

**SEA SCREENING REPORT (COVER NOTE)**

**PART 1**

**To:** [SEA.gateway@gov.scot](mailto:SEA.gateway@gov.scot)  
or  
SEA Gateway  
Scottish Government  
Area 2 H (South)  
Victoria Quay  
Edinburgh EH6 6QQ

**PART 2**

An SEA Screening Report is attached for the plan, programme or strategy (PPS) entitled:

SG02 – Neighbourhood Design – Supplementary Guidance

The Responsible Authority is:

Falkirk Council

**COMPLETE PART 3 or 4 or 5**

**PART 3**

Screening is required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. Our view is that:

- an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects *or*
- an SEA is required** because the PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and is likely to have significant environmental effects *or*
- an SEA is not required** because the PPS is unlikely to have significant environmental effects

**PART 4**

- The PPS does not require an SEA under the Act. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, because this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 28 day timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

**PART 5**

- None of the above apply. We have prepared this screening report because:  
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.....  
.....

**SEA SCREENING REPORT (COVER NOTE)**

**PART 6**

**Contact name**

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**Job Title**

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**PART 7**

**Signature**  
(electronic  
signature  
is acceptable)



**Date**

05/12/2019

## SEA SCREENING REPORT - KEY FACTS

<b>Responsible Authority</b>	Falkirk Council
<b>Title of PPS</b>	SG02 – Neighbourhood Design – Supplementary Guidance
<b>Purpose of PPS</b>	To promote local and national planning policy in relation to urban design and to encourage the application of best practice urban design as set out in government policy, Designing Streets, to the design of new neighbourhoods and to the retrofitting of existing neighbourhoods within the Falkirk Council Area.
<b>What prompted the PPS</b> (e.g. a legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	Preparation of this SG is required to provide supplementary guidance to the operation of policy PE01 “Placemaking” of the Falkirk Local Development Plan. This SG will also embed the principles of Designing Streets into the Local Development Plan.
<b>Subject</b> (e.g. transport)	Urban Design, Placemaking
<b>Period covered by PPS</b>	From adoption of the Falkirk Local Development Plan 2
<b>Frequency of updates</b>	Every 5 years in line with the LDP preparation timetable
<b>Area covered by PPS</b> (e.g. geographical area – it is good practice to attach a map)	The Falkirk Council Area
<b>Summary of nature/content of PPS</b>	The guidance will include text and images promoting national and local planning policy and best practice urban design including the following topics: Policy Framework, Development Planning and Development Management Processes, Urban Design Analysis – Neighbourhoods and Streets within the Falkirk Council Area, Design Guidance on Street Layout and Street Detailing.
<b>Are there any proposed PPS objectives?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Copy of objectives attached</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>Date</b>	05/12/2019

## SEA SCREENING REPORT

Our determinations regarding the likely significance of effects on the environment of SG02 – Neighbourhood Design – Supplementary Guidance is set out in Table 1.

**TABLE 1 – LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

<p><b>TITLE OF PPS</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;">SG02 – Neighbourhood Design Guide – Supplementary Guidance</div> <p><b>RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY</b></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 5px 0;">Falkirk Council</div>		
<b>Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment</b> (1(a), 1(b) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	<b>Likely to have significant environmental effects?</b>  <b>YES/NO</b>	<b>Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)</b>
1(a) the degree to which the PPS sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	No	<p>This SG will be used to inform the design of neighbourhoods in new developments and could significantly improve the townscape quality of new development.</p> <p>The design principles which the SG will provide detailed guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.</p>
1(b) the degree to which the PPS influences other PPS including those in a hierarchy	No	<p>This SG will influence Development Briefs, Masterplans and Development Frameworks which could significantly improve the townscape quality of new development.</p>

1(c) the relevance of the PPS for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	No	The design principles which the SG will provide detailed guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.
<p><b>Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment</b></p> <p>(1(d) etc. refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)</p>	<p><b>Likely to have significant environmental effects?</b></p> <p><b>YES/NO</b></p>	<p><b>Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)</b></p>
1(d) environmental problems relevant to the PPS	No	<p>Poor design of new development can lead to poor townscape quality.</p> <p>This SG could significantly improve the townscape quality of new development.</p> <p>The design principles which the SG will provide detailed guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.</p>
1(e) the relevance of the PPS for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, PPS linked to waste management or water protection)	No	There is no relevant Community legislation.
2 (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	No	<p>This SG will improve townscape design every time it is applied to a new development proposal. Positive effects will remain for the duration of the development's lifetime so are very long term. Those positive effects will be irreversible unless comprehensive redevelopment of the affected area is promoted.</p> <p>The design principles which the SG will provide detailed</p>

		guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.
2 (b) the cumulative nature of the effects  (See Chapter 12 of Tool Kit)	No	Effects on townscape quality will be cumulative and could be significant.  The design principles which the SG will provide detailed guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.
2 (c) transboundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other EU Member States)	No	No transboundary effects are predicted.
2 (d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)  (See Chapter 11 of Tool Kit )	No	No risks to human health are predicted.

<b>Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment</b> (2(e), 2(f) etc refer to paragraphs in Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005)	<b>Likely to have significant environmental effects?</b>  <b>YES/NO</b>	<b>Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)</b>
2 (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	No	<p>Positive effects could be felt wherever the development of new neighbourhoods is proposed.</p> <p>Allocation of land which could deliver approximately 6700 new houses over the period to 2030 has been allocated in the Local Development Plan with new neighbourhoods planned in most communities.</p> <p>Although the cumulative magnitude of positive effects is likely to be significant, the design principles which the SG will provide detailed guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.</p>
2 (f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to- (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use.	No	<p>Positive effects on townscape will not affect vulnerable areas</p>
2 (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status	No	<p>Positive effects on townscape will not affect areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status</p>

## SEA SCREENING REPORT

**A summary of our considerations of the significant environmental effects of SG02 – Neighbourhood Design – Supplementary Guidance is given below.**

**TABLE 2 – SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

This SG will be used to inform the design of neighbourhoods in new developments and could significantly improve the townscape quality of new development.

The design principles which the SG will provide detailed guidance on have already been established through Designing Streets and policy PE01, therefore this SG will not lead to significant environmental effects in its own right.

In summary therefore we do not believe that an SEA is required as this SG is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.