in May 2008.	The HwLDP will work with the Corporate Plan which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Bill will influence the targets and delivery of the Corporate Plan objectives 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 and it will affect the development of the Sustainable Resource Plan for Highland Council.
EC Air Quality Framework Directive	Sets new air quality standards for previously unregulated air pollutants. Includes sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, lead and ozone pollutants.	HwLDP should take forward a strategic approach to air quality in Highland working with the corporate plan which seeks to reduce pollutants by promoting active travel and better waste management.
EC Birds and Habitats	Protects all wild birds, their nests, eggs and	HwLDP will take into

Directive	habitats within the EC. Gives basis to classify Special Protection Areas (SPA's) to protect habitat and vulnerable bird species. Gives basis to classify Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's)	consideration the requirements of the directive in its section on Natural, Built and Cultural Heritage. The Council will work closely with the appropriate agencies on this matter.
European Biodiversity Framework	Promotes the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, emphasising education, training and awareness raising, species identification, monitoring and exchange of information.	HwLDP should be implemented with regard to the Biodiversity Duty that is stated in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
European Framework on Sustainable Development	Promotes coherent and cost-effective policy making; technological innovation; stronger involvement in civil society; and business in policy formation. Strategies for Sustainable Economic support progress in respect of the local environment.	The HwLDP will promote efficient resource use, energy efficiency and sustainable travel through a number of the topics. Sustainable development would be considered a cross cutting theme.
European Spatial Development Perspective	Emphasises the importance of achieving, equally throughout the EU, economic and social cohesion, as well as the conservation and management of natural resources and cultural heritage. It stresses more balanced competitiveness of the European Community.	This will influence the delivery of all of the Objectives of HwLDP.
Kyoto Protocol (1992)	United Nations international treaty on climate change. The Protocol entered into force in February 2005. Developed countries that have ratified the Protocol are committed to reducing their emissions of greenhouse gases. Commitment signed by 38 countries (plus the EU) to introduce legally binding targets to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 5% of 1990 levels in the period 2008-2012. The UK has committed to an 8% reduction.	The Local Plan will take account of targets reducing CO2 emissions and consider measures to reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable and active forms of transport.
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	The Water Framework Directive is designed to integrate the way we manage water bodies across Europe. It aims to protect and enhance our water environment, promote sustainable water consumption, reduce water pollution and lessen the effects of floods and droughts.	The Strategic Environment Assessment of each site will identify whether the area is at risk from coastal or fluvial flooding according to the SEPA 1 in 200 year flood map contours. In terms of conserving water the Local Plan will make reference to the guidance in The Council's Designing for Sustainability in the Highlands.
EC Waste Framework Directive	Along with subsequent Directives, this Directive aims to create an integrated approach to waste management in order to reduce waste production. It requires all necessary measures to be taken to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without harming human health.	The Local Plan should reflect the need to reduce the overall amount of waste that is produced within the area, as well as the need to sustainably dispose of waste that is produced. The Plan will allocate land for recycling facilities where applicable.
EC Directive on Landfill	The Directive aims to reduce the amount of their biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill. Biodegradable waste is waste which	This will have a considerable influence on the development of a strategic policy framework for

	<p>breaks down to produce methane (a greenhouse gas causing global warming). The main requirements of the Directive are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All landfill sites are classified as either hazardous, non hazardous or inert. This will mean the end of co-disposal</li> <li>• Full costs to be met by the gate price</li> <li>• Only treated waste may be landfilled</li> <li>• Once a landfill site is classified, the Directive dictates the types of wastes it can accept</li> </ul> <p>Certain wastes will be banned from landfills over a number of years - liquids, explosives, infectious clinical wastes and tyres</p>	waste and potentially could have an impact on other areas by crossing over topics.
The Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	The objectives of this Convention, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, are the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding. Its short-term aim is to significantly reduce global biodiversity loss by 2010.	HwLDP should be implemented with regard to the Biodiversity Duty that is stated in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
EC Bathing Waters Directive - 76/160/EEC	The main objective of the Bathing Water Directives (76/160/EEC and 2006/7/EC) is to protect public health and the environment from faecal pollution at bathing waters. Member States are required to identify popular bathing areas and to monitor water quality at these bathing waters throughout the bathing season	The Highland Wide Local Development Plan will take the directive into consideration when formulating policies for waste water and the water environment.
EC Shellfish Directives - 79/923/EEC and 91/492/EEC	The aim of the EC Shellfish Waters Directive is to protect or improve shellfish waters in order to support shellfish life and growth, therefore contributing to the high quality of shellfish products directly edible by man. It sets physical, chemical and microbiological water quality requirements that designated shellfish waters must either comply with ('mandatory' standards) or endeavour to meet ('guideline' standards).	The Highland Wide Local Development Plan will take the directive into consideration when formulating policies for the water environment to ensure that the physical, chemical and microbiological standards are complied with.
EC Directive on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks - 2007/60/EC	requires Member States to assess if all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.	Highland wide Local Development Plan will ensure any policy on flooding complies with this directive and the way in which the Directive is being implemented by both SEPA and the Scottish Government.
1992 OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the	The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic or OSPAR Convention is the	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will ensure that it works closely with the

North East Atlantic	current legislative instrument regulating international cooperation on environmental protection in the North-East Atlantic.	Coastal Development Strategy and the Scottish Governments Marine Spatial Planning activities to meet with the requirements of the convention.
EU Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution (2005)	sets objectives for reducing certain pollutants and reinforces the legislative framework for combating air pollution via two main routes: improving Community environmental legislation and integrating air quality concerns into related policies.	Highland wide Local Development Plan will take this strategy into consideration when formulating policies on air quality.
Taking Sustainable Use of Resources Forward: A Thematic Strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste (2005)	sets out guidelines and describes measures aimed at reducing the pressure on the environment caused by waste production and management. The main thrust of the strategy is on amending the legislation to improve implementation, and on preventing waste and promoting effective recycling.	This will be taken into consideration when working with the waste strategy to progress more sustainable waste disposal in highland and using the waste hierarchy.
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)	achieve stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.	The Highland Wide Local Development Plan will take this into account when working with the Council's Climate Change Strategy to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.
EU Environmental Noise Directive (2002/49/EC)	The main aim of this Directive is to provide a common basis for tackling the noise problem across the EU. Provides a strategic approach to controlling environmental noise. It requires Strategic Noise Maps to be drawn along major roads, major railways and major airports. Action plans also have to be prepared to manage noise issues.	The Local Plan should take account of the implications of policies on noise levels. In terms of proposed new development and infrastructure the Plan should ensure that buffer zones are provided where noise may be an issue.
EU Wild Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)	Protection scheme for all of Europe's wild birds, identifying 194 species and sub-species. Provides a framework for the conservation of wild birds in Europe. The Directive requires the identification of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) to conserve rare or vulnerable species. Aims to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitats in order to maintain populations at ecologically and scientifically sound levels.	Adequate consideration will be given to the impacts affecting biodiversity, with support for more detailed assessment at the local level where appropriate. The Local Plan must ensure that the ecological value of important SPAs is not undermined.
EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EC)	Aims to ensure biodiversity by conserving natural habitats of wild flora and fauna. It requires Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) to be identified which form a network of protected areas called Natura 2000 along with SPAs. Projects are only permitted on such sites under exceptional circumstances. Also aims to maintain, or restore, in a favourable condition designated natural	Ensure that the Plan is mindful of the list of sites of the natural habitats and species and take appropriate steps to avoid the deterioration of these habitats and avoid disturbance of scheduled, scarce or rare species. Ensure that schemes pursuant to the Plan do not result in damage

	types and habitats of designated species.	to special areas of conservation. Adequate consideration will be encouraged of impacts affecting biodiversity with support for more detailed assessment at the local level where appropriate. The Plan must not designate projects to be constructed either in SACs or in regional SPAs unless there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for their development.
SE Circular EU Habitats and Birds Directive (2000)	EU Nature conservation policy is based on two main pieces of legislation – the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive. Its priorities are to create the European ecological network (of special areas of conservation) called NATURA 2000, and to integrate nature protection requirements into other EU policies such as agriculture, regional development and transport.	The Local authority should be aware of the NATURA 2000 sites and protect the setting of these areas from unsympathetic development through the development plan process.

## National



SEA Good Practice Guidelines (ODPM) 2005	The guidelines are designed to assist practitioners responsible for plans and programmes requiring SEA, explain the role of the Environment Agency in the process and promote good practice approaches.	The Council will use these guidelines to inform how best to carry out an environmental assessment on qualifying plans and programmes.
UK Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy (2003)	Defines a long-term vision for energy policy combining environmental, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals. Four key goals within the White Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to cut the UK's carbon dioxide emissions, the main contributor to global warming, by 60% by about 2050 with real progress by 2020;</li> <li>- To maintain the reliability of energy supplies;</li> <li>- To promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond, helping to raise the rate of sustainable economic growth and to improve our productivity; and</li> <li>- To ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should recognise the significance of energy consumption by the transport sector and the corresponding contribution to CO2 emissions. Where possible the Plan will seek to reduce the overall need to travel, and where travel is necessary the promotion of more sustainable options such as walking, cycling and rail will be promoted.
Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA). Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2000 – amended 2003)	The UK Government has identified climate change as the most serious environmental problem facing the world today and one that will inevitably become more serious in the short to medium term. This programme outlines the UK's contribution to the global response to	It is imperative that the Local Plan directly addresses the issue and acknowledges the increased likelihood of flooding events and identifies ways that greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced. The Plan will take account of the

	<p>climate change - to deliver the UK's commitment of a 12.5% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels by 2008-2012. The programme sets out a strategic, far reaching package of policies and measures across all sectors of the economy to achieve the targets set. These are also designed to move the UK towards its domestic target of 20% reduction in 1990 levels of CO2 emissions by 2010.</p>	<p>UK wide emission reduction targets and consider measures which would positively contribute to these targets, for example reducing the need to travel and encouraging the use of more sustainable alternatives.</p>
<p>The Future of Air Transport (2003) White Paper</p>	<p>Sets out a strategic framework for the development of airport capacity in the UK over the next 30 years, against the wider context of the air transport sector. It does not itself authorise or preclude any particular development, but sets out a policy framework which will inform decisions on future planning applications, and against which the relevant public bodies, airport operators and airlines can plan ahead.</p>	<p>The Local Plan should take account of current and future air transport proposals and assess their potential contribution to the local economy, whilst taking full account of expansion plans and related environmental concerns.</p>
<p>Forestry Commission (2004) The UK Forestry Standard: The Government's Approach to Sustainable Forestry</p>	<p>The two central aims of the Standard are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The sustainable management of our existing woods and forests; and</li> <li>- A steady expansion of tree cover to increase the many diverse benefits that forests provide.</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan will safeguard and improve areas of semi-natural and amenity woodland where appropriate.</p>
<p>Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended)1981</p>	<p>This Act is the principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain. The Local Plan will aim to protect designated areas and priority habitats from development influences.</p>	<p>There are a number of SSSIs in the Local Plan area. The Plan should recognise their statutory importance and strive to ensure they are adequately protected.</p>
<p>UK Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996</p>	<p>Offers protection for rare wild mammals throughout the UK, including species such as red squirrels, bats and otters.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will make provision for incidents concerning wildlife conservation if protected species are discovered in areas designated for development.</p>
<p>UK The Protection of Badgers Act 1992</p>	<p>UK legislation offering specific protection to badgers and their setts. It is an offence to wilfully kill, injure or mistreat a badger. Their setts are also protected from obstruction, destruction, damage and, when active, disturbance. Any work within 30 metres of a badger sett may require a licence from SNH, and if destruction of the sett is unavoidable, a licence will definitely be required from SNH beforehand.</p>	<p>The site options within the Plan will be assessed to see if the presence of badgers is an issue. If this is the case, this fact will be highlighted in the Plan and any developer will be made aware through the developer requirements text that a licence from SNH will be required.</p>
<p>UK Climate Change Bill</p>	<p>The UK Climate Change Bill sets a target of 60% CO<sub>2</sub> reduction by 2050. The Bill is currently moving through the House of Commons. A Climate Change Committee has been created to take forward the actions in the Bill. Scotland will have certain devolved powers in implementing a Climate Change Bill for Scotland.</p>	<p>The HwLDP will take a strategic approach to how land uses in Highland can play their part in reducing carbon emissions.</p>
<p>Scotland and UK Energy Policy</p>	<p>A number of issues present in the UK Energy White Paper will have implications for Scotland. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where we will use our own powers</li> </ul>	<p>The HwLDP will take into consideration the implications of the national policy when developing highland specific</p>

	<p>in different ways to achieve more for Scotland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where we will use our own powers to complement UK measures</li> </ul> <p>The overall objectives agreed upon are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to reduce carbon emissions, and so tackle climate change</li> <li>• The need to ensure security of energy supplies by fostering a vibrant, diverse and competitive energy sector that is rooted here in Scotland</li> </ul> <p>The need to deliver energy at an affordable price for both individuals and businesses Ensuring that energy policy allows the energy sector to continue to make its vital contribution to economic growth</p>	<p>policies on developments regarding energy such as wind farms.</p>
<p>UK Biodiversity Action Plan 1995 and 1999</p>	<p>It is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity signed in 1992. It describes the UK's biological resources and commits the government to a detailed plan for the protection of these resources. It currently has 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans with targeted actions, a major review of the Priority Species and Habitats are underway, and will be completed in late 2008.</p>	<p>HwLDP should be implemented with regard to the Biodiversity Duty that is stated in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004</p>
<p>Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland (2000 – amended 2003)</p>	<p>Describes the plans drawn up by the Government and devolved administrations to improve and protect ambient air quality in the UK in the medium-term.</p> <p>Standards set for 8 main air pollutants of particular concern to human health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Benzene;</li> <li>- 1,3-butadiene;</li> <li>- Carbon Monoxide;</li> <li>- Lead;</li> <li>- Nitrogen Dioxide;</li> <li>- Ozone;</li> <li>- Particles (PM10); and</li> <li>- Sulphur Dioxide</li> </ul> <p>Local authorities are charged with drawing up their own strategies to tackle the air quality objectives in their areas. Standards are to be achieved between 2003 and 2008. The standards are purely health based and objectives are to be derived from these, taking account practically, technical feasibility, and economic factors.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will have regard to the implications of different policies on air quality and promote measures which reduce the need to travel and encourage the development and uptake of more sustainable options.</p> <p>The Plan should seek to ensure that air pollution within the area is managed and where possible, steps are taken to alleviate air quality problems.</p>

## Scotland National



The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005	The Act ensures that during the preparation of a qualifying plan or programme, there will be the carrying out of an environmental assessment. The SEA process that should be followed by a responsible authority is also outlined.	The Council will follow the procedure outlined in the Act when carrying out an environment assessment on a plan or programme.
Scottish Executive et al (2005) Securing the Future. The UK's shared framework for sustainable development	Sets out the guiding principles that have to be adhered to in order to achieve the goal of sustainable development. The following principles set out the framework for all sustainable development policy within the UK: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Living within environmental limits</li> <li>- Ensuring a strong, healthy and just society</li> <li>- Achieving a sustainable economy</li> <li>- Promoting good governance</li> <li>- Using sound science responsibly</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should adhere to the five principles in order that all policies are sustainable. The emphasis within the strategy is on balancing all aspects of sustainability, and this should be considered within the Plan.
Scottish Executive: Choosing Our Future Scotland's Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)	This document sets out the action that will be taken in Scotland to turn the shared priorities set out in the UK Framework for sustainable development into action. It has six key priorities; sustainable consumption and production, climate change and energy, natural resource protection and environmental enhancement, sustainable communities, learning to live differently and delivery.	The Local Plan will take account of objectives relating to sustainable development. Measures for reducing the need to travel and a shift to active and public transport will positively contribute to these indicators.
Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003	Part 1 of the Act introduces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- statutory right of responsible access;</li> <li>- reciprocal obligation on owners to manage their land responsibly;</li> <li>- places a duty on local authorities to uphold access rights and to maintain core paths;</li> </ul> Part 2 introduces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- community's right to buy</li> </ul> Part 3 introduces: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- crofting community right to buy</li> </ul>	The Local Plan needs to be aware of community land ownership and liaise with communities in order to assess if there are any allocations that may be required for the community's benefit. The Plan will also take into account local paths that need to be maintained, improved and safeguarded from development.
Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006	Act of the Scottish Parliament to make further provision relating to town and country planning; to make provision for business improvement districts; and for connected purposes.	Highland wide Local Development Plan will be produced using the guidance set out in this Act and also the secondary legislation of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) (Development Planning) Regulations 2009
Scottish Outdoor Access	The Scottish Outdoor Access Code, which	The Local Plan should contribute

Code (2003)	<p>aims to support the access provisions of the Land Reform Act, is based on three key principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- respect the interests of other people</li> <li>- care for the environment</li> <li>- take responsibility for your own actions</li> </ul>	to the development of core path networks alongside the core path plan. The Plan will identify paths that are required or need to be maintained or safeguarded in relation to a development site.
Scottish Executive (2000) Rural Scotland : A New Approach	Provides strategic confirmation of key issues such as establishing National Parks, Land Reform Act (ownership and access), water quality, planning and farming and notes their contribution to environmental quality. The main environmental objectives are to maintain the quality and diversity of Scotland's natural and cultural heritage.	The Local Plan should endeavour to maintain and enhance water quality, and safeguard amenity woodland and important croft land in order to protect the local landscape and maintain the natural heritage of an area.
Scottish Executive (2006) Rural Development Programme for Scotland 2007-2013 The Strategic Plan	<p>The consultation paper sets out key themes and priorities for the Rural Development Strategy for Scotland.</p> <p>The Strategy will guide the use of European Union Funds and other resources for rural development in the 2007-13 Scotland Rural Development Programme. The Strategy will form part of a UK National Strategy Plan which must be submitted to the European Commission. The three proposed themes for the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- underpinning performance and quality in the agriculture food processing and forestry sectors</li> <li>- enhancing rural landscapes and the natural heritage</li> <li>- promoting a more diverse rural economy and thriving communities.</li> </ul>	<p>The three themes of the strategy support SEA objectives through the promotion of rural economic development and communities, natural heritage and landscape enhancement.</p> <p>The Local Plan will seek to improve facilities for local communities, whilst acknowledging the need to maintain the local landscape and will plan for maintaining the natural heritage of the region.</p>
Scotland's Biodiversity (2004) It's In Your Hands. A Strategy for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in Scotland	<p>Vision: 'It's 2030: Scotland is recognised as a world leader in biodiversity conservation. Everyone is involved; everyone benefits. The nation is enriched'</p> <p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- conserve what we have</li> <li>- sustain healthy ecosystems</li> <li>- create networks and connections</li> <li>- engage more people</li> <li>- promote sustainable development</li> </ul> <p>The strategy also underlines the need to promote understanding and appreciation of natural heritage.</p>	Sets out the overall approach to biodiversity conservation and enhancement which the Local Plan should contribute towards. The Local Plan should identify key species and habitats, and give adequate consideration to the impacts affecting biodiversity with support for more detailed assessment at the local level where appropriate.
Scottish Historical Environment Policy (2008) (HS)	The Scottish Historic Environment Policy sets out Scottish Ministers' policies, providing direction for Historic Scotland and a policy framework that informs the work of a wide range of public sector organisations.	Highland wide Local Development Plan will take into consideration the SHEP when formulating policies on the built and cultural heritage of Highland.
Scottish Executive(2001) A Forward Strategy for Scottish Agriculture	<p>The Strategy sets out the national vision for the agricultural and land management sector, responding positively to contextual change and providing a more viable future for the industry.</p> <p>It aims to make the industry more prosperous by establishing better</p>	The Local Plan should take account of the concerns and opinions of local crofters, farmers, estate managers and landholders in the provision of new development.

	connections with the market. It views agriculture as an integral part of rural development and emphasises the importance of environmental stewardship.	
Scottish Executive (2004) Framework for Economic Development in Scotland	The Vision of the Framework is 'to raise the quality of life of the Scottish people through increasing the economic opportunities for all on a socially and environmentally sustainable basis.' Key objectives include economic growth, regional development and closing the opportunity gap. Sustainable development is also a key aim, the framework focuses on more efficient and profitable production, using fewer raw materials; adding more value to products with less pollution and waste in the process; and more consumer needs fulfilled with less energy, water or waste.	The Local Plan should reflect and build on the emphasis for environmentally sustainable ways of developing business. Business land allocations will be made in the main towns and villages.
The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended)	Under the Regulations, competent authorities i.e. any Minister, government department, public body, or person holding public office, have a general duty, in the exercise of any of their functions, to have regard to the EC Habitats Directive.	Highland wide Local Development plan will have regard to the EC Habitats Directive.
Scottish Executive (2001) A Smart Successful Scotland, Ambitions for the Enterprise Networks	This strategy aims to provide support to businesses through the Local Enterprise Company (LEC) network. It also emphasises the importance of fostering and maintaining good global connections, and marketing Scotland as a place to invest, partly on the basis of the high quality environment, skills and learning are also emphasised.	The Local Plan should seek to promote and improve upon the attraction of the Highlands as a place to invest, whilst generating income and employment through effective business links. The development of schools and further and higher education will be supported.
Scottish Executive (2003) Securing a future: Scotland's Renewable Energy	Notes the Scottish Executive's target of achieving 18% of electricity generation in Scotland from renewables by 2010. Includes a commitment to biomass generation in Scotland and discusses opportunities arising from biomass initiatives, including short rotation coppice and co-products from timber operations and agriculture.	The Local Plan will make reference to the Council's DPPG Designing for Sustainability in the Highlands in order to improve the energy efficiency of individual developments. There is also interest in the provision of wind turbines in the Local Plan area.
Scottish Executive (2001) Potential Adaptation Strategies for Climate Change in Scotland	Identifies a full range of potential adaptation strategies for Scotland, including those specifically relating to agriculture, forestry, fishing and biodiversity. Emphasises the importance of flexible resource management and the need to move on from defining conservation objectives on the basis of single species or fixed locations as these may no longer be achievable. The strategy notes that: 'the fragmented and often overlapping nature of policies for forestry, agriculture and biodiversity impedes appropriate adaptation strategies. In the medium-term, drivers of change from agriculture, from mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, from	The Local Plan will take account of the Scottish share and consider measures from the transport sector which would positively contribute to the targets, for example reducing the need to travel and encouraging modal shifts to more sustainable methods.

	sustainability issues and from the protection of biodiversity may lead to a blurring and perhaps complete removal of the distinctions between policies for forestry, agriculture and biodiversity.'	
Scottish Executive (2003) Let's Make Scotland More Active	The Strategy focuses on the need to increase physical activity amongst Scotland's population and sets targets of achieving 50% of adults and 80% of children meeting at least the minimum recommended levels of physical activity by 2022.	The Local Plan should promote the development of facilities (e.g. cycle, footpaths and sports centres) that encourage local populations to become more active. The Plan will take into account health related impacts of different strategies and seek to promote more active travel.
Scottish Executive (2003) Improving Health in Scotland The Challenge	Addresses wider health issues and aims to improve life expectancy. Also aims to reduce health inequalities between deprived and affluent people. Aims to 'mainstream' health policy so that it becomes an integral part of wider public sector policies. To achieve the required 1% annual increase, the strategy focuses on ensuring that physical activity is encouraged across the population as a whole, and targeting specific communities for basic changes in activity levels.	The Local Plan should promote the development of facilities (e.g. cycle, footpaths and sports centres) that encourage local populations to become more active. The Plan will take into account health related impacts of different strategies and seek to promote more active travel.
Delivering a Healthy Scotland Meeting the Challenge: Health Improvement In Scotland Annual Report (2006)	Aims to improve health and narrow the health inequalities gap, with a strategy to achieve a more rapid rate of health improvement. Report illustrates progress and actions on health improvements and how it contributes to key cross cutting government themes, e.g. sustainable development, social justice and community regeneration. Makes reference to the ways in which sustainable development supports health improvement and vice versa, in particular maintaining and increasing levels of green spaces in and near towns for recreation and enabling walking and cycling; funding initiatives that promote non car based travel.	Take measures in the Plan to promote health lifestyles. For example protect accessible green spaces to encourage physical recreation/ active travel.
Forestry Commission Scotland (2005) Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme	The aim of the Scottish Forestry Grants Scheme (SFGS) is to help deliver the Scottish Forestry Strategy (SFS) by encouraging the creation and management of woods and forests to provide economic, environmental and social benefits.	The Local Plan supports the aim of managing existing woodland and enhancing it to maximise biodiversity, landscape, community and recreation objectives. The Local Plan supports the creation of forest crofts and forest walks.
Forestry Commission Scotland (2004) Framework Document for Forest Enterprise Scotland	The purpose of Forest Enterprise Scotland is to manage the national forest estate to deliver economic, environmental and social objectives of the Scottish Forestry Strategy. Guiding principles include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sustainable forest management</li> <li>- delivering the Scottish Forestry Strategy</li> </ul>	The Local Plan and the SEA process will take account of the principles outlined, in relation to particular issues concerning community access to forests for recreational purposes and the transportation of timber.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- helping to deliver other Scottish Executive agendas</li> <li>- efficiency and effectiveness</li> </ul>	
Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) and SNH (2003) Habitat Networks for Wildlife and People	Aims to enrich the natural heritage of Scotland by the creation of woodland networks through linking woodlands, old and new, to form a more continuous woodland cover. This benefits wildlife by providing wider and more sustainable habitats and should enhance opportunities for people who live near, work in or simply enjoy woodlands. Proposes methods by which woods and forests can be linked and suggests woodland should be viewed as an integral part of the wider landscape rather than as individual stands of trees.	The Local Plan should aim to complement this strategy by encouraging an increase in woodland cover and the creation of forest crofts and woodland walks.
The Scottish Executive publication, 'Better bathing waters: meeting the challenges of the revised Bathing Water Directive in Scotland' (2006) (SEPA)	The Scottish Executive has designated 63 bathing sites in accordance with the European Commission's Bathing Water Directive. This Directive requires that the water quality at all designated bathing waters must meet specific microbiological requirements in order to protect the health of those that bathe there.	The Strategy highlights the importance of tackling both point source and diffuse pollution. This has implications for all developments proposed within the Local Plan. The Plan must ascertain the bathing sites within the area and ensure that there are no site options that could potentially lead to the contamination of such designations.
Groundwater Protection Policy for Scotland SEPA Environmental Policy 19 (2003)	Groundwater is a valuable resource in Scotland, essential for irrigation in some agriculturally productive areas, and is vital to the maintenance of the ecology and biodiversity of other habitats. As groundwater is not visible, it is often poorly understood and its value underestimated as a consequence. Groundwater should be managed in a sustainable way to maintain and enhance its contribution to social, economic and environmental welfare. However, the resource can be damaged by pollution and over-abstraction, sometimes irreversibly.	The Plan will identify land allocations that may have potential contamination issues which could have a negative impact on ground water, and will advocate a contaminated land assessment and appropriate remedial work on these sites.
Policy on the culverting of Watercourses (policy26) SEPA (1998) (SEPA)	This policy aims to prevent the unnecessary damage to river channels as a result of culverting schemes which are proposed for reasons of convenience.	The Local Plan will assess whether there would possibly be a need to culvert a watercourse within the sites designated. It may be preferable to develop around, or divert a watercourse.
Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 (WEWS)	The Act translates the EC Water Framework Directive into the Scottish context. It includes a number of key commitments relating to Scotland's water environment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• establishing River Basin Management districts; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- preparing River Basin Management Plans</li> <li>- regulation of controlled activities (including those likely to cause pollution to the water environment, those involved in abstraction, and</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	The Local Plan will reflect the Act in the development of adequate drainage systems. Future expansion of local water provision or abstraction and wastewater handling to cope with expected population increases will require close consultation with SEPA and Scottish Water.

	<p>those from construction on or near water).</p> <p>The Act aims to prevent further deterioration of water quality and has given Scottish Ministers powers to introduce regulatory controls over activities in order to protect and improve Scotland's water environment. That is, wetlands, rivers, lochs, transitional waters (estuaries and saline lagoons), coastal waters and water under the ground (groundwater).</p>	
<p>The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005 (CAR)</p>	<p>Brings into effect the regulation of the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• abstractions from surface and groundwater;</li> <li>• impoundment of rivers, lochs, wetlands and transitional waters;</li> <li>• groundwater recharge; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- engineering in rivers, lochs and wetlands;</li> <li>- engineering activities in the vicinity of rivers, lochs and wetland which are likely to have a significant adverse impact upon the water environment;</li> <li>- activities liable to cause pollution;</li> <li>- direct or indirect discharge of certain substances to groundwater; and</li> </ul> </li> <li>• any other activities which directly or indirectly are liable to cause a significant impact upon the water environment.</li> </ul>	<p>The Regulations apply across the water environment to provide a holistic approach to pollution control and protection of the water environment.</p> <p>Any activities that may fall within the remit of these regulations will require close consultation with SEPA and the receipt of appropriate licences.</p>
<p>Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Act 1997</p>	<p>The introduction of the Flood Prevention and Land Drainage (Scotland) Act 1997 instigated changes to the responsibilities and duties of Local Authorities in Scotland. In respect of this Act the flooding referred to is the flooding of land, not being agricultural land. Flooding of agricultural land falls out with the requirements of the Act. The implications on The Highland Council of this Act impose the following additional requirements:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Assessment of watercourses, from time to time for the purpose of ascertaining whether any such watercourse is in a condition likely to flood.</li> <li>b) A duty to maintain watercourses, which are in a condition likely to cause flooding, or where works would substantially reduce the likelihood of such flooding.</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification of Local Authorities out with the area. Where it appears to The Highland Council that any watercourse in the area is in a condition which is likely to cause flooding, out with the area, the</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan should take account of flood plains and areas at risk of flooding from SEPA's flood risk maps.</p> <p>Development proposals should avoid flood plains in the first instance, should this not be possible, adequate flood prevention or attenuation measures should be included.</p>

	<p>Council shall notify the local authority for the area in which the land is situated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reports shall be published, at two year intervals.</li> </ul>	
Scottish Executive's Locational Guidelines for the Authorisation of Marine Fish Farms in Scottish Waters (2002)	This document provides guidance to the aquaculture industry and regulatory bodies on the environmental sensitivity of local areas supporting aquaculture.	The Local Plan will aim to avoid sites at the shore which may negatively impact on the siting of any proposed Fish Farm.
Passed to the Future (2002) Historic Scotland Policy for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment	<p>Sets out the Scottish Executive's policy for the sustainable management of the historic environment. It notes the irreplaceable nature of historic environment features, but also sets out the following key principles to guide the parameters in which change can take place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- recognising value – in terms of quality of life and as a means of meeting social, environmental and economic needs</li> <li>- good stewardship – taking into account capacity for change and the sustainable use of resources</li> <li>• assessing impact – following the precautionary principle where impact is not clear</li> <li>• working together – to reduce damage, resolve conflict and maximise benefit</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan should recognise the important role of the historic environment and acknowledge the need to work together with others to consider a balance between social, economic and environmental needs.</p> <p>The SEA documents should be easily available to the public and the consultation authorities will be actively consulted on the content of the SEA.</p>
Forestry Commission Scotland: Scottish Forestry Strategy, 2006	<p>This document sets out a framework for taking forestry through the first half of this century. It sets out a vision for a forestry sector that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• diverse and strong</li> <li>• in tune with the environment</li> <li>• employing many people in a wide range of enterprises</li> <li>• providing the many other services and benefits that people need, now and for the future.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should take account of forestry issues.
Scottish Executive's Advice Note on Marine Fish Farming and the Environment, Jan 2003	This advice note provides information on the marine aquaculture industry. It encourages sustainable development of the industry and considers the environmental effects and constraints to development.	The Local Plan should consider areas where development may affect this industry.
SEPA Policy 27 (Addendum)	<p>This document looks at the reduction and control of water pollution. SEPA is responsible for ensuring that licences granted for discharges are compliant with relevant regulations. It looks at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• urban waste water</li> <li>• nitrates directive</li> <li>• bathing waters</li> <li>• shellfish waters</li> <li>• freshwater fisheries</li> <li>• surface waters abstracted for public supply</li> <li>• dangerous substances</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should take account of possible sources of water pollution.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• discharges to groundwater</li> <li>• integrated pollution prevention and control</li> <li>• Natura 2000 sites</li> <li>• Water framework directive</li> <li>• OSPAR.</li> </ul>	
Scottish Executive Trunk Road Biodiversity Action Plan (TRBAP) (2000)	<p>Sets the Scottish Executive's commitment to protecting Scottish biodiversity on the trunk road network. The purpose of the document is twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to assist in the delivery of biodiversity targets and objectives as set down in the Scottish Local Biodiversity Action Plans.</li> <li>- to raise awareness of biodiversity in all engineers, managers, planners, designers and ecologists working on the Scottish Trunk Road network.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should take account of any recommendations and actions outlined within the Trunk Road Biodiversity Action Plan.
Position Statement: Policy and Supporting Guidance on Provision of Waste Water Drainage in Settlements (2006) (SEPA)	<p>Policy Principle 1 Where a settlement is served by a public sewerage system, it is SEPA's opinion that new developments should connect to the public sewerage system. SEPA will therefore promote connection and appropriate upgrade to the public sewerage system. This is subject to Policy Principles 4 and 8.</p> <p>Policy Principle 2 Through the consultation process for all appropriate development plans, SEPA will promote the inclusion of policies which require development proposals to connect to the public sewerage system.</p> <p>Policy Principle 3 SEPA will oppose development in or close to a settlement served by a public sewerage system which proposes individual</p>	HwLDP will have regard to the SEPA Position statement when formulating options on the provision of waste water drainage in settlements.
Scottish Water's Q and S III programme (first stage of Q and S III 2006-2010)	The Q and S III Programme highlights the water and waste water systems that require, and are to receive, an upgrade or growth funding.	The Local Plan allocations can influence the provision of Q and S programme investment and ensure that it is directed to where future development is likely.
SNH Wildness in Scotland's Countryside – A Policy Statement	This sets out SNH's policy on Wildness in Scotland	Highland wide Local Development Plan will take this into consideration when making recommendations on Wildness.
Scotland's Scenic Heritage (1978) Countryside Commission for Scotland	this report sets out the results of a review conducted to identify areas of unsurpassed attractiveness which must be conserved as part of our national heritage.	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will take this into consideration when working toward the plan objectives of Quality Environment in Highland.
Scottish Climate Change Bill	The aim of the Bill is to establish a framework to enable more actions to reduce Scotland's greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. The Bill is currently out for consultation and The Highland Council have submitted a response	The HwLDP will take into consideration the provisions of the act.
Historic Scotland's	This is the document to which all planning	The Local Plan should recognise

Memorandum of Guidance on Listed buildings and Conservation Areas.	<p>authorities are directed by Scottish Office Development Department Circular No.13/1998 in their consideration of conservation and listed building consent matters.</p> <p>The Memorandum aims to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• present the principles and policies upon which the legislation is based</li> <li>• offer clear guidance which will help both applicants and planning officers to determine whether they are following those principles and policies and achieving what is best for the site</li> </ul>	the importance of the historic environment and acknowledge the need to work together with others to consider a balance between social, economic and environmental needs.
Meeting the Needs, Priorities, Actions and Targets for Sustainable Development in Scotland (2002)	Prioritises responsible resource use; Encourages energy conservation and promotes use of power from renewable sources; Ensures the provision of better land use planning, alternative service delivery and sustainable transport systems.	HwLDP will promote efficient resource use, energy efficiency and sustainable travel through a range of policies
National Waste Plan (2003) – New municipal waste recycling, and disposal targets to 2025 announced in January 2008.	<p>The strategy sets out a framework within which Scotland can reduce the amount of waste it produces and deal with the waste that is produced in a more sustainable way. It covers all household, commercial and industrial waste. More than 85% of the waste produced in Scotland is sent directly to landfill – a massive misuse of resources and a major source of greenhouse and other gases.</p> <p>The National Waste Plan aims to reduce this practice and outlines how we can work towards a culture of reducing, reusing and recycling our rubbish.</p>	<p>The Local Plan should take account of waste issues when considering the projected population increase within the plan area.</p> <p>Locating waste and recycling facilities close to settlements should help minimise the need to travel and increase rates of recycling.</p> <p>Means of approaching waste issues associated with building industries should be considered.</p>
Scottish Executive Policy Statement for Scotland - Designing Places	Sets out the Scottish Governments Policy to encourage well designed places throughout Scotland	HwLDP will take the provisions of Designing Places into consideration when formulating policy to enable good design to be encouraged and promoted throughout Highland.
Nature Conservation (Scotland ) Act	Sets out a series of measures which are designed to conserve biodiversity and to protect and enhance the biological and geological natural heritage of Scotland. Places a general duty on all public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity.	HwLDP will take into consideration the measures proposed in the Act
Passed to the Future	This is Historic Scotland's Policy for the sustainable management of the historic environment. Stresses the value in retaining, and, where possible re-using existing structures and materials. Explains the continued relevance of traditional building materials and local craft skills.	HwLDP should encourage the re-use of existing and traditional structures and materials.
Scotland's National Transport Strategy	<p>Sets out the long term vision for transport, together with objectives, priorities and plans. It focuses on three strategic outcomes which will set the context for transport policy making for the next twenty years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve journey times and connections between our cities and</li> </ul>	The HwLDP will take into consideration the National Transport Strategy and support its aims and objectives in line with other documents including National Planning Framework 2 and the Strategic Transport Projects Review.

	<p>towns and our global markets to tackle congestion and provide access to key markets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce emissions to tackle climate change</li> <li>• Improve quality, accessibility and affordability of transport, to give people the choice of public transport and real alternatives to the car.</li> </ul>	
Physical Activity and Sport Strategy	<p>Aims to increase and maintain the proportion of physically active people in Scotland. Sets targets to achieve 50% of adults aged over 16 and 80% of all children aged under 16 who meet the minimum recommended level of physical activity by 2022 through building healthy public policy. Creating supportive environments, strengthening community action, developing personal skills and directing health services at the people who need it most.</p>	<p>HwLDP will take into consideration the Physical Activity and Sport Strategy and will help to implement this through promotion of open space for use for physical activity.</p>
Scottish Executive Marine Coastal Framework (2005)	<p>Seeks to provide clean, healthy, safe, productive and biological diverse marine and coastal environments, which are managed to meet the long-term needs of nature and people. Seeks to provide a strategic analysis of existing marine activities; better understanding of environmental capacity, spatial planning issues, current pressures and how the marine environment can be managed in the future.</p>	<p>HwLDP should be implemented with regard to the Biodiversity Duty that is stated in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004</p>
Scottish Historic Environment Policy 2	<p>Sets out the policy for the identification and designation of nationally important ancient monuments. Sets the context to conserve the evidence of Scotland's past based on their cultural significance.</p>	<p>HwLDP should ensure the conservation of historic areas of cultural importance.</p>
The Future of Housing in Scotland	<p>Our vision for the future of housing in Scotland has four elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increased supply of housing across all tenures, all of which is delivered on the basis of higher environmental and design standards.</li> <li>• More choice of housing that those on lower incomes can afford.</li> <li>• Housing developments that contribute to the creation of sustainable, mixed communities.</li> </ul> <p>Social housing that provides better value for public expenditure.</p>	<p>The HwLDP will take into consideration the findings of this report when working toward new policies on housing.</p>
Scottish Biodiversity Action Plan 2005-8 and 2008-2011	<p>Its aim is to conserve biodiversity for the health, enjoyment and wellbeing of the people of Scotland now and in the future. It will do this by a number of measures; 1. Species &amp; Habitats: To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse</p>	<p>The HwLDP should be implemented with regard to the Biodiversity Duty that is stated in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004</p>

	<p>previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats, 2. People: To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity, and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement, 3. Landscapes &amp; Ecosystems: To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban, rural and marine environments through better planning, design and practice, 4. Integration &amp; Co-ordination: To develop an effective management framework that ensures biodiversity is taken into account in all decision making, 5. Knowledge: To ensure that the best new and existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners.</p>	
Priorities to Achieve Economic Growth	Purpose is to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with the opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish through increasing, sustainable economic growth.	The HwLDP will seek to increase economic growth while minimising impacts on the environment.
Draft River Basin Management Plan for the Scotland River Basin District (2008)	The draft river basin management plans (below) will ensure that statutory agencies, private organisations, public sector bodies and individuals work together to create a final plan that addresses all aspects of water management.	HwLDP will make sure that the recommendations and findings of the RBMP will be taken into consideration when working to formulate policies on the water environment.
Scotland's Bathing Waters: A Strategy for Improvement (2002)	The purpose of identification is to ensure that various water quality standards, particularly on microbiological contamination, are met at the bathing waters to protect public health and amenity. The Scottish Executive is committed to achieving these standards, which are set by the European Bathing Waters Directive, at all 60 identified bathing waters.	Take into consideration what is being done at a Scotland wide level to implement the EU Bathing waters Directive.
Strategic Asset Capacity and Development Plan (Scottish Water)	The Strategic Asset Capacity and Development Plan aims to let local authorities and developers see "at a glance" what capacity currently exists at a particular location in Scotland.	This will be taken into consideration when formulating policies on water and waste water infrastructure.
Thematic Strategy on the Protection and Conservation of the Marine Environment (2002)	The Marine Strategy is aimed at protecting Europe's seas and oceans and ensuring that human activities in these seas and oceans are carried out in a sustainable manner so that we and future generations can enjoy and benefit from biologically diverse and dynamic oceans and seas that are safe, clean, healthy and productive.	This will be taken into consideration when preparing policies on the water environment.
A Strategic Framework for the Aquaculture Industry	This document sets out a vision for the Aquaculture Industry. "Scotland will have a sustainable, diverse, competitive and economically viable aquaculture industry, of which its people can be justifiably proud. It will deliver high quality, healthy food to consumers at home and abroad, and social and economic benefits to communities, particularly in rural and remote areas. It will operate responsibly, working within the	This will be taken into consideration when policies are formed on coastal development.

	carrying capacity of the environment, both locally and nationally and throughout its supply chain.”	
The Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations (2000)	These regulations encourage environmental problems to be addressed in an integrated way.	This will be taken into consideration when formulating policies on the control of pollution in Highland.
Changing out Ways - Scotland's Climate Change Programme (2006)	The Scottish Executive is committed to playing its full part to tackle climate change. Key elements of this programme are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- presenting a vision for Scotland and how we are to move forward</li> <li>- quantifying Scotland's 'equitable contribution' in carbon terms</li> <li>- setting a Scottish target for carbon emission reductions</li> <li>- demonstrating Scotland's achievements so far</li> <li>- setting out new actions and future directions across the main sectors</li> <li>- responding to the inevitable consequences of climate change</li> </ul>	The Local Plan will seek to reduce the need to travel by allocating sites within the main villages where existing facilities and services exist. The Council will also support active and public transport, and will highlight the need for the provision of locally important pedestrian and cycle paths.
Building a Better Scotland Infrastructure Investment Plan: Investing in the Future of Scotland (2005)	The strategy is intended to ensure that the nation's infrastructure is improved; that public services are modernised; that investment planning takes a long-term view; that the allocation of resources is linked to the achievement of objectives and targets; and that the public sector disposes of surplus assets.	This will be taken into consideration when looking at proposed nationally important infrastructure in Highland.
Zero Waste Scotland	This proposed targets on waste including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the amount of municipal waste being recycled or composted is to be increased to 60 per cent by 2020 and a new target of 70 per cent by 2025</li> <li>• landfill from municipal waste is to be reduced to five per cent by 2025; and -no more than 25 per cent of municipal waste is to be used to generate energy by 2025 and large, inefficient incinerators are to be rejected; and -keeping the existing challenging target of stopping the growth in municipal waste by 2010</li> </ul>	This will be taken into account when formulating policies on waste and also renewable energy (ie Energy from Waste).
SEPA Guidelines for Thermal Treatment of Municipal Waste	These guidelines are material to the preparation of development plans and to the determination of planning applications for thermal treatment plants. The updated 2009 guidelines will carry the same status as a “material planning consideration” where relevant.	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will need to take these guidelines into consideration when preparing the plan especially when producing policies on Renewable Energy (Energy from waste plants) and waste.

Scottish National Planning Policy Tier



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National Planning Framework for Scotland 2	This is the governments land use element of its economic strategy and sets out how each part of Scotland can play its part in making Scotland the best small country in the world.	HwLDP must take into account the information within NPF2 and build it into the HwLDP.
Scottish Planning Policy (2008)	This sets out national policy, the purpose of the planning system and the objectives for core parts of the planning system	HwLDP will have regard to the SPP to ensure the HwLDP meets with the Scottish Governments view on the purpose of the planning system.
NPPG5 - Archaeology and Planning (1998)	<p>Require the protection, preservation and, where appropriate, enhancement of all nationally important sites of archaeological interest and their settings; and also for other unscheduled remains and their settings identified as particularly worthy of preservation.</p> <p>Require the protection and where appropriate the enhancement of landscapes of historic importance including historic gardens and designed landscapes, and their settings.</p> <p>Require the excavation and recording of sites where the primary aim of preservation has not been achieved.</p>	<p>Sites of archaeological importance should be identified in the Plan and the setting of these sites should also be protected.</p> <p>The Plan will identify landscapes of historic importance and avoid designating sites within the setting of these.</p> <p>The Plan will reflect the NPPG's aim of preserving sites of historic importance. There may be cases where the community need for certain types of development may conflict with the historical significance of a site. In these cases the Local Plan will advocate the excavation of the site.</p>
NPPG13 - Coastal planning	<p>Provides guidance on managing and enhancing biodiversity on the coast.</p> <p>Highlights the need to distinguish between developed, undeveloped and isolated coastlines.</p> <p>Advises planning authorities on how to manage the risk of erosion and flooding along the coastal zones. Also outlines policy guidance for coastal zone development locations and actions to be taken by planning authorities in development plans and control decisions.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will identify sensitive landscapes and coastal areas where development should be avoided.</p> <p>Areas at risk from coastal flooding should also be avoided.</p>
SPP14 - Natural Heritage	This document offers guidance on how the conservation and enhancement of Scotland's plants, animals, landform, geology, natural beauty and amenity should be reflected in land use planning.	Local Plans are required to place particular emphasis on the strength of protection afforded to international, national, regional and local designations. The Plan should also indicate the criteria against which a development affecting a natural designation will be assessed, and identify

		appropriate opportunities to improve public access for the purposes of enjoying and learning about natural heritage.
SPP23 - Planning and the Historic Environment	<p>Sets out Government planning policies in relation to the historic environment with a view to its protection, enhancement and conservation.</p> <p>Aims to provide effective protection of all aspects of the historic environment.</p> <p>The historic environment can be damaged through new infrastructure development and indirect effects associated with transport.</p>	<p>The Plan will:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- define the historic environment and where appropriate, its landscape or townscape setting, in proposals maps.</li> <li>- include policies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of the historic environment and its setting including listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments and historic gardens and designed landscapes.</li> <li>- include reference to existing and proposed conservation areas.</li> <li>• outline criteria that will be applied to development proposals within conservation areas, within the curtilage of listed buildings and development affecting the setting of scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, historic gardens and designed landscapes.</li> </ul>
SPP2 Economic Development	<p>Development should embrace a wide range of views including those representing the economy, investment and infrastructure interests. Planning authorities should therefore work with the business community, the Enterprise networks and infrastructure providers to ensure that policies and proposals for land allocations reflect current and likely future requirements. However, this should not conflict with the protection afforded to international, national, regional and local designations.</p>	<p>The Plan should make reference to the objectives of HIE and should allocate land for business use accordingly. The Plan should also help commit infrastructure providers such as Scottish Water to invest in areas that will provide future development.</p>
SPP3 Planning for housing (2008)	<p>A key aim of the planning system is to provide well-located, high quality new housing.</p> <p>The overall aim of SPP 3 is to guide new housing developments to the right places by ensuring new developments are easily accessible by public transport and well integrated into walking and cycling networks. Extensions to cities, towns and</p>	<p>Local Plans are to guide development in suitable site specific allocations, close to existing settlements, that will not negatively impact on the natural and built environment.</p>

	villages or new settlements should be developed in a sustainable way.	
SPP6 Renewable Energy (Draft)	Scottish Ministers have set a target of generating a large percent of Scotland's electricity from renewable sources by 2020.	The Plan will support renewable energy developments and will make reference to the Council's Renewable Energy Strategy and the guidance on Designing for Sustainability.
SPP7 Planning and Flooding (2004)	<p>New development should not take place if it would be at significant risk of flooding from any source or would materially increase the probability of flooding elsewhere.</p> <p>The storage capacity of functional floodplains should be safeguarded, and works to elevate the level of a site by landraising should not lead to a loss of flood water storage capacity.</p> <p>The policy in this SPP is based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- developers and planning authorities must give consideration to the possibility of flooding from all sources.</li> <li>- new development should be free from significant flood risk from any source.</li> <li>- in areas characterised as 'medium to high' flood risk for watercourse and coastal flooding new development should be focussed on built up areas and all development must be safeguarded from the risk of flooding.</li> </ul>	Flood risk will be a material consideration in a range of cases. Where built up areas already benefit from flood defences, redevelopment of brownfield sites should be acceptable but greenfield proposals will extend the area of built development at risk and should preferably be considered in light of alternatives through the development plan process.
SPP8 Town Centres and retailing	<p>The broad policy objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to sustain and enhance the vitality, viability and design quality of town centres, as the most appropriate location for retailing and other related activities;</li> <li>- to maintain an efficient, competitive and innovative retail sector offering consumer choice, consistent with the overall commitment to town centres; and</li> <li>- to ensure that ways of meeting these objectives are compatible with sustainable development and, in particular, that new developments are located where there are good public transport services, and better for those walking and cycling, leading to less dependence on access by car.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan will aim to provide land for business within the main settlements in order to retain the vitality of town centres and reduce the need to travel.
SPP10 Planning for Waste Management	Priority is now being given to the reduction of waste at source, its re-use, its recovery by recycling and to the use of waste as a source of energy. Treatment and disposal of that which remains should be carried out in a safe and environmentally acceptable manner. All these activities need to be	Local Plans should allocate sites for waste management in accordance with the Waste Framework Directive.

	carried out in a manner consistent with the principle of sustainable development and without imposing an unnecessary burden on industry.	
SPP11 Open Space and Physical Activity	Addresses the land use implications of sport and physical recreation and aspects of informal physical recreation that take place in urban open spaces, which are significant land uses in our towns and cities, and large areas of countryside which are shared by those enjoying outdoor pursuits and seeking places for quiet relaxation.	Local authorities and developers should aim to maintain existing open spaces and create new open spaces which are fit for purpose and sustainable over the long term. The Local Plan should take into account the need for open spaces within new and existing developments.
SPP15 Planning for Rural Development (Feb 2005)	This SPP focuses on sustainable rural development in the countryside and settlements of 3000 population or less. The SPP encourages a supportive attitude towards 'appropriate' development in areas that help create opportunities for development in sustainable locations wherever appropriate – for example where infrastructure capacity exists or can be provided at reasonable cost, or to meet justifiable social or economic objectives.	Sustainable rural settlements may require the allocation of affordable housing sites which the development Plan will designate. Infrastructure providers should make reference to the Plan allocations to assess where future capacity is necessary, in order to progress the development of these rural areas. The importance of the sensitive design of development in rural areas will be highlighted as well.
SPP17 Planning for Transport (2005)	Promotes the integration of land use planning and transport at the national, regional and local level. Within SPP17, land use planning is stated as an important tool in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reducing the need for travel by relating land use to transport facilities;</li> <li>- enabling access to local facilities by walking and cycling;</li> <li>- encouraging public transport access to developments; and</li> <li>- supporting essential motorised travel.</li> </ul> Accessibility of new developments is an important issue, and it is recognised that the development plan's should locate and integrate new development, including development of new settlements and expansion of existing built-up areas for housing, with existing or planned transport infrastructure, particularly for walking, cycling and public transport, and with provision of public transport services.	The Plan will recognise the importance of integrating land use and transport planning. Where possible the developer requirements text of the plan will advocate the creation of public footpaths, cycle ways and public transport improvements.
SPP20 Role of Architecture and Design in Scotland	Draws together and reinforces the Scottish Government's published design policy commitments and sets out the role of Architecture and Design Scotland.	This will be taken into account when formulating policies on Place Making and Sustainable Design
SPP21 Green Belts April 2006	Green belt policy should be used as a long-term planning tool to provide clarity and certainty on where development will and will not take place. There should continue to be a strong presumption against inappropriate	The review of a Local Plan will assess the appropriate long term use of green belt land whether this is partly for development that will benefit the community or for

	<p>development in green belts. Where it is considered necessary, the proposed release of green belt land should be taken forward as part of a long-term settlement strategy in the development plan. This will ensure widespread engagement and debate on the future shape of settlements.</p> <p>Management plans agreed between local authorities, landowners and other interests, as well as a range of funding schemes, have an important role in maximising the benefits of green belt land in a co-ordinated way.</p>	<p>the improvement of the area as a green framework.</p>
SPP22 Planning for Fish Farming (2007)	<p>Indicates how the planning system can seek to accommodate fish farming developments whilst safeguarding the environment.</p>	<p>This will be taken into consideration when producing policies on coastal development and Aquaculture.</p>
SPP23 Planning and the Historic Environment (2008)	<p>Sets out the national planning policy for the historic environment with a view to its protection, conservation and enhancement.</p>	<p>This will be taken into consideration when producing the policies on Historic and Cultural Heritage.</p>
PAN 33 Development of Contaminated Land (2000)	<p>Planning authorities are encouraged and expected to promote the re-use of brownfield land, including contaminated sites, and to inform developers of the availability of sites and the potential constraints attached to them.</p>	<p>Local Plans should set out site specific proposals for land use in their area so that opportunities for development and redevelopment are readily identifiable to landowners, prospective developers and the local community. The allocation of a site for a particular use, however, does not in itself approve the suitability of a site for that purpose. Only investment by the developer or applicant can confirm this. In some instances an assessment of potential contamination issues will be necessary and any remedial work will also need to be financed by the developer.</p>
PAN 42 Archaeology – The Planning Process and Scheduled Monument Procedures (1994) (HS)	<p>Includes advice on the handling of archaeological matters within the planning process and on the separate controls over scheduled monuments under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.</p> <p>Supports the associated NPPG 5 – Archaeology and Planning – which sets out the Government's planning policy on how archaeological remains and discoveries should be handled within the development plan and development control systems. As NPPG 5 indicates, nationally and more locally important remains and their settings should be preserved wherever feasible.</p>	<p>A planning authority need to keep up to date with the latest records, new finds and legislation with regard to archaeological areas within Local Plan areas.</p> <p>Where archaeological remains of lesser importance are affected by proposed development, planning authorities should weigh their importance against other factors, including the benefits of the proposed development. In cases where it is judged that development should still proceed, then excavation of all or part of, the site may be necessary.</p>
PAN 43 Golf Courses and Associated Developments (1994)	<p>Golf course proposals will be assessed on the demand for such development in the area and their ability to fit into the landscape.</p>	<p>The development and design of golf courses can provide attractive green, open spaces. However, such development will</p>

		impact on biodiversity. The Local Plan supports the development of golf courses but not to the detriment of important natural and cultural heritage.
PAN 44 Fitting New Housing Development into the Landscape (1994)	House building is likely to continue to be the most widespread urban land use change for many years ahead. Recycling disused and vacant land as brownfield sites for new housing remains a national priority and can provide for a large part of these needs. Demand for new housing is high in many settlements, and development may threaten the character or identity of a place. A cumulative loss of landscape quality has already become apparent. Suburban housing estates, often devised with little appreciation of local character or a sense of place, have taken shape around the fringes of many towns.	Development Plans will advocate sensitive siting and design of new development within existing settlements, where possible. The Plan will also aim to avoid housing estates devoid of community facilities by allocating land for district centres which will incorporate community and business uses.
PAN 51 Planning, Environmental Protection and Regulation (1997)	The environment and land use of Scotland provide the basis for sustaining life, economic development and social well-being. A range of specific environmental protection regimes are designed to safeguard the natural and built environment. They operate alongside the land use planning system which aims to ensure that development takes place in suitable locations and is sustainable, while also providing protection from inappropriate development.	Locations where there are special environmental protection concerns should be set out in the Local Plan and identified on the proposals map. Local Plans may also need to refer to particular environmental protection regimes if they are likely to impose constraints or limitations on development on particular uses of land in a specific area. This may take the form of a policy or the identification of an area where consultation on specified types of planning application is required. In some areas the Local Plan may have to acknowledge that because certain capacity or environmental thresholds have been, or are likely to be reached, further development is unlikely to be permitted unless it incorporates measures to address the environmental constraints.
PAN 52 Planning and Small Towns (1997)	This Planning Advice Note is intended to encourage local councils, the enterprise network, Communities Scotland and Historic Scotland and other organisations to work together with local community and business groups to retain, restore and enhance what is best about a town and remove, and improve and rehabilitate what is worst.	The Local Plan can assist the aim of improving small towns by producing a vision for the area and identifying priorities for action within each town. Land use allocations will help to ensure a supply of land for particular housing, community and business uses to help meet the vision for an area.
PAN 53 Classifying the Coast for Planning Purposes (1998)	This advice note sets out the criteria which planning authorities should use in deciding whether the coast should be developed, undeveloped or remote.	This classification aims to provide a practical framework within which planning authorities, in their Local Plans, can classify the coast as a basis for the

		promotion or control of development.
PAN 56 Planning and Noise (1999)	<p>The planning system has an important role to play in preventing and limiting noise pollution. The redevelopment of brownfield sites for housing, a concentration of transport on existing corridors and the increasing emphasis upon mixed-use developments are likely to make noise issues an increasingly important consideration in planning decisions.</p> <p>Although the planning system cannot tackle existing noise problems directly, it has the task of guiding development to the most suitable locations and in regulating the layout and design of new development. The noise implications of development can be a material consideration in determining applications for planning permission.</p>	Development plans can provide the policy framework within which these issues will be considered, but careful attention will also need to be paid to noise issues in determining applications for planning permission.
PAN 59 Improving Town Centres (1999)	<p>This PAN reflects the contents of NPPG 8 and underlines the importance of town centres and gives more detailed advice on how planning authorities can safeguard and improve them, drawing on specific examples of various approaches and actions undertaken in Scotland.</p> <p>To improve their prospects, the aim should be to promote lively, vibrant and viable town centres that provide a quality urban environment where people can live, feel safe, businesses can prosper and opportunities exist for new stimulating activities.</p>	The Local Plan shall aim to allocate land for a number of purposes within existing villages and towns to help promote their vitality and viability.
PAN 60 Planning for Natural Heritage (2000)	<p>Complements NPPG 14 on Natural Heritage, with examples of good planning practice in relation to natural heritage from across Scotland highlighted in a number of cases.</p> <p>Provides advice on how development and the planning system can contribute to the conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of Scotland's natural environment, and encourages developers and planning authorities to be positive and creative in addressing natural heritage issues.</p>	Local Plans are required to place particular emphasis on the strength of protection afforded to international, national, regional and local designations. The Plan should also indicate the criteria against which a development affecting a natural designation will be assessed, and identify appropriate opportunities to improve public access for the purposes of enjoying and learning about natural heritage.
PAN 61 Planning and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (2001)	Planners have a key role in highlighting the need for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) and co-ordinating SUDS projects.	<p>The Local Plan should set the framework for the local authority's policies with regard to SUDS.</p> <p>Sites requiring urban drainage systems should be highlighted within the SEA matrix and in the developer requirements section of the Local Plan.</p>
PAN 63 Waste Management Planning (2002)	One of the purposes of this PAN is to assist planning authorities in ensuring that development plans reflect the land use requirements for the delivery of an integrated network of waste management	The Plan will allocate sites for waste management facilities where required.

	facilities.	
PAN 65 Planning and Open Space (2008)	<p>Gives advice on the role of the planning system in protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and providing high quality new spaces. Supports NPPG 11: Sport, Physical Recreation and Open Space. Also sets out how local authorities can prepare open space strategies and gives examples of good practice in providing, managing and maintaining spaces. The advice relates to open space in settlements: villages, towns and major urban areas. A key aim of the PAN is to raise the profile of open space as a planning issue.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will aim to protect areas that are valued; and ensure provision of appropriate, quality, open spaces in, or within easy reach of, new development.</p>
PAN 66 Best Practice in handling Planning Applications affecting Trunk Roads (2003)	<p>Intended to provide advice on best practice with the overall aim of enabling Scottish Executive Road Network Management and Maintenance Division (RNMMMD) to reduce the time taken to process consultations. The primary purpose of the trunk road network is to provide for the safe and effective movement of long-distance through traffic/ This means that the full implications for traffic flow and road safety are taken into account when proposals are made for new developments in the vicinity of trunk roads. It is recognised, however, that in some cases the trunk road provides the only road access to development or forms an important and inseparable part of the local road network. In such cases care is needed to ensure a balance is struck between local and wider interests when assessing proposals.</p>	<p>Planning authorities are required to consult the relevant trunk road authority in relation to Local Plan allocations affecting existing or proposed trunk roads or special roads under the following circumstances:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- proposed development within 67 metres of the middle of the road;</li> <li>- where the development consists of, or includes, the formation, laying out or alteration of any means of access to such a road; or</li> <li>• where the development is likely to result in a material increase in the volume or a material change in the character of traffic entering or leaving the road.</li> </ul>
PAN 67 Housing Quality (2003)	<p>The design of a successful place will begin with understanding how new housing can be connected to the movement patterns (street and routes) and settlement patterns (street blocks and layouts) of an area. Vehicle and pedestrian routes should connect the housing with facilities and spaces within the development, to the local area and more widely. Issues that should be considered when looking at the accessibility and traffic management of housing areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- buildings whose access is from the street</li> <li>- routes connected to existing routes and patterns of movement</li> <li>- well connected or have the potential to be well connected to public transport</li> <li>- pedestrian and cycle routes, which may be streets with vehicular traffic, that are continuous and connected, with no dead ends</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan will aim to allocate development sites in the core of existing settlements to provide easy access to local facilities and services. Where this is not possible, the provision of pedestrian and cycle routes will be advocated, and increased access to public transport will be encouraged.</p>

	- routes which are safe and convenient for people with limited mobility	
PAN 68 Design Statements (2003)	One of a series of advice notes which addresses design in more detail and should be read in conjunction with them. It explains what a design statement is, why it is a useful tool, when it is required, and how it should be prepared and presented. The PAN does not introduce a prescriptive approach. It seeks to ensure that local authorities and applicants become more confident in preparing them. The aim is to see design statements used more effectively in the planning process and to create places of lasting quality.	The Local Plan will encourage the good general design of built development and will offer guidance on specific areas where the high quality of design is particularly relevant in order to fit development sensitively in to the landscape.
PAN 69 Planning and Building Standards Advice on Flooding (2004)	Provides background information and best practice advice in support of Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) 7: Planning and Flooding. The SPP aims to prevent future development which would have a significant probability of being affected by flooding or which would increase the probability of flooding elsewhere. The PAN takes as a starting point the responsibilities of local authorities and developers in ensuring that future development is not located in areas with a significant risk of flooding, including functional flood plains. However, there are circumstances where development would benefit from selecting designs, forms of construction and materials which may help to minimise the effects of a flood event on the property.	The Development Plan will identify any flood risk areas during the site options stage of the Plan and will recommend that a flood risk assessment is carried out on brownfield and other possible development sites where any possible flood risk could be alleviated.
PAN 71 Conservation Area Management (2004)	There are over 600 conservation areas in Scotland. This PAN complements existing national policy and provides further advice on the management of conservation areas. It identifies good practice for managing change, sets out a checklist for appraising conservation areas and provides advice on funding and implementation.	Local Plans should prevent uncharacteristic development taking place in conservation areas.
PAN 72 Housing in the Countryside (2005)	This PAN aims to create more opportunities for good quality rural housing which respects Scottish landscapes and building traditions.	Development Plans should encourage good quality housing design and the sensitive siting of development.
PAN 73 Rural Diversification (2005)	The Scottish Executive is committed to supporting rural life, rural communities and the rural economy. This includes promoting sustainable development in rural areas.	Development Plans should contain positive policies that encourage rural diversification and are appropriate to the rural areas they apply to. They should identify sites that offer a choice of size, location and environmental amenity, in order to meet the varying demands of business and allow them to be located in the most suitable and sustainable locations.
PAN 74 Affordable Housing	Sets out how the planning system can	The Local Plan will aim to

(2005)	support the Executive's commitment to increase the supply of affordable housing. It provides advice and information, including existing examples of better practice. Seeks to speed up the development of both market and affordable housing by ensuring that any affordable housing requirement included in the development plan is realistic.	allocate at least one site within each main settlement for affordable housing to ensure an adequate supply of land for this use over the Plan period.
PAN 75 Planning for Transport (2005)	Accompanies SPP17: Planning for Transport and provides good practice guidance which planning authorities, developers and others should carry out in their policy development, proposal assessment and project delivery. The document aims to create greater awareness of how linkages between planning and transport can be managed. It highlights the roles of different bodies and professions in the process and points to other sources of information.	The Plan will recognise the importance of integrating land use and transport planning. Where possible the developer requirements text of the plan will advocate the creation of public footpaths, cycle ways and public transport improvements.
PAN 77 Designing Safer Places	This PAN highlights the positive role that planning can play in helping to create attractive, well-managed environments which help to discourage antisocial and criminal behaviour. It also aims to ensure that new development can be located and designed in a way that deters such behaviour.	This will be taken into consideration when formulating policies on Place Making.
PAN 79 Water and Drainage (2006)	Development Plans guide the future development and use of land in the long term public interest. Local Plans play a key role in identifying suitable locations for development in the context of an overall settlement strategy. Provision of water and waste water is an important consideration in the delivery of public policy objectives, including those set out in development plans.	Issues relating to water and drainage should not be viewed in isolation but considered in relation to the Plan's objectives. The Council and Scottish Water should work together to provide a long term framework for infrastructure provision over the development plan and Scottish Water's investment period.
PAN 81 Community Engagement (2007)	The planning system is being radically reformed by the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006. The Act will change planning legislation in a number of ways which are aimed at making the planning system more efficient and inclusive at all levels – from national policy to strategic and local development plans and development management.	To meet the aims of the PAN the Local Plan team need to reach out to as many people as possible through the use of innovative consultation exercises. We are to produce a Main Issues Report to ask the public what their views are with regard to the main issues in the area. We will encourage partnership working with community organisations, infrastructure providers, landowners and other stakeholders, and monitor and evaluate participation levels throughout the Local Plan process.
PAN 83 Masterplanning	This will offer guidance on how to formulate a Masterplan for a given area.	A Local Plan may consider it appropriate for a Masterplan to be produced for a certain part of the Plan area. In this case the guidance on Masterplanning

		should be followed.
PAN 84 Reducing Carbon Emissions in New Developments (2008)	A key role of the planning system is to support a move towards low and zero carbon development through the use of energy efficient, micro-generating and decentralised renewable energy systems. This Planning Advice Note provides information and guidance on implementing the target in Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)6, Renewable Energy	This will be taken into consideration when progressing the plan objective of Sustainable Development and Climate Change.

## Regional



A Smart, Successful Highlands and Islands (Highlands and Islands Enterprise, 2005)	This is an enterprise strategy for the Highlands and Islands. Its central aim is to realise the populations' full potential on a sustainable basis, and outlines the strategic objectives of strengthening communities, developing skills, growing businesses and making global connections. In particular it addresses the issues of remoteness, affordability of housing, unique cultural and natural assets, lower than average incomes, increasing rural populations and balancing growth, and increasing business development.	The Local Plan will reflect the need to build communities' prospects for a sustainable future, through land allocations for business and housing (emphasising affordable housing), protecting and enhancing natural and built heritage, and encouraging (where appropriate) the use of renewable energy.
NHS Highland Annual Report	NHS Highland aim to improve health and reduce inequalities in health outcomes between different sectors of the Highland community, reduce the time people wait to receive services and modernise their services.	The Plan can help to meet the aim of reducing inequalities in health by promoting the development of suitable housing, particularly affordable housing and allocating sites for the development of buildings for medical practices can also help the NHS to modernise.
Highland Area Waste Plan (SEPA, 2003)	This document outlines the strategic vision for waste management in the Highlands over the next twenty years. At present the Highlands has a high reliance on landfill sites. There is pressure for change including an increase in recycling.	The Local Plan will allocate sites for waste management were required, including recycling facilities.
Highland Gypsy and Traveller Action Plan (2005)	The Highland Council Gypsy/Traveller Action Plan will enable the Council, working with partners, to improve its service provision by consulting with Gypsy/Travellers to improve understanding of their needs and aspirations, identifying the existing provision of services, monitoring access to services, and identifying required service improvements and necessary resources to facilitate access to services.	The Local Plan may be required to make land available for the services mentioned.
Highland Rail Report 'Room	Commissioned to inform National Rail	The Local Plan will take possible

for Growth' HIE (2006)	Strategy regarding future rail traffic growth and infrastructure for Highland rail network. Identifies constraints and enhancement options to support freight and passenger service development.	future transport improvements into account.
Highland Rail – Traffic Growth Phase 1 Report HIE 2006	The 'Room for Growth' Study for all of the rail routes in the Highlands of Scotland has been commissioned by Highlands and Islands Enterprise to address key rail development issues. These key rail issues are dealt with in the Rail Utilisation Strategies (RUS) in other parts of the country, the responsibility of Network Rail.	These will be taken into consideration along with the information contained in NPF 2 and the Scottish Transport Projects Review.
Highland Rail – Traffic Growth Phase 2 Report HIE 2006	The 'Room for Growth' Study for all of the rail routes in the Highlands of Scotland has been commissioned by Highlands and Islands Enterprise to address key rail development issues. These key rail issues are dealt with in the Rail Utilisation Strategies (RUS) in other parts of the country, the responsibility of Network Rail.	These will be taken into consideration along with the information contained in NPF 2 and the Scottish Transport Projects Review.
Housing Highland's Communities: Local Housing Strategy (2006)	The Highland Housing Strategy shows how The Highland Council and its partners will aim to meet people's housing needs over the next 5 years. It is used to guide local action on housing issues such as building new affordable homes and setting up new services.	The strategy will have an impact on housing allocations within the Local Plan, particularly the provision of affordable housing.
The Highland Council's Planning for Sustainability in the Highlands DPPG (2006)	This is a guidance note in support of sustainable design. It offers advice on designing in a sustainable way to maximise the benefits which new development can provide while aiming to reduce the carbon footprint that this will create.	All new Local Plans for the Highlands will now place a requirement on planning applicants to demonstrate, by means of a Sustainable Design Statement, that their proposals take account of sustainable design practice.
Highland Renewable Energy Strategy and Planning Guidelines (2006) (currently being reviewed and will be replaced with SPG for On-Shore Wind Energy Developments)	The Highlands have extensive renewables through hydro, wind, tide and bio-fuel energy. Developing ways to harness these are being explored. The drive for using energy from renewable sources comes from the recognition that global warming is related to greenhouse gas emissions such as carbon dioxide which arise largely from energy production. The document offers a 'Vision for Renewables Development in Highland' and offers information on what infrastructure is required to develop the national electricity grid.	The Local Plan will avoid recommending sites for development within the vicinity of electricity pylons and will safeguard areas that are required for the creation of renewable energy.
Highland Council Local Transport Strategy (2000)(currently being reviewed)	The Highland Council prepare a Local Transport Strategy and implement the policies, plans and projects to improve and manage the Highland transport system.	This document is utilised by the Local Plan team in order to help enable and encourage transport improvements.
Fisheries Development Strategy	This strategy identifies action which should be taken by the Council with regards to: fishing and processing; aquaculture; sport fishery; and natural environment.	The Local Plan will need to ensure that it promotes the actions in this strategy.
The Council's	The contaminated land regime brought into	The Local Plan should take

Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy (2001)	force with the Contaminated Land (Scotland) Regulations 2000 requires Local Authorities to identify and secure the remediation of contaminated land in their area.	account of the sites identified through inspection that overlap with potential development sites allocated in the Local Plan.
Regional Transport Strategy for the Highlands	Transport Strategies produced by HITRANS which will enhance economic well being; promote safety, social inclusion and equal opportunity; plan for a sustainable transport system; and integrate across boundaries with other Partnerships. This Strategy takes account of future needs and sets priorities for transport development and improvement.	This has been taken into account through the production of the Highland Local Transport Strategy which is currently in production. This is being taken produced in partnership with the Highland wide Local Development Plan.
City of Inverness Greenspace Strategy	Sets out a long term vision for protecting and enhancing greenspace within the city. Sets out the importance of greenspace in Inverness and the positive impacts it can have on health, economy, environment, education and tourism.	Should be implemented with regard to the Biodiversity Duty that is stated in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 and will deliver towards the objectives within the Highland wide local development plan relating to healthier Highland.
A96 Corridor Master plan	An implementation scheme covering the overall phasing, infrastructure, funding, developer contributions protocol and deliver mechanisms for expansion and development eastwards of Inverness to the border with Moray.	The Corridor Plan has undergone separate Strategic Environmental Assessment., however some elements will be covered by this SEA as well.
Community Plan (Well Being Alliance)	While still a valid document this has been superseded by Single Outcome Agreement 2.	Not applicable
Highland Climate Change Strategy	A requirement of being a signatory to Scotland's Climate Change Declaration, the Climate Change Strategy will set out Highland Councils actions to mitigate the causes of Climate Change and adapt to its likely impacts. The Strategy will be developed during the term of this administration.	This will be taken into consideration when bringing forward policies under the plan objective of Sustainable Development and climate change
Badenoch and Strathspey Local Plan	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Badenoch and Strathspey area.	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Inverness Local Plan	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Inverness area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Ross and Cromarty East Local Plan	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Ross and Cromarty area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Wester Ross Local Plan	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Wester Ross area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Sutherland Local Plan (South and East Sutherland Local Plan, North West Sutherland Local Plan and Golspie and Lairg Local	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Sutherland area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan

Plan (part))		
Caithness Local Plan	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Caithness area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
West Highland & Islands Local Plan (Lochaber Local Plan, Skye & Lochalsh Local Plan and Badenoch & Strathspey Local Plan (part))	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the West Highland and Islands area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Nairnshire local Plan	Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Nairnshire area	The general policies in this plan will be superseded by the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Supplementary Planning Guideline on Residential Development Layout and Design	This is in preparation and will set out guidance on Residential layout and design	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will set the context for the creation of this document
Supplementary Planning Guideline on Developer Contributions	This guidance is in preparation and will set out guidance on Developer Contributions	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will set the context for the creation of this document
Open Space in New Residential Development: Interim Supplementary Guidance	This guidance sets standards for quantity, quality and accessibility of open space in new residential development	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will carry this document forward as Supplementary Guidance.
Highland Access Strategy	Aims to address the needs and aspirations of people of all ages and abilities to deliver a wide range of recreational and enjoyment of the environment benefits for walkers, cyclists, equestrians and paddlers. Thereby contributing to social inclusion, health improvements, sustainable transport and improvement to the overall quality of life by unlocking this potential and guiding the way in which the Council and its partners can take forward plans for access throughout the Highland Council area.	The Access Strategy is undergoing separate Strategic Environmental Assessment.
Ports and Sites Strategy	Produced in 2006 this integrated Strategy sets out a long term vision (2050) for the ports and major sites in the Inner Moray Firth. It has four main purposes: to shape future collaboration by the parties; to help steer public sector investment priorities; to maximise regional development potential, and to identify key implementation actions.	This will be taken into account when producing the spatial strategy for Highland.
Highland Renewable Energy Strategy	The Strategy supplements the existing policies of the Council. It aims to provide guidance and direction for Council decisions and developer's plans. Many of the actions will be carried out through the planning and associated Environmental Impact Assessment processes. The Strategy outlines a vision for renewables energy in Highland and identifies 11 key points for action.	This is currently being updated and will be influenced by the content of the Highland wide Local Development Plan.
Highland Area Tourism Strategy (partnership strategy)	Produced in 2006 by the Highland Area Tourism Partnership sets out a Strategy (until 2015) and Action Plan (3 year) which	This will have a strong influence over policy formulation on tourism.

	sets out how Highland tourism could be developed to achieve the Government's 50% growth target by 2015.	
Highland Forest and Woodland Strategy	This document sets out the Council's aspirations for forestry and woodland in the Highlands. It provides guidance for developers and a focus for the Council's engagement with the private sector, the Forestry Commission and Forest Enterprise, in its role as consultee on forestry applications.	This will influence policy creation for the Managing our natural resources objective of the Highland Wide Local Development Plan.
Education and New Residential Development: Interim Supplementary Guidance	This guidance sets out how the Council will seek developer contributions to Education provision when a proposal for 4 or more new dwellings is submitted to the Council.	The Highland wide Local Development Plan will carry this document forward as Supplementary Guidance.
Interim Housing in the Countryside Supplementary Guidance	Sets out policy guidance on how the current housing in the countryside policy should be applied.	This will have an influence and be influenced by the Housing in the Countryside Policies in the Highland wide local development plan. The Highland wide Local Development Plan will carry an amended version of this document forward as Supplementary Guidance.
Draft Loch Nevis Aquaculture Framework Plan (2009)	This framework supplements the statutory guidance contained in the Local Plan and the Structure Plan. Collectively these form the policy background against which the Council will assess all aquaculture proposals in Loch Nevis.	Any future review will be influenced by the Aquaculture policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Loch Sunart Framework Plan (2004)	This framework supplements the statutory guidance contained in the Local Plan and the Structure Plan. Collectively these form the policy background against which the Council will assess all aquaculture proposals in Loch Sunart.	Any future review will be influenced by the Aquaculture policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Loch Bracadale Framework Plan (2002)	This framework supplements the statutory guidance contained in the Local Plan and the Structure Plan. Collectively these form the policy background against which the Council will assess all aquaculture proposals in Loch Bracadale.	Any future review will be influenced by the Aquaculture policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Loch Hourn Framework Plan (2001)	This framework supplements the statutory guidance contained in the Local Plan and the Structure Plan. Collectively these form the policy background against which the Council will assess all aquaculture proposals in Loch Hourn.	Any future review will be influenced by the Aquaculture policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Loch Inchard Framework Plan	This framework supplements the statutory guidance contained in the Local Plan and the Structure Plan. Collectively these form the policy background against which the Council will assess all aquaculture proposals in Loch Inchard.	Any future review will be influenced by the Aquaculture policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan
Loch Eriboll Aquaculture Framework Plan (2000)	This framework supplements the statutory guidance contained in the Local Plan and the Structure Plan. Collectively these form the policy background against which the Council will assess all aquaculture proposals in Loch Eriboll.	Any future review will be influenced by the Aquaculture policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan

The Highland Council Waste Strategy (2009)	Sets out the existing waste-management infrastructure, develop the principals and plan for progress in waste management in the medium and long-term to meet current and future legislative requirements and objectives of the National Waste Plan. Seeks to make the maximum possible contribution to reduce environmental impact at an acceptable cost and the maximisation of opportunities for businesses arising from sustainable waste opportunities.	This will heavily influence the waste management and waste infrastructure policies of the Highland wide Local Development Plan.
Peatlands of Caithness and Sutherland Management Strategy	This strategy aims to enhance and promote the special values of the peatlands of Caithness and Sutherland through the promotion of sustainable land management, the encouragement of sustainable community and economic development, and through co-ordinated action.	The Highland wide Local Development Plan should be aware of important species and habitats within the plan area and should aim to protect these areas from development.
Highland Council Ward Profiles (2009)	These give important information on each of the wards including population data and other statistics	These will influence the content of the monitoring report which will then be taken into account when formulating policies in the Highland wide Local Development Plan.
RSE Inquiry into the Future of Scotland's Hill and Island Areas - Highland Council Response	RSE established a Committee of Inquiry into the future of Scotland's hill and island areas. The inquiry was prompted by concern at the consequences of changes to the Common Agricultural Policy and the threat to the future of some communities, but it was also to examine relevant economic, environmental and social matters.	This will influence the Council's approach to the development of the wider countryside and upland areas as part of the strategy in the Highland wide Local Development Plan.
Highland Council Unemployment Monitoring web pages (also includes other DWP benefits)	This is statistical information published by the Highland Council on the levels of unemployment and benefit claimants in Highland.	This will have an influence over the plan objective of sustainable economic growth and dealing with climate change.
HIE Operating Plan 2008 - 2011	This set out how HIE was going to put the Scottish Government's Economic Strategy into Practice.	This will influence the directions for growth section of the Highland wide Local Development Plan and also the Strategy.
HIE Area Economic Profiles 2007	<p>These provide information and analysis on the socio-economic profile of key areas in the Highlands and Islands. Information is available on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ recent population trends</li> <li>▪ age structure</li> <li>▪ unemployment by area and gender</li> <li>▪ income</li> <li>▪ gross value added</li> <li>▪ employment by sector and gender</li> <li>▪ employment by company size</li> <li>▪ business starts</li> <li>▪ e-business adoption</li> <li>▪ educational attainment</li> <li>▪ school leaver destinations</li> <li>▪ house prices</li> </ul>	This information will be used in the monitoring report and then where appropriate used to influence the content of the Sustainable Economic Growth Section of the Highland wide Local Development Plan.
Review of Tourism Spend 2009	A Report was commissioned in order to give the Council a stronger evidence base on	This will have a significant influence over the section on

	<p>which to base decisions on the future allocation of its tourism development resources. This report details the findings of the review, and gives recommendations as to how the Council might allocate its tourism development budget in the future.</p>	<p>Tourism within the Highland wide Local Development Plan.</p>
<p>Caithness &amp; North Sutherland Regeneration Strategy 2006 and subsequent updates</p>	<p>This strategy set out key priorities for the Caithness and North Sutherland Area.</p>	<p>This will influence the Spatial Strategy of the Highland wide Local Development Plan.</p>
<p>Sheltered Housing Review 2004</p>	<p>There were a number of reasons for undertaking the Sheltered Housing Review: The population projections predicting a marked increase in the number of older people in Highland over the next 10 years. The Scottish Executive Joint Future Report recommendation that older people are supported to live at home, rather than move into residential care. The need to modernise The Highland Council's sheltered housing service, in line with these policy trends and demographics. The need to ensure that the service provided in sheltered housing is consistent across all Council Areas.</p>	<p>This report will influence the section of the highland wide Local Development plan which deals with planning for an ageing population.</p>
<p>Highlands Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2008</p>	<p>This Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) demonstrates how investment in affordable housing will be delivered on the ground, over the next 5 years, so that the outcomes and targets set out in Highland's Local Housing Strategy 2003-2009</p>	<p>This will have an influence on the production of policies on Housing land supply and affordable housing. This will also need to be read with the Housing needs and Demand Assessment 2003 and 2009 and the emerging Local Housing Strategy.</p>
<p>Highlands Housing Needs Study 2003</p>	<p>This Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP) demonstrates how investment in affordable housing will be delivered on the ground, over the next 5 years, so that the outcomes and targets set out in Highland's Local Housing Strategy 2003-2009. This is currently reviewed.</p>	<p>While this study does remain relevant the draft Housing Needs and Demand Assessment 2009 is likely to have a greater influence over the Strategic policies contained within the Dealing with population change section of the Highland wide Local Development Plan.</p>
<p>Cairngorm National Park - Local Plan</p>	<p>Sets the strategy and land use framework for the development of land and protection of the environment in the Cairngorms National Park Authority area</p>	<p>We will take this into consideration as they are a neighbouring authority but it will not have influence over the development of policy within the Highland wide Local Development Plan.</p>
<p>School Roll Forecasts</p>	<p>This is statistical information regarding the School roll for both primary and secondary schools in Highland</p>	<p>This will influence the Sustainable mixed communities section of the highland wide local development plan and also the directions for growth section as capacity at schools will have an impact on where development may be directed.</p>
<p>Council Area Population Projections 2006 to 2031</p>	<p>Statistical analysis of how the Highland population is projected to grow up to the year 2031.</p>	<p>This will have a large influence over the strategy for the highland wide local plan so a population</p>

		change can be considered as part of the development of highland.
Sutherland Draft Core Path Plan	This document identifies the key strategic links which will provide for a system of paths and waterways ("core paths") sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area and to the wider access resource	This will have an influence over the development of policies with regard to access to the outdoors.
Lochaber Draft Core Path Plan	This document identifies the key strategic links which will provide for a system of paths and waterways ("core paths") sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area and to the wider access resource	This will have an influence over the development of policies with regard to access to the outdoors.
Ross and Cromarty Draft Core Path Plan	This document identifies the key strategic links which will provide for a system of paths and waterways ("core paths") sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area and to the wider access resource	This will have an influence over the development of policies with regard to access to the outdoors.
Skye and Lochalsh Draft Core Path Plan	This document identifies the key strategic links which will provide for a system of paths and waterways ("core paths") sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area and to the wider access resource	This will have an influence over the development of policies with regard to access to the outdoors.
Caithness Draft Core Path Plan	This document identifies the key strategic links which will provide for a system of paths and waterways ("core paths") sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area and to the wider access resource	This will have an influence over the development of policies with regard to access to the outdoors.
Inverness and Nairn Draft Core Path Plan	This document identifies the key strategic links which will provide for a system of paths and waterways ("core paths") sufficient for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout their area and to the wider access resource	This will have an influence over the development of policies with regard to access to the outdoors.

\* Biodiversity, flora, fauna, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage), landscape, inter-relationship between these issues; secondary and cumulative effects.