

# **Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan**

## **Proposed Plan Habitat Regulations Appraisal**

October 2011

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# **HRA**



# **Habitats Regulations Appraisal**

## **October 2011**

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### **Notes**

## **1. General background to Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA)**

- 1.1 This section identifies legislative and policy requirements for a Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Authority (GCVSDPA) Proposed Plan.

### **a. Legislative Requirement**

- 1.2 Under Regulation 85B of the Habitats Regulations, Scottish planning authorities are required to determine whether the development plan is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000<sup>1</sup> site and, where this is the case, undertake an appropriate assessment.
- 1.3 Following a ruling from the European Court of Justice in 2005 (Commission v UK), the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Amendment (Scotland) Regulations 2007 inserted a new Part IVA (regulations 85A – E) into the Habitats Regulations. Part IVA serves to transpose the requirements of articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 4 specifically to land use plans.
- 1.4 Part IVA requires that, where a land use plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of that site, the planning authority or SDPA (as the case may be) should make an ‘appropriate assessment’ of the implications for the site in view of that site’s conservation objectives, before the plan is adopted or submitted to Ministers.
- 1.5 The terms ‘Habitats Regulations Appraisal’ (HRA) and ‘appropriate assessment’ are sometimes confused. HRA is used here to encompass both the screening process for determining whether an appropriate assessment is required, as well as any appropriate assessment under regulation 85B(1). Under this regulation, appropriate assessment is only required where the authority determines – through the HRA process - that the plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site.
- 1.6 The GCVSDPA consulted Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) when determining likely significant effects.

#### *Submission to Scottish Ministers*

- 1.7 The HRA and any associated appropriate assessment will be submitted to Scottish Ministers alongside the Proposed Plan

### **b. Policy requirement**

- 1.8 Government policy reflects the legislative requirements and policies for the conservation or enhancement of Scotland’s natural heritage and are included in the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP). The guidance states that development which could have a significant effect on a Natura site and which is not directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of that site must be subject to an appropriate

assessment of the implications for the site's conservation objectives. This assessment should be undertaken for development plans including the SDPA's Proposed Plan. Development can only be permitted where:

- an appropriate assessment has demonstrated that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site: **or**
- there are no alternative solutions; and,
- there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature.

1.9 The GCVSDPA notes that where, in the absence of any alternatives, an authority proposes to approve a plan or project which could adversely affect the integrity of a Natura site for reasons of overriding public interest, Scottish Ministers must be notified and compensatory measures necessary to ensure the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected must be provided. For plans or projects affecting a Natura site where a priority habitat or species (as defined in Article 1 of the Habitats Directive) would be affected, prior consultation with the European Commission via Scottish Ministers is required unless the proposal is necessary for public health or safety reasons or will have beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment.

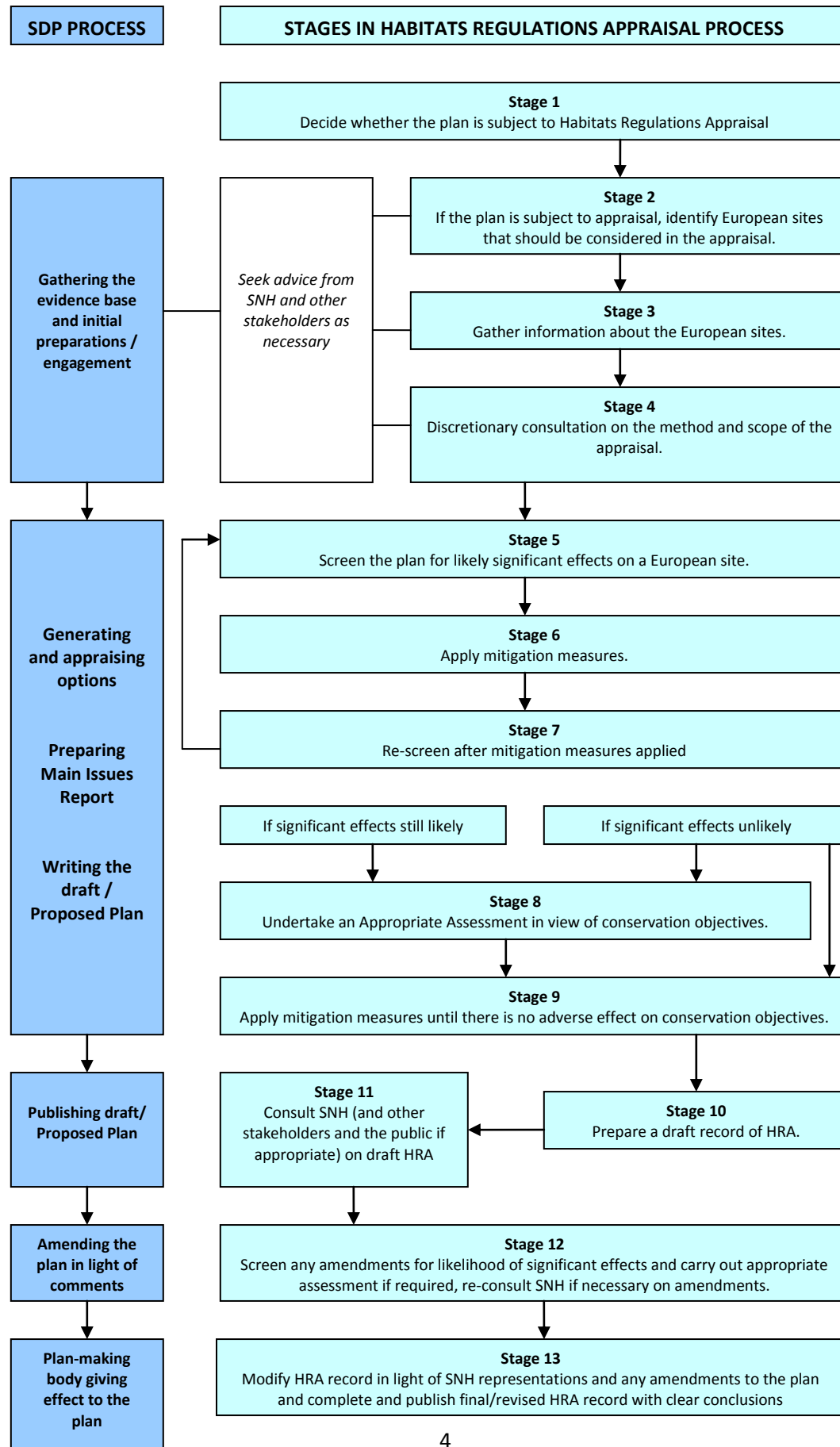
1.10 SPP also requires development plans to protect the coastal environment stating that internationally and nationally designated nature conservation sites should be protected from inappropriate development.

1.11 Planning Circular 1 Appendix 1 (2010)<sup>2</sup> provides guidance on the application of the Habitats Regulations. When submitting a SDPA's Proposed Plan to the Scottish Ministers, a SDP Authority should include a HRA record setting out:

- how the authority has determined that there is not likely to be a significant effect on a European site (if that is the case);
- where a likely significant effect has been determined and an appropriate assessment has been undertaken, the conclusions reached and what action is proposed or has been taken to comply with the Habitats Regulations; and,
- a copy of any relevant correspondence from SNH.

1.12 In compiling this HRA record, the GCVSDPA also used SNH's guidance on undertaking HRA<sup>1</sup>. This guidance identifies key stages in HRA shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1. SDP Process versus Appraisal Process**



## 2. Plan context

2.1 The Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan area (Figure 2) consists of eight separate Local Authorities namely, East Dunbartonshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire (excluding that part covered by the Loch Lomond National Park Authority).

**Figure 2. Strategic Development Plan Area**



2.2 The role of the GCVSDPA is to prepare a Strategic Development Plan for the plan area. The plan will enable and steer future development across the plan area between 2012

and 2035. The plan will replace the existing structure plan for the area - the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Joint Structure Plan 2000 and its four subsequent Alterations.

- 2.3 The first stage of delivering a SDP for the GCVSDP area involved producing a Main Issues Report (MIR) which was published for consultation in September 2010. This stage of the HRA has been prepared to assist in the preparation of the SDPA's Proposed Plan. The Proposed Plan provides a strategic focus and identifies a concise spatial expression of a long-term development vision of the future until 2035 as well as identifying cross-boundary issues. This provides the context in which local development decisions will be made. For more information on the Proposed SDP visit the GCVSDPA website ([www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk](http://www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk)).
- 2.4 A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) was carried out at the MIR stage to inform the planning process and this has been reviewed and a supplementary assessment has been produced in light of the Proposed Plan.
- 2.5 As the plan preparation process evolves through its various stages (refer Figure 1), the HRA is revised and updated. A record of the HRA will accompany the Proposed Plan.
- 2.6 The purpose of this appraisal is to assess the potential impacts of the Plan's development proposals against the conservation objectives and qualifying features of the relevant European sites and to apply mitigation measures accordingly. The assessment must determine that the Plan would not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura site in terms of its nature conservation objectives. If negative effects remain after mitigation has been identified then other options need to be examined to ensure that these would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.



### **3. Proposed Spatial Strategy for the GCVSDP area**

- 3.1 This section sets out the scale of development within the GCV city region, the spatial strategy and specific proposals contained within the Proposed Plan.

#### *Spatial Strategy*

- 3.2 The Proposed Plan sets out where development will take place over the next 20-30 years (Figure 3). In essence, there is no additional land allocation from the current Structure Plan position. The Proposed SDP rolls forward elements of the current Metropolitan Development Strategy of the Structure Plan which remain in their infancy in terms of delivery and impact. These include:

- thirteen Community Growth Areas (CGAs);
- Green Network;
- Clyde Waterfront (including Inverclyde Waterfront and Clydebank Re-built);
- Clyde Gateway;
- Ravenscraig;
- Glasgow City Centre;
- Glasgow International Airport;
- the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Plan; and,
- strategic rail investment in the city centre and to the West of the conurbation, including links to Glasgow International Airport and major road investment schemes.

- 3.3 The Proposed Plan also proposes:

- a network of Strategic Centres chosen on the basis of the role and function including retail and community uses;
- a network of Strategic Economic Investment Locations (SEILs). It is recommended that Lomondgate is added to the Schedule of Strategic Economic Investment Locations in the Proposed Plan recognising its support for the key sectors of creative and digital industries, business and financial services and food and drink;
- no further land releases for private sector housing;
- Green Network strategic opportunities;
- a search area for wind farm development;
- a search area for minerals opportunities;
- forestry and woodland strategy including biomass woodfuel production opportunities; and,
- The Strathleven Corridor including the Lomond Canal.

- 3.4 Development will be concentrated in the legacy areas already identified in the current Structure Plan. The Proposals Map provides the spatial framework for the city region (shown on Figure 3) including the CGAs, SEILs, Green Network Strategic Opportunities, wind farm search areas, minerals and forestry.

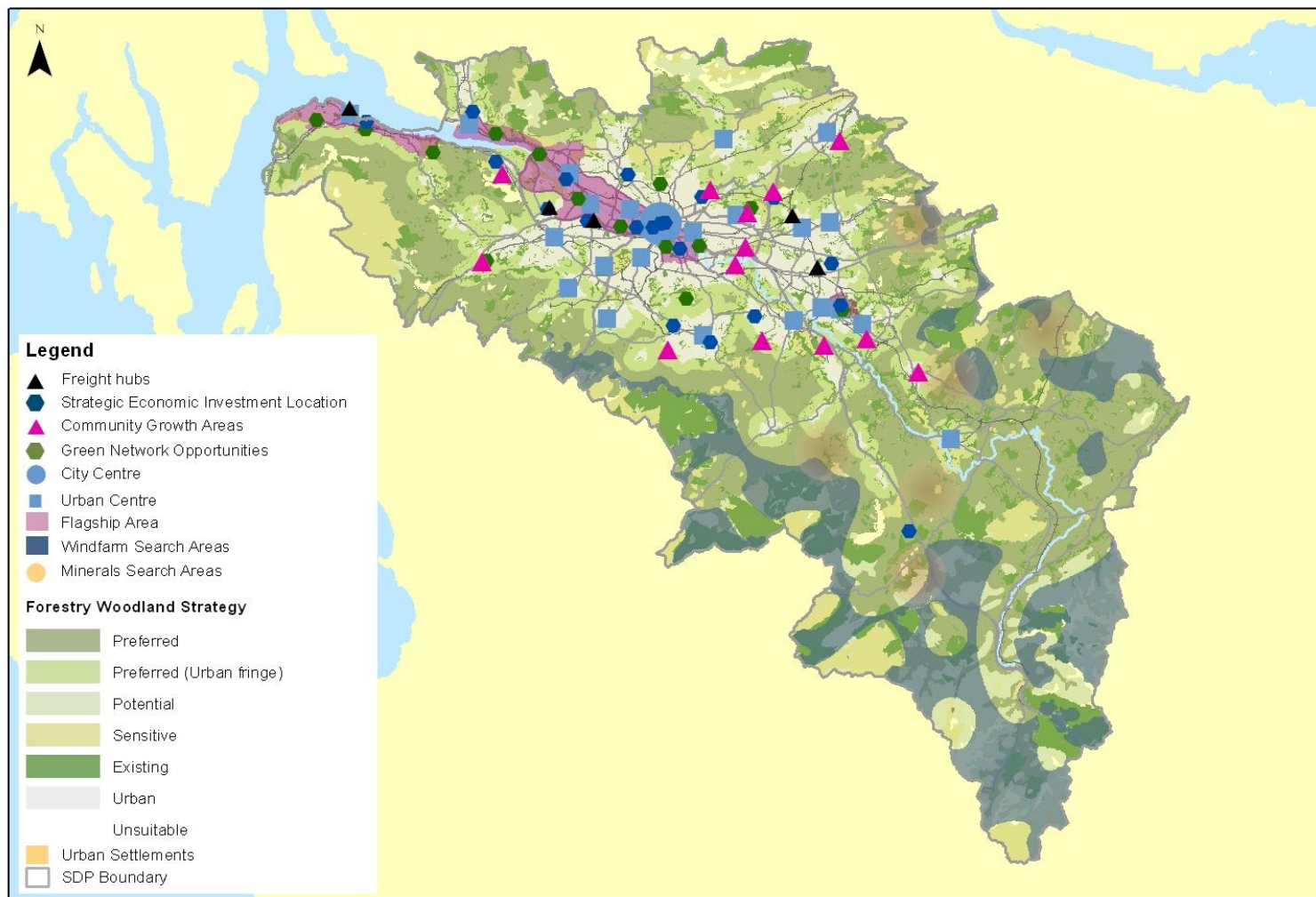
### *Appropriate Assessment*

3.5 In terms of Appropriate Assessment, the designated sites in the Plan area, and within 5km of the Plan area, are identified along with the associated conservation objectives and the local authority areas they are situated within, or located nearby to. This enables assessment at the strategic level in terms of objectives, effects and mitigations plus a focus upon further work at the Local Development Plan stage.

3.6 Mitigation measures can include:

- deletion of the policy or proposal;
- changing the nature or type of a potentially damaging proposal;
- reduction in the scale of the potentially damaging provision, either and overall level of growth or a single proposal of a specific scale or size;
- relocation or alteration of the spatial distribution of the potentially damaging provision;
- phasing or timing of a proposal so that its possible effects can be adequately managed over time;
- programming a proposal so that it is dependent on key infrastructure provision or upgrading, such as water supply or waste water treatment, being in place before it could proceed;
- requiring buffer zones to be put in place.

**Figure 3. Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan Area and Proposals**



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#### **4. Identification of Designated Sites within and adjacent to the GCVSDP area**

4.1 Natura Sites represent the very best of Scotland's nature. Natura is the term given to the network of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). These internationally important sites are designated under two of the most influential pieces of European legislation relating to nature conservation, the Habitats and Birds Directives. They are internationally important for threatened habitats and species. Natura sites form a unique network of protected areas which stretches across Europe from the rocky coasts of Ireland in the west, to the marshes of eastern Poland, taking in the northern forests of Sweden and the volcanic lava fields of Tenerife.

4.2 The GCVSDPA area has a rich and varied natural environment and within the plan area, in particular the Clyde Valley and estuary, the surrounding uplands and also areas of mossland. There are fifteen SACs, seven SPAs and three RAMSAR sites in and around the Clyde Valley. These sites are shown on Figure 4 and those adjacent to the plan area are also shown.

4.3 The documentation relating to each site should be consulted as part of any further consideration or assessment of conservation issues. Conservation objectives vary between each site and need to be considered respectively for each site which may be subject to significant impacts. However, in general, the conservation objectives are:

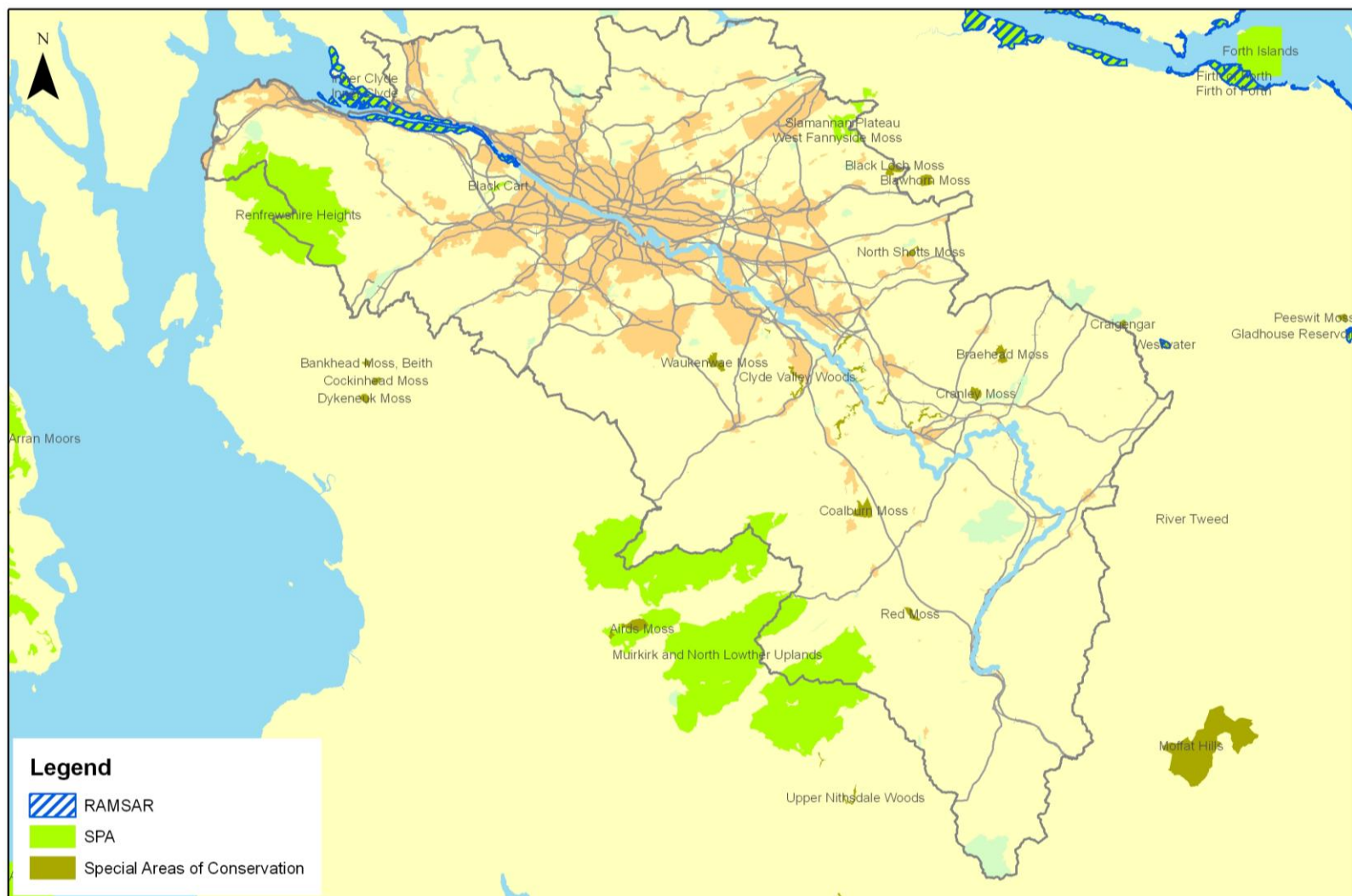
*To avoid deterioration of the qualifying thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features;*

*and to ensure that the following are maintained in the long term:*

- *extent of the habitat on site*
- *distribution of the habitat within site*
- *structure and function of the habitat*
- *processes supporting the habitat*
- *distribution of typical species of the habitat*
- *viability of typical species as components of the habitat*
- *no significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat*

4.4 The GCV sites are listed in Figures 5 to 7. In the interests of completeness, the GCVSDPA has included relevant designated sites within a 5km buffer of the administrative boundary. It should be noted that the 5km buffer is merely a guide. Some further sites may be affected, for example, due to impacts on migratory species which pass through the GCV areas.

**Figure 4. Glasgow and the Clyde Valley and Surrounding Area: Designated sites**



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**Figure 5. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) sites**

SAC Site Name	Qualifying Habitat	Responsible Local Authority
Black Loch Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	NL plus Within 5K
Braehead Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	SL
Cranley Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	SL
Clyde Valley Woods	Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes	SL
Coalburn Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	SL
North Shotts Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	NL
Red Moss	Active raised bog	SL
West Fannyside Moss	Blanket raised bog	NL
Waukenwae Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	SL
Loch Lomond Woods	Western acid oak woodland and otter	WD, A&B, Stirling
Airds Moss	Blanket raised bog	Within 5K
Bankhead Moss, Beith	Active raised bog	Within 5K
Blawhorn Moss	Active and degraded raised bog	Within 5K
Craigengar	Dry heath; species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas; marsh saxifrage	Within 5K
Endrick Water	Atlantic salmon, brook lamprey, river lamprey	Within 5K
River Tweed	River lamprey, brook lamprey and sea lamprey, Atlantic salmon, otter, rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water-crowfoot	Within 5K

**Figure 6. Special Protection Areas (SPA) sites**

SPA Site Name	Qualifying Habitat	Responsible Local Authority
Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands	Golden plover, <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> ; hen harrier, <i>Circus cyaneus</i> ; merlin, <i>Falco columbarius</i> ; peregrine, <i>Falco peregrines</i> ; short-eared owl, <i>sio flammeus</i>	SL plus Within 5K
Inner Clyde	Redshank, <i>Tringa totanus</i>	WD, RF, IC plus Within 5K
Slamannan Plateau	Taiga bean goose, <i>Anser fabalis fabalis</i>	NL plus within 5K
Renfrewshire Heights	Hen harrier, <i>Circus cyaneus</i>	RF, IC plus Within 5K
Black Cart	Whooper swan, <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	RF
Loch Lomond	Capercaillie, <i>Tetrao urogallus</i> and Greenland white-fronted goose, <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>	Within 5K
Westwater	Pink-footed goose, <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> , and a waterfowl assemblage	within 5K

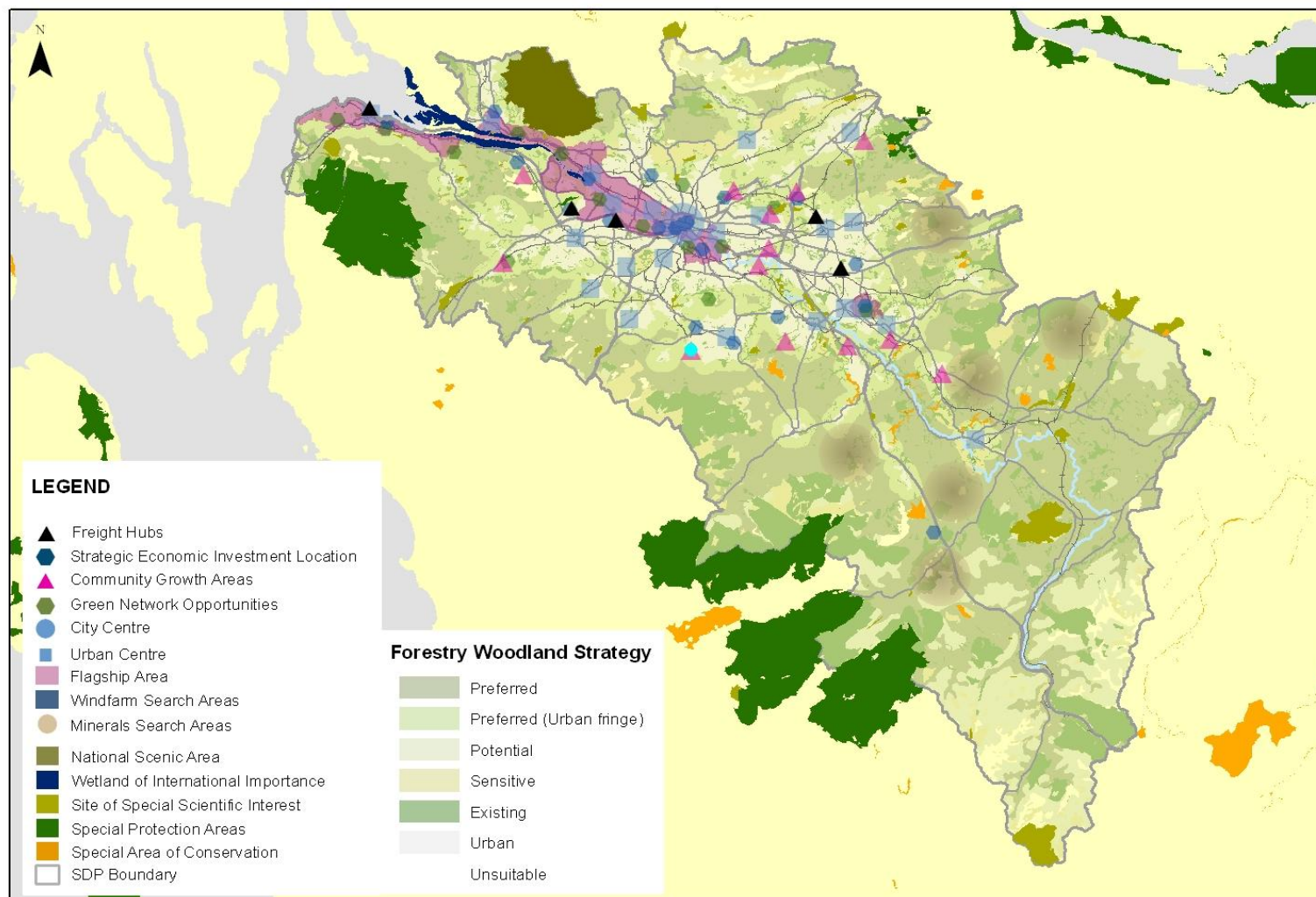
**Figure 7. RAMSAR sites**

<b>Ramsar Site Name</b>	<b>Qualifying Habitat</b>	<b>Responsible Local Authority</b>
Inner Clyde	Redshank, <i>Tringa tetanus</i> ; non-breeding	WD, RF, IC plus within 5K
Loch Lomond	Greenland white-fronted goose , <i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i> ; non-breeding	Within 5K
Westwater	Pink-footed goose, <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> ; non-breeding	Within 5K

4.5 Figure 8 shows the Natura sites above in relation to the development proposals contained in the GCV Proposed Plan. This forms the basis of the following analysis and assessment in Chapter 5.



**Figure 8. Strategic Development Plan Proposals and Designated Sites**



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## 5. Assessment Methodology

- 5.1 At this point, the GCVSDPA has carried out Stages 1-4 in accordance with Figure 1. A meeting with SNH resulted in an agreement of the scope of the appraisal and the methodology outlined below.
- 5.2 The Proposed Plan was screened for likely significant effects on a European site, in accordance with the discussion with SNH. This will involve 'screening in' those parts of the plan that may bring about a significant effect and require further assessment. It also involved excluding parts of the plan that are unlikely to have a significant effect. There are three instances where policies and proposals can be screened out:
- general policy statements which set out the strategic aspirations for the SDP and may include criteria-based policies for considering proposals. NB: There needs to be a distinction drawn with more specific criteria-based policies which should be subject to further appraisal;
  - projects referred to, but not proposed by the plan e.g. those in National Planning Framework, national infrastructure promoted by regional transport strategies through Transport Scotland, those promoted by regional strategies, or those that would be subject to consent directly by Scottish Ministers;
  - screening out aspects of the Proposed Plan that could have no likely significant effect on a site, alone or in combination with other aspects of the same plan, or with other plans or projects.

### *Screening (Stage 5)*

- 5.3 This stage involves screening the plan for likely significant effects on the qualifying interests of a European site and for which appropriate assessment should be carried out. This is shown in Figure 6.
- 5.4 The policies and proposals within the SDP have been reviewed in line with the phased assessment. Some policies and proposals can be screened out because of their very general nature (the Spatial Vision) or because they seek to protect or enhance the natural environment.

**Figure 9. Screening of Strategic Development Plan versus Designated Sites**

Aspects of the plan which would not be likely to have a significant effect on a European site alone	Relevant parts of the plan	
General policy statements (Step 1)	Spatial Vision – Reduced Development Footprint Spatial Vision – Higher Densities Spatial Vision – Agglomeration Spatial Vision – Regeneration and Renewal Spatial Vision – Land Use and Transport Integration	Spatial Vision – Sustainable Locations Spatial Vision – Green Infrastructure Spatial Vision – Low Carbon Energy Potential Spatial Vision – Greening The Economy Spatial Vision – Local Supply
Project excluded from the appraisal because they are not proposals generated by this plan (Step 2)	None	
Policies which protect the natural environment, including biodiversity, or conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment (Step 3a)	Green Network and Spatial Priorities Forestry and Woodland (partially) Green Belt	
Policies which will not lead to development or other change (Step 3b)	None	
Aspects of the plan which make provision for change but which could have no conceivable effect on a European site, because there is no link or pathway between them and the qualifying interests, or any effect would be a positive effect or would not otherwise undermine the conservation objectives for the site (Step 3c)	Glasgow City Centre Green Belt	
Aspects of the plan which make provision for change but which could have no significant effect on a European site, because any potential effects would be trivial, or 'de minimis' or so restricted that they would not undermine the conservation objectives for the site (Step 3d)	None	
Aspects which are too general so that it is not known where, when or how the aspect of the plan may be implemented, or where any potential effects may occur, or which European sites, if any, many be affected (Step 3e)	Spatial Vision – Reduced Development Footprint Spatial Vision – Higher Densities Spatial Vision – Agglomeration Spatial Vision – Regeneration and Renewal Spatial Vision – Land Use and Transport Integration	Spatial Vision – Sustainable Locations Spatial Vision – Green Infrastructure Spatial Vision – Low Carbon Energy Potential Spatial Vision – Greening The Economy Spatial Vision – Local Supply

5.5 This leaves a number of policies and proposals which can be spatially correlated against the Natura sites, with reference to the preceding Figures 4 to 9:

- thirteen Community Growth Areas (CGAs);
- five Strategic Transport Hubs;
- Clyde Waterfront (incl. Riverside Inverclyde and Clydebank Re-built);
- Clyde Gateway;
- Ravenscraig;
- Glasgow International Airport (also a Strategic Transport Hub);
- the Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Plan;
- strategic rail investment in the city centre and to the West of the conurbation, including links to Glasgow International Airport and major road investment schemes;
- a network of Strategic Centres;
- a network of Strategic Economic Investment Locations (SEILs) including Lomondgate
- a search area for wind farm development;
- a search area for minerals extraction;
- forestry and woodland;
- biomass woodfuel production opportunities; and,
- the Strathleven Corridor including the Lomond Canal.

5.6 Designated conservation sites were screened as part of the process of identifying search areas for wind farm development and minerals extraction. There are no specifically identified conflicts.

5.7 The Supplementary Environmental Report<sup>1</sup> outlines the anticipated effects of the Proposed Plan. Chapter Four assesses the Spatial Development Strategy including the fifteen Strategy Support Measures, and Chapter Five considers potential cumulative, synergistic and secondary effects. Following consideration of the findings of the Supplementary Environmental Report and the remaining policies and proposals above, there are certain sites within the GCV area that have the potential to be affected by these SDP proposals, namely:

- a. **Strategy Support Measure 2 Strathleven Corridor (Lomond Canal)** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Endrick Water SAC;
- b. **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Carluke CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC;
- c. **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Cumbernauld South CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Slamannan Plateau SPA;
- d. **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 South Wishaw CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC;
- e. **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Clydebank Riverside SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;
- f. **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Inverclyde Waterfront SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.gcvsdpa.gov.uk/images/stories/documents/Supplementary%20Environmental%20Report.pdf>

- g. **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Glasgow International Airport Zone SEIL/Strategic Freight Transport Hub** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Cart SPA;
- h. **Schedule 5, Diagram 13 Port Glasgow green network spatial priority** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA; and,
- i. **Strategy Support measure 9, Diagram 16, wind energy broad areas of search** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Loch Moss, Blawhorn Moss, Braehead Moss, Craigengar, Cranley Moss, Clyde Valley Woods, Coalburn Moss, North Shotts Moss, Red Moss and Waukenwae Moss SACs; and the Slamannan Plateau, Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands and Westwater SPAs.

- 5.8 There is one site that is outwith the GCV area but has the potential to be affected by a SDP development proposal. The Proposed Plan identifies **the Strathleven Corridor including the Lomond Canal** for further assessment by West Dunbartonshire Council in terms of regeneration, the development of tourism links and business and industrial uses in support of **the Clyde Waterfront Metropolitan Flagship Initiative** and the **Lomondgate SEIL**. The **Endrick Water** is a SAC, designated because of the presence of river and brook lamprey as well as Atlantic salmon, which use the mouth of the Endrick. A suite of development proposals have yet to be decided, however, the possibility of canalising the River Endrick has been raised and this could potentially affected the conservation objectives of the SAC.

*In-combination effects*

- 5.9 It is assessed that there are no likely in-combination effects, particularly due to the Spatial Vision which seeks to sustainably locate development upon reduced footprints, and the screening of search area proposals against conservation sites.

*Mitigation Requirements and Re-Screening (Stages 6 and 7)*

- 5.10 To be in accordance with the Strategic Development Plan, and as part of the Local Development Plan process, any proposal likely to have a significant effect on a Natura site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, requires an appropriate assessment. The sites identified in paragraph 5.7 above, require mitigation measures to ensure that the development plan will not adversely affect the integrity of the adjacent Natura site. The SDPA has identified that the following mitigation measures are required and detailed requirements should be addressed in the local development plan process.

- a) **Strategy Support Measure 2 Strathleven Corridor (Lomond Canal)** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Endrick Water SAC. This is recommended for further study by West Dunbartonshire Council in terms of regeneration, the development of tourism links and business and industrial uses;
- b) **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Carluke CGA** - this is gorge, mixed woodland and it is likely to be sufficient to ensure a reasonable buffer between it and the development. This should be secured through provisions in the Local Development Plan and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Appraisal;
- c) **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Cumbernauld South CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Slamannan Plateau SPA. These proposals could have significant

impacts on these sites and local development plan authority should be aware that additional mitigation and caveats should be added to the Local Development Plan and associated SPG to ensure these CGAs would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the sites;

- d) **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 South Wishaw CGA** - this is gorge, mixed woodland and it is likely to be sufficient to ensure a reasonable buffer between it and the development. This should be secured through provisions in the Local Development Plan and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Appraisal;
- e) **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Clydebank Riverside SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA including disturbance to redshank, loss of habitat and ongoing disturbance due to increased public access to the foreshore. It is likely that the Clydebank River can be developed as envisaged in the Proposed Plan. However, provision is required at Development Management stage and conditions should be placed on development proposals to manage construction and operational organisation;
- f) **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Inverclyde Waterfront SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA. The potential impacts of this proposal include disturbance to redshank, loss of habitat and ongoing disturbance due to increased public access to the foreshore. It is likely that the Inverclyde Waterfront can be developed as envisaged in the Proposed Plan. However, provision is required at Development Management stage and conditions should be placed on development proposals to manage construction and operational organisation;
- g) **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Glasgow International Airport (GIA) Zone SEIL/Strategic Freight Transport Hub** – Wintering Whooper swans use satellite sites for roosting and feeding. Any change in land use in the area that the swans use can be problematic and requires mitigation measures although it is likely this can be acceptable if an alternative is provided. However, the proximity of airport is an issue in the provision of alternative sites. It is likely that any additional Business and Industry sites at GIA will require Appropriate Assessment as well as the role as a Strategic Transport Hub. This should be secured through provisions in the Local Development Plan and associated Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Appraisal;
- h) **Schedule 5, Diagram 13 Port Glasgow Green Network Spatial Priority** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA. This is a Green Network opportunity and includes green links through the settlement to the adjacent countryside. Public use of the foreshore could lead to increased disturbance of redshank, depending on timing, duration and location. However, it is likely this is an issue of detail relating to specific proposals as they come forward and could be avoided or reduced to acceptable levels though local visitor management. Provision is required at the project level and potentially at the Development Management stage; and,
- i) **Strategy Support measure 9, Diagram 16, Wind Energy Broad Areas of Search** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Loch Moss, Blawhorn Moss, Braehead Moss, Craigengar, Cranley Moss, Clyde Valley Woods, Coalburn Moss, North Shotts Moss, Red Moss and Waukenwae Moss SACs; and the Slamannan Plateau, Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands and Westwater SPAs. The identification of the Broad Areas of Search for Wind Energy in the Proposed Plan

specifically excludes all international and national heritage designations however, some sites fall within 5km of designated sites.

- 5.11 Having assessed the plan's overall strategy, its options and proposals, individually and in relevant combinations, and having taken account of all mitigation measures included in the SDP, the SDPA has completed the application of tests in Regulation 85B or 48 to the plan. For those elements which have not been screened or mitigated, then Appropriate Assessment (Stage 8) will be required.

## 6. Appropriate Assessment

6.1 There is a need to consider Appropriate Assessment and potential for adverse affect and mitigation for the following proposals and locations:

- a) **Strategy Support Measure 2 Strathleven Corridor (Lomond Canal)** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Endrick Water SAC;**Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Carluke CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC;
- b) **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Cumbernauld South CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Slamannan Plateau SPA;
- c) **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 South Wishaw CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC;
- d) **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Clydebank Riverside SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;
- e) **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Inverclyde Waterfront SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;
- f) **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Glasgow International Airport Zone (GIA) SEIL/Strategic Freight Transport Hub** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Cart SPA;
- g) **Schedule 5, Diagram 13 Port Glasgow Green Network Spatial Priority** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA; and
- h) **Strategy Support measure 9, Diagram 16, Wind Energy Broad Areas of Search** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Loch Moss, Blawhorn Moss, Braehead Moss, Craigengar, Cranley Moss, Clyde Valley Woods, Coalburn Moss, North Shotts Moss, Red Moss and Waukenwae Moss SACs; and the Slamannan Plateau, Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands and Westwater SPAs.

6.2 The Appropriate Assessment considers the effects of the proposal in view of the conservation objectives to determine whether there is flexibility for the development proposal to go forward without adversely affecting the integrity of a Natura site. This includes consideration of in-combination effects (as far as may be possible at the strategic level) and any necessary mitigation. In particular, the assessment considers whether or not the SDP can rely on mitigation measures identified by Local Development Plan HRAs using the following three tests identified at Section 5.28, p.31 of the HRA guidance **which must all be met**:

- a) *The higher tier plan appraisal cannot reasonably predict the effects on a European site in a meaningful way;*
- b) *The lower tier plan, which will identify more precisely the nature, scale or location of development, and thus its potential effects, retains enough flexibility within the terms of the higher tier plan over the exact location, scale or nature of the proposal to enable an adverse impact on site integrity to be avoided;*
- c) *The Habitats Regulation Appraisal of the plan at the lower tier is required as a matter of law or Government policy.*

**a) Strategy Support Measure 2 Strathleven Corridor (Lomond Canal) – potential impact on the Endrick Water SAC**

**i) Conservation Objectives of Endrick Water SAC**

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar*, brook lamprey *Lampetra planeri*, river lamprey *L. fluviatilis*) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- population of the species as a viable component of the site including range of genetic types for salmon;
- distribution of the species within site;
- distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and,
- no significant disturbance of the species.

**ii) SDP Proposal**

West Dunbartonshire Council, with relevant strategic partners, will set in place a longer-term strategic study to analyse the appropriate planning and investment requirements of the Strathleven Corridor, and its wider setting, including the Kilpatrick Hills, commensurate with its emerging role as a gateway to the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. The Study will address regeneration and renewal requirements, sustainable transport options, connectivity and accessibility issues, as well as development of its environmental quality, green infrastructure and its visitor attractions.

The Lomondgate SEIL was identified as a strategic opportunity location to deliver Business and Financial Services, Creative and Digital Industries. Some infrastructure works have been completed including new roundabout on A82, 160,000 sq ft factory with 30,000 sq ft of offices close to completion. The site has permission in principle for up 200,000 sq ft of Class 4 Business Use floorspace. It is not envisaged that the proposals will impinge upon the Endrick Water.

**iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of the Endrick water SAC**

It is possible that some of the options that emerge could be constrained by the need to avoid impacts on these migratory fish. For example, canalisation or other management of the river which could impede migration. The local authority is required to ensure that the environmental element of the study should include consideration of the impacts on the SAC features, and seek to ensure that the options that are pursued do not give rise to impacts on the integrity of the site.

**iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals**

Tests b) and c) are met through the future development of the West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan. It is considered that Test a) is met as West Dunbartonshire Council will take forward the Study as outlined in ii) above in line with Strategy Support Measure 2.

**v) Conclusion**



The SDP defers consideration of mitigation to the Study appraisal. No amendment to SDP content required.

**b) Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Carluke CGA – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC**

i) Conservation Objectives of Clyde Valley Woods SAC

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure that the following are maintained in the long term:

- extent of the habitat on site;
- distribution of the habitat within site;
- structure and function of the habitat;
- processes supporting the habitat;
- distribution of typical species of the habitat;
- viability of typical species as components of the habitat; and,
- no significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

ii) SDP Proposal

This broad location is a legacy element from Schedule 1(c) Community Growth Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006) and was designated for housing accommodating approximately 500 units.

iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Clyde Valley Woods SAC

There is the potential for increased disturbance to the mixed woodland from the construction, transport and recreational activity resulting from an expansion of new housing close to the SAC.

iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals

Tests a), b) and c) are met because the principle of the CGA is established in the approved Structure Plan 2006 and detailed master planning for all South Lanarkshire CGAs was undertaken in 2007. The Carluke CGA masterplan includes a buffer zone to protect the integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC and the masterplan was adopted as part of the South Lanarkshire Local Plan in March 2009.

v) Conclusion

A buffer zone between the housing provides sufficient mitigation between the woodland and development secured through provisions at the design and development management stages. No amendment to SDP content required.

**c) Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Cumbernauld South CGA – potential impact on the site integrity of the Slamannan Plateau SPA**

i) Conservation Objectives of the Slamannan Plateau SPA

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (bean goose, *Anser fabalis*) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- distribution of the species within site;
- distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and,
- no significant disturbance of the species.

ii) SDP Proposal

This broad location is a legacy element from Schedule 1(c) Community Growth Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006) and was designated for housing accommodating approximately 2000 units in an area close to the Slamannan Plateau SPA.

iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Slamannan Plateau SPA

There is the potential for increased disturbance to roosting and feeding bean geese within and outwith the SPA from the construction, transport and recreational activity resulting from an expansion of new housing close to the SPA.

iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals

Tests b) and c) are met because of the recent publication of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan and associated HRA. A subsequent HRA has been undertaken for the Slamannan Plateau in respect of bean geese which has taken account of the CGA proposal and appropriate mitigation have been identified. Test a) is therefore considered to be met.

v) Conclusion

No amendment to SDP content required.

**d) Schedule 1, Diagram 10 South Wishaw CGA – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC**

**i) Conservation Objectives of Clyde Valley Woods SAC**

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitat (mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure that the following are maintained in the long term:

- extent of the habitat on site;
- distribution of the habitat within site;
- structure and function of the habitat;
- processes supporting the habitat;
- distribution of typical species of the habitat;
- viability of typical species as components of the habitat; and,
- no significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

**ii) SDP Proposal**

This broad location is a legacy element from Schedule 1(c) Community Growth Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006) and was designated for housing accommodating approximately 1500 units.

**iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Clyde Valley Woods SAC**

There is the potential for increased disturbance to the mixed woodland from the construction, transport and recreational activity resulting from an expansion of new housing close to the SAC.

**iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals**

Tests b) and c) are met because of the recent publication of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan and associated HRA. Test a) is met because the North Lanarkshire LDP includes mitigation measures for the impact of potential disturbance from the South Wishaw CGA to the SAC.

**v) Conclusion**

A buffer zone between the housing provides sufficient mitigation between the woodland and development secured through provisions at the design and development management stages. No amendment to SDP content required.

**e) Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Clydebank Riverside SEIL – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA**

**i) Conservation Objectives of Inner Clyde SPA**

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (redshank, *tringa totanus*) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- distribution of the species within site;
- distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and,
- no significant disturbance of the species.

**ii) SDP Proposal**

This broad location is a legacy element from Schedule 5(b) Strategic Industrial and Business Location and Schedule 5(c) Core Economic Development Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006). The allocation as a SEIL in the GCV Proposed Plan is a continuation of the safeguard of existing industrial uses and opportunities on the Clydeside.

**iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Inner Clyde SPA**

The potential impacts of these SEILs include disturbance to redshank during construction, loss of habitat, and ongoing disturbance due to increased public access to the foreshore. However, in both locations the majority of the proposals are on exiting sites some of which may have fallen out of use over the years. Clydeside is historically built up with extensive existing land use and human activity. The designation of SEILs involves converting existing brownfield land into new use that would be no different to what was there before.

**iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals**

Tests b) and c) are met through the future development of the West Dunbartonshire LDP. It is considered that Test a) is met because the principle of economic development at Clydebank Riverside was established in Schedule 5(b) and Schedule 5(c) Core Economic Development Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006). The SEIL designation is a continuation of this principle in recognition that this area provides the potential for economic development activity.

**v) Conclusion**

No development on the foreshore is envisaged and it is therefore unlikely that this strategic designation will impinge on the SPA. In addition, recent development in these locations incorporated conditions to avoid potential adverse impacts and these could be applied again to new proposals. It is not envisaged that these proposals incorporate any elements that would have a great impact on redshank. No amendment to SDP content required.

**f) Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Inverclyde Waterfront SEIL – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA**

#### i) Conservation Objectives of Inner Clyde SPA

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (redshank, *tringa totanus*) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- distribution of the species within site;
- distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and,
- no significant disturbance of the species.

#### ii) SDP Proposal

This broad location is a legacy element from Schedule 5(b) Strategic Industrial and Business Locations and Schedule 5(c) Core Economic Development Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006). The allocation as a SEIL in the GCV Proposed Plan is a continuation of the safeguard of existing industrial uses on the Inverclyde Waterfront

In relation to Inverclyde Waterfront, this strategic location aims to deliver Green Technologies and Business and Financial Services and seeks to raise awareness of Inverclyde's potential amongst companies in the renewables sector.

#### iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Inner Clyde SPA

The potential impacts of these SEILs include disturbance to redshank during construction, loss of habitat, and ongoing disturbance due to increased public access to the foreshore. However, in both locations the majority of the proposals are on exiting sites some of which may have fallen out of use of the years. Inverclyde Waterfront is historically built up with extensive existing land use and human activity. The designation of SEILs involves converting existing brownfield land into new use that would be no different to what was there before.

#### iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals

Tests b) and c) are met through the future development of the Inverclyde LDP. It is considered that Test a) is met because the principle of economic development at Inverclyde Waterfront was established in Schedule 5(b) Strategic Industrial and Business Locations and Schedule 5(c) Core Economic Development Areas of the approved Structure Plan (2006). The SEIL designation is a continuation of this principle in recognition that this area provides for economic development activity.

#### v) Conclusion

No development on the foreshore is envisaged and it is therefore unlikely that this strategic designation will impinge on the SPA. In addition, recent development in these locations incorporated conditions to avoid potential adverse impacts and these could be applied again to new proposals. It is not envisaged that these proposals incorporate any elements that would have a great impact on redshank. No amendment to SDP content required.

**g) Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Glasgow International Airport Zone (GIA) – potential impact on the site integrity of Black Cart SPA**

**i) Conservation Objectives of Black Cart SPA**

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (whooper swan, *Cygnus cygnus*) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- distribution of the species within site;
- distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and,
- no significant disturbance of the species.

**ii) SDP Proposal**

This broad location is a legacy element from Schedule 5(b) Strategic Industrial and Business Locations of the approved Structure Plan (2006). The allocation as a SEIL in the GCV Proposed Plan is a continuation of the safeguard of existing industrial uses focused on their proximity to and supporting the economic role of Glasgow International Airport. There are 3 areas identified as a Strategic Economic Investment Locations (SEIL) namely, Inchinnan, Linwood and Westway. These are existing industrial locations that are being safeguarded against other land uses and would be difficult to replace. It is anticipated that investment opportunities relating to GIA will come forward from time to time and being afforded SEIL status safeguards existing economic use and also the potential for further economic uses of these three areas. It is likely that these sites will not result in extensive land use change since the SEIL status in this location is mainly protecting continued existing use.

The GIA Strategic Freight Transport Hub proposes the allocation of land for freight parks and freight activity around the airport.

**iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Black Cart SPA**

The SEIL is based on 3 development sites which lie outwith the Black Cart SPA but within the foraging range of Whooper swans using the Black Cart SPA. The swans also use satellite roosting ponds during the wintering period when foraging away from the SPA. These foraging and roosting areas may change from year to year as the swans respond to the quality of feeding in different places. There is the potential, therefore, for an adverse impact on integrity through increased disturbance to feeding and roosting whooper swans from economic developments at the three locations and from expanded freight activity in the vicinity of the Airport.

Industries in this area are mainly associated with air freight. At this strategic scale it is difficult to predict specific opportunity development sites that may come forward and therefore the specific impacts cannot be predicted. Opportunity sites are likely to be brownfield therefore the potential to impact on roosting sites is minimized and are likely to be small scale relative to existing land uses. In the event that greenfield

sites come forward, it is likely that development can be accommodated if suitable alternative roost sites are created which are acceptable to the airport authorities.

Achieving the objectives of SEIL status, with some new developments, is unlikely to compromise mainly agricultural use over whole foraging area for Black Cart swans. It is likely that alternative roost sites within their range can be accommodated should a proposal impinge on existing roost site. At this strategic plan level, it is likely that this proposal is flexible enough to avoid adverse impact on the SPA.

Specific proposals that emerge through the local development plan process should acknowledge the potential constraints on new developments in proximity to the SPA and highlight that suitable mitigation is dependent on the identification and development of suitable alternative roost sites if necessary.

iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals

Tests b) and c) are met through the future development of the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan. It is considered that Test a) is met because the principle of economic development at these sites was established in Schedule 5(b) Strategic Industrial and Business Locations of the approved Structure Plan (2006). The SEIL designation is a continuation of this principle in recognition that this area provides for economic development activity. These have been incorporated in the adopted Renfrewshire Local Plan 2006.

v) Conclusion

Recent development on these sites has incorporated conditions to avoid potential adverse impacts and these could be applied, where appropriate, to new proposals. No amendment to SDP content required.



**h) Schedule 5, Diagram 13 Port Glasgow Green Network Spatial Priority** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA

i) Conservation Objectives of Inner Clyde SPA

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (redshank, *tringa totanus*) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- distribution of the species within site;
- distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and,
- no significant disturbance of the species.

ii) SDP Proposal

The Inverclyde Green Network Strategy (2008) and Inverclyde Masterplanning Study (2010) were produced to inform delivery of the Green Network within Inverclyde. The lead partners are Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership, Inverclyde Council and Riverside Inverclyde Urban Regeneration Company. Key recommendations include increased ecological connectivity, enhancement of greenspaces and improved access to the waterfront, between communities and to Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park.

iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of Inner Clyde SPA

Public use of the foreshore could lead to increased disturbance of redshank, depending on timing, duration, and location. However, the broad objective of increasing waterfront access could be met in a number of ways, utilising existing access points and new ones. Impacts on redshank arise due to human, and dog-walking, infringement onto roosting and feeding areas. These potential impacts could be avoided or reduced to acceptable levels through local visitor management. Indeed, management measures connected to investment in foreshore access could actually reduce the level of disturbance, by guiding public to avoid disturbing the birds. Therefore, it would be possible to meet the objectives of the Green Network whilst protecting the SPA.

iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals

Tests b) and c) are met through the future development of the Inverclyde LDP. It is considered that Test a) is met because the principle of the Green Network for the GCV city region was established in the approved Structure Plan (2006) supported by Environmental Improvement Priorities set out in Schedule 6(d). The Green Network spatial priority is a continuation of this principle and impacts on the SPA cannot be accurately predicted until specific proposals are developed. Development in this location can incorporate conditions to avoid potential adverse impacts on the foreshore where applicable. It is envisaged that such proposals will mitigate against any elements that would have a great impact on redshank.

v) Conclusion

The Inverclyde Local Development Plan will need to define and appropriately assess the green network provisions which will consider along with other issues management of access to the foreshore. No amendment to SDP content required.

**i) Strategy Support measure 9, Diagram 16, Wind Energy Broad Areas of Search** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Loch Moss, Blawhorn Moss, Braehead Moss, Craigengar, Cranley Moss, Clyde Valley Woods, Coalburn Moss, North Shotts Moss, Red Moss and Waukenwae Moss SACs; and the Slamannan Plateau, Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands and Westwater SPAs

i) Conservation Objectives

Each of the sites listed above have varying conservation objectives. However, proposals that come forward for wind farm development will be subject to further scrutiny including Environmental Impact Assessment and consultation on a site-by-site level.

ii) SDP Proposal

The identification of the Broad Areas of Search for Wind Energy in the Proposed Plan specifically excluded all international and national heritage designations however, some sites fall within 5km of designated sites. The identification of Broad Areas of Search does not imply that development will occur throughout the area, it merely provides an indication that wind farm development may be acceptable subject to other local considerations. Other factors are relevant, including landscape capacity and cumulative impact and local details.

iii) Potential impact on the site integrity of SACs/SPAs listed above

There are potential hydrological impacts on peatland SACs, avoidance and collision impacts on bird populations at the fringe of SPA, especially with regard to migratory species. However, proposals that come forward for wind farm development will be subject to further scrutiny including Environmental Impact Assessment and consultation on a site-by-site level. Depending on the nature of the site and potential impacts upon it, it may be possible to develop windfarms adjacent to the Natura sites on some locations, whilst on others it may not be possible to do so even beyond the 5km. Therefore, the exclusion of Natura sites from the Broad Areas of Search provides an appropriate broad mechanism for avoiding impacts on these sites at this strategic level, in addition to assessments that would have to be undertaken a local level.

iv) HRA tests on use of mitigation measures within Local Development Plan appraisals

Tests b) and c) are met through the future development of 2 LDPs that have Broad Areas of Search for and recent examination of the North Lanarkshire Local Plan. It is considered that Test a) is also met because the SDP recommends that LDPs further refine this map and the Broad Areas of Search identified and so it is not meaningful to carry out a HRA on the SDP level map.

v) Conclusion

The SDP defers consideration of mitigation to LDP appraisals. No amendment to SDP content required.

## 7. Conclusions

- 7.1 This document discharges the requirement of the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan to determine whether the Proposed Plan is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site, and to undertake a Habitat Regulations Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment where this is required.
- 7.2 This process has followed Stages 1 to 9 of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal process and now stands at Stage 10/11. This work follows on from Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Main Issues Report and the production of a Supplementary Assessment in relation to the Proposed Plan.
- 7.3 The elements of the Spatial Strategy and associated proposals and policies have been considered against the fifteen SACs, seven SPAs and three RAMSAR sites in and around the Clyde Valley. Some of these elements, proposals and policies have been screened out.
- 7.4. Following screening, assessment of mitigation measures and re-screening, a number of Natura sites and associated proposals were assessed:
- a. **Strategy Support Measure 2 Strathleven Corridor (Lomond Canal)** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Endrick Water SAC;
  - b. **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Carluke CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC;
  - c. **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 Cumbernauld South CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Slamannan Plateau SPA;
  - d. **Schedule 1, Diagram 10 South Wishaw CGA** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Clyde Valley Woods SAC;
  - e. **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Clydebank Riverside SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;
  - f. **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Inverclyde Waterfront SEIL** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;
  - g. **Schedule 2, Diagram 11 Glasgow International Airport Zone SEIL/Strategic Freight Transport Hub** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Cart SPA;
  - h. **Schedule 5, Diagram 13 Port Glasgow Green Network Spatial Priority** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA;
  - i. **Strategy Support measure 9, Diagram 16, Wind Energy Broad Areas of Search** – potential impact on the site integrity of the Black Loch Moss, Blawhorn Moss, Braehead Moss, Craigengar, Cranley Moss, Clyde Valley Woods, Coalburn Moss, North Shotts Moss, Red Moss and Waukenwae Moss SACs; and the Slamannan Plateau, Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands and Westwater SPAs.
- 7.5. Following screening, assessment of mitigation measures and re-screening, a number of Natura sites and associated proposals were assessed, considering the

conservation objectives of the Natura sites against the features of these proposals. In some instances, previous HRA work has already been undertaken as part of the local plans process. In others, full impact cannot be assessed at this strategic level and the new Local Development Plans are required to conduct further study and assessment in line with conservation objectives and potential mitigation measures highlighted in this appraisal for the instances above in paragraph 7.4 and preceding sections.

- 7.6 This concludes the requirement to undertake Habitat Regulations Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment.

## Notes

1. Natura 2000 is a network of sites across the European Community made up of Special Protection Areas (SPAs), under the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds), and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats of wild flora and fauna. Any effect on Ramsar Sites will be captured by any effects on relevant Natura sites as per the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP), 2010)
2. Scottish Government (2010) Planning Circular 1 2009 Development Planning, Appendix 1: The Habitats Regulations





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