

An abstract geometric design composed of various colored triangles (olive green, mustard yellow, deep red, and taupe) arranged in a larger triangular shape. Some triangles contain photographic textures: a leaf, water ripples, and a forest scene.

East Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2

Non-Technical Summary

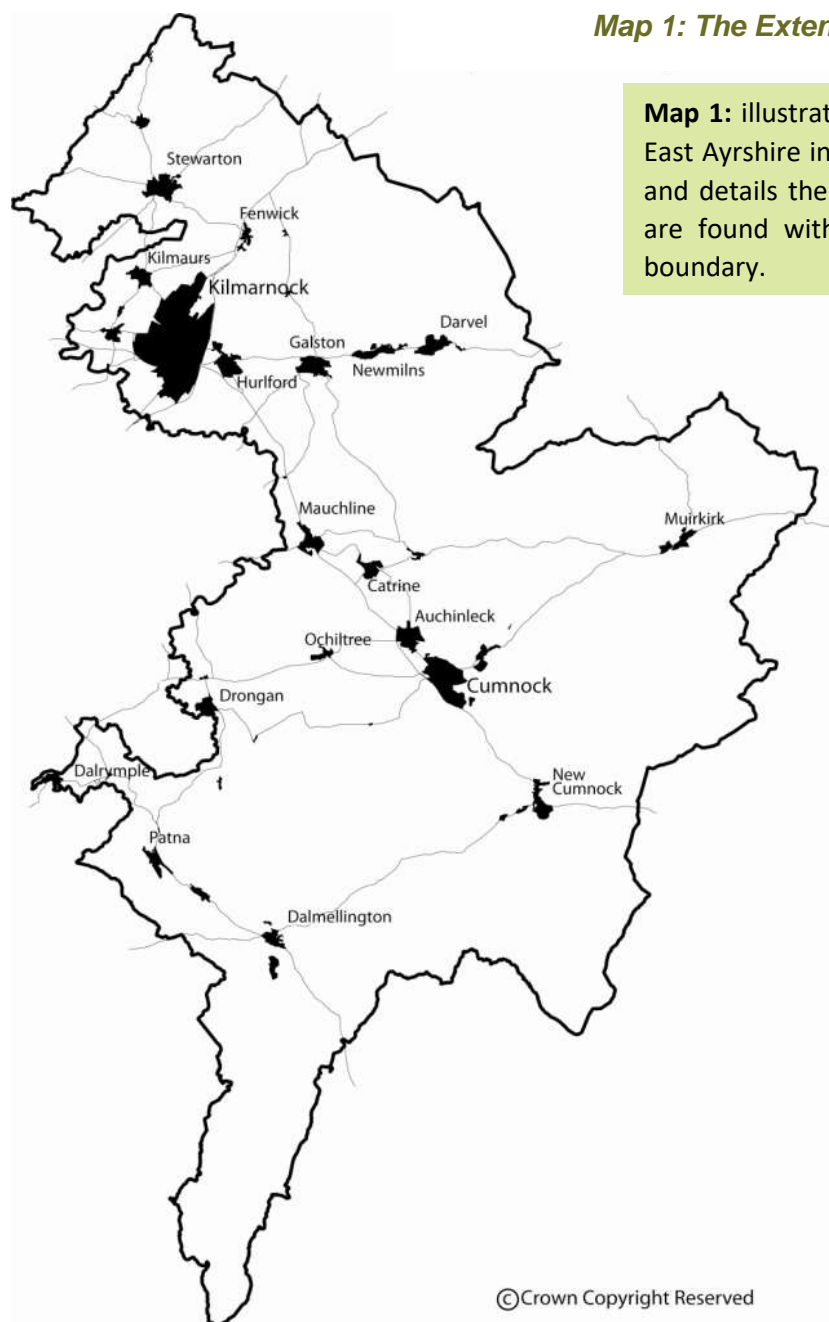
June 2020

Non-Technical Summary

Purpose of the Environmental Report

- 1.1. East Ayrshire Council have produced this Interim Environmental Report for the preparation of the Main Issues Report for Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) under the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) addresses the effects that LDP2 is likely to have on the environment. The overarching aim of the SEA process is to protect, and where possible, enhance the environment of East Ayrshire as shown in Map 1.

Map 1: The Extent of East Ayrshire



Map 1: illustrates the extents of East Ayrshire in a simplistic form and details the settlements that are found within the authority boundary.

Key Stages

- 1.2. The key stages of the SEA for a Local Development Plan are scoping, interim environmental report, environmental report and the post-adoption statement. Table 1 below sets out the timescales involved in preparing the Environmental Report and LDP2:

Table 1: KEY LDP2 and SEA Stages

Timescale	LDP/SEA Stage
Quarter 1 - 2019	Preparation of the Scoping Environmental Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Gather comments/feedback from SEA Consultation Authorities ❖ Submit Scoping Report to SEA Gateway.
Quarter 4 2019 and Quarter 1 - 2020	Preparation of the Interim Environmental Report and Main Issues Report (MIR): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Collate baseline environmental information (including information regarding European and international designations) ❖ Consider comments received on the Scoping Report from Consultation Authorities and refine the methodology. ❖ Undertake a Stage 1 Assessment of the MIR by environmentally appraising the preferred and alternative options (including the identification of potential sites and subsequent environmental implications of inclusion within LDP2).
Quarter 2 - 2020	Publication and consultation period on Interim Environmental Report and MIR (minimum of 6 weeks): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Publish Interim Environmental Report and MIR documents for public consultation between the 1 June 2020 and 31 July 2020. ❖ Submit documents to SEA Gateway. ❖ Continue to consider implications of main issues. ❖ Consider comments received. ❖ Environmentally appraise the Proposed Plan. ❖ Make the necessary amendments to the Environmental Report and assessment outcomes if required.
Quarters 1, 2 and 3 - 2021	Preparation of the Proposed Local Development Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Consider comments received from Interim Environmental Report and MIR. ❖ Consider comments from SEA Consultation Authorities on Interim Environmental Report. ❖ Undertake the preparation of policies and proposals of Proposed Plan by environmentally appraising proposed policies and sites.

Quarter 4 - 2021	Publication and consultation on the Proposed Plan and Environmental Report (Minimum of 6 weeks): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Consider the representations received. ❖ Prepare a summary of Schedule 4 documents (unresolved representations) and a report of conformity with participation statement.
Quarter 3 - 2022	Submit Proposed Plan to Examination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Submit the Proposed Plan, Schedule 4 documents, proposed Action Programme and Statement of Conformity to the Scottish Ministers. ❖ Advertise submission of the Proposed Plan. ❖ Submit Environmental Report to Scottish Ministers. ❖ Advertise submission of the Environmental Report.
Quarter 1 - 2023	Examination Report Issued: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Consider recommendations and prepare modifications. ❖ Environmentally appraise the modified Plan. ❖ Make the appropriate alterations and accept all appropriate modifications.
Quarter 1 - 2023	Publish modifications and the Proposed Plan as modified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Publish and send to Ministers revised Environmental Report.
Quarter 2 - 2023	East Ayrshire Council adopts the Proposed Plan as LDP2
Quarter 4 - 2023	Publish Post-Adoption SEA Statement and submit to SEA Gateway

Scoping Report

- 1.3. The Scoping Report was submitted to the SEA Consultation Authorities in April 2019 which afforded them the opportunity to review the assessment methodology in terms of the appropriate evaluation of the plans proposals in advance of the Interim Environmental Report being prepared. Consultation feedback was in general agreement with the approach to be taken with some changes to terminology, additional questions added to SEA Objectives/Sub-Criteria and data representation. These comments have been summarised in Appendix 1.

SEA Environmental Topics

- 1.4. The Environmental receptors that will be assessed are outlined in Table 2 below, grouped by Environmental Topic:

Table 2: SEA Environmental Topics and Receptors

Environmental Topic	Receptors
Natural Features	Landscape Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Climatic factors
Natural Resources	Soil Air Water (including surface water, groundwater and GWDTE)
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings Conservation Areas Scheduled Monuments Archaeological Sites Gardens and Designed Landscapes Historic Battlefields
Social Environment	Health Population Material Assets (infrastructure, amenity and recreational open space i.e. parks etc.)

The Context of the Main Issues Report

- 1.5. The current East Ayrshire Local Development Plan (EALDP) was adopted in July 2017 and is now under review in accordance with Section 16 of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, now amended by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. The purpose of a Main Issues Report (MIR) is to identify key areas of change that have occurred since adoption of the previous plan, consider if the previous plan has achieved its aims, and to outline East Ayrshire Council's preferred and reasonable alternative options going forward with LDP2. This will be underpinned and supported by environmental data.
- 1.6. The MIR is the first stage in the plan preparation process and is used to engage with the public on the preparation of LDP2. The MIR enables discussion on the proposed options for sites that would be put forward for development in East Ayrshire as well as the policy approaches that will be used to guide development. The MIR and representations from the MIR consultation will inform the preparation of the Proposed Plan, which will contain the finalised policies, site and use allocations for housing, industry and business, miscellaneous and future growth areas over the period of the 5 year plan.

- 1.7. The MIR has not been prepared in isolation and has been informed by a number of other documents at the international, national, regional and local level. An extensive list of which, can be viewed in Appendix 2. As a guide to help deliver LDP2, and to integrate our planning effectively with other existing plans and legislation, the MIR has been informed by a range of key plans and strategies including: East Ayrshire Local Development Plan (2017), East Ayrshire Community Plan (2015-2030), Local Housing Strategy (2019-24), Community Led Action Plans, Minerals Local Development Plan (2020) and Scottish Planning Policy (2014).
- 1.8. This Interim Environmental Report covers a range of key issues identified within the MIR as well as outcomes, topics and processes that are listed in Paragraphs 1-9 of Schedule 3 of the Act (2005). These issues include:

❖ Simplified Planning Zones	❖ Developer contributions
❖ Placemaking	❖ Sustainable transport
❖ Enabling housing	❖ Bellfield Interchange, Kilmarnock
❖ Future Growth	❖ Historic environment
❖ Affordable Housing	❖ Renewable energy
❖ Housing Demand	❖ Minerals
❖ Town centres and town centre living	❖ Low carbon places
❖ Green infrastructure	

Baseline Environmental Data, Characteristics of Area & Problems

- 1.9. East Ayrshire Council have identified a number of environmental issues that exist within the area. In this section, the Council have listed the significant environmental issues that are considered within this Interim Environmental Report. The issues set out below are the challenges that LDP2 should deal with through this Plan:
- ❖ Landscape change in rural areas due to minerals and wind farm developments as well as restoration works and changes to agricultural and forestry practices;
 - ❖ The amount of vacant units within town centres is increasing and this is causing an adverse impact on the image of town centres;
 - ❖ There are areas within East Ayrshire that are at risk of flooding (e.g. Irvine Valley);
 - ❖ The area contains a number of unused and derelict buildings both in settlements and rural areas which detract from the character and appearance of the area;

- ❖ The legacy of unrestored land as a result of surface coal companies going into liquidation has resulted in access problems to the rural area. Some of these areas are working through their restoration schemes and new uses should be identified to bring new uses to the area;
- ❖ There is an increasing pressure on the area's transport infrastructure, particularly at Bellfield Interchange (Kilmarnock). This has resulted in an increase in congestion and pollution;
- ❖ Residential development pressure located within the rural north, around commuter belts, which would change the rural landscape character of East Ayrshire; and
- ❖ Pursue the development of South Central Kilmarnock in a way that minimises the risk of flooding, creating a robust and resilient place.



SEA Approach and Assessment Methodology

Stage 1 – Assessment of Significance

- 1.10. The first stage involves using Matrix 1, below, the SEA objectives and the constraints shown on the Council's GIS system will be used to determine whether the identified impact is significant or not. All identified significant environmental impacts will be subject to further assessment under Stage 2.

Environmental Topics	What is the Environmental Impact?	Significance of Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features		
Natural Resources		
Historic Environment		
Social Environment		

Matrix 1: Stage 1 Assessment Matrix

Stage 2 – Detailed Assessment

- 1.11. Stage 2 assesses the identified significant impacts in greater detail using Matrix 2. The sub-criteria/questions will be used to provide a more detailed assessment which will identify what the significant environmental impacts are in relation to each of the individual environmental components screened into the assessment.

Environment Impact: Key			
Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unknown

Environmental Topic	Component	Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact	Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts
Natural Features	Landscape Geology Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Climate	<i>Commentary to be provided in this column. Text will be colour coded depending on assessment outcome</i>	<i>Commentary to be provided in this column. Text will be colour coded depending on assessment outcome</i>
Natural Resources	Soil Air Water		
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings Conservation Areas Archaeological Sites/Areas Gardens and Designed Landscapes Scheduled Monuments Historic Battlefields		
Social Environment	Population Health Material Assets		
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	<i>Commentary to be provided in this column. Text will be colour coded depending on assessment outcome</i>		

Matrix 2 – Stage 2 Assessment Matrix

Environmental Assessment Findings

1.12. East Ayrshire Council have put together a summary of how the Main Issues Report could affect the environment. This can be viewed in Table 3 and Table 4, below:

Table 3: SEA Stage 1 Findings: Non-Technical Summary

Main Issue	Topic	Preferred or Alternative Option	Assessed in Stage 1	Screened into Stage 2 Assessment
Chapter 1 & 2: Vision & Aims				
1	Vision	N/A	Yes	No
2(a)	Aim 1: Stabilise and achieve population growth	N/A	Yes	No
2(b)	Aim 2: Create good quality places	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(c)	Aim 3: Direct development to sustainable locations	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(d)	Aim 4: Reduce effects of climate change	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(e)	Aim 5: Opportunities for delivery of health and social care services	N/A	Yes	No
2(f)	Aim 6: Drive inward sustainable economic growth	N/A	Yes	No
2(g)	Aim 7: Strive for better infrastructure	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(h)	Aim 8: Access to employment opportunities	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(i)	Aim 9: Encourage low carbon solutions	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(j)	Aim 10: Responsible and justified approach to minerals extraction	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(k)	Aim 11: Protect and enhance historic environment	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(l)	Aim 12: Protect and enhance the natural environment	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(m)	Aim 13: Encourage tourism opportunities	N/A	Yes	Yes
2(n)	Aim 14: Recognise the changing face of retail	N/A	Yes	Yes
Chapter 3: Spatial Strategy Priorities				
3(a)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (NERD)	N/A	Yes	Yes
3(b)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (AMIC)	N/A	Yes	Yes
3(c)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (Ayrshire Engineering)	N/A	Yes	Yes

3(d)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (Halo)	N/A	Yes	No
3(e)	Ayrshire Growth Deal	Preferred	Yes	Yes
4	Future economic expansion in Kilmarnock	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	Yes
5	South Central Kilmarnock	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	Yes
6	Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	No
7	Stewarton - Approach to Sustainable Growth	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	No
8	Industrial and business land in Stewarton	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	No
9	Simplified Planning Zones	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	No
Chapter 4: Spatial Strategy				
10	Placemaking	Preferred	Yes	Yes
Chapter 5: Enabling Housing				
11	Affordable Housing	Preferred	Yes	No
		Alternative	Yes	No
12	Levels of Housing Growth	Preferred	Yes	No
		Alternative 1	Yes	No
		Alternative 2	Yes	No
13	Existing Housing Land Supply	Preferred	Yes	No
14	Future Growth Areas	Preferred	Yes	Yes
15	Rural Diversification and Rural Protection Areas	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 1	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 2	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 3	Yes	Yes

Chapter 6: Successful Town Centres				
16	Town Centres	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 1	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 2	Yes	Yes
17	Town Centre Living Boundaries	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	No
18	Town Centre Strategies	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	Yes
Chapter 7: Infrastructure				
19	Developer Contributions	Preferred	Yes	No
20	Green Infrastructure	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 1	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 2	Yes	No
21	Promoting Sustainable Transport	Preferred	Yes	No
22	Bellfield Interchange	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	Yes
Chapter 8: Historic Environment				
23	Loudoun Castle Garden and Designed Landscapes	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 1	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 2	Yes	Yes
Chapter 9: Planning for Climate Change				
24	Low Carbon Places	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 1	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 2	Yes	Yes
25	Renewable Energy: Wind	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative 1	Yes	No
		Alternative 2	Yes	Yes
26	Renewable Energy: Heat	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	Yes

27	Addressing Flooding in East Ayrshire	Preferred	Yes	Yes
28	Minerals	Preferred	Yes	Yes
		Alternative	Yes	No
Chapter 10: Priorities, Issues & Proposals (PIPs)				
29	Call for Priorities, Issues and Proposals Sites (Winter 2019/2020).	Preferred	Yes	Yes

Table 4: Stage 2 Assessment Results: Non-Technical Summary

1.13. Table 4 summarises the overall outcomes of Stage 2 Assessments. For a more detailed summary of Stage 2 outcomes, review Table 8 and Appendix 7.

Key	Screened out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unknown	No Reasonable Alternative Identified
		SP	SP/N	SN	N/U	No Alt

Main Issue	Issue	Preferred Option	Alternative Option 1	Alternative Option 2	Alternative Option 3
1 & 2: Vision & Aims					
2 (b)	Aim 2: Create good quality places	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (c)	Aim 3: Direct development to sustainable locations	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (d)	Aim 4: Reduce effects of climate change	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (g)	Aim 7: Strive for better infrastructure	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (h)	Aim 8: Access to employment opportunities	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (i)	Aim 9: Encourage low carbon solutions	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (j)	Aim 10: Responsible and justified approach to minerals extraction	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (k)	Aim 11: Protect and enhance historic environment	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (l)	Aim 12: Protect and enhance the natural environment	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (m)	Aim 13: Encourage tourism opportunities	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
2 (n)	Aim 14: Recognise the changing face of retail	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
3: Spatial Strategy Priorities					
3 (a)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (NERD)	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
3 (b)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (AMIC)	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
3 (c)	Ayrshire Growth Deal (Ayrshire Engineering)	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
3 (e)	Ayrshire Growth Deal	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
4	Future economic expansion in Kilmaronock	SP/N	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt

5	South Central Kilmarnock	SP/N	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt
6	Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
7	Sustainable growth (Stewarton) Demand for new housing	SP/N		No Alt	No Alt
8	Industrial and business land in Stewarton	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
9	Simplified Planning Zones	SP/N		No Alt	No Alt
4: Approach to Placemaking					
10	Approach to Placemaking	SP	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
5: Enabling Housing					
14	Future Growth Areas	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
15	Rural Diversification and Protection Areas	SP/N	SN	SP/N	SP/N
6: Successful Town Centres					
16	Successful Town Centres	SP/N	SP/N	SP/N	No Alt
17	Town Centre Living Boundaries	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
18	Town Centre Strategies	SP/N	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt
7: Infrastructure					
20	Green Infrastructure	SP/N	SP/N		No Alt
22	Bellfield Interchange	SP/N	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt
8: Historic Environment					
23	Loudoun Castle Garden and Designed Landscapes	SP/N	SP/N	SP/N	No Alt
9: Planning for Climate Change					
24	Low Carbon Places	SP	SP	SP/N	No Alt
25	Renewable Energy: Wind	SP/N		SP/N	No Alt
26	Renewable Energy: Heat	SP	Neutral/Unknown	No Alt	No Alt
27	Addressing Flooding	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
28	Minerals	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt
10: Priorities, Issues and Proposals (PIPs)					
29	Call for Priorities, Issues and Proposals Sites (Winter 2019/2020)	SP/N	No Alt	No Alt	No Alt

Table 5: PIP Site Assessment Results

Ref No	Site Address/Location	Overall Recommendation (Environmental Impact)
1	Land south of Barony Road, Auchinleck	Positive / Negative
2	Templeton's Roundabout, Auchinleck	Negative
3	Barony Bing, West of Auchinleck	Negative
4	Former Chalmerston, Surface Coal Mine, North of A713, West of Burnton	Positive / Negative
5	Ballochmyle View, Catrine	Positive / Negative
6	Former Knockshinnoch Rail Terminal and Coal Yard, Connel Park, Cumnock, KA18 4QF.	Positive / Negative
7	Gatehead Road, Crosshouse	Positive / Negative
8	Holmes farm, Irvine Rd, Crosshouse	Positive / Negative
9	Land at Crosshouse	Positive / Negative
10	Capringstone Farm, Dreghorn, Irvine, KA11 3DA	Negative
11	Craig Campus, Old Kilmarnock College	Negative
12	Farm Road, Dalrymple	Positive / Negative
13	Proposed realignment of settlement boundary and inclusion of residential site at Cemetery road, Darvel	Negative
14	Land west of Darvel	Negative
15	Mill O' Shield Road, Drongan	Positive / Negative
16	Martnaham Way, Drongan	Positive / Negative
17.1	Land at Water of Coyle, Drongan	Positive / Negative
17.2	Land at Water of Coyle, Drongan	Negative
17.3	Land at Water of Coyle, Drongan	Positive / Negative
18	Land at Stewarton Road, Dunlop	Positive / Negative
19	Land east of Stewarton Rd, Dunlop	Positive / Negative
20	Former Howies Grain Mill	Negative
21.1 & 21.2	Behind Fenwick Arms, adjacent to M77, Fenwick site A & C	Negative
22	Land at Laigh Wyllieland and Glenraig, Fenwick	Positive / Negative
23	Land at Dewars Holm, Fenwick	Positive / Negative
24	Harvest Field, Galston roundabout, Galston	Positive / Negative
25	Riverside Filling Station, Galston	Positive / Negative

26	Hayhill West - Village of Hayhill	Positive / Negative
27	North Craig reservoir, Kilmarnock	Positive / Negative
28	Fardalehill West, Kilmarnock	Positive / Negative
29	Land at Dean Road, Kilmarnock	Negative
30	Land at Bridgehousehill/ Shortlees, Kilmarnock	Positive / Negative
31	Meiklewood/Mossie site, Kilmarnock	Negative
32	Land at Northcraig Reservoir, Kilmarnock	Negative
33	Land at Grassmillside, Kilmarnock	Negative
34	Riccarton Road, Hurlford	Negative
35	Kirklandside, Bellfield, Kilmarnock	Positive / Negative
36	Standalane, Kilmaurs	Positive / Negative
37	Land at Habbieauld Road, Kilmaurs	Positive / Negative
38	48 Fenwick Road, Kilmaurs, KA3 2NJ	Negative
39	Crosshouse Road/ Crofthead Road, Kilmaurs.	Positive / Negative
40	Land btw. Crofthead Farm and Fenceside Farm, Kilmaurs	Positive / Negative
41	Land to the west of Knockentiber	Negative
42	Land at Knockentiber	Positive / Negative
43	Land adjacent to Southhook Road, Knockentiber	Positive / Negative
44	Land to the south of Langside, Laigh Fenwick	Positive / Negative
45	Waterslap Road, Laigh Fenwick	Positive / Negative
46	Land south of former Laigh Glenmuir/ Duncanziemere Surface Coal Mine, KA18 3LS	Positive / Negative
47	Loudoun Castle Estate	Positive / Negative
48	4 Dunlop Road	Negative
49	Kilmarnock Road, Land to the west of Mauchline	Positive / Negative
50	Housing field, Bogwood Farm, Ayr Road, Mauchline	Positive / Negative
51	Rail halt, Bogwood Farm, Ayr Road, Mauchline	Positive / Negative
52	Mauchline Bing, East of A76, north of Mauchline, KA5 6EY.	Negative
53	Land west of 106 Connell Park, New Cumnock	Positive / Negative
54	Land btw. 92 and 102 Connell Park, New Cumnock.	Positive / Negative
55	Land adjacent to Boig Rd, Connell Park, New Cumnock.	Positive / Negative
56	Crowbandsgate - Land South of A76, north of New Cumnock, KA18 4DH.	Positive / Negative
57	Land Adjacent to 12 King Street, Newmilns	Positive / Negative
58	Land at Mauchline Road, Ochiltree	Positive / Negative

59	Land at Crofthead, Priestland	Positive / Negative
60	Catrine Road, Sorn	Positive / Negative
61	Pipershill South of B7046, south east of Sinclairston.	Positive / Negative
62	Future Growth Area for Stewarton (FGA4)	Positive / Negative
63	Lainshaw Estate, Stewarton	Negative
64	Land at Low Peacockbank, Stewarton	Negative
65	Land at Cutsburn Road Fields, Stewarton	Negative
66	Cutstraw Road (land opposite Meikle Cutstraw), Stewarton, KA3 5HU.	Negative
67	Land to the north of Blackwood Plant Hire, Stewarton	Negative
68	Land at Holmhead Farm, Old Glasgow Road	Negative
69	Land at Old Glasgow Road, Stewarton	Negative
70	Land at Lainshaw Mains Farm	Negative
71	Land to East of Dunlop Road	Negative

Monitoring

- 1.14. The main issues that are likely to have significant environmental impacts require to be monitored to ensure that adverse and unforeseen impacts do not arise or can be easily identified and mitigated measures put in place. The draft monitoring measures are provided below and will incorporate the Consultation Authorities comments in relation to monitoring measures:

Table 6: Monitoring Objectives and Targets

Environmental Issues to be Monitored	Monitoring Objective	Target
Landscape	To monitor the impact of the LDP on landscape within East Ayrshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ The landscape of East Ayrshire is protected and any alterations to its character and setting are avoided or minimised. ❖ Avoid impacts on visually prominent areas. ❖ Any detrimental landscape impacts will be mitigated through screening, sensitive siting of buildings and the retention of landscape features such as trees and hedgerows.
Geology	To monitor the impact of the LDP on geology within East Ayrshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Geological resources and their settings within East Ayrshire are preserved.

Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To monitor the impact of the LDP on the natural heritage designations within East Ayrshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Enhance biodiversity across East Ayrshire. ❖ Avoid the irreversible loss and fragmentation of valuable sites, areas of important green space, 'green' and 'blue' network features, protected species/habitats and green networks within East Ayrshire. ❖ Natural Environment and open space policies will be utilised to protect and enhance Green networks. ❖ Development is largely directed to brownfield sites, as greenfield development is likely to have negative impacts on biodiversity through the loss and/or fragmentation of habitats and species.
Climate	To monitor the impact of the LDP on climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Reduce climate change impacts in accordance with Scottish Government policy. ❖ Reduce carbon emissions where possible. ❖ Developments are integrated into existing active travel networks which will enable pedestrian accessibility in order to reduce emissions. ❖ No increase in the risk of flooding, particularly within settlements. ❖ Protect carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland sites. ❖ To enhance the positive effects of the LDP2, Development Management team should ensure that developments, namely, residential sites, conform to the highest efficiency standards.
Soil	To monitor the impact of the LDP on soil resources within East Ayrshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ No loss of prime or locally important agricultural land. ❖ Allocations will be directed away from peat and carbon-rich soils. ❖ Development should not involve the removal or disturbance of peat or be located on significantly important areas of peat (Class 1, 2, 3 and 5), raised bog or carbon rich soils. ❖ Remediation and/or removal of contaminated land ❖ Development directed to brownfield land, which will have positive impacts on soil quality. ❖ No significant change or loss to the percentage of rural land.
Air	To monitor the impact of the LDP on air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ No increase in pollutants into the atmosphere.

	quality within East Ayrshire.	
Water	To monitor the impact of the LDP on the water environment in East Ayrshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ No degradation of water quality. ❖ No increase in the risk of flooding within East Ayrshire. ❖ Protect water bodies and ground water ❖ Allocated sites must be resilient to changes in climate and the water environment. This could include integrating SUDS, buffer strips, multifunctional open spaces and compensatory storage.
Historic Environment	To monitor the impact of the LDP on the historic environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ All historic features and their setting are protected from inappropriate development within East Ayrshire. ❖ Development shall not adversely affect the landscape of townscape. ❖ Reduced number of historic buildings registers as “at risk”.
Population	To monitor the impact of the LDP on local communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Protect local settlements with appropriate buffers from minerals development. ❖ Settlements in East Ayrshire are able to accommodate increased in population in terms of resources and impacts on the natural environment. ❖ New developments are located within a walkable distance of basic amenities and public transportation routes. ❖ No excessive air, water, noise or light pollution for new developments.
Health	To monitor the impact of the LDP on human health.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ No excessive air, dust, noise, vibration or light pollution for new minerals development. ❖ Protect local settlements with appropriate buffers from minerals development. ❖ Site allocations will be in the most sustainable locations in East Ayrshire. ❖ Sufficient open spaces will be provided in residential developments. ❖ Housing developments will have a long-term positive impact on human health through appropriate mix, type and density. ❖ New developments provide additional walking and cycling networks, which interlink with existing networks.
Material Assets	To monitor the impact of the LDP on areas of protected green space and on paths and cycle routes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ No loss of protected open space, playing fields, and other important recreational open space within East Ayrshire. ❖ Master planning of new sites in East Ayrshire will ensure that habitat links are maintained and enhanced.

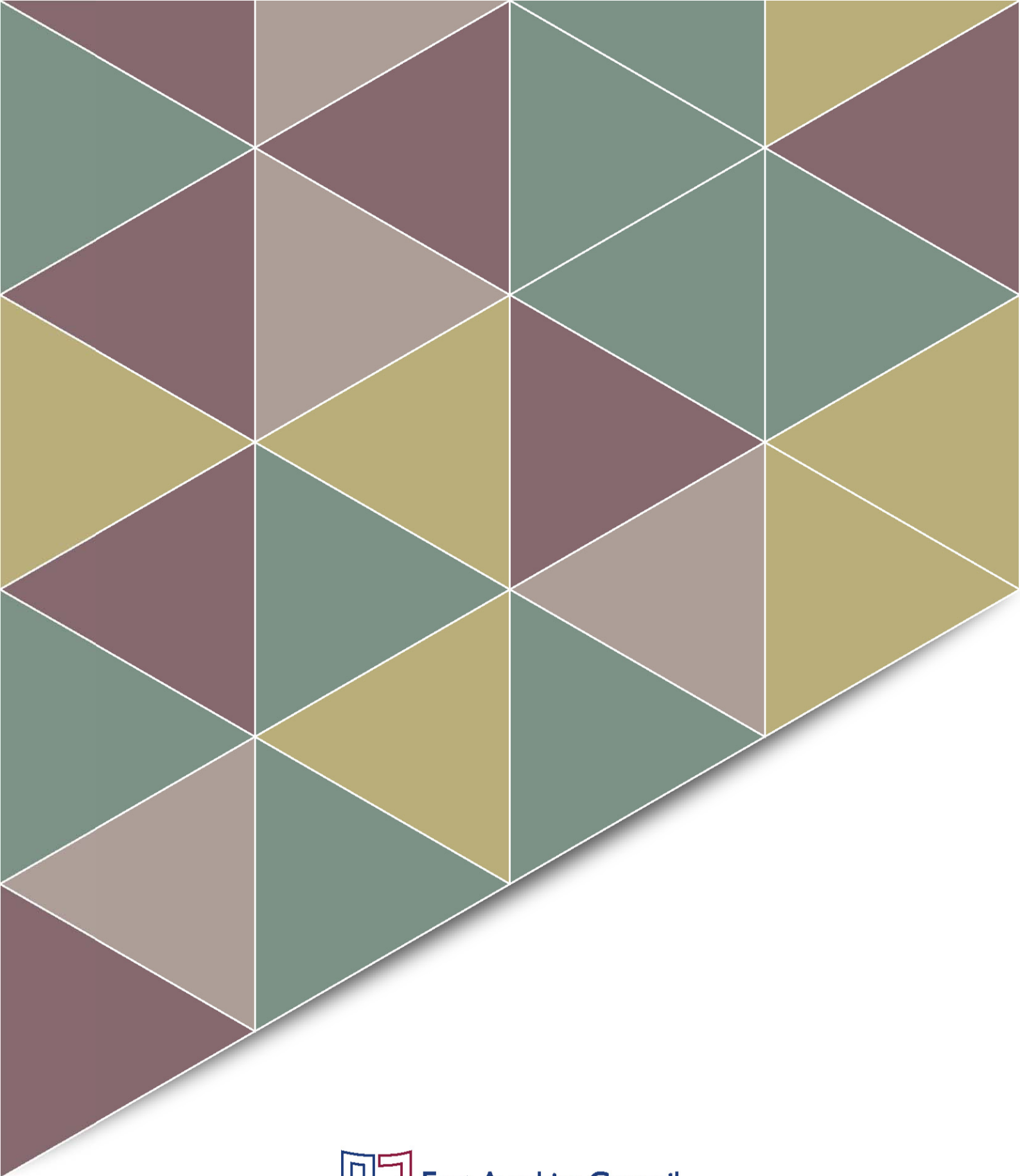
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Shortfalls in infrastructure will be identified. ❖ Ensure that development in areas with limited-to-no capacity area delayed until the necessary infrastructure is in place. Where additional infrastructure is not possible, planning applications should not be permitted until mitigation measures and improvements are agreed. ❖ Developer contributions will be sought towards infrastructure improvements in terms of road
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How to Comment on this Report.

- 1.15. East Ayrshire Council are inviting comments on this Interim Environmental Report for LDP2 Main Issues Report between the 1 June 2020 and 31 July 2020. The consultation period will run for 8 weeks parallel to the MIR consultation period.
- 1.16. If you would like to express your views on this Interim Environmental Report, please send your comments to:

Email: LocalDevelopmentPlans@east-ayrshire.gov.uk.

*Note: Responses should include “**Interim Environmental Report**” in the subject heading of your email.*



East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear

Planning & Economic Development
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