

## **Appendix 16 Plans, Programmes and Projects examined in-combination**

A key feature of HRA is the need to look beyond the specific plan under consideration, and consider the likelihood and potential impact scale of effects both in-combination with other plans and activities, and via cumulative, secondary and indirect processes. This is where the impact of a single activity may be negligible, but where the aggregated impacts of a number of activities acting together produce a more significant effect. Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive addresses these important considerations.

The Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) must consider the likely significant in combination effects of the Local Development Plan (LDP) in relation to other plans, programmes or proposals either current or planned within Shetland, or prepared by other statutory organisations (e.g. SNH, Shetland Transport - Zetrans etc).

In considering the likely significant effects of the LDP on designated European sites, the cumulative impact of other plans and projects needs to be considered. When undertaking this part of the assessment it is essential to bear in mind the principal intention behind the legislation i.e. to ensure that those projects or plans which in themselves have minor impacts are not simply dismissed on that basis, but are evaluated for any cumulative contribution they may make to an overall significant effect. In practice, in-combination assessment is therefore of greatest relevance when the plan would otherwise be screened out because its individual contribution is inconsequential. Screening has involved screening out aspects of the LDP that could have no likely significant effect on a site, either alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan, or with other plans or projects. The Policies in the LDP that were individually screened out because of no likelihood in themselves of any significant effect on a European site, were assessed 'in combination' to consider any possible cumulative significant effect. No Policies were assessed to be likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

### **Table 1. In-combination effects analysis**

Other plans and projects being prepared or implemented in Shetland could have the potential to cause negative effects on the integrity of European sites. These effects could potentially be exacerbated if they are experienced in combination with the effects of the new Shetland Local Development Plan (LDP), which could potentially lead to an insignificant effect becoming significant. It is therefore important to consider which other plans and projects could act in combination with the impacts of the LDP. The plans and projects listed below have been considered for likely effects in combination with the draft LDP.

The plans listed below were considered for likely effects in combination with the LDP. The guidance states that only those that are considered most relevant should be collected for 'in combination' testing - an exhaustive list could render the assessment exercise unworkable. The following plans or strategies are considered to have potential effects and therefore have been included within the assessment.

This HRA Screening exercise has involved screening out aspects and policies of the LDP that have no likely effects on European sites. The policies in the LDP that were

individually screened out, were assessed in-combination to consider any possible cumulative significant effects. None were assessed likely to have any significant effects on sites. No proposals were brought forward through the LDP that could be screened in for in-combination significant effects on any sites in Shetland. There were no proposals that already had planning permission or subject to application for consent or are in complete parts of projects. Given the particular sensitivities of European sites and qualifying interests the analysis was mindful to ensure that nearby Areas of Best Fit and Sites of Development Potential would not result in the potential for cumulative effects. Potential effects that were raised have been addressed through various mitigations and safeguards in the LDP and other plans and policies produced by other Council departments and agencies.

Other plans, programme and projects that are being prepared and/ or implemented in Shetland have the potential to have significant effects on European sites. Effects from different plans may interact leading to a cumulative, significant effect overall for the area's biodiversity interests. It is a key requirement of the Habitats Regulations that effects identified through the plan screening are considered for their potential in combination effects.

The Shetland Islands find themselves in a unique position geographically. Normally HRA's on the mainland focuses on two effects categories: those effects associated with regional strategic plans and proposals and those related to more localised 'in-combination' effects, either with adjacent Authorities or geographically localised plans from other statutory agencies. Guidance recommends that the in combination assessment is undertaken in a targeted way, to ensure that the assessment is most effective, by focusing on those plans most likely to interact with the plan under consideration. The plans and projects listed below have formed the basis of the in combination test for this policy screening. This list is not exhaustive and represents the most relevant current plans

It is neither practical nor necessary to assess the 'in combination' effects of the LDP within the context of all other plans and projects (PPs) within Shetland. Identifying and assessing other PPs requires a pragmatic approach given the range of PPs within Shetland.

The HRA has been mindful of Areas of Best fit and the potential for cumulative effects given the particular sensitivities of the qualifying interests of sites nearby. There are no instances where proposals are located within Shetland which may result in the significant effects of multiple proposals feeding together, nor any having an impacts individually or combined European sites.

Other relevant policies, plans, programmes and legislation have also been considered and are examined in the table below. No additional policies or proposals were screened in for their cumulative effects after being considered 'in combination' with those listed.

National plans were considered for in-combination effects however they do not set direct policy for making development decisions in Shetland. The aims and objectives of these higher level plans will be implemented through lower tier policies including

the new LDP. Therefore, direct in-combination effects of these plans cannot be identified.

No site allocations have been allocated as part of the plan, however the new LDP will have a spatial strategy that includes Areas of Best Fit (AoBF) and Sites of Development Potential (SoDP). The new LDP has been developed so that no significant effects on European Sites will occur. The LDP contain strong safeguarding policies to ensure the integrity of Sites in Shetland is compromised through development proposals that come forward in the future. Any proposals would be subject to a project level assessment as part of the planning application process. This would consider in-combination and cumulative effects with other development in Shetland.

**Table 1 In-combination effects analysis**

Name of recent Plan, Programme Strategy or Future Proposal	Description	In-combination effects, cumulative issues or development pressures on European sites	Mitigation or safeguards
<p><b>Shetland Transport Strategy (2008)</b> <b>Produced by Zetrans</b></p>	<p>The local transport plan for Shetland sets out a vision and objectives for transport in Shetland over the next 5 to 15 years and the approach to be taken to achieve these objectives. It sets out strategic policies for transport and measures that will be needed over the time span of the plan to tackle the transport priorities for Shetland. These include the development internal links, external links and inter island links in Shetland.</p>	<p>Key transport priorities in the plan are safeguarding environmental quality and reducing emissions to combat climate change. Potential future schemes include – tunnels, ferry terminal upgrades, jetties, larger ferries, road improvements</p> <p>Potential common effects resulting from the transport strategy include reduction in air quality, reduction in water quality, impacts on water supply and hydrology, land use changes and spread of invasive species</p> <p>The potential for significant effects on sites in Shetland is mitigated through the</p>	<p>To mitigate against the above, the Strategy contains series of environmental protection objectives - ENV1 to ENV8.</p> <p><b><u>Environmental Protection Objectives</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV 1 reduces carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas emissions, and the consumption of non-renewable resources arising from transport, travel and infrastructure in control of ZetTrans, SIC and its partners.</li> <li>• ENV 2 encourages and facilitates reductions in carbon dioxide and greenhouse gas emissions, and the consumption of non-renewable resources arising from transport and travel in control of private users and other operators.</li> <li>• ENV 3 encourages and facilitates walking and cycling for short trips.</li> <li>• ENV 4 minimises impacts of transport and associated infrastructure on the terrestrial and water environments.</li> <li>• ENV 5 reduces impacts of transport services and new transport infrastructure on landscape, the historic</li> </ul>

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		<p>policies contained in the Strategy. These would have to be met before any project was to receive planning approval.</p> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	<p>environment and biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENV 6 support species native to Shetland through the roadside Biodiversity Action Plan and appropriate management and maintenance of road network.</li> <li>• ENV 7 encourages design of transport infrastructure that is appropriate to Shetland.</li> <li>• ENV 8 seeks to minimise the adverse affects on natural drainage systems from roads run-off.</li> <li>• ENV 9 seeks to reduce the vulnerability of transport / infrastructure to climate change.</li> </ul> <p>No specific locations for new development identified though it is possible that the plan could lead to increase in diffuse air pollution. However, key priorities within the Plan will help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy. These include improving the quality, affordability and awareness of public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing and making the movement of people and freight more sustainable, safer and more secure, reliable</p>

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			<p>and efficient.</p> <p>Improving the efficient, reliable and sustainable movement of people and freight as well as reducing the contribution of transport to greenhouse gas emissions will help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p> <p>The in-combination effects of the Regional Transport Plan and Local Development Plan is likely to be positive in the long term. The shared approach of both to deliver more sustainable transport and travel solutions for commercial and private traffic provides strong support for overarching aims to reduce air pollution which can contribute to the reduction of damaging effects to habitats and species.</p> <p>The Strategy does not propose any major developments that are likely to have significant effects on European sites. Measures proposed in the plan to meet the overarching objectives will help to mitigate or offset any increase in diffuse air pollution as a result of this Strategy.</p> <p>No adverse effects on any European sites</p>

Name of recent Plan, Programme Strategy or Future Proposal	Description	In-combination effects, cumulative issues or development pressures on European sites	Mitigation or safeguards
			resulting from the Strategy are anticipated.
<p><b>Shetland Economic Development Policy Statement (2007 -2011)</b></p>	<p>The Economic Development policy Statement contains 29 policies, together with related pledges, delivery mechanisms, expected outcomes and progress dates.</p> <p>In essence, the Council's Economic Development Policy Statement is a very close fit with the direction set by the Government in the national Economic Development Strategy.</p> <p>"The main aim of the Council's economic development service is to improve the quality of life of Shetland residents by</p>	<p>The in-combination effects are uncertain, however the strategy does not propose excessive levels of growth and it is unlikely that significant effects will occur, unless caused through locational distribution of growth / development</p> <p>The policy contains no specific development schemes, although assumes the need for continued economic growth (implying additional land requirements). The aims of the strategy are translated into the current Structure Plan policies and allocations. Therefore, the economic development policy statement strategy would have no additional in</p>	<p>One of the main operating principals contained within the Economic Development Policy Statement is a commitment to Sustainable Development. It states ' in all aspects of economic development work the Council will endeavour to find sustainable solutions for economic development. Sustainable development is defined as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'. Impacts on European sites are not anticipated.</p> <p>Any development proposals would need to meet local planning policy requirements before any project received planning approval. The new Local development plan contains various environmental safeguarding policies that have to be met. No impacts on European sites are anticipated.</p>

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	<p>promoting an environment in which traditional industries can thrive and innovate alongside newer emerging industries.”</p> <p>To help us achieve this vision our aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Encourage enterprise and sustainable growth</li> <li>· Expand knowledge and build skills</li> <li>· Improve access and extend opportunities</li> <li>· Focus on quality</li> </ul> <p>Strategy provides basis for development and investment in Shetland. The Strategy is due to be updated. The most recent version of the Strategy establishes a broad vision for the Islands, priorities for growth and</p>	<p>–combination impacts.</p> <p>There is potential to cause the following generic effects on European sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance as result of development near to European sites</li> <li>• Air pollution from housing, employment and transport growth</li> <li>• Water quality – increased pressure on sewerage capacity and an increase in non permeable surfaces</li> <li>• Land take as a result of any development projects</li> <li>• Coastal pressures</li> <li>• Modified drainage and altered surface and groundwater flows</li> </ul>	



Name of recent Plan, Programme Strategy or Future Proposal	Description	In-combination effects, cumulative issues or development pressures on European sites	Mitigation or safeguards
	regeneration, and policies to achieve sustainable development across a wide range of topics – from jobs, housing and transport to climate change, waste and energy		
<b>Shetland Interim Planning Minerals Policy (2009)</b>	<p>The Minerals Interim Planning Policy sets out the broad strategic and detailed policies which will provide a strategic overview and protect the environment from the harmful effects of mineral development.</p> <p>The document sets out the conditions under which minerals and aggregate working will be permitted in Shetland. It states that most mineral workings will be restricted to existing extraction sites and seeks to ensure that</p>	<p>There is potential to cause the following generic effects on European sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Risk of direct loss of land or sites</li> <li>• Risk of species disruption or disturbance</li> <li>• Changes in habitats</li> <li>• Waste heaps</li> <li>• Ancillary works such as haul rods, bunds, processing plants etc.</li> <li>• Vibration damage</li> </ul>	<p>The Minerals policy provides strong protection for European sites and will lead to no significant effect on the integrity of European sites considered. It has also been subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). Impacts on European sites are not anticipated.</p> <p>Any minerals development, which is likely to prejudice the purpose of designated European sites and their settings, will not be permitted unless the reasons for development outweigh the likely adverse impact, taking into account the requirements of relevant legislation and guidance.</p> <p>European sites are designated as absolute areas of constraint, constituting areas that are unsuitable for waste management facilities. In addition, impacts on designated sites as a</p>

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	<p>the islands demands for minerals and aggregate are met, wherever possible, from locally sourced materials. It states that present viable mineral extraction sites, either today or in the future, should be 'sterilised' against other forms of development.</p>	<p>and noise</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscape character change</li> <li>• Dewatering</li> <li>• Subsidence</li> <li>• Dust and airborne pollution</li> <li>• Movements of heavy traffic</li> <li>• Compound effects e.g. dewatering in conjunction with farming and irrigation.</li> </ul> <p>The mineral policy is not expected to have any significant effects on European sites in Shetland as it contains various safeguards.</p>	<p>result of placing waste management facilities nearby have been considered and are highly unlikely. In all cases, applications will be subject to the most rigorous examination.</p> <p>Any development proposals would need to meet local planning policy requirements before any project received planning approval. The new Local development plan contains various environmental safeguarding policies that have to be met. No impacts on European sites are anticipated.</p>
<p><b>Orkney and Shetland Area Waste Plan (2003)</b></p>	<p>The plan produced by SEPA sets out a waste management strategy for</p>	<p>Potential generic effects on European may occur if inappropriate location</p>	<p>Any development proposals or waste-management proposals would need to meet local planning policy requirements before any</p>

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	<p>Orkney and Shetland over 20 year period with the aim of controlling waste generation and reducing the environmental impacts of waste production.</p> <p>The strategic aims outlined in the Strategy will help to move waste up the hierarchy reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill and following the Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO) principle. This includes household and community composting schemes, together with several innovative local recycling and reuse operations, incineration at the Energy from Waste (EFW) plant, or landfill, the least attractive option.</p>	<p>of waste facilities occurs. This could generate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased transport and associated impacts/ pollution incidents.</li> <li>• Air quality issues</li> <li>• Decreased water quality</li> <li>• Increased disturbance</li> <li>• Altered hydrology</li> <li>• Spread of non native species</li> </ul> <p>The potential for significant effects on sites in Shetland is mitigated through the policies contained in the Waste and LDP. These would have to be met before any project was to receive planning approval.</p> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	<p>project received planning approval. The Local development plan contains various environmental safeguarding policies.</p> <p>Any waste development, which is likely to prejudice the purpose of designated sites and their settings, will not be permitted unless the reasons for development outweigh the likely adverse impact, taking into account the requirements of relevant legislation and guidance.</p> <p>Plan emphasises the need to follow the Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO) principle where possible.</p> <p>There is unlikely to be in combination effects as the Plan is likely to focus growth on existing facilities.</p> <p>Impacts on European sites are not anticipated and in all cases, applications will be subject to the most rigorous examination through local planning policy and other statutory agencies before any planning consents would be granted.</p>

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<b>Shetland Islands Council Corporate Plan (2008 - 2012)</b>	<p>Sets out the overall objective of maintaining and improving the quality of life experienced by people of Shetland. The Plan takes its lead from the Council's Single Outcome Agreement between public bodies and aims to 'Maintaining the Economically Active Population Throughout Shetland'. Key themes of the Corporate Plan to improve service delivery are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining a Sustainable Economy,</li> <li>• Maintaining a Sustainable Society</li> <li>• Maintaining a Sustainable Environment</li> <li>• Organising</li> </ul>	<p>No major projects or proposals are proposed that would produce significant effects in-combination. Impacts on European sites are not anticipated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No significant in-combination effects have been identified from a review of other relevant plans and projects.</li> </ul> <p>The Strategy does not propose any major developments that are likely to have significant effects on European sites. Measures proposed in the plan to meet the overarching key theme of 'maintaining a sustainable society' will have a beneficial effect for the integrity of European sites.</p>

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	ourselves better		
<b>Shetland Islands Council Sustainable Development Implementation Plan (2007)</b>	<p>A Sustainable Development Implementation Plan (SDIP) is a requirement of local authorities in Scotland to exercise the powers and duties in relation to sustainable development contained in the Local Government in Scotland Act, 2003 “in a way which contributes to the achievement of sustainable development”. It contains actions to ensure implementation on Shetland Island Council’s Climate Declaration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of new projects that contribute significantly to sustainable development</li> </ul>	<p>The potential for significant effects on sites in Shetland is mitigated through the policies contained in the LDP. These would have to be met before any project was to receive planning approval.</p> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	<p>Strategy aimed at producing positive impacts on Shetland’s local environment through applying sustainable development approaches.</p>

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	<p>in Shetland;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedding sustainable development into existing community, corporate and service planning processes.</li> <li>• Monitoring of existing projects that contribute significantly to sustainable development in Shetland.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Renewable Energy Development in Shetland – Strategy and Action Plan (2009)</b></p>	<p>This strategy provides guidance on how Shetland will achieve sustainable benefits harnessing local resources for renewable energy development.</p> <p>The overarching aim is: <i>‘to enhance the quality of life in Shetland for future generations by achieving the optimum value from the renewable resources we have available in and</i></p>	<p>Any future developments have the potential for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• emissions of greenhouse gases from energy use and traffic both during construction and operational activities;</li> <li>• an increased burden on air quality from emissions generated by plant and equipment as well as traffic associated with any</li> </ul>	<p>The Strategy states as a Principle of Development that renewable energy generation projects should be developed in a sustainable way. It stresses the importance of protecting the special qualities and characteristics of Shetland’s natural environment, biodiversity, historic environment, landscapes and seascapes.</p> <p>Effects are highly dependent on the nature, scale and location of particular developments. It is not inconceivable that some future developments might have implications for biodiversity (for example damage to habitats, disturbance of species and loss or damage to particular flora and fauna), landscape and</p>

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	<p><i>around the islands.'</i></p> <p>The strategy focuses on the opportunities for renewable energy development in Shetland to reduce economic fragility and create a positive step-change in the local economy. It emphasises that renewable energy development offers significant community and environmental benefits in addition to the economic benefits which could be created.</p>	<p>developments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an increased burden on water supply and water treatment relating to installations;</li> <li>• additional waste generation arising from operational activities.</li> </ul> <p>The potential for significant effects on sites in Shetland is mitigated through the policies contained in the LDP. These would have to be met before any project was to receive planning approval.</p> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	<p>historic character (including visual impact, effects on landscape and historic features) and transport impacts (increasing numbers and therefore emissions and potential congestion problems).</p> <p>Impacts on European sites are not anticipated and in all cases, applications will be subject to the most rigorous examination through local planning policy and other statutory agencies before any planning consents would be granted.</p>
<b>Shetland Core Path Plan (2009)</b>	<p>The Shetland Core Path Plan has its origins in The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. The was passed by the</p>	<p>Potential in-combination effects associated with Improved access or increased recreational use of remoter / sensitive parts</p>	<p>The Core Path Plan will not lead significant effects on the integrity of European sites considered. The Plan was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and impacts of the Core Paths Plan on the</p>

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	<p>Scottish Parliament set the basis for the development of a local Access Strategy. The Act introduced a major new legislative framework for access to the countryside in Scotland with emphasis on a general right of responsible access to all land, inland water and the foreshore. Through this legislation, the Council had a statutory duty to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish a Local Access Forum</li> <li>• To keep open and free from obstruction any routes over which access rights may be exercised</li> <li>• To prepare a core</li> </ul>	<p>of the coast around Shetland could result in localised elevated levels of disturbance to wildlife, e.g. bird populations, and damage to habitats. It could also lead to more litter.</p> <p>Potential in-combination impacts arising from increased recreational pressure where previously obstructed rights of way are opened up to access.</p>	<p>integrity of designated environmental sites were consistently negligible. The Core Paths Plan proposes active use of paths and open spaces and creation of new paths that could pass through or encourage the use of some sensitive sites. Much of the Plan's approach to providing new open spaces has been encompassed within the policies and proposals in the proposed Local Development Plan and the combined effects of promoting new open spaces has been considered within the screening.</p>



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	<p>path plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To review and amend bye-laws</li> </ul> <p>The Shetland Core Paths Plan (2009) provides a framework for the future management and development of outdoor access in Shetland.</p> <p>The purpose of the plan is to identify a basic framework of routes, which are sufficient for the purposes of giving the public reasonable access throughout Shetland. The basic framework of routes will link into and support existing planned wider networks of paths.</p>		
<b>Shetland Tourism Plan (2011 -2014)</b>	The Shetland Tourism Plan is an industry-led plan setting out the broad strategic direction to support the Shetland Tourism industry and the	The Plan has the potential for some pressures on European sites in Shetland. Increased tourism could lead to some adverse effects.	SNH, Historic Scotland and the RSPB were consulted during the preparation of the Strategy. An SEA Screening was undertaken and it was determined that significant environmental effects were unlikely and a full SEA was not .

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	<p>priorities for achieving this in the next four years. These priorities will be translated into operational objectives and detailed actions by individual and/or collective action of Partnership members working within the parameters of specific action plans.</p> <p>The Shetland Tourism Plan outlines the direction the tourism industry will take in partnership with public agencies to improve and grow the sector in the coming years. Major themes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving business providers ability to do business online</li> <li>• Encouraging and fostering effective partnerships; and</li> </ul>	<p>Generic effects associated with tourism development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased recreational use of parts of the coast could lead to elevated levels of disturbance, particularly to bird populations, and damage to habitats.</li> <li>• Direct loss of habitat through development</li> <li>• Increased levels of tourism and employment may lead to increased transport movements.</li> <li>• Atmospheric pollution generated as a result of employment and transport growth.</li> <li>• Increased</li> </ul>	<p>No proposals of development sites are contained in the Plan and in-combination effects are unlikely.</p> <p>The Shetland Tourism Plan sets the framework for potential future developments. It does not determine the location, nature, size or scope, operating conditions, framework for development or resources allocation.</p> <p>The Plan was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening and was deemed unlikely to have significant environmental effects.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling Shetland to become a year-round destination</li> </ul> <p>The Plan contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broad strategy recommendations</li> <li>• Recommended specific actions with owners; and</li> <li>• Monitoring processes.</li> </ul> <p>The natural and cultural environments are acknowledged as fundamental to Shetland’s tourism sector. As such, SNH, Historic Scotland, the Shetland Amenity Trust and the RSPB were all consulted in the production of this plan.</p>	<p>recreational pressures through sports and outdoor pursuits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increased level of waterborne transport and development along the coast has the potential to increase diffuse levels of water pollution.</li> </ul> <p>The potential for significant effects on sites in Shetland is mitigated through the policies contained in the LDP. These would have to be met before any project was to receive planning approval.</p> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	
<b>SSMEI – Shetland Marine Spatial Plan</b>	The purpose of this initiative to inform future	No specific sites or development proposals are	The Plan was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and

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(2010)	<p>marine policy and test new management framework options for Scotland's marine and coastal environment as part of the Scottish Government's Scottish Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative (SSMEI)</p> <p>The Shetland Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) is intended to deliver an ecosystem based management approach to sustainable marine development. It provides a strategic framework for forward planning for those sectors seeking to use marine resources around Shetland and takes account of cumulative effects of development including balancing environmental and socio-economic</p>	<p>contained in the Policy. The Policy presents a spatial framework for sustainable marine environment. It contains supporting policies, mapped areas of sensitivities, constraints and broad areas for developers</p> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	<p>impacts of the Plan on the integrity of designated environmental sites were consistently negligible.</p>

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	<p>factors.</p> <p>Overall the MSP seeks to ensure that Shetland's marine and coastal environment is one that is clean, healthy, safe and productive and effectively managed to meet the long-term needs of nature and the local people.</p>		
<p><b>Improving the quality of Scotland's water environment Orkney and Shetland Area Management Plan 2010–2015</b></p>	<p>The plan aims to maintain and improve the ecological status of the rivers, lochs, estuaries, coastal waters and groundwater areas in Orkney and Shetland. It is a local action plan which supplements the <i>River basin management plan for the Scotland river basin district</i>, and helps to deliver Water Framework Directive requirements. It focuses on local actions for Orkney and Shetland and</p>	<p>Generic effects related to development proposals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More demand for water resources</li> <li>• Abstraction</li> <li>• Hydrological impacts</li> </ul> <p>No in-combination or cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.</p>	<p>No significant in-combination effects with proposed plans or projects are expected on European sites.</p> <p>The Plan proposes to improve ecological status through a range of current and future measures in relation to water quality and water abstraction, to progress towards achieving good ecological status. Identifies pressures on water resources and quality, and assesses requirements for good ecological status across the RBMP under Water Framework Directive. Covers all types of water body. Under Water Framework Directive, all EU Member States, including UK, must achieve 'good' ecological status for all waters by December 2015 and ensure that status does not deteriorate in any</p>

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	<p>highlights the opportunities for partnership working to ensure that we all benefit from improvements to the water environment. The duration of the plan is from 2009 to 2015</p>		<p>waters. RBMP outlines the current status of waters, the proposed environmental objectives for waters, and the measures which may be necessary in order to achieve these objectives.</p> <p>River Basin Management Plans fall within the scope of the Habitats Directive, this means that each one will require an assessment of its likely effects on any Natura 2000 sites within, or hydrologically linked to, the river basin district.</p> <p>Under the Habitats Regulations SEPA has a duty to assess the effects of existing abstraction licences and any new applications to ensure they are not impacting on internationally important nature conservation sites. Water efficiency is also tested by SEPA before a new license is granted. If the assessment of a new application shows that it could have an impact on a European Site SEPA will have to follow strict rules in setting a time limit for that license.</p> <p>The plan is unlikely to have any significant</p>

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			<p>negative effects on European sites.</p> <p>The plan is unlikely to have any significant negative effects on European sites. This is based on the fact that before any measures in the plan are implemented they must be subject to the requirements of the Habitats Regulations. Any plans, project or permissions required to implement the measures must undergo an appropriate assessment if they are likely to have a significant effect.</p>
<p><b>The Local Housing Strategy for Shetland (2011-2016)</b></p>	<p>The Local Housing Strategy (2011-2016) outlines the strategic direction for helping to meet housing need and demand (across all tenures) over a five year period. This also informs future investment in housing and related services in Shetland.</p> <p>The Local Housing</p>	<p>The Local Housing Strategy will not directly lead to large scale development. As such, there are unlikely to be any in- combination impacts on European sites .</p> <p>Any environmental problems that are identified as part of a development proposal through the lifetime of the Local Housing Strategy will be subject to environmental</p>	<p>The Local Housing Strategy does not direct land use for housing, which is currently dealt with under the Local Plan.</p> <p>The Local Housing Strategy will not influence waste plan provision or water management. Any waste disposal requirements for any development proposals throughout the lifetime of the Local Housing Strategy will be subject to assessment through the planning process and the Local Development Plan.</p> <p>Any proposals that arise within or in close proximity to European sites will be assessed</p>

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	<p>Strategy is a legislative requirement as stated within Part 5 s.89 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001.</p> <p>The Local Housing Strategy is the main strategic document for housing provision, housing investment and improving housing conditions across all tenures. The main themes within the Local Housing Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Supply of Housing;</li> <li>• Fuel Poverty;</li> <li>• Homelessness;</li> <li>• Housing Support / Housing for an Ageing Population;</li> <li>• Private Sector Housing.</li> </ul>	<p>assessment through the Planning process and the Local Development Plan.</p>	<p>through the policies contained within the local development plan.</p>



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<p><b>Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement (2012 to 2015)</b></p>	<p>Shetland Partnership is the local Community Planning Partnership for the Shetland Islands Council area. Partners have a responsibility to provide strategic leadership and to ensure that they reflect the priorities detailed in the community plan within the plans and strategies of their own organisation.</p> <p>This community plan is committed to the achievement of identified and shared outcomes and targets. The new community plan and the associated single outcome agreement builds on our achievements to date and demonstrates how SIC will continue to bring about improvements in</p>	<p>Impacts on European sites are not anticipated.</p> <p>Any new development should consider the themes set out in the Community Plan. As such, there are unlikely to be any in-combination impacts.</p>	<p>The Community Plan does not set policy and must be delivered through other plans and strategies.</p> <p>There is the risk that ‘increasing prosperity’ and other parts of the vision to promote development that could have an impact on nature conservation sites. However, the desire also to protect and enhance the environment will avoid significant impacts.</p>

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	<p>our communities and impact on the issues that affect them in the period 2012 – 2015.</p> <p>The main outcomes of the community strategy are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve quality of life for all</li> <li>• protect and enhance the environment</li> <li>• increase prosperity</li> <li>• have safer communities</li> <li>• achieve a healthier Shetland</li> <li>• have a more inclusive Shetland</li> </ul>		
Shetland Islands Council Draft Interim Planning Policy: Wind Energy Development (2009)	The origin of the policy is contained within the Council's Corporate Plan (2008) that sought to support the development of a large wind farm on Shetland, which would	No specific sites or development proposals are contained in the Policy. The Policy presents a spatial framework with supporting policies, mapped areas of sensitivities, constraints	Under Policy Policy LDP WED SP2 Areas to be Afforded Significant Protection the following safeguards are included; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• direct large-scale developments in areas of high sensitivity will not permitted to protect their natural</li> </ul>

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	<p>contribute to the national target of energy generated from renewable sources, increase the local skills base, and provide a security of income in the face of a declining oil industry in the Islands.</p> <p>The policy provides guidance on how wind energy development will be guided in Shetland (up to 20MW) in terms of location, design and environmental impact.</p> <p>The current Local Plan was adopted 2004-2012. However, as the review of current policy is underway it is envisaged that all IPP's will become Supplementary Guidance alongside the new Local Development Plan in</p>	<p>and broad areas of search for developers</p> <p>Typically wind farm developments have the potential for significant effects. Examples include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual impact</li> <li>• Physical loss or damage of habitat</li> <li>• Construction noise</li> <li>• Affects on bird migration</li> <li>• Hydrogeology impacts</li> <li>• Impacts on Peat bogs</li> <li>• Species disturbance etc.</li> </ul> <p>There potential for significant effects on sites in Shetland is mitigated or averted by the strict safeguards outlined in the Interim Planning Policy. No in-combination or</p>	<p>heritage. Any such developments will be directed elsewhere.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protecting areas of international and national designation for their importance to natural heritage</li> </ul> <p>If a development is likely to have a significant impact on an area designated for natural heritage value the Shetland Islands Council will undertake an Appropriate Assessment of the implications of the proposed development on the conservation objectives for which the site is designated.</p> <p>The Policy has been subject to the SEA process and no significant effects are anticipated in relation to the integrity of European sites.</p>

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	2012	cumulative issues are likely to affect European sites.	