



Shetland Islands Council

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# Shetland Partnership Plan - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

## **Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report**

**November 2017**

## Cover Note

### Part 1

**To:** [SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)  
 or  
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 Scottish Government  
 Area 1 H (Bridge)  
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 Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

### Part 2

An SEA Scoping Report is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

Shetland Partnership Plan - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

The Responsible Authority is:

Shetland Islands Council on behalf of the Shetland Partnership

### Part 3

Please tick the appropriate box

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 or

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 or

The PPS does not require an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, as this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 5 week timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

## Part 4

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## Part 5

**Signature**  
(electronic  
signature is  
acceptable)**Date**

1 November 2017

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## Introduction

### Shetland Partnership Plan - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan

The Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) for Shetland is being prepared by the Shetland Community Planning Partnership. Preparation of a LOIP by the Community Planning Partnership is a statutory requirement of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015.

The Community Planning Partnership ('the Shetland Partnership') is made up of a range of public sector partners, partner organisations and community representatives (listed in **Appendix 1**). The LOIP is a partnership plan outlining how these partners will work together to tackle inequalities in Shetland. Shetland Islands Council (SIC) is leading development of the Plan.

### What is Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

As part of the preparation of the Shetland LOIP the Shetland Partnership is required to determine whether to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Plan under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. In August 2017 it was determined that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Shetland LOIP should be carried out.

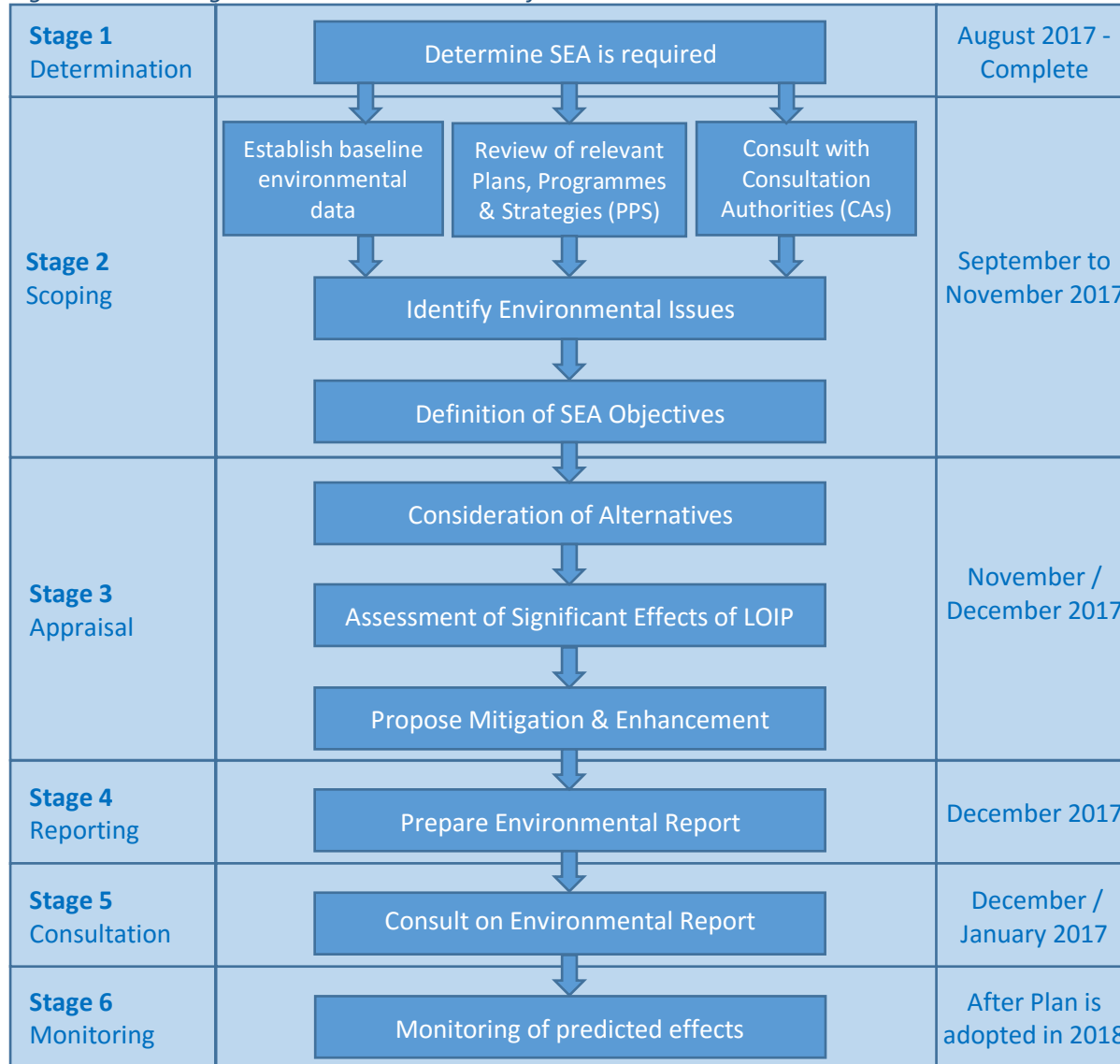
SEA is a means to judge the likely impact of a public plan on the environment and to seek ways to minimise that effect, if it is likely to be significant. When undertaken in an effective and proportionate way SEA can help to address environmental problems, or enhance positive or beneficial effects of plans. It can provide opportunities for the public to understand the environmental issues and engage positively with the assessment process. It can be a practical tool, setting out how environmental effects are to be dealt with when the plan is being implemented.

The SEA process is divided into five main stages:

1. Screening - determining if a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required;
2. Scoping - setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope;
3. Appraisal - developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects;
4. Reporting - preparing the Environmental Report;
5. Consultation - consulting on the draft LOIP and its Environmental Report; and,
6. Monitoring - implementation of the LOIP.

**Figure 1** details these stages as well as the indicative timetable for their completion alongside the production of the LOIP.

Figure 1 – SEA Stages and indicative timetable for the Shetland LOIP



**What is a ‘Scoping Report’?**

“The purpose of a Scoping Report is to define the level of detail to be covered in the assessment, and to reach agreement on the consultation timescales.” (SEA Guidance, Scottish Government, 2013)

This is the Scoping Report for the Shetland LOIP. It represents Stage 2 ‘Scoping’ in **Figure 1**.

This report will be used to seek the views of the Consultation Authorities on the scope of information to be included in the environmental assessment. In this report we identify the proposed environmental baseline information to be used, the relevant Plans, Programmes and Strategies to be considered, and the proposed consultation timescales.

## Shetland Partnership Plan - Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)

### What is a LOIP?

A Community Planning Partnership should be in place for each Local Authority area in Scotland. The Partnership has a duty to prepare a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP). The LOIP replaces the Single Outcome Agreements (SOA). The key difference is that SOA's were an agreement between the CPP and the Scottish Government, the LOIP is an agreement between the CPP and the community it serves.

The focus of the LOIP should be on addressing inequalities of outcome in an area. Where outcomes related to e.g. health or poverty are particularly poor for an area, tackling these would be the focus of the LOIP. Delivering the LOIP is in turn the priority of the CPP – the LOIP should identify those things that are best tackled by working together in partnership. The LOIP should be a genuine plan which reflects the CPP's priorities for improving outcomes and tackling inequalities in their area. The key facts relating to the LOIP are set out in **Table 1**.

*Table 1 – Key Facts about the LOIP*

Responsible Authority	Shetland Islands Council on behalf of the Shetland Community Planning Partnership (CPP)
Title of Plan	Shetland Partnership Plan – Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP)
Purpose of the Plan	<p>The LOIP for Shetland is a partnership plan for the community and all community planning partners. The plan should reflect the CPP's priorities for improving outcomes and tackling inequalities in Shetland. The LOIP should cover the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• local outcomes to which priority is to be given by the community planning partnership with a view to improving the achievement of the outcomes;</li> <li>• a description of the proposed improvement in the achievement of the outcomes;</li> <li>• the period within which the proposed improvement is to be achieved; and,</li> <li>• a description of the needs and circumstances of persons residing in the areas of the local authority to which the plan relates.</li> </ul>
What Prompted the Plan?	Section 6(1) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (CEA) requires each Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to produce and publish a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP).
Subject	<p>The strategic nature of the LOIP means that it will have influence over a wide range of subjects, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Economy, employment, and industry</li> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Poverty</li> <li>• Spatial planning</li> </ul>

Summary of the nature/content of the Plan	<p>The Shetland LOIP will identify key priorities for the Shetland Partnership in tackling inequalities in Shetland over a 10 year period. The LOIP is currently under development and the proposed structure for the Plan will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Overview of the Plan</li> <li>2. Our long term vision for Shetland</li> <li>3. Shetland – local needs, circumstance and aspirations (evidence base)</li> <li>4. Our Priorities and associated Long/Medium/Short term outcomes for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People</li> <li>• Place</li> <li>• Money</li> <li>• Partnership</li> <li>• A Locality within Shetland</li> </ul> </li> <li>5. Making things happen <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery and Governance, and Community Participation</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Monitoring</li> </ol>
Period covered by Plan	2018-2028
Frequency of updates	<p>The plan will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision – 20 years</li> <li>• Long term outcomes – 10 years</li> <li>• Medium term outcomes – 3 years</li> <li>• Short-term outcomes – 1 year</li> </ul> <p>The plan will be reviewed annually to update the 1 year outcomes with a wider review every 3 years to update the medium term outcomes. A full review will be undertaken after 10 years.</p>
Area covered by Plan	The LOIP will cover the land area of the Shetland Islands, 1,468km <sup>2</sup> . The Plan may also have wider impacts on the foreshore and territorial waters as defined in the Shetland Islands Marine Plan.
Map	Included on the following page
Proposed LOIP Outcomes/ Priorities	The Outcomes for the LOIP are still under development. The draft priority themes for the LOIP are outlined above. Each of these will have associated 10 year, 3 year and 1 year outcomes. A copy of the draft priorities are presented in <a href="#">Appendix 2</a> .



## Map of Plan Area

Figure 2 – Land area covered by LOIP



## Policy Context

The LOIP must have appropriate regard to a wide range of national and international laws, policy and strategy. A review of Plans, Programmes and Strategies (PPS) has been conducted in accordance with the Scottish Government's SEA Guidance (2013).

This review ensures that the LOIP is consistent with up to date policy, is informed by robust information and also helps in the process of identifying environmental issues. These are discussed further under the environmental baseline section of this report.

The LOIP itself will also have a significant influence on a range of local policies, plans and strategies (PPS).

A preliminary review of all PPS's considered is presented in **Appendix 3** (see separate document) categorised according to their international, national and local scales. The review also provides information on their purpose, relationship with the LOIP and the SEA issues they relate to. This review will be updated at the Environmental Report stage to ensure it is as current as possible.

## Environmental Baseline

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires that information is provided on the current state of the environment and how it might evolve if the LOIP were not implemented.

Baseline data helps to identify the issues on which the SEA should focus and provides a benchmark against which to assess performance.

An environmental baseline for Shetland is shown in **Appendix 4** (see separate document) of this report. The baseline is presented using a topic based approach, which reflects the issues set out within Schedule 3 of the Act:

1. Climatic factors
2. Air
3. Water
4. Soil
5. Material assets
6. Biodiversity, flora and fauna
7. Landscape and cultural heritage
8. Population and human health

The report highlights important inter-relationships between the topics.

A summary of the baseline is shown in **Table 2**.

*Table 2 – Summary of Environmental Baseline and key issues (See Appendix 4 for full details)*

SEA Topic	Summary of environmental baseline
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic trends for Scotland show an increase in minimum and maximum temperatures and rainfall and a reduction in the number of days of frost and snowcover</li> <li>• The northern Outer Hebrides, Shetland and Orkney are warming at a similar level in all seasons, although Orkney has warmed slightly less in winter and Shetland less in summer</li> <li>• Estimated climate change projections for the remainder of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century for North Scotland are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ a mean temperature increase of 1.6°C in winter and 2°C in summer</li> <li>➤ a mean precipitation increase of 13% in winter and a decrease of 11% in summer</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CO2 emissions per capita (tonnes) is estimated at 8.2 for Shetland compared to 5.5 for Scotland, the rate for Shetland is almost 50% more than that for Scotland and has been decreasing at a similar rate as Scotland over the last decade but with no closure of the gap between them</li> </ul>
<b>Air</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air Quality in Shetland is generally good with low pollution levels although at the higher end (index 3) of the 'low' categorisation</li> <li>• There are no Air Quality Management Areas in Shetland</li> <li>• Most air pollution associated with Shetland is concentrated in the main industrial areas of Gremista and Green Head Industrial Estates and Sullom Voe Oil Terminal</li> </ul>

*Continued overleaf*

<b>Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 94% of water bodies in Shetland in 2016 are in ‘good’ or ‘high’ condition and none are in ‘poor’ or ‘bad’ condition</li> <li>• Point source pollution from septic tanks and small treatment works is a specific issue for Shetland</li> <li>• In 2016 the overall status of the number of waterbodies in Shetland was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 6% ‘High’ - fallen from 13% in 2012</li> <li>➤ 88% ‘Good’ - risen from 70% in 2012</li> <li>➤ 6% ‘Moderate’ - risen from 0% in 2012</li> <li>➤ None ‘Poor’ – fallen from 3% in 2012</li> <li>➤ None ‘Bad’ – same as 2012</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Public water supply is extracted from 24 lochs and burns and piped to one of 21 treatment works</li> <li>• The most common cause of historic flooding events in Shetland has been inundation by the sea, the trend has shifted in recent times and heavy rainfall is now the cause of the majority of incidences</li> <li>• Shetland is thought to be sinking at a rate of approximately 2 to 3 millimetres per year and sea level rise over the next century is predicted to be between 0.5 and 1 millimetres, maximum wave heights have increased and increases in the frequency and severity of storms are predicted</li> <li>• Fishing and aquaculture area a key industry with fish farms occupying many suitable voes</li> <li>• Shetland territorial waters have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 4 Marine Consultation Areas</li> <li>➤ 2 Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas</li> <li>➤ 1 Demonstration and Research Marine Protected Area (Fair-Isle)</li> <li>➤ 22 designated Shellfish Waters</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Marine pollution arises from various different sources including domestic sewage, industrial waste, naturally occurring nutrients and ballast discharged offshore by tankers</li> </ul>
<b>Soil</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The whole of Shetland was established as a UNESCO Geopark in 2009 due to its outstanding geological heritage</li> <li>• Shetland does not contain any land classified for Arable agriculture, the percentage of land classified for other land use classes include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 3% for mixed agriculture</li> <li>➤ 23% improved grassland</li> <li>➤ 71% rough grazing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Approximately half of the islands have been mapped as peat, 77% of which is considered to show dominant erosion features</li> <li>• Soil erosion represents a risk to soils with high organic content such as peat</li> <li>• Shetland’s vegetation is dominated by peatland, heather moorland and montane habitats, the islands are predominantly treeless</li> </ul>

<b>Material Assets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demand for heating energy is high due to inclement weather, there is no mains gas so Shetland relies on electricity, oil and renewable heat sources</li> <li>• Renewable energy production is limited to individual schemes as Shetland is not connected to the National Grid at present, plans are in place to replace the current power station with a subsea cable</li> <li>• Oil and Gas remains a major industry in Shetland with an Oil Terminal, Gas Plant and subsea pipelines in place, 56% of businesses rely on it to a greater or lesser extent</li> <li>• Waste minimisation and recycling is limited by Shetland's remote location and small community, waste is sent to landfill in Shetland and any recycling transported to Aberdeen by boat and onwards by road – the environmental and financial costs of which are high</li> <li>• The road network and bus network is relatively good on mainland Shetland, however, given the remote location and dispersed islands residents are heavily dependent on the private car, ferries and air travel in order to get around Shetland and to/from mainland Scotland with much of the island's food and drink imported by sea – this results in high fuel consumption and carbon footprint</li> <li>• Broadband capability is being upgraded at present although plans are yet to be confirmed for more remote locations and islands</li> <li>• Shetland was previously a net exporter of aggregates but due to a change in subsidies this is no longer the case</li> </ul>
<b>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shetland is home to one tenth of the total seabird population of Britain – in excess of 1 million birds from 22 species</li> <li>• Shetland has 112 designated areas covering 118,013 ha, these include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 78 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – 30% are in an unfavourable condition, over-grazing is identified as a key pressure</li> <li>➢ 12 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) – 17% are in an unfavourable condition, over-grazing is identified as a key pressure</li> <li>➢ 12 Special Protection Areas (SPA) – 51% are in an unfavourable condition, fisheries management is identified as a key pressure</li> <li>➢ 1 Ramsar Site – currently in unfavourable condition, over-grazing, trampling and natural events are identified as key pressures</li> <li>➢ 4 Marine Consultation Areas</li> <li>➢ 2 National Nature Reserves</li> <li>➢ 2 Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas</li> <li>➢ 1 Demonstration and Research Marine Protected Area (Fair-Isle)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 11 species listed in Annex 1 of the EU Birds Directive nest in Shetland and several others occur as migrant or wintering birds</li> <li>• Shetland has 4 RSPB reserves</li> <li>• There are a number of protected species in Shetland as listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Nature conservation (Scotland) Act 2004) these include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 9 breeding birds listed under Schedule 1</li> <li>➢ 3 other animals listed under Schedule 5</li> <li>➢ 4 plants listed under Schedule 8</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Shetland draft Biodiversity Action Plan identifies 5 priority habitats and 13 priority species</li> </ul>

<p><b>Landscape</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Shetland Islands cover a total area of 1,468km<sup>2</sup> with over 2,700km of coastline, it is made up of over 100 islands, 15 of which are inhabited – 19% of the population live on an island remote from mainland Shetland</li> <li>• Landscape designations in Shetland include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 1 National Scenic Area comprising 7 sites covering approximately 10% of Shetland</li> <li>➢ 17 Local Landscape Areas currently under consideration</li> <li>➢ 4 Tree Preservation Orders</li> <li>➢ 1 Wild land area</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cultural heritage designations in Shetland include             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➢ 365 Scheduled Monuments</li> <li>➢ 3 Conservation Areas (2 areas of Lerwick and 1 in Scalloway)</li> <li>➢ 490 Listed buildings (26 ‘A’ listed, 256 ‘B’ listed and 208 ‘C’ listed)</li> <li>➢ 2 Historic Marine Protection Areas (designated wrecks with associated exclusion zones)</li> <li>➢ 2 sites designated as Gardens and Designed Landscapes</li> <li>➢ 33 buildings on the Buildings At Risk Register</li> <li>➢ 8 Properties in the Care of Historic Environment Scotland</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Shetland has a strong Scottish and Norse heritage with strong traditions in music, crofting, and fishing</li> <li>• Orkney and Shetland are the only modern administrative regions in Scotland with no significant Gaelic heritage, Shetland Dialect shares much with other branches of Scots with strong Norwegian influences both in place names, vocabulary, expressions and pronunciation – 48.8% of the population speak Scots</li> </ul>
<p><b>Population &amp; Human Health</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2013 the population of Shetland is estimated at 23,200 and has been showing a small decline after peaking at 23,060 in 2010</li> <li>• The population is ageing, over the last decade the number of people aged 65 and over has risen by 33% and the number of people under 16 has fallen by 11%</li> <li>• The population is increasingly centralising towards Lerwick as the main employment area with 41% of people now living there</li> <li>• Unemployment levels are low at 2.6% - 97.4% of the population aged 16-74 are in employment or full time education</li> <li>• Educational attainment at S4 is 9% higher than the Scottish average and 97.4% of school leavers are in learning, training or work</li> <li>• Median incomes are 11% higher in Shetland than they are in Scotland but this varies by area, with some more remote areas earning up to 13% less than the National average</li> <li>• The cost of living is 20-60% higher than the UK average - 49% of households do not earn enough to have an acceptable standard of living</li> <li>• 53% of households are in fuel poverty and 11% of households receive support with housing costs</li> <li>• Low levels of overall deprivation with no datazones in the 15% most deprived in Scotland and only 1 in the 40% most deprived</li> <li>• Early mortality is 14% lower than the Scottish average</li> <li>• Life expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy is higher in Shetland than the Scotland average for both Men and Women</li> </ul>

## Scoping of SEA Topics

Based on an understanding of the purpose of the LOIP (page 6) and an appraisal of the Policy context (page 8) and baseline information (page 9), **Table 3** outlines why individual SEA topics have been scoped in (✓) or out (x) of the assessment.

Table 3 – Scoping of SEA Topics

SEA Topic	Scoped in?	Rationale for decision
<b>Climatic factors</b>	✓	CO2 emissions are comparatively high in Shetland. The ambition to grow the working age population by growing key industries such as energy (traditional and renewable), tourism, and food and drink could impact CO2 emissions. Work to reduce fuel poverty and improve access to broadband and public transport for key groups may have a positive impact on CO2 emissions.
<b>Air</b>	x	Air quality is generally good in Shetland and it is unlikely that the LOIP will significantly impact this either negatively or positively.
<b>Water</b>	✓	The Plan has the potential to affect water quality and quantity. The ambition to attract people to Shetland may have implications for increased development and therefore demand for drinking water and impacts on drainage. Growth of key industries such as Energy and Food & Drink (including aquaculture and fisheries) may also have impacts on both the marine and freshwater environment.
<b>Soil</b>	x	The LOIP is unlikely to have significant impacts on soils. There is potential for very minor impacts due to increased population pressure. Work to address fuel poverty may have minor positive effects for reduced peat extraction.
<b>Material assets</b>	✓	The ambition to grow the population and key industries may put increased pressure on existing resources, infrastructure and waste management. Work to reduce household bills may have a slight positive impact on resource usage e.g. reducing food and energy wastage.
<b>Biodiversity, flora &amp; fauna</b>	✓	The ambition to attract more people and grow key industries such as Energy (including renewables), and Food & Drink (including fisheries and aquaculture) may result in increased development and may have implications for biodiversity, flora & fauna.
<b>Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</b>	✓	The ambition to attract more people to Shetland and grow key industries such as Energy (including renewables), and Food & Drink (including fisheries and aquaculture) may result in increased development and may therefore have implications for landscape and cultural heritage.
<b>Population &amp; Human health</b>	✓	The key aim of the LOIP is to reduce inequalities of outcome for people in Shetland such as access to services, health, poverty etc. As such, the LOIP should have significant positive effects on Population and Human Health.

## Proposed Methodology

### Proposed SEA Objectives

This section sets out our proposed approach to assessment of the LOIP. It is proposed that the SEA assessment is carried out by assessing the draft LOIP vision, priorities and outcomes against a set of SEA objectives.

A series of SEA Objectives have been developed based on the review of PPS (Policy Context, page 8), and baseline information (Baseline, page 9). The draft LOIP will be assessed against these objectives. These objectives are the key tool in ensuring the LOIP will not result in any significant negative effects and can maximise any opportunities for positive effects.

The proposed SEA Objectives are based on the SEA topics as scoped into the assessment by this report (**Table 3**). The objectives are therefore designed to cover the environmental assets that the LOIP could potentially affect. Sub-objectives have been identified where appropriate to inform assessment. The proposed SEA Objectives represent the scope of the assessment that will be undertaken to identify potential environmental effects of the LOIP in Shetland. In order to keep the assessment proportionate, the assessment will be done against the main objectives rather than the sub-objectives.

Environmental effects are often not confined to a single issue and as such where an SEA objective has a significant inter-relationship with another topic this has been highlighted.

The Objectives, sub-objectives, their relationship with the SEA Issues for Shetland, and any interrelationships are outlined in **Table 4** on the following pages.

### Assessment of Alternatives

The SEA process requires us to evaluate the likely significant effects of implementing the LOIP and reasonable alternatives to the Plan. Production of a LOIP is a statutory requirement and as such a direct alternative is not appropriate. Reasonable alternatives to the content of the LOIP, however, can be considered.

The purpose of the LOIP is to identify and agree priorities for key partners and communities to work together on in order to address inequalities. Without the LOIP it is likely that partners would continue to work to address inequalities but this would be done in isolation or in partial partnership and not necessarily with communities. This would mean that there would be no collective direction or partnership and real change would be unlikely to happen.

LOIP outcomes have not yet been identified and as such it is not possible to identify possible alternatives to these at this time. Once the LOIP is fully drafted, possible alternative options will be considered within the Environmental Report.

Table 4 – Proposed SEA Objectives

SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Climatic factors	1a	<b>Reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce emissions of Greenhouse Gases with particular focus on emissions from buildings, transport, energy generation and industry</li> <li>Support investment in renewable energy sources and cleaner technologies</li> <li>Encourage energy conservation and efficiency</li> <li>Encourage appropriate local sourcing of materials, resources and food produce</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>
	1b	<b>Increase resilience to the effects of Climate Change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that future growth and investment in local economy, education, and communities gives due consideration to the potential effects of future climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> <li>Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>
Water	2a	<b>Maintain and improve the quality of water resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance freshwater and marine water quality</li> <li>Ensure future growth and investment in local economy, education, and communities does not adversely impact water resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>
	2b	<b>Ensure water resources are used effectively and sustainably</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conserve public water supply</li> <li>Reduce demand and minimise unnecessary use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>
Material assets	3	<b>Encourage the sustainable use and reuse of Shetland's material assets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that future growth and investment in local economy encourages sustainable use of natural resources</li> <li>Promote the waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse, recycle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> <li>Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>



SEA Topic	No.	SEA Objective	SEA Sub-Objectives	Inter-relationships
Biodiversity, flora & fauna	4	Conserve and enhance biodiversity, distinctive native species and habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance the integrity of designated sites</li> <li>Encourage innovative methods of producing biodiversity gain for both new and existing developments</li> <li>Reduce the ecological footprint of Shetland</li> <li>Encourage people to value and appreciate Shetland's natural heritage more</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>
Landscape & Cultural Heritage	5	Protect and enhance the character, diversity and special qualities of Shetland's Landscape, Seascape and cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect and enhance the landscape character of Shetland</li> <li>Reduce light pollution</li> <li>Minimise loss of wild land</li> <li>Value, protect and enhance the historic and cultural environment and its assets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> <li>Population &amp; Human Health</li> </ul>
Population & Human health	6a	Promote opportunities that maximise the health and wellbeing of people and communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and enhance opportunities for people to enjoy physical recreation and lead healthy lifestyles</li> <li>Encourage walking and cycling as an 'active' travel alternative means of transportation (where appropriate)</li> <li>Encourage community and partner initiatives and facilities to enable social inclusion and enhance health and well-being</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</li> <li>Climatic Factors</li> </ul>
	6b	Support thriving, healthy and resilient communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure population and household growth is accommodated in sustainable and appropriate locations</li> <li>Promote the design of developments that improve social fabric by removing barriers and creating opportunities for positive interactions</li> <li>Promote the inclusion of disadvantaged and minority groups</li> <li>Address inequality, deprivation and exclusion in communities</li> <li>Ensure access to high quality and sustainable facilities and services</li> <li>Reduce burden of ill-health on the population</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climatic Factors</li> <li>Water</li> <li>Material Assets</li> <li>Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</li> <li>Biodiversity, Flora &amp; Fauna</li> </ul>

### Compatibility of Objectives

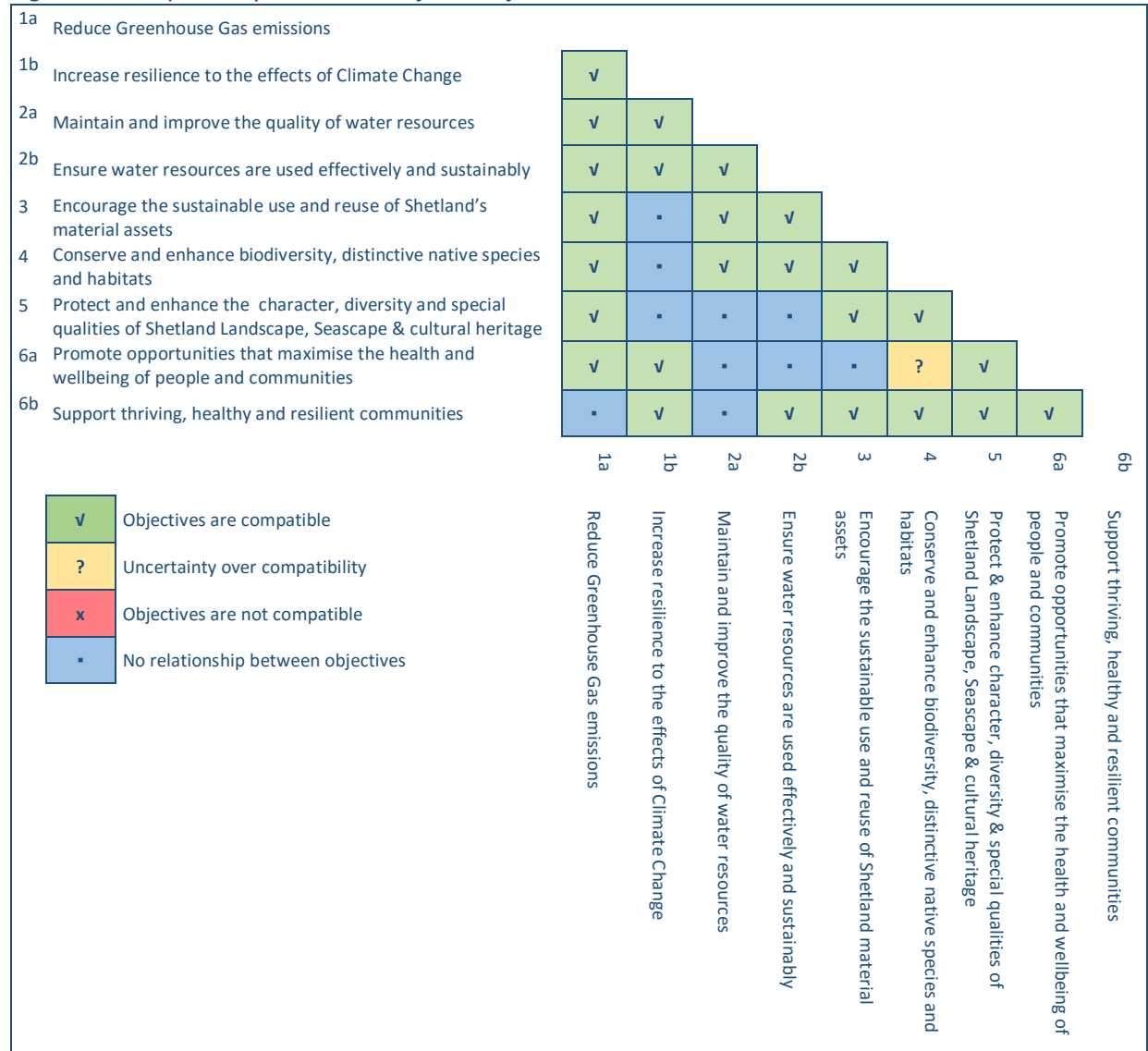
The main SEA Objectives identified in **Table 4** have been tested against one another to ensure they are compatible.

As recommended in the Guidance, a matrix approach has been used and is summarised in **Figure 3**.

As can be seen from **Figure 3**, the majority of SEA objectives proposed are considered to be compatible or have no relationship to one another. This should mean that both objectives can be achieved simultaneously without conflict.

In one case there is uncertainty about compatibility between objectives and this will require further consideration at assessment stage. Objective 6a aims to promote opportunities to maximise health and well-being, including encouraging recreation, walking and cycling. Objective 4 aims to ensure that biodiversity is conserved and enhanced. As such we must ensure that any proposals that encourage outdoor recreation/travel do not adversely impact on biodiversity.

Figure 3 - Compatibility assessment of SEA objectives



## Proposed Assessment Approach

The proposed assessment approach will test the environmental effects of the vision, priorities, and outcomes in the draft LOIP and possible alternative options. This will include:

- predicting the effects of the LOIP, including alternatives;
- evaluating the effects of the draft LOIP, including alternatives;
- considering ways of mitigating adverse effects; and,
- proposing measures to monitor the environmental sustainability effects of the LOIP.

The vision, priorities and outcomes in the draft LOIP will be assessed against the proposed SEA Objectives using an assessment matrix. The matrix will be designed to score each element of the LOIP against the SEA Objectives. It is proposed that a simple scoring system is used to assess the vision, priorities and outcomes against the SEA Objectives as set out in **Table 5** below.

*Table 5 – Proposed SEA Assessment Scoring System*

Significance of effect		Scale & Permanence of Effect	
Major positive effect	++	Local ( <i>Community level</i> )	L
Minor positive effect	+	Regional ( <i>Shetland level</i> )	R
No predicted effect	▪	National ( <i>Scotland level</i> )	N
Minor negative effect	-	International ( <i>trans-national boundary</i> )	I
Major negative effect	--	Permanent	P
Uncertain effect	?	Temporary	T

An example of the assessment matrix is shown in **Table 6**. The matrix will be designed to assess the impact on each objective of the elements of the LOIP and consider the significance of potential effects in terms of:

- Time - short, medium or long term scale of effects
- Permanence - permanent or temporary nature of effects
- Spatial - local, regional, national or international scale of effects

The assessment will require judgement in order to score each element and will be designed to be clear and transparent in how the score was reached. Each element of the LOIP will be reported using symbols to denote positive, negative, neutral or uncertain effects supported by evidence and justification on the nature of the effect. Any uncertainties or assumptions as part of the process will be highlighted along with the need for monitoring, mitigation and enhancement. Summary tables will also be used to present the overall assessment of the LOIP against the objectives to identify any cumulative effects.

The assessment is an iterative and ongoing process. As the LOIP develops beyond the consultation draft, the SEA should be updated and continue to be used to inform the process.

Table 6 – Proposed Assessment Matrix for each Objective for use in SEA of the LOIP

<b>SEA Topic</b>	Insert SEA Topic here e.g. Climatic Factors						
<b>SEA Objective</b>	Insert SEA Objective here e.g. 1a Reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions						
<b>Significant interrelationships</b>	Insert significant interrelationship with other SEA Topics here e.g. Water, Material Assets, Population & Human Health						
LOIP Element	Nature of Effect	Scale	Permanence	Significance			Mitigation and Enhancement
				Short-term	Medium-term	Long-term	
<i>Insert element here e.g. LOIP Vision</i>	<i>Insert description of the nature of the potential effect the Option will have on the issues against the criteria set out by the SEA Objective. Link to baseline information as necessary.</i>						<i>Insert information on how any potential negative effects will be mitigated or how enhancements will be used to create positive effects.</i>
<i>Insert Element here e.g. Draft Priority</i>							
<i>Insert Element here e.g. Draft Outcomes</i>							
<b>Summary of Conclusions</b>							
<i>Insert a summary of assessment findings</i>							

### Proposed Scope and Level of Detail

The Assessment of the LOIP will be proportional to the Plan and will cover potential effects on Shetland and beyond as appropriate. The assessment will also consider whether effects are likely to be permanent or temporary. The LOIP Vision and Priorities cover a 20 year period with outcomes set for 10 years, 3 years and 1 year.

The LOIP will be reviewed at the 10 year stage. The 3 and 1 year outcomes will be set in the context of the 10 year outcomes and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis as delivery progresses. It will be important to factor this into the SEA monitoring process.

### Cumulative Effects

It is important to consider both the effect of individual elements of the LOIP on the SEA Objectives as well as the cumulative impact.

The cumulative effects of the LOIP will be evaluated in light of the evolution of the environment without the LOIP. The net effects will be identified and reported in the Environmental Report.

### Mitigation and Enhancement

The Environmental Report will propose recommendations for mitigation and enhancement measures to prevent, reduce or offset adverse impacts, and to enhance potential positive environmental effects of the LOIP.

## Monitoring

Proposals for monitoring the environmental effects of delivering the LOIP will be identified in the Environmental Report. A set of indicators will be identified to monitor:

- if the LOIP is contributing to achievement of the SEA objectives;
- that mitigation measures are performing as well as can be expected or require modifying; and,
- whether any remedial measures are necessary to mitigate adverse significant effects which have not been identified previously.

Proposed monitoring indicators will be developed iteratively during the assessment and included in the final Environmental Report.

Due to the dynamic nature of the LOIP, the 3 year and 1 year outcomes will be updated as delivery progresses. They will be set in the context of the overarching priorities and 10 year outcomes. They will require monitoring to ensure any potential effects or required mitigation are identified and addressed.

## Structure of the Environmental Report

The Environmental Report will broadly follow SEA Guidance and will include:

- Introduction – to set out what the Report is trying to achieve
- Policy Context – statutory context for the LOIP and SEA
- Draft LOIP Overview – Vision, Priorities and Outcomes
- Environmental Baseline – Summary and main issues
- Environmental Assessment
  - Methodology
  - SEA Objectives
  - Likely changes to environment in the absence of the LOIP
  - Assessment of LOIP Vision, Priorities and Outcomes
  - Changes arising from assessment
  - Assessing cumulative effects
  - Mitigation
- Monitoring
- Next Steps
- Appendices

## Consultation and Next Steps

Next steps and proposed consultation timescales and approach are outlined in **Table 7**.

*Table 7 – Next Steps and Consultation*

Time period	Activity
November 2017	Scoping Report submitted to SEA Gateway and consulted on with Consultation Authorities
December 2017	Comments received on the Scoping Report will be used to inform the Environmental Assessment of the Draft LOIP
December 2017 / January 2018	4 week Public Consultation on Draft LOIP and Environmental Report - all documents will be available for inspection at SIC offices and online
January 2018	Final LOIP produced based on feedback from consultation – any changes made through this process will also be subject to Environmental Assessment
February / March 2018	The final LOIP will be signed off by all Schedule 1 Community Planning Partners (see <a href="#">Appendix 1</a> )
March 2018 onwards	Once the LOIP has been signed off a Post-Adoption Statement will be published to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• summarise how the findings of the SEA process were taken into account</li> <li>• how environmental considerations more generally have been integrated into the LOIP</li> <li>• changes made to the LOIP as a result of the SEA process and consultation</li> </ul>
Ongoing for the period of the LOIP	The Community Planning Partnership will monitor significant effects following sign-off of the LOIP

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