HERITAGE FOR ALL

HES CORPORATE PLAN 2022 ONWARDS

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

5 November 2021

# Plan, programme or strategy (PPS) title:

HES Corporate Plan *Heritage for All*

# Responsible Authority:

Historic Environment Scotland

# Contact:

Chiara Ronchini, Policy Manager, External Relations and Partnerships Directorate, Historic Environment Scotland, Longmore House Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH chiara.ronchini@hes.scot / 0131 668 8798.

# What prompted the Plan:

The Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014 directs Historic Environment Scotland to prepare a corporate plan and submit it for approval to the Scottish Ministers.

# Plan subject:

The historic environment

# What Section of the 2005 Act does the programme fall within?

Section 5(3)

**✓**

Section 5(4)

# What is HES’s view on whether an environmental assessment is required prior to adoption?

SEA is not required, as the environmental effects are unlikely to be significant

**✓**

SEA is required, as the environmental effects are likely to be significant

# Purpose of the Corporate Plan

## The Corporate Plan will:

## set out Historic Environment Scotland’s main objectives for the planning period;

## set out the outcomes by reference to which the achievement of the main objectives may be measured; and

## the activities which Historic Environment Scotland expects to undertake during the lifetime of the plan.

# Summary of Nature and Content of the Corporate Plan

## The Corporate Plan is the strategic, high level document which forms the top tier of Historic Environment Scotland’s business plan hierarchy and sets the direction and focus for activity. The Plan will contain performance targets which will be used to measure our success.

# Have any of the components of the Plan been considered in previous SEA work?

Yes. The current Corporate Plan ([Heritage for All](file:///C%3A//Users/900393/AppData/Local/Temp/MicrosoftEdgeDownloads/9949a6a1-53e1-4149-a9e1-1c1aefcc7e5b/corporate-plan-heritage-for-all.pdf)) has been assessed for its environmental effects ([SEA/01366](https://www.strategicenvironmentalassessment.gov.scot/Details.aspx?id=SEA\01366&sid=2)).

# In terms of the information above, what components of the Plan are likely to require screening?

We consider that Historic Environment Scotland’s Corporate Plan falls under section 5(4) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. It is our intention to re-adopt our existing Corporate Plan ([Heritage For All](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=1f65f457-a602-4ddc-af61-aa2500933d61)) with continued focus on the 5 outcomes identified in that plan. There will also be minor updates around areas such as wellbeing and net zero.

In light of the minor nature of the updates to the existing Corporate Plan we are of the view that the full environmental assessment carried out for Heritage for All remains relevant and as such consider that significant environmental effects resulting from the updates to the Corporate Plan are unlikely. In considering any updated content of the Corporate Plan we have taken cognisance of the findings of the previous assessment. **We therefore propose to screen the Corporate Plan out of further assessment.**

**Historic Environment Scotland**

**5 November 2021**

**Table 1: Consideration of the Corporate Plan in relation to the criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment (**[**Schedule 2**](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2005/15/schedule/2)**) and summary of the findings of the previous environmental assessment.**

| **Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment** | **Significant effects?** | **Summary of our views on the likeliness of significant environmental effects****(negative and positive)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1(a) the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources | Yes | The Corporate Plan continues to:(a) set out Historic Environment Scotland’s main objectives for the planning period;(b) set out the outcomes by reference to which the achievement of the main objectives may be measured; and(c) the activities which Historic Environment Scotland expects to undertake during the lifetime of the plan.These activities will not give rise to significant effects in their own right; but will influence future decision making, including how resources are allocated. |
| 1(b) the degree to which the plan influences other plans, policies and strategies including those in a hierarchy | Yes  | All plans prepared in Scotland should be considered through the lens the principles and policies of the [Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS)](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/planning-and-guidance/historic-environment-policy-for-scotland-heps/). The previous iteration of this plan was developed alongside the emerging HEPS and we are satisfied that the updated Corporate Plan continues to align well with the policies for managing the historic environment set out in the policy. The plan is also influenced by both the Scheme of Delegation issued by Scottish Ministers and the Historic Environment Scotland Framework Document; these establish the broad framework within which Historic Environment Scotland functions.As the top tier of the plan-making hierarchy the Corporate Plan influences all of Historic Environment Scotland’s activities including other plans, programmes and strategies prepared by the body such as the Annual Operating Plans and organisational directorate plans.  |
| 1(c) the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development | Yes | One of the aims of the plan is to integrate other environmental considerations within the organisation’s business e.g. climate change issues with a view to promoting sustainable development and management. |
| 1(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan | Yes  | The plan includes outcomes that look to address environmental problems such as climate change response and adaptation and should have positive effects particularly for the historic environment. |
| 1(e) the relevance of the plan for the implementation of retained EU law on the environment (for example, plans, policies or strategies linked to waste management or water protection) | Yes | Historic Environment Scotland’s activities may cover some issues under retained EU law and the plan aims to ensure that HES is well positioned to address these in the Scottish context.  |
| 2 (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects | Yes | Significant positive effects were identified in the previous assessment for the historic environment. |
| 2 (b) the cumulative nature of the effects  | Yes | The existing assessment predicted significant positive cumulative effects for the historic environment as well as positive cumulative effects in the areas of Population, Human Health and Climatic Factors.  |
| 2 (c) transboundary nature of the effects (i.e. environmental effects on other Member States) | No | No transboundary effects are expected. |
| 2 (d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents) | No | The plan is unlikely to exacerbate or increase risks to human health or the environment. |
| 2 (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected) | Yes | The plan covers Historic Environment Scotland’s activities across the whole country. Although the magnitude and scale of effects are likely to be limited to our areas of business this does include activities and projects which are outward looking (e.g. our regulatory function and properties in care). Effects have been assessed as largely positive. |
| 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. | YesNoNo | (i) The previous assessment identified a number of significantly positive effects on the historic environment in Scotland. No significant negative effects on the natural environment were identified.(ii) The previous assessment did not identify any actions that would significantly affect environmental standards or limits.(iii) The previous assessment did not identify any actions relating to intensive land-use  |
| 2 (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status | Yes  | Given Historic Environment Scotland’s role in managing the historic environment the plan should have significant effects for areas and sites designated at a national (and international) level for their historic environment or landscape value. Effects have been identified as positive. |

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| **SEA Screening Report** **Summary** |
| The Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014 directs Historic Environment Scotland to prepare a corporate plan and submit it for approval to Scottish Ministers. Our previous Corporate Plan, [Heritage for All](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/archives-and-research/publications/publication/?publicationId=1f65f457-a602-4ddc-af61-aa2500933d61), was published in 2019. All plans prepared in Scotland should be considered through the lens the principles and policies of the [Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS).](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/planning-and-guidance/historic-environment-policy-for-scotland-heps/) The previous iteration of this plan was developed alongside the emerging HEPS and we are satisfied that the updated Corporate Plan continues to align well with the policies for managing the historic environment set out in the policy. Following a review of the plan’s performance it is our intention to re-adopt this plan for the next Corporate Plan period (2022-25) as we consider it largely remains fit for purpose, with only minor updates required in areas such as adjustments to wellbeing and net zero targets. As identified in the previous assessment, the outcomes are likely to be positive for the historic environment and seek to integrate other environmental issues within the HES’s business to contribute to sustainable management. As this is largely the re-adoption of the existing Corporate Plan we are satisfied that the existing full environmental assessment remains valid. We consider that the updates to the Corporate Plan are unlikely to give rise to new or additional significant environmental effects that have not previously been identified with appropriate mitigation/enhancement brought forward.We therefore consider that the updated Corporate Plan can be screened out of further environmental assessment at this time.  |



Historic Environment Scotland Longmore House, Salisbury Place Edinburgh EH9 1SH

T. 0131 668 8600

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