East Ayrshire Council

Minerals Local Development Plan

Environmental Report

AUGUST 2019

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1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Introduction

1.1 This non-technical summary of the revised Environmental Report documents the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the East Ayrshire Minerals Local Development Plan (MLDP). SEA is a key component of sustainable development, establishing important methods for protecting the environment. It is a beneficial and thorough assessment process which ensures that environmental considerations have been considered and incorporated as appropriate into the preparation of the Minerals Local Development Plan.

1.2 The Minerals Local Development Plan has been prepared under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended) and the Development Planning (Scotland) Regulations 2008. It takes full account of the National Planning Framework 3, Scottish Planning Policy and the East Ayrshire Community Plan.

1.3 The MLDP sets out a vision of how East Ayrshire should be developed over the next 10-20 years in relation to minerals.

SEA Assessment Methodology

1.4 SEA follows a systematic and thorough process, which allows environmental considerations to be integrated into the MLDP. SEA assesses and evaluates the likely significant impacts that the MLDP will have on the environment. Dependent on the outcome of the assessment process, the SEA recommends mitigation and/or enhancement measures. This is to ensure that the Plan is environmentally responsible and sustainable.

1.5 The MLDP was subject to a 2 stage assessment. Stage 1 of the assessment process focussed on identifying if the aims, policies and opportunity sites contained within the MLDP were likely to have a significant impact on the environment. To assist with the Stage 1 assessment process, a series of SEA objectives, which were derived from the environmental baseline data and existing environmental issues and problems within East Ayrshire, were used to help determine if the MLDP was likely to have an environmental impact on the environment, and whether this would be significant. Only significant environmental impacts were taken forward to stage 2 of the assessment process.

1.6 The stage 2 assessment process analyses the likely significant environmental impacts in more detail. To assist the stage 2 assessment process, SEA criteria/checklist were developed, linking into the SEA objectives, but providing a wider scope to evaluate what the potential significant impacts on the environment might be. The Stage 2 assessment also identifies any cumulative and synergistic impacts as a result of the vision, aims, policies and opportunity sites.

Summary of the Environmental Impacts

1.7 The table below provides a summary of the results of the Stage 2 revised environmental assessment with regard to the aims and policies within the MLDP.

Key	Significant positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/ Unknown

Stage 2 Assessment Results

Vision	MLDP Significant Impacts
East Ayrshire's minerals supply will be fulfilled through a responsible and justified approach to extraction with appropriate progressive restoration and after care. Our former minerals sites will be restored or re-used resulting in a sustainable environmental, economic and social legacy, contributing to the wider regeneration and enhancement of East Ayrshire's landscape and environment.	Scoped out at stage 1.

Aim	MLDP Significant Impacts
Aim 1: To secure restoration of previously worked sites.	Significant positive
Aim 2: To encourage the development of alternative uses on former minerals opportunity sites including for tourism, leisure, forestry, biodiversity, nature conservation and agriculture to the benefit of local communities.	Significant positive and negative impacts
Aim 3: To conserve and enhance the natural and built environment where mineral extraction is not suitable and to minimise the negative impacts of mineral extraction upon the natural and built environment.	Significant positive
Aim 4: To promote green networks, enhance biodiversity and create more attractive, healthy environments for people to live in, work in and which gives them opportunities for recreation.	Significant positive
Aim 5: To minimise the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people.	Significant positive
Aim 6: To safeguard workable mineral resources of economic or conservation value from sterilisation.	Scoped out at stage 1.
Aim 7: To ensure an adequate and steady supply of minerals, thereby helping to contribute to sustainable economic growth.	Scoped out at stage 1.
Aim 8: To promote and deliver excellence in working and restoration practices of mineral extraction sites.	Significant positive
Policy	
MIN SS1: Minerals Overarching Policy	Significant positive
MIN SS2: Minerals Restoration and Placemaking	Significant positive
MIN SS3: Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership	Significant positive
MIN SS4: Former minerals opportunity sites and placemaking	Significant positive
MIN SS5: Surface Coal Extraction Developments	Significant positive and negative impacts

MIN SS6: Restoration Coal	Significant positive
MIN SS7: Surface coal proposals outwith the area of search and not meeting the criteria of MIN SS6	Significant positive
MIN SS8: Unconventional Oil and Gas	Unknown
MIN SS9: Carbon Sequestration	Unknown.
MIN SS10: Construction Aggregates	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN SS11: Fireclay	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN SS12: Strategic Woodland Creation	Significant positive
MIN ENV1: Peat and other Carbon Rich Soils	Significant positive
MIN ENV2: Storage and Removal of Peat	Significant positive
MIN ENV3: Reuse of Excess Soils	Significant positive
MIN ENV4: Sewage Sludge	Significant positive
MIN ENV5: Mitigating Flood Risk	Significant positive
MIN ENV6: The Protection of Water Resources, Water Bodies and Ground Water	Significant positive
MIN ENV 7: Private Water Supply	Significant positive
MIN ENV8: Restoration and Water Environment	Significant positive
MIN ENV9: Protection of Areas of Nature Conservation Interest	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN ENV10: Protection of Built and Natural Environment Resources	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN ENV11: Protecting the landscape	Significant positive
MIN ENV12: Assessing Landscape and Visual Impacts	Scoped out at stage 1.
MIN ENV13: Conserving, enhancing and protecting geological interest	Significant positive
MIN ENV14: Spireslack Canyon	Significant positive
MIN PPL1: Protecting Communities	Significant positive
MIN PPL2: Protecting residential amenity	Significant positive
MIN PPL3: Duration of extraction period for surface coal sites	Significant positive
MIN PPL4: Duration of extraction period of non-coal minerals extraction	Significant positive
MIN PPL5: Tourism Development	Scoped out at stage 1.
MIN PPL6: Tourism activities on former mineral opportunity sites	Significant positive
MIN T1: Routing of the transportation of minerals	Significant positive
MIN T2: Cumulative Impacts of Minerals Related Traffic	Significant positive
MIN T3: Restoration and Access	Significant positive
MIN T4: Rights of Way and Core Paths	Significant positive
MIN SUP1: Sterilisation of Workable Minerals Resources	Scoped out at Stage 1
MIN SUP2: Borrow pits	Significant positive
MIN SUP3: Reworking of Waste Spoil Tips	Significant positive
MIN SUP4: Extraction of secondary aggregates	Significant positive
MIN WP 1: Financial guarantees	Scoped out at stage 1.
Opportunity sites	

MIN OPP SITE 1: Dunstonhill	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN OPP SITE 2: Dalmellington north cluster	Significant positive
MIN OPP SITE 3: Piperhill	Significant positive
MIN OPP SITE 4: Skares cluster	Significant positive
MIN OPP SITE 5: New Cumnock north cluster	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN OPP SITE 6: Muirkirk west cluster	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN OPP SITE 7: Glenbuck cluster	Significant positive and negative impacts

Monitoring

1.8 The MLDP policies 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 monitoring measures are provided below:

Environmental Issues to be Monitored	Monitoring Objective	Target	Monitoring indicators
Landscape	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on landscape within East Ayrshire.	The landscape of East Ayrshire is protected and any alterations to its character and setting are avoided or minimised.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Spatial Strategy, Environment policies • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to landscape including: - number of national and local landscape designations in EA - Status and trends in designated landscapes in EA - Land use and development pressures on landscape: development types and locations
Geology	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on geology within East Ayrshire.	Geological resources and their settings within East Ayrshire are preserved.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN ENV13 and MIN ENV14 • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to geology including: - amount and location of geological resource in East Ayrshire

			- Geological SSSI Geological Conservation Review Register Sites and SSSI Geology Sites in EA
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on the natural heritage designations within East Ayrshire.	Enhance biodiversity across East Ayrshire. Avoid irreversible losses of valuable sites, areas of important green space and protected species/habitats within East Ayrshire.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Environment policies • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to ecology and conservation including: - Assessment grades of statutory and non-statutory sites; habitats; protected mammal species; other species - birds; amphibian and reptiles; other species – plants, lower plants, invertebrates including lepidoptera and invertebrates excluding lepidoptera. • Implementation and effectiveness of mitigation measures detailed in MLDP HRA.
Climate	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on climate change.	Reduce climate change impacts in line with Scottish Government policy. Reduce carbon emissions where possible. No increase in the risk of flooding, particularly within settlements. Protect carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland sites.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Spatial Strategy, Environmental, and People policies • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to climate including: - assessment of greenhouse emissions - assessment of temperature and rainfall - number and location of wind farms in East Ayrshire (including information on operational sites, consented/under construction and planning applications)
Soil	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on soil resources within East Ayrshire.	No loss of prime or locally important agricultural land.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Spatial Strategy policies; and policies MIN ENV 1 and MIN ENV2. • - Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to soils including: - assessment of superficial deposits and bedrock, in terms of

			soil degradation processes and degradation - location of peat and other carbon rich soils and classes associated in line with SNH Carbon and Peatland Map 2016
Air	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on air quality within East Ayrshire.	No increase in pollutants into the atmosphere.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP transport policies; and policies MIN ENV, MIN ENV2; and People policies. • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to air including - Assessment of NO_2 and PM_{10} - Number of AQMAs
Water	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on the water environment in East Ayrshire.	No degradation of water quality. No increase in the risk of flooding within East Ayrshire. Protect water bodies and ground water.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN ENV6, MIN ENV7, MIN ENV8 • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to water including: - location and status of surface water bodies in EA - location and status of superficial groundwater bodies in EA - Flood risk areas in EA and flood risk levels - surface water management plans in EA
Historic Environment	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on the historic environment.	All historic environmental features are protected within East Ayrshire.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1; MIN ENV10. • - Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to cultural heritage including: - number and location of historic environment sites in EA - Listed buildings considered at 'risk' - Trends and pressures on historic environment and impacts
Population	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on local communities.	Protect local settlements with appropriate buffers from minerals development.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN PPL1, and MIN PPL2. - trends in population in EA, in terms of projections, age of population, environmental/neighbourhood quality

			- employment activity in EA
Health	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on human health.	No excessive air, dust, noise, vibration or light pollution for new minerals development. Protect local settlements with appropriate buffers from minerals development.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN PPL1, and MIN PPL2. • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to human health including: - life expectancy in EA - causes of death and death rates in EA - chronic disease rates and trends in EA - environment/neighbourhood quality - percentage of populations in EA living within 500m of a derelict site
Material Assets	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on areas of protected green space and on paths and cycle routes.	No loss of protected open space, playing fields, and other important recreational open space within East Ayrshire.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN SS5, MIN SS9, MIN SS10, MIN ENV 9, MIN ENV10 and MIN T3 and MIN T4. • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to material assets including: - existing transport infrastructure in EA - accessibility in EA, in terms of core paths and rights of way: amount of routes and locations - amount and distribution of open space in EA - employment and employment sector information in EA

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 The Minerals Local Development Plan for East Ayrshire is being prepared under the Provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended); Development Planning (Scotland) Regulations 2008, National Planning Framework 3 and the East Ayrshire Community Plan 2015-2030. The MLDP complements the East Ayrshire LDP which provides the policy context for all other land use planning topics except minerals. The MLDP supersedes those provisions of the Ayrshire Joint Structure Plan (2007) and East Ayrshire Local Plan (2010) which relate to minerals and the East Ayrshire Open Cast Coal Subject Plan (2003).

2.2 The MLDP outlines the Council's settled view in respect of minerals related development. It contains a Vision Statement which gives a broad view of what East Ayrshire could look like in 20 years' time, in relation to past, present and future minerals related development. The Plan outlines the spatial strategy which details how this vision will be realised. It also includes a detailed statement of policies and proposals for the development and use of land for minerals related development which will guide decisions on minerals planning applications. In addition, it contains maps of East Ayrshire which identify locations for new minerals development for the first 10 years of the plan, as well as opportunities for new uses on former minerals sites. Appendix A shows the boundaries and geographical extent of East Ayrshire as well as land which has been subject to minerals development in the past.

2.3 The MLDP, in accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, is required to be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). SEA ensures that likely impacts on the environment are considered at the earliest possible stage in the local development plan process and that development is located in the right location with minimal environmental impact. SEA is an integral part of the development plan process and will influence significantly the preparation of the MLDP.

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3. CONTEXT

Background

3.1 The process for the preparation and adoption of the MLDP SEA is contained within the Council's Development Plan Scheme. Section 20B of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 requires each development planning authority to prepare a development plan scheme at least annually. The latest development plan scheme for East Ayrshire was approved by East Ayrshire Council's Cabinet on 27 February 2019 The first requirement of the Minerals Local Development Plan (MLDP) process was the preparation and publication of a Main Issues Report, Environmental Report and Monitoring Statement.

3.2 The MLDP has taken into account, and where appropriate, incorporated changes based on representations received on the MIR. As a result, this MLDP represents the Council's settled view as to future development of the area. It contains a Vision Statement providing a broad view of what East Ayrshire could look like in 20 years, in specific relation to minerals and a Spatial Strategy which details how the Council proposes to move toward achievement of the vision.

3.3 The Plan includes detailed policies on the development and use of land that will guide decisions on planning applications relating to mineral extraction. The plan considers the full range of matters relating to minerals extraction, such as environmental considerations, the impact on the amenity of local communities and the need to ensure there is an adequate supply of minerals to meet the identified need.

3.4 The Proposed Plan and associated Environmental Report were consulted on between July and September 2018. Responses to the consultation on the Environmental Report were taken on board and a revised Environmental Report prepared. In January 2019, the Plan, accompanied by the revised Environmental Report, was submitted to the Scottish Governments Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) to undertake an Examination of the Plan on behalf of Scottish Ministers. On 2 July 2019 the DPEA published its Examination Report. In total 64 modifications to the Plan were recommended. The Environmental Report has been updated to reflect the modifications; the updates are generally insignificant as the Examination modifications have not fundamentally changed the outcome of the assessment undertaken.

3.5 Section 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2008 provides further guidance on the information and considerations that a LDP must reflect.

Purpose of Environmental Report

3.6 Local development plans and supplementary guidance fall within the scope of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and are, therefore, likely to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This environmental report constitutes the SEA of the MLDP. The purpose of the report is to identify and evaluate any likely significant environmental effects as a result of the MLDP being implemented. The environmental report is the key consultation document in the SEA process. The Consultation Authorities and all other interested parties are invited to comment on the report and on the associated MLDP.

Requirement for a Separate Local Development Plan for Minerals

3.7 Prior to the liquidation of two out of three coal operators active in East Ayrshire in 2013, and the resultant legacy of unrestored land, the need to review and update the East Ayrshire Opencast Coal Subject Plan had been acknowledged. Work to do so commenced as part of the schedule of work agreed for the production of the East Ayrshire LDP. However as a result of the environmental legacy of unrestored land, the decision was taken by the Council's Cabinet in August 2013 to prepare a separate East Ayrshire Minerals LDP. The MLDP would cover all mineral extraction matters whilst the East Ayrshire Local Development Plan would provide guidance for all other matters.

Scoping Report and the Consultation Authorities Response

3.8 A scoping report for the Minerals Local Development Plan was submitted to the Consultation Authorities (SNH, SEPA and Historic Environment Scotland) in May 2016 with responses received in June 2016. The Consultation Authorities were all content with the proposed 6 week consultation period for the MLDP Environmental Report.

Scope of Minerals LDP

3.9 Informed by the representations of the MIR consultation, the Council has prepared the MLDP. This represents the Council's settled view on the issues contained and consulted upon in the MIR. The Minerals LDP contains:

- A vision statement which gives a broad view of what East Ayrshire could look like in 20 years' time, in relation to minerals;
- A spatial strategy which details how this vision will be realised;
- A detailed statement of the policies and proposals as to the development and use of land for mineral purposes and which will guide decisions on planning applications; and
- A list of supplementary guidance to be prepared within the lifetime of the plan.

Natura Sites

3.10 Natura 2000 sites are protected habitats for flora and fauna of European importance. They comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), designated under European legislation relating to the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPA), designated under the European legislation relating to the Birds Directive. These areas are internationally important for threatened habitats and species. East Ayrshire contains the following Natura 2000 sites:

- Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands SPA
- Airds Moss SAC
- Merrick Kells SAC

3.11 Due to the presence of Natura 2000 sites within East Ayrshire, in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive, the Council is required to undertake a Habitat Regulation Appraisal (HRA). Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires that any plan which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site, but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, shall be subject to an 'appropriate assessment' of its implications for the site in view of its conservation objectives. The

Council shall agree to the plan only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site in question, unless in exceptional circumstances the provisions of Article 6(4) are met.

4. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PLAN'S, PROGRAMES AND STRATEGIES

4.1 The Minerals Local Development Plan (MLDP) is influenced by a wide range of international, European, national and local plans, programmes and strategies (PPS). The Plan is required to take these PPS into account. Appendix B provides an initial list of the relevant PPS that the Council envisages will influence the content of the MLDP.

Hierarchy of Plans, Programmes and Strategies

The Minerals Local Development Plan sits within a hierarchy of plans, programmes and strategies. This is illustrated in Figure 1, below.

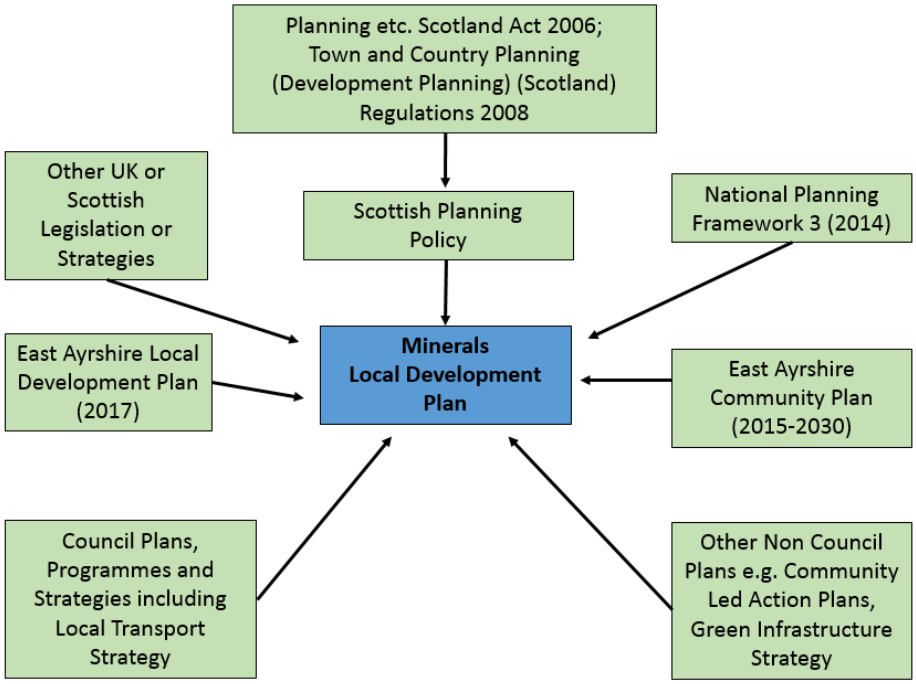


Figure 1. Hierarchy of Plans, Programmes and Strategies

Environmental Protection Objectives

4.2 The environmental objectives that are contained within International, European, UK and Scottish legislation, as well as national advice and guidance, which are considered to be of the greatest relevance to the Minerals LDP, are being taken into consideration in the local development plan process. These are set out in Table 4.

5. BASELINE INFORMATION

Baseline Environmental Data

5.1 The collation of baseline data is a fundamental part of the SEA process as it provides information on the state of the environment at the time of preparing a plan. It also identifies any existing environmental problems and issues and can be used to predict future impacts that the implementation of the plan might have on the environment. In addition, it directly informs the development of environmental objectives which the MLDP has been assessed against.

5.2 The environmental report for the MLDP produces a full and comprehensive list of baseline environmental data, utilising GIS mapping where possible, to show the geographical location and scale of key environmental designations and utilising the recent State of Environment Report that was prepared for East Ayrshire. For the purposes of the scoping report a summary of baseline information has been collated. Table 1 below summarises the key baseline environmental information and the environmental implications for the preparation and development of the MLDP.

5.3 Table 1 also sets out the SEA objectives for assessment purposes. These have been developed taking into account the summary baseline information collated and the environmental implications for the Minerals MIR and Minerals LDP. The SEA objectives will be used to assess these documents and provide the basis for the development of sub criteria/questions in Table 4.

Table 1. Baseline Environmental Data

Environmental Topics	Summary of Baseline Environmental Data	Environmental Implications for the LDP	Baseline Data to be collected	Sources of Baseline Data	SEA Objectives
Geology and Soil	East Ayrshire specifically contains a variety of soils and rock types. 57% of East Ayrshire is covered by Glacial Till, with a further 22% made up of peat East Ayrshire has seen large scale coal mining, in addition to other mineral mining. The Midland Valley of Scotland, identified as a potential unconventional gas resource, also lies beneath the council area. East Ayrshire possesses 62.85 ha of category 2 prime quality land, 1,310.14 ha of category 3(1) prime quality land and 10,464.22 ha of category 3(2) locally important, good quality agricultural land. There are around 2,240 historical industrial sites with potential for contamination risk.	Extraction of minerals can lead to the permanent loss of prime quality agricultural land and other important soil resources, such as peat. Depletion of natural resources within EA Legacy of unrestored land/vacant and derelict land and the impacts on the area Unknown impacts of extraction unconventional gas etc. Contaminated land	Agricultural land, classification data, location and size Unrestored land caused by minerals extraction– location and size of sites and their condition Location of lowland raised and blanket peat bogs Contaminated land in East Ayrshire Local Geology	The Macaulay Institute British Geological Survey SNH Scottish Government East Ayrshire Council East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016	The MLDP spatial strategy should protect areas of prime quality agricultural land from development. The MLDP spatial strategy should promote or ensure the restoration of unrestored land. The MLDP spatial strategy should prioritise the use of brownfield land before greenfield land The MLDP spatial strategy should encourage the reuse of vacant and derelict land. The MLDP spatial strategy should protect and preserve carbon rich soils and where possible seek to restore or enhance these.
Landscape	There are 18 separate and distinct rural landscape types within East Ayrshire. There are 458 listed Ancient Woodland Inventory sites (AWI) covering a total of 2674ha and 221 listed Scottish Native and Ancient Woodland Inventory sites (SNAWI), some of which overlap with AWI. The landscape has experienced change in some areas over the years, for example from surface coal mining and windfarm development.	Development on greenfield sites can be damaging to the landscape character of the area. Development can lead to the loss of designated and other locally important landscapes. The extraction of minerals can have a significant impact on the landscape of the area.	Landscape Character types and location around settlements	SNH Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 East Ayrshire Landscape Wind Capacity Study	The MLDP spatial strategy should protect, and where appropriate, enhance the landscape character of the rural area. The MLDP spatial strategy should protect and preserve the integrity and character of all internationally, nationally and locally designated sites within or adjacent to the EAC boundary. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that opencast coal sites are properly restored once extraction has ceased. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that mineral supply is not depleted in the short-term and there is

					a supply to serve the market demand. The MLDP spatial strategy should, where appropriate, contribute to the Scottish Government's targets on re-afforestation
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	East Ayrshire has 1 Special Protection Area (SPA) and 2 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). There are 4 internationally important designated nature conservation sites in East Ayrshire. There are 20 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and one Local Nature Reserve (LNR). Priority habitats, such as lowland raised bogs and species, such as water voles have been identified in the area.	Mineral developments within or in close proximity to SPAs, SACs and SSSIs can have implications for the interest protected within the site. Mineral extraction could lead to the loss of protected habitats and/or species with consequential impacts on protected and priority species on sites within East Ayrshire.	European designated sites: SPA's and SAC's. Non-statutory designated sites, Local Nature Reserves, Wildlife and provisional wildlife sites.	East Ayrshire Council East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 SNH Scottish Wildlife Trust RSPB Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that the integrity of all internationally designated sites within or adjacent to the East Ayrshire Council boundary are protected and preserved. The MLDP spatial strategy should, where necessary, ensure the restoration of all European and nationally designated sites. The MLDP spatial strategy should safeguard all European and nationally designated sites, habitats and priority species from adverse impacts, loss and fragmentation. The MLDP spatial strategy should protect biodiversity in line with the Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan and, where possible, enhanced. Where a European designated site's integrity has previously been adversely affected, the aim should be to improve and enhance the site. Where a nationally designated site has been damaged the aim should be to restore the site.
Air Quality	The background concentrations of nitrogen oxides in East Ayrshire meet the relevant regulatory objectives. The highest concentrations of nitrogen oxides (PM10 and NO2) arise at heavily trafficked	New extraction sites can generate additional traffic and movements which can increase emissions into the atmosphere, which can lead to air pollution.	Local Air Quality Road Transport emission figure.	East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 Scottish Government	The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that new mineral developments seek to minimise emissions into the atmosphere and the impacts on air quality.

	locations in the urban northern areas e.g. Kilmarnock. PM 2.5 is a finer subfraction of PM10 that is of particular health concern. The Council monitors PM 2.5 and PM 10 at one monitoring station in the area. The levels recorded for PM 2.5 are as follows: 2016: 7 ug/m3 2017: 6ug/m3 2018: 6ug/m3 (provisional) Road transport is a major contributor to air quality pollutants such as NO2 (nitrogen oxide), PM10 (particulates), O2 (Ozone) and CO (Carbon monoxide).	Public and private transport can be a major cause of air pollution. Reduction in extraction rates will lead to less transport movements and operations.			The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that the new developments that follow mineral extraction sites should increase the use of cycle and walking paths.
Water	There are a total of 58 river water bodies and 6 lochs in East Ayrshire. All surface water bodies within East Ayrshire are within either the Clyde or Solway sub basins. Of the 58 surface water bodies in East Ayrshire, 4 are high quality, 16 are good quality, 25 are moderate quality, 18 are poor quality and 1 is of bad quality. Although groundwater in East Ayrshire tended to be of lower quality then Scotland-wide, the new system has noted that since 2012 there are proportionately more groundwater bodies of good status in East Ayrshire than in Scotland-wide. Of the 21 bedrock aquifers in East Ayrshire, in 2013, 4 were assessed as Poor Status and 17 Good Status. Water pollution from historical extraction will have a detrimental impact on the water environment and the health of surface water and groundwater resources. There are a number of deep water voids located on unrestored land. There is currently no information for GWDTE in East Ayrshire. However, this will be reviewed through the process of updating the East Ayrshire State of the Environment Report (this report is due to be reviewed every 3 years).	The water environment is a key resource in East Ayrshire. Since 2012, there are proportionately more groundwater bodies of Good status, however there are still some with Poor status. Further extraction of minerals or development of new technologies could impact on the water environment.	River Quality Data River Basement Management Plans	East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 SEPA	The MLDP spatial strategy should, where appropriate, enhance the water quality (including groundwater) to good chemical and ecological status within the lifetime of the Plan. The MLDP spatial strategy should safeguard the water environment by ensuring that restoration plans do not increase water pollution. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that all mineral developments/extensions are adequately assessed in relation to the impact on the water environment. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure the long term management of water voids on minerals sites.

Climate	In 2012, total emissions of CO_2 from East Ayrshire were 722 ktonnes compared with 39,800 ktonnes for Scotland as a whole. East Ayrshire has about 2.3% of Scotland's population but only accounts for about 1.3% of total CO_2 emissions which may reflect the low level of industrialisation, extensive carbon sinks in the form of forestry and other land uses and the absence of an international airport. Within East Ayrshire, road transport is the biggest source of CO_2 emissions. Entries in the Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) indicate that surface coaling has historically been an important source of emissions of CO_2 and methane. During the period 2010-2014, emissions from surface coaling contributed to>20% total greenhouse gas emissions from East Ayrshire. Climate change can affect two key sources of carbon sequestration: trees and soils, particularly peat soil. Some areas within East Ayrshire are susceptible to flooding. Climate change is increasing the frequency of flash floods in Scotland.	Most developments and transport movements etc. can contribute to greenhouse gas emissions. The extraction of coal through surface coal mining can increase CO_2 and methane emissions. Implications from aggregates operations. The extraction of minerals could exacerbate flooding in certain areas.	CO2 and other emissions in East Ayrshire. Average figures re temperatures and rainfall. Areas at risk from flooding. Flooding and storm events Flood risk assessments	IPCC Met Office Data National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (NAEI) Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) Local Authority Emissions Statistics from UK Government Scottish Government information on Climate Change UK Climate Projections East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016	The MLDP spatial strategy should encourage the reduction of CO_2 and other emissions. The MLDP spatial strategy should promote energy efficiency and use of rail as a means of transportation of materials. The MLDP spatial strategy should encourage development to use energy efficient resources. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure there is no potential flood risk from new development and protect existing areas/sites which are at risk from flooding. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure new development does not exacerbate existing flooding issues upstream or downstream of the development site. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that development provides appropriate drainage on site to reduce any risk of flooding The MLDP spatial strategy should protect trees and soils particularly peat soil and where possible seek to enhance these. In addition seek to contribute to the Scottish Government targets for re-afforestation.
Cultural Heritage	740 Listed Buildings (44 Category A; 334 Category B; 362 Category C) 26 Conservation Areas 29 Scheduled Monuments Sites of Archaeological Importance	Remains of historical deep mines and pits destroyed or disturbed by surface coaling operation. Potential implications on scheduled monuments and archaeological sites – various operations such as the movement of machinery over or near to sensitive areas resulting in	Listed Buildings Buildings at risk register Conservation Areas Scheduled Monuments	Historic Environment Scotland East Ayrshire Council East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016	The MLDP spatial strategy should protect and enhance the historic environment and its setting from inappropriate development. The MLDP spatial strategy should protect archaeological resources and

	7 Inventory Historic Garden and Designed Landscapes 1 Inventory Battlefield and 1877 undesignated cultural heritage sites There are currently 60 buildings, either listed or within conservation areas, which are considered to be 'at risk' according to the Buildings at Risk Register, with 4 of these under restoration.	the disturbance of elements of a feature, including through the rutting and/or compaction of archaeological deposits. Potential implications on undesignated cultural heritage sites, some of which could have archaeological significance. Visual impact to setting of protected areas Future implications of gas extraction Cumulative impact from sites located close together on historic assets	Sites of Archaeological Importance Gardens and Designed Landscapes Historic landscapes	West of Scotland Archaeological Service Scottish Civic Trust Sites and Monuments Records (SMR)	scheduled monuments from inappropriate development and operations The MLDP spatial strategy should protect any historically significant deep mines and pits from minerals operations.
Population and Human Health	The total population of East Ayrshire according to the 2011 Census was 122,767. The general trend in recent years has been a growth in population of East Ayrshire, however, by 2037 the population is projected to be 121,928 which is a decrease of 0.7% compared to the 2011 population. Life expectancy is marginally lower than the national average and reflects the social-economic and environmental inequalities within East Ayrshire. There is some evidence to link health issues (cancer, heart disease and, obesity) and social-economic inequalities within East Ayrshire. There is little evidence to link health with environmental inequalities and the evidence base is limited. East Ayrshire has an increased prevalence of smoking East Ayrshire has a lower level of participation in sport Increasing incidences of obesity and alcohol-related deaths also suggest a relatively high prevalence of lifestyle factors that may contribute to future ill health. Rates of Hospital Admissions for COPD and coronary heart disease are much higher in EA than elsewhere in Scotland.	Out migration from EA particularly rural areas where minerals industry has been located. New development and use of cars etc. can impact on human health e.g. respiratory disease The health impact of emissions from future surface coaling is likely to be smaller than those of past surface operations due to tighter limits on plant emissions and better regulation of sites.	Population statistics SIMD and economic statistics Health statistics for East Ayrshire population Life expectancy Location of community facilities e.g. sport and leisure, cultural, community halls	UK Government Scottish Government Health Scotland Scottish National Statistics World Health Organisation East Ayrshire Council East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation NHS Ayrshire and Arran	The MLDP spatial strategy should contribute to the social and economic regeneration of deprived areas within settlements. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that accessibility to walking and cycling routes is not affected by new development. The MLDP spatial strategy should influence new development in order to minimise impacts in relation to air, water, noise and pollution. The MLDP spatial strategy should contribute to the enhancement and protection of human health through measures to minimise noise and dust impacts. The MLDP spatial strategy should enhance the green network, including blue network features, and maintain and improve recreational facilities in order to improve resident's quality of life The MLDP spatial strategy should

	Environmental inequalities do exist in East Ayrshire including regional variation in exposure to air pollution e.g. proximity to major road infrastructure / town centres and other elements including proximity to derelict land. In 2012, 32 (20.8%) of East Ayrshire's 154 SIMD data zones were found in the 15% most deprived data zones in Scotland, compared to 27 (17.5%) in 2009. Emissions from opencast coaling or quarrying could contribute to respiratory and cardiovascular ill health in local communities. However, the impact of these emissions on health in East Ayrshire as a whole are likely to be (or have been) small relative to the impact of emissions from road transport.				promote sustainable modes of access to social, health and recreational facilities.
Material Assets	There is an established transport Infrastructure including strategic rail, road, bus, cycling and walking networks. The major roads are the A77/M77, A76 and the A71. There are a number of walking and cycling routes throughout East Ayrshire. These include 22.2km of dedicated cycle routes, 600km of rights of way and 358km of managed path network. A wide range of community facilities are offered across East Ayrshire, presenting opportunities for sport, education and the arts. There are 3,893 Ha of protected public open space within EA. The closure of coal mines has the potential to significantly add to the amount of derelict and vacant land in the Local Area if sites are not restored. There has been a decline of 1% in vacant and derelict land in East Ayrshire between 2008 and 2014. In 2015, East Ayrshire Council returned 2,217ha of derelict land associated with the former surface mining sites and a total of 2,536ha vacant and derelict land for the local authority area as a whole.	Pressure on transport infrastructure particularly around operational sites Impact on walking and cycling routes – mineral extraction can significantly alter landscape Impact on community facilities. Loss of open space Vacant land – focus only on areas vacant/derelict as a result of previous minerals extraction	Existing Transport infrastructure Public transport data, particularly for rural areas Walking and cycling route data Core paths Rights of way Public open space Vacant and derelict land data, particularly previous operational sites	Scottish Government Transport Scotland Sports Scotland SPT Scottish Water SEPA SNH East Ayrshire Council East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016	The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that new development is within sustainable locations with good accessibility to public transport. The MLDP spatial strategy should protect and enhance East Ayrshire's network of core paths, rights of way routes and cycle paths. The MLDP spatial strategy should protect and where possible enhance East Ayrshire's public open space and green network, including blue network features. The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that brownfield sites are utilised and reused in preference to greenfield sites The MLDP spatial strategy should ensure that development proposals are sited and designed to respect the nature and landscape character of the area and that any visual impacts are minimised.

	There are 7 operational windfarms in East Ayrshire including a large site at Whitelee as well as smaller sites at Hare Hill and Afton. The accessibility of useable greenspace within a 10 minute walk is higher in East Ayrshire than the Scottish average. Volumes of waste produced in East Ayrshire are reducing with more waste sent for recycling corresponding to reductions in materials sent to landfill. There is no local data for extractive wastes however, in 2016, 1,355,006 tonnes of minerals waste from construction and demolition was generated in Scotland.				The MLDP spatial strategy should promote waste minimisation.

Table 2: Key Environmental Trends

Assessment Component	Assessment Grade (Very Poor / Poor / Good / Very Good)	Confidence In Grade	Confidence In Trend
Geology & Soils: Superficial Deposits	Good	◑	◑
Geology & Soils: Bedrock	Good	◑	◑
Landscape	Poor	●	◑
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: a) Statutory and non-statutory sites	Good	●	●
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: b) habitats	Good	●	●
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: c) Protected mammal species	Good	●	●
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: other species - birds	Good	●	●
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: amphibian and reptiles	Very Poor	○	○
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: other species - plants	Good	○	○
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: other species - lower plants	Very Poor	○	○
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: other species - invertebrates, Lepidoptera*	Very Poor / Very Good	◑	◑
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna: other species - invertebrates excl Lepidoptera	Very Poor	○	○
Air Quality	Good	●	◑
Water	Good	◑	◑
Climate: Greenhouse Emissions	Good	◑	◑
Climate: Temperature Rainfall	Poor	◑	○
Historic Environment	Poor	●	●
Population and Health	Poor	●	◑
Noise	Good	●	●
Material Assets	Good	◑	◑

* Moths Very Poor Butterflies Very Good

Existing Environmental Issues and Problems

5.4 The environmental report will identify the environmental issues and problems that currently affect East Ayrshire. This will be informed by the analysis of baseline environmental information and environmental implications, which are contained in Table 1 and the information contained in the State of the Environment Report for East Ayrshire.

5.5 Table 2 illustrates the current state of the environment of East Ayrshire and outlines whether each component is improving, deteriorating, stable or unclear. It shows the assessment for each topic area and their level of environmental condition ranging from very good to very poor.

5.6 Overall the quality of baseline information is good across most of the topic areas with the main exception being in relation to some ecological components where, if data is available it is poor quality or fragmented. 65% of assessment components register a 'Good' score with 5% at 'Very Good'. 25% of assessment components are improving with 30% stable and 20% deteriorating.

5.7 Using the information contained in Tables 1 and 2, the key environmental issues and problems facing East Ayrshire are:

- Significant landscape change in some rural areas as a result of minerals development.
- Cumulative impacts from both minerals and wind farm developments. The assessment of trends in landscape are currently deteriorating and measured as being in a poor condition.
- Loss or movement of fragile peat soils resulting in loss of much of its ecological value.
- Legacy of unrestored land as a result of surface coal mining companies going into administration and abandoning sites and restoration plans.
- Loss or fragmentation of habitats and species. The assessment of trends in biodiversity, flora and fauna has identified that there are aspects of biodiversity, flora and fauna that are deteriorating and in very poor condition.
- Damage to internationally designated sites.
- Pollution from minerals development can impact on the environment and potentially human health.
- The risk of flooding in certain areas within East Ayrshire is high. It is possible that the extraction of minerals particularly surface coal mining can exacerbate the risk of flooding through increased water runoff.

Evolution of the Environment in the absence of the Local Development Plan

5.8 The SEA process is required to assess the likely impact on the environment if the Minerals Local Development Plan was not implemented. In the absence of a Minerals Local Development Plan, development would continue to take place but would not be scrutinised and monitored and would be less well attuned to environmental and other strategic objectives and priorities. There is an existing policy framework in the adopted East Ayrshire Opencast Coal Subject Plan 2003, however this only relates to coal and new legislation and environmental policy has emerged since its adoption, for example in relation to the water environment and air quality. The East Ayrshire Local Plan 2010 contains a number of policies in relation to minerals, however these only relate to minerals with the exception of coal.

5.9 In the absence of an up to date Minerals LDP there would be some potential for negative impacts on the environment. In particular uncontrolled minerals development could:

- Create adverse environmental impacts including adverse cumulative impacts in specific areas.
- Erode landscape character.
- Increase the risk of damage to quality soils, such as peat soils.
- Multiply the risk to biodiversity, flora and fauna.
- Encourage the preparation of good quality restoration plans that would not be scrutinised or monitored.
- Increase risk of flooding and water pollution.
- Increase traffic volumes, and congestion and fail to provide any restrictions on routes that haulage can take.
- Adversely impact on air quality.
- Increase the risk of inappropriate development on former minerals sites.

6. SCOPING OF ISSUES TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE ASSESSMENT

6.1 The purpose of SEA is to assess the likely significant impacts (positive or negative) that the plan will have on the environment. Schedule 3 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act, requires the MLDP to be assessed against the following environmental topics:

- Biodiversity;
- Population
- Human health;
- Fauna;
- Flora;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage;
- Landscape; and
- The inter-relationship between the issues referred to above.

Furthermore, an assessment of whether the nature of the effects of the likely significant impacts will be needs to be undertaken;

- short, medium and long-term;
- permanent and temporary;
- positive and negative; and
- secondary, cumulative and synergistic,

6.2 The MLDP may potentially result in significant impacts on all of the above environmental topics. The topics therefore provide the context for, and are directly related to, the development of SEA Objectives and the sub-criteria/questions to be used in the assessment process.

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

7.1 At the Main Issues Report stage, the Minerals MIR included a number of different issues relevant to future minerals development in East Ayrshire. For a number of issues identified, the Council indicated not only a preferred option but also provided one or more reasonable alternatives. This enabled an assessment of the potential impacts of all alternatives to be made. As this current consultation stage represents the proposed plan stage, and as such, the Council's settled view, no reasonable alternatives are presented.

8. ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

8.1 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires the environmental report to assess and evaluate the likely significant impacts that the Minerals Local Development Plan will have on the environment. It is fundamental to SEA that the assessment process and the reporting of findings are robust and transparent.

8.2 A two stage assessment methodology outlined in this section has been applied. This two stage methodology has been developed in accordance with advice contained within the SEA Toolkit, Planning Advice Note 1/2010: Strategic Environmental Assessment of Development Plans and from experience of other East Ayrshire Council PPS that have been subject to SEA. The methodology was successfully used in the environmental assessment of the East Ayrshire Local Development Plan (2017) and Minerals LDP MIR. The SEA Scoping Report was published for information alongside the draft Minerals MIR in June 2016.

8.3 In order to reflect the diversity of the environment, the Council has grouped and defined the environment within five broad headings, as detailed in Table 3 below. These topics and associated components form the basis for Stage 1 of the SEA assessment methodology.

Table 3: Environmental Topics and Associated Components

Environmental Topics	Component
Natural Features	Landscape Geology Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Climate
Natural Resources	Soil Air Water
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings

	Scheduled Monuments Conservation Areas Archaeological Sites/Areas Gardens and Designed Landscapes Historic Battlefields
Social Environment	Health Population Material Assets (infrastructure, amenity and recreational open space i.e. parks etc.)

8.4 The adopted assessment methodology has an overall objective to 'protect, and where appropriate, enhance the environment'.

8.5 The assessment has focused on the vision, strategy, policies, proposals and possible sites and their reasonable alternatives. It should be noted that only likely significant environmental impacts have been assessed, including cumulative and synergistic impacts. These have been identified through Stage 1 of the assessment methodology. Stage 2 analyses the identified likely significant impacts in more detail.

Stage 1 – Assessment of Significance

8.6 The first stage involves using Matrix 1, set out below, and the constraints shown on the Council's GIS system. Where appropriate the Council's GIS system will be updated, using the data contained in the State of the Environment Report. This will be used as a sifting tool to identify significant impacts on the grouped environmental topics and components as described in Table 3 above. The determination of what is considered to be a likely significant impact has been based on the following:

- Scale of the impact (geographic area and likely effects on the surrounding population);
- Duration of the impact (short, medium or long term);
- Reversibility of the impact;
- Environmental sensitivities and constraints of the area;
- Environmental value of the area;
- Potential for significant cumulative/synergistic impacts

8.7 The SEA objectives and the constraints shown on the Council's GIS mapping system has been used to assist in determining whether the identified impact is significant or not, using the baseline environmental information that has been collated and taking into account the existing environmental problems and issues listed in paragraphs 4.4-4.7 of this report. If the vision/strategy/policy/proposal or site is considered not to have a significant environmental impact then no further assessment will be required. All identified significant environmental impacts will be subject to further assessment under Stage 2.

Stage 1 Matrix: Assessment of Environmental Impacts

Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant 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		

Stage 2 – Detailed Assessment of Identified Significant Impacts

8.8 The Stage 2 assessment analyses and assesses the identified significant impacts in greater detail using the matrix below. The sub criteria/questions have been used to provide a more detailed assessment which identifies what the significant environmental impacts are in relation to each of the individual environmental components scoped into the assessment, as detailed in the 'components' column in Table 3. At this stage, the assessment also looks at short, medium and long term environmental impacts and provides proposals to monitor significant impacts.

8.9 Each box has been colour coded to indicate whether the impact is significant positive, significant positive/negative, significant negative, or neutral/unknown to aid comprehension of the assessment results.

Stage 2 Matrix: Detailed Assessment

Environmental Topic	Component	Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact	Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts
Natural Features	Landscape Geology Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Climate	Commentary provided in this column in this section of table - text will be colour coded depending on assessment outcome	Commentary provided in this section of table - text will be colour coded depending on assessment outcome
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			
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts			

Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	

Key to be used in matrix 2:

Significant Positive	Significant Positive/ Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unknown

SEA Objectives and Sub-criteria/questions

8.10 The overall SEA objectives for each environmental topic scoped into the assessment are illustrated in Table 4. To assist the overall SEA objectives, SEA sub-criteria, which are referred to in the assessment methodology above, have been devised to provide a more detailed assessment of the MLDP's vision, strategy, policy and proposals or sites which are considered to be significant as a result of stage 1 assessment. The objectives and associated sub-criteria are fully compliant with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 and are shown in Table 4 below:

Table 4: SEA Objectives and sub-criteria/questions

Environmental Receptor	SEA Objectives	Sub-criteria
Geology and Soil	Protect areas of prime quality agricultural land from development. Ensure the appropriate restoration of unrestored land Prioritise and promote the reuse or redevelopment of brownfield/vacant and derelict land over greenfield land Ensure that mineral supply is not depleted in the short-term and there is a supply to serve the market demand. Protect carbon rich soils and where possible seek to enhance or restore these and contribute to the Scottish Government's targets on re-afforestation.	Will the Plan have an impact on or lead to the loss of prime quality agricultural land? Will the Plan ensure the restoration of land previously used for minerals operation to an appropriate use? Does the Plan prioritise and promote the use or redevelopment of previously extracted and other brownfield/vacant and derelict land over greenfield land? Does the Plan ensure the protection of minerals resources? Does the Plan ensure the protection of minerals resources? Will the Plan have an impact on carbon rich soils or lead to loss of carbon rich soils?
Landscape	Protect, and where appropriate, enhance the landscape character of the rural area. Protect and preserve the integrity and character of all internationally, nationally and locally designated sites within or adjacent to the EAC boundary	Will the Plan have an impact on the landscape character of the rural area? Will the plan have an impact on any designated sites within or adjacent to the EAC boundary?

	Ensure that opencast coal sites are properly restored once extraction has ceased.	Does the Plan ensure that restoration plans for sites subject to surface mining extraction will be established prior to any extraction operations taking place?
	Where appropriate, contribute to the Scottish Government's targets on re-afforestation	Does the plan, where it is deemed appropriate, contribute to the Scottish Governments targets on re-afforestation?
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Ensure that the integrity of all internationally designated sites within or adjacent to the East Ayrshire Council boundary are protected and reserved. The Plan should, where necessary, ensure the restoration of all European and nationally designated sites.	Will the plan have a likely significant impact on any internationally designated sites within or adjacent to the EAC boundary? If so, is this being addressed through a Habitats Regulation Appraisal? Will the Plan ensure that where it is necessary ensure the restoration of all European and nationally designated sites.
	Safeguard all European and nationally designated sites, habitats and priority species from adverse impacts, loss and fragmentation. Biodiversity should be protected in line with the Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan and, where possible, enhanced.	Will the Plan have an impact on or result in the loss or fragmentation of any of the European or national designated site, habitats and priority species within or adjacent to the EAC boundary? Does the Plan have an impact on biodiversity protected through the Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan?
Air Quality	Ensure that new mineral development seeks to minimise emissions into the atmosphere and any impacts on air quality.	Will the Plan minimise emissions into the atmosphere
		Will the Plan maintain or improve air quality standards in East Ayrshire?
		Does the Plan encourage the use of sustainable modes of transportation for the movement of minerals material over the use of haulage to transport materials?
	Ensure that any restoration plans for formerly extracted sites incorporate new or improve access to existing cycle and walking path networks.	Will the plan ensure that future restoration plans of formerly extracted sites incorporate new or improve access to existing cycle and walking path networks?
Water	Where appropriate, enhance the water quality (including groundwater) to good chemical and ecological status within the lifetime of the Plan.	Will the Plan enhance water quality or result in water quality levels to be reduced?
	Safeguard the water environment by ensuring that restoration plans do not increase water pollution.	Does the Plan ensure that future restoration plans reduce water pollution?

	Ensure that all mineral developments/extensions are adequately assessed in relation to the impact on the water environment.	Will the plan ensure that any proposals for mineral extraction (new or extension to existing operations) have measures in place to reduce any adverse impacts on the water environment?
Climate	Encourage the reduction of CO2 and other emissions. Promote energy efficiency and use of rail as a means of transportation of materials. Encourage development to use energy efficient resources. Ensure there is no potential flood risk from new development and protect existing areas/sites which are at risk from flooding. Ensure new development does not exacerbate existing flooding issues upstream or downstream of the development site. Ensure that development provides appropriate drainage on site to reduce any risk of flooding Protect and, where possible, enhance soils in particular carbon rich soils.	Will the Plan contribute to meeting national targets for reducing CO2 and other emissions? Will the Plan promote energy efficiency in new development and encourage the use of rail as a means of transporting materials over road? Will the Plan encourage development to use energy efficient resources? Does the Plan ensure that future development is located outwith areas at risk from flooding? Does the Plan ensure that development provides appropriate drainage on site to reduce flood risk? Will the Plan have an impact on areas of raised bogs, blanket bog or other organic soils?
Cultural Heritage	Protect the historic environment and its setting from inappropriate development or alterations. Protect archaeological resources and scheduled monuments from inappropriate development and operations	Will the plan result in inappropriate development or alterations that will impact upon any listed buildings or conservation areas located within or adjacent to the EAC boundary? Will the plan result in inappropriate development or alterations that will impact upon any archaeological resources or scheduled monuments located within or adjacent to the EAC boundary?
	Protect any historically significant deep mines and pits from previous minerals operations. Protect designed landscapes and historic battlefields from inappropriate development and operations.	Will the plan have any impact on any historically significant deep mines or pits? Will the plan result in inappropriate development or operations that will directly or indirectly impact upon any designed landscapes or historic battlefields and their settings located within East Ayrshire?

Population and Human Health	Contribute to the social and economic regeneration of deprived areas within settlements. Ensure that accessibility to walking and cycling routes is not affected by new development. Influence new development in order to minimise impacts in relation to air, water, noise and pollution. Contribute to the enhancement and protection of human health through the promotion of high quality design in new development that contributes to good placemaking standards Enhancing the green and blue network and maintain and improve recreational facilities in order to improve resident's quality of life	Does the Plan's contents contribute towards the regeneration of deprived areas within settlements located close to historical or existing mineral operations? Will the Plan ensure that development proposals where possible safeguard existing cycling and walking path networks or divert these path networks during operations, restoring them fully after operations cease? Does the Plan ensure that new development minimises or exacerbates the effects of air, water, noise and pollution on an area? Does the Plan ensure that future development proposals, particularly for mineral extraction promote good design on and off site, reduce any impacts, such as visual and overall contributes to good placemaking standards? Will the Plan protect and enhance the area's green and blue network and recreational facilities?
Material Assets	Ensure that new development is within sustainable locations with good accessibility to public transport. Protect and enhance East Ayrshire's network of core paths, rights of way routes and cycle paths. Protect and where possible enhance East Ayrshire's public open space and green network, including blue network features. Ensure that brownfield sites are utilised and reused in preference to greenfield sites Ensure that development proposals are sited and designed to respect the nature and landscape character of the area and that any visual impacts are minimised. Promote waste minimisation	Will the Plan ensure that new development is located within sustainable locations? Will the Plan protect and enhance East Ayrshire's public open space and green network including blue network features, core paths, rights of way and cycle paths? Does the Plan utilise the reuse of brownfield sites in preference to greenfield sites? Does the Plan ensure that new development or alterations respect the landscape character of the area and that visual impacts are minimised? Does the Plan promote the minimisation of waste in order to prevent or reduce waste that goes to landfill and that more waste or material is recycled?

Cumulative and Synergistic Assessment

8.11 The stage 2 assessment evaluates potential cumulative and synergistic effects of the vision, aims, and policies that have been identified as being likely to have significant environmental impacts.

9. ASSESSMENT RESULTS

9.1 The results of the stage 1 assessment are contained in Appendix C and stage 2 assessment results are contained in Appendix D. A summary of the stage 1 and stage 2 assessment results can be found below:

Summary of Stage 1 Policy and Proposal Assessment Results

Policy	Natural Environment	Natural Resources	Historic Environment	Social Environment
Vision	NO	NO	NO	NO
Aim 1	YES	YES	YES	YES
Aim 2	YES	YES	YES	YES
Aim 3	YES	YES	YES	YES
Aim 4	YES	YES	YES	YES
Aim 5	NO	NO	NO	YES
Aim 6	NO	NO	NO	NO
Aim 7	NO	NO	NO	NO
Aim 8	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS1	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS2	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS3	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS4	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS5	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS6	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS7	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS8	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
MIN SS9	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
MIN SS10	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SS11	YES	YES	YES	YES

MIN SS12	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN ENV1	YES	YES	NO	YES
MIN ENV2	YES	YES	NO	YES
MIN ENV3	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN ENV4	YES	YES	NO	NO
MIN ENV5	YES	YES	NO	NO
MIN ENV6	YES	YES	NO	NO
MIN ENV7	YES	YES	NO	NO
MIN ENV8	YES	YES	NO	NO
MIN ENV9	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN ENV10	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN ENV11	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN ENV12	NO	NO	NO	NO
MIN ENV13	YES	NO	NO	NO
MIN ENV14	YES	NO	NO	NO
MIN PPL1	YES	NO	YES	YES
MIN PPL2	YES	YES	NO	YES
MIN PPL3	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN PPL4	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN PPL5	NO	NO	NO	NO
MIN PPL6	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN T1	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN T2	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN T3	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN T4	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SUP1	NO	NO	NO	NO
MIN SUP2	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SUP3	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN SUP4	YES	YES	NO	YES
MIN WP1	NO	NO	NO	NO
MIN OPP SITE 1: Dunstonhill	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN OPP SITE 2: Dalmellington North Cluster	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN OPP SITE 3: Piperhill	YES	YES	YES	YES
MIN OPP SITE 4: Skares Cluster	YES	YES	NO	YES

MIN OPP SITE 5: New Cumnock North Cluster	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**
MIN OPP SITE 6: Muirkirk West Cluster	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**
MIN OPP SITE 7: Glenbuck Cluster	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**	**YES**

Stage 2 Assessment Results

9.2 This section provides a summary of the Stage 2 assessments for the Plan vision, spatial strategies, policies, proposals and former mineral opportunity sites that were likely to have significant impacts as a result of the Stage 1 assessment process. The summary results are presented below with full assessment tables being contained in Appendix D.

Summary of Stage 2 Policy and Proposal Assessment Results							Key:	Significant Positive		Significant Positive/Negative				Significant Negative		Neutral/Unknown		
Environmental Topic		Natural Features				Natural Resources			Historic Environment							Social Environment		
Policy		Landscape	Geology	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Climate	Soil	Air	Water	Listed Buildings	Conservation Area	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scheduled Monuments	Historic Battlefields		Population	Health	Material Assets
Vision	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Aim 1	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
Aim 2	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
Aim 3	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
Aim 4	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
Aim 5	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
Aim 6	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Aim 7	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Aim 8	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS1	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS2	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS3	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS4	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS5	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	
MIN SS6	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS7	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative		Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
MIN SS8	Original Assessment	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown		Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS9	Original Assessment	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown		Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SS10	Original Assessment	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative		Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Negative
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative		Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative
MIN SS11	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative		Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative		Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative
MIN SS12	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV1	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV2	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV3	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown		Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown	Neutral/Unknown
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures		No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV4	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unknown	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV5	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1		Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive

Summary of Stage 2 Policy and Proposal Assessment Results							Key:	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative			Significant Negative		Neutral/Unknown		
Environmental Topic		Natural Features				Natural Resources			Historic Environment						Social Environment		
Policy		Landscape	Geology	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Climate	Soil	Air	Water	Listed Buildings	Conservation Area	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scheduled Monuments	Historic Battlefields	Population	Health	Material Assets
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV6	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV7	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV8	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV9	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV10	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV11	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN ENV12	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV13	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN ENV14	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN PPL1	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN PPL2	Original Assessment	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN PPL3	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN PPL4	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN PPL5	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN PPL6	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN T1	Original Assessment	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN T2	Original Assessment	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN T3	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN T4	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SUP1	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN SUP2	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SUP3	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN SUP4	Original Assessment	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures
MIN WP1	Original Assessment	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
MIN OPP SITE 1: Lethanhill	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Negative
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative

Summary of Stage 2 Policy and Proposal Assessment Results									Key:	Significant Positive		Significant Positive/Negative				Significant Negative		Neutral/Unkown		
Environmental Topic		Natural Features				Natural Resources			Historic Environment									Social Environment		
Policy		Landscape	Geology	Biodiversity Flora and Fauna	Climate	Soil	Air	Water	Listed Buildings	Conservation Area	Archaelogical Sites/Areas	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scheduled Monuments	Historic Battlefields	Population	Health	Material Assets			
MIN OPP SITE 2 : Dalmellington North	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive			
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures			
MIN OPP SITE 3: Piperhill	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive			
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures			
MIN OPP SITE 4: Skares	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unkown	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive			
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures			
MIN OPP SITE 5 : New Cumnock North	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive			
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures			
MIN OPP SITE 6: Muirkirk East	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive			
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	N/A	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures			
MIN OPP SITE 7: Glenbuck Cluster	Original Assessment	Significant Positive	Significant Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unkown	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Significant Positive	Scoped out at Stage 1	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive/Negative	Scoped out at Stage 1	Significant Positive	Significant Positive	Significant Positive			
	After Mitigation/ Enhancement	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	No Enhancement Measures	N/A	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	Significant Positive	N/A	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures	No Enhancement Measures			

Assessment difficulties: Spatial Strategy, Policies, Proposals and Sites

9.3 There was some difficulty with assessing the Unconventional Oil and Gas spatial strategy as there is currently a moratorium in place which restricts proposals coming forward for unconventional oil and gas projects. As of October 2017, the Scottish Government's position on the matter is that the research commissioned does not provide a strong enough basis to address the concerns of communities or their impact on the environment. On this basis, it is understood the Scottish Government does not support the development of unconventional oil and gas projects in Scotland. There was also some difficulty in assessing the Carbon Sequestration Spatial Strategy as the significance of environmental impact will be dependent on the type of technology used. There were some difficulty in assessing former minerals opportunity sites where the location and/or type of development was unknown. Therefore, it was not possible to accurately predict if there would be significant environmental impacts and what these are likely to be.

Key	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unknown

Table 5: Summary of the stage 2 assessment

Vision	MLDP Significant Impacts
East Ayrshire's minerals supply will be fulfilled through a responsible and justified approach to extraction with appropriate progressive restoration and after care. Our former minerals sites will be restored or reused resulting in a sustainable environmental, economic and social legacy, contributing to the wider regeneration and enhancement of East Ayrshire's landscape and environment.	Scoped out at stage 1.

Aim	MLDP Significant Impacts
Aim 1: To secure restoration of previously worked sites.	Significant positive
Aim 2: To encourage the development of alternative uses on former minerals opportunity sites including for tourism, leisure, forestry, biodiversity, nature conservation and agriculture to the benefit of local communities.	Significant positive and negative
Aim 3: To conserve and enhance the natural and built environment where mineral extraction is not suitable and to minimise the negative impacts of mineral extraction upon the natural and built environment.	Significant positive
Aim 4: To promote green networks, enhance biodiversity and create more attractive, healthy environments for people to live and work in and which gives them opportunities for recreation.	Significant positive
Aim 5: To minimise the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people.	Significant positive
Aim 6: To safeguard workable mineral resources of economic or conservation value from sterilisation.	Scoped out at stage 1.

Aim 7: To ensure an adequate and steady supply of minerals, helping contribute to sustainable economic growth.	Scoped out at stage 1.
Aim 8: To promote and deliver excellence in working and restoration practices of mineral extraction.	Significant positive
Policy	
MIN SS1: Minerals Overarching policy	Significant positive
MIN SS2: Minerals Restoration and Placemaking	Significant positive
MIN SS3: Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership	Significant positive
MIN SS4: Former minerals opportunity sites and placemaking	Significant positive
MIN SS5: Surface Coal Extraction Developments	Significant positive and negative
MIN SS6: Restoration Coal	Significant positive
MIN SS7: Surface coal proposals outwith the area of search and not meeting the criteria of MIN SS6	Significant positive
MIN SS8: Unconventional Oil and Gas	Unknown
MIN SS9: Carbon Sequestration	Unknown
MIN SS10: Construction Aggregates	Significant positive and negative
MIN SS11: Fireclay	Significant positive and negative
MIN SS12: Strategic Woodland Creation	Significant positive
MIN ENV1: Peat and other Carbon Rich Soils	Significant positive
MIN ENV2: Storage and Removal of Peat	Significant positive
MIN ENV3: Reuse of Excess Soils	Significant positive
MIN ENV4: Sewage Sludge	Significant positive
MIN ENV5: Mitigating Flood Risk	Significant positive
MIN ENV6: The Protection of Water Resources, Water Bodies and Ground Water	Significant positive
MIN ENV 7: Private Water Supply	Significant positive
MIN ENV8: Restoration and Water Environment	Significant positive
MIN ENV9: Protection of Areas of Nature Conservation Interest	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN ENV10: Protection of Built and Natural Environment Resources	Significant positive and negative impacts
MIN ENV11: Protecting the landscape	Significant positive
MIN ENV12: Assessing Landscape and Visual Impacts	Scoped out at stage 1.
MIN ENV13: Conserving, enhancing and protecting geological interest	Significant positive
MIN ENV14: Spireslack Canyon	Significant positive
MIN PPL1: Protecting communities	Significant positive
MIN PPL2: Protecting residential amenity	Significant positive
MIN PPL3: Duration of extraction period for coal sites	Significant positive
MIN PPL4: Duration of extraction period of non-coal minerals extraction	Significant positive
MIN PPL5: Tourism Development	Scoped out at stage 1.
MIN PPL6: Tourism activities on former mineral opportunity sites	Significant positive
MIN T1: Routing of the transportation of minerals	Significant positive

MIN T2: Cumulative Impacts of Minerals Related Traffic	Significant positive
MIN T3: Restoration and Access	Significant positive
MIN T4: Rights of Way and Core Paths	Significant positive
MIN SUP1: Sterilisation of Workable Minerals Resources	Scoped out at Stage 1
MIN SUP2: Borrow pits	Significant positive
MIN SUP3: Reworking of Waste Spoil Tips	Significant positive
MIN SUP4: Extraction of secondary aggregates	Significant positive
MIN WP 1: Financial guarantees	Scoped out at stage 1.
Former Minerals Opportunity Sites	
MIN OPP SITE 1: Dunstonhill	Significant positive and negative
MIN OPP SITE 2: Dalmellington North	Significant positive
MIN OPP SITE 3: Piperhill	Significant positive
MIN OPP SITE 4: Skares	Significant positive
MIN OPP SITE 5: New Cumnock North	Significant positive and negative
MIN OPP SITE 6: Muirkirk West	Significant positive and negative
MIN OPP SITE 7: Glenbuck	Significant positive and negative

10. MITIGATION AND ENHANCEMENT

10.1 Where the stage 2 assessments indicate that there are likely to be adverse impacts as a result of the aims and policies, mitigation measures have been proposed to reduce the overall environmental impact to an acceptable or negligible level for each of the environmental receptors that are affected. The stage 2 assessments also propose enhancement measures where appropriate and, as with the mitigation measures, these are identified against the individual environmental receptors in the stage 2 assessments.

11. MONITORING

11.1 The MLDP aims and policies that are likely to have significant environmental impacts are required 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:

Table 6: Monitoring Measures

Environmental Issues to be Monitored	Monitoring Objective	Target	Monitoring indicators
Landscape	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on landscape within East Ayrshire.	The landscape of East Ayrshire is protected and any alterations to its character and setting are avoided or minimised.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Spatial Strategy, Environment policies • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to landscape including: - number of national and local landscape designations in EA - Status and trends in designated landscapes in EA - Land use and development pressures on landscape: development types and locations
Geology	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on geology within East Ayrshire.	Geological resources and their settings within East Ayrshire are preserved.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN ENV13 and MIN ENV14 • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment

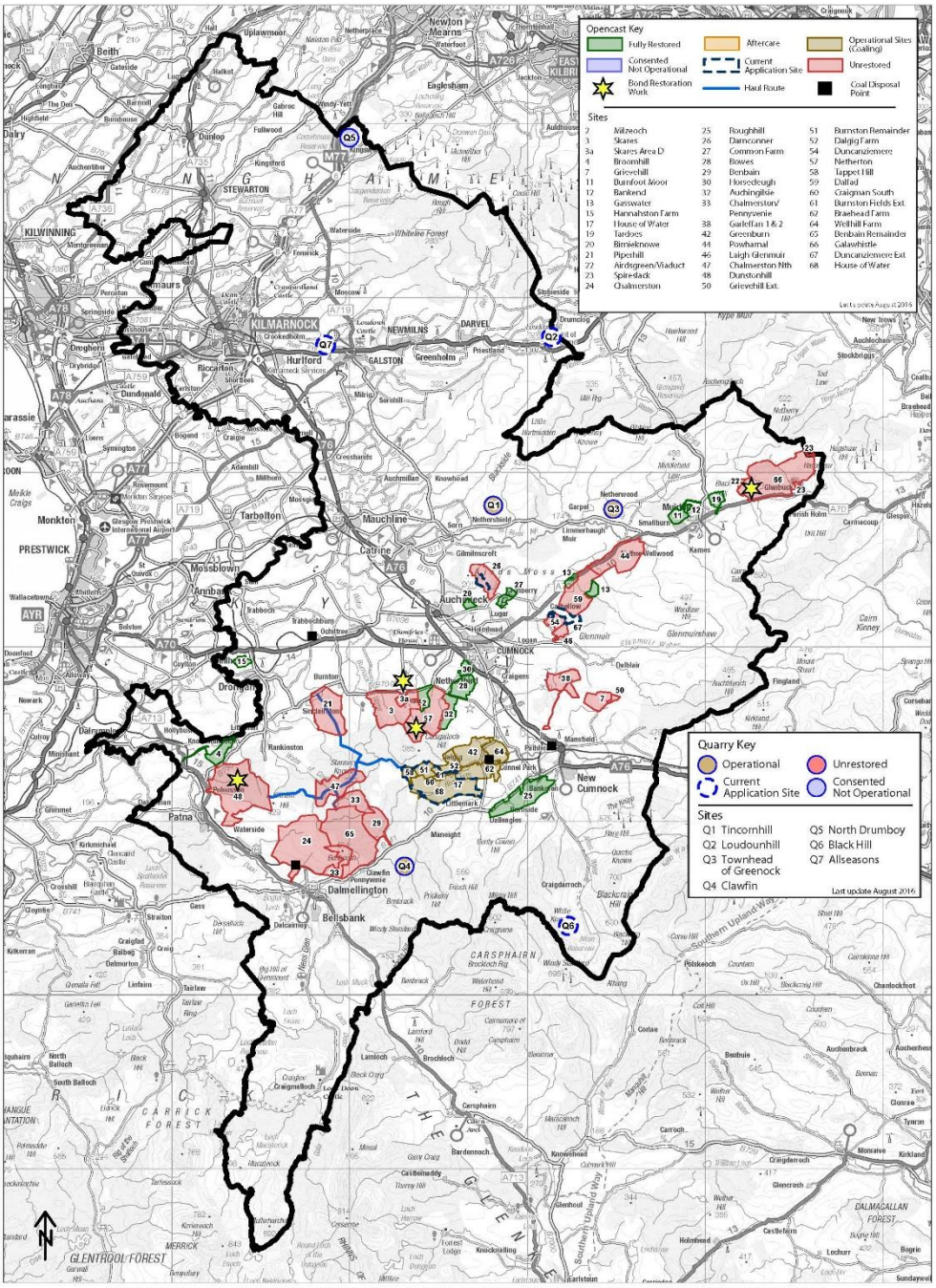
			Report 2016 relating to geology including: - amount and location of geological resource in East Ayrshire - Geological SSSI Geological Conservation Review Register Sites and SSSI Geology Sites in EA
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on the natural heritage designations within East Ayrshire.	Enhance biodiversity across East Ayrshire. Avoid irreversible losses of valuable sites, areas of important green space and protected species/habitats within East Ayrshire.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Environment policies • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to ecology and conservation including: - Assessment grades of statutory and non-statutory sites; habitats; protected mammal species; other species – birds; amphibian and reptiles; other species – plants, lower plants, invertebrates including lepidoptera and invertebrates excluding lepidoptera. • Implementation and effectiveness of mitigation measures identified in MLDP HRA.
Climate	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on climate change.	Reduce climate change impacts in line with Scottish Government policy. Reduce carbon emissions where possible. No increase in the risk of flooding, particularly within settlements. Protect carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland sites.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Spatial Strategy, Environmental, and People policies • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to climate including: - assessment of greenhouse emissions - assessment of temperature and rainfall - number and location of wind farms in East Ayrshire (including information on operational sites, consented/under construction and planning applications)

Soil	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on soil resources within East Ayrshire.	No loss of prime or locally important agricultural land. Presumption against the disturbance or loss of peat and other carbon rich soils	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP Spatial Strategy policies; and policies MIN ENV 1 and MIN ENV2. • - Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to soils including: - assessment of superficial deposits and bedrock, in terms of soil degradation processes and degradation - location of peat and other carbon rich soils and classes associated in line with SNH Carbon and Peatland Map 2016
Air	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on air quality within East Ayrshire.	No increase in pollutants into the atmosphere.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP transport policies; and policies MIN ENV, MIN ENV2; and People policies. • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to air including - Assessment of NO_2 and PM_{10} - Number of AQMAs
Water	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on the water environment in East Ayrshire.	No degradation of water quality. No increase in the risk of flooding within East Ayrshire. Protect water bodies and ground water.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN ENV6, MIN ENV7, MIN ENV8 • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to water including: - location and status of surface water bodies in EA - location and status of superficial groundwater bodies in EA - Flood risk areas in EA and flood risk levels - surface water management plans in EA

Historic Environment	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on the historic environment.	All historic environmental features are protected within East Ayrshire.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1; MIN ENV10. • - Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to cultural heritage including: - number and location of historic environment sites in EA - Listed buildings considered at 'risk' - Trends and pressures on historic environment and impacts
Population	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on local communities.	Protect local settlements with appropriate buffers from minerals development.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN PPL1, and MIN PPL2. - trends in population in EA, in terms of projections, age of population, environmental/neighbourhood quality - employment activity in EA
Health	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on human health.	No excessive air, dust, noise, vibration or light pollution for new minerals development. Protect local settlements with appropriate buffers from minerals development.	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN PPL1, and MIN PPL2. • Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to human health including: - life expectancy in EA - causes of death and death rates in EA - chronic disease rates and trends in EA - environment/neighbourhood quality - percentage of populations in EA living within 500m of a derelict site
Material Assets	To monitor the impact of the MLDP on areas of protected green space and on	No loss of protected open space, playing fields, and other important recreational open	• Implementation and effectiveness of MLDP policies MIN SS1, MIN SS5, MIN SS9, MIN SS10, MIN ENV 9, MIN ENV10 and MIN T3 and MIN T4.

	paths and cycle routes.	space within East Ayrshire.	• Monitoring of information contained within the East Ayrshire State of Environment Report 2016 relating to material assets including: - existing transport infrastructure in EA - accessibility in EA, in terms of core paths and rights of way: amount of routes and locations - amount and distribution of open space in EA - employment and employment sector information in EA

APPENDIX A: MAP OF EAST AYRSHIRE AND LAND IN RELATION TO MINERALS DEVELOPMENT



APPENDIX B: LIST OF THE KEY PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND STRATEGIES TO BE USED TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN

Plan, Programme or Strategy	Main Requirements	Implications for the LDP
International		
The Kyoto Protocol 1997	Aims to limit, as well as, reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The Protocol places a limit on anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.	The MLDP will contribute to reducing and limiting emissions of greenhouse gases.
The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development 1992	Set the founding principles on sustainable development that were adopted by the international community.	The MLDP has a duty to contribute to sustainable development.
European		
Habitats Directive 1992	Protects biodiversity and endangered bird species and their environment.	The MLDP is required to protect and preserve designated areas from loss or damage by development.
Thematic Strategy for Soil Protection	Protects soils from further degradation and the preservation of soil functions.	The MLDP is required to protect carbon rich soils and prime quality agricultural land
Air Quality Directive 2008	Provides basic principles as to how air quality should be assessed and managed. It also lists the pollutants for which air quality standards and objectives will be developed and specified in legislation.	The MLDP seeks to manage air quality standards and minimise development that will exacerbate emissions that contribute to poor air quality
Environmental Noise Directive 2002	Relates to the assessment and management of environmental noise. The Directive aims to focus on the determination of exposure to environmental noise, ensure that information on environmental noise and its effects is made available to the public and prevent and reduce environmental noise where necessary and preserving noise quality where it is good.	The MLDP minimises environmental noise through minerals extraction
Water Framework Directive (Ref) 2000	Safeguards the sustainable use of water. Supports the status of aquatic systems, addresses issues relating to pollution, flooding, droughts and river basin management planning.	The MLDP ensures that there is no degradation of water bodies, no adverse impacts on the water environment and support sustainable water management practices.

European Climate Change Programme (ECCP)	Identify and develop all the necessary elements of an EU Strategy to implement the Kyoto Protocol. The second ECCP was launched in 2005.	The MLDP seeks to contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions
EU Birds Directive 2009	Protects all wild birds, their nests, eggs and habitats within the EU. Also provides the basis to classify Special Protection Areas (SPA).	The MLDP is required to protect designated sites, such as SPAs and SACs from loss or damage as a result of development
EU Landfill Directive 1999	The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfill.	The MLDP seeks to promote the reuse and recycling of all excess materials instead of diverting to landfill.
National		
Environmental Protection Act 1990: Part IIA Contaminated Land and Contaminated Land (Scotland) Regulations 2000. (SI 2000/178)	Provides a regulatory regime for the identification and remediation of contaminated land and is subject to the 2000 Regulations and Statutory Guidance.	The MLDP is required to take into account the provisions of the Act and the Regulations.
Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004	Imposes a wide ranging duty on Scotland's public sector to conserve biodiversity and protect natural heritage.	The MLDP is required to protect biodiversity in accordance with the requirements of the Act including the avoidance of adverse impacts on sites, habitats and species of value as defined within the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy and associated priority lists.
Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2016	Part 1 of the Act establishes statutory public rights of access to land and inland water for recreational and other purposes and for crossing land and extends some of these provisions to rights of way.	The MLDP considers land access issues in relation to areas that are or have been subject to minerals extraction and restoration projects.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	Proactive approach to flood risk management (FRM). Specific measures within the Act include: - a framework for a co-ordinated approach to flood risk management; - an assessment of FRM plans; - a revised, streamlined process for flood protection schemes; - new methods to enable stakeholders and the public to contribute to manage flood risk; and - a single enforcement authority for the safe operation of Scotland's reservoirs	The MLDP takes into account the provisions of the Act, in particular the assessment of flood risk and the preparation of flood risk management plans.
Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	Creates the statutory framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland.	The MLDP seeks to contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003	Sets out the arrangements for the protection of the water environment. Aim is to protect and improve the ecological status of the water environment whilst also protecting he social and economic interests of those dependant on the water environment	The MLDP takes into consideration the provisions of the Act, in particular the assessment of flood risk and the preparation of flood risk management plans.
The Management of Extractive Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2010	Regulates the natural materials which need to be disturbed and separated at mines and quarries in order to process minerals for sale. The Regulations transpose the EC Mining Waste Directive (MWD) through the planning system.	The MLDP takes into consideration the provisions of the Regulations.
Water Environment (Controlled Activities) Regulations 2011	Applies regulatory controls over activities which may affect Scotland's water environment.	The MLDP takes into consideration the provisions of the Regulations.
National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3)	Sets the context for development in Scotland and provides a framework for the spatial development of Scotland as a whole. It sets out the Scottish Government's development priorities over the next 20-30 years and identifies Scotland's national developments which support the development strategy.	The MLDP contributes to the Scottish Government's development priorities for the next 20-30 years as they relate to all minerals.
Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)	Sets out national planning policies which reflect Scottish Ministers' priorities for the operation of the planning system and for the development and use of land.	The MLDP takes into consideration SPP priorities and ensure that the LDP contributes to the planning outcomes set out in SPP.
Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS) 2019	Produced by Historic Environment Scotland, this is a non-statutory policy statement. It should be taken into account whenever a decision will affect the historic environment.	The policies of the MLDP ensure that the historic environment is fully considered in minerals related decision making.
Surface Coal Mine Restoration - Towards Better Regulation - A final report to the Scottish Opencast Task Force by its Compliance and Finance Subgroups, October 2015	Considers the future of surface coal mine restoration in terms of compliance/monitoring and finance and considers other matters to support better regulation of restoration	The MLDP takes into consideration the evidence contained in the Report and its final recommendations to inform the Plan's strategy and policy framework.
Land Use Strategy for Scotland 2016-2021: Getting the best from our land, March 2016	Sets out a policy framework for land use in Scotland. The strategy provides an integrated approach to sustainable land use in Scotland.	The MLDP takes into consideration the policy framework set out in the land use strategy for Scotland.
PAN 33: Development of Contaminated Land, October 2000	Provides advice in relation to implementing the provisions of Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, the development of contaminated land and the approach to be taken, in terms of contaminated land in development plans.	The MLDP takes into consideration the advice given when preparing the Plan's strategy and policy framework.

PAN 50: Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings, October 1996	Provides advice on the more significant environmental effects arising from mineral working operations.	The MLDP takes into consideration the advice given when preparing the Plan's strategy and policy framework.
PAN 50: Annexes A-D: Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings	Annexes A and B provide advice on how the planning system can be used to keep noise and dust emissions from surface mineral workings within environmentally acceptable limits without imposing unreasonable burdens on mineral operators. Annex C provides advice in relation to how the planning system should manage traffic associated with surface minerals workings within environmentally acceptable limits. Annex D provides advice to planning authorities and industries on how to keep the effects of blasting from surface mineral workings within environmentally acceptable limits.	The MLDP ensures that the effects from noise emissions, dust, traffic and blasting from surface mineral workings are kept within environmentally acceptable limits and that the Plan takes into consideration the detailed advice contained in PAN 50 and the associated Annexes.
Online Planning Advice on Flood Risk	Provides advice on the sources of flood risk, its impacts and in relation to various aspects of flood risk management, for example flood risk management plans, flood risk assessment.	The MLDP provides a policy framework in relation to the sources and impacts of flood risk and the management of flood risk.
PAN 64: Reclamation of Surface Mineral Workings, December 2002	Provides advice on how mineral operators and planning authorities can ensure that mineral workings are reclaimed to a high standard as soon as possible after working has ceased.	The MLDP provides the policy framework for the effective restoration of land previously subject to surface mineral workings.
Review of the Storage and Spreading of Sewage on Land in Scotland (The Sludge Review), February 2016	Provides a review of legislation and guidance relevant to the storage and spreading of sewage sludge.	The MLDP provides a policy framework in relation to the effective spreading and storage of sewage sludge on soils on restoration sites.

Scotland's National Peatland Plan	Provides a framework for recognising, communicating and, where appropriate, quantifying the benefits of healthy peatlands and marshalling the knowledge, skills, incentives and funding to improve the condition of those which are damaged or degraded.	The MLDP promotes the protection and conservation of all areas of peatland.
The Scottish Soil Framework 2009	Promote the sustainable management and protection of soils consistent with the economic, social and environmental needs of Scotland.	The MLDP ensures the protection and sustainable management of soils.
Regional		
Ayrshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Identifies priority habitats and species which require attention and sets out a shared agenda for conservation action by identifying priorities required by joint action. It comprises of the three Ayrshire authorities - East, North and South.	The MLDP ensure the conservation and management of priority habitats and species.
Ayrshire and Arran Forestry and Woodlands Strategy 2014.	Review of the Forestry Strategy for Ayrshire published in 2003 - Guides woodland management and expansion in Ayrshire and Arran, providing a policy and a spatial framework to maximise the contribution of woodland and forestry to the region's population, environment and economy.	The MLDP provides a spatial and policy framework for the effective management of woodland in East Ayrshire.
Ayrshire Landscape Assessment	Provides a detailed assessment of the landscape character of Ayrshire. It provides information in relation to likely pressures and opportunities, areas of landscape potentially under threat, opportunities for enhancement and provides guidelines on the conservation, enhancement or restructuring of differing landscapes.	The MLDP takes into consideration the information contained within the landscape assessment.
SPT Regional Transport Strategy Delivery Plan 2014-2017	Sets out strategic priorities that provide the policy framework that guides the development of the Delivery Plan's key work streams which relate to reliability of services, connectivity, access and reduced emissions.	The MLDP takes into consideration of the strategic priorities and policy framework set out in the regional transport strategy.
Galloway and Southern Ayrshire Biosphere Natural Heritage Management Plan, November 2015	Provides information on the status, conservation and requirements of the High Focus Habitats and Species within the Biosphere and provides guidance on their management and enhancement.	The MLDP takes into consideration the information set out in the management plan and seek to conserve the high focus habitats and species within the Biosphere

Ayrshire Freight Strategy, Effective Movement, March 2016	Provides a strategic road network and freight access strategy to key freight locations along with an associated signing strategy.	The MLDP takes into account the cumulative impacts of minerals transport movements on trunk road networks within Ayrshire.
Local		
East Ayrshire Council Community Plan 2015-2030	Provides the overarching strategic policy framework for the delivery of services in East Ayrshire by all partners.	The MLDP reflects the community plan's policy framework with regards to planning.
East Ayrshire Sustainable Development Strategy	Takes forward the Council's work to achieve a sustainable community in East Ayrshire and develops the strategic guidelines established in the Community Plan. It provides a framework for action to deliver national objectives for sustainable development.	The MLDP reflects the strategy's framework and objectives in terms of planning
East Ayrshire Green Infrastructure Strategy 2015	Provides a co-ordinated approach to the provision of protected open space, development of local green space initiatives and the core path plan. It provides the strategic vision for open space in East Ayrshire.	The MLDP takes into consideration the strategy's strategic vision and seek to safeguard protected open space and core path network and where appropriate support local green space initiatives that enhance East Ayrshire's green infrastructure.
North Kyle Forest Masterplan Report 2016	Masterplan for the North Kyle Forest and adjoining areas. The masterplan seeks to influence the design of opencast site restoration within the North Kyle Forest area and ensure the best use of the restored land when it is returned to Forestry Commission Scotland.	The MLDP take on board the vision and outcomes of the North Kyle Masterplan.
Community Led Action Plans	The community led action plans set out the key actions required to enhance local communities over a five year period. They set out the delivery of local programmes, services and facilities which will aid the delivery of each plan.	The MLDP takes into consideration the objectives, priorities and actions set out in community led action plans.
East Ayrshire Energy Strategy and Carbon Management Programme 2014	Outlines the Council's objectives for reducing energy usage and how this will be achieved.	The MLDP reflects the Council's objectives in relation to reducing energy usage.
East Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2017	Sets out East Ayrshire Council's settled view on how the area should be developed over the next 10-20 years. The Plan provides a vision and spatial strategy for East Ayrshire as well as the key planning policies for a range of topic areas including places, infrastructure and the environment.	The MLDP complements the East Ayrshire Local Development Plan and, where appropriate, take into consideration its spatial strategy and policy framework.

Local Transport Strategy	Sets out the aims and actions for the development of East Ayrshire's transport system.	The MLDP reflects the aims and actions set out in the Local Transport Strategy.
East Ayrshire Contaminated Land Strategy	Sets out the Council's strategic approach in relation to the inspection of land and the purposes of identifying contaminated land and to keep this under review.	The MLDP reflects the Council's approach to inspecting and identifying contaminated land in planning terms
East Ayrshire Core Path Plan	Framework to enable access to land and inland water for outdoor recreation to be developed in a co-ordinated manner, development and implementation of paths for walker, riders and cyclists and implementation and monitoring of a Core Path Network.	The MLDP takes account of the Core Paths Plan and promotes improved access to these routes.

APPENDIX C: STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT TABLES

Stage 1 Assessment of the Minerals LDP – Vision and Aims.

Vision: East Ayrshire's minerals supply will be fulfilled through a responsible and justified approach to extraction with appropriate progressive restoration and aftercare. **Our former minerals sites will be restored or re-used resulting in a sustainable environmental, economic and social legacy, contributing to the wider regeneration and enhancement of East Ayrshire's landscape and environment.**		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The Vision statement itself is not likely to have an environmental impact as it is a future aspiration that cannot be achieved without the implementation of a Plan's aims, strategy, policies and proposals.	No
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Aim 1: To secure restoration of previously worked sites.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**

Natural Features	Aim is likely to have environmental impacts as it is focused on supporting the restoration of previously worked sites. However, this is dependent on the type of opportunities proposed and their locations.	Yes: Aim may have significant environmental impacts due to supporting the restoration of previously worked mineral sites.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Aim 2: To encourage the development of alternative uses on former minerals opportunity sites including tourism, leisure, forestry, biodiversity, nature conservation and agriculture for the benefit of local communities.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support the intrinsic qualities of recreation, heritage, landscape, or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As such the policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts and could also result in cumulative impacts.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Aim 3: To conserve and enhance the natural and built environment where mineral extraction is not suitable and to minimise the negative impacts of mineral extraction upon the built and natural environment.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Aim is likely to have environmental impacts as it is principally concerned with enhancing and conserving the natural and built environment and minimising the negative impacts of mineral extraction.	Yes. Aim may have significant environmental impacts in relation to all environmental topics as it is concerned with the conservation and enhancement of the natural and built environment.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Aim 4: To promote green networks, enhance biodiversity and create more attractive, healthy environments for people to live and work in and which gives them opportunities for recreation.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Aim is likely to have environmental impacts as it seeks to promote green networks.	Yes. Aim may have significant environmental impacts in relation to all environmental topics as it seeks to create attractive environments, enhance biodiversity and promote green networks. High quality green networks can protect and enhance natural environment assets, open up opportunities for physical activity and increase accessibility between settlements or key places of interest.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Aim 5: To minimise the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Aim is primarily concerned with minimising the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people, therefore the aim itself is unlikely to have any significant impacts in relation to natural features.	No. The aim itself is unlikely to result in significant environmental impacts in relation to natural features.
Natural Resources	The aim is primarily concerned with minimising the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people, therefore the aim itself is unlikely to have any significant impacts in relation to natural resources.	No. The aim itself is unlikely to result in significant environmental impacts in relation to natural resources.
Historic Environment	The aim is primarily concerned with minimising the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people, therefore the aim itself is unlikely to have any significant impacts in relation to the historic environment.	No. The aim itself is unlikely to result in significant environmental impacts in relation to the historic environment.
Social Environment	The aim itself is likely to have environmental impacts, in terms of population and human health.	Yes. The aim is likely to result in significant environmental impacts on the social environment.

Aim 6: To safeguard workable mineral resources of economic or conservation value from sterilisation.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The aim is concerned with safeguarding workable mineral resources in East Ayrshire from sterilisation. The aim itself is unlikely to have any environmental impacts.	No. The aim itself is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts. It will lead to the creation of a robust policy framework to protect the area's mineral resources.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Aim 7: To ensure an adequate and steady supply of minerals, helping contribute to sustainable economic growth.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The aim itself relates to ensuring that there is an adequate and steady supply of minerals and is not in relation to any extraction of this identified supply, therefore, it is unlikely to have any environmental impact.	No. The aim itself relates to ensuring that there is an adequate and steady supply of minerals and is not in relation to any extraction, therefore, it is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Aim 8: To promote and deliver excellence in working and restoration practices of mineral extraction sites.		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Aim is likely to result in environmental impacts as it is concerned with ensuring that good working practices are effectively delivered and promoted in the minerals industry and throughout restoration activities in order to effectively regulate minerals operations.	Yes. The aim is likely to have significant environmental impacts as it seeks to deliver excellent working practices in the minerals industry and throughout restoration activities.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Assessment of the Minerals LDP – Spatial Strategy

Policy MIN SS1: Minerals Overarching Policy		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The Overarching Policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact. The policy seeks to conserve and enhance the natural environment, in terms of natural features and resources.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN SS2: Minerals Restoration and Placemaking		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to result in environmental impacts.	Yes. The policy will, as implemented, progressively restore the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and enhance Natural features.
Natural Resources	As above.	Yes. The policy will, as implemented, progressively restore the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and enhance Natural Resources.

Historic Environment	As above.	Yes. The policy will, as implemented, progressively restore the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and enhance the Historic Environment.
Social Environment	As above.	Yes. The policy will, as implemented, progressively restore the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and enhance the Social Environment.

POLICY MIN SS3: Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy could potentially result in environmental impacts.	Yes. Significant impacts to Natural Features may occur as a result of the projects within the scheme.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

POLICY MIN SS4: Former minerals opportunity sites and placemaking		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support the intrinsic qualities of recreation, heritage, landscape, or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As such the policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. Significant impacts to Natural Features may occur as a result of rural placemaking and the afteruses which may entail.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Spatial Strategy – Surface Coal Extraction

POLICY MIN SS5: Surface Coal Extraction Developments		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy could potentially result in environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction.	Yes. The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction.
Natural Resources	As above	As above

Historic Environment	As above	Yes. There could be environmental impacts on archaeological resource areas outwith those areas eliminated by constraints mapping.
Social Environment	As above	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts.

POLICY MIN SS6: Restoration Coal		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact only in a limited number of residual sites. The policy will ensure the appropriate restoration of unrestored land and overall conserve and enhance the natural environment, in terms of natural features and resources.
Natural Resources	Yes.	As above
Historic Environment	Yes.	As above
Social Environment	Yes.	As above

POLICY MIN SS7: Surface coal proposals outwith the area of search and not meeting the criteria of MIN SS6		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy could potentially result in environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction.	Yes. The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

Spatial Strategy – Unconventional Oil and Gas, Underground Coal Gasification and Carbon Dioxide Sequestration

Policy MIN SS8: Unconventional Oil and Gas		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Proposals will be resisted in light of the ongoing moratorium. However, if this position were to change, and an application to come forward the impacts could be significant but are unknown at this time.	Unknown.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN SS9: Carbon Sequestration		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Proposals for Carbon Sequestration will be resisted where an assessment of relevant policies indicates any likelihood of significant adverse impact on the environment or residential amenity occurring, however impacts may occur.	Unknown. Proposals for Carbon Sequestration will depend on typology and impacts are therefore unknown.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Spatial Strategy – Aggregates

Policy MINSS10: Construction Aggregates		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy could potentially result in environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction.	Yes. The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction. It could also result in cumulative impacts.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above

Social Environment	As above	As above

Policy MINSS11: Fireclay		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy could potentially result in environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction.	Yes. There are likely to be significant environmental affects as a result of extraction.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Spatial strategy – Woodland creation

Policy MIN SS12: Strategic Woodland Creation		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have environmental impacts in terms of natural features as it promotes the creation of new strategic areas of woodland.	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts as it promotes the creation of new strategic areas of woodland.
Natural Resources	Yes. The policy is likely to have environmental impacts in terms of natural resources as it promotes the creation of new strategic areas of woodland.	As above.

Historic Environment	Yes. The policy is likely to have environmental impacts in terms of the historic environment as it promotes the creation of new strategic areas of woodland.	As above.
Social Environment	Yes. The policy is likely to have environmental impacts in terms of the social environment as it promotes the creation of new strategic areas of woodland.	As above.

Assessment of the Minerals LDP- Policies

Conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment

Policy MIN ENV1: Peat and other Carbon Rich Soils		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy may have significant environmental impacts as it protects soils.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have any environmental impacts on the historic environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on the historic environment.
Social Environment	Yes. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts.

Policy MIN ENV2: Storage and Removal of Peat

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy may have significant environmental impacts as it protects peat.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have any environmental impacts on the historic environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on the historic environment.
Social Environment	The policy could potentially have a social impact on material assets and thereby impact on the social environment.	Yes. The policy may have significant environmental impacts.

Policy MIN ENV3: Reuse of Excess Soils		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact as it involves the movement of soils.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above
Social Environment	As above	As above

POLICY MIN ENV4: Sewage Sludge

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact potentially positive as if managed correctly, sewage sludge can aid the restoration of a site.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on the historic environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on the historic environment.
Social Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the social environment as it will ensure the effective management of the application of sewage sludge on restoration sites.	No. The policy is unlikely to have any significant effects on the Social Environment.

Policy MIN ENV5: Mitigating Flood Risk		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is aimed at avoidance of flooding and is therefore likely to have environmental impacts on climate. There are unlikely to be environmental impacts on landscape and biodiversity flora and fauna.	Yes. The policy could have significant environmental impacts on climate.
Natural Resources	The policy is aimed at avoidance of flooding and is therefore likely to have environmental impacts on water.	Yes

Historic Environment	No. The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the historic environment.	No.
Social Environment	No. The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the social environment.	No.

Policy MIN ENV6: The Protection of Water Resources, Water Bodies and Ground Water		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact as it relates to the protection of water bodies and ground water.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact.
Natural Resources	The policy is likely to have environmental impacts on water.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the historic environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts on the historic environment.
Social Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the social environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts on the social environment.

Policy MIN ENV7: Private Water Supply		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**

Natural Features	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact as it relates to water supply.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the historic environment. The policy seeks to resist proposals that potentially might result in significant environmental impacts to the Historic Environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts on the historic environment.
Social Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the social environment. The policy seeks to resist proposals that potentially might result in significant environmental impacts to the Social Environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts on the social environment.

Policy MIN ENV8: Restoration and the Water Environment		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact as it relates to restoration and the water environment.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant environmental impact.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the historic environment.	No. The policy seeks to resist proposals that potentially might result in significant environmental impacts to the Historic Environment.

Social Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the social environment.	No. The policy seeks to resist proposals that potentially might result in significant environmental impacts to the Social Environment.

Policy MIN ENV9: Protection of Areas of Nature Conservation Interest		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes.	Yes. By protecting areas of Nature Conservation Interest, the policy is likely to have environmental impacts on landscape, biodiversity and climate.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN ENV10: Protection of Built and Natural Environment Resources		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**

Natural Features	Yes. There are likely to be environmental impacts as a result of the protection of natural and built assets.	Yes. The policy protects natural and built heritage assets.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

East Ayrshire's landscape

Policy MIN ENV11: Protecting the landscape		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. Specific features and characteristics identified in the Landscape Character Assessment such as the local landscapes' characteristics and the conservation or enhancement of important landscape features should inform and add to the quality of restoration plans.	Yes. The restoration quality of Natural Features should be enhanced by being informed by the Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment and with the protection this policy affords.
Natural Resources	As above.	Yes. The restoration quality of Natural Resources should be enhanced by being informed by the Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment.

Historic Environment	As above.	Yes. The restoration quality of the Historic Environment should be enhanced by being informed by the Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment.
Social Environment	As above.	Yes. The restoration quality of the Social Environment should be enhanced by being informed by the Ayrshire Landscape Character Assessment.

Policy MIN ENV12: Assessing Landscape and Visual Impacts		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	No. The policy is procedural only. The requirement for a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA), - including potential cumulative impacts, is to inform decision makers about potential Landscape and Visual Impacts. Unacceptable cumulative impacts on the landscape, will not be supported.	No. The policy is only procedural.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN ENV13: Conserving, enhancing and protecting geological interest		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy aims to ensure that there would be no negative environmental impacts on East Ayrshire's geological features as it seeks to resist development negatively impacting such designations.	Yes. The policy may have a significant positive impact on Natural Features.
Natural Resources	No, the policy is aimed at protecting natural features.	No, the policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Historic Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the historic environment.	As Above.
Social Environment	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on the social environment.	As above.

Policy MIN ENV14: Spireslack Canyon		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy aims to ensure that there would be no negative environmental impacts on East Ayrshire's geological features as it seeks to resist development negatively impacting such designations.	Yes. The policy may have a significant impact on Natural Features as it resist negative impacts on an important geological resource.
Natural Resources	No. The policy is aimed at protecting natural features.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.

Historic Environment	No. The policy is aimed at protecting natural features.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Social Environment	No. The policy is aimed at protecting natural features.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.

Minimising the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people

Policy MIN PPL1: Protecting Communities		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy seeks to minimise the negative adverse impacts of extraction on communities by requiring an adequate separation distance between the development site and nearby settlements. Proposals are unlikely to be supported unless there is an adequate separation distance.	Yes. The policy may result in significant environmental impacts to Natural Features.
Natural Resources	No. The key aims of the policy are to minimise negative adverse impacts on communities.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Historic Environment	Yes. The policy seeks to minimise the negative adverse impacts of extraction on communities by requiring an adequate separation distance between the development site and nearby settlements, within which proposals are unlikely to be supported. As settlements contain the majority of built heritage assets this will offer some protection.	Yes. The policy may result in significant environmental impacts to the historic environment.

Social Environment	Yes. The policy seeks to minimise the negative adverse impacts of extraction on communities by providing an adequate separation distance between the development site and nearby settlements. Proposals within 500 metres of a settlement or residential dwelling are unlikely to be supported, a limited separation distance will require justification.	Yes. The policy may result in significant environmental impacts to the Social Environment.

Policy MIN PPL 2: Protecting residential amenity		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy seeks to minimise the negative adverse impacts of extraction on residential amenity by preventing unacceptable levels of pollution.	Yes. The policy may result in significant environmental impacts to Natural Features.
Natural Resources	Yes. The policy seeks to minimise the negative adverse impacts of extraction on residential amenity by preventing unacceptable levels of pollution.	As above.
Historic Environment	No. The key aims of the policy are to minimise negative adverse impacts on communities.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Social Environment	Yes. The policy seeks to minimise the negative adverse impacts of extraction on residential amenity by preventing unacceptable levels of pollution.	Yes. The policy may result in significant environmental impacts to the Social Environment.

Duration of extraction of opencast coal sites.

Policy MIN PPL3: Duration of extraction period for coal sites		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts, potentially positive as the policy seeks to minimise the adverse cumulative impacts on settlements as a result of the duration of permissions.
Natural Resources	As above	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy could have an environmental impact on the historic environment, in particular archaeological resource areas.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts.
Social Environment	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts, potentially positive as the policy seeks to minimise the adverse cumulative impacts on settlements as a result of the duration of permissions.

Policy MIN PPL4: Duration of extraction period of non-coal minerals extraction		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts, potentially positive as the policy seeks to minimise impacts as a result of the duration of permissions.

Natural Resources	As above	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy could have an environmental impact on the historic environment, in particular archaeological resource areas.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts.
Social Environment	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts, potentially positive as the policy seeks to minimise the impacts on settlements.

Policy MIN PPL5: Tourism Development		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy protects existing tourist sites it is therefore unlikely that environmental impacts will be directly associated with this policy.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN PPL6: Tourism activities on former mineral opportunity sites		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**

Natural Features	The policy encourages tourism activities which may involve facilities, as well as the creation of new path networks, therefore it is likely that there will be environmental impacts on natural features.	Yes. There could be significant impacts.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

The Transportation of minerals

Policy MIN T1: Routing of the transportation of minerals		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy may have an environmental impact.	Yes. The policy may result in significant environmental impacts, potentially positive as the policy seeks to minimise the incidence of, and/or the impacts of road transportation related impacts on settlements and the environment.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN T2: Cumulative Impacts of Minerals Related Traffic		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**

Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact, potentially positive as the policy seeks to mitigate the mineral transportation related impacts on settlements and the environment.	Yes. The policy is likely to result in significant environmental impacts, potentially positive as the policy seeks to mitigate the mineral transportation related impacts on settlements and the environment.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN T3: Restoration and Access		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have an environmental impact, potentially positive as the policy seeks to restore public access routes to the rural area.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a positive cumulative environmental impact, due to additional access provision not only improving access but improving route network connectivity.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN T4: Rights of Way and Core Paths		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**

Natural Features	Yes	Yes. New routes could have significant impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna depending upon their location. There are unlikely to be impacts on landscape or climate.
Natural Resources	The policy is unlikely to have environmental impacts on natural resources.	As above.
Historic Environment	The policy will have environmental impacts on the historic environment.	As above.
Social Environment	The policy will have environmental impacts on the historic environment.	As above.

Ensuring an adequate and steady supply of minerals

Policy MIN SUP1: Sterilisation of Workable Minerals Resources		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	No. The policy safeguards minerals but in itself does not promote change.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Policy MIN SUP2: Borrow pits

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	Yes. The creation of borrow pits may have an environmental impact as the extraction of material will result in changes to the environment and create engineering and transportation requirements.	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant impacts on the environment.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	As above.	As above.

Recycled and Secondary Aggregates

Policy MIN SUP3: Reworking of Waste Spoil Tips		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is likely to have an environmental impact as it is concerned with the remodelling/ processing of spoil material.	Yes. The policy is likely to have a significant impact on the environment.
Natural Resources	As above	As above.
Historic Environment	As above	As above.
Social Environment	As above	As above.

Policy MIN SUP4: Extraction of secondary aggregates		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	Yes. The policy is likely to have environmental impacts as the extraction of secondary materials is an adjunct to the extraction of primary materials.	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts.
Natural Resources	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	No. The policy is unlikely to have any environmental impacts on the historical environment.	No. The policy is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.
Social Environment	The policy is likely to have environmental impacts as it relates to the extraction of a secondary material with primary materials.	Yes. The policy is likely to have significant environmental impacts.

Policy MIN WP 1: Financial guarantees		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The policy is unlikely to have any environmental impacts as it is a procedural matter regarding the collection of restoration liabilities.	No. This is a procedural matter and is unlikely to have any environmental impacts.
Natural Resources	As above	As above
Historic Environment	As above	As above

Social Environment	As above	As above

Stage 1 Assessment of the Minerals LDP – Former mineral opportunity sites

MIN OPP SITE 1: Lethanhill		
Environmental Topics	**Will there be an environmental impact?**	**Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?**
Natural Features	The site was a previous surface coal mining site on which restoration has been undertaken. The development of the site for a new use, could potentially impact on the landscape and environmental improvements carried out through the restoration.	Yes. The re-use of the site could impact significantly on its landscape and natural environment.
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use onto a restored site in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality as a result of the creation of a new trip generator.	Yes. Development of the site could increase usage of private transport.
Historic Environment	There will be potential environmental impacts on the historic environment as the site includes a Scheduled Monument designation.	Yes. The reuse of the site could impact on the Scheduled Monument, however this is dependent on the location of the new development.
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

MIN OPP SITE 2: Dalmellington North

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	The site allocation may have an environmental impact, as it is gives support for introducing new uses into the rural area on a former mining site. The re-use of the site may impact on the existing SSSI. There may be environmental impacts on the natural features as the site is adjacent to a Local Nature Reserve.	Yes. The allocation is likely to have significant environmental impacts on natural features including biodiversity, flora and fauna and geology.
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality, as a result of the creation of a new trip generator. There are likely to be positive impacts of developing brownfield land and bringing a vacant site back into active use.	Yes. Development of the site would bring a brownfield site back into use, but may also increase usage of private transport, therefore having a significant environmental impact.
Historic Environment	There will be potential environmental impacts as there is a Scheduled Ancient Monument adjacent to the site. The site includes a WOSAS trigger location; therefore, there may be environmental impacts on the archaeological resource within this site.	Yes. There could be significant environmental impacts on the Scheduled Monument and the archaeological resource of the site, however, this is dependent on the location of the new development.
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

MIN OPP SITE 3: Piperhill

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	The site allocation may have an environmental impact on natural features, potentially positive, as it gives support for introducing new uses into the rural area on a former mining site	Yes. The allocation is likely to have significant environmental impacts.
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality, as a result of the creation of a new trip generator. There are likely to be positive impacts of developing brownfield land and bringing a vacant site back into active use.	Yes. Development of the site would bring a brownfield site back into use, but may also increase usage of private transport, therefore having a significant environmental impact.
Historic Environment	The site includes a WOSAS trigger location; therefore, there may be environmental impacts on the archaeological resource within the site. The site appears to include, or be in the near vicinity of the scheduled monument of Auchenloigh Castle.	Yes, there could be significant environmental impacts on the archaeological resource on the site, however this is dependent on the location of the new development.
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

MIN OPP SITE 4: Skares

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	The site allocation may have an environmental impact on natural features, potentially positive, as it is gives support for introducing new uses into the rural area on a former mining site. Small pockets of ancient woodland adjacent to the site could be impacted.	Yes. The allocation is likely to have significant environmental impacts
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality, as a result of the creation of a new trip generator. There are likely to be positive impacts of developing brownfield land and bringing a vacant site back into active use.	Yes. Development of the site would bring a brownfield site back into use, but may also increase usage of private transport, therefore having a significant environmental impact.
Historic Environment	There will be no impacts on the historic environment as there are no statutory designations within or adjacent to the site.	No
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

MIN OPP SITE 5: New Cumnock North

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	The site allocation may have an environmental impact on natural features, potentially positive, as it gives support for introducing new uses into the rural area on a former mining site. The allocation could impact on the adjacent Special Protection Area and SSSI.	Yes. The allocation is likely to have significant environmental impacts
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality, as a result of the creation of a new trip generator. There are likely to be positive impacts of developing brownfield land and bringing a vacant site back into active use.	Yes. Development of the site would bring a brownfield site back into use, but may also increase usage of private transport, therefore having a significant environmental impact.
Historic Environment	The site includes a WOSAS trigger location; therefore there may be environmental impacts on archaeological resource within the site.	Yes. There may be significant impacts on the archaeological resource as there is a WOSAS trigger location within the site, however this is dependent on the location of the new development.
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

MIN OPP SITE 6: Muirkirk West

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	The site allocation may have an environmental impact on natural features, potentially positive, as it is gives support for introducing new uses into the rural area on a former mining site. The allocation could impact on the adjacent Special Protection Area and SSSI.	Yes. The allocation is likely to have significant environmental impacts
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality, as a result of the creation of a new trip generator. There are likely to be positive impacts of developing brownfield land and bringing a vacant site back into active use.	Yes. Development of the site would bring a brownfield site back into use, but may also increase usage of private transport, therefore having a significant environmental impact.
Historic Environment	The site includes a WOSAS trigger location; therefore there may be environmental impacts on the archaeological resource within the site.	Yes. There may be significant impacts on the archaeological resource as there is a WOSAS trigger location within the site, however, this will be dependent on the location of the new development.
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

MIN OPP SITE 7: Glenbuck

Environmental Topics	Will there be an environmental impact?	Significant Impact (Y/N/Unsure) Why? If no, could the impact become a significant cumulative or synergistic impact (y/n) why?
Natural Features	The site allocation may have an environmental impact on natural features, potentially positive, as it is gives support for introducing new uses into the rural area on a former mining site. The site contains a Regionally Important Geological Site (Spireslack canyon), which could be impacted on by new development.	Yes. The allocation is likely to have significant environmental impacts
Natural Resources	The introduction of a new use in the rural area could have an impact on car usage and air quality, as a result of the creation of a new trip generator. There are likely to be positive impacts of developing brownfield land and bringing a vacant site back into active use.	Yes. Development of the site would bring a brownfield site back into use, but may also increase usage of private transport, therefore having a significant environmental impact.
Historic Environment	There may be potential environmental impacts on the Historic Environment as the site contains a Scheduled Monument. The site also includes WOSAS trigger locations; therefore they may be environmental impacts on the archaeological resource within the site.	Yes. There will be significant environmental impacts on the Historic Environment as the site contains a Scheduled Monument and areas of archaeological resource, however this will depend on the location of the new development.
Social Environment	The re-use of the site could have an impact on the social environment.	Yes. The introduction of new uses / developments could have a positive impact on local communities.

APPENDIX D: STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT TABLES

The following key should be used to in conjunction with the following tables:

Key	Significant Positive	Significant Positive/Negative	Significant Negative	Neutral/Unknown

Aim 1: To secure restoration of previously worked sites.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regard to landscapes degraded by mineral workings.	None.
	Geology	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regards to geology.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regard to landscapes degraded by mineral workings. This will result in associated positive impacts to habitat restoration/ creation.	None.
	Climate	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regard to landscapes degraded by mineral workings. This will result in associated positive impacts on climate change mitigation e.g. increased carbon sinks, and flood attenuation capacity.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regard to natural resources denuded/ degraded by mineral workings. This will result in associated positive impacts to soil condition.	None.
	Air	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regard to natural resources denuded/ degraded by mineral workings. This will result in associated positive impacts to air quality.	None.
	Water	The aim will have a positive environmental impact with regard to natural resources denuded/ degraded	None.

		by mineral workings. This will result in associated positive impacts to water quality.	
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The aim will have a positive effect on any Listed Buildings negatively impacted as a result of mineral workings. Positive impacts may be secured as a result of improved landscape setting of Listed Buildings and greater potential tourism interest in Listed Buildings.	None.
	Conservation Areas	The aim will have a positive effect on any Conservation Areas negatively impacted as a result of mineral workings. Positive impacts may be secured as a result of improved landscape setting of Conservation Areas and greater potential touristic interest in Conservation Areas.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The aim will have a positive effect on any archaeological sites / areas negatively impacted as a result of mineral workings. Positive impacts may be secured as a result of improved landscape setting of archaeological sites and improved access to them.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The aim will have a positive effect on such sites by potentially improving landscape setting.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	The aim will have a positive effect on any scheduled monuments. Positive impacts may be secured as a result of improved landscape setting of and improved access.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	The aim will have a positive effect on such sites by potentially improving landscape setting.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The aim will have a positive effect on the Social Environment. Restoration/ reinstatement or alternative use to promote tourism, agriculture, forestry, conservation benefit, recreation and leisure and employment opportunities may result in uptake	None.

		of physical activity/ increased access to employment opportunities.	
	Health	The aim will have a positive effect on the Social Environment. Restoration/ reinstatement or alternative use to promote tourism, agriculture, forestry, conservation benefit, recreation and leisure and employment opportunities may result in uptake of physical activity/ increased access to employment opportunities.	None.
	Material Assets	The aim will have a positive effect on the Social Environment. Restoration/ reinstatement or alternative use to promote tourism, agriculture, forestry, conservation benefit, recreation and leisure and employment opportunities may result in uptake of physical activity/ increased access to employment opportunities.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The aim is likely to have a medium/ long term significant positive impact on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The restoration of multiple sites over the medium term facilitates the creation/ restoration of active travel networks/ biodiversity networks and habitat mosaics.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Aim 2: To encourage the development of alternative uses on former minerals opportunity sites including tourism, leisure, forestry, biodiversity, nature conservation and agriculture for the benefit of local communities.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Yes. The aim supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support recreation, heritage, landscape, biodiversity, nature conservation or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As the aim supports a wide range of uses on the site, and the uses are not limited to	The detailed policy that relates to these sites, Policy MIN SS4, makes it clear that proposals must contribute towards rural placemaking, provide amenity afteruses that protect and improve the environmental

		those specifically listed in the aim, it is likely that it will have a significant positive and negative environmental impact on Natural Features. Certain supported uses within the policy may have significantly positive impacts (e.g. nature conservation uses). However, other uses, such as large forestry schemes and agricultural uses can have a significantly negative impact on the landscape.	quality of the site while delivering site benefits and value to local communities. The policy outlines how the Council will support innovative and multi-use developments on these sites. Therefore, whilst the aim is quite broad the more detailed policy provides mitigation against the potential negative impacts. The specific landscape policies of the Plan also provide far more detailed policy protection.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	While this aim supports the development of former minerals opportunity sites for a range of uses, some of the uses mentioned are likely to have a significantly positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna, whereas others are likely to have a significant negative impact on biodiversity, such as large forestry sites and agricultural uses.	As above, Policy MIN SS4 provides the detailed policy, which underpins this aim and provides sufficient mitigation. In addition, Policy ENV9 seeks to protect natural assets by ensuring that any development will not have an adverse impact on the integrity of the area or qualities for which it was designated. There will be a presumption against development which could have an adverse impact on sites of local importance for nature conservation.
	Climate	As above.	None.

Natural Resources	Soil	The aim would support the development of former minerals opportunity sites for a range of uses from leisure to nature conservation which are likely to have a positive impact. However, the development of some of the uses as well as the uses themselves could have some significant negative impacts on soil. For example, agricultural uses should have detrimental impacts on soil quality, as well as forestry and leisure.	As above, Policy MIN SS4 provides the detailed policy, which underpins this aim and provides sufficient mitigation. All permitted proposals will be required to accord with relevant MLDP policies, such as MIN ENV1, which prevents significant impact, disturbance or removal of Class 1 or Class 2 peatland, deep peat and other carbon rich soils as well as policy MIN ENV3 which outlines a presumption against the removal of soils from sites.
	Air	The aim supports the development of former minerals opportunity sites for a range of uses, some of these uses may have a significant detrimental impact on air quality such as forestry or agriculture	As above, Policy MIN SS4 provides the detailed policy, which underpins this aim and provides sufficient mitigation. Policy ENV10 ensures that proposals which adversely affect air quality or create air pollution will not be supported.
	Water	The aim would support the development of former minerals opportunity sites for a range of uses from leisure to nature conservation which are likely to have a positive impact. However, the development of some of the uses as well as the uses themselves could have some significant negative impacts on water. For example, agricultural uses should have detrimental impacts on water quality.	As above, Policy MIN SS4 provides the detailed policy, which underpins this aim and provides sufficient mitigation. The criteria of Policy MIN ENV5 will be used to manage this. Policy MIN ENV5 outlines that proposals will not be supported that adversely impact on surface or ground water, river flow, water quality or increase flood risk.

Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The identified sites have very little historic environment features, any features that are present have been assessed in more in the assessment of the individual minerals opportunity sites.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The surrounding communities are likely to benefit economically and socially from this aim.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to result in medium/ long term significant positive and negative impacts on the environment. As this broad aim of the Plan is underpinned by more detailed policies, adequate mitigation is provided throughout the Plan.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The close proximity of certain opportunity sites may result in cumulative positive impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Aim 3: To conserve and enhance the natural and built environment where mineral extraction is not suitable and to minimise the negative impacts of mineral extraction upon the built and natural environment.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment, such as peat and reducing the effects of mineral extraction on the environment.	None.
	Geology	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment, such as peat and reducing the effects of mineral extraction on the environment. It also aims to reduce the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment, such as carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Climate	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment, such as carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat, water bodies and groundwater. It also aims to reduce the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on soil as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.

	Air	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on soil as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Water	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on soil as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on listed buildings as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Conservation Areas	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on Conservation Areas as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on archaeological sites/ areas as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on gardens and designed landscapes as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on Scheduled Monuments as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.

	Historic Battlefields	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on historic battlefields as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on population as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Health	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on human health as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
	Material Assets	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on material assets as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The aim is likely to have a long term significant positive impact on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		There are unlikely to be significant cumulative or synergistic impacts as a result of the aim.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None	

Aim 4: To promote green networks, enhance biodiversity and create more attractive, healthy environments for people to live in, work in and which gives them opportunities for recreation.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape as it is concerned with promoting green networks and creating more attractive environments.	None.
	Geology	There are likely to be significant positive impacts on geology as the aim is concerned with promoting green networks and creating attractive environments. This will include safeguarding important geological features as well as enhancing access to such features where appropriate.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna as it is concerned with enhancing biodiversity and the green network. A healthy green network is likely to enhance and strengthen habitat networks in turn delivering a good range of benefits for people and wildlife.	None.
	Climate	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate as it seeks to promote green networks and enhance biodiversity which should, for example, assist in creating carbon balance and enhancing habitat networks.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on soil as it seeks to promote green networks, enhance biodiversity and create healthy environments. Various measures to create healthy environments can improve soil quality.	None
	Air	There are likely to be significant positive impacts on air quality as the aim is concerned with promoting green networks and enhancing biodiversity. Creating healthy environments improves air quality.	None
	Water	There are likely to be significant positive impacts on water as the aim is concerned with promoting green	None

		networks and enhancing biodiversity. This will include enhancing water corridors and addressing issues of flooding and wetland management.	
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The aim is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact in relation to listed buildings but will generally help to enhance the historic environment.	None
	Conservation Areas	The aim is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact in relation to conservation areas but will generally help to enhance the historic environment.	None
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on archaeological sites/areas as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment and reducing the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	None
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on gardens and designed landscapes as it is concerned with promoting green networks through, for example, enhancing the provision of path networks and open spaces. This should enhance access and areas surrounding gardens and designed landscapes	None
	Scheduled Monuments	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on scheduled monuments as it is concerned with promoting green networks. The promotion of green networks should enhance the provision of paths and open spaces and creating attractive environments for residents and visitors. This should enhance access to and areas surrounding scheduled monuments.	None
	Historic Battlefields	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on scheduled monuments as it is concerned with promoting green networks. The promotion of green networks should enhance the provision of paths and open spaces and creating attractive environments	None

		for residents and visitors. This should enhance access to and areas surrounding historic battlefields.	
Social Environment	Population	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on population as it is concerned with promoting green networks through, for example, the creation or enhancement of path and cycle provision and linkages, enhancements to open spaces. In turn creating a healthy and attractive environment for residents and visitors.	None
	Health	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on human health as it is concerned with promoting green networks through, for example, the creation or enhancement of path and cycle provision and linkages and enhancements to open spaces. In turn creating a healthy and attractive environment for residents and visitors through, for example improved air quality, water quality, and potential to overcome health inequalities.	None
	Material Assets	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on material assets as it is concerned with promoting green networks through, for example, the creation or enhancement of path and cycle provision and linkages, enhancements to open spaces.	None
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		There are likely to be long term significant positive environmental impacts as a result of the aim.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The restoration of green networks over the medium term facilitates the exponential connectivity of active travel networks/ biodiversity networks and habitat mosaics.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Aim 5: To minimise the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None
	Air	As above.	None
	Water	As above.	None
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None
Social Environment	Population	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on Population as it is concerned with minimising the	None

		negative impacts of extraction on the Social Environment.	
	Health	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on human health as it is concerned with minimising the negative impacts of extraction on human health.	None
	Material Assets	The aim is likely to have a significant positive impact on Population as it is concerned with minimising the negative impacts of extraction on the Social Environment.	None
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		There are likely to be short, medium and long term positive environmental impacts as a result of the aim.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		In terms of a holistic approach to the social environment, cumulative positive impacts may occur.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Aim 8: To promote and deliver excellence in working and restoration practices.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The aim in itself is likely to have a positive significant impact on all environmental components and aims to maximise the beneficial opportunities created through restoration. Further benefits include ensuring that a robust and effective monitoring policy framework is in place.	The aim in itself is likely to have a positive significant impact to optimise the potential benefits secured through all restoration operations/ projects.
	Geology	As above	As above
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above	As above
	Climate	As above	As above
Natural Resources	Soil	As above	As above
	Air	As above	As above

	Water	As above	As above
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	As above	As above
	Conservation Areas	As above	As above
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above	As above
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above	As above
	Scheduled Monuments	As above	As above
	Historic Battlefields	As above	As above
Social Environment	Population	As above	As above
	Health	As above	As above
	Material Assets	As above	As above
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The aim may positively impact on potential benefits secured across short, medium and long terms.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The aim may positively impact on potential benefits secured thorough cumulative and/or synergistic impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Policies:

Policy MIN SS1: Minerals Overarching Policy			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy aims to ensure that there are no overriding unacceptable impacts upon the environmental quality of the area which acknowledges that any extraction will have some negative impact. Other parts of the policy seek protection and enhancement which will have positive impacts.	None
	Geology	The policy protects against unacceptable impacts upon areas of geological conservation and prime quality agricultural land.	None
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy aims to minimise impacts on the Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna of the area; and provide restoration to support regeneration of Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.	None
	Climate	The policy aims to ensure there are no unacceptable impacts to Climate.	None
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy aims to ensure there is no unacceptable loss of safeguarded areas of open space/ green infrastructure and prime quality agricultural land is preserved and that soils removed are properly set aside for reuse.	None
	Air	The policy aims to ensure there is no unacceptable impacts on air quality.	None
	Water	The policy in relation to Protection of Water Resources, Water Bodies and Ground Water is unlikely to have environmental impacts.	None
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy aims to ensure there are no unacceptable impacts on the tourism offer of the area; and protect and enhance the built heritage designations.	None

	Conservation Areas	The policy aims to ensure there are no unacceptable impacts on the tourism offer of the area; and protect and enhance the built heritage designations.	None
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The policy aims to ensure that restoration schemes and new development on former mineral sites will have no overriding unacceptable impacts on the environmental quality of the area including archaeological sites/ areas.	None
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The policy aims to ensure there are no unacceptable impacts on the landscape character or tourism offer of the area; and protect and enhance natural and built heritage designations.	None
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None
Social Environment	Population	The policy seeks to direct coal extraction operations to areas where environmental impacts can be minimised and ensure that subsequent restoration is delivered to a high quality maximising health, employment and recreational opportunities delivered to affected communities and realising the value of the local environment through landscape restoration, climate change mitigation and improving biodiversity	None
	Health	The policy seeks to direct coal extraction operations to areas where environmental impacts can be minimised and ensure that subsequent restoration is delivered to a high quality maximising health, employment and recreational opportunities delivered to affected communities and realising the value of the local environment through landscape restoration, climate change mitigation and improving biodiversity	None
	Material Assets	The policy seeks to ensure that there is no unacceptable loss of safeguarded areas of open space/ green infrastructure and prime quality agricultural land.	None

Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		If the policy is implemented then it will ensure that there are no adverse impacts in the medium to long term. Most development will have some short term significant negative impacts.
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The policy is likely to result in Cumulative/ Synergistic positive impacts on the environment through helping ensure sustainable development.
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		The overarching policy requires numerous MLDP policies and associated monitoring to be implemented.

Policy MIN SS2: Minerals Restoration and Placemaking			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by progressively restoring the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and in the process, enhance Natural features.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by progressively restoring the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and in the process, enhance Natural Resources.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.

Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by progressively restoring the land to a standard which is suitable for other more beneficial uses and in the process, including providing an attractive landscape setting for Historic Environment assets.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	Yes. The policy will, as implemented, result in significant positive environmental impacts and may have a concomitant effect on the Social Environment through higher quality of life, increased physical activity and sense of wellbeing.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		As restoration projects are responsible for repairing environmental damage and enhancing landscape quality, impacts may be Short, Medium and Long Term.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		As restoration projects are responsible for repairing environmental damage and enhancing landscape quality, impacts may be Cumulative and Synergistic.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Policy MIN SS3: Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by encouraging and supporting developments that contribute to the vision and aims of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership, as a key means of regenerating and rejuvenating the former coalfield area. The vision and aims proposed through the Landscape Partnership will enhance Natural Features.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by encouraging and supporting developments that contribute to the vision and aims of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership, as a key means of regenerating and rejuvenating the former coalfield area. The vision and aims proposed through the Landscape Partnership will enhance Natural Resources	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by encouraging and supporting developments that contribute to the vision and aims of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership, as a key means of regenerating and rejuvenating the former coalfield area. The vision and aims	None.

		proposed through the Landscape Partnership will protect and enhance the Historic Environment.	
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy will, as implemented, should result in significant positive environmental impacts by encouraging and supporting developments that contribute to the vision and aims of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership, as a key means of regenerating and rejuvenating the former coalfield area. The vision and aims proposed through the Landscape Partnership will create and improve path connections within the area leading to increased physical activity and sense of wellbeing.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to result in medium/long term significant positive impacts on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		N/A	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

POLICY MIN SS4: Former minerals opportunity sites and placemaking			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Yes. The policy supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support the intrinsic qualities of recreation, heritage, landscape, or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As such the policy is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact on Natural Features.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	Yes. The policy supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support the intrinsic qualities of recreation, heritage, landscape, or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As such the policy is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact on Natural Resources.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Yes. The policy supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support the intrinsic qualities of recreation, heritage, landscape, or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As such the policy is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact on the Historic Environment.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.

	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	Yes. The policy supports rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses. Land uses on the former minerals opportunity sites which support the intrinsic qualities of recreation, heritage, landscape, or inclusive economic growth are also supported. As such the policy is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact on the Social Environment.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to result in medium/ long term significant positive impacts on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The close proximity of certain opportunity sites may result in cumulative positive impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor discharge of conditions.	

Spatial Strategy – Surface Coal Extraction

Policy MIN SS5: Surface Coal Extraction Developments			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy would ensure that there would be no significant negative impacts on East Ayrshire's protected areas and sites including SPAs, SAC, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest as it focuses potential future coal extraction in specific areas. However, there are likely to be negative impacts on other areas that might be subject to surface coal mining due to the nature of minerals extraction.	All permitted surface coal extraction will be required to accord with relevant MLDP policies and will be assessed, in terms of their appropriateness for minerals extraction. Any development proposal will be required to minimise impacts to landscape, in terms of impacts on the character and setting of landscape as well as visual impacts. Design and restoration proposals must respect the local landscape characteristics of the area and require sites to be restored, see for example policies MIN ENV10 and 11.
	Geology	As above	All permitted surface coal extraction will be required to accord with relevant MLDP policies, such as MIN ENV13, which prevents significant impacts to geology. If development is required on areas adjacent to geological features then proposals should be accompanied by supporting documentation showing how geological features will be

			protected. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impacts) will be experienced.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it directs coal extraction away from Natura 2000 sites, SSSI's, local nature conservation sites and carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat. However, there are likely to be negative impacts on other areas that might be subject to surface coal mining due to the nature of minerals extraction.	All permitted surface coal extraction will be required to accord with relevant MLDP policies, such as MIN ENV1, 9 and 10, which prevent significant impacts to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna. There will be a presumption against development which could adversely impact areas designated or proposed by Scottish Ministers for designation as SPAs, SACs and SSSIs, LNRs and Local Nature Conservation Sites. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impacts) will be experienced.
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a positive impact, in terms of climate as it directs coal extraction away from carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat as well as prime quality agricultural	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies, for example, MIN ENV1, which

		land and locally important agricultural land. However, there are likely to be negative impacts on other areas that might be subject to surface coal mining due to the nature of minerals extraction.	prevent significant impacts to climate. There will be a presumption against the disturbance and/or removal of peat, within specific designated area. If disturbance and/or removal is proposed then a detailed site specific survey of peatland habitats will be required as well as detailed survey work. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impacts) will be experienced.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have a positive impact, in terms of soil as it directs coal extraction away from carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat as well as prime quality agricultural land and locally important agricultural land. However, there are likely to be negative impacts on other areas that might be subject to surface coal mining due to the nature of minerals extraction.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies, for example, MIN ENV1 and 2, which prevent significant impacts to soil. In line with policy ENV1, any proposals to disturb and/or remove peat and other carbon rich soils requires to be fully assessed and justified. In addition, a detailed site specific survey of peatland habitats and peat depths across a site will be required where peat and carbon rich soils are present. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive

			impacts (or whatever impacts) will be experienced.
	Air	The designation of an area(s) of search would not have any environmental impact on air. The assessment of environmental impacts of air should be carried out at a site specific level. However, there are likely to be negative impacts on other areas that might be subject to surface coal mining due to the nature of minerals extraction.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies, such as MIN PPL1, 2, MIN T1 and 2 which prevent significant impacts to air quality. Any proposals will be required to provide an adequate separation distance between the development site and nearby communities and sensitive receptors to minimise any significant adverse impacts. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impacts) will be experienced.
	Water	The area of search could include water bodies within its boundaries. However, a policy framework will be in place to protect water bodies and ground water. It is therefore likely that the policy will have a neutral impact on the water environment.	Chapter 5 of the MLDP sets out environmental policies with policy MIN ENV6 to protect water bodies and ground water. Any proposals will be required to implement adequate mitigation measures, to the satisfaction of the Council and SEPA, where mineral operations may impact on such water resources. Should these mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.

Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy does not explicitly identify listed buildings as a constraint to be eliminated from the area of search. However, a policy framework will be in place to safeguard category A listed buildings from future minerals development. The policy framework will also direct development away from listed buildings, thus having significant positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Conservation Areas	The policy does not explicitly identify conservation areas as a constraint to be eliminated from the area of search. However, a policy framework will be in place to safeguard all conservation areas from minerals development, thus having significant positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The policy does not explicitly identify archaeological sites or areas as a constraint to be eliminated from the area of search although some might fall within those areas identified as a constraint. However, a policy framework will be in place to safeguard important archaeological sites or areas from minerals development, thus having significant positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The policy does not explicitly identify Gardens and Designed Landscapes as a constraint to be eliminated although some might fall within those areas identified as a constraint. However, a policy framework will be in place to safeguard all Gardens and Designed Landscapes from minerals development, thus having significant positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	The policy does not explicitly identify Scheduled Monuments as a constraint to be eliminated although some might fall within those areas identified as a constraint. However, a policy framework will be in place to safeguard all Scheduled Monuments from minerals development,	None.

		thus having significant positive environmental impacts.	
	Historic Battlefields	The policy does not explicitly identify historic battlefields as a constraint to be eliminated although some might fall within those areas identified as a constraint. However, a policy framework will be in place to safeguard all Historic Battlefields from minerals development, thus having significant positive environmental impacts.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The area of search will protect communities from the impact of future surface coal workings by putting a buffer zone around settlements, therefore potentially having a significant positive environmental impact on people.	None.
	Health	The policy will protect communities from the impact of future surface coal workings by putting a buffer zone around settlements, therefore potentially having a significant positive environmental impact, in terms of health. Although this buffer should reduce any significant impacts, any future surface coal workings could continue to have impacts relating to dust, noise, and vibration as well as visual impacts. This will be the case if there is more than one site operating near to a community. Overall there is likely to be significant positive and negative impacts, in terms of health.	The Plan contains a policy framework (see MLDP Chapter 6) to prohibit new workings that are likely to have adverse impacts on noise, dust, vibration and visual impact, either individually or cumulatively. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Material Assets	The area of search could include core paths, rights of way and other locally important path networks, which if lost, would have a significant negative environmental impact.	The Plan contains a policy framework (see MLDP Chapter 7), for example policies MIN T3 and 4, to prohibit new workings that will have a long term impact upon path networks, however, there may be short term impacts as a result of minerals

			developments. As part of the spatial strategy of the MLDP, the Coalfields Communities Landscape Partnership will seek to improve existing and create new path networks throughout the area to reconnect people with their landscapes. Should these mitigation measures be taken on board then it is likely that significant positive and negative impacts will be experienced as there still could be adverse impacts limited to the short and medium term
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		There are likely to be short, medium and long term impacts as a result of the policy.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The policy is unlikely to have any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts as it is concerned with a focused area of search.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		The MLDP contains a robust policy framework associated with the policy in relation to environmental features and resources, the historic environment and social environment. Also, it ensure that any significant negative impacts, on landscape character and setting, geological features, biodiversity, flora and fauna, material assets, soils and climate from any future minerals extraction are minimised.	

Policy MIN SS6: Restoration Coal			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy seeks to ensure significant positive environmental impacts through landscape restoration of unrestored sites with coal remaining. A masterplan will ensure whole site restoration with land being returned to a condition suitable for delivering appropriate rural economic, or community benefits.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	As above.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy seeks to ensure significant positive environmental impacts through landscape restoration to the benefit of the Historic Environment through potentially providing an enhanced landscape setting.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.

Social Environment	Population	The policy seeks to ensure significant positive environmental impacts through landscape restoration to the benefit of the local population.	None.
	Health	The policy seeks to ensure significant positive environmental impacts through landscape restoration to the benefit of health outcomes.	None.
	Material Assets	Key designated site features should be integrated into a site restoration masterplan to ensure an appropriate environmental/ heritage response is secured including material assets.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to result in medium/ long term significant positive impacts on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		N/A.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Use of restoration masterplan monitoring schedule.	

Policy MIN SS7: Surface coal proposals outwith the area of search and not meeting the criteria of MIN SS6.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The nature of extraction means there will be short term significant negative impacts on the environment however, the last clause of the policy ensures that any proposals will be required to meet with all other relevant MLDP policies thereby mitigating against negative impacts and encouraging positive environmental impacts in the medium to long term.	All permitted surface coal extraction will be required to accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts to landscape and require sites to be restored, for example MIN ENV11, 12. However, by its nature, localised short term negative landscape impacts will result due to the effects of surface coal extraction. Any development proposal will be

			required to minimise impacts to landscape, in terms of impacts on the character and setting of landscape as well as visual impacts. Should this mitigation be taken on board then it is likely that significant positive and negative impacts will be experienced as there still could be adverse impacts limited to the short and medium term
	Geology	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to geology.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.
	Climate	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to climate.
Natural Resources	Soil	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to soil.
	Air	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which

			prevent significant impacts to air quality.
	Water	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to water quality.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	As above.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant impacts.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	The nature of extraction means there will be short term significant negative impacts on the environment. However, the last clause of the policy ensures that any proposals will be required to meet with all other relevant MLDP policies thereby mitigating against negative impacts and encouraging positive social environmental impacts in the medium to long term.	The policy is unlikely to result in significant impacts.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		As the Area of Search is designed to limit negative effects, impacts may be Short, Medium and Long Term.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		As the Area of Search is designed to limit negative effects, impacts may have Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Compliance monitoring is required to cover noise, blasting, air quality, and water quality. Off-site environmental monitoring may also be required.	

Policy MIN SS8: Unconventional Oil and Gas			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	There is the potential for significant environmental impacts as a result of unconventional oil and gas proposals. However, the policy does not support unconventional oil and such proposals during the lifetime of the MLDP.	The position will be fully reviewed if the Scottish Government's position on the embargo currently in place is revised.
	Geology	As above.	As above.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	As above.
	Climate	As above.	As above.
Natural Resources	Soil	There is the potential for significant environmental impacts as a result of unconventional oil and gas proposals. However, the policy does not support unconventional oil and such proposals during the lifetime of the MLDP.	The position will be fully reviewed if the Scottish Government's position on the embargo currently in place is revised.
	Air	As above.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	There is the potential for significant environmental impacts as a result of unconventional oil and gas proposals. However, the policy does not support unconventional oil and such proposals during the lifetime of the MLDP.	The position will be fully reviewed if the Scottish Government's position on the embargo currently in place is revised.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.

	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	There is the potential for significant environmental impacts as a result of unconventional oil and gas proposals. However, the policy does not support such proposals during the lifetime of the MLDP.	The position will be fully reviewed if the Scottish Government's position on the embargo currently in place is revised.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have short and medium term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	None		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	The position will be fully reviewed if the Scottish Government's position on the embargo currently in place is revised.		

Policy MIN SS9: Carbon Sequestration			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	This technology is in its infancy and it is difficult to determine the likely impact. Overall, the impact is unknown.	It is difficult to determine mitigation measures at present.
	Geology	As above.	As above.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	As above.
	Climate	As above.	As above.
Natural Resources	Soil	As above.	As above.
	Air	As above.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	As above.	As above.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	As above.	As above.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		It is difficult to determine whether the policy will have a short, medium or long term impact at present.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		As above.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Unknown.	

Spatial Strategy – Aggregates

Policy MINSS10: Construction Aggregates			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could have a significant impact on landscape character and setting as they could propose to include sensitive landscape areas such as Natura 2000 sites, sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) and local nature conservation sites.	All permitted extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts and require sites to be restored. All proposals will require to be accompanied by a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) demonstrating the level of impact the proposal may have on the landscape. Proposals should be located away from sensitive landscape areas and design details must respect the local landscape characteristics of the area and should seek to conserve or enhance important landscape features. Should this mitigation be taken on board then it is likely that significant positive and negative impacts will be experienced as there still could be adverse impacts limited to the short and medium term.
	Geology	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could have a significant impact on geological features within sensitive landscape areas.	All permitted proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise

			the impacts to the geological features on a site and adjacent to a site and requires sites to be progressively restored. Development will not permitted which adversely impacts upon the geological features unless required in respect of health and safety. If development is required on areas adjacent to geological features, development proposals should be accompanied by supporting documentation showing how the geological features will be protected. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on geology. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Any new proposals could have a significant negative impact, in terms of biodiversity, flora and fauna due to the potential degradation or loss of habitat networks, areas containing carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland sites and loss of areas identified for their environmental importance, such as Natura 2000 sites, sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) and local nature conservation sites.	All permitted proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna on a site and adjacent to a site and requires sites to be progressively restored. There will be a presumption against development which could adversely impact areas designated as SPA, SAC and

			SSSI. The effective management and conservation of existing landscape features which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora will be encouraged. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on biodiversity, flora and fauna. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Climate	Any new proposals could have a significant negative impact, in terms of climate due to the potential degradation or loss of habitat networks, areas containing carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland sites and loss of areas identified for their environmental importance, such as Natura 2000 sites, sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) and local nature conservation sites.	All permitted proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna on a site and adjacent to a site and requires sites to be progressively restored. There will be a presumption against development which could adversely impact areas designated as SPA, SAC and SSSI. The effective management and conservation of existing landscape features which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora will be encouraged. Should this mitigation be taken on board it

			is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on biodiversity, flora and fauna. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
Natural Resources	Soil	Any new proposals could have a significant negative impact on carbon rich soils, deep peat or priority peatland sites as well as areas of prime quality and locally important agricultural land.	There will be a presumption against the removal of soils from sites. However, if soils are destined for landfill, the Council will support the exportation of any excess soils to other local projects where there is a deficit. Operators will be required to consult with SEPA and SNH to ensure all regulatory obligations are met. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on soils. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Air	Any new proposals for construction aggregates on their own are unlikely to have any impacts on air. The assessment of environmental impacts of air should be carried out at a site specific level or an assessment of other relevant policies in the MLDP.	N/A
	Water	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could include water bodies within its proposed site boundary. The policy could therefore have a	All permitted extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise

		significant negative impact on the water environment, for example, the disturbance or degradation of water bodies.	impacts and require sites to be restored. In the long term, the MLDP will require appropriate restoration of such impacts, therefore adverse impacts are likely to be limited to the short and medium term. The Council will not be supportive of proposals which would disrupt or adversely impact water resources, water bodies and ground water. If mineral operations may impact on water resources such as water catchment areas, principle water courses and their tributaries or other major water resources such as lochs, reservoirs and GWDTE, operators will be required to implement adequate site-specific mitigation measures to the satisfaction of the Council and SEPA to prevent any water pollution. Detailed restoration schemes should be submitted and should detail the development of wetland habitats and any existing water bodies will require to be effectively managed in terms of water level and quality. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of

			development on water. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact on listed buildings, particularly in rural areas, depending on their proposed location.	All permitted proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts and requires to be restored. Proposals will not be supported where they have a permanent adverse impact or cause irreversible damage to historic environment designations and their setting. If a historic environment designation is located within the site or adjacent to the site, the site should be designed and sited accordingly to avoid any adverse impacts. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on water. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Conservation Areas	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact on some conservation areas depending on their proposed location.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact	As above.

		on archaeological sites/areas depending on their proposed location.	
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact on gardens and designed landscapes depending on their proposed location.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact on scheduled monuments depending on their proposed location.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact on historic battlefields depending on their proposed location.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	The policy could have a significant negative impact communities and their health due to issues, such as noise, dust, vibration and visual impact being prevalent, particularly if there is more than one aggregates site operating near a community. The policy will assess the impacts of construction aggregate proposals on local communities and sensitive receptors. However, any construction aggregate sites could continue to have impacts relating to dust, noise and vibration as well as visual impacts	The policy will assess the impacts on local communities and other sensitive receptors from aggregate quarries. Operators will have to submit supporting information which details the nature of the impact on communities and site specific mitigation measures to reduce the adverse impacts. All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts and require sites to be restored. Policies in the Plan afford a 500m buffer around settlements to minimise any adverse impacts on local communities and people. Should these mitigation measures be taken into

			account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Health	The policy could have a significant negative impact communities and their health due to issues, such as noise, dust, vibration and visual impact being prevalent, particularly if there is more than one aggregates site operating near a community.	As above.
	Material Assets	Any new proposals for construction aggregates could potentially have a significant negative impact on core paths, rights of way and other locally important path networks.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy could have short, medium and long term environmental impacts. The negative impacts are likely to be short to medium term.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		None.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Compliance monitoring is required to cover noise, blasting, air quality, and water quality. Off-site environmental monitoring may also be required.	

Policy MIN SS11: Fireclay			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction. Fireclay is largely confined to the coal seams and therefore opportunities to extract the fireclay are normally only explored in tandem with coal extraction. However, the extraction of fireclay would be carried out, if appropriate, as part of any application for coal extraction which will require to comply with policy SS6 which ensures that there would be no significant negative impacts on East Ayrshire's protected areas and sites including SPAs, SAC, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest as it focuses potential future coal extraction in specific areas.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts to landscape and require sites to be restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6. The design of the proposal and the restoration scheme must respect the local landscape characteristics of the area and should seek to conserve or enhance important landscape features such as skylines, distinctive landform features, prominent views, field patterns, burns, rivers, lochs and public rights of way. A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment will be required to accompany all proposals. Support will only be given to proposals where the Council is satisfied that the development will not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the landscape and if an impact is unavoidable, site specific mitigation measures are identified. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that the mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of the development on the landscape.

		However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
Geology	This policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of the extraction. However the extraction of fireclay would be carried out, if appropriate, as part of any application for coal extraction which will require to comply with policy SS6 which ensures that there would be no significant negative impacts on East Ayrshire's protected areas and sites including SPAs, SAC, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest as it focuses potential future coal extraction in specific areas.	All permitted surface coal extraction proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts to the geological features on a site and adjacent to a site and requires sites to be progressively restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6. Development will not permitted which adversely impacts upon the geological features unless required in respect of health and safety. If development is required on areas adjacent to geological features, development proposals should be accompanied by supporting documentation showing how the geological features will be protected. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on geology. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	This policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of the extraction on biodiversity, flora and fauna. However the extraction of fireclay would be carried out, if appropriate, as part of any	All permitted surface coal extraction proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna on a site and adjacent to a site and requires sites to be progressively

		application for coal extraction which will require to comply with policy SS6 which ensures that there would be no significant negative impacts on East Ayrshire's protected areas and sites including SPAs, SAC, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest as it focuses potential future coal extraction in specific areas.	restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6. There will be a presumption against development which could adversely impact areas designated as SPA, SAC and SSSI. The effective management and conservation of existing landscape features which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora will be encouraged. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on biodiversity, flora and fauna. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Climate	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts and requires sites to be progressively restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6.There will be a presumption against the disturbance and/or removal of peat within SPAs, SACs, SSSIs, Local Nature Conservation Sites, Potential Peatland Enhancement sites, protected built resources and Water Catchment areas. The likely effects of their removal on carbon dioxide emissions

			are required to be comprehensively assessed and fully justified and submitted to the Council as part of any proposed minerals development. A detailed site survey of peatland habitats and peat depths across a site will also be required. Any detailed survey work must fully consider those areas identified as Class 1 and Class 2 areas of carbon rich soil, deep peat and priority peatland habitat. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on climate. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction. Fireclay is largely confined to the coal seams and therefore opportunities to extract the fireclay are normally only explored in tandem with coal extraction. However, the extraction of fireclay would be carried out, if appropriate, as part of any application for coal extraction which will require to comply with policy SS6 which ensures that there would be no significant negative impacts on East Ayrshire's protected areas and sites including SPAs, SAC, and Sites of Special Scientific Interest as it focuses potential future coal extraction in specific areas.	There will be a presumption against the removal of soils from sites. However, if soils are destined for landfill, the Council will support the exportation of any excess soils to other local projects where there is a deficit. Operators will be required to consult with SEPA and SNH to ensure all regulatory obligations are met. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on soils. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.

	Air	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts on air and requires sites to be progressively restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6. Proposals which adversely affect air quality or create air pollution issues will not be supported by the Council. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on air. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Water	As above.	All permitted surface coal extraction proposals will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise the impacts on water and requires sites to be progressively restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6. The Council will not be supportive of proposals which would disrupt or adversely impact water resources, water bodies and ground water. If mineral operations may impact on water resources such as water catchment areas, principle water courses and their tributaries or

			other major water resources such as lochs, reservoirs and GWDTE, operators will be required to implement adequate site-specific mitigation measures to the satisfaction of the Council and SEPA to prevent any water pollution. Detailed restoration schemes should be submitted and should detail the development of wetland habitats and any existing water bodies will require to be effectively managed in terms of water level and quality. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on water. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction. Fireclay is largely confined to the coal seams and therefore opportunities to extract the fireclay are normally only explored in tandem with coal extraction. However, the extraction of fireclay would be carried out, if appropriate, as part of any application for coal extraction which will require to comply with policy SS6 which ensures that there would be no significant negative impacts on East Ayrshire's protected areas and sites.	All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts and require sites to be restored. Proposals for the extraction of fireclay and coal will only be acceptable where they meet a set of criteria listed in Policy MIN SS6. Proposals will not be supported where they have a permanent adverse impact or cause irreversible damage to historic environment designations and their setting. If a historic environment designation is located within the site or adjacent to the site, the site should be designed and sited

			accordingly to avoid any adverse impacts. Should this mitigation be taken on board it is likely that mitigation will reduce the environmental impact of development on water. However, the nature of extraction itself will lead to some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	The policy could potentially result in significant environmental impacts given the nature of this type of minerals extraction. Fireclay is largely confined to the coal seams and therefore opportunities to extract the fireclay are normally only explored in tandem with coal extraction.	The policy will assess the impacts on local communities and other sensitive receptors. Operators will have to submit supporting information which details the nature of the impact on communities and site specific mitigation measures to reduce the adverse impacts. All permitted surface coal extraction will accord with relevant MLDP policies which aim to minimise impacts require sites to be restored. Policies in the Plan afford a 500m buffer around settlements to minimise any adverse impacts on local communities and people. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.

	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	There are likely to be short, medium and long term impacts as a result of the policy.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	The policy is unlikely to have any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts as it is concerned with a focused area of search.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	The MLDP contains a robust policy framework associated with the policy in relation to environmental features and resources, the historic environment and social environment. Also, it ensure that any significant negative impacts, on landscape character and setting, geological features, biodiversity, flora and fauna, material assets, soils and climate from any future minerals extraction are minimised.		

Spatial strategy – Woodland creation

Policy SS12: Strategic Woodland Creation			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of landscape as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland.	None.
	Geology	Unknown. Unexposed geological features could be impacted upon.	Other policies in the plan protect geological features, however it is still possible that unidentified features are impacted upon. Nonetheless the relatively shallow depths of planting should minimise adverse impacts.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of landscape as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits accruing to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna.	None.
	Climate	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of landscape as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits accruing to the climate in terms of beneficial environmental services.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of Natural Resources as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits accruing to soil condition, and air and water quality. However, there is a potential conflict between woodland creation and the protection and retention of important carbon rich soils / peatlands	The protection and retention of carbon rich soils will be required to be a prime consideration in the further development and implementation of the woodland creation project. As per 4.54 in the MLDP, the indicative area for woodland

			creation is still to be refined and explored. In order to mitigate any negative impacts on soil, the presence of carbon rich soils will require to be a key factor in this process. Should these mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Air	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of air quality as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits.	None.
	Water	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of water quality as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	It is possible that significant impacts on the historic environment could occur if planting is proposed in areas where there are historic features.	Other policies in the proposed plan protect built heritage, for example policies MIN ENV10. Proposals which adversely affect built and natural heritage resources will not be supported.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.

	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of the Social Environment as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits accruing to population.	None.
	Health	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of the Social Environment as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits accruing to health.	None.
	Material Assets	Yes. The policy is likely to have positive environmental impacts in terms of the Social Environment as it promotes the creation of new areas of woodland with associated benefits accruing to Material Assets.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to result in medium/ long term significant positive impacts on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		No.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor restoration agreements/masterplans.	

Conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment

Policy MIN ENV1: Peat and other Carbon Rich Soils			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy will have a significant positive environmental impact as it ensures potential environmental impacts on or disturbance of Class 1 and 2 peatland, deep peat and other carbon rich soils are avoided.	None.

		Potential future peat removal outwith these areas is not deemed to result in any significant environmental impacts as Council approval will be contingent on appropriate measures being implemented regarding handling, storage and restoration (MIN ENV2).	
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna. Prohibiting any disturbance or removal of carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitats ensures that biodiversity continues to flourish. Overall, the policy is likely to have significant positive impacts with some negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed.	None.
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact, in terms of climate. Peat holds large reserves of carbon which if disturbed can result in carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere. The policy is concerned with prohibiting any disturbance or removal of carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitats thus providing climate change adaptation. Overall, the policy is likely to have significant positive impacts with some negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on soil as it is concerned with prohibiting any disturbance or removal of carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitats. Overall, the policy is likely to have significant positive impacts with some negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed.	None.
	Air	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on air as the safeguarding of carbon rich	None.

		soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitats will continue to store carbon.	
	Water	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on water as prohibiting the removal of peat will allow for the continuation of water flow and water quality regulation and the provision of natural flood management. Overall, the policy is likely to have significant positive impacts with some negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1 assessment.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1 assessment.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at stage 1 assessment.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1 assessment.	
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at stage 1 assessment.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1 assessment.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on people. Carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitats provide multiple benefits for people, such as regulating and delivering good quality water and promoting natural flood management and providing a place for recreation and leisure - overall promoting the health and wellbeing of people. Overall, the policy is likely to have significant positive impacts with some negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact, in terms of built and natural assets, such as	None.

		greenspaces, natural flood management processes, path networks and agricultural land. Overall, the policy is likely to have significant positive impacts with some negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed.	
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to have Short, Medium and Long Term effects on landscape as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural environment, such as peat and reducing the effects of mineral extraction on the environment. It also aims to reduce the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The policy is unlikely to have any cumulative or synergistic impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Use of restoration masterplan monitoring schedule.	

Policy MIN ENV2: Storage and Removal of Peat			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	This policy is likely to have a significant impact on landscape as it concerns the movement of peat. . The policy is likely to have negative impacts due to the potential removal of peat outwith the categories listed in policy ENV1.	Any potential removal and storage of peat outwith the categories listed in policy ENV1 are to be undertaken in consultation with the Council, SNH and SEPA and requires the removal and storage of peat to be undertaken in such a way that minimises any soil damage, such as erosion or compaction. Should these mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Geology	As above.	As above.

	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above	As above.
	Climate	As above.	As above.
Natural Resources	Soil	As above.	As above.
	Air	As above.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 assessment.	N/A
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	.As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	As above.	As above.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to have Short, Medium and Long Term effects on landscape as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural environment, such as peat and reducing the effects of mineral extraction on the environment. It also aims to reduce the effects of minerals extraction on the environment, in terms of geology; biodiversity, flora and fauna; climate; soil, air and water.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The policy is likely to have Cumulative/ Synergistic effects on landscape as it is concerned with conserving and enhancing the natural environment, such as peat and reducing the effects of mineral extraction on the environment. It also aims to reduce the effects of minerals extraction on the environment.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Use of restoration masterplan monitoring schedule.	

Policy MIN ENV3: Reuse of Excess Soils			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a positive significant impact on landscape. The use of good quality excess soils would aid the restoration of previously worked minerals sites where an insufficient level of soil has been left. The soils could assist in reshaping the landscape of these sites.	None
	Geology	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on geological features.	None
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The use of excess soils would aid the restoration of previously worked sites, in terms of promoting land recovery which would assist in the creation and enhancement of biodiversity, flora and fauna on site.	None
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a positive environmental impact on climate. The reuse of excess soils in land restoration will redirect the soils from being transported to, and deposited at landfill. This will assist in meeting the requirements of the Scottish Government's zero waste policy.	None
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have a positive significant impact on landscape. The use	None

		of excess soils in land restoration can address the insufficient soil levels that exist on some previously worked minerals site and could promote land recovery.	
	Air	The policy is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact.	None
	Water	The policy is likely to have a positive significant impact on water, particularly in terms of addressing deep voids. The use of good quality excess soils would aid the restoration of previously worked minerals sites where an insufficient level of soil has been left. The soils could assist in reshaping or filling in of deep voids created during the operation of extracting minerals resulting in the prevention of deep water voids.	None
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
	Conservation Areas	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
Social Environment	Population	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.
	Health	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy.	None.

	Material Assets	There is unlikely to be any significant impacts as a result of the policy	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	There are likely to be short, medium and long term significant positive impacts on the environment as a result of the policy.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts as a result of this policy.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None		

Policy MIN ENV4: Sewage Sludge			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape. The appropriate use of Sewage Sludge would aid the restoration of previously worked minerals sites where an insufficient level of soil has been left. The soils could assist in reshaping the landscape of these sites.	Positively contributes to the achievement of specific objectives detailed within an approved restoration plan.
	Geology	The policy is unlikely to have an environmental impact on geological features.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	This policy is likely to result in significant positive impacts. Sewage sludge has nutrients (e.g. nitrogen, phosphate, potash, magnesium and sulphur) which are essential to plant and animal growth, and it is recognised as a good substitute for peat in land reclamation projects.	There is a need to ensure that the application of sewage sludge is well managed and the appropriate amount is applied to soil to meet habitat needs. SEPA have a regulatory function in this.
	Climate	The environmental impacts, in terms of climate change are unknown, due to a lack of evidence, however, if used correctly, sewage sludge could potentially have a significant positive impact with	As above.

		less waste being transported and deposited at landfill.	
Natural Resources	Soil	This policy is likely to result in significant positive impacts on soil when used in the restoration of sites. It has nutrients (e.g. nitrogen, phosphate, potash, magnesium and sulphur) which are essential to plant and animal growth, and it is recognised as a good substitute for peat in land reclamation projects.	Positively contributes to the achievement of specific objectives detailed within an approved restoration plan.
	Air	The policy is unlikely to have a significant environmental impact on air quality.	None.
	Water	This policy is likely to result in significant positive impacts on the water environment as it seeks to ensure the appropriate management and appropriate application of sewage sludge on restoration sites and avoid any adverse impacts to, for example, groundwater or water quality. This policy requires the use and storage of sewage sludge to be carried out to the satisfaction of SEPA.	Positively contributes to the achievement of specific objectives detailed within an approved restoration plan.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
Social Environment	Population	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Health	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Material Assets	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		Policy may create Short, Medium and Long Term minor positive impacts.	

Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts	The redirection of soils from being transported to, and deposited at landfill will assist in meeting the requirements of the Scottish Government's zero waste policy.
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Use of restoration masterplan monitoring schedule.

Policy MIN ENV5: Mitigating Flood Risk			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it is concerned with adopting a robust policy framework in line with legislation that will ensure that future proposals do not increase flood risk or any adverse impact on flood storage and conveyancing capacity. Flooding has the potential to alter and damage landscape. Having a framework in place which seeks to manage flood risk at a strategic level should result in significant positive impacts.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on biodiversity, flora and fauna. The policy is concerned with avoiding increasing levels of flood risk, any adverse impacts on flood storage and conveyancing capacity. This will have positive impacts, in terms of protecting areas important for their biodiversity, flora and fauna and ensuring habitat restoration.	None.

	Climate	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate. Having a framework in place which seeks to manage flood risk, in turn protecting landscapes, soils and habitat networks at a strategic level should result in significant positive impacts.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on soils. Having a framework in place which seeks to manage flood risk, flood storage and conveyancing capacity will protect important soil resources from flooding.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Social Environment	Population	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Health	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Material Assets	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact, in terms of, built and natural assets, such as greenspaces, natural flood management processes, path networks and agricultural land.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have a medium to long term impact on the environment.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any cumulative or synergistic impacts.		

Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.

Policy MIN ENV6: The Protection of Water Resources, Water Bodies and Ground Water			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it seeks to protect water resources, water bodies and ground water from adverse impacts as a result of development and enhance the water environment.	If impacts are unavoidable, It requires adequate mitigation measures, if necessary, to be implemented.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above	None.
	Climate	As above	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	There are unlikely to be any significant environmental impacts in relation to soil.	None.
	Air	There are unlikely to be any significant environmental impacts in relation to air.	None.
	Water	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it is concerned with preventing minerals extraction close to water bodies where biodiversity, flora and fauna can be evident. The policy also supports the creation/restoration or enhancement of wetland habitats in restoration proposals. The policy brings the existing policy up to date with legislation.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A

	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
Social Environment	Population	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
	Health	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
	Material Assets	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment	N/A
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have medium and long term impacts on the environment.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None		

Policy MIN ENV 7: Private Water Supply			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy requires all sources of private water supply and any mitigation measures to be comprehensively detailed and implemented where necessary therefore it is likely to have a positive significant impact on natural features.	Unknown until any proposals are submitted for consideration.
	Geology	As above	As above

	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above	As above
	Climate	As above	As above
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy requires all sources of private water supply and any mitigation measures to be comprehensively detailed and implemented where necessary therefore it is likely to have a positive significant impact on natural resources.	Unknown until any proposals are submitted for consideration.
	Air	As above.	As above
	Water	As above.	As above
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Social Environment	Population	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Health	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Material Assets	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Short, Medium or Long Term Impacts	The policy is likely to have short, medium and long term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.		

Policy MIN ENV 8: Restoration and the Water Environment			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it includes a presumption against the creation of deep waterbodies which can have an adverse impact on landscape character and setting.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it is concerned with preventing proposals close to water bodies where biodiversity, flora and fauna can be evident. It supports the creation/restoration or enhancement of wetland habitats in restoration proposals as well as the restoration of water environments to original catchment areas.	None.
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it is concerned with preventing minerals extraction close to water bodies' thus protecting biodiversity and water quality. The policy also supports restoration proposals that will encourage the creation of habitats.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	There are unlikely to be any significant environmental impacts in relation to soil.	None.

	Air	There are unlikely to be any significant environmental impacts in relation to air.	None.
	Water	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it is concerned with preventing minerals extraction close to water bodies where biodiversity, flora and fauna can be evident. The policy also supports the creation/restoration or enhancement of wetland habitats in restoration proposals as well as the restoration of water environments to original catchment areas.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Social Environment	Population	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Health	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Material Assets	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have short, medium and long term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.		

Policy MIN ENV9: Protection of Areas of Nature Conservation Interest			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy seeks to protect areas of Nature Conservation Interest, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on natural features.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy will allow for development that may have an adverse impact on the integrity of an area nationally or internationally designated for nature conservation, where there is an overriding social or economic justification. Whilst the purpose of the policy is therefore to protect nature conservation interests, there could also be instances where its application allows for negative impacts.	The policy itself requires that should adverse impacts arise, compensatory measures must be taken to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy seeks to protect areas of Nature Conservation Interest, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on natural resources.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy seeks to protect areas of Nature Conservation Interest, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on the historic environment.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.

	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy seeks to protect areas of Nature Conservation Interest, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on the social environment.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.		

Policy MIN ENV10: Protection of Built and Natural Environment Resources			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy seeks to protect natural and built assets, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on natural features. In particular the policy gives protection to areas of woodland and valuable trees, which can be important features within the landscape.	None.

	Geology	Whilst not specifically referencing geological features, the policy seeks to protection natural and built assets, which would include geology.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy supplements policy ENV9, the key policy for biodiversity, flora and fauna, by ensuring both the natural and built environment will be considered in development proposals.	None.
	Climate	The policy seeks to protect natural and built assets, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy seeks to protect natural and built assets, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on natural resources.	None.
	Air	The policy gives specific protection against any development that will affect air quality or create air pollution issues, It will therefore have a positive impact.	None.
	Water	Whilst not specifically detailing the water environment (there are adequate other policies that do so), the policy does ensure that the natural and built environment will be considered in development proposals. It will therefore have a positive impact.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy will not support proposals that will have permanent adverse impacts on heritage resources and their setting, including listed buildings. By implication, therefore, it does not safeguard against impacts of a temporary or short term nature.	It is difficult to envisage any minerals extraction proposal that would have a temporary adverse impact on a listed building. However, such a development could more likely have an impact on the setting of the building. Any development proposal that will have a short term or temporary adverse impact on the

			setting of a listed building must seek to minimise the impact, in terms of severity and duration of impact. The developer will be required to set out as part of both its phasing plans restoration proposals, how it will ensure that the impact will only be for a temporary period of time and how thereafter any impact will be made good. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Conservation Areas	The policy recognises the importance of built heritage assets. The policy will not support proposals that will have permanent adverse impacts on heritage resources. By implication, therefore, it does not safeguard against impacts of a temporary or short term nature. Whilst conservation areas are not specifically noted as a heritage resource, the list of resources is considered to be exclusive.	Any development that may have a short term or temporary adverse impact on a conservation area or its setting must seek to minimise the impact, in terms of severity and duration of impact. The developer will be required to set out as part of both its phasing plans restoration proposals, how it will ensure that the impact will only be for a temporary period of time and how thereafter the impact will be made good. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.

Archaeological Sites/Areas	The comments in relation to listed buildings and conservation areas can equally be applied to archaeological sites.	It is difficult to envisage any minerals extraction proposal that would have a temporary adverse impact on an archaeological site. However, such a development could more likely have an impact on the setting of the site. Any development proposal that will have an unavoidable short term or temporary adverse impact on the setting of an archaeological site must seek to minimise the impact, in terms of severity and duration of impact. The developer will be required to set out as part of both its phasing plans restoration proposals, how it will ensure that the impact will only be for a temporary period of time and how thereafter any impact will be made good. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The comments in relation to listed buildings and conservation areas can equally be applied to gardens and designed landscapes.	Any development proposal that will have an unavoidable short term or temporary adverse impact on a garden and designed landscape or its must seek to minimise the impact, in terms of severity and duration of impact. The developer will be required to set out as part of its phasing

			plans, restoration proposals and landscape plans, how it will ensure that the impact will only be for a temporary period of time and how thereafter any impact will be made good. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above. The comments in relation to listed buildings and conservation areas can equally be applied to scheduled monuments.	It is difficult to envisage any minerals extraction proposal that would have a temporary adverse impact on a scheduled monument. However, such a development could more likely have an impact on the setting of the building. Any development proposal that will have an unavoidable short term or temporary adverse impact on the setting of a scheduled monument must seek to minimise the impact, in terms of severity and duration of impact. The developer will be required to set out as part of both its phasing plans restoration proposals, how it will ensure that the impact will only be for a temporary period of time and how thereafter any impact will be made good. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or

			whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Historic Battlefields	As above. The comments in relation to listed buildings and conservation areas can equally be applied to historic battlefields.	Any development proposal that will have an unavoidable short term or temporary adverse impact on a historic battlefield or its setting must seek first seek to minimise the impact, in terms of severity and duration of impact. The developer will be required to set out as part of both its phasing plans restoration proposals, how it will ensure that the impact will only be for a temporary period of time and how thereafter any impact will be made good. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
Social Environment	Population	The policy seeks to protect natural and built assets, therefore it is likely to have a significant positive impact on the surrounding environment for local populations to use and enjoy.	None.
	Health	By protecting against development that will adversely affect air quality, the policy is providing an important safeguard for the human health of residents that may otherwise be affected by developments.	None.
	Material Assets	The built and natural environment are important material assets for local communities, therefore the protection of these assets offered by this policy provides a positive impact.	None.

Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.

East Ayrshire's Landscape

Policy MIN ENV11: Protecting the landscape			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a positive significant impact because specific features and characteristics identified in the Landscape Character Assessment such as the local landscapes' characteristics and the conservation or enhancement of important landscape features should inform and add to the quality of restoration plans with concomitant benefits for geology, biodiversity, flora and fauna, and climate.	The quality of any restoration projects/ measures should be enhanced through being informed by the policy requirements.
	Geology	As above.	As above.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	As above.
	Climate	As above.	As above.
Natural Resources	Soil	The preservation of landscape will indirectly result in significant positive impacts.	As above.
	Air	As above.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Yes. Specific features such as Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas etc. may be enhanced by the improvement of their setting in the landscape	As above.

		through using the Landscape Character Assessment to inform and add to the quality of restoration plans.	
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	Yes. The value added to the quality of restoration plans may have a concomitant effect on the Social Environment through higher quality of life, increased physical activity and sense of wellbeing.	As above.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		As restoration projects are responsible for repairing environmental damage and enhancing landscape quality, impacts may be Short, Medium and Long Term Impact.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		As restoration projects are responsible for repairing environmental damage and enhancing landscape quality, impacts may be Cumulative and Synergistic.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Use of restoration masterplan monitoring schedule.	

Policy MIN ENV 13: Conserving, Enhancing and Protecting Geological Interest			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy seeks to ensure that there would be no adverse impacts on geological features of interest therefore it is likely to have a positive significant impact on natural features.	None.

	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Air	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Water	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Social Environment	Population	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Health	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
	Material Assets	Scoped out at Stage 1 Assessment.	N/A
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.		

Policy MIN ENV14: Spireslack Canyon			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy seeks to deliver positive environmental impacts through providing policy support for promoting the geological interest on the former opencast coal site at Spireslack.	The promotion of Spireslack SSSI as a geopark offers potential beneficial educational and tourism/ recreation opportunities.
	Geology	As above.	As above.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	As above.
	Climate	Safeguarding geological features will contribute towards climate change adaptation.	As above.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have positive impacts upon soil.	N/A
	Air	The policy is unlikely to have an impact.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1 assessment.	As above.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	As above.	As above.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The promotion of the Spireslack site for educational/ leisure/recreational purposes may have Short, Medium and Long Term positive impacts.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The promotion of the Spireslack site for educational/ leisure/recreational purposes is unlikely to have Cumulative/ Synergistic impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor restoration agreements/masterplans.	

Minimising the negative impacts of minerals extraction on people

Policy MIN PPL1: Protecting communities			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy will have a positive impact as it considers landscape and topography in making an assessment of adequate distance from settlements or any residential dwelling – impact on the landscape being of concern.	None.
	Geology	There is unlikely to be a significant environmental impact.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Air	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Water	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	As settlements contain the majority of East Ayrshire's built heritage assets, the assessment of separation distances on a case by case basis, dependent on locational circumstances, will offer adequate protection to these assets. The appropriate separation distance can take account of listed buildings, if relevant.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.

	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy is intended to protect residential amenity and is therefore unlikely to result in significant negative impacts to Social Environment. A key aim is to preserve landscape integrity and the impacts of pollution within a proscribed separation distance. This will have significant positive impacts for population.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy should obviate Short, Medium or Long Term negative impacts.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The policy should obviate Cumulative/ Synergistic negative impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Compliance monitoring is required to cover noise, blasting, air quality, and water quality. Off-site environmental monitoring may also be required.	

Policy MIN PPL2: Protecting residential amenity			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is unlikely to have significant impacts	N/A
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	By assessing pollutants and requiring that these are minimised / mitigated, there is likely to be a positive impact.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	As above.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.

	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy is intended to protect residential amenity and is therefore likely to result in significant positive impacts upon population and health.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	There are unlikely to be significant impacts.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy should obviate Short, Medium or Long Term negative impacts.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		The policy should obviate Cumulative/ Synergistic negative impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Compliance monitoring is required to cover noise, blasting, air quality, and water quality. Off-site environmental monitoring may also be required.	

Policy MIN PPL3: Duration of extraction period for coal sites			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the environment as it is concerned with avoiding unnecessary adverse cumulative impacts as a result of the duration of permissions for new minerals development.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.

Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the environment as it is concerned with avoiding unnecessary adverse cumulative impacts as a result of the duration of permissions for new minerals development.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the environment as it is concerned with avoiding unnecessary adverse cumulative impacts as a result of the duration of permissions for new minerals development.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the environment as it is concerned with avoiding unnecessary adverse cumulative impacts on local communities and individual houses as a result of the duration of permissions for new minerals development.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.		

Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significantly adverse cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.

Policy MIN PPL4: Duration of extraction period of non-coal minerals extraction			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to result in positive significant impacts, as the policy seeks to minimise impacts as a result of the duration of permissions.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to result in positive significant impacts, as the policy seeks to minimise impacts as a result of the duration of permissions.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy is likely to result in positive significant impacts, as the policy seeks to minimise impacts as a result of the duration of permissions.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.

	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy is likely to result in positive significant impacts, as the policy seeks to minimise impacts as a result of the duration of permissions.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.		

Policy MIN PPL6: Tourism activities on former mineral opportunity sites			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy encourages tourism activities which may involve facilities, therefore it is likely that there will be environmental impacts on natural features. However, it seeks to support proposals where there are no significant adverse impacts on the environment.	The policy seeks proposals to comply with all other relevant MLDP policies.
	Geology	As above.	As above.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	As above.
	Climate	As above.	

Natural Resources	Soil	The policy encourages tourism activities which may involve facilities, and the creation of path and cycle networks, therefore it is likely that there will be environmental impacts on natural resources. However, it seeks to support proposals where there are no significant adverse impacts on the environment.	
	Air	As above.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy encourages tourism activities which may involve facilities, and the creation of path and cycle networks, therefore it is likely that there will be environmental impacts. However, it seeks to support proposals where there are no significant adverse impacts on the environment.	
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	The policy encourages tourism activities which may involve facilities, and the creation of path and cycle networks, therefore it is likely that there will be environmental impacts on population and human health as well as material assets. However, it seeks to support proposals where there are no significant adverse impacts on the environment.	The policy seeks proposals to comply with all other relevant MLDP policies.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.

Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.

The Transportation of minerals

Policy MIN T1: Routing of the transportation of minerals			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on landscape.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate as it encourages less road traffic.	Transport Assessments/ designated haulage routes will ensure that any adverse impacts are avoided.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is unlikely to result in Natural Resources significant impacts to soil.	None.
	Air	This policy will assist in reducing emissions affecting air quality levels.	Transport Assessments/ designated haulage routes will ensure that any adverse impacts are avoided.
	Water	The policy is unlikely to result in significant impacts to water.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy is unlikely to result in significant impacts on the Historic Environment.	None.

	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	Local communities can be affected by heavy lorry movements through towns and consequent dust, noise and vibration and damage to local roads and problems with congestion. This policy will minimise the impacts of extraction on local communities.	None.
	Health	Local communities can be affected by heavy lorry movements through towns and consequent dust, noise and vibration and damage to local roads. There can also be problems with congestion as a result of lorry movements through towns. This policy will minimise the impacts of extraction on local communities and the health and safety of people.	None.
	Material Assets	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on material assets, particularly on road infrastructure.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		Minor positive/negative impacts over the Short, Medium and Long Term.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		Cumulative minor positive/negative impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor Transport Assessments/ designated haulage routes.	

Policy MIN T2: Cumulative Impacts of Minerals Related Traffic			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on landscape.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna.	None.
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate as it is concerned with ensuring that applicants assess the cumulative impacts of their proposals and any mitigation required to reduce any adverse impacts. This should reduce any adverse impacts, for example levels of emissions being released into the atmosphere.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is unlikely to result in significant impacts to soil.	None.
	Air	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate as it is concerned with ensuring that applicants assess the cumulative impacts of their proposals and any mitigation required to reduce any adverse impacts. This should reduce any adverse impacts relating to air quality.	None.
	Water	This policy is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts on water.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy is unlikely to result in significant impacts on the Historic Environment.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.

	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it is concerned with ensuring that applicants assess the cumulative impacts of their proposals and any mitigation required to reduce any adverse impacts. This should reduce any adverse impacts relating to communities.	None.
	Health	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate as it is concerned with ensuring that applicants assess the cumulative impacts of their proposals and any mitigation required to reduce any adverse impacts. This should minimise any adverse impacts relating to human health, such as dust, noise and vibration from the movement of traffic cumulatively.	None.
	Material Assets	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on climate as it is concerned with ensuring that applicants assess the cumulative impacts of their proposals and any mitigation required to reduce any adverse impacts. This should reduce any adverse impacts relating to potential damage to the local road infrastructure.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		Short, and Medium Term.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		Avoid negative cumulative impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor Transport Assessments/ designated haulage routes.	

Policy MIN T3: Restoration and Access			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact on the environment. The policy seeks to improve and restore public access to the rural area including improving route connectivity and linking with or contributing to the new access network proposed through the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership or the Core Path Plan.	None.
	Geology	As above.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	None.
	Climate	As above.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	As above.	None.
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	As above.	None.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy seeks to ensure significant positive impacts on the social environment as the policy seeks to ensure to restore and improve public	None.

		access to the rural area leading to social and health benefits.	
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		The policy is likely to result in medium/long term significant positive impacts on the environment.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		N/A	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor restoration masterplans.	

Policy MIN T4: Rights of way and core paths			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy includes a presumption against adverse impacts upon or the permanent closure of core paths and rights of way as well as bridle paths or footpaths used by the general public. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on natural features.	Where any impacts are unavoidable, the policy requires for appropriate diversions of routes to be put in place or appropriate mitigation measures put in place. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Geology	As above.	As above.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	As above.	As above.
	Climate	As above.	As above.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy includes a presumption against adverse impacts upon or the permanent closure of core paths and rights of way as well as bridle paths or footpaths	Where any impacts are unavoidable, the policy requires for appropriate diversions of routes to be put

		used by the general public. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on natural features.	in place or appropriate mitigation measures put in place. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Air	As above.	As above.
	Water	As above.	As above.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy includes a presumption against adverse impacts upon or the permanent closure of core paths and rights of way as well as bridle paths or footpaths used by the general public. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the historic environment.	Where any impacts are unavoidable, the policy requires for appropriate diversions of routes to be put in place or appropriate mitigation measures put in place. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Conservation Areas	As above.	As above.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	As above.	As above.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	As above.	As above.
	Scheduled Monuments	As above.	As above.
	Historic Battlefields	As above.	As above.
Social Environment	Population	The policy includes a presumption against adverse impacts upon or the permanent closure of core paths and rights of way as well as bridle paths or footpaths used by the general public. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the social environment.	Where any impacts are unavoidable, the policy requires for appropriate diversions of routes to be put in place or appropriate mitigation measures put in place. Should this policy be

			taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impacts) will be experienced.
	Health	As above.	As above.
	Material Assets	As above.	As above.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	The policy is likely to have long term impacts.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	None.		

Policy MIN SUP 2: Borrow Pits			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have significant positive environmental impact and significant negative impacts on the landscape. Borrow pits by their nature will generally result in some level of landscape impact. The policy allows for borrow pits, therefore allowing potential impacts on the landscape. However, by limiting the circumstances in which they will be permitted and by requiring specific details are presented in support of borrow pits, the policy will result in positive impacts compared to if there was no policy on this topic.	To accord with MIN SUP2 considerable supporting evidence will be required to accompany applications involving borrow pits. This includes proposals for restoration and aftercare, which, given that by their nature borrow are generally temporary, will form an important mitigation measure. To accord with MIN ENV12, all applications must be accompanied by a Landscape

			and Visual Impact Assessment. This will allow a judgement to be made as to whether any landscape impact is acceptable. Any developer must ensure that on-site measures are taken to minimise any impact identified through the LVIA. This may be through additional screening or micro-siting to achieve the optimum location or a borrow pit. Due to the activity of creating a borrow pit and extracting the material located within it, there will be localised short term negative impacts that are unavoidable. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Geology	The creation of borrow pits can cause disturbance of natural geology and can add to the existing high levels of brownfield land within East Ayrshire's rural area. The policy, however, ensures the borrow pits will only be used when stated criteria can be fulfilled. This will help prevent an unmanaged spread of borrow pits, causing greater disruption to land in the rural area.	Through the implementation of MIN SUP2, mitigation for geology will be provided primarily by (i) ensuring borrow pits are time limited and (ii) ensuring there are site specific proposals in place for their restoration and aftercare.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Borrow pits have the potential to disturb existing areas of biodiversity, flora and fauna. Policy MIN SUP2 ensures that disturbance to wildlife is a	As per MIN SUP2, all proposals will require to provide evidence that

		consideration that will be taken into account in the assessment of borrow pits. .	disturbance to wildlife has been considered. As part of this developers should take measures to avoid parts of sites where surveys reveal that there are feature of value to biodiversity, flora and fauna. If avoidance is not possible, measures should be undertaken to provide replacement habitats or enhance the habitat value of other parts of the wider site.
	Climate	Whilst borrow pits will themselves have some impact on climate, a key purpose is to reduce the climate change implications of transporting aggregates onto a site from a separate location.	To meet the policy requirement, all applicants will be expected to submit detailed information on the impact of a borrow pit on climate change. The need for a carbon assessment and information on the number of vehicle movements that will be avoided by use of a borrow pit, will help ensure that the use of borrow pits depends on their contribution to overall carbon reduction. This will provide mitigation to the impact of the development as a whole.
Natural Resources	Soil	The use of borrow pit has the potential to disturb areas of carbon rich soils / peatlands.	As part of the implementation of the policy, a carbon assessment is required, which

			will include the impact of disturbing any peat. If peat is present on a site, the developer should avoid that part of the site so as to avoid or minimise disturbance. Should some disturbance to peat be unavoidable, the council will seek a peat management plan informed by on site peat surveys. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Air	Whilst the working of a borrow pit will likely have some impact on air quality this is likely to be offset by the absence of road vehicles bringing materials to site.	Adequate compliance monitoring processes must be put in place between the developer and applicant to ensure that any impact on air quality as a result of the borrow pits is kept within acceptable limits. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Water	As is the nature of minerals extraction, borrow pits have the potential to impact on the water environment. However, the purpose of this policy is ensure that any borrow pits represent a good environmental (including water environment) and economic approach to using minerals for construction projects.	The specific water environment policies of the plan require mitigation measure to be agreed with SEPA if an impact on the water environment cannot be avoided. This applies to any

			borrow pit application where a negative impact is identified. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Borrow pits have the potential to impact on features of the historic environment or their setting including listed buildings. MIN SUP 2 does not specifically safeguard against the historic environment, however, it does confirm that borrow pits will be assessed in relation to environmental consideration, which is a broad enough terminology to include aspects of the historic environment	On all sites where borrow pits are proposed, developers will be require to avoid impact on any listed buildings and there setting, by designing their site accordingly. If an impact is unavoidable, landscape/ screening should be used to minimise the impact. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Conservation Areas	The comments above in terms of listed buildings are equally applicable to conservation areas. However, the likelihood of a conservation area being impacted is low, given that they are generally located within established settlements.	On all sites where borrow pits are proposed, developers will be require to avoid impact on any conservation area or their setting, by designing their site accordingly. If an impact is unavoidable, landscape/ screening should be used to minimise the impact. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The comments in relation to listed buildings are equally applicable to archaeological sites.	On all sites where borrow pits are proposed, developers will be require to avoid impact on archaeological site or their

			setting, by designing their site accordingly. If an impact is unavoidable, landscape/ screening should be used to minimise the impact. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The comments in relation to listed buildings are equally applicable to gardens and designed landscapes.	On all sites where borrow pits are proposed, developers will be require to avoid impact on any garden and designed landscape or its setting, by designing their site accordingly. If an impact is unavoidable, landscape/ screening should be used to minimise the impact. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Scheduled Monuments	The comments in relation to listed buildings are equally applicable to scheduled monuments.	On all sites where borrow pits are proposed, developers will be require to avoid impact on scheduled monuments and their setting, by designing their site accordingly. If an impact is unavoidable, landscape/ screening should be used to minimise the impact. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.

	Historic Battlefields	The comments in relation to listed buildings are equally applicable to historic battlefields.	On all sites where borrow pits are proposed, developers will be require to avoid impact on historic battlefield and their setting, by designing their site accordingly. If an impact is unavoidable, landscape/ screening should be used to minimise the impact. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
Social Environment	Population	The principle of using borrow pits is intended to improve the local environment and air quality of surrounding communities by reducing vehicle movements to site i.e. aggregate will not need to be transported to site. This policy that allows for borrow pits will have positive impacts for nearby communities.	None.
	Health	Similar to above, the principle of using borrow pits instead of transporting materials to site has the potential to improve airy quality in nearby settlements with subsequent benefits for human health.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		As appropriate reclamation measures must be in place for proposals for Borrow Pits, impacts may be Short and Medium Term Impact.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		As reclamation measures are responsible for repairing environmental damage and impacts may be Cumulative and Synergistic.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor restoration/reclamation agreements/masterplans.	

Policy MIN SUP3: Reworking of waste spoil tips			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it ensures that the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
	Geology	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on geology as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as the policy ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts and subject to an assessment of the quality and variety of any existing spoil tip naturalisation and associated flora and fauna. Waste spoil tips can be valuable natural heritage resources, however the policy is likely to ensure that any reclamation works take this into consideration and assess the potential impacts.	None.
	Climate	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts and subject to an assessment of the risks of mobilising pollutants quality and variety of any existing waste spoil tips naturalisation and associated flora and fauna.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact as the policy ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of	None.

		environmental impacts and subject to an assessment of the risks of mobilising pollutants and of the quality and variety of any existing waste spoil tips naturalisation and associated flora and fauna.	
	Air	As above.	None.
	Water	As above.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	The policy is likely to have a neutral impact on listed buildings as generally, waste spoil tips are located away from listed buildings and their settings.	None.
	Conservation Areas	The policy is likely to have a neutral impact on conservation areas as generally, waste spoil tips are located away from conservation areas.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on archaeological sites and areas as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on gardens and designed landscapes as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on scheduled monuments as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on historic battlefields as it ensures that any application to for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The preferred policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on people as it ensures that any	None.

		application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	
	Health	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on people and their health as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
	Material Assets	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on material assets as it ensures that any application for the reworking of waste spoil tips should be in accordance with other MLDP policies in respect of environmental impacts.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		Medium and long term impact.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		It is unlikely to have any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		None.	

Policy MIN SUP 4: Extraction of secondary aggregates.			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/ Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The policy is likely to have significant positive and negative impacts on the environment. The extraction of secondary material could have impacts on the landscape, while the requirement of the policy that ensures secondary materials will only be permitted when extracted with primary materials will limit this potential impact.	All proposals for the extraction of secondary materials along with primary materials will be required to accord with relevant landscape policies of the MLDP primarily MIN ENV11 and ENV12, which aim to minimise the impacts to landscape and require approved restoration schemes.

			Should the LVIA required through MIN ENV12 identify adverse landscape impacts, measures should be included in the proposal to avoid or minimise the impacts, including amending the site layout or introducing landscaping/screening. Due to the activity of creating a borrow pit and extracting the material located within it, there will be localised short term negative impacts. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Geology	The extraction of secondary aggregates will result in disturbance to natural geology and could result in the loss of geological features of local importance. Secondary aggregate extraction will only be permitted where primary extraction is already being undertaken, therefore disturbance is already taking place.	All proposals for the extraction of secondary materials along with primary materials will be required to accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to geology, with particular reference to MIN ENV13. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	The extraction of secondary aggregates may result in the loss of biodiversity, flora and fauna. However, secondary aggregate extraction will only be permitted where primary extraction is already being undertaken, therefore the loss of natural features will already be established.	All proposals for the extraction of secondary materials along with primary materials will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, specifically MIN ENV9 and ENV10.

			In conjunction with the extraction of the primary aggregates, the developer will be required to take measures to avoid or minimise the loss of biodiversity, flora and fauna where these are identified through site surveys. Where avoidance is not possible, measures should be undertaken to provide replacement habitats or enhance the habitat value of surrounding land. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Climate	The process of extraction could have implications for climate change, however, by extracting secondary materials where the extraction of primary materials will already be taking place, a more efficient approach to extraction can be achieved, minimising emissions and any potential disturbance to carbon-rich soils.	All proposals for the extraction of secondary materials along with primary materials will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts to Climate. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
Natural Resources	Soil	The process of extraction will involve disturbance to soils and this could include carbon rich soils / peatlands. However, by e Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced extracting secondary materials where the extraction of primary materials will already be taking place, a more efficient approach to extraction can be	Sufficient policies are contained within the MLDP to ensure that development avoids or minimises disturbance to peatlands. All proposals will be required to accord with MIN ENV11, which requires peat surveys to be

		achieved i.e. more aggregates achieved for largely the same disturbance to soil.	undertaken. Where appropriate, applicants will be required to produce a peat management plan as part of their application. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Air	The process of extraction could have implications for air quality (i.e. production of dust particles), however, by extracting secondary materials where the extraction of primary materials will already be taking place, a more efficient approach to extraction can be achieved.	All proposals for the extraction of secondary materials along with primary materials will accord with relevant MLDP policies which prevent significant impacts on air quality. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Water	The process of extraction could have implications for the water environment, however, by extracting secondary materials where the extraction of primary materials will already be taking place, a more efficient approach to extraction can be achieved, minimising emissions and any potential implications for water quality.	Robust policies are contained within the MLDP to protect the water environment, in particular MIN ENV6. MIN ENV6 requires mitigation measure to be agreed with SEPA if an impact on the water environment cannot be avoided. This applies to any application that includes secondary aggregates extraction where a negative impact is identified. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.

	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at Stage 1.	None.
Social Environment	Population	The policy ensures secondary materials will only be permitted when extracted with primary materials. The extraction of secondary materials at the same time as primary materials represents an efficient approach to minerals extraction and could reduce the need for new stand-alone extraction sites in the long term, with positive implications for local communities and human health.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As secondary aggregates will only be permitted in tandem with primary aggregates extraction, their extraction will not result in any additional implications for a material assets.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact?		Minor positive/negative impacts over Short and Medium Term Impact.	
Cumulative/ Synergistic Impacts		As reclamation measures are responsible for repairing environmental damage and impacts may be Cumulative and Synergistic.	
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)		Monitor restoration/reclamation agreements/masterplans.	

Minerals Opportunity Sites

MIN OPP SITE 1: Lethanhill			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The site has now been restored and released from Quarry regulations (the site is no longer considered as an active minerals site). The site has been re-profiled, made safe and access has been reinstated to the public through a network of paths. . This is further cemented by supporting policy MIN SS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape. No detailed proposals have been submitted to date for the site.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will be required to comply with policy MIN SS4, which sets out a clear requirement for rural placemaking. The landscape policies of the EALDP 2017 will also ensure that no developments are permitted that result in unacceptable landscape impacts. The developer will be required to respect the landscape restoration works that have already been undertaken and, where possible, design these works into future proposals.
	Geology	The site has undergone significant disturbance to the geology over a long period of suface coal mining. This will likely have implications for land stability and the potential for future uses of the site	Detailed ground investigation works will be required to support any future development proposals for the site. Development of the site should not occur unless the Council can be satisfied that any ground stabilisation issues can be overcome. Any development proposal for the site should seek to retain any notable geological features that remain on the site that may be of local value and importance.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	There are no international, national, regional or local confirmed or proposed designations within or adjacent to the site.	Proposals for the redevelopment of these sites should focus on the enhancement of these habitats instead

		Notwithstanding, there are areas of bare rocky ground within the site that may provide habitat for ground nesting birds and invertebrates. Former mineral sites can result in the creation of different habitats to those which would have been there if extraction had not taken place. There is potential for re-development to disturb these new habitats. However, the allocation of the site as an opportunity site with a specific requirement to provide on-site environmental improvements is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact.	of introducing new habitats unless there is a proven need/requirement for this. Specifically, any proposals should seek to: • Retain spoil banks, cliff faces and hummocks and hollows on various scales. Allow cliffs and slopes to erode naturally where feasible to enable continual creation of bare areas through erosion and slippage. • Retain areas of impeded drainage – the resulting ephemeral pools will be an important constituent of the developing habitat mosaic. For further information developers should refer to RSPB's Nature after Minerals website.
	Climate	The site allocation is unlikely to have a significant impact.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The site has undergone restoration and has been brought back into a condition suitable for its location and surrounding environment. Any redevelopment of the site could negatively impact on this restoration work. A small section of the site contains carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat of national importance, as mapped on Map 6 of the Proposed MLDP.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will comply with policy MIN SS4, which sets out a clear requirement for on-site environmental improvements. Any development will require to be accompanied by an appropriate peat survey and management plant.
	Air	The identification of the site as a development opportunity, could increase car usage and contribute to air pollution, by encouraging new development in the rural	Any development on this site will require to meet with the transportation policies of the EALDP 2017. Also, any development will, as per MIN SS4 of the MLDP, be required to

		area, relatively separate from existing concentrations of population. There is, however, an existing bus stop adjacent to one of the entrances to the site, at the south end of Patna, which is served by a relatively frequent service form Dalmellington and Ayr.	consider foot and cycle networks and to make improvements to connections between rural settlements. The site layout of any development will be required to consider proximity and access to the nearby bus stop in order to achieve good access to the development by public transport.
	Water	The site contains large water voids, a result of the previous mining operations on the site. This has been secured as part of the restoration activity. The site allocation may present an opportunity to address the long term appropriateness of the voids and the water quality within it.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The site includes areas of archaeological resource. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the archaeological resource. However this will depend on the location of the new development.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will be required to comply with policy ENV 2 of the EALDP 2017 which, aims to protect archaeological resources. Any development proposal must consider the presence of archaeological resources and, dependent on the site boundary and its relationship with the archaeological resources, may be required to provide an archaeological evaluation report as part of the planning application. .
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	The site includes a Scheduled Monument designation. New development on the site could have a negative impact of this designation. However, this will depend on the	Any proposal for new uses on this site will be required to comply with policy ENV 2 of the EALDP 2017 which, does not support developments that will have

		location of the new development and the site designation is supported by policy ENV2 of the EALDP 2017 which is likely to have a significant positive impact on the Scheduled Monument as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	an adverse impact on scheduled monuments or their settings. Through the planning application process, it must be demonstrated by the developer that the site can be developed in such a way in which there will be no adverse impacts on the Scheduled Monument.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. By including this requirement in policy, the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population; without the allocation development could come forward that does not benefit the local communities.	None.
	Health	Similar to above, the allocation of the site requires its development to bring added value to communities. This could involve, for example, new access paths which could have a subsequent positive impact encouraging healthy lifestyles in surrounding communities.	None.
	Material Assets	The Dunstonhill site has benefitted from recent restoration works, making the site safe and a more acceptable landscape fit. This has also involved the creation and reinstatement of access paths, representating a new asset for communities. The allocation of the site could risk undermining this work that has been carried out.	The development of this site will be required to respect and safeguard the new access paths that have been created. If the disturbance of these paths is unavoidable for the implementation of the proposed re-development, the applicant will be required to provide alternative access paths that maintain the access for local walkers.

Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.

MIN OPP SITE 2: Dalmellington North			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Dalmellington North cluster is made up of several former sites, primarily unrestored, giving a baseline position of a landscape in very poor condition. The promotion of the restoration and redevelopment of the site gives the potential to provide significant landscape improvements and therefore significant positive environmental impacts This is further cemented by supporting policy MIN SS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape.	None.
	Geology	The site allocation contains the Benbeoch SSSI, designation for geological importance. Whilst identification of the site for redevelopment could have significant negative impacts on the SSSI, it is noted that the larger extent of the site has operated as a surface coal site for many years, whilst the SSSI has been in existence, thus it is not an area so far unaffected by development.	Policy ENV 6 of the EALDP 2017 will ensure that the SSSI is given appropriate protection in the determination of any development proposal. Should any development proposal incorporate all or part of the SSSI site, the council will require detailed survey work to

			accompany the planning application, which will set out the current condition of the SSSI and will assess the impact of the proposed development.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Botanical interest lies in the vegetated ledges, scree and boulders of Benbeoch Craig which is surrounded by acid grassland which could be impacted upon by the site allocation. Dependent on the location of the new development, the new use could have significant environmental impacts on biodiversity, flora and fauna.	In order to comply with policies of the EALDP 2017 and to mitigate against adverse impacts, proposals should seek to protect and integrate the features noted in the adjacent box within the design of any new development. Any landscaping should seek to enhance the habitats that exist rather than attempting to introduce new types of flora and fauna which do not complement the existing habitats.
	Climate	There is a very small part of the site that is within the 1:200 year flood area. Given the large extent of the site, the site allocation is unlikely to have a significant impact on flood risk.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The extensive site allocation contains some areas of nationally important peatland habitat, as shown on map 6 of the MLDP. Redevelopment of the site could have implications for the peat resource, however, it is noted that the site is a former surface coal complex, therefore development in this area is well established.	The EALDP 2017 contains robust policy protection for peatlands. Any development proposals on this site will therefore be directed away from the areas of peat. Should any development involve disturbance to peat a detailed peat survey will be required and should inform a

			subsequent peat management plan.
	Air	The identification of the site in the rural area, separate from concentrations of population, raises the potential for an increase in reliance on private transport. There are no bus stops within easy walking distance of the site. The site is therefore likely to have significant negative environmental impacts.	Policy MIN SS4 of the MLDP, which sets out the site allocation for Dalmellington North, encourages any redevelopment of the site to consider foot and cycle networks and to make improvements to connections between rural settlements. In order to mitigate any negative impacts associated with the development of this site on air, any development proposal must be accompanied by a Travel Plan, commensurate with the type and scale of development proposed, detailing how sustainable travel patterns will be supported. Development of the site should also use zero carbon materials and construction methods and should embrace renewable energy methods to minimise carbon emissions.
	Water	The site contains some water voids, a result of the previous mining operations on the site. The site designation may present an opportunity to address the appropriateness of these voids and the water quality within.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1	None.

Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Archaeological Sites/Areas	The site includes areas of archaeological resource. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the archaeological resource. However this will depend on the location of the new development. Policy Min ENV 10 is likely to have a significant positive impact on the archaeological resource as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will be required to comply with Policy ENV 2 of the EALDP 2017 which aims to protect archaeological resources. Any development proposal must consider the presence of archaeological resources and, dependent on the site boundary and its relationship with the archaeological resources, may be required to provide an archaeological evaluation report as part of the planning application.
Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Scheduled Monuments	The site includes a Scheduled Monument designation. New development on the site could have a negative impact of this designation. However, this will depend on the location of the new development and the site designation is supported by Policy MIN ENV 10 which is likely to have a significant positive impact on the Scheduled Monument as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will be required to comply with Policy ENV 2 of the EALDP 2017 which does not support developments that will have an adverse impact on scheduled monuments or their settings. Through the planning application process, it must be demonstrated by the developer that the site can be developed in such a way in which there

			will be no adverse impacts on the Scheduled Monument.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. The inclusion of this requirement in policy, means the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population, as without the allocation development could come forward that does not consider the benefit to local communities.	None.
	Health	Dalmellington North has for a significant number of year formed an extensive area very close to the community of Dalmellington, which has effectively been cut off from the community as a result of mining operations. The allocation of the site, which makes clear the requirement to bring added value to communities, has the potential to make this area useable for local people, This could mean new access paths or other recreational facilities, which would allow residents to access the landscape with subsequent positive impacts for their health and wellbeing.	None.
	Material Assets	The allocated site is of material benefit in terms of the social environment due to its long term use for minerals extraction. Its allocation as a redevelopment site offers potential for new development to come forward that will establish new material assets.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		

Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.

MIN OPP SITE 3: Piperhill			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	Piperhill is an unrestored site, giving a baseline position of a landscape in very poor condition. The promotion of the restoration and redevelopment of the site gives the potential to provide landscape improvements and therefore significant positive environmental impacts. This is further cemented by supporting policy MINSS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape.	None.
	Geology	The natural geology of the site has been disturbed by the long term surface coal operations. The identification of the site for new uses with the requirement to bring clear environmental benefits (Policy MIN SS4), has the potential to bring significant positive impacts in terms of improving the current condition of this brownfield site.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	There are no international, national, regional or locally confirmed or proposed designations within or adjacent to the site. Notwithstanding, there are areas of bare rocky ground within the site that may provide habitats for ground nesting birds and invertebrates. The allocation of the site as an opportunity site with a requirement to provide on-	Former mineral sites can result in the creation of different habitats to those which would be present pre-extraction. Proposals for the redevelopment of these sites should focus on the enhancement of these habitats

		site environmental improvements is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact.	instead of introducing new habitats unless there is a proven need/requirement for this. Proposals should seek to: • Retain spoil banks, cliff faces and hummocks and hollows on various scales. Allow cliffs and slopes to erode naturally where feasible to enable continual creation of bare areas through erosion and slippage. • Retain areas of impeded drainage – the resulting ephemeral pools will be an important constituent of the developing habitat mosaic. For further information please refer to RSPB's Nature after Minerals website
	Climate	The site allocation is unlikely to have a significant impact.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The restoration and re-use of this unrestored and vacant site, has the potential to bring positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Air	The identification of the site in the rural area, isolated from concentrations of population, raises the potential for an increase in reliance on private transport with implications for air pollution and air quality. There are no bus stops within easy walking distance of the site. The site is therefore likely to have significant negative environmental impacts.	Any development on this site will require to meet with the transportation policies of EALDP (2017). Policy MIN SS4 encourages any redevelopment of the site to consider foot and cycle

			networks and to make improvements to connections between rural settlements. The site layout of any development will be required to consider proximity and access to the nearby bus stop in order to achieve good access to the development by public transport. In addition, restoration schemes will be required to reinstate any/all public rights of way which have been disturbed due to the extraction activity. It is likely that this could reduce the negative impact of the site.
	Water	The site contains existing water voids, as a legacy of the surface coal operations. The redevelopment of the site presents an opportunity to address the appropriateness of these voids and the water quality within.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The site includes areas of archaeological resource. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the archaeological resource. However this will depend on the location of the new development. Policy Min ENV 10 is likely to have a significant positive impact on the archaeological resource as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will have to comply with Policy MIN ENV 10 which aims to protect archaeological and industrial archaeological sites from any permanent adverse impacts or irreversible damage from new development as well as other relevant policies in the Plan. The development of the site

		must be developed in such a way in which there are no adverse impacts on the archaeological resource.
Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Scheduled Monuments	The site appears to include or is in the near vicinity of a Scheduled Monument. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the designation through construction activity and the potential impacts from the end use of the development. The implementation of Policy MIN ENV 10 will protect Scheduled Monuments from adverse impacts and is therefore likely to have significant positive environmental impacts.	Any development proposals which come forward on this site will require to comply with other relevant policies of the MLDP including Policy MIN ENV 10. This policy aims to protect scheduled monuments from permanent adverse impacts or irreversible damage to heritage resources and their setting. Any future uses which come forward on the site will have to ensure that the type of use is sympathetic to the Scheduled Monument and does not adversely affect the designation. Any development proposals should not adversely impact on the setting of a Scheduled Monument and should be designed and sited accordingly to avoid any adverse impacts. It is unknown the types of uses that may come forward on this site, therefore as a precaution, the mitigation measures will reduce the impact of a development on the Scheduled Monument

			however, there may be some negative impacts in the short-medium term such as construction of the future use. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts (or whatever impact) will be experienced.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. By including this requirement in policy, the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population, as without the allocation development could come forward that does not benefit the local communities.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.		

MIN OPP SITE 4: Skares			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The Skares cluster is an unrestored site, which gives a baseline position of a landscape in very poor condition. The restoration and redevelopment of the site has the potential to provide significant landscape improvements and therefore have a significant positive environmental impact. This is further cemented by supporting policy MINSS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape.	None.
	Geology	The natural geology of the site has been disturbed by the long term surface coal operations. The identification of the site as an opportunity for new development with the requirement to bring clear environmental benefits (Policy MIN SS4), has the potential to bring significant positive benefits in terms of improving the current condition of this brownfield site.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	There are no international, national, regional or locally confirmed or proposed designations within or adjacent to the site. Notwithstanding, there are areas of bare rocky ground within the site that may provide habitat for ground nesting birds and invertebrates. The allocation of the site as an opportunity site with a requirement to provide on-site environmental improvements is likely to have a significant positive environmental impact.	Former mineral sites can result in the creation of different habitats to those which would be present pre-extraction. Proposals for the redevelopment of these sites should focus on the enhancement of these habitats instead of introducing new habitats unless there is a proven

			need/requirement for this. Proposals should seek to: • Retain spoil banks, cliff faces and hummocks and hollows on various scales. Allow cliffs and slopes to erode naturally where feasible to enable continual creation of bare areas through erosion and slippage. • Retain areas of impeded drainage – the resulting ephemeral pools will be an important constituent of the developing habitat mosaic. For further information please refer to RSPB's Nature after Minerals website.
	Climate	The site allocation is unlikely to have a significant impact.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The restoration and re-use of this unrestored and vacant site, has the potential to bring positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Air	The identification of the site in the rural area, isolated from concentrations of population, raises the potential for an increase in reliance on private transport with implications for air pollution and air quality. There is a bus stop in Skares village, but it	Any development on this site will require to meet with the transportation policies of EALDP2017.

		is currently fairly inaccessible to entrances to the site. The site allocation is therefore likely to have significant negative environmental impacts.	Policy MIN SS4 of the MLDP, encourages any redevelopment of the site to consider foot and cycle networks and improvements to connections between rural settlements. The site layout of any development will be required to consider proximity and access to the nearby bus stop in order to achieve good access to the development by public transport. In addition, restoration schemes will be required to reinstate any/all public rights of way which have been disturbed due to the extraction activity. It is likely that this could reduce the negative impact of the site. Should this mitigation measure be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced however due to the nature of extraction there may be some negative impacts in the short-medium term.
	Water	The site allocation is unlikely to have a significant impact.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.

	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. By including this requirement in policy, the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population, as without the allocation development could come forward that does not benefit the local communities.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.		

MIN OPP SITE 5: New Cumnock north			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The New Cumnock North cluster is an unrestored site, which gives a baseline position of a landscape in very poor condition. The restoration and redevelopment of the site has the potential to provide significant landscape improvements and will therefore have a significant positive environmental impact. This has the potential to augment the Special Landscape Area which sits adjacent to the site. This is further cemented by supporting policy MINSS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape.	None.
	Geology	The natural geology of the site has been disturbed by the long term surface coal operations. The identification of the site as an opportunity for new development with the requirement to bring clear environmental benefits (Policy MIN SS4), has the potential to bring significant positive benefits in terms of improving the current condition of this brownfield site.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Part of the North Cumnock cluster sits adjacent to the Muirkirk and North Lowther Special Protection Area, which has international protection owing to its breeding populations of important bird species including hen harriers. The allocation of the site as an opportunity for redevelopment could have significant negative impacts on the protected area.	Both the MLDP and the EALDP 2017 include robust policies that will prevent development that would have an adverse impact on areas of international nature value, including the SPA, for example MLDP policies MIN OP1, MIN SS4, and MIN ENV9 and EALDP 2017 policies OP1, and ENV6.

	Climate	The site allocation is unlikely to have a significant impact.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The site boundary contains small pockets of nationally important peatland, as shown on Map 6 of the MLDP. Redevelopment of the site could have implications for the peat resource, however, it is noted that the site is a former surface coal complex, therefore development in this area is well established.	The MLDP and the EALDP contain robust policy protection for peatland. Any development proposals on this site will therefore be directed away from the areas of peat.
	Air	The identification of the site in the rural area, isolated from concentrations of population, raises the potential for an increase in reliance on private transport with implications for air pollution and air quality. The site is not served by any bus stops. The site allocation is therefore likely to have significant negative environmental impacts.	Any development on this site will require to meet with the transportation policies of EALDP2017. Policy MIN SS4 of the MLDP, encourages any redevelopment of the site to consider foot and cycle networks and improvements to connections between rural settlements.
	Water	The site contains some water voids, a result of the previous mining operations on the site. The site allocation may present an opportunity to address the appropriateness of these voids and the water quality within.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The site includes areas of archaeological resource. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the archaeological resource. However this will depend on the location of the new development. Policy Min ENV 10 is likely to have a significant positive impact on the archaeological resource as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will have to comply with Policy MIN ENV 10 which aims to protect archaeological and industrial archaeological sites from any permanent adverse impacts or irreversible damage from

			new development as well as other relevant policies in the Plan. The development of the site must be developed in such a way in which there are no adverse impacts on the archaeological resource.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. By including this requirement in policy, the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population, as without the allocation development could come forward that does not benefit the local communities.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.		

MIN OPP SITE 6: Muirkirk East			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The Muirkirk West cluster is an unrestored site, which gives a baseline position of a landscape in a very poor condition. The restoration and redevelopment of the site has the potential to provide significant landscape improvements and will therefore have significant positive environmental impacts. This has the potential to augment the Special Landscape Area which sits adjacent to the site. This is further cemented by supporting policy MINSS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape.	None.
	Geology	The natural geology of the site has been disturbed by the long term surface coal operations. The identification of the site as an opportunity for new development with the requirement to bring clear environmental benefits (Policy MIN SS4), has the potential to bring significant positive benefits in terms of improving the current condition of this brownfield site.	None.
	Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Part of the south eastern side of the Muirkirk West cluster sits within the Muirkirk and North Lowther Special Protection Area, which has international protection owing to its breeding populations of important bird species including hen harriers. Another section of the SPA sits adjacent to the site on the north western side.The allocation of the site as an opportunity for redevelopment could have	Both the MLDP and the EALDP 2017 include robust policies, for example MLDP policy MIN ENV9 and EALDP policy ENV6, that will prevent development that would have an adverse impact on areas of international nature value,

		significant negative environmental impacts on the protected area.	including the SPA. Development should avoid any areas of international, national, regional or local protected sites. It should also avoid fragmenting habitats or result in dispersal of species. Any restoration proposals should incorporate extensions to existing habitats, promoting habitat networks and should seek to introduce plant species which complement/replicate the species on the adjacent SPA in order to encourage the enlargement of habitats and promote population growth within protected species.
	Climate	A small part of what is an extensive site, is included within the 1:200 year flood risk area. Given that the area of flood risk is very small in the context of the size of the site, it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental impact in terms of flooding.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	The restoration and re-use of this unrestored and vacant site, has the potential to bring positive environmental impacts.	None.
	Air	The identification of the site in the rural area, isolated from concentrations of population and public transport services, raises the potential for an increase in reliance on private transport with implications for air pollution and air quality. The site allocation is therefore likely to have significant negative environmental impacts.	Any development on this site will require to meet with the transportation policies of EALDP2017. Policy MIN SS4 encourages any redevelopment of the site to consider foot and cycle

			networks and improvements to connections between rural settlements. All work will comply with HSE guidance on airborne dust suppression.
	Water	The site contains existing water voids, as a legacy of the surface coal operations. The redevelopment of the site presents an opportunity to address the appropriateness of these voids and the water quality within. There is small water course that runs across the site from north to south. Given the previous use of the site, it is considered that its redevelopment could have positive impacts for the water body, particular given the policy emphasis on amenity afteruses and environmental improvements. There will be no support for any mineral operations likely to effect on water resources, waterbodies or groundwater resulting in an adverse impact on the integrity of any Natura site.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The site includes areas of archaeological resource. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the archaeological resource. However this will depend on the location of the new development. Policy Min ENV 10 is likely to have a significant positive impact on the archaeological resource as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will have to comply with Policy MIN ENV 10 which aims to protect archaeological and industrial archaeological sites from any permanent adverse impacts or irreversible damage from new development as well as other relevant policies in the Plan. The development of the site must be developed in such a way in which there are

			no adverse impacts on the archaeological resource.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. By including this requirement in policy, the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population, as without the allocation development could come forward that does not benefit the local communities.	None.
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.		

MIN OPP SITE 7: Glenbuck cluster			
Environmental Topic	**Component**	**Analysis of the Significant Environmental Impact**	**Mitigation/Enhancement & Likely Impacts**
Natural Features	Landscape	The Glenbuck cluster is an unrestored site, which gives a baseline position of a landscape in a very poor condition. The restoration and redevelopment of the site has the potential to provide significant landscape improvements and will therefore have significant positive environmental impacts. This is further cemented by supporting policy MINSS4, which makes clear that emphasis is on rural placemaking and the provision of amenity afteruses, which will have a positive impact on the rural landscape.	None.
	Geology	The site contains a Regionally Important Geological Site (Spireslack canyon). As a result of surface coal mining activity, the main void at Spirelack has created a 1km long and 130m high worked face, which has exposed the extent of the Limestone Coal Formation. The geological strcutures and strata exposed are not typically seen on other sites to the same scale or completeness. It is believed that Spireslack has the potential to become a nationally, if not internationally, important educational and geotourist facility (geopark). Therefore, it is important to protect the significant geological features of Spireslack from future development. There is potential for the identification of an opportunity site to have significant negative impacts on this designation. For this site, all development proposals will have to comply with Policy NEV 13 and, if located within the site of Spireslack, Policy MIN ENV 14.	Robust policy protection is given in the plan to protecting and enhancing geological interest (MIN ENV13). A specific policy (MIN ENV14) is included to promote Spireslack canyon as an important geological resource. Any development proposal that comes forward for this site should seek to protect and promote the geological interest at Spireslack. The Plan will seek to safeguard the site at Spireslack for a range of recreational, tourism and leisure and uses that are associated with a Geopark and the Council will look to work with partners to develop future proposals for the site. It is likely

		that a masterplan will be required to be prepared for development proposals on the site of Spireslack. On sites outwith Spireslack and if development proposals are located adjacent to significant geological features, development proposals should be accompanied with supporting documentation showing how the geological features will be protected. It is considered that implementation of the MLDP policies will reduce any potential negative impacts.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	Part of Glenbuck cluster sits adjacent to the Muirkirk and North Lowther Special Protection Area, which has international protection owing to its breeding populations of important bird species. The allocation of the site as an opportunity for redevelopment could have significant negative impacts on the protected area. There may be potentially indirect but not direct adverse impact on the integrity of the SPA.	Both the MLDP and the EALDP 2017 include robust policies that will prevent development that would have an adverse impact on areas of international nature value, including the SPA. Development should avoid any areas of international, national, regional or local protected sites. It should also avoid fragmenting habitats or result in dispersal of species. Any restoration proposals should incorporate extensions to existing habitats, promoting habitat networks and should

			seek to introduce plant species which complement/replicate the species on the adjacent SPA in order to encourage the enlargement of habitats and promote population growth within protected species Should the policies be taken into account then it is likely that some significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Climate	A small part of what is an extensive site, is included within the 1:200 year flood risk area. Given that the area of flood risk is very small in the context of the size of the site, it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental impact in terms of flooding.	None.
Natural Resources	Soil	There is a relatively small area of nationally important peatland on the eastern part of the site, as shown on Map 6 of the MLDP. Redevelopment of the site could have implications for the peat resource, however, it is noted that the site is a former surface coal complex, therefore development in this area is well established.	The MLDP and the EALDP contain robust policy protection for peatland. Any development proposals on this site will therefore be directed away from the areas of peat. Through the policies of the MLDP, there will be a presumption against the disturbance and/or removal of peat from a site. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Air	The identification of the site in the rural area, isolated from concentrations of population and public transport services, raises the potential for an increase in reliance on private transport with	Any development on this site will require to meet with the transportation policies of EALDP 2017.

		implications for air pollution and air quality. The site allocation is therefore likely to have significant negative environmental impacts.	Policy MIN SS4 encourages any redevelopment of the site to consider foot and cycle networks and improvements to connections between rural settlements. In addition, restoration schemes will be required to reinstate any/all public rights of way which have been disturbed due to the extraction activity. It is likely that this could reduce the negative impact of the site. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Water	The Ponesk Burn flows through part of the site from North to south. Given the previous use of the site, it is considered that its redevelopment could have positive impacts for the water body, particularly given the policy emphasis on amenity afteruses and environmental improvements.	None.
Historic Environment	Listed Buildings	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Conservation Areas	Scoped out at stage 1.	None.
	Archaeological Sites/Areas	The site includes areas of archaeological resource. New development on the site could have a negative impact on the archaeological resource. However this will depend on the location of the new development. Policy Min ENV 10 is likely to have a significant positive impact on the archaeological resource as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will have to comply with policy MIN ENV10 which aims to protect archaeological and industrial archaeological sites from any permanent adverse impacts or irreversible damage from new

			development as well as other relevant policies in the Plan. The development of the site must be developed in such a way in which there are no adverse impacts on the archaeological resource. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Gardens and Designed Landscapes	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
	Scheduled Monuments	The site includes a Scheduled Monument designation. New development on the site could have a negative impact of this designation. However, this will depend on the location of the new development and the site designation is supported by Policy MIN ENV 10 which is likely to have a significant positive impact on the Scheduled Monument as it is concerned with protecting the built and natural environment.	Any proposal for new uses on this site will have to comply with Policy MIN ENV 10 which aims to protect scheduled monuments from any permanent adverse impacts or irreversible damage from new development as well as other relevant policies in the Plan. The development of the site must be developed in such a way in which there are no adverse impacts on the Scheduled Monument. Should this policy be taken into account then it is likely that significant positive impacts will be experienced.
	Historic Battlefields	Scoped out at stage 1	None.
Social Environment	Population	Policy MIN SS4, which sets out the parameters for the development of the site, requires that	None.

		redevelopment must increase the value of the site to local communities. By including this requirement in policy, the site allocation is likely to have a positive impact on population, as without the allocation development could come forward that does not benefit the local communities.	
	Health	As above.	None.
	Material Assets	As above.	None.
Short, Medium or Long Term Impact	Depending on the scale of development that comes forward, the site allocation impacts could be short, medium or long term.		
Cumulative/Synergistic Impacts	There are unlikely to be any significant cumulative or synergistic impacts.		
Proposal to monitor the significant environmental impact(s)	Monitor the restoration and re-use of the site.		