

**ABERDEEN  
CITY AND  
SHIRE**

*Strategic Development  
Planning Authority*

# MAIN ISSUES REPORT

## Habitats Regulation Assessment

# 2035

October 2011

# Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan



Area covered by the  
Aberdeen City and Shire  
Strategic Development Plan

The Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority published a Main Issues Report for consultation on 7 October 2011. The deadline for responses is 6 January 2012. The following documents were published in support of the Main Issues Report and are available from the Strategic Development Planning Authority or can be downloaded from its website:

Monitoring Statement

Housing Need and Demand Assessment

Equalities and Human Rights Impact Assessment

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

Structure Plan Risk Assessment

Transport Background Paper

Climate Change Study

Habitats Regulation Assessment

SEA Interim Environmental Report

# Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan

## Main Issues Report

### Habitats Regulations Assessment

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Page</b>
1.0 Introduction	2
2.0 Contents of the Main Issues Report	3
3.0 Background information on European Sites	5
4.0 Information about sites selected	7
5.0 Screening	28
6.0 Conclusions	34

<b>Tables</b>	<b>Page</b>
1.1 Contents of the Main Issues Report	3
1.2 List of European sites	6
1.3 Information about sites selected	8
1.4 Screening	28
1.5 Screening Matrix – in combination effects (Internal Compatibility)	30
1.6 Screening Matrix – in combination effects (External Compatibility)	31
1.7 Screening Matrix – sites	
1.8 List of Mitigation Measures	32

#### **Appendix 1**

Aspects of the plan that would be likely to have a significant effect, either alone or in combination, on the following European sites for the following reasons

Summary of the assessment of the implications of the plan for the sites affected

## **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 Natura 2000 sites are a network of protected sites of international importance which include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's), Special Protection Areas (SPA's) and Ramsar Sites.
- 1.2 Under Article 6 (3 & 4) of the European Habitats' Directive any plan or project likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall undergo an Appropriate Assessment to determine its implications for the site. The competent authority can only agree to the plan or project after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned (Article 6.3). In exceptional circumstances, a plan or project may still be allowed to go ahead, in spite of a negative assessment, provided there are no alternative solutions and the plan or project is considered to be of overriding public interest. In such cases the Member State must take appropriate compensatory measures to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 Network is protected (Article 6.4).
- 1.3 This screening is to ensure that this main issues report does not have any significant effects on Natura 2000 sites. The proposed strategic development plan itself will also be screened prior to publication in 2012, building on this screening exercise as well as that for the current Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan (2009).

## 2.0 Content of the Main Issues Report

2.1 The nature, contents, issues, options or objectives of the plan will determine the extent to which consideration for HRA will be made. Table 1.1 below sets out the essential nature of the Strategic Development Plan Main Issues Report.

**Table 1.1 Contents of Main Issues Report**

Main Issues	Options	
1 Sustainable Economic Growth	1	Status Quo
2 Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth: Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route is delayed	2	Allow developments to proceed but accept that increased congestion will result.
3 Facilitating Development	3.1	Continuation of existing system
	3.2	Public sector funding
	3.3	Strategic Transport Fund
4 Waste Management	4.1	Net importer of waste from other parts of Scotland
	4.2	Meet our needs locally through new waste management infrastructure.
	4.3	Net exporter of waste and not meet our targets in Annex B
5 Landfill	5.1	Fully utilising existing site capacity subject to social and environmental acceptability
	5.2	Identify a strategic need for additional landfill capacity through extensions to existing sites.
	5.3	Identify a strategic need for additional landfill capacity through extensions or new landfill sites.

6 Policy and Spatial Framework	6.1	Strategic-scale waste management facilities located anywhere within the current strategic growth areas
	6.2	Refine the spatial strategy, with 75% of new facilities located close to Aberdeen
	6.3	This option would be for the Strategic Development Plan or subsequent local development plans to identify sites for new waste management facilities and done either instead of, or in parallel with the preferred option 2.
7 Carbon neutrality in new development	7.1	Status Quo - leaving delivery mechanisms to the two local development plans
	7.2	Leaving the delivery of the target and the timescales to Building Regulations
	7.3	Sustainability labelling - silver standard (2014), gold standard (2016) and platinum standard (2018)
	7.4	Sustainability labelling Aspect 1 (CO 2 emissions only) - silver standard (2014), gold standard (2016) and platinum standard (2018) – but all with less CO2 emissions than the Building Standards for those dates.
8 Water efficiency	8.1	Do nothing
	8.2	Sustainability Labelling Silver
	8.3	Sustainability Labelling Gold
9 Proposals	9.1	Carbon Capture and Storage - Longannet
	9.2	Carbon Capture and Storage - Peterhead
	9.3	Electricity Transmission Infrastructure
	9.4	N RIP
	9.5	Strategic Transport Interventions

### **3.0 Background information on European sites**

3.1 In Table 1.2 below, we have provided a list of European sites with the potential to be significantly affected by any future development in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire. The Strategic Development Plan is essentially a spatial strategy of how the region will develop in the next 20 to 25 years. Some of them are listed for the likely impacts of the Strategic Development Plan on them. Others are included for their in-combination effects. The criteria used for the selection of sites are the effect on the aquatic environment, effect on mobile species, their vulnerability to recreational pressure, their potential to be affected by increased development and the effects on the coast.

**Table 1.2 List of European sites**

	European sites	SAC	SPA	RAMSAR	Effect on aquatic environment	Effect on mobile species	Vulnerable to recreational pressure	Increase amount of development	Could affect the coast
1	Buchan Ness to Collieston Coast	√	√		√	√	√	√	√
2	Garron Point	√				√	√		√
3	Hill of Towanreef	√							
4	Mortlach Moss	√							
5	Red Moss of Netherley	√							
6	Reidside Moss	√							
7	River Dee	√				√		√	
8	Sands of Forvie	√					√		√
9	Turclossie Moss	√							
10	Fowlsheugh		√			√			
11	Loch of Skene		√	√		√			
12	Loch of Strathbeg		√	√		√			
13	Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor		√			√			
14	Troup, Pennan and Lions Head		√			√	√		√
15	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle loch		√	√		√	√		√
16	Dinnet Oakwood	√							
17	Glen Tanar	√		√					
18	Morven and Mullachdubh	√							
19	Muir of Dinnet	√		√					
20	Moray Firth				√				

#### 4.0 Information about sites selected

4.1 We do not think that the contents of the Main Issues Report, in its present form, are likely to have any significant effects on any European sites. However, we have provided detailed information on these sites as they are likely to be affected by the proposed SDP. We have listed basic information about European sites, their conservation objectives, site conditions, factors influencing them and their vulnerabilities to changes arising from the future development in Table 1.3.

**Table 1.3 Information about sites selected**

Site	Conservation Objectives	Condition of Site	Factors influencing the site	Vulnerabilities to change or potential effect of the PPS
<p><b>1. Buchan Ness to Collieston Coast SPA</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 208.62ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 35/09/2009</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interest:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vegetated sea cliffs</li> <li>• Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>)*</li> <li>• Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>)*</li> <li>• Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>)*</li> <li>• Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)*</li> <li>• Seabed assemblage</li> <li>• Shag (<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>)*</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat vegetated sea cliffs thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seabed assemblage (Favourable Maintained)</li> <li>• Fulmar (Favourable maintained)</li> <li>• Guillemot (Favourable maintained)</li> <li>• Herring gull (Unfavourable No change)</li> <li>• Kittiwake (Unfavourable Declining)</li> <li>• Shag (Favourable Maintained)</li> </ul>	<p>Housing and other developments</p>	<p>Economic growth could result in additional development adjacent to the site. This in turn could damage the sea cliffs and thus adversely affect the conservation objective.</p>

\* indicates assemblage  
qualifier only

<p><b>2. Garron Point SAC</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15.58 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 05/09/2008</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interest:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow mouthed whorl snail (<i>Vertigo angustior</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sites encompass diverse range of habitat (saltmarsh, base-rich fen, and limestone pavement),</li> <li>• sites have strong populations of the species and ecological conditions considered to be particularly favourable for its survival</li> </ul>	<p>Vulnerable to drainage or afforestation of the sites where it survives. Like all Annex II <i>Vertigo</i> species, it is highly dependent on maintenance of existing local hydrological conditions.</p>	<p>Economic growth could result in additional development adjacent to the site. This in turn could damage the habitat of the qualifying interest and thus adversely affect the conservation objective.</p>
<p><b>3. Hill of Towanreef SAC</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1885.92 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interest:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alpine and subalpine heaths</li> <li>• Blanket bog</li> <li>• Dry heaths</li> <li>• Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals</li> <li>• Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands</li> <li>• Marsh saxifrage</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (alpine and subalpine heaths, blanket bog*, dry heaths, grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals, juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alpine and subalpine heaths (Favourable Maintained)</li> <li>• Blanket bog (Unfavourable Declining)</li> <li>• Dry heaths (Unfavourable Declining)</li> <li>• Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals (Favourable Maintained)</li> <li>• Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands (Favourable Maintained)</li> <li>• Marsh saxifrage (Favourable Maintained)</li> </ul>	<p>The site is managed for a combination of grouse moor and rough grazing. Muirburn has locally extended onto blanket bog, apparently resulting in loss of <i>Sphagnum</i> cover. In recent years both Muirburn and grazing have declined in some parts of the site.</p>	<p>Possibility of increased in erection of wind turbines. Potential damage to the blanket bog from any development on or adjacent to the site</p> <p>Adverse effect on the hydrological processes from development</p> <p>Potential effect from development affecting rain water drainage or damage the peat itself.</p>

(Saxifraga hirculus)				
* Indicates priority habitat				
<b>4. Mortlach Moss SAC</b>	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term: Extent of the habitat on site, Distribution of the habitat within site, Structure and function of the habitat, Processes supporting the habitat, Distribution of typical species of the habitat, Viability of typical species as components of the habitat, No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.	Favourable Maintained	hydrological systems providing a large supply of base-rich groundwater	Felling activities - natural heritage interests of lesser importance with substantial development impacts. Draining of soil affects the availability of fens unwanted effects of foraging and trampling, agricultural pollution
<i>Size</i>				
• 12.02 ha				
<i>Designated</i>				
• 17/03/2005				
<i>Qualifying Interest:</i>				
• Alkaline fens (Base-rich fen)				
<b>5. Red Moss of</b>	To avoid deterioration of	Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed	Forest Enterprise (FE)	Sustainable Development

<p><b>Netherley SAC</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 92.53</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 March 2005</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interests:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active raised bogs*,</li> <li>• Degraded raised bogs</li> </ul>	<p>the qualifying habitat(s) (Active raised bogs*, degraded raised bogs) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features and to ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term.</p>	<p>vegetation. Fens (100%) - Favourable Maintained</p>	<p>have undertaken some felling of self-sown pine and other conifers that have colonised from adjacent plantations. FE work to an agreed management plan when undertaking forestry operations in the catchment.</p>	<p>and Climate Change includes limiting the amount of non-renewable sources used so in turn would equate to possible increase in the erection of wind turbines. The raised peat bog could be considerably damaged by any development on or adjacent to the site where development could affect the hydrological processes. The bog is dependant on rainfall and drainage into the site and on the stability of the peat and its ability to hold water. Any development that could affect rain water drainage or damage the peat itself could adversely affect the conservation interest. Due to the nature of the site it is highly unlikely that development would be proposed on the SAC.</p>
<p><b>6. Reidside Moss SAC</b></p>	<p>To avoid deterioration of</p>	<p>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed</p>	<p>Survival of moss due to</p>	<p>Drainage, peat cutting,</p>

<p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 87.17 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p><u>Qualifying Interests:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active raised bogs*</li> <li>• Degraded raised bogs</li> </ul>	<p>the qualifying habitat(s) (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <p>Extent of the habitat on site,  Distribution of the habitat within site,  Structure and function of the habitat,  Processes supporting the habitat,  Distribution of typical species of the habitat,  Viability of typical species as components of the habitat,  No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</p>	<p>vegetation. Fens (65%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (25%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (10%)</p> <p>Active raised bogs – unfavourable no change  Degraded raised bogs - unfavourable no change</p>	<p>relatively undisturbed activity</p>	<p>tree-planting and other activities</p>
<p><b>7. River Dee SAC</b></p>	<p>To avoid deterioration of</p>	<p>Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud</p>	<p>Housing and other</p>	<p>Economic growth could</p>

<p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2446.82 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17/3/2005</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interests:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>)</li> <li>• Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>)</li> <li>• Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Distribution of the species within site</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> No significant disturbance of the species</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Distribution and</li> </ul>	<p>flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins) (2%)</p> <p>Inland water bodies (standing water, running water) (53.5%)</p> <p>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (1%)</p> <p>Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (5%)</p> <p>Dry grassland. Steppes (2%)</p> <p>Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (15%)</p> <p>Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (14%)</p> <p>Coniferous woodland (0.5%)</p> <p>Mixed woodland (5%)</p> <p>Inland rocks. Screes. Sands. Permanent snow and ice (2%)</p> <p>Atlantic salmon - Favourable Maintained</p> <p>Freshwater pearl mussel - Unfavourable No change</p> <p>Otter - Favourable Maintained</p>	<p>developments.</p> <p>Water abstraction.</p>	<p>result in additional development adjacent to the site. This in turn could damage the habitat of the qualifying interest and thus adversely affect the conservation objective.</p>
---	--	--	--	--

viability of freshwater  
pearl mussel host species  
□ Structure, function and  
supporting processes of  
habitats supporting  
freshwater pearl mussel  
host species

<b>8. Sands of Forvie SAC</b> <i>Size</i>	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (Humid dune slacks, Lime-deficient dune heathland with crowberry*, Shifting dunes and Shifting dunes with marram) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term.	Humid dune slacks - Favourable Maintained Lime-deficient dune heath land with crowberry* - Favourable Maintained Shifting dunes – Favourable Maintained and Shifting dunes with marram - Favourable Maintained  Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair (46%) Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets (1%) Inland water bodies (standing water, running water) (1%) Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (1%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (50%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (1%)	Development activity , trunk road Site has an extensive area of sand dunes with the Forveran Links on the west bank and the Sands of Forvie dune system on the east bank. Extensive mud-flats in the upper reaches, courser gravels with Mussel <i>Mytilus edulis</i> beds closer to the sea.	The objective and targets which may have an adverse effect on the sites integrity are related to development and increasing population. Due to the nature of the site it is highly unlikely development would be proposed on the
<b>9. Turclossie Moss</b>	To avoid deterioration of	Active raised bog –		Turclossie Moss is a

<p><b>SAC</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 62.77 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interests:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active raised bog</li> <li>• Degraded raised bog</li> </ul>	<p>the qualifying habitats (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent of the habitat on site</li> <li>• Distribution of the habitat within site</li> <li>• Structure and function of the habitat</li> <li>• Processes supporting the habitat</li> <li>• Distribution of typical species of the habitat</li> <li>• Viability of typical species as components of the habitat</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>	<p>Favourable Maintained Degraded raised bog – Favourable Maintained</p> <p>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (92%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (5%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (3%)</p> <p>Active raised bogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</li> </ul> <p>Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.</li> </ul>	<p>remnant of a much larger peatland. The bog is surrounded by cut-over bogs on all sides resulting in a lowered water table. At present there are no damaging activities being carried out on the site. A hydrological study will inform the restoration management of this site.</p>
<p><b>10. Fowlsheugh SPA</b></p>	<p>To avoid deterioration of</p>	<p>Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>),</p>	<p>Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i>,</p>

<p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10.15 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25/09/2009</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interests:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>), breeding</li> <li>• Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding</li> <li>• Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>), breeding</li> <li>• Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding</li> <li>• Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding</li> <li>• Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding</li> </ul>	<p>the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>	<p>breeding - Favourable Maintained</p> <p>Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding - Favourable Maintained</p> <p>Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>), breeding - Unfavourable Declining</p> <p>Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding - Favourable Maintained</p> <p>Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding - Favourable Maintained</p> <p>Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>), breeding - Favourable Maintained</p>	<p>40,140 pairs representing at least 1.8% of the breeding East Atlantic population (Count as at 1992)</p> <p>Kittiwake <i>Rissa tridactyla</i>, 34,870 pairs representing at least 1.1% of the breeding Eastern Atlantic - Breeding population (Count, as at 1992)</p>	
<p><b>11. Loch of Skene SPA/RAMSAR</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 120.89</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p>	<p>To promote the conservation of the wetland to avoid deterioration of the wetland habitat of Ramsar interest and</p>	<p>Loch of Skene is a shallow (&lt;2 m deep) eutrophic lowland loch surrounded by fringing reedbeds and birch-willow carr. It supports an internationally important</p>	<p>Land uses affecting the site are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recreation;</li> <li>• fishing;</li> <li>• forestry;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Growth of algae,</li> <li>• increase in nutrients associated with sewage works</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1/10/1986</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Greylag goose <i>Anser anser</i></li> <li>Pink-footed goose may be considered as a qualifying species in the future.</li> <li>Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></li> </ul>	<p>significant disturbance of associated species; to ensure for the wetland habitat of Ramsar interest that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent of habitat on site.</li> <li>Distribution of habitat on site.</li> <li>Structure and function of habitat on site.</li> <li>Processes supporting the habitat.</li> <li>Population of typical and important species as a viable component of the site.</li> <li>Distribution of typical and important species of the habitat.</li> <li>Viability of typical and important species as components of the habitat.</li> </ul> <p>No significant disturbance of typical and important species of the habitat</p>	<p>population of roosting Icelandic greylag geese, and nationally important populations of other wintering and breeding waterfowl.</p> <p>The macrophyte flora of the Loch of Skene has been somewhat depleted by a growth of algae, most likely from an increase in nutrients associated with sewage works and agricultural sources (diffuse and point). However, the deeper water still retains a dense and diverse macrophyte community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>agriculture(adversely)</li> <li>sewage (adversely)*</li> <li>urban dev't (adversely)</li> <li>horticulture.</li> </ul> <p>Other plans or projects are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Economic Growth Strategy for North East Scotland; &amp;</li> <li>scientific research</li> </ul> <p>Discharges/ changes in water quality, in particular phosphorus levels, in the loch from agricultural fertilisers and pesticides.</p> <p>Direct loss of wetland habitats from a change in water quality/ nutrient levels.</p>	<p>and agricultural sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing development pressure</li> </ul>
---	---	---	--	--

<b>12. Loch of Strathbeg SPA/SAMSAR</b>	<p>To promote the conservation of the wetland to avoid deterioration of the wetland habitat of Ramsar interest and significant disturbance of associated species; to ensure for the wetland habitat of Ramsar interest that the following are maintained in the long term:</p>	<p>The Loch of Strathbeg is a shallow, naturally eutrophic loch with adjoining reedbeds, freshwater marshes, and Alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and willow <i>Salix</i> spp. carr. The calcareous dunes and dune slacks within the site are relatively undisturbed and contain a rich flora. The loch constitutes the largest dune slack pool in the UK (200 ha) and the largest waterbody in the north-east Scottish lowlands. It is separated from the sea by a 0.5-1 km wide dune system. The SPA provides wintering habitat for a number of important wetland bird species, particularly wildfowl (swans, geese and ducks), and is also an important staging area for migratory wildfowl from Scandinavia and Iceland/Greenland. In summer, coastal parts of the site are an important breeding area for Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>, which feed outside the SPA in adjacent marine areas</p>	<p>Land uses affecting the site are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tourism;</li> <li>• recreation;</li> <li>• research;</li> <li>• fishing;</li> <li>• agriculture;</li> <li>• sewage;</li> <li>• grazing;</li> <li>• hunting (adversely).</li> </ul> <p>Other plans or projects are: SNH's Loch of Strathebeg Goose Man't Scheme Disturbance to qualifying interests from hunting and to a lesser extent from recreation. Discharges/ changes in water quality/nutrient levels, in the loch from agricultural fertilisers and pesticides and sewage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• hunting,</li> <li>• poor or insufficient foraging sites</li> <li>• pollution of the freshwater disturbance</li> </ul>
<p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 615.94</li> </ul>				
<p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 27/11/1995</li> </ul>				
<p><i>Qualifying features</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eutrophic loch</li> <li>• Whooper Swan</li> <li>• Pink-footed Goose</li> <li>• Greylag</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extent of habitat on site.</li> <li>• Distribution of habitat on site.</li> <li>• Structure and function of habitat on site.</li> <li>• Processes supporting the habitat.</li> <li>• Population of typical and important species as a viable component of the site.</li> <li>• Distribution of typical and important species of the habitat.</li> <li>• Viability of typical and important species as</li> </ul>			

	components of the habitat. No significant disturbance of typical and important species of the habitat			
<b>13. Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor SPA</b>  <i>Size</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>83.71 ha</li> </ul> <i>Designated</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15/12/2000</li> </ul> <i>Qualifying Interests</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>common gull <i>Larus canus</i></li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>	<p>Common Gull <i>Larus canus</i>, 18,000 pairs representing at least 14.5% of the breeding West and Central Europe population (1998) - Unfavourable Declining</p>	<p>The main land use at this site is sheep grazing. A small number of common gull eggs are collected each year under licence for human consumption. The private owners, owning the majority of the site, manage the site for agricultural and sporting activity, but there is no active management for conservation purposes.</p>	<p>It is possible that increased livestock numbers could damage the conservation value of the site through trampling. There may also be an increase in egg collection and bird shooting activities at the sites. Onshore wind farm Housing development</p>

<b>14. Troup, Pennan and Lions Head SPA</b>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and</p>	<p>The Troup, Pennan and Lion's head SPA is a 9 km stretch of sea-cliffs along the Banff and Buchan coast of Aberdeenshire in north-east Scotland. As well as cliffs, the site also includes adjacent areas of grassland and heath, and several small sand or shingle beaches punctuate the otherwise rocky shore.</p>	<p>Seabirds at sea may be adversely affected in a number of ways by human activities. These include habitat modification, competition with fisheries, mortality due to longline fishing and various forms of pollution.</p>	<p>Off-shore Wind Off-shore wind Marine Development Renewable energy</p>
<i>Size</i>	<p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:</p>	<p>The cliffs rise to 150 m and provide ideal nesting sites for seabirds, which feed in the rich waters offshore and outside the SPA. Different parts of the cliffs are used by different species of seabirds according to varying ecological requirements. The site is particularly important for its numbers of gulls and auks.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 174.22 ha</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the species within site</li> <li>• Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>	<p>Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i>, 29,902 pairs representing at least 1.3% of the breeding East Atlantic population (Count as at 1995) Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>) - Unfavourable Declining Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>) - Favourable Maintained Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>) - Unfavourable</p>		
<i>Designated</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25/09/2009</li> </ul>				
<i>Qualifying Interests:</i>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fulmar (<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>)</li> <li>• Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>)</li> <li>• Herring gull (<i>Larus argentatus</i>)</li> <li>• Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>)</li> <li>• Razorbill (<i>Alca torda</i>)</li> <li>• Seabird assemblage,</li> </ul>				

		Declining Kittiwake ( <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> ), - Favourable Maintained Razorbill ( <i>Alca torda</i> ) - Favourable Maintained Seabird assemblage- Favourable Maintained		
<p><b>15. Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle loch SPA and Ythan Estuary and Meikle Loch RAMSAR</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1016.24 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30/03/1998</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interests:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common tern(<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) breeding</li> <li>• Eider(<i>Somateria mollissima</i>), non-breeding ,</li> <li>• Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>), non-breeding,</li> <li>• Little tern (<i>Sternula albifrons</i>), breeding,</li> <li>• Pinkfooted goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), non-breeding,</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (Common tern, Eider, Lapwing, Little tern, Pinkfooted goose, Redshank Sandwich tern, Waterfowl assemblage), dog walking,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Common tern(<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) breeding - Unfavourable Declining</li> <li>• Eider(<i>Somateria mollissima</i>), non-breeding - Favourable Maintained,</li> <li>• Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>), non-breeding - Favourable Maintained,</li> <li>• Little tern (<i>Sternula albifrons</i>), breeding - Favourable Maintained,</li> <li>• Pinkfooted goose (<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>), non-breeding Favourable Maintained,</li> <li>• Redshank Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>), breeding Favourable Maintained,</li> <li>• Waterfowl assemblage non-breeding Favourable Maintained</li> </ul>	<p>The changes in water quality particularly from discharges could be an issue that has an impact on the integrity of the site. There could also be an increased enrichment, siltation and smothering of the substrate of the river and its estuary, this would be of particular concern during construction.</p>	<p>Potential negative effects from a number of activities including - housing development Trunk road, non-trunk road, wind farm, recreational activities, aquaculture, river engineering, mineral workings, micro-renewables, tourism activities, windfarms</p>

- Redshank Sandwich tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*), breeding,
- Waterfowl assemblage non-breeding

---

**16. Dinnet Oakwood SAC**

*Size*

- 19.73 ha

*Designated*

- 17/03/2005

*Qualifying Interests:*

- Western acidic oak woodland

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and  
 To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as

Dinnet Oakwood retains the character of a relatively undisturbed semi-natural northern oakwood and is one of the best examples in north-east Scotland.  
 Favourable Maintained

---

	<p>components of the habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>		
<p><b>17. Glen Tanar SAC/RAMSAR</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4180.09 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Habitats:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blanket bog*</li> <li>Caledonian forest*</li> <li>Dry heaths</li> <li>Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent of the habitat on site</li> <li>Distribution of the habitat within site</li> <li>Structure and function of the habitat</li> <li>Processes supporting the habitat</li> <li>Distribution of typical species of the habitat</li> <li>Viability of typical species as</li> </ul>	<p>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (10%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (30%) Dry grassland. Steppes (5%) Coniferous woodland (55%)</p> <p>Blanket bog* - Favourable Maintained Caledonian forest* - Favourable Maintained Dry heaths - Favourable Maintained Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath - Favourable Maintained Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</li> </ul> <p>European dry heaths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</li> </ul> <p>Blanket bogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.</li> </ul>	<p>The site is a National Nature Reserve. Since a shield fence was established in the late 1930s, a reduction in grazing levels has resulted in an expansion of woodland regeneration. The shield deer fence has been marked to reduce strikes by woodland grouse and about 11 km of fence has recently been removed. Parts of the forest are managed without intervention (the Strict Reserve Zone). Outside this zone, forest management is increasingly relying on low-intensity silvicultural methods, such as selective and small-scale felling coups. Education of the visiting public is carried out to minimise the risk of</p>

	<p>components of the habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>	<p>Caledonian forest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</li> </ul> <p><i>Lutra lutra</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.</li> </ul>	<p>accidental fire, and plans and provisions to combat fire are made through the nature reserve agreement. Parts of the site continue to be managed as grouse moor by rotational muirburn.</p>
<p><b>18. Morven and Mullachdubh SAC</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>916.76 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualifying Interests</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent of the habitat on site</li> <li>Distribution of the habitat within site</li> <li>Structure and function of the habitat</li> <li>Processes supporting the habitat</li> <li>Distribution of typical species of the habitat</li> <li>Viability of typical</li> </ul>	<p>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (1%)  Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (62%)  Dry grassland. Steppes (28%)  Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (7%)  Coniferous woodland (2%)  Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands - Favourable Maintained</p>	

	<p>species as components of the habitat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>	
<p><b>19. Muir of Dinnet SAC/RAMSAR</b> Size</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>415.76 ha</li> </ul> <p>Designated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p>Qualifying Interests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels</li> <li>Degraded raised bogs</li> <li>Dry heaths</li> <li>Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface</li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats (listed below) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent of the habitat on site</li> <li>Distribution of the habitat within site</li> <li>Structure and function of the habitat</li> <li>Processes supporting the habitat</li> <li>Distribution of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>	<p>Inland water bodies (standing water, running water) (24%) Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (13%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (57%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (3%) Coniferous woodland (3%) Clear water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels</p> <p>- Favourable Maintained Degraded raised bogs - Favourable Maintained Dry heaths - Unfavourable Declining Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)- Favourable Maintained Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface - Unfavourable Declining</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Viability of typical species as components of the habitat</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>			
<p><b>20. Moray Firth SAC</b></p> <p><i>Size</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 151347.17 ha</li> </ul> <p><i>Designated</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17/03/2005</li> </ul> <p><u><i>Qualifying features</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The bottlenose dolphins, Tursiops truncatus,</i></li> <li>• <i>sandbanks</i></li> </ul>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of qualifying species (Bottlenose dolphins, Tursiops truncatus), or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) for each of the qualifying features. To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are established then maintained in the long term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population of the species (including range of genetic types where relevant) as a viable component of the site</li> <li>• Distribution of the</li> </ul>	<p>The designated site is one of the largest marine SACs in the UK. It comprises the 'triangular' area of water west of a line between Helmsdale on the Sutherland coast and Lossiemouth on the Moray coast, including the Beaully/Inverness Firths, and the outer reaches of the Dornoch and Cromarty Firths. The marine boundary extends seaward from the tidal level of Mean Low Water Mark of Spring tides. Much of the coastline is characterised by sweeping sandy beaches and dunes that lie within a fertile lowland strip although cliffs and rocky shores occur where high ground extends to the coast</p>	<p>One of the most significant threats facing these animals concerns the numbers which are accidentally killed as a result of getting caught in fishing gear, including in gill nets and mid-water trawls. In March 2004, a new EC Regulation was adopted which will require the use of acoustic deterrents or 'pingers' on gill nets deployed from vessels greater than 12m in length. The effect of this measure is expected to be a substantial reduction in mortality of porpoises and dolphins arising from the use of these nets. Its introduction is welcomed. The Regulation, however, does not resolve the problem that significant numbers of common dolphins are killed</p>	<p>Anything that may cause disturbance or direct harassment, contamination, reduction in food availability and traumatic death and injury</p>

- 
- species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
  - Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
  - No significant disturbance of the species

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving FCS for each of the qualifying features.

To ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within the site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting

accidentally by pelagic trawl fisheries in south-western waters, and this remains a matter of concern. Defra are pressing the European Commission for Community action to address this problem.

The Moray Firth population of about 130 dolphins is the subject of ongoing research into population status and dynamics by Aberdeen University and the Sea Mammal Research Unit. One of the possible impacts on the population is disturbance caused by boats engaged in dolphin-watching activities in the Firth.

---

the habitat

- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
  - Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
  - No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat
-

## **5.0 Screening**

- 5.1 Table 1.4 below shows those policies and proposals within the Main Issues Report which have either been screened in or out of the Assessment and the reasons behind it. Table 1.5 is a matrix showing the 'in combination' effects of the policies and proposals with other aspects of the same plan. Table 1.6 shows the 'in combination' effects of the same policies and proposals against other significant plans and strategies both within the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire areas and the local development plans bordering our area at Moray and the Cairngorms National Park.
- 5.2 A further screening matrix is provided (Table 1.7) which identifies those Natura 2000 sites which have influenced the screening in the previous tables. It can be seen that just five of the 20 sites have been highlighted.

**Table 1.4 Screening**

	<b>Policies, objectives, actions and projects</b>	<b>PPS likely to have significant effects</b>	<b>General policy statements</b>	<b>Projects not generated by this PPS</b>	<b>Protective, enhancement and conservation policies</b>	<b>Does not generate development and change</b>	<b>Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features</b>	<b>Provision of changed with no or minimal effects</b>	<b>Too general nature of PPS with no information on where, how, or when of implementation</b>	<b>Screen in / Screen out</b>
1	Vision to make Aberdeen City & Shire attractive, prosperous and sustainable		X							Out
2	Energetica			X						Out
3	Maximising Digital Connectivity							X		Out
4	Scottish Government priorities			X						Out
5	Sustainable Economic Growth								X	Out
6	Supporting Sustainable Economic Growth: Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route is built or delayed		X			X				Out
7	Delivering and Facilitating Development						X		X	Out
8	Waste Management						X		X	Out
9	Landfill								X	Out
10	Policy and Spatial Framework								X	Out
11	Carbon neutrality in new development				X					Out
12	Water efficiency				X					Out
13	Proposals for Carbon Capture and Storage - Longannet	X								In
14	Proposals for Carbon Capture and Storage - Peterhead	X								In
15	Electricity Transmission Infrastructure	X								In
17	N_RIP	X								In
18	Strategic Transport Interventions (Possible effects on River Dee)	X								In

**Table 1.5 Screening matrix – In combination effects (internal compatibility)**

	13	14	15	17	18	1	2	3	4
13									
14									
15									
17									
18									
1									
2									
3									
4									

**Key**

	Significant effect		Protective policy
	Insignificant effect		No effect

**Table 1.6 Screening Matrix - in combination effects (external compatibility)**

	13	14	15	17	18	Moray LDP	Cairngorms LDP	Regional Transport Strategy	Aberdeen City LDP	Aberdeenshire LDP
13										
14										
15										
17										
18										
Moray LDP										
Cairngorms LDP										
RTS										
Aberdeen City LDP										
Aberdeenshire LDP										

**Table 1.7 Screening Matrix (sites)**

Screening of how the sites have affected options screened in

	European sites	Buchan Ness to Collieston Coast	Garron Point	Hill of Towanreef	Mortlach Moss	Red Moss of Netherley	Reidside Moss	River Dee	Sands of Forvie	Turclossie Moss	Fowlsheugh	Loch of Skene	Loch of Strathbeg	Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor	Troup, Pennan and Lions Head	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle loch	Dinnet Oakwood	Glen Tanar	Morven and Mullachdubh	Muir of Dinnet	Moray Firth
13	Proposals for Carbon Capture and Storage - Longannet												X								
14	Proposals for Carbon Capture and Storage - Peterhead	X											X								
15	Electricity Transmission Infrastructure	X											X		X						
17	N RIP	X						X													X
18	Strategic Transport Interventions							X													X

5.2 We have identified through the screening process that while some main issues or options are likely to have no significant effects either directly on in combination with others proposals, other main issues or options are likely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites. We will therefore apply mitigation measures to the proposals in order to eliminate likely significant effects. It is also observed that the only Natura 2000 sites which the Main Issues Report is likely to have any significant effect on are Buchan Ness to Collieston Coast, River Dee, Loch of Strathbeg. Troup. Pennan and Lions Head and Moray Firth. In Table 1.8 below, we have proposed some mitigation measures.

**Table 1.8 List of mitigation measures**

<b>Aspects of the plan which it was not possible under screening steps 1-3 to screen out as not being likely to have a significant effect on a European site, alone or in combination</b>	<b>Mitigation measure applied in order then to conclude that there would be no likely significant effect on a European site</b>
Proposals for Carbon Capture and Storage - Longannet	Use of planning conditions, protective policies, request for HRA in LDP & other lower-tier PPS and projects likely to have significant effects
Proposals for Carbon Capture and Storage - Peterhead	Use of planning conditions, protective policies, request for HRA in LDP & other lower-tier PPS and projects likely to have significant effects
Electricity Transmission Infrastructure	Identification of cable routes in the vicinity of Peterhead (in the marine environment and the coastal zone) and construction method statements will need to take into account the adjacent Buchan Ness to Collieston SPA as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment at project level. A HRA will be required at the project level. Protective policies exist at all levels and conditions can be used to control the development. Any cable landing points and onward transmission routes for offshore renewables will need to respond in a similar way if located in the vicinity of other Natura 2000 sites. Offshore elements of proposals are within the remit of Marine Scotland rather than the planning authority.
N_RIP	Identification of right sites within LDPs, use of planning conditions, protective policies, request for HRA in LDP & other lower-tier PPS and projects likely to have significant effects
Strategic Transport Interventions	Identification of right routes within LDP's and Masterplans. Use of planning conditions, protective policies, request for HRA in LDP & other lower-tier PPS and projects likely to have significant effects

## **6.0 Conclusions**

- 6.1 It has been identified through a screening process that the proposals in the Main Issues Report, in combination with other plans and projects are not likely to have any adverse effect on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites identified in the report. The remaining sections of the report show the format that will be used should the development of the Strategic Development Plan lead to more significant effects on Natura 2000 sites than envisaged under the Main Issues Report. Appendix 1 shows the table that will be used should this be required.

**APPENDIX 1**

**Aspects of the plan that would be likely to have a significant effect, either alone or in combination, on the following European sites for the following reasons**

<b>Aspect of the plan likely to have significant effect</b>	<b>Qualifying interest of the European site</b>	<b>Summary of the likely significant effect</b>

**Summary of the assessment of the implications of the plan for the sites affected**

<b>Aspect of the plan likely to have significant effect</b>	<b>Implications for each qualifying interest of the European site in light of its conservation objectives</b>	<b>Mitigation measures applied or taken into account in assessment</b>	<b>Whether it can be ascertained that the aspect of the plan would not adversely affect the integrity of a European site</b>

If you need help reading this document (for example if you need it in a different format or in another language), please phone us on 01224 628210.

ভাষা/ইন্টারপ্রেটিং এবং অন্যান্য ফরমেটের  
যোগাযোগ সাহায্যের জন্য দয়া করে  
: 01224 628210  
নম্বরে যোগাযোগ করবেন।

如果需要語言/傳譯及其他形式的傳訊支援服務，  
請聯絡: 01224 628210。

Если требуется помощь при выборе  
языка /переводчика или других  
способов общения, звоните по  
телефону : 01224 628210

للحصول على مساعدة بخصوص اللغة/ الترجمة  
و وسائل الاتصال الأخرى، الرجاء الاتصال  
بالرقم التالي: 01224 628210

Lai saņemtu palīdzību sakarā ar  
valodu/tulkošanu un citiem iespējamām  
komunikāciju atbalsta formātiem, lūdzu  
zvanīt 01224 628210

Jei jus turite sunkumu su kalba/ vertimu  
ar kitomis bendravimo formomis,  
skambinkite 01224 628210

Jeśli potrzebujesz pomocy **językowej /  
tłumacza** lub innej pomocy w  
porozumiewaniu się, proszę zadzwonić  
pod numer: 01224 628210



## Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan Team

Archibald Simpson House  
27-29 King Street  
Aberdeen  
AB24 5AA

Phone: 01224 628210

Fax: 01224 640517

Website: [www.aberdeencityandshire-sdpa.gov.uk](http://www.aberdeencityandshire-sdpa.gov.uk)

E-mail: [team@aberdeencityandshire-sdpa.gov.uk](mailto:team@aberdeencityandshire-sdpa.gov.uk)

