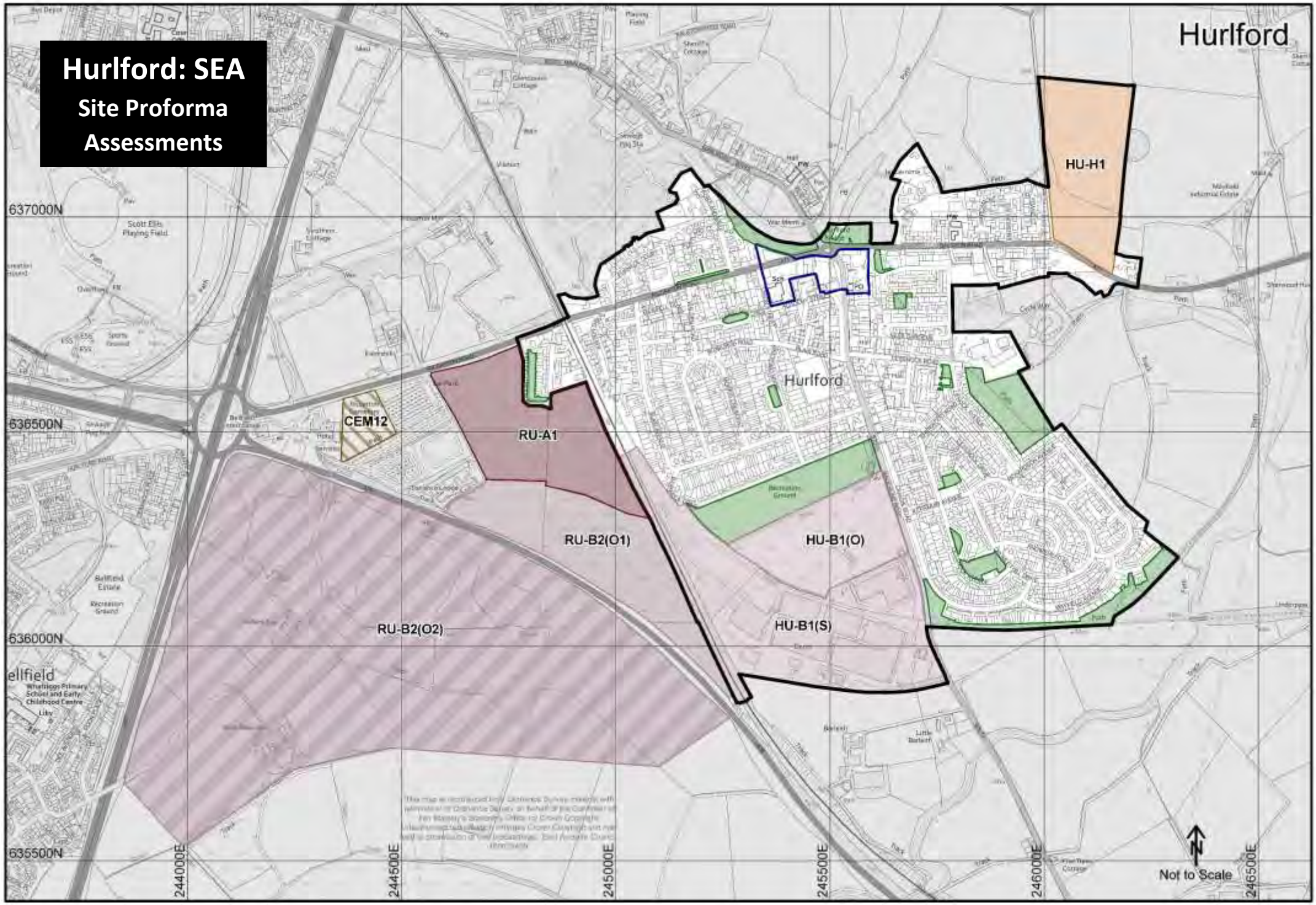
EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Local Development Plan 2

Environmental Report

2024


Hurlford: SEA
Site Proforma
Assessments
Hurlford
HU-H1
Hurlford
CEM12
RU-A1
RU-B2(O1)
RU-B2(O2)
HU-B1(O)
HU-B1(S)
637000N
636500N
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244000E
244500E
245000E
245500E
246000E
246500E
Not to Scale

List of Local Development Plan 2 Sites

Local Development Plan 2 sites			
HURLFORD			
LDP2 Ref	Allocation Type	Address	LDP1 Ref
HU-H1	Residential	Galston Road, Hurlford	113H
HU-B1(O)	Business & Industry	Mauchline Road, Hurlford	303B
HU-B1(S)	Business & Industry	Mauchline Road, Hurlford	303B
CEM12	Cemetery Extension	Riccarton Cemetery	PROP14

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Outcomes – Assessment Stage

Topic	Assessed in Stage 1	Screened into Stage 2 Assessment
HURLFORD		
RESIDENTIAL		
HU-H1: Galston Road, Hurlford	Yes	Yes
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY		
HU-B1(O): Mauchline Road, Hurlford	Yes	Yes
HU-B1(S): Mauchline Road, Hurlford	Yes	No
CEMETERY EXTENSION		
CEM12: Riccarton Cemetery	Yes	Yes

Stage 2 Assessment Outcomes – Summary Table

Stage 2 Assessment Key	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Unknown / Neural	Screened out at Stage 1
	SP	SP/N	**SN**	U / N	

Policy	Landscape & Geology	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	Climatic Factors	Soil	Air	Water	Cultural Heritage	Health	Population	Material Assets
RESIDENTIAL										
HU-H1: Main Road, Hurlford	**SN**	**SN**	SP/N	SP/N	SP/N	**SN**		SP/N	SP/N	SP
BUSINESS & INDUSTRY										
HU-B1(O): Mauchline Road, Hurlford	N	N	SP/N	**SN**	SP/N	**SN**		SP/N	SP/N	SP/N
CEMETERY EXTENSION										
CEM12: Riccarton Cemetery, Hurlford	N	N	N	**SN**	N			N	N	SP

Stage 1 Assessment Tables

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY SITE(S)

HU-H1: Main Road, Hurlford		
Components	**Will there be an Environmental Impact?**	**Significant Impact (Yes/No/Don't Know) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (yes/no) why?**
Natural Features	There are likely to be environmental impacts as a result of development on this site in terms landscape and biodiversity, flora and fauna. There is a presumption that these impacts will be positive and negative in nature. This should be considered in further detail at stage 2 assessment.	Yes. There are likely to be significant environmental impacts on natural features. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.
Natural Resources	There are likely to be environmental impacts as a result of developing on this site in terms of soil, water, air quality (due to the proliferation of private car use and potential pollution). There is a presumption that impacts will be negative in nature. This should be considered in further detail at stage 2 assessment.	Yes. There are likely to be significant environmental impacts on certain natural resources (soil, water and air). This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.
Historic Environment	No environmental impacts on the historic environment are anticipated for this site.	No. There are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts on this historic environment, nor are there likely to be cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Social Environment	There are likely to be environmental impacts as a result of developing on this site in terms of human health, population and material assets. There is a presumption that these will be both positive and negative in nature. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.	Yes. There are likely to be environmental impacts on the social environment. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY SITE(S)

HU-B1(O): Mauchline Road, Hurlford		
Components	**Will there be an Environmental Impact?**	**Significant Impact (Yes/No/Don't Know) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (yes/no) why?**
Natural Features	The site is contained within the settlement boundary of Hurlford, as such it is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on landscape and biodiversity as a result. However, this part of the site is being allocated as a development opportunity, thus there is potential for the development of this site to have significant environmental impacts on air quality. There is a presumption that these impacts will be positive and negative in nature. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.	Yes. There are likely to be significant impacts on climate, especially in relation to development of a flood plain. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.
Natural Resources	This part of the site is being allocated as a development opportunity, thus there is potential for the development of this site to have significant environmental impacts on air quality and the water environment, as the area is subject to low-high surface water flood risk. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.	Yes. As outlined above.
Historic Environment	No environmental impacts on the historic environment are anticipated for this site.	No. There are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts on this historic

		environment, nor are there likely to be cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Social Environment	Due to the risk of flooding within the site, there may be impacts on human health. There may be environmental impacts on material assets. There may also be impacts on human health which need to be considered as a result of potential impacts on air quality. There are also likely to be significant environmental impacts on population. However, due to the size of the site and as it is on a public bus route, there are unlikely to be any significant impact on material assets.	Yes. There are likely to be significant impacts on human health in relation to contamination and flooding issues within the site.

HU-B1(S): Mauchline Road, Hurlford		
Components	**Will there be an Environmental Impact?**	**Significant Impact (Yes/No/Don't Know) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (yes/no) why?**
Natural Features	It is considered that development of the site is not likely to have significant environmental impacts on landscape and biodiversity, flora and fauna or climate as the site is already developed and in place. The allocation is to safeguard the site's current use.	No. The allocation of this site is not likely to have significant environmental impacts on natural features.
Natural Resources	As outlined above with regards to natural resources.	No. As outlined above.
Historic Environment	As outlined above with regards to the historic environment.	No. As outlined above.
Social Environment	As outlined above with regards to the social environment.	No. As outlined above.

PROPOSAL: CEMETERY EXTENSION SITE(S)

CEM12: Riccarton Cemetery, Hurlford		
Components	**Will there be an Environmental Impact?**	**Significant Impact (Yes/No/Don't Know) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (yes/no) why?**
Natural Features	There are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts as a result of developing on this site in terms of landscape, biodiversity or climatic factors. This should be considered in further detail at stage 2 assessment.	Yes. There are likely to be significant environmental impacts on natural features. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.
Natural Resources	There are likely to be environmental impacts as a result of developing on this site in terms of soil quality. There is a presumption that impacts will be negative in nature. However, impacts on the water environment and air quality are not anticipated but should be further considered at Stage 2 assessment.	Yes. There are likely to be significant environmental impacts on certain natural resources (soil). This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.
Historic Environment	No environmental impacts on the historic environment are anticipated for this site.	No. There are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts on this historic environment, nor are there likely to be cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Social Environment	There are unlikely to be significant environmental impacts as a result of developing on this site in terms of human health and population. Impacts on material assets are anticipated. There is a presumption that	Yes. There are likely to be environmental impacts on the social environment. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.

	these will be positive in nature. This should be considered in more detail at Stage 2 assessment.	

Stage 2 Assessments – Site Proforma Assessment Tables

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY SITE(S)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Pro Forma

Site Reference	**HU-H1**
Settlement	Hurlford
Address	Galston Road North
Description	The site is located within the current Hurlford settlement boundary. The site faces Galston Road to the south. The site was allocated within the previous East Ayrshire Local Development Plan (2017) as a housing development opportunity site and is being carried over into LDP2.
OS Grid Ref	NS460371
Existing Use	Agricultural
Proposed Use	Residential / Housing
Site Size	7.5 ha
Site Capacity	100

Planning History	21/0002/PREAPP - New residential development and associated infrastructure works – Approved; 18/0008/PREAPP - The proposal is to develop between 100 and 150 new build homes including the provision of Affordable Housing, open space and associated infrastructure – Scope agreed; 07/0778/FL - Erection of 37 houses and flats - Refused

Impacts on Environmental Receptors

Natural Features	Landscape	*To protect, and where appropriate, restore landscape, local distinctiveness and areas of value.*
	Negative	The site is classified as “Agricultural Lowlands” (NatureScot Character type 66). Key characteristics of this classification are the predominantly pastoral cover, settlements with a historic core and a network

		of major roads which conflict with the rural character and presence of heavy traffic. The site is located within the Agricultural Lowlands. The site sits on a prominent location on the northern boundary of Hurlford and is likely to have significant negative impacts on landscape without mitigation
	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	*Conserve and enhance local biodiversity, including both statutory and non-statutory designations and protect species through the retention and provision of habitat and connectivity.*
	Negative	The site forms part of the CSGN noncore acid grassland network (high dispersal network and acid grassland habitat). It also forms part of the CSGN noncore woodland network (high dispersal). Its development could result in the further loss and fragmentation of these networks which would have significant negative impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna. Trees which are protected by a TPO are located immediately adjacent to the site and to the west. As a precaution, impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna are considered to be significant negative, subject to appropriate mitigation.
	Climatic Factors	*Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute towards improving East Ayrshire's resilience to climate change impacts.*
	Positive / Negative	Development of the site is likely to have negative impacts on air quality through the proliferation of private car use, having a negative impact on air quality and climatic factors. However, as the site is immediately adjacent to public transport and is within walking distance of the town centre, this is likely to have significant positive impacts. In terms of climate resilience, the development of the site may exacerbate existing surfae water flood risk, without mitigation measures being implemented. In overall terms, impacts are considered to be significant postive/negative in nature.
Mitigating Impacts on Natural Features		• It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to existing cycling and walking routes, including core paths and rights of way. • Development of the site should use zero carbon materials and construction methods and should embrace renewable energy methods to minimise carbon emissions.
Natural Resources	Soil	*To protect and improve soil and land resources.*
	Positive / Negative	Development of the site will result in the loss of an area of Category 3(2) good quality agricultural land. The loss of the good quality agricultural land is likely to have significant negative environmental impacts on soil within the immediate area. The site has the potential for soil contamination. Any development, or redevelopment of the site should aim to treat or remove any sources of ground contamination. Should potentially contaminated soil be treated or removed, then it is likely that there would be significant positive impacts on soil. Development on a site which is likely to have been undermined could potentially have significant negative impacts on human health, unless the ground is suitable to take development of this size. In overall terms, impacts on soil are likely to be postiive and negative.
	Air	*To prevent deterioration, and where possible, enhance air quality.*
	Positive / Negative	Development of the site is likely to have negative impacts on air quality through the proliferation of private car use, which will in turn increase greenhouse gas emissions, as a result of increasing the

		residential population within the area. However, as the site is immediately adjacent to public transport and is within walking distance of the town centre, this is likely to have significant positive impacts. In overall terms, impacts on air quality are likely to be postiive and negative.
	Water	*To manage flood risk and safeguard the environment from degradation.*
	Negative	The site is not at risk from fluvial flooding, as identified within SEPA's 1 in 200 flood risk maps. However, the site hosts various areas of surface water flooding of low to medium surface water risk (present day). It is considered that the development of the site could result in increased surface water flooding if appropriate measures are not in place. In overall terms, impacts are likely to be negative. Negative impacts could be reduced through appropriate mitigation.
Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources		• Consultation with the Coal Authority regarding the development of the site should ensure that the development adopts the most appropriate design and layout in order to reduce development risk. • It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to existing cycling and walking routes, including core paths and rights of way. • Development of the site should use zero carbon materials and construction methods and should embrace renewable energy methods to minimise carbon emissions. • LDP2 contains a robust policy framework which protects the water environment and a Flood Risk Management policy which requires all development proposals to be assessed against the Flood Risk Framework and outlines the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment which may be necessary. • In accordance with Policy CR1, development proposals must integrate and utilise natural flood management techniques and incorporate sustainable urban drainage systems into the site.
Historic Environment	Cultural Heritage	*Protect and enhance the historic built and natural environment.*
	Screened out at Stage 1 Assessment	The site is not located in close proximity to historic assets such as listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments or gardens and designed landscapes. The development of the site will not have a detrimental impact on the historic environment, or indeed, cultural heritage.
Mitigating Impacts on the Historic Environment		• N/A. No impacts anticipated on the historic environment
Social Environment	Human Health	*To promote and improve the health of the human population through the creation of good quality places with resilience and safe communities.*
	Positive/Negative	Development of the site is likely to have negative impacts on air quality through the proliferation of private car use, which will in turn increase greenhouse gas emissions, as a result of increasing the residential population within the area. However, as the site is within reasonable walking distance of the centre of Hurlford, its development is considered to be more sustainable than a more peripheral site. The site is immediately adjacent to public transport and is within walking distance of the town centre,

		and rights of way, which may encourage an active lifestyle. Overall, development of the site is likely to have significant positive and negative environmental impacts.
	Population	*Ensure development is sustainably located and integrated into existing networks and maximise opportunities for rural populations.*
	Positive/Negative	Development on this site is likely to have negative impacts on population and human health by proliferating private car use as a result of increasing the residential population of the area. However, the site is within walking distance of a SPT bus stop, and there is a right of way nearby which might promote active travel and public transport use. Albeit potentially reduced by the presence of active travel and public transport links, the impact of proposed development on overall air quality is considered to be adverse. The site is currently constrained by some flood risk, having a potentially detrimental impact on population. In overall terms, the anticipated impacts on population are likely to be positive and negative.
	Material Assets	*Manage, maintain and promote the efficient and effective use of material assets in a sustainable manner.*
	Positive	The site is within walking distance of a public bus stop which is likely to have significant positive environmental impacts on material assets. The provision of new recreational open space will enhance the green infrastructure within this area resulting in positive impacts. It is unlikely, however, that the development will have significant impacts on waste.Overall, development of the site is likely to have significant positive environmental impacts.
Mitigating Impacts on the Social Environment		• Development of the site should ensure that walking and cycling paths are connected into existing paths and ensure that any noise and ambient light pollution is kept to a minimum. • Developments must utilise, where appropriate, zero carbon technologies in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency.

Services, Infrastructure Capacity, Deliverability and Sustainability Constraints

Soil	Coal Authority Risk Assessment	High Risk	Vacant and Derelict Land	No	Contaminated Land	Yes
Water	SEPA Flood Risk	Low to medium surface water flood risk in parts of site				
Access	No significant access concerns.					
Consultee Comments						

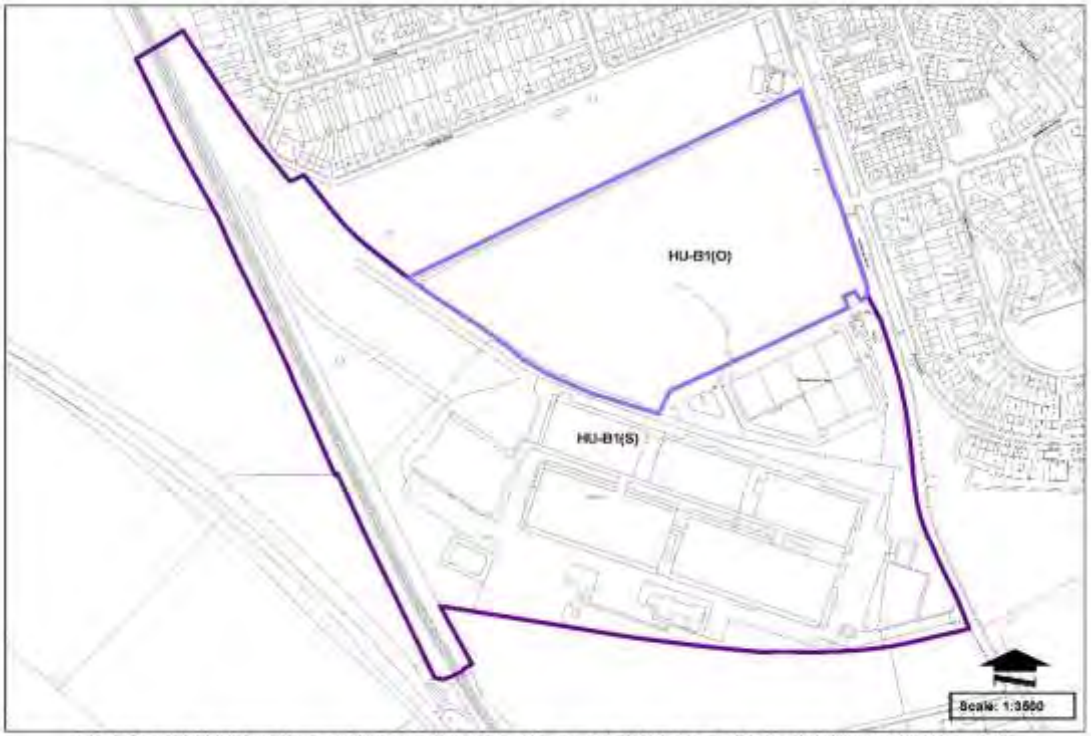
Short, Medium or Long Term and Cumulative Impacts

In the short to medium term, there are likely to be significant positive/negative environmental impacts experienced during construction/redevelopment of the site. Long term impacts are likely to be significant positive if the mitigation and enhancement methods are taken into account and the development follows the Council's design guidance to create a sense of place.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY SITE(S)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Pro Forma

Site Reference	**HU-B1(O)**
Settlement	Hurlford
Address	Mauchline Road
Description	The site is located to the south-west of the settlement of Hurlford, as identified within the Local Development Plan 2 (2022). The site is partially allocated as safeguarded, for its existing business/industry use, and partially allocated as an opportunity site where there is capacity for more development. The site is bound to the west by the A76 and a railway. The site is found within a mixed use location; there are residential properties nearby.
OS Grid Ref	NS4536SW
Existing Use	Business/Industry
Proposed Use	Business/Industry – Safeguarded and Opportunity
Site Size	6 ha
Site Capacity	N/A
Planning History	11/0011/EIASCR; 12/0061/PP; 11/0018/PREAPP; 12/0098/HS;



Impacts on Environmental Receptors		
Natural Features	Landscape	*To protect, and where appropriate, restore landscape, local distinctiveness and areas of value.*
	Neutral	The site is located to the south-west of Hurlford. The site is classified as "Agricultural Lowland" (NatureScot character type 66). Key characteristics of this classification are the predominantly pastoral cover, settlements with a historic car and a network of major roads which conflict with the rural character and presence of heavy traffic. The development of the site is unlikely to have any significant landscape character implications. Impacts are therefore neutral.
	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	*Conserve and enhance local biodiversity, including both statutory and non-statutory designations and protect species through the retention and provision of habitat and connectivity.*
	Neutral	The northern part of the site is to be allocated as an opportunity site. However, this part of the site is not environmentally constrained in terms of biodiversity or nature conservation assets. It is contained within the CSGN acid grassland network. However, due to its surrounding urban setting, impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna are therefore considered to be neutral.
	Climatic Factors	*Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute towards improving East Ayrshire's resilience to climate change impacts.*
	Positive/Negative	Development of the site is likely to have negative impacts on air quality through the proliferation of private car use, which will in turn increase greenhouse gas emissions, as a result of increasing employment within the area. The site is in close proximity to existing public transport networks (SPT bus route and associated bus stops) which, if utilised, will have significant positive impacts on air quality. The site is also in relatively close proximity to existing active travel networks including core paths and rights of way, therefore there is an opportunity to utilise and expand on these networks. The opportunity site is subject to a large area of low-medium surface water flood risk (present day). It is considered that the site could have climate resilience implications if an appropriate layout, design and use of materials is not adopted. In overall terms, environmental impacts on climatic factors are likely to be significant positive and negative in nature.
Mitigating Impacts on Natural Features		• It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to existing cycling and walking routes, including core paths and rights of way. • Development of the site should use zero carbon materials and construction methods and should embrace renewable energy methods to minimise carbon emissions.
Natural Resources	Soil	*To protect and improve soil and land resources.*
	Negative	The site does not contain any contaminated land and development would not result in the loss of prime quality agricultural land, carbon rich soils, peatland or raised/intermediate bogs. The site is located within

		the Coal Authority's Development Low Risk Area. There is potential for the development to have an adverse impact on soil as a result. As a precaution, impacts are considered to be negative, subject to appropriate mitigation.
	Air	*To prevent deterioration, and where possible, enhance air quality.*
	Positive/Negative	Development of the site is likely to have negative impacts on air quality through the proliferation of private car use, which will in turn increase greenhouse gas emissions, as a result of increasing the employment within the area. The site is in close proximity to existing public transport networks (SPT bus route and associated bus stops), which, if utilised, will have significant positive impacts on air quality. The site is also in relatively close proximity to existing active travel networks including core paths and rights of way, therefore there is an opportunity to utilise and expand on these networks. In overall terms, environmental impacts are likely to be significant positive and negative in nature.
	Water	*To manage flood risk and safeguard the environment from degradation.*
	Negative	The opportunity site is subject to a large area of low to -medium surface water flood risk (present day). It is considered that the site could have climate resilience implications in an appropriate layout, design and use of materials is not adopted. As a precaution, impacts are considered to be negative.
Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources		• It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to existing cycling and walking routes, including core paths and rights of way. • Development of the site should use zero carbon materials and construction methods and should embrace renewable energy methods to minimise carbon emissions. • The LDP2 contains a robust policy framework which protects the water environment and a Flood Risk Management policy which requires all development proposals to be assessed against the Flood Risk Framework and outlines the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment which may be necessary. • In accordance with Policy CR1, development proposals must integrate and utilise natural flood management techniques and incorporate sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) into the site. • Developers should contact SEPA regarding the development of this site in order to appropriately address the flood risk experienced.
Historic Environment	Cultural Heritage	*Protect and enhance the historic built and natural environment.*
	Screened out at Stage 1 Assessment	The site is not located in close proximity to historic assets such as listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments or gardens and designed landscapes. The development of the site will not have a detrimental impact on the historic environment, or indeed, cultural heritage.

Mitigating Impacts on the Historic Environment		N/A. No impacts anticipated on the historic environment.
Social Environment	Human Health	*To promote and improve the health of the human population through the creation of good quality places with resilience and safe communities.*
	Positive/Negative	The site has strong access connections. The site is also in close proximity to an SPT bus route and a number of bus stops. It therefore has strong public transport connections as well as access to an active travel network, having a positive impact on human health. However, the development of this site is likely to proliferate private car use which will in turn have negative impacts on air quality and in turn human health. In overall terms, environmental impacts are likely to be both positive and negative.
	Population	*Ensure development is sustainably located and integrated into existing networks and maximise opportunities for rural populations.*
	Positive/Negative	The site has strong access connections. The site is also in close proximity to an SPT bus route and a number of bus stops. It therefore has strong public transport connections as well as access to an active travel network, having a positive impact on human health. However, the development of this site is likely to proliferate private car use which will in turn have negative impacts on air quality and in turn population. There is opportunities to expand and connect to active travel networks. In overall terms, environmental impacts are likely to be both positive and negative.
	Material Assets	*Manage, maintain and promote the efficient and effective use of material assets in a sustainable manner.*
	Positive/Negative	Development of the site is likely to have negative impacts on air quality through the proliferation of private car use, which will in turn increase greenhouse gas emissions, as a result of increasing the employment within the area. The site is in close proximity to existing public transport networks (SPT bus route and associated bus stops), if utilised this will have significant positive impacts on air quality. The site is also in relatively close proximity to existing active travel networks including core paths and rights of way, therefore there is an opportunity to utilise and expand on these networks. The opportunity site is subject to a large area of low-high surface water flood risk. It is considered that the site could have climate resilience implications if an appropriate layout, design and use of materials is not adopted. In overall terms, environmental impacts on material assets are liekly to be significant positive and negative in nature.
Mitigating Impacts on the Social Environment		• The developer should also provide further green infrastructure and ensure that the development links into existing path networks. • It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to existing cycling and walking routes.

	• Developments must utilise, where appropriate, zero carbon technologies in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency.

Services, Infrastructure Capacity, Deliverability and Sustainability Constraints

Soil	Coal Authority Risk Assessment	Low Risk	Vacant and Derelict Land	No	Contaminated Land	No
Water	SEPA Flood Risk	No significant water issues - Small areas of surface water flooding.				
Access	The site is accessible with opportunities to link the site with existing networks and routes. No concerns have been raised regarding significant infrastructure provision and/or delivery constraints.					
Consultee Comments	NatureScot: This is an open and prominent site which defines the western edge of the settlement. Development here would be contrary to the town-centre first approach outlined in the Town Centre Policies in the current East Ayrshire Local Development Plan. It would also set a precedent for future development to the west of Hurlford, eroding the rural setting.					
WWTW Capacity & Waste Water						
Water Supply						

Short, Medium or Long Term and Cumulative Impacts

In the short to medium term, there are likely to be significant positive/negative environmental impacts experienced during construction/redevelopment of the site. Long term impacts are likely to be significant positive if the mitigation and enhancement methods are taken into account and the development follows the Council's design guidance to create a sense of place. The development of this site could have cumulative landscape impacts as it crosses an established building barrier.

PROPOSAL: CEMETERY EXTENSION SITE(S)

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Pro Forma

Site Ref	**CEM12**
Settlement	**Hurlford**
Address	**Riccarton**
Description	The site is located to the west of Hurlford. The site is found outwith the settlement boundary and proposes an extension area for the existing Riccarton cemetery to which it is adjacent. The site is accessible from the Bellfield Interchange. The site is identified as Proposal site within the previous East Ayrshire Local Development Plan (2017). This is being carried forward into LDP2.
OS Grid Ref	NS4436NW
Existing Use	Greenfield
Proposed Use	Extension to existing cemetery
Site Size	1.3ha
Site Capacity	N/A
Planning History	97/0425/LA – Proposed Extension to Cemetery – Approved with Conditions

Impacts on Environmental Receptors

Landscape	*To protect, and where appropriate, restore landscape, local distinctiveness and areas of value.*

Natural Features	**Neutral**	The site is located to the east of the Bellfield Interchange, Kilmarnock. The site is located outwith the Hurlford and Kilmarnock settlement boundaries. The site is classified as "Agricultural Lowland" (NatureScot character type 66). Key characteristics of this classification are the predominantly pastoral cover, settlements with a historic core and a network of major roads which conflict with the rural character and presence of heavy traffic. This is a small scale site, the development of which, given the proposed use, is unlikely to alter the landscape character of Kilmarnock, Hurlford or the surrounding area. In overall terms, impacts are likely to be neutral.
	Biodiversity, Flora & Fauna	*Conserve and enhance local biodiversity, including both statutory and non-statutory designations and protect species through the retention and provision of habitat and connectivity.*
	Neutral	The site is contained within the CSGN's neutral grassland network (high dispersal; non-core) and acid grassland network (high dispersal; non-core). The loss and fragmentation of these habitats would be contrary to the objectives of the SEA. However, given the setting and scale of the site, it is unlikely that these habitats are of importance or value in terms biodiversity, flora and fauna. As such, impacts are considered to be neutral.
	Climatic Factors	*Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute towards improving East Ayrshire's resilience to climate change impacts.*
	Neutral	The development of this proposal site for a cemetery extension is unlikely to exacerbate private car use or greenhouse gas emissions. Its proposed use will not increase employment or population related greenhouse gas emissions. The site is within close proximity to active travel networks, including existing SPT bus routes and associated stops, core path and right of way network. If utilised, this is likely to have neutral impacts on air quality, and in turn climatic factors. In terms of climate resilience, the site is unlikely to have any significant positive or negative impacts on the water environment as it is not subject to fluvial or significant surface water flood risk. Impacts on flood risk are therefore considered to be neutral. In overall terms, impacts on climatic factors are likely to be neutral.
Mitigating Impacts on Natural Features		• It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to and where possible expanding existing cycling and walking routes, including core paths and rights of way.
Natural Resources	Soil	*To protect and improve soil and land resources.*
	Negative	The northern part of the site is contained within the Coal Authority's Low Developemnt Risk Area. There is therefore potential for its development to have detrimental impacts on soil. The site is not located in close proximity to any other significant soil related constraints. As a precaution, impacts are considered to be negative, before the implementation of appropriate mitigation.
	Air	*To prevent deterioration, and where possible, enhance air quality.*
	Neutral	The development of this proposal site for a cemetery extension is unlikely to exacerbate private car use or greenhouse gas emissions. Its proposed use will not increase employment or population related greenhouse gas emissions. The site is within close proximity to active travel networks, including existing

		SPT bus routes and associated stops, core path and right of way network. If utilised, this is likely to have neutral impacts on air quality.
	Water	*To manage flood risk and safeguard the environment from degradation.*
	Screened out at Stage 1 Assessment	Screened out at Stage 1 assessment. No impacts in terms of the water environment are anticipated as a result of the potential development of this site. The site is not subject to fluvial or surface water flood risk.
Mitigating Impacts on Natural Resources		• Consultation with the Coal Authority regarding the development of the site should ensure that the development adopts the most appropriate design and layout in order to reduce development risk. • It should be ensured that the site is as accessible as possible, directly linking to existing cycling and walking routes, including core paths and rights of way.
Historic Environment	Cultural Heritage	*Protect and enhance the historic built and natural environment.*
	Screened out at Stage 1 Assessment	The site is not located in close proximity to historic assets such as listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments or gardens and designed landscapes. The development of the site will not have a detrimental impact on the historic environment, or indeed, cultural heritage.
Mitigating Impacts on the Historic Environment		N/A. No impacts anticipated on the historic environment.
Social Environment	Human Health	*To promote and improve the health of the human population through the creation of good quality places with resilience and safe communities.*
	Neutral	The development of this proposal site for a cemetery extension is unlikely to exacerbate private car use or greenhouse gas emissions. Its proposed use will not increase employment or population related greenhouse gas emissions. The site is within close proximity to active travel networks, including existing SPT bus routes and associated stops, core path and right of way network. The site is surrounded to the east, south and west by a core path. If utilised, this is likely to have neutral impacts on air quality, and in turn climatic factors, and human health. The development of this site will not result in the loss of any safeguarded open space or CSGN habitat networks. In overall terms, impacts on human health are likely to be neutral.
	Population	*Ensure development is sustainably located and integrated into existing networks and maximise opportunities for rural populations.*
	Neutral	The proposed development and allocation of this site as a cemetery extension is unlikely to have significant positive or negative impacts on population.
	Material Assets	*Manage, maintain and promote the efficient and effective use of material assets in a sustainable manner.*
	Positive	As outlined above, the site is considered to be sustainably located and as such it is unlikely to have any significant impacts on air quality, climatic factors, human health or population. The site is within close proximity to active travel networks, including existing SPT bus routes and associated stops, core path

		and right of way network. The site is surrounded to the east, south and west by a core path. The development is not likely to have any negative impacts in terms of core paths and other important routes (such as Rights of Way). It will not result in the loss of safeguarded open space or CSGN networks. The allocation of this space will enable more capacity within the Cemetery, which will have a positive impact on this necessary material asset.
Mitigating Impacts on the Social Environment		N/A. No significant impacts anticipated which require mitigation.

East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear

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