

## Appendix C.7: Summary of assessment of the likely environmental effects of implementation of the Proposed Plan Policies

Key:

++	Major benefit
+	Minor - moderate benefit
--	Major adverse effects
-	Minor - moderate adverse effects
0	Neutral effects
?	Effects uncertain

Policy	SEA receptor									Cumulative effect / Notes
	Climatic factors	Biodiversity flora & fauna	Water	Soil	Geology	Landscape	Cultural heritage	Population & human health	Material assets	
<b>1 Criteria for All Development</b>	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Broadly neutral with moderate benefit in terms of climatic factors and material assets. Policy makes provision for the incorporation of low and zero carbon energy generating technologies in development; also facilitates the prevention, reuse and recycling of waste, as well as energy recovery from waste.
<b>2 Design</b>	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	Broadly neutral with moderate benefit in terms of climatic factors, landscape and population / human health. Promotes design principles to reduce energy usage which can, in turn, improve quality of life. Requires development to have a positive effect on the appearance of the area. Promotes increased provision of pedestrian access.
<b>3 Settlements, Town Centres &amp; Primary Retail Frontages</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Broadly neutral with moderate benefit for population and human health. Policy steers directs the majority of development to the main centres of population.

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<b>4 Housing</b>	0	-	0	0	0	?	+	+	0	Mixed effects are likely. Benefits will result from the increased availability of housing, including affordable housing. However there is potential for localised loss of biodiversity due to the subdivision of garden grounds to make way for infill development. Landscape effects are uncertain and will depend largely on the interpretation and application of Policy 4E <i>Single Houses and Housing Clusters in the Countryside</i> . This will be informed and supported by Supplementary Guidance <i>Housing in the Countryside</i> . Moderate benefit is likely for cultural heritage where Policy 4E requires the consolidation and retention of buildings that are of architectural and/or historic merit.
<b>5 Business, Industry &amp; Employment</b>	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	Moderate benefit is likely in terms of climatic factors and material assets as the policy includes provision for energy generation from waste. Otherwise effects are likely to be broadly neutral.
<b>6 Advertisements &amp; Signage</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	Broadly neutral but moderately positive for cultural heritage as it makes provision for signage that can enhance Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.
<b>7 Energy</b>	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	Moderate benefit is likely in terms of climatic factors and material assets as the policy includes provision for renewable energy generation including generation from waste. The locations and extent of Strategic Wind Energy Development Areas have yet to be confirmed, therefore the environmental effects of their future development remains uncertain.

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<b>8 Historic Environment &amp; Cultural Heritage</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	Moderate benefit is likely in terms of cultural heritage and population / human health. The policy makes provision for enhancement of cultural heritage assets and ensures the continued availability of opportunities for enjoying and learning about Orkney's cultural environment.
<b>9 Natural Environment &amp; Landscape</b>	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Moderate benefit is likely in terms of biodiversity, flora and fauna, water and population / human health. Makes provision for new development to provide benefits for biodiversity and improve the water environment. Ensures the continued availability of opportunities for enjoying and learning about Orkney's natural environment.
<b>10 Green Infrastructure</b>	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	+	0	Moderate benefit is likely in terms of climatic factors, biodiversity, flora and fauna, water, landscape and population / human health. Makes provision for the creation of green networks in the main settlements. These can enhance flood risk management, biodiversity, water storage and purification, landscape/townscape and improve access to paths and open space.
<b>11 Sport, Recreation &amp; Community Facilities</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Broadly neutral but moderate benefit is likely in terms of population / human health as the policy makes provision for developments which can improve community environments and quality of life.
<b>12 Coastal Development</b>	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Effects are likely to be broadly neutral as the policy seeks to protect the coastal and marine environments. It does however promote measures to increase resilience to the effects of climate

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										change by steering new development away from areas that are vulnerable to coastal erosion and/or wider coastal change unless there is clear justification for a departure from this policy.
<b>13 Flood Risk, SuDS &amp; Waste Water Drainage</b>	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	Moderate benefit is likely in terms of climatic factors, water and population / human health. Protects public health by promoting a precautionary approach to flood risk and including measures to increase resilience to the effects of climate change, e.g. in the siting and design of new developments. Policy on SuDS should result in a neutral or better effect on flood risk. Encourages measures to enhance biodiversity, amenity and open space benefit in SuDS.
<b>14 Transport, Travel &amp; Road Network Infrastructure</b>	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Broadly neutral but moderate benefit is likely in terms of climatic factors and population / human health as the policy promotes sustainable options such as active travel, use of public transport and low carbon vehicles.
<b>15 Digital Connectivity</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	Broadly neutral for most environmental receptors but with positive effects for population / human health in terms of improving social inclusion and quality of life. Better connectivity also has potential to improve access to health, social and recreational facilities.

