

# Environmental Assessment

This checklist sets out the issues which your professional adviser should take into account when preparing a scheme of repairs.

In the event of Historic Scotland making an award of grant we may ask your professional adviser for an copy of any environmental appraisal carried out.

## ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

**A1** The environmental issues against which impacts should be assessed include:

Environmental Parameter	Example criteria
biodiversity, fauna and flora	Will work be undertaken in or affect a designated site i.e. Special Protection Area; Special Area of Conservation; Ramsar site; Site of Special Scientific Interest; National Nature Reserve. Will the natural heritage features within a National Park be affected. Will work affect species and/or habitats protected at the European level and/or included in Biodiversity Action Plans (national and/or local).
population	Will work affect the local community in terms of e.g. noise and vibration, dust, general disturbance. Will pedestrian/vehicular movements be affected e.g. severance.
human health	As “population” above.
soil	Will agricultural soil be affected and, if so, what class (prime land is Class 1, 2, and 3.1). Will the work be undertaken in an area of peat/bog (see also biodiversity in this case). Will the work exacerbate existing erosion problems. Will soil protection measures be required e.g. conservation of topsoil. Is the land contaminated.
water	Will the work directly or indirectly affect a watercourse e.g. working in the watercourse or adjacent to it. Are there issues re water quality e.g. potential for sediment runoff adversely affecting water quality; oil/ diesel spills; etc.

Environmental Parameter	Example criteria
air	Main issue will be dust.
climatic factors	Not applicable.
material assets	Will the work affect other land uses e.g. industrial, commercial, residential, agricultural, recreational (including access).
cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage	Likely that there will be positive impacts as a result of knowledge generation. What negative impacts on the historic environment may ensue. Will the cultural heritage features within a National Park be affected.
landscape	Will there be effects on landscape characteristics. Will views be affected (visual impact) e.g. local residents; recreational users, etc. Will the landscape features within a National Park be affected.
the inter-relationship between these issues	

**A2** Impacts need to be considered in terms of their:

- (a) short, medium and long-term effects;
- (b) permanent and temporary effects;
- (c) positive and negative effects; and
- (d) secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects.

**A3** If negative impacts are identified, measures for their mitigation must be identified (avoid; reduce; remedy; offset). In any case, project management should include procedures for dealing with environmental issues/emergencies on site (e.g. oil/diesel spills) and reference to these should be included.

**A4** There is a requirement to assess alternatives. When it comes to negative impacts as a result of a particular method of repair/construction, the identification of alternatives and the reason(s) for their rejection is required.

**A5** The applicant should consider whether monitoring is required and, if not, explain the reasons for not recommending monitoring of negative impacts.