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If telephoning ask for:
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Perth
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By email only to: SEA_Gateway@gov.scot

12 December 2018

Dear Ms Walker

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 2005
PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL HOUSING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE GUIDE -
SCREENING REPORT**

Thank you for your Screening Report consultation which SEPA received via the Scottish Government SEA Gateway on 28 November 2018.

In accordance with Section 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 we have considered your screening report using the criteria set out in Schedule 2 for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment. Having reviewed the Screening Report, we consider that in respect of our main areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health, material assets (of which we have a specific interest in waste) and climatic factors) the Perth and Kinross Council Housing in the Countryside Guide is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. Although we are of the view that significant environmental effects are not likely, it is for the Perth and Kinross Council as Responsible Authority to make a formal determination taking into account the consultation responses received.

We understand that Housing in the Countryside Guide is Supplementary Guidance (SG) which will support Policy 19: Housing in the Countryside, of the Perth & Kinross Council Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2). This is a revision of the existing SG which was the subject of full SEA in 2009 (SEA\00338). We agree that no significant environmental effects in addition to the ones already considered in the previous version and in addition to the ones already considered as part of the environmental assessment of Policy 19 are likely to arising from the proposed changes to the SG.

Please note that although we do not consider that the Guide will have significant strategic effects on the environment we do consider that it may have some effects. We would therefore welcome consultation on the draft proposals which should be directed to our local Planning Service team at planning.se@sepa.org.uk.

If it is formally determined that SEA is required, you will be aware that the next stage requires the Responsible Authority to consult the Consultation Authorities on the proposed scope and level of detail to be included within the Environmental Report. This can be undertaken through preparation of a concise Scoping Report. We would encourage you to use the scoping process to focus the assessment on those SEA issues upon which there are likely to be significant environmental effects, to outline the baseline information you consider as most relevant and explain your proposed method of assessment. To assist with this process we have produced [SEA topic guidance](#) for those issues which fall within our remit. Further information on scoping can be found in the [Scottish Government SEA Guidance](#) (sections 3.4 to 3.8 in particular).

We are committed to providing early and focused advice and supporting continuous engagement and therefore if it is determined that SEA is required we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and discuss these issues prior to the formal consultation.

Should you wish to discuss this screening consultation please do not hesitate to contact me on 01786 452430 or via our SEA Gateway at sea.gateway@sepa.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Silvia Cagnoni-Watt
Senior Planning Officer

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