


SEA Scoping Report

Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2

Angus Council

June 2012



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Document history

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Shoreline Management Plan 2

Angus Council

This document has been issued and amended as follows:

Version	Date	Description	Created by	Verified by	Approved by
1	May 2012	Draft SEA Scoping Report	A Collin	C Morgan	J Young
2	June 2012	Final for Consultation	A Collin	C Morgan	J Young

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Background	1
1.2	Purpose of this Report	1
1.3	Shoreline Management Plan 2 Area	2
2	Setting the Context	3
2.1	Key Facts about the Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2	3
3	The Angus Shoreline Management Plan2	4
3.1	Purpose and Objectives	4
3.2	SMP Process	4
4	Relationships with other Plans, Programmes and Strategies	6
5	Baseline	13
5.1	Environmental Baseline	13
5.2	Information Sources	16
5.3	Evolution of the Environmental Baseline without the SMP2	16
5.4	Environmental Issues and Objectives	16
6	Scope of the SEA	21
7	SEA Framework	24
7.1	Approach to Environmental Appraisal	24
7.2	Mitigation and Monitoring	24
7.3	Habitat Regulation Appraisal (HRA)	25
8	Next Steps	26
8.1	Anticipated Milestones	26

Appendices

Appendix A	Baseline Report
Appendix B	Issues and Objectives Evaluation
Appendix C	Assessment Methodology

PART 1

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PART 2

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

Angus Shoreline Management Plan

The Responsible Authority is:

Angus Council

PART 3

Please tick the appropriate box

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(3) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. or

The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5(4) of the Act and requires an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. or

The PPS does not require an SEA under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, as this SEA is voluntary, the statutory 5 week timescale for views from the Consultation Authorities cannot be guaranteed.

PART 4

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PART 5

Signature
(electronic signature
is acceptable)



Date

22/06/12

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

This Scoping Report has been prepared by Halcrow Group Ltd (Halcrow), on behalf of Angus Council as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process for the Angus Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) 2 (see Section 3).

A SMP provides a large scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal evolution and presents a policy framework to address those risks in a sustainable manner, with respect to people, and the developed, human and natural environment. A SMP is a non-statutory, policy document for coastal flood and erosion risk management planning.

The Angus SMP2 will define the risks to people and the environment, as a result of coastal evolution and behaviour within the SMP over the next century. It will outline strategic policies to manage those risks while maintaining a natural coastline as far as possible. The SMP2 will replace the current Angus SMP, which was published in 2004.

1.2 Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this Scoping Report is to determine the level of detail to be included in the SEA Environmental Report, including the proposed SEA methodology, to enable Consultation Authorities (CA) to form a view on the scope of the Plan. This Scoping Report therefore describes relevant environmental baseline data, proposes a framework of SEA objectives, presents our initial understanding of key environmental issues within the SMP2 area and considers other plans and programmes of relevance. This report also scopes out issues not requiring further assessment as they are unlikely to give rise to significant effects and sets out the proposed consultation period for the Environmental Report.

This report is a statement of our understanding of the SMP2 area at the present time. This will develop as the plan progresses and will be informed by the views and knowledge of external stakeholders.

This Scoping Report has been prepared in accordance with:

- the European SEA Directive (2001/42/EC);
- Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005;
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM, now DCLG) Guidelines (2005);
- Scottish Executive SEA Gateway SEA Templates (2005)
- Consideration of Climatic Factors within Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (2010); and
- current best practice.

This report will be formally issued to the Consultation Authorities through the SEA Gateway to request a scoping opinion, in accordance with the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

1.3 Shoreline Management Plan 2 Area

The Angus coastline extends from Milton Ness in the North to the Broughty Ferry Castle in the South. The SMP2 boundary extends slightly beyond the Angus coast; to ensure coastal processes that influence management recommendations are incorporated rather than local authority boundaries.

The Angus coast has been sub-divided into eight Coastal Process Units (CPUs):

1. Milton Ness to Montrose Harbour
2. Montrose Basin
3. Scurdie Ness to Rickle Craig
4. Rickle Craig to Lang Craig
5. Lang Craig to Whiting Ness
6. Whiting Ness to West Haven
7. West Haven to Buddon Ness
8. Buddon Ness to Broughty Castle

2 Setting the Context

2.1 Key Facts about the Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2

Table 2.1 Key facts about the Angus Shoreline Management Plan 2

Responsible Authority	Angus Council
Plan Title	Angus Shoreline Management Plan2 (ASMP)
What prompted the PPS	The original SMP was developed for a period of 50 years on the information available at the time. The SMP now needs to be updated to take into consideration new climate change adaptation information, information from coastal monitoring, changes in environmental designations, land use, the natural environment, historical and archaeological features, and how these features may be affected by flooding or erosion over the next 100 years.
Plan Subject	Sustainable shoreline management policies for the next 100 years and a framework for the future management of the Angus coastline.
Period covered by PPS	The SMP is a working document that is designed to be updated over time although policies are based on a 100 year period.
Area covered by PPS	Shoreline from Broughty Ferry Castle, which is within Dundee City Council's jurisdiction to Milton Ness within Aberdeenshire Council's jurisdiction
Frequency of updates	At the time of the original SMP studies, Defra guidance suggested that SMPs be reviewed and, if necessary, updated approximately every five years after adoption
Purpose and/or objectives of the PPS	To outline strategic policies to manage coastal flood and erosion risks to the human environment (including existing developed areas and infrastructure) along the Angus shoreline while maintaining the natural coastline as far as possible.
Contact points	For questions on the SMP please contact; Jackie Young (Project Manager) Halcrow Group Limited Burderop Park Swindon, SN4 0QD

3 The Angus Shoreline Management Plan2

3.1 Purpose and Objectives

The SMP2 is a revision and re-evaluation of the SMP1; a non-statutory document intended to inform and in turn be supported by the statutory planning process. It requires the collation of all existing information on the coast to assess the current situation, thus identifying various areas of concern, conflicts of interest, opportunities and gaps in information. As described in Table 2.1, the purpose of this revision is to ensure that new information and our improved understanding of coastal processes, including the impacts of climate change, are incorporated into shoreline management policy.

The major objective for the Angus coast, in common with all other parts of the coastline of the UK is to develop and implement sustainable coastal flood and erosion risk management in line with the government's Flood and Coastal Defence Policy (as cited in the SMP1: Angus Council 2004), which is defined as:

"To reduce the risk to people and the developed and natural environment from flooding and coastal erosion by the provision of technically, environmentally and economically sound and sustainable defence measures". The primary focus is on: "The protection of life and hence of urban areas."

The SMP Management and SEA Objectives are described in Table 5.2. These build on the objectives identified in SMP1 and will provide a framework to develop and appraise sustainable policies in relation to risks from coastal flooding and erosion.

3.2 SMP Process

A SMP comprises the following key stages: -

- Defining the SMP requirements and objectives of the plan
- Defining stakeholder engagement - consultation with a wide range of groups with an interest in the shoreline is an essential part of the SMP development process. It is important at this early stage to identify stakeholders and engage them from the start of the SMP process.
- Data collation - background information required for management of the coastline is collected from existing sources, and the SMP area is subdivided into Coastal Process Units (and further divided into Management Units) based on natural processes, existing land uses and planning objectives for future appraisal purposes.
- Additional investigations – these would be undertaken at this stage, if appropriate, where data gaps have been identified, to provide information necessary for the review of the SMP
- Baseline understanding of coastal behaviours and dynamics – this stage is important to provide a review of coastal behaviours and dynamics, which will be used to develop baseline management scenarios, identify risks associated with coastal processes and evolution, and appraise the implications of different management policy scenarios over the different timescales of the SMP.

- Define features, benefits and issues – a baseline environmental report ('Theme Review') is produced to identify key features along the coast and why these features are important to stakeholders i.e. the benefits that the feature provides in terms of the natural and human environment. Information from the Theme Review is used as a basis for developing policy options and assessing the implications of these options on the environment. A scoping report is normally produced at this stage.
- Develop baseline management scenarios – this is undertaken to understand how the shoreline is behaving and the influence that coastal management has upon this behaviour. This analysis is then used to develop and appraise policy scenarios.

The SMP2 has four possible policies that can be applied to each Management Area.

- **Hold the line** - maintain or change the level of protection provided by defences in their present location.
- **Advance the line** - build new defences on the seaward side of the existing defence line to reclaim land.
- **Managed realignment** - allowing the shoreline position to move backwards (or forwards) with management to control or limit movement.
- **No active intervention** - a decision not to invest in providing or maintaining defences.
- Define SMP Management and SEA Objectives – SMP management and SEA objectives are developed with an understanding of the key features and issues of relevance to the SMP area.
- Develop Issues and Objectives Tables – these tables are developed to assess the relative importance of the defined objectives and identify key policy drivers, which helps to define policy scenarios and provide criteria for policy evaluation.
- Policy Scenario Assessment - strategic coastal policies for each Management Unit are assessed to appraise how the coast would evolve under various policy combinations, and the implications of this for important features (including the environment) are assessed. The main assessment stage of the SEA is carried out, where scenarios are assessed against criteria/objectives, reporting positive and negative impacts, required mitigation and possible enhancement. The environmental implications identified by the SEA are fed into the scenario assessment process, including the need to meet Water Framework Directive (WFD) requirements and Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA).
- Preferred Scenario Identification – preferred scenarios are proposed, justified and selected to achieve the plan objectives. Justification and selection of the scenarios must be sustainable in terms of engineering viability, socio-economic justification and environmental impact. Possible management operations that will achieve the selected policy are proposed in outline and recommendations are made for future monitoring and research.
- Preparation of Draft SMP Document Preparation – the SMP document (and SEA Environmental Report) is drafted to present the preferred plan.
- Public Consultation – public consultation is carried out to make stakeholders aware of the draft plan and provide stakeholders with opportunities to comment on the SMP and SEA Environmental Report.

4 Relationships with other Plans, Programmes and Strategies

Consideration of a focused range of other Plans, Programmes and Strategies (PPS), supports the identification of current/ wider environmental protection objectives and issues that the SMP2 should take cognisance of, and might support with its delivery.

A review of the associated environmental protection objectives highlights existing and potential problems, as well as opportunities for enhancement and benefits, and serves as an important base upon which to build the SEA Assessment Framework.

Table 4.1 sets out a preliminary draft of the PPS review focusing on the Plans, Programmes and Strategies which will influence, and be influenced by, the SMP2.

Table 4.1: Plans, programmes, strategies and environmental objectives which will influence or be influenced by the Angus SMP 2

Document	Summary	Relevance	CPU
International Planning Policy			
European Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	<p>Aims to ensure the protection of biodiversity by conserving natural habitats of wild flora and fauna.</p> <p>It requires Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) to be identified, which form a network of protected areas called Natura 2000 along with Special Protection Areas (SPAs).</p> <p>Also aims to maintain or restore in a favourable condition designated natural habitat types and habitats of designated species listed in Annex I and II of the directive respectively.</p>	The SMP2 will consider the European sites within the SMP2 area, together with their qualifying natural habitats and species. The SMP2 will recommend appropriate measures to avoid deterioration of these habitats and avoid disturbance of scheduled, scarce or rare species.	All
The EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)	<p>The Directive provides a framework for the conservation and management of human interactions with wild birds in Europe.</p> <p>It sets broad objectives for a wide range of activities in order to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds.</p> <p>The key aim is to sustain habitats in order to maintain populations at ecologically and scientifically sound levels.</p>	The SMP2 will consider the impact of its policies on wild birds and their habitats and should ensure their protection.	All
Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended) 1981	<p>Principal legislative mechanism for the protection of wildlife in UK.</p> <p>Requires any land that is identified as being of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features to be classified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and afforded certain protection against damaging measures.</p> <p>Requires strict protection of species under Schedules 1, 5 and 8 except in exceptional circumstances.</p>	<p>There are a number of sites designated under this Act within the SMP2 boundary.</p> <p>The SMP2 will recognise their statutory importance in terms biodiversity and strive to ensure they are adequately protected.</p>	All
The Conservation (Natural Habitats and c) Regulations 1994	<p>The Regulations make it an offence (subject to exceptions) to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed in Schedule 4.</p> <p>However, these actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses by the</p>	The SMP2 will consider the protection and conservation of plant and animal species.	All

Document	Summary	Relevance	CPU
	<p>appropriate authorities.</p> <p>Licenses may be granted for a number of purposes (such as science and education, conservation, preserving public health and safety), but only after the appropriate authority is satisfied that there are no satisfactory alternatives and that such actions will have no detrimental effect on wild population of the species concerned.</p>		
Water Framework Directive 2000	Addresses the issues of flooding, Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS), water quality, treatment of waste water, bathing water quality, groundwater protection and River Basin Management Plans.	The SMP2 will seek to avoid negative impacts to water quality and assist in flood risk management.	All
Ramsar Convention 1971	Provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.	The SMP2 will seek to avoid negative impacts to wetlands.	2, 7 and 8
National Planning Policy			
National Planning Framework for Scotland 2 (2009)	<p>The second National Planning Framework (NPF2) was adopted in June 2009 and sets out Scotland's spatial development until 2030.</p> <p>It identifies the high-level, long-term issues that impact on the development of Scotland in physical and land use terms with the purpose of enabling Scotland to reach its full potential in social, environmental and economic terms.</p> <p>Marine and Coastal Environment is specifically addressed with the emphasis on the sustainable management and development of coastal areas.</p>	The SMP2 will seek to incorporate the principles and objectives set by the NPF2.	All
SPP1: The Planning System 2010	<p>The SPP sets out;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Scottish Government's view of the purpose of planning; the core principles for the operation of the system and the objectives for key parts of the system; statutory guidance on sustainable development and planning under Section 3E of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006; concise subject planning policies, including the implications for development planning and development management; and, 	The SMP2 will incorporate the appropriate principles and objectives set by SPP1	All

Document	Summary	Relevance	CPU
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Scottish Government's expectations of the intended outcomes of the planning system. 		
Climate Change (Scotland Act 2009)	<p>The Act sets a framework for greenhouse gas emissions reductions in Scotland by setting an interim 42 per cent reduction target for 2020, with the power for this to be varied based on expert advice, and an 80 per cent reduction target for 2050.</p> <p>To help ensure the delivery of these targets, this part of the Act also requires that the Scottish Ministers set annual targets, in secondary legislation, for Scottish emissions from 2010 to 2050.</p>	The SMP2 will seek to assist in meeting the reduction targets identified in the Act.	All
Scottish Biodiversity Strategy - Scotland's Biodiversity It's in your Hands(2004)	<p>The biodiversity strategy sets out a framework for 35 years to 'to conserve Biodiversity for the health, enjoyment and well being of the people of Scotland now and in the future'.</p> <p>The strategy sets out five main objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> conserve what we have; sustain healthy ecosystems; create networks and connections not a piecemeal approach; engage more people; and, promote sustainable development. 	The SMP2 should ensure that biodiversity is protected and where appropriate enhanced.	All
Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) 2009	<p>SHEP is the overarching policy statement for the historic environment.</p> <p>It is now one consolidated document replacing series of free-standing publications.</p> <p>It provides a framework for more detailed strategic policies and operational policies that inform the day to day work of a range of organisations that have a role and interest in managing the historic environment.</p> <p>These include the Scottish Government, local authorities and the range of bodies that are accountable to Scottish Ministers.</p> <p>SHEP is intended to sit alongside and complement the Scottish Planning Policy series and other relevant Ministerial policy documents.</p>	The SMP2 should ensure the conservation of historic areas and areas of cultural significance.	All
National Marine	The National Marine Plan will set out:	The SMP2 will incorporate appropriate	All

Document	Summary	Relevance	CPU
Plan Pre-Consultation Draft 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies for sustainable development of Scotland's seas; • Policies on Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and other relevant conservation sites; • Economic, social and marine ecosystem objectives and further objectives for the mitigation and adaptation of climate change; • The condition of the Scottish marine area (or region) including a summary of the significant pressures and human impacts on the relevant area.; and, • Information relating to the policies appropriate to the plan. 	principles and objectives from the National Marine Plan Draft.	
PAN 60 Planning for Natural Heritage 2000	PAN 60 provides advice on how development and the planning system can contribute to the conservation, enhancement, enjoyment and understanding of Scotland's natural environment and encourages developers and planning authorities to be positive and creative in addressing natural heritage issues.	The SMP2 will seek to conserve and enhance the natural environment.	All
SNH Guidance: A guide to managing coastal erosion in beach / dune systems	<p>Reviews the options available for managing erosion. Offers guidance on how to select or design the most appropriate response to a particular situation.</p> <p>Describes and illustrates how each erosion management technique might best be designed so as to minimise damage to natural heritage and reduce the potential for altering shoreline evolution elsewhere.</p>	SNH guidance relating to coastal erosion and defence will be adopted in the development of the SMP2.	All
Regional and Local Policy			
Dundee and Angus Structure Plan 2001-2016	The purpose of this Structure Plan is to provide a long term vision for the area and to set out the broad land use planning strategy guiding development and change. This Plan, in turn, sets the context for Local Plans, which translate the strategy into more detail. This will be superseded by the Tayplan Strategic Development Plan when adopted.	The SMP2 will seek to support the environmental objectives within the structure plan.	All
Tayplan's Proposed Strategic Development Plan 2012 -2032	Sets out longer term vision for Angus, Dundee City, Perth and Kinross and North Fife. Sets out policies for where development should be over the next 20 years and how to shape better quality places by the location, design and layout of development from the outset.	The SMP2 will reflect Tayplan's objective to protect areas vulnerable to coastal erosion, flood risk and rising sea levels; including the undeveloped coast and to ensure flood risk is not exacerbated.	All
Angus Local Plan	The plan provides the detailed policy framework to guide future development, land use	The SMP2 will be developed in	All

Document	Summary	Relevance	CPU
Review (2009)	and investment in Angus for the period to 2011.	accordance with the objectives of and policies contained in the Angus Local Plan, and will assist in protecting valued infrastructure, public amenity areas and material assets from flood and erosion damage.	
Dundee Local Plan 2005	The plan provides the detailed policy framework to guide future development, land use and investment in Dundee for the period to 2011.	The SMP2 will be developed accordance with the objectives of and policies contained in the Dundee Local Plan, and will assist in protecting valued infrastructure, public amenity areas and material assets from flood and erosion damage.	8
Dundee Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (MIR) 2011	The new Local Development Plan for Dundee will set out a strategy to guide future development within the City for a period of five years and provide broad indications of growth for up to 10 years in the future. The MIR provides a summary of the key issues to be considered within the proposed plan.	The SMP2 will seek to support the environmental objectives within the MIR.	8
Aberdeenshire Local Plan 2006	The plan provides the detailed policy framework to guide future development, land use and investment in Aberdeenshire for the period to 2011.	The SMP2 will be developed in accordance with the objectives of and policies contained in the Aberdeenshire Local Plan, and will assist in protecting valued infrastructure, public amenity areas and material assets from flood and erosion damage.	1
Angus Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) 2009-2012	The SOA is the vision for the Angus area and the strategic priorities that need to be addressed to achieve this vision, as agreed by the Community Planning Partners and expressed as outcomes to be delivered by the partners, both individually and jointly.	The SMP2 core objectives will reflect the appropriate SOA outcomes.	All

Document	Summary	Relevance	CPU
Tayside Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Sets out Tayside biodiversity strategy; including species and habitat action plans.	The SMP2 will ensure that biodiversity is protected and where appropriate enhanced, where feasible.	All
Dundee and Angus Tourism Partnership 'A Strategy for Growth' 2007 to 2010	The strategy sets out a framework to best support the national and regional tourism growth agenda.	The SMP2 will seek to assist in sustainable growth of tourism in the area.	All
Angus Health Improvement Plan 2009-2012	The Angus Health Improvement Plan (AHIP) sets out the aims and objectives for health improvement in Angus. An Action Plan that details specific projects and initiatives and their expected outcomes	The SMP2 will seek to facilitate opportunities for increased physical activity.	All
Angus Countryside Access Plan 2007-2012	The plan sets out policies that seek to guide the development, management and promotion of countryside access opportunities within the Angus area. A key priority is the continued development of the Angus Coastal Path.	The SMP2 will seek to align with the plan objectives for the Angus Coastal Path.	All
Dundee Coastal Study 2011	Provide a framework for future adoption of localised coastal flood and erosion prevention schemes. Such schemes may be required to provide a consistent level of flood and erosion protection to assets along the Dundee City coastal frontage.	As the SMP2 boundary overlaps the Dundee Local Authority boundary, this study will be reviewed to inform the SMP2.	8
Local Flood Risk Management Plans and Assessments	As a response to the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009, local authorities are working to prepare localised flood management plans and flood risk assessments. These plans and assessments are currently being developed for the Angus Council area.	The SMP2 should reflect or contribute to any local flood risk assessments or flood management plans.	All
Angus Core Path Plan 2010	Developed under the requirements of the Land reform (Scotland) Act 2003, the Core Paths Plan sets a system of paths for the purpose of giving the public reasonable access throughout the Angus area.	The SMP2 will seek to aid the development of the core path network.	All

5 Baseline

5.1 Environmental Baseline

Appropriate environmental baseline information is important to allow a 'Base Case', or Business as Usual, option to be developed. The Base Case will be used in SEA assessments, as a reference, in order to help identify changes in the natural and human environment, and highlight particular environmental problems, risks and opportunities.

The environmental characteristics of the SMP2 area are described in the Baseline Environmental Report (Theme Review) in Appendix A.

A summary of the key environmental features are provided in Table 5.1 below.

Consideration of the environmental baseline, issues and trends, will provide the basis against which long-term effects of the Strategy will be monitored and assessed.

Table 5.1: Key Environmental Features

SEA Receptor	Key Environmental Features
<p>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</p>	<p>The SMP coast from Broughty Ferry Castle, Dundee to Milton Ness, Aberdeenshire provides a wide diversity of species and habitat, including low-lying sandy beaches, sand dunes and links areas, intertidal mud/sand flats and rocky shorelines and cliffs. This diversity of habitats, species, landforms and rock exposures has resulted in over 60% of the Angus SMP2 coastline being designated for its nature conservation value.</p> <p>International Designation - 2 SACs, 2 SPAs, 2 Ramsar sites</p> <p>National Designations - 8 SSSI's, 1NNR</p> <p>Local Designations - 1 Local Nature Reserve, 1 Scottish Wildlife Site</p>
<p>Air Quality and Climatic Factors</p>	<p>There are no Air Quality Management Areas's (AQMA's) within the Study Area.</p> <p>It is predicted that Scotland's sea levels may rise relative to the land, in some areas. By 2080 the current estimates range between 0 and 600mm sea level rise. 0.4% of Angus is classed by the Scottish Executive as at risk from coastal flooding (UKCIP 2009).</p> <p>The long term effects of rising sea levels due to climate change could have significant implications for future flood and erosion risks to the natural, historic and built environment across large areas of land in the SMP area.</p>
<p>Population and Human Health</p>	<p>Nearly two thirds of the Angus population live on or near the coast (Angus Council 2011) with the four main towns along the coastal corridor comprising Arbroath (the largest town in Angus), Montrose, Carnoustie and Monifieth (on the edge of Dundee), as well as several smaller settlements and historic fishing villages, all of which have strong links with the sea.</p>

SEA Receptor	Key Environmental Features
	<p>Flooding events/ coastal erosion can have adverse impacts upon human health and significant socio-economic consequences. Flooding affects people both physically (e.g. through loss of property, injuries and potentially loss of life) and psychologically (e.g. impacts on human health such as emotional distress can be caused by the event itself, as well as the fear of a flooding event). Socio-economic factors such as the financial burden (e.g. loss of property, the cost of repairs after a flood event, changes in insurance and loss of jobs where businesses are affected) created by flooding or erosion can continue to have an impact well after the event has occurred.</p> <p>Properties at risk of coastal erosion or coastal flooding will be identified at a later stage in the SMP2 development process.</p>
Material Assets	<p>Montrose Port - an industrial seaport plays an integral part within the Montrose economy, providing import and export services for various agricultural and oil related businesses located within the area.</p> <p>Arbroath Fishing Port - Arbroath was once the largest fishing harbour for the town although the fishing fleet has declined over recent years.</p> <p>In addition to ports, harbours and industry, the military training area (approximately 930ha) of Barry Buddon (CPU7) is a significant land use.</p> <p>There are no motorways within the SMP2 area.</p> <p>The A92 (now a dual carriageway) and A932 are major transport corridors connecting the study area to other parts of the country.</p> <p>Minor roads (e.g. Nather Dysart Road and Arbroath Road) provide access to settlements and some other locations along the coastline, whereas other parts of the coast are accessible only on foot or by sea.</p> <p>The East Coast railway line generally runs parallel to the coast in the SMP area.</p>
Water	<p>Water quality within the SMP2 area is relatively good, as there are no stretches of seriously polluted water.</p> <p>Estuarine and coastal waters of poorer water quality within the SMP2 area are generally related to sewage and storm sewage discharges associated with the nearby towns. A number of wastewater treatment plants serving the towns of Arbroath, Carnoustie and Montrose, which discharge into the coastal waters, have been recently introduced in the SMP2 area. These help to address improvements in these discharges in order to meet SEPA's Environmental Quality Objectives and the requirements of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive. All sewage debris related to the down-grading of estuarine and coastal waters along the coast is now treated by wastewater plants with the exception of one or two small isolated coastal settlements.</p>

SEA Receptor	Key Environmental Features
	<p>There are six EC designated bathing waters in the SMP2 area at Montrose, Lunan Bay (North), West Links (Arbroath) and Carnoustie, Monifieth and Broughty Ferry.</p>
<p>Soil, and Land Use and Earth Heritage</p>	<p>The earth science interest of the coastline includes stratigraphic features, which are reflected in the designation of five SSSIs with geological interest features, six Geological Conservation Review (GCR) sites and one Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS).</p> <p>These designated earth heritage sites display sediments, rocks, fossils, and features of the landscape that make a special contribution to our understanding and appreciation of earth science and the geological history of Britain.</p> <p>Agriculture is one of the main industries within the area with a large proportion of coastal land used for farming. Much of the coastal farmland is classified as Prime Agricultural Land (Classes 1, 2 and 3.1) (Macauley Land Use Research Institute, Land Capability Classification for Agriculture) where there are few physical restrictions on its use; and mixed and arable farming are the dominant types of farming.</p> <p>Angus Council has not designated any sites within the SMP2 area as 'Contaminated', but there is potential for areas of made ground or contaminated land to be present.</p>
<p>Cultural Heritage</p>	<p>The Angus coast has a particularly rich archaeological and historic legacy with a number of cultural heritage designations located within the SMP2 area including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 Scheduled Monuments • 25 Listed Buildings • 46 Sites of Local Importance
<p>Landscape</p>	<p>There are no national (e.g. National Scenic Areas) or local (e.g. Special Landscape Areas) designations landscapes along the Angus SMP2 frontage. No Important Gardens and Designed Landscapes are present within the SMP area.</p> <p>The Angus coastline, which stretches for 55km, is diverse and comprises several notable landscape features including wide sandy bays, estuaries and estuarine mudflats, sand dune systems and links and maritime cliffs and rocks.</p>

5.2 Information Sources

The primary source of baseline information is from the original Angus SMP (2004) and the Angus Council publication – Angus State of the Environment Report 2011, which can be viewed via the links below:

- www.angus.gov.uk/ac/documents/roads/SMP
- <http://www.angus.gov.uk/sustainability/pdfs/StateOfEnvironment2011.pdf>

Supporting information has also been taken from the following documents or websites:

- SEPA, SNH and Historic Scotland (2011): The Scottish Strategic Environmental Assessment Review, SEPA, Stirling
- www.snh.gov.uk
- www.sepa.org.uk
- www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

5.3 Evolution of the Environmental Baseline without the SMP2

At present Angus Council relies on the original SMP published in 2004, which considers natural coastal processes, including coastal cells, coastal land use, human influence, environmental considerations and how these factors interact within the coastal zone.

The SMP was produced as a working document, designed to be updated over time to ensure coastal management evolves as our understanding of the interactions within the coastal zone progresses. If the SMP is not updated and revised, coastal management may, with time, become inappropriate with the possibility of detrimental activities identified within the sensitive receptors. The SMP2 will take into account climate change, current land use, the natural environment and historical and archaeological features that may be affected by coastal processes such as flooding or erosion over the next 100 years, to produce a more accurate picture of the Angus coastline and associated risks.

An assessment of the ‘No Active Intervention’ approach has been undertaken over three epochs; 20 years, 50 years and 100 years. This is detailed in Appendix B. As part of the Environmental Report, an assessment will also be undertaken on the evolution of the environmental baseline with present policies to establish the success of the current policy approach.

5.4 Environmental Issues and Objectives

An integral part of the development of SMP2 has been the identification of environmental issues and definition of SEA objectives for future management of the shoreline.

Environmental features and issues associated with coastal erosion and flood risk have been identified using our current understanding of the existing environment, outlined in the SEA Baseline Report (Theme Review), and information gathered during initial consultation with key stakeholders.

SEA Objectives were developed for each feature using the Defra SMP Guidance (2006¹), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) guidelines and through internal discussions.

Table 5.2 shows the SMP2/SEA objectives that have been defined for the SMP2 area. These have been redefined, building on the objectives identified in SMP1 developed following identification of key environmental features and assets along the coastline, through a review of aerial photography, maps, consultation with stakeholders and an understanding of the strategic environmental issues along the coastline. These objectives have been developed to ensure compatibility with the scoped in SEA receptors. Assessment criteria (see Section 8) have also been developed that focus on key issues that may have a significant influence on the development of the SMP2.

These objectives will provide a framework to develop and appraise sustainable policies in relation to risks from coastal flooding and erosion and to determine the suitability of different options for management of the coast. Those objectives, which relate to statutory requirements, are shown in shaded cells.

The issues and objectives identified as part of the Plan development, including appraisal of their importance, are detailed in Appendix B Issues and Objectives Evaluation.

¹ Defra, 2006. Shoreline Management Plan Guidance. Volume 1: Aims and Requirements. Volume 2: Procedures. Available from: [http://www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/guidance/SMP2 .htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/environ/fcd/guidance/SMP2.htm)

Table 5.2: Preliminary SEA/Management Objectives & SEA Assessment Criteria

SEA/Management Objective		SEA Assessment Criteria
1.	To reduce coastal flooding and erosion risk and its impact on people, coastal land use and future development plans. <i>(Population and Human Health, Material Assets)</i>	Will the policy approach impact residential properties? Will the policy approach impact community facilities? (e.g. surgeries, hospitals, aged persons homes, schools, churches, libraries, etc)?
2.	To reduce coastal flood and erosion risk to critical infrastructure and maintain critical services. <i>(Material Assets)</i>	Will the policy approach impact A, B and minor roads? Will the policy approach impact East Coast railway lines and stations? Will the policy approach impact pumping stations, sewage works and outfalls? Will the policy approach impact access for emergency services?
3.	To support natural coastal processes and maintain and enhance the integrity of internationally designated nature conservation sites and the favourable condition of their interest features. <i>(Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Water)</i>	Will the policy approach impact Ramsar, SPA and SACs?
4.	To maintain and enhance nationally designated conservation sites and their interest features. <i>(Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna)</i>	Will the policy approach impact SSSI (biological and geological) and NNRS?
5.	To avoid adverse impacts on, conserve and enhance the designated interest of local conservation sites. <i>(Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna)</i>	Will the policy approach impact LNR, SWT Nature Reserves? Will the policy approach impact RIGS? Will the policy approach impact GCRs?
6.	To maintain and enhance features as a natural flood defence. <i>(Water/Soil/Geology)</i>	Will the policy approach impact beaches? Will the policy approach impact dune systems?
7.	To support the achievement of good ecological and chemical status/potential under the	Will the policy impact on surface and ground waterbodies?

SEA/Management Objective		SEA Assessment Criteria
	EU WFD	
8.	To enhance the aesthetic and landscape character of the coastline. <i>(Landscape)</i>	Will the policy approach impact landscape features including wide sandy bays, estuaries and estuarine mudflats, sand dune systems and links, and maritime cliffs and rocks?
9.	To minimise coastal flood and erosion risk to scheduled and other nationally, regionally or locally important archaeological and cultural heritage assets, sites and their setting. <i>(Cultural Heritage/Historic Environment)</i>	Will the policy approach impact Scheduled Monuments? Will the policy approach impact Listed Buildings? Will the policy approach impact non-designated archaeological sites of local importance?
10.	To reduce coastal flooding and erosion risk to key recreation and tourism assets and activities. <i>(Population/Human Health/Material Assets)</i>	Will the policy approach impact recreation and amenity facilities (visitor attractions, golf courses, caravan parks, bathing beaches, promenades, cycle routes, public footpaths, etc)?
11.	To enhance the tourism value of the coast and aim to incorporate and improve recreation, tourism and visitor management. <i>(Population/Material Assets/Biodiversity)</i>	
12.	To reduce coastal flood and erosion risk to industry, commercial and economic activities and Ministry of Defence land. <i>(Population/Material Assets)</i>	Will the policy approach impact businesses, factories, warehouses, areas identified for regeneration, military establishments and others key areas of employment? Will the policy approach impact MoD Exclusion Zones?
13.	To minimise the impact of policies on marine operations and activities. <i>(Material Assets/ Population)</i>	Will the policy approach impact ports and harbours? Will the policy approach impact access to the sea and navigation?
14.	To minimise the impact of policies on commercial fishing activity. <i>(Water/Biodiversity/Material Assets/Population)</i>	Will the policy approach impact commercial fishing grounds and shell fisheries?
15.	To reduce coastal flood and erosion risk to prime quality agricultural land.	Will the policy approach impact Grades 1 – 3A Farmland?

SEA/Management Objective	SEA Assessment Criteria
<i>(Soil/Land Use/Population)</i>	

6 Scope of the SEA

In accordance with Schedule 2 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, Angus Council has considered whether the environmental effects (positive and negative) of delivering SMP2 are likely to be significant.

Table 6.1 summarises the SEA receptors, which are currently proposed to be addressed in the SEA, and those that will be scoped out, subject to the agreement of the Consultation Authorities.

The SEA will not address any specific impacts likely to result during the implementation of any built solution, for example construction impacts that might arise during the building, refurbishment/repair or removal of defences. These issues are more appropriately considered during project level Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) undertaken for specific schemes.

Table 6.1 Scoping of SEA Receptors

SEA Receptors	Scope In/Out	Comment	Features Scoped In
Climatic Factors	In	Climate change is a key driver for the SMP and is therefore an overarching theme throughout SMP2. Global warming is predicted to increase pressure on coastal defences in the SMP area due to rising sea levels from thermal expansion and the melting of glaciers. Consequently, conflicts between coastal management and protection of natural assets along the coastline are likely to increase in the SMP2 area. In addition, an increase in the magnitude and frequency of storm surges in the future is likely to increase extreme water levels and wave heights, which could potentially affect the coastline.	As SMP policy options will not significantly affect the impacts of climate change (they will only accommodate them), climate change is not considered further as an individual SEA Receptor. However, SMP scenarios will seek to minimise contributions to future climate change.
Air Quality	Out	It is considered that the SMP2 will not lead to an improvement or reduction in air quality at a regional level. As there are no direct links between the SMP2 and air quality it has been scoped out of the assessment.	Not applicable

SEA Receptors	Scope In/Out	Comment	Features Scoped In
Population and Human Health	In	<p>A primary purpose of SMP2 is to manage the flood and erosion risk to the population, vulnerable community facilities and residential settlements along the coastline and to address the impacts that flooding events and coastal erosion can have upon human health.</p> <p>SMP policies could affect important tourist, recreational and amenity resources and could present opportunities to deliver recreational benefits.</p>	<p>Human health</p> <p>Houses</p> <p>Vulnerable community facilities (e.g. surgeries, hospitals, aged persons homes, schools, churches, libraries, etc)</p> <p>Recreation and amenity facilities (visitor attractions, golf courses, caravan parks, bathing beaches, promenades, cycle routes, public footpaths, etc)</p>
Material Assets	In	<p>There is port and harbour activity within the SMP2 area.</p> <p>A range of infrastructure (including key transport routes) and services are located within the area and could potentially be affected by changes in flooding and erosion.</p>	<p>A, B and minor roads (where linkage is a key issue)</p> <p>East Coast railway lines and stations</p> <p>Pumping stations, sewage works and outfalls</p> <p>Access for emergency services</p> <p>Businesses, factories, warehouses, areas identified for regeneration, military establishments and others key areas of employment</p> <p>MoD Exclusion Zones</p> <p>Ports and harbours</p> <p>Access to the sea and navigation</p>
Water	In	<p>SMP policies have the potential to affect bodies of water within the SMP2 area e.g. changes in the water quality of shellfish waters and bathing waters, and changes in water resources.</p>	<p>Commercial fishing grounds and shell fisheries</p> <p>Designated bathing waters</p> <p>Waterbodies and WFD issues</p>
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, and Earth Heritage	In	<p>There are a number of international, national and local designated conservation sites within the SMP boundary, which have potential to be affected (both positively and negatively)</p>	<p>Ramsar, SPA and SACs</p> <p>SSSI (biological and geological) and NNRs</p> <p>LNR</p>

SEA Receptors	Scope In/Out	Comment	Features Scoped In
		by changes in flooding or erosion and by coastal defence interventions. Natural erosion and deposition processes are key drivers in maintaining the geological interest of the coastline.	SWT Nature Reserves RIGS GCRs
Soil, and Land Use	In	Agricultural land can be affected by changes in flooding and erosion. Beaches and sand dunes can be maintained as natural flood defences.	Beaches Dune systems Grades 1 – 3A Farmland
Cultural Heritage	In	The Angus coast has a particularly rich archaeological and historic legacy with a number of historic features identified within the SMP2 area. There is potential for these to be affected by changes in flooding or erosion and by coastal defence interventions.	Scheduled Monuments Listed Buildings Non-designated archaeological sites of local importance
Landscape	In	There are no national (e.g. National Scenic Areas) or local (e.g. Special Landscape Areas) designations along the Angus SMP2 frontage, however there is potential for the SMP2 to have positive or negative effects on key landscape features.	Key landscape features including wide sandy bays, estuaries and estuarine mudflats, sand dune systems and links, and maritime cliffs and rocks

Interrelationships between the SEA receptors outlined in Table 6.1 will be included in the SEA where relevant i.e. where SMP policies give rise to the potential for secondary or cumulative impacts.

7 SEA Framework

7.1 Approach to Environmental Appraisal

This section describes the appraisal process that will be used for predicting and assessing the environmental effects that are likely to arise from the implementation of the SMP2.

The baseline information (Section 5) and relevant key environmental issues (Section 6) have been used to define assessment criteria. These criteria are presented in Table 5.1. The criteria are posed as questions to guide later stages of the assessment and to help describe the effects of the SMP2 on the environment.

An initial assessment of the No Active Intervention policy has been undertaken throughout the coastline and is provided in a tabulated format in Appendix B. The implication of No Active Intervention on the features and issues identified were analysed to determine the potential environmental effects on the SEA receptors.

During future stages of the assessment, a qualitative description will be provided in the Issues and Objectives Tables of how alternative policy scenarios will affect each environmental feature scoped into the assessment. The key outcome of the assessments will include recommendations on refining the policies based on the environmental criteria considered, including indirect, secondary and cumulative impacts.

Upon selection of the preferred SMP2, an environmental assessment will be undertaken, and tabulated in an assessment matrix. A proposed assessment matrix for each CPU is set out in Appendix C.

A detailed assessment will be undertaken on the preferred policy scenario for each of the CPUs, which will consider short term, medium term and long term beneficial and adverse impacts.

As part of the assessment process, a Water Framework Directive Assessment and a HRA (Section 8.3) will be undertaken.

Following the detailed assessments, any relevant findings and recommendations will be recorded in summary form, for inclusion in the SEA Environmental Report, with the assessment matrices provided in appendices to aid both transparency and clarity.

7.2 Mitigation and Monitoring

The environmental assessment will aim to prevent, reduce or offset any significant adverse effects as far as possible, before mitigation measures are proposed. Undertaking the SEA process alongside the SMP development process will help ensure that modifications can be made at the strategic level i.e. via alternatives, and identifying issues, which can be addressed through other relevant PPS policies.

Where site level mitigation requirements are identified, these will be recognised.

A draft monitoring framework will be developed as part of the Environmental Assessment and will be finalised within a Post Adoption Statement prepared by Angus Council. This will be aligned with existing SMP monitoring.

The SEA will recommend that issues identified that require environmental/ SEA monitoring are included within the SMP monitoring framework, as opposed to being treated separately. This will help improve monitoring of trends and issues for future revisions.

7.3 Habitat Regulation Appraisal (HRA)

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states that a HRA will be required where there is likely to be significant effect upon a Natura 2000 site.

“Any plan or project not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site’s conservation objectives”.

Natura 2000 is the name of the European Union-wide network of nature conservation sites established under the EC Habitats and Birds Directives. In the UK, this network comprises Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) which are transposed into UK law by the Habitats Regulations, described in section 1.2. SACs and SPAs are collectively known as ‘Natura 2000 sites’ or ‘European sites’. Ramsar sites are also included in HRA, as the Scottish Government² has chosen as a matter of policy to apply the same considerations to their protection as if they were classified as SPAs. Ramsar sites are designated under the Ramsar Convention³.

A HRA will be undertaken in parallel with the SEA and will inform the mitigation and monitoring of the SMP.

² Scottish Natural Heritage (2010) Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans: Guidance for plan-making bodies in Scotland

³ Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, signed in Ramsar, Iran, 1971.

8 Next Steps

The proposed timescale for consultation on the Scoping Report will be the statutory five week consultation period from 27th June 2012].

All comments received will be recorded and acknowledge. Where appropriate, changes will be made to our understanding of the environmental characteristics of the SMP area, the key issues relating to flood and erosion risk management, the influences on and from external plans and the identified SEA objectives.

The next stage of the SEA process will involve using the assessment criteria and issues and objectives tables to:

- Appraise the alternative policy scenarios to identify a preferred SMP
- Assess the preferred plan. If the preferred environmental plan differs from that preferred on technical and/or socio-economic grounds, the SEA will explain how an overall preferred solution was identified and what mitigation measures are likely to be required.

The outcome of these stages will be reported in a SEA Environmental Report, which will form an integral part of the SMP2.

The draft SMP is due to be completed in Autumn 2012 and will go out to consultation along with the draft Environmental Report for a **minimum 6 week consultation period**.

8.1 Anticipated Milestones

The anticipated timescales for the SEA are shown in Table 8.1.

Table 8.1: Anticipated Milestones

SEA Stage	SMP Process	Timescale
Scoping Report Prepare and issue scoping request to consultation authorities (5 week consultation)	Finalise Baseline Review and Issues and Objectives Evaluation including No Active Intervention Assessment	May 2012
Draft Environmental Report (ER) Prepare and issue draft Environmental Report to Consultation Authorities and make available for public comment	Finalise Draft SMP2 for public and stakeholder consultation	September 2012
Consider responses and amend Environmental Report in line with consultation responses	Consider and amend SMP2 in line with consultation responses	November 2012
Adoption of ER	Adoption of SMP2	March 2012
Post Adoption Statement (PAS)	To detail comments received on the SMP and show how they have been actions	[to be advised by Angus Council]

Appendix A Baseline Report

See Angus SMP2, Appendix D - SEA, Annex 2 Theme Review

Appendix B Issues and Objectives Evaluation

See Angus SMP2, Appendix E - Issues and Objectives Evaluation

Appendix C Assessment Methodology

Detailed Assessment Matrix

Traffic light key:

++	Action is likely to have a direct, significant, long term positive effect on the SEA receptor/ objectives
+	Action is likely to have some positive influence on the SEA receptor/ objectives
0	Action is assessed as being neutral or having no influence/ effect on the SEA receptor/ objectives
–	Action is likely to have some minor negative impact on the SEA receptor/ objectives and could be addressed through mitigation
– –	Action is likely to result in significant, long term, negative effect on the SEA receptor/ objective

CPU ...				
Preferred Policy Approach ...				
SEA Receptor	Relevant Objectives	Location/Feature	Potential Impacts (include direct/indirect, secondary and cumulative)	Mitigation Measures/Environmental Opportunities