

# **Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan**

## **Draft Habitats Regulation Appraisal Record**

## Table of Contents

Title Page .....	1
Table of Contents .....	2
1 Background to Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) .....	3
2 Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan .....	4
3 Background Information on Sites .....	7
4 Screening .....	25
4.1 Screening as parts of the SDP .....	25
4.2 Screening for LSE of parts of the SDP on European Sites .....	28
4.3 In Combination effects – combination between parts of the SDP .....	30
4.4 In Combination effects – combination between parts of the SDP .....	36
4.5 Summary of Screening and Mitigation applied .....	38
5 Conclusion .....	42

## **1 Background to Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)**

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. 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).

This screening is to ensure that the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (SDP) does not have any significant effects on Natura 2000 sites.

## 2 Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan

This Habitats Regulations Appraisal is being undertaken for the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan (SDP). The SDP covers the whole of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire except that part of Aberdeenshire within the Cairngorms National Park. It is a strategy for the future development of the area up to 2035 and is an evolution of the current Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan which was approved by Scottish Ministers in 2009.

A Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) had been undertaken on the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan (2009) and that plan formed the base from which the new SDP has evolved.

A Main Issues Report (MIR) was published in October 2011 as a means of engagement and consultation on the issues and options to inform the preparation of the SDP. An HRA was undertaken of the identified issues and options at the time the MIR was prepared and the results published in parallel with the MIR for consultation. Scottish Natural Heritage responded to that consultation and their response has been used to inform this draft appraisal record for the SDP itself.

The contents of the SDP are summarised in Table 2.1 below.

**Table 2.1 Contents of Strategic Development Plan**

SDP Vision, Strategy and Policies	Options	
1. Vision	1.1	<p>Aberdeen City and Shire will be an even more attractive, prosperous and sustainable European city region and an excellent place to live, visit and to do business. We will be recognised for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• our enterprise and inventiveness, particularly in the knowledge economy and in high-value markets;</li> <li>• The unique qualities of our environment; and</li> <li>• our high quality of life.</li> </ul> <p>We will have acted confidently and taken the courageous decisions necessary to further develop a robust and resilient economy and lead the way towards development being sustainable, including dealing with climate change and creating a more inclusive society.</p>
2. Spatial Strategy	2.1	<p>This retains the same locations and scales of growth identified in the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan (2009). Most new developments will be in (i) the Strategic Growth Areas, with further developments in (ii) the Regeneration Priority Areas and (iii) Local Growth and Diversification Areas. Around half of the development will be in Aberdeen City.</p>

3. Focus of Allowances	3.1	Most of the allowances are within Aberdeen and corridors to Ellon, Inverurie and Stonehaven
4. Economic growth	4.1	Employment land allocation, high-speed communication, innovation, retail and tourism, viability of town centres, regional shopping facilities, Energetica corridor, infrastructure needs protected and improved, supporting freight by rail and sea.
5. Sustainable development and Climate Change	5.1	Reducing carbon dioxide emissions, adapting to climate change effects and limiting the use of non-renewable resources. Design and use of new development to be resource efficient having minimal environmental impacts, supply and demand management of energy, renewable energy use, upgrading grid, carbon capture and storage, tackling flooding, managing waste according to waste hierarchy and proximity principles with significant increase in waste management facilities, managing water use.
6. Population Growth	6.1	Target of increasing the city region population to 500,000 by 2035 (an increase of 35,000 on 2011). An increase in the rate of housebuilding to 2,500 and eventually to 3,000 per year.
7. Quality of the Environment	7.1	Maintaining and improving the region's important built, natural and cultural assets as a valuable resource for the future. Continue to use the green belt around Aberdeen to protect its character and landscape setting. Importance of accessible green networks in and around Aberdeen.
8. Sustainable Mixed Communities	8.1	New development must be sustainable, mixed and focused on meeting the needs of the community, with high standards of urban and rural design and efficient use of land. Provision of affordable housing and meeting the housing needs of Gypsies / Travellers and the aging population. Sequential approach to retail proposals.
9. Accessibility	9.1	Reducing the need to travel and encouraging walking, cycling and public transport. Improving access to the area and opportunities at harbours and the airport.
10. Proposals	10.1	The Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route and other associated measures to provide better access and connections to other places and to allow environmentally friendly methods of transport to be provided.
	10.2	Dualling between Balmedie and Tipperty and further improvements to the A90 (north) to provide better access and connections.
	10.3	Replace the Inveramsay Bridge and longer-term dualling of the A96 between Inverurie and the border with Moray
	10.4	Improvements to the Haudagain roundabout, a third crossing of the River Don and other associated measures to deal with congestion and allow growth in and to the north of the city.
	10.5	A ring of new park-and-ride services around Aberdeen linking to the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route to improve accessibility, air quality and provide wider transport benefits.
	10.6	Road and rail improvements, including a new station at Kintore and enhanced local rail services, to

		make environmentally friendly methods of transport more attractive – including reducing journey times to Inverness and Edinburgh / Glasgow and beyond.
	10.7	Putting the Aberdeen airport masterplan into practice.
	10.8	Better links between Aberdeen and the communities on the north coast of Aberdeenshire.
	10.9	Initiatives by the universities, colleges and research organisations to strengthen our knowledge economy.
	10.10	The 'Energetica' initiative being promoted by Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Future for the Aberdeen to Peterhead strategic growth area.
	10.11	Improving the port and associated facilities at Aberdeen and Peterhead to make the most of their opportunities and potential, particularly for the energy (including offshore wind) and fishing sectors.
	10.12	Proposals to regenerate Aberdeen city centre and some of the city region's most disadvantaged areas.
	10.13	A new community stadium – a regionally important facility which will bring economic, social and cultural benefits (two possible locations are shown on the key diagram).
	10.14	The city centre masterplan, which includes proposals to make part of Union Street an area for pedestrians only.
	10.15	Upgrades to the onshore electricity grid and the development of offshore transmission from Peterhead.
	10.16	Upgrading of Peterhead power station and the deployment of carbon capture and storage technology and infrastructure.
	10.17	A range of transport proposals to deal with the cumulative impact of new development on the transport network including bus service, priority and frequency measures; junction improvements on the A96, A944, A956, A90, Kingswells North and Parkhill; safety improvements on the access road to the A93; Parkway and Persley Bridge improvements; and a River Dee link

### 3 Background Information on Sites

#### 3.1 List of European sites

In Table 3.1 below, we have provided a list of European sites with the potential to be significantly affected by any future development in the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan area. 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 3.1: List of European sites**

	European sites	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 SAC	√	√	√	√	√
2	Buchan Ness to Collieston Coast SPA	√	√	√	√	√
3	Garron Point SAC		√	√		√
4	Hill of Towanreef SAC					
5	Red Moss of Netherley SAC					
7	Mortlach Moss SAC		√		√	
8	Reidside Moss SAC					
9	River Dee SAC					
10	Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle loch SPA		√	√		√
11	Sands of Forvie SAC			√		√
12	Turclossie Moss SAC					
13	Fowlsheugh SPA		√			
14	Loch of Skene SPA/RAMSAR		√			
15	Loch of Strathbeg SPA/RAMSAR		√			
16	Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor SPA		√			
17	Troup, Pennan and Lions Head SPA		√	√		√
20	Moray Firth SPA	√				

The following European sites are outwith the SDP area:

18	Morven and Mullachdubh SAC					
19	Muir of Dinnet SAC					
6	Dinnet Oakwood SAC					
21	Glen Tanar SAC					

**Table 3.2: Information about Sites Selected**

Site & Conservation Objectives	Conservation Objectives	Qualifying Interest	Condition of Site	Factors influencing Site	Vulnerability to changes or potential effects of PPS
<p>1. <b>Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC</b> (208.62 ha) designated on 17/03/2005</p>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (i.e. 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; and 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 species as components of the habitat</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>	<p>Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts</p>	<p>Favourable Maintained (30/09/2000)</p> <p>General site characteristics include the following features: Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets (30%); Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (0.5%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (5%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (64.5%)</p>	<p>Applications have been considered for developments, electricity (exc. renewable energy cases) development and water use.</p> <p>The way parts of the site are managed for grazing Management regime of cliff-top grasslands. Recreation, use by walkers, naturalists, climbers.</p>	<p>The varied vegetation would be vulnerable to changes in the management of these cliff-top grasslands. A coastal path runs along the cliff-top and is in part well used by walkers and naturalists. Parts of the site are also used by climbers. Current levels of recreational activity are compatible with maintenance of the cliff vegetation.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat loss</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> </ul>
<p>2. <b>Buchan Ness to Collieston SPA</b> (5,400.94 ha) designated on 30/03/1998 with marine extension on</p>	<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 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> </ul>	<p>Seabird assemblage, breeding</p>	<p>Unfavourable No change (04/07/2007)</p>	<p>Applications have been considered for marine dredging, onshore wind farm, offshore wind farm, renewable energy projects and other</p>	<p>The management of part of the site by the Scottish Wildlife Trust Longhaven Reserve ensures that there is no significant threats to the interest at present</p> <p>SNH is engaged in a programme of monitoring</p>
		<p>Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>), breeding</p>	<p>Unfavourable No change (04/07/2007)</p>		
		<p>Kittiwake (<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>), breeding</p>	<p>Unfavourable No change (04/07/2007)</p>		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis), breeding	Unfavourable declining (04/07/2007)	developments  There is a recreational use of the cliffs and rock-climbing.	seabird populations, and is working with the local authority, and owners and occupiers, to agree a programme of path improvements and site interpretation.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat loss</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Recreational impact</li> <li>• Unfavourable and declining qualifying features</li> </ul>
Guillemot (Uria aalge), breeding	Favourable Declining (04/07/2007)				
Seabird assemblage, breeding	Unfavourable No change (04/07/2007)  The low, broken cliffs show many erosion features such as stacks, arches, caves and blowholes. The varied coastal vegetation on the ledges and cliff tops includes maritime heath, grassland and brackish flushes.				
<b>3. Garron Point SAC (15.58 ha) designated on 16/9/2008</b>	To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (Narrow-mouthed whorl snail) 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 To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:	Narrow-mouthed whorl snail (Vertigo angustior)	No information on qualifying feature  General site characteristics include the following features: Coastal sand dunes. Sand beaches. Machair (4.5%) Shingle. Sea cliffs. Islets (11%)	Recreation use and geological interest in site particularly at Skatie Shore. Introduction of livestock to the site.  Disturbance from burning of driftwood and disposable	Vulnerability of snail colonies recreational, wood burning and grazing activities. Potential site erosion from livestock activity. Vulnerability to site to marine oil pollution and long term rising sea level.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b>

	<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>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (5.8%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (18.7%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (60%)</p>	barbecues away from the snail colonies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat loss</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Risk from fire</li> <li>• Coastal squeeze</li> <li>• Oil pollution</li> <li>• Erosion</li> <li>• Recreational impact</li> </ul>
<p>4. <b>Hill of Towanreef SAC</b> (1885.92 ha) designated on 17/03/2005</p>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats 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> <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>	Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Favourable Maintained (29/07/2002)	<p>Past peat cutting. Extension of Muirburn onto blanket bog, resulting in loss of Sphagnum cover. Land privately owned. Recreational use by walkers and use for grouse moor and rough grazing</p>	<p>Loss of Sphagnum cover; One part of the site is frequently visited by walkers but this is not damaging to the site's interests</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat loss (blanket bog and dry heaths)</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Potential depletion of carbon sink</li> <li>• Recreational impact</li> </ul>
		Blanket bog	Unfavourable Declining (29/07/2002)		
		Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable Maintained (01/08/2001)		
		Marsh saxifrage (Saxifraga hirculus)	Favourable Maintained (28/08/2000)		
		Dry heaths	Unfavourable Declining (17/09/2000)		
		Alpine and subalpine heaths	Favourable Maintained (17/09/2000)		
	<p>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (15%)</p>				

			Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (68%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (17%)		
5. <b>Red Moss of Netherley</b> (92.52 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat(s) 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: <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>	Degraded raised bog	Unfavourable No change (22/10/2008)	Extensive drainage and cutting over of the bog Lowered water table Local loss of bog vegetation and encroachment of open mire by scrub. Damage from muirburn, grazing and prospecting for minerals (diatomite)	Abandonment of past activities are no longer a threat. A few major drains remain along the site's margins and in a more central part of it, and although these are no longer maintained, they are still active. An ongoing problem on parts of the site is scrub encroachment.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effects on hydrology</li> <li>• Low water table</li> <li>• Erosion</li> <li>• Habitat loss (bog)</li> </ul>
		Active raised bog	Unfavourable No change (29/10/2008)		
			Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (80%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (10%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (10%)		
6. <b>Dinnet Oakwood</b> SAC (19.73 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable	Western acidic oak woodland	Favourable Maintained (12/07/2002)	Non-native plantings and invasive shrubs (Rhododendron) have been	Vulnerable to colonisation by non-native species There is general public access to the site but the

	<p>conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and 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 species as components of the habitat</li> <li>• No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat</li> </ul>		Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (100%)	successfully cleared since creating the reserve in 1966.	<p>current low levels of use are not thought to be damaging to the woodland.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Habitat loss</li> <li>• Spreading or introduction of non-native species</li> </ul>
7. <b>Mortlach Moss</b> SAC (12.02 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (Base-rich fens) 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:</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>	Base-rich fens	<p>Favourable Maintained (01/09/2005)</p> <p>Site has Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (100%)</p> <p>For Alkaline fens, this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</p>	Site contains self-sown pine and other conifers. No damage to the habitat	<p>Forest Enterprise (FE) work to an agreed management plan when undertaking forestry operations in the catchment. Felling Licence has been granted.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No issues now</li> </ul>

	<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>				
<b>8. Reidside Moss SAC</b> (87.17 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat(s) 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> <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>	Active raised bog	Unfavourable Recovering (3/8/2010)	Factors that influence the site include existing drains, woodland encroachment, grazing, cultivation and afforestation	Existing management agreement covering part of the site that controls afforestation, grazing and cultivation will address key issues  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effects on hydrology</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> </ul>
		Degraded raised bog	Unfavourable Recovering (3/8/2010)		
			Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (65%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (25%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (10%)		
<b>9. River Dee SAC</b> (2446.82 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	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	Atlantic salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> ) (10/09/2004)	Favourable Maintained (10/09/2004)	Site is affected by housing developments, water abstraction and river engineering. The	River Dee Integrated Catchment Management Plan is in place; There is guidance on best practice for river engineering works.
		Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> ) (10/09/2004)	Favourable Maintained (30/09/2004)		

	<p>contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and 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, including range of genetic types for salmon, 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> <li>• Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species</li> <li>• Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species</li> </ul>	<p>Freshwater pearl mussel (Margaritifera margaritifera) (07/08/2003)</p>	<p>Unfavourable No change (07/08/2003)</p>	<p>site is subject is recreational use</p>	<p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat loss</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Potential Recreational impact</li> <li>• Coastal squeeze</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch SPA</b> (1016.24 ha) designated on 30/03/1998</p>	<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 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> </ul>	<p>Little tern (Sternula albifrons), breeding</p>	<p>Favourable Maintained (29/06/2008)</p>	<p>Factors that influence the site include tourism / leisure Developments, Onshore Wind, Microrenewables, Other developments</p>	<p>Burning will damage sensitive habitats and species. Tern colonies are vulnerable to out damaging activities and disturbance. Tern breeding is vulnerable to predation and the periodic overtopping of the</p>
		<p>Sandwich tern (Sterna sandvicensis), breeding</p>	<p>Favourable Maintained (31/07/2008)</p>		
		<p>Lapwing (Vanellus</p>	<p>Favourable Maintained</p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	vanellus), non-breeding	(02/09/2007)	<p>favoured shingle beds by sand. Shooting of geese is not though as an issue. Effects of eutrophication on the estuary and its flora and fauna. Invertebrates, which are the prey of waterfowl, are vulnerable to build up of algal mats</p> <p>Fox control measures and bye laws are though to be helping</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Predation</li> <li>• recreational impacts</li> <li>• eutrophication</li> </ul>
	Eider (Somateria mollissima), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/01/2002)	
	Redshank (Tringa totanus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/01/2002)	
	Common tern (Sterna hirundo), breeding	Unfavourable Declining (30/06/2002)	
	Pink-footed goose (Anser brachyrhynchus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/10/2002)	
	Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/01/1999)	

<b>11. Sands of Forvie</b> SAC (734.02 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats 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: <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>	Shifting dunes	Favourable Maintained (28/09/2000)	Factors that influence the site include trunk roads and other developments	This is highly active and mobile along the fringe but the older dunes have stabilised and largely support heathland and grassland. Very little active management is required to maintain the habitats of interest.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No serious issue</li> </ul>
		Lime-deficient dune heathland with crowberry	Favourable Maintained (28/09/2000)		
		Shifting dunes with marram	Favourable Maintained (28/09/2000)		
		Humid dune slacks	Favourable Maintained (28/09/2000)		
<b>12. Turclossie Moss</b> SAC (62.77 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation	Degraded raised bog	Favourable Maintained (30/06/2001)	Factors that influence the site include past cut-over bog resulting in lowered water	At present there are no damaging activities being carried out on the site. A hydrological study will inform the restoration
		Active raised bog	Favourable Maintained (30/06/2001)		



	<p>status for each of the qualifying features; and 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>Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed vegetation. Fens (92%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (5%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (3%)</p>	<p>table. Turclossie Moss is a remnant of a much larger peatland. Soil and geology is acidic, nutrient-poor, peat</p>	<p>management of this site.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hydrological effects (lowered water table)</li> <li>• Potential diminishing carbon sink from loss of peatland</li> </ul>
<p><b>13. Fowlsheugh SPA</b> (1303.54 ha) designated on 31/08/1992</p>	<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 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>	Razorbill ( <i>Alca torda</i> ), breeding	Favourable Maintained (11/06/1999)	<p>Applications have been considered for off-shore Wind, and tourism / leisure Developments</p>	<p>There are no significant threats to the interest at present. The site is managed as a nature reserve by the present owners, the RSPB, who have upgraded the public footpath which runs along the clifftop for the benefit of visitors to the colony, and provided information boards.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential tourism impacts</li> </ul>	
		Kittiwake ( <i>Rissa tridactyla</i> ), breeding	Favourable Maintained (11/06/1999)			
		Guillemot ( <i>Uria aalge</i> ), breeding	Favourable Maintained (11/06/1999)			
		Fulmar ( <i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> ), breeding	Favourable Maintained (18/06/1999)			
		Herring gull ( <i>Larus argentatus</i> ), breeding	Unfavourable Declining (18/16/1999)			
		Seabird assemblage, breeding	Favourable Maintained (18/06/1999)			

			99.6% (Marine) 0.04% (Coastal North-east Scotland)		
<b>14. Loch of Skene</b> SPA/RAMSAR (120.89 ha) designated on 01/10/1986	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 To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: <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>	Greylag goose (Anser anser), non-breeding	Unfavourable Declining (01/11/2008)	The site has been subject of onshore wind and housing development applications. Lock subject to sailing activities, sports fishing and wildfowling. Hypertrophication from sewerage and agriculture	SPA is vulnerable as hypertrophication increase algal bloom which in turn affects aquatic flora and fauna and reduces food availability to the SPA interest.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertrophical &amp; pollution</li> <li>• Potential disturbance from site activities</li> </ul>
<b>15. Loch of Strathbeg</b> SPA/RAMSAR (615.94 ha) designated on 27/11/1995	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 To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population of the species as a viable component of the site</li> </ul>	Sandwich tern (Sterna sandvicensis), breeding	Unfavourable Declining (31/07/2004)	Conflict between the geese which roost on the loch and the surrounding farms where they feed. Shooting from adjacent land of birds leaves the roost in	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is managing to reduce conflicts and vulnerabilities. For example disturbance is being regulated by RSPB's purchase of some of the shooting rights and by licensing. SNH have piloted a Loch
		Pink-footed goose (Anser brachyrhynchus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/08/2001)		
		Waterfowl assemblage, non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/08/2001)		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	Whooper swan (Cygnus cygnus), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/08/2001)	disturbance.	of Strathbeg Goose Management Scheme to alleviate the conflict between the geese farming  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Conflict between roosting activities and farming</li> </ul>
		Teal (Anas crecca), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/08/2001)		
		Svalbard Barnacle goose (Branta leucopsis), non-breeding	Favourable Maintained (31/08/2001)		
		Greylag goose (Anser anser), non-breeding	Unfavourable Declining (31/08/2001)		
<b>16. Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor SPA</b> (83.71 ha ) designated on 15/12/2000	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 To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: <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> </ul>	Common gull (Larus canus), breeding	Unfavourable No Change (22/05/2008)	Applications have been considered for off-shore Wind, and housing Developments The site is managed as a grouse moor and as rough grazing for sheep.	Common gulls are vulnerability to predation from crows and foxes as well as from rotational muirburn  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Predation</li> <li>• Disturbance</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No significant disturbance of the species</li> </ul>				
<b>17. Troup, Pennan and Lion's Heads SPA</b> (3367.21 ha) designated on 14/03/1997	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 To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term: <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>	Herring gull (Larus argentatus), breeding	Unfavourable No change (03/07/2007)	Applications have been considered off-shore Wind on-shore wind, marine activities, electricity (exc. renewable energy cases) and other developments and water abstraction	There are no significant threats to the interest at present. SNH is engaged in a programme of monitoring seabird populations, and is working with the local authority, and owners and occupiers, to agree an access policy for the site.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential disturbance from access and recreation</li> </ul>
		Razorbill (Alca torda), breeding	Unfavourable Declining (03/07/2007)		
		Kittiwake (Rissa tridactyla), breeding	Unfavourable No change (03/07/2007)		
		Seabird assemblage, breeding	Unfavourable Declining (03/07/2007)		
		Guillemot (Uria aalge), breeding	Unfavourable Declining (03/07/2007)		
		Fulmar (Fulmarus glacialis), breeding	Unfavourable Declining (03/07/2007)		
<b>18. Morven and Mullachdubh SAC</b> (916.76 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat 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:	Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands	Favourable Maintained (25/01/2005)  Bogs. Marshes. Water fringed	Morven, an outlying summit of the eastern Highlands, has extensive juniper scrub on the middle and lower slopes. The use of the land for summer grazing	No known vulnerability  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No issue</li> </ul>

	<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>		vegetation. Fens (1%) Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (62%) Dry grassland. Steppes (28%) Humid grassland. Mesophile grassland (7%) Coniferous woodland (2%)	by sheep and cattle and by a large number of mountain hares is compatible with the site interest, as demonstrated by gradual expansion of the juniper scrub.	
<b>19. Muir of Dinnet</b> SAC/RAMSAR (415.81 ha) designated on 17/03/2005	To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats 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: <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>	Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )	Favourable Declining (13/07/2010)	Applications had been received for electricity (exc. renewable energy cases) and other developments.	The moorland is vulnerable to colonisation from adjacent woodland. Peat growth can be impeded by open ditch and drains Loch Davan is vulnerable to eutrophication.  <b>Summary of Key Issues</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential recreational impacts</li> <li>• Eutrophication</li> <li>• Colonisation by other plants</li> </ul>
		Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Unfavourable Declining (30/08/2008)		
		Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Favourable Maintained (25/06/2004)		
		Dry heaths	Favourable Declining (16/02/2001)		
		Degraded raised bog	Favourable Maintained (30/06/2000)		

<p><b>20. Moray Firth SAC</b> (151347.17 ha) designated on 17/03/2005</p>	<p>To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat 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:</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>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; and To ensure for the qualifying species that the following</p>	<p>Subtidal sandbanks</p> <hr/> <p>Bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)</p>	<p>Favourable Maintained (12/08/2004)</p> <hr/> <p>Unfavourable Recovering (31/03/2005)</p>	<p>Dolphin Watching Need to restore bottlenose dolphin population at a viable level</p>	<p>The species are vulnerable to disturbance, harassment, contamination, reduction of food availability, traumatic death and injury</p> <p>Accreditation scheme is used for dolphin-watching cruise boats. There are codes of conduct for recreational pleasure craft. A strategy for dumping and dredging activities is also being developed to address these very localised activities adjacent to the coastline.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Harassment,</li> <li>• Contamination</li> <li>• Injury</li> <li>• Potential poaching</li> <li>• Recreational impact</li> </ul>

	<p>are established then 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><b>21. Glen Tanar</b> SAC/RAMSAR (4180.09 ha) Designated on 17/03/2005</p>	<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 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</li> </ul>	Caledonian forest	Favourable Maintained (08/04/2010)	<p>Site has been subject to felling activities Positively strict management without intervention and low-intensity silvicultural methods and education has affected the favourability of the site</p>	<p>The main issues controlled include grazing, strikes by woodland grouse and risk of accidental fire.</p> <p><b>Summary of Key Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance</li> <li>• Injury</li> <li>• Accidental fire</li> </ul>
		Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Favourable Maintained (21/11/2009)		
		Otter ( <i>Lutra lutra</i> )	Favourable Maintained (30/09/2004)		
		Dry heaths	Favourable Maintained (23/10/2003)		
		Blanket bog	Favourable Maintained (31/10/2003)		

	typical species of the habitat				
--	--------------------------------	--	--	--	--



## 4 Screening

The purpose of this screening is to determine whether any part of the SDP, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on Natura 2000 sites listed in Table 3.2 above. In doing so, we have identified all aspects of the plan which would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European sites, either alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan or other plans or projects, so that they can be eliminated from further consideration. In Table 4.1, we have screened out parts of the plan on the basis of the criteria listed in Section 4.1 below. Next in Table 4.2 and Table 4.3, we have screened the aspects of the plan we could not screen out to determine the nature of their effects on the European sites. We have then considered in-combination effects in Sections 4.4-4.7. Where likely significant effects have not been ruled out by the screening exercise, we have considered some straightforward mitigation measures to eliminate risks of likely significant effects (See Section 4.5).

### 4.1 Screening as parts of the SDP

We have screened out aspects of the plan on the basis of the following considerations:

- general policy statements;
- inability to identify effects on any particular European site because the proposal is too general;
- projects referred to in, but not proposed by the SDP;
- parts of the SDP that are intended to protect the natural environment,
- parts of the SDP which will not in themselves lead to development or other change;
- parts of the SDP which make provision for change but which could have no conceivable effect because of the absence of a link or pathway between the plan and European sites;
- parts of the SDP which make provision for change but could have no significant effect as their effects are likely to minimal; and
- parts of a plan that could have no likely significant effect on a site, alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan, or with other plans or projects

Table 4.1 below shows those policies and proposals within the SDP which have either been screened in or out of the assessment and the criteria used.

**Table 4.1: Screening in / Screening out of Contents of PPS**

	<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						X	OUT
2	Spatial Strategy	X								
	2.1. Strategic Growth Areas									
	2.2. Local Growth and Diversity Areas							X		OUT
	2.3. Regeneration Priority Areas						X	X		OUT
3	Focus of allowances	X								
4	Economic Growth	X								
5	Sustainable Development and Climate Change				X					OUT
6	Population Growth	X								
7	Quality of the Environment				X					OUT
8	Sustainable Mixed Communities	X								
9	Accessibility	X								
10	Proposals									
	10.1 The Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route and other associated measures to provide better access and connections to other places and to allow environmentally friendly methods of transport to be provided.			X						OUT
	10.2 Dualling between Balmedie and Tipperty and further improvements to the A90 (north) to provide better access and connections.			X						OUT
	10.3 Replace the Inveramsay Bridge and longer-term dualling of the A96 between Inverurie and the border with Moray			X						OUT
	10.4 Improvements to the Haudagain roundabout, a third crossing of the River Don and other associated measures to deal with congestion and allow growth in and to the north of the city.			X						OUT
	10.5 A ring of new park-and-ride services around Aberdeen linking to the Aberdeen			X						OUT

	Western Peripheral Route to improve accessibility, air quality and provide wider transport benefits.									
10.6	Road and rail improvements, including a new station at Kintore and enhanced local rail services, to make environmentally friendly methods of transport more attractive – including reducing journey times to Inverness and Edinburgh / Glasgow and beyond.			X						OUT
10.7	Putting the Aberdeen airport masterplan into practice.			X						OUT
10.8	Better links between Aberdeen and the communities on the north coast of Aberdeenshire.			X						OUT
10.9	Initiatives by the universities, colleges and research organisations to strengthen our knowledge economy.		X	X						OUT
10.10	The ‘Energetica’ initiative being promoted by Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Future for the Aberdeen to Peterhead strategic growth area.			X						OUT
10.11	Improving the port and associated facilities at Aberdeen and Peterhead to make the most of their opportunities and potential, particularly for the energy (including offshore wind) and fishing sectors.			X						OUT
10.12	Proposals to regenerate Aberdeen city centre and some of the city region’s most disadvantaged areas.		X	X						OUT
10.13	A new community stadium – a regionally important facility which will bring economic, social and cultural benefits (two possible locations are shown on the key diagram).			X						OUT
10.14	The city centre masterplan, which includes proposals to make part of Union Street an area for pedestrians only.			X						OUT
10.15	Upgrades to the onshore electricity grid and the development of offshore transmission from Peterhead.			X						OUT
10.16	Upgrading of Peterhead power station and the deployment of carbon capture and storage technology and infrastructure.			X						OUT
10.17	A range of transport proposals to deal with the cumulative impact of new development on the transport network including bus service, priority and frequency measures; junction improvements on the A96, A944, A956, A90, Kingswells North and Parkhill; safety improvements on the access road to the A93; Parkway and Persley Bridge improvements; and a <b>River Dee link</b>	X								

## 4.2 Screening for likely significant effects of parts of the SDP on European Sites

In this section, aspects of the SDP screened in from Section 4.1 are screened to determine the nature of their effects on the European sites. Key to the abbreviations used in the screening is explained in the Table 4.2 below.

**Table 4.2: Screening for likely significant effects: Aspects of the PPS Screened in from 4.1 above**

Plan	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC	Buchan Ness to Collieston SPA	Garron Point SAC	Hill of Tawanrieef SAC	Red Moss of Netherley SAC	Troup Pennan Lion's Head SPA	Fowlheugh SPA	River Dee SAC	Yhan Estuary Sands of Fovie & Meikle Loch SPA	Mortloch Moss SAC	Lock of Skene SPA	Loch of Strathbeg SPA	Sands of Fovie SAC
<b>Spatial Strategy (Strategic Growth Areas)</b>	HL, RI	HL, RI	HL, RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL, D, RI, CC, EoH	D, RI, WQ, EoH				
<b>Economic Development Policy</b>	HL, RI	HL, RI	HL, RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL, D, RI, CC, EoH	D, RI, WQ, EoH				
<b>Population Growth</b>	RI, D	RI, D	RI, D			RI, D	RI, D	RI, D	RI, D		RI, D	RI, D	RI, D
<b>Sustainable Mixed Communities</b>	HL, RI	HL, RI	HL, RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL, D, RI, CC, EoH	D, RI, WQ, EoH				
<b>Accessibility (including River Dee link)</b>	RI, D	RI, D	RI, D			RI, D	RI, D	RI, D	RI, D		RI, D	RI, D	RI, D
<b>Key</b>	HL – Habitat Loss RI – Recreational Impact CC – Coastal Squeeze WA – Water Abstraction						EoH – Effects on Hydrology EoP – Effects on Pollution D – Disturbance WQ – Water Quality						

**Table 4.2(cont): Screening for likely significant effects: Aspects of the PPS Screened in from 4.1 above**

	<b>Turcrossie Moss SAC</b>	<b>Dinnet Oakwood SAC</b>	<b>Mortlach Moss SAC</b>	<b>Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor SPA</b>	<b>Morven and Mullachdubh SAC</b>	<b>Muir of Dinnet SAC</b>	<b>Glen Tanar SAC</b>	<b>Reidside Moss SAC</b>
Policies, Strategies and Sites								
<b>Spatial Strategy (Strategic Growth Areas)</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Economic Development Policy</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Population Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Sustainable Mixed Communities</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Accessibility (including River Dee link)</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE

### 4.3 In Combination effects – combination between different parts of the SDP

This section considers the combination between elements of the plan including some aspects of the plan screened out on the basis that they were protective policies or that those aspects could have no likely significant effects. These aspects of the plan include:

1. **Spatial Strategy(Strategic Growth Areas) (SGA);**
2. Regeneration Priority Areas) (RPA)
3. Local Growth and Diversity Areas (LG&DA)
4. **Economic Growth**
5. **Population Growth**
6. **Sustainable Mixed Communities (SMC)**
7. **Accessibility**
8. Sustainable Development and Climate Change (SD& CC)
9. Quality of the Environment (QoE)

The numbers listed against parts of the plan are paired in different permutations in the table below.

**Table 4.3: Possible Combination of parts of the plan**

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1									
2	2,1								
3	3,1	3,2							
4	4,1	4,2	4,3						
5	5,1	5,2	5,3	5,4					
6	6,1	6,2	6,3	6,4	6,5				
7	7,1	7,2	7,3	7,4	7,5	7,6			
8	8,1	8,2	8,3	8,4	8,5	8,6	8,7		
9	9,1	9,2	9,3	9,4	9,5	9,6	9,7	9,8	

From the table above there are 36 possible combinations between parts of the plan shown below. These 36 combinations have been used in screening the effects of the plan on the European sites considered and the result is indicated in Table 4.4 below.

**Table 4.4: Screening for in-Combination Effects (Internal)**

In-combination between parts of the plan	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC	Buchan Ness to Collieston SPA	Garron Point SAC	Hill of Tawanrieef SAC	Red Moss of Netherley SAC	Troup Pennan Lion's Head SPA	Fowlheugh SPA	River Dee SAC	Yhan Estuary Sands of Fovie & Meikle Loch SPA	Mortloch Moss SAC	Lock of Skene SPA	Loch of Strathbeg SPA	Sands of Fovie SAC
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + RPA	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				No added effect from the RPA
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + LG&DA	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				No added effect from the LG&DA
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + Econ Growth	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + Pop. Growth	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		EoP, EoH	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + SMC	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + Accessibility	HL RI D	HL RI D	HL RI D		EoP, EoH	RI D	RI D	RI D	RI D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + SD&CC	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
Spatial Strategy (SGA) + QoE	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
RPA + LG&DA	No LSE												

RPA + Econ Growth	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ, EoH				
RPA + Pop. Growth	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		EoP, EoH	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
RPA + SMC	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
RPA + Accessibility	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
RPA + SD&CC	No LSE												
RPA + QoE	No LSE												
LG&DA + Econ Growth	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
LG&DA + Pop Growth	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
LG&DA + SMC	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ, EoH				
LG&DA + Accessibility	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
LG&DA + SD&CC	No LSE												
LG&DA + QoE	No LSE												
Economic Development + Pop Growth	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
Economic Development + SMC	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				
Economic Development + Accessibility	HL,RI, D	HL,RI, D	HL,RI, D		EoP, EoH	RI,D	RI,D	WA, HL, D, RI, CC,EoH RI,D	D,RI, WQ, EoH, RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D
Economic Development + SD&CC	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH				



<b>Economic Development + QoE</b>	HL RI	HL RI	HL RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH					
<b>Pop Growth + SMC</b>	HL,RI, D	HL,RI, D	HL,RI, D		EoP, EoH	RI,D	RI,D	WA, HL D, RI CC, EoH D, RI	D,RI, WQ EoH D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>Pop Growth + Accessibility - including River Dee link</b>	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>Pop Growth + SD&amp;CC</b>	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>Pop Growth + QoE</b>	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>SMC + Accessibility - including River Dee link</b>	HL,RI, D	HL,RI, D	HL,RI, D		EoP, EoH	RI,D	RI,D	WA, HL D, RI CC EoH D, RI	D,RI, WQ,EoH		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>SMC + SD&amp;CC</b>	HL, RI	HL, RI	HL, RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL D, RI CC EoH	D,RI, WQ EoH					
<b>SMC + QoE</b>	HL,RI	HL,RI	HL,RI		EoP, EoH			WA, HL, D, RI, CC, EoH	D,RI, WQ,EoH					
<b>Accessibility - including River Dee link + SD&amp;CC</b>	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>Accessibility - including River Dee link + QoE</b>	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D			RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	RI,D		RI,D	RI,D	RI,D	
<b>SD&amp;CC + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	
<b>Key</b>	HL – Habitat Loss RI – Recreational Impact CC – Coastal Squeeze WA – Water Abstraction							EoH – Effects on Hydrology EoP – Effects on Pollution D - Disturbance WQ – Water Quality						

**Table 4.4(cont): Screening for in-Combination Effects (Internal)**

In-combination between parts of the plan	Turclossie Moss SAC	Dinnet Oakwood SAC	Mortlach Moss SAC	Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor SPA	Morven and Mullachdubh SAC	Muir of Dinnet SAC	Glen Tanar SAC	Reidside Moss SAC
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + RPA</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + LG&amp;DA</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + Econ Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + Pop. Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + SMC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + Accessibility - including R Dee link</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Spatial Strategy (SGA) + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + LG&amp;DA</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + Econ Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + Pop. Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + SMC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + Accessibility - including River Dee link</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>RPA + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>LG&amp;DA + Econ Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>LG&amp;DA + Pop Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE

<b>LG&amp;DA + SMC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>LG&amp;DA + Accessibility</b> - including River Dee link	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>LG&amp;DA + SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>LG&amp;DA + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Economic Development + Pop Growth</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Economic Development + SMC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Economic Development + Accessibility</b> - including River Dee link	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Economic Development + SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Economic Development + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Pop Growth + SMC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Pop Growth + Accessibility</b> - including River Dee link	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Pop Growth + SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Pop Growth + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>SMC + Accessibility</b> - including River Dee link	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>SMC + SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>SMC + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Accessibility</b> - including River Dee link + <b>SD&amp;CC</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Accessibility</b> - including River Dee link + <b>QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>SD&amp;CC + QoE</b>	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
<b>Key</b>	HL – Habitat Loss RI – Recreational Impact CC – Coastal Squeeze WA – Water Abstraction				EoH – Effects on Hydrology EoP – Effects on Pollution D - Disturbance WQ – Water Quality			

#### 4.4 In Combination effects – combination between parts of the SDP

This section considers the combination between elements of the plan and other plans approved in the region and in neighbouring authorities. The other plans considered include the regional transport strategy, the Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP. The elements of the plan combined with neighbouring plans are the Spatial Strategy, Regeneration Priority Areas, Local Growth and Diversity Areas, Economic Growth, Population Growth, Sustainable Mixed Communities and Accessibility. In table 4.5 below, we show how we have carried out the in-combination effects.

Table 4.5: Screening for in-combination effects (external)

<b>Policies, Strategies and Sites</b>	<b>European sites affected</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect</b>	<b>In- combination effects</b>	<b>Risk of LSE persisting? (Yes/No)</b>
Spatial Strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Growth Areas</li> <li>• Local Growth and Diversity Areas</li> <li>• Regeneration Priority Areas</li> </ul>	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan	Yes Water abstraction, Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP	Yes Disturbance and pollution on Dolphins
Economic Growth	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan	Yes Water abstraction, Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP .	Yes Disturbance and pollution on Dolphins
Sustainable Development and Climate Change	Positive effects on all sites	No LSE	No LSE	No
Population Growth	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss	Yes Recreational effect and disturbance to species	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray	Yes Disturbance and pollution on Dolphins

	of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan, Troup Pennan Lion's Head, Fowlsheugh, Lock of Skene, Loch of Strathberg, Sands of Forvie	and habitats	LDP as well as Angus LDP.	
Quality of the Environment	Positive effects on all sites	No LSE	No LSE	No
Sustainable Mixed Communities	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan,	Yes Water abstraction, Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP .	Yes Disturbance and pollution on Dolphins
Accessibility - including River Dee link	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan, Troup Pennan Lion's Head, Fowlsheugh, Lock of Skene, Loch of Strathberg, Sands of Forvie	Yes Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP .	Yes Disturbance and pollution on Dolphins

#### **4.5 Summary of Screening and Mitigation applied**

In mitigating the effects of the plan on the sites, we have made the choice from the following alternatives as appropriate

- deleting the policy or proposal that may cause the likely significant effect;
- changing the nature or type of a potentially damaging proposals;
- reducing the scale of the potentially damaging provision, whether it is an overall level of growth across all or part of the plan area, or a single proposal of a specific scale or size;
- relocating or altering the spatial distribution of the potentially damaging provision;
- phasing or timing of a proposal so that its possible effects can be adequately managed over time;
- programming a proposal so that it is dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading, such as water supply or waste water treatment, being in place before it could proceed; and
- requiring buffer zones to be put in place
- requiring lower-tier plans to undertake HRAs and/or SEAs

These measures are reflected in Table 4.6 below:

**Table 4.6: Summary of individual and in-combination effects and Mitigation**

Policies, Strategies and Sites	European sites affected	Likely Significant Effect individually and in combination with parts of the SDP	In-Combination effects (external)	Mitigation Measures	Risk of LSE persisting? (Yes/No)	Is Appropriate Assessment Required? (Yes/No)
Spatial Strategy	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan	Yes Water abstraction, Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms, Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP. Regarding the Moray Firth, there are the following risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diffuse run-off pollution from agricultural practices</li> <li>• Excessive underwater noise causing disturbance to dolphin populations</li> <li>• Commercial effluent has potential to cause deterioration of dolphin populations</li> <li>• Sewage effluent has potential to cause deterioration of dolphin populations</li> <li>• Marine Litter</li> <li>• Activities involving nets have the potential to cause disturbance, injury and mortality.</li> <li>• Dredging and disposal of materials containing contaminants Offshore renewable energy developments have the potential to cause disturbance or injury.</li> <li>• Oil exploration has the potential to cause disturbance or deterioration of dolphin populations or their prey through oil related</li> </ul>	<p>Future LDPs and other strategies like the Local Housing Strategy should avoid policies or proposals that may cause damaging effects on the LSE;</p> <p>Future LDPs and other strategies like Local Housing Strategy should change the nature or type of a potentially damaging proposal;</p> <p>Future LDPs should avoid allocating sites which potentially damages sites.</p> <p>The delivery of future LDPs and strategies should be programmed so that they are dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading.</p> <p>Lower-tier plans and strategies should undertake HRA and EIA to ensure that adverse effects are fully mitigated</p> <p>Agree with relevant bodies to ensure that water abstracted will not affect qualifying features.</p> <p>Agree with relevant bodies to prepare a drought plan as an adaptation to future climate impacts</p> <p>Agree with SNH on an action plan to ensure that recreational use of sites do not affect qualifying features and habitats</p> <p>Future LDPs and strategies should require developments to demonstrate through appropriate marine-noise modelling, that adverse impacts on Bottlenose Dolphins and Atlantic Salmon</p>	No	No

			development and activities. • Impacts from boats and shipping and other motorised water sports	are avoided		
Economic Growth	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan	Yes Water abstraction, Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms, Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP.	Same as above	No	No
Sustainable Development and Climate Change	Positive effects on all sites	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE	No	No
Population Growth	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan, Troup Pennan Lion's Head, Fowlsheugh, Lock of Skene, Loch of Strathberg, Sands of Forvie	Yes Recreational effect and disturbance to species and habitats	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP.	Future LDPs and other strategies like Local Housing Strategy should avoid policies or proposals that may cause damaging effects on the LSE; Future LDPs and other strategies like the Local Housing Strategy should change the nature or type of a potentially damaging proposal; Future LDPs should avoid allocating sites which potentially damages sites. The delivery of future LDPs and strategies should be programmed so that they are dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading. Lower-tier plans and strategies should undertake HRA and EIA to ensure that adverse effects are fully mitigated	No	No
Quality of the Environment	Positive effects on all sites	No LSE	No LSE		No	No



Sustainable Mixed Communities	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan,	Yes Water abstraction, Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP.	Future LDPs and other strategies like Local Housing Strategy should avoid policies or proposals that may cause damaging effects on the LSE; Future LDPs and other strategies like Local Housing Strategy should change the nature or type of a potentially damaging proposal; Future LDPs should avoid allocating sites which potentially damages sites. The delivery of future LDPs and strategies should be programmed so that they are dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading. Lower-tier plans and strategies should undertake HRA and EIA to ensure that adverse effects are fully mitigated	No	No
Accessibility - including River Dee link	Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC/SPA, Garron Point, Red Moss of Netherley, Dee and Moray Firth, Ythan, Troup Pennan Lion's Head, Fowlsheugh, Lock of Skene, Loch of Strathberg, Sands of Forvie	Yes Habitat loss, recreational impacts, chemical change, effect on hydrology, disturbance, vibration effects on dolphins	Some minimal effects on the Regional Transport Strategy, as well as sites in the Cairngorms/Cairngorms LDP and Moray LDP as well as Angus LDP.	Future LDPs and other strategies like Local Housing Strategy should avoid policies or proposals that may cause damaging effects on the LSE; Future LDPs and other strategies like theLocal Housing Strategy should change the nature or type of a potentially damaging proposal; Future LDPs should avoid allocating sites which potentially damages sites. The delivery of future LDPs and strategies should be programmed so that they are dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading. Lower-tier plans and strategies should undertake HRA and EIA to ensure that adverse effects are fully mitigated	No	No

## **5 Conclusion**

Following the screening of the SDP and the application of mitigation measures, we can conclude that this SDP would not be likely to have a significant effect on European sites listed in this assessment, either alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan or other plans or projects. No further appropriate assessment will be undertaken.