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If telephoning ask for:  
Susan Haslam

21 June 2011

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By email only to: [sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sea.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Hindson

## **Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 Houses in Multiple Occupation SPG - Screening Report**

Thank you for your Screening Report consultation submitted under the above Act in respect of the SPG. This was received by SEPA via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 10 June 2011.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act, 2005, we have considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment.

Having reviewed the Screening Report, we consider that in respect of our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health and climatic factors) the SPG is not likely to have significant strategic environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not likely, it is for the Highland Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.

If it is formally determined that SEA *is* required, you will be aware that the next stage requires the Responsible Authority to consult the Consultation Authorities on the proposed scope and level of detail to be included within the Environmental Report. The Consultation Authorities typically expect to receive a concise Scoping Report at this stage. Further information about this stage and what should be included in a Scoping Report can be found in Chapter 5 of the Scottish SEA Tool Kit available from [www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/13104943/45](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/09/13104943/45). We would encourage you to use the Scoping Report to focus the assessment on those SEA topics upon which there are likely to be significant environmental effects.

Should you wish to discuss this consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me on 01349 860359 or via SEPA's SEA Gateway at [sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk](mailto:sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Susan Haslam  
Senior Planning Officer (SEA)  
Planning Service



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