

**POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT  
COVER NOTE**

**PART 1**

**To:** [SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:SEA.gateway@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

**PART 2**

**A post-adoption SEA statement is attached for the PPS entitled:**

Dumfries and Galloway Open Space Strategy

**The Responsible Authority is:**

Dumfries and Galloway Council

**PART 3**

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**Signature:** David Suttie

**Date:** 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015

## **POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT**

### **Post-adoption SEA statement for:**

Dumfries and Galloway Open Space Strategy

### **Approved on:**

Adopted 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014

### **Responsible Authority:**

Dumfries and Galloway Council

## **POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT INTRODUCTION**

This document (referred to here as the post-adoption SEA statement) has been prepared in accordance with Section 18 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005.

## **POST-ADOPTION SEA STATEMENT AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS**

### **Website**

The full PPS as adopted, along with the Environmental Report and post-adoption SEA Statement are available on the Responsible Authority's website at:

[www.dumgal.gov.uk](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk)

### **Office Address**

The PPS, as adopted, along with the Environmental Report and post-adoption SEA Statement may also be inspected free of charge (or a copy obtained for a reasonable charge) at the principal office of the Responsible Authority:

### **Contact name, address and telephone number**

David Suttie – contact details as above

### **Times at which the documents may be inspected or a copy obtained:**

Monday to Friday between the hours of 09:00 am and 05:00 pm.

## KEY FACTS

### KEY FACTS

#### **Name of Responsible Authority**

Dumfries and Galloway Council

#### **Title of PPS**

Dumfries and Galloway Open Space Strategy (OSS)

#### **Purpose of PPS**

The OSS will inform decision making on open space and sets out: how Dumfries and Galloway Council will invest in and manage the open space in its area, the vision for new and improved open space and how existing valuable and valued areas are to be protected. Specifically, one of its main aims is to ensure that the majority of residents in the region have access to good quality open space.

It is intended that the Strategy provides the evidence, sets the direction and helps secure funds for investment in open space. The overall outcome of the Strategy is to maintain (or increase where possible) reasonable quantity, accessibility and quality of publicly usable open spaces - especially in relation to wider connectivity and multi-functionality. This will ensure that there is sufficient open space provision of appropriate quality, within easy walking distance from people's homes which is linked by paths and green corridors.

The specific objectives which come under the overall outcome are as follows:

- Objective 1: maintain or increase (where necessary and possible) the amount of open space with the aim of meeting the publicly usable open space quantity and accessibility standard;
- Objective 2: avoid fragmentation of existing open space networks;
- Objective 3: increase / enhance connectivity between open spaces and between these and residential areas;
- Objective 4: maintain or increase (where necessary and possible) the quality of existing spaces and ensure that new spaces are of good quality;
- Objective 5: ensure new open space is made as multi-functional as possible, serving a number of different uses and aim to improve multi-functionality of existing spaces.

#### **What prompted the PPS?**

The OSS fulfils a requirement set out in the Scottish Government's Planning Advice Note - Planning and Open Space (PAN 65) and in Scottish Planning Policy (2014). The Open Space Strategy and associated Audit provides an important strategic framework and evidence base for open space related matters in the Local Development Plan (LDP). SPP states that "Development plans.....should be informed by relevant, up-to-date audits, strategies and action plans covering green infrastructure's multiple functions". An open space audit has been carried out which provides the baseline data for the OSS. The Strategy will support open space and green network policies in the LDP as well as the wider strategic and policy objectives of the Plan. The Strategy will not only be used to inform planning decisions but is an important document for other Council services such as those responsible for commissioning and maintaining open space and also those involved in communities, housing, education, sports, recreation, health and physical activity, outdoor access, biodiversity, flood management and climate change.

**Subject**

The OSS reflects the Council's approach to managing the open space resource in settlements within the Dumfries and Galloway region.

**Period Covered**

The period covered by the plan is 2014-19

**Frequency of Updates**

The Strategy, along with the associated Audit, will be reviewed every 5 years.

**Area of PPS**

The OSS will cover the whole of the Dumfries and Galloway region.

**Summary of nature/content of PPS**

The OSS sets out the Council's approach to managing the open space resource in settlements in the region, along with a series of standards expected to be met relating to quantity, quality and accessibility of open space.

**Date Approved**

Adopted 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014

**Contact name & job title, address, email, telephone number**

David Suttie – contact details as above

**Date**

01 May 2015

## **1.0 STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

1.1 The Dumfries and Galloway Open Space Strategy (OSS) has been subject to a process of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), as required under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. This has included the following activities:

- Taking into account the views of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Ministers (Historic Scotland) regarding the scope and level of detail that was appropriate for the Environmental Report;
- Preparing an Environmental Report on the likely significant effects on the environment of the draft PPS which included consideration of:
  - the baseline data relating to the current state of the environment;
  - links between the PPS and other relevant strategies, policies, plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives;
  - existing environmental problems affecting the PPS;
  - the plan's likely significant effects on the environment (positive and negative);
  - measures envisaged for the prevention, reduction and offsetting of any significant adverse effects;
  - an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives chosen; and
  - monitoring measures to ensure that any unforeseen environmental effects will be identified allowing for appropriate remedial action to be taken.
- Consultation on the Environmental Report;
- Taking into account the Environmental Report and the results of consultation in making final decisions regarding the PPS; and
- Committing to monitoring the significant environmental effects of the implementation of the PPS. This will also identify any unforeseen adverse significant environmental effects and to enable appropriate remedial action to be taken.

1.2 This Post Adoption Strategy considers the final two stages of the SEA activities detailed above.

## **2.0 HOW ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS HAVE BEEN INTEGRATED INTO THE PPS AND HOW THE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT HAS BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT**

2.1 This section summarises how environmental considerations have been integrated into the OSS and how the environmental report has been taken into account in accordance with Section 18(3) (a-b) of the Act.

2.2 The overall assessment results in the Environmental Report showed only significant positive, positive or no impacts. The consultation authorities agreed with this assessment and were satisfied that an adequate assessment of the strategy has been carried out. The key purpose of the Strategy is to improve the environment for both people and wider biodiversity so environmental considerations have already been integrated into the OSS.

2.3 However, within the more detailed assessment table, one issue was identified relating to Climatic Factors which showed a mixed result of potential positive and negative effects. This potential effect related to new open space created as part of development and whether this was on brownfield or greenfield land. For example, if areas of brownfield land are used to provide more open space then carbon sequestration will be increased. However if areas of greenfield land are used then there is potential to reduce carbon sequestration (at least initially) by the development of new open space.

**Table 1: Integration of Environmental Considerations into the PPS**

<b>Environmental Considerations and Findings from the Environmental Report</b>	<b>Integrated into Plan (Yes/No)</b>	<b>How Integrated/Taken into Account or Reason for Not Being Taken into Account</b>
There are potentially mixed impacts in relation to climatic factors. The ER states that “The role that the OSS plays in achieving carbon sequestration is very much dependent on the sites that areas of new open space occupy. If areas of brownfield land are used to provide more open space then carbon sequestration will be increased. However if areas of greenfield land are used then there is potential to reduce carbon sequestration by creating new open space”.	No	It is acknowledged that any development of greenfield land, even for the purposes of creating open space, will have some impact in relation to disturbing soil and releasing carbon. However, the open space itself has an overall benefit and the impacts would be short term.

## **3.0 HOW OPINIONS EXPRESSED DURING THE CONSULTATION HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT**

3.1 The Draft Environmental Report was published for public and statutory consultation along with the Draft OSS on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2014 and the consultation ran until 9 June 2014.

3.2 The following table (Table 1) summarises the consultation responses and how they have been taken into account (including any consultation required with other EU member states) in accordance with Section 18(3)(c-d).

**Table 2 – Responses to the ER from Consultation Authorities**

Consultation Authorities
<p><b>Historic Scotland -</b></p> <p>The ER clearly sets out the steps of how the environmental assessment of the Open Space Strategy (OSS) was undertaken and I found it an easy document to understand and follow. Welcome that comments provided at scoping stage have been considered during the preparation of the ER (section 1.6).</p> <p>We noted that while some effects on the historic environment are possible, such as actions that improve open space amenity and recreational assets, these are likely to be indirect and are unlikely to be strategically significant. However, as a precautionary approach we were content to agree that the historic environment could be scoped in. I note that the ER has scoped the historic environment in and am content with this approach.</p> <p>The Non-Technical Summary concludes that implementation of the OSS would not result in significant negative impacts on the environment but there would be positive impacts, particularly in relation to human health. In terms of the historic environment it is also predicted that effects will overall be positive (Appendix 2) and in particular the option 5 objective scores significantly positive against historic environment SEA objective '<i>to further increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage in relation to open space</i>'. I am content with these conclusions.</p> <p>I welcome that you intend to use a monitoring framework to monitor the environmental effects of the OSS. Although the findings of the OSS actions on the historic environment were overall neutral/positive, the assessment predicted significantly positive effects of the OSS on historic environment. It would be helpful to have an appropriate indicator that can measure how the OSS can maximise opportunities to further positively influence historic environment assets. An indicator similar to that used for landscape indicator in Table 5, could be included, such as <i>the number and type of projects relating to open space improvements that encourage and promote historic environment assets within it e.g. provision of information boards or the maintenance and management of parks that have historic features</i>. A fuller explanation of how these are to be monitored could be included in the SEA Post Adoption Statement.</p>
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Comments noted. The suggested additional indicator can be monitored through the review of the open space audit. This will involve quality assessment of open space sites and this indicator can be included (see revised Table 3 in Section 5).</p>
<p><b>SEPA -</b> It is noted that the assessment results showed significant positive, positive or no impacts. We would agree with this assessment and are satisfied that an adequate assessment of the strategy has been carried out.</p>
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Comments noted.</p>
<p><b>SNH -</b></p> <p>The Environmental Report addressed all the comments we raised at the scoping stage for the OSS. We agree with the Report's summary assessment that the Open Space Strategy is unlikely to present any significant negative impacts to the environment as the key purpose of the Strategy is to improve the environment for both people and wider biodiversity. The report adopts a clear and appropriate format and we note that you have adequately addressed all the environmental issues, concerns and trends.</p> <p>We would suggest that in consideration of alternatives, that option 1 as detailed in Table 6 of the Report may result in negative effects on both 'population and human health' and material assets should open space become poorly managed.</p>
<p><b>Response:</b></p> <p>Comments are noted. The identification of these additional negative impacts gives further weight to the assessment which concludes that Option 1 would not be a reasonable alternative. This is briefly reflected in section 4 below.</p>

## 4.0 REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE PPS AS ADOPTED, IN THE LIGHT OF OTHER REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES

### Alternatives considered

4.1 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires consideration of reasonable alternatives to the OSS to be identified, described and evaluated. The consideration of alternatives relates to the means by which the objectives of the plan can be met by different approaches.

4.2 Potential reasonable alternatives were identified as follows:

- **Option 1 – Maintain status quo:** Given the need to have a strategic response to recent financial pressures and budget restrictions that all Councils face, the need to maximise developer contributions towards open space, as well as the need to address other priorities such as responding to the effects of climate change, if a Strategy were not now produced, the following issues could be anticipated: open space may become poorly managed which may lead to a deterioration in the quality of the urban environment and may not fully satisfy the expectations of the public; there would not be a mechanism to co-ordinate the work of agencies, local authorities and other interest groups involved in the delivery of open space management; there would also be less opportunity for local people to influence the way that greenspaces are managed in the future.
- **Option 2 – Produce a very high level strategy without taking account of open space audit data:** Although a strategy could be produced which simply provided a broad framework, this would not provide an opportunity to set out the standards which have been formulated. These have Council-wide implications and otherwise would only be found within the Supplementary Guidance on Open Space. This would not be the appropriate location for these strategic standards and would limit the use of them to only planning applications.
- **Option 3 – Produce a detailed strategy informed by open space audit data and the needs and priorities of different Council services:** This is felt to be the best option as it will provides the appropriate framework to set out a range of Council wide standards which can be used for a number of different Services. This will also provide the mechanism by which to set out the results from the Council's first ever open space audit.

4.3 The assessment indicated that Option 1 would be the worst environmental option with negative impacts identified for Climatic Factors and Landscape (and, further to SNH's comments, on Population and Human Health and Material Assets). Option 3 provided the best environmental option, whilst maintaining a positive policy position which would take into account economic, social and environmental issues and as a result this was the only option taken forward for assessment in the SEA.

## 5.0 MEASURES THAT ARE TO BE TAKEN TO MONITOR SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PPS

5.1 Monitoring of the effects of implementing the OSS will be based on the performance of a set of key indicators which are indicated in Table 3 below. The majority of monitoring for the SEA objectives outlined in the environmental report is already undertaken by the Council or by other government bodies or agencies. Any new identified data can be incorporated into

the monitoring arrangements for the OSS. This allows the monitoring to be incorporated into the existing performance monitoring.

5.2 The Council has published the Local Development Plan Monitoring Report (December 2010) which includes many of the monitoring needs identified within the environmental report. This will be a valuable baseline document to support the monitoring process. The requirements and mitigation measures identified during the OSS SEA process will feed into the next LDP Monitoring Report.

5.3 Further monitoring is undertaken for the Local Biodiversity Action Plans and Local Habitat Plans. It is expected that SEPA will continue to monitor water quality whilst SNH has responsibility to monitor and report on the condition of SSSIs and has a similar regime in place for monitoring the status of sites designated under the Habitats Directive. Locally designated sites and monitoring of key species and habitat management are the responsibility of local authorities. Monitoring will, therefore, rely on the continued day to day management and site knowledge of those managing land for which they have responsibility, and the ongoing activities of the environmental regulators.

**Table 3**

<b>SEA Topic</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	To help implement the objectives of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy	Condition of designated <sup>1</sup> sites
	To halt the loss of biodiversity and continue to reverse previous losses through targeted action for species and habitats	Additional designated sites created
	To increase awareness, understanding and enjoyment of biodiversity and engage many more people in conservation and enhancement	LBAP species/habitats stable or increasing
	To restore and enhance biodiversity in all our urban and rural environments through better planning, design and practice	European protected species stable or increasing
	To develop an effective management framework that ensures that biodiversity is taken into account in all decision making	Invasive Species control/expansion
	To ensure that the best new and	

<sup>1</sup> Designated sites are protected areas that represent the very best of Scotland's landscapes, plants and animals, rocks, fossils and landforms. Their protection and management will help to ensure that they remain in good health for all to enjoy, both now and for future generations. They may be designated to meet the needs of international directives and treaties, national legislation and policies or more local needs and interests.

SEA Topic	SEA Objective	Indicators
	<p>existing knowledge on biodiversity is available to all policy makers and practitioners</p> <p>Encourage tree planting and habitat creation initiatives.</p> <p>Consolidate and develop networks of greenspace and wildlife corridors including any missing links.</p> <p>Ensure adequate protection given to designated conservation sites and habitats.</p>	
<b>Population and Human Health</b>	<p>To increase the opportunities for access to and enjoyment of open space by all sectors of society</p> <p>To maximise the role of open space in contributing to quality of life</p> <p>To maximise the role of open space in contributing to health and wellbeing</p> <p>To maximise the role of open space in creating safe, pleasant and good quality new development</p> <p>Promote travel options based on walking and cycling and provide appropriate networks</p> <p>Develop programmes to raise levels of environmental awareness</p> <p>Provide better information and interpretation on greenspaces to residents and visitors</p> <p>Provide off road path provision and safe routes to schools and business</p> <p>Promote community gardening and allotment projects</p>	<p>Number of improved access routes</p> <p>Number of cycle paths</p> <p>Open space audit quantity and quality</p> <p>Amount and quality of new open space provided as part of new development</p> <p>Number and type of improvement projects for existing open space</p> <p>Number of people using open space</p> <p>Satisfaction with quality of open space</p>
<b>Water</b>	<p>Encourage more naturalistic approaches to watercourse management emphasising retention of natural vegetation to</p>	<p>Ecological status of waterbodies</p>

<b>SEA Topic</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Indicators</b>
	absorb run off	
<b>Air</b>	To maximise the role of open space in contributing to air quality	Air quality trends
<b>Climatic Factors</b>	<p>To further increase the role of open space in achieving carbon sequestration</p> <p>Provide accessible, high quality open space to reduce the need to travel to access open space</p> <p>To ensure that open space planning and management take account of the need to adapt to climate change</p>	<p>Accessibility data from Open Space Audit</p> <p>Details of projects relating to climate change and open space</p>
<b>Material Assets</b>	To manage, maintain and promote efficient use of material assets in accordance with the type and function of open spaces	Quality and usage data from open space audit / Council assessment records
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	<p>Need to identify areas that are particularly sensitive to change</p> <p>To further promote the protection and enhancement of the historic environment</p> <p>To further increase awareness and understanding of cultural heritage related to open space</p>	<p>Number and condition of designated and non-designated sites</p> <p>Number and type of projects relating to open space improvements that encourage and promote historic environment assets within it e.g. provision of information boards or the maintenance and management of parks that have historic features.</p>
<b>Landscape</b>	<p>Encourage more planting within new development and existing greenspace</p> <p>Promote an integrated approach to local design and distinctiveness with planners and developers</p> <p>Work with stakeholders to ensure that higher standards of maintenance are implemented</p> <p>Protect the landscape from intrusive development</p> <p>Provide increased opportunities for people to appreciate the landscape through use of open space</p>	<p>Amount of open space lost to development</p> <p>Quality data from Open Space Audit</p> <p>Number and type of projects relating to open space improvements e.g. new access routes / provision of new signage, information boards etc.</p>

## **6.0 CONCLUSION**

6.1 SEA has found that overall significant positive, positive or no impacts were identified with no negative impacts identified. The SEA process has made a positive effect on the plan. It will assist the Council in realising its aims of sustainable development, and help to promote an evidence-based culture and transparency.

### Appendix 1 Relationship to Other Plans Programmes and Strategies

Name of PPS	Key Considerations	How it affects or is affected by the OSS
Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)	This SPP is a statement of Scottish Government policy on land use planning and includes its view of the purpose of planning, the core principles and objectives of the system, statutory guidance on sustainable development, concise subject planning policies, including the implications for development planning and development management, and its expectations of the intended outcomes of the planning system.	SPP encourages planning authorities to prepare Open Space strategies and carry out audits of the existing resource.
Planning Advice Note 65	Planning Advice Notes (PANs) provide advice on good practice and other relevant information. PAN 65 gives advice on the role of the planning system in protecting and enhancing existing open spaces and providing high quality new spaces.	PAN 65 sets out a typology of open spaces to be used as a basis for audits and provides guidance on preparing open space strategies.
Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009	The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 is an Act of the Scottish Parliament. The Act sets an emissions reduction target for 2050 and an interim target for 2020.	The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 places duties on the public sector to deliver progress on climate change. Open space can play a role in reducing human causes of climate change.
Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009	Provides a framework for the delivery of sustainable flood risk management in Scotland.	The OSS objective 5 could support the delivery of sustainable flood defences.
Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)	Produced as a requirement under the Water Framework Directive and addresses significant impacts by co-ordinating all aspects of water management.	Changes in land use, such as the creation of new areas of open space, could have either positive or negative implications for water quality.
Managing Invasive Non-Native Species in Scotland's Water Environment	Supplementary plan to the RBMP addressing the issue of Invasive Non-Native Species. The plan gives guidance on how to monitor, classify, prevent and control the spread of Invasive Non-Native Species.	Open space can provide a potential habitat for INNS which can be spread accidentally by people taking part in certain activities, anglers for example, so this could have implications for open space use. Climate Change can also aid the spread of INNS. As the OSS could potentially reduce greenhouse gas emissions then it could help to halt the spread of INNS.
Water Environment	These are regulatory controls over activities in order to protect and improve	Enables SEPA to control activities which may have an

Name of PPS	Key Considerations	How it affects or is affected by the OSS
(Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011(as amended)	Scotland's water environment.	impact on the water environment and on the interests of other users of the water environment. This may have implications for the design and use of open space, in particular open space which contains SuDS.
Dumfries and Galloway Local Plan 2006	Sets out detailed policies and specific proposals for the development of land that guide day to day planning applications. Due to be replaced by Local Development Plan by end of 2014.	Contains policies requiring the provision of open space in new developments and also for the protection of existing open space. Key open spaces are identified in the inset maps.
Dumfries and Galloway Local Development Plan (due to be adopted 2014)	Provides the planning framework for the region, guiding the future use and development of towns, villages and the rural area. Contains detailed policies and specific proposals, including allocated housing and business and industry sites.	Contains policies requiring the provision of or contribution towards open space as part of new developments, as well as protecting existing spaces and avoiding fragmentation of green networks. It will be accompanied by Supplementary Guidance on Open Space.
Dumfries and Galloway Council Priorities and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016	This is the region's fourth SOA and presents the aspirations and commitments of all the partners in Dumfries and Galloway to improve the quality of life for the people who live here. SOAs provide the foundation for effective partnership working within which wider reform initiatives can take place.	OSS objectives support the following Council priorities: Priority 1: We will provide a good start in life for all our children; Priority 3: We will care for our older and vulnerable people; Priority 6: We will protect and sustain our environment.
Access Strategy (Open Outdoors, Dumfries and Galloway Outdoor Access Strategy, 2012-2017)	The Dumfries & Galloway Outdoor Access Strategy provides a vision for outdoor access and the strategic framework for planning, managing and developing access in Dumfries & Galloway.	The OSS supports the vision and objectives (e.g. increasing physical activity) set out in the Access Strategy.
Child Healthy Weight Sustainability Framework (2011)	The purpose of the Framework is to provide a framework that will build the momentum to tackle the increasing problem of overweight and obesity in Dumfries & Galloway.	The Framework recognises that improving the built environment in order to facilitate and enable outdoor activities and active travel and increasing opportunities to be physically active (both objectives of the OSS) are key elements in tackling overweight and obesity.

Name of PPS	Key Considerations	How it affects or is affected by the OSS
Core Paths Plan	Maps the paths considered to be key to the area, termed 'Core Paths', and give residents and visitors reasonable non-vehicular access throughout Dumfries and Galloway.	The Core Paths Plan identified a network of core paths throughout the region – the paths can be part of wider open space and green corridors or form important connections between open spaces.
Cultural Strategy (2009)	The purpose of this strategy is to guide the future development and delivery of cultural assets and services within Dumfries and Galloway.	Open spaces can provide venues for cultural events and festivals and are important cultural spaces in their own right.
Forestry and Woodland Strategy (2013)	Providing a framework for the management, protection and enhancement of trees and urban woods with specific actions relating to promoting the use of forests for recreation, physical activity and to enhance health and wellbeing.	Woodlands within and adjacent to settlements make an important contribution to the open space resource.
Leisure and Sport Strategy (2006-2010)	The strategy contains a framework in which leisure and sport and active lifestyles are valued as ways of improving the quality of life in communities throughout the region.	Influences the open space typology of outdoor sports areas.
Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2008)	Aims to conserve and enhance biodiversity and deliver action for national priorities identified in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP), and for local areas of species and habitats which are particularly valued.	Identifies at risk local species and habitats to be protected and enhanced within Dumfries and Galloway.
Local Housing Strategy (2012)	Sets out a shared understanding of the housing and related priorities of Dumfries and Galloway and addresses how the Council and its key partners will meet these and contribute toward the delivery of the Council's Single Outcome Agreement.	Contributes towards delivering good quality and well-designed housing areas which support people's physical and mental wellbeing – which would include open space.
Local Transport Strategy (2011)	Sets out Dumfries and Galloway Council's Action Plan for transport in the area, seeking to address identified local problems and explore localised transport issues.	The strategy has implications for open spaces in relation to promoting the benefits of walking and cycling and improving walking and cycling facilities.
Physical Activity Strategy (2008-2011)	Sets out a co-ordinated approach to increasing opportunities for people to take part in physical activity with the main aim being to improve the health and wellbeing of the local community through the promotion, provision and support of various initiatives.	Recognises the need for the provision of good quality, accessible open space in encouraging and sustaining physical activity.

<b>Name of PPS</b>	<b>Key Considerations</b>	<b>How it affects or is affected by the OSS</b>
Play Equipment (Playspace) Strategy (2010 – 2015)	This document reviews the Council's play park provision (playspace) and develops a strategic approach.	Strategy for future service delivery and the policy for inspection, maintenance and provision of play equipment found within the open space typology of children's and teenage play areas.
Regional Transport Strategy (2008)	The purpose of this Strategy is to determine and deliver better transport solutions, both regionally and nationally, and to act as a catalyst for regeneration of the region's economy.	Supports the promotion of walking and cycling, including support for Core Paths and walking networks.

## Appendix 2 Existing Environmental Problems

Problem	Implications for OSS
Potential erosion of urban greenspace through pressures of development and lack of management.	Supports policies in LDP which protect open space; Provides framework for management decisions.
Pollution and noise caused by excessive vehicles.	Aims to improve quality and multi-functionality of open space e.g. can provide noise buffers between residential areas and roads.
Localised flooding close to watercourses exacerbated by climate change.	Need to protect water margins and improve / increase open space around watercourses.
Limited opportunities for biodiversity within the urban environment.	Increase open space in urban areas or change management practices to encourage wildlife e.g. by creating more natural spaces.
Urban environments can be harsh and unappealing due to lack of greenery.	Increase open space and promote “greening” of streets e.g. through green roofs, street trees etc.
Developments do not always reflect or enhance local landscape character.	Aim to increase quality of open space including for visual amenity / landscape value
The public often lack environmental awareness.	Aim to improve access to natural spaces e.g. through creating new access routes, signage, interpretation boards.
Urban residents lack opportunities or awareness to access greenspaces.	Aim to increase accessibility and connectivity between residential areas, open space and wider green network.
Greenspaces are sometimes poorly managed and maintained.	Aim to increase quality of open space, including making spaces more multi-functional.
Greenspaces do not form cohesive networks which limits their value as wildlife corridors and for recreation.	Aim to avoid fragmentation of green networks and increase connectivity between spaces.
There can be conflicts between outdoor access and conservation interests which may affect wildlife habitats.	Supports access strategy.
Environmental quality may be reduced over the long term through erosion of tree cover and wildlife habitats.	Supports policies in LDP seeking to protect open space; Provides framework for management decisions.
Spread of non-native invasive species.	Provides framework for management decisions.
Poor environmental quality of allotment gardens in some instances.	Provides framework for management decisions.
Lack of safe off road opportunities for cycling and walking.	Supports access policies in LDP, Outdoor Access Strategy and Local Transport Strategy.
Threats to protected areas /designated sites. Threats to locally valued wildlife.	Supports policies in LDP seeking to protect open space; support biodiversity and wildlife conservation objectives.